

# Model risk embedded in yield curve construction methods

Areski Cousin

ISFA, Université Lyon 1

Joint work with Ibrahima Niang

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- What is understood as a term-structure in this presentation ?
- What is it used for ?

- Term-structures are constructed from market quotes of fixed income, fx or default-risky securities
- Information provided by the market is reliable only for a small set of liquid products with standard characteristics/maturities
- We have to rely on interpolation/calibration schemes to construct the curve for missing maturities
- A variety of curve construction methods exists : no consensus towards a particular best practice in all circumstances

Andersen (2007), curves based on tension splines

Figure 1: Yield Curve

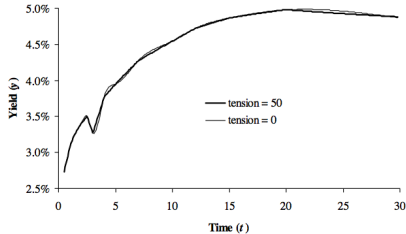
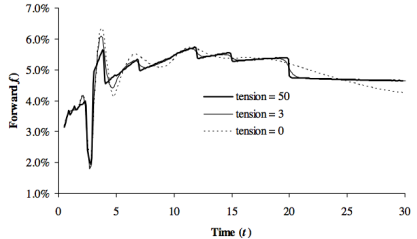
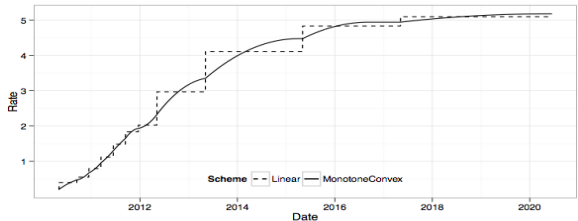


Figure 2: Forward Curve



Le Floc'h (2012),  
examples of one-day  
forward curves



What can be defined as a good yield curve construction method? ([Hagan and West \(2006\)](#))

- Ability to fit market quotes
- Arbitrage freeness
- Smoothness
- Locality of the interpolation method
- Stability of forward rate
- Consistency of hedging strategies : Locality of deltas ? Sum of sequential deltas close enough to the corresponding parallel delta ? ([Le Floc'h \(2012\)](#))

Interestingly, there is a pretty large recent literature on the subject of yield-curve construction methods

- Single-curve environment : Hagan and West (2006), Andersen (2007), Jerassy-Etzion (2010), Le Floc'h (2012)
- Multi-curve environment : Ametrano and Bianchetti (2009), Iwashita (2013), Kenyon and Stamm (2012), Fries (2013), Chibane et al (2009)

## And a flourishing literature on model risk

- Branger and Schlag (2004), Cont (2006), Davis and Hobson (2004), Derman (1996), Eberlein and Jacod (1997), El Karoui et al (1998), Green and Figlewski (1999), Hénaff (2010), Morini (2010), etc...

## Arbitrage-free curve

A curve is said to be arbitrage-free if

- **IR curves** : the forward rates are non-negative or equivalently, the (pseudo) discount factors are nonincreasing with respect to time-to-maturities
- **Credit** : the curve is associated with a well-defined default distribution function

## Smoothness condition

A curve is said to be smooth if

- **IR curves** : the instantaneous forward rates exist for all maturities and are continuous.
- **Credit** : the default density function exists and is continuous.



## Admissible curve

A yield curve is said to be admissible if it satisfies the following constraints :

- The input data set is perfectly reproduced by the curve
- The curve is arbitrage-free
- The curve satisfies the smoothness condition

**We then address the following questions :**

- Is it possible to estimate the size of admissible curves ? and how ?
- How does the range/diversity of admissible curves affect the present value of products with non-standard characteristics ?

We develop a framework in which it is possible to measure the diversity of yield curves with some specific features.

## Assumption 1 : pseudo-linear representation of present values

Products used in the curve construction have **presents values** that can be expressed as **linear combination** of some elementary quantities such as zero-coupon prices, discount factors, lbor forward rates or survival probabilities.

