

Neural network approximation to the SABR option pricing model

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Key reference: Horvath, Blanka, Aitor Muguruza, and Mehdi Tomas (2019). *Deep Learning Volatility*, arXiv:1901.09647v2

The set-up from Horvath et al (2019)

- Model $M(\theta)$ with parameter $\theta \in \Theta$
- Approximate calibration between a numerical approximation \tilde{P} of the pricing map, and price data observed from the market P^{MKT} :

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta \in \Theta} \delta(\tilde{P}^{M(\theta)}(\zeta), P^{MKT}(\zeta)) \quad (1)$$

where ζ denotes the choice of exotic product attribute.

- We learn $F^*(\theta) = \{\tilde{P}^{M(\theta)}(\zeta_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ via NN (step 1), then proceed into an inverse mapping study $P^{MKT} \mapsto \hat{\theta}$ (step 2).
- Here we investigate on the step 1.

SABR model

The Fundamental Pricing Theorem (FPT) with a constant interest rate r is specified as

$$\mathbb{E} [\max\{P^{asset}(T; \theta) - K, 0\}e^{-rT}] = P^{call}(K; P^{asset}) =: F(K; \theta) \quad (2)$$

In the SABR model, $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^5$, specified as $\theta = (P^{asset}(0), \alpha(0), \beta, \rho, \nu)$

$$dP^{asset} = \alpha P^{asset}{}^\beta dW_1 \quad (3a)$$

$$d\alpha = \nu \alpha dW_2 \quad (3b)$$

$$dW_1 dW_2 = \rho dt \quad (3c)$$

Without further ambiguity, we denote P as the asset price P^{asset} .

SABR model — parameters

We fix certain probability distribution on \mathbb{R}^5 , in particular,

$$P(0) \sim U[0, 200] \quad (4a)$$

$$\alpha(0) \sim U[0, 1] \quad (4b)$$

$$\beta \sim U[0, 1] \quad (4c)$$

$$\rho \sim U[-1, 1] \quad (4d)$$

$$\nu \sim U[0, 1] \quad (4e)$$

Motivation for computational analysis

- In practice, we face a large dimension of Θ ¹
- Consider $\theta = (\theta_0, \theta_1)$ where θ_1 is a fixed calibration. Then the ultimate aim becomes learning $P^{MKT} \mapsto (\hat{\theta}_0(\theta_1), \theta_1)$
- We note that θ_1 needs to be updated rather regularly — the contemporary choice of the calibrated θ_1 depends on the historical market data and managerial decisions, which can change over the time.

Therefore, the learning needs to be done repetitively, as for every θ_1 , the training of neural network needs to proceed thoroughly.

¹ E.g. HJM for FX forwards.

Contribution

- Deepen the understanding of the approximation behaviour towards SABR pricing model
- Computationally observe the trade-off amongst Monte Carlo sample size (M), Price paths per sample (N) and step size (s) given computing constraints.
- Further the observations on NN approximations² and potential failures.

² Harry and Valeria would have more to talk about on this part

Algorithm

Algorithm 1: Simulation and getting a sample of the distribution of $F(K; \theta)$, with Monte Carlo standard deviations

Input: Interest rate r , strike price K , terminal time T , incremental time s , number of paths per draw of θ , denoted N , number of draws of θ , denoted M , and the distribution of θ

Output: $\{P_{i,j}(T)\}_{j=1}^N$ thus $F_i(K; \theta_i)$ for each θ_i drawn, and get $\{F_i(K; \theta_i)\}_{i=1}^M$ with Monte Carlo standard deviation $\{\sigma_i^{MC}\}_{i=1}^M$

