

Energy and Commodity Derivatives



Outline

- ⊕ Types of commodities
- ⊕ Energy commodity futures
- ⊕ Modeling commodity futures
- ⊕ Simulation and implementation



What are commodities?

- ⊕ Inputs to an industrial process
- ⊕ Must be standardizable
- ⊕ Involve some uncertainty: price/supply/inventory

Main types of commodities:

- ⊕ Agricultural
- ⊕ Metals
- ⊕ Energy
- ⊕ Other



Agricultural Commodities

- ✚ Grains: Corn, wheat, cocoa, coffee
- ✚ Oilseeds: soybeans, sunflower
- ✚ Foods: sugar, butter, cheese
- ✚ Livestock: cattle, pork bellies
- ✚ Fiber: cotton
- ✚ Tropicals: frozen orange juice

Seasonality and mean reversion in prices (farmers have a choice about what they produce)



Metals

- ⊕ Base metals: copper, tin, lead, zinc, nickel, aluminum
- ⊕ Strategic: uranium
- ⊕ Precious: gold, silver
- ⊕ Ferrous: iron ore and steel

Investment vs consumption metals

Some mean reversion (It can become uneconomic to extract some metals)



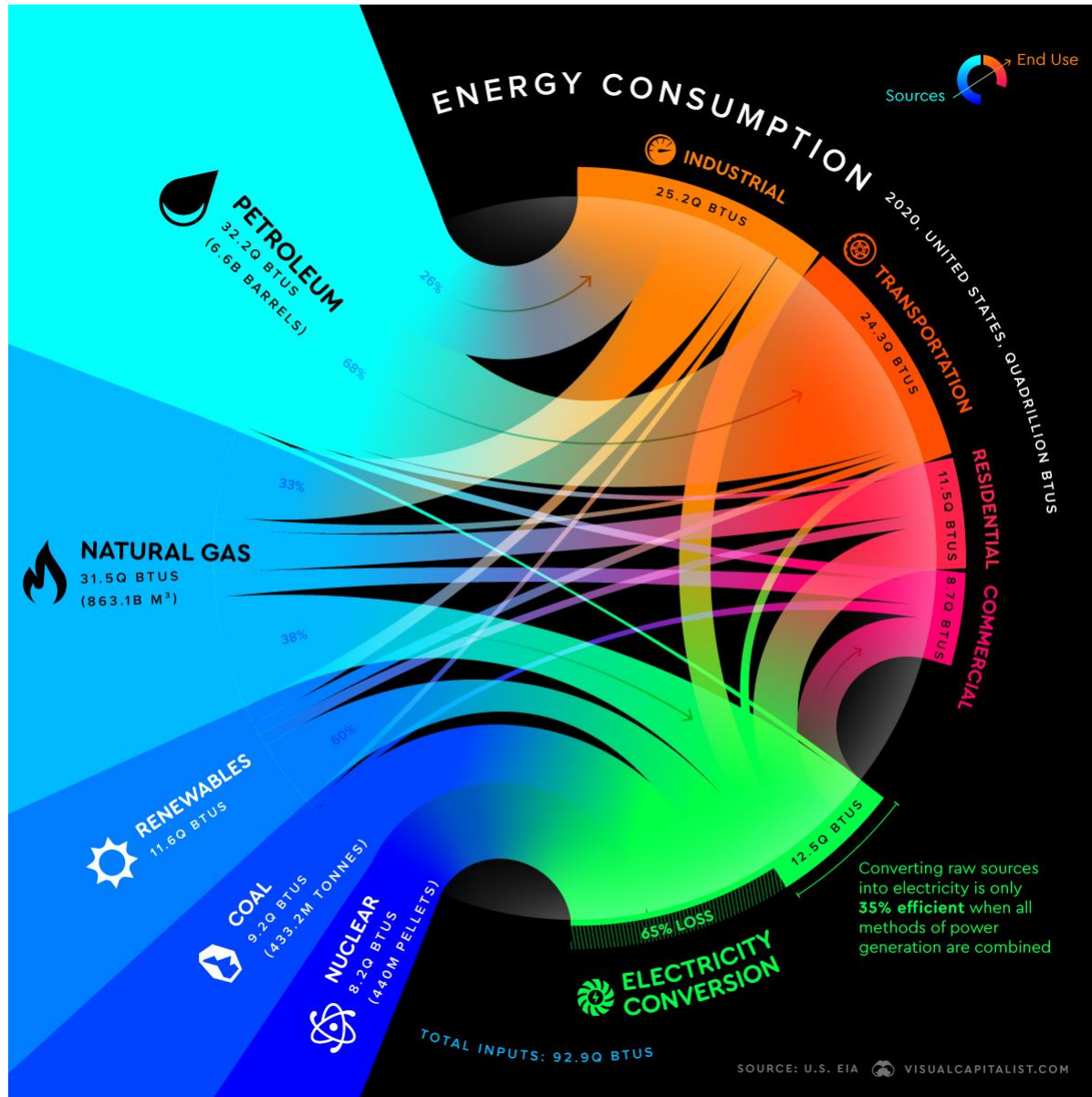
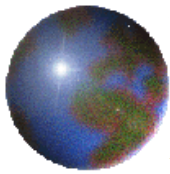
Energy Commodities