### Example 1 : Corporate or sovereign debt yield curve

- $S$  : market price (in percentage of nominal) at time  $t_0$  of a bond with maturity  $T$
- $c$  : fixed coupon rate
- $t_1 < \dots < t_p = T$  : coupon payment dates,  $\delta_k$  : year fraction corresponding to period  $(t_{k-1}, t_k)$

$$c \sum_{k=1}^p \delta_k P^B(t_0, t_k) + P^B(t_0, T) = S$$

where  $P^B(t_0, t_k)$  represents the price of a (fictitious default-free issuer-dependent) ZC bond with maturity  $t_k$

## Example 2 : Discounting curve based on OIS

- $S^{\text{OIS}}$  : par rate at time  $t_0$  of an overnight indexed swap with maturity  $T$
- $t_1 < \dots < t_p = T$  : fixed-leg payment dates
- $\delta_k$  : year fraction corresponding to period  $(t_{k-1}, t_k)$

$$S^{\text{OIS}} \sum_{k=1}^p \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) = 1 - P^D(t_0, T)$$

where  $P^D(t_0, t_k)$  is the discount factor associated with maturity date  $t_k$

## Example 3 : Forward curve based on fixed-vs-lbor-floating IRS

- $S^{\text{IRS}}$  : par rate at time  $t_0$  of an interest rate swap with maturity  $T$  and tenor  $j$  (typically,  $j = 3\text{M}$  or  $j = 6\text{M}$ )
- $t_1 < \dots < t_p = T$  : fixed-leg payment dates,  $\delta_k$  : year fraction corresponding to period  $(t_{k-1}, t_k)$
- $t = \tilde{t}_0 < \tilde{t}_1 < \dots < \tilde{t}_q = T$  : floating-leg payment dates,  $\tilde{\delta}_i$  : year fraction of  $(\tilde{t}_{i-1}, \tilde{t}_i)$

$$S^{\text{IRS}} \sum_{k=1}^p \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) = \sum_{i=1}^q P^D(t_0, \tilde{t}_i) \tilde{\delta}_i F_j(t_0, \tilde{t}_i)$$

where  $F_j(t_0, \tilde{t}_i)$  is the forward Libor or Euribor rate defined as the fixed rate to be exchanged at time  $\tilde{t}_i$  against the  $j$ -tenor Libor or Euribor rate established at time  $\tilde{t}_{i-1}$  so that the swap has zero value at time  $t_0$

## Example 4 : credit curve based on CDS

- $S^{\text{CDS}}$  : fair spread at time  $t_0$  of a credit default swap with maturity  $T$
- $t_1 < \dots < t_p = T$  : premium payment dates,  $\delta_k$  : year fraction corresponding to period  $(t_{k-1}, t_k)$
- $R$  : expected recovery rate of the reference entity

$$S^{\text{CDS}} \sum_{k=1}^p \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) Q(t_0, t_k) = -(1 - R) \int_{t_0}^T P^D(t_0, u) dQ(t_0, u)$$

where  $u \rightarrow Q(t_0, u)$  is the  $\mathcal{F}_{t_0}$ -conditional (risk-neutral) **survival distribution** of the reference entity.

We implicitly assume here that recovery, default and interest rates are stochastically independent.

## Example 4 : credit curve based on CDS (cont)

Using an integration by parts, the survival function  $u \rightarrow Q(t_0, u)$  satisfies a linear relation :

$$S^{\text{CDS}} \sum_{k=1}^P \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) Q(t_0, t_k) + (1 - R) P^D(t_0, T) Q(t_0, T) \\ + (1 - R) \int_{t_0}^T f^D(t_0, u) P^D(t_0, u) Q(t_0, u) du = 1 - R$$

where  $f^D(t_0, u)$  is the instantaneous forward (discount) rate associated with maturity date  $u$ .

## Proposition (admissible curves form a convex set)

Under Assumption I, the set of admissible yield-curve is convex.

This derives immediately from the definition of admissible curves and the linear representation of present values.

## Proposition

Under Assumption I, the set of admissible yield-curves is characterized by the convex hull of the extreme points of its closure.

Identifying the set of admissible yield-curves amounts to identify its convex hull



# Geometric nature of the problem

The proof follows from successive applications of Ascoli-Arzelà theorem and Krein-Milman theorem.

## Ascoli-Arzelà theorem

Let  $(X, d)$  be a compact space. A subset  $F$  of  $\mathcal{C}(X)$  is relatively compact if and only if  $F$  is equibounded and equicontinuous.

We have to prove that  $F$  is equibounded and equicontinuous.

## Krein-Milman theorem

Let  $X$  be a locally convex topological vector space (assumed to be Hausdorff or separable), and let  $K$  be a compact convex subset of  $X$ . Then  $K$  is the closed convex hull of its extreme points.

