

Valuation of American Continuous-Installment Options ^{*}

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Abstract

We present three approaches to value American continuous-installment calls and puts and compare their computational precision. In an American continuous-installment option, the premium is paid continuously instead of up-front. At or before maturity, the holder may terminate payments by either exercising the option or stopping the option contract. Under the usual assumptions, we are able to construct an instantaneous riskless dynamic hedging portfolio and derive an inhomogeneous Black-Scholes partial differential equation for the initial value of this option. This key result allows us to derive valuation formulas for American continuous-installment options using the integral representation method and consequently to obtain closed-form formulas by approximating the optimal stopping and exercise boundaries as multipiece exponen-

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tial functions. This process is compared to the finite-difference method to solve the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE and a Monte Carlo approach.

1 Introduction

In a conventional American-style option contract, the buyer pays the premium entirely up-front and acquires the right, but not the obligation, to exercise the option at any time up to a fixed maturity time T . Here we consider an alternative form of American-style option contract in which the buyer pays a smaller up-front premium and then a constant stream of *installments* at a certain rate per unit time. However, the buyer can choose at any time to stop making installment payments either by exercising the option or by stopping the option contract.

There is little literature on installment options. Davis *et al.* (2001, 2002) derive no-arbitrage bounds for the initial premium of a discretely-paid installment option and study static versus dynamic hedging strategies within a Black-Scholes framework with stochastic volatility. Their analysis is restricted to European-style installment options, which allows for an analogy with compound options, previously considered in Geske (1977) and Selby and Hodges (1987). Davis *et al.* (2003) values venture capital using an analogy with the installment option. Ben-Ameur *et al.* (2004) develops a dynamic-programming procedure to price American-style installment options and derive some theoretical properties of the installment option contract within the geometric Brownian motion framework. Their approach is applied to installment warrants, which are actively traded on the Australian Stock Exchange. Finally, Wystup *et al.* (2004) compares pricing techniques for installment options written on exchange rates.

The aim of this paper is to present three alternative approaches for valuing American continuous-installment calls and puts and to compare their computational advantages. In Section 2, we formulate the American continuous-installments option valuation problem as a free boundary-value problem and obtain an analytic solution by utilizing the results in Carr *et al.* (1992), Jacka (1991) and Kim (1990)¹. In Section 3, we describe in detail the alternative approaches. Numerical results are compared in Section 4. Section 5 concludes.

¹We are grateful to Steward Hodges for suggesting this approach.

2 American Continuous-Installment Options

The particular feature of the pricing problem of an American continuous-installment option is the determination, along with the initial premium and the optimal exercise boundary, of a further boundary called the *optimal stopping boundary*.

2.1 Black-Scholes PDE for Continuous-Installment Options

We assume the standard model for perfect capital markets, continuous trading, no-arbitrage opportunities, a constant interest rate $r > 0$, and an asset paying continuous proportional dividends $\delta > 0$ with price S_t following a geometric Brownian motion

$$dS_t = \mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dB_t, \quad (1)$$

where $\mu = (r - \delta)$ and dB_t is a Wiener process on a risk-neutral probability space. The Black-Scholes initial premium V of a continuous-installment option

$$V_t = V(S_t, t; q) \quad (2)$$

depends on the current value of the underlying asset S_t , time t , and the continuous installment rate q . Applying Itô's Lemma to (2) we obtain the dynamics for the initial value of this option

$$dV_t = \left(\frac{\partial V_t}{\partial t} + \mu S_t \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 V_t}{\partial S^2} - q \right) dt + \sigma S_t \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} dB_t. \quad (3)$$

The only difference in expression (3) relative to the standard Black-Scholes framework is the presence of the constant rate q that has to be paid to stay in the option contract.

We now construct the replicating portfolio consisting of one continuous-installment option and an amount $-\Phi$ of the underlying asset. The value of this portfolio is

$$\Pi_t = V_t - \Phi S_t$$

and its dynamics is given by

$$d\Pi_t = dV_t - \Phi dS_t - \Phi(S_t \delta dt).$$

Putting (1) and (3) together, we get

$$d\Pi_t = \left(\mu S_t \left(\frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} - \Phi \right) + \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 V_t}{\partial S^2} - q - \Phi S_t \delta \right) dt + \sigma S_t \left(\frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} - \Phi \right) dB_t.$$

Setting $\Phi = \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S}$ the coefficient of dB_t vanishes. The portfolio is instantaneously riskless and, to avoid arbitrage opportunities, must yield return r . So we must have

$$r \left(V_t - \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} S_t \right) = \left(\frac{\partial V_t}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 V_t}{\partial S^2} - q - \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} S_t \delta \right).$$

Rearranging this equation gives the *inhomogeneous* Black-Scholes PDE for the initial premium of a continuous-installment option

$$\frac{\partial V_t}{\partial t} + \mu S_t \frac{\partial V_t}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 V_t}{\partial S^2} - r V_t = q. \quad (4)$$

2.2 Valuation of American Continuous-Installment Calls

Consider an American continuous-installment call on S_t with strike price K and maturity time T . We denote the initial premium of this call at time t by $C(S_t, t; q)$, defined on the domain $\mathcal{D} = \{(S_t, t) \in [0, \infty[\times [0, T]\}$. For each time $t \in [0, T]$, there exists an upper critical asset price B_t above which it is optimal to stop the installment payments by exercising the option early, as well as a lower critical asset price A_t below which it is advantageous to terminate payments by stopping the option contract. According to these upper and lower critical asset prices the initial premium $C(S_t, t; q)$ is

$$C(S_t, t; q) = (S_t - K)_+ \quad \text{if } S_t \in [0, A_t] \cup [B_t, \infty[\quad (5)$$

$$C(S_t, t; q) > (S_t - K)_+ \quad \text{if } S_t \in]A_t, B_t[. \quad (6)$$

The *stopping* and *exercise boundaries* are the time paths of lower and upper critical asset prices A_t and B_t , for $t \in [0, T]$, respectively. These boundaries divide the domain \mathcal{D} into a *stopping region* $\mathcal{D}_1 = \{(S_t, t) \in [0, A_t] \times [0, T]\}$, a *continuation region* $\mathcal{D}_2 = \{(S_t, t) \in]A_t, B_t[\times [0, T]\}$, and an *exercise region* $\mathcal{D}_3 = \{(S_t, t) \in [B_t, \infty[\times [0, T]\}$.

