

Efficient simulation of the SABR model

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My research streams

SABR model

- [Choi et al. \(2019\)](#). Hyperbolic normal stochastic volatility model. *J. Futures Markets*. **Simulation for $\beta = 0$** .
- [Choi and Wu \(2021a\)](#). The equivalent CEV volatility of the SABR model. *JEDC*. **Analytic approximation**.
- [Choi and Wu \(2021b\)](#) A note on the option price and 'Mass at zero in the uncorrelated SABR model and implied volatility asymptotics.' *Quant. Finance*. **Numerical integral for $\rho = 0$** .
- [Choi and Seo \(2024\)](#). Option pricing under the normal SABR model with Gaussian quadratures. *J. Com. Finance*. **Numerical integral for $\beta = 0$** .

Simulation of stochastic volatility models

- [Choi and Kwok \(2024\)](#). Simulation schemes for the **Heston model** with Poisson conditioning. *EJOR*.
- [Choi \(2025\)](#). Exact simulation scheme for the **OUSV model** using the Karhunen-Loève Expansions. *ORL (Forthcoming)*.

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Stochastic-alpha-beta-rho (SABR) model

Volatility dynamics

$$\frac{d\sigma_t}{\sigma_t} = \nu dZ_t$$

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Forward price dynamics

$$\frac{dF_t}{F_t^\beta} = \sigma_t dW_t = \sigma_t (\rho dZ_t + \rho_* dX_t)$$
$$dW_t dZ_t = \rho \quad \text{or} \quad dX_t dZ_t = 0$$

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Useful coefficients

$$\rho_* = \sqrt{1 - \rho^2}, \quad \beta_* := 1 - \beta, \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{\nu} := \nu \sqrt{h} \quad (h \text{ is time step})$$

- One of the most popular stochastic volatility (SV) models used in financial engineering ([Hagan et al., 2002](#)).
- A choice of *backbone* (volatility v.s. spot change dynamics): $0 \leq \beta \leq 1$
- Parsimonious and intuitive parameters to fit smile: σ_0, ρ, ν (and β)
- Asymptotic approximation for the equivalent BS volatility (HKLW formula): valid when $\nu\sqrt{T} \ll 1$.

HKLW formula (Hagan et al., 2002)

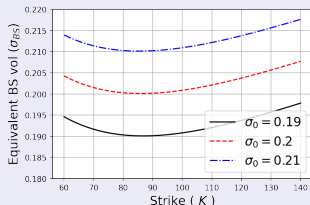
$$\sigma_{\text{BS}}(K) = \frac{\sigma_0}{F_0^{\beta_*}} \frac{H(\zeta)}{k^{\beta_*/2}} \frac{1 + \left(\frac{\beta_*^2}{24 K^{\beta_*}} \sigma_0^2 + \frac{\rho\beta}{4 k^{\beta_*/2}} \sigma_0 \nu + \frac{2-3\rho^2}{24} \nu^2 \right) T}{1 + \frac{\beta_*^2}{24} \log^2 k + \frac{\beta_*^4}{1920} \log^4 k}$$

where $k = \frac{K}{F_0}$, $\zeta = \frac{\nu}{\sigma_0} k^{\beta_*/2} \log k$, and $H(\zeta) = \dots$.

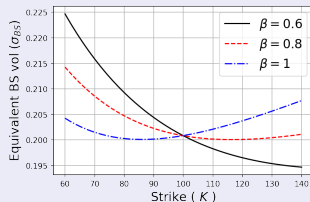
Roles of the SABR parameters

Base parameters: $\sigma_0 = 0.2$, $\nu = 0.2$, $\rho = 0.1$, $\beta = 1$.

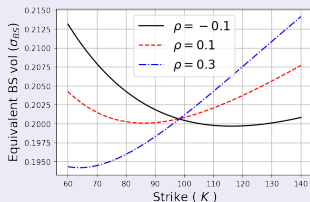
Initial vol σ_0 (level)



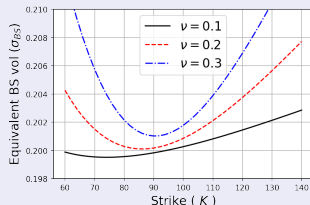
Elasticity β (skew/backbone)



Correlation ρ (skew)



Vol-of-vol ν (smile)



Analytic approximations (European option)

- Aim to obtain equivalent volatility (improve HKLW formula).
- BS model: [Obłój \(2007\)](#); [Paulot \(2015\)](#); [Lorig et al. \(2017\)](#).
- CEV model: [Yang et al. \(2017\)](#), [Choi and Wu \(2021a\)](#).
- Inaccurate and arbitrageable when $\hat{\nu} := \nu\sqrt{T} \gg 1$ or $K \ll F_0$.
- More advanced approaches: (Hyb) ZC Map ([Antonov and Spector, 2012](#)).

