

M3392 : November 12th, 2025.

More on Log-Normal Stock Prices.

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

we model.

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T < R(0, T)] &= \frac{1}{2} \\ \mathbb{P}[e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T} < e^{R(0, T)}] &= \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

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

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:

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