

# Calibration and Data Analysis

## In this lecture...

- the theoretical yield curve and the market yield curve, should they be the same?
- how calibration works, the pros and cons

Calibration

Continuation from  
other night.

- how to analyze short-term interest rates to determine the best model
- how to analyze the slope of the yield curve to get information about the market price of interest rate risk

Data centred analysis

By the end of this lecture you will

- know the meaning of 'calibration'

already done in mod 3

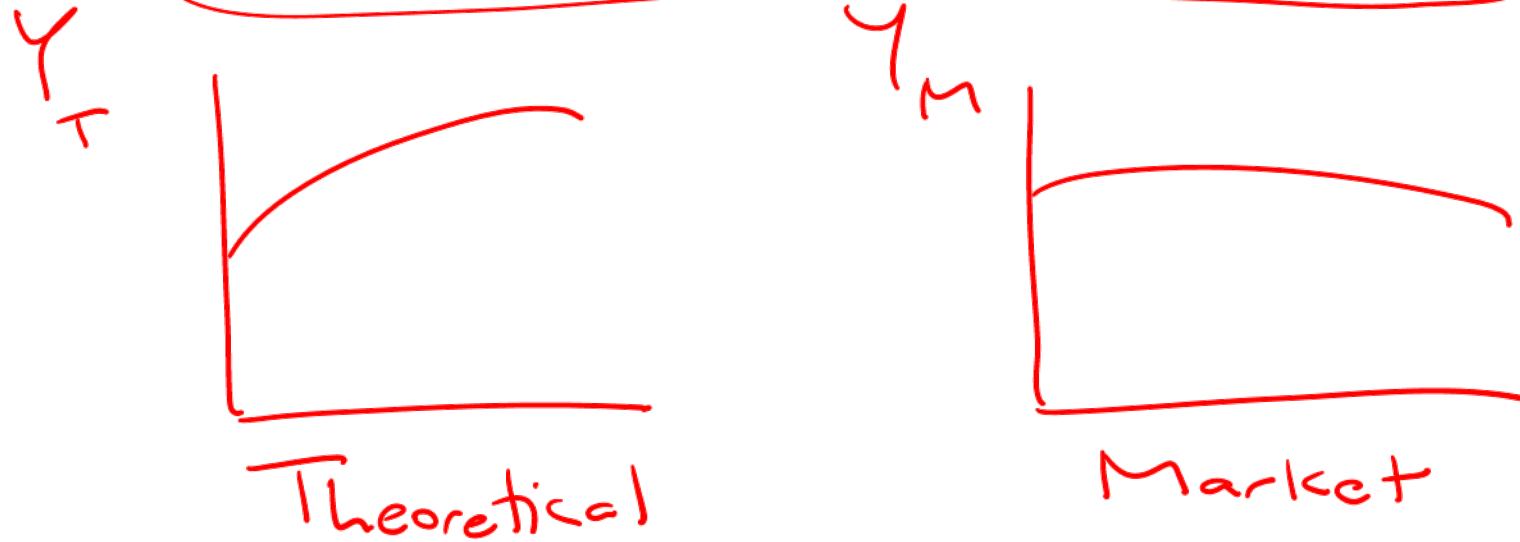
fitting the  
yield curve

- appreciate the pros and cons of calibration

*Paul's favourite*

- be able to analyze data to find a good model

MPoR



## Introduction

In some texts  $Z = e^{A+r\beta}$

$$ZCB \quad Z = e^{A-r\beta}$$

theoretical  
price

We have seen the theory behind one-factor (and multi-factor) interest rate models.

6.2



These models will have as an output a 'theoretical' yield curve.

This theoretical yield curve will not be the same as the yield curve seen in the market.

Is this good or bad?!

① Affine Solutions  $Z = e^{A-r\beta}$

↓ (closed form sol<sup>†</sup>)

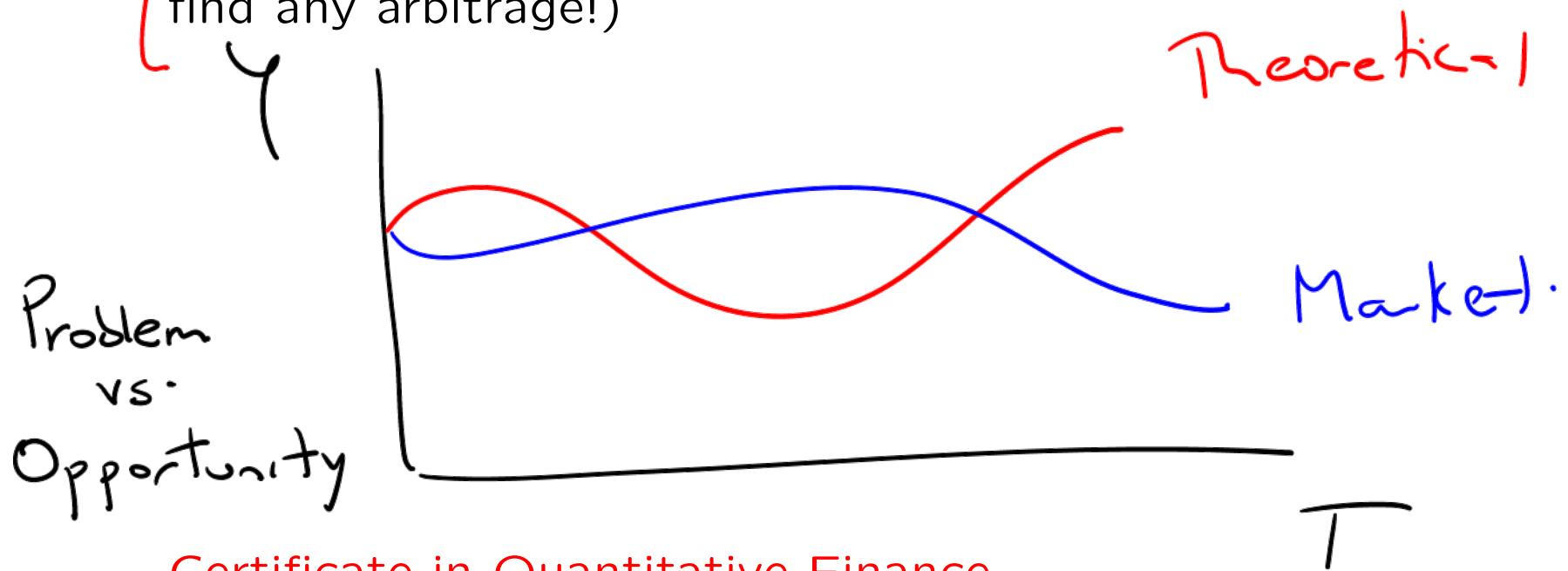
② PDE B.P.E (computational?)

③ M.C

numerical schemes

① It is bad if... your job is to price exotic, structured products which must be hedged with simple instruments. (How can you be expected to price **exotics 'correctly'** if you can't even match simple instruments?!)

② It is good if... you believe your theoretical model and you are looking for arbitrage opportunities among simple instruments. (If your model output matched market prices then you'll never find any arbitrage!)



① People like calibration

Theoretical prices = market prices

$$\text{Just calculated } e^{A-rB} = Z_m$$

$$S N(\omega_1) - e^{-r(T-t)} N(\omega_2) = V_m(S, t)$$

② Theory  $\rightarrow$  ZCB prices

③ parameter

$$f \rightarrow \begin{cases} f(t) \\ f_t \end{cases}$$

$$dr = (\gamma - r)r dt + \sigma dX$$

$\hookrightarrow \sigma(t)$

$$dX = \nu(t)$$

$$\sigma_{\text{imp}} \rightarrow \sigma(S, t)$$

$$\sigma^2 = \underbrace{\frac{1}{T-t} \int_t^T \sigma_s^2 ds}_{[t, T]}$$

So in using any model we have to decide how to choose the parameters.

Should the parameters be chosen to match

①

- the market yield curve? Or

Calibration

current

②

- historical interest rate data?

Data analysis

historical

I

The former is **calibration** to a snapshot of the market at one instant in time.

$t^*$

today's date = ~~17/06/2023~~<sup>06</sup>

II

The latter is fitting to time series data.

data analysis

Let's start with calibration.



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## fitting the yield curve

Calibration

① Because of this need to correctly price liquid instruments, the idea of **yield curve fitting** or **calibration** has become popular.

When stochastic models are used in practice they are almost always fitted.

To match a theoretical yield curve to a market yield curve requires a model with enough degrees of freedom. (You are matching a curve, i.e. an 'infinite' number of points, so you need infinite degrees of freedom!)

② This is done by making one or more 'parameters' time dependent.

- ③
- This functional dependence on time is then carefully chosen to make an output of the model, the price of zero-coupon bonds, exactly match the market prices for these instruments.

$$Z_m = e^{A - r\beta}$$

(Legacy model)

Ho & Lee

$$\eta_i = \eta(t_i)$$

discrete time t

The Ho & Lee spot interest rate model is the *simplest that can be used to fit the yield curve*.

Now we don't necessarily say this model or idea is great, but we will go through the mathematics to see how it can be done.

