### Chapter 6

## Interest rate models

- Deterministic yield curves
- Objective, hypotheses and general scheme
- Structure equation
- Merton model
- Vasicek model
- Cox, Ingersoll & Ross model

## **Deterministic yield curves**

- Initial discrete structure
- o The 3 curves
- o Link between the different curves
- Evolution of the discrete structure
- o The 3 curves
- o Evolution of the yield curve
- Continuous time structure
- Continuous yield
- o Short-term interest rate ?
- o Link between the different curves
- Stochastic modelling?

## Initial discrete structure

### The 3 curves

- Price, at time 0, of a zero-coupon bond paying 1 at maturity s (>0):  $P_0(s)$
- Yield :  $R_0(s)$

$$P_0(s) = (1 + R_0(s))^{-s}$$

- The yield combines short-term interest rates  $r(1),\ r(2),\dots,\ r(s)$  for the respective periods  $[0;1],[1;2],\dots,\ [s-1;s]$
- $(1+R_0(s))^s = (1+r(1)) \cdot ... \cdot (1+r(s))$

# Link between the different curves

We can express one of the different curves

$$\{P_0(t): t = 0, ..., s\}$$
  
$$\{R_0(t): t = 0, ..., s\}$$
  
$$\{r_0(t): t = 0, ..., s\}$$

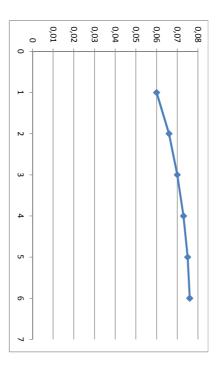
from the other two

For example,

$$1 + r(s) = \frac{(1+r(1)) \cdot ... \cdot (1+r(s-1)) \cdot (1+r(s))}{(1+r(1)) \cdot ... \cdot (1+r(s-1))}$$
$$= \frac{(1+R_0(s))^s}{(1+R_0(s-1))^{s-1}}$$
$$= \frac{P_0(s-1)}{P_0(s)}$$

Example: let us consider the yield structure

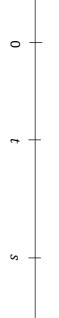
6	5	4	3	2	1	S
7.6%	7.5 %	7.3 %	7.0 %	6.6%	6.0 %	$R_0(s)$



Calculate the two other curves

# **Evolution of the discrete structure**

### The 3 curves



- Price, at time  $\,t$ , of a zero-coupon bond paying 1 at maturity  $\,s\,$  (> t):  $P_t(s)$ 

- Yield :  $R_t(s)$ 

$$P_t(s) = (1 + R_t(s))^{-(s-t)}$$

- The yield combines short-term interest rates  $r(t+1),\ r(t+2),\dots,\ r(s)$  for the respective periods  $[t;t+1],[t+1;t+2],\dots,[s-1;s]$ 

$$\left(1+R_t(s)\right)^{s-t}=\left(1+r(t+1)\right)\cdot\ldots\cdot\left(1+r(s)\right)$$

so that 
$$1 + r(s) = \frac{(1+R_t(s))^{s-t}}{(1+R_t(s-1))^{s-1-t}}$$

# **Evolution of the yield structure**

$$P_{t}(s) = \left[ \left( 1 + r(t+1) \right) \cdot \dots \cdot \left( 1 + r(s) \right) \right]^{-1}$$

$$= \left[ \frac{(1+r(t)) \cdot (1+r(t+1)) \cdot \dots \cdot (1+r(s))}{1+r(t)} \right]^{-1}$$

