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#### Modelling Long Term Capital Market Risks With Stochastic Optimization

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#### Outline

- Introduction
- Stochastic optimization technology
- Robust long term yield curve modelling
- Pricing variable annuity products
- Unit-linked guaranteed product fund management
- Conclusion







#### **Dynamic Stochastic System Optimization**

- There are four theoretical/computational approaches to the optimization of Markovian stochastic dynamical systems
  - **Discrete state and time dynamic programming** using Bellman's principle of optimality and forward or backward recursion or policy iteration
  - Discrete state and time Markov chains using linear programming techniques pioneered by Howard
  - **Continuous state and time dynamic programming** solving the Bellman PDE numerically
  - **Dynamic stochastic programming** in discrete time using mathematical programming algorithms
- Of these only dynamic stochastic programming can handle an arbitrary number of risk factors – the others are restricted to 3 or 4 – and DSP can relax the Markovian assumption practically





# **Dynamic Stochastic Programming**

- Dynamic stochastic programming is a means of solving dynamic stochastic optimization problems where future uncertainty is given by a large number of random processes and decisions have specified future timings
  - General idea of dynamic stochastic programming
- Model future decisions as well as current ones to give a complete forward plan to the planning horizon
- Incorporate many alternative futures in the form of simulated scenarios of the underlying risk factors against which decisions are robust
- Optimize all decisions simultaneously





# **Financial Optimization Applications**

Experience with a variety of actual applications including

- Equity and credit trading hedge fund strategies
- Long term asset allocation
- Asset liability management
- Derivative portfolio pricing and hedging strategies
- Risk management
- Capital allocation
- Real options evaluation
- Financially hedged logistics operations





### **Some Current ALM Applications of DSP**

- Pioneer Investments guaranteed return products & DB pension schemes in the EU
- Allianz property and casualty insurance globally
- Siemens DB pension schemes in Germany & Austria
- Aon-Hewitt DC pension schemes in the EU
- Freddie Mac mortgage pool funding in the US and many more ...







#### **Stochastic Optimization Technology**







# **Dynamic Stochastic Programme**

- Consider a financial planning problem formulated as a canonical linearly constrained dynamic stochastic programming (DSP) problem in recourse form (boldface denotes random entities)
  - $\max_{x_1} \{ f_1(x_1) + E_{\omega_2} [\max_{x_2} (\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x}_2) + \dots + E_{\omega_T | \omega^{T-1}} [\max_{\mathbf{x}_T} \mathbf{f}_T(\mathbf{x}_T)])] \}$ s.t.  $A_1 x_1 = b_1$   $\mathbf{A}_{21} x_1 + \mathbf{A}_{22} \mathbf{x}_2 = \mathbf{b}_2 \quad \text{a.s.}$   $\mathbf{A}_{32} \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{A}_{33} \mathbf{x}_3 = \mathbf{b}_3 \quad \text{a.s.}$   $\dots \qquad \vdots$   $\mathbf{A}_{TT} \mathbf{x}_T = \mathbf{b}_{T+1} \quad \text{a.s.}$   $l_1 \le x_1 \le u_1$   $l_t \le \mathbf{x}_t \le u_t \quad a.s. \quad t = 2, \dots, T+1$
  - $\boldsymbol{\omega}_t := \{ \mathbf{b}_t, \mathbf{f}_t, \mathbf{A}_{t-1,t}, \mathbf{A}_{tt} \}$  for t = 2, ..., T + 1•  $E_{\boldsymbol{\omega}_T \mid \boldsymbol{\omega}^{T-1}}$  denotes conditional expectation wrt the **history**  $\boldsymbol{\omega}^{T-1}$  of the

data process w





## **Scenario Tree**



Time period : decision stage of the problem Each node : random event  $\omega_t$  conditioned on the past realization  $\omega^{t-1}$ 

- After taking action at stage t under uncertainty due to branching scenarios representing the realized values of the r.v. s make corrective actions (recourse) at the next stage of the tree
- This structural schema requires vector process simulation of branches conditionally from each node of the tree
- Tree size in terms of nodes increases exponentially in the number of stages and linearly in the number of scenarios





