

MTH 9821 Numerical Methods for Finance I

Lecture 5 & 6–Monte Carlo Method

1 Monte Carlo Methods for Evaluating Integrals

$$I = \int_0^1 f(x)dx$$

Note: $\int_0^1 f(x)dx = E[f(U)]$, where $U = \text{Uniform}([0, 1])$

Procedure:

- Generate independent samples U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n of U
- Let $X_i = f(U_i)$, then $E(X_i) = E(f(U)) = I$
By SLLN,

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \xrightarrow{a.s.} E(X) = I$$

Convergence:

If $\int_0^1 |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty \Rightarrow \text{var}(X) = \text{var}(f(U)) < \infty$, $(f(x) \text{ is a } L^2 \text{ function.})$

By CLT, $\frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - I}{\frac{\sigma_X}{\sqrt{n}}} \xrightarrow{d} Z$

Approximation Error:

$$\left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - I \right| = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

Comments:

- Monte Carlo simulation converges at the rate $\frac{C}{\sqrt{n}}$ where n is the number of sample values, $C = \sigma_X$. Therefore, in order to optimize the speed, we need to generate random variables with smaller variation.
- The convergence of Monte Carlo method is $O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$.
 - Convergence is actually slow.
 - Finite difference methods, on the other hand, converge at rate $O\left(\frac{1}{n^2}\right)$ for two dimensional PDEs (faster).

2 Advantages and Disadvantages of Monte Carlo Method

- **Advantages:**
 - **Simple to code**
 - **Very efficient for path-dependent securities:**
 - **Works well for multi-asset derivative securities.**
- **Disadvantages:**
 - **Converges slowly:** computationally expensive
 - **Challenging to apply for American options:**
 - **Difficult to compute Greeks**

3 Monte Carlo Method for Non-path-dependent Single Asset Derivative Securities

3.1 Securities Pricing

★ Generate independent samples of $S(T)$, denoted S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n

e.g., to value derivative security on underlying asset with lognormal distribution: generate Z_1, Z_2, \dots, Z_n independent samples of Z ,

$$S_i = S(0) \exp \left(\left(r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) T + \sigma \sqrt{T} Z_i \right), \quad \forall i = 1 : n$$

★ Compute

$$V_i = e^{-rT} V(S_i), \quad \hat{V}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n V_i$$

★ Then

$$|\hat{V}(n) - V(0)| = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

For example, put option

$$V(0) = e^{-rT} \mathbb{E}_{RN}(\max(K - S(T), 0))$$

★ $S_i \rightarrow S(T)$: generate $S_i \quad \forall i = 1 : n$

★ $V_i \rightarrow V(0)$: $V_i = e^{-rT} \max(K - S_i, 0)$

★ $\hat{V}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n V_i$

$$|\hat{V}(n) - P_{BS}| = O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$$

Remark:

- There's no rule for convergence when using Monte Carlo Methods for vanilla European options. We can use the same sample of normal random variables for variance reduction.
- Why comparing with Black Scholes? Because BS and MC both follow the lognormal assumption.

3.2 Greeks Computations

3.2.1 Delta

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial V(0)}{\partial S(0)} = \frac{\partial V(0)}{\partial S(T)} \frac{\partial S(T)}{\partial S(0)}$$

where $\frac{dS(T)}{dS(0)} = \exp \left(\left(r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) T + \sigma \sqrt{T} Z_i \right) = \frac{S(T)}{S(0)}$

For example, put option

$$V(0) = e^{-rT} \mathbb{E}_{RN}(\max(K - S(T), 0))$$

- ★ $S_i \rightarrow S(T) :$ generate $S_i \quad \forall i = 1 : n$
- ★ $V_i \rightarrow V(0) : \quad V_i = e^{-rT} \max(K - S_i, 0)$
- ★ Thus, $\frac{\partial V_i}{\partial S_i} = e^{-rT} \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } S_i < K \\ 0, & \text{if } S_i > K \end{cases} = e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i < K)$
- ★ $\Delta_i = -e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i < K) \frac{S_i}{S(0)}$
- ★ $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i \rightarrow \Delta_{BS}(p)$