1. For $i \in \{1, \dots, M\}$:
 - (a) Sample θ_i
 - (b) Repeat below for N times to get $\{P_{i,j}(T)\}_{j=1}^N$:
 - i. Sample Brownian Motion $W_1(t), W_2(t)$:
 - A. Sample $\Delta W_2(t) \sim N(0, s)$
 - B. Sample $\Delta W_1(t)$
 - ii. Compute $\alpha(t), P(t)$:
 - A. Compute $\alpha(t)$
 - B. Compute $\Delta P(t) = \alpha(t)P(t)^\beta \Delta W_1(t)$
 - (c) Obtain $F_i(K; \theta_i), \sigma_i^{MC}$:
 - i. Compute $P_{i,j}^{call}(K; P_{i,j}) := \max\{P_{i,j}(T; \theta_i) - K, 0\}e^{-rT}$ for all j
 - ii. Obtain $F_i(K; \theta_i)$ as the mean of $\{P_{i,j}^{call}(K; P_{i,j})\}_{j=1}^N$
 - iii. Obtain σ_i^{MC} as the standard deviation of $\{P_{i,j}^{call}(K; P_{i,j})\}_{j=1}^N$
 - iv. Reject the sample and re-run (i.e. return to 1(a) and keeping the same index i) if $F_i(K; \theta_i) > 400$
2. Therefore obtain $\{F_i(K; \theta_i), \sigma_i^{MC}\}_{i=1}^M$

Remarks and computational costs

- $F_i(K; \theta_i)$ is an approximation to the true $F(K; \theta_i)$
- With some pre-determined $\{K_j\}_{j=1}^J$, usually as a function of $F(0)$, we simulate a dataset $\{(F(K_j; \theta_i))_{j=1}^J, \theta_i\}_{i=1}^M$. The cost of creating this dataset is $O(NM(J + s^{-1}))$.
 - The draw of normal distributions cost $O(NMs^{-1})$. This comes from the sampling of Brownian motions.
 - The computation with J strike prices needs $O(NMJ)$. This comes from standard statistical operations for mean and variance.

Specifications in this experiment

Here we simply fix J and the specification of K_j : we let K_1, \dots, K_8 to be $0.7F(0), \dots, 1.4F(0)$, respectively.

Choices of combinations for training and validation set:

N	M	J	s^{-1}	Name
50	12K	8	100	V1
500	12K	8	20	V2
50	100K	8	10	L1
25	100K	8	20	L2
50	50K	8	20	L3
100	25K	8	20	L4

Configuration for the fixed test set, which will be used for final evaluation:

N	M	J	s^{-1}	Name
500	10K	8	100	TestData

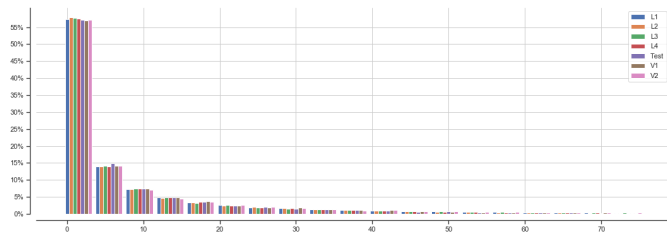
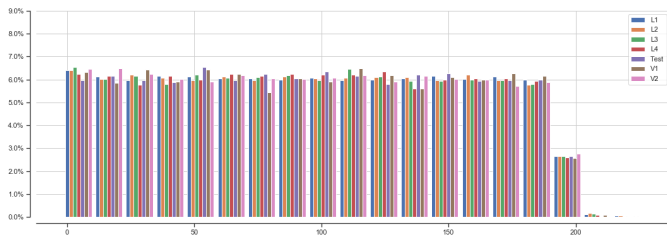


Figure: Histogram of $F_i(K; \theta_i)$ (top) and σ_i^{MC} (bottom)

Aim

Big picture:

$$\phi : \Theta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^J \text{ s.t. } \phi(\cdot) \approx F(K; \cdot)$$

In practice:

fix a test dataset D^{test} and with a evaluation formula $I(D, \phi)$,

$$\min I(D^{\text{test}}, \phi)$$

Questions:

- How to determine the architecture?
- Given an architecture, how to train the neural network?