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Monte-Carlo simulation

- Flexible method for pricing path-dependent derivatives and other purposes.
- Small-time approximation: [Chen et al. \(2012\)](#), [Leitao et al. \(2017a,b\)](#), QF), [Cui et al. \(2021\)](#), EJOR)
- Piecewise Semi-Exact MC: [Cai, Song and Chen \(2017\)](#), OR), [Kyriakou et al. \(2023\)](#), OR)
- Closed-form MC for $\beta = 0$: [Choi et al. \(2019\)](#)

Challenges in the SABR model simulation

- When $0 < \beta < 1$, an absorbing boundary should be imposed to preserve martingality of F_t .
- Euler/Milstein schemes with naive $F_0 \geq 0$ suffer from non-negligible bias.

Euler/Milstein schemes

$$F_{t+h} \approx F_t + \sigma_t F_t^\beta \sqrt{h} W + \frac{\beta \sigma_t^2 F_t^{2\beta-1}}{2} h (W^2 - 1) \quad \text{for } W \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1).$$

- Time step (h) should be very small, ending up high computation cost.
- We need efficient simulation schemes for a reasonably big h .
- [Chen et al. \(2012\)](#), [Leitao et al. \(2017a,b\)](#), [Cai et al. \(2017\)](#), [Cui et al. \(2018\)](#), [Kyriakou et al. \(2023\)](#).

Stochastic integral of the SABR SDE

- The volatility process follows a geometric BM:

$$\frac{d\sigma_t}{\sigma_t} = \nu dZ_t, \quad \sigma_t = \sigma_0 \exp\left(\nu Z_t - \frac{\nu^2 t}{2}\right) \Rightarrow \int_0^T \sigma_t dZ_t = \frac{1}{\nu}(\sigma_T - \sigma_0).$$

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- As in the other SV models, the **conditional average (integrated) variance** plays a key role as stochastic time clock:

$$I_t^h(\sigma_t, \sigma_{t+h}) := \frac{1}{\sigma_t^2 h} \int_t^{t+h} \sigma_s^2 ds \quad \left(\lim_{\nu \downarrow 0} I_t^h \rightarrow 1 \right).$$

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- The price process is integrated to

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^T \frac{dF_t}{F_t^\beta} &= \int_0^T \sigma_t (\rho dZ_t + \rho_* dX_t) = \frac{\rho}{\nu}(\sigma_T - \sigma_0) + \rho_* \int_0^T \sigma_t dX_t \\ &\sim \underbrace{\frac{\rho}{\nu}(\sigma_T - \sigma_0)}_{\text{conditional expectation}} + \underbrace{\rho_* \sigma_0 \sqrt{TI_0^T}}_{\text{conditional volatility}} X, \quad (X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)) \end{aligned}$$

- The joint sampling of (σ_T, I_0^T) is critical for the SABR simulation schemes.

Simulation procedures

All SABR simulation algorithms need the steps below from time t to $t + h$:

- Given σ_t , simulate volatility σ_{t+h} :

$$\sigma_{t+h} = \sigma_t \exp \left(\nu Z_h - \frac{\nu^2 h}{2} \right) = \sigma_t \exp \left(\hat{\nu} \hat{Z} \right), \quad \hat{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(-\hat{\nu}/2, 1).$$

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- **Step 1:** Given σ_t and σ_{t+h} (or $\hat{Z}$), simulate average variance I_t^h .
- **Step 2:** Given F_t , σ_{t+h} (or $\hat{Z}$), and I_t^h , simulate asset price F_{t+h} .
 - Distribution is not analytically tractable for $0 < \beta < 1$.
 - **Step 2a:** How to approximate the distribution of F_{t+h} ?
 - **Step 2b:** How to sample F_{t+h} from the approximated distribution?

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Contribution of our study

- We propose new algorithms for **Step 1, 2a, and 2b**.
- In particular, we innovate the method for **Step 2a** used in all existing studies.
- Our algorithms are highly efficient and accurate.
- The algorithms can be applied selectively to the existing methods.

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Normal SABR model ($\beta = 0$)

- Conditional price distribution:

$$F_T | \sigma_T, I_0^T \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\underbrace{\bar{F}_0^T}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{\rho_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T I_0^T}_{\text{var}}\right)$$

where the conditional expectation $\bar{F}_0^T$ is given by

$$\bar{F}_0^T = F_0 + \frac{\rho}{\nu}(\sigma_T - \sigma_0). \quad (1)$$

- Step 2** is trivial as long as I_0^T is sampled.
- A closed-form exact simulation is available in [Choi et al. \(2019\)](#).
- This study no longer considers $\beta = 0$ case.