#### **Scenario Generation**

#### **Alternative representations of possible futures**

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**Distribution Problem/DFA** 





2 Stage Problem

**Multistage Problem** 





#### Ten year out-of-sample scenario forecasts to 2010 1977-2000















## **Deterministic Equivalent**

This leads to a large LP in the linear case where  $\omega^t \varepsilon W$  is a possible realization of the random vector  $\omega^t$  and corresponds to a node of the scenario (data path) tree Dantzig & Madansky (1960)

$$\pi \coloneqq \left\{ \min_{x_{l}} c_{1}x_{1} + \sum_{\omega^{2} \in \Omega^{2}} p_{2}(\omega^{2})c_{2}(\omega^{2})x_{2}(\omega^{2}) + \sum_{\omega^{3} \in \Omega^{3}} p_{3}(\omega^{3})c_{3}(\omega^{3})x_{3}(\omega^{3})\right] \\ \dots + \sum_{\omega^{T} \in \Omega^{T}} p_{T}(\omega^{T})c_{T}(\omega^{T})x_{T}(\omega^{T}) \right\}$$

s.t. 
$$A_{11}x_1 = b_1$$
  
 $A_{21}(\omega^2)x_1 + A_{22}(\omega^2)x_2(\omega^2) = b_2(\omega^2)$  a.s.  
 $A_{31}(\omega^3)x_1 + A_{32}(\omega^3)x_2(\omega^2) + A_{33}(\omega^3)x_3(\omega^3) = b_3(\omega^3)$  a.s.  
 $\vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \vdots \qquad \dots \qquad \vdots$   
 $A_{T1}(\omega^T)x_1 + A_{T2}(\omega^T)x_2(\omega^2) + \dots + A_{TT}(\omega^T)x_T(\omega^T) = b_T(\omega^T)$  a.s.  
 $l_1 \le x_1 \le u_1$ 

$$\omega^t \in \Omega^t$$
  $t = 1, ..., T$ 

Matrix size increases exponentially with the number of time stages and linearly with the number of scenarios

 $l_t \leq x_t(\omega^t) \leq u_t$ 





#### **Market and Pricing Measures**

- In asset liability management using DSP for liability driven investment (LDI) solutions requires the incorporation of long dated interest rate and inflation swaps in the models
- The technical problem in incorporating such instruments into portfolio construction is the consistency of the data used to price them with that used to generate traditional instrument expected returns since the former requires the risk-neutral (risk-discounted) or pricing probability measure Q while the latter requires the market (real-world) measure P







#### **Problem Generation and Solution Methods**

- Deterministic equivalent of the stochastic program (SP) is convex but possibly nonlinear
- Approximation very large sparse linear programming (LP) problem
- Solution method depends on utility/risk function
  - Downside-Quadratic: nested Benders or CPLEX barrier interior point
  - Exponential, Power/Log: nested Benders
  - Linear: nested Benders or CPLEX barrier





#### Implementation

- Implement only the first period decision (portfolio)
- This *implementable decision* is robust against alternative scenarios including extremes
- Underlying dynamic economic scenario generator is updated at each portfolio rebalance





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#### **Strategic Financial Planning**

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#### **Fundamentals of the** *Stochastics*<sup>™</sup> **System**

- Simulation is crucial in the optimization process but
  - difficult and complex for any application
  - a separate problem to model building
  - needs to concentrate only on key processes (others can be derived)







#### **Robust Long Term Yield Curve Modelling**







### **Yield Curve Model Applications**

- Scenario simulation for predominantly long term asset liability management (ALM) problems in multiple currencies
- Valuation of complex structured derivatives and other products and portfolios with embedded derivatives in multiple currencies
- Risk assessment of portfolios and structured products