For call option

$$V(0) = e^{-rT} \mathbb{E}_{RN}(\max(S(T) - K, 0))$$

- ★ $S_i \rightarrow S(T) :$ generate $S_i \quad \forall i = 1 : n$
- ★ $V_i \rightarrow V(0) : \quad V_i = e^{-rT} \max(S_i - K, 0) = e^{-rT} (S_i - K) \mathbb{1}(S_i > K)$
- ★ $\frac{\partial V_i}{\partial S_i} = e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i > K)$
- ★ $\Delta_i(c) = e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i > K) \frac{S_i}{S(0)}$
- ★ $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i(c) \rightarrow \Delta_{BS}(p)$

Remark: This above calculation also satisfies Put-Call Parity.

$$C - P = Se^{-qT} - Ke^{-rT} \Rightarrow \Delta(c) - \Delta(p) = e^{-qT}$$

We can prove that $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i(c) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i(p) \rightarrow \Delta(c) - \Delta(p) = e^{-qT}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i(c) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta_i(p) &= e^{-rT} \frac{1}{nS(0)} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i (\mathbb{1}(S_i > K) + \mathbb{1}(S_i < K)) \\ &= e^{-rT} \frac{1}{nS(0)} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i \\ &\rightarrow e^{-rT} \frac{1}{S(0)} E_{RN}(S(T)) = e^{-rT} \frac{1}{S(0)} S(0) e^{(r-q)T} = e^{-qT} \end{aligned}$$

3.2.2 Vega

$$\Delta = \frac{\partial V(0)}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial V(0)}{\partial S(T)} \frac{\partial S(T)}{\partial \sigma}$$

where $\frac{dS(T)}{d\sigma} = S(T)(-\sigma T + \sqrt{T}Z)$

For example, put option

$$V(0) = e^{-rT} \mathbb{E}_{RN}(\max(K - S(T), 0))$$

- ★ $S_i \rightarrow S(T) :$ generate $S_i \quad \forall i = 1 : n$
- ★ $V_i \rightarrow V(0) : \quad V_i = e^{-rT} \max(K - S_i, 0)$
- ★ Thus, $\frac{\partial V_i}{\partial S_i} = e^{-rT} \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } S_i < K \\ 0, & \text{if } S_i > K \end{cases} = e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i < K)$
- ★ $Vega_i = -e^{-rT} \mathbb{1}(S_i < K)(-\sigma T + \sqrt{T}Z)$
- ★ $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Vega_i \rightarrow Vega_{BS}(p)$

4 Monte Carlo Method for Path-dependent Derivatives

★ Simulate n paths of the underlying asset, each path discretized between $t = 0$ and $t = T$ using m time steps of length $\delta_t = \frac{T}{m}$.

★ Generate $N = m \cdot n$ independent samples of Z , then use Z_0, Z_1, \dots, Z_{m-1} to generate one path as follows:

$$S(t_{j+1}) = S(t_j) \exp \left((r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})\delta_t + \sigma\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j \right), \quad \forall j = 0 : (m-1)$$

where $t_j = j\delta_t$, $j = 0 : m$

Remark: From $dS = (r - q)Sdt + \sigma SdX$, how should we discretize?

Choice 1: (No)

$$\begin{aligned} dS &= (r - q)Sdt + \sigma SdX \\ \Rightarrow S(t_{j+1}) - S(t_j) &= (r - q)S(t_j)\delta_t + \sigma S(t_j)(X(t_{j+1}) - X(t_j)) \\ \text{Note that } X(t_{j+1}) - X(t_j) &\sim N(0, t_{j+1} - t_j) \sim N(0, \delta_t) \\ \Rightarrow S(t_{j+1}) - S(t_j) &= (r - q)S(t_j)\delta_t + \sigma S(t_j)\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j \\ \Rightarrow S(t_{j+1}) &= S(t_j)[(r - q)\delta_t + \sigma\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j + 1] \end{aligned}$$

Note that it's possible (though with small possibility) that $[(r - q)\delta_t + \sigma\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j + 1] < 0$, which makes $S(t_{j+1}) < 0$.