Lognormal SABR model ($\beta = 1$)

- Conditional price distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} F_T | \sigma_T, I_0^T &\sim \mathcal{LN}\left(\underbrace{\bar{F}_0^T}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{\rho_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T I_0^T}_{\text{logvar}}\right) \\ &\sim \bar{F}_0^T \exp\left(\rho_* \sigma_0 \sqrt{T I_0^T} X - \frac{\rho_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T I_0^T}{2}\right), \end{aligned}$$

where the conditional expectation $\bar{F}_0^T$ is given by

$$\bar{F}_0^T = F_0 \exp\left(\frac{\rho}{\nu}(\sigma_T - \sigma_0) - \frac{\rho^2 \sigma_0^2 T I_0^T}{2}\right).$$

- Step 2** is trivial as long as I_0^T is sampled.
- The preservation of martingality for any σ_0 :

$$E(\bar{F}_0^T) = 1 \quad (\text{a key intuition}).$$

Zero vol-of-vol ($\nu = 0$) case: CEV model

- Constant-elasticity-of-variance (CEV) model and distribution:

$$\frac{dF_t}{F_t^\beta} = \sigma_0 dW_t \quad \text{and} \quad F_T : \sim \mathcal{CEV}_\beta \left(\underbrace{F_0}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{\sigma_0^2 T}_{\text{var}} \right).$$

- When $0 < \beta < 1$ and $\nu \downarrow 0$, SABR $\rightarrow \mathcal{CEV}_\beta$. (a key intuition)
- The $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ distribution is closely connected to, but not equal to, the noncentral chi-squared (χ^2) distribution.
- **Step 2a** is resolved.
- **Step 2b**: Sampling CEV distribution is not trivial. But see below.

Uncorrelated ($\rho = 0$) SABR model $0 < \beta < 1$

- F_t follows the CEV process with a stochastic time τ :

$$\frac{dF_\tau}{F_\tau^\beta} = dW_\tau \quad \text{where} \quad \tau = \int_0^t \sigma_s^2 ds = \sigma_0^2 t I_0^t.$$

- Conditional price distribution:

$$F_T | I_0^T \sim \mathcal{CEV}_\beta \left(\underbrace{F_0}_{\text{mean}}, \underbrace{\rho_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T I_0^T}_{\text{var}} \right). \quad (\rho_* = 1)$$

- Approximate option price is available in [Choi and Wu \(2021b\)](#).
- How to sample F_T from the CEV distribution?
- No analytic distribution of F_T if $\rho \neq 0$.

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[Step 1] Simulation of I_t^h in other studies

- Chen et al. (2012) used the lognormal variable matched to the small-time mean and variance:

$$\mu = E(I_t^h) \approx 1 + \hat{\nu} Z + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad \mu'_2 = \text{Var}(I_t^h) \approx \frac{\hat{\nu}^2}{3},$$

where Z is the normal variate used in σ_{t+h} .

- Cai et al. (2017) used the Laplace transform of $1/I_t^h$ (Matsumoto and Yor, 2005):

$$E\left(e^{-s/I_t^h}\right) = \exp\left(-\frac{\phi_x^2(\hat{\nu}^2 s) - x^2}{2\hat{\nu}^2}\right)$$

$$\text{for } x = \log(\sigma_{t+h}/\sigma_t) \quad \text{and} \quad \phi_x(\lambda) = \text{acosh}(se^{-x} + \cosh(x)).$$

Then, sample $1/I_t^h$ from the numerically inverted CDF.

- Leitao et al. (2017a) use Fourier transform of $1/I_t^h$.
- Kyriakou et al. (2023) uses moment-matched Pearson-family distribution for quick sampling.

[Step 1] Sampling I_t^h from an SLN distribution

- Shifted lognormal (SLN) random variable, $Y \sim \mathcal{SLN}(\mu, \sigma^2, \lambda)$:

$$Y \sim \mu \left[(1 - \lambda) + \lambda \exp \left(\sigma X - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \right] \quad \text{with} \quad \mu > 0, \sigma > 0, 0 < \lambda \leq 1,$$

where $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, μ is the mean of Y , λ and σ^2 are the weight and variance of the LN component.

- When $\lambda = 1$, $\mathcal{SLN}$ is reduced to the $\mathcal{LN}(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

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- When $\lambda = 1$, $\mathcal{SLN}$ is reduced to the $\mathcal{LN}(\mu, \sigma^2)$.
- The mean, coef. of variation (std/mean), skewness, and ex-kurtosis are

$$E(Y) = \mu, \quad v = \lambda\sqrt{w}, \quad s = \sqrt{w}(w + 3), \quad \text{and} \quad \kappa = w(w^3 + 6w^2 + 15w + 16),$$

where $w = \exp(\sigma^2) - 1$ ($w > 0$).