To ensure that the fundamental constraint $C(S_t, t; q) \geq (S_t - K)_+$ is satisfied in the domain \mathcal{D} , equation (5) impose that, in the stopping and exercise regions, the initial premium

$C(S_t, t; q)$ equals to the option payoff $(S_t - K)_+$. By contrast, the inequality expressed in (6) shows that, in the continuation region, it is advantageous to continue paying the installment premiums since the call is worth more alive than dead. The initial premium is given by (5) if the asset price starts either in \mathcal{D}_1 or \mathcal{D}_3 , so we assume that the call is alive at the valuation time 0, i.e., $A_0 < S_0 < B_0$.

The initial premium $C(S_t, t; q)$ of the American continuous-installment call satisfies the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE (4) in \mathcal{D}_2 ; that is,

$$\frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial t} + \mu S_t \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S^2} - rC(S_t, t; q) = q \quad \text{on } \mathcal{D}_2. \quad (7)$$

Extending the analysis of McKean (1965), we determine that $C(S_t, t; q)$ and the stopping and exercise boundaries A_t and B_t jointly solve a free boundary-value problem consisting of (7) subject to the following final and boundary conditions:

$$C(S_T, T; q) = (S_T - K)_+ \quad (8)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \downarrow A_t} C(S_t, t; q) = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \downarrow A_t} \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} = 0 \quad (10)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \uparrow B_t} C(S_t, t; q) = B_t - K \quad (11)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \uparrow B_t} \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} = 1. \quad (12)$$

The *value matching conditions* (9) and (11) imply that the initial premium is continuous across the stopping and exercise boundaries, respectively. Furthermore, the *high contact conditions* (10) and (12) further imply that the slope is continuous. Equations (9–12) are jointly referred to as *smooth fit conditions* and ensure the optimality of the stopping and exercise boundaries.

We solve this problem with the integral representation method introduced in Carr *et al.* (1992), Jacka (1991) and Kim (1990). Ziogas *et al.* (2004) presents a survey of the methods for deriving the various integral representations of American option prices.

Let $Z(S_t, t) \equiv e^{-rt} C(S_t, t; q)$ be the discounted initial premium function of the American continuous-installment call, defined in the domain \mathcal{D} . In this domain, the function $Z(S_t, t)$ inherits the properties of the initial premium function $C(S_t, t; q)$, i.e., it is a convex

function in S_t for all t , continuously differentiable in t for all S_t and a.e. twice continuously differentiable in S_t for all t . Applying Itô's Lemma to $Z(S_t, t)$ yields

$$Z(S_T, T) = Z(S_0, 0) + \int_0^T \frac{\partial Z(S_t, t)}{\partial S} dS_t + \int_0^T \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 Z(S_t, t)}{\partial S^2} + \frac{\partial Z(S_t, t)}{\partial t} \right) dt.$$

In terms of $C(S_t, t; q)$ this means

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-rT} C(S_T, T; q) &= C(S_0, 0; q) + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} dS_t \\ &\quad + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S^2} - r C(S_t, t; q) + \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial t} \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

From (8) we know that $C(S_T, T; q) = (S_T - K)_+$ and, separating the initial premium into $C(S_t, t; q) = \mathbf{1}_{\{A_t < S_t < B_t\}} C(S_t, t; q) + \mathbf{1}_{\{S_t \geq B_t\}} (S_t - K)$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-rT} (S_T - K)_+ &= C(S_0, 0; q) \\ &\quad + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left(\mathbf{1}_{\{A_t < S_t < B_t\}} \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} + \mathbf{1}_{\{S_t \geq B_t\}} \right) \left(\mu S_t dt + \sigma S_t dB_t \right) \\ &\quad + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \mathbf{1}_{\{A_t < S_t < B_t\}} \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{2} S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S^2} - r C(S_t, t; q) + \frac{\partial C(S_t, t; q)}{\partial t} \right) dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \mathbf{1}_{\{S_t \geq B_t\}} \left(-r(S_t - K) \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

On the continuation region, the initial premium function $C(S_t, t; q)$ satisfies the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE (7), so the terms multiplying $\mathbf{1}_{\{A_t < S_t < B_t\}}$ sum to q . Using this, and taking expectations, reduces the above equation to

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 \equiv E \left[e^{-rT} (S_T - K)_+ \right] &= C(S_0, 0; q) + q \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left(N(d_2(S_0, A_t, t)) - N(d_2(S_0, B_t, t)) \right) dt \\ &\quad + \int_0^T e^{-rt} \left(-\delta S_0 e^{(r-\delta)t} N(d_1(S_0, B_t, t)) + rKN(d_2(S_0, B_t, t)) \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

By rearranging this expression, we obtain the integral representation for the initial premium of the American continuous-installment call:

$$\begin{aligned} C(S_0, 0; q) &= c_0 + \int_0^T \left(\delta S_0 e^{-\delta t} N(d_1(S_0, B_t, t)) + (q - rK) e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, B_t, t)) \right) dt \\ &\quad - q \int_0^T e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, A_t, t)) dt, \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

where

$$d_1(x, y, t) = \frac{\ln(x/y) + (r - \delta + \sigma^2/2)t}{\sigma\sqrt{t}} \quad \text{and} \quad d_2(x, y, t) = d_1(x, y, t) - \sigma\sqrt{t}$$

and c_0 is the Black-Scholes/Merton European call pricing formula.

