

Kolmogorov-Fokker-Planck Equations: theoretical issues and applications

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Efficient Method for Barrier Option Evaluation

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# Outline

Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of Barrier Options, under general dynamics.

### In practice...

the extension of Boundary Element Method, introduced in the Engineering field in the 1970s, to barrier option pricing here in a user-friendly way

<u>Requirement</u>: **Knowledge** of the **fundamental solution** (transition probability density function) related to the differential model problem associated to the vanilla option **at least in an approximated form** 

- Black-Scholes model problem
- Foundations
- Numerical examples
- Straightforward application to hedging
- Extension to Heston model

### The financial model problem: European barrier option pricing

A European option V(S,t) is a contract which gives the buyer the right to sell (put option) or to buy (call option) an underlying asset Sat a specified strike price Eon a specified date (expiry) T

> At **maturity** *T*, for **Put Option** with exercise (strike) price *E*: if  $S \le E$ , the holder can buy the underlying asset at *S* and exercise the right to sell it at *E*, thus the option's value is *E* - *S*. On the contrary, if S > E, why sell something at a price *E* that is lower than its market price? Thus, if S > E, the option is not exercised and the holder receives zero.



The financial model problem: European barrier option pricing

a **knock-out barrier option** is an option whose price extinguishes when the underlying asset breaches a pre-set **barrier level** 

For clarity, I will illustrate here only the case of a

European put up-and-out option

whose price extinguishes when the underlying asset breaches a pre-set **upper barrier level** 

but the method is analogously applicable also to call option and other combinations of barriers too.

# The mathematical model problem: European vanilla option

Under the simple **Black-Scholes paradigm**, still very common in use with **time dependent** parameters  $\sigma(t), r(t), d(t)$ 



For this problem the **analytical solution** is known

$$N[q] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{q} e^{-y^2/2} dy \quad \text{normal cumulative distribution;} \quad q = -\frac{\log(e^x/E) + \int_{t}^{T} (r - \delta + \sigma^2/2) d\tau}{\left(\int_{t}^{T} \sigma^2 d\tau\right)^{1/2}}$$
$$V(x,t) = Ee^{-\int_{t}^{T} r d\tau} N\left[q + \left(\int_{t}^{T} \sigma^2 d\tau\right)^{1/2}\right] - e^{x - \int_{t}^{T} d d\tau} N[q]$$

[F. Black and M. Scholes, 1973]

# The mathematical model problem: European vanilla option

following the PDE theory,

the analytical solution can be written as the discounted expected value of the final payoff

$$V(x,t) = e^{-\int_t^T r d\tau} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} V(y,T) G(y,T;x,t) dy$$

where V(y,T) is the payoff and

 $G(y, \tau; x, t)$  is the **fundamental solution** of the forward PDE

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( -\frac{\partial G}{\partial \tau} + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 G}{\partial y^2} - (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} - \delta) \frac{\partial G}{\partial y} - rG = 0 \\ & G(y, t, x, t) = \delta(x, y) \end{aligned} \right) \end{aligned}$$

[A. Friedman, 1964-1975-1976]



- Monte Carlo methods: very simple and flexible, but also very slow to converge
- Binomial/trinomial lattices: relatively easy to implement, but not particularly efficient
- Finite difference schemes: easy to implement. However, standard high-order implementations fail to achieve true high-order accuracy, due to the nonsmoothness of the options' payoffs
- Finite element methods: very accurate and fast and capable of handling discontinuous solutions; However, they are quite difficult to implement, especially if a high-degree polynomial basis is employed and have some troubles particularly in unbounded domains (as Finite Difference methods)

# SABO Foundations



Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of Barrier Options, under general dynamics. based on Boundary Element Method

# Foundations:

- Analytical Integral Representation of PDE solution
- Boundary Integral Equation
- Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation by Collocation Method
- Numerical approximation of the option price

Integral Representation Formula of the PDE Solution

following **PDE theory...** 

**PDE** 
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - (\bar{r} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} - \bar{d}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} (x, \tau) - \mathcal{L}[u](x, \tau) = 0$$

$$x \in \Omega = (-\infty, \underline{U}), \, \tau \in (0, T]$$

the related transition probability density (Green fundamental solution)

$$G(y,s,x,\tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \int_s^\tau \overline{\sigma}^2(v)dv}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\left[y-x-\int_s^\tau \left(\overline{r}-\frac{\overline{\sigma}^2}{2}-\overline{d}\right)(v)dv\right]^2}{2\int_s^\tau \overline{\sigma}^2(v)dv}\right\}, \quad \tau > s$$

for each 
$$(x,\tau) \in \mathbb{R} \times [0,T)$$
,  $G(y,s,x,\tau)$  solves

$$\begin{cases} -\frac{\partial G}{\partial s}(y,s;x,\tau) - \mathcal{L}^*[G](y,s;x,\tau) = 0 \quad y \in \mathbb{R}, \ s < \tau \\ G(y,\tau;x,\tau) = \delta(x,y) \qquad \qquad y \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

Multiplying the PDE by G, integrating by parts (Green's Theorem) and using initial/boundary conditions

$$u(x,\tau) \quad = \quad \int_{\Omega} u(y,0) G(y,0,x,\tau) dy$$

for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0, T]$ 

Integral Representation Formula of the PDE Solution

following **PDE theory...** 

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \textbf{PDE} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - (\bar{r} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} - \bar{d}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau}(x, \tau) - \mathcal{L}[u](x, \tau) = 0 \qquad x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \ \tau \in (0, T] \end{array}$$