- ✚ Crude oil and their derivatives
 - ✚ Crude oil
 - ✚ Distillates: gasoline, kerosene,
 - ✚ Residuals: fuel oil, bunker oil
- ✚ Natural gas
- ✚ Power (electricity)



Other

- ⊕ Coal
- ⊕ Emissions (CO₂)
- ⊕ Minerals
- ⊕ Weather
- ⊕ Shipping/freight





Crude Oil

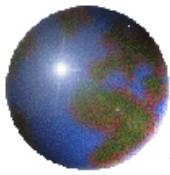
- ✚ Largest commodity market in the world
- ✚ Crude oil is the most non-standard commodity. Main criteria for listing:
 - ✚ Location of origin: West TX, Louisiana, Fateh
 - ✚ API: measure of density (heavy/light)
 - ✚ Sulfur content: sweet ($<1\%$ S), sour ($>1\%$ S)
- ✚ Three main benchmarks:
 - ✚ West Texas Intermediate (WTI): 38-40 API, 0.3% S
 - ✚ Brent: 38 API, 0.3% S
 - ✚ Dubai: 32 API, 2% S



Delivery and Futures

Standard delivery for futures is by pipeline, at specified locations

- ✚ CME: WTI = Cushing OK
- ✚ ICE Brent: Sullom Voe, UK
- ✚ Dubai Fateh: Dubai, UAE