- We observe OIS par rates  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  for maturities  $T_1 < \dots < T_n$ .
- Let  $t = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{p_n} = T_n$  be the annual time grid up to time  $T_n$ .
- The set of indices  $(p_i)$  is such that  $t_{p_i} = T_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

$$S_i \sum_{k=1}^{p_i-1} \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) + (S_i \delta_{p_i} + 1) P^D(t_0, T_i) = 1, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

- Let  $i_0$  be the smallest index such that  $T_{i_0} \neq t_{i_0}$  ( $i_0 = 11$  in our applications)

- Define  $H_i := \sum_{k=p_{i-1}+1}^{p_i-1} \delta_k$ , for  $i = i_0, \dots, n$

## Proposition (arbitrage-free bounds for discount factors)

$$P^D(t_0, T_1) = \frac{1}{1 + S_1 \delta_1},$$

$$P^D(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i \delta_i} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - P^D(t_0, T_{i-1}) \right) \right), \quad i = 2, \dots, i_0 - 1$$

For  $i = i_0, \dots, n$ ,

$$P_{\min}^D(t_0, T_i) \leq P^D(t_0, T_i) \leq P_{\max}^D(t_0, T_i)$$

where

$$P_{\min}^D(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i \delta_{p_i}} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - (1 - S_{i-1} H_i) P^D(t_0, T_{i-1}) \right) \right)$$

$$P_{\max}^D(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i (H_i + \delta_{p_i})} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - P^D(t_0, T_{i-1}) \right) \right)$$



## Iterative computation of model-free bounds

- **Step 1** : For  $i = 1, \dots, i_0 - 1$ ,

$$P^D(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i \delta_i} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - P^D(t_0, T_{i-1}) \right) \right)$$

- **Step 2** : For  $i = i_0, \dots, n$ ,

$$P_{\min}(T_i) \leq P^D(t_0, T_i) \leq P_{\max}(T_i)$$

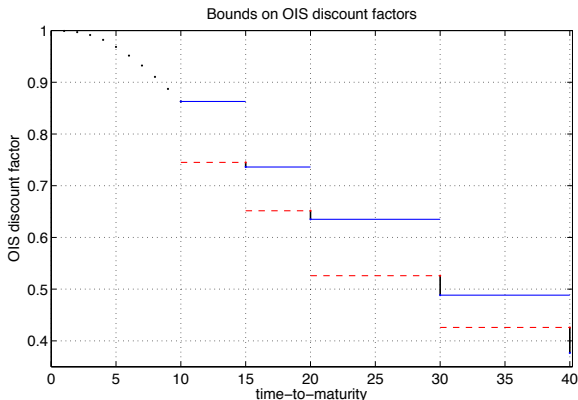
where

$$P_{\min}(T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i \delta_{p_i}} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - (1 - S_{i-1} H_i) P_{\min}(T_{i-1}) \right) \right)$$

$$P_{\max}(T_i) = \frac{1}{1 + S_i (H_i + \delta_{p_i})} \left( 1 - \frac{S_i}{S_{i-1}} \left( 1 - P_{\max}(T_{i-1}) \right) \right)$$

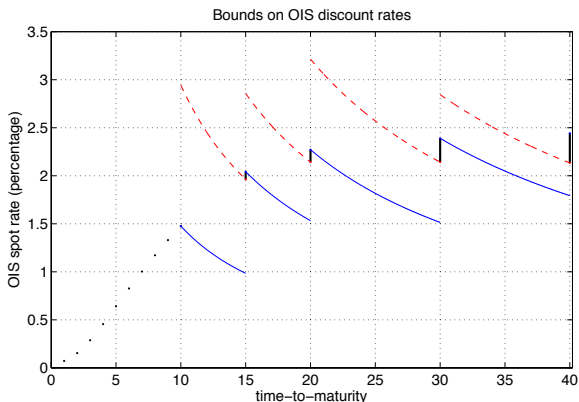
# Arbitrage-free bounds for OIS discount curves

