

Assignment1: Take Home Messages

➤ General suggestions

✓ Team-working Golden Rules:

Maximum collaboration within the group, zero between groups!

Always review the code written by others and standardize it!

➤ Docs:

- ✓ Some have nice graphical representation (often more useful than hundred of words);
- ✓ answers are not unique: find your own;
- ✓ Price results: in percentage or currency amount;
- ✓ Avoid theoretical formulas when not specified by homework: go to the point!

Assignment1: Take Home Messages

➤ Codes:

- ✓ Each code has the style of the people that have programmed it: the probability (for not elementary tasks) to find the same structure in the code is zero, and also to observe the same error!
- ✓ Remember (for your opportunity) to put adequate comments in codes.
- ✓ use at the beginning of the code (if needed): clear (cancels all previously defined variables) & clc (clears the screen). Use an header for the run_ script; not a proper start:


```
%% Pricing parameters
```
- ✓ (often) better using low-level functions (when possible) more than built-in functions; it can be implemented easily in a different language
- ✓ Initialize random variable generator seed to fix results number in debugging mode (rng).
- ✓ Dimension vectors before a cycle with zeros or ones; use cycles only if it is absolutely needed! Otherwise exploit Matlab vectorized calculations.

How to compute a confidence interval in a MC simulation (“Error” estimation)

Consider a set of i.i.d. rvs with mean μ and variance σ^2 $\{o_i\}_{i=1,\dots,M}$

➤ Estimator:

$$\checkmark \hat{o} := \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M o_i$$

✓ is unbiased

➤ Variance of the estimator:

$$\checkmark \mathbb{V}[\hat{o}] = \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M (o_i - \mu) \right]^2 = \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{i=1}^M \mathbb{E}[o_i - \mu]^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{M}$$

...i.e. the central limit holds

➤ Estimator of the variance of the estimator, when μ is not known

$$\checkmark \hat{S} := \frac{\hat{s}_2}{M} = \frac{1}{M(M-1)} \sum_{i=1}^M (o_i - \hat{o})^2 \quad \text{which is unbiased}$$

...the other solution adopted...

Accuracy vs Flexibility vs Time

What is a reasonable accuracy for an Equity/FX plain vanilla option?

A criteria for prices: the basis point.

(in general lower than the average observed bid-ask spread)

➤ Vectorialization:

```
value = max(u.^(N:-2:-N) * F0 -K, 0);
```

vs

```
value = zeros(N+1,1);
```

```
for i=0:N
```

```
    value(i)=max(u^(N-2*i)*F0 -K, 0);
```

```
end
```

