

Financial derivatives

Lecture 6: Binomial option pricing model

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Primer of option pricing

Option payoffs

↳ non-linear payoff.

Similar to pricing of forwards, we have to **price options through payoffs replication**. However, there are a few salient differences:

- Euro
- Some options may **not be exercised** before their **expiration**.
- US
- Some options may offer **flexibility** in the **timing of exercise**.
 - Payoffs of some options can be **path-dependent**.

Therefore, we **cannot replicate all the outcomes** of an option **without modeling the underlying price over the contract life**.

Option payoffs

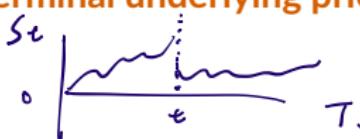
Non-path-dependent options:

European options: fluctuating is ignored, (S_T is enough)

- can only be **exercised at maturity**;
- suffice to **model terminal underlying prices**.

Path-dependent options:

American options:



t : dividend payment.

- can be **exercised anytime during their lifetimes**;
- need to know the **entire underlying price path**.

Asian options:

- payoffs depend on **lifetime averages of underlying prices**;
- need to know the **entire underlying price path**.

$$\text{Avg} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^T S_i}{T}$$

Binomial model

u: up
d: down

$$S_u = u S_0, \text{ for } u > 1.$$

States

$$S_d = d S_0$$

No arbitrage condition: $u > (1+r) > d$.
(only possible case)

↓
risk-free

How can we model underlying price movements?

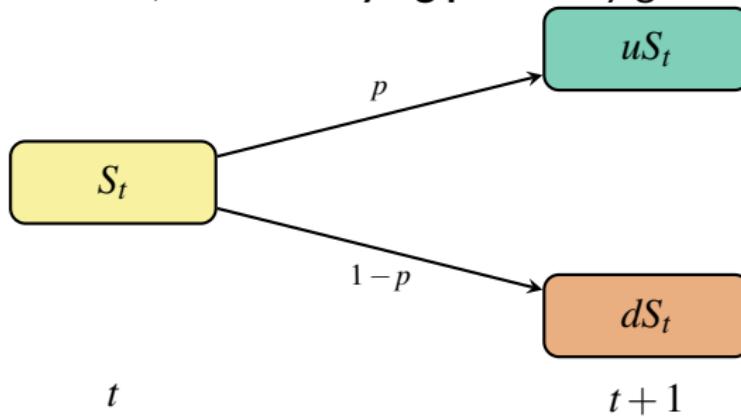
Using the **binomial model**, the underlying price follows:

$$S_{t+1} = \begin{cases} uS_t, & \text{with probability } p \\ dS_t, & \text{with probability } 1-p \end{cases}$$

In particular:

- p is the **physical probability** of being in the **up-state**;
- u is the multiplier of an **up move**;
- d is the multiplier of a **down move**.

From time t to $t + 1$, the **underlying price only goes up or down**:



Restriction on u and d

The following **restriction must hold** for the binomial model:

$$u > 1 + r > d$$

If $1 + r > u$:

- the risk-free asset **dominates** the underlying asset;
- **arbitrage by buying the risk-free asset and short selling the underlying asset.**

If $d > 1 + r$:

- the underlying asset **dominates** the risk-free asset;
- **arbitrage by buying the underlying asset and borrowing at the risk-free rate.**

Pricing by replication

Underlying price movements (Stock Tree)

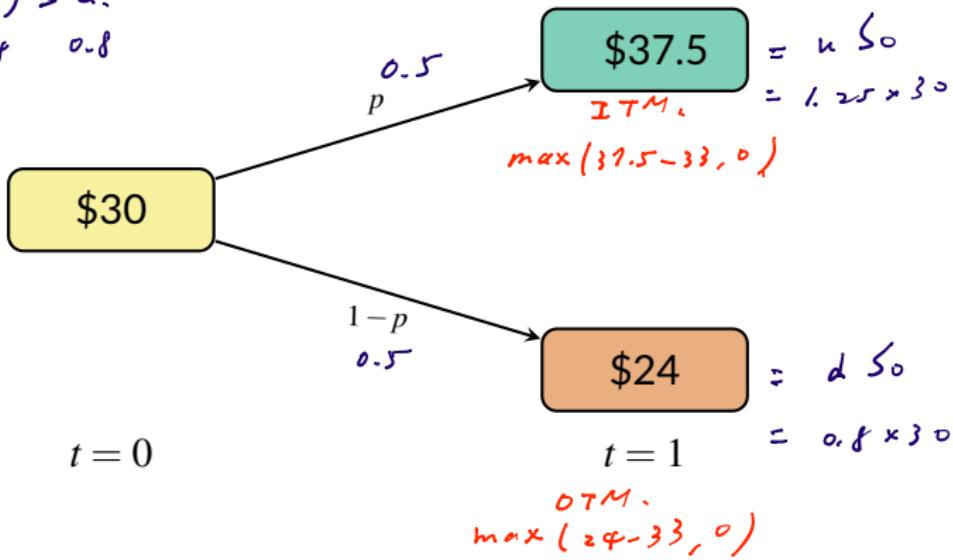
Suppose the price movements of a stock is given by a **one-period binomial model** with the following assumptions:

- $u = 1.25; d = 0.8;$ (use $d = \frac{1}{u}$)

- $p = 0.5; r = 2.4\%;$ and $S_0 = \$30.$ \rightarrow current market price.

$$u > (1+r) > d.$$

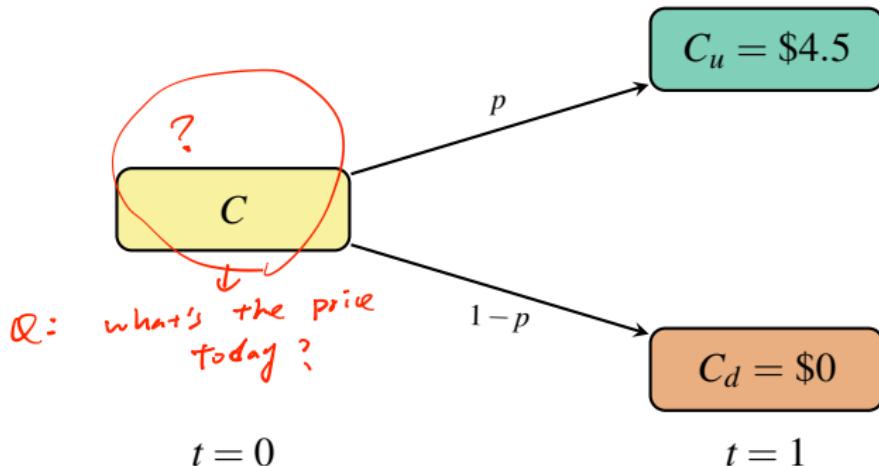
$$1.25 \quad 1.24 \quad 0.8$$



Replicating a call option

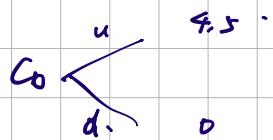
We want to replicate a call option with $K = \$33$. For instance:

- $C_u = \max[\$37.5 - \$33, 0] = \$\cancel{5.35}^{4.5}$,
- $C_d = \max[\$24 - \$33, 0] = \$0$.



