

FITTING NURBS TO FINANCIAL CURVES

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A brief introduction to NURBS

- Examples of NURBS basis functions

Fitting NURBS to functions

- NURBS fit to a smooth function

- NURBS fit to a non-smooth but continuous function

- NURBS fit to a discontinuous function

Finite element method with NURBS basis functions

Conclusion and further issues

A **knot vector** $C = (c_1, \dots, c_m)^T$ is a nondecreasing vector of m real-valued coordinates in the parameter space such that

$$m = n + p + 1,$$

where n is the number of basis functions used to construct the B-spline curve and p is the polynomial order. Partitioning of the parameter space into **elements** can be either **uniform** or **non-uniform**. A knot vector is said to be **open** if its first and last knot values are repeated $p + 1$ times.

Example

$$p = 3, m = 13, n = 9, \quad (0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6)^T$$

$$p = 3, m = 15, n = 9, \quad (0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6)^T \text{ - knot 3 repeated 3 times}$$

The **B-spline basis** of the degree zero ($p = 0$) is defined as a piecewise constant

$$N_{i,0}(\xi) = \begin{cases} 1, & c_i \leq \xi < c_{i+1}, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$. The higher order B-spline basis functions are defined recursively as

$$N_{i,p}(\xi) = \frac{\xi - c_i}{c_{i+p} - c_i} N_{i,p-1}(\xi) + \frac{c_{i+p+1} - \xi}{c_{i+p+1} - c_{i+1}} N_{i+1,p-1}(\xi),$$

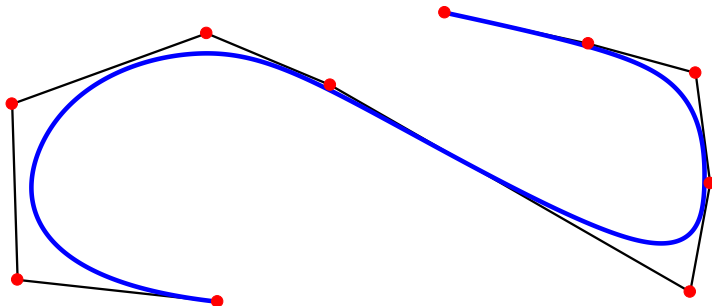
for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and $p = 1, 2, 3, \dots$. Some properties:

1. the basis functions $N_{i,p}(\xi)$ are all piecewise polynomial,
2. the sum of all basis functions $\sum_{i=1}^n N_{i,p}(\xi)$ for $\xi \in [c_1, c_m]$ is equal to a function being identically equal to one,
3. all basis functions are non-negative, i.e. $N_{i,p}(\xi) \geq 0$ for all ξ .

A **B-spline curve** in \mathbb{R}^d is defined as a linear combination of B-spline basis functions, the vector-valued coefficients are referred to as **control points**. Given n basis functions $N_{i,p}(\xi)$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ and corresponding control points $\mathbf{P}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, a piecewise polynomial B-spline curve of order p is given by

$$\mathbf{C}(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^n N_{i,p}(\xi) \mathbf{P}_i. \quad (1)$$

Example
2D cubic curve



Let $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n)^T$ be a **weight vector** such that $w_i > 0$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. Then, we define **NURBS basis functions** by

$$R_i^p(\xi) = \frac{w_i N_{i,p}(\xi)}{\sum_{j=1}^n w_j N_{j,p}(\xi)}.$$

Some properties

1. the basis functions $R_i^p(\xi)$ are piecewise rational; since it is defined as a ratio of two piecewise polynomials of order p , it is also often referred to as having order p and common names **quadratic** ($p = 2$) basis function, **cubic** ($p = 3$) and similar are often used in this sense,
2. the sum of all basis functions $\sum_{i=1}^n R_i^p(\xi)$ is equal to a function being identically one,
3. all the basis functions $R_i^p(\xi)$ are nonnegative,
4. every basis function $R_i^p(\xi)$ has the same support as the corresponding $N_{i,p}(\xi)$.