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 $\label{eq:general} \text{for each } (x,\tau) \in \mathbb{R} \times \left[0,T\right), \qquad G(y,s,x,\tau) \quad \text{solves}$ 

$$\begin{cases} -\frac{\partial G}{\partial s}(y,s;x,\tau) - \mathcal{L}^*[G](y,s;x,\tau) = 0 \quad y \in \mathbb{R}, \ s < \tau \\ G(y,\tau;x,\tau) = \delta(x,y) \qquad \qquad y \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases}$$

Multiplying the PDE by G, integrating by parts (Green's Theorem) and using initial/boundary conditions

$$u(x,\tau) = \int_{\Omega} u(y,0)G(y,0,x,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{\bar{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(y,s)G(y,s,x,\tau)dyds$$

for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0, T]$ 

Integral Representation Formula of the PDE Solution

following **PDE theory...** 

RF

$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \textbf{PDE} & \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} - (\bar{r} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2} - \bar{d}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau}(x, \tau) - \mathcal{L}[u](x, \tau) = 0 \qquad x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \ \tau \in (0, T] \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{cases} \text{for each } (x,\tau) \in \mathbb{R} \times [0,T) \,, & G(y,s,x,\tau) \text{ solves} \\ \\ -\frac{\partial G}{\partial s}(y,s;x,\tau) - \mathcal{L}^*[G](y,s;x,\tau) = 0 \quad y \in \mathbb{R}, \, s < \tau \\ \\ G(y,\tau;x,\tau) = \delta(x,y) & y \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

Multiplying the PDE by G, integrating by parts (Green's Theorem) and using initial/boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} u(x,\tau) &= \int_{\Omega} u(y,0)G(y,0,x,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{\bar{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(y,s)G(y,s,x,\tau)dyds \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_{0}(y)G(y,0,x,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\bar{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s)G(U,s,x,\tau)ds \end{aligned}$$

for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0, T]$ 

# **Boundary Integral Equation**

### analytical INTEGRAL REPRESENTATION FORMULA

**RF** 
$$u(x,\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_0(y)G(y,0,x,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s)G(U,s,x,\tau)ds$$
for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0,T]$   
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for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0,T]$   
unknown density

but on the boundary, letting  $\,x 
ightarrow U,\,\,$  BOUNDARY INTEGRAL EQUATION

**BIE** 
$$0 = u(U,\tau) := \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_0(y)G(y,0;U,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\overline{\sigma}^2(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s)G(U,s;U,\tau)ds$$
for each  $\tau \in (0,T]$  **solve the equation...** numerically





Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation

### by **COLLOCATION METHOD**:

- uniform decomposition of the time interval  $\ \ [0,T]$  with time step

$$\Delta t = T/N_{\Delta t}$$
:  $t_k = k\Delta t$   $k = 0, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$ 

• approximation of the BIE unknown

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s) \approx \phi(s) := \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\Delta t}} \alpha_k \varphi_k(s)$$

with 
$$\varphi_k(s) := H[s - t_{k-1}] - H[s - t_k]$$
 for  $k = 1, ..., N_{\Delta t}$ 



• evaluation of BIE at the collocation nodes:

$$\bar{t}_j = \frac{t_j + t_{j-1}}{2}$$
  $j = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$ 

**BIE** 
$$0 = u(U,\tau) := \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_0(y)G(y,0;U,\tau)dy + \int_0^{\tau} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s)\frac{\overline{\sigma}^2(s)}{2}G(U,s;U,\tau)ds$$

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• evaluation of BIE at the collocation nodes:

$$\bar{t}_j = \frac{t_j + t_{j-1}}{2}$$
  $j = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$ 

$$0 = u(U, \overline{t}_j) = \int_{-\infty}^U u_0(y) G(y, 0; U, \overline{t}_j) dy + \int_0^{\overline{t}_j} \sum_{k=0}^{N_{\Delta t}-1} \alpha_k \varphi_k(s) \frac{\overline{\sigma}^2(s)}{2} G(U, s; U, \overline{t}_j) ds$$

# Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation

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ullet uniform decomposition of the time interval [0,T] with time step

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• evaluation of BIE at the collocation nodes:

$$\bar{t}_j = \frac{t_j + t_{j-1}}{2}$$
  $j = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$ 

$$\sum_{k=1}^{N_{\Delta t}} \alpha_k \int_0^{\bar{t}_j} \varphi_k(s) \frac{\overline{\sigma}^2(s)}{2} G(U,s;U,\bar{t}_j) ds = -\int_{-\infty}^U u_0(y) G(y,0;U,\bar{t}_j) dy$$

$$\mathcal{A}_{jk} \qquad \qquad \mathcal{F}_j$$

Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation  $\mathcal{A}\alpha = \mathcal{F}$  $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{N_{\Delta t}1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}2} & \cdots & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}-1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}} \end{pmatrix}$  as the Green's function is defined for  $\tau > s$  $\mathcal{A}_{jk} = \int_{0}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \varphi_{k}(s) \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} G(U,s;U,\overline{t}_{j}) ds = \int_{t_{k-1}}^{\min(t_{k},\overline{t}_{j})} \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2\sqrt{2\pi \int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\left[\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \left(\overline{r} - \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}}{2} - \overline{d}\right)(v) dv\right]^{2}}{2\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}\right\} ds$  $j, k = 1, \ldots, N_{\Delta t}, j > k$ 