## Variety of Approaches to Yield Curve Modelling

- Investment bank pricing and hedging of fixed income products
  - Short term current market data calibration
  - Updated for re-hedging
  - Evaluated by *realized hedging P&L*
- Central bank forecasts for monetary policy making
  - Long term historical estimation for medium term forecasting
  - Updated for next forecast
  - Mainly evaluated by *in-sample fit to historical data*
- Consultants and fund managers advice for product pricing, investment advice and asset liability management over long horizons
  - Long term historical calibration to market data often using filtering techniques
  - Updated for decision points
  - Evaluated by *consistency with out- of -sample market data*: e. g. prices, returns







## **Model Requirements**

- Continuous time
- Mean reversion
- Dynamic evolution under both pricing (risk neutral) and market (real world) measures
- Wide range of yield curve shapes and dynamics reproduced (LIBOR)
- Realistic zero lower bound (ZLB) modelling
- Feasible and efficient discount bond price or yield calculation
- Parameter estimation by efficient model calibration to market data to multiple yield curves and currency exchange rates
- Parsimony in parameter specification
- Time homogeneity

Dempster et al. (2010, 2014, 2015)





### **Multi-factor Yield Curve Models**

- Three broad overlapping classes
  - Short rate models
  - Heath-Jarrow-Morton models
  - Market models
- Most rate variability captured by 3 stochastic factors Litterman & Scheinkman (1991)
- The 2 factor affine or quadratic short rate models are insufficient to reproduce the correlation structure of market rate changes but 3 to 5 factors suffice
   Rebonato & Cooper (1995) Nawalka & Rebonato (2011)
- The Nelson-Siegel (1987) 3-factor short rate model widely used by central banks has time inhomogeneous parameters and is neither parsimonious nor arbitrage free
- The Diebold-Rudebusch (2011, 2013) version of this model corrects both these faults Rebonato (2015)





#### **3 Factor Affine Short Rate Models**

• The 3 factors under the pricing (risk-neutral) measure Q satisfy the  $A_0(3)$  SDE

$$d\mathbf{Y}_{t} = \Lambda(\Theta - Y_{t})dt + \Sigma \sqrt{S_{t}}d\mathbf{W}_{t}$$
$$[S_{t}]_{ii} = \alpha_{i} + \beta_{i}'Y_{t} \quad i = 1, 2, 3$$

 Discount bond prices are given in affine form as and the instantaneous short rate similarly as

$$P_t(\tau) = e^{A(\tau) + B(\tau)'Y_t}$$
$$r_t = \phi_0 + \phi_x'Y_t$$

- Then bond prices and yields are given respectively by  $P_t(\tau) = E^Q \left[ \exp\left(-\int_t^{t+\tau} r_s ds\right) \right]$ and  $y_t = -\ln P_t(\tau) / \tau$
- A 3 rate vector satisfies the Ricatti equation  $\frac{\partial R_t(\tau)}{\partial \tau} = \Lambda R_t(\tau) \frac{1}{2} R_t(\tau) \Sigma \Sigma \Sigma' R_t(\tau)' + r_t 1$ Duffie & Kan (1996) Dai & Singleton (2000) Dempster *et al.* (2014)





#### **3 Factor Gaussian Extended Vasicek Model**

Specified under P by

$$\begin{split} \Lambda &\coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_{11} & 0 & 0 \\ \lambda_{21} & \lambda_{22} & 0 \\ \lambda_{31} & \lambda_{32} & \lambda_{33} \end{pmatrix} \\ \Theta &\coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \\ \theta_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ \Sigma &\coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_3 \end{pmatrix} \\ \Sigma &\coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ S &\coloneqq \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ r(t) &\coloneqq \delta_0 + \delta_1 y_1(t) + \delta_2 y_2(t) + \delta_3 y_3 \end{split}$$

(t)

• This Dai & Singleton  $A_0(3)$  model with **16 parameters** is not identified under P unless  $\Theta := 0$  which is only appropriate to Q and has other difficulties





