# The No-arbitrage Pricing of Non-traded Assets

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## Introduction

- The pricing of non-traded assets is an important area within finance.
	- private loans,
	- illiquid publicly traded debt,
	- insurance contacts,
	- private equity,
	- real estate, and
	- real options.
- The purpose of the paper is to provide a no-arbitrage methodology for pricing non-traded assets in an otherwise frictionless market.
- Non-traded assets are a special case of pricing derivatives in an incomplete market.
- In an incomplete market, there is no unique price for a derivative.
- Two approaches to select a unique price.
	- Use a preference function: variance and risk minimizing hedging, indifference pricing.
	- Assume certain risks are non-priced.
		- · Merton 1976 jump risk
		- · Hull and White 1987 volatility risk
		- · Jarrow, Lando, and Yu 2005 default risk.
- This paper revisits, formalizes, and generalizes this later approach to general semimartingale price processes.
- This method
	- avoids the necessity of assuming a particular preference or objective function to determine a unique price, and
	- with the abundance of assets traded in current markets, sufficient securities exist to hedge most systematic risks.
- This implies that the remaining non-traded risks are non-priced or idiosyncratic, hence, the above methodology applies.

### The Set-up

- Continuous time, continuous trading on a finite horizon  $[0, T]$ .
- $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{F}, \mathbb{P})$  is a filtered complete probability space where
	- $\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)_{0 \leq t \leq T}$  satisfies the usual hypothesis
	- $\mathcal{F}_0$  is the trivial  $\sigma$  algebra,
	- $\mathcal{F}_T = \mathcal{F}$ , and
	- $\circ$   $\mathbb P$  is the statistical probability measure.

#### The Original Market

- The market is assumed to be competitive and frictionless.
	- Competitive means that traders have no quantity impact on the market price.
	- Frictionless means that there are no transaction costs and no trading constraints.
- Traded in the economy are  $n$  risky assets and a money market account (mma) whose value is unity for all times.
- Risky asset prices.

$$
\circ S_t \coloneqq (S_1(t), \dots, S_n(t)) \text{ for } 0 \le t \le T.
$$

- A non-negative semimartingale adapted to F.
- No cash flows are paid to the risky assets.
- Let  $\mathbb{F}^s \coloneqq (\mathcal{F}_t^s)$  $(t<sub>t</sub>)<sub>0 \le t \le T</sub>$  be the filtration generated by S.
- $\mathbb{F}^s \subset \mathbb{F}$  and  $\mathbb{F}^s \neq \mathbb{F}$ . Important to distinguish non-traded assets.
- Trading strategies are  $(\alpha_0, \alpha \coloneqq (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n)) \in (\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{L}(S, \mathbb{F}))$ 
	- $\circ$   $\mathscr O$  the  $\mathbb F$  optional  $\sigma$ -algebra
	- $\in \mathscr{L}(S, \mathbb{F})$  the set of  $\mathbb{F}$  predictable processes for which the stochastic integral with respect to S exists.
- To exclude doubling strategies, only consider trading strategies that are admissible (the value of the trading strategy is bounded below).
- An admissible self financing trading strategy (s.f.t.s) with initial wealth  $x$ and wealth process X is an  $(\alpha_0, \alpha := (\alpha_1, \ldots, \alpha_n)) \in (\mathscr{O}, \mathscr{L}(S, \mathbb{F}))$  such that

$$
X_t = \alpha_0(t) + \alpha_t \cdot S_t = x + \int_0^t \alpha_u \cdot dS_u \ge c, \forall t \in [0, T]
$$

c a constant and  $x \cdot y$  denotes the inner product.

• We denote by  $\mathcal{A}(x,\mathbb{F})$  the set of admissible s.f.t.s.  $(\alpha_0,\alpha) \in (\mathcal{O},\mathcal{L}(S,\mathbb{F}))$ given an initial wealth  $x$ .

• A simple arbitrage opportunity is an admissible s.f.t.s.  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathcal{A}(x, \mathbb{F})$ with initial wealth  $x = 0$  and wealth process X such that

$$
\mathbb{P}(X_T \ge 0) = 1, \text{ and}
$$
  

$$
\mathbb{P}(X_T > 0) > 0.
$$

- A Free Lunch with Vanishing Risk (FLVR) is an admissible s.f.t.s. that is an extension of a simple arbitrage opportunity that includes (the limits of) approximate simple arbitrage opportunities.
- An equivalent local martingale measure Q is any probability measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  such that for  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(A) = 0$  iff  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0$  and S is a Q local martingale with respect to F.
- Define  $\mathcal{M}_l(\mathbb{F})$  to be the set of equivalent local martingale measures (ELMM) with respect to  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- The first fundamental theorem of asset pricing states that  $\mathcal{M}_l(\mathbb{F}) \neq \emptyset$  if and only if the market satisfies NFLVR.