... here in a user-friendly way:

numerical integration is simply performed by adaptive quadrature functions of Matlab:

- quad
- and quadgk for weak singularity in matrix diagonal entries

Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation  $\mathcal{A} \alpha = \mathcal{F}$  $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \cdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{N_{\Delta t}1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}2} & \cdots & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}-1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}} \end{pmatrix}$ as the Green's function is defined for  $\tau > s$  $\mathcal{A}_{jk} = \int_{0}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \varphi_{k}(s) \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} G(U,s;U,\overline{t}_{j}) ds = \int_{t_{k-1}}^{\min(t_{k},\overline{t}_{j})} \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2\sqrt{2\pi \int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\left[\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \left(\overline{r} - \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}}{2} - \overline{d}\right)(v) dv\right]^{2}}{2\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}\right\} ds$  $i, k = 1, \ldots, N_{\Delta t}, j \geq k$ 

**N.B.**: if  $\sigma, r, \delta$  are constant then

$$\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_2 & A_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_3 & A_2 & A_1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{N_{\Delta t}} & A_{N_{\Delta t-1}} & \cdots & A_{N_2} & A_{N_1} \end{pmatrix}$$

Numerical Resolution of the Boundary Integral Equation  $\mathcal{A}\alpha = \mathcal{F}$  $\mathcal{A} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ A_{31} & A_{32} & A_{33} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{N_{\Delta t}1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}2} & \cdots & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}-1} & A_{N_{\Delta t}N_{\Delta t}} \end{pmatrix}$ as the Green's function is defined for  $\tau > s$  $\mathcal{A}_{jk} = \int_{0}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \varphi_{k}(s) \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2} G(U,s;U,\overline{t}_{j}) ds = \int_{t_{k-1}}^{\min(t_{k},\overline{t}_{j})} \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}(s)}{2\sqrt{2\pi \int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\left[\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \left(\overline{r} - \frac{\overline{\sigma}^{2}}{2} - \overline{d}\right)(v) dv\right]^{2}}{2\int_{s}^{\overline{t}_{j}} \overline{\sigma}^{2}(v) dv}\right\} ds$  $i, k = 1, \ldots, N_{\Delta t}, j \geq k$  $\mathcal{A}\alpha = \mathcal{F}$  $\alpha$ 

# Numerical Approximation of the option price

### analytical INTEGRAL REPRESENTATION FORMULA

**RF** 
$$u(x,\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_0(y)G(y,0,x,\tau)dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2(s)}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}(U,s)G(U,s,x,\tau)ds$$
for each  $x \in \Omega = (-\infty, U), \tau \in (0,T]$   
unknown density

# Numerical Approximation of the option price

### approximation of INTEGRAL REPRESENTATION FORMULA

# Hedging

This numerical strategy is very useful and efficient also for hedging that needs computing *Greeks* because it is sufficient to evaluate the derivative of the RF

### $\Delta$ - Hedging

without computing the primary unknown  $\,V\,$ 

• 
$$\Delta := \frac{\partial V}{\partial S} = \frac{1}{S} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} (\log(S), T - t) e^{-\int_{t}^{T} r(t')dt'}$$
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} (x, \tau) := \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_{0}(y) \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} (y, 0; x, \tau) dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\overline{\sigma^{2}(s)}}{2} \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} (U, s; x, \tau) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} (U, s) ds$$
$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial x} (y, s, x, \tau) = G(y, s, x, \tau) \frac{y - x - \int_{s}^{\tau} (\overline{r} - \frac{\overline{\sigma^{2}}}{2} - \overline{d})(v) dv}{\int_{s}^{\tau} \overline{\sigma^{2}(v)} dv}$$
BOUNDARY INTEGRAL EQUATION  
BIE 
$$0 = u(U, \tau) := \int_{-\infty}^{U} u_{0}(y)G(y, 0; U, \tau) dy + \int_{0}^{\tau} \frac{\overline{\sigma^{2}(s)}}{2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} (U, s)G(U, s; U, \tau) ds$$
for each  $\tau \in (0, T]$   
solve the equation... numerically

#### [L.V. Ballestra – G. Pacelli, 2014]

 $\sigma = 0.25 \text{ <u>constant</u> volatility}$  E = 1 exercise price r = 0.1 interest rate  $\delta = 0 \text{ dividend yield}$ T = 1 maturity

 $e^{x^*} = S^* = [0:0.05:2]$ current underlying asset values  $S_u = 2$  upper barrier > E