- The parameters can be analytically fitted to μ , v , and s :

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\ln(1 + w)} \quad \text{for} \quad w = 4 \sinh^2 \left(\frac{1}{6} \operatorname{acosh} \left(1 + \frac{s^2}{2} \right) \right)$$
$$\text{and} \quad \lambda = \frac{v}{2 \sinh \left(\frac{1}{6} \operatorname{acosh} \left(1 + \frac{s^2}{2} \right) \right)}.$$

[Step 1] Four conditional moments of I_t^h

We derive the first four raw moments of I_t^h (i.e., $\mu = E(I_t^h)$ and $\mu'_k = E((I_t^h)^k)$):

$$\begin{aligned}\mu &= \left(\frac{\sigma_{t+h}}{\sigma_t} \right) m_1, \\ \mu'_2 &= \left(\frac{\sigma_{t+h}}{\sigma_t} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\hat{\nu}^2} [m_2 - c m_1], \\ \mu'_3 &= \left(\frac{\sigma_{t+h}}{\sigma_t} \right)^3 \frac{1}{8\hat{\nu}^4} [3m_3 - 8cm_2 + (4c^2 + 1)m_1], \\ \mu'_4 &= \left(\frac{\sigma_{t+h}}{\sigma_t} \right)^4 \frac{1}{24\hat{\nu}^6} [2m_4 - 9cm_3 + (12c^2 + 2)m_2 - c(4c^2 + 3)m_1],\end{aligned}$$

where the conditioning variable, σ_{t+h} and $\hat{Z}$, are exchangeable by $\hat{Z} = \frac{1}{\hat{\nu}} \ln(\sigma_{t+h}/\sigma_t)$, and the coefficients, c and m_k ($k = 1, 2, 3, 4$), are the functions of them:

$$c(\hat{Z}) := \cosh(\hat{\nu}\hat{Z}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\sigma_{t+h}}{\sigma_t} + \frac{\sigma_t}{\sigma_{t+h}} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad m_k(\hat{Z}) := \frac{N(\hat{Z} + k\hat{\nu}) - N(\hat{Z} - k\hat{\nu})}{2k\hat{\nu} n\left(\sqrt{\hat{Z}^2 + (k\hat{\nu})^2}\right)},$$

and $n(z)$ and $N(z)$ are the normal PDF and CDF.

- $I_0^T(\hat{Z})$ is closely related to the exponential functional of BM, defined by

$$A_t := \int_0^t e^{2Z_s} ds, \quad I_0^T = \frac{1}{\hat{\nu}^2} A_{\hat{\nu}^2} \quad (\hat{\nu} := \nu\sqrt{T}).$$

- The derivation of the moments is based on the analytic conditional moments of the exponential functional of BM ([Matsumoto and Yor, 2005](#), (5.4)):

$$E((A_t)^n | Z_t = x) = \frac{e^{nx}}{n!t} \int_x^\infty b e^{(x^2 - b^2)/2t} [\cosh(b) - \cosh(x)]^n db.$$

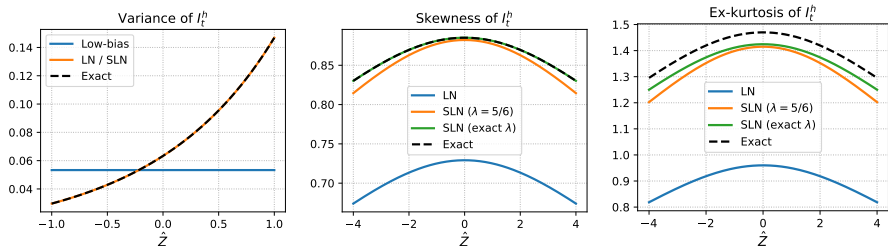
- [Kennedy et al. \(2012\)](#) derived the mean and variance without resorting to [Matsumoto and Yor \(2005\)](#), (5.4)).
- [Kyriakou et al. \(2023\)](#) numerically obtained the four moments from the Laplace transform.

[Step 1] A simple SLN approach with λ fixed

- In the small-time limit ($\hat{\nu} \downarrow 0$), the weight of SLN converges $\lambda \rightarrow 5/6$.
- Match σ to the mean μ and coef. of variance v of I_t^h :

$$I_t^h \sim \frac{\mu}{6} \left[1 + 5 \exp \left(\sigma X - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \right] \quad \text{with} \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\ln \left(1 + \frac{36}{25} v^2 \right)},$$

- Effectively same performance compared to the calibrated λ (exact skewness). (Majority of error is from **Step 2a**.)
- Computationally simpler.



Variance (left), skewness (middle), and Ex-kurtosis (right) of I_t^h as functions of $\hat{Z}$ for $\hat{\nu} = 0.4$. We compare our SLN approximation with $\lambda = 5/6$ (yellow), the SLN approximation fitted up to skewness (green), and the LN approximation fitted up to variance (blue) to the true values (dashed).

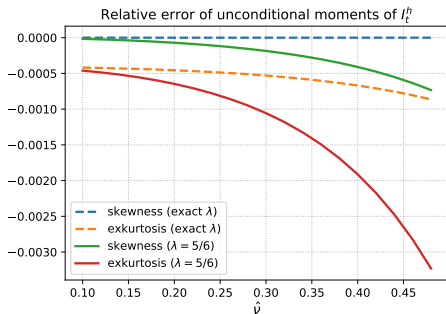


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[Step 2a] Approximation of F_{t+h} distribution

- Conditional on F_t , σ_t , σ_{t+h} , and I_t^h , assume F_{t+h} follows

$$F_{t+h} \sim \text{Distribution} \left(\text{Mean}, \text{Variance} \right).$$

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- Conditional on F_t , σ_t , σ_{t+h} , and I_t^h , assume F_{t+h} follows

$$F_{t+h} \sim \underbrace{\mathcal{CEV}_\beta}_{\text{from } \nu \downarrow 0 \text{ case}} \left(\text{Mean}, \text{Variance} \right).$$

