

# Linear Credit Risk Models

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# Overview

Background

The linear  
framework

Pricing  
applications

Empirical  
results

Complex  
Derivatives

## 1 Background

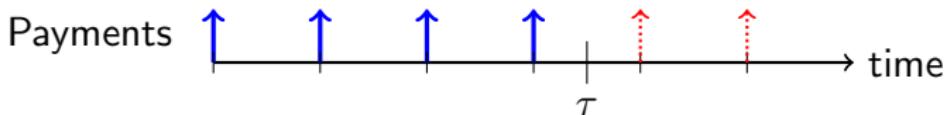
## 2 The linear framework

## 3 Pricing applications

## 4 Empirical results

## 5 Complex Derivatives

## Default time $\tau$



## Default likelihood variation

$$\mathbb{P}_{t+1}[\tau \leq T] \begin{cases} \nearrow 5\% \\ \searrow 1\% \end{cases}$$

## New regulatory requirements (Basel III, IFRS 9)

Expected losses (12-month, lifetime), deterioration of credit quality, valuation adjustments (CVA, DVA), etc.

⇒ Tractable models ?

# Doubly-stochastic default time

## Ingredients

$\mathbb{F} = (\mathcal{F}_t)$  risk-factors filtration (no default)

$S_t = e^{-\int_0^t \lambda_s ds}$   $\mathbb{F}$ -measurable survival process with the hazard-rate  $\lambda_t \geq 0$

$U$  uniform r.v. on  $(0, 1)$  independent from  $\mathbb{F}$

## Default time construction

$$\tau = \inf \{t \geq 0 : S_t \leq U\}$$

$\mathcal{H}_t = \sigma(\mathbb{1}_{\{\tau \leq s\}} : s \leq t)$  in which  $\tau$  is a  $\mathbb{H}$  stopping time

$\mathcal{G}_t = (\mathcal{F}_t \vee \mathcal{H}_t)$  all the observable information

## Survival process

$$S_t = \mathbb{P}[\tau > t \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = \mathbb{P}[\tau > t \mid \mathcal{F}_\infty]$$

# The Survival Process

$X_t \in E \subset \mathbb{R}^m$  risk-factor process and vector  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

## Standard approach

Model the hazard-rate process:  $\lambda_t = \gamma^\top X_t \geq 0$ .

## A new approach

Model the survival process directly!

$$S_t = \mathbb{P} [\tau > t \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = 1 - \int_0^t \gamma^\top X_s \, ds > 0 \quad (1)$$

which implies  $dS_t = -\gamma^\top X_t dt$  and such that

$$\lambda_t = \frac{\gamma^\top X_t}{S_t} \geq 0 \quad (2)$$

How to construct  $X_t$  such that (1) and (2) are verified?

## One Risk-Factor

W.l.o.g. let  $\gamma = 1$  such that  $dS_t = -X_t dt$ .

Assume that there exists a constant  $L > 0$  such that

$$0 \leq X_t \leq LS_t$$

then  $S_t \geq e^{-Lt} > 0$  and  $L \geq \lambda_t \geq 0$ .

Assume that  $(X_t, S_t)$  is a polynomial preserving diffusion, then

$$dX_t = (b + \beta X_t + BS_t) dt + \sigma \sqrt{X_t(LS_t - X_t)} dW_t$$

for some reals  $b, \beta, B$  and  $\sigma \geq 0$ .