Choice 2: (Yes)

$$\begin{aligned} dS &= (r - q)Sdt + \sigma SdX \\ \Rightarrow d \ln S &= (r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})dt + \sigma dX \quad (\text{Ito's Lemma}) \\ \Rightarrow \ln \left(\frac{S(t_{j+1})}{S(t_j)} \right) &= (r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})\delta_t + \sigma\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j \\ \Rightarrow S(t_{j+1}) &= S(t_j) \exp \left((r - q - \frac{\sigma^2}{2})\delta_t + \sigma\sqrt{\delta_t}Z_j \right) \end{aligned}$$

Remark:

Convergence order of MC simulations for path dependent derivative securities depends both on n , the number of simulations as $O\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\right)$, and also on δ_t , the time step of the discretization as $O(\delta_t)$.

Order of convergence is $O\left(\max\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}, \delta_t\right)\right)$.

To achieve optimal convergence speed, we try to make

$$\delta_t \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \implies \frac{T}{m} \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \implies n \approx \frac{m^2}{T^2}$$

Recall that

$$m \cdot \frac{m^2}{T^2} \approx N \implies \frac{T}{m} \approx \sqrt[3]{\frac{T}{N}}$$

e.g., $T = 1$, $N = 1,000,000$, $m \approx \sqrt[3]{NT^{\frac{2}{3}}} = 100$, it's approximately twice a week.

5 Methods for Generating Standard Normal Samples

1. Inverse Transform Method
2. Acceptance-Rejection Method
3. Box-Muller Method (with Marsaglia-Bray Algorithm)

We first need to generate samples of uniform random variables

Linear Congruential Generator of Uniform Random Variables

The generator takes the form

- Choose x_0, a, c, m positive integers
- Generate u_1, u_2, \dots , form $U[0, 1]$ as follows:

```
for  $i = 0 : N$   
     $x_{i+1} = (ax_i + c) \bmod m$ ;  
     $u_{i+1} = \frac{x_{i+1}}{m}$ ;  
end
```

Good choice for x_0, a, c, m requires

- (1) c, m are relatively prime, i.e., $(c, m) = 1$ (common divisor)
- (2) every prime number that divides m divides $a - 1$, i.e., $p|m \Rightarrow p|(a - 1)$
- (3) $a - 1$ is divisible by 4 if m is, i.e., $4|m \Rightarrow 4|(a - 1)$

Linear Congruential Generators are effective since

- (1) Period has maximal length (m) if a, m, c are chosen properly
- (2) Fast - it requires fewer operations to generate each sample
- (3) Portable - it generates the same sequence of random numbers on different platforms
- (4) good randomness properties

5.1 Inverse Transform Method

Find samples of the random variable X with cumulative distribution function $F(x)$:

Given u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n samples of $U = \text{Unif}[0, 1]$,

$$x_i = F^{-1}(u_i), \forall i \geq 1$$

where x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are samples of X .

We can easily check as follows:

Let $Y = F^{-1}(U)$,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(Y \leq a) &= \mathbb{P}(F^{-1}(U) \leq a) = \mathbb{P}(U \leq F(a)) = F(a) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq a) \\ \Rightarrow Y &= F^{-1}(U) = X \end{aligned}$$

e.g., for standard normal random variable,

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-t^2/2} dt$$

solve $F(x) = y$ for x , given y .

(See class handout page 67 69 for more detailed computation)

5.2 Acceptance-Rejection Method

Goal: generate samples of random variable with pdf $f(x)$ using samples of a random variable with pdf $g(x)$ (which we already know how to generate, e.g., by using inverse transform method), and there exists a constant $c \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $f(x) \leq cg(x)$, $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$.

