





That was OK, for $N=2$ periods. But at time N , there are 2^N outcomes, so there's a practical issue with generalizing this method! (12).

N -period binomial model

(mathematical framework).

Consists of:

- Sample space $\Omega = \{w = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N) \mid w_i \in \{T, H\} \forall i \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}\}$.
(i.e. all strings of H's & T's of length N)
(so $|\Omega| = 2^N$)
- real #'s $u > d > 0, r > 0$
(arbitrage-free $\Leftrightarrow d < 1+r < u$)
- Stock S w/ initial price S_0 and time $t+1$ price
$$S_{t+1} = (1 + f_{t+1})S_t$$
where
$$f_{t+1}(w) = \begin{cases} u-1 & \text{if } w_t = H \\ d-1 & \text{if } w_t = T \end{cases}$$
- $\Delta_t = \# \text{ shares of stock held b/w } t \& t+1.$

Remark: **important** value of f_t depends only on the outcome of the t^{th} coin toss.

Remark : It follows that

$$S_t(w) = \prod_{i=1}^t (1 + p_i(w_i)) S_0$$

price of stock
at time t , given
that the outcome of
the 1st t coin tosses is
described by $w = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_t)$

Remark : Random variables pertaining to
capitals / prices at time n should only
depend on the first n coin tosses, for all n .

Self-financing assumption

(other than in later examples involving dividend-paying stocks) we'll assume strategies are
self-financing : i.e. no capital is introduced
or removed between time $t=0$ & $t=N$.

$$\Rightarrow X_1 = \Delta_0 S_1 + (X_0 - \Delta_0 S_0)(1+r)$$

$$X_2 = \Delta_1 S_2 + (X_1 - \Delta_1 S_1)(1+r)$$

:

$$X_{t+1} = \Delta_t S_{t+1} + (X_t - \Delta_t S_t)(1+r)$$

Price securities using backward induction:

Proposition. Let V be a derivative security w/ maturity N . There exists a unique replicating strategy, constructed by $(X_t, \Delta_t)_{t \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}}$ where

$$(1) \quad X_N(w) = V_N(w) \quad \forall w \in \Omega,$$

and (2) $\forall t \in \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\}$,

$$\begin{aligned} X_t(w) &= X_t(w_1, \dots, w_t) = \\ &= \frac{1}{1+r} \left[\tilde{p} X_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, H) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \tilde{q} X_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, T) \right] \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_t(w) &= \Delta_t(w_1, \dots, w_t) \\ &= \frac{X_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, H) - X_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, T)}{S_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, H) - S_{t+1}(w_1, \dots, w_t, T)} \end{aligned}$$

Remark: This algorithm leads to a sum of 2^N terms. Each will have a factor of $\tilde{p}^{h(w)} \tilde{q}^{N-h(w)}$ where $h(w) = \# \text{ heads among } w$.

Let's call $\tilde{p}^{h(w)} \tilde{q}^{N-h(w)} = \tilde{Q}(w)$.