### Lemma

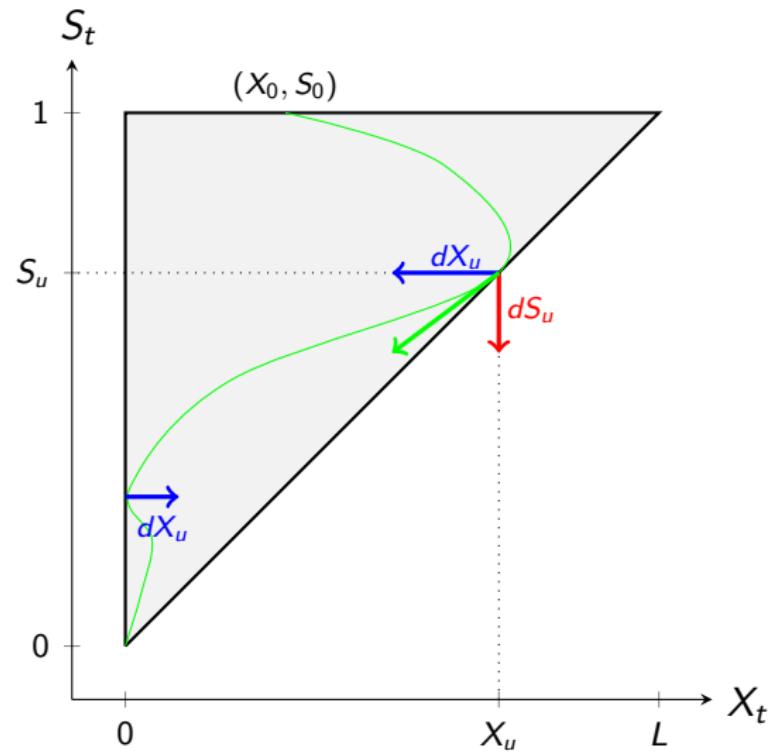
The process  $(X_t, S_t)$  is well-defined if and only if  $b = 0$ ,  $B \geq 0$ , and

$$L^2 + \beta L + B \leq 0.$$

## One Risk-Factor II

## Inward pointing condition

The state space  $E$  is of the form



## One Risk-Factor III

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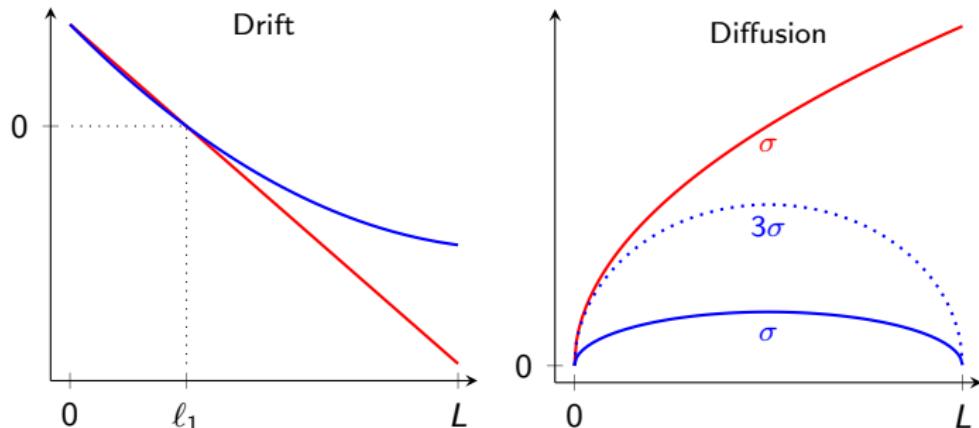
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### Hazard-rate dynamics

$$d\lambda_t = (\ell_1 - \lambda_t)(\lambda_t - \ell_2) dt + \sigma \sqrt{\lambda_t(L - \lambda_t)} dW_t$$

One risk-factor affine model (CIR process)

$$d\lambda_t = \ell_2(\lambda_t - \ell_1) dt + \sigma \sqrt{\lambda_t} dW_t$$



# Multiple Risk-Factors

W.l.o.g. let  $\gamma^\top \mathbf{1} = 1$  and assume  $X_t \in [0, LS_t]^m$

$$-dS_t/dt = \gamma^\top X_t \leq \gamma^\top \mathbf{1} S_t = LS_t$$

such that  $0 \leq \lambda_t \leq L$ .

The dynamic of the multivariate process  $X_t$  rewrites

$$dX_t = (b + \beta X_t + BS_t)dt + \Sigma(X_t, S_t)dW_t$$

$$\Sigma(X_t, S_t) = \text{diag}(\sigma_1 \sqrt{X_{1t}(LS_t - X_{1t})}, \dots, \sigma_m \sqrt{X_{mt}(LS_t - X_{mt})})$$

and with  $b, B \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ , and  $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}_+^m$ .