Equation (13) expresses the initial premium of an American continuous-installment call as the sum of the corresponding European call value, the early exercise premium, and the expected present value of installment payments along the optimal stopping boundary. The early exercise premium can be viewed as the value of a contingent claim that allows interest earned on the strike price, decreased by the installment premium, to be changed for dividends paid by the asset whenever the asset price is above the optimal exercise boundary.

The optimal stopping boundary A_t is implicitly defined by the following integral equation:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & c_t(A_t, K, T - t) \\ & + \int_t^T \left(\delta A_t e^{-\delta(s-t)} N(d_1(A_t, B_s, s - t)) + (q - rK) e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(A_t, B_s, s - t)) \right) ds \\ & - q \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(A_t, A_s, s - t)) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Equation (14) reflects the fact that the initial premium of an American continuous-installment call at the time of optimal stopping is equal to the option payoff, which is zero. Similarly, applying the boundary condition (11), we obtain the integral equation satisfied by the optimal exercise boundary B_t :

$$\begin{aligned} B_t - K = & c_t(B_t, K, T - t) \\ & + \int_t^T \left(\delta B_t e^{-\delta(s-t)} N(d_1(B_t, B_s, s - t)) + (q - rK) e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(B_t, B_s, s - t)) \right) ds \\ & - q \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(B_t, A_s, s - t)) ds. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

This suggests that the initial premium of American continuous-installment calls should be computed in two steps. In the first, (14) and (15) are solved for A_t and B_t , respectively. Given the optimal stopping and exercise boundaries, (13) is solved next. Unfortunately, direct solutions for the integral equations (14) and (15) are not possible. According to Kolodner (1956), these are Volterra integral equations and can only be solved numerically.

In Section 3.1, we present a numerical approximation method for solving (13) directly in closed form.

2.3 Valuation of American Continuous-Installment Puts

For the valuation of an American continuous-installment put we proceed in the same way as for the call. We denote by $P(S_t, t; q)$, defined on the same domain \mathcal{D} , the initial premium function of the American continuous-installment put.

For each time t , there must be a lower critical asset price F_t below which it is optimal to terminate payments by exercising the option, as well as an upper critical asset price G_t above which it is advantageous to terminate payments by stopping the option contract. The exercise and stopping boundaries, which are the time paths of lower and upper critical asset prices F_t and G_t , divide the domain \mathcal{D} into an *exercise region* $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_1 = \{(S_t, t) \in [0, F_t] \times [0, T]\}$, a *continuation region* $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_2 = \{(S_t, t) \in]F_t, G_t[\times [0, T]\}$, and a *stopping region* $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_3 = \{(S_t, t) \in [G_t, \infty[\times [0, T]\}$.

The initial premium function $P(S_t, t; q)$ satisfies the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE in the continuation region $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_2$; that is,

$$\frac{\partial P(S_t, t; q)}{\partial t} + \mu S_t \frac{\partial P(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 S_t^2 \frac{\partial^2 P(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S^2} - rP(S_t, t; q) = q \quad \text{on } \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_2, \quad (16)$$

subject to the following terminal and boundary conditions

$$P(S_T, T; q) = (K - S_T)_+ \quad (17)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \downarrow F_t} P(S_t, t; q) = K - F_t \quad (18)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \downarrow F_t} \frac{\partial P(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} = -1 \quad (19)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \uparrow G_t} P(S_t, t; q) = 0 \quad (20)$$

$$\lim_{S_t \uparrow G_t} \frac{\partial P(S_t, t; q)}{\partial S} = 0. \quad (21)$$

By applying the results of the previous section, the solution to the free boundary-value

problem (16–21) is

$$\begin{aligned}
P(S_0, 0; q) = & p_0 + \int_0^T \left((q + rK) e^{-rt} N(-d_2(S_0, F_t, t)) - S_0 \delta e^{-\delta t} N(-d_1(S_0, F_t, t)) \right) dt \\
& - q \int_0^T e^{-rt} N(-d_2(S_0, G_t, t)) dt. \tag{22}
\end{aligned}$$

Using the property of the normal cdf, we can rewrite the equation (22) as

$$\begin{aligned}
P(S_0, 0; q) = & p_0 + \frac{1}{r} (q + rK) (1 - e^{-rT}) - S_0 (1 - e^{-\delta T}) \\
& + \int_0^T \left(S_0 \delta e^{-\delta t} N(d_1(S_0, F_t, t)) - (q + rK) e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, F_t, t)) \right) dt \\
& - \frac{q}{r} (1 - e^{-rT}) + q \int_0^T e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, G_t, t)) dt. \tag{23}
\end{aligned}$$