$$= \frac{(1+R_{t-1}(s))^{-(s-t+1)}}{(1+R_{t-1}(s))^{-(s-t+1)}}$$

$$= \frac{P_{t-1}(s)}{P_{t-1}(t)}$$

$$= \frac{P_{t-1}(s)}{P_{t-2}(s)/P_{t-2}(t-1)}$$

$$= \frac{P_{t-2}(s)/P_{t-2}(t-1)}{P_{t-2}(t)}$$

$$= \frac{P_{t-2}(s)}{P_{t-2}(t)}$$

$$= \frac{P_{t-2}(s)}{P_{t-2}(t)}$$

Whatever u may be  $(u \le s)$ ,

$$P_t(s) = \frac{P_u(s)}{P_u(t)}$$

Example : for the same data, calculate  $R_2(5)$  and  $P_2(5)$ 

## **Continuous time structure**

Time set :  $[0; +\infty[$ 



### **Continuous yield**

in the discrete time,

$$P_t(s) = (1 + R_t^d(s))^{-(s-t)}$$

in the continuous time,

$$P_t(s) = e^{-(s-t)R_t(s)}$$

so that

$$\begin{cases} R_t(s) = \ln\left(1 + R_t^d(s)\right) \\ 1 + R_t^d(s) = e^{R_t(s)} \end{cases}$$

## Short-term interest rate?

Interest rate relative to the interval  $[t_1; t_2]$ :

$$r(t_1, t_2)$$

Instant-term interest rate at time  $\,t\,:\,$  mean of  $\,r(t_1,t_2)\,$  where  $\,t_1=t\,$  and  $\,(t_2-t_1)\,$  very short

$$r(t) = \lim_{s \to t+} \frac{1}{s-t} \int_{t}^{s} r(t, u) du$$

Moreover, if  $r(t_1,t_2)$  is a continuous function (we will suppose it here),

$$r(t) = \lim_{s \to t+} r(t;s)$$

# Link between the different curves

Rewriting the "discrete" formula

$$1 + r(s) = \frac{\left(1 + R_t^d(s)\right)^{s-t}}{\left(1 + R_t^d(s-1)\right)^{s-1-t}}$$

for  $s-1 \sim s$  and  $s \sim s + \Delta s$ :

$$(1 + r(s; s + \Delta s))^{\Delta s} = \frac{\left(1 + R_t^d(s + \Delta s)\right)^{s + \Delta s - t}}{\left(1 + R_t^d(s)\right)^{s - t}}$$

By Taylor expansion,

$$(1 + \Delta s \cdot r(s; s + \Delta s)) \cdot (1 + R_t^d(s))^{s-t}$$

$$\approx (1 + R_t^d(s + \Delta s))^{s+\Delta s - t}$$

$$r(s; s + \Delta s) \cdot \left(1 + R_t^d(s)\right)^{s-t}$$

$$\approx \frac{\left(1 + R_t^d(s + \Delta s)\right)^{s + \Delta s - t} - \left(1 + R_t^d(s)\right)^{s - t}}{\Delta s}$$

and by taking the limit for  $\Delta s \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$r(s) = \frac{\left[ \left( 1 + R_t^d(s) \right)^{s-t} \right]_s'}{\left( 1 + R_t^d(s) \right)^{s-t}}$$

$$= \left[ \ln \left( \left( 1 + R_t^d(s) \right)^{s-t} \right) \right]_s'$$

$$= \left[ (s - t) \cdot \ln \left( 1 + R_t^d(s) \right) \right]_s'$$

$$= \left[ (s - t) \cdot R_t(s) \right]_s'$$

$$\int_{t}^{s} r(u) du = [(u-t) \cdot R_{t}(u)]_{u=t}^{u=s}$$
$$= (s-t) \cdot R_{t}(s)$$

,oS

$$R_t(s) = \frac{1}{s-t} \int_t^s r(u) \, du$$

$$P_t(s) = e^{-(s-t)R_t(s)} = e^{-\int_t^s r(u) du}$$

## **Stochastic modelling?**

- For option models,  $\ensuremath{C_t} = \ensuremath{\mathrm{r.v.}}$  depending on time  $\ensuremath{t}$
- For yield curves,  $R_t(s) = \text{r.v.}$  depending on 2 time variables