Do: generate sample from g and accept it with probability $\frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}$

Step 1: Generate X from g

Step 2: Generate $U \sim \text{Unif}([0, 1])$

Step 3: If $U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}$, return X ; else, go to step 1

Following above steps, we have

$$\mathbb{P}(Y \leq \beta) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq \beta | U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}) = \frac{\mathbb{P}((X \leq \beta) \cap (U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}))}{\mathbb{P}(U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)})}$$

$$\text{where } \mathbb{P}\left(U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}\right) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \left(\int_0^1 \mathbb{1}_{U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}} du \right) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)} dx = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \frac{1}{c}$$

$$\mathbb{P}((X \leq \beta) \cap (U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)})) = \int_{-\infty}^{\beta} g(x) \left(\int_0^1 \mathbb{1}_{U \leq \frac{f(x)}{cg(x)}} du \right) dx = \frac{1}{c} \int_{-\infty}^{\beta} f(x) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(Y \leq \beta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\beta} f(x) dx$$

Generate samples of standard normal

Goal:

Generate samples of Z with $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-x^2/2}$.

We use double exponential random variable with $g(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-|x|}$.

★ **Determine c**

$$\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-x^2/2}}{\frac{1}{2}e^{-|x|}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}e^{|x| - \frac{x^2}{2}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}}e^{\frac{1}{2}}e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|x|-1)^2} \leq \frac{2e}{\pi}$$

Thus, we choose $c = \frac{2e}{\pi}$, and $\frac{f(x)}{cg(x)} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(|x|-1)^2}$

★ **Use inverse transformation method to generate double exponential r.v.**

Compute $G(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x g(t)dt$

- If $x < 0$,

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-(-x)} = \frac{1}{2}e^x \Rightarrow G(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^x, \quad G(0) = \frac{1}{2}$$

- If $x > 0$,

$$G(x) = G(0) + \int_0^x \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}dt = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}(1 - e^{-x}) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x}$$

Solve $G(x) = y$

- $x < 0 \Rightarrow y < \frac{1}{2}$, solve $\frac{1}{2}e^x = y \Rightarrow x = \ln(2y)$

- $x > 0 \Rightarrow y > \frac{1}{2}$, solve $1 - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x} = y \Rightarrow x = -\ln(2(1-y))$

$$G^{-1}(y) = \begin{cases} \ln(2y), & y < \frac{1}{2} \\ -\ln(2(1-y)), & y > \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \sim \begin{cases} \ln U, & 0 < U < \frac{1}{2} \\ -\ln U, & \frac{1}{2} < U < 1 \end{cases}$$

choose $c = \sqrt{\frac{2e}{\pi}}$.

Step 0: Generate U_1, U_2, U_3 from $U([0, 1])$

Step 1: $X = -\ln(U_1)$ //generate only positive samples

Step 2: If $U_2 > \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(|x|-1)^2)$, go to step 0 //acceptance-rejection

else, generate U_3 from $U([0, 1])$

If $U_3 \leq \frac{1}{2}$, $X = -X$

Return X

5.3 The Box-Muller Method

Generate a sample from the bivariate normal distribution where each component is a univariate standard normal.

Uniform $U_1, U_2 \implies$ **Exponential** $R \implies$ **Independent Standard Normals** Z_1, Z_2

If Z_1, Z_2 are independent standard normals, then $R = Z_1^2 + Z_2^2$ is exponential with mean 2.