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- Approximate dynamics with GBM with $\sigma_t := \sigma_t / F_t^{\beta_*}$:

$$\frac{dF_s}{F_s} = \frac{\sigma_s}{F_s^{\beta_*}} dW_s \approx \frac{\sigma_s}{F_t^{\beta_*}} dW_s \quad \text{for } t \leq s \leq t+h,$$

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- $\bar{F}_t^h$ from the lognormal ($\beta = 1$) case:

$$\bar{F}_t^h \approx F_t \exp \left(\frac{\rho (\sigma_{t+h} - \sigma_t)}{\nu \underbrace{F_t^{\beta_*}}_{\text{blue}}} - \frac{\rho^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h}{2 \underbrace{F_t^{2\beta_*}}_{\text{blue}}} \right)$$

- Preserves martingality: $E(F_{t+h}) = E(\bar{F}_t^h) = F_t$.
- Exact when $\rho = 0$ since $\bar{F}_t^h = F_t$.

[Step 2b] Random variables to be used

- $\chi^2(\delta, r)$ be the NCX2 random variable with degree of freedom δ and noncentrality r . The PDF and CDF of $\chi^2(\delta, r)$ are respectively expressed by

$$f_{\chi^2}(x; \delta, r) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x}{r}\right)^{\alpha/2} I_{\alpha}(\sqrt{xr}) e^{-(x+r)/2} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{\chi^2}(x; \delta, r) = \int_0^x f_{\chi^2}(t; \delta, r) dt,$$

where $\alpha = \delta/2 - 1$ and $I_{\alpha}(z)$ is the modified Bessel function of the first kind,

$$I_{\alpha}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(z/2)^{\alpha+2k}}{k! \Gamma(k + \alpha + 1)}.$$

- Let $\mathcal{G}(\alpha)$ be a gamma random variable with shape parameter α and unit scale parameter. The PDF and CDF of $\mathcal{G}(\alpha)$ are:

$$f_{\mathcal{G}}(x; \alpha) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} \quad \text{and} \quad P_{\mathcal{G}}(x; \alpha) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^x t^{\alpha-1} e^{-t} dt.$$

- The central chi-squared (i.e., $r = 0$) distribution is a gamma distribution:

$$\chi^2(\delta, 0) \sim 2\mathcal{G}(\delta/2).$$

- The shifted Poisson (SP) variate with intensity λ and shift α , $N \sim \mathcal{SP}(\lambda, \alpha)$, takes non-negative integer values with mass probability function:

$$P_{\mathcal{SP}}(n; \lambda, \alpha) = \text{Prob}(N = n) = \frac{1}{P_{\mathcal{G}}(\lambda; \alpha)} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha+n} e^{-\lambda}}{\Gamma(n + \alpha + 1)}.$$

- The SP variate arises from the series expansion of $P_{\mathcal{G}}(x; \alpha)$:

$$1 = \frac{P_{\mathcal{G}}(\lambda; \alpha)}{P_{\mathcal{G}}(\lambda; \alpha)} = \frac{1}{P_{\mathcal{G}}(\lambda; \alpha)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{\alpha+n} e^{-\lambda}}{\Gamma(n + \alpha + 1)} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P_{\mathcal{SP}}(n; \lambda, \alpha).$$

- The Poisson distribution with intensity λ , $\mathcal{POIS}(\lambda)$, is a special case $\mathcal{SP}(\lambda, \alpha = 0)$:

$$P_{\mathcal{POIS}}(n; \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^n e^{-\lambda}}{n!}.$$

[Step 2b] Sampling the CEV distribution

The $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ and χ^2 distributions

$$f(z; z_0) dz = \text{Prob}(z_T \in [z, z + dz]) = f_{\chi^2} \left(z_0; \frac{1}{\beta_*} + 2, z \right) dz \quad (z_T > 0)$$

$$\text{for the transformation} \quad z(y) := \frac{y^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T} \quad \text{and} \quad z_t = z(F_t) \quad (0 \leq t \leq T).$$

[Step 2b] Sampling the CEV distribution

The $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ and χ^2 distributions

$$f(z; z_0) dz = \text{Prob}(z_T \in [z, z + dz]) = f_{\chi^2} \left(z_0; \frac{1}{\beta_*} + 2, z \right) dz \quad (z_T > 0)$$

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Makarov and Glew (2010, §3.3)

The CEV distribution can be sampled by an SP-mixture gamma variable:

$$z_T \sim 2 \mathcal{G}(N + 1) \quad \text{where} \quad N \sim \mathcal{SP} \left(\frac{z_0}{2}, \frac{1}{2\beta_*} \right)$$