 $V(S^*, 0)$ 



closed-form solution



$$\begin{cases} V(S,t) = Ee^{-r(T-t)}\mathcal{N}[y_1 + (1-2\lambda\sigma)\sqrt{T-t}]] \\ -Se^{-\delta(T-t)}\mathcal{N}[y_1 - 2\lambda\sigma\sqrt{T-t}] \\ +Se^{-\delta(T-t)}(S_u/S)^{2\lambda}\mathcal{N}[-y_1] \\ -Ee^{-r(T-t)}(S_u/S)^{2\lambda-2}\mathcal{N}[-y_1 + \sigma\sqrt{(T-t)}] \end{cases} \text{ if } S_u \leq E , \\ V(S,t) = P + Se^{-\delta(T-t)}(S_u/S)^{2\lambda}\mathcal{N}[-y] \\ -Ee^{-r(T-t)}(S_u/S)^{2\lambda-2}\mathcal{N}[-y + \sigma\sqrt{(T-t)}] \end{cases} \text{ if } S_u \geq E , \\ \lambda = \frac{r - \delta + \sigma^2/2}{\sigma^2}; \quad y_1 = \frac{\log(S_u/S)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} + \lambda\sigma\sqrt{T-t}; \quad y = \frac{\log\left(S_u^2/(SE)\right)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} + \lambda\sigma\sqrt{T-t}; \end{cases}$$

#### [L.V. Ballestra – G. Pacelli, 2014]

 $\sigma = 0.25 \text{ <u>constant</u> volatility}$  E = 1 exercise price r = 0.1 interest rate  $\delta = 0 \text{ dividend yield}$ T = 1 maturity

 $e^{x^*} = S^* = [0:0.05:2]$ current underlying asset values

 $S_u = 2$  upper barrier > E

 $V(S^*,0)$ 



#### SABO

$\Delta t$	Max Abs Err	Max Rel Err	CPU time
0.1	2.7 10 <sup>-6</sup>	5.6 10 <sup>-2</sup>	7.0 10 <sup>-1</sup> s
0.05	7.2 10 <sup>-7</sup>	1.5 10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.5 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
0.025	1.8 10 <sup>-7</sup>	3.8 10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.7 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
0.0125	4.9 10 <sup>-8</sup>	1.0 10 <sup>-3</sup>	5.5 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
0.00625	1.6 10 <sup>-8</sup>	3.4 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.1 10 <sup>+1</sup> s
0.003125	4.9 10 <sup>-9</sup>	9.8 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.3 10 <sup>+1</sup> s

[C. Guardasoni - S. Sanfelici, *A boundary element approach to barrier option pricing in Black–Scholes framework*, International Journal of Computer Mathematics, 2016]

#### FINITE DIFFERENCES

 $\Delta t = \Delta x^2$  (implicit in time and centered in space)

$\Delta x$	Max Abs Err	Max Rel Err	CPU time
0.1	3.2 10 <sup>-3</sup>	4.5 10 <sup>+0</sup>	1.6 10 <sup>-2</sup> s
0.05	9.2 10 <sup>-4</sup>	1.2 10 <sup>+0</sup>	1.6 10 <sup>-2</sup> s
0.025	2.5 10 <sup>-4</sup>	9.6 10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.1 10 <sup>-1</sup> s
0.0125	6.6 10 <sup>-5</sup>	2.5 10 <sup>-2</sup>	2.3 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
0.00625	1.4 10 <sup>-5</sup>	5.9 10 <sup>-3</sup>	5.8 10 <sup>+1</sup> s
0.003125	3.6 10 <sup>-6</sup>	1.6 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.9 10 <sup>+3</sup> s

### $\Delta$ - Hedging

 $\sigma = 0.25 \text{ <u>constant</u> volatility}$  E = 1 exercise price r = 0.1 interest rate  $\delta = 0 \text{ dividend yield}$ T = 1 maturity

 $e^{x^*} = S^*$ 

current underlying asset values

 $S_u = 2$  upper barrier > E

 $\Delta(S^*,0)$ 



#### SABO

Δt	S*=1.9	S*=1
0.1	-1.217824 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>
0.05	-1.232680 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>
0.025	-1.235895 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>
0.0125	-1.236180 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>
0.00625	-1.236224 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>
0.003125	-1.236268 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997916 10 <sup>-1</sup>

#### approximation by 2<sup>nd</sup> order CENTERED FINITE DIFFERENCE and closed formula option values

$\Delta x$	S*=1.9	S*=1	
0.1	-1.330647 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-3.068228 10 <sup>-1</sup>	
0.05	-1.259514 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-3.015779 10 <sup>-1</sup>	
0.025	-1.242075 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-3.002400 10 <sup>-1</sup>	
0.0125	-1.237736 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.999038 10 <sup>-1</sup>	
0.00625	-1.236653 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.998197 10 <sup>-1</sup>	
0.003125	-1.236382 10 <sup>-3</sup>	-2.997986 10 <sup>-1</sup>	

**N.B.**: in the case of constant parameters, we compare results with the closed formula for the greek.



#### FINITE DIFFERENCES

 $\Delta t = \Delta x^2$  (implicit in time and centered in space)

	Max Abs Err	Max Rel Err	CPU time
0.1	2.6 10 <sup>-1</sup>	3.3 10 <sup>+0</sup>	1.6 10 <sup>-2</sup> s
0.05	8.6 10 <sup>-2</sup>	1.0 10 <sup>+0</sup>	1.6 10 <sup>-2</sup> s
0.025	3.1 10 <sup>-4</sup>	8.1 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1.3 10 <sup>-1</sup> s
0.0125	8.1 10 <sup>-4</sup>	2.0 10 <sup>-3</sup>	2.4 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
0.00625	2.0 10-4	4.9 10 <sup>-4</sup>	6.1 10 <sup>+1</sup> s