• An admissible s.f.t.s. with wealth process  $X$  is said to be dominating for asset i if there exists an admissible s.f.t.s  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathscr{A}(x, \mathbb{F})$  such that  $x < S_i(0)$ and

$$
x + \int_0^T \alpha_u \cdot dS_u = S_i(T) \quad \text{a.s.}
$$

- The market is said to satisfy No Dominance (ND) if for all assets  $i = 0, 1, ..., n$ there exist no such dominating s.f.t.s.
- Define  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  to be the set of equivalent martingale measures (EMM) under which  $S$  is a  $\mathbb Q$  martingale.
- The third fundamental theorem states that  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}) \neq \emptyset$  if and only if the market satisfies NFLVR and ND.

• A market is defined to be complete with respect to some  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}_l(\mathbb{F})$  if for any non-negative payoff  $C_T \in L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{Q})$  at time T, there exists a  $x \geq 0$ and  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathscr{A}(x, \mathbb{F})$  such that

$$
x + \int_0^T \alpha_u \cdot dS_u = C_T,
$$

wealth process

$$
C_t = \alpha_0(t) + \alpha_t \cdot S_t = x + \int_0^t \alpha_u \cdot dS_u
$$

is a  $\mathbb Q$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb F$ .

- The payoff  $C_T \in L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{Q})$  can be interpreted as the cash flow to a non-traded asset or a derivative. Note  $\mathcal{F}_T$  and not  $\mathcal{F}_T^s$  $\overset{\cdot s}{T}$  .
- By the second fundamental theorem of asset pricing, given there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ , the market is complete with respect to  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  if and only if the EMM is unique.
- In a complete market,  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[\cdot]$  gives the unique present value operator to determine the arbitrage-free price:

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[C_T | \mathcal{F}_t]
$$

• ASSUMPTION 1: (NFLVR, ND, and Incomplete Original Market)

• There exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ , and

- the original market is incomplete with respect to Q.
- In an incomplete market satisfying NFLVR and ND, there exist payoffs  $C \in$  $L^1_+(\Omega,\mathcal F_T,\mathbb Q)$  that cannot be replicated using the mma and the *n* risky assets.
- And, there are an infinite number of martingale measures  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ . Hence, there is no unique arbitrage-free price for any such payoff C.
- Define the original market as the collection  $(S, \mathbb{F}, L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{Q}))$  for a given  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}).$
- PROBLEM: To determine a unique price for C.

#### The Restricted Market

- Given  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}) \neq \emptyset$ . Fix a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  and define  $\mathbb{Q}^s \coloneqq \mathbb{Q} \mid_{\mathcal{F}^s_T}$  on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  $T^s$ .
- For the given  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}),$  the restricted market is defined as the collection

 $\left(S, \mathbb{F}^s, L_+^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T^s\right)$  $\overline{T}^s,\overline{\mathbb{Q}}^s)\big)$  .

• LEMMA: (The Restricted Market also satisfies NFLVR and ND)  $\circ$  S is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ .

• ASSUMPTION 2: (Complete Restricted Market)

◦ Fix a Q ∈ M(F).

• The restricted market is complete with respect to  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}^s_T}$ .

- This assumption implies that  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  is unique on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  $T^s$ .
- By the definition of market completeness, for any  $\tilde{C}_T \in L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T^s)$  $T^s$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ ) at time T, there exists a  $x \geq 0$  and  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathscr{A}(x, \mathbb{F}^s)$  such that

$$
x + \int_0^T \alpha_u \cdot dS_u = \tilde{C}_T,
$$

wealth process

$$
\tilde{C}_t = \alpha_0(t) + \alpha_t \cdot S_t = x + \int_0^t \alpha_u \cdot dS_u
$$

is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ ,

$$
x = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}[\tilde{C}_T] = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}[\tilde{C}_T]
$$

#### The Result

- Choose an arbitrary  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ .
	- Show later that the price of the non-traded asset is independent of the EMM selected.
- Fix a non-traded asset's payoff  $C_T \in L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{Q}) \cap L^1_+(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_T, \mathbb{P})$ .
- Consider the related payoff  $\tilde{C}_T \coloneqq \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}[C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T]$ , the "traded part" of C.
- This payoff is in the restricted market because it is  $\mathcal{F}^s_T$  measurable.
- By completeness, there exists a  $x \geq 0$  and  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathscr{A}(x, \mathbb{F}^s)$  such that

$$
x + \int_0^T \alpha_u \cdot dS_u = \tilde{C}_T,
$$
  
\n
$$
x = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}[\tilde{C}_T],
$$
  
\n
$$
\tilde{C}_t = \alpha_0(t) + \alpha_t \cdot S_t = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}[\tilde{C}_T] + \int_0^t \alpha_u \cdot dS_u
$$

is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ .

• The unique risk neutral value is  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}[\tilde{C}_T]$ , which can be replicated using the mma and traded risky assets.

- Use this s.f.t.s.  $(\alpha_0, \alpha) \in \mathscr{A}(x, \mathbb{F}^s)$  in the original market to construct a partial hedge for the non-traded asset's payoff.
- The hedging error  $\varepsilon_T$  is

$$
\varepsilon_T = C_T - \tilde{C}_T.
$$

 $\varepsilon_T$  is the "non-traded" part of the payoff  $C_T$ .

• LEMMA: (Expected Hedging Error with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ )

 $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(\varepsilon_T|\mathcal{F}_t^s)=0$ , which implies  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(\varepsilon_T)=0$ .

• Using the given  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ , the arbitrage-free value under  $\mathbb{Q}$  of the nontraded risky asset's payoff is:

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}\left(C_{T}\right)=\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^{s}}(\tilde{C}_{T})+\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}\left(\varepsilon_{T}\right)
$$

• To determine  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon_T)$ ?

• ASSUMPTION 3: (Non-priced Hedging Error Risk)

• For all  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}), \qquad \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(\varepsilon_T).$ 

- Valid if hedging error is diversifiable risk (in a large portfolio).
- By the lemma, this implies  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon_T) = 0$ .
- THEOREM: (Arbitrage-Free Price of the Non-traded Asset)  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)).$ 
	- First take expectation using  $\mathbb P$  over randomness not in  $\mathbb F^s$ .
	- Then take expectation over  $\mathbb{F}^s$  with unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

#### Summary



1) Partial hedge with  $\tilde{C}_T = E^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}_T^s)$ . Unique price  $E^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\tilde{C}_T)$ . 2) Difference  $\varepsilon_T = C_T - \tilde{C}_T$  is idiosyncratic risk, i.e.  $E^{\mathbb{Q}}(\varepsilon_T) = 0$ . 3) Result:  $E^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = E^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\tilde{C}_T)$ .

- A special case, when the randomness underlying the non-traded asset's cash flows is independent of market prices  $S$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .
- COROLLARY: (S Independent of  $C_T$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ )

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}\left(C_{T}\right)=\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}\left(C_{T}\right).
$$

- The arbitrage-free price of the non-traded asset is equal to the expected cash flow under the statistical probability  $\mathbb{P}$ .
- This special case is useful in the determination of arbitrage-free insurance premiums.
- To understand how to use, some examples ....

#### Private Debt

- mma's value is unity.
- Let a privately owned company issue a zero-coupon bond promising to pay 1 dollar at time T.
- Trading is equity for a similar company

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma W_t}
$$

•  $W_t$  is a BM with  $W_0 = 0$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

• Default indicator

$$
Z_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & with \quad prob \quad \lambda(S_T) \in (0,1) \\ 0 & with \quad prob \quad 1 - \lambda(S_T) \end{cases}
$$

where  $\lambda(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$  is Borel measurable.

•  $\lambda(S_T)$  is the probability of default at time T

• The zero-coupon bond has time  $T$  payoff

$$
C_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} \delta & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 0 \end{cases}
$$

where  $\delta \in (0,1)$  is the recovery rate.

- **F** is the filtration generated by  $W_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(W_T, Z_T)$  at time T.
- Assume the original market (the similar company's stock and the mma) satisfies NFLVR and ND using  $\mathbb{F}$ , so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which  $S$  is a  $\mathbb Q$  martingale wrt  $\mathbb F$ .
- Fix  $a \mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ .
- The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , and

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma \tilde{W}_t}
$$

where  $\tilde{W}_t = \frac{\mu}{\sigma} + W_t$  is a BM under  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming assumption 3 holds, i.e.  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk, then

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s} \left( \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}} \left( C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T \right) \right) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s} \left( \delta \cdot \lambda(S_T) + (1 - \lambda(S_T)) \right).
$$

• This is a simple case of the models contained in the credit risk literature for the pricing of credit derivatives. Applies to publicly traded debt that is very illiquid.