Recall: Exponential distribution with mean α
 ★ pdf: $f(x) = \frac{1}{\alpha} e^{-\frac{x}{\alpha}}$, for $x > 0$; CDF: $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\frac{x}{\alpha}}$
 ★ Inverse function of F : $x = -\alpha \ln(1 - y)$

It's enough to show that $P(R \leq a) = P(Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 \leq a)$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(R \leq a) &= F(a) = 1 - e^{-\frac{a}{2}} \\
 P(Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 \leq a) &= \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{1}_{x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq a} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x_1^2}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x_2^2}{2}} dx_1 dx_2 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathbb{1}_{x_1^2 + x_2^2 \leq a} e^{-\frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2}{2}} dx_1 dx_2 \\
 &\text{Let } x_1 = r \cos \theta, \ x_2 = r \sin \theta \\
 &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\infty \mathbb{1}_{r^2 \leq a} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} r dr d\theta = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\sqrt{a}} e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} r dr d\theta \\
 &= \left(-e^{-\frac{r^2}{2}} \right) \Big|_0^{\sqrt{a}} = 1 - e^{-\frac{a}{2}}
 \end{aligned}$$

5.3.1 Implement:

Given R , (Z_1, Z_2) is uniformly distributed on the circle of center O and radius \sqrt{R} , first generate R , then choose a point uniformly on the circle of radius \sqrt{R} .

