Representing Portfolios

On the representation of trading strategies and financial portfolios

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All trading strategies and financial products can be described in terms of three operators.

List of operators

Initial values

An inactive time step

Transaction of one unit onto account c

 T_c Transaction of O_1 Decision between option O_1 and O_2 Final valuation

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Θ

 $T_c^{\mathbf{n}}$



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Transaction of **n units** onto account *c*

Decision between option O_1 and O_2

Final valuation

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Final valuation

A multiperiod strategy can be written by a chronologically ordered operator sequence.

$$T_c^{-90} \ominus T_c^{100}$$

Read:

- 1 Withdraw 90 from account c
- Wait one period
- 3 receive 100

Mathematica Code:

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Repeated actions can be denoted by the operator power.

$$\left(\Theta T_c^r\right)^M T_c^{100}$$

The operator term reads chronologically from left to right. The term in parenthesis is repeated *M* times.



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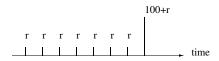


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Mathematica code

The European option offers the the choice between product A and B, after time to maturity M.

$$\Theta^{M} \stackrel{\text{max}}{\longleftarrow} \stackrel{A}{B} := \Theta^{M} \max(A, B)$$

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Transfer operator

The transfer or shift operator T transfers a deterministic amount onto variable x.

$$T_x^n f(x) := f(x+n)$$

This operation replaces every instance of x with x + n.

Mathematica code

 $T[index_, power_, V_] := V /. index-> index+power$

Process Operator

With Θ we can look one step into the future and evaluate the expectation of a function f under the future process state.

$$\Theta f(x) := \mathbb{E} \big(f(X_{t+1}) \big| X_t = x \big)$$

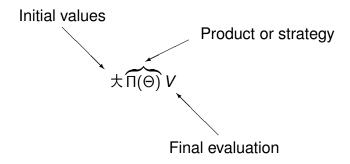
Example:

Different process scenarios can be combined linearly.

$$\Theta = \underbrace{T_{c}^{rc}}_{\text{pay interest}} \underbrace{ \overbrace{T_{c}^{-\frac{1}{2}S}}^{p} \underbrace{T_{S}^{+S}}_{\text{Vary } S}}_{\text{Vary } S}$$

Evaluation Sequence

We need to define initial process variables and determine the property of interest.



Evaluation Operator

The chronological operator order is maintained by a new operator \pm that applies initial values from the left hand side.

How to write:



Evaluation Of S

Starting with S = 100, what is S's expected value after one period?

$$\pm_{S=100} \Theta S = 200p + 50(1-p)$$

There exists a pseudo probability p, such that discounted S is a martingale.

$$\exists p: \quad \mathop{\hbox{\uparrow}}_{r=1/9} \Theta \ S \ = \ S(1+r)$$

The result is found easily:

$$p=\frac{11}{27}$$

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Five Operators To Rule Them All

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