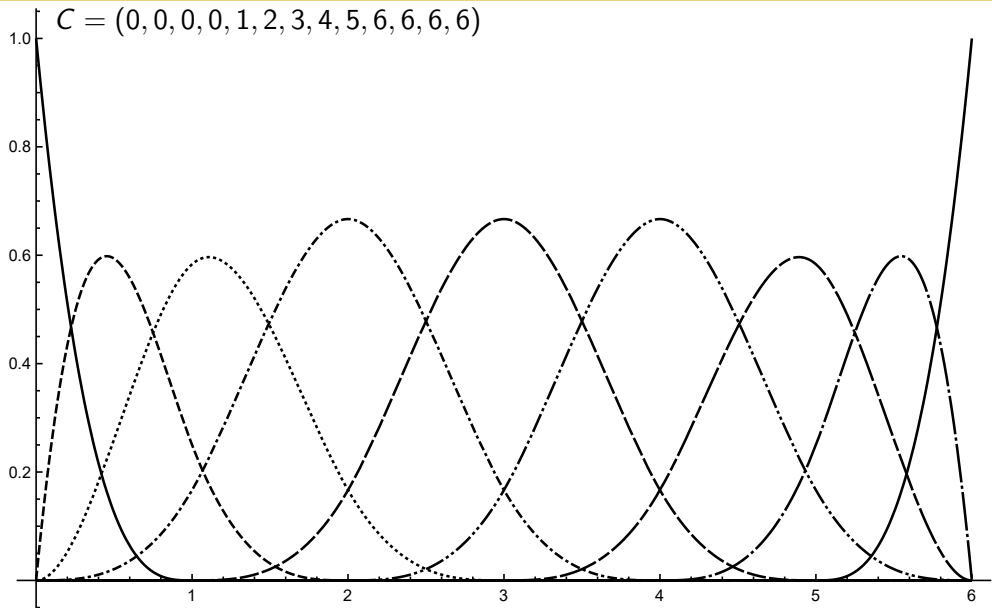
A **NURBS curve** is defined similarly as the B-spline curve

$$\mathbf{C}(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^n R_i^p(\xi) \mathbf{P}_i.$$



