Harvey J. Stein

Outline

Reviev

iingle defau nodeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcoming

Julilliai

# MATH GR 5320 Financial Risk Management and Regulation

### Lecture 7: Credit risk modeling II

Department of Mathematics Columbia University

Harvey J. Stein

Head, Quantitative Risk Analytics Bloomberg LP

Fall 2016

Compilation: October 20, 2016 at 11:16

If errors are found, please return them to hjstein@columbia.edu.

### Harvey J. Stein

#### Outline

Review

Single defa modeling

Structural
Merton
Black-Cox
Information
analysis
Shortcoming

Shortcomir

Summar

References

### Outline

- 1 Review
- 2 Single default modeling
- 3 Structural
- 4 Joint default
- **5** Summary

Harvey J. Stein

#### Review

Single defai modeling

Structural
Merton
Black-Cox
Information
analysis
Shortcoming

Joint defau

Summary

References

### Review

1 Review

- 2 Single default modeling
- Structural
- 4 Joint default
- Summary

### Review

MATH GR 5320: Risk Management Lecture 7: Credit risk modeling II

Harvey J. Stein

Review

#### C: L L C

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcomings

Joint detail

Summary

Categories of credit modeling:

- Loan underwriting:
  - Analyze borrower, charge for risks.
- Investment decisions:
  - Relationship between credit spreads and other parts of the market.
- Credit risk:
  - Model default events.

### Review

### Loan underwriting:

- Balance sheet.
- FICO scores.
- Income and expenditures.
- Set rates based on riskiness.
- Position limits to limit losses.
- Done before loan is made.

### Spread modeling

- Decompose spreads into default spread + "market price of risk" spread:  $S = S_d + S_{\lambda}$ .
- Relate spreads to survival probabilities and losses.
- Model  $S_{\lambda}$  as proportional to volatility.
- $S_d = -1/T \log(1 + \mathsf{LGD} \times \bar{s}(T))$ .
- $S_{\lambda} = \lambda \sigma$ .
- Relate spread components to CDS indices and use for investment or hedging.

Harvey J. Stein

Outim

#### Review

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcomin

Summary

References

#### Credit risk:

- Explicitly model defaults for pricing risky instruments.
- Two kinds of models:
  - Structural models model assets of firm.
    - Merton
    - Black-Cox
  - Reduced form model statistics of time to default.
- Alternative view information about default.
- Alternative view everything is a reduced form model.

Harvey J. Stein

------

#### Review

oingle deta

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

loint defa

Summar

Referenc

### Reduced form:

- Model the properties of default the time  $\tau$ .
- Assume a deterministic hazard rate  $\lambda(t)$ .
- Survival time  $s(t) = \text{Prob}(\tau > t) = e^{-\int_0^t \lambda(u)du}$ .
- Default time pdf p(t) = -ds/dt.

### Properties:

- Default time is unpredictable.
- Deterministic forward spreads.

### Usage

- Piecewise constant  $\lambda$  used for pricing CDS.
- Used for CVA when pricing is independent of default time.
- Can't be used for market risk (no spread volatility).

Extend by making hazard rate stochastic.

#### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Poviou

Single default modeling

Structural Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint def

Julilliai

# Single default modeling

Review

- 2 Single default modeling
- Structural
- 4 Joint default
- **5** Summary

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Single default

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcomings

Joint defau

.

Reference

# Single default modeling

Credit risk default modeling

Two kinds of models:

- Reduced form model statistics of time to default.
- Structural models model assets of firm:
  - Merton
  - Black-Cox

Last lecture – reduced form.

This lecture – structural.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Revieu

Single defa

#### Structural Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint defau

References

### Structural models

If we model the balance sheet of the firm, we get a structural model.

#### Notions:

- Firm asset value follows a process.
- Firm defaults if asset value gets too low.

Variants depend on exactly how the above two notions are modeled.

### Merton

The first structural model is known as the Merton model. [Mer74].

### Assumptions:

- Assets of firm follow GBM:  $dV = \mu V dt + \sigma V dW$ .
- Only debt of firm is one zero coupon bond maturing at time T with face value B.
- For simplicity use a constant risk free rate of r, and assume no dividends.
- Standard option pricing assumptions.
- Default occurs at time T if the assets are insufficient to pay off the debt.

### Conclusions:

- At time T, creditors receive min $(V_T, B) = B (B V_T)^+$ , B minus the value of a put with strike B.
- At time T, equity owners retain  $\max(V_T B, 0)$ , the payoff of a call with strike B.