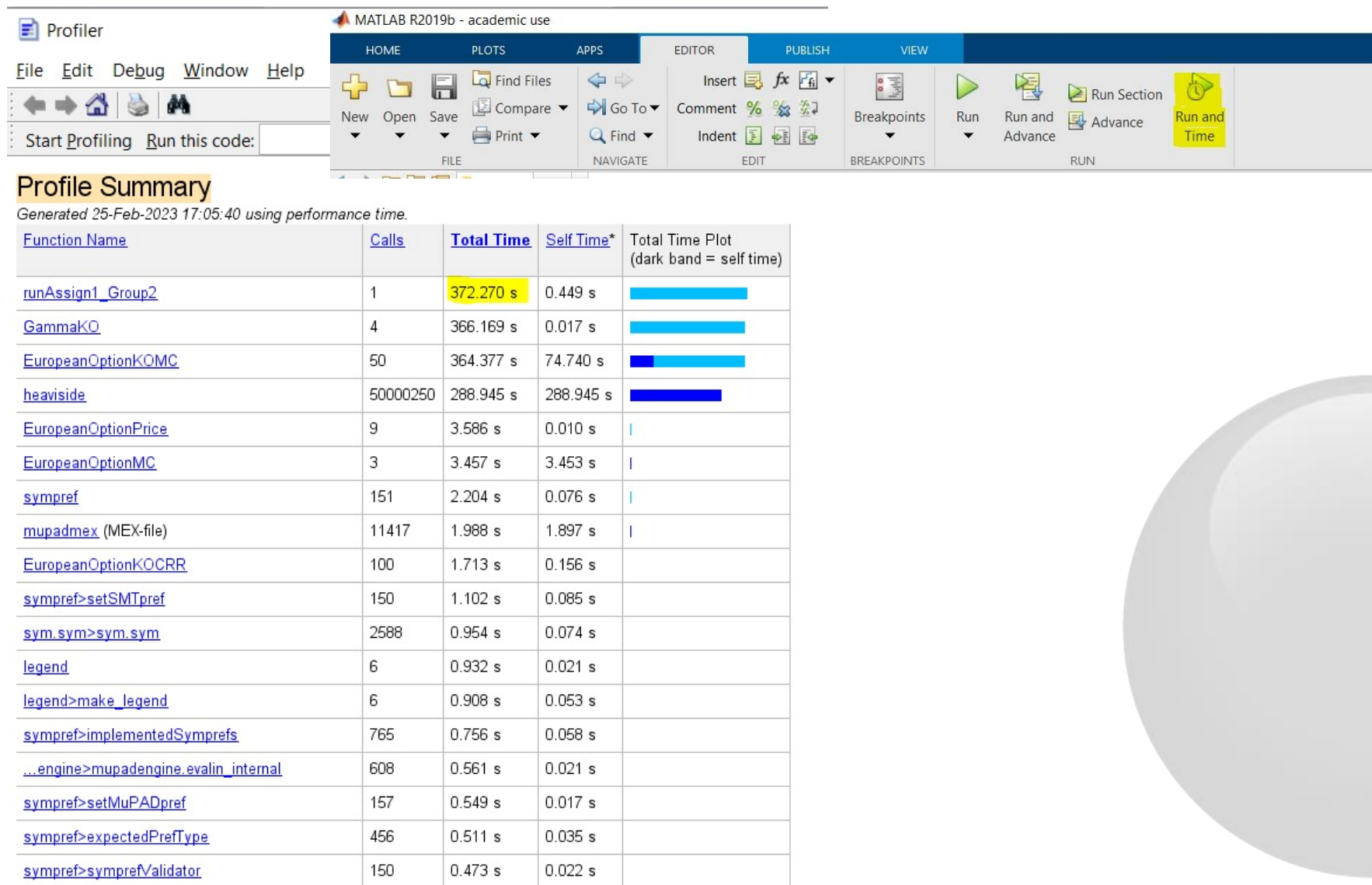
➤ MC is the most flexible technique

- ✓ whatever payoff can be easily implemented

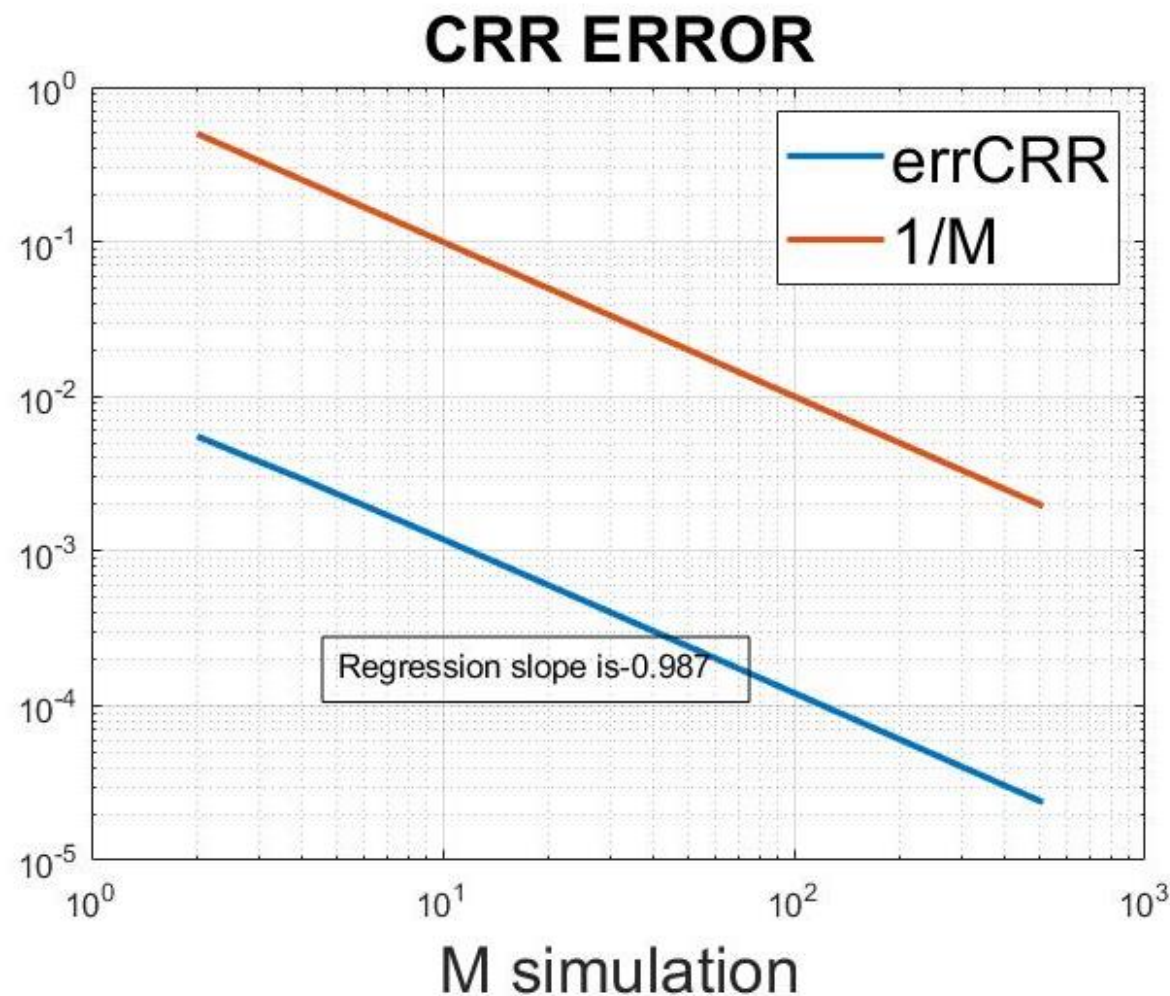
➤ computational time in Matlab