[Step 2b] Sampling the CEV distribution

The $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ and χ^2 distributions

$$f(z; z_0) dz = \text{Prob}(z_T \in [z, z + dz]) = f_{\chi^2} \left(z_0; \frac{1}{\beta_*} + 2, z \right) dz \quad (z_T > 0)$$

$$\text{for the transformation } z(y) := \frac{y^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T} \quad \text{and} \quad z_t = z(F_t) \quad (0 \leq t \leq T).$$

Makarov and Glew (2010, §3.3)

The CEV distribution can be sampled by an SP-mixture gamma variable:

$$z_T \sim 2 \mathcal{G}(N + 1) \quad \text{where} \quad N \sim \mathcal{SP} \left(\frac{z_0}{2}, \frac{1}{2\beta_*} \right)$$

Kang (2014, Algorithm 3)

$N \sim \mathcal{SP}(\lambda, \alpha)$ can be sampled by a gamma-mixture Poisson variable:

$$N \sim \mathcal{POIS}(\lambda - X) \quad \text{where} \quad X \sim \mathcal{G}(\alpha) \quad \text{conditional on} \quad X < \lambda.$$

[Step 2b] Sampling F_T in the CEV model

Simulation algorithm for $F_T \sim \mathcal{CEV}_\beta(F_0, \sigma_0^2 T)$ from Makarov-Glew-Kang:

- ① Sample $X \sim 2\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{1}{2\beta_*}\right)$.
- ② If $X \geq z_0 = \frac{F_0^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T}$, $F_T = 0$ and terminate.
- ③ Else, sample $z_T \sim 2\mathcal{G}\left(\mathcal{POIS}\left(\frac{z_0 - X}{2}\right) + 1\right)$.
- ④ Obtain F_T from $z_T = \frac{F_T^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \sigma_0^2 T}$.

[Step 2b] Sampling F_{t+h} in the SABR model

Simulation algorithm for $F_{t+h} \sim \mathcal{CEV}_\beta(F_t, \rho_*^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h)$ from Makarov-Glew-Kang:

- 1 Sample $X \sim 2\mathcal{G}\left(\frac{1}{2\beta_*}\right)$.
- 2 If $X \geq z_t = \frac{F_t^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \rho_*^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h}$, $F_{t+h} = 0$ and terminate.
- 3 Else, sample $z_{t+h} \sim 2\mathcal{G}\left(\mathcal{POIS}\left(\frac{z_t - X}{2}\right) + 1\right)$.
- 4 Obtain F_{t+h} from $z_{t+h} = \frac{F_{t+h}^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \rho_*^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h}$.
- 5 Repeat above for $t = 0, h, 2h, \dots, T - h$.

[Step 2a] Approximation of F_{t+h} in other studies

- [Islah \(2009\)](#)'s approximation is used in almost all SABR MC literature ([Chen et al., 2012](#); [Leitao et al., 2017a,b](#); [Cai et al., 2017](#); [Cui et al., 2021](#); [Kyriakou et al., 2023](#)).

Islah (2009)'s approximation of F_{t+h}

$q_t = F_t^{\beta_*} / \beta_*$ follows a process close to the Bessel process:

$$q_{t+h} = q_t + \frac{\rho}{\nu} (\sigma_{t+h} - \sigma_t) + \int_t^{t+h} \rho_* \sigma_s dW_s - \frac{\beta}{2\rho_*^2 \beta_*} \int_t^{t+h} \frac{(\rho_* \sigma_s)^2}{q_s} dt$$

$$\text{Prob}(F_{t+h} > y) \approx P_{\chi^2} \left(z'_t \frac{1 - \beta_* \rho^2}{\beta_* \rho_*^2}, z(y) \right),$$

$$\text{where } z'_t = \frac{1}{\rho_*^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h} \left[\frac{F_t^{\beta_*}}{\beta_*} + \frac{\rho}{\nu} (\sigma_{t+h} - \sigma_t) \right]^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z(y) = \frac{y^{2\beta_*}}{\beta_*^2 \rho_*^2 \sigma_t^2 h I_t^h}.$$

- Only exact when $\rho = 0$.
- As $\nu \downarrow 0$, distribution does not converge to $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$
- Martingality is broken:

$$E(F_{t+h} | \mathcal{F}_t) \neq F_t$$

[Step 2b] Sampling F_{t+h} in other studies

Various methods are used to sample F_T from Islah's CEV distribution.

- [Cai et al. \(2017\)](#): For a uniform random variate U , solve x with numerical root-finding:

$$\text{Prob}(F_{t+h} \leq x) = U.$$

- [Chen et al. \(2012\)](#); [Leitao et al. \(2017a,b\)](#): moment-matched quadratic Gaussian ([Andersen, 2008](#)):

$$F_{t+h} \sim d(e + Z)^2 \quad \text{for} \quad Z \sim N(0, 1).$$

- [Grzelak et al. \(2019\)](#) used stochastic collocation: efficient interpolation using orthogonal polynomial.
- In fact, [Makarov and Glew \(2010\)](#) and [Kang \(2014\)](#)' algorithm can be modified to sample Islah's CEV exactly (see numerical result).