## Lemma

The process  $(X_t, S_t)$  is well defined if and only if  $b = 0$ ,

$$B \geq \sum_{j \neq i} (-L\beta_{ij})^+ \quad \text{and} \quad -L\beta_{ii} - B_i \geq \sum_{j \neq i} (L(\gamma_i L + \beta_{ij}))^+$$

# Preliminaries

## Risk-neutral valuation

There exists an equivalent risk-neutral martingale measure  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

The discount process is  $D_t = e^{-\int_0^t r_s ds}$  with the short-rate  $r_s$ .  
 $D_t$  and  $S_t$  have the same properties !

## Process moments

- $(X_t, S_t)$  polynomial preserving process with state space  $E$
- $\text{Pol}_n(E)$  space of polynomials of order at most  $n$  on  $E$
- $H_n$  vector of polynomials forming a basis of  $\text{Pol}_n(E)$
- $G_n$  matrix representation of  $\mathcal{A} \mid_{\text{Pol}_n(E)}$  w.r.t.  $H_n$
- $\vec{p}$  vector representation of  $p(x, s) \in \text{Pol}_n(E)$  w.r.t.  $H_n$

## Lemma

(Cuchiero et al. (12), Filipović and Larsson (15))

$$\mathbb{E} [p(X_T, S_T) \mid \mathcal{F}_t] = H_n(X_t, S_t)^\top e^{G_n(T-t)} \vec{p}.$$

## Defaultable bond

Security  $B$  pays one if  $\tau > T$ , zero otherwise.

Assume for simplicity  $r_t = 0$ , and consider the monomial basis  $H_1(x, s) = \{1, x_1, \dots, x_m, s\}$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
 B(t, T) &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > T\}} \mid \mathcal{G}_t \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ e^{-\int_t^T \lambda_u du} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \frac{S_T}{S_t} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \{1, X_t, S_t\}^{\top} e^{G_1(T-t)} \{0, \mathbf{0}, 1/S_t\}
 \end{aligned}$$

where the matrix  $G_1$  is given by

$$G_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{\top} & -\gamma \\ 0 & B^{\top} & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Only the first  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -conditional moment of  $S_T$  is needed !

# Contingent Cash-Flow

Security  $C$  pays one at  $\tau$  if and only if  $t < \tau < T$ .

Assume for simplicity that  $r_t = r$  constant.

$$\begin{aligned}
 C(t, T) &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{t < \tau < T\}} e^{-r(\tau-t)} \mid \mathcal{G}_t \right] \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \lambda_s e^{-\int_t^s \lambda_u du} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] ds \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \frac{\gamma^T X_s}{S_t} \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right] ds \\
 &= \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}} \{1, X_t, S_t\}^{\top} (G_1^*)^{-1} \left( e^{G_1^*(T-t)} - I \right) \{0, \gamma/S_t, 0\}
 \end{aligned}$$

with  $G_1^* = G_1 - \text{diag}(r)$  and using  $\int_0^t e^{As} ds = A^{-1}(e^{At} - I)$ .

No numerical integration over  $[t, T]$ !

Credit-Default-Swap  $\equiv$  sum of  $C$  and many  $Bs$

$$\pi_t^{\text{cds}} = \{1, X_t/S_t\}^{\top} \vec{p}_{\text{cds}} \stackrel{(m=1)}{=} \{1, \lambda_t\}^{\top} \vec{p}_{\text{cds}}$$

# Modeling Choices

Set  $r_t = r$  constant over the estimation period.

## A cascading structure

Consider  $m = 2$  and dynamics of the form:

$$dS_t = -X_{1t} dt$$

$$dX_{1t} = \kappa_1(\theta_1 X_{2t} - X_{1t}) dt + \sigma_1 \sqrt{X_{1t}(LS_t - X_{1t})} dW_{1t}$$

$$dX_{2t} = \kappa_2(\theta_2 S_t - X_{2t}) dt + \sigma_2 \sqrt{X_{2t}(LS_t - X_{2t})} dW_{2t}$$

