

Derivatives Pricing Course

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What does a quant do?



What does a quant do?

- Risk management
- Derivatives pricing models
- Algorithmic strategies
- Optimal execution
- Asset allocation



Sorts of Quants

Model Implementation

- Implements pricing models directly used by traders.
- ~80% Coding.

Model Governance

- Independent model validation.
- Run provided scripts.

Model Research

- Invent new models.
- Only Math.



Sorts of Employers

Investment Banks

Hedge Funds

Commercial Banks



Asset classes

FX

- Smile modelling
- High volume
- Sticky delta rule

Equities

- Jump-diffusion
- Sticky strike rule

Rates

- Most challenging
- Underlying is the curve

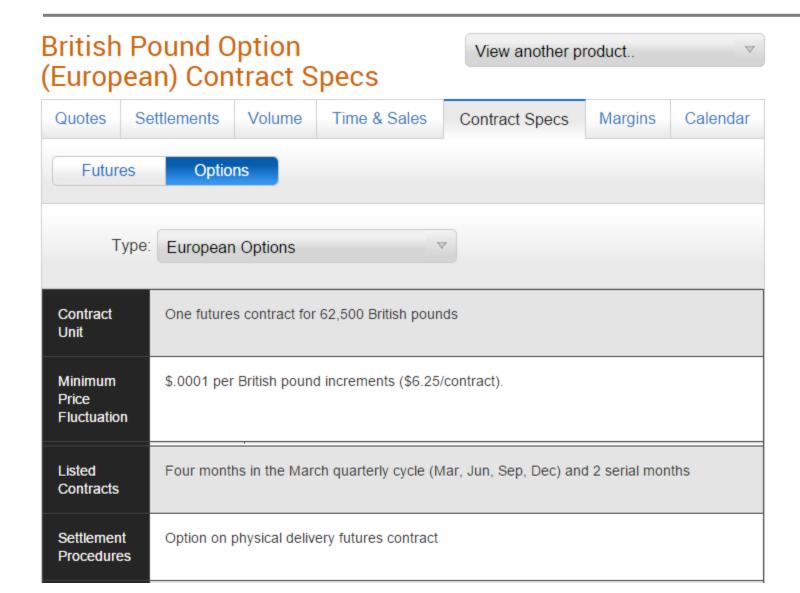
Commodities

- High volatility
- Path dependency (Averages)

