

# Computational Finance

## FIN-472

### Transform methods for pricing II

**Sergio Pulido**

Swiss Finance Institute @ EPFL  
Lausanne, Switzerland

# Outline

- 1 Characteristic function of stochastic models
- 2 FFT method

# Table of contents

1 Characteristic function of stochastic models

2 FFT method

# Black-Scholes model

- As we already noted in this model  $S_T = \exp(X_T)$  where

$$X_T \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \ln S_0 + \left( r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) T, \sigma^2 T \right)$$

- Hence we have that

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(i\nu X_T) | X_0 = x] = \exp \left( i\nu \left( x + \left( r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) T \right) - \frac{\sigma^2 \nu^2}{2} T \right) \quad (1)$$

# Affine models

- **Affine processes** are widely used to model stochastic factors, e.g. log prices, spot interest rates
- This is a large class of processes whose **characteristic function is tractable**
- In broad terms, a **Markov process**  $(X_t)_{t \geq 0} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is an affine process if its characteristic function is exponentially affine in the initial state variable. This is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\exp(i\langle \nu, X_T \rangle) | X_t = x] &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(i\langle \nu, X_T^{t,x} \rangle)] \\ &= \exp(\varphi(T - t, \nu) + \langle \psi(T - t, \nu), x \rangle)\end{aligned}\tag{2}$$

for some functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$

# Example - Back to Black-Scholes

- In this case:  $dX_t = (r - \sigma^2/2)dt + \sigma dW_t$
- The characteristic function

$$v(t, x) := \mathbb{E}[\exp(i\nu X_T) | X_t = x] \quad (3)$$

satisfies the PDE

$$v_t + \mathcal{G}v = 0 \quad (4)$$

with terminal condition  $v(T, x) = \exp(i\nu x)$ , where

$$\mathcal{G}v = (r - \sigma^2/2)v_x + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}v_{xx}$$

- Assuming that  $v$  has the form (2), we obtain a system of ODEs for  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  whose solution is

$$\psi(t, \nu) = i\nu$$

$$\varphi(t, \nu) = t \left( -\frac{\sigma^2 \nu^2}{2} + i\nu \left( r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 \right) \right)$$

- This is coherent with formula (1)

# Example - OU process

- **Ornstein Uhlenbeck process:** In this model

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \lambda dW_t$$

- The function  $v$  defined in (3) satisfies (4) with

$$\mathcal{G}v = \kappa(\theta - x)v_x + \frac{\lambda^2}{2}v_{xx}$$

- Assuming that  $v$  has the form (2), we obtain a system of ODEs for  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  whose solution is

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(t, \nu) &= i\nu e^{-\kappa t} \\ \varphi(t, \nu) &= -\frac{\nu^2 \lambda^2 (1 - e^{-2\kappa t})}{4\kappa} + i\nu \theta (1 - e^{-\kappa t})\end{aligned}$$

## Example - OU process (cont.)

- The characteristic function has the form

$$v(t, x) = \exp \left( i\nu(e^{-\kappa(T-t)}x + \theta(1 - e^{-\kappa(T-t)})) - \frac{\nu^2\lambda^2}{4\kappa}(1 - e^{-2\kappa(T-t)}) \right)$$

- *Observation:* It can be shown that

$$X_t = e^{-\kappa t} X_0 + \theta(1 - e^{-\kappa t}) + \int_0^t \lambda e^{\kappa(s-t)} dW_s$$

is normally distributed

- This type of processes is used in the [Vasicek model](#) to describe the evolution of spot interest rates



# Example - CIR process

- **Cox-Ingersoll-Ross Model / Feller diffusion:** In this model

$$dX_t = \kappa(\theta - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t}dW_t$$

- The function  $v$  defined in (3) satisfies (4) with

$$\mathcal{G}v = \kappa(\theta - x)v_x + \frac{\sigma^2 x}{2}v_{xx}$$

- Assuming that  $v$  has the form (2), we obtain a system of ODEs for  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  whose solution is

$$\begin{aligned}\psi(t, \nu) &= \frac{e^{-\kappa t} i \nu}{1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{2\kappa}(1 - e^{-\kappa t}) i \nu} \\ \varphi(t, \nu) &= -\frac{2\kappa\theta}{\sigma^2} \log \left( 1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{2\kappa}(1 - e^{-\kappa t}) i \nu \right)\end{aligned}$$