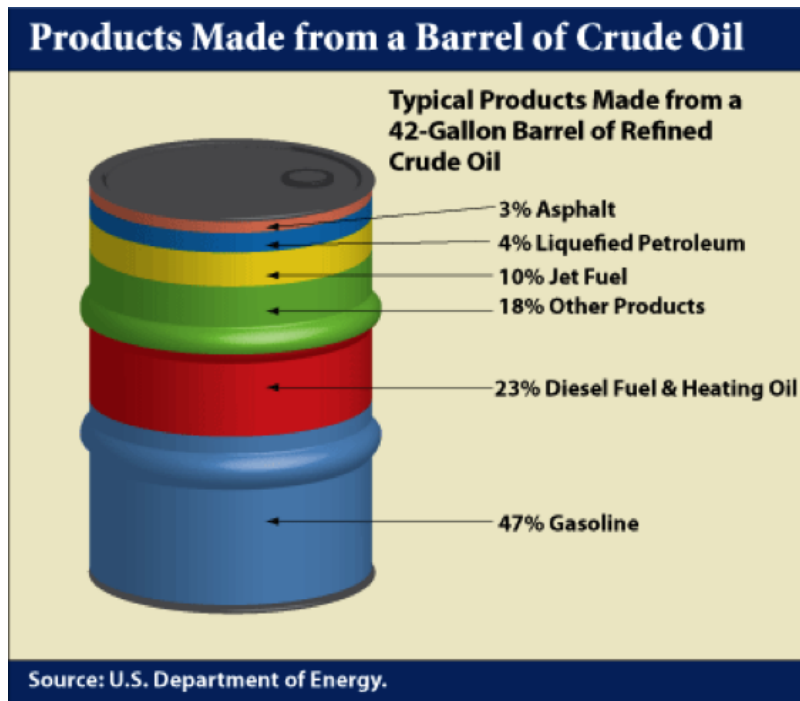


US crude oil pipelines



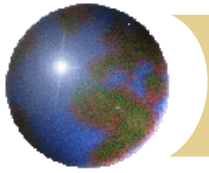


Distillates



Fractional crude distillation produces a large number of derivatives:

- Gasoline.
- Kerosene/jet fuel
- Diesel fuel
- Bunker fuel



Main distillates futures

- ✚ RBOB (revised blendstock for oxygenate blending) Gasoline futures
- ✚ NY Harbor ULSD: Heating oil futures
- ✚ Residual fuel oil: USGC HSFO (3.5%)



Natural Gas

- ✚ Can be transported either by pipeline or in liquefied form (LNG) by tankers
- ✚ Futures traded on CME (delivery at Henry Hub), ICE (Europe), LNG on ICE (Japan/Korea)
- ✚ Propane is extracted from natgas. Futures on propane traded on CME.

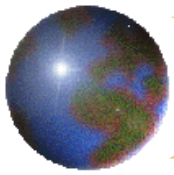


Power - electricity

Special feature: very difficult to store

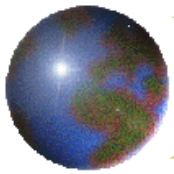
- ⊕ Electricity markets are very local
- ⊕ Markets are closely connected to generation plants.
- ⊕ Supply and demand must be always in balance.
- ⊕ Imbalances lead to spikes in prices.

- ⊕ Recent trend towards deregulation. There is still a regulated sector with fixed prices