**Recap:** In the Ho & Lee model the process for the *risk-neutral* spot rate is

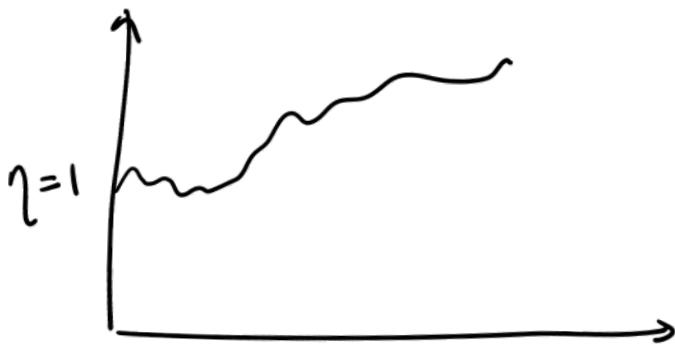
$$dr = \underbrace{\eta(t)dt}_{\text{fn. of time}} + \underbrace{c dX}_{\substack{\text{Const. vol.} \\ \text{time series}}}$$

The standard deviation of the spot rate process,  $c$ , is constant, the drift rate  $\eta$  is time dependent.

# Behaviour of Ho and Lee



If  $\eta \sim O(1) \Rightarrow$  B.M with drift



Differentiating under the integral sign

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_a^x F(s, x) ds = F(x, x) + \int_a^x \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(s, x) ds$$

Leibniz rule

As we've seen in an earlier CQF lecture, for this model the solution of the bond pricing partial differential equation for a zero-coupon bond is simply

$$\frac{\partial t}{\partial t} = (\dot{A} - r \dot{B}) t \quad \frac{\partial t}{\partial r} = -B t$$

Affine  $t = \tilde{t}$  ①  $Z(r, t; T) = e^{A(t; T) - r(T-t)}$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2 t}{\partial r^2} = B^2 t$

where

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} c^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + \gamma(t) \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} - r V = 0 \quad (1 - 2\omega)$$

②  $A(t; T) = - \int_t^T \eta(s)(T-s) ds + \frac{1}{6} c^2 (T-t)^3.$

③  $B(t; T) = \underline{(T-t)}$

(Note that the variables are  $r$  and  $t$ , but we are also explicitly referring to the parameter  $T$ , the bond maturity.)

actual eqn which is written in 2 parts

$$\rightarrow \dot{A} + \frac{1}{2} c^2 \dot{B} - B \gamma(t) - r (\dot{B} + 1) = 0 + 0 \times r$$

$$\frac{d\dot{B}}{dt} = -1 \quad \textcircled{1}$$

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$$\dot{A} + \frac{1}{2} c^2 \dot{B} - B \gamma(t) = 0 \quad \textcircled{2} \quad \int_{\zeta}^T dA = \int_{\zeta}^T \left( B \eta(s) - \frac{1}{2} c^2 \dot{B} \right) ds$$

Hö und Lse

$$\partial r = g(t) \partial t + \text{corr}$$

from  
previous  
page

$$D.P.E.: \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} c^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + g(t) \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} - r V = 0$$

$$Z = e^{A-rB}$$

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial t} = (A - rB) Z$$

$$\int_t^T d\beta = - \int_t^T d\gamma$$

$$\frac{\partial Z}{\partial r} = - \beta Z$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial r^2} = \beta^2 Z$$

$$Z_M = e^{- \int_t^T g(s) ds - r(T-t)} \underbrace{\beta(t; T)}_{\text{inverse problem}}$$

Known from market

$$\beta(t; \tau) = \tau - t$$

**Working forwards:** If we know  $\eta(t)$  then the above gives us the theoretical value of zero-coupon bonds of all maturities. I.e. start with model  $(\eta(t))$  and find answer  $(Z)$ .

**An inverse problem:** But what if we know  $Z$  from the market, but don't know the unobservable  $\eta$ ? Turn this relationship around and ask the question

- 'What functional form must we choose for  $\eta(t)$  to make the theoretical value of the discount rates for all maturities equal to the market values?'

That is calibration!

(What about the parameter  $c$ ?)

some statistical  
technique

fixed  $t^* = 6/06/2023$  We calibrate: Vary  $T$   
(look at yield curve)

Suppose we want to calibrate our model today, time  $t^*$ . Today's spot interest rate is  $r^*$  and the discount factors in the market are  $\underline{Z_M(t^*; T)}$ .

Call the special, calibrated, choice for  $\eta$ ,  $\eta^*(t)$ .

$$dr = \gamma(t)dt + c dX$$

$t^*$  - today

$r^*$  = today's spot rate ←

$Z(r, t; T)$   
↓  
 $t^*$  fixed

$\eta^*(t) = \eta(t)$  using above technology

Assume cts. dist<sup>2</sup> of maturities

To match the market and theoretical bond prices, we must solve

Inside A is  $\eta(t)$

$$\text{Screen} \rightarrow Z_M(t^*; T) = e^{A(t^*; T) - r^*(T-t^*)} = \int_{t^*}^T \eta(s) ds$$

natural market price

Theoretical price

Taking logarithms of this and rearranging slightly we get

which is what we want.

$$\int_{t^*}^T \eta^*(s)(T-s) ds = [-\log(Z_M(t^*; T)) - r^*(T-t^*) + \frac{1}{6}c^2(T-t^*)^3] \quad (1)$$

Eg = (1) Integral eq =

We know everything on the right-hand side. So this is an integral equation for  $\eta^*(t)$ . Need to diff. (1) twice to "kill-off"  $\int$  & have obtain  $\eta(t)$

(Luckily for us, it is quite easy to solve!)

Suppose, we have already diff the r.h.s.

## [Leibniz Rule - diff<sup>2</sup> under integral sign]

Observe what happens if we differentiate the integral term with respect to  $T$ .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int_a^x F(s, x) ds = F(x, x) + \int_a^x \frac{\partial F(s, x)}{\partial x} ds. \quad \text{+}$$

First differentiate once with respect to  $T$  using +

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dT} \int_{t^*}^T \eta^*(s)(T-s) ds &= \int_{t^*}^T \eta^*(s) ds. \\ &= \underbrace{\gamma^*(T)(T-t^*)}_{=0} + \int_{t^*}^T \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial T}(\gamma^*(s)(T-s)) ds}_{\eta^* \times 1} = \int_{t^*}^T \gamma^*(s) ds \end{aligned}$$

Differentiate again

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{dT^2} \int_{t^*}^T \eta^*(s)(T-s) ds &= \eta^*(T). \\ &= \eta^*(T) + \int_{t^*}^T \frac{\partial}{\partial T} \eta^*(s) ds = \underbrace{\eta^*(T)}_{=} + 0 \end{aligned}$$

Now diff RHS :  $\frac{\partial}{\partial T} := \left( -\frac{\partial}{\partial T} \log \mathcal{T}_m(t^*; T) + c(T-t^*) \right)$

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Now replace  $T$  by  $t \leftarrow$

So, differentiating (1) twice with respect to  $T$  we get

numerical  
diff.

$$\eta^*(t) = c^2(t - t^*) - \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \log(Z_M(t^*; t)) \right)$$

divided  
differences.

The solution!

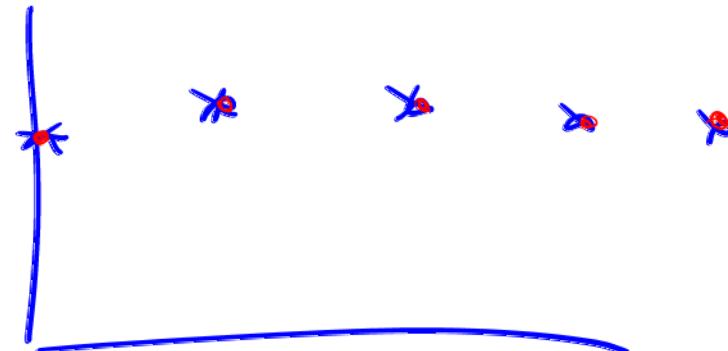
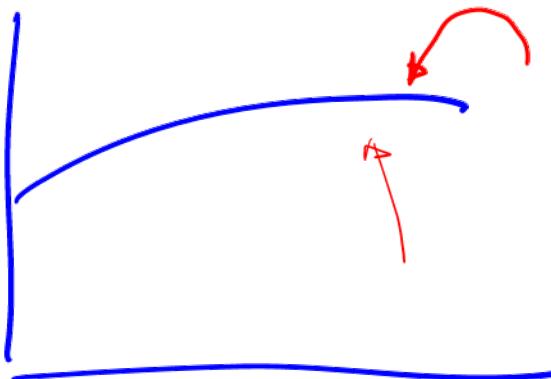
$$dr = \eta(t) dt + c dX$$

price more  
complex  
products.

With this choice for the time-dependent parameter  $\eta(t)$  the theoretical and actual market prices of zero-coupon bonds are the same.

Theory

Market



Numerical Analysis  
Bunder & Faries

Notes:

# Yield Curve Fitting

Complex

- Now that we know  $\eta(t)$  we can price other fixed income instruments.
- We say that our prices are **consistent with the yield curve**.

- The same idea can be applied to other spot interest rate models.

$$\text{HW I} \quad dr = (\gamma(t) - \alpha(t)r)dt + \sqrt{\beta(t)}dX$$

HW II CIR with time dep.

- This is an inverse problem, and will typically be sensitive to input data (the  $Z$ ).

$$\sigma(s, t)$$

## Another calibrated model:

### The extended Vasicek model of Hull & White

Most one-factor models have the potential for fitting, the more tractable the model the easier the fitting. If the model is not at all tractable then we can always resort to numerical methods.

