

# Bond Valuation Under Discrete-Time Regime-Switching Term-Structure Models

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## Outline of the presentation:

- Literature review
- Motivation
- Markovian-regime switching for interest rate
- Change of measure
- Bond valuation formula
- Summary

## §1. Literature review

- **Single-factor models** - early models for describing the stochastic behavior of interest rates (e.g. Merton (1973), Vasicek (1977), Cox, Ingersoll and Ross (1985)) - closed-form pricing formula for zero-coupon bonds are available.
- Imply that the prices of bonds with different maturities are perfectly correlated - not consistent with the empirical behavior of yield curves
- Volatility structure of the short rate is more complex than those arising from the single-factor models (e.g. Chapman and Pearson (2001))

- **Multi-factor models** - the evolution of the term structure of interest rates over time depends on several (macro-economic) factors (e.g. Brennan and Schwartz (1979), Longstaff and Schwartz (1992))
- Chen (1996) - three-factor model with factors including the short rate, the short-term mean rate and the short rate volatility
- Duffie and Kan (1996) - a general multi-factor affine term structure model, which nests many of the single-factor and multi-factor models in the existing literature

- Many existing stochastic term structure models were primarily developed for pricing, hedging and risk management of some short or medium-term interest-rate products
- For modelling the long-term behavior of interest rates and managing the risk of long-term interest-rate related products including insurance products, it is important to model the long-term behavior of interest rates
- For a long time period, there may be structural changes in the term structure of interest rates, which can be attributed to the structural changes of macro-economic conditions

- **Regime-switching models** - capture these structural changes of macro-economic conditions, economic fundamentals and monetary policies (e.g. Hamilton (1989), Evans and Lewis (1991), Ang and Bekaert 2002a, b)
- Ang and Bekaert (2002a) study the performance of regime-switching models in fitting interest rate data from the United States
- Switching of regimes in interest rates matches well with business cycles in the United States and that regime-switching models have better out-of-sample forecasts than models without switching regimes

- It is desirable to have a term structure model, which is flexible and general enough to describe various empirical features of interest rate data and is tractable for valuation
- Duffie and Kan (1996) - if the price of a zero coupon bond has an exponential-affine form, then the underlying short rate dynamics must be of either linear/Gaussian form or square-root/affine form
- Elliott and van der Hoek (2001) - if the continuous-time models for short rates have either a linear/Gaussian form or a square-root/affine form, the bond price has an exponential-affine form.

- **Discrete-time term structure models** - seem more easy to implement and estimate than their continuous-time counterparts (e.g. Evans 1998, Dai and Singleton 2000, and Ang and Bekaert 2002c)
- Dai et al. (2007) - empirically examined a discrete time, regime switching model where the short rate follows a three-factor Gaussian model with state-dependent market prices of risk
- Ang et al. (2007) - employed a three-factor representation for yield curves by incorporating regime changes for the inflation factor and the term structure factor, and assuming a regime-invariant price of risk for the factors

## §2. Motivation

- There are two sources of risk one should take into account for pricing interest derivatives
- By analogy with continuous time, most of discrete-time research studies rely on an exponential affine form for bond prices

### §3. Markovian-regime switching for interest rate

- Consider a discrete-time economy with time index set  $\mathcal{T} = \{k | k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, T\}$
- Describe the evolution of the states of the economy by a discrete-time,  $N$ -state, Markov chain  $\mathbf{X} := \{\mathbf{X}_k\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$  with state space  $\mathcal{E} := \{\mathbf{e}_1, \mathbf{e}_2, \dots, \mathbf{e}_N\}$  a finite set of unit vectors with  $\mathbf{e}_i = (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0)' \in \mathfrak{R}^N$
- $\mathbf{A} := \{a_{ij}\}_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N}$ , transition probability matrix under  $P$

$$a_{ij} = P(\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{e}_j | \mathbf{X}_k = \mathbf{e}_i)$$

- Let  $\mathcal{F}^{\mathbf{X}} := \{\mathcal{F}_k^{\mathbf{X}}\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  denote the  $P$ -augmented filtration generated by the history of the chain  $\mathbf{X}$
- The semimartingale representation of the chain  $\mathbf{X}$  (Elliott et al., 1994):

$$\mathbf{X}_{k+1} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{X}_k + \mathbf{M}_{k+1}$$

