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### Examples of finance instruments affected by credit risk

- ▶ bond portfolios
- ▶ OTC (“over the counter”) transactions
- ▶ trades with credit derivatives
- ▶ ...

# A generic model of credit risk

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$L$  is a r.v. and its distribution depends from the c.d.f. of  $(X_1, \dots, X_n, \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)^T$  ab.

# The simplest model

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- ▶ recovery rates are deterministic and  $\lambda_i = \lambda_1, \forall i$
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$S_i = 0$  corresponds to default.

Then we have  $X_i = \begin{cases} 0 & S_i \neq 0 \\ 1 & S_i = 0 \end{cases}$

## Models with latent variables (contd.)

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Let  $d_{ij}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, m + 1$  be threshold values such that  
 $d_{i,0} = -\infty$  und  $d_{i,m+1} = \infty$  and  $S_i = j \iff Y_i \in (d_{i,j}, d_{i,j+1}]$ .



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Let  $F_i$  be the distribution function of  $Y_i$ . The probability of default for obligor  $i$  is  $p_i = F_i(d_{i,1})$ .

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Let  $F_i$  be the distribution function of  $Y_i$ . The probability of default for obligor  $i$  is  $p_i = F_i(d_{i,1})$ .

The probability that the first  $k$  obligors default:

$$p_{1,2,\dots,k} := P(Y_1 \leq d_{1,1}, Y_2 \leq d_{2,1}, \dots, Y_k \leq d_{k,1})$$

$$= C(F_1(d_{1,1}), F_2(d_{2,1}), \dots, F_k(d_{k,1}), 1, 1, \dots, 1) = C(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k, 1, \dots, 1)$$

Thus the total default probability depends essentially on the copula  $C$  of  $(Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)$ .

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## **Merton's model**

The balance sheet of each firm consists of assets and liabilities. The latter are divided in debt and equities.

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Notations:

$V_{A,i}(T)$ : value of assets of firm  $i$  at time point  $T$

$K_i := K_i(T)$ : value of the debt of firm  $i$  at time point  $T$

$V_{E,i}(T)$ : value of equity of firm  $i$  at time point  $T$

**Assumption:** future asset value is modelled by a geometric Brownian motion

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Hence  $(W_i(T) - W_i(t)) \sim N(0, T - t)$  and  $\ln V_{A,i}(T) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with

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Then we get:  $X_i = I_{(-\infty, K_i)}(V_{A,i}(T)) = I_{(-\infty, -DD_i)}(Y_i)$  where

$$DD_i = \frac{\ln V_{A,i}(t) - \ln K_i + \left( \mu_{A,i} - \frac{\sigma_{A,i}^2}{2} \right) (T - t)}{\sigma_{A,i} \sqrt{T - t}}$$

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$DD_i$  is called *distance-to-default*.



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**Computation of the “distance to default”**

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However  $V_{E,i}(t)$  can be observed by looking at the market stock prices.

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$$e_1 = \frac{\ln(V_{A,i}(t) - K_i) + (r + \sigma_{A,i}^2/2)(T-t)}{\sigma_{A,i}(T-t)}, \quad e_2 = e_1 - \sigma_{A,i}(T-t),$$

$\phi$  is the standard normal distribution function and  $r$  is the risk free interest rate.

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Then  $P(V_{A,i}(T) < K_i) = P(Y_i < -DD_i)$  and in the general setup of the latent variable model with  $m = 1$  we have  $d_{i1} = -DD_i$ .

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Summary of the univariate KMV model to compute the default probability of a company:

- ▶ Estimate the asset value  $V_{A,i}$  and the volatility  $\sigma_{A,i}$  by using observations of the market value and the volatility of equity  $V_{E,i}$ ,  $\sigma_{E,i}$ , the book of liabilities  $K_i$ , and by solving the system of equations above.
- ▶ Compute the distance-to-default  $DD_i$  by means of the corresponding formula.
- ▶ Estimate the default probability  $p_i$  in terms of the empirical distribution which relates the distance to default with the expected default frequency.