- ✓ tic & toc.

Matlab profiler



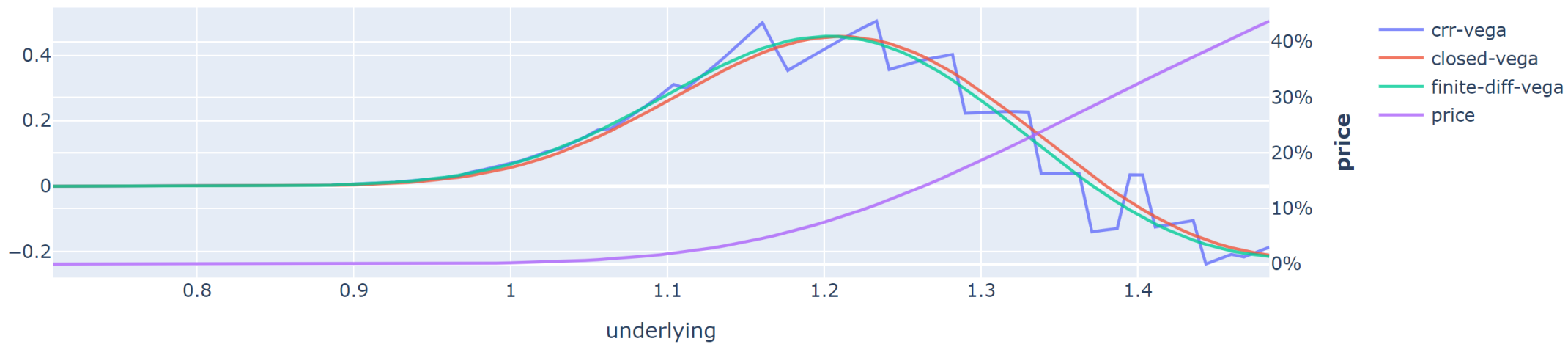
Accuracy: Error Rescaling



```
p=polyfit(log10(M),log10(errorCRR),1); %lin regress on log-log scale
```