#### **MONTE CARLO**

 $M = 50\,000$  is the initial sampling

 $N_{\Delta t} = 100$  is the number of initial time interval decomposition

$(M, N_{\Delta t}) \cdot k$	Max Abs Err Max Rel Er		CPU time
k=1	5.0 10 <sup>-2</sup>	5.7 10 <sup>-1</sup>	5.1 10 <sup>+0</sup> s
k=2	3.4 10 <sup>-2</sup>	4.4 10 <sup>-1</sup>	2.7 10 <sup>+1</sup> s
k=3	2.7 10 <sup>-2</sup>	3.2 10 <sup>-1</sup>	7.2 10 <sup>+1</sup> s

[C. Guardasoni - S. Sanfelici, *A boundary element approach to barrier option pricing in Black–Scholes framework*, International Journal of Computer Mathematics, 2016]

Numerical Example [F. Zirilli, L. Fatone, M.C. Recchioni, (2008)]

### piecewise constant volatility

$$S_u = 101 \qquad t_0 = 0, \ T = 0.5 \qquad S^* = 100 \qquad r = 0.03, \qquad d = 0.02,$$
$$\sigma(t) = \begin{cases} 0.0105 & t < 0.25 \\ 0.01147824 & 0.25 \le t \le T \end{cases}$$

CPU time (s)  $1.0 \cdot 10^{-1}$ 

 $2.1 \cdot 10^{+0}$ 

 $3.4\cdot10^{+1}$ 

 $3.4 \cdot 10^{+2}$ 

 $3.4\cdot 10^{+3}$ 

### E = 101

1 - -

n	$V_{SABO}(100,0)$	CPU time (s)	20	$V_{\rm ED}(100)$
2	0.89178	$1.0 \cdot 10^{+0}$	10	0.00504
3	0.89373	$2.0 \cdot 10^{+0}$	0	0.89584
4	0.89419	$4.5 \cdot 10^{+0}$	1	0.89474
Ē	0.00110	1.2 10+1	2	0.89447
0	0.89433	$1.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$	3	0.89440
6	0.89436	$3.9 \cdot 10^{+1}$	4	0.89438
$\overline{7}$	0.89437	$1.2 \cdot 10^{+2}$	1	0.00100
	4 · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	•		

#### E = 103

	$\Delta t_{SABO} = T/2^n$
$\Delta t_{FD} = \Delta x_{FD}^2$	$\Delta x_{FD} = 0.25/2^n$

n	$V_{SABO}(100,0)$	CPU time (s)	22	$V_{\rm ED}(100,0)$	CPU time (s)
2 3 4 5	1.08163 1.08634 1.08787 1.08828	$\begin{array}{c} 1.0 \cdot 10^{+0} \\ 1.9 \cdot 10^{+0} \\ 4.5 \cdot 10^{+0} \\ 1.2 \cdot 10^{+1} \end{array}$	$\frac{n}{0}$ 1 2	$ $	$\frac{\text{CPU time (s)}}{1.6 \cdot 10^{-1}}$ $2.4 \cdot 10^{+0}$ $3.5 \cdot 10^{+1}$ $2.7 \cdot 10^{+2}$
6 7	1.08839 1.08842	$3.7 \cdot 10^{+1}$ $1.2 \cdot 10^{+2}$	3 4	1.08864 1.08849	$3.7 \cdot 10^{+2}$ $3.7 \cdot 10^{+3}$

[C. Guardasoni, *Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of barrier options in case of time-dependent parameters (with Matlab codes)*, submitted to CAIM]

Numerical Example [F. Zirilli, L. Fatone, M.C. Recchioni, (2008)]

#### piecewise constant volatility

$$S_u = 101 t_0 = 0, T = 0.5 S^* = 100 r = 0.03, d = 0.02,$$
  
$$\sigma(t) = \begin{cases} 0.0105 & t < 0.25 \\ 0.01147824 & 0.25 \le t \le T \end{cases}$$

E = 201  $\Delta t = 0.0625$ 



[C. Guardasoni, *Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of barrier options in case of time-dependent parameters (with Matlab codes)*, submitted to CAIM]

Numerical Example [F. Zirilli, L. Fatone, M.C. Recchioni, (2008)]

### time-continuous volatility

$$S_u = 30$$
  $t_0 = 0, T = 1$   $S^* = 29$   $r = 0.03,$   $d = 0.02,$   $E = 50$   
 $\sigma^2(t) = 0.03 + 0.02(T - t)$ 

$\Delta t = T/2^n$		2 <sup>n</sup> SABO	
	n	$V(S^*,0)$	CPU time
	4	3.67754	4.0 10 <sup>-0</sup>
	5	3.68136	1.0 10 <sup>+1</sup>
	6	3.68235	3.4 10 <sup>+1</sup>
	7	3.68264	1.2 10 <sup>+2</sup>



[C. Guardasoni, *Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of barrier options in case of time-dependent parameters (with Matlab codes)*, submitted to CAIM]



-3

-3.5

-4<sub>0</sub>

S



0<sup>1</sup>0

S



# Observations

### Advantages :

- implicit satisfaction of asset infinity boundary conditions
- avoidance of discretization of asset- domain (dimensional reduction)
- high precision and stability
- direct evaluation of derivated functions (greeks)