Applying the boundary conditions (18) and (20), we obtain the integral equations for F_t and G_t :

$$\begin{aligned}
(K - F_t) = & p_t(F_t, K, T - t) + \frac{1}{r} (q + rK) (1 - e^{-r(T-t)}) - F_t (1 - e^{-\delta(T-t)}) \\
& + \int_t^T \left(F_t \delta e^{-\delta(s-t)} N(d_1(F_t, F_s, s - t)) - (q + rK) e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(F_t, F_s, s - t)) \right) ds \\
& - \frac{q}{r} (1 - e^{-r(T-t)}) + q \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(F_t, G_s, s - t)) ds, \tag{24}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
0 = & p_t(G_t, K, T - t) + \frac{1}{r} (q + rK) (1 - e^{-r(T-t)}) - G_t (1 - e^{-\delta(T-t)}) \\
& + \int_t^T \left(G_t \delta e^{-\delta(s-t)} N(d_1(G_t, F_s, s - t)) - (q + rK) e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(G_t, F_s, s - t)) \right) ds \\
& - \frac{q}{r} (1 - e^{-r(T-t)}) + q \int_t^T e^{-r(s-t)} N(d_2(G_t, G_s, s - t)) ds. \tag{25}
\end{aligned}$$

3 Numerical Methods

Here we present the three alternative approaches to value the American continuous-installment options. First we implement the valuation formulas derived in Section 2 using the multipiece exponential function method of Ju (1998). Second the finite-difference method for solving the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE is presented. Finally, we consider a Monte Carlo method.

3.1 Implementation of the Valuation Formulas by the Multipiece Exponential Function (MEF) Method

Once the integral equations defining the optimal stopping and exercise boundaries are solved, the computation of the initial premium simply implies numerical integration. Unfortunately, these integral equations cannot be solved explicitly. However, there is a special feature of equations (13) and (23) that has been investigated in the literature. Noting that the exercise boundary appears only as an argument to the logarithm function in the definitions of $d_1(\cdot)$ and $d_2(\cdot)$, Ju (1998) argues that the integral equation for the American put value does not depend on the exact values of the exercise boundary critically. Making use of this property and approximating the boundary as a multipiece exponential function, he obtains a closed-form formula for pricing American-style options.

To extend the approach in Ju (1998), hereafter called the Multipiece Exponential Function (MEF) method, we divide the interval $[0, T]$ into M equal time intervals and define $t_j = jT/M$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, M$. Let C^{ci} be the approximated initial premium of an American continuous-installment call corresponding to the approximated optimal stopping and exercise boundaries by M -piece exponential functions $A_j e^{a_j t}$ and $B_j e^{-b_j t}$, for $j = 1, 2, \dots, M$, respectively. Then C^{ci} is given by

$$C^{\text{ci}} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } S_0 \leq A_M \\ C(M, S_0, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, T) & \text{if } A_M < S_0 < B_M \\ S_0 - K & \text{if } S_0 \geq B_M, \end{cases} \quad (26)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} C(j, x, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, \tau) = & c(x, K, \tau) - q \sum_{i=1}^j I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, A_{j-i+1} e^{a_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, a_{j-i+1}, -1, r) \\ & + \left(x \sum_{i=1}^j \delta I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B_{j-i+1} e^{-b_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -b_{j-i+1}, 1, \delta) \right. \\ & \left. + (q - rK) \sum_{i=1}^j I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B_{j-i+1} e^{-b_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -b_{j-i+1}, -1, r) \right). \end{aligned}$$

To determine the coefficients A_j , a_j , B_j and b_j , $j = 1, 2, \dots, M$, we apply the value-match

and high-contact conditions (9–12) at each time step t_j . This yields

$$\begin{cases} C(j, A_j e^{a_j(T-t_j)}, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, t_j) & = 0 \\ C_x(j, A_j e^{a_j(T-t_j)}, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, t_j) & = 0 \\ C(j, B_j e^{-b_j(T-t_j)}, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, t_j) & = B_j e^{-b_j(T-t_j)} - K \\ C_x(j, B_j e^{-b_j(T-t_j)}, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, t_j) & = 1, \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} C_x(j, x, A, B, a, b, \phi, \nu, \tau) &= e^{-\delta\tau} N(d_1(x, K, \tau)) \\ &\quad - q \sum_{i=1}^j I_x(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, A_{j-i+1} e^{a_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, a_{j-i+1}, -1, r) \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^j \delta I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B_{j-i+1} e^{-b_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -b_{j-i+1}, 1, \delta) \\ &\quad + x \sum_{i=1}^j \delta I_x(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B_{j-i+1} e^{-b_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -b_{j-i+1}, 1, \delta) \\ &\quad + (q - rK) \sum_{i=1}^j I_x(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B_{j-i+1} e^{-b_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -b_{j-i+1}, -1, r). \end{aligned}$$

The functions $I(\cdot)$ and $I_x(\cdot)$ are defined, respectively, by²

$$\begin{aligned} I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, y, z, \phi, \nu) &= \frac{1}{\nu} \left(e^{-\nu t_{i-1}} N\left(z_1 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) - e^{-\nu t_i} N\left(z_1 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2\nu} \left(\frac{z_1}{z_3} + 1 \right) e^{z_2(z_3-z_1)} \left(N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2\nu} \left(\frac{z_1}{z_3} - 1 \right) e^{-z_2(z_3+z_1)} \left(N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right), \quad (28) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_x(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, y, z, \phi, \nu) &= \frac{1}{\nu} \left(\frac{e^{-\nu t_{i-1}}}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}} n\left(z_1 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) - \frac{e^{-\nu t_i}}{\sqrt{t_i}} n\left(z_1 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \right) \frac{1}{\sigma x} \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2\nu} \left(\frac{z_1 + z_3}{z_3} \right) \left[e^{z_2(z_3-z_1)} (z_3 - z_1) \left(N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e^{z_2(z_3-z_1)} \left(n\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_i}} - n\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}} \right) \right] \frac{1}{\sigma x} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2\nu} \left(\frac{z_1 - z_3}{z_3} \right) \left[e^{-z_2(z_3+z_1)} (z_3 + z_1) \left(N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + e^{-z_2(z_3+z_1)} \left(n\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_i}} - n\left(z_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{z_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}} \right) \right] \frac{1}{\sigma x}, \quad (29) \end{aligned}$$

²See the Appendix for the derivation of these functions.

where

$$z_1 = \frac{(r - \delta - z + \phi \sigma^2 / 2)}{\sigma}, \quad z_2 = \frac{\ln(x/y)}{\sigma} \quad \text{and} \quad z_3 = \sqrt{z_1^2 + 2\nu}.$$

To find the coefficients, we must solve the system of four equations (27) for $j = 1, 2, \dots, M$. At each step j , the above system is solved using a Newton method.