Summary of the SABR simulation steps

- Simulate σ_{t+h} from σ_t :

$$\sigma_{t+h} = \sigma_t \exp\left(\hat{\nu} \hat{Z}\right), \quad \hat{Z} \sim \mathcal{N}(-\hat{\nu}/2, 1)$$

- **Step 1:** Simulate I_t^h given σ_t and σ_{t+h} .
 - Sample from an SLN variable matched to the conditional mean, variance, and skewness* of I_t^h .
- **Step 2:** Simulate F_{t+h} given F_t , σ_{t+h} , and I_0^T .
 - Approximate F_{t+h} with a martingale-preserving $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ distribution.
 - Sample F_{t+h} based on [Makarov and Glew \(2010\)](#) and [Kang \(2014\)](#)'s algorithm.

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Parameter sets

- Parameter sets to test:

Cases	F_0	σ_0	ν	ρ	β	T	K
Case 0	1	0.2	1	-0.75	0.25~1	0.5~2	1
Case I	1	0.25	0.3	-0.8	0.3	10	0.2~2.0
Case II	1	0.25	0.3	-0.5	0.6	10	0.2~2.0
Case III	0.05	0.4	0.6	0.0	0.3	1	0.02~0.10
Case IV	1.1	0.4	0.8	-0.3	0.3	4	1.1
Case V	1.1	0.3	0.5	-0.8	0.4	1~10	1.1

- Use $N = 10^5$ paths for one price.
- Repeat $m = 50$ times to obtain the average bias and stdev.
- Measure biases in forward and European option price.
- Use FDM for the benchmark price with the code from Yingda Song ([Cai et al., 2017](#)).
- MATLAB R2023b on a laptop with an i7-1360P 2.20 GHz processor.

Case 0: contribution of error

- Error source: I_t^h (SLN approx.) v.s. F_{t+h} (CEV approx.)
- At $\beta = 1$, no CEV approx. error. Then, decrease β .
- Price European option with $T = h$, $\sigma_0 = 20\%$, $\rho = -0.75$, and $\nu = 1$.

β	FDM Price			Rel. error of our method		
	$h = 0.5$	1	2	$h = 0.5$	1	2
1.00	0.05561	0.07701	0.10331	0.11%	0.11%	0.21%
0.75	0.05581	0.07781	0.10531	-0.31%	-0.61%	-1.01%
0.50	0.05611	0.07871	0.10741	-0.71%	-1.41%	-2.31%
0.25	0.05651	0.07971	0.10981	-1.11%	-2.11%	-3.61%

- Error from F_{t+h} (CEV approx.) is much bigger.

$$\text{Error} \propto \beta_* \nu^2 h$$

- Approximately $\beta_* \nu^2 h \leq 0.5$ ensures 1% error.

- Our methods accurately price challenging cases ($\nu = 0.3$ and $T = 10$.)

K/F_0	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.6	2.0
Exact option price from FDM							
FDM	0.84255	0.68906	0.40646	0.28502	0.18304	0.05343	0.01096
Bias of our simulation method ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
$h = 1$	-1.22	-1.49	-0.37	0.49	1.28	1.72	1.32
$h = 1/4$	-0.46	-0.24	0.22	0.42	0.56	0.56	0.48
$h = 1/16$	-0.34	-0.20	0.00	0.05	0.11	0.10	0.10
Standard deviation of our simulation method ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
$h = 1$	1.97	1.83	1.50	1.31	1.08	0.63	0.38
$h = 1/4$	1.96	1.73	1.29	1.08	0.91	0.61	0.41
$h = 1/16$	1.89	1.75	1.44	1.28	1.06	0.53	0.22
Bias of various analytic approximation methods ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
HKLW	22.35	23.64	17.94	13.81	9.38	2.54	0.82
ZC Map	0.37	0.51	1.39	2.29	3.20	4.02	2.66
Hyb ZC Map	4.64	5.81	4.07	2.29	0.43	-1.26	-0.30

- Our methods accurately price challenging cases ($\nu = 0.3$ and $T = 10$.)

K/F_0	0.2	0.4	0.8	1.0	1.2	1.6	2
Exact option price from FDM							
FDM	0.82886	0.66959	0.39772	0.29118	0.20690	0.10018	0.05014
Bias of our simulation method ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
$h = 1$	-0.14	-0.30	-0.42	-0.43	-0.43	-0.40	-0.30
$h = 1/4$	0.45	0.37	0.27	0.20	0.10	-0.02	0.00
$h = 1/16$	0.01	-0.01	0.02	0.04	0.03	0.00	-0.03
Stdev of our simulation method ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
$h = 1$	2.23	2.09	1.78	1.65	1.51	1.20	0.93
$h = 1/4$	2.21	2.10	1.85	1.70	1.51	1.14	0.88
$h = 1/16$	2.46	2.32	2.01	1.79	1.58	1.22	0.97
Bias of various analytic approximation methods ($\times 10^{-3}$)							
HKLW	11.65	15.94	16.69	14.67	12.18	8.56	6.88
ZC Map	-1.56	-1.57	0.56	2.37	4.02	5.77	5.33
Hyb ZC Map	3.07	4.53	3.86	2.37	1.00	-0.10	0.52