### **Economic Factor Model**

- A 3 factor extended Vasicek Gaussian model specified under the market measure P by  $dX(t) = (\mu_X - \lambda_X X(t) + \gamma_X \sigma_X) dt + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sigma_{1j} dW_j(t) \qquad \text{Long rate}$   $dY(t) = (\mu_Y - \lambda_Y Y(t) + \gamma_Y \sigma_Y) dt + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sigma_{2j} dW_j(t) \qquad \text{Minus Slope}$   $dR(t) = \{k[\underline{X(t)} + Y(t) - R(t)] + \gamma_R \sigma_R\} dt + \sum_{j=1}^3 \sigma_{3j} dW_j(t)$ Unobservable instantaneous short rate
- Its discretization is estimated from CMS swap data with many observed yield curve points – rates – from 1 day (Libor) to 30 years (Treasury) using the EM algorithm which iterates Kalman filtering and maximum likelihood estimation to convergence
- Specifying the constant market prices of risk in terms of volatility units solves the X & Y identification problem and setting them to zero generates the factor pricing process
- This workhorse model has been used for pricing complex products and ALM using daily to quarterly frequency data in US, UK, EU, Swiss and Japanese jurisdictions





#### **State Space Model Formulation**

**Transition Equation** 

$$\boldsymbol{Y}_t = \boldsymbol{d} + \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{Y}_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_t,$$

 $E[\boldsymbol{Y}_t|Y_{t-1}] = d + \Phi Y_{t-1}$ 

$$var(\boldsymbol{\eta}_t) \ = \ var(\boldsymbol{Y}_t|Y_{t-1}) = \Omega(Y_{t-1}) := \Omega_t$$

**Measurement Equation** 

Substantial number of observed yields (e.g. 14)  $y_t = A + BY_t + \varepsilon_t$ 





### **Calibrating the EFM Model**

• Given the vector of parameters  $\theta$  this Gaussian extended Vasicek model has rates (zero coupon bond yields) for maturity  $\tau := T - t$  of the form

 $y(t,T) = \tau^{-1}[A(\tau,\theta)R_t + B(\tau,\theta)X_t + C(\tau,\theta)Y_t + D(\tau,\theta)]$ 

- We interpolate the appropriate swap curve linearly to obtain swap rates at all maturities and then use 1, 3 and 6 month LIBOR rates and the swap curve to recursively back out a zero coupon bond yield curve for each day from the basic swap pricing equation Ron (2000)
- This gives the input data for model calibration to give the parameter estimates  $\hat{\theta}$
- Calibration is accomplished using the EM algorithm which iterates successively the Kalman filter (KF) and maximum likelihood estimation from an initial estimate  $\theta_0$
- At each iteration multi-extremal likelihood optimization in  $\theta$  is accomplished using a global optimization technique followed by an approximate conjugate direction search
- The procedure is run on a Dell 48 Intel core system using parallelization techniques and we have also investigated the use of cloud computing for these calculations





### **EFM Model EU Yield Curve Prediction 2003**<sup>®</sup>



Mean level of yields over 2003 for historical and simulated weekly data

Weekly standard deviation of yields over 2003 for historical and simulated data

#### Dempster, Medova & Villaverde (2010)

 Longer term out-of-sample yield curve prediction has recently been independently found to be superior to the arbitrage-free Nelson-Siegel model of Christensen, Diebold & Rudebusch (2011) widely used by central banks







#### **Goodness of Fit to Historical Yield Curves**







#### **Current Environment**

- In all the world's major economies low interest rates have prevailed since the 2007-2008 financial crisis which were presaged by more than a decade in Japan
- This has posed a problem for the widespread use of diffusion based yield curve models for derivative and other structured product pricing and for forward rate simulation for systematic investment and asset liability management
- Sufficiently accurate for pricing and discounting in relatively high rate environments Gaussian models tend to produce an unacceptable proportion of negative forward rates at all maturities with Monte Carlo scenario simulation from initial conditions in low rate economies
- The implications for this question of negative nominal rates in deflationary regimes and the currently fashionable multi-curve models remain to be seen