The next easiest model to fit is the Vasicek model. The Vasicek model has the following stochastic differential equation for the risk-neutral spot rate

$$dr = (\underline{\eta} - \gamma r)dt + \underline{c}dX.$$

$$\eta(t)$$

Hull  
(simple form)

Hull & White extend this to include a time-dependent parameter

$$dr = (\eta(t) - \gamma r)dt + c dX.$$

Assuming that  $\gamma$  and  $c$  have been estimated statistically, say, we choose  $\eta = \eta^*(t)$  at time  $t^*$  so that our theoretical and the market prices of bonds coincide.

$$\eta \rightarrow \eta(t)$$

$\gamma, c \in \mathbb{R}$

$$t = e^{A - r\Delta t} \quad V_t + \frac{1}{2} c^2 V_{rr} + (\eta(t) - \gamma r) V_r - r V = 0$$

Again, as covered in an earlier CQF lecture, under this risk-neutral process the value of a zero-coupon bond is

Exercise :  
Solve to follow

where

$$Z(r, t; T) = e^{A(t; T) - rB(t; T)},$$

$A(t; T) = \left[ - \int_t^T \eta(s) B(s; T) ds \right] + \frac{c^2}{2\gamma^2} \left( T - t + \frac{2}{\gamma} e^{-\gamma(T-t)} - \frac{1}{2\gamma} e^{-2\gamma(T-t)} - \frac{3}{2\gamma} \right).$ 

and

$$B(t; T) = \frac{1}{\gamma} (1 - e^{-\gamma(T-t)}).$$

$A = rB$

$\ln Z_m = \ln e$

As before, to fit the yield curve at time  $t^*$  we must make  $\eta^*(t)$  satisfy

*Use Leibniz  
twice*

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{d}{dT} - \int_{t^*}^T \eta^*(s) B(s; T) ds \\
 & + \frac{c^2}{2\gamma^2} \left( T - t^* + \frac{2}{\gamma} e^{-\gamma(T-t^*)} - \frac{1}{2\gamma} e^{-2\gamma(T-t^*)} - \frac{3}{2\gamma} \right) \\
 & = \log(Z_M(t^*; T)) + r^* B(t^*, T). \tag{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

This is an integral equation for  $\eta^*(t)$  if we are given all of the other parameters and functions, such as the market prices of bonds,  $Z_M(t^*; T)$ .

## Exercise

Equation (2) is easy to solve by differentiating the equation twice with respect to  $T$ . This gives

$$\eta^*(t) = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \log(Z_M(t^*; t)) - \gamma \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \log(Z_M(t^*; t)) + \frac{c^2}{2\gamma} (1 - e^{-2\gamma(t-t^*)}). \quad (3)$$

**Note:** (Please don't get the idea from this that all models are easy to calibrate or all integral equations are easy to solve!)

Very lucky

Recall in the derivation of the B.P.E:

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial r^2} - rv = a(r, t) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \rightarrow \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial r^2} - a(r, t) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} - rv = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial r^2} + \underbrace{v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r}}_{\text{red}} = a(r, t) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + rv + \underbrace{v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r}}_{\text{red}}$$

Recall  $dv = \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial r^2} \right) dt + \omega \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} dx$  Hö IV on  $v(\cdot, t)$   
replace with Lhs of B.P.E

$$dv = \left( (a+v) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} + rv \right) dt + \omega \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} dx$$

$$dv - rv dt = (a+v) \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} dt + \omega \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} dx \quad \text{cancel}$$

$$= \omega \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \left[ \left( \frac{a+v}{\omega} \right) dt + dx \right] = \omega \frac{\partial v}{\partial r} \left[ dx + \overbrace{\left( \frac{a+v}{\omega} \right) dt} \right]$$

Let  $\frac{a+v}{\omega} = \lambda \rightarrow \boxed{a = \lambda\omega - v}$

## PART II

And now for the opposite approach, analyze historical data... no reliance on a single 'snapshot.'

$$\text{Unhedged bond } dV = \omega \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} dx + \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + \alpha \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \right) dt$$

$$B.P.E.: \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} - \alpha(r, t) \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} - rV = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \omega^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial r^2} + h \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} = \frac{hV}{\partial r} + \alpha(r, t) \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} + rV$$

$$dV = \omega \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} dx + \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} (\alpha + h) + rV \right) dt$$

$$dV - rV dt = \omega \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} dx + \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} (\alpha + h) dt$$

$$\equiv \omega \frac{\partial V}{\partial r} \left[ dx + \underbrace{\left( \frac{\alpha + h}{\omega} \right) dt}_{\lambda} \right]$$

$$\frac{\alpha + h}{\omega} = \lambda \rightarrow \boxed{\alpha(r, t) = \lambda \omega = h}$$

## Data analysis to find the 'best' model for spot rate

The one (or more)-factor models for the spot interest rate that we have seen were all chosen for their nice properties; for most of them we were able to find simple closed-form solutions of the bond-pricing equation.

*thus :*  $e^{A-rB}$   
*for*

Clearly, this means that the models are not necessarily a good description of reality.

Let's recap these models quickly...

## Popular one-factor spot-rate models

The real spot rate  $r$  satisfies the stochastic differential equation

$$Re-1 \quad dr = u(r, t)dt + w(r, t)dX. \quad (4)$$

Risk-neutral models

Model	$u(r, t) - \lambda(r, t)w(r, t)$	$w(r, t)$
Vasicek	$a - br$	$c$ const.
CIR	$a - br$	sq. rt. $cr^{1/2}$
Ho & Lee	$a(t)$	$c$
Hull & White I	$a(t) - b(t)r$	$c(t)$
Hull & White II	$a(t) - b(t)r$	$c(t)r^{1/2}$
General affine	$a(t) - b(t)r$	$(c(t)r - d(t))^{1/2}$

Here  $\lambda(r, t)$  denotes the market price of risk. The function  $u - \lambda w$  is the risk-adjusted drift.

For all of these models the zero-coupon bond value is of the form  $Z(r, t; T) = e^{A(t, T) - rB(t, T)}$ .

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The time-dependent coefficients in all of these models allow for the fitting of the yield curve and other interest-rate instruments.

In what follows, ignore previous models

From now on in this lecture we will see how to deduce a model for the spot rate from data; it is therefore unlikely to be nice and tractable!

## The method

No more  $u(r, t)$ ;  $\omega(r, t)$   
but  $\underline{u(r)}$ ,  $\underline{\omega(r)}$

The method that we use assumes that

- the model is time homogeneous

*drop time dep.*

$$\rightarrow dr = \underline{u(r)} dt + \underline{\omega(r)} dX$$

- the spot rate is well behaved (i.e. doesn't wander too far away, go to zero or infinity for example)

The downside to the resulting model is that we cannot find closed-form solutions for contract values, the risk-neutral drift and the volatility don't have a sufficiently nice structure.

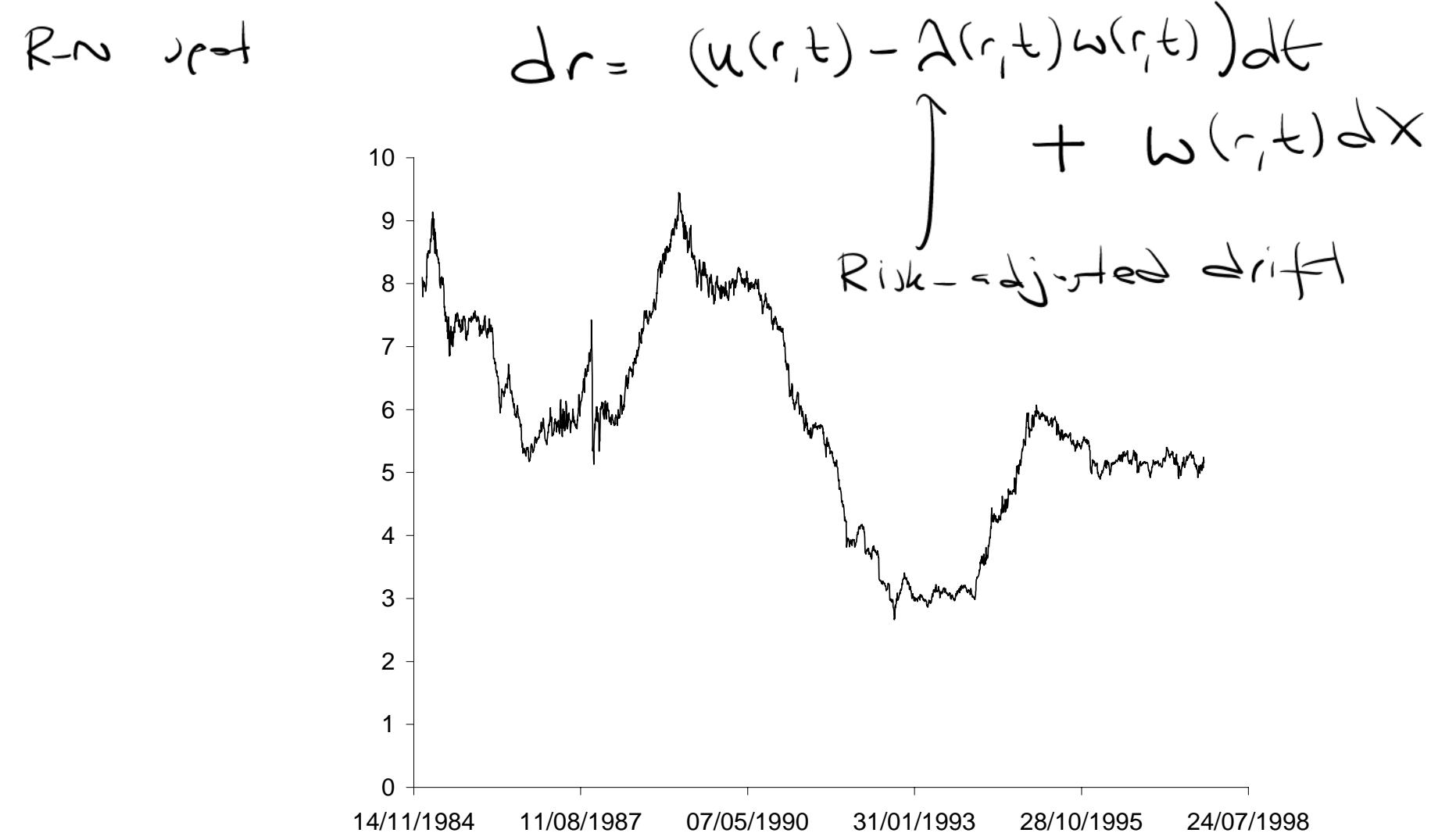
$$dr = (\gamma(t) - \delta(t)r) dt + \sqrt{\alpha(t)r + \beta(t)} dX$$

## Source of his data

In the figure are shown the US one-month LIBOR rates, daily, for the period 1985–1997, and is the data that we use in our analysis.

The ideas that we introduce can be applied to any currency, but here we use US data for illustration.

**Aside:** This method isn't specific to interest rates, it has also been used to model the gold price, equity and index volatility, and the rate of inflation.



(Extra : "Fear & greed in F.I markets".  
 lecture

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$$\text{Real } dr = u dt + \omega dx$$

$$R-N \quad dr = (u - \lambda \omega) dt + \underline{\omega dx} =$$

↑      ↑      ↑

risk-adjusted  
drift

There are three key stages:

1. By differencing spot rate time series data we determine the volatility dependence on the spot rate  $w(r)$ . diffusion/vs/
2. By examining the [steady-state probability density function] for the spot rate we determine the functional form of the drift rate  $u(r)$ . Module 1.5
3. We examine the slope of the yield curve to determine the market price of risk  $\lambda(r)$ . M.p. OR

Starting point:

$$CIR \subset \sqrt{r}$$

## 1. The volatility structure

$\gamma, \beta$

Our first observation is that many popular models take the form

$\text{SDK of choice}$

$$dr = u(r)dt + \underbrace{\nu r^\beta}_{\omega(r)} dX.$$

$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow dt \\ \downarrow dt \\ \downarrow dt \end{array}$

$dX \gg dt$

Power law  
In vol.

(5)

Examples of such models are the Ho & Lee ( $\beta = 0$ ), Vasicek ( $\beta = 0$ ) and Cox, Ingersoll & Ross ( $\beta = 1/2$ ) models.

$$\begin{aligned} \gamma, \beta &\rightarrow \omega(r) \\ \mathbb{E}[dr^2] &= \underbrace{\nu^2 r^{2\beta} dt}_{\mathbb{E}(\delta r^2)} \Rightarrow \frac{\mathbb{E}(\delta r^2)}{\delta t} = \underbrace{\nu r^\beta}_{\text{vol}} \end{aligned}$$

Using our US spot rate data we can estimate the best value for  $\beta$  using a very simple bucketing technique.

From the time-series data divide the changes in the interest rate,  $\delta r$ , into buckets covering a range of  $r$  values. e.g. 7% - 8%

From previous slide take logs of \*

$$\log \left( \frac{v^2 r^{2\beta} f t}{v^2 \delta t r^{2\beta}} \right) = \log v^2 \delta t + \log r^{2\beta} \quad \text{property of logs}$$

$$= \cancel{\log v^2 \delta t} + 2\beta \log r \quad \text{RHS}$$

LHS:  $\log(\mathbb{E}[\delta r^2]) \leftarrow \circ$

gradient =  $m = 2\beta$   
intercept =  $c = \cancel{\log v^2 \delta t}$

RHS now becomes:

$$\underbrace{2\beta \log r}_{\text{c}} + \underbrace{\cancel{\log v^2 \delta t}}_{\text{c}}$$

$y = mx + c$

As an example

Look at  
all fr's  
in 7%-8%  
range



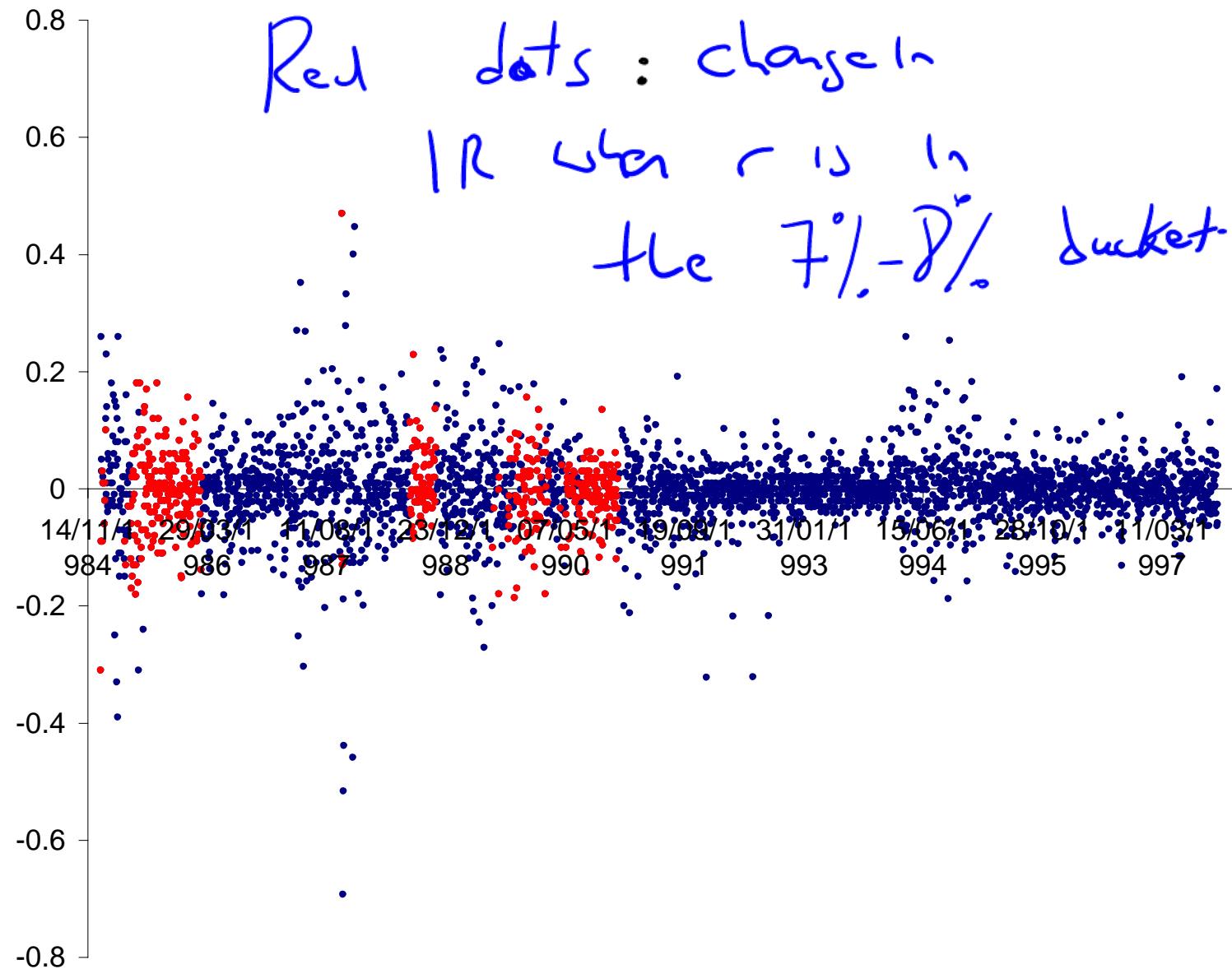
Just examine the  $\delta rs$  associated with each bucket.

Move on to next bucket & repeat

i.e. 8% - 9% bucket, 9% - 10% bucket

Calculate  $\delta r$ 's each bucket / range

$$\delta t = \frac{1}{252}$$



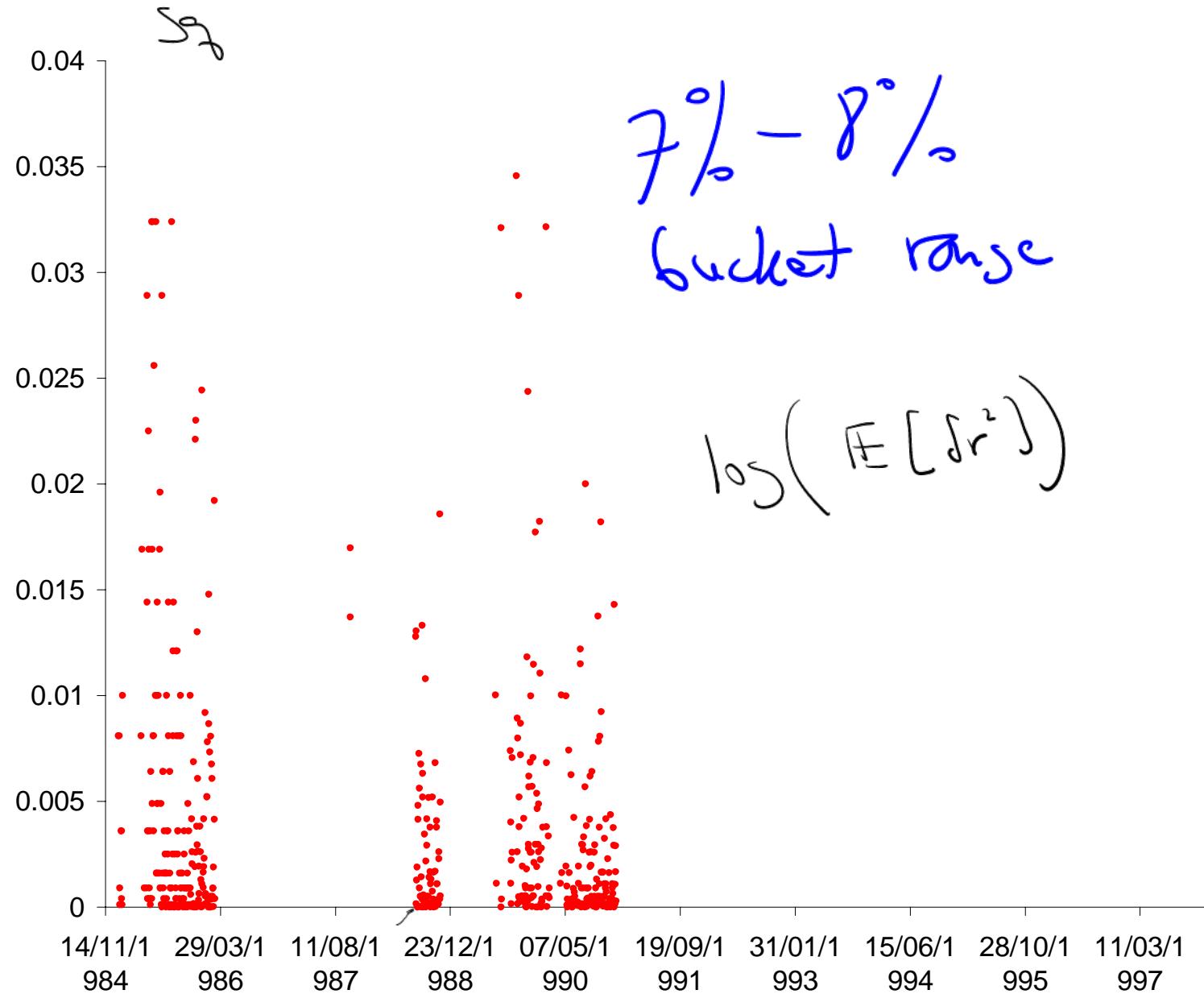
Then calculate the average value of  $(\delta r)^2$ , for each bucket.

$$\mathbb{E} [\delta r^2] = \sqrt{r^2 \sigma^2 P \delta t}$$

$\delta t = \frac{1}{252}$

SDE in discrete time have  $\delta$

$$\rightarrow \delta r = u(r) \delta t + v r^\beta dX$$
$$\delta r^2 = \cancel{u^2 \delta t^2} + 2uvr^\beta \cancel{\delta t \delta X} + \cancel{v^2 r^{2\beta} \delta t}$$



If the model (5) is correct we would expect

LHS is from data.

Average of  
 $\delta r^2$



$$E[(\delta r)^2] = \nu^2 r^{2\beta} \delta t$$

↳ Assumed model.

to leading order in the time step  $\delta t$ , which for our data is one day.



$$\log E[\delta r^2] = c$$

$$\log \nu^2 \delta t + \log r^{2\beta}$$

$$= 2\beta \log r + \log \nu^2 \delta t$$

Now plot  $\log(E[(\delta r)^2])$  against  $\log r$  using the data.

The slope of this 'line' gives an estimate for  $2\beta$  and where the line crosses the vertical axis can be used to find  $\nu$ .

$\log_{10}$

$$\text{Slope} = \frac{\beta}{2}$$

$$y = mx + c$$

$$m = 2\beta$$
$$c = \log \nu^2 \delta t$$
$$\log \nu^2 \delta t = \log r$$

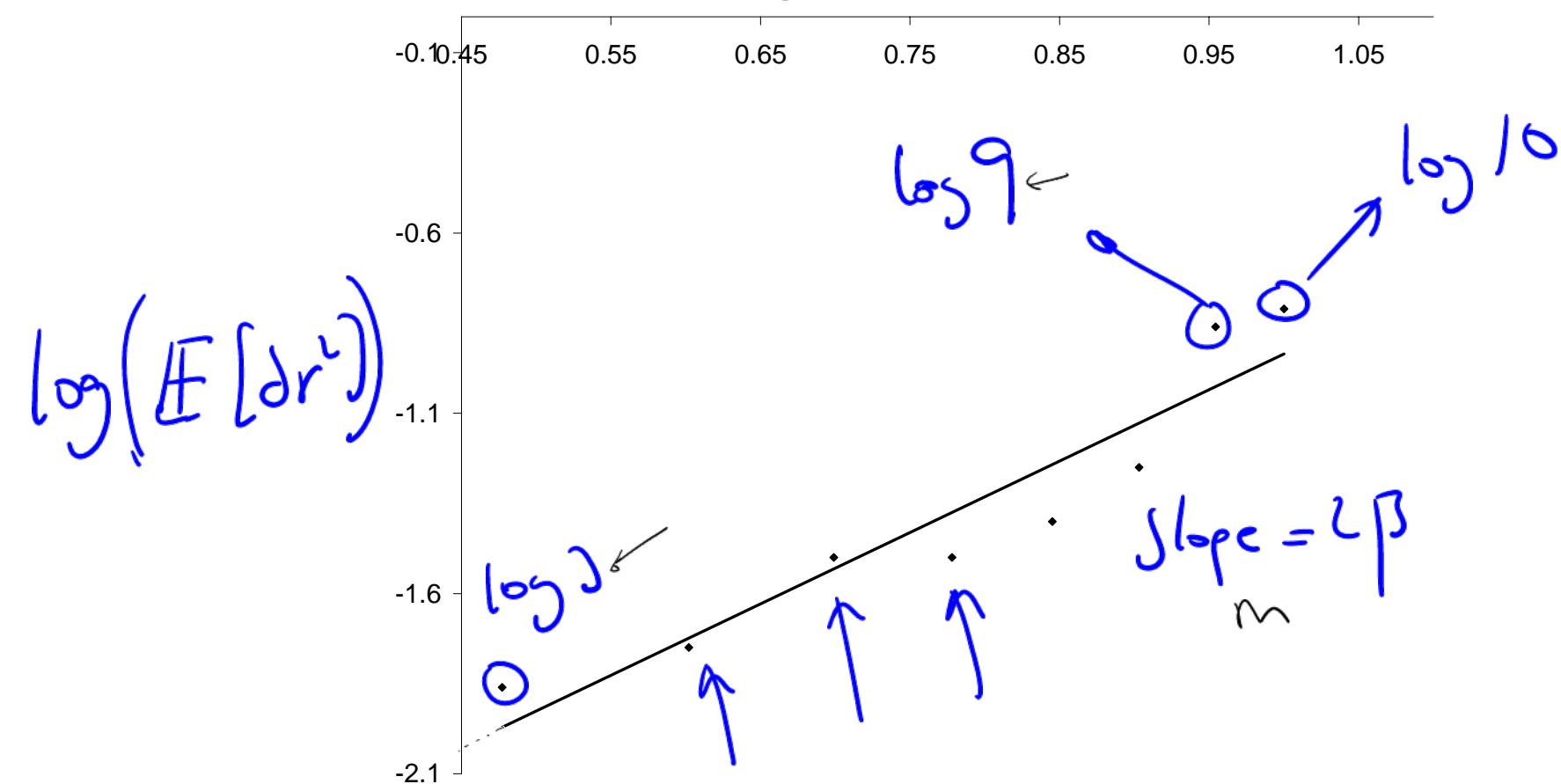
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$$\log \nu^2 \delta t$$

$$2 \log \nu \delta t$$

$$\delta t = 1/252$$

$\log r$  [Bucket values]



Estimation of  $\beta$

We can see that the line is very straight.

$$ds = \mu s dt + \sigma \underline{s} dx$$

From this calculation it is estimated that

log-normal?

$\omega(r)$

$$\beta = \underline{1.13} \text{ and } \nu = 0.126.$$

$r'$

This confirms that the spot rate randomness increases as the spot rate increases, approximately linearly.

(And this rules out Vasicek, Ho & Lee, etc. etc.)

$\nu r^\beta$

$$\omega(r) = \underbrace{\nu r^2}_{{}^{0.126} \leftarrow}^\beta = 0.126 r$$

## 2. The drift structure

Model  $dr = a dt + b dX$  ←  
 $E[dr] = a dt$  ←

It is statistically harder to estimate the drift term from the data; this term is smaller than the volatility term and thus subject to larger relative errors.

Our approach to finding the drift function is via the empirical and analytical determination of the steady-state probability density function for  $r$ .

$$\mathbb{V}[dr] = \sigma^2 dt ?$$

$$dr = u(r)dt + \sqrt{r\beta} dx$$

If  $r$  satisfies the s.d.e. (5) then the probability density function  $p(r, t)$  for  $r$  satisfies the Fokker–Planck equation

$\downarrow$

F. K. F  
lecture 1.5

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2}\nu^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2}(r^{2\beta} p) - \frac{\partial}{\partial r}(u(r)p). \quad (*)$$

(6)

$\overset{p=p(r)}{\Rightarrow} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} = 0$

$\overset{p=p(r)}{\Rightarrow} p_\infty = p_r$

transient part

modèle ①

The steady state  $\underline{p_\infty(r)}$  will satisfy the time-independent version of (6):

$$\frac{1}{2}\nu^2 \frac{d^2}{dr^2}(r^{2\beta} p_\infty) - \frac{d}{dr}(u(r)p_\infty) = 0. \quad (7)$$

[Up till now if  $u(r)$  is known the above ODE<sup>(7)</sup> can be solved  $\rightarrow P_\infty(r)$ ]

By integrating (7) we find the relationship between the steady-state probability density function and the drift function:

Some objects needed

$$u(r) = \nu^2 \beta r^{2\beta-1} + \nu^2 \frac{1}{2} r^{2\beta} \frac{d}{dr} (\log p_\infty)$$

known



If we know one we can find the other.

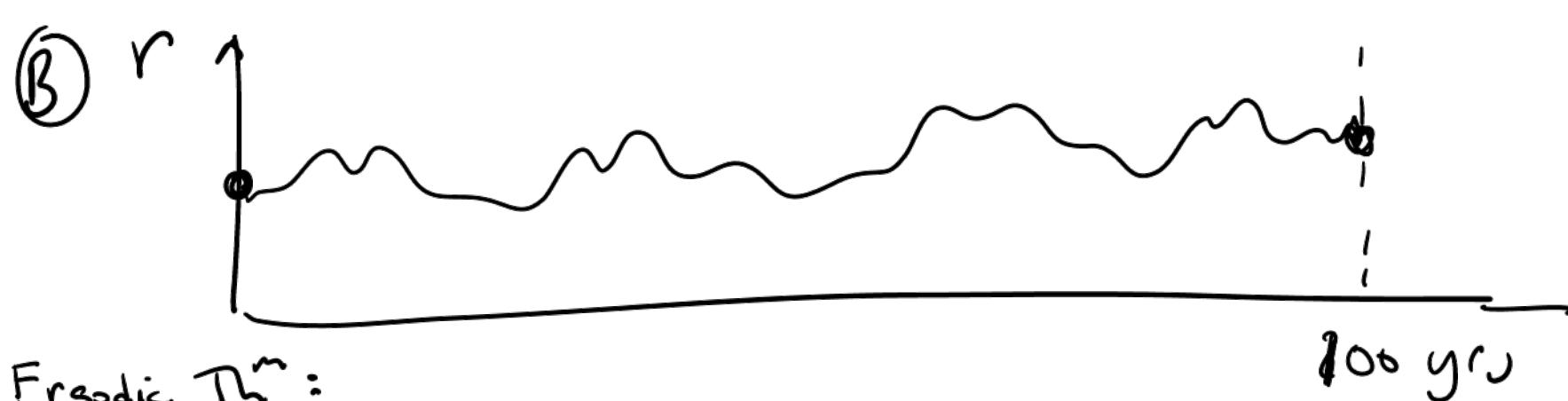
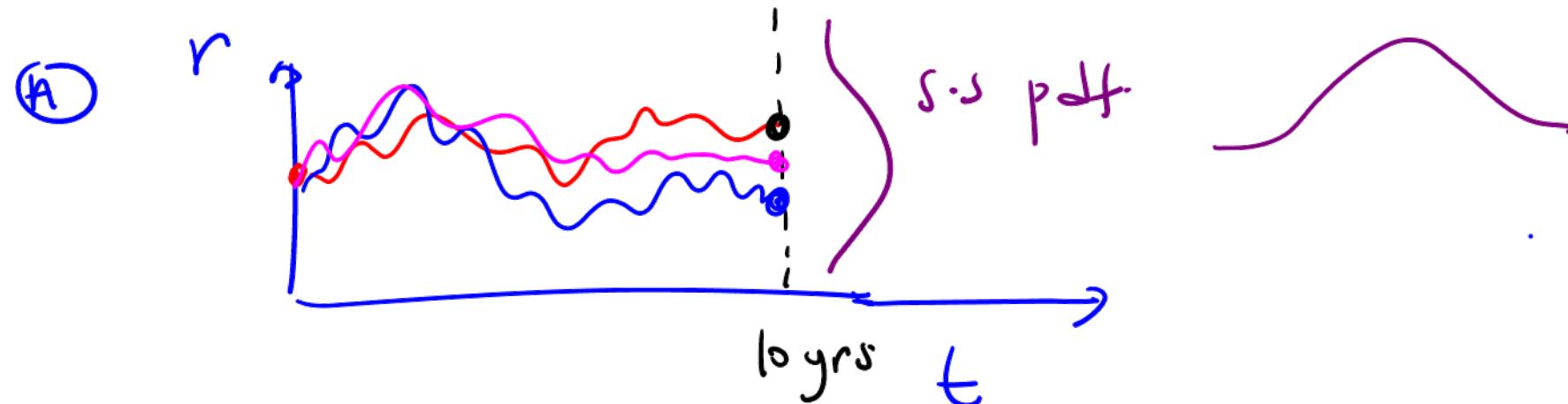
See mod 1 take home  
end of mod (homeworked) exam

refresh your  
memor  
from  
obtaining  $\hat{f}_r$   $\hat{f}_x$

Only works in this case for  $P_\infty(r)$

Do we know  $p_\infty(r)$ ?

Yes  $\therefore$  Ergodic Th<sup>m</sup>



Ergodic Th<sup>m</sup>:

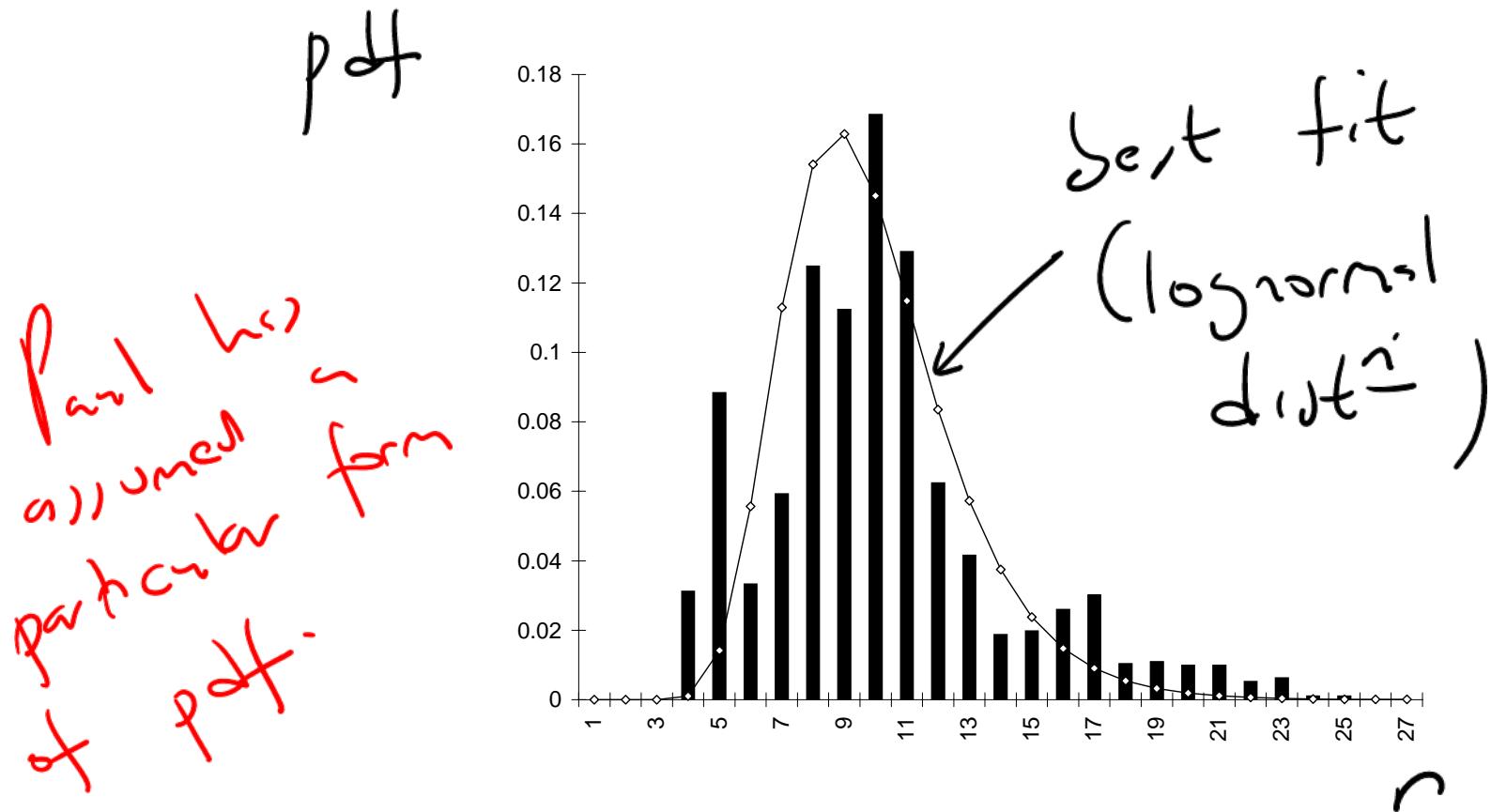
1) If SDE time homog. ; ② steady state pdf exists (must)  
THEN

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A) dist<sup>m</sup> at end of many paths  $\equiv$

B) dist<sup>m</sup> at every point in time for one very long path.

We can determine a plausible functional form for  $p_\infty(r)$  from one-month US LIBOR rates.



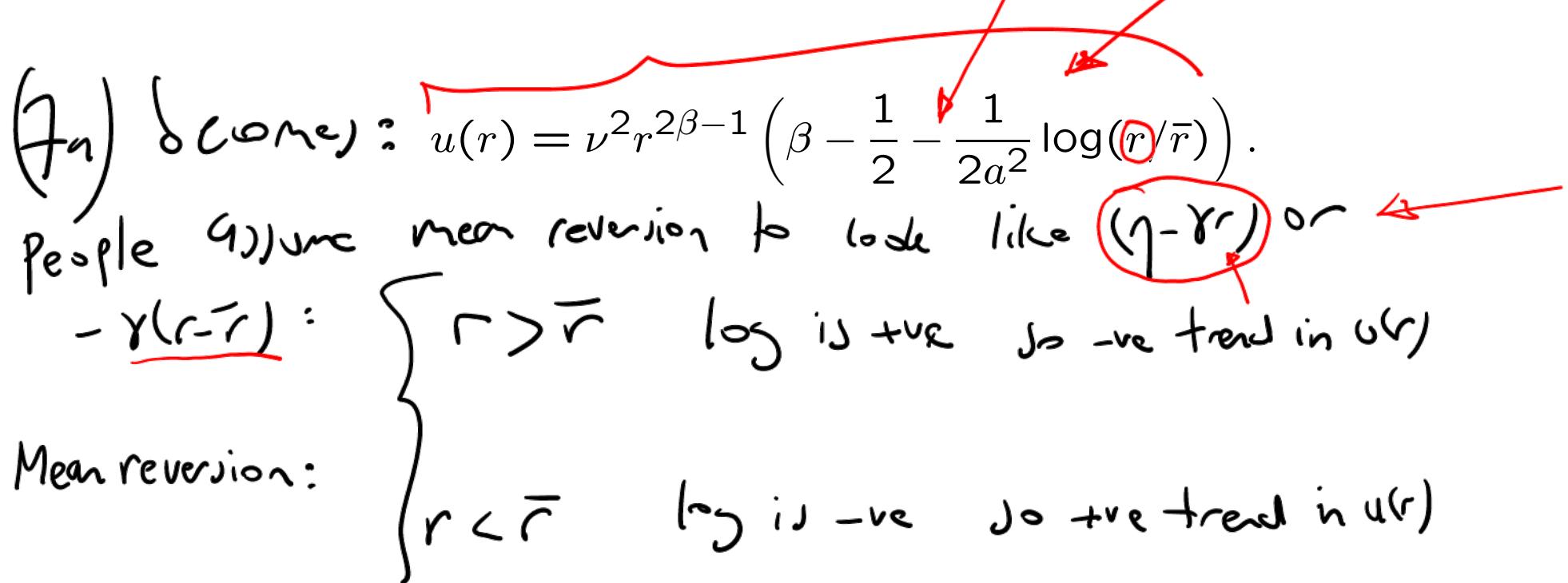
This figure shows empirical data, the bars, and a fitted function, the line.

(M.C.E)

Our choice for  $p_\infty(r)$  is

$$P_\infty(r) = \frac{1}{ar\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2a^2}(\log(r/\bar{r}))^2\right) \text{ assumed}$$

where  $a = 0.4$  and  $\bar{r} = 0.08$ . From this we find that for the US market



Advantages of working with the probability density function to find the drift function:

- more stable than other methods
- easy to see whether the probability density function ‘makes sense’
- spot rate cannot go to zero or infinity if probability density function zero there

## The slope of the yield curve and the market price of risk

Now we have found  $w(r)$  and  $u(r)$ , it only remains for us to find  $\lambda(r)$ .

We shall again allow  $\lambda$  to have a spot-rate dependence, but not a time dependence.

$$\text{Slope is } \frac{1}{2}(\omega - \lambda_w)$$

$$\lambda = \lambda(r)$$

**Note:** There is no information about the market price of risk in the spot-rate process!

$$\rightarrow Z \subset \mathcal{B}$$

Such information is contained within instruments of finite (not infinitesimal) maturity.

We will examine the short end of the curve for this information.

$\lambda$  will come from bond

$$T.S.F := f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}}_{\lambda} (x-x_0)^n$$

asymptotic analysis

Power

$(T-t) \leftarrow$

Let us expand  $Z(r, t; T)$  in a Taylor series about  $t = T$ , this is the short end of the yield curve.

We know that zero-coupon bonds satisfy  $(B.P.E)$

power series  $\rightarrow \frac{\partial Z}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}w(r, t)^2 \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial r^2} + (u(r, t) - \lambda(r, t)w(r, t)) \frac{\partial Z}{\partial r} - rZ = 0.$

Look for a solution for small times to maturity of the form  
 $Z \sim A(r) + a(r)(T-t) + b(r)(T-t)^2 + \dots \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n(r)(T-t)^n$  Power series  
 $A(r) = 1 \quad \because$   
at  $t=T$   
redemption  
 $Z=1$

$$Z = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n (T-t)^n$$

Subst in B.P.E  
as written above and equate  
powers of  $(T-t)$ .

$$f(r) = 1 \quad a(r) = -r \quad \delta(r) = \frac{1}{2}(r^2 - u + \lambda w)$$

Put this form into the bond pricing equation and equate powers of  $(T - t)$  and you will find that

$$r^2 - (u - \lambda w)$$

$\rightarrow Z(r, t; T) \sim 1 - r(T - t) + \frac{1}{2}(T - t)^2(r^2 - u + \lambda w) + \dots$  as  $t \rightarrow T$ .

$(T-t) \ll 1$  V. close to maturity little further along is worth  $1 - r(T-t)$  Redemption

This is just a simple Taylor series approximation to the solution for a zero-coupon bond, for any one-factor model!

Take log of  $Z$  &  $\div$  thru by  $e^{-(T-t)}$

(steps to follow)

$$\gamma = -\frac{1}{T-t} \log Z$$

$$T.S.E : \log(1+r)$$

From this we can find the shape of the yield curve near the short end:

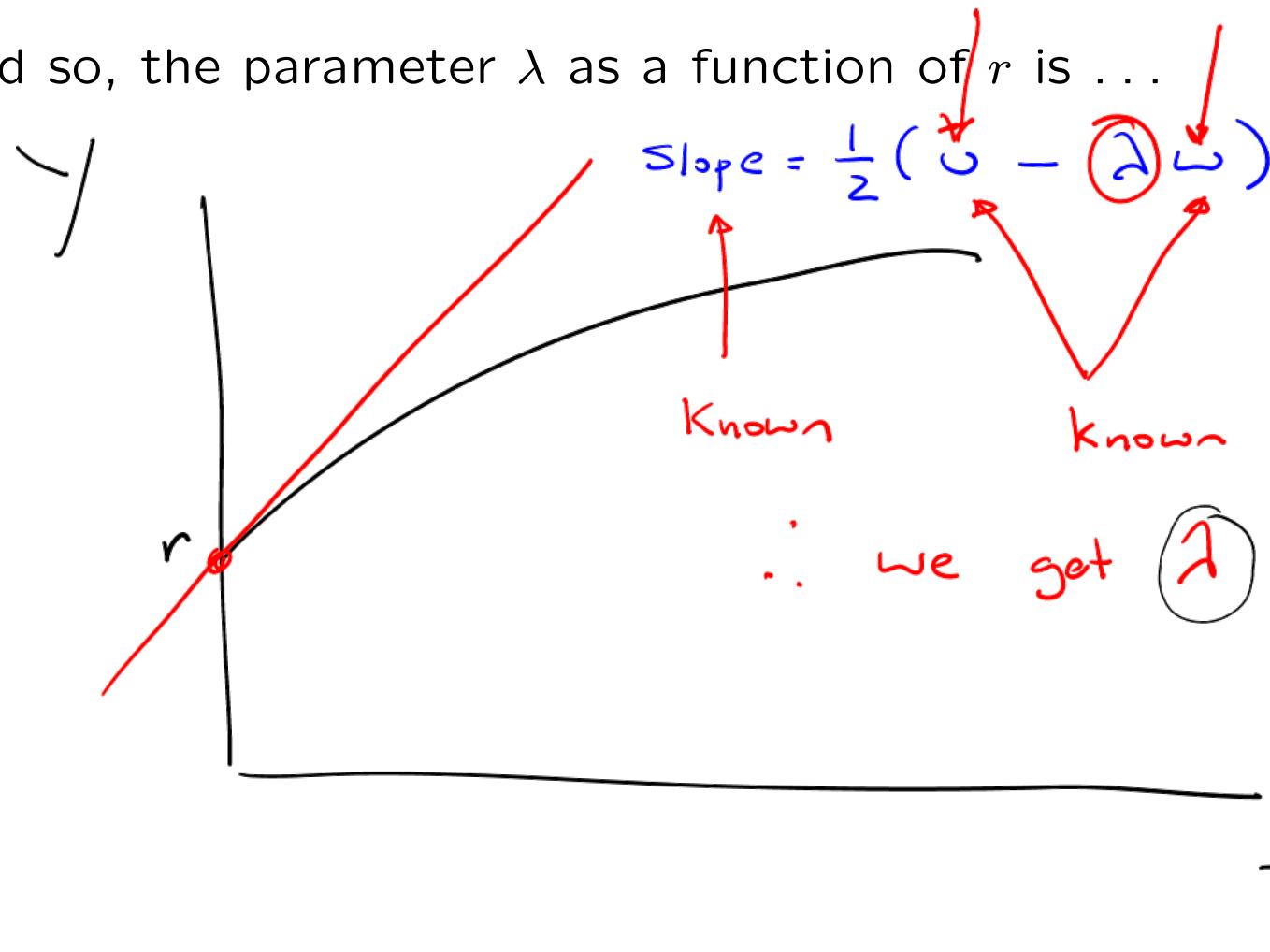
$$Y = -\frac{\ln Z}{T-t} \sim r + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2}(u - \lambda w)(T-t)}_{\text{gradient}} + \dots \quad \text{as } t \rightarrow T. \quad (8)$$

$$y = c + mx$$

The first term says that the short end of the yield curve is  $r$  (obvious!), and the second term says that the slope of the yield curve at the short end in this one-factor model is simply  $(u - \lambda w)/2$ .