# Objective, hypotheses and general scheme

### **Hypotheses**

a)  $r_t$  is a stochastic process, driven by a SDE

$$dr_t = a_t \cdot dt + b_t \cdot dW_t$$

- b)  $P_t(s)$  and  $R_t(s)$  can be considered  $\circ$  either as stochastic processes, because
- $\circ$  or as ordinary functions of (t,r)

they are functions of  $\,r_t\,$ 

(s will generally be fixed, the important time variable being the duration s-t)

#### Objective

For different specified SDE driving the spot rate, obtaining (deterministic) functions ( $P_t(s)$  and)  $R_t(s)$ 

#### **Approach**

Here, we will only consider the arbitrage approach

The general scheme will be

- 1) Evolution of the spot rate (= state variable)  $dr_t = a_t \cdot dt + b_t \cdot dW_t$
- Portfolio of 2 bonds with different maturities with proportions such that the portfolio has no risky component
- 3) Arbitrage free reasoning : return = risk-free rate
- ightarrow the market price of risk  $\lambda_t$  is independent of the maturity
- → PDE (= structure PDE equation)
- 4) For different choices of  $(a_t, b_t, \lambda_t)$ , solving the structure equation
- → Merton model
- → Vasicek model
- → Cox, Ingersoll & Ross model

## Structure equation

- The market price of risk
- Structure equation

## The market price of risk

 $P_t(s,r_t)$  is considered as a function of the two variables (t,r) with

$$dr_t = a_t \cdot dt + b_t \cdot dW_t$$

where

-  $a_t$  = average instant return of the spot rate

-  $b_t$  = average instant volatility of the spot rate

Applying Itô's lemma to  $P_t(s,r_t)$ , we have

$$dP_t(s,r) = \left(P'_t + a_t P'_r + \frac{b_t^2}{2} P''_{rr}\right) \cdot dt + b_t P'_r \cdot dW_t$$

The return of this bond is given by

$$\frac{dP_t(s,r)}{P_t(s,r)} = \frac{P_t' + a_t P_r' + \frac{b_t^2}{2} P_{rr}''}{P} \cdot dt + \frac{b_t P_r'}{P} \cdot dW_t$$
$$= \mu_t(s,r) \cdot dt - \sigma_t(s,r) \cdot dW_t$$

where

- 
$$\mu_t(s,r)=\frac{P_t'+a_tP_r'+\frac{b_t^2}{2}P_{rr}''}{p}$$
  
= average instant return of the bond  
-  $\sigma_t(s,r)=-\frac{b_tP_r'}{p}$ 

= average instant volatility of the bond

Let us construct at time t a portfolio by

- buying X unit(s) of a bond with maturity  $s_1$
- selling  $\, 1 \,$  unit of a bond with maturity  $\, s_2 \,$

The value of this portfolio is

$$V_t = XP_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2)$$

and

$$\begin{split} dV_t \\ &= X \, dP_t(s_1) - dP_t(s_2) \\ &= X [P_t(s_1) \, \mu_t(s_1) \cdot dt - P_t(s_1) \, \sigma_t(s_1) \cdot dW_t] \\ &= [P_t(s_2) \, \mu_t(s_2) \cdot dt - P_t(s_2) \, \sigma_t(s_2) \cdot dW_t] \\ &= [XP_t(s_1) \, \mu_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2) \, \mu_t(s_2)] \cdot dt \\ &- [XP_t(s_1) \, \sigma_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2) \, \sigma_t(s_2)] \cdot dW_t \end{split}$$

The return of this portfolio is given by

$$\frac{dV_t}{V_t} = \frac{XP_t(s_1) \,\mu_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2) \,\mu_t(s_2)}{XP_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2)} \,dt$$
$$-\frac{XP_t(s_1) \,\sigma_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2) \,\sigma_t(s_2)}{XP_t(s_1) - P_t(s_2)} \,dt$$
$$= \alpha \cdot dt + \beta \cdot dW_t$$