The approximation procedure of American continuous-installment puts proceeds in the same way as for calls. Let P^{CI} be the approximated initial premium of an American continuous-installment put corresponding to the approximated optimal exercise and stopping boundaries by M -piece exponential functions $F_j e^{f_j t}$ and $G_j e^{-g_j t}$, for $j = 1, 2, \dots, M$, respectively. Then P^{CI} is given by

$$P^{\text{CI}} = \begin{cases} (K - S_0) & \text{if } S_0 \leq F_M \\ P(M, S_0, F, G, f, g, \phi, \nu, T) & \text{if } F_M < S_0 < G_M \\ 0 & \text{if } S_0 \geq G_M, \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P(j, x, F, G, f, g, \phi, \nu, \tau) = & p(x, K, \tau) + \frac{1}{r} (q + rK) (1 - e^{-r\tau}) - x (1 - e^{-\delta\tau}) \\ & + \left(x \sum_{i=1}^j \delta I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, F_{j-i+1} e^{f_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, f_{j-i+1}, 1, \delta) \right. \\ & \quad \left. - (q + rK) \sum_{i=1}^j I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, F_{j-i+1} e^{f_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, f_{j-i+1}, -1, r) \right) \\ & - \frac{q}{r} (1 - e^{-r\tau}) + q \sum_{i=1}^j I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, G_{j-i+1} e^{-g_{j-i+1}(T-\tau)}, -g_{j-i+1}, -1, r). \end{aligned}$$

As for calls, applying the value-match and high-contact conditions (18–21) at each time step t_j , we can determine the coefficients F_j, f_j, G_j and $g_j, j = 1, 2, \dots, M$.

3.2 Solving the Inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE with Finite Differences

The valuation of the initial premium of an American continuous-installment option by finite differences is obtained with the Crank-Nicolson method. For the call, the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE and the final and boundary conditions have been defined in (7) and (8–12). For the put, these are defined in (16) and (17–21). For discretization, a uniform

grid in space and time is used. To achieve greater accuracy, critical points are fixed midway between two grid points in space. The optimal exercise problem is solved simply by taking the maximum between the continuation value and the option payoff. This technique is known as the *explicit payout* method. Other techniques consider a PSOR or a Newton method to solve the linear complementarity problem (e.g., Coleman *et al.* (2002)). The optimal stopping problem is solved in a similar way by taking only positive continuation values.

3.3 Valuation with a Monte Carlo Method

We modify the least-squares Monte Carlo method introduced by Longstaff and Schwartz (2001) to accommodate the pricing of the American continuous installment options. Let us consider a discrete-time sample path $S_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, M$ for the price of an underlying asset, with $M = T/\Delta_t$, where T is the time to maturity and Δ_t is the time discretization. For European-style options the price is given by

$$E\left(e^{-rT} f(S_M)\right),$$

where $f(\cdot)$ denotes the payoff function and $E(\cdot)$ the expectation under the risk-neutral measure.

When we consider on early exercise, the value of the contract for each simulated time instant i corresponds to the maximum between the intrinsic value $f(S_i)$ and the expected continuation value. Therefore at time step i , the value $V_i(S_i)$ of the option, conditional on S_i , is

$$V_i(S_i) = \max \left\{ f(S_i), E_i \left(e^{-r\Delta_t} V_{i+1}(S_{i+1}) | S_i \right) \right\},$$

where the function $V(\cdot)$ is defined recursively for $i = M - 1, M - 2, \dots, 0$. The value of $V_M(S_M)$ is simply $f(S_M)$, i.e., the payoff at maturity. Longstaff and Schwartz (2001) approximates the conditional expectation of the continuation value $E_i(\cdot)$ by a linear regression of the present value of $V_{i+1}(S_{i+1})$ at i on a set of polynomials of the current asset price S_i . To get observations for the regression, we have to replicate the sample path of the underlying asset price. The j th replication for the asset price is denoted by S_i^j , and correspondingly the j th replication of the continuation value, which is the present value of $V_{i+1}^j(S_{i+1}^j)$, is

denoted by y_i^j . Regressing on a second-order polynomial, the approximation of y_i^j is

$$y_i^j \cong \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 S_i^j + \alpha_3 (S_i^j)^2,$$

and the conditional expectation of the continuation value $E_i(y_i^j)$ is given by $\hat{y}_i^j = \hat{\alpha}_1 + \hat{\alpha}_2 S_i^j + \hat{\alpha}_3 (S_i^j)^2$, where $\hat{\alpha}_k$, $k = 1, 2, 3$, are the estimated regression coefficients.