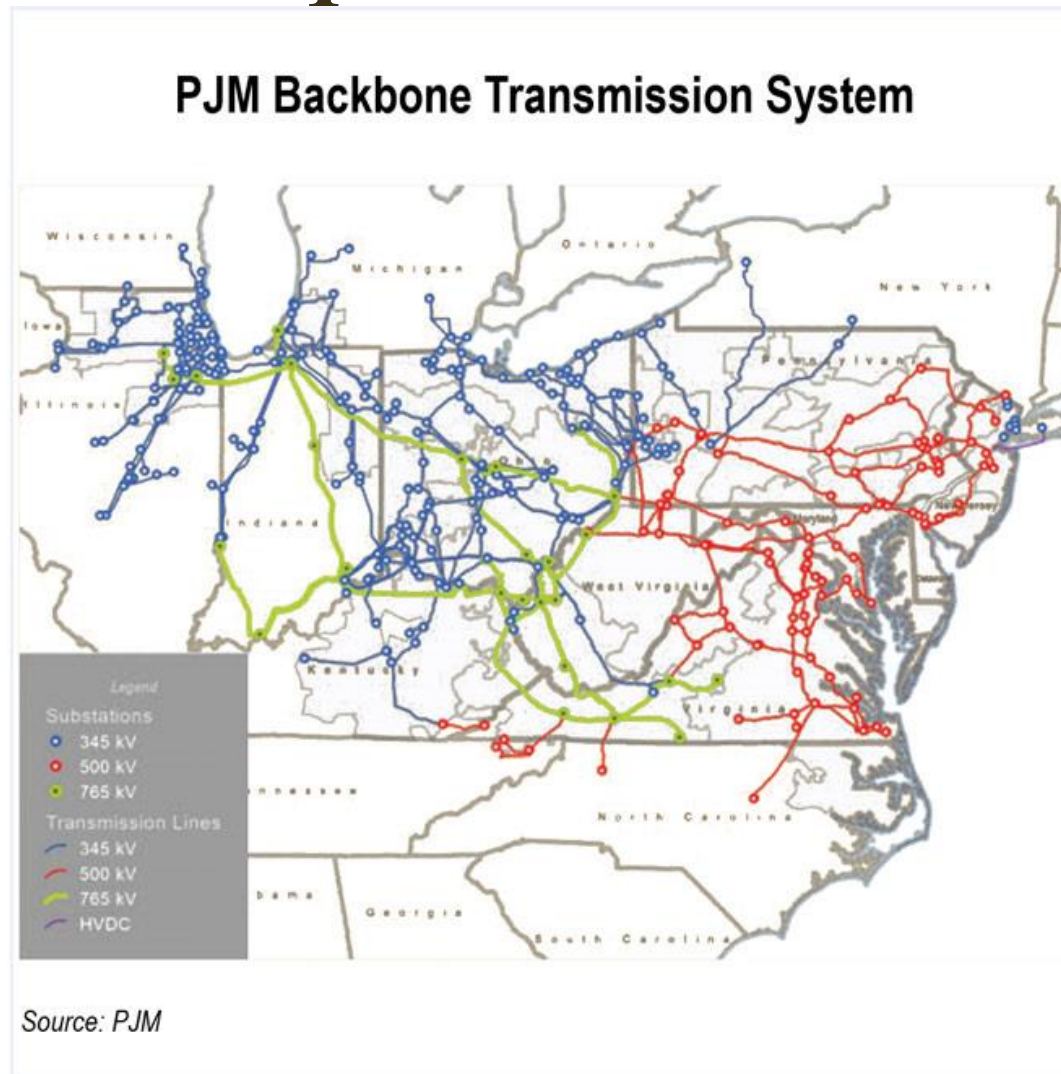


US Power Zones





PJM zone map





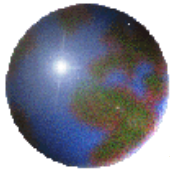
Power futures

- ✚ Electricity is traded as cash settled futures, giving the right to delivery over a specified period:
 - ✚ Monthly, e.g. PJM Monthly
 - ✚ Weekly
 - ✚ Daily, day-of and day-ahead futures.
 - ✚ Intraday: peak/base, hourly.



Power generation

- ⊕ Coal power plants
- ⊕ Nuclear plants
- ⊕ Natural gas plants – very flexible, can be turned on/off quickly
- ⊕ Hydro Power Plants
- ⊕ Fuel Oil Plants
- ⊕ Renewables power plants: wind, solar



Commodity derivatives



Commodity Derivatives

- ❖ Virtually all derivatives available on stocks and stock indices are also available in the commodity markets with futures as the underlying asset
- ❖ American options on futures are very common.
- ❖ Example: LO options – American options on WTI futures



Commodity swaps

- ✚ Swaps ensure delivery at regular time intervals in exchange for periodic payments
- ✚ Calendar Swap: cash settled at maturity in an amount equal to the sum/average of a futures price at regular intervals (typically daily).



Spread options

Spread options have a payoff linked to the spread between two assets

- ✚ Call spread pays $\max(S1 - S2 - K, 0)$
- ✚ Put spread pays $\max(K - S1 + S2, 0)$

The two assets can be futures on different commodities or same commodity with different delivery dates.