What are debt and equity values before T?

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Review

Single defat nodeling

Structura

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint defai

References

### Merton

 $Insert\ figure\ illustrating\ Merton\ here.$ 

Structura

Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcomin

Summai

D-f----

# Merton bond and equity prices

### By option pricing theory:

- Time t < T value of equity (S<sub>t</sub>) is value of call on assets of firm with strike B.
- Time t < T value of debt  $(D_t)$  is  $Be^{-r(T-t)}$  minus put on assets with strike B.

#### Conclude:

$$\begin{split} S_t &= \Phi(d_1)V_t - \Phi(d_2)Be^{-r(T-t)} \\ d_1 &= \frac{\log(V_t/B) + (r + \sigma^2/2)(T-t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} \\ d_2 &= \frac{\log(V_t/B) + (r - \sigma^2/2)(T-t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} \\ D_t &= V_t - S_t \text{ (by put-call parity)} \end{split}$$

Harvey J. Stein

Outim

Review

ingle defa nodeling

Structura

Merton Black-Cox Information

Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint defa

Summan

Reference

# Merton default probabilities

Merton default probability at time t:

$$p_t(T) = Q(V_T \le B) = E^Q[1_{V_T \le B}]$$
  
 $V_t - B = VaR^Q(V, T, 1 - p_t(T))$ 

So we see that default probabilities in the Merton model are just one minus the percentiles for the VaR that brings the asset value down to the level of the debt at the debt horizon date.

So we get (from the derivation of GBM VaR):

$$egin{aligned} 
ho_t(T) &= Q(V_T \leq B) \ &= \Phi\left(rac{\log\left(rac{B}{V_t}
ight) - \left(r - rac{\sigma^2}{2}
ight)(T - t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T - t}}
ight) \end{aligned}$$

#### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Revie

Single defa nodeling

Structura

Merton Black-Cox

Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint delat

Summary

References

# Merton implications

Implications of Merton's model:

- No default before time T CDSs maturing before T have zero spread.
- Equity prices do not follow GBM!
- Default is predictable. Informally:
  - Probability of default goes to 1 as  $t \to T$  when  $V_t < B \epsilon$
  - Probability of default goes to 0 as t o T when  $V_t > B + \epsilon$
- Formally
  - There exist stopping times  $\tau_n < \tau$  that converge to  $\tau$  (an "announcing sequence").
  - Announcing sequence: Let  $\tau_n$  be the first t > T 1/n for which  $V_t \leq B$ .
- Recovery rate is stochastic  $R = V_T/B$  if the firm defaults.

Note: As in the reduced form model, default probabilities are risk-neutral.

Structu

Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcoming

### Merton reduced

In terms of stochastic default processes, for  $t \le u \le T$ , we have:

$$\tau = T1_{V_T < B} + \infty 1_{V_T \ge B}$$

$$s_t(u) = 1 - \Phi(-d_2)1_{u = T}$$

$$p_t(u) = \Phi(-d_2)\delta(u - T)$$

$$\lambda_t(u) = \frac{\Phi(-d_2)\delta(u - T)}{1 - \Phi(-d_2)}$$

$$d_2 = \frac{\log(V_t/B) + (r - \sigma^2/2)(T - t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T - t}}$$

This phrases the Merton model as a reduced form model.

The default probability density, the survival probability and the hazard rate are now all stochastic processes and no longer deterministic.

MATH GR 5320: Risk Management Lecture 7: Credit risk

modeling II Harvey J. Stein

. .

Single defa

modeling

Structura

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

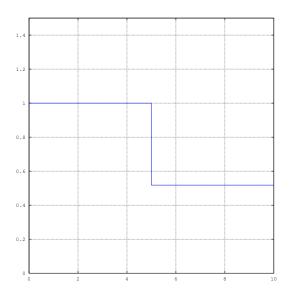
Joint de

Summar

References

### Merton survival curve

Survival curve. Initial asset value = \$1,000,000, debt = \$900,000,  $\sigma$  = 0.3, r = .03, payment in 5 years:



### Black-Cox

The Merton model is not commonly used because no default until time T is unrealistic.

The generalization that is commonly used is the Black-Cox model [BC76]

#### Merton:

• Default when  $V_T \leq B$  for a fixed T.

### Black-Cox:

• Default the first time t < T that  $V_t \le B$ , or at T if  $V_T < K$ .

Instead of passing a level at time T, we pass a level at any time – like a barrier option.