#### Insurance

- mma's value is unity.
- A term insurance contract on an event over the time period  $[0, T]$ .
- The contract is repriced and repurchased every  $T$  periods.
	- e.g. yearly term life insurance.
- The insurance premium of  $p$  dollars is paid at time 0 to insure the event over  $[0, T].$
- If the event occurs over  $[0, T]$ , K dollars is paid at time T.
	- $\circ$  The payoff K could be a random variable.
- $\bullet$  It costs the insurance company c dollars to issue the insurance contract.
	- This cost is incurred at time 0.

#### Independent Event Risk (Life Insurance)

- The contract's payoff  $K$  is a constant.
- Death event

$$
Z_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & with \quad prob \quad \lambda \in (0,1) \\ 0 & with \quad prob \quad 1-\lambda \end{cases}
$$

 $\circ$   $\lambda$  is the actuarial probability of death in [0, T].

- Let S be the market prices of the traded risky assets, and  $\mathbb F$  the filtration generated by  $S_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(S_T, Z_T)$  at time T.
- Assume that  $Z_T$  is independent of market prices S under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

◦ Reasonable assumption for the death of an individual.

• Cash flow to the insurance policy at time  $T$ :

$$
C_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} p - c - K & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 1 \\ p - c & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 0 \end{cases}
$$

• Assume the market consisting of  $S$  and the mma satisfies NFLVR and ND, so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which S is a  $\mathbb{Q}$  - martingale with respect to F.

- The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ .
- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk, then

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T) = p - c - \lambda K.
$$

• The arbitrage-free insurance premium is that  $p$  such that  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = 0$ , i.e.

$$
p = \lambda K + c.
$$

• This is the actuarial value.

#### Dependent Event Risk (Car Insurance)

- The car insurance payoff is  $K(\omega)$  having a uniform distribution over  $[0, k]$ with mean  $\frac{k}{2}$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .
- $k$  is the value of the car at time 0.
- $K$  is the damage to the car in the event of an auto accident.
- The market price of oil, a traded commodity, is

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma W_t}
$$

where  $S_0, \mu, \sigma$  are strictly positive constants and  $W_t$  is a standard Brownian motion with  $W_0 = 0$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

• Car accident event

$$
Z_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} 1 & with \quad prob \quad \lambda(S_T) \in (0,1) \\ 0 & with \quad prob \quad 1 - \lambda(S_T) \end{cases}
$$

•  $\lambda(S_T)$  is the actuarial probability of car accident in [0, T]

- $\lambda(S_T)$  a decreasing function of oil prices.
- As oil prices decrease, cars are driven more frequently, and the probability of an accident increases.
- We assume that  $Z_T$ , K (the loss to the car in the event of an accident), and market prices  $S$  are independent under  $\mathbb{P}$ .
	- The car accident event and the damages resulting are independent of the price of oil, due to random events surrounding the accident while driving of a car.
- The cash flow to the insurance policy at time  $T$  is:

$$
C_T(\omega) = \begin{cases} p - c - K(\omega) & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 1 \\ p - c & \text{if } Z_T(\omega) = 0 \end{cases}
$$

- **F** is the filtration generated by  $W_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(W_T, K, Z_T)$  at time  $T$ .
- We assume the original market satisfies NFLVR and ND, so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which S is a  $\mathbb{Q}$  - martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , and

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma \tilde{W}_t}
$$

where  $\tilde{W}_t = \frac{\mu}{\sigma} + W_t$  is a Brownian motion under  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk, then

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s} (\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T))
$$

$$
= p - c - \frac{k}{2} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(\lambda(S_T)).
$$

• The arbitrage-free insurance premium is that  $p$  such that  $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = 0$ , i.e.

$$
p = \frac{k}{2} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s} \left( \lambda(S_T) \right) + c.
$$

• This is NOT the actuarial value of the insurance contract's payoff  $(\frac{k}{2})$  $(\frac{k}{2}\lambda)$  plus  $costs(c).$ 

### Private Equity

- mma's value is unity.
- Let a privately owned company have outstanding equity.
- Trading is equity for a similar company

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma W_t}
$$

where W is a BM with  $W_0 = 0$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

- Let  $Z_T(\omega)$  be a  $\mathcal{F}_T$  measurable, normally distributed  $(0, 1)$  random variable under P.
- The cash flow to the private equity at time T is

$$
C_T = S_T e^{\alpha(S_T) - \frac{1}{2}\beta(S_T)^2 + \beta(S_T)Z_T}
$$

where  $\alpha(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$  and  $\beta(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$  are Borel measurable.

• **F** is the filtration generated by  $W_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(W_T, Z_T)$  at time T.