We chose  $\, X \,$  such that this portfolio has no longer random component

By arbitrage free principle, the return of this portfolio is equal to the risk-free rate  $\,r$ :

$$\beta = 0 \Rightarrow \alpha = r$$

We have, for these two equations,

$$XP_t(s_1) \sigma_t(s_1) = P_t(s_2) \sigma_t(s_2)$$

$$XP_t(s_1)(\mu_t(s_1) - r) = P_t(s_2)(\mu_t(s_2) - r)$$

Eliminating X, we obtain

$$\frac{\mu_t(s_1) - r}{\sigma_t(s_1)} = \frac{\mu_t(s_2) - r}{\sigma_t(s_2)}$$

and so,

$$\lambda_t(s,r) = \frac{\mu_t(s,r) - r}{\sigma_t(s,r)}$$

does not depend on s

$$\lambda_{t}(\,r)=rac{\mu_{t}(s,r)-r}{\sigma_{t}(s,r)}\,$$
 is the market price of risk

= risk premium

= excess return w.r.t. spot rate, per unit of risk

## Structure equation

$$\begin{split} \lambda_t &= \frac{\mu_t - r}{\sigma_t} \\ &= \frac{P_t' + a_t P_r' + \frac{b_t^2}{2} P_{rr}''}{-\frac{b_t P_r'}{P}} - r \\ &= \frac{P_t' + a_t P_r' + \frac{b_t^2}{2} P_{rr}'' - r P}{-\frac{b_t P_r'}{2} P_{rr}'' - r P} \end{split}$$

and we obtain the structure equation

$$P'_t + (a_t + \lambda_t b_t)P'_r + \frac{b_t^2}{2}P''_{rr} - rP = 0$$

with the limit (terminal) condition  $P_{\scriptscriptstyle S}(s,r)=1$ 

We will have to solve this PDE for different choices of  $(a_t,b_t,\lambda_t)$ 

### Merton model

- Definition
- Arithmetic Brownian motion
- Solution of the structure equation
- Consequences
- Average instant return of the bond
- Yield curve

#### **Definition**

-  $(r_t)$  is driven by an ABM

$$dr_t = \alpha \cdot dt + \sigma \cdot dW_t$$

where

 $\circ \alpha$  is the drift  $(\alpha \in \mathbb{R})$ 

 $\circ \sigma$  is the volatility  $(\sigma > 0)$ 

$$- \lambda_t(r_t) = 0$$

# **Arithmetic Brownian motion**

The solution of the SDE

$$dr_t = \alpha \cdot dt + \sigma \cdot dW_t$$

Is given by

$$r_t = r_0 + \alpha t + \sigma W_t$$

This stochastic process is such that

$$E(r_t) = r_0 + \alpha t$$

a) 
$$E(r_t) = r_0 + \alpha t$$
  
b)  $var(r_t) = \sigma^2 t$   
c)  $r_t \sim \mathcal{N}$ 

c) 
$$r_t \sim \mathcal{N}$$

So, this stochastic process

- is a straight line in mean
- has a variance tending to  $+\infty$
- has potential negative values

Conclusion: ABM is not a credible process for the behavior of the spot rate. But, historical interst ...

# Solution of the structure equation

Structure equation :  $P_t' + \alpha P_r' + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} P_{rr}'' - rP = 0$ 

Its solution is

$$P_{t}(s,r) = \exp \left[ -(s-t)r - \frac{\alpha}{2}(s-t)^{2} + \frac{\sigma^{2}}{6}(s-t)^{3} \right]$$

satisfied and The terminal condition  $P_s(s,r) = 1$  is clearly

$$P'_{t} = \exp[\dots] \cdot \left(r + \alpha(s - t) - \frac{\sigma^{2}}{2}(s - t)^{2}\right)$$

$$P'_{r} = \exp[\dots] \cdot \left(-(s - t)\right)$$

$$P''_{rr} = \exp[\dots] \cdot \left(-(s - t)\right)^{2}$$

so that the l.h.s. is equal to 0

Note : when  $(s-t) \to +\infty$ , the price also tends to infinity!

### Consequences

# Average instant return of the bond

rage instant return of the bond 
$$\mu_t(s,r) = \frac{1}{p} \bigg( P_t' + \alpha P_r' + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} P_{rr}'' \bigg)$$
 
$$= \frac{1}{p} r P$$
 
$$= r$$

Note: this instant return is constant!