Other generalizations include:

- Stochastic interest rates [LS95].
- Time dependent barriers.
- Asset value following a jump diffusion.

Reference

# Black-Cox specification

#### Black-Cox model:

- Asset value follows GBM. In equivalent martingale measure wrt money market numéraire ( $B_t = e^{rt}$ ):
  - $dV = rVdt + \sigma VdW$
  - $V_t = V_0 e^{(r-\frac{\sigma^2}{2})t+\sigma W_t}$
- Default occurs when:
  - $V_T < K$ , or
  - V<sub>t</sub> < B.</li>
- At default time  $\tau$ :
  - Bond holders receive  $V_{\tau}$ .
  - $V_{\tau} = B$  if  $\tau < T$ .

Harvey J. Stein

Black-Cox analysis

# Black-Cox specification

Insert figure illustrating Black-Cox here.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

modeling

Structural Merton

Information analysis

Shortcoming

Summa

References

### Black-Cox formulas

To compute default probabilities under Black-Cox, we need to know when the asset value will hit the barrier.

References: Lecture 5 of Lalley [Lal01], or Chapter 5 of Steele [Ste01].

In Black-Cox, the asset value follows GBM:

$$V_t = V_0 e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})t + \sigma W_t}$$

Define:

$$\tau \equiv \inf\{t|V_t = B\}$$

Then  $\tau$  is the default stopping time for a default barrier of B in the Black-Cox model.

$$V_t = B$$

$$\iff (r - \sigma^2/2)t + \sigma W_t = \log(B/V_0)$$

$$\iff W_t = \log(B/V_0)/\sigma + (\sigma/2 - r/\sigma)t$$

So, the default stopping time is equivalently the first time that Brownian motion hits a tilted barrier.

Harvey J. Stein

Outilin

Review

iingle defau nodeling

Structura

Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint defa

References

### Black-Cox formulas

Insert tilted barrier figure here.

Harvey J. Stein

Outline

Revie

Single defi modeling

Merton Black-Cox

Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcomings

Joint delat

References

# Untilting

Take  $V_0 = 1$  for simplicity. We need to know:

$$\tau = \inf \left\{ t | W_t = \log(B) / \sigma + (\sigma/2 - r/\sigma) t \right\}$$

Define:

$$W_t^* = W_t - (\sigma/2 - r/\sigma)t$$

By applying the change of measure to make  $W^*$  a Brownian motion (say  $Q^*$ ), we can untilt the barrier. In terms of  $W^*$ :

$$\tau = \inf\{t | W_t^* = \log(B)/\sigma\}$$

Then

$$\mathsf{Prob}( au < t) = \mathsf{E}^{\mathcal{Q}}[1_{ au < t}] \ = \mathsf{E}^{\mathcal{Q}^*}[1_{ au < t} \mathcal{C}^*_t]$$

where  $C_t^* = e^{-(\sigma/2 - r/\sigma)W_t + (\sigma/2 - r/\sigma)^2 t/2}$  is the change of measure factor.

Plan:

- Compute for  $W^*$  hitting a flat barrier under measure making it a BM.
- Use change of measure to compute for tilted barrier.

. .

# Black-Cox plan

Define

$$M_T \equiv \min_{0 \le s \le T} (W_s^*)$$

Then

$$M_T \le \log(B)/\sigma$$
$$\iff \tau \le T$$

This gives us our survival probabilities:

$$s(T) = \text{Prob}(\tau > T)$$
  
=  $\text{Prob}(M_T > \log(B)/\sigma)$ 

So, we just need to know the distribution of the min of a Brownian motion, and then apply a measure change back to the original tilted barrier.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Reviev

modeling

Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis

analysis Shortcomings

Joint defau

Summar

Reference:

# Reflection principle

The distribution of the min of a Brownian motion is computed using the reflection principle:

If  $\tau<\infty$  a.e. is a stopping time for a Brownian motion W, then the process

$$\overline{W}_t = egin{cases} W_t & ext{for } t < au \ W_{ au} - (W_t - W_{ au}) & ext{for } t \geq au \end{cases}$$

is also a Brownian motion. This is  $W_t$  reflected at  $\tau$ .

In other words, when a path reaches time  $\tau$ , we can reflect all the future values around the level at that time and the result is still a standard Brownian motion.

#### MATH GR 5320: Risk

Management Lecture 7: Credit risk modeling II

Harvey J. Stein

Outline

D ......

