

Interest Rate Theory in the Presence of Multiple Yield Curves – An FX-like Approach

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1 Introduction and Motivation

2 The General FX-like Setting

3 Outlook

We consider the following zero-coupon bonds with maturity T :

Type	non-defaultable	defaultable
t-Price	$P(t, T)$	$\tilde{P}(t, T)$
Payoff	$P(T, T) = 1$	$0 < \tilde{P}(T, T) \leq 1$ (random)

FX-analogy by Jarrow & Turnbull

We introduce a third term structure

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Paradigm (Jarrow & Turnbull 1991)

$\tilde{P}(t, T) = S_t Q(t, T)$ may be interpreted as conversion of foreign default-free counterparts. $S_t := \tilde{P}(t, t)$ is referred to as **recovery rate** or **spot FX rate** at time t .

FX-analogy by Jarrow & Turnbull

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Type	non-defaultable	defaultable	non-defaultable
Currency	domestic	domestic	foreign
t-Price	$P(t, T)$	$\tilde{P}(t, T)$	$Q(t, T) := \frac{\tilde{P}(t, T)}{\overline{P}(t, t)}$
Payoff	$P(T, T) = 1$	$0 < \tilde{P}(T, T) \leq 1$ (random)	$Q(T, T) = 1$

Multiple Default Model and Fractional Recovery

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$$r = (r_t)_{t \geq 0}$$

short rate process w.r.t. EMM \mathbb{Q} ,

$$N = (N_t)_{t \geq 0}$$

Cox-process with intensity $\lambda = (\lambda_t)_{t \geq 0}$ and jumps at the random times $\{\tau_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$,

$$s = (s_t)_{t \geq 0}$$

$(0, 1)$ -valued loss quota process with first moments $\bar{s}_t := E_{\mathbb{Q}}[s_t]$,

$$dS_t = -S_t s_t dN_t, \quad S_0 = 1$$

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Theorem (Duffie-Singleton, Schönbucher)

Under suitable technical assumptions, we have for all $0 \leq t \leq T < \infty$

$$\tilde{P}(t, T) = \underbrace{\left(\prod_{\tau_i \leq t} (1 - s_{\tau_i}) \right)}_{=S_t} \underbrace{E_{\mathbb{Q}} \left[e^{-\int_t^T r_u + \bar{s}_u \lambda_u du} \middle| \mathcal{F}_t \right]}_{=Q(t, T)}.$$

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- The FX-like approach allows for interpretations that comply with the common economic intuition, e.g., the differentiation between liquidity squeezes and true default events.
- The recovery rate admits a natural economic interpretation by characterising to what extent the related party is able to meet its imminent financial obligations. However, what is a meaningful recovery rate in time instances in which no payments are due?

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Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$ with $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{t \geq 0}$ be a filtered probability space satisfying the usual conditions. We consider three \mathbb{F} -adapted series of zero-coupon bond prices, where the properties on the right-hand side shall hold a.s. for all maturities $T \geq 0$.

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$\{P(t, T)\}_{0 \leq t \leq T < \infty}$ Domestic non-defaultable zero-coupon bonds with payoff $P(T, T) = 1$.

$\{\tilde{P}(t, T)\}_{0 \leq t \leq T < \infty}$ Domestic defaultable zero-coupon bonds with a random payoff $0 < \tilde{P}(T, T) \leq 1$.

$\{Q(t, T)\}_{0 \leq t \leq T < \infty}$ Synthetic foreign non-defaultable zero-coupon bonds satisfying the relation

$$Q(t, T) = \frac{\tilde{P}(t, T)}{\tilde{P}(t, t)}.$$

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Having the *Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing* for frictionless markets in mind, we assume that there exists an equivalent local martingale measure (ELMM) $\mathbb{Q} \approx \mathbb{P}$ such that the discounted processes

$$\left(\frac{P(t, T)}{B_t} \right)_{0 \leq t \leq T}, \quad \left(\frac{S_t Q(t, T)}{B_t} \right)_{0 \leq t \leq T} = \left(\frac{\tilde{P}(t, T)}{B_t} \right)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$$

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Corresponding HJM-framework: Amin and Jarrow Economy, [\[AJ1991\]](#)

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In multi-currency settings, the ratio

$$F(t, T) := \frac{\tilde{P}(t, T)}{P(t, T)} = S_t \frac{Q(t, T)}{P(t, T)}$$

is usually referred to as *forward FX rate*. As seen from time t , the agreement to exchange one foreign monetary unit for locked-in $F(t, T)$ domestic monetary units at time T is at arm's length and worth zero.