#### **EFM Model Euro 10 Year Rate for 30 Years**

Quantiles based on 100,000 scenarios







## **High Performance Computing Requirement**

- Beginning with work in the Bank of Japan in the early 2000s there is currently considerable research in universities, central banks and financial services firms to develop yield curve models whose simulation produces nonnegative rate scenarios
- All this work is based on a suggestion of Fisher Black (1995) published posthumously to apply a call option payoff with zero strike to the model instantaneous short rate which leads to a piecewise nonlinearity in standard Gaussian affine yield curve model formulae for zero coupon (discount) bond prices and the corresponding yields and precludes their explicit closed form solution
- As a result most of the published solutions to Black-corrected yield curve models are approximations and even these require high performance computing techniques for numerical solution but we shall study here an obvious approximation which works extremely well as we shall see and is amenable to cloud computing for speed up





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#### **Nonlinear 3-Factor Black Model**

 In a posthumously published paper Fisher Black (1995) suggested correcting *a priori* a Gaussian short rate model for a shadow short rate *r* to give the actual short rate as

$$\boldsymbol{r}_{actual,t} \coloneqq \max[0, \boldsymbol{r}_{shadow,t}] \coloneqq 0 \lor \boldsymbol{r}_{shadow,t}$$

 Applied to an affine 3-factor Gaussian yield curve model such as that of JSZ or our EFM model this yields a hard nonlinear estimation problem posed by the bond price

Joslin, Singleton & Zhu (2011) 
$$P_t(\tau) = E^Q \exp[-\int_t^{t+\tau} 0 \lor \mathbf{r}_{shadow,s} ds]$$

 Such models have been studied in the 2-factor case by the Bank of Japan and at Stanford but their discount bond pricing (rate) PDE methods do not easily extend to 3 factors
 Ichuie & Ueno (2007)
 Kim & Singleton (2011)
 Christensen & Rudebusch (2013)
 Kim & Priebsch (2013)





## **3-Factor Black Model Stylized Properties**<sup>36</sup>

Stylized Fact Properties	Yield Curve Model						
	CIR	BDFS	Vasicek	JSZ/HW	JSZ/HW/BRW	Black	
	$A_{3}(3)$	$A_{3}(3)$	$A_{3}(3)$	$A_{1}(3)$	$A_0(3)$	$A_{0}(3)$	Γ
Mean Reverting Rates	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Nonnegative Rates	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Stochastic Rate Volatility	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes*	
Closed Form Bond Prices	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	
<b>Replicates All Observed Curves</b>	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Y es	Yes	
State Dependent Risk Premia	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	
Good for Long Term Simulations	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Slow Mean Reversion Under Q	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	
+ve Rate/Volatility Correlation	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	
Effective in Low Rate Regimes	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	

#### Table 1. Properties of evaluated yield curve models with regard to stylized facts

\*Rate volatilities are piecewise constant punctuated by random jumps to 0 at rate 0 boundary hitting points.




### **Black Model Calibration Progress**

- Bonfim (2003) estimated his 2 factor model only on yields safely above 0 where the underlying shadow rate affine model rates and the Black rates agree, used the standard KF in the EM algorithm and solved the 2D parabolic quasilinear bond price PDE with finite differences
- Bauer & Rudebusch (2014) took the same approach to the 3 factor model employing the EKF in the EM algorithm and evaluated bond prices using 500 path Monte Carlo simulation as do Lemke & Vladu (2014)
- Dempster *et al.* (2014) used least squares with 4 observed yields, QMLE and analytical approximation for short yields and 10,000 path Monte Carlo for longer maturity yields as noted above
- We apply the Black correction to the measurement equation for yields within the unscented Kalman filter together with QMLE in the EM algorithm and EFM bond prices





# Black Model 10 Year Gilt Rate 50 Year Predicted Distribution 2011-2061

#### Quantiles based on 10,000 scenarios



Source: Dempster et al. (2014)





# **3 Factor Black Model Approaches**

- The differences between current approaches to Black models based on 3 factor affine shadow rate models may be categorized in terms of handling the three steps crucial to the solution process
- Method of inferring (3 factor) states from observed market rates
  - inverse mapping or least squares
  - extended or iterated extended Kalman filter (EKF or IEKF) with piecewise linearization
  - unscented Kalman filter (UKF) with averaged multiple displaced KF paths
- Method of parameter estimation
  - method of moments
  - maximum likelihood (MLE) or quasi maximum likelihood (QMLE)
- Method of calculating bond prices or yields
  - Monte Carlo simulation
  - PDE solution
  - approximation