Here  $\mathbf{M} := \{\mathbf{M}_k\}_{k=1,2,\dots,T}$  is an  $\mathfrak{R}^N$ -valued martingale increment process so that

$$E[\mathbf{M}_{k+1} | \mathcal{F}_k^{\mathbf{X}}] = 0 .$$

- Define

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\alpha} &:= (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_N)' \in \mathfrak{R}^N \\ \boldsymbol{\beta} &:= (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N)' \in \mathfrak{R}^N \\ \boldsymbol{\sigma} &:= (\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_N)' \in \mathfrak{R}^N \end{aligned}$$

- $\varepsilon := \{\varepsilon_k\}_{k=1,2,\dots,T}$  a sequence of iid random variable with  $\varepsilon_k \sim N(0, 1)$
- $\varepsilon$  and  $\mathbf{X}$  are stochastically independent
- Let  $r := \{r_k\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  denote the process of short term interest rate
- $\mathcal{F}^r := \{\mathcal{F}_k^r\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  for the  $P$ -augmented filtration generated by the interest rate process  $r$
- $\mathcal{G}_k = \mathcal{F}_k^r \vee \mathcal{F}_k^{\mathbf{X}}$  - current and historical information about both the short term interest rates and the economic regimes - observed by economic agents

- Let  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_k := (\theta_{1k}, \theta_{2k}, \dots, \theta_{Nk})' \in \mathfrak{R}^N$ , for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, T$
- $\theta_{ik}$  is  $\mathcal{G}_{k-1}$ -measurable - the price of risk at time  $k$  when the state of the economy is in the  $i^{\text{th}}$  regime at time  $k$
- $\theta_k := \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_k, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle$
- For any  $k = 0, 1, \dots, T - 1$ , under  $P$ :
 
$$r_{k+1} = \langle \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle + \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_k, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle \langle \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle^2 + \langle \boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle r_k + \langle \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle \varepsilon_{k+1}$$
- In practice one may assume  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_k$  does not depend on time -  
 $\boldsymbol{\theta}_k = \boldsymbol{\theta}$

## §4. Change of measure

- Two sources of risk: Diffusion risk and the regime-switching risk
- Incomplete market - more than one equivalent martingale measures
- Key question: How to select an equivalent martingale measure so that the regime-switching risk and the diffusion risk are priced?
- Generate a family of probability measures by a product of two density processes, one for  $r$  and one for the Markov chain  $X$

- Introduce a density process for  $r$
- Let  $\Lambda^\theta = \{\Lambda_k^\theta\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  a  $G$ -adapted processes:

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda_0^\theta &= 1 \\ \Lambda_k^\theta &:= \prod_{t=1}^k \lambda_t^\theta \\ &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^k \theta_{t-1}^2 \sigma_{t-1}^2 - \sum_{t=1}^k \theta_{t-1} \sigma_{t-1} \varepsilon_t\right)\end{aligned}$$

- $\Lambda^\theta$  is a  $(\mathcal{G}, P)$ -martingale
- $\Lambda^\theta$  is a discrete-time version of the Girsanov's change of measures in a continuous-time setting

- Introduce a density process for the Markov chain  $X$
- For each  $t \in \mathcal{T}$ , let  $\Delta_t := (\delta_{ij,t})_{1 \leq i, j \leq N}$ , be an  $(N \times N)$ -matrix of  $\mathcal{G}_t$ -measurable components
- Write  $\delta_t = \Delta_t \mathbf{X}_t \in \mathfrak{R}^N$
- Define  $\lambda_{ij,t-1} := \exp(\langle \Delta_{t-1} \mathbf{e}_j, \mathbf{e}_i \rangle) = \exp(\delta_{ij,t-1})$ ,  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, N$
- Write  $\mathbf{L}_{t-1} := (\lambda_{ij,t-1})_{i,j=1,2,\dots,N}$

- Let  $\Lambda^\delta := \{\Lambda_k^\delta\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  a  $\mathcal{G}$ -adapted process:

$$\begin{aligned}\Lambda_0^\delta &= 1 \\ \Lambda_k^\delta &:= \prod_{t=1}^k \lambda_t^\delta = \prod_{t=1}^k \left( 1 + \frac{\mathbf{X}'_{t-1} \mathbf{L}'_{t-1} \mathbf{M}_t}{\mathbf{X}'_{t-1} (\mathbf{L}'_{t-1} \mathbf{A}) \mathbf{X}_{t-1}} \right)\end{aligned}$$

