

Research Article

Pricing Parisian Option under a Stochastic Volatility Model

Min-Ku Lee¹ and Kyu-Hwan Jang²

¹ Department of Mathematics, Sungkyunkwan University, Suwon, Gyeonggi-do 440-746, Republic of Korea

² Department of Mathematics, Yonsei University, Seoul 120-749, Republic of Korea

Correspondence should be addressed to Kyu-Hwan Jang; v5jang@hanmail.net

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We study the pricing of a Parisian option under a stochastic volatility model. Based on the manipulation problem that barrier options might create near barriers, the Parisian option has been designed as an extended barrier option. A stochastic volatility correction to the Black-Scholes price of the Parisian option is obtained in a partial differential equation form and the solution is characterized numerically.

1. Introduction

The Black-Scholes model is a well-known model in derivatives pricing under which volatility is assumed to be a constant [1]. From empirical studies based on real market data, one can observe skew or smile effect of implied volatilities, fat-tailed and asymmetric return distributions, and mean-reversion of volatility. Thus to overcome these unrealistic phenomena many alternative underlying models have been proposed. The constant elasticity of variance model by Cox [2], a stochastic volatility model by Heston [3], a multiscale stochastic volatility model by Fouque et al. [4], and a Levy model by Carr et al. [5] are popular ones among many others.

A basic standard option gives its holders the right to sell or buy a stock for a designated amount of money before or at a maturity time. However, there are many kinds of options that have been developed recently in such way that the payoff of options becomes more complicated. The barrier option is one of those exotic options where the payoff of the option depends on the path of its underlying asset. The barrier option can be exercised if the value of underlying asset hits the barrier during a time period before the maturity. For instance, the barrier option of knockout type corresponds to a vanilla European option if the value of an underlying asset does not hit the barrier B before the maturity T . However, the price of option immediately becomes worthless if the value of the underlying asset hits the barrier B . While this barrier option

has some advantage in that it can lower the price than the vanilla option and it can be hedged cheaply for the risk of underlying assets, it creates some problems. First, there is a manipulation problem. Some hedge funds or investors can make an intentional manipulation of the barrier option for their profit. Since the payoff of the barrier option is decided only by whether the value of an underlying asset touches the barrier or not, if some hedge funds intentionally buy and sell a great quantity of the underlying asset, it is possible for the underlying asset artificially to touch the barrier. Second, there is a hedging problem. If an underlying asset approaches the barrier B , then Gamma in Greeks becomes very large and then the price of the barrier option may become distorted by the high Gamma value.

In order to solve these problems, the Parisian option has been suggested. The payoff of the Parisian option depends on how much time the value of an underlying asset keeps over/below the barrier. The value of the underlying asset hits the barrier B and it must keep over the barrier for the predecided time D in order to give rise to a positive payoff. This paper is interested in the pricing of this Parisian option. There are previous studies on the Parisian options. Haber et al. [6] gained the price in the form of a partial differential equation. Marco and Lixin [7] used the binomial tree method to price the option. Labart and Lelong in [8] used Laplace transformation approach for the pricing of the option. However, these works have not involved the pricing of

Parisian option under stochastic volatility models directly. So, this paper extends the study of [6] using a stochastic volatility model, that is, the multiscale model of [4] for the pricing of a Parisian option.

In Section 2, we recall a study for the price of a Parisian option under the Black-Scholes model. In Section 3, we formulate a stochastic volatility model and obtain an approximate price of the Parisian option in the form of a partial differential equation. In Section 4, we compute the leading order price and a correction term by the finite difference method and find a stochastic volatility effect on the Black-Scholes price.

2. The Black-Scholes Model

In this section, we review the Parisian option price under the Black-Scholes model. Refer to Haber et al. [6] and Zhu and Chen [9]. As Parisian option is a path-dependent option like barrier option, the price depends on the path of an underlying asset as well as payoff at the maturity.

To measure how much time the underlying asset price keeps over or under the barrier, a new state variable τ_t (a barrier time) has to be introduced. With the state variable τ_t we do not need to know all the specific contents of the path taken. In the case of Up and In, the state variable τ_t is counted when the underlying asset price has been over the barrier in the current excursion. Given the value X_t of an underlying asset, τ_t is defined by

$$\tau_t = t - \sup \{t' \leq t \mid X(t') \leq B\}. \quad (1)$$

So, in the Up and In option case, the barrier time τ_t gives the difference between the current time t and the last time when the underlying asset price is less than the barrier B . If the underlying asset price is presently below the barrier, then τ_t is zero.

