

M339D: October 9th, 2023.

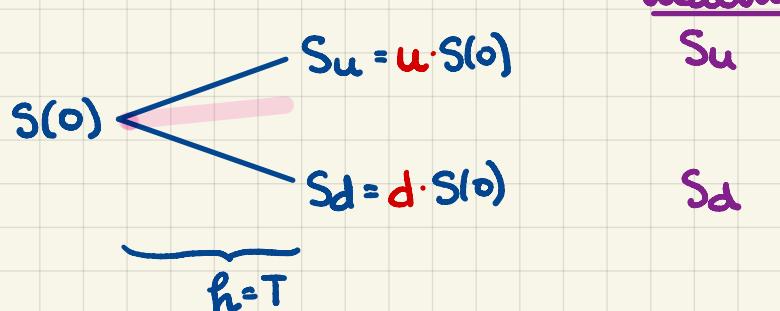
The Binomial Asset Pricing Model.

The No Arbitrage Assumption.

Market Model.

- riskless asset: @ the ccfir r
- risky asset: non-dividend-paying stock

Imagine investing in one share of this stock @ time $t=0$:



At the risk-free rate $S(0)$ accumulates to $\underline{S(0)e^{rh}}$ @ time $T=h$

The No arbitrage Condition

$$\begin{aligned} S_d &< S(0)e^{rh} < S_u \\ d \cdot S(0) &< S(0)e^{rh} < u \cdot S(0) \\ d &< e^{rh} < u \end{aligned}$$

Half-a-Proof.

Say, to the contrary, $e^{rh} \leq d < u$. \times

Propose: Long one share of stock

Verify: Profit = Payoff - FV_{0,T} (Initial Cost) = $S(h) - S(0)e^{rh}$

In the down node: $S_d - S(0)e^{rh} = S(0) \cdot d - S(0)e^{rh} \geq 0$

In the up node: $S_u - S(0)e^{rh} = S(0) \cdot u - S(0)e^{rh} > 0$

Indeed, an
arbitrage portfolio.

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Problem Set #8

Binomial option pricing.

Problem 8.1. In the setting of the one-period binomial model, denote by i the **effective** interest rate **per period**. Let u denote the “up factor” and let d denote the “down factor” in the stock-price model. If

$$d < u \leq 1 + i$$

then there certainly is no possibility for arbitrage.

Fixed statement:

$$d < 1+i < u$$

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Problem 8.2. In our usual notation, does this parameter choice create a binomial model with an arbitrage opportunity?

$$u = 1.18, \quad d = 0.87, \quad r = 0.05, \quad \delta = 0, \quad h = 1/4$$

$$\rightarrow: d = 0.87 < e^{rh} = e^{\frac{0.05(0.25)}{12}} = 1.0125 < 1.18 = u$$

Q: $\tilde{d} = 1.01$ still works.

Forward Binomial Trees.

$$S(0) \xrightarrow{\substack{S_u = u \cdot S(0) \\ S_d = d \cdot S(0)}} \underbrace{h}_{h=T}$$

The no-arbitrage condition:

$$d < e^{rh} < u$$

u, d = ?

"Def'n". The volatility σ is the standard deviation of realized returns on a continuously compounded scale and annualized.

Heuristics: $T=1$

$$h_m = \frac{1}{m} \text{ (year)}$$

Q: What is the volatility for the time period of length h_m ? Call this volatility σ_{h_m} .

$$\begin{array}{c} \hline | & | \\ t & t+s \end{array}$$

Realized Return: $R(t, t+s)$ satisfies

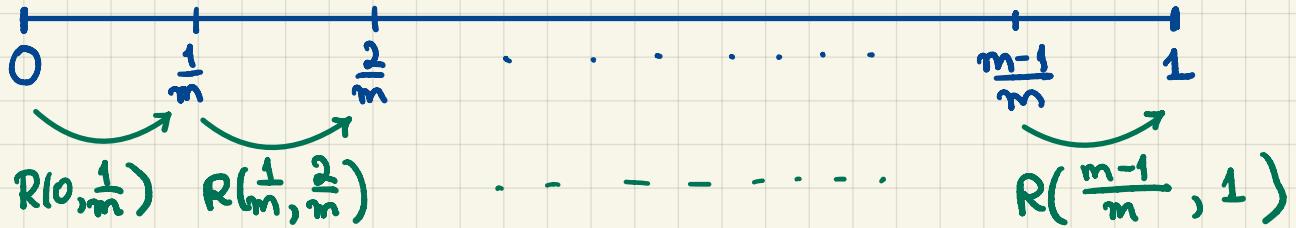
$$S(t+s) = S(t)e^{R(t, t+s)}$$

or, equivalently,

$$R(t, t+s) = \ln\left(\frac{S(t+s)}{S(t)}\right) \quad \checkmark$$

Compare to the simple return

$$\frac{S(t+s) - S(t)}{S(t)} = \frac{S(t+s)}{S(t)} - 1$$



Note:

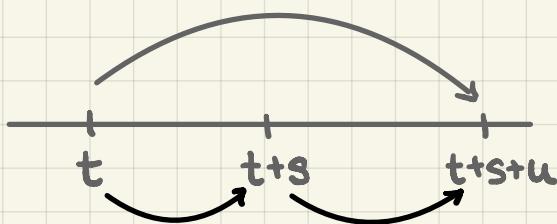
$$R\left(\frac{k-1}{m}, \frac{k}{m}\right) \text{ for } k=1, 2, \dots, m$$

are all random variables.

We make the following assumptions:

- all the returns above are identically distributed ;
- the returns over disjoint intervals are independent .

We also know that the realized returns defined as above are additive, i.e.,



$$\begin{aligned}
 R(t, t+s+u) &= \ln\left(\frac{S(t+s+u)}{S(t)}\right) \\
 &= \ln\left(\frac{S(t+s+u)}{S(t+s)} \cdot \frac{S(t+s)}{S(t)}\right) \\
 &= \boxed{\ln\left(\frac{S(t+s+u)}{S(t+s)}\right)} + \boxed{\ln\left(\frac{S(t+s)}{S(t)}\right)} \\
 &= R(t, t+s) + R(t+s, t+s+u)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$R(0, \frac{1}{m}) + R(\frac{1}{m}, \frac{2}{m}) + \dots + R(\frac{m-1}{m}, 1) = R(0, 1)$$

Q: $\text{Var}[R(0,1)] = ?$