Option Tree.

p: don't know
E(r): estimation



$$C_0 = \frac{p(4.5) + (1-p)0}{1+E(r)}$$

Let $C_0 = \Delta S_0 + B$,
↓
dollar amount.
borrow or lend
let $r = 2.4\%$.

$$\Rightarrow \Delta S_0 + B = C_0$$
$$\begin{aligned} C_u &= 4.5 \\ \Delta S_u + B(1+r) & \\ C_d &= 0 \\ \Delta S_d + B(1+r) & \end{aligned}$$

Solve:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta S_u + B(1+r) &= 4.5 & S_u &= 37.5 \\ -) \Delta S_d + B(1+r) &= 0 \dots \text{D} & S_d &= 24 \\ \Delta(S_u - S_d) &= 4.5 & \text{Hence } \Delta &= \frac{1}{3} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)S_0 + B(1+0.024) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow B = \frac{-8}{1.024} \text{ # }$$

求 $C_0 = \Delta S_0 + B$, S_0 is given to be 30^o

$$= \frac{1}{3} \times 30 - \frac{8}{1.024}$$

$$= -2.1875 \text{ #}$$

* Assume u & d.

prob p has no use at all

Replicating a call option

To replicate the payoffs at $t = 1$, we form a portfolio consisting of:
not "change"

- Δ units of the **underlying asset**;
- B dollars of the **risk-free asset** with return r .

In particular, we want the following **two equations** to hold:

$$\Delta \frac{S_u}{S_0} + (1+r)B = C_u$$

$$\Delta \frac{S_d}{S_0} + (1+r)B = C_d$$

After solving them: S_d .

$$\Delta = \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_0(u - d)}$$

$$B = \frac{1}{(1+r)} \left[\frac{uC_d - dC_u}{u - d} \right]$$

$$C_0 = \Delta S_0 + B.$$

Replicating a call option

for put:

$$S_0 + B = P_0$$

$P_u := \text{OTM}$

$P_d := \text{ITM}$

Table: Replicating a call option

Investment	Cash flows at		
	$t = 0$	$T = 1 : S_T < K$	$T = 1 : S_T \geq K$
Buy Δ underlying	$-\Delta S_t$	ΔS_T	ΔS_T
Invest B at r	$-B$	$B(1+r)$	$B(1+r)$
Net cash flows	$-(\Delta S_t + B)$	$\Delta dS_t + (1+r)B$	$\Delta uS_t + (1+r)B$

Replicating a call option

Therefore, the call option value at $t = 0$ is:

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \Delta S_0 + B \\ &= \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_0(u-d)} S_0 + \frac{1}{(1+r)} \left[\frac{uC_d - dC_u}{u-d} \right] \end{aligned}$$

By plugging in the numbers:

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{\$4.5}{\$30(1.25 - 0.8)} (\$30) + \frac{1}{(1.024)} \left[\frac{-0.8(\$4.5)}{1.25 - 0.8} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{3} (\$30) - \$7.8125 \\ &= \$2.1875 \quad \rightarrow \text{the one we have done} \end{aligned}$$

In other words, we replicate a call option by:

- buying $\Delta = \frac{1}{3}$ units of the underlying asset; $\$$.
- borrowing $B = -\$7.8125$ from the risk-free rate.

Option delta Δ

The call option value is given by:

$$C = \Delta S + B$$

$$P = \Delta S + B$$

Call: $\Delta \geq 0 \rightarrow \text{margin buy}$

Put: $\Delta \leq 0$

- Delta Δ is the number of shares of an underlying asset required to replicate the option.
- One share of option embeds Δ shares of the underlying asset.
- Δ also measures the sensitivity of the option price with respect to a change in the underlying asset price S .

If we differentiate the option value against S : - Option

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} = \Delta = \underbrace{\Delta S}_{\text{const}} + \underbrace{\beta S}_{\text{const}}$$

- To get hedge position:

$$\text{Option} - \Delta S = B \text{ (const)}$$

Arbitrage from an under/overvalued call option

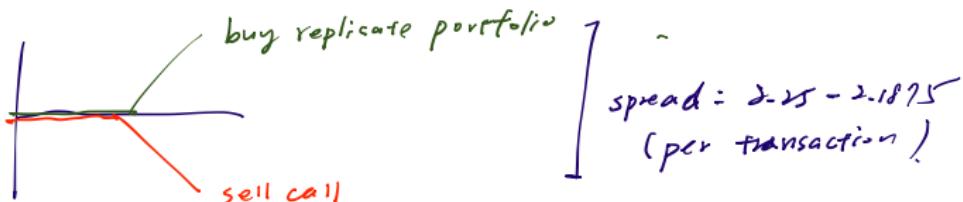
Fair value: \$1875

Suppose the same call option is trading at \$2.25 (**overvalued**), we earn an **arbitrage profit** by:

- **selling the call option** at \$2.25; *(earn)*
- **buying the replicating portfolio** at \$2.1875. *(cost)*

If its price is \$2 (**undervalued**), we make an **arbitrage profit** by:

- **buying the call option** at \$2;
- **selling the replicating portfolio** at \$2.1875.