Single defa

C

Merton

Black-Cox Information

analysis Shortcomin

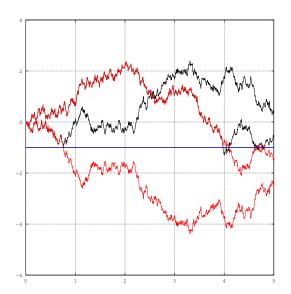
Joint de

Summar

Reference

# Reflection principle

Reflection principle for  $\tau$  being the first time that W hits -1:



Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Revie

Single defa modeling

Structur

Black-Cox

Information analysis

Shortcoming

Summa

### Hitting times and min of BM

We have<sup>1</sup>

$$M_T \equiv \min_{0 \le s \le T} (W_s)$$
 $au = \inf\{t | W_t = \log(B)/\sigma\}$ 
 $\overline{W}_t = W_t \text{ reflected at } au$ 
 $a = \log(B)/\sigma\}$ 

Then

$$\{M_T < a\}$$

$$\iff \{W_T < a\} \text{ or } \{M_T < a \text{ and } W_T \ge a\}$$

These two sets of events are disjoint, so

$$Prob(M_T < a) = Prob(W_T < a) + Prob(M_T < a \text{ and } W_T \ge a)$$

 $<sup>^{1}\</sup>mbox{We}$  suppress the asterisk superscripts so as to avoid cluttering the formulas.

Harvey J. Stein

Outilin

Review

ingle defa nodeling

Structura

Merton

Information analysis

Shortcoming

Summar

References

### Brownian barrier hitting times

We have that:

$$\mathsf{Prob}(M_{\mathcal{T}} < a) = \mathsf{Prob}(W_{\mathcal{T}} < a) + \mathsf{Prob}(M_{\mathcal{T}} < a \text{ and } W_{\mathcal{T}} \ge a)$$

But

$$\mathsf{Prob}(M_T < a \text{ and } W_T \ge a) = \mathsf{Prob}(M_T < a \text{ and } \overline{W}_T \le a)$$

$$= \mathsf{Prob}(\overline{W}_T \le a)$$

$$= \mathsf{Prob}(W_T \le a)$$

So

$$\mathsf{Prob}( au < T) = \mathsf{Prob}(M_T < a)$$
 $= 2 \, \mathsf{Prob}(W_T < a)$ 
 $= 2 \, \Phi\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$ 
 $\mathsf{PDF}( au) = -\frac{a}{T^{3/2}} \phi\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$ 

(a < 0 because this is a BM descending to a barrier.)

Harvey J. Stein

Outline

D ......

ingle defau

Ju deta

Black-Cox

Information analysis Shortcoming

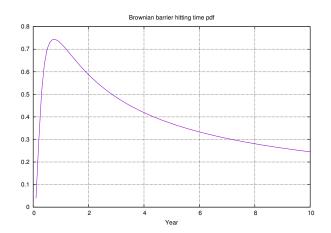
Joint defau

Summany

Reference:

# BM default time pdf

Default PDF for BM hitting a barrier of -3.



Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Single defa

modeling

Structur

Black-Cox Information

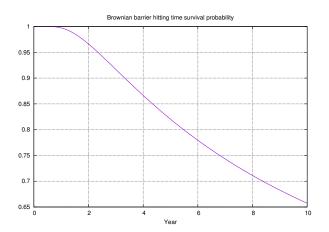
analysis Shortcomings

Summary

References

# BM default pdf

Survival probabilities for BM hitting a barrier of -3.



Note that slope at t = 0 is always equal to zero.

Harvey J. Stein

Outim

Review

ingle defau nodeling

Structur

Merton

Black-Cox Information

analysis Shortcomings

Joint defau

Reference

# Tilting the barrier

For convenience, let  $a = \log(B)/\sigma$  and  $b = \sigma/2 - r/\sigma$ .

In terms of a and b,

$$au = \inf\{t|W_t = a + bt\}$$
 $W_t^* = W_t - bt$ 
 $C_t^* = e^{-bW_t + b^2t/2}$ 
 $= e^{-bW_t^* - b^2t/2}$ 

We need 
$$Prob(\tau < t) = E^{Q}[1_{\tau < t}]$$

$$E^{Q}[1_{ au < t}] = E^{Q^*}[1_{ au < t}C_t^*]$$
  
=  $E^{Q^*}[1_{ au < t}e^{-bW_t^* - b^2t/2}]$ 

If we could eliminate the exponential, we'd be done.