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Generate  $U_1, U_2 \sim Unif([0, 1])$ ;
 $R = -2 \ln(U_1)$ ;
(Note that  $U_1$  and  $1 - U_1$  has same distribution.)
 $V = 2\pi U_2$ ;
 $Z_1 = \sqrt{R} \cos V$ ,  $Z_2 = \sqrt{R} \sin V$ ;
return  $Z_1, Z_2$ ;

```

5.3.2 Marsaglia-Bray Algorithm

An improvement of Box-Muller by avoiding trigonometric functions.

- Let $U_1, U_2 \sim Unif([0, 1])$
- For U_1, U_2 inside circle $D(0, 1)$, $X = U_1^2 + U_2^2 \sim Unif([0, 1])$

$$\begin{aligned} P(a \leq X \leq b) &= P(a \leq U_1^2 + U_2^2 \leq b) = \iint_{D(0,1)} \mathbb{1}_{\{a \leq u_1^2 + u_2^2 \leq b\}} \frac{1}{\pi} du_1 du_2 \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_{\sqrt{a}}^{\sqrt{b}} r dr d\theta = \frac{1}{\pi} 2\pi \int_{\sqrt{a}}^{\sqrt{b}} r dr = r^2 \Big|_{\sqrt{a}}^{\sqrt{b}} = b - a \end{aligned}$$

$((U_1, U_2)$ subject to $X < 1$ is uniformly distributed on circle $D(0, 1)$ with pdf $\frac{1}{\pi}$)

- $X \sim Unif([0, 1]) \Rightarrow R = -2 \ln(1 - X) = -2$
 $(1 - X) \sim Unif([0, 1]) \Rightarrow R = -2 \ln(X) = -2, R \sim Exponential(2)$
- Look for $Z_1 = U_1 Y, Z_2 = U_2 Y$ on the circle $(0, \sqrt{R})$, i.e., $Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 = R$.
 $R = -2 \ln(X) = Z_1^2 + Z_2^2 = (U_1^2 + U_2^2) Y^2 = X Y^2$.
- Thus, $Y^2 = -2 \frac{\ln(X)}{X} \Rightarrow Y = \sqrt{-2 \frac{\ln(X)}{X}}$
We get $Z_1 = U_1 Y, Z_2 = U_2 Y$.

while $X > 1$ **do**

 Generate $U_1, U_2 \sim Unif([0, 1])$;

$U_1 = 2U_1 - 1, U_2 = 2U_2 - 1;$ $(U_1, U_2 \sim Unif([-1, 1]))$

$X = U_1^2 + U_2^2$;

end

$Y = \sqrt{-2 \frac{\ln X}{X}};$

$Z_1 = U_1 Y, Z_2 = U_2 Y;$

return Z_1, Z_2 ;

6 Variance Reduction Technique

6.1 Control Variates

Recall: Linear Regression of Y_i as X_i , $i = 1 : n$

Find c_1, c_2 such that $Y_i \approx c_1 X_i + c_2$

$$\Rightarrow \min ||\tilde{Y} - c_1 \tilde{X} - c_2||^2 = \min \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - c_1 X_i - c_2)^2$$

$$\Rightarrow c_2 = \hat{Y}(n) - c_1 \hat{X}(n),$$

$$c_1 = \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{X}, \tilde{Y})}{\text{var}(\tilde{X})} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n)) (Y_i - \hat{Y}(n))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2}$$

Alternatively, we need to find

$$\begin{pmatrix} X_1 & 1 \\ X_2 & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ X_n & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} Y_1 \\ \vdots \\ Y_n \end{pmatrix}$$

From the fact that the error of regression should be orthogonal to $\mathbb{1}^t$, we need that

$$\mathbb{1}^t (\tilde{Y} - c_1 \tilde{X} - c_2 \mathbb{1}) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{1}^t \tilde{Y} - c_1 \mathbb{1}^t \tilde{X} - c_2 \mathbb{1}^t \mathbb{1} = 0$$

$$(\text{Denote } \hat{X}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i, \hat{Y}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i)$$

$$\Rightarrow n \hat{Y}(n) - c_1 n \hat{X}(n) - c_2 n = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{c}_2 = \hat{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{n}) - \mathbf{c}_1 \hat{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{n})$$

$$\tilde{Y} \approx c_1 \tilde{X} + c_2 = c_1 \tilde{X} + \hat{Y}(n) - c_1 \hat{X}(n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{Y} - \hat{Y}(n) = c_1 (\tilde{X} - \hat{X}(n))$$

$$\Rightarrow (\tilde{X} - \hat{X}(n))^t (\tilde{Y} - \hat{Y}(n) - c_1 (\tilde{X} - \hat{X}(n))) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{c}_1 = \frac{(\tilde{\mathbf{X}} - \hat{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{n}))^t (\tilde{\mathbf{Y}} - \hat{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{n}))}{\|\tilde{\mathbf{X}} - \hat{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{n})\|^2} = \frac{\text{cov}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}}, \tilde{\mathbf{Y}})}{\text{var}(\tilde{\mathbf{X}})}$$

Control Variates Method

Generate Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n n independent replications of Y

- In Monte Carlo, we use $\hat{Y}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ to approximate Y ;