# **Monte Carlo Bond Pricing**

- Calibration of the nonlinear Black model with any underlying 3 factor Gaussian shadow rate model is more computationally intensive than for the underlying affine model
- Dempster, Evans & Medova (2014) use cloud facilities and Monte Carlo simulation with a JSZ 4 yield curve point model
- In more detail:
  - For short rates the closed form numerical rate calculations of Kim & Singleton (2011) are used
  - For long rates the averages of Monte Carlo forward simulated paths -- which automatically take account of the convexity adjustment otherwise required for this model are used
- With this approach filtering a multi-curve EFM model for OTC structured derivative valuation becomes very computationally intensive







# **Unscented Kalman Filter Bond Pricing**

- Here we calibrate the Black EFM model with our current EM algorithm approach using the (NAG) unscented Kalman filter to handle the "hockey stick" nonlinearity Julier & Uhlmann (1997)
- Working with yields directly as we do rather than bond prices computed or approximated numerically from integrals of the instantaneous short rate as in the references to Black model calibration previously cited significantly accelerates computation
- Putting the EFM 3-factor yield curve dynamics in state-space form shows that the factor state dynamics remain linear Gaussian while the Black nonlinearity may be directly applied to each observed maturity market rate in the shadow rate affine measurement equation – longer maturity yields typically need no correction
- With this approach the 35 (34 sigma points plus original) duplicate KF calculations of the unscented Kalman filter averaged at each daily time step can be mindlessly parallelized to handle the Black nonlinearity in essentially the same running time as the calibration of the underlying EFM model using basic linear Kalman filtering







#### **Parallelization Schema with MPI**







#### Data

 Combination of LIBOR data and fixed interest rate swap rates (the ISDA fix) for each of 4 currency areas (EUR, GBP, USD, JPY) to bootstrap the yield curve daily for 14 maturities:

3 month, 6 month, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years,

6 years, 7 years, 8 years, 9 years, 10 years, 20 years, 30 years

• In the case of the Swiss franc (CHF), only 12 maturities are available:

3 month, 6 month, 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, 4 years, 5 years,

6 years, 7 years, 8 years, 9 years, 10 years

• Calibration periods used for these 5 currencies are the following:

EUR: 02.01.2001 to 02.01.2012

- CHF: 02.01.2001 to 31.05.2013
- GBP: 07.10.2008 to 31.05.2013
- USD: 02.01.2001 to 31.05.2013
- JPY: 30.03.2009 to 31.05.2013
- The data was obtained from **Bloomberg**





		Model	RMSE
GBP	Date: 18 Feb 2013	EFM	8 bp
		Black EFM	5 bp







# **Overall In-sample Goodness of Fit**

Currency	Observations	Calibration	log likelihood	Sample fit RMSE (vol)	
		EFM	232,652	15 bp	
EUR	2817	EFM UKF	252,500	17 bp	
		Black EFM α:=0.0025	259,436	15 bp	
		EFM	232,100	8 bp	
CHF	3100	EFM UKF	250,391	10 bp	
		Black EFM α:=1.0	253,095	8 bp	
	1171	EFM	98,021	16 bp	
GBP		EFM UKF	103,529	15 bp	
		Black EFM α:=0.0001	105,368	14 bp	
		EFM	279,114	15 bp	
USD	3093	EFM UKF	280,745	25 bp	
		Black EFM α:=0.001	292,954	22 bp	
	950	EFM	91,014	6 bp	
JPY		EFM UKF	84,564	28 bp	
		Black EFM α:=0.006	102,544	6 bp	