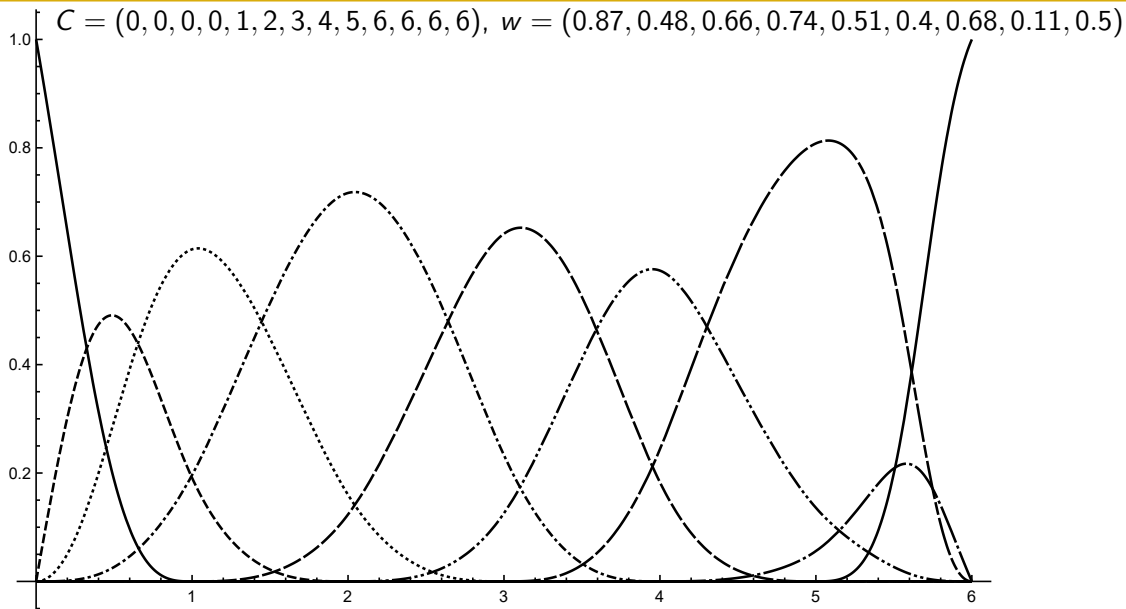
Examples of NURBS basis functions

A cubic ($p = 3$) B-spline basis with open, uniform knot vector



Examples of NURBS basis functions

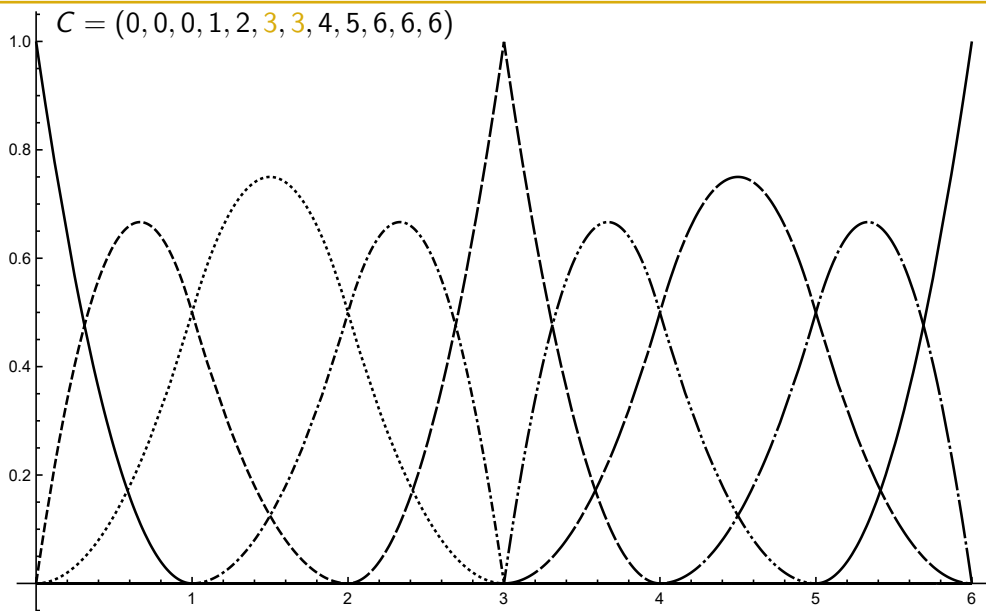
A cubic ($p = 3$) NURBS basis with open, uniform knot vector





Examples of NURBS basis functions

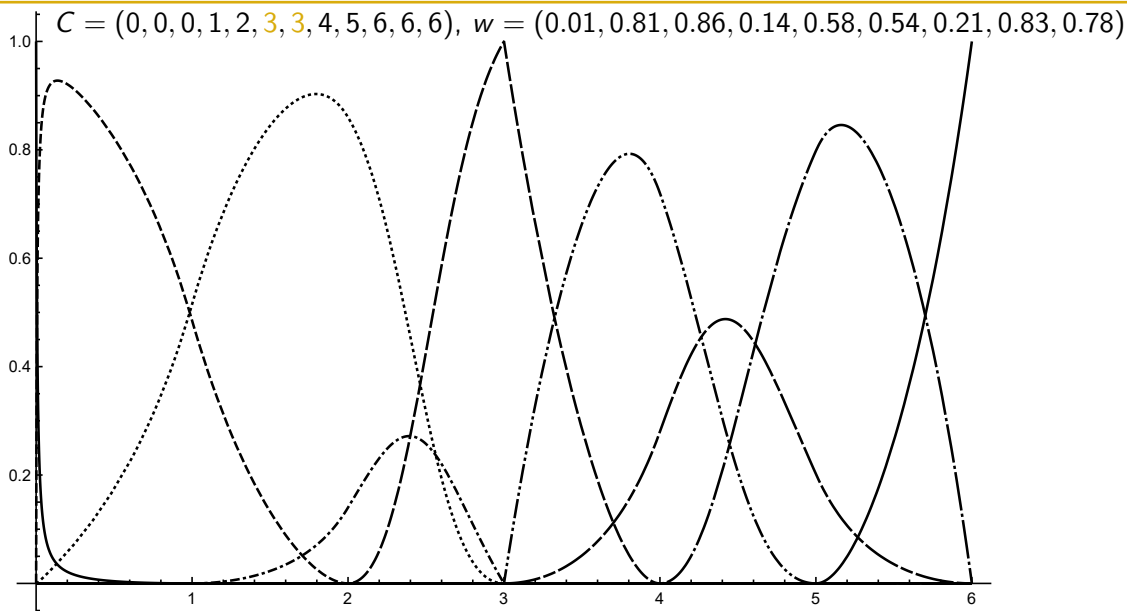
A quadratic ($p = 2$) B-spline basis with open, non-uniform knot vector