### Elimination

We play some tricks...

$$\begin{split} E^{Q}[1_{\tau < t}] &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-bW_t^* - \frac{b^2}{2}t} \right] \\ &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-b(W_\tau^* + W_t^* - W_\tau^*) - \frac{b^2}{2}(\tau + t - \tau)} \right] \\ &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-bW_\tau^* - \frac{b^2}{2}\tau} e^{b(W_t^* - W_\tau^*) - \frac{b^2}{2}(t - \tau)} \right] \end{split}$$

The third factor is the increment of  $W^*$  starting at  $\tau$ . It's independent of the other two factors, so the expectation factors.

Moreover, the 3rd factor is a martingale, so its expectation is its initial value, which is 1. So it drops out.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Review

Single defa

Structura

Merton

Black-Cox Information

analysis

Joint defa

Summary

References

# Cleanup

Removing the 3rd term leaves us with a little algebra:

$$\begin{split} E^Q[1_{\tau < t}] &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-bW_\tau^* - \frac{b^2}{2}\tau} e^{b(W_t^* - W_\tau^*) - \frac{b^2}{2}(t - \tau)} \right] \\ &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-bW_\tau^* - \frac{b^2}{2}\tau} \right] \\ &= E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-ab - \frac{b^2}{2}\tau} \right] \\ &= e^{-ab} E^{Q^*} \left[ 1_{\tau < t} e^{-\frac{b^2}{2}\tau} \right] \\ &= e^{-ab} \int_0^t e^{-\frac{b^2}{2}x} \operatorname{PDF}^{Q^*}(\tau) dx \\ \operatorname{PDF}(\tau) &= -\frac{ae^{-ab - \frac{b^2}{2}T}}{T^{3/2}} \phi\left(\frac{a}{\sqrt{T}}\right) = -\frac{a}{T^{3/2}} \phi\left(\frac{a + bt}{\sqrt{T}}\right) \end{split}$$

The CDF is gotten by manipulating the integral to convert it to a cumulative normal.

Harvey J. Stein

Outim

Review

ingle defar

Structura

Merton Black-Cox

Information analysis

analysis Shortcoming

Joint defai

Summany

References

### Black-Cox default time CDF

The lazy way (via Mathematica):

$$\begin{split} & \textit{In}[1] := \textit{dist} = \textit{NormalDistribution}[0,1] \\ & \textit{Out}[1] = \textit{NormalDistribution}[0,1] \\ & \textit{In}[2] := p = \textit{PDF}[\textit{dist},x] \\ & \textit{Out}[2] = e^{-x^2/2}/\sqrt{2\pi} \\ & \textit{In}[3] := tstop = (p/.x - > (a + bx)/\sqrt{x})/x^{3/2} \\ & \textit{Out}[3] = e^{(-(a+bx)^2/(2x))}/(\sqrt{2\pi}x^{3/2}) \\ & \textit{In}[4] := tstopcdf = Integrate[tstop,x]//FullSimplify \\ & \textit{Out}[4] = (e^{-ab - \sqrt{a^2}\sqrt{b^2}} \\ & \qquad \times (-2 + \textit{Erfc}[(\sqrt{a^2} - \sqrt{b^2}x)/(\sqrt{2x})] \\ & \qquad + e^{2\sqrt{a^2}\sqrt{b^2}}\textit{Erfc}[(\sqrt{a^2} + \sqrt{b^2}x)/(\sqrt{2x})]))/(2\sqrt{a^2}) \end{split}$$

Harvey J. Stein

Black-Cox analysis

# **Properties**

### Black-Cox properties:

- Spreads still tend to zero as  $t \to 0$
- $\lambda_t(t) = 0$
- Default is predictable:
  - Let  $\tau_n^1$  be the hitting time for the barrier B+1/n.
  - Let  $\tau_n^2$  be as in Merton.
  - Let  $\tau_n = \min(\tau_n^1, \tau_n^2)$ .
- Similar to Merton, we can rephrase as a reduced form model.

Harvey J. Stein

Odeiiii

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information

analysis Shortcomin

Joint defau

Summary

# Information analysis

From a risk and valuation point of view, the difference between classical reduced form models and structural models is largely in the nature of the default event:

- Reduced form:
  - Unpredictable arrival of default.
  - No prior information about default event.
- Structural:
  - · Predictable arrival of default.
  - Default time is known with greater and greater certainty as the default event is approached.