The previous model-free bounds are sharp



Input data : OIS swap rates as of May, 31st 2013

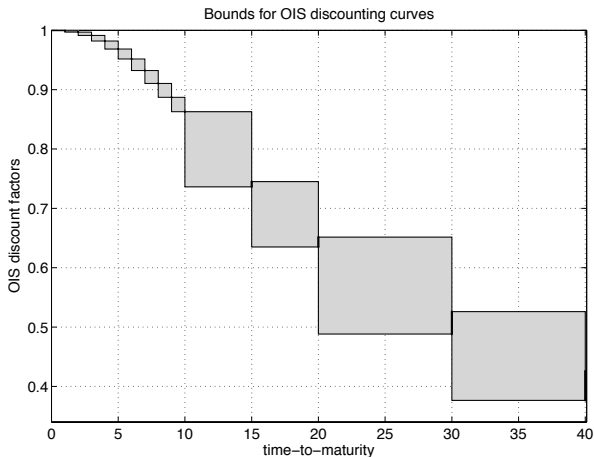
## Corresponding model-free bounds on discount rates



Input data : OIS swap rates as of May, 31st 2013

# Arbitrage-free bounds for OIS discount curves

## Range of arbitrage-free market-consistent OIS discount curves



Input data : OIS swap rates as of May, 31st 2013



## Proposition (detecting arbitrage opportunities)

An arbitrage opportunity can be detected in the data set  $(S_i)_{i=1,\dots,n}$  at the first index  $i$  such that

$$S_i < \left( \frac{1}{S_{i-1}} + \delta_i \frac{P^D(t_0, T_{i-1})}{1 - P^D(t_0, T_{i-1})} \right)^{-1}, \quad i = 2, \dots, i_0 - 1,$$

$$S_i < \left( \frac{1}{S_{i-1}} + (H_i + \delta_{p_i}) \frac{P_{\max}(T_{i-1})}{1 - P_{\max}(T_{i-1})} \right)^{-1}, \quad i = i_0, \dots, n.$$

### Proof :

For  $i = 2, \dots, i_0 - 1$ , the inequality on  $S_i$  leads to  $P^D(t_0, T_i) > P^D(t_0, T_{i-1})$

For  $i = i_0, \dots, n$ , the inequality on  $S_i$  leads to  $P_{\min}^D(t_0, T_i) > P_{\max}^D(t_0, T_i)$

## Corollary (increasing OIS par rates are arbitrage-free)

An increasing sequence of OIS par rates  $S_1 \leq \dots \leq S_n$  is arbitrage-free : there always exists an arbitrage-free discount curve which is compatible with this sequence.

- We observe **CDS fair spreads**  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  for maturities  $T_1 < \dots < T_n$ .
- Let  $t = t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_{p_n} = T_n$  be the time grid corresponding to premium payment dates.
- The set of indices  $(p_i)$  is such that  $p_0 = 1$  and  $t_{p_i} = T_i$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
- For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$S_i \sum_{k=1}^{p_i} \delta_k P^D(t_0, t_k) Q(t_0, t_k) + (1 - R) P^D(t_0, T) Q(t_0, T) \\ + (1 - R) \int_{t_0}^{T_i} f^D(t_0, t) P^D(t_0, t) Q(t_0, t) dt = 1 - R$$

## Proposition (arbitrage-free bounds for survival probabilities)

For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$Q_{\min}(t_0, T_i) \leq Q(t_0, T_i) \leq Q_{\max}(t_0, T_i)$$

where

$$Q_{\min}(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1 - R - \sum_{k=1}^i ((1 - R)M_k + S_i N_k) Q(t_0, T_{k-1})}{P^D(t_0, T_i)(1 - R + S_i \delta_{p_i})},$$

$$Q_{\max}(t_0, T_i) = \frac{1 - R - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} ((1 - R)M_k + S_i N_k) Q(t_0, T_k)}{P^D(t_0, T_{i-1})(1 - R) + S_i (N_i + \delta_{p_i} P^D(t_0, T_i))},$$

with  $M_i := P^D(t_0, T_{i-1}) - P^D(t_0, T_i)$  and  $N_i := \sum_{k=p_{i-1}}^{p_i-1} \delta_k P^D(t_0, T_k)$ .