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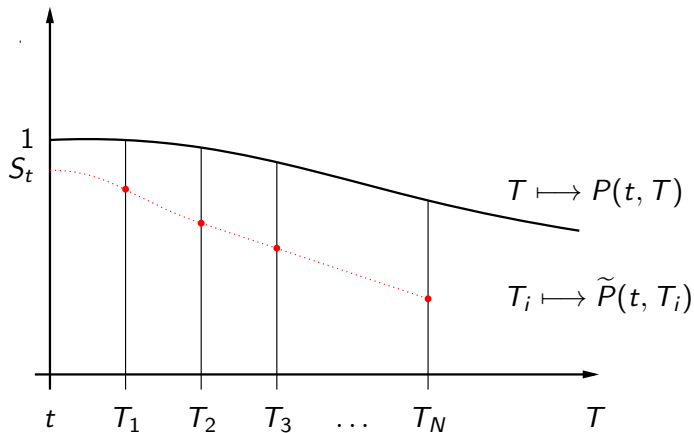
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If \mathbb{Q} is an EMM and \mathbb{Q}^T denotes the induced T -forward measure associated with the numéraire $(P(t, T))_{0 \leq t \leq T}$, then $(F(t, T))_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ defines a \mathbb{Q}^T -martingale.

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We assume that a intermittent but arbitrage-free interest rate framework is given w.r.t. EMM \mathbb{Q} :

$$B = (B_t)_{t \geq 0}$$

bank account numéraire,

$$[t, \infty) \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}, T \longmapsto P(t, T)$$

comprehensive term structure for non-defaultable bonds for any $t \geq 0$,

$$0 = T_0 < T_1 < \dots < T_N = T^*$$

discrete tenor structure,

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inferred defaultable bond prices for $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$.

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Objective: Complementing this setting to an enhanced credit risk framework by interpolating the discrete defaultable term structure in the maturity dimension.

Arbitrage-Free Interpolation

Let

$$k(T) := \max \{i = 1, 2, \dots, N \mid T_{i-1} < T\}$$

be the index of the next upcoming gridpoint and $\vartheta : \mathbb{T} \rightarrow [0, 1]$ be any (deterministic) RCLL function with

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \vartheta(T_i + \delta) = 1, \quad \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \vartheta(T_{i+1} - \delta) = 0$$

for all $i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$.

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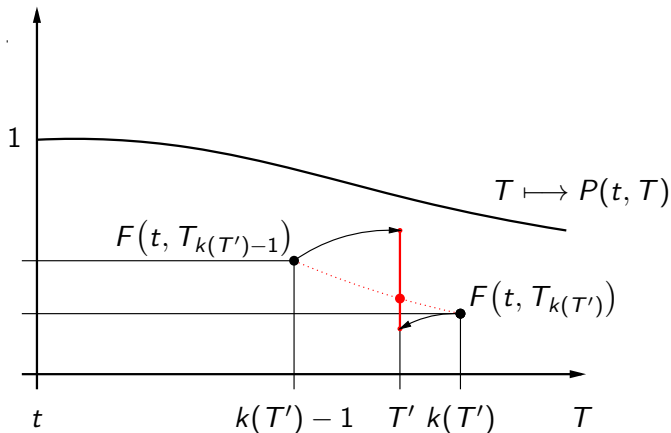
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We make for all $T \in [0, T^*]$ the ansatz

$$S_T := \vartheta(T) \frac{1}{P(T_{k(T)-1}, T)} S_{T_{k(T)-1}} + (1 - \vartheta(T)) P(T, T_{k(T)}) F(T, T_{k(T)}).$$

Arbitrage-Free Interpolation



$$F(t, T') := \vartheta(T') \frac{P(t, T_{k(T')-1})}{P(t, T')} F(t, T_{k(T')-1}) + (1 - \vartheta(T')) \frac{P(t, T_{k(T')})}{P(t, T')} F(t, T_{k(T')}).$$

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More precisely,

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Proposition

Let the intermittent interest rate framework be given. If one follows the proposed interpolation scheme, then $(F(t, T))_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ forms a \mathbb{Q}^T -martingale for each $T \in [0, T^*]$.

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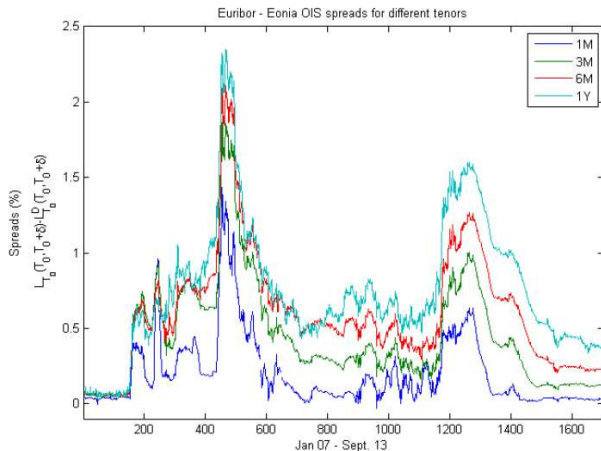
Let the intermittent interest rate framework be given. If one follows the proposed interpolation scheme, then $(F(t, T))_{0 \leq t \leq T}$ forms a \mathbb{Q}^T -martingale for each $T \in [0, T^*]$.

- Remarkably, the scheme implies arbitrage-free dynamics for the forward recovery rate and works irrespective of the underlying distributions.
- It provides a very nice option of what a meaningful (forward) recovery rate may be in time instances in which no payments are due.

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Modelling of the Interbank Market



[CFG2014] provides a general HJM-framework for multiple yield curve modelling. Each Libor rate to a certain tenor has its own foreign market.

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- Consistent recalibration (CRC) models, [\[HSTW2015\]](#)

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