# Example - CIR process (cont.)

- The characteristic function has the form

$$v(t, x) = \left( 1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{2\kappa} (1 - e^{-\kappa(T-t)}) i\nu \right)^{-\frac{2\kappa\theta}{\sigma^2}} \exp \left( \frac{e^{-\kappa(T-t)} i\nu x}{1 - \frac{\sigma^2}{2\kappa} (1 - e^{-\kappa(T-t)}) i\nu} \right)$$

- This means that

$$\frac{X_t}{\frac{\sigma^2}{4\kappa}(1 - e^{-\kappa t})}$$

has a **non-central**  $\chi^2$  - distribution with parameters

$$k = \frac{4\kappa\theta}{\sigma^2}, \quad \alpha = \frac{e^{-\kappa t} X_0}{\frac{\sigma^2}{4\kappa}(1 - e^{-\kappa t})}$$

# Example - Heston model

- In this model we have

$$dX_t = (r - V_t/2)dt + \sqrt{V_t}dW_t^{(1)}$$

$$dV_t = \kappa(\theta - V_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{V_t}dW_t^{(2)}$$

where  $W^{(1)}, W^{(2)}$  are Brownian motions with correlation  $\rho$

- Assume

$$\begin{aligned} u(t, x, v) &:= \mathbb{E}[\exp(i(\nu_1 X_T + \nu_2 V_T)) | X_t = x, V_t = v] \\ &= \exp(\varphi(T - t, \nu_1, \nu_2) + \psi_1(T - t, \nu_1, \nu_2)x + \psi_2(T - t, \nu_1, \nu_2)v) \end{aligned}$$

- Then  $u$  satisfies the PDE

$$u_t + \mathcal{G}u = 0,$$

with terminal condition  $u(T, x) = \exp(i(\nu_1 x + \nu_2 v))$ , where

$$\mathcal{G}u = \frac{1}{2}vu_{xx} + \rho\sigma vu_{xv} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}vu_{vv} + (r - v/2)u_x + \kappa(\theta - v)u_v$$

## Example - Heston model (cont.)

- This leads so a system of ODEs for  $\varphi, \psi_1, \psi_2$ . The solution of this system when  $\nu_1 = \nu, \nu_2 = 0$  is

$$\varphi(t, \nu, 0) = \frac{\kappa\theta}{\sigma^2} \left[ (\beta - \gamma)t - 2 \ln \left( \frac{1 - \alpha e^{-\gamma t}}{1 - \alpha} \right) \right] + i\nu r t$$

$$\psi^1(t, \nu, 0) = i\nu$$

$$\psi^2(t, \nu, 0) = \frac{\beta - \gamma}{\sigma^2} \frac{1 - e^{-\gamma t}}{1 - \alpha e^{-\gamma t}}$$

where  $\beta = \kappa - i\nu\rho\sigma$ ,  $\gamma = \sqrt{\beta^2 + \sigma^2(\nu^2 + i\nu)}$  and  $\alpha = \frac{\beta - \gamma}{\beta + \gamma}$

- This is consistent with the **form given in slide 36** of the previous lecture
- *Observation:* These formulas are **only well defined on a finite interval of times**

# Example - Lévy processes

- For a Lévy process  $X$  (2) corresponds to the **Lévy-Khintchine formula**

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(i\theta X_T)|X_t = x] = \exp(i\theta x + (T - t)\varphi(\theta))$$

where

$$\varphi(\theta) = ib\theta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\theta^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} (e^{i\theta y} - 1 - i\theta y 1_{\{|y| \leq 1\}}) d\nu(y)$$

- *Financial models:* **Jumps are modeled using Lévy processes**
  - Variance Gamma (VG) model
  - (CGMY) model
  - Normal Inverse Gaussian Model

# Affine models - The Generator

For affine processes, the **infinitesimal generator**  $\mathcal{G}$  is a integro-differential operator of the form