#### Yield curve

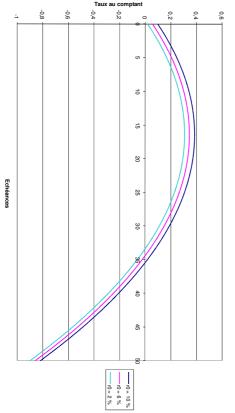
$$R_t(s, r) = -\frac{1}{s-t} \ln(\exp[...])$$
  
=  $r + \frac{\alpha}{2}(s-t) - \frac{\sigma^2}{6}(s-t)^2$ 

#### **Properties**

a) 
$$R_S(s,r) = r$$

b) 
$$\lim_{(s-t)\to+\infty} R_t(s,r) = -\infty$$





### Vasicek model

- Definition
- Ornstein-Ühlenbeck process
- o "Mechanical" property
- Solution of the SDE
- Properties
- Solution of the structure equation
- Consequences
- Average instant return of the bond
- Yield curve

Vasicek, O. (1977) An equililbrium characterization of the term structure, *J. Financial Economics*, **5**, 177-188

Note: the structure equation is also from this reference

#### **Definition**

 $(r_t)$  is driven by an Ornstein-Ühlenbeck process

$$dr_t = \delta(\theta - r_t) \cdot dt + \sigma \cdot dW_t$$

where  $\delta, \theta, \sigma > 0$ 

- $\circ \delta$  is the force of recall
- $\circ \theta$  is the average value
- $\circ \sigma$  is the volatility
- $\lambda_t(r_t)$  is a positive constant

# Ornstein-Ühlenbeck process

## "Mechanical" property

The drift coefficient is such that the trend is to "recall"  $r_t$  to the average value  $\theta$  when it seems to diverge :

$$r_t \gg \Rightarrow \theta - r_t < 0$$
  
 $r_t \ll \Rightarrow \theta - r_t > 0$ 

This behavior is much more adapted than the ABM to model an interest rate evolution

## Solution of the SDE

$$dr_t = \delta(\theta - r_t) \cdot dt + \sigma \cdot dW_t$$

The objective is to write

$$r_t = Y_t + noise_t$$

such that

- $noise_0 = 0$  and  $E(noise_t) = 0$
- $Y_t$  is non random (and so  $E(r_t) = Y_t$ )
- The solution of the (non stochastic) DE

$$dY_t = \delta(\theta - Y_t) \cdot dt$$

is given by

$$Y_t = Y_0 e^{-\delta t} + \theta (1 - e^{-\delta t})$$

Proof

$$dY_{t} = (-\delta Y_{0}e^{-\delta t} + \theta \delta e^{-\delta t}) dt$$
$$= \delta (-Y_{0}e^{-\delta t} - \theta (1 - e^{-\delta t}) + \theta) dt$$
$$= \delta (\theta - Y_{t}) dt$$

 $\bullet \ \ {\rm Write} \ \ noise_t = e^{-\delta t} Z_t$ 

$$r_t = Y_t + e^{-\delta t} Z_t$$

$$\begin{split} dZ_t &= d\left(e^{\delta t}(r_t - Y_t)\right) \\ &= \delta e^{\delta t}(r_t - Y_t) dt + e^{\delta t}(dr_t - dY_t) \\ &= \delta e^{\delta t}(r_t - Y_t) dt \\ &+ e^{\delta t}[\delta(\theta - r_t)dt + \sigma dW_t - \delta(\theta - Y_t)dt] \\ &= \sigma e^{\delta t} dW_t \end{split}$$

and

$$Z_t(-Z_0) = \sigma \int_0^t e^{\delta u} dW_u$$

with  $E(Z_t) = 0$ 

The solution of the SDE

$$dr_t = \delta(\theta - r_t) \cdot dt + \sigma \cdot dW_t$$

is then

$$r_t = r_0 e^{-\delta t} + \theta (1 - e^{-\delta t}) + \sigma e^{-\delta t} \int_0^t e^{\delta u} dW_u$$