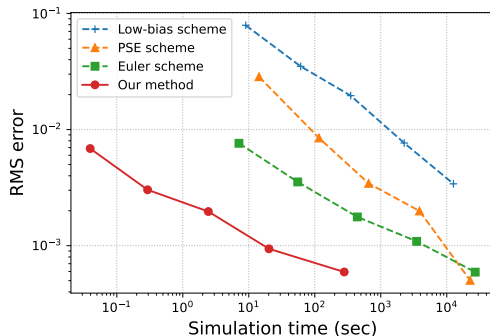
Case III (accuracy of I_t^h)

- Compare with other MC methods: Euler, low-bias ([Chen et al., 2012](#)), and PSE ([Cai et al., 2017](#)) schemes.
- Validates the SLN approximation of I_t^h (CEV distribution is exact if $\rho = 0$).
- With one jump ($T = h = 1$), our method is more accurate than existing methods.

K/F_0	0.4	0.8	1	1.2	1.6	2	Time (s)
Exact option price from FDM							
FDM	0.04559	0.04141	0.03942	0.03750	0.03390	0.03061	
Bias ($\times 10^{-3}$) and CPU time of our simulation method							
$h = 1$	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-0.01	-0.01	0.03
Bias ($\times 10^{-3}$) and CPU time of the Euler scheme reported in Cai et al. (2017)							
$h = 1/400$	1.6	1.5	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2	49.4
$h = 1/800$	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.3	99.1
$h = 1/1600$	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	-0.3	194.0
Bias ($\times 10^{-3}$) and CPU time of the low-bias scheme reported in Cai et al. (2017)							
$h = 1/4$	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.4	78.4
$h = 1/8$	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.2	175.8
Bias ($\times 10^{-3}$) and CPU time of the PSE scheme reported in Cai et al. (2017)							
$h = 1$	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.2	98.3

Case IV. (RMS error v.s. CPU time)

- $\text{RMS error} = \sqrt{\text{Stdev}^2 + \text{Bias}^2}$.
- For the same level of error, our scheme is at least 100 times faster than existing methods.
- The decay rate is slower than the PSE scheme (Cai et al., 2017). Big part of RMS error is from bias.



Case V (martingality preservation)

- Measure the biases of $E(F_T)$ and $E((F_T - K)^+)$ as T grows.
- Use [Makarov and Glew \(2010\)](#) and [Kang \(2014\)](#) to Islah's CEV as well as ours.
- Our CEV approximation for F_{t+h} preserves martingality: $E(F_T) = F_0$.
- In Islah's, the option price bias is largely contributed from the price bias.

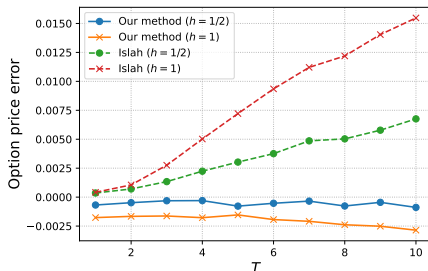
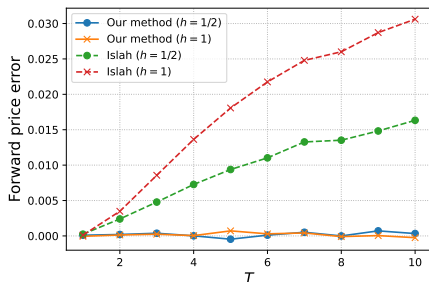


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Summary and conclusion

- The SABR model is an SV model widely used in industry and academia.
- There is a growing interest in the efficient simulation scheme of the SABR model.
- We propose an efficient simulation algorithms:
 - **Step 1:** Sample average variance I_t^h from a moment-matched $\mathcal{SLN}$.
 - **Step 2a:** Assume price follows a martingale preserving $\mathcal{CEV}_\beta$ distribution.
 - **Step 2b:** Adopt Makarov-Glew-Kang's CEV simulation algorithm in the context of the SABR model.
- Our new algorithm significantly outperforms the existing algorithms in terms of error-vs-speed tradeoff.

Python implementation: PyFENG

PyFENG (Python Financial **ENG**ineering)

- Implements standard quant finance models: Black–Scholes, Bachelier (normal), CEV, SABR, Heston models and etc.
- **PyPI package**: `pip install pyfeng`
- Source: <https://github.com/PyFE/PyFENG/>
- Implemented in pure Python (no C/C++ extensions).

PyFengForPapers

- Inspired by [PapersWithCode](#) project.
- <https://github.com/PyFE/PyfengForPapers/>
- A collection of Jupyter Notebooks reproducing quant finance papers (mostly in derivative pricing and stochastic volatility) using the methods implemented in **PyFENG**.
- The code for this talk will soon be available in PyFengForPapers.



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