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{G}f(x) = & \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(A(x) \nabla^2 f(x)) + B(x)^T \nabla f(x) \\ & + \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} (f(x + \xi) - f(x) - \xi^T \nabla f(x)) \lambda(x, d\xi) \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

with  $A, B, \lambda$  of the form

$$\begin{aligned} A(x) &= a + \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d} \\ B(x) &= b + \sum_{i=1}^d x_i \beta_i = b + \mathcal{B}x \in \mathbb{R}^d \\ \lambda(x, d\xi) &= \nu(d\xi) + \langle x, m(d\xi) \rangle \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Here  $a$  and the  $\alpha'_i$ 's are  $d \times d$  matrices.  $b$  and the  $\beta'_i$ 's are vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ; and  $\mathcal{B} = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d)$  is a  $d \times d$  matrix

# Affine models - Characteristics

- The parameters  $(B, A, \lambda)$  are known as **the semimartingale characteristics of the process**
- Similarly to the case of Lévy models:
  - $B$  controls the drift of the continuous part
  - $A$  controls the volatility of the continuous part
  - $\lambda$  is related to the jumps of the process
- In Lévy models  $\alpha = \beta = m = 0$

# Affine models - The functions $\varphi$ and $\psi$

- For  $t \leq T$  let

$$\begin{aligned} v(t, x) &:= \mathbb{E}[\exp(i\langle \nu, X_T \rangle) | X_t = x] \\ &= \exp(\varphi(T - t, \nu) + \langle \psi(T - t, \nu), x \rangle) \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

- Then  $v$  satisfies the following PIDE

$$v_t + \mathcal{G}v = 0$$

with terminal condition  $v(T, x) = \exp(i\langle \nu, x \rangle)$

- This leads us to a **system of ODEs for the functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$**



# Affine models - The functions $\varphi$ and $\psi$ - Diffusions

Assuming that  $\lambda = 0$  (no jumps) we have the following result

## Theorem 1

The functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi = (\psi^1, \dots, \psi^d)^T$  solve the *system of Riccati equations*

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_t(t, \nu) &= \frac{1}{2} \psi(t, \nu)^T a \psi(t, \nu) + b^T \psi(t, \nu) \\ \varphi(0, \nu) &= 0 \\ \psi_t^i(t, \nu) &= \frac{1}{2} \psi(t, \nu)^T \alpha_i \psi(t, \nu) + \beta_i^T \psi(t, \nu) \quad 1 \leq i \leq d \\ \psi(0, \nu) &= i\nu\end{aligned}\tag{8}$$

In particular  $\varphi$  is given by the integration formula

$$\varphi(t, \nu) = \int_0^t \left( \frac{1}{2} \psi(s, \nu)^T a \psi(s, \nu) + b^T \psi(s, \nu) \right) ds \tag{9}$$

# Table of contents

1 Characteristic function of stochastic models

2 FFT method

# Back to Carr-Madan - Truncation error

We recall the pricing formula

$$C(k) = \frac{e^{-\alpha k}}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \operatorname{Re} \left( \widehat{C}_\alpha(\nu) \exp(-i\nu k) \right) d\nu \quad (10)$$

where

$$\widehat{C}_\alpha(\nu) = e^{-rT} \frac{\phi(\nu - i(\alpha + 1))}{(\alpha + i\nu)(\alpha + 1 + i\nu)} \quad (11)$$

$\phi$  is the characteristic function of the log price,  $k$  is the log strike and  $\alpha$  is an appropriate damping factor

## Proposition 1

*Suppose that we truncate the integral in (10) at a level  $L$ . Then the error from the truncation is bounded by*

$$\text{error} \leq \frac{e^{-\alpha k} \mathbb{E}[S_T^{\alpha+1}]}{\pi L} \quad (12)$$

# Back to Carr-Madan - Truncation error (cont.)

## Proof:

- We have that  $|\phi(\nu - i(\alpha + 1))| \leq \mathbb{E}[S_T^{\alpha+1}]$
- Also

$$\nu^4 \leq |\alpha^2 + \alpha - \nu^2 + i\nu(2\alpha + 1)|^2$$

- The bound follows from the previous inequalities because

$$\int_L^\infty \nu^{-2} d\nu = L^{-1}$$

# Back to Carr-Madan - Trapezoid rule

- Suppose that we use the trapezoid rule to evaluate the integral
- We get

$$C(k) \approx \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\exp(-\alpha k)}{\pi} \sum_{j=1}^N \widehat{C}_\alpha(\nu_j) \exp(-i\nu_j k) w_j \right) \quad (13)$$

with  $\widehat{C}_\alpha$  given by (11) and where  $\eta = \frac{L}{N-1}$  is the size of the partition,

$$\nu_j = (j-1)\eta; \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

and  $w_1 = w_N = \eta/2$ ,  $w_j = \eta$  for  $1 < j < N$

- Note that if instead of the trapezoid rule one uses **Simpson's rule** the only thing that changes in (13) is the definition of the weights  $w_i$
- *Observation:* This sum has the structure of the Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT)