- $\Lambda^\delta$  is a  $(\mathcal{G}, P)$ -martingale
- define the  $(\mathcal{G}, P)$ -adapted process  $\Lambda^{\theta, \delta} := \{\Lambda_k^{\theta, \delta}\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  by the product of the density processes  $\Lambda^\theta$  and  $\Lambda^\delta$  as:

$$\Lambda_k^{\theta, \delta} = \Lambda_k^\theta \cdot \Lambda_k^\delta$$

- $\Lambda^{\theta, \delta}$  is a  $(\mathcal{G}, P)$ -martingale

- We can define a new probability measure  $Q \sim P$  on  $\mathcal{G}_k$ , for each  $k \in \mathcal{T}$ , by

$$\frac{dQ}{dP} \Big|_{\mathcal{G}_k} := \Lambda_k^{\theta, \delta}$$

- This construction of  $Q$  extends one proposed in (Elliott et al. 2005) for option valuation when the return process is governed by a regime-switching Gaussian process
- We accommodate our method to price two sources of risk
- Price of risk corresponding to the short term interest rate  $r_k$  is embedded in the parameter  $\theta_k$ , while  $\delta_k$  represents the market price of the regime shift from  $\mathbf{X}_{k-1}$  to  $\mathbf{X}_k$

## Proposition 1

(a) Under the risk-neutralized probability measure  $Q$ , the short term interest rate has the following dynamics:

$$r_{t+1} = \langle \boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{X}_t \rangle + \langle \boldsymbol{\beta}, \mathbf{X}_t \rangle r_t + \langle \boldsymbol{\sigma}, \mathbf{X}_t \rangle \varepsilon_{t+1}^\dagger, \quad t = 0, 1, \dots, T-1,$$

$\varepsilon_t^\dagger$ 's are independent and identically distributed, Gaussian, random variables which are independent of  $\mathbf{X}_t$ .

(b) The elements of the transition matrix  $\mathbf{C}_t = (c_{ijt})_{1 \leq i, j \leq N}$  of the Markov chain  $\mathbf{X}$  under  $Q$  are given by:

$$c_{ijt} = \frac{a_{ij} \exp(\delta_{ijt})}{\sum_{j=1}^N a_{ij} \exp(\delta_{ijt})}$$

## §5. Bond valuation formula

- Let  $B(k, T)$  the time- $k$  price of a zero-coupon bond with maturity at time  $T$
- Write  $Z(k, n)$  for the discounted bond price at time  $k$ :

$$Z(k, T) := \exp\left(-\sum_{t=1}^k r_t\right) B(k, T) .$$

- If  $Q$  is a new probability measure under which the discounted bond price process  $Z(T) := \{Z(k, T)\}_{k \in \mathcal{T}}$  is a martingale with respect to  $\mathcal{G}$  then:

$$B(k, T) = E^Q \left[ \exp\left(-\sum_{t=k+1}^T r_t\right) \middle| \mathcal{G}_k \right]$$

- **Example - Continuous time**

- Consider a continuous-time financial market with a finite time horizon  $\mathcal{T} := [0, T]$

- Let  $X := X(t)_{t \in \mathcal{T}}$  be a continuous-time, finite-state observable Markov chain on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$

- $$X(t) = X(0) + \int_0^t QX(s)ds + M(t)$$

- $Q$  is the rate matrix and  $M(t)_{t \in \mathcal{T}}$  is a  $P$ -martingale wrt the filtration generated by  $X$

- $dr(t) = a(\alpha(X(t)) - r(t))dt + \sigma(X(t))dW(t)$
- Denote by  $P(t, T, X, r)$  the price of a zero-coupon bond at time  $t$  with maturity  $T$  given the values at  $t$  are  $X$  and  $r$
- $P(t, T, X, r) = e^{A(t, T, X) - B(t, T)r}$
- $B(t, T) = \frac{1}{a}(1 - e^{-a(T-t)})$
- $A(t, T, X)$  satisfies the following regime switching O.D.E:  

$$\frac{dA}{dt} - \alpha(t)aB(t, T) + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2(t)B^2(t, T) + e^{-A} \langle \mathcal{K}, QX(t) \rangle = 0$$
where  $A(T, T, X) = 0$  and  $K(t, T, X) := e^{A(t, T, X)}$

