# Game options

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#### • Player:

#### seller A, buyer B

Both buyer and seller to stop them at any time

then the buyer can exercise the right

a specified security  $(S_t)$  for certain agreed price (K)

#### • If the contract is terminated by A

#### then A must pay certain penalty to B

•Analysis:

#### game contingent claims (GCC)

# optimal stopping games (Dynkin's games)

• Characteristic:

#### cheaper than usual American options

diversify financial markets

#### • What is the fair price $V^*$ for such contract?

Based on hedging

#### $V^*$ should be the minimal capital

invest it into a self-financing portfolio

cover liability

## • A standard $(B_t, S_t)$ -securities market

#### nonrandom (riskless) component $B_t$

random (risky) component S<sub>t</sub>

• A probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ 

with a stochastic process  $S_t \ge 0$ 

 $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{F}_t \subset \mathcal{F}$ ,

 $\mathcal{F}_t$  is generated by all  $S_u$ ,  $0 \le u \le t$ 

Two right continuous with left limits stochastic payoff processes:

 $X_t \ge Y_t \ge 0$ , adapted to the filtration  $\mathcal{F}_t$ 

• A game contingent claim (GCC):

B exercises => payoff = 
$$Y_t$$
  
A cancels => payoff =  $X_t$   
same time => payoff =  $Y_t$ 

$$\delta_t = X_t - Y_t \ge 0$$

Assuming that clairvoyance is not possible A and B have to use only stopping times with respect to the filtration  $\{\mathscr{F}_t\}$  as their cancellation and exercise times.

- European options:
- $Y_t = 0$  for t < T and  $Y_t = Y_T \ge 0$  for t = T

- •American options:
- if the penalty is chosen large enough

• Discrete time: CRR-model

continuous time: geometric Brownian motion

• Markov case:  $Y_t = \beta^t Y(S_t), X_t = \beta^t X(S_t), \beta \leq 1$ 

Based on CRR-model

$$\bullet \Omega = \{1, -1\}^N$$

•
$$\omega = (\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots, \omega_N), \omega_i = 1 \text{ or } -1$$

• with the product probability:

$$P = \{p,q\}^{N}, q = 1 - p, 0 
$$\bullet p(\omega) = p^{k}q^{N-k}, k = \frac{1}{2}(N + \sum_{i=1}^{N}\omega_{i})$$$$

• savings account:  

$$B_n = (1 + r)^n B_0, B_0 > 0, r > 0$$

• stock price:

$$S_n = S_0 \prod_{k=1}^{N} (1 + \rho_k), S_0 > 0$$
  
where  $\rho_k(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} (a + b + \omega_k (b - a)), -1 < a < r < b$ 

• portfolio strategy 
$$\pi$$
:  
 $Z_0^{\pi} = z > 0, \pi = (\pi_1, \pi_2, \dots, \pi_N)$ 

• at time n:

$$\pi_n = (\beta_n, \gamma_n), Z_n^{\pi} = \beta_n B_n + \gamma_n S_n$$
  
• self-financing:  
$$B_{n-1}(\beta_n - \beta_{n-1}) + S_{n-1}(\gamma_n - \gamma_{n-1}) = 0$$

# •cancellation time: $\sigma,\tau\in\mathcal{F}_{0N}$

$$\sigma^{\wedge} \tau \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} \min(\sigma, \tau)$$

• payoff:

 $\mathsf{R}(\sigma,\tau) \stackrel{\text{\tiny def}}{=} X_{\sigma}\mathsf{I}_{\sigma < \tau} + Y_{\tau}\mathsf{I}_{\tau \leq \sigma}$ 

A hedge against a GCC with a maturity date N is a pair  $(\sigma, \pi)$  of a stopping time  $\sigma \in \mathscr{J}_{0N}$  and a self-financing portfolio strategy  $\pi$  such that  $Z_{\sigma \wedge n}^{\pi} \ge R(\sigma, n)$ for all n = 0, 1, ..., N.

The fair price  $V^*$  of a GCC is the infimum of  $V \ge 0$  such that there exists a hedge  $(\sigma, \pi)$  against this GCC with  $Z_0^{\pi} = V$ .

**Theorem 2.1** Let  $P^* = \{p^*, 1 - p^*\}^N$  be the probability on the space  $\Omega$  with  $p^* = \frac{r-a}{b-a}$ ,  $N < \infty$  and  $E^*$  denotes the corresponding expectation. Then the fair price  $V^*$  of the above GCC equals  $V_{0N}^*$  which can be obtained from the recursive relations  $V_{NN}^* = (1+r)^{-N} Y_N$  and for n = 0, 1, ..., N-1

$$V_{nN}^* = \min((1+r)^{-n}X_n, \max((1+r)^{-n}Y_n, E^*(V_{n+1N}^*|\mathscr{F}_n))).$$
(2.7)