In the Down and In option case, the variable τ_t is opposite to the case in the Up and In option. The state variable τ_t is defined by

$$\tau_t = t - \sup \{t' \leq t \mid X(t') \geq B\}. \quad (2)$$

In the Down and In option case, the barrier time τ_t gives the difference between the current time t and the last time when the underlying asset price is bigger than the barrier B . If the underlying asset is presently over the barrier, then τ_t is zero.

In the Down and In option case, dynamics of τ_t are given by

$$d\tau_t = \begin{cases} dt, & \text{if } X_t > B, \\ -\tau(t-), & \text{if } X_t = B, \\ 0, & \text{if } X_t < B, \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

where $\tau(t-)$ denotes the left limit of τ_t . The barrier time rises at the same rate with t if the share price X_t is over the barrier B (i.e., $X_t > B$). As soon as the underlying asset price hits the barrier B (i.e., $X_t = B$), it is reset to zero. Also, if the underlying asset price is below the barrier B (i.e., $X_t < B$), then it does not change. The state variable τ_t can be viewed

as a time that starts ticking as soon as the underlying asset crosses the barrier level B .

Additionally, we need a new variable D which is called a threshold time. If the barrier time τ_t is more than the threshold time D , the Parisian option becomes an effective option.

Under the Black-Scholes model

$$dX_t = rX_t dt + \sigma X_t dW_t^*, \quad (4)$$

where r is an riskless interest rate and W_t^* is a Brownian motion under a risk-neutral measure Q , the price P of a Parisian option is a function depending on the state variables X_t , t , and τ_t (i.e., $P = P(t, X_t, \tau_t)$). The price P of the Parisian option satisfies two different partial differential equations depending on whether the current underlying asset is over or under the barrier B . For example, let us consider the Up and Out Parisian option. If the underlying asset is below the barrier (i.e., $X_t < B$), the barrier time variable τ_t is not ticking and remains unchanged. Then given $X_t = x$ and $\tau_t = \tau$ the price P satisfies the Black-Scholes equation given by

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2} + r \left(x \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} - P \right) = 0. \quad (5)$$

On the other hand, if the underlying asset rises over the barrier (i.e., $X_t > B$) and so the barrier time τ_t is ticking, the barrier time τ_t is valid. Then the price P must have the derivative with respect to the variable τ_t so that it satisfies a new partial differential equation given by

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial x^2} + r \left(x \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} - P \right) + \frac{\partial P}{\partial \tau} = 0. \quad (6)$$

Here, the price of the Parisian option is defined differently in each domain of $X_t > B$ and $X_t < B$. So, to give the continuity of P at $x = B$, we define

$$P(t, B, \tau) = P(t, B, 0). \quad (7)$$

Now, we give a boundary condition for each case (In or Out). First, we use functions $F(x, \tau)$ and $G(x)$ to define

$$\begin{aligned} P(T, x, \tau) &=: F(x, \tau), & 0 \leq \tau < D, \\ P(t, x, D) &=: G(x), & 0 \leq t \leq T. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

If at the maturity T the barrier time τ_t is less than D , then the Out option has the same payoff $(x - K)^+$ as the European option payoff, while the payoff of the In option is zero. When the underlying asset touches the barrier B and the barrier time τ also keeps on the situation $\tau \geq D$, the payoff of the Out option is zero while the In option has the payoff $(x - K)^+$. So, the boundary conditions are given by

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, \tau) &= \begin{cases} (x - K)^+, & \text{Out,} \\ 0, & \text{In,} \end{cases} \\ G(x) &= \begin{cases} 0, & \text{Out,} \\ (x - K)^+, & \text{In.} \end{cases} \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