In the case of continuously-paid installments at a constant rate q , the continuation value y_i^j becomes

$$e^{-r\Delta t} V_{i+1}^j(S_{i+1}^j) - \frac{q}{r} (1 - e^{-r\Delta t}),$$

and we use the same regression for the estimation of the conditional expectation. The decision for early exercise at time i , for a sample j , is taken if

$$f(S_i^j) > \hat{y}_i^j,$$

where $j \in J_i^E$, the set of paths that are in-the-money at time i . The decision for early stopping is taken if

$$\hat{y}_i^j < 0,$$

where $j \in J_i^S$, the set of paths that are out-of-the-money at time i . The sets J_i^E and J_i^S constitute a partition of the set J of replicated paths. It should be noticed that the conditional expectation \hat{y}_i^j is estimated separately on the set J_i^E and the set J_i^S .

Therefore the initial value of the option at time step i , conditional on S_i^j , is

$$V_i^j(S_i^j) = \begin{cases} \max \left\{ f(S_i^j), E_i \left(e^{-r\Delta t} V_{i+1}^j(S_{i+1}^j) \mid S_i^j \right) \right\} & \text{if } j \in J_i^E \\ \max \left\{ 0, E_i \left(e^{-r\Delta t} V_{i+1}^j(S_{i+1}^j) \mid S_i^j \right) \right\} & \text{if } j \in J_i^S. \end{cases}$$

The computation of the option price is now achieved through the Algorithm 1, which provides a skeleton for the implementation of a computer code.

Algorithm 1

- 1: Generate $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$
 - 2: Initialize $\mathcal{T}_j = M$ and $\mathcal{V}_j = f(S_M^j)$, for $j = 1, \dots, N$
 - 3: **for** $i = M - 1 \rightarrow 1$ **do**
 - 4: $y_j = e^{-r(\mathcal{T}_j - i)} \mathcal{V}_j - \frac{q}{r}(1 - e^{-r(\mathcal{T}_j - i)})$, for $j = 1, \dots, N$
 - 5: Compute $J_i^E = \{j \mid f(S_i^j) > 0\}$
 - 6: Estimate $\hat{y}^{j \in J_i^E} = E(y^{j \in J_i^E} \mid S_i^{j \in J_i^E})$
 - 7: Compute $J_i^{E*} = \{j \mid j \in J_i^E \wedge f(S_i^j) > \hat{y}^{j \in J_i^E}\}$
 - 8: Update $\mathcal{T}_j = i$ and $\mathcal{V}_j = f(S_i^j)$, for $j \in J_i^{E*}$
 - 9: Compute $J_i^S = \{j \mid f(S_i^j) = 0\}$
 - 10: Estimate $\hat{y}^{j \in J_i^S} = E(y^{j \in J_i^S} \mid S_i^{j \in J_i^S})$
 - 11: Compute $J_i^{S*} = \{j \mid j \in J_i^S \wedge \hat{y}^{j \in J_i^S} < 0\}$
 - 12: Update $\mathcal{T}_j = i$ and $\mathcal{V}_j = 0$, for $j \in J_i^{S*}$
 - 13: **end for**
 - 14: $y_0^j = e^{-r\mathcal{T}_j} \mathcal{V}_j - \frac{q}{r}(1 - e^{-r\mathcal{T}_j})$, for $j = 1, \dots, N$
 - 15: $v = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^M y_0^j$
-

Statements 5–8 consider the case where early exercise has to be checked and statements 9–12 where stopping has to be checked. The sets J^{E*} and J^{S*} correspond respectively to the paths where early exercising or stopping has taken place. Element j of array \mathcal{T} informs us about the time step where the early exercise or stopping decision has been taken for the j th path. The intrinsic value of the option at time step \mathcal{T}_j is given in \mathcal{V}_j . In statement 14, the option value at time 0 for each path is saved in y_0 , and, in statement 15, the average of these values is computed.

The convergence of this method is analyzed in Glassermann and Yu (2004), where the choice of the order of the polynomial approximating $E(\cdot)$ is discussed in conjunction with the number N of path replications and time steps M .

4 Numerical Results and Discussions

In this section we report and compare numerical results obtained with each of the three methods for several values of some relevant parameters. All algorithms have been implemented in Matlab 7.xx and the results are reported in Table 1.

σ	S_0	T	q	FDM	MEF			Monte Carlo	
					$M = 2$	$M = 6$	$M = 12$	(s.e.)	
0.20	96	3/12	1	2.0700	2.0670	2.0695	2.0699	2.0702	(.010)
			3	1.6812	1.6738	1.6802	1.6812	1.6808	(.011)
			8	.8945	.8858	.8941	.8952	.8927	(.009)
		1	1	5.2789	5.2669	5.2766	5.2783	5.2777	(.022)
			3	3.8362	3.8132	3.8320	3.8344	3.8361	(.021)
			8	1.4232	1.4164	1.4231	1.4239	1.4181	(.020)
	100	3/12	1	3.8410	3.8380	3.8405	3.8409	3.8407	(.010)
			3	3.4293	3.4211	3.4281	3.4291	3.4286	(.011)
			8	2.5477	2.5362	2.5468	2.5482	2.5455	(.011)
		1	1	7.2717	7.2594	7.2693	7.2710	7.2712	(.023)
			3	5.7884	5.7654	5.7853	5.7878	5.7878	(.022)
			8	3.1951	3.1864	3.1946	3.1957	3.1900	(.016)
104	3/12	1	6.2438	6.2411	6.2433	6.2437	6.2441	(.011)	
		3	5.8427	5.3500	5.8415	5.8424	5.8423	(.009)	
		8	5.0192	5.0095	5.0185	5.0198	5.0175	(.008)	
	1	1	9.5839	9.5718	9.5816	9.5833	9.5898	(.025)	
		3	8.1123	8.0883	8.1079	8.1104	8.1122	(.016)	
		8	5.5935	5.5859	5.5933	5.5942	5.5851	(.015)	
0.30	96	3/12	1	3.9032	3.8996	3.9026	3.9031	3.9051	(.019)
			3	3.4926	3.4831	3.4910	3.4922	3.4928	(.016)
			8	2.5826	2.5668	2.5805	2.5823	2.5825	(.019)
		1	1	8.9756	8.9607	8.9732	8.9755	8.9753	(.043)
			3	7.4528	7.4233	7.4484	7.4515	7.4549	(.036)
			8	4.4203	4.3908	4.4161	4.4196	4.4200	(.036)
	100	3/12	1	5.8118	5.8081	5.8111	5.8116	5.8138	(.020)
			3	5.3909	5.3810	5.3892	5.3905	5.3909	(.018)
			8	4.4420	4.4248	4.4396	4.4416	4.4418	(.015)
		1	1	11.0836	11.0682	11.0810	11.0834	11.0841	(.045)
			3	9.5415	9.5109	9.5369	9.5403	9.5443	(.038)
			8	6.4218	6.3903	6.4173	6.4211	6.4208	(.030)
104	3/12	1	8.1425	8.1388	8.1417	8.1422	8.1426	(.023)	
		3	7.7246	7.7148	7.7229	7.7241	7.7236	(.016)	
		8	6.7900	6.7733	6.7877	6.7895	6.7910	(.013)	
	1	1	13.4023	13.3863	13.3993	13.4017	13.4059	(.036)	
		3	11.8595	11.8286	11.8548	11.8585	11.8582	(.029)	
		8	8.7391	8.7076	8.7346	8.7384	8.7348	(.023)	