## Proof :

For any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the proof is based on CDS present value representations as linear combinations of survival probabilities and application of the following system of “arbitrage-free inequalities” :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Q(t_0, T_1) \leq Q(t_0, t) \leq 1 & \text{for } t_0 \leq t < T_1, \\ \vdots & \\ Q(t_0, T_i) \leq Q(t_0, t) \leq Q(t_0, T_{i-1}) & \text{for } T_{i-1} \leq t < T_i \end{array} \right.$$

These bounds cannot be computed explicitly since we do not know the survival probabilities  $Q(t, T_i)$  with certainty for  $i = 1, \dots, n$

## Iterative computation of model-free bounds

- For  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , compute recursively

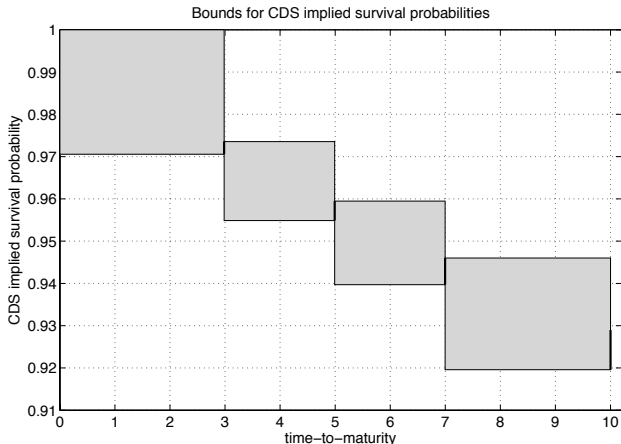
$$Q_{\min}(T_i) \leq Q(t_0, T_i) \leq Q_{\max}(T_i)$$

where

$$Q_{\min}(T_i) = \frac{1 - R - \sum_{k=1}^i ((1 - R)M_k + S_i N_k) Q_{\max}(T_{k-1})}{P^D(t, T_i)(1 - R + S_i \delta_{p_i})}$$

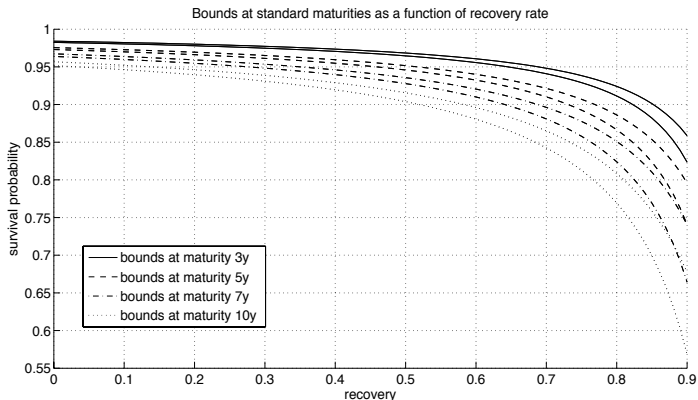
$$Q_{\max}(T_i) = \frac{1 - R - \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} ((1 - R)M_k + S_i N_k) Q_{\min}(T_k)}{P^D(t, T_{i-1})(1 - R) + S_i (N_i + \delta_{p_i} P^D(t, T_i))}$$

## Range of arbitrage-free market-consistent survival curves



Input data : CDS spreads of AIG as of December 17, 2007,  $R = 40\%$ ,  
 $P^D(t_0, t) = \exp(-3\%(t - t_0))$

## Bounds sensitivity with respect to the recovery rate assumption



**Input data** : CDS spreads of AIG as of December 17, 2007,

$$P^D(t_0, t) = \exp(-3\%(t - t_0))$$



# How to construct admissible yield curves?

The yield-curve is built from market quotes of a set of standard products

- $t_0$  : quotation date
- $\mathbf{T} = (T_1, \dots, T_n)$  : set of increasing standard maturities,  $T_0 = t_0$
- $\mathbf{S} = (S_1, \dots, S_n)$  : corresponding set of market quotes at  $t_0$

We assume that present values can be expressed as linear combination of generic **elementary quantities** comparable to **discount factors** :

- $P = P^B$ , zero-coupon prices as in [▶ Example 1](#)
- $P = P^D$ , discount factors as in [▶ Example 2](#)
- $P = Q$ , risk-neutral survival probabilities as in [▶ Example 4](#)

In this presentation, we do not treat the case of elementary quantities comparable to **forward rates** as in [▶ Example 3](#) .