3. Stochastic Volatility

3.1. *A Model Formulation.* In this section, we use a stochastic volatility model of Fouque et al. of [4] for an underlying asset of the Up and Out Parisian call option. In this stochastic volatility model, the volatility is assumed to be given by an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process which is a kind of ergodic process. The stochastic volatility model is given by the stochastic differential equations (SDEs)

$$\begin{aligned} dX_t &= rX_t dt + f(Y_t) X_t dW_t^x, \\ dY_t &= \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} (m - Y_t) - \frac{\nu\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \Lambda \right) dt + \frac{\nu\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} dW_t^y \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

under a risk-neutral measure Q , where r is a constant and f is a function depending on the variable y . Here, the market price of volatility Λ is assumed to be independent of x and y . W_t^x and W_t^y are correlated Brownian motions such that $d\langle W^x, W^y \rangle_t = \rho(t)dt$ and ρ is a function depending on time t . If $\rho(t)$ is positive, X_t may fail to be a true martingale since Y_t may explode to infinite. Analyzing the most financial data, except in some commodity markets, the negative correlation or leverage effect between stock price and volatility of stocks is observed. So, in this paper, $\rho(t)$ is assumed to be negative. Also, for simplicity and from empirical data observed in practical situation, we assume that ρ is a constant. Refer to [10]. The function f is not limited to specific functions. But, to avoid the nonexistence of moments of X_t , we assume f to be a function satisfying the condition $0 < c_1 \leq f \leq c_2 < \infty$ for some positive constants c_1 and c_2 .

From now on, we assume that the parameter ϵ is positive and small such that $0 < \epsilon \ll 1$. Then the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process Y_t becomes a fast mean-reverting process. From the empirical analysis for financial data of high-frequency S&P 500 index, one can observe that volatility is fast mean-reverting when looked at over the time scale of contingent claims. Refer to [11]. The S&P 500 index data yield that ϵ^{-1} is large and ν^2 is a stable such that it is an $\mathcal{O}(1)$ constant which means that the long run magnitude of volatility fluctuations remains fixed as a constant. The parameters m and ν stand for the mean level and the standard deviation of the invariant distribution of Y_t , respectively. The probability density function of Y_t is given by

$$\Phi(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\nu^2}} e^{-(y-m)^2/2\nu^2} \quad (11)$$

so that the two parameters control the long-run size of the volatility fluctuation.

3.2. *A Partial Differential Equation.* In this paper, we derive a partial differential equation for the Parisian call option (especially, Up and Out type) based on the stochastic volatility model discussed in Section 3.1.

The price of the Parisian call option is given by

$$P^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau) = \mathbb{E}^* \left\{ e^{-r(T-t)} h(X_T) \mid X_t = x, Y_t = y, \tau_t = \tau \right\}, \quad (12)$$

where

$$h(X_T) = \begin{cases} (X_T - K)^+ \mathbb{1}_{\{\exists t \leq 0 \text{ s.t. } t \leq T, \tau_t \geq D\}}, & \text{if In,} \\ (X_T - K)^+ \mathbb{1}_{\{0 \leq \forall t \leq T, \tau_t < D\}}, & \text{if Out.} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

Here, the price of the Parisian call option (12) has the domain given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{H}_1 &: \{(t, x, y, \tau) : B \leq x < \infty, -\infty < y < \infty, \\ & \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, 0 \leq \tau \leq D\}, \\ \mathcal{H}_2 &: \{(t, x, y, \tau) : 0 \leq x \leq B, -\infty < y < \infty, \\ & \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \tau = 0\}. \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Given the barrier time τ , it is not possible that the elapsed time t is less than barrier time τ in both domains. Also, the Parisian option cannot be exercised if the time to maturity $T - t$ is less than the remaining time to barrier $D - \tau$. So, we do not care about the regions $t < \tau$ and $T - D + \tau < t$ for a given τ . Thus we have the reduced regions \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}_1 &: \{(t, x, y, \tau) : B \leq x < \infty, -\infty < y < \infty, \\ & \quad \tau \leq t \leq \tau + T - D, 0 \leq \tau \leq D\}, \\ \mathcal{A}_2 &: \{(t, x, y, \tau) : 0 \leq x \leq B, -\infty < y < \infty, \\ & \quad 0 \leq t \leq T - D, \tau = 0\}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

See [9] for details. For convenience, we denote $P^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau)$ separately by $U^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau)$ and $V^\epsilon(t, x, y)$ in the regions \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 , respectively. That is,

$$P^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau) = \begin{cases} U^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_1, \\ V^\epsilon(t, x, y), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_2. \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

Now, we construct the boundary condition on the domains \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 . First of all, whenever the value of an underlying asset goes to zero, the worth of call option disappears. So, when the underlying price goes to zero, we can set the option price as follows:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} V^\epsilon(t, x, y) = 0. \quad (17)$$