Table 1: Initial premiums of American continuous-installment calls ($K = 100$ and $\delta = 0.04$).

For the finite-difference method, we use 600 steps between 0 and 200 for the asset price and 400 time steps per quarter of a year. The multipiece exponential function (MEF) method has been tested for $M = 2$, $M = 6$ and $M = 12$. The results for the Monte Carlo method are based on 100 000 antithetic paths and a fourth-order Hermite polynomial for the regressions. The number of time steps used for this method is 80 per quarter of

a year. Following Glassermann and Yu (2004, p. 18) these settings satisfy the conditions for convergence. To estimate the standard errors, we compute a statistic with 50 initial premiums. The values reported in the table are the medians of this statistic.

Comparing the results obtained by the MEF method for $M = 12$ with the results given by the other two methods we see, in Table 1, that the approximations coincide from two to five digits. If the MEF method is used with $M = 2$, we get from one to three correct digits.

In terms of computational efficiency, the finite-difference method result to be fastest with a computational time of less than 1 second to calculate the initial premiums at all grid points for a 3-month American continuous-installment call. The optimal stopping and exercise boundaries can be derived from the values on the space-time grid.

The MEF method with $M = 12$ needs roughly 10 seconds to solve the pricing problem for the same option and provides the initial premium for a single value of S_t , as well as a pointwise approximation of the boundaries. If we consider $M = 2$, the computational time becomes comparable to that of the finite differences. A interesting feature of this method is the determination of the three components in which the initial premium has been decomposed via integral representation. A difficulty of the MEF method may consist in the appropriate choice of the initial values when one solving the non-linear system (27). The Monte Carlo approach needs approximatively 14 seconds to find the initial premium. Since the result is of random nature we need to compute confidence intervals which imply repeated evaluations of the initial premium. An advantage of the Monte Carlo method is that it can be extended easily to exotic payoffs and multifactor option.

The left panel in Figure 1 presents the initial premium function $C(S_t, t; q)$ and the optimal stopping and exercise boundaries, both calculated by finite differences. The right panel in Figure 1 shows how each method approximates the boundaries. The approximations of the exercise and stopping boundaries obtained by the finite-difference method are respectively the solid and the dotted lines. The crosses and circles represent the twelve-piece exponential exercise and stopping boundaries, respectively. The clouds of points along the boundaries are the optimal stopping and exercise decisions for each path in the Monte Carlo method.

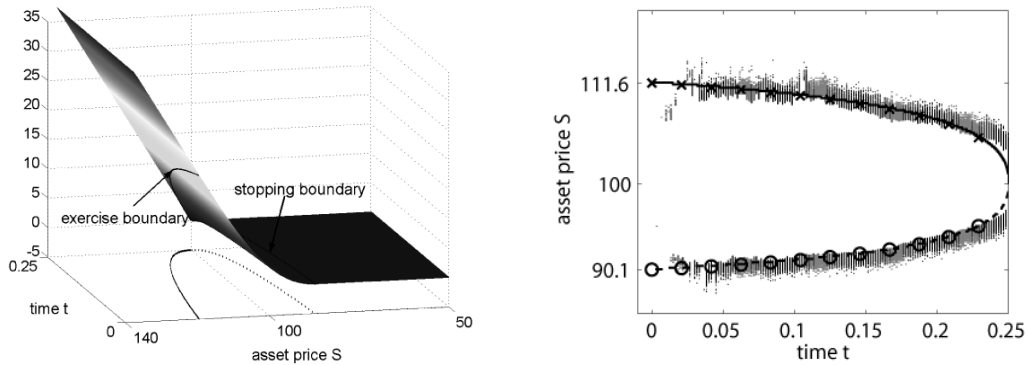


Figure 1: Left panel: Initial premium function $C(S_t, t; q)$ of an American continuous-installment call ($K = 100$, $T = 3/12$, $\sigma = 0.2$, $r = 0.05$, $\delta = 0.04$ and $q = 8$). Right panel: Optimal stopping and exercise boundaries approximated by finite differences, the twelve-piece exponential boundaries and the stopping and exercise decisions of the Monte Carlo simulations.