Risk-neutral probability

$$C_0 = \alpha S_0 + \beta$$

knowing

$$\alpha = \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_u - S_d} = \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_0(u-d)}$$

$$C_u = \alpha S_u + (1+r) \beta$$

$$\Rightarrow C_u = \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_0(u-d)} S_u + (1+r) \beta.$$

$$\Rightarrow C_u - \frac{C_u - C_d}{S_0(u-d)} S_u = (1+r) \beta$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta = \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{S_u (C_u(u-d) - C_u S_u + C_d S_u)}{S_0 (u-d)} \right].$$

$$= \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{C_u (S_u - S_d) - C_u S_u + C_d S_u}{S_0 (u-d)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{S_0 (C_u x - d) + S_0 (C_d x u)}{S_0 (u-d)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{u (d - d C_u)}{(u-d)} \right] \#$$

Result:

$$C_0 = \alpha S_0 + \beta$$

$$= \frac{Cu - Cd}{S_0(u-\alpha)} S_0 + \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{u(Cd - \alpha Cu)}{(u-\alpha)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{(1+r)}{(1+r)} \frac{Cu - Cd}{(u-\alpha)} + \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{u(Cd - \alpha Cu)}{(u-\alpha)} \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{Cu(1+r-\alpha) + Cd(u-1-r)}{(1+r)(u-\alpha)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\underbrace{\frac{(1+r-\alpha)}{u-\alpha} Cu}_{\text{target}} + \underbrace{\frac{u-1-r}{u-\alpha} Cd}_{\text{target}} \right]$$

Define:

$$f = \frac{1+r-\alpha}{u-\alpha}$$

$$\Rightarrow 1-f = 1 - \frac{(1+r-\alpha)}{u-\alpha} = \frac{u-1-r}{u-\alpha} \neq$$

Simplify: $\downarrow C_0 = \frac{1}{1+r} [f Cu + (1-f) Cd]$

target

$$\Rightarrow C_0 = \frac{1}{1+r} E^{\alpha} (C_1) \quad \dots \text{structure.}$$

↓ ↓

discounting expected cash flow
factor

However, C_0 still = $\alpha S_0 + B$.

Hence, it's not actually a prob func. (no uncertainty)

And we call q = risk-neutral prob.

$$q = \frac{1+r-d}{u-d}$$

, Look back to prob laws:

(pf.)

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \begin{cases} q \geq 0 \\ 1-q \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$u > (1+r) > d$$

$$\frac{1+r-d}{u-d} > 0, \quad \frac{u-(1+r)}{u-d} > 0$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \sum_{i=1}^n q_i = 1. \quad q + (1-q) = 1$$

Risk-neutral probability

So far, the general formula for pricing a call option is:

$$C = \Delta S + B$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{C_u - C_d}{(u-d)} + \frac{1}{(1+r)} \left[\frac{uC_d - dC_u}{u-d} \right] \\ &= \frac{(1+r)C_u - dC_u}{(1+r)(u-d)} + \frac{uC_d - (1+r)C_d}{(1+r)(u-d)} \\ &= \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\frac{(1+r)-d}{u-d} C_u + \frac{u-(1+r)}{u-d} C_d \right] \end{aligned}$$

By defining the **risk-neutral probability** as:

$$q = \frac{(1+r)-d}{u-d} \quad \text{and} \quad 1-q = \frac{u-(1+r)}{u-d}$$

When $u > 1+r > d$, q behaves just like probability as:

$$1 > q > 0 \quad \text{and} \quad q + (1-q) = 1$$

Change of measure:

Replace P (physical prob) with

Measure Ω (martingale measure)



risk neutral.

Risk-neutral probability

discounting factor; originally: $\frac{1}{1+r} = ?$

As we replicate the option future payoffs perfectly state by state:

- we can use the **risk-free rate** to discount the **risk-neutral expectation** of C_u and C_d ;
- we can replace the **physical probability measure \mathbb{P}** with the **equivalent martingale measure \mathbb{Q}** in pricing derivatives.

Therefore, we have:

$$S_t = \frac{1}{1+r} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[S_T] = \frac{1}{1+r+\lambda} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[S_T]$$

↓
observed price

↓
Risk premium.
(sq. CAPM)

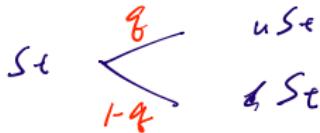
In a risk-neutral world:

- Risk premium λ is always zero.**
- Expected returns of all assets are always the risk-free rate.**

r_f

Risk-neutral probability

t T



Under the **risk-neutral measure \mathbb{Q}** , we can show that the price of the **underlying asset** is expected to grow at the **risk-free rate**:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[S_T] &= q u S_t + (1 - q) d S_t \\ &= \frac{(1+r) - d}{u - d} u S_t + \frac{u - (1+r)}{u - d} d S_t \\ &= \frac{(1+r)(u-d)}{u-d} S_t \\ &= (1+r) S_t\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow E^{\mathbb{Q}}\left(\frac{S_T}{S_t}\right) = \frac{(1+r)}{\downarrow \text{growing rate}}$$

Risk-neutral option pricing

Risk-neutral option pricing

Hence, we have the **risk-neutral pricing formula** for call options:

$$C = \frac{1}{1+r} [qC_u + (1-q)C_d]$$

If we generalize the model further by defining:

- T : time to maturity of an option;
- $h = T/n$: time step used in the binomial model; n : steps.
- r : continuously compounded risk-free rate;
- δ : continuously dividend rate;
- S : current price of the underlying asset.

The formula becomes:

$$C = e^{-rh} [qC_u + (1-q)C_d]$$

where:

$$q = \frac{e^{(r-\delta)h} - d}{u - d}.$$

Risk-neutral option pricing

Table: Replicating a call option

Investment	Cash flows at		
	t	$T : S_T < K$	$T : S_T \geq K$
Buy Δ underlying	$-\Delta S_t$	$\Delta dS_t e^{\delta h}$	$\Delta uS_t e^{\delta h}$
Invest B at r	$-B$	Be^{rh}	Be^{rh}
Net cash flows	$-(\Delta S_t + B)$	$\Delta dS_t e^{\delta h} + Be^{rh}$	$\Delta uS_t e^{\delta h} + Be^{rh}$

We need to solve the following **two equations**:

$$\Delta uS_t e^{\delta h} + Be^{rh} = C_u$$

$$\Delta dS_t e^{\delta h} + Be^{rh} = C_d$$

Risk-neutral option pricing

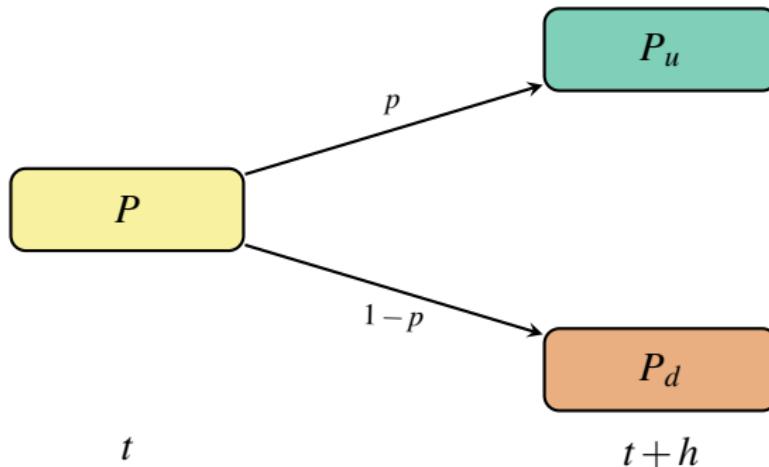
Similarly, the **risk-neutral pricing formula** for put options is:

$$P = \frac{1}{1+r} [qP_u + (1-q)P_d]$$

or:

$$P = e^{-rh} [qP_u + (1-q)P_d]$$

The binomial tree is given by:



Binomial tree

Cox-Ross-Rubinstein (CRR) tree

Following the **CRR** approach, we can form a n -period binomial tree with maturity of T by:

$$u = e^{\sigma\sqrt{T/n}} = e^{\sigma\sqrt{h}} \quad h = \frac{T}{n}.$$

define: $d = \frac{1}{u} = e^{-\sigma\sqrt{h}}$

σ : only source of risk

$$q = \frac{e^{rh} - d}{u - d} \approx \frac{(1+r) - d}{u - d}$$

(we have derived !)

The ratio of u/d reflects the **volatility** of the underlying asset:

$$\sigma = \left[\frac{1}{2\sqrt{h}} \right] \ln \left[\frac{u}{d} \right]$$

$$\frac{u}{d} = e^{>6Jh} \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{u}{d} \right) = > 6Jh.$$

$$\Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{u}{d} \right) \frac{1}{2Jh} = 6$$

One-period binomial tree

Suppose $S = \$10$, $T = 0.5$, $n = 1$, and $\sigma = 0.2$:

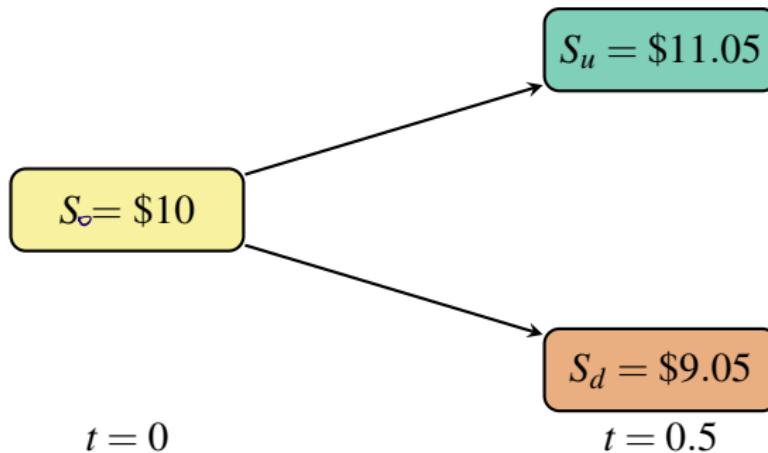
$$h = \frac{0.5}{T} = 0.5^{\text{year}}$$

$$S_u = \$10e^{0.2\sqrt{0.5}} = \$11.05$$

$$S_u = S_0 e^{e^{Jh}}$$

$$S_d = \$10e^{-0.2\sqrt{0.5}} = \$9.05$$

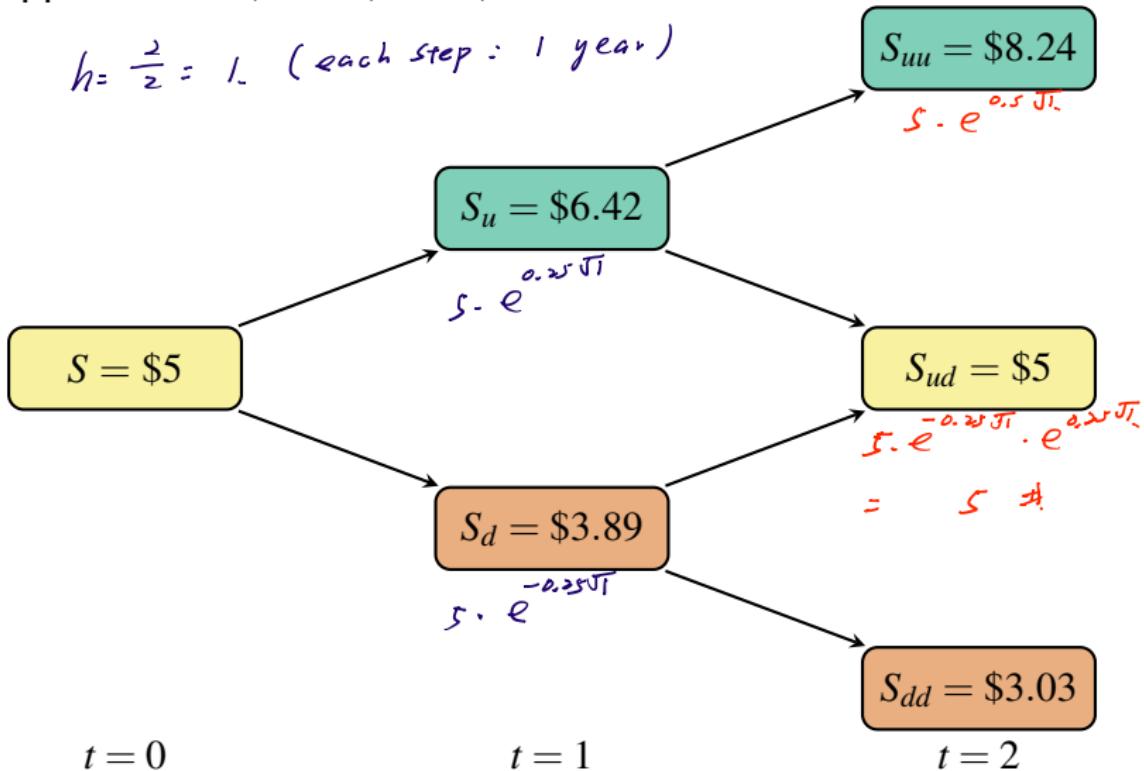
$$S_d = S_0 e^{-e^{Jh}}$$



Two-period binomial tree

Suppose $S = \$5$, $T = 2$, $n = 2$, and $\sigma = 0.25$:

$$h = \frac{2}{2} = 1 \quad (\text{each step : 1 year})$$



$t = 0$

$t = 1$

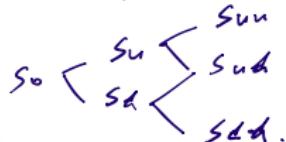
$t = 2$

Binomial tree and option pricing

Using the values on the n -period binomial tree, we can use the risk-neutral pricing formula to price options through backward induction: (Start at T , work back to $t = 0$)

1. Determine the $n+1$ terminal payoffs of an option at T .
2. Calculate the risk-neutral probability q .
3. Compute the $T-h$ period option value from the payoffs.
4. Check for early exercise in American options by comparing the exercise value with the European option value.
5. Repeat the same process until $t = 0$.