# Trapezoid rule error

## Proposition 2

*Suppose that  $g$  is smooth on  $[a, b]$ . Then we have the following expression for the error of the trapezoid rule*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b g(x) dx - \frac{b-a}{N} \left\{ \frac{g(a) + g(b)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} g\left(a + k \frac{b-a}{N}\right) \right\} \\ = -\frac{(b-a)^3}{12N^2} g''(\xi) \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

for some  $\xi \in (a, b)$

*Observation:* In (13) the function  $g$  corresponds to

$$g(\nu) = \operatorname{Re} \left( \widehat{C}_\alpha(\nu) \exp(-ik\nu) \right)$$

# Discrete Fourier Transform

Suppose that we have an array of numbers (data) of length  $N$

$$x = (x_1, \dots, x_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$$

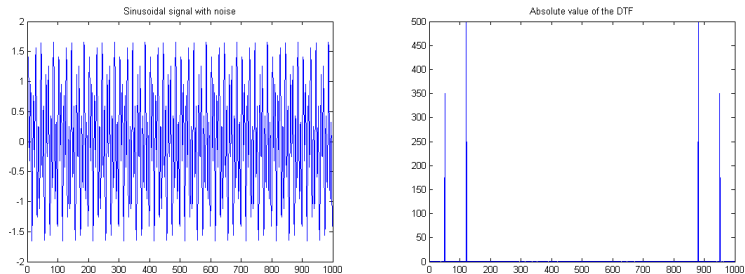
The Discrete Fourier Transform (DFT) of  $x$  is a vector  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  defined by

$$\hat{x}_m = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \omega_N^{(j-1)(m-1)} \quad (15)$$

where  $\omega_N = e^{-\frac{2\pi}{N}i}$  ( $N$  root of 1)

- **Observation:** This can be seen as the Fourier Transform of a finitely supported measure

# DFT - Example



**Figure:** The DFT highlights the relevant frequencies of the original signal and discerns the noise



# Back to Carr-Madan - FFT Scheme

- To create an “FFT situation” one discretizes the possible strikes as

$$k_m = \beta + (m - 1)\lambda \quad m = 1, \dots, N$$

where

$$\beta = \log S_0 + rT - \frac{\lambda(N - 1)}{2}$$

- Then we can rewrite (13)

$$C(k_m) \approx \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\exp(-\alpha k_m)}{\pi} \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \exp \left( -i \frac{2\pi}{N} (j - 1)(m - 1) \right) \right) \quad (16)$$

with

$$x_j = w_j \widehat{C}_\alpha(\nu_j) \exp(-i\beta\nu_j)$$

and

$$\boxed{\lambda\eta = \frac{2\pi}{N}}$$

# Back to Carr-Madan - FFT Scheme - Constraints

- Here is the main **constraint** of this method: For  $N$  fixed,  $\eta$  and  $\lambda$  are **inversely proportional**. Hence
  - If  $\lambda$  is small,  $\eta$  is big and the numerical approximation of the integral is bad
  - If  $\eta$  is small,  $\lambda$  is big and we get many option prices that are irrelevant

# FFT scheme

- For given data  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_N)$  we define  $\hat{x} = (\hat{x}_1, \dots, \hat{x}_N)$  through the formula.

$$\hat{x}_m = \sum_{j=1}^N x_j \exp \left( -i \frac{2\pi}{N} (j-1)(m-1) \right) \quad (17)$$

- In matrix form

$$\hat{x} = W(N)x \quad (18)$$

with  $W(N) = (W(N)_{jm})_{1 \leq j, m \leq N}$  the Fourier matrix defined by

$$W(N)_{jm} = \exp \left( -i \frac{2\pi}{N} (j-1)(m-1) \right)$$

- Notice that these are the sums that appear in the scheme (16)