*Moreover, for* n = 0, 1, ..., N*,* 

$$V_{nN}^* = \min_{\sigma \in \mathscr{T}_{nN}} \max_{\tau \in \mathscr{T}_{nN}} E^* \left( (1+r)^{-\sigma \wedge \tau} R(\sigma, \tau) \middle| \mathscr{T}_n \right)$$
$$= \max_{\tau \in \mathscr{T}_{nN}} \min_{\sigma \in \mathscr{T}_{nN}} E^* \left( (1+r)^{-\sigma \wedge \tau} R(\sigma, \tau) \middle| \mathscr{T}_n \right).$$

| (Back)  |  |
|---------|--|
| (Back1) |  |

(2.8)

Furthermore, for each n = 0, 1, ..., N the stopping times

$$\sigma_{nN}^* = \min\{k \ge n : (1+r)^{-k} X_k = V_{kN}^* \text{ or } k = N\} \text{ and}$$
(2.9)  
$$\tau_{nN}^* = \min\{k \ge n : (1+r)^{-k} Y_k = V_{kN}^*\}$$

belong to  $\mathcal{J}_{nN}$  (since  $V_{NN}^* = (1+r)^{-N} Y_N$ ) and they satisfy

$$E^*\left((1+r)^{-\sigma_{nN}^*\wedge\tau}R(\sigma_{nN}^*,\tau)\middle|\mathscr{F}_n\right) \le V_{nN}^* \le E^*\left((1+r)^{-\sigma\wedge\tau_{nN}^*}R(\sigma,\tau_{nN}^*)\middle|\mathscr{F}_n\right)$$
(2.10)

for any  $\sigma, \tau \in \mathscr{T}_{n,N}$ . Finally, there exists a self-financing portfolio strategy  $\pi^*$  such that  $(\sigma_{0N}^*, \pi^*)$  is a hedge against this GCC with the initial capital  $Z_0^{\pi^*} = V_{0N}^*$  and such strategy is unique up to the time  $\sigma_{0N}^* \wedge \tau_{0N}^*$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\pi = (\pi_1, ..., \pi_N)$ ,  $\pi_n = (\beta_n, \gamma_n)$  be a self-financing portfolio strategy with  $Z_0^{\pi} = z > 0$  then  $M_n^{\pi} = (1 + r)^{-n} Z_n^{\pi}$  (see [SKKM1]),

$$M_n^{\pi} = z + \sum_{k=1}^n (1+r)^{-k} \gamma_k S_{k-1}(\rho_k - r), \qquad (2.11)$$

(back)

which is a martingale with respect to the filtration  $\{\mathscr{F}_n\}_{0 \le n \le N}$  and the probability  $P^*$ .

# Part1 of proof

• Suppose that ( $\sigma$ ,  $\pi$ ) is a hedge, by the Optional Sampling Theorem (see [Ne], Theorem II-2-13)

for any  $\tau \in \mathcal{F}_{0N}$ , we have  $Z_0^{\pi} = \mathrm{E}^*((1+r)^{-\sigma\wedge\tau}Z_{-\sigma\wedge\tau}^{\pi})) \geq \mathrm{E}^*((1+r)^{-\sigma\wedge\tau}R(\sigma,\tau)))$ 

Since, by the definition,  $V^*$  is the infimum of such initial capitals  $Z_0^{\pi}$  then  $V^*$  is not less than the right hand side of (2.8).

# Part2 of proof

• In the other direction

for any  $\sigma \in \mathcal{F}_{0N}$ ,

set  $V_n^{\sigma} = \max_{\tau \in \mathscr{J}_{nN}} E^*(U_{\tau}^{\sigma} | \mathscr{F}_n)$  where  $U_k^{\sigma} = (1+r)^{-\sigma \wedge k} R(\sigma, k), k = 0, 1, \dots, N$ .

# Part2 of proof

• Observe that  $U_k^{\sigma}$  is  $\mathcal{F}_{\sigma \wedge \tau}$ -measurable

It is easy to check directly and follows from general theorems (see [Ne], Proposition VI-1-2)

that  $\{V_n^{\sigma}\}_{0 \le n \le N}$  is a minimal supermartingale with respect to the filtration  $\{\mathscr{F}_n\}_{0 \le n \le N}$  such that  $V_n^{\sigma} \ge U_n^{\sigma}$ , n = 0, 1, ..., N.

# Part2 of proof

 Proceeding in the standard way via the Doob supermartingale decomposition and the martingale representation
 (obtain similarly to Sect. 2 and Sect. 5 in [SKKM1])

there exists a self-financing portfolio strategy  $\pi^{\sigma} = (\pi_1^{\sigma}, ..., \pi_1^{\sigma})$ ,  $\pi_n^{\sigma} = (\beta_n^{\sigma}, \gamma_n^{\sigma})$  with the portfolio value process  $Z_n^{\pi^{\sigma}} = \beta_n^{\sigma} B_n + \gamma_n^{\sigma} S_n$  such that  $(\pi, \sigma)$  is a hedge.