1. $n=2 \dots, 3$ terminal payoffs.

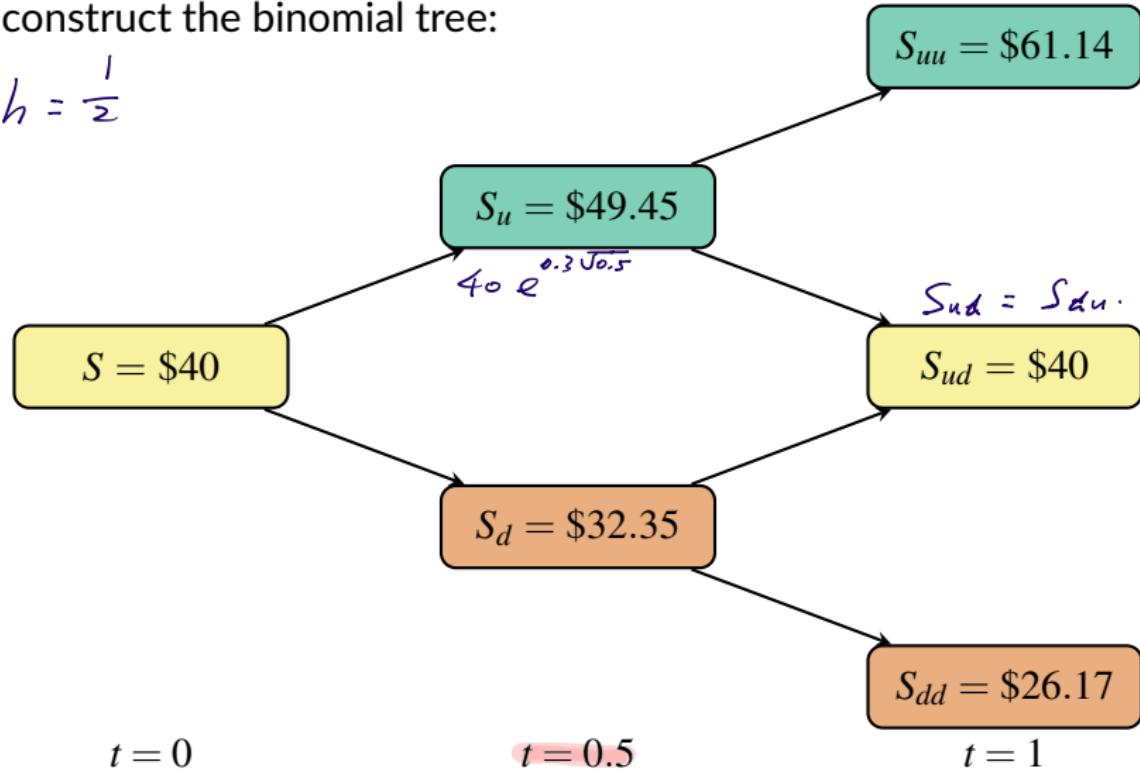


European options

European call options

Given that $S = \$40$, $r = 8\%$, $\sigma = 30\%$, $T = 1$, and $n = 2$, we first construct the binomial tree:

$$h = \frac{1}{2}$$



European call options

To price a European call option with $K = \$40$, we compute the **risk-neutral probability** as:

$$u = e^{(30\%) \sqrt{0.5}} = 1.236$$

$$d = e^{-(30\%) \sqrt{0.5}} = 0.809$$

$$q = \frac{e^{0.5(8\%)} - 0.809}{1.236 - 0.809} = 0.543$$

The **terminal payoffs** are:

$$\text{ITM} \quad C_{uu} = \max(S_{uu} - K, 0) = \max(61.14 - 40, 0) = \$21.139$$

$$\text{ATM} \quad C_{ud} = C_{du} = \max(40 - 40, 0) = \$0$$

$$\text{OTM} \quad C_{dd} = \$0$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 C_u \xrightarrow{q} C_{uu} = 21.14 \\
 C_u \xrightarrow{1-q} C_{ud} = 0 \\
 C_d \xrightarrow{q} C_{du} = 0 \\
 C_d \xrightarrow{1-q} C_{dd} = 0
 \end{array}$$

$$C_u = e^{-rh} [q C_{uu} + (1-q) C_{ud}].$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 r &= 0.08 \\
 h &= 0.5
 \end{aligned}
 \quad C_u = e^{-\frac{0.08}{2}} [0.543 \times 21.139 + 0].$$

$$C_d = 0 \quad \text{since } C_{ud} \text{ & } C_{dd} \text{ both } = 0$$

Hence,

$$C = e^{-\frac{0.08}{2}} [0.543 \times 11.021 + 0] = 5.746$$

European call options

The **intermediate option prices** are:

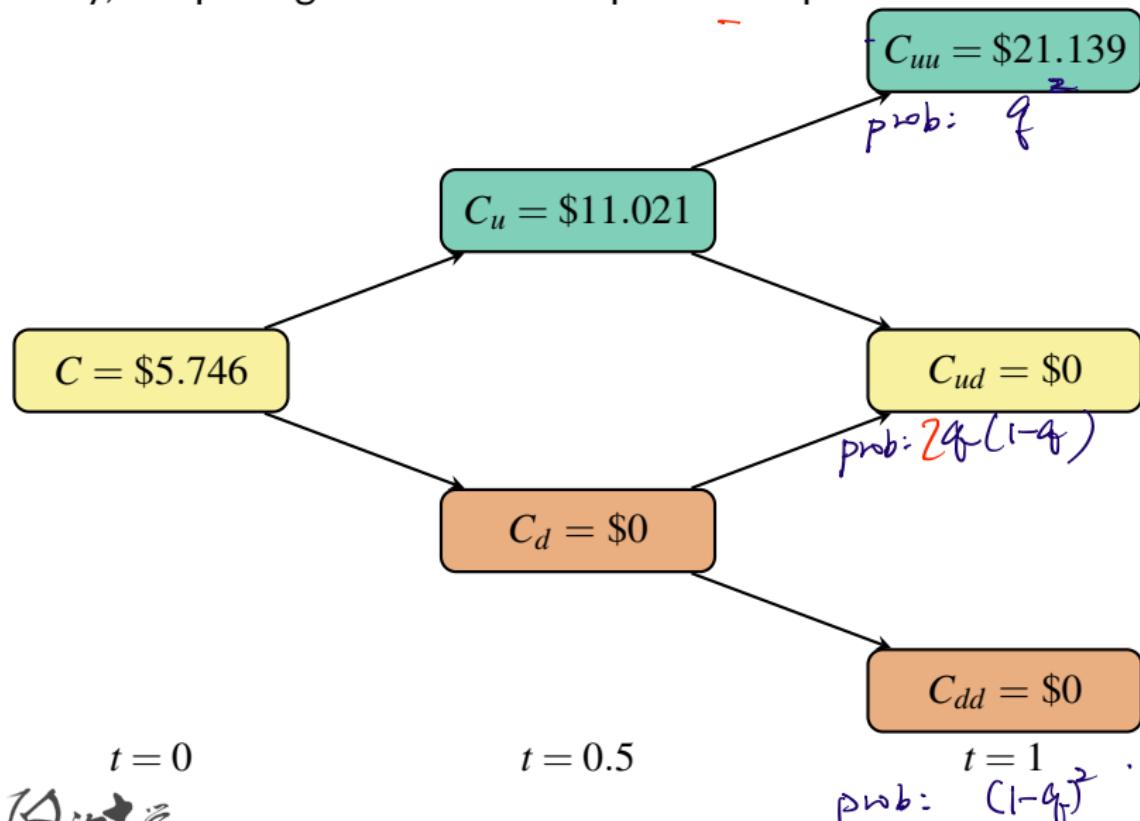
$$C_u = e^{-0.5(8\%)} [0.543(\$21.139)] = \$11.021$$
$$C_d = \$0$$

The **current option price** is:

$$C = e^{-0.5(8\%)} [0.543(\$11.021)] = \$5.746$$

European call options

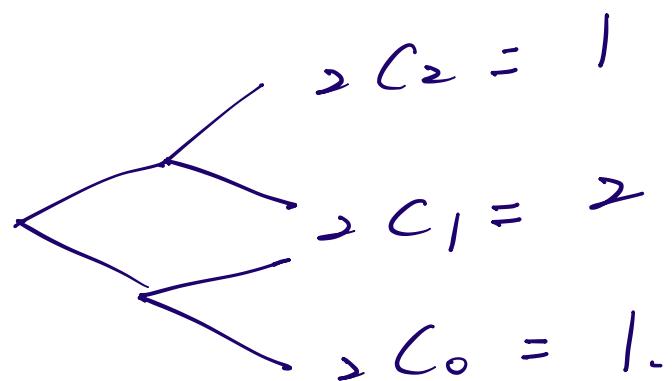
Lastly, the pricing tree of the European call option is:



Σ Terminal State prob

$$= q^2 + q(1-q) + (1-q)^2$$

$$= [q + (1-q)]^2 = 1.$$



C_n : n'th up step.

$$G_0 = e^{-rT} [$$

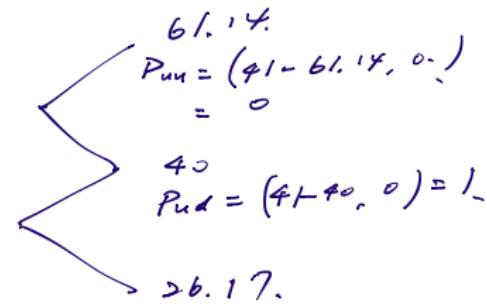
European put options

To price a European put option with $K = \$41$, we determine its terminal payoffs to be:

$$P_{uu} = \$0$$

$$P_{ud} = P_{du} = \$1$$

$$P_{dd} = \$14.830$$



The intermediate option prices are:

$$P_u = e^{-0.5(8\%)} [0.457(\$1)] = \$0.439$$

$$P_d = e^{-0.5(8\%)} [0.543(\$1) + 0.457(\$14.830)] = \$7.038$$

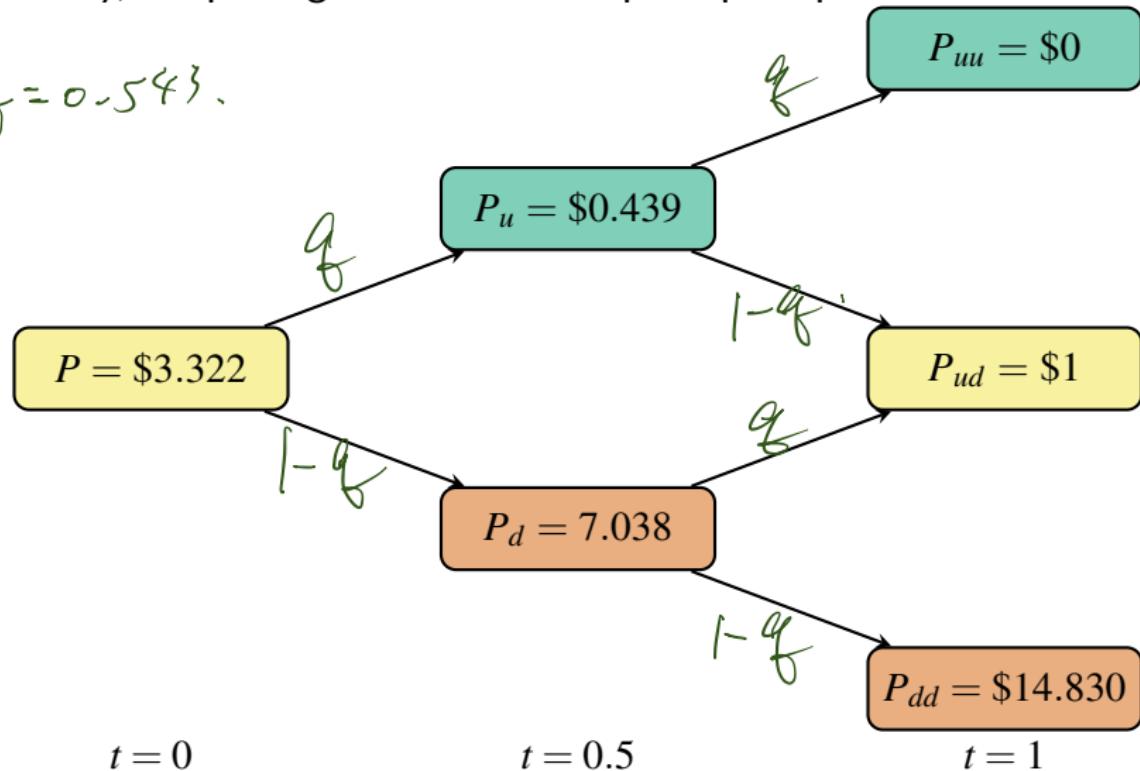
The current option price is:

$$P = e^{-0.5(8\%)} [0.543(\$0.439) + 0.457(\$7.038)] = \$3.322$$

European put options

Finally, the pricing tree of the European put option is:

$$q = 0.543$$



American options

American options

For **American options**, we need to **check for early exercise** at each node. Specifically, we compare the **immediate exercise value** with the associated **European option value**:

- For call options:

$$\tau < T,$$

$$C_{A,\tau} = \max[S_\tau - K, C_{E,\tau}]$$

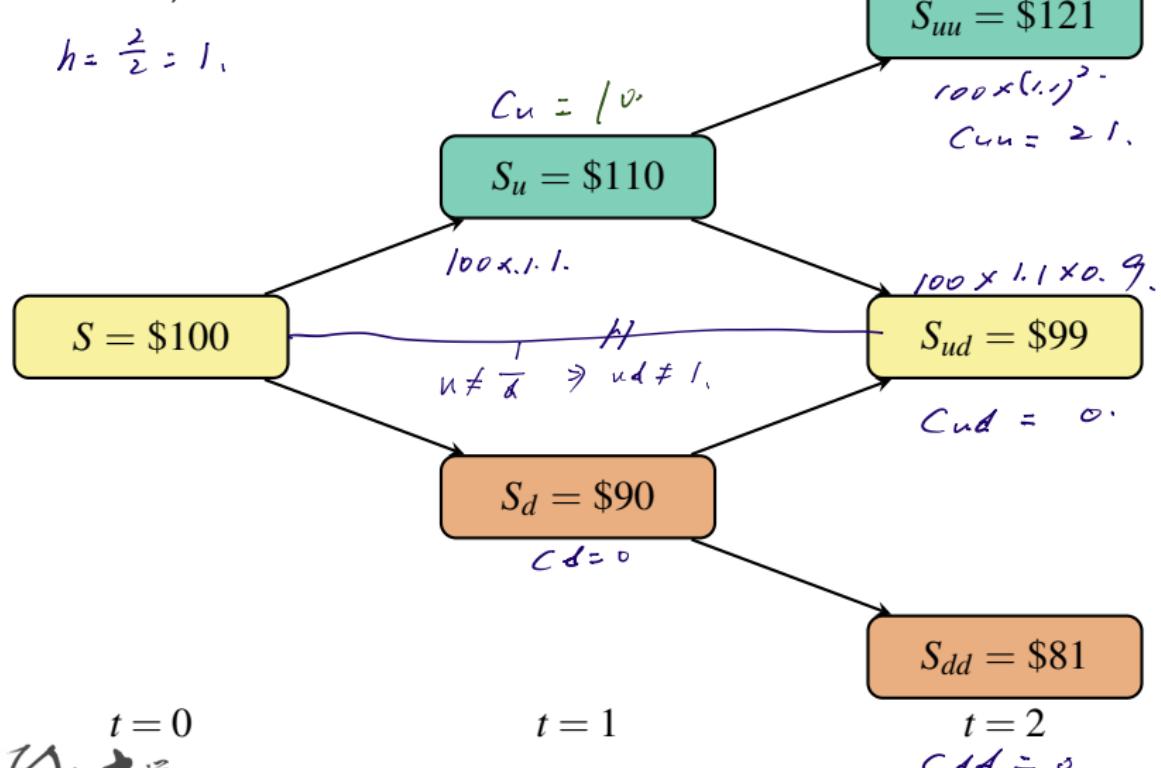
- For put options:

$$P_{A,\tau} = \max[K - S_\tau, P_{E,\tau}]$$

<

American call options

Given that $S = \$100$, $1+r = 1.02$, $u = 1.1$, $d = 0.9$, $\delta = 0.05$, $T = 2$, and $n = 2$, we first construct the binomial tree:



American call options

$$\text{continuous : } \frac{e^{(r-\delta)h} - d}{u - d} \quad (\text{for exam})$$

To price an American call option with $K = 100$, we compute the **risk-neutral probability** as:

$$(\text{discrete}) \quad q = \frac{1.02(1 - 0.05) - 0.9}{1.1 - 0.9} = 0.345 \quad \frac{(1+r)(1-\delta) - d}{u - d}$$

The terminal payoffs are:

$$C_{A,uu} = \$121 - \$100 = \$21$$

$$C_{A,ud} = C_{A,du} = \$0$$

$$C_{A,dd} = \$0$$

American call options

The intermediate European call prices are:

$$C_{E,u} = \frac{1}{1.02}[0.345(\$21)] = \$7.103 = \frac{1}{1+r} [q C_{uu} + (1-q) C_{ud}]$$
$$C_{E,d} = \$0$$

So it is optimal to early exercise the American call in the up-state:

$$C_{A,u} = \max[\$110 - \$100, \$7.103] = \$10$$
$$C_{A,d} = \$0$$

early exercise *waiting value*

The current American call price is:

$$C_A = \frac{1}{1.02}[0.345(\$10)] = \$3.38 > C_E = \$2.403$$

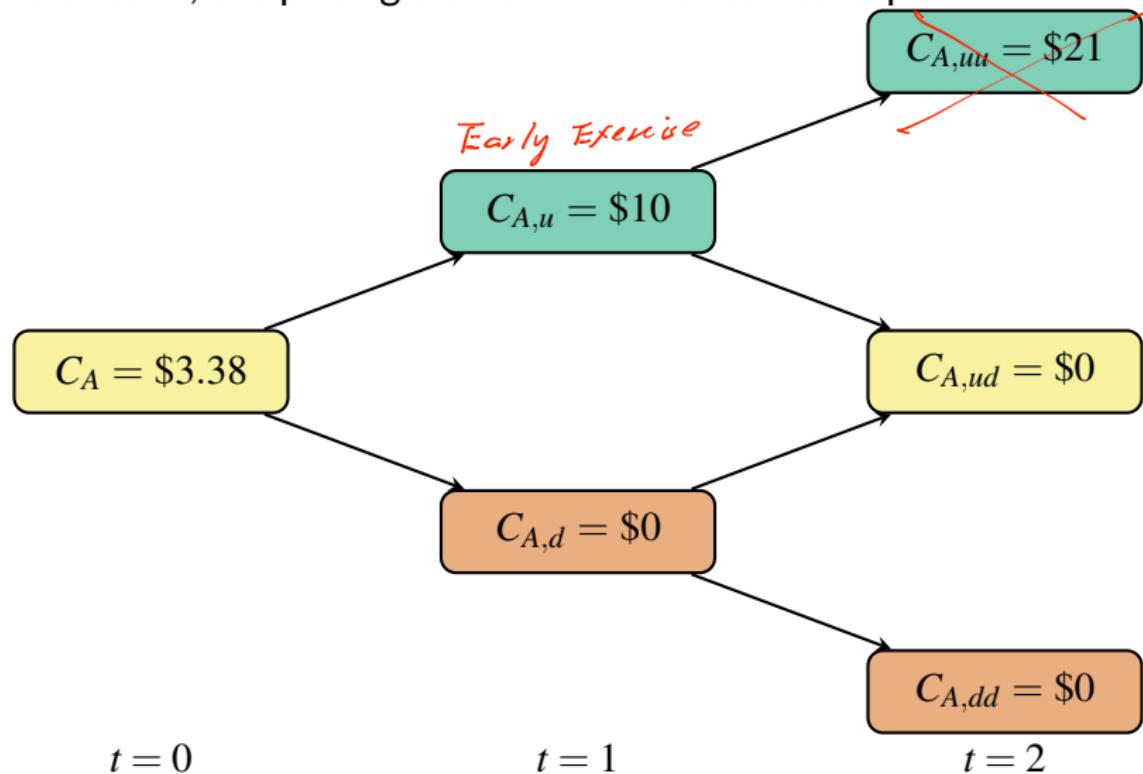
back to $t=0$

$$\frac{1}{1+r} [q \cdot C_{A,u}] .$$

$$\frac{1}{1+r} [q \cdot 7.103] .$$

American call options

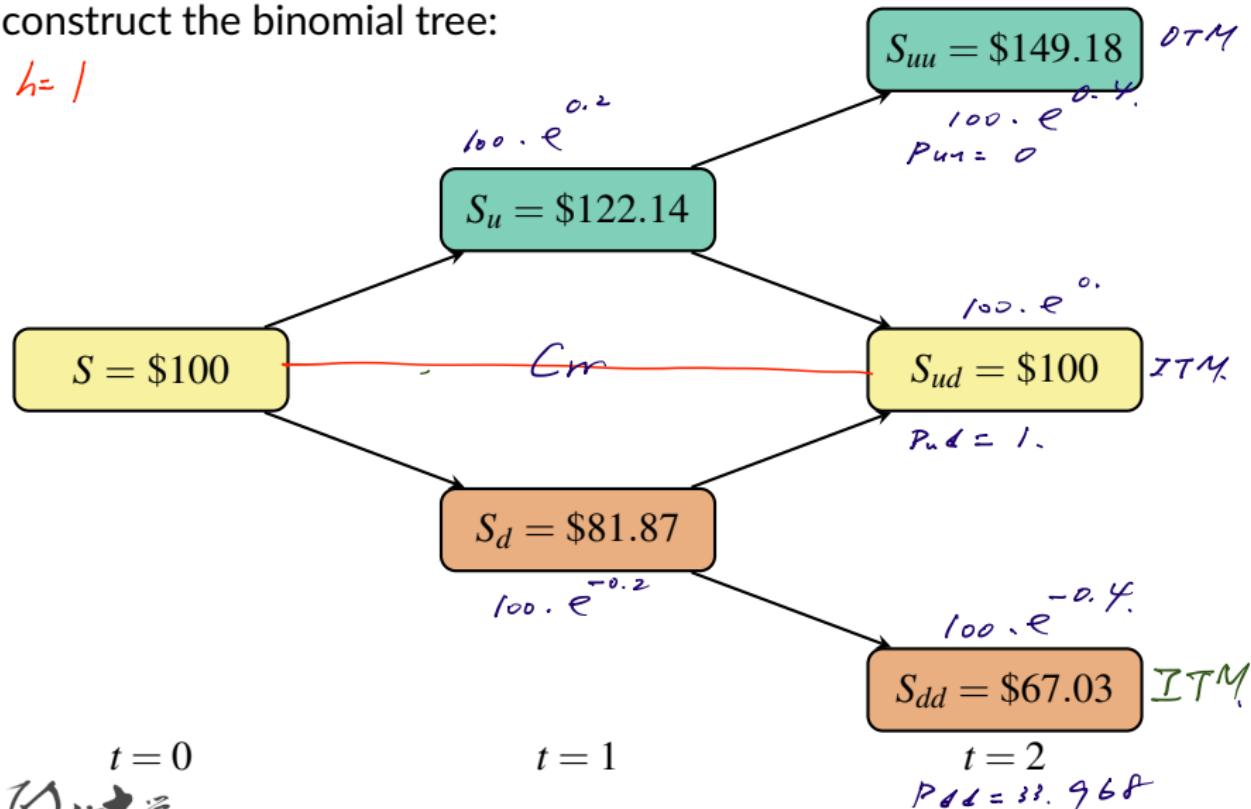
As a result, the pricing tree of the American call option is:



American put options

Given that $S = \$100$, $r = 0.05$, $\sigma = 0.2$, $T = 2$, and $n = 2$, we first construct the binomial tree:

$$h = 1$$



American put options

To price an American put option with $K = \$101$, we compute the risk-neutral probability as:

$$q = \frac{e^{0.05} - 0.8187}{1.2214 - 0.8187} = 0.5775 \quad q_f = \frac{e^{r_h} - d}{u - d}$$

Its terminal payoffs are:

$$P_{A,uu} = \$0$$

$$P_{A,ud} = P_{A,du} = \$1$$

$$P_{A,dd} = \$33.968$$

The intermediate European put prices are:

$$P_{E,u} = e^{-0.05}[0.4225(\$1)] = \$0.4019$$

$$P_{E,d} = e^{-0.05}[0.5775(\$1) + 0.4225(\$33.968)] = \$14.2009$$

American put options

Again, it is optimal to early exercise the American put in the down-state:

$$P_{A,u} = \$0.4019$$

$$P_{E,d}$$

$$P_{A,d} = \max[\$101 - \$81.8731, \$14.2009] = \$19.1269$$

The current American put price is:

$$\begin{aligned} P_A &= e^{-0.05}[0.5775(\$0.4019) + 0.4225(\$19.1269)] \\ &= \$7.9079 > P_E = \$5.9282 \end{aligned}$$

American put options

Ultimately, the pricing tree of the American put option is:

