

Problem Set 10 *

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*Problems:13.1, 13.5, 13.6, 13.11, 13.25

Problem 14.3. $a = 0.5, b = 4.0$ How high does the company's initial cash position have to be for the company to have less than a 5% change of a negative cash position by the end of one year ($\Delta t = 4$). The math here is pretty simple, the concept too a minute for me to wrap my head around. See figure 1, the purple line is the expected value of the stock over the 4 quarters (1 year). I drew a normal distribution with mean at $(S_0 + 2)$ and a variance of 16 to illustrate the probability distribution at quarter 4. This turns the problem into a simple normal distribution problem.

$$\frac{\Delta S}{S} \sim \Phi(\mu \Delta t, \sigma^2 \Delta t) \quad \text{Eqn. 14.9 pg}$$

$$\frac{\Delta S}{S} \sim \Phi(0.5 \cdot 4, 4 \cdot 4)$$

$$\frac{\Delta S}{S} \sim \Phi(2, 16)$$

$$P(a \leq Y) = P\left(\frac{a - \mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{Y - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \quad \text{Larsen, Mark (2018) Def. 4.3.1 pg 249}$$

$$P\left(\frac{Y - \mu}{\sigma} \leq -1.64\right) = 0.05 \quad \text{using qnorm(0.05,0,1) in R}$$

$$\frac{Y + 2}{4} \leq -1.64$$

$$Y \leq 4.58 \text{ (million)}$$

Problem 14.5. Consider a variable S that follows the process:

$$dS = \mu dt + \sigma dz$$

For the first three years, $\mu = 2, \sigma = 3$ for the next 3 years, $\mu = 3, \sigma = 4$. $S_0 = 5$. What is the probability distribution of the value of the variable at the end of year 6.

Again, I include a graph to illustrate the logic of this problem. But the math

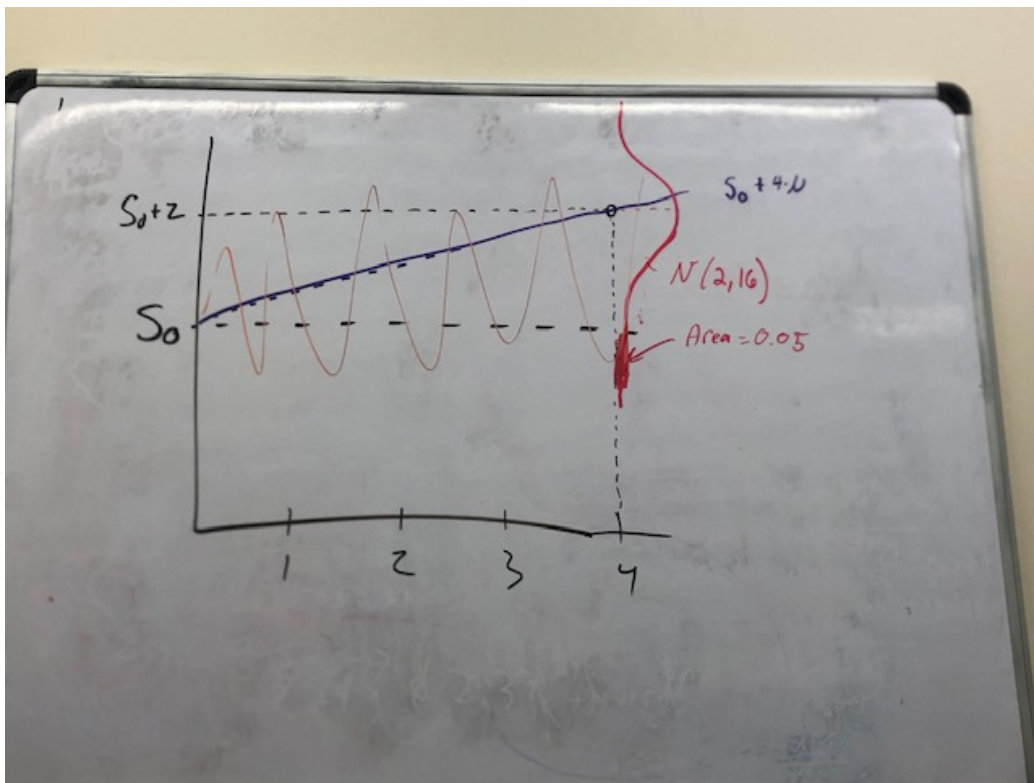


Figure 1: Problem 14.3

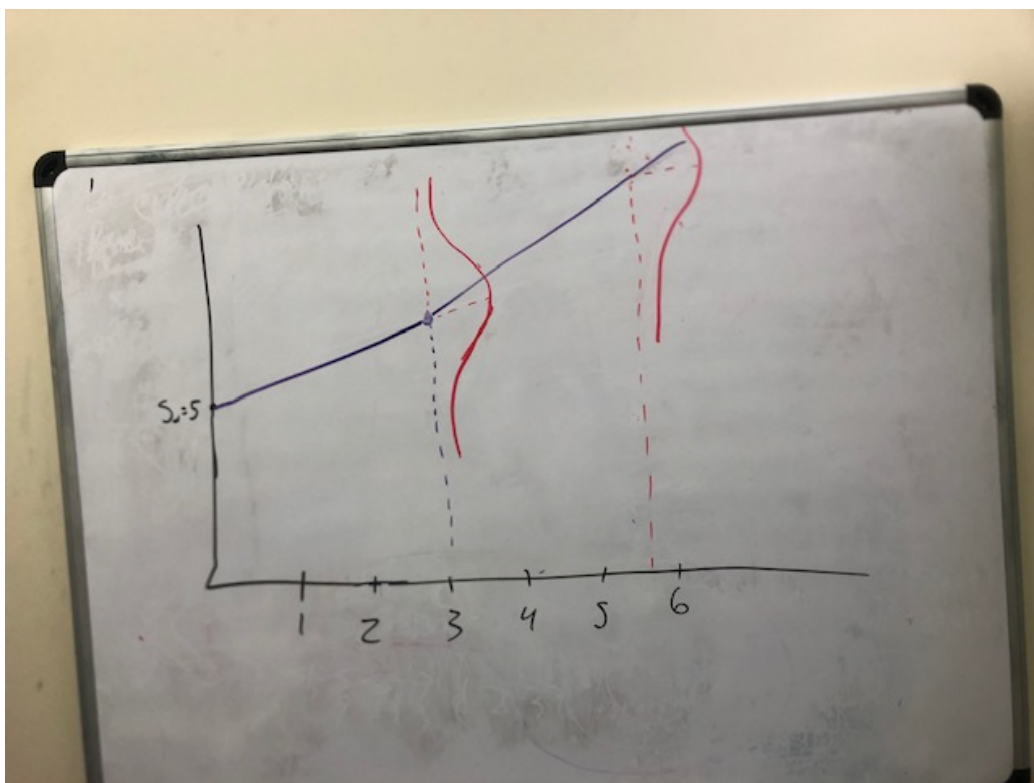


Figure 2: problem 14.5

is simple. Since the time is independent, variances and means are additive.

$\frac{\Delta S}{S} \sim \Phi(\mu \Delta t, \sigma^2 \Delta t)$	Eqn. 14.9 pg
$\sim \Phi(2 \cdot 3, 9 \cdot 3)$	First 3 years
$\sim \Phi(6, 27)$	
$\sim \Phi(3 \cdot 3, 16 \cdot 3)$	Second 3 years
$\sim \Phi(9, 48)$	
$\sim \Phi(9 + 6, 48 + 27)$	components are additive
$\sim \Phi(15, 75)$	
$\frac{\Delta S}{S} \sim \Phi(20, 75)$	add the initial value to the mean

Problem 14.9. It has been suggested that the short-term interest rate, r , follows the stochastic process

$$dr = a(b - r)dt + rcdz$$

where a , b , and c are positive constants and dz is a Wiener process. Describe the nature of this process.

I'm not fully sure what you mean by "describe the nature of the process" but let's just talk about it. The short term interest rate follows a Wiener process with drift $a(b - r)$ and variance rc . Focusing a bit on the drift because that is a little interesting. $a(b - r)$ with $a, b, r > 0$ suggest that the drift can be negative, ($b < r$) or positive ($b > r$) or even zero. If b is constant then that isn't all that interesting, but if you think about b as a function of time or something that could make things more complicated but more dynamic as well!

Problem 14.11. Suppose that x is the yield to maturity with continuous compounding on a zero-coupon bond that pays off \$1 at time T . Assume that x follows the process:

$$dx = a(x_0 - x)dt + sx dz$$

Alright so lets take this as an opportunity to talk through this a bit. A bond with a yield to maturity x is priced as $B = e^{-x(T-t)}$. x follows a Wiener process with drift $a(x_0 - x)$ and variance sx . By Ito's lemma we can find the process for the Bond price with this yield to maturity. First we will define the derivatives we will need and then walk through the Ito process:

$$\begin{aligned} B &= e^{-x(T-t)} \\ \frac{\partial B}{\partial x} &= -(T-t)e^{-x(T-t)} = -(T-t) \cdot B \\ \frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial x^2} &= (T-t)^2 e^{-x(T-t)} = (T-t)^2 \cdot B \\ \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} &= x e^{-x(T-t)} = xB \\ dB &= \left(\frac{\partial B}{\partial x} [a(x_0 - x)] + \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 B}{\partial x^2} [(sx)^2] \right) dt + \frac{\partial B}{\partial t} [sx] dt \\ tdB &= ((-(T-t) \cdot B)[a(x_0 - x)] + xB + \frac{1}{2} ((T-t)^2 \cdot B)[(sx)^2]) dt + (xB)[sx] dt \end{aligned}$$

Problem 14.13. Expected return is %16, volatility is %30, $S_t = \$50$.

- (a) $E(S_{t+1}) = S_t + S_t \cdot \mu = 50 + 50 \cdot (0.16/365) = \50.022
- (b) $\sigma_{t+1} = S_t \sigma^2 \cdot \sqrt{t} = 50 \cdot 0.3 \cdot \sqrt{1/365} = 0.785$
- (c) $\mu \pm z_{0.95} \cdot \sigma = 50.022 \pm 1.96 \cdot 0.785 = (48.483, 51.561)$