# How to construct admissible yield curves ?

## Mean-reverting term-structure models as generators of admissible yield curves

The risk-neutral dynamics of (default-free) **interest rates** or of **default intensities** is assumed to follow either

- a OU process driven by a Lévy process

$$dX_t = a(b(t; \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) - X_t)dt + \sigma dY_{ct},$$

where  $Y$  is a Lévy process with cumulant function  $\kappa$  and parameter set  $\mathbf{p}_L$

- or an extended CIR process

$$dX_t = a(b(t; \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) - X_t)dt + \sigma\sqrt{X_t}dW_t,$$

where  $W$  is a standard Brownian motion

Depending on the context,  $\mathbf{p} = (X_0, a, \sigma, c, \mathbf{p}_L)$  will denote the parameter set of the Lévy-OU process and  $\mathbf{p} = (X_0, a, \sigma)$  the parameter set of the CIR process

# How to construct admissible yield curves ?

In both cases,  $b$  is represented by a [step function](#) :

$$b(t; \mathbf{p}, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) = b_i(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) \text{ for } T_{i-1} < t \leq T_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

The vector  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  solves the following pseudo-linear system.

## Market-fit linear conditions

The market-fit condition can be restated as a pseudo-linear system

$$\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{b}) = \mathbf{B}$$

where

- $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{b}) = (P(t_0, t_k; \mathbf{b}))_{k=1, \dots, m}$  is the  $m \times 1$  vector of elementary quantities that appear in the present value formula of instruments used to build the curve (see [Examples 1 to 4](#)).
- $\mathbf{A}$  is a  $n \times m$  matrix,  $\mathbf{B}$  is a  $n \times 1$  matrix
- $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  only depend on current market quotes  $\mathbf{S}$ , on standard maturities  $\mathbf{T}$  and on products characteristics.

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

## Proposition (Discount factors in the Lévy-OU approach)

Let  $T_{i-1} < t \leq T_i$ . In the Lévy-OU model, the current value of the discount factor or of an assimilated quantity with maturity time  $t$  is given by

$$P(t_0, t; \mathbf{b}) := \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_{t_0}^t X_u du \right) \right] = \exp(-I(t_0, t, \mathbf{b}))$$

where

$$I(t_0, t, \mathbf{b}) := X_0 \varphi(t - t_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k (\xi(t - T_{k-1}) - \xi(t - T_k)) \\ + b_i \xi(t - T_{i-1}) + c \psi(t - t_0)$$

and functions  $\varphi$ ,  $\xi$  and  $\psi$  are defined by

$$\varphi(s) := \frac{1}{a} (1 - e^{-as}) \tag{1}$$

$$\xi(s) := s - \varphi(s)$$

$$\psi(s) := - \int_0^s \kappa(-\sigma \varphi(s - \theta)) d\theta$$

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

## Proposition (Discount factors in the CIR approach)

Let  $T_{i-1} < t \leq T_i$ . In the CIR model, the current value of the discount factor or of an assimilated quantity with maturity time  $t$  is given by

$$P(t_0, t; \mathbf{b}) := \mathbb{E} \left[ \exp \left( - \int_{t_0}^t X_u du \right) \right] = \exp(-I(t_0, t, \mathbf{b}))$$

where

$$I(t_0, t, \mathbf{b}) := X_0 \varphi(t - t_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k (\eta(t - T_{k-1}) - \eta(t - T_k)) + b_i \eta(t - T_{i-1})$$

and functions  $\varphi$  and  $\eta$  are defined by

$$\varphi(s) := \frac{2(1 - e^{-hs})}{h + a + (h - a)e^{-hs}} \quad (2)$$

$$\eta(s) := 2a \left[ \frac{s}{h + a} + \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \log \frac{h + a + (h - a)e^{-hs}}{2h} \right]$$

where  $h := \sqrt{a^2 + 2\sigma^2}$

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

## Construction of $(b_1, \dots, b_n)$ by a bootstrap procedure

For any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the present value of the instrument with maturity  $T_i$

- only depends on  $b_1, \dots, b_i$
- is a monotonic function with respect to  $b_i$

The vector  $\mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_n)$  satisfies a triangular system of non-linear equations that can be solved recursively :

- Find  $b_1$  as the solution of

$$\sum_{j=1}^{P_1} \mathbf{A}_{1j} P(t_0, t_j; b_1) = \mathbf{B}_1$$

- Assume  $b_1, \dots, b_{k-1}$  are known, find  $b_k$  as the solution of

$$\sum_{j=1}^{P_k} \mathbf{A}_{kj} P(t_0, t_j; b_1, \dots, b_k) = \mathbf{B}_k$$

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

## Proposition (smoothness condition)

A curve  $t \rightarrow P(t_0, t)$  constructed from the previous approach satisfies the smoothness condition : it is of class  $\mathcal{C}^1$  and the corresponding forward curve (or default density function) is continuous.

**Proof :** Let  $b(\cdot)$  be a deterministic function of time, **instantaneous forward rates** are such that

- Lévy-driven OU

$$f(t_0, t) = X_0 e^{-a(t-t_0)} + a \int_{t_0}^t e^{-a(t-u)} b(u) du - c\kappa(-\sigma\varphi(t-t_0))$$

where  $\varphi$  is defined by (1)

- extended CIR

$$f^{CIR}(t_0, t) = X_0 \varphi'(t-t_0) + a \int_{t_0}^t \varphi'(t-u) b(u) du$$

where  $\varphi'$  is the derivative of  $\varphi$  given by (2)

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

Assume that a curve has been constructed from a **Lévy-OU term-structure model** with positive parameters  $(X_0, a, \sigma, c, \mathbf{p}_L)$  :

$$f(t_0, t) = X_0 e^{-a(t-t_0)} + a \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k (\varphi(t - T_{k-1}) - \varphi(t - T_k)) \\ + ab_i \varphi(t - T_{i-1}) - c\kappa(-\sigma\varphi(t - t_0))$$

for any  $T_{i-1} \leq t \leq T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

## Proposition (arbitrage-free condition in the Lévy-OU approach)

Assume that the derivative of the Lévy cumulant  $\kappa'$  exists and is strictly monotonic on  $(-\infty, 0)$ . The curve is arbitrage-free on the time interval  $(t_0, T_n)$  **if and only if**, for any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $f(t_0, T_i) > 0$  and one of the following condition holds :

- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, T_{i-1}) \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, T_i) \geq 0$
- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, T_{i-1}) \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, T_i) < 0$  and  $f(t_0, t_i) > 0$  where  $t_i$  is such that  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, t_i) = 0$ ,



# How to construct admissible yield curves?

Assume that a curve has been constructed from a **extended CIR term-structure model** with positive parameters  $(X_0, a, \sigma)$  :

$$f^{CIR}(t_0, t) = X_0 \varphi'(t - t_0) + a \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} b_k (\varphi(t - T_{k-1}) - \varphi(t - T_k)) + ab_i \varphi(t - T_{i-1})$$

for any  $T_{i-1} \leq t \leq T_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

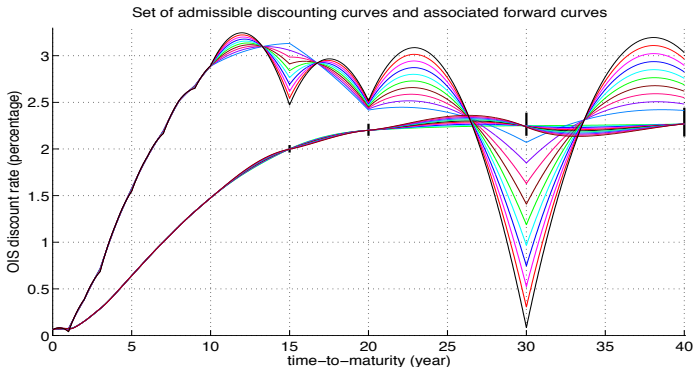
**Proposition (arbitrage-free condition in the Lévy-OU approach)**

The constructed curve is arbitrage-free if, for any  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , the implied  $b_i$  is positive

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

Set of admissible OIS discount and forward curves : Lévy-OU short rates

Parameters :  $a = 0.01$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ ,  $X_0 = 0.063\%$  (fair rate of IRS vs OIS 1M). The Lévy driver is a **Gamma subordinator** with parameter  $\lambda = 1/50\text{bps}$  (mean jump size of 50 bps).  $c = \{1, 10, 20, \dots, 100\}$

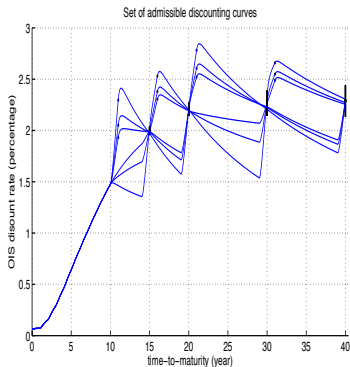
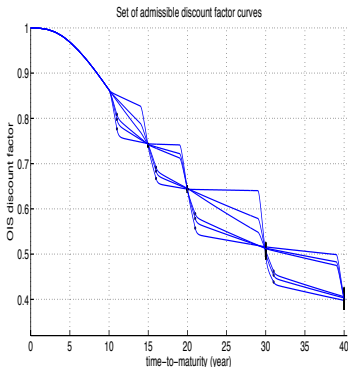


Input data : OIS swap rates as of May, 31st 2013

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

Arbitrage-free bounds used to generate a wider range of admissible curves

Parameters : CIR short rates with  $a = 5$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ ,  $X_0 = 0.063\%$  (fair rate of IRS vs OIS 1M).