#### **Monte Carlo Out-of-sample Projection**

**Quantiles based on 100,000 scenarios** 

**30 Year Black EFM GBP 10 Year Rate** 





20 months

Black median	0.48%
EFM median	0.45%





# **USD 10 Year Rate Out-of-sample Projections**



#### USD 10 year rate forecast RMSE over 21 months

Black median	0.39%
EFM median	0.43%





# **Findings**

- We have developed a Black-corrected version of our workhorse 3 factor affine Gaussian yield curve Economic Factor Model implemented using the unscented Kalman filter to handle the Black nonlinearity and HPC techniques
- Although this method generates an approximation to the full Black model its accuracy is comparable to and its computing run time only about twice that of the basic EFM model – unlike all the alternatives published to date which are very heavily computationally intensive
- Using the NAG UKF algorithm (g13 ejc) with tuned α parameter setting both the in- and out-of-sample accuracy of the method exceeds that of the affine EFM model and it possesses much better dynamics
- Using the cloud we can reduce calibration times on big samples to minutes





#### **Pricing Variable Annuity Products**





# **GMAB VA Portfolio Fund Risk Management**

- Consider an illustrative problem in which after initial client cash outlays no GMAB contributions are allowed
- Liabilities: nominal or index-linked guarantees
  - Nominal guarantee: Fixed percentage of the initial wealth is guaranteed at a specified date
  - Inflation, equity or other capital market index linked guarantees
- Assets: EU bonds with maturity 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 30 years and the Eurostoxx 50 index
- Transaction costs: At annual bond rollovers







# **Barrier Formulation - GMAB**

- A premium of £100,000 is received from the client at the outset
- The maturity of the product is 10 years
- The guaranteed rollup rate *R%* (per annum) is fixed throughout the planning horizon and compounded monthly







# **GMAB Annuity – 3% Guarantee**

The initial portfolio allocation is comprised entirely of AA bonds with 1-year maturity – a slightly more risky strategy due to AA credit risk

Investment in equity and AA bonds is preferred between years 1-3

Portfolio diversification occurs between years 3-5

Conservative strategy after 5 years

Matching the 3% barrier is realistically possible











#### **Barrier Formulation - GMIB**

The product is split into 3 phases

- 4-year accumulation phase
- 2-year election period (fixed)
- 4-year distribution phase

A contribution of £10,000 is received from the policyholder on the first trading day of each year during the 4-year accumulation phase (5 policyholder contributions in total)

The total growth phase of the annuity is 6 years

The guaranteed rollup rate R% (per annum) is fixed throughout the planning horizon and compounded monthly

Guaranteed income payments are delivered to the policyholder during the 4-year distribution phase of the annuity. There are a total of **5** income **payments** to the policyholder







# **GMIB Annuity – 2% Guarantee**

- Initial portfolio comprises entirely of 1-year AA bonds Steady diversification over years 1-6 with good growth during years 4-6
- Equity holding never exceeds 20%

Expected terminal profit of  $\pounds 3,640$  net of charges amounting to a further  $\pounds 8,320$ relative to the  $\pounds 50,000$  collected and dispersed over the ten year horizon











# **GMIB Annuity – 3% Guarantee**

Initial portfolio comprises equity (12%) and 1-year AA bonds (88%)

Higher equity holding during years 1-4 to track the liability barrier

Steady diversification during years 4-6

Expected terminal profit of  $\pounds 1,030$  net of charges amounting to a further  $\pounds 8,210$ relative to the  $\pounds 50,000$  collected and dispersed over the ten year horizon









# **Other Variable Annuities**

- Simple models for GMWB and GMDB
- More complex annuity products
  - Longer maturities
  - Variable interest rate structures
  - Complex phase structures
- Barriers inflation-linked
- Incorporation of other factors such as policyholder age and dynamic/base lapses
- All complex products can be priced using this approach





### Unit Linked Guaranteed Product Fund Management





### **Unit Linked GMIB VA Fund Management**

- Case study based on 10 year development of management of a family of funds backing a variety of guaranteed return open ended investment products and maturities provided in several jurisdictions by a major financial institution
- Guarantees were absolute and relative to various indices
- Over time investors were moved from one fund to another more appropriate to their current age life staging
- Here we will look at simplified closed end model to show the power of the technology