Informational analysis tries to unify and clarify these relationships by explicitly working with the information (i.e. the sigma algebra filtration).

References: Jarrow and Protter [JP04], Cetin et al. [Cet+04], Giesecke [Gie06]

# Information analysis example

Forgetful Merton, as in Giesecke [Gie06] or Cetin et al. [Cet+04]:

- We know r,  $V_0$ ,  $\sigma$ , B, and T.
- We don't know  $V_t$  for t > 0 i.e. take the filtration of V out of what we know.

## Analysis:

- Let  $p = P(A_T < N|A_0)$ .
- $s_0(u) = 0$  for u < T
- $s_0(u) = 1 p$  for  $u \ge T$ .

As for  $s_t(u)$  for 0 < t < T:

No new information.

Therefore:

$$s_t(u) = egin{cases} 1 - \rho 1_{u \geq T} & ext{if } t < T \ 1_{A_T > N} & ext{if } t \geq T \end{cases}$$

The model becomes like flipping a biased coin at time T to determine default.

Harvey J. Stein

Outli

.....

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcomings

Joint defaul

\_

References

# Shortcomings

For risk analysis, all of these models have a significant shortcoming:

Default probabilities are risk neutral.

For risk analysis, one needs real world default probabilities. Options:

- Incorporate the market price of risk to convert back to real world default rates
- Calibrate to history instead of to market prices

Both approaches are followed in practice.

#### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Review

Single defa modeling

Structural Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint default

D-f----

## Joint default

1 Review

2 Single default modeling

Structural

4 Joint default

**5** Summary

## Joint default

### Joint default modeling is important for:

- Modeling impact of default on a portfolio.
- Incorporating CVA into CDS.
- Pricing of exotic default options and correlation products (CDOs).

#### We look for:

- Realistic behavior.
- Default clustering.
- · Ease of use.
- Calibration to markets or to historical data.
- Rating transition modeling.

# Reduced joint I

A simple approach in reduced form modeling:

- Make hazard rates stochastic and correlated.
- $d\lambda_i = \mu_i \lambda dt + \sigma_i \lambda dW_i$ .
- $dW_i dW_j = \rho_{ij} dt$ .

## Properties:

 Spreads are a function of hazard rates, so does a good job of correlating spreads.

#### Issues:

- Doesn't help much in correlating default times two hazard rates going up doesn't mean default occurs.
- Calibration issue where does correlation come from?
  - Pick  $\rho_{ij}$  so that spread correlation is correct.
  - Not so easy...

#### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

review

modeling

Structural
Merton
Black-Cox
Information
analysis
Shortcomings

#### Joint default

-----

Reference

# Reduced joint II

Alternative approach to correlating default in reduced form models:

- Model joint default.
- $\tau_1$  Default time for just stock 1 defaulting.
- $\tau_2$  Default time for just stock 2 defaulting.
- $\tau_{12}$  Default time for stock 1 and 2 defaulting together.

## Properties:

Easily incorporate appropriate joint default rates.

#### Issues:

- Joint default is simultaneous default.
- For n, get  $O(n^2)$  extra default pairs.
- What about default triplets, ...?
- No rating transitions.

Structural
Merton
Black-Cox
Information
analysis
Shortcoming:

Joint default

Summary

Reference

## Structural joints

### Structural joint default modeling:

- Can't use classic Merton unless bond maturities are at the same time.
- Use Black-Cox with correlated BMs.
- Correlate asset values by historical stock price correlations.
- Introduces significant correlation between default times.

### Properties:

- Correlates default times and spreads.
- Use multiple barriers to simulate rating transitions.

#### Issues:

- Does not calibrate well to market.
- Not clear how to convert between real world and risk neutral.

Harvey J. Stein

Outili

Single def

Structural Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint default

References

## Reduced redux

Third reduced form joint framework method – copula method:

- Default time distribution is marginal distribution of default time for each name.
- Create joint distribution by linking marginals with a copula.

Theorem (Sklar):

If the CDF of  $X_i$  is  $F_i(x)$ , and the joint CDF of the  $X_i$  is  $F(x_1, \ldots, x_n)$ , then there exists a unique function C such that

$$F(x_1,\ldots,x_n)=C(F_1(x_1),\ldots,F_n(x_n))$$

Then C is the copula associated with F.

Properties of copulas:

- Constructs a joint distribution directly from the marginals.
- Correlation structure separated from marginal behavior.
- Correlation introduction does not impact individual correlations.