#### **Properties**

a) 
$$E(r_t) = r_0 e^{-\delta t} + \theta \left(1 - e^{-\delta t}\right)$$

b) 
$$var(r_t) = \sigma^2 e^{-2\delta t} \int_0^t E(e^{2\delta u}) du$$
$$= \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta} (1 - e^{-2\delta t})$$

c)  $r_t \sim \mathcal{N}$ 

because

$$\int_0^t e^{\delta u} dW_u = \lim_{\substack{n \to +\infty \\ \delta_n \to 0}} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{\delta t_{i-1}} \cdot (W_{t_i} - W_{t_{i-1}})$$

So, this stochastic process has the following behavioral properties

- In mean, it is the (weighted) average of the initial value  $\,r_0\,$  and the average value  $\, heta\,$
- Its variance is an increasing function of time, but is bounded :  $var(r_t) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta}$
- It is not incompatible with negative values of  $r_t$ , even if the recall force of the drift term is such that this case is not frequent

Conclusion: the Ornstein-Ühlenbeck process is a credible process for the behavior of the spot rate (maybe except for the last remark)

# Solution of the structure equation

Structure equation

$$P'_t + (\delta(\theta - r) + \lambda \sigma)P'_r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}P''_{rr} - rP = 0$$

Its solution is

$$P_{t}(s,r) = \exp \begin{bmatrix} -(s-t)k + \frac{k-r}{\delta} (1 - e^{-\delta(s-t)}) \\ -\frac{\sigma^{2}}{4\delta^{3}} (1 - e^{-\delta(s-t)})^{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

where 
$$k=\theta+rac{\lambda\sigma}{\delta}-rac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2}$$

The terminal condition  $P_{s}(s,r)=1$  is clearly satisfied and

$$P'_t = \exp[\dots] \cdot \binom{k + (k - r)(-e^{-\delta(s - t)})}{-\frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2}(\dots)(-e^{-\delta(s - t)})}$$

$$P'_r = \exp[\dots] \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{\delta}(\dots)\right)$$

$$P_{rr}^{\prime\prime\prime} = \exp[\dots] \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{\delta}(\dots)\right)^2$$

so that the l.h.s. is equal to

$$\exp[\dots] \begin{cases} k - (k - r)e^{-\delta(s - t)} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2} e^{-\delta(s - t)} (\dots) \\ - \left( (\theta - r) + \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta} \right) (\dots) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2} (\dots)^2 - r \end{cases}$$

$$= \exp[\dots] \cdot \begin{cases} (k - r)(\dots) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2} (\dots) \\ - \left( (\theta - r) + \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta} \right) (\dots) \end{cases}$$

$$= \exp[\dots] (\dots) \cdot \left\{ k - r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2} - \theta + r - \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta} \right\}$$

$$= 0$$

### Consequences

# Average instant return of the bond

$$\begin{split} \mu_t(s,r) &= \frac{1}{p} \Big( P_t' + \delta(\theta - r) P_r' + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} P_{rr}'' \Big) \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \left( rP - \lambda \sigma P_r' \right) \\ &= r + \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta} \frac{1}{p} \exp[\dots](\dots) \\ &= r + \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta} \Big( 1 - e^{-\delta(s-t)} \Big) \end{split}$$

This instant return in an increasing but bounded function such that

$$\mu_S(s,r)=r$$

$$\lim_{(s-t)\to +\infty} \mu_t(s,r) = r + \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\delta}$$