Costs are due to:

- discretization in time
- numerical quadrature

### Needs :

• Green fundamental solution in a closed or approximated form

# Application to Heston model

#### [S.L. Heston (1993)]

if the **volatility** is considered as a **stochastic process** the problem to evaluate a **DOWN-and-OUT Call Option** reduces to the following partial differential problem

V depends also on the square of volatility  $\boldsymbol{v}$ 

V(x, v, t) option price  $x \in \Omega_x = (\log(L), +\infty), v \in \Omega_v = (0, +\infty), t \in [0, T)$ 

 $\rho = \text{correlation between } S \text{ and } v$   $\eta = \text{volatility of volatility}$   $\lambda = \text{speed of mean reversion}$   $\theta = \text{long-run variance}$  r = risk-free interest rate $\delta = \text{dividend yield}$ 

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \rho\eta v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x\partial v} + \frac{1}{2}\eta^2 v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial v^2} + \left(r - \delta - \frac{1}{2}v\right)\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} - (\lambda(v - \bar{v}) - \theta v)\frac{\partial V}{\partial v} - rV = 0$$

# Application to Heston model

[S.L. Heston (1993)]

 $\rho = \text{correlation between } S \text{ and } v$ 

if the **volatility** is considered as a **stochastic process** the problem to evaluate a **DOWN-and-OUT Call Option** reduces to the following partial differential problem

$$V \text{ depends also on the square of volatility } v$$

$$V(x, v, t) \text{ option price} \quad x \in \Omega_x = (\log(L), +\infty), v \in \Omega_v = (0, +\infty), t \in [0, T)$$

$$\begin{cases} \eta = \text{ volatility } \delta \text{ real reversion } \\ \theta = \log_{-1}\text{run variance } \\ r = \text{risk-free interest rate } \\ \delta = \text{ dividend yield} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \rho\eta v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x \partial v} + \frac{1}{2}\eta^2 v\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial v^2} + \left(r - \delta - \frac{1}{2}v\right)\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} - (\lambda(v - \bar{v}) - \theta v)\frac{\partial V}{\partial v} - rV = 0$$

$$\text{final condition (payoff)} \quad V(x, v, T) = \max(e^x - E, 0) \quad x \in \Omega_x \quad v \in \Omega_v$$
with *E* exercise price
$$\frac{\text{boundary conditions}}{\text{with } E \text{ exercise price}} \quad [E. \text{ Miglio-C. Sgarra (2011)]}$$

$$\text{o n the asset}$$

$$V(\log(L), v, t) = 0 \quad \lim_{x \to +\infty} V(x, v, t) = e^{x - \delta t} \quad t \in [0, T) \quad v \in \Omega_v$$

$$\text{o n the variance}$$

$$\lim_{v \to +\infty} S(x, v, t) = e^x \quad S(x, 0, t) = \sum_{n=0}^{+\infty} e^{-\lambda t} \frac{(\lambda t)^n}{n!} S_{BS}(t, e^x, B, \bar{\sigma}_n, \bar{r}_n) \quad x \in \Omega_x \quad t \in [0, T)$$

$$S_{BS}(t, e^x, B, \bar{\sigma}_n, \bar{r}_n) \text{ Black-Scholes value with variance } \sigma_n^2 = \frac{m^2}{t} \text{ and rate } \bar{r}_n = r - \delta + \lambda(1 - e^{\mu + \sigma^2/2}) + n\frac{\mu + \sigma^2/2}{t}$$

# Numerical methods



 $x \in \Omega_x = (\log(L), +\infty), v \in \Omega_v = (0, +\infty), t \in [0, T)$ 

$$\begin{split} V(x,v,t) &= e^{-r(T-t)} \left\{ \int_{\log(L)}^{+\infty} \int_{\Omega_v} V(y,w,T) G(x,y,v,w,t,T) \, dw \, dy + \\ &- \int_t^T \int_{\Omega_v} \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} (\log(L),w,\tau) e^{r(T-t)} \frac{w}{2} G(x,\log(L),v,w,t,\tau) dw \, d\tau \right\} \end{split}$$

# Fundamental solution

[C. Guardasoni, S. Sanfelici (SIAM 2016)]

 $G(x, y, v, w, t, \tau)$  is the joint transition probability density (or fundamental solution) that expresses the probability to move from (x, v) at time t to (y, w) at time  $\tau$ 

$$G(x, y, v, w, t, \tau) = p_{t \to \tau}(x \to y, v \to w) = p_{t \to \tau}(y - x, w | v) = p_{t \to \tau}(y - x | w, v) \widetilde{p}_{t \to \tau}(v, w)$$

•  $\tilde{p}_{t\to\tau}(v,w)$  is the transition density of the variance v conditioned on w [W. Feller (1951)]

$$\widetilde{p}_{t\to\tau}(v,w) = \gamma e^{-\gamma \left(v e^{-\lambda(\tau-t)} + w\right)} \left(\frac{w}{v e^{-\lambda(\tau-t)}}\right)^{\frac{\alpha-1}{2}} I_{\alpha-1} \left(2\sqrt{\gamma^2 v w e^{-\lambda(\tau-t)}}\right)$$