- We assume the original market satisfies NFLVR and ND, so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which S is a  $\mathbb{Q}$  - martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- Fix  $a \mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ .
- The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , and

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma \tilde{W}_t}
$$

where  $\tilde{W}_t = \frac{\mu}{\sigma} + W_t$  is a BM under  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming assumption 3 holds, i.e.  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk,

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T|\mathcal{F}_T^s)) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(S_T e^{\alpha(S_T)}).
$$

#### Real Estate

- mma's value is unity.
- Trading is a REIT (real estate investment trust) or a real estate based ETF (electronic traded fund)

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma W_t} \tag{1}
$$

where  $S_0, \mu, \sigma$  are strictly positive constants and  $W_t$  is a standard Brownian motion with  $W_0 = 0$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

- Let  $Z_T(\omega)$  be a  $\mathcal{F}_T$  measurable, normally distributed  $(0, 1)$  random variable under P.
- The cash flow to selling the house at time T is

$$
C_T = S_T e^{\alpha(S_T) - \frac{1}{2}\eta^2 + \eta Z_T}
$$

where  $\eta$  is a strictly positive constant and  $\alpha(\cdot) : \mathbb{R} \to [0, \infty)$  is Borel measurable.

- **F** is the filtration generated by  $W_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(W_T, Z_T)$  at time T.
- We assume the original market satisfies NFLVR and ND, so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which S is a  $\mathbb{Q}$  - martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}$ .

• The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , and

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma \tilde{W}_t}
$$

where  $\tilde{W}_t = \frac{\mu}{\sigma} + W_t$  is a Brownian motion under  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk, then

 $\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T|\mathcal{F}^s_T))$  $= \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s} \left( S_T e^{\alpha(S_T)} \right).$ 

#### Real Options

- mma's value is unity.
- Consider an oil company that is deciding whether or not to extract oil from a well at time T.
- The market price of oil, a traded commodity, is

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{\mu t - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma W_t}
$$

where  $W_t$  is a BM with  $W_0 = 0$  under  $\mathbb{P}$ .

• Due to the oil extraction methods, after taking into account impurities which affect the price of oil received before refinement, the cash flow from the extracted oil at time  $T$  is

$$
S_T e^{-\frac{1}{2}\eta^2 + \eta Z_T}
$$

where  $Z_T(\omega)$  is a  $\mathcal{F}_T$  measurable, normal  $(0, 1)$  under  $\mathbb P$  and  $\eta > 0$ .

- **F** is the filtration generated by  $W_t$  for all  $t \in [0, T)$  and  $(W_T, Z_T)$  at time T.
- The (real) option to extract oil at time  $T$  has payoff

$$
C_T = max \left[ S_T e^{-\frac{1}{2}\eta^2 + \eta Z_T} - K, 0 \right]
$$

where  $K > 0$  is the cost of the extraction.

- We assume the original market satisfies NFLVR and ND, so that there exists a  $\mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$  under which S is a  $\mathbb{Q}$  - martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}$ .
- Fix  $a \mathbb{Q} \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F})$ .
- The restricted market is complete, hence there exists a unique  $\mathbb{Q}^s \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{F}^s)$ where  $\mathbb{Q}^s = \mathbb{Q} |_{\mathcal{F}_T^s}$  such that  $S_t$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^s$  martingale with respect to  $\mathbb{F}^s$ , and

$$
S_t = S_0 e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma \tilde{W}_t}
$$

where  $\tilde{W}_t = \frac{\mu}{\sigma} + W_t$  is a Brownian motion under  $\mathbb{Q}^s$ .

- Assumptions 1 2 are satisfied by construction.
- Assuming assumption 3 holds, i.e.  $\varepsilon_T = C_T \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T | \mathcal{F}^s_T)$  is idiosyncratic risk, then

$$
\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}}(C_T) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(\mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{P}}(C_T|\mathcal{F}^s_T)) = \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}^s}(S_T N(d_1) - K N(d_2))
$$

where  $N(\cdot)$  is the standard  $(0, 1)$  normal distribution function,

$$
d_1 \coloneqq \frac{\log(S_T/K) + \frac{1}{2}\eta^2}{\eta}, \quad \text{and} \quad d_2 \coloneqq d_1 - \eta.
$$

## Conclusion

- This is an important application of the arbitrage-free pricing methodology because it applies to a wide range of assets in the economy, including private debt, illiquid publicly traded debt, insurance contracts, private equity, real estate, and real options.
- The methodology can be applied without assuming a particular preference or objective function.
- Its application only requires that the hedging error, properly defined, is nonpriced.
- This non-priced hedging error condition is a very reasonable approximation in current markets given the plethora of traded securities.