

# Financial Mathematics

MATH 5870/6870<sup>1</sup>  
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<sup>1</sup>Based on Robert L. McDonald's *Derivatives Markets*, 3rd Ed, Pearson, 2013.

## Chapter 19. Monte Carlo Valuation

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- § 19.1 Computing the option price as a discounted expected value
- § 19.2 Computing random numbers
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For European call, if one use risk-neutral probability<sup>2</sup>, then

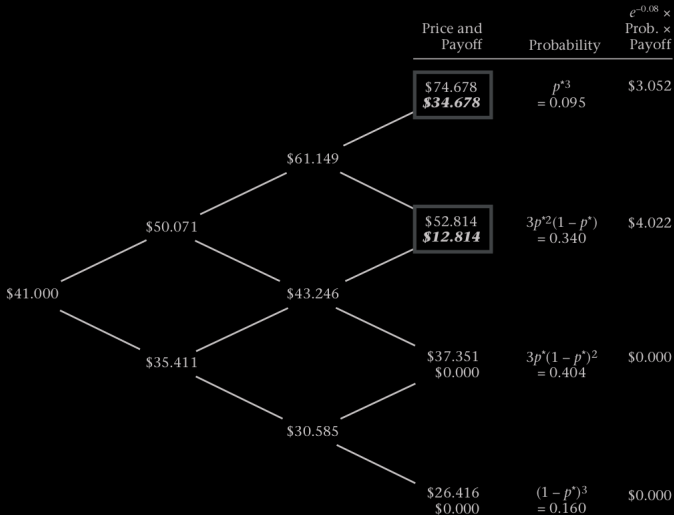
$$C = e^{-rT} \sum_{i=0}^n \max(Su^{n-i}d^i - K, 0) \binom{n}{i} (p^*)^{n-i} (1 - p^*)^i$$

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<sup>2</sup>One cannot have this simple expression if one uses the true probability.

FIGURE 19.1

Binomial tree (the same as in Figure 10.5) showing stock price paths, along with risk-neutral probabilities of reaching the various terminal prices. Assumes  $S = \$41.00$ ,  $K = \$40.00$ ,  $\sigma = 0.30$ ,  $r = 0.08$ ,  $t = 1.00$  years,  $\delta = 0.00$ , and  $h = 0.333$ . The risk-neutral probability of going up is  $p^* = 0.4568$ . At the final node the stock price and terminal option payoff (beneath the price) are given.



Instead of using the formula to compute the option price, one can simulate ...

**Example 19.1-1** Write a piece of code to simulate the binomial tree and compute the corresponding average payoff.

**Solution.** Check

`codes/Section_19-1.py`



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Check out the `numpy.random` reference<sup>3</sup> :

`https://numpy.org/doc/1.16/reference/routines.random.html`

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<sup>3</sup>There is no need to build the wheels by ourselves.

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$$S_T = S_0 e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T + \sigma\sqrt{T}Z}$$

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$$S_h = S_0 e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)h + \sigma\sqrt{h}Z_1}$$

$$S_{2h} = S_h e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)h + \sigma\sqrt{h}Z_2}$$

$\vdots$                        $\vdots$

$$S_{nh} = S_{(n-1)h} e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)h + \sigma\sqrt{h}Z_n}$$

$\Downarrow$

$$S_{nh} = S_0 e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)h + \sigma\sqrt{h}\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i} = S_0 e^{(\alpha - \delta - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)h + \sigma\sqrt{T}\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i\right]}$$

where

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \sim N(0, 1)$$

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$$V(S_0, 0) = \frac{1}{n} e^{-rT} \sum_{i=1}^n V(S_T^i, T)$$

where

- ▶  $S_T^1, \dots, S_T^n$  are  $n$  randomly drawn time- $T$  stock prices.
- ▶ For European Call:

$$V(S_T^i, T) = \max(0, S_T^i - K)$$

Similarly one finds the expression for European put.



**Example 19.4-1** Carry out the Monte Carlo valuation of the European call under the setting of the following table:

**TABLE 19.2**

Results of Monte Carlo valuation of European call with  $S = \$40$ ,  $K = \$40$ ,  $\sigma = 30\%$ ,  $r = 8\%$ ,  $t = 91$  days, and  $\delta = 0$ . The Black-Scholes price is \$2.78. Each trial uses 500 random draws.

Trial	Computed Price (\$)
1	2.98
2	2.75
3	2.63
4	2.75
5	2.91
Average	2.804

**Solution.** Check

codes/Table\_19-2.py



**Example 19.4-2** Carry out the Monte Carlo valuation of the Asian call under the setting of the following table:

**TABLE 19.3**

Prices of arithmetic average-price Asian options estimated using Monte Carlo and exact prices of geometric average price options. Assumes option has 3 months to expiration and average is computed using equal intervals over the period. Each price is computed using 10,000 trials, assuming  $S = \$40$ ,  $K = \$40$ ,  $\sigma = 30\%$ ,  $r = 8\%$ ,  $T = 0.25$ , and  $\delta = 0$ . In each row, the same random numbers were used to compute both the geometric and arithmetic average price options.  $\sigma_n$  is the standard deviation of the estimated arithmetic option prices, divided by  $\sqrt{10,000}$ .

Number of Averages	Monte Carlo Prices (\$)		Exact	$\sigma_n$
	Arithmetic	Geometric	Geometric Price (\$)	
1	2.79	2.79	2.78	0.0408
3	2.03	1.99	1.94	0.0291
5	1.78	1.74	1.77	0.0259
10	1.70	1.66	1.65	0.0241
20	1.66	1.61	1.59	0.0231
40	1.63	1.58	1.56	0.0226

**Solution.** Check

codes/Table\_19-3.py



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Problems: 19.5, 19.6, 19.7, 19.8.

Due Date: TBA