

M3392 : November 12th, 2025.

More on Log-Normal Stock Prices.

Under the risk-neutral probability measure \mathbb{P}^* ,
we model

$$R(0, T) \sim \text{Normal}(\text{mean} = (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T, \text{var} = \sigma^2 \cdot T)$$

Say, $Z \sim N(0, 1)$.

Then, we can express $R(0, T)$ as

$$R(0, T) = (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbb{P}[(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T < R(0, T)] = \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathbb{P}[e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T} < e^{R(0, T)}] = \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right.$$

\uparrow $S(0)$ \uparrow $S(0)$

Thus,

$$S(T) = S(0) e^{R(0, T)} = S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z}$$

Q: What is the median of $S(T)$ under the risk-neutral probability measure \mathbb{P}^* ?

→:

$$S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T}$$

Note:

$$\frac{\text{mean}}{\text{median}} = \frac{S(0) e^{rT}}{S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T}} = e^{\frac{\sigma^2}{2} \cdot T}$$