Harvey J. Stein

Outilli

Single def

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint default

Deferences

# Copula methodology

### To use copulas:

- Pick a copula from a known joint distribution (Gaussian copula, etc).
- Apply it to the default time CDFs.
- Play tricks to reduce the dimensionality.

### Typically model losses instead of default times:

- Loss distribution is default +(1-R) times notional of defaulting name.
- Smooth in space and time and get a loss distribution for each time t.
- Integrate as appropriate.

Joint default

Reference

## Copula usage

### Properties:

- Correlates default times.
- When applied to basic reduced form model, still no spread volatility.
- Losing processes.

### Usage:

• Commonly used for CDO pricing.

Reference: Burtschell, Gregory, and Laurent [BGL05]

Harvey J. Stein

Outline

Single defa

Structural Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

loint default

Summary

## Bad rep

For five years, Li's formula, known as a Gaussian copula function, looked like an unambiguously positive breakthrough, a piece of financial technology that allowed hugely complex risks to be modeled with more ease and accuracy than ever before. With his brilliant spark of mathematical legerdemain, Li made it possible for traders to sell vast quantities of new securities, expanding financial markets to unimaginable levels.

His method was adopted by everybody from bond investors and Wall Street banks to ratings agencies and regulators. And it became so deeply entrenchedand was making people so much moneythat warnings about its limitations were largely ignored.

Then the model fell apart. Cracks started appearing early on, when financial markets began behaving in ways that users of Li's formula hadn't expected. The cracks became full-fledged canyons in 2008 when ruptures in the financial system's foundation swallowed up trillions of dollars and put the survival of the global banking system in serious peril.

Recipe for Disaster: The Formula that Killed Wall Street Salmon [Sal09]

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Single defa

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming:

Joint default

\_

References

# **Analysis**

### Is Salmon correct?

- Was model risk ignored?
- Was it really the usage of copulas?
- Is David Li to blame for the entire financial crisis?

### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Review

Single defa modeling

Structural Merton Black-Cox Information

Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming

Summary

Reference

# Summary

1 Review

2 Single default modeling

Structural

4 Joint default

**5** Summary

# Summary

MATH GR 5320: Risk Management Lecture 7: Credit risk modeling II

Harvey J. Stein

Odeiiii

C:\_\_!\_ \_\_\_

modeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcoming

Summary

Reference

#### Credit risk:

- Explicitly model defaults for pricing risky instruments.
- Two kinds of models:
  - Structural models model assets of firm:
    - Merton
    - Black-Cox
  - Reduced form model statistics of time to default.
- Alternative view information about default.
- Alternative view everything is a reduced form model.

### Summarv

## Summary

### Reduced form:

- Model the properties of default the time  $\tau$ .
- Assume a deterministic hazard rate  $\lambda(t)$ .
- Survival time  $s(t) = \text{Prob}(\tau > t) = e^{-\int_0^t \lambda(u)du}$ .
- Default time pdf p(t) = -ds/dt.

## **Properties**

- Default time is unpredictable.
- Deterministic forward spreads.

## Usage:

- Piecewise constant  $\lambda$  used for pricing CDS.
- Used for CVA when pricing is independent of default time.
- Can't be used for market risk (no spread volatility).

Extend by making hazard rate stochastic.

Joint def

Summary

References

## Summary

### Merton:

- Assets of firm follow GBM:  $dV = \mu V dt + \sigma V dW$ .
- Default at time T if  $V_T < B$ .

## Properties:

- Equity is call option on assets with strike B and maturity T.
- Debt is ZCB paying B at T minus a put on the assets with strike B.
- Default time is predictable announcing sequence given by  $\tau_n$  being the first  $t \geq T 1/n$  for which  $V_t \leq B$ .
- Can be rephrased as a reduced form model:

• 
$$\tau = T1_{V_T < B} + \infty 1_{V_T \geq B}$$

• 
$$s_t(u) = 1 - \phi(-d_2)1_{u=T}$$

• 
$$p_t(u) = \Phi(-d_2)\delta(u-T)$$

• 
$$\lambda_t(u) = \frac{\Phi(-d_2)\delta(u-T)}{1-\Phi(-d_2)}$$

## Summary

### Black-Cox.

- Assets of firm follow GBM:  $dV = \mu V dt + \sigma V dW$ .
- Default if  $V_t < B$  or if  $V_T < K$ .
- Formulas:
  - $a = \log(B/V_0)$ .
  - $b = \sigma/2 r/\sigma$ .
  - PDF( $\tau$ ):  $-\frac{a}{T^{3/2}}\phi\left(\frac{a+bt}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$ .
  - $CDF(\tau)$ :  $\frac{e^{-ab-|ab|}}{2|a|} (Erfc[\frac{|a|-|b|x}{2}] + e^{2|ab|} Erfc[\frac{|a|+|b|x}{2}] 2)$