Architecture

Recall that a component-wise Exponential Linear Units (ELU) stands for

$$ELU(x) = \mathbb{1}[x > 0]x + \mathbb{1}[x < 0](e^x - 1)$$

and that a component-wise Rectified ELU (RELU) stands for

$$RELU(x) = \max\{0, x\}$$

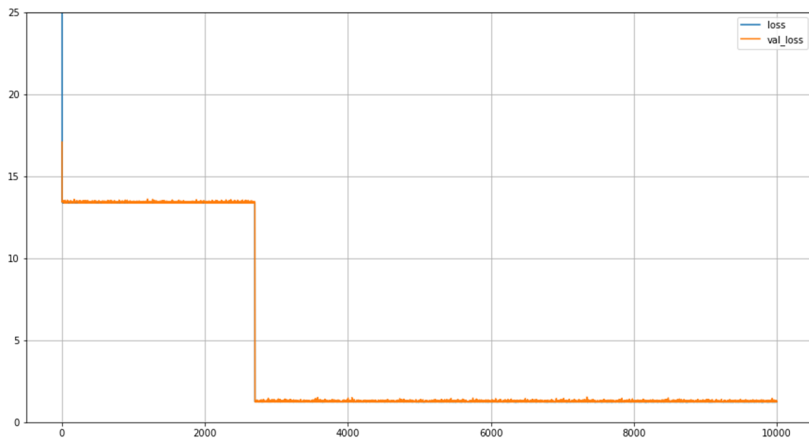
We consider

$$\phi = \sigma_3 \circ W_3 \circ \sigma_2 \circ W_2 \circ \sigma_1 \circ W_1$$

where $\sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = ELU$ and $\sigma_3 \in \{ELU, RELU\}$ and affine maps $W_l : \mathbb{R}^{n_{l-1}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_l}$. We thus have neuron vector $n = (n_0, n_1, n_2, n_3)$ with $n_0 = \dim(\Theta)$ and $n_3 = J$

Training & Empirical troubles

Training: ADAM with MAE loss. Weight initialisation: the trouble.



Validation — Evaluation function

Consider a function that outputs the percentage of predictions errors that are larger than $k\sigma^{MC}$, where $k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$. This can be mathematically written as:

$$\ell_k^{MC}(\sigma, D, \phi) = 100(|D|J)^{-1} \sum_{(x,y,\sigma^{MC}) \in D} \sum_{j=1}^J \mathbb{1}[|y_j - (\phi(x))_j| > k\sigma] \quad (5)$$

The choice of σ varies — here we consider the σ_L, σ_S , noting the maximum and minimum, respectively, of the generated σ^{MC}

Validation — Evaluation procedure

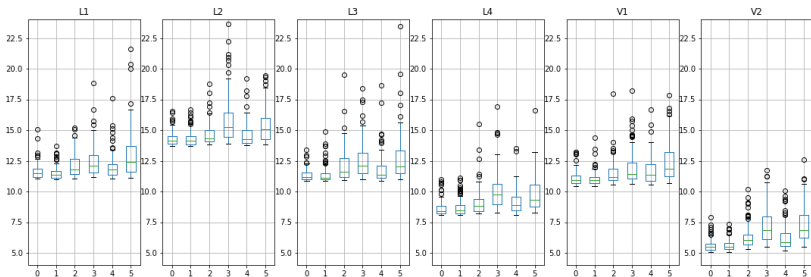
- 1 For each ϕ_z , for each randomisation $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 99, 100\}$,³ we obtain $l(D; z, i) = \ell_2^{MC}(\sigma_L, D, \phi_z)$.
- 2 Summarise them by obtaining $l^{median}(D; z)$ as the median of $\{l(D; z, i)\}_{i=1}^{100}$.
- 3 Select the top-performing model of each dataset, that is, $z^*(D) = \arg \min_{z \in Z} \{l^{median}(D; z)\}$

³ This can be completed by the `setseed` in python.