Vega: Digital Risk

European Barrier Up&In Call



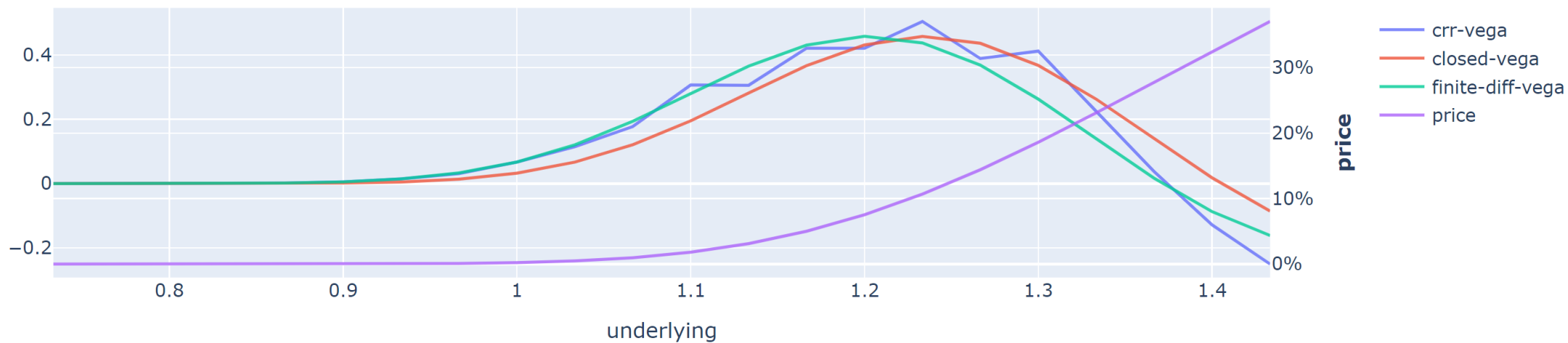
$$N_{CRR} = 1000$$

$$I_{S0} = 100$$

$$\Delta\sigma = 2\%$$

Vega: Digital Risk

European Barrier Up&In Call

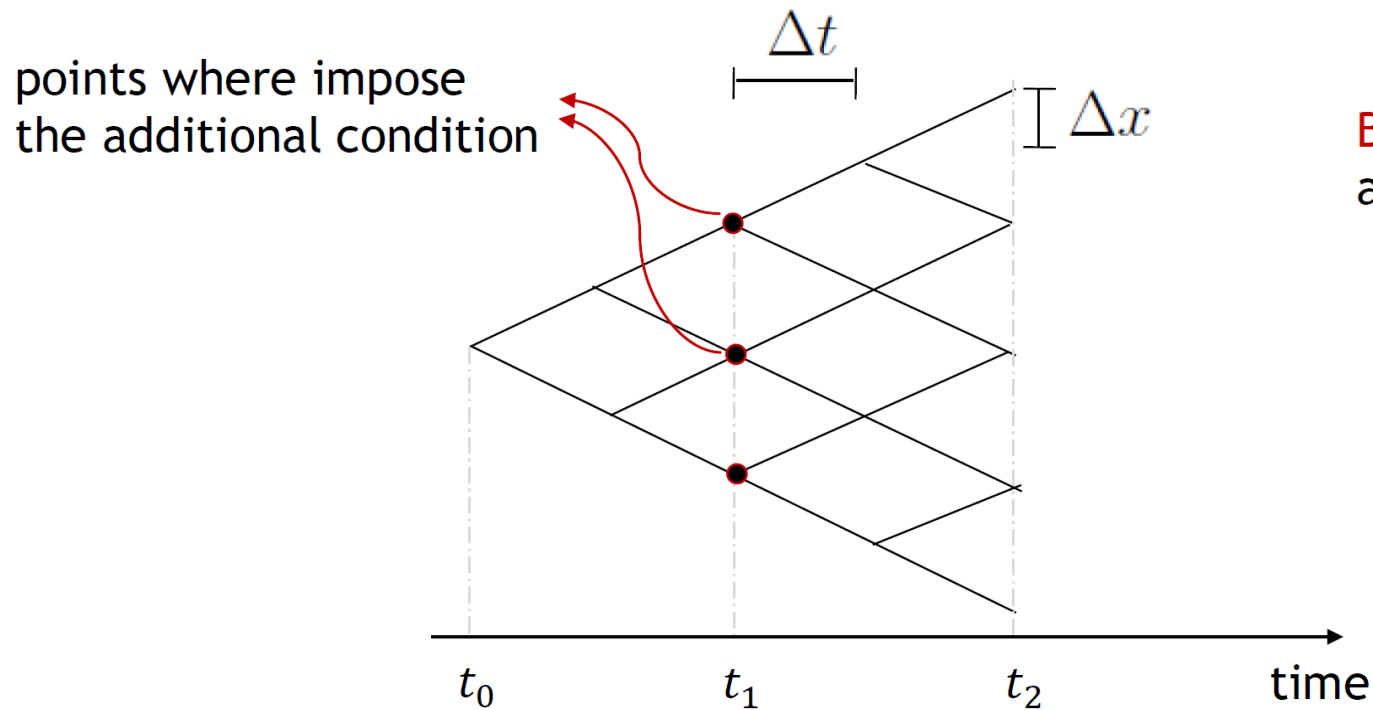


$$N_{CRR} = 1000$$

$$I_{S0} = 25$$

$$\Delta\sigma = 2\%$$

Discrete Time (CRR): How to use it in a Bermudan option



Bermudan option $C_B(t_0, t_2)$ with an additional exercise date in t_1

going backwards, in each point of t_1 one should impose the additional condition

$$C_B(t_1, t_2) = \max[S(t_1) - K, C(t_1, t_2)]$$

with $F(t_1, t_2) = S(t_1) e^{(r-q)(t_2-t_1)}$ in presence of a dividend yield

Accuracy: Antithetic Variables

Antithetic Variables: a simple recipe to increment accuracy in MC

Use the Gaussian r.v. twice: the drawn variable and with opposite sign.

```
Z = randn(N,1);
F = F0*exp(-0.5*sigma^2*T + sigma*sqrt(T)*Z);
F_ = F0*exp(-0.5*sigma^2*T - sigma*sqrt(T)*Z);
simulatedPrice = ones(2,N);
simulatedPrice(1,:) = B * max(0, F - K);
simulatedPrice(2,:) = B * max(0, F_ - K);