- Alternatively, every time we generate a replication Y_i of Y , also generate a replication X_i of another variable X , whose exact expected value is known.

And instead of Y_i , use

$$\tilde{Y}_i = Y_i - b(X_i - E(X))$$

where b is a constant chosen carefully to approximate Y .

Example: Generate S_1, S_2, \dots, S_n samples of $S(T)$, with $E(S(T)) = e^{rT}S(0)$

Use S_i to approximate V_i : $\tilde{V}_i = V_i - b(S_i - e^{rT}S(0))$

$Y_{CV}(n)$ is an unbiased estimation of Y

$$\begin{aligned} Y_{CV}(n) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{Y}_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Y_i - b(X_i - E(X))) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i - \left(\frac{b}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \frac{b}{n} n E(X) \right) \\ &= \hat{Y}(n) - b(\hat{X}(n) - E(X)) \end{aligned}$$

$$E(Y_{CV}(n)) = E(\hat{Y}(n)) - b(E(X) - E(X)) = E(\hat{Y}(n)) = E(Y)$$

b should be chosen carefully: variance of $Y_{CV}(n)$ is minimum

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}[Y_{CV}(n)] &= \text{var}\left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{Y}_i\right] = \frac{1}{n} \text{var}[\tilde{Y}_i] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \text{var}[Y_i - b(X_i - E(X))] = \frac{1}{n} \text{var}[Y - bX] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} [\text{var}(Y) - 2b \text{cov}(Y, X) + b^2 \text{var}(X)] \end{aligned}$$

the minimum is obtained with $b^* = \frac{\text{cov}(Y, X)}{\text{var}(X)}$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}^*[Y_{CV}(n)] &= \frac{1}{n} \left[\text{var}(Y) - 2 \frac{\text{cov}(Y, X)}{\text{var}(X)} \text{cov}(Y, X) + \frac{\text{cov}(Y, X)^2}{\text{var}(X)^2} \text{var}(X) \right] = \frac{1}{n} \left[\text{var}(Y) - \frac{\text{cov}(Y, X)^2}{\text{var}(X)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \left[\sigma_Y^2 - \frac{\sigma_X^2 \sigma_Y^2 \rho_{XY}^2}{\sigma_X^2} \right] = \frac{\sigma_Y^2}{n} [1 - \rho_{XY}^2] \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\frac{\text{var}[Y_{CV}(n)]}{\text{var}[\hat{Y}(n)]} = 1 - \rho_{XY}^2$$

We want to find X such that ρ_{XY} close to 1 or to -1.

If X, Y are uncorrelated ($\rho_{XY} = 0$), then the control variates doesnot help.

In practice, we use sample values of b^*

$$\hat{b}(n) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))(Y_i - \hat{Y}(n))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2}$$

Remark:

★ Here we use $\hat{X}(n)$ rather than $E(X)$, which is also known.

How would the correlation matter?

ρ_{XY}	$1 - \rho_{XY}^2$	n/n_{CV}
0.95	≈ 0.1	≈ 10
0.9	≈ 0.2	≈ 5
0.75	0.4375	≈ 2.5

- Monte Carlo error is to the order of σ_Y/\sqrt{n} .
- Control variate error is to the order of $\sigma_{Y_{CV}}/\sqrt{n_{CV}}$.

If $1 - \rho_{XY}^2 = 0.1$, $\Rightarrow \frac{\sigma_{Y_{CV}}^2}{\sigma_Y^2} = 1 - \rho_{XY}^2 = 0.1 \Rightarrow \sigma_{Y_{CV}} = \sigma_Y/\sqrt{10}$

Therefore, for errors to be similar,

$$n \approx 10 \cdot n_{CV}$$

i.e., control variate method needs 10 times less simulations than Monte Carlo method.

When is the derivative security value perfectly correlated with the underlying?

For example, European call option

$$\tilde{c}_i = c_i - b(n)(S_i - e^{rT}S(0))$$

We estimated correlation $\tilde{\rho}$ between $S(T)$ and $\max(S(T) - K, 0)$ for different value of K in Monte Carlo method ($S(0) = 50$, $\sigma = 0.3$, $T = 0.25$):

K	40	45	50	55	60	65	70
$\tilde{\rho}^2$	0.99	0.94	0.8	0.59	0.36	0.19	0.08

We can see that for deep ITM options, the correlation is high, for deep OTM options, the correlation is pretty low.

We can thus value a different derivative security as

$$\tilde{V}_i = V_i - b(n)(C_i - C_{BS})$$

e.g. Payoff = $\max(S_T^2 - K, 0)$

More specifically, we first generate S_i , and use them to simulate both V_i and C_i .

Weighted Monte Carlo

In Control Variate,

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{Y}_i &= Y_i - b(n)(X_i - E(X)) \\
Y_{CV}(n) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{Y}_i = \hat{Y}(n) - b(\hat{X}(n) - E(X)) \\
\hat{b}(n) &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))(Y_i - \hat{Y}(n))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \frac{X_i - \hat{X}(n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2} - \hat{Y}(n) \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2} \\