WTI – Brent Crude Oil Spread Option

Calendar spread option: WTI Crude Oil 1 Month CS option



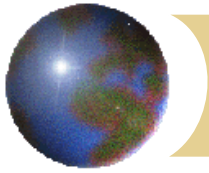
Natural Gas Derivatives (page 774-775)

- ✚ A typical OTC contract is for the delivery of a specified amount of natural gas at a roughly uniform rate to specified location during a month.
- ✚ NYMEX and IPE trade contracts that require delivery of 10,000 million British thermal units of natural gas to a specified location



Electricity Derivatives continued

- ✚ A typical contract allows one side to receive a specified number of megawatt hours for a specified price at a specified location during a particular month
- ✚ Types of contracts:
5x8, 5x16, 7x24, daily or monthly exercise, swing options



Modeling Commodity Prices

- ✚ Futures prices can be used to define the process followed by a commodity price in a risk-neutral world.
- ✚ We can build in mean reversion and use the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process



The Process for the Commodity Price

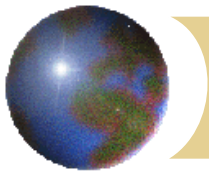
A simple mean reverting process is

$$d \ln(S) = [\theta(t) - a \ln(S)] dt + \sigma dz$$

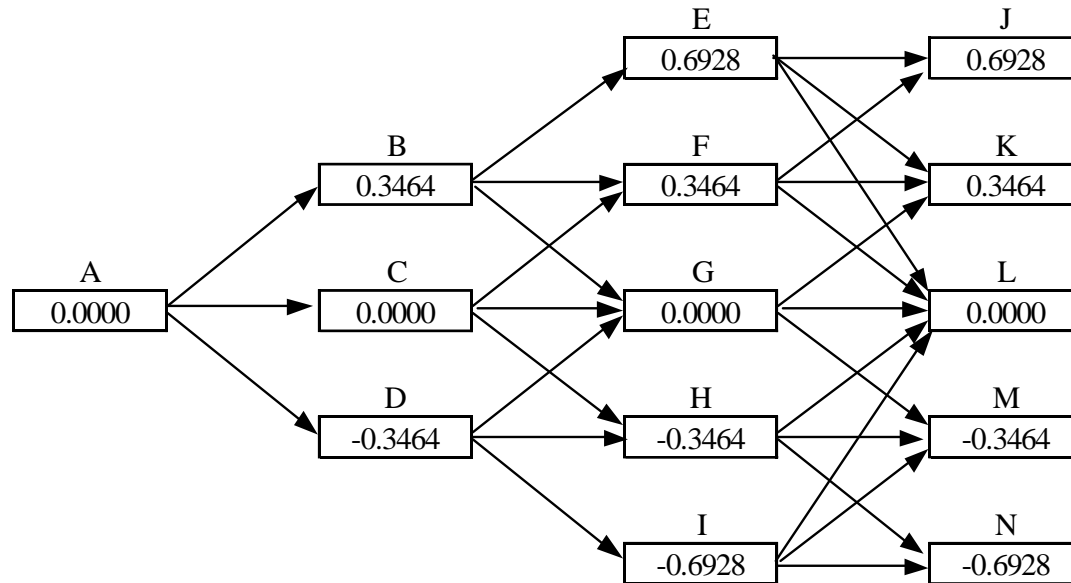
Can also be written

$$\frac{dS}{S} = [\theta^*(t) - a \ln S] dt + \sigma dz$$

Assume $a = 0.1$, $\sigma = 0.2$, and $\Delta t = 1$ year



Tree for $\ln(S)$ Assuming $\theta(t)=0$; Fig 35.1



Node	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
p_u	0.1667	0.1217	0.1667	0.2217	0.8867	0.1217	0.1667	0.2217	0.0867
p_m	0.6666	0.6566	0.6666	0.6566	0.0266	0.6566	0.6666	0.6566	0.0266
p_d	0.1667	0.2217	0.1667	0.1217	0.0867	0.2217	0.1667	0.1217	0.8867