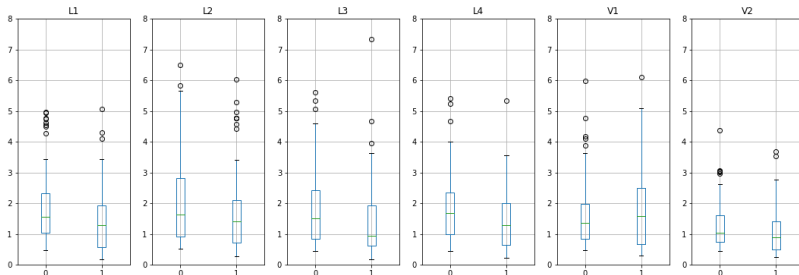
Practical set-ups of the architecture

Label	n	Total number of parameters	σ_3
0	(5,6,7,8)	149	ELU
1	(5,6,7,8)	149	RELU
2	(5,10,40,8)	828	ELU
3	(5,10,40,8)	828	RELU
4	(5,40,40,8)	2208	ELU
5	(5,40,40,8)	2208	RELU

Validation results



Test results



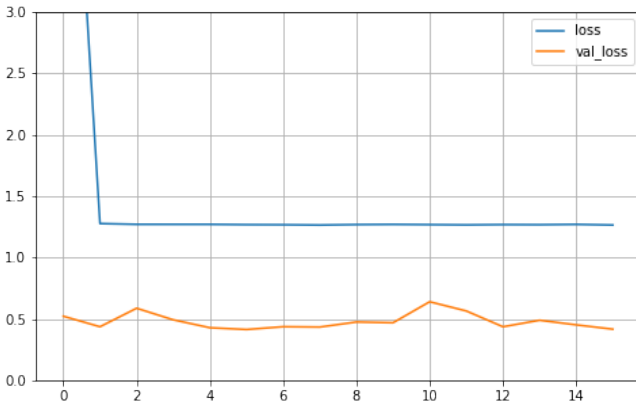
From above, we see more stable output in V2 compared to V1 — this implies that, from the simulation, an increased path size (N) at a cost of increased step size (s) could be beneficial. The rests have no contribution to a determined conclusion.

Interesting observations

MC-NN Error decomposition:

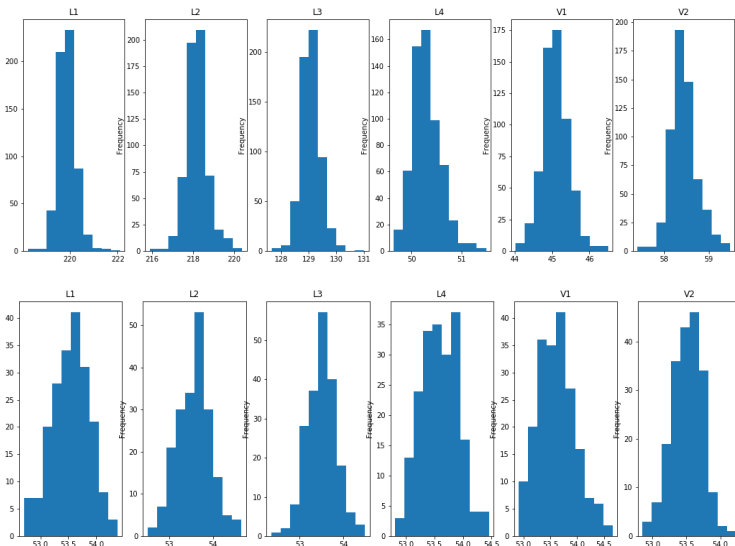
$$F_i(K; \theta_i) - \phi(K; \theta_i) = (F_i(K; \theta_i) - F(K; \theta_i)) + (F(K; \theta_i) - \phi(K; \theta_i))$$

It seems that the MC-Truth error occupies heavily in some dataset, as during the testing stage, the within-data loss could be higher than the test-data loss.



Interesting observations & Future extensions

Irreducible error on the max error — similar to Dr Hansen's arguments.



Future extensions

- 1 One may try approximating the true option prices via polynomial expansions.
- 2 Surprised about how fragile and delicate the training of NN can be. Potential extension is to back check on earlystop and potentially other training methods
- 3 The simulated dataset can be fructified and diversified with put options and grid sample of θ
- 4 It is a headache doing experiments with Colab / local machines as the computing power was so limited.