# FFT algorithm

- The Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) is an algorithm to

compute  $\hat{x}$  using  $O(N \log N)$  operations

instead of the  $N^2$  operations that a regular matrix multiplication would require

- The main algebraic idea behind FFT is to

split the sums into smaller sums

that can be expressed in terms of DFTs of smaller arrays of data, or equivalently, to

use a convenient factorization of the matrix  $W$

# Option prices with FFT - Example - VG model

- Consider a **Variance Gamma model** with parameters:

$$S_0 = 100; r = 0.1; \nu = 0.2; \theta = -0.14; \sigma = 0.12$$

- This is a model where **log prices** are modeled by

$$\log(S_0) + (r - \psi(-i))T + Y_T \quad (19)$$

where  $Y$  is a **Lévy process** with characteristic function (at time  $T$ )

$$\phi_{Y_T}(u) = \exp(T\psi(u)) \quad (20)$$

and

$$\psi(u) = -\frac{1}{\nu} \log(1 - iu\theta\nu + \sigma^2 u^2 \nu / 2) \quad (21)$$

# Option prices with FFT - Example (cont.)

- The characteristic function of  $X_T := \log(S_T)$  is of the form

$$\phi_{X_T}(u) = \left( \frac{S_0 e^{rT}}{\phi_{Y_T}(-i)} \right)^{iu} \phi_{Y_T}(u) \quad (22)$$

- One can represent  $Y$  as a time changed Brownian motion with drift  $\theta t + \sigma W_t$  where the time change is given by a gamma process
- In this case we have a formula for the density function of  $Y_t$

$$f(y; \sigma, \nu, \theta) = \int_0^\infty \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{(y-\theta g)^2}{2\sigma^2 g}\right)}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi g}} \frac{g^{t/\nu-1} e^{-g/\nu}}{\nu^{t/\nu} \Gamma(t/\nu)} dg \quad (23)$$

- This (pure-jump) model was proposed by Madan, Carr and Chang (1998). They provide explicit analytic formulas for option prices

# Option prices with FFT - Example (cont.)

Suppose that for  $T = 1/12$  and  $\alpha = 1$

$K$		80	90	100	110	120
Analytical		20.6702	10.8289	1.8150	0.0195	0.0007
$\eta = 0.15$	$N = 2^6$	23.5292	18.4794	13.9621	9.8758	6.1453
$\eta = 0.15$	$N = 2^8$	20.6002	10.6858	4.3707	-0.0827	-0.0520
$\eta = 0.15$	$N = 2^{10}$	20.6635	10.8229	2.0438	0.0244	-0.0008
$\eta = 0.15$	$N = 2^{12}$	20.6699	10.8283	1.8230	0.0195	0.0006
$\eta = 0.25$	$N = 2^6$	20.0634	13.8896	9.0771	4.7236	0.7492
$\eta = 0.25$	$N = 2^8$	20.6334	10.8051	3.0307	0.0181	-0.0139
$\eta = 0.25$	$N = 2^{10}$	20.6691	10.8274	1.8646	0.0197	0.0006
$\eta = 0.25$	$N = 2^{12}$	20.6701	10.8288	1.8168	0.0197	0.0006

**Table:** Call prices obtained by the FFT method in the VG model. Recall that for instance for  $\eta = 0.25$  and  $N = 2^{12}$ , 4096 prices are calculated with the log distance between the strikes equal to  $\lambda = 0.0061$

# Option prices with FFT - Example (cont.)

Let

$$\psi(\nu) = \frac{e^{-rT-\alpha k}}{\pi} \operatorname{Re} \left( \frac{\phi_{X_T}(\nu - i(\alpha + 1))}{(\alpha + i\nu)(\alpha + 1 + i\nu)} e^{-i\nu k} \right)$$

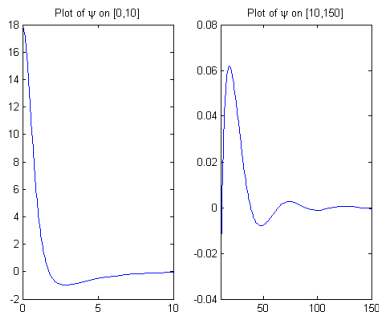


Figure: Plots of the integrand  $\psi$  and its tail. Here  $K = 90$