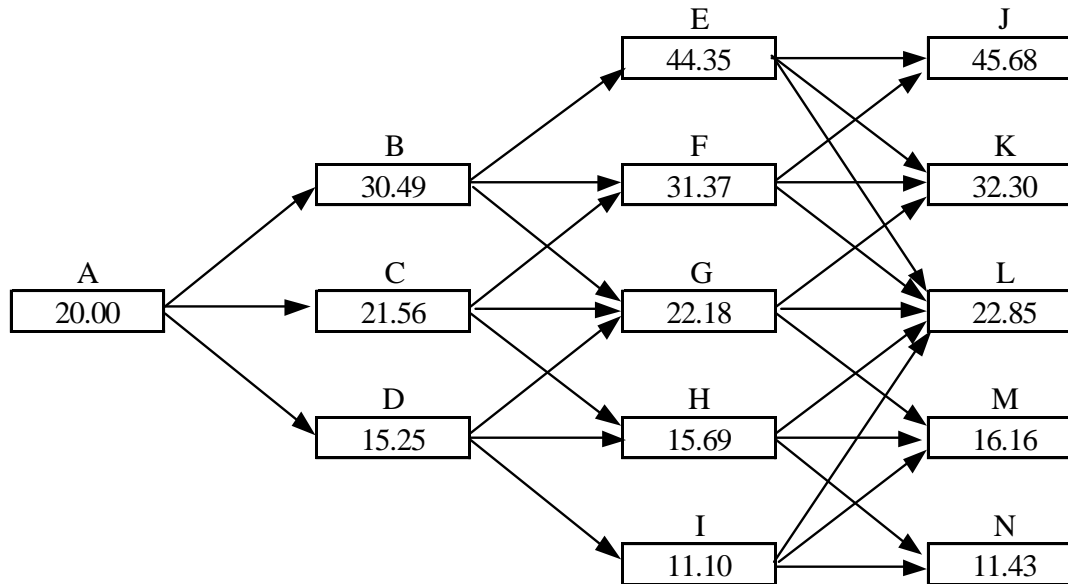


Determining $\theta(t)$

- ✚ The nodes on the tree are moved so that the expected commodity price equals the futures price
- ✚ Assume that the one-year, two-year and three-years futures price for the commodity are \$22, \$23, and \$24, respectively



Final Tree; Fig 35.2



Node	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I
p_u	0.1667	0.1217	0.1667	0.2217	0.8867	0.1217	0.1667	0.2217	0.0867
p_m	0.6666	0.6566	0.6666	0.6566	0.0266	0.6566	0.6666	0.6566	0.0266
p_d	0.1667	0.2217	0.1667	0.1217	0.0867	0.2217	0.1667	0.1217	0.8867



Jumps

- Some commodity prices such as gas and electricity exhibit jumps
- A process that can be assumed is then

$$d \ln S = [\theta(t) - a \ln S]dt + \sigma dz + dp$$

where dp is a Poisson process generating jumps

- Can be implemented with Monte Carlo simulation



Other Models

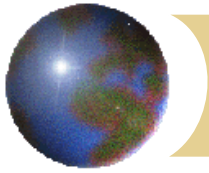
- ✚ Convenience yield follows a mean reverting process (Gibson and Schwartz)
- ✚ Volatility stochastic (Eydeland and Geman)
- ✚ Reversion level stochastic (Geman)



Weather Derivatives: Definitions

(page 782)

- ✚ Heating degree days (HDD): For each day this is $\max(0, 65 - A)$ where A is the average of the highest and lowest temperature in $^{\circ}\text{F}$.
- ✚ Cooling Degree Days (CDD): For each day this is $\max(0, A - 65)$
- ✚ Contracts specify the weather station to be used



Weather Derivatives: Products

- ⊕ A typical product is a forward contract or an option on the cumulative CDD or HDD during a month
- ⊕ Weather derivatives are often used by energy companies to hedge the volume of energy required for heating or cooling during a particular month