Credit

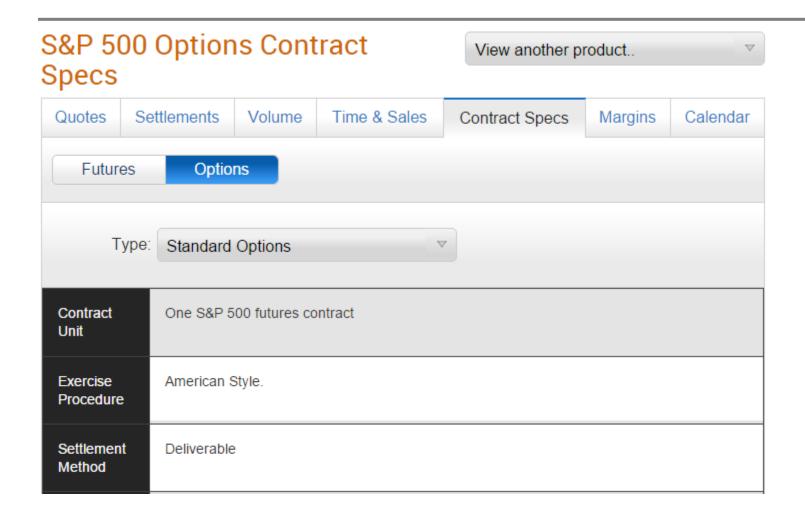


Asset classes - FX



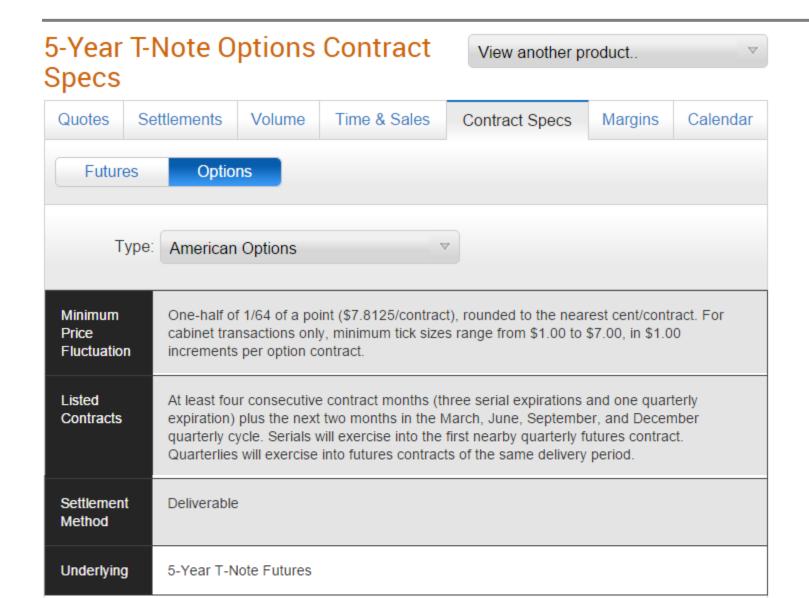


Asset classes - Equity





Asset classes - Rates





Asset classes - Commodities

ICE FUTURES EUROPE

BRENT CRUDE AMERICAN-STYLE OPTION

PRODUCT SPECS

DESCRIPTION

The ICE Brent Crude American-style Option Contract is based on the underlying ICE Brent Crude Futures Contract (B) and if exercised will result in a corresponding futures position. The contract is for American-style exercise, allowing the buyer to exercise an option any time up to, and including the expiry day.

MARKET SPECIFICATIONS

TRADING SCREEN PRODUCT NAME

Brent Crude Futures



Exotic features

Cashflows

Dividends/Coupons

Dimensionality

Rainbow

Path dependence

- Strong Asian
- Weak Barrier

Embedded decisions

American/Bermudan

Underlying model



Exotic derivatives

Examples – Flexi Forward





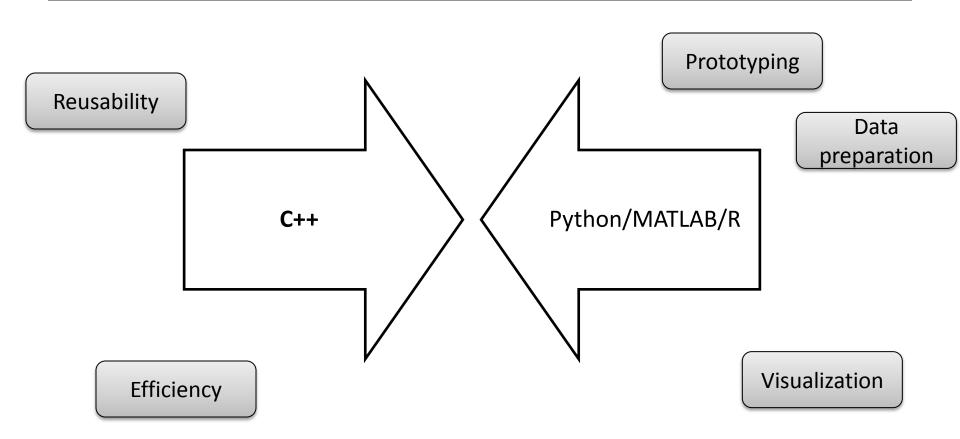
Exotic derivatives

Examples – Fader



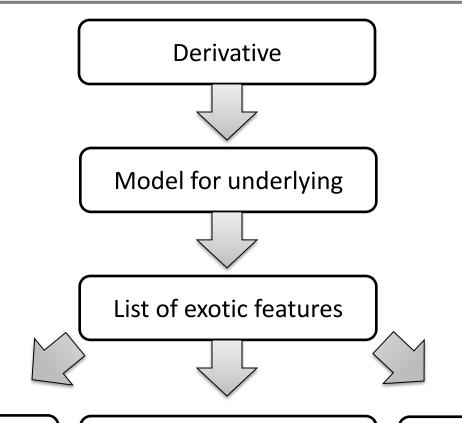


Programming language





General framework



Finite-difference scheme

Closed-form solution

Monte Carlo method



Course plan

- Mathematical background. Main results. PDE vs. Risk-neutral approach. Greek coefficients estimation techniques.
- Vanilla products. Closed-form solution derivation.
 Greeks closed-form derivation. C++ implementation.
- Exotic derivatives. Product example (early exercise rights). Possible solutions. Finite-difference schemes overview, basic results.
- Finite-difference schemes advanced topics. Add new features to the product, discuss efficiency.
- Exotic derivatives. Product example (strong path-dependency).
 Possible solutions. Monte Carlo methods overview, basic results.
- Monte Carlo methods advanced topics. Modify program, reduce variance, compare efficiency.