Examples of NURBS basis functions

A quadratic ($p = 2$) NURBS basis with open, non-uniform knot vector



Given a knot vector C and the order p , we are looking for the best fit to the function $f(\xi)$, $\xi \in [c_1, c_m]$ either by a B-spline – a linear combination of $n = m - p - 1$ B-spline basis functions $N_{i,p}(\xi)$,

$$\hat{f}_{\text{bs}}(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{a}_i N_{i,p}(\xi),$$

where coefficients \hat{a}_i are to be determined, or by a NURBS

$$\hat{f}_{\text{nrbs}}(\xi) = \sum_{i=1}^n \hat{b}_i R_i^p(\xi),$$

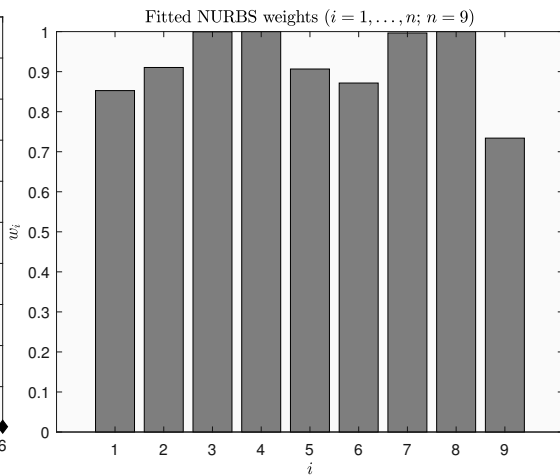
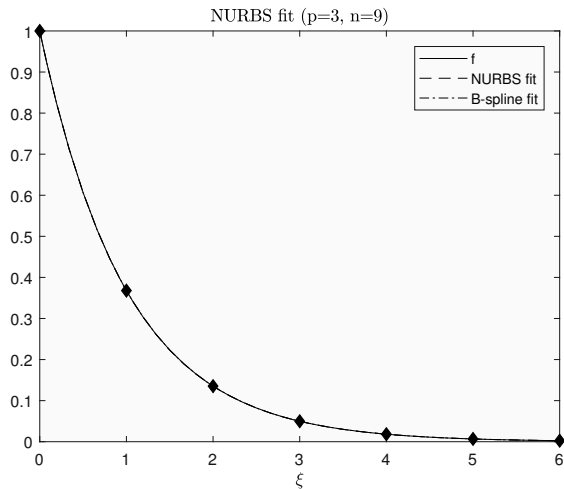
where \hat{b}_i and the weights $w_i > 0$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are also to be determined. The best fit will be measured by the **mean L^2 errors**

$$\hat{\epsilon}_{\text{bs}} = \frac{1}{c_m - c_1} \int_{c_1}^{c_m} (f(\xi) - \hat{f}_{\text{bs}}(\xi))^2 d\xi \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\epsilon}_{\text{nrbs}} = \frac{1}{c_m - c_1} \int_{c_1}^{c_m} (f(\xi) - \hat{f}_{\text{nrbs}}(\xi))^2 d\xi,$$

where $\hat{\epsilon}_{\text{nrbs}}$ is minimized with respect to the weights w_i .