- Traditional approach in discrete time

- Assume  $\langle \beta, \mathbf{X}_k \rangle = \beta$

- Conjecture the bond price is given by:

$$B(k, T) = e^{A_{1k}(X_k) + A_{2k}r_k}$$

- Find recursive relationships between the coefficients from the exponential-affine formula by imposing the martingale condition on the discounted bond price process  $Z(T)$
- Dai, Q., Singleton, K.J., Yang, W. (2007), Ang, A., Bekaert, G., Wei, M. (2007)

- Following this approach for any  $k = 1, 2, \dots, T$  we find:

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_{2k-1} &= A_{2k}(\beta - 1) \\
 A_{1k-1}(X_{k-1}) &= (A_{2k} - 1) \left( \langle \alpha, \mathbf{X}_{k-1} \rangle + \frac{1}{2} (A_{2k} - 1) \langle \sigma, \mathbf{X}_{k-1} \rangle^2 \right) \\
 &\quad + \log \sum_{X_k} c_{X_{k-1}X_k} e^{A_{1k}(X_k)}
 \end{aligned}$$

with initial conditions:  $A_{1T} = A_{2T} = 0$

- If  $\beta$  is regime dependent there is no closed-form relation between the above coefficients
- log-linear approximation might be used (Bansal and Zhou (2002))

- Our approach does not require  $\beta$  to be constant
- Let  $\mathcal{H}_k := \mathcal{F}_T^X \vee \mathcal{F}_k^r$  the enlarged information set generated by histories of the Markov chain up to the maturity time  $T$  and the short rate process up to time  $k$
- The conditional price of the zero-coupon bond at time  $t$  given  $\mathcal{H}_k$  is defined by:

$$\tilde{B}(k, T) := E^Q \left[ \exp \left( - \sum_{t=k+1}^T r_t \right) \middle| \mathcal{H}_k \right], \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, T$$

- **Proposition 2** *The conditional bond price  $\tilde{B}(k, T)$  has the following exponential affine form:*

$$\tilde{B}(k, T) = \exp(A_{1k} + A_{2k}r_k) , \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, T , \quad (1)$$

where the stochastic processes  $\{A_{1k}\}_{k=0,1,\dots,T}$  and  $\{A_{2k}\}_{k=0,1,\dots,T}$  satisfy the following system of coupled stochastic recursions:

$$A_{1T} = A_{2T} = 0$$

$$A_{1,k-1} = A_{1k} + (A_{2k} - 1) \left( \langle \alpha, \mathbf{X}_{k-1} \rangle + \frac{1}{2} (A_{2k} - 1) \langle \sigma, \mathbf{X}_{k-1} \rangle^2 \right)$$

$$A_{2,k-1} = (A_{2k} - 1) \langle \beta, \mathbf{X}_{k-1} \rangle , \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, T$$

- Prove this result by backward induction

- $\tilde{B}(k, T)$  is a function of  $\mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{X}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{T-1}$ :

$$\tilde{B}(k, T, \mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{X}_{k+1}, \dots, \mathbf{X}_{T-1})$$

- Note that  $A_{1k}$  and  $A_{2k}$  are measurable wrt the tail  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathbf{X}_k, \mathbf{X}_{k+1}, \dots$  and  $\mathbf{X}_{T-1}$

- **Proposition 3** Given  $\mathcal{G}_k$ , the bond price has the following form:

$$B(k, T) = \sum_{i_k, i_{k+1}, \dots, i_{T-1}=1}^N \left[ \prod_{l=k}^{T-1} c_{i_l i_{l+1}} \right] \tilde{B}(k, T, \mathbf{e}_{i_k}, \mathbf{e}_{i_{k+1}}, \dots, \mathbf{e}_{i_{T-1}})$$

- This result is obtained from taking expectation of  $\tilde{B}(k, n)$  conditioning on  $\mathcal{G}_k$  under  $\mathcal{Q}$  and by enumerating transition probabilities of the Markov chain from time  $k$  to time  $T - 1$ .

## §6. Summary

- Develop a discrete-time, Markov, regime-switching, affine term structure model for valuing bonds and other interest-rate sensitive securities
- Introduce a pricing kernel by the product of two density processes for measure changes, one for the interest rate process and another for the Markov chain
- Control both the market risk and the long-term economic risk

- Provide a simple derivation of a weighted average of exponential-affine forms for zero coupon bond
- Empirical investigation of this pricing model - future work

~ **Thank you !** ~

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