&\quad \left(\text{where } \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n)) = 0 \right) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \frac{X_i - \hat{X}(n)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2} \\
Y_{CV}(n) &= \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \left(\frac{1}{n} - \frac{(X_i - \hat{X}(n))(\hat{X}(n) - E(X))}{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{X}(n))^2} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Weighted MC:

$$\begin{aligned}
Y_{WMC}(n) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i Y_i \\
\text{s.t. } \quad &\sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i X_i = E(X) \\
\text{minimize } &\sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^2 \\
\text{and thus } \quad &\text{var}(Y_{WMC}(n)) = \text{var}(Y) \sum_{i=1}^n \omega_i^2
\end{aligned}$$

6.2 Moment Matching

Idea: transform the paths to match known moments of a random variable.

Example: In our derivative-underlying asset case,

$$\begin{aligned} S_i &\longrightarrow V_i \longrightarrow \hat{V}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n V_i \\ E(S(T)) &= e^{rT} S(0) \quad (\text{forward price}) \\ \text{while } \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i &\neq e^{rT} S(0) \end{aligned}$$

To match the first moment of S , we want to change S_i into \tilde{S}_i s.t.

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{S}_i = e^{rT} S(0)$$

Possible ways to accomplish the above transformation:

- Method 1:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_i &= S_i + e^{rT} S(0) - \hat{S}(n) \\ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{S}_i &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i + \frac{1}{n} \cdot n(e^{rT} S(0) - \hat{S}(n)) = \hat{S}(n) + e^{rT} S(0) - \hat{S}(n) = e^{rT} S(0) \end{aligned}$$

Remark: Big problem here is that such \tilde{S}_i could have negative values.

- Method 2:

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{S}_i &= S_i \frac{e^{rT} S(0)}{\hat{S}(n)} \\ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \tilde{S}_i &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n S_i \frac{e^{rT} S(0)}{\hat{S}(n)} = e^{rT} S(0) \end{aligned}$$

If we use moment matching method, put-call parity will be satisfied.

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{c}(n) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n c_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-rT} \max(S_i - K, 0) \\ \hat{p}(n) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-rT} \max(K - S_i, 0) \\ \hat{c}(n) - \hat{p}(n) &= \frac{1}{n} e^{-rT} \sum_{i=1}^n \left(\max(S_i - K, 0) - \max(K - S_i, 0) \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} e^{-rT} \sum_{i=1}^n (S_i - K) = e^{-rT} \hat{S}(n) - e^{-rT} K \\ &= S(0) - e^{-rT} K \quad \text{if } \hat{S}(n) = e^{rT} S(0) \end{aligned}$$

Remark: We can use control variate method and moment matching method together.

6.3 Antithetic Variables

Reducing variance by introducing negative dependence between pairs of replication.

- Generate $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_n \sim Unif(0, 1)$;
Also use $1 - U_1, 1 - U_2, \dots, 1 - U_n \sim Unif(0, 1)$;
- Inverse Transform, note that $N(-a) = 1 - N(a)$
 $Z_{1,i} = F^{-1}(U_i) \rightarrow X_i$
 $Z_{2,i} = F^{-1}(1 - U_i) = -Z_{1,i} \rightarrow Y_i$

Remark: X_i and Y_i have the same distribution but not independent.

★ **Monte Carlo**, $\hat{X}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$;

★ **Antithetic Variables**, $Y_{AV}(n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i + Y_i}{2}$

$$var(\hat{X}(2n)) = \frac{var(X)}{2n} = \frac{\sigma_X^2}{2n}$$

$$var(Y_{AV}(n)) = \frac{var(X + Y)}{4n}$$

$$var(X + Y) = \sigma_X^2 + 2\sigma_X\sigma_Y\rho_{XY} + \sigma_Y^2 = 2\sigma_X^2(1 + \rho_{XY}) \quad \text{since } \sigma_X = \sigma_Y$$

$$var(Y_{AV}(n)) = \frac{\sigma_X^2(1 + \rho_{XY})}{2n}$$

We want

$$\begin{aligned} var(Y_{AV}(n)) &\leq var(\hat{X}(2n)) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\sigma_X^2}{2n} &\leq \frac{\sigma_X^2(1 + \rho_{XY})}{2n} \\ \Rightarrow \rho_{XY} &< 0 \end{aligned}$$