We can use this result together with time-series data to determine the form for  $u - \lambda w$  empirically... and since we have functional forms for  $u(r)$  and  $w(r)$  that means we can find  $\lambda(r)$ .

And so, the parameter  $\lambda$  as a function of  $r$  is ...



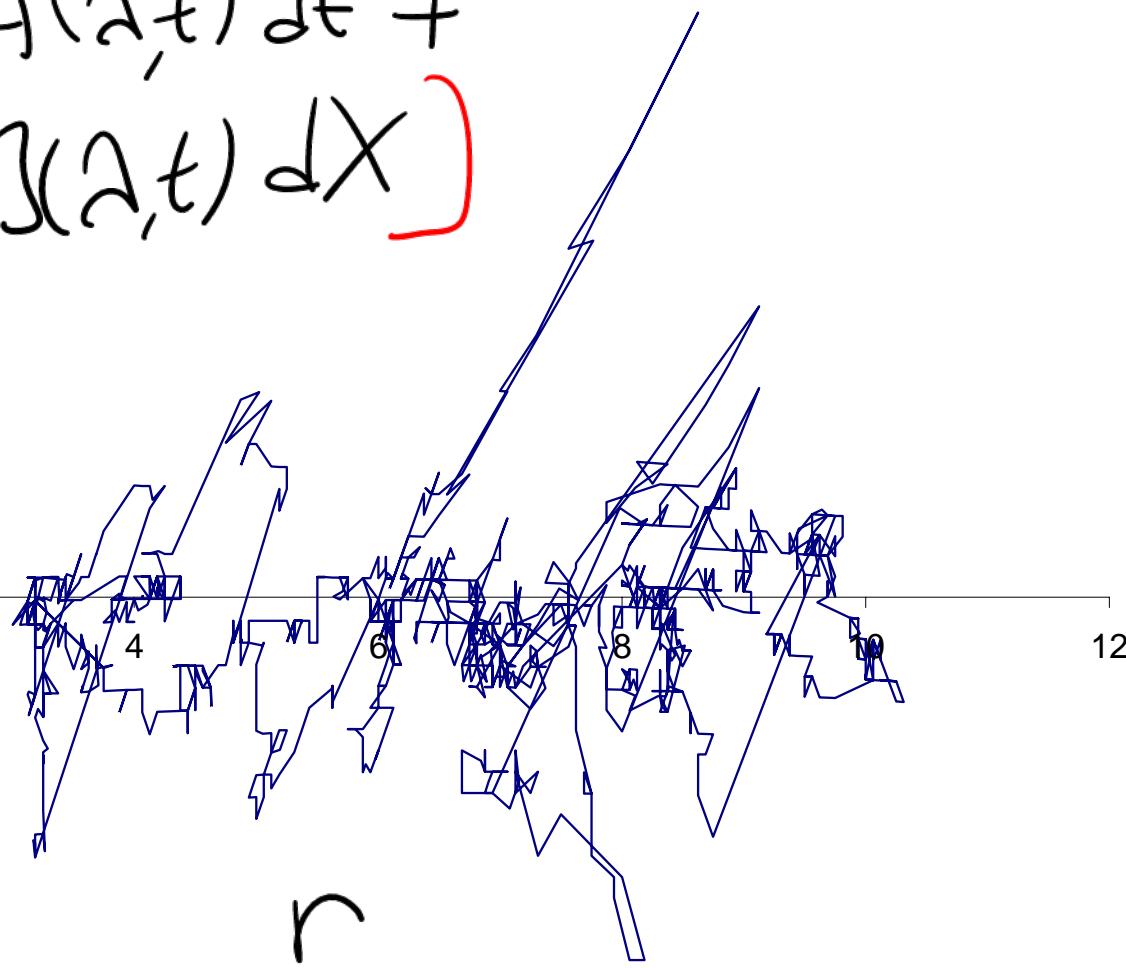
2

A complete mess !!

$$d\lambda = A(\lambda, t) dt + B(\lambda, t) dX$$

$$dI = pdt + q dX$$

Stock  
MPOR

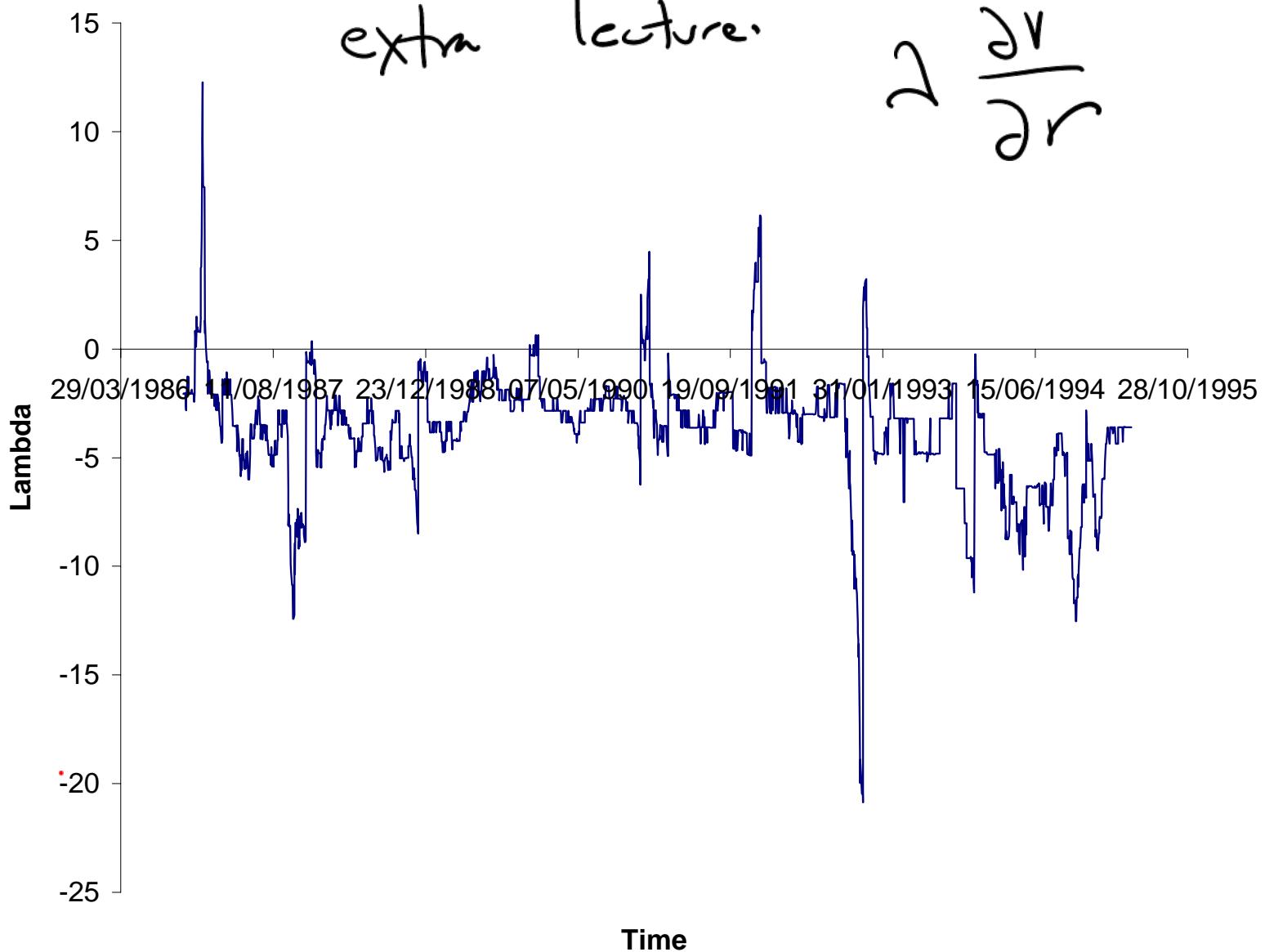


A mess!

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For more discussion see  
extra lecture.

$$2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial r}$$



Possible conclusion from this:

- it is 'easy' to model the spot interest rate!

- but difficult to model the market price of interest rate risk!

real challenge

~~$\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$  ?~~

$\lambda = \lambda(t)$  ~~X~~

$$d\lambda = a(\lambda, t) dt$$

$$+ \sigma(\lambda, t) dX$$

$\lambda$  stochastic ?

2 factor model

$$V(r, \lambda, t)$$

## Summary

Please take away the following important ideas

- I
- Spot interest rate models are usually calibrated to match market data, in particular the forward curve (HJM)
  - This calibration is in practice always inconsistent → unstable
  - There are simple methods for examining interest rate data to find good models  $\exists$  form  $dr = u(r) dt + v r^\beta dx$
  - Thanks for your interest - this was my last CQF lecture!