 $\gamma = \frac{2\lambda}{\left(1 - e^{-\lambda(\tau - t)}\right)\eta^2} \quad \alpha = \frac{2\lambda\bar{v}}{\eta^2}; \quad I \text{ is the modified Bessel function of the 1st kind (Feller condition } \lambda\bar{v} \ge \eta^2)$ 

• with an inverse Fourier transform:

 $p_{t\to\tau}(y-x|w,v) = \mathcal{F}_{\omega}^{-1}[\widehat{p}](y-x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \widehat{p}(\omega,v,w,t,\tau) e^{-\mathbf{i}\omega(y-x)} d\omega$  $\widehat{p}(\omega,v,w,t,\tau) = e^{\mathbf{i}\omega\left\{(r-d)(\tau-t) + \frac{\rho}{\eta}\left(w-v-\lambda\overline{v}(\tau-t)\right)\right\}} \phi\left[\omega\left(\frac{\lambda\rho}{\eta} - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{i}\omega^2(1-\rho^2)\right]$  $\phi[\cdot] = \dots \text{ is the characteristic function of the integrated variance } \int_t^{\tau} v(s)ds \text{ given } v_t \text{ and } v_{\tau}$  $[\mathbf{M. Broadie, O. Kaya (2006)]}$ 

# Numerical resolution of BIE

• uniform decomposition of the time interval [0,T] with time step

$$\Delta t = T/N_{\Delta t}: \qquad t_j = j\Delta t \quad j = 0, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$$

- uniform decomposition of the variance interval  $\left[0, v_{\max}
ight]$  with step

$$\Delta v = v_{\max}/N_{\Delta v}: \qquad v_i = i\Delta v \quad i = 0, \dots, N_{\Delta v}$$

approximation of the BIE unknown

$$q(\log(L), w, \tau) \approx \sum_{h=1}^{N_{\Delta v}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\Delta t}} \alpha_h^{(k)} \psi_h(w) \varphi_k(\tau)$$

$$\psi_h(w) = H[w - v_{h-1}] - H[w - v_h]$$

$$\varphi_k(\tau) = H[\tau - t_{k-1}] - H[\tau - t_k]$$
for
$$h = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta v}$$

$$k = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$$

with

• evaluation of BIE at the collocation nodes:

$$\bar{t}_j = \frac{t_j + t_{j-1}}{2} \qquad j = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$$
  
 $\bar{v}_i = \frac{v_i + v_{i-1}}{2} \qquad i = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta v}$ 

Attention!: the fundamental solution in this framework is known throughout a numerical inverse Fourier transform

# Numerical resolution of BIE [C. Guardas

[C. Guardasoni, S. Sanfelici (SIAM 2016)]

$$\mathcal{A}\alpha = \mathcal{F}$$

• 
$$\mathcal{A}$$
 has an upper triangular Toeplitz structure  $\ell = k - j$   $\ell = 0, \dots, N_{\Delta t}$   
 $i, h = 1, \dots, N_{\Delta v}$   
 $\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(jk)} = \int_{\max(\bar{t}_j, t_{k-1})}^{t_k} \int_{v_{h-1}}^{v_h} \frac{w}{2} G(\log(L), \log(L), \bar{v}_i, w, \bar{t}_j, \tau) dw d\tau =$   
 $= \int_{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} H[\ell]}^{1} \int_{v_{h-1}}^{v_h} \frac{\Delta t}{4\pi} w \tilde{p}_{0 \to \Delta t(\ell - \frac{1}{2} + s)}(\bar{v}_i, w) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \hat{p}(\omega, \bar{v}_i, w, 0, \Delta t(\ell - \frac{1}{2} + s)) d\omega dw ds =: \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(\ell)}$   
 $(\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \cdots \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(N_{\Delta t} - 2)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(N_{\Delta t} - 1)})$   
 $(\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \cdots \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(\Delta t - 2)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(N_{\Delta t} - 1)})$   
 $(\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \cdots \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(2)})$   
 $(\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \cdots \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(1)} \mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(2)})$   
 $\mathcal{A}_{ih}^{(0)} \alpha^{(\ell)} = \mathcal{F}^{(\ell)} - \sum_{q=\ell+1}^{N_{\Delta t}} \mathcal{A}^{(q-\ell)} \alpha^{(q)}, \quad \ell = 1, \cdots, N_{\Delta t}$ 

• numerical quadrature rule for evaluation of inverse Fourier transform: Matlab adaptive quadrature

numerical quadrature rule for evaluation of integrals:

Gauss-Legendre quadrature rules

# Numerical example: Heston model

### L.Feng-V.Linetsky (2008)

$$\begin{split} E &= 100 \text{ exercise price} \\ r &= 0.05 \text{ interest rate} \\ \delta &= 0.02 \text{ asset payout ratio} \\ \rho &= -0.5 \text{ correlation between } S \text{ and } v \\ \eta &= 0.1 \text{ volatility of volatility} \\ \lambda &= 4 \text{ speed of mean reversion} \\ \bar{v} &= 0.04 \text{ long-run variance} \end{split}$$

L = 110 barrier

time discretization

 $V(150, v^*, 0)$ 

	CAR	

$e^{x^*}$ =	= S*	current	underlyin	ıg asset	value
$v^* =$	0.01	current	variance		
T =	1 ma	aturity			