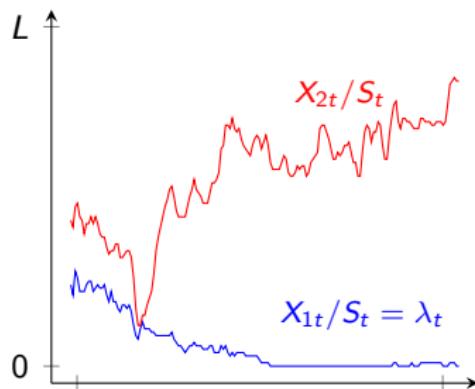
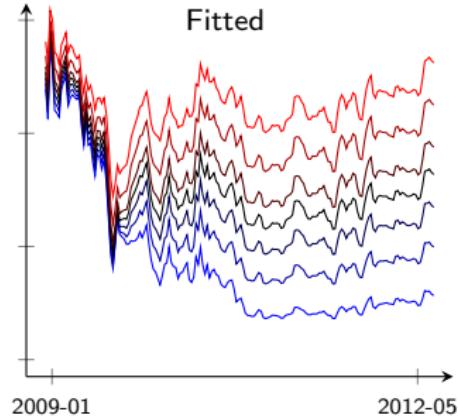
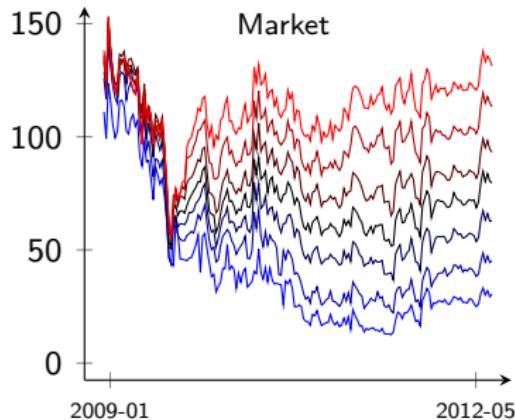
Market price of risk  $dW_t^* = dW_t + \Lambda_t dt$

Assume  $(X_t, S_t)$  polynomial preserving process under  $\mathbb{P}$  an  $\mathbb{Q}$

$$\Lambda_{1t} = \frac{\delta_1 \sqrt{X_{1t}}}{\sigma_1 \sqrt{LS_t - X_{1t}}} \quad \Lambda_{2t} = \frac{\delta_2 X_{2t} + \delta_3 S_t}{\sigma_2 \sqrt{X_{2t}(LS_t - X_{2t})}}$$

Stronger conditions on dynamics parameters ! 10 parameters.

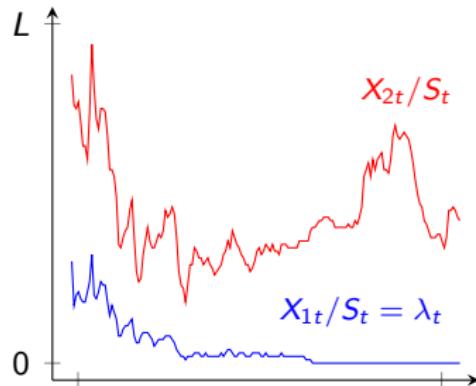
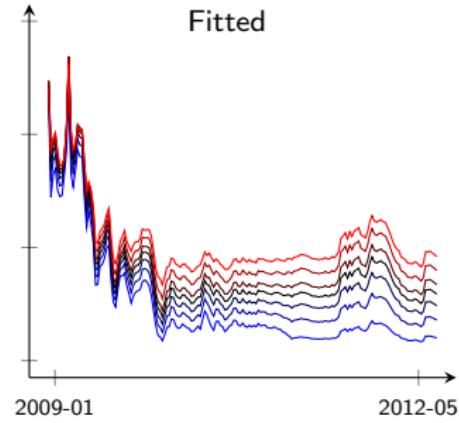
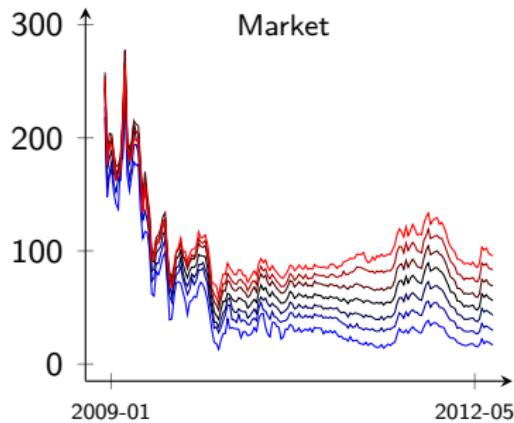
## Estimation Results on AT&T



QML using UKF  
CDS spreads in basis points  
1 to 10-year maturity

$L \approx 8\%$   
RMSE < 5 b.p.