# Part3 of proof

• Next, define  $\sigma_{nN}^*$ ,  $\tau_{nN}^*$  by (2.9).

Then it is easy to see by the backward induction in n that (2.8) and (2.10) hold true.

# Part4 of proof

Now take  $\sigma^* = \sigma_{0N}^* \in \mathscr{J}_{0N}$  and construct the corresponding self-financing portfolio strategy  $\pi^* = \pi^{\sigma^*}$ , as above, which yields the hedge  $(\sigma^*, \pi^*)$  with the initial capital  $V_0^{\sigma^*} = \max_{\tau \in \mathscr{J}_{0N}} E^*((1+r)^{-\sigma^* \wedge \tau} R(\sigma, \tau)) = V_{0N}^*$  where the last equality follows from (2.10). This together with the first part of the proof gives  $V^* = V_{0N}^*$ .

# Part5 of proof

It remains to obtain the uniqueness.

Set  $\tau^* = \tau_{0N}^*$ . Since  $(\sigma^*, \pi^{\sigma^*})$  is a hedge

then  $M_0^{{\pi}^{\sigma^*}} = V_0^{{\sigma}^*} = E^*((1+r)^{-{\sigma}^* \wedge {\tau}^*} R({\sigma}^*,{\tau}^*)) \le E^*((1+r)^{-{\sigma}^* \wedge {\tau}^*} Z_{{\sigma}^* \wedge {\tau}^*}^{{\pi}^{\sigma^*}}) = E^* M_{{\sigma}^* \wedge {\tau}^*}^{{\pi}^{\sigma^*}} = M_0^{{\pi}^{\sigma^*}} \text{ since } M_n^{{\pi}^{\sigma^*}} \text{ is a martingale.}$ 

It follows that  $Z_{\sigma^* \wedge \tau^*}^{\sigma^*} = R(\sigma^*, \tau^*)$ .

# Part5 of proof

• Let now  $\pi = (\pi_1, ..., \pi_n)$ ,  $\pi_n = (\beta_n, \gamma_n)$  be another self-financing portfolio strategy with  $Z_0^{\pi} = V^* = V_0^{\sigma^*}$ .

According to the first part of the proof

$$M_n^{\pi} = (1+r)^{-n} Z_n^{\pi}$$
 and  $Z_{\sigma^* \wedge \tau^*}^{\pi} = \mathbb{R}(\sigma^*, \tau^*) = Z_{\sigma^* \wedge \tau^*}^{\pi^{\sigma^*}}$ 

and so  $M^{\pi}_{\sigma^* \wedge \tau^*} = M^{\pi^{\sigma^*}}_{\sigma^* \wedge \tau^*}$ 

# Part5 of proof

• Since both and  $M_n^{\pi}$ ,  $M_n^{\pi^*}$  are martingales it follows that  $M_n^{\pi} = M_n^{\pi^*}$  and  $Z_n^{\pi} = Z_n^{\pi^*}$  for all  $n \le \sigma^* \land \tau^*$ 

• Since the representation (2.11) is unique  $S_n > 0$  and  $\rho_n \neq r$  for all n then  $\gamma_n = \gamma_n^{\pi^*}$  and  $\beta_n = \beta_n^{\pi^*}$  for all  $n \leq \sigma^* \wedge \tau^*$ 

•  $R(\sigma, \tau)$  is replaced by  $\hat{R}(\sigma, \tau) = X_{\sigma} \mathbb{I}_{\sigma < \tau} + Y_{\tau} \mathbb{I}_{\tau < \sigma} + W_{\sigma} \mathbb{I}_{\sigma = \tau}$ where  $W_n$  is  $\mathcal{F}_n$ -measurable,  $Y_n \le W_n \le X_n$ , n = 0, 1, ..., Nand  $W_N \le Y_N$ .

• Theorem 2.1 can be extended to the infinite horizon case  $N = \infty$ 

• Theorem 2.1 can be generalized to the case when consumption or infusion of capital is also possible.

$$Z_{n-1}^{\pi} = \beta_n B_{n-1} + \gamma_n S_{n-1} + g_n$$
$$V^* = \min_{\sigma \in \mathscr{J}_{0N}} \max_{\tau \in \mathscr{J}_{0N}} E^* ((1+r)^{-\sigma \wedge \tau} R(\sigma, \tau) + \sum_{k=1}^{\sigma \wedge \tau} (1+r)^{-(k-1)} g_k$$

 It is easy also to generalize the above set up allowing dependence of r, a and b on time

i.e. assuming that 
$$\rho_k(\omega) = \frac{1}{2}(a_k + b_k + \omega_k(b_k - a_k))$$
 and

$$B_n = B_0 \prod_{k=1}^n (1 + r_k)$$
 where  $r_k, a_k, b_k$ ;  $k = 1, ..., N$  are nonrandom sequences

satisfying  $-1 < a_k < r_k < b_k$ .