NURBS fit to a smooth function

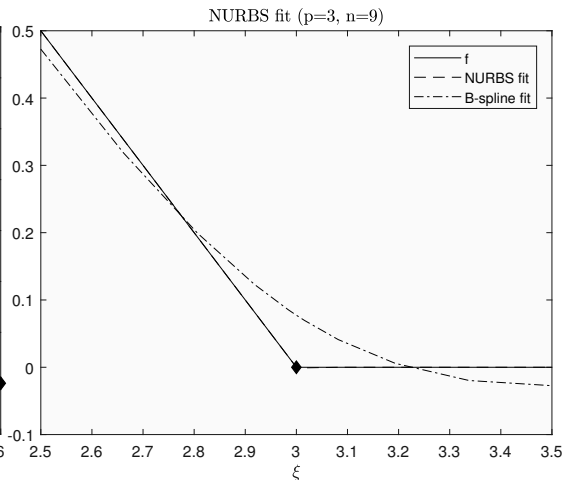
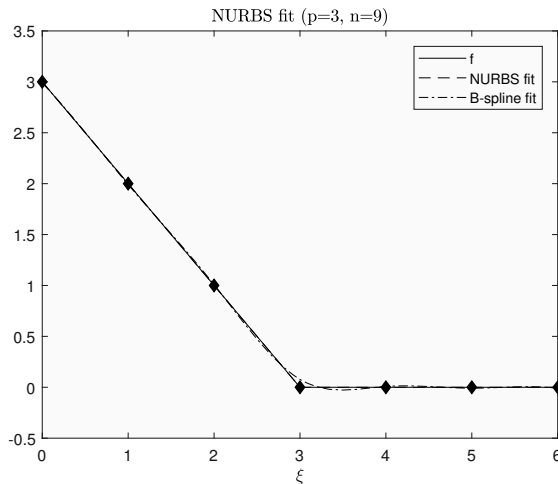
discount curve $f(\xi) = e^{-\xi}$, $\xi \in [0, 6]$



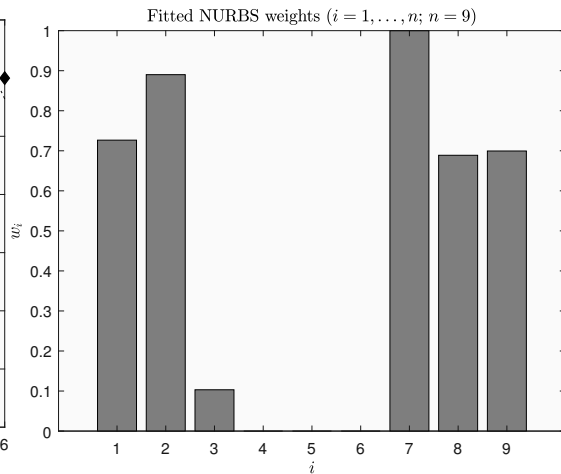
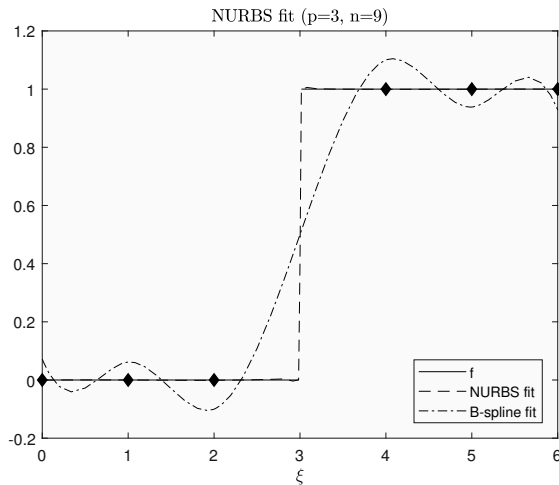
$p = 3$, $m = 13$, $n = 9$, $\hat{\epsilon}_{bs} \doteq 2.7751e-05$ and $\hat{\epsilon}_{nrbs} \doteq 5.8463e-07$

NURBS fit to a non-smooth but continuous function

put option payoff $f(\xi) = \max(3 - \xi, 0)$, $\xi \in [0, 6]$



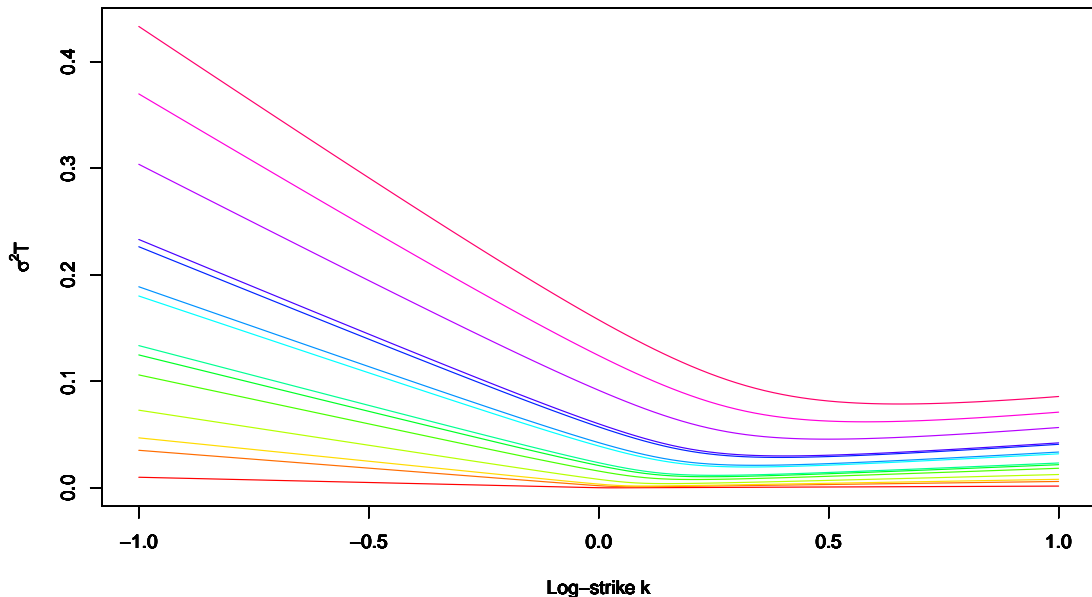
$p = 3$, $m = 13$, $n = 9$, $\hat{\epsilon}_{bs} \doteq 6.3688\text{e-}03$ and $\hat{\epsilon}_{nrbs} \doteq 2.8930\text{e-}05$



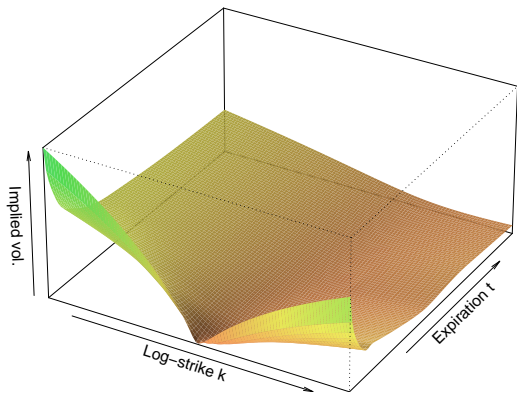
$$p = 3, m = 13, n = 9, \hat{\epsilon}_{bs} \doteq 5.6854e-02 \text{ and } \hat{\epsilon}_{nrbs} \doteq 4.7959e-04$$

Fitting NURBS to functions

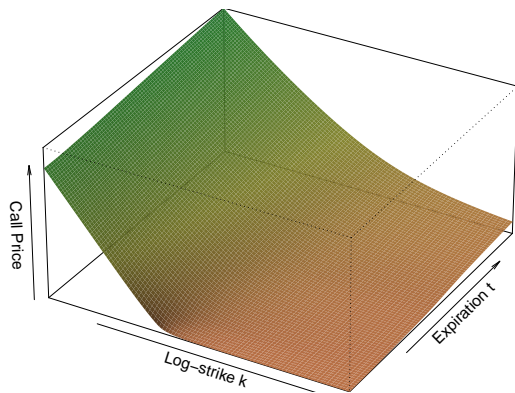
Typical implied volatility fits



Although the rectangular domains considered in option pricing equations are rather simple from the geometrical point of view, price surfaces obtained as a solution to these equations can be on the other hand quite complex.



implied volatility surface (smile)



price surface (hockey stick)

► Constant volatility models - fundamental works

F. S. BLACK AND M. S. SCHOLES (1973). *The pricing of options and corporate liabilities*, J. Polit. Econ. 81(3), 637–654. doi: 10.1086/260062.

R. C. MERTON (1976). *Option pricing when underlying stock returns are discontinuous*, J. Financ. Econ. 3(1–2), 125–144. doi: 10.1016/0304-405X(76)90022-2.

► Stochastic volatility models

S. L. HESTON (1993). *A closed-form solution for options with stochastic volatility with applications to bond and currency options*, Rev. Financ. Stud. 6(2), 327–343 . doi: 10.1093/rfs/6.2.327.

D. S. BATES (1996). *Jumps and stochastic volatility: Exchange rate processes implicit in Deutsche mark options*, Rev. Financ. Stud. 9(1), 69–107. doi: 10.1093/rfs/9.1.69.

► Approximative fractional stochastic volatility jump diffusion (AFSVJD) model

J. POSPÍŠIL AND T. SOBOTKA (2016). *Market calibration under a long memory stochastic volatility model*, Appl. Math. Finance 23(5), 323–343. doi: 10.1080/1350486X.2017.1279977.

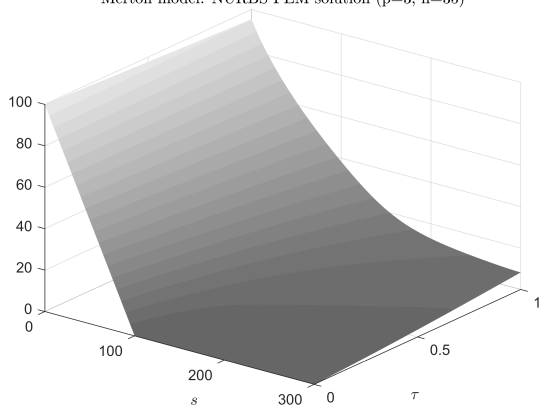
In Merton (1976) model we arrive at the problem of solving the localized PIDE for unknown function $f : [0, T] \times [0, \bar{s}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_\tau(\tau, s) - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 s^2 f_{ss}(\tau, s) - (r - \lambda \beta) s f_s(\tau, s) + r f(\tau, s) \\ \quad - \lambda \int_0^{+\infty} [f(\tau, sy) - f(\tau, y)] \varphi(y) dy = 0, \quad \tau \in (0, T), s \in (0, \bar{s}), \\ f(\tau, s) = h_D(\tau), \quad s \in \Gamma_D, \\ f_s(\tau, s) = h_N(\tau), \quad s \in \Gamma_N, \\ f(0, s) = \phi(s). \end{array} \right.$$

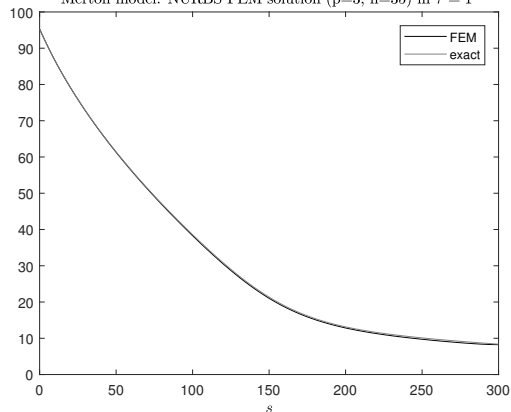
where $\emptyset \neq \Gamma_D \subset \{0, \bar{s}\}$ and $\Gamma_N \subset \{0, \bar{s}\}$. In the underlying stochastic model, jumps occur at Poisson distributed times with intensity λ and their log-sizes are normally distributed with mean μ_J and variance σ_J^2 , we set

$$\beta = \exp \left\{ \mu_J + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_J^2 \right\} - 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma_J \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(y - \mu_J)^2}{2\sigma_J^2} \right\}.$$

Merton model: NURBS FEM solution ($p=3, n=35$)



Merton model: NURBS FEM solution ($p=3, n=35$) in $\tau = 1$



In AFSVJD (Pospíšil and Sobotka, 2016) model, the pricing PIDE for unknown function $f : [0, T] \times [0, \bar{s}] \times [0, \bar{v}] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_0^+$

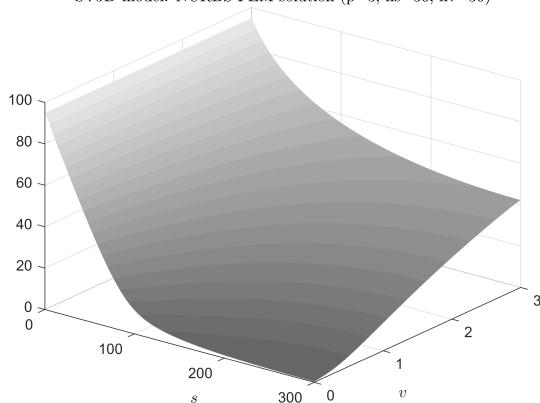
$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} f_\tau - \frac{1}{2} v s^2 f_{ss} - \rho q(v) \sqrt{v} s f_{sv} - \frac{1}{2} q^2(v) f_{vv} \\ \quad - (r - \lambda \beta) s f_s - p(v) f_v + r f - \\ \quad - \lambda \int_0^{+\infty} [f(\tau, sy) - f(\tau, y)] \varphi(y) dy = 0, \quad \tau \in (0, T), s \in (0, \bar{s}), v \in (0, \bar{v}), \\ f(\tau, s, v) = h_D(\tau, s, v), \quad (s, v) \in \Gamma_D, \\ \nabla f(\tau, s, v) \cdot \vec{n}_P = h_N(\tau, s, v), \quad (s, v) \in \Gamma_N, \\ f(0, s, v) = \phi(s, v), \end{array} \right.$$

where $p(v) = \kappa(\theta - v)$, $q(v) = \varepsilon^{H-1/2} \sigma \sqrt{v}$, $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ is the approximation parameter and $H \in [1/2, 1]$ is the Hurst parameter.

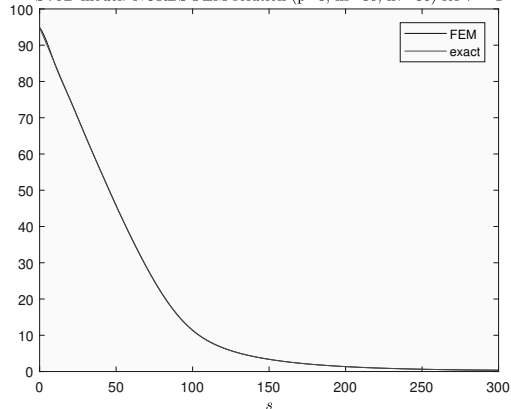
- If we take $H = 1/2$, we get the Bates (1996) model as a special case.
- If we take $H > 1/2$, the stochastic volatility process has the so called **long memory**.

Similarly we can proceed with the variation formulation and discretization.

SVJD model: NURBS FEM solution ($p=3$, $ns=30$, $nv=30$)



SVJD model: NURBS FEM solution ($p=3$, $ns=30$, $nv=30$) for $\tau = 1$



Fitting results:

- ▶ multiplicity of knots can be easily used for example to describe also non-smooth payoff functions,
- ▶ rationality of NURBS give us much greater flexibility (compared to the standard B-splines) in describing complicated solutions of pricing equations,
- ▶ we can fit NURBS directly to the semi-closed pricing formulas.

Isogeometric analysis (FEM with NURBS basis functions) results:

- ▶ numerical solution of the Merton and AFSVJD model for European call/put option compared to the solution obtained by a semi-closed formula,
- ▶ very small number of space discretization steps can be used to obtain sufficiently accurate results,
- ▶ in general we get more precise results using higher order basis functions and using less discretization points.

Further and open issues:

- ▶ convergence for general PIDEs,
- ▶ more complex time-iterative schemes such as **extrapolation schemes**,
- ▶ pricing **American options** that leads to a solution of the partial integro-differential variational inequalities,
- ▶ **rough models of fractional stochastic volatility** (GACR Grant GA18-16680S, 2018–2020).

Thank you for your attention!

J. POSPÍŠIL AND V. ŠVÍGLER (2017). *Isogeometric analysis in option pricing*.
Manuscript resubmitted 04/2018.