5 Concluding Remarks

We have presented three alternative approaches for solving the free boundary-value problem of American continuous-installment options. First we derived the inhomogeneous Black-Scholes PDE for continuous-installment options using a combination of hedging and risk-neutral valuation arguments. This result allows the derivation of an integral representation for the initial premium of these options, using the results in Carr *et al.* (1992), Jacka (1991) and Kim (1990).

The multipiece exponential function (MEF) method allows an approximation in closed form to the valuation formulas for the American continuous-installment options. To test the MEF method we adapted two existing numerical methods to the pricing problem of the nonstandard American options. All three methods produce similar results from which we conclude the soundness of our approaches.

The focus of this paper is on American continuous-installment calls. However, by presenting a mathematically and computationally meaningful way to analyze the premature stopping of American options, this study enhances applications of the contingent-claims approach to investment problems in general. For example, investments involving periodic payments that can be stopped at any time can be analyzed using the framework developed in this paper.

Appendix

Derivation of functions $I(\cdot)$ and $I_x(\cdot)$

Let us assume that for the generic interval $[t_{i-1}, t_i]$ the stopping and exercise boundaries A_t and B_t are approximated by exponential functions Ae^{at} and Be^{-bt} , respectively. To make use of this approximation, the integrals in equations (13) and (23) can be evaluated in closed form for this interval. We first consider the integral

$$I_1 = \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, Ae^{at}, t)) dt.$$

Defining $x_1 = (r - \delta - a - \sigma^2/2)/\sigma$, $x_2 = \ln(S_0/A)/\sigma$, we have that $d_2(S_0, A_t, t) = x_1 t^{1/2} + x_2 t^{-1/2}$. Integration by parts yields

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \frac{1}{r} \left(e^{-rt_{i-1}} N(x_1 t_{i-1}^{1/2} + x_2 t_{i-1}^{-1/2}) - e^{-rt_i} N(x_1 t_i^{1/2} + x_2 t_i^{-1/2}) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{e^{-x_1 x_2}}{r\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_3^2 t + x_2^2 t^{-1})} \left(\frac{x_1}{2} t^{-1/2} - \frac{x_2}{2} t^{-3/2} \right) dt, \end{aligned}$$

where $x_3 = \sqrt{x_1^2 + 2r}$. By making use of the following identities

$$\begin{aligned} dN(x_3 t^{1/2} + x_2 t^{-1/2}) &= \frac{e^{-x_3 x_2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_3^2 t + x_2^2 t^{-1})} \left(\frac{x_3}{2} t^{-1/2} - \frac{x_2}{2} t^{-3/2} \right) \\ dN(x_3 t^{1/2} - x_2 t^{-1/2}) &= \frac{e^{x_3 x_2}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_3^2 t + x_2^2 t^{-1})} \left(\frac{x_3}{2} t^{-1/2} + \frac{x_2}{2} t^{-3/2} \right), \end{aligned}$$

we get

$$\begin{aligned} I_1 &= \frac{1}{r} \left(e^{-rt_{i-1}} N\left(x_1 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) - e^{-rt_i} N\left(x_1 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2r} \left(\frac{x_1}{x_3} + 1 \right) e^{x_2(x_3 - x_1)} \left(N\left(x_3 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(x_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2r} \left(\frac{x_1}{x_3} - 1 \right) e^{-x_2(x_3 + x_1)} \left(N\left(x_3 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(x_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{x_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

From the above equation follows immediately that

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} e^{-rt} N(d_2(S_0, Be^{-bt}, t)) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{r} \left(e^{-rt_{i-1}} N\left(x_4 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) - e^{-rt_i} N\left(x_4 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2r} \left(\frac{x_4}{x_6} + 1 \right) e^{x_5(x_6 - x_4)} \left(N\left(x_6 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(x_6 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2r} \left(\frac{x_4}{x_6} - 1 \right) e^{-x_5(x_6 + x_4)} \left(N\left(x_6 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(x_6 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{x_5}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right), \end{aligned}$$

where $x_4 = (r - \delta + b - \sigma^2/2)/\sigma$, $x_5 = \ln(S_0/B)/\sigma$, and $x_6 = \sqrt{x_4^2 + 2r}$.

If we define $y_1 = (r - \delta + b + \sigma^2/2)/\sigma$, $y_2 = \ln(S_0/B)/\sigma$, $y_3 = \sqrt{y_1^2 + 2\delta}$, a similar derivation would yield

$$\begin{aligned} I_3 &= \int_{t_{i-1}}^{t_i} e^{-\delta t} N(d_1(S_0, B e^{-bt}, t)) dt \\ &= \frac{1}{\delta} \left(e^{-\delta t_{i-1}} N\left(y_1 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) - e^{-\delta t_i} N\left(y_1 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2\delta} \left(\frac{y_1}{y_3} + 1 \right) e^{y_2(y_3 - y_1)} \left(N\left(y_3 \sqrt{t_i} + \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(y_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} + \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2\delta} \left(\frac{y_1}{y_3} - 1 \right) e^{-y_2(y_3 + y_1)} \left(N\left(y_3 \sqrt{t_i} - \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_i}}\right) - N\left(y_3 \sqrt{t_{i-1}} - \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{t_{i-1}}}\right) \right). \end{aligned}$$

Using equation (28), the integrals I_1 , I_2 and I_3 can be expressed uniquely as

$$I_1 = I(t_i, t_{i-1}, x, A, a, -1, r),$$

$$I_2 = I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B, -b, -1, r),$$

$$I_3 = I(t_{i-1}, t_i, x, B, -b, 1, \delta).$$

The function $I_x(\cdot)$ is the first partial derivative of (28) with respect to x .

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