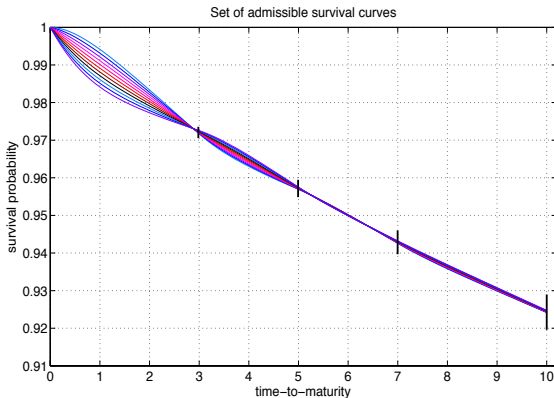


Input data : OIS swap rates as of May, 31st 2013

# How to construct admissible yield curves?

Set of admissible survival curves : CIR intensities

Parameters :  $a = \sigma = 1$ ,  $100X_0 = \{0.01, 0.25, 0.49, 0.73, 0.97, 1.21, 1.45, 1.69, 1.94, 2.18, 2.42\}$

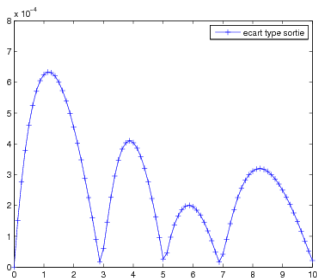
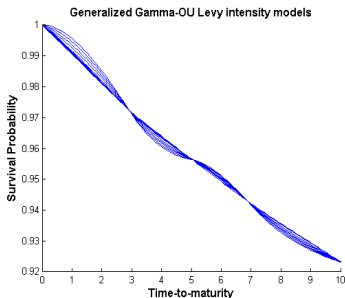


Input data : CDS spreads of AIG as of December 17, 2007,  $R = 40\%$ ,  
 $P^D(t_0, t) = \exp(-3\%(t - t_0))$

# How to construct admissible yield curves ?

## Set of admissible survival curves : Lévy-OU intensities

**Parameters** :  $a$  is Uniform on  $[0.5, 10]$ ,  $c$  is Uniform on  $[1, 50]$  ( $c$  : mean number of jumps per year),  $\sigma = 1$ . The Lévy driver is a **Gamma subordinator** with parameter  $\lambda = 1/2$ bps (mean jump size of 2 bps),  $X_0$  is bootstrapped with  $b_1$  in such a way that  $X_0 = b_1$



**Input data** : CDS spreads of AIG as of December 17, 2007

The proposed framework could be extended or used in several directions :

- Yield-curve diversity impact on present values (PV) and hedging strategies ?

$$\max_{i,j} \|PV(C_i) - PV(C_j)\|_p$$

where the max is taken over all couples of admissible curves  $(C_i, C_j)$

- Sensitivity analysis in the presence of uncertain parameters ?

$$dX_t = \tilde{a}(b(t; \tilde{a}, \tilde{\sigma}, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) - X_t)dt + \tilde{\sigma}\sqrt{X_t}dW_t,$$

where  $\text{Range}(\tilde{a}, \tilde{\sigma}) \subset \{(a, \sigma) \mid b(t; a, \sigma, \mathbf{T}, \mathbf{S}) \geq 0 \forall t\}$

- Extension to a multicurve environment ?
- Impact on the assessment of counterparty credit risk (CVA, EE, EPE, ...) ?

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# Cumulant function of some Lévy processes

	Cumulant
Brownian motion	$\kappa(\theta) = \frac{\theta^2}{2}$
Gamma process	$\kappa(\theta) = -\log\left(1 - \frac{\theta}{\lambda}\right)$
Inverse Gaussian process	$\kappa(\theta) = \lambda - \sqrt{\lambda^2 - 2\theta}$