# The multivariate KMV model: computation of multivariate default probabilities for $n$ debtors



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Set  $Y_i := \frac{\sum_{j=1}^n \sigma_{A,i,j} (W_j(T) - W_j(t))}{\sigma_{A,i} \sqrt{T-t}}$ . Then  $Y = (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n) \sim N_n(0, \Sigma)$ ,

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We get  $V_{A,i}(T) < K_i \iff Y_i < -DD_i$  for all  $i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  with

$$DD_i = \frac{\ln V_{A,i}(t) - \ln K_i + \left( \frac{-\sigma_{A,i}^2}{2} + \mu_{A,i} \right) (T-t)}{\sigma_{A,i} \sqrt{T-t}}.$$

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The probability that the  $k$  first firms default:

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Joint default frequency:

$$JDF_{1,2,\dots,k} = C_{\Sigma}^{Ga}(EDF_1, EDF_2, \dots, EDF_k, 1, \dots, 1),$$

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$Y = (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)^T = AZ + BU$  where

$Z = (Z_1, \dots, Z_k)^T \sim N_k(0, \Lambda)$  are the  $k$  common factors,

$U = (U_1, \dots, U_n)^T \sim N_n(0, I)$  are the company specific factors such that

$Z$  and  $U$  are independent, and the constant matrices  $A = (a_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ ,

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Then we have  $\text{cov}(Y) = A\Lambda A^T + D$  where  $D = \text{diag}(b_1^2, \dots, b_n^2) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ .

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Let  $P$  be a portfolio consisting of  $n$  credits with a fixed holding duration (eg. 1 year). Let  $S_i$  be the status variable for debtor  $i$ , where the states are  $0, 1, \dots, m$  and  $S_i = 0$  corresponds to default.

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**Example:** Rating system of Standard and Poor's  
 $m = 7$ ;  $S_i = 0$  means default;  $S_i = 1$  or CCC;  $S_i = 2$  or B;  $S_i = 3$  or BB;  
 $S_i = 4$  or BBB;  $S_i = 5$  or A;  $S_i = 6$  or AA;  $S_i = 7$  or AAA.

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Original state category	state category at the end of the year							
	AAA	AA	A	BBB	BB	B	CCC	default
AAA	90.81	8.33	0.68	0.06	0.12	0	0	0
AA	0.70	90.65	7.79	0.64	0.06	0.14	0.02	0
A	0.09	2.27	91.05	5.52	0.74	0.26	0.01	0.06
BBB	0.02	0.33	5.95	86.93	5.30	1.17	0.12	0.18
BB	0.03	0.14	0.67	7.73	80.53	8.84	1.00	1.06
B	0	0.11	0.24	0.43	6.48	83.46	4.07	5.20
CCC	0.22	0	0.22	1.30	2.38	11.24	64.86	19.79

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### Recovery rates

In case of default the recovery rate depends on the status category of the defaulting debtor (prior to default). The mean and the standard deviation of the recovery rate are computed based on the historical data observed over time within each state category.

# Evaluation of bonds if the status category changes

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**Example:** Consider a BBB bond with maturity 5 years, a nominal value of 100 units and a coupon of 6% each year.

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AAA	3.60	4.17	4.73	5.12
AA	3.65	4.22	4.78	5.17
A	3.73	4.32	4.93	5.32
BBB	4.10	4.67	5.25	5.63
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The bond pays 6 units at the end of the 4 years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 106 unit at the end of year 5.

Assumption: At the end of the first year the bond is rated as an A bond.  
The value at the end of the first year:

$$V = 6 + \frac{6}{1 + 3,73\%} + \frac{6}{(1 + 4,32\%)^2} + \frac{6}{(1 + 4,93\%)^3} + \frac{106}{(1 + 5,32\%)^4} = 108.64$$

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Status category at the end of the first year	value
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Then use the transition probabilities of the Markov chain (estimated in terms of historical data) to compute the expected value of the bond at the end of the first year.

# Value and risk of a bond portfolio in Credit Metrics

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Let  $d_{Def}, d_{CCC}, \dots, d_{AAA} = +\infty$  be thresholds which define the transitions probabilities of debtor  $i$  at the end of the current period as follows:

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Joint probabilities of status category changes, e.g.

$$P(S_1 = 0, \dots, S_n = 3) = P(Y_1 \leq d_{Def}, \dots, d_B < Y_n \leq d_{BB})$$

can be then computed by using the Gaussian copula  $C_{n,R}^{Ga}$  of  $(Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n)$ .

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The risk measures (VaR, CVaR) of the bond portfolio, can be computed by simulation.