#### **Closed-End Guaranteed Return DC Fund**

- After initial cash outlay no contributions are allowed
- Liabilities: nominal or index-linked guarantees
  - Nominal guarantee: Fixed percentage of the initial wealth is guaranteed at a specified date
  - Inflation- or other capital market index linked guarantees
- Assets: EU bonds with maturity 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10 and 30 years and the Eurostoxx 50 index
- Transactions costs: At annual bond rollovers
- At the decision times the zero coupon yield with maturity T is a proxy for the fixed coupon rate of a coupon-bearing bond with maturity T







#### **ALM Formulation**

 Given a set of assets, a fixed planning horizon and a set of rebalance dates find the trading strategy that maximizes the risk-adjusted wealth and minimizes the shortfall below the PV of the guarantee subject to the constraints

$$\max_{\substack{\text{fortfolio bebalancing desicions:}\\ a \in A, \omega \in \Omega, t \in T^d \cup \{T\}}} E\left\{\alpha\left(\text{wealth}\right) - \beta\left(\text{shortfall}\right)\right\}$$

subject to the specific constraints

- Scenario tree for the future assets returns
- Liability barrier at any time t on scenario w

$$L_t(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = W_0(1+G)^T Z_t(\boldsymbol{\omega}) = W_0(1+G)^T e^{-\mathbf{y}_{t,T-t}(\boldsymbol{\omega})(T-t)}$$

where G is an **annual guaranteed return**,  $y_{t,T}$  is the **yield** of a **zero - coupon bond** which pays 1 at **maturity** T with **value**  $Z_t(\omega)$  at time t on **scenario**  $\omega$ 

 Economic three factor model is used for yield curve simulation Medova *et al.* (2006) Dempster *et al.* (2010) Dempster *et al.* (2015)





#### **Scenario Generation**

- Data : monthly (July 1997 January 2003)
- Maximum likelihood estimation of the parameters of the stochastic process for Eurostoxx 50
- Recursive Kalman filter/ML estimation of the parameters for the yield curve
- Historical contemporaneous cross correlations
- Simulation of the conditional scenarios for Eurostoxx
  50 and EU treasury yields





#### **Graphical Representation of Scenarios**







#### **Liability Barrier for Long/Short Term Funds**







# **Historical Backtest 1999-2004**

Expected maximum shortfall with monthly checking using the 512.2.2.2 Tree







#### **Model Predictions and Historical Performance**

#### **Expected maximum shortfall for the 512.2.2.2 tree**







#### **Portfolio Allocation**

**Expected maximum shortfall with monthly checking using the 512.2.2.2 tree** 

	1y	2y	3y	4y	5y	10y	30y	Stock
Jan 99	0	0	0	0	0.69	0.13	0	0.18
Jan 00	0	0	0	0	0.63	0	0	0.37
Jan 01	0	0	0	0	0.37	0.44	0	0.19
Jan 02	0	0	0	0	0.90	0	0	0.10
Jan 03	0	0	0.05	0	0.94	0	0	0.01

Longer bond maturities and smaller bond positions than other versions





# **GBM with Poisson Jumps Equity Index Process**

Expected maximum shortfall with monthly checking using the 512.2.2.2 tree







# GBM with Poisson Jumps Equity Index Process Portfolio Allocation

	1y	2y	3y	4y	5y	10y	30y	Stock
Ian 99	0	0	0	0	0.12	0.77	0	0.11
Jan 00	Ő	0	0	0	0	0.86	0	0.14
Jan 01	Õ	0	0	0	0.43	0.56	0	0.01
Jan 02	0	0	0	0	0.70	0.11	0	0.19
Jan 03	0	0	0	0	0.04	0.81	0	0.15

Expected maximum shortfall with monthly checking using the 512.2.2.2 tree

Solution takes advantage of decreased 2003 and 2004 volatility to increase stock holdings





#### Conclusion





## Conclusions

- Dynamic stochastic programming is the paradigm for asset liability management which is also applicable to individual household lifetime financial planning
- Ability to perform cash flow based optimal dynamic asset liability management over very long term random horizons in what-if mode
- Better idea of risks arising from future decisions you can explicitly plan for them rather than adapting to outcomes as best you can as you go along myopically
- Demonstrably superior to current financial techniques in specific applications using sophisticated yield curve models







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