## Properties:

- Spreads still always start out at 0.
- Default is predictable:
  - Let  $\tau_n^1$  be the hitting time for the barrier B + 1/n.
  - Let  $\tau_n^2$  be as in Merton.
  - Let  $\tau_n = \min(\tau_n^1, \tau_n^2)$ .
- Better match to real world.
- Still does not calibrate well.
- Formula derivations complex involve reflection principle, usage of martingales, etc.

#### Harvey J. Stein

#### Outlin

Single defa

modeling

Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint defau

Summary

References

## Summary

### Joint default modeling:

- Needed for CDOs, portfolio losses, etc.
- Options:
  - Stochastic correlated hazard rates.
  - Joint default stopping time.
  - · Correlated BMs in Black-Cox.
  - Copula method.

### In general:

- Complicated.
- Issues in switching between risk neutral and real world.

#### Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Revie

iingle defa nodeling

Structura

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis

Joint defai

References

## References I

[BC76] Fischer Black and John C Cox. "Valuing corporate securities: Some effects of bond indenture provisions." In: The Journal of Finance 31.2 (1976), pp. 351-367. URL: http://portal.tugraz.at/portal/page/portal/Files/i5060/files/staff/mueller/FinanzSeminar2011/BlackCox\_1976.pdf.

- [BGL05] Xavier Burtschell, Jon Gregory, and Jean-Paul Laurent. A comparative analysis of CDO pricing models. 2005. URL: http://laurent.jeanpaul.free.fr/comparative\%20analysis\%20CDO\%20pricing\%20models.pdf.
- [Cet+04] Umut Cetin et al. "Modeling credit risk with partial information." In: The Annals of Applied Probability 14.3 (Aug. 2004), pp. 1167–1178. DOI: 10.1214/105051604000000251. URL: http://dx.doi.org/10.1214/105051604000000251.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

Revie

Single def modeling

Structura

Black-Cox Information analysis

Shortcomin

Summary

References

## References II

[Gie06] Kay Giesecke. "Default and information." In: Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control 30.11 (2006), pp. 2281-2303. URL: http://www.stanford.edu/dept/MSandE/cgibin/people/faculty/giesecke/pdfs/paper3.pdf.

[JP04] Robert A Jarrow and Philip Protter. "Structural versus reduced form models: a new information based perspective." In: Journal of Investment Management 2.2 (2004), pp. 1–10. URL: http://forum.johnson.cornell.edu/faculty/jarrow/100\%20Structural\%20vs\%20Reduced\%20Review\%20JIM\%202004.pdf.

[Lal01] Steve Lalley. Statistics 390 - Mathematical Finance 345.
2001. URL: http://galton.uchicago.edu/~lalley/
Courses/390/index.html.

Harvey J. Stein

Outlin

nodeling

Merton Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint delai

Summary

References

## References III

[LS95] Francis A Longstaff and Eduardo S Schwartz. "A simple approach to valuing risky fixed and floating rate debt."
In: The Journal of Finance 50.3 (1995), pp. 789-819.
URL: http://www.ieor.berkeley.edu/~ieor298/
Reading/LongstaffSchwartz-95.pdf.

[Mer74] Robert C. Merton. "On the Pricing of Corporate Debt: The Risk Structure of Interest Rates." In: The Journal of Finance 29 (2 May 1974), pp. 449-470. URL: http://www.ucema.edu.ar/~mtd98/Teoria\_de\_los\_ Contratos\_Financieros/Merton\_Corporate\_Debt. pdf.

[Sal09] Felix Salmon. "Recipe for Disaster: The Formula That Killed Wall Street." In: Wired Magazine 17 (03 Feb. 2009). URL: http://archive.wired.com/techbiz/it/magazine/17-03/wp\_quant?currentPage=all.

Harvey J. Stein

Outline

Review

ingle defau

[Ste01]

Structural Merton

Black-Cox Information analysis Shortcoming

Joint defai

Summary

References

## References IV

J. Michael Steele. *Stochastic Calculus And Financial Applications*. Vol. 45. Stochastic Modelling and Applied Probability. Springer-Verlag, 2001.