### SABO

$N_{\Delta t} = N_{\Delta v}$	$V(S^*,v^*,0)$	CPU time
3	50.96	2·10⁺² s
6	50.98	9·10⁺² s
9	51.02	2·10 <sup>+3</sup> s
12	51.01	2·10 <sup>+4</sup> s
15	51.01	4·10 <sup>+4</sup> s

sampling

		1								1
_		$M = 10^4$			$M = 10^{6}$			$M = 10^{8}$		
	$N_{\Delta t} = 100$	51.49	[50.95 , 52.02]	4·10 <sup>-1</sup>	51.24	[51.18 , 51.29]	4·10 <sup>+1</sup>	51.25	[51.25 , 51.26]	4·10 <sup>+3</sup>
	$2 N_{\Delta t}$	51.24	[50.71 , 51.78]	6·10 <sup>-1</sup>	51.19	[51.14 , 51.25]	6·10 <sup>+1</sup>	51.19	[51.18 , 51.19]	7·10 <sup>+3</sup>
	$4 N_{\Delta t}$	51.33	[50.79 , 51.88]	1.10+0	51.16	[51.10 , 51.21]	1.10+2	51.14	[51.13 , 51.15]	1.10+4
	$8 N_{\Delta t}$	51.35	[50.80 , 51.89]	2·10 <sup>+0</sup>	51.13	[51.08 , 51.18]	2·10 <sup>+2</sup>	51.11	[51.10 , 51.11]	2.10+4
	$16 N_{\Delta t}$	51.41	[50.88 , 51.95]	4·10 <sup>+0</sup>	51.11	[51.05 , 51.16]	3·10 <sup>+2</sup>	51.09	[51.08,51.09]	5.10+4
	$32 N_{\Delta t}$	50.97	[50.42 , 51.52]	8·10 <sup>+0</sup>	51.08	[51.02 , 51.13]	1.10+3	51.07	[51.06,51.07]	7.10+4

# Numerical example: Heston model

# $V(115,v^st,0)$

SABO	$N_{\Delta t} = N_{\Delta v}$	$V(S^*, v^*, 0)$
	3	8.04
	6	8.06
	9	8.31
	12	8.29
	15	8.30

BEM, $S$			
pre- and pos	tprocessing		р
$N_{\Delta t} = N_{\Delta v}$	Times		$N_{\Delta t} =$
3	1.5E+02 s		3
6	7.5E+02 s		6
9	3.4E+03 s		9
12	3.7E + 03 s		12
15	6.2E+03 s		15

### CPU time

postprocessing					
$N_{\Delta t} = N_{\Delta v}$	Times				
3	3.8E+01 s				
6	1.4E+02 s				
9	3.1E+02 s				
12	3.9E+02 s				
15	6.1E + 02 s				

### **MONTE CARLO**

### sampling

		$M = 10^4$		$M = 10^{6}$			$M = 10^{8}$			
<b>c</b>	$N_{\Delta t} = 100$	9.86	[9.51,10.21]	4·10 <sup>-1</sup>	9.72	[9.69,9.76]	4·10 <sup>+1</sup>	9.74	[9.73,9.74]	4·10 <sup>+3</sup>
atio	$2 N_{\Delta t}$	9.22	[8.88,9.57]	7·10 <sup>-1</sup>	9.33	[9.30,9.37]	7·10 <sup>+1</sup>	9.33	[9.32,9.33]	6·10 <sup>+3</sup>
etiz	$4 N_{\Delta t}$	8.99	[8.64,9.33]	1·10 <sup>+0</sup>	9.04	[9.00,9.07]	1·10 <sup>+2</sup>	9.03	[9.03,9.04]	1.10+4
liscr	$8 N_{\Delta t}$	8.81	[8.46,9.15]	2·10 <sup>+0</sup>	8.82	[8.79,8.86]	2·10 <sup>+2</sup>	8.83	[8.83, 8.83]	2·10 <sup>+4</sup>
ue c	$16 N_{\Delta t}$	8.54	[8.20,8.88]	4·10 <sup>+0</sup>	8.68	[8.65,8.71]	4·10 <sup>+2</sup>	8.68	[ 8.68, 8.68]	4·10 <sup>+4</sup>
tin	$32 N_{\Delta t}$				8.58	[8.54,8.61]	8·10 <sup>+2</sup>			
Ĺ	$64 N_{\Delta t}$				8.53	[8.49,8.56]	2·10 <sup>+3</sup>			
	$128 N_{\Delta t}$				8.50	[8.46,8.53]	3·10 <sup>+3</sup>			
	$256 N_{\Delta t}$				8.43	[8.40,8.47]	7·10 <sup>+3</sup>			
	$512 N_{\Delta t}$				8.39	[8.36,8.43]	1.10+4			

# Numerical example: Heston model



# References

Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of Barrier Options:

• A boundary element approach to barrier option pricing in **Black–Scholes framework** 

International Journal of Computer Mathematics, 2016

- Fast numerical pricing of barrier options under stochastic volatility and jumps
   SIAM Journal on Applied Mathematics, 2016
- Semi-Analytical method for the pricing of barrier options in case of time-dependent parameters (with Matlab codes) submitted to CAIM

# Perspective

- Extension to Asian barrier options with geometric mean
  - ... with arithmetic mean

# Thank you for the attention!

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Kolmogorov-Fokker-Planck Equations: theoretical issues and applications

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