#### Yield curve

$$R_{t}(s,r) = -\frac{1}{s-t} \ln(\exp[\dots])$$

$$= k - \frac{k-r}{\delta(s-t)} (1 - e^{-\delta(s-t)})$$

$$+ \frac{\sigma^{2}}{4\delta^{3}(s-t)} (1 - e^{-\delta(s-t)})^{2}$$

**Properties** 

a) 
$$R_s(s,r) = r$$

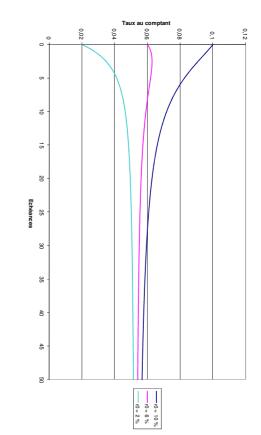
because 
$$\frac{1-e^{-\delta(s-t)}}{\delta(s-t)} \sim 1$$
 and  $\frac{\left(1-e^{-\delta(s-t)}\right)^2}{s-t} \sim 0$ 

b) 
$$\lim_{(s-t)\to+\infty} R_t(s,r) = k$$

- C) The analysis of the variations of  $R_t(s,r)$ w.r.t. s-t shows that the yield curve
- is increasing if  $0 \le r \le k \frac{\sigma^2}{4\delta^2}$ - is humped if  $k - \frac{\sigma^2}{4\delta^2} < r < k + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2}$

# - is decreasing if $r \ge k + \frac{\sigma^2}{2\delta^2}$

Modèle de Vasicek (delta = 0,3 ; thêta = 0,08 ; sigma = 0,07 ; lambda = 0)



## **Cox-Ingersoll-Ross model**

- Definition
- Square root process
- Solution of the structure equation
- Consequences
- o Average instant return of the bond
- Yield curve

Cox, J., Ingersoll, J., Ross, S. (1985) A theory of the term structure of interest rates, *Econometrica*, **53**, 385-408

#### Definition

-  $(r_t)$  is driven by square root process

$$dr_t = \delta(\theta - r_t) \cdot dt + \sigma \sqrt{r_t} \cdot dW_t$$

where  $\delta, \theta, \sigma > 0$ 

- $\circ \delta$  is the force of recall
- $\circ \, heta$  is the average value
- $\circ\,\sigma\,$  is the volatility

$$\lambda_t(r_t) = \frac{\gamma}{\sigma} \sqrt{r_t}$$

where  $\gamma > 0$ 

## Square root process

- The "mechanical" property of the drift term is the same as the one of Ornstein-Ühlenbeck process
- Negative values of  $\,r_t\,$  are incompatible with the square root process : if  $\,r_t\,$  decreases to  $\,0,$  then the SDE becomes

$$dr_t = \delta\theta \cdot dt$$

and  $\,r_t\,$  goes to strictly positive values with probability 1

# Solution of the structure equation

Structure equation

$$P'_t + (\delta(\theta - r) + \gamma r)P'_r + \frac{\sigma^2 r}{2}P''_{rr} - rP = 0$$

Its solution is

$$P_t(s,r) = x_t(s) \cdot e^{-y_t(s)r}$$

where

$$x_t(s) = \left(\frac{2ke^{\frac{(\delta-\gamma+k)(s-t)}{2}}}{z_t(s)}\right)^{\frac{2\delta\theta}{\sigma^2}}$$
$$y_t(s) = \frac{2(e^{k(s-t)}-1)}{z_t(s)}$$
$$z_t(s) = (\delta-\gamma+k)(e^{k(s-t)}-1)+2k$$
$$k = \sqrt{(\delta-\gamma)^2+2\sigma^2}$$

The terminal condition  $P_{\rm S}(s,r)=1$  is clearly satisfied and it is easy to verify the structure equation ...

### Consequences

# Average instant return of the bond

$$\mu_t(s,r) = \frac{1}{p} \left( P'_t + \delta(\theta - r) P'_r + \frac{\sigma^2 r}{2} P''_r \right)$$
$$= \frac{1}{p} (rP - \gamma r P'_r)$$
$$= r \left( 1 + \gamma \gamma_t(s) \right)$$

#### Yield curve

$$R_t(s,r) = -\frac{1}{s-t} \ln(x_t(s) \cdot e^{-y_t(s)r})$$
$$= -\frac{1}{s-t} (\ln x_t(s) - y_t(s)r)$$

These curves have the same kind of properties as the Vasicek ones