Financial Engineering

Analysis of a Financial Product

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July 7, 2014

Contents

- Introduction
- 2 Theory
 - Barrier option
 - Repayment cases
 - Risks
 - Estimation of parameters
 - Geometric Brownian Motion
- Result
 - Numerical efficiency
 - Probability of loss
 - Histogram of the return
 - Sensitivity analysis
 - Comparison with Product A

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Introduction

Daiwa Securities Group Inc. is a Japanese investment bank which sells through its website a financial product hold by the Swiss bank UBS.

Is it valuable to invest in that financial product?

- ► Barrier option down and in, up and out : Knock-in 60% & Knock-out 105%
- ▶ 3% of interest per year semi-annually compounded paid for 3 years : 1.5% every 6 months
- ▶ 2 stock indexes at stake : Standard & Poor's 500 and Nikkei 225

Theory/ Barrier option

Knock-in :

- observed every end of business days (so we always generate closing prices)
- active if at least one of the indexes drop under 60%
- activation means the repayment will be the min of both index price percentages and 100%
- no more protection for the client if the knock-in activates

Knock-out :

- observed every valuation day (for repayments)
- active if only one index raise over 105%
- activation means the repayment is done before the maturity at 100% rate (contract stopped)
- protection for the seller because there is high probability they will repay 100% at maturity, so they save some interest payments (they can raise the interest payments to lure clients)

Theory/ Repayment cases

Repayment rate		Knock-in	
		Not activated	Activated
Knock-out	Not activated	1	$min(rac{S_{j,T}}{S_{j,0}},1)$
	Activated	1	1

Table: The different rates of repayment cases, depending on realization of knock-in and knock-out

Theory/ Risks

► The product has a credit rating of A (S&P), so it has an average cumulative default rate of 0.34

Theory / Estimation of parameters

- ▶ We estimate over 3 or 6 months the mean μ , the volatility σ of each market price, plus the correlation ρ between them both.
- ▶ The formulas are, with $u_{j,i} = \log_e(\frac{S_{j,i-1}}{S_{j,i}})$

$$\hat{\mu}_{j} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} u_{j,i}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}_{j} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m-1} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (u_{j,i} - \hat{\mu}_{j})^{2}}$$

$$\hat{\rho} = \frac{\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} u_{1,i} u_{2,i}}{\hat{\sigma}_{1} \hat{\sigma}_{2}}$$

Theory/ Geometric Brownian Motion

- Notations :
 - S is the closing price of the index price
 - Δt is the constant time step
 - \bullet μ is the estimated mean of the historical data of the index price
 - ullet σ is the estimated volatility of the same historical data
 - ullet is the independent standard normal distribution
- ► GBM in its exact discretization form:

$$S_j(t+\Delta t) = S_j(t) e^{\left(\mu_j - rac{{\sigma_j}^2}{2}
ight)\Delta t + \sigma_j\sqrt{\Delta t}\mathcal{E}_j}$$

with
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} \mathcal{E}_1 &= \xi_1 \\ \mathcal{E}_2 &= \rho \xi_1 + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} \xi_2 \end{array} \right.$$

Result / Probability of loss



Result / Histogram of the return

Result / Numerical efficiency

Result / Sensitivity analysis

12 / 14

Result / Comparison with Product A

▶ 2 indexes : EuroSTOXX50 & Nikkei225, T = 5 years, Knock-out 49%

$$r = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1\% & \text{if one of the index is under 80\% of its initial value} \\ 5.7\% & \text{else, or it is the first interest payment} \end{array} \right.$$

References



Hull, J.C. (2012)

Options, Futures, and Other Derivatives

 8^{th} global edition, chap. 22-23