mean_price = mean(mean(simulatedPrice,1));
```

Main advantages:

- uses $2N$ variables with N drawings;
- $Var\left[\frac{X+Y}{2}\right] = \frac{1}{2}\{Var[X] + Cov(X,Y)\} < Var[X]$, w.r.t. $Cov(X,Y) < 0$
- the “sperimental” distribution is automatically symmetric

Numerical Gamma: the impact of seed

➤ Fixing the seed in MonteCarlo:

$$C^{MC}(F_0 + h) = B(0, T) \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M f(F_0 + h; \mathbf{g}_i)$$

$$C^{MC}(F_0) = B(0, T) \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M f(F_0; \mathbf{g}_i)$$

$$\Gamma^{num}(F_0) = \frac{1}{h^2} \{C^{MC}(F_0 + h) - 2C^{MC}(F_0) + C^{MC}(F_0 - h)\}$$

Then:

$$\Gamma^{num}(F_0) = \frac{1}{h^2} B(0, T) \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \{f(F_0 + h; \mathbf{g}_i) - 2f(F_0; \mathbf{g}_i) + f(F_0 - h; \mathbf{g}_i)\}$$

$$\Gamma^{num}(F_0) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \{\Gamma^{exact}(F_0; \mathbf{g}_i) + o(h)\} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \Gamma^{exact}(F_0; \mathbf{g}_i) + o(h)$$

Bermudan vs European