then

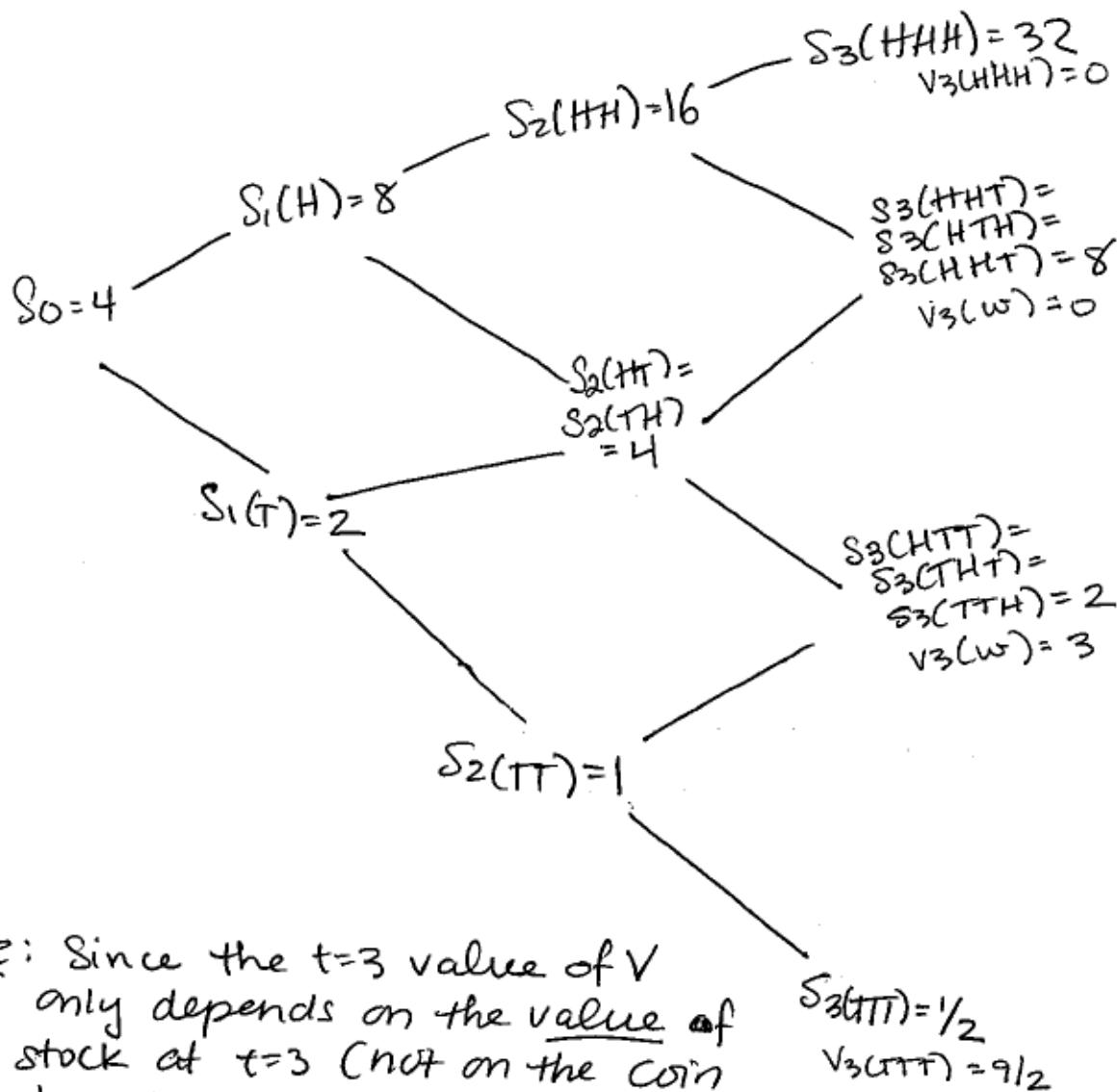
$$V_0 = \frac{1}{(1+r)^N} \sum_{w \in \Omega} \tilde{Q}(w) V_N(w)$$

(i.e., V_0 is the discounted risk-neutral expected value of V_N).

Example :

$$N=3, S_0=4, u=2, d=\frac{1}{2}, r=\frac{1}{4}$$

European put : $V_w/ K_p=5, T=3$;



Note: Since the $t=3$ value of V only depends on the value of stock at $t=3$ (not on the coin tosses), we get down to 4 outcomes:

$$V_3(32) = 0, V_3(8) = 0, V_3(2) = 3, V_3(\frac{1}{2}) = \frac{9}{2}.$$

Now the algorithm goes:

$$V_2: \begin{cases} V_2(16) = \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 \right] = 0 \\ V_2(4) = \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 \right] = 6/5 \\ V_2(1) = \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{9}{2} \right] = 3 \end{cases}$$

$$V_1: \begin{cases} V_1(8) = \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot 0 + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{6}{5} \right] = 12/25 \\ V_1(2) = \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{6}{5} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot 3 \right] = 42/25 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V_0 &= \frac{4}{5} \left[\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{12}{25} + \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{42}{25} \right] \\ &= \$0.864 \end{aligned}$$