# Estimation Results on Boeing



QML using UKF  
CDS spreads in basis points  
1 to 10-year maturity  
 $L \approx 12\%$   
RMSE < 4 b.p.

## Single-name CDS Option

European CDS option with maturity  $T$ ,  $r_s = 0$

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_t^{\text{opt}} &= \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > T\}} \left( \pi_T^{\text{cds}} \right)^+ \mid \mathcal{G}_t \right] \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{1}_{\{\tau > t\}}}{S_t} \mathbb{E}^{\mathbb{Q}} \left[ \left( \{X_T, S_T\}^\top \vec{p}_{\text{cds}} \right)^+ \mid \mathcal{F}_t \right]\end{aligned}$$

$Z = \{X_T, S_T\}^\top \vec{p}_{\text{cds}} / S_t \in [a, b]$  with known  $\mathcal{F}_t$ -cond moments.

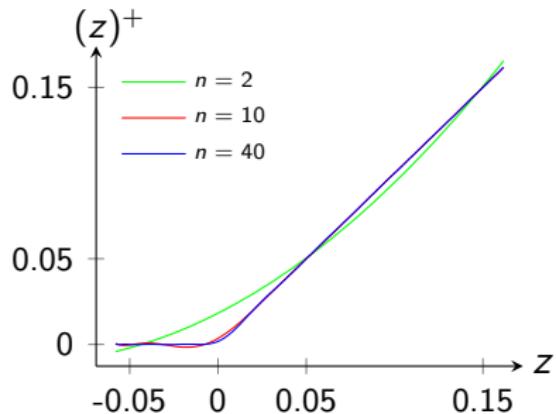
### Payoff approximation

Polynomial series  $p^n(y)$  converging to  $(y)^+$  on  $[a, b]$  such that

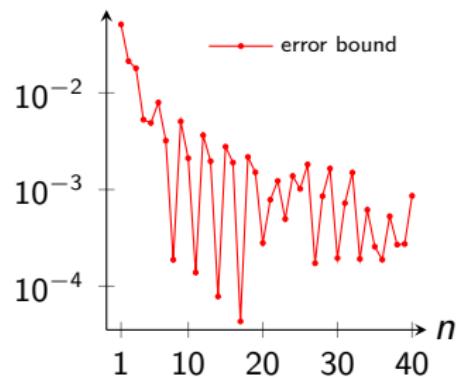
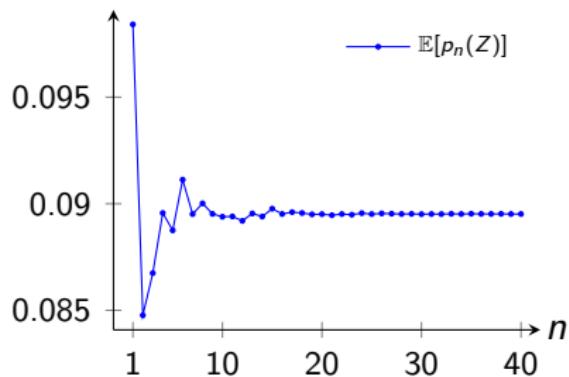
$$\mathbb{E} [p^n(Z)] \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \pi_t^{\text{opt}}$$

with non-tight **error upper bound**  $\|p^n(z) - (z)^+\|_\infty$  on  $[a, b]$ .

# CDS Option Example



5-year CDS option on AT&T  
1-year maturity  
100 b.p. strike  
Chebyshev interpolation  
 $Z \in [-0.058, 0.16]$



# Conclusion

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- New class of reduced-form models for credit-risk
- Survival process modeling  $S_t = \mathbb{P}[\tau > t \mid \mathcal{F}_t]$  with PPP
- Analytical formulas for defaultable bonds and CDS prices
- Straightforward approximation of CDS options prices
- Promising directions: CVA, multi-name models, ...