Also, for the continuity of the option prices U^ϵ and V^ϵ defined on the different domains \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 , respectively, we set the following condition at the barrier B :

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow B} V^\epsilon(t, x, y) = \lim_{x \rightarrow B} U^\epsilon(t, x, y, 0). \quad (18)$$

Moreover, if the underlying asset is too large to fall back to the barrier B before the maturity T , the option can be exercised. So, in the case that the underlying asset price is infinitely large, we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} U^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau) = 0. \quad (19)$$

Furthermore, since we cover the case of the Out option, the option value disappears once the accumulated time τ over the

barrier B becomes D . So, the option value near the $\tau = D$ vanishes such that

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow D} U^\epsilon(t, s, y, \tau) = 0. \tag{20}$$

Now, applying the Feynman-Kac formula to the Parisian option price (12) with the boundary condition (8), we obtain a partial differential equation in each of the regions \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 , respectively, as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathcal{L}_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))}\right) U^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau) &= 0, \\ U^\epsilon(T, x, y, \tau) &= (x - K)^+, \quad 0 \leq \tau < D \\ U^\epsilon(t, x, y, D) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathcal{L}_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} \mathcal{L}_1 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))}\right) V^\epsilon(t, x, y) &= 0, \\ V^\epsilon(T, x, y) &= (x - K)^+, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_0 &= v^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2} + (m - y) \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \\ \mathcal{L}_1 &= \sqrt{2\rho\nu} x f(y) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial y} - \sqrt{2\nu} \Lambda \frac{\partial}{\partial y}, \\ \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} f(y)^2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + r \left(x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} - \cdot \right), \\ \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \mathcal{L}_{2(f(y))}. \end{aligned} \tag{22}$$

3.3. Asymptotic Analysis. In this section, we approximate the price of the Parisian option satisfying the partial differential equations (21) by using the expansions

$$\begin{aligned} U^\epsilon(t, x, y, \tau) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon^{i/2} U_i(t, x, y, \tau), \\ V^\epsilon(t, x, y) &= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \epsilon^{i/2} V_i(t, x, y). \end{aligned} \tag{23}$$

Putting the asymptotic expansions (23) into (21), we have the following asymptotic partial differential equations given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathcal{L}_0 U_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} (\mathcal{L}_0 U_1 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_0) \\ + \mathcal{L}_0 U_2 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_1 + \frac{\partial U_0}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_0 \\ + \sqrt{\epsilon} \left(\mathcal{L}_0 U_3 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_2 + \frac{\partial U_1}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_1 \right) \\ + \dots \\ = 0, \end{aligned} \tag{24}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\epsilon} \mathcal{L}_0 V_0 + \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} (\mathcal{L}_0 V_1 + \mathcal{L}_1 V_0) \\ + \mathcal{L}_0 V_2 + \mathcal{L}_1 V_1 + \frac{\partial V_0}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} V_0 \\ + \sqrt{\epsilon} \left(\mathcal{L}_0 V_3 + \mathcal{L}_1 V_2 + \frac{\partial V_1}{\partial t} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} V_1 \right) \\ + \dots \\ = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{25}$$

Additionally, the boundary conditions for each function of U_i and V_i ($i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) become

$$\begin{aligned} U_0(T, x, y, \tau) &= (x - K)^+, \quad 0 \leq \tau < D, \\ U_0(t, x, y, D) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \\ U_i(T, x, y, \tau) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq \tau < D \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots), \\ U_i(t, x, y, D) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots), \\ V_0(T, x, y) &= (x - K)^+, \\ U_i(T, x, y) &= 0. \quad (i = 1, 2, \dots). \end{aligned} \tag{26}$$

Now, we derive the leading order term U_0 and the correction term U_1 in a partial differential equation form. From (24), we have

$$\frac{1}{\epsilon} : \mathcal{L}_0 U_0 = 0, \tag{28}$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon}} : \mathcal{L}_0 U_1 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_0 = 0, \tag{29}$$

$$1 : \mathcal{L}_0 U_2 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_1 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_0 = 0, \tag{30}$$

$$\sqrt{\epsilon} : \mathcal{L}_0 U_3 + \mathcal{L}_1 U_2 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_1 = 0. \tag{31}$$

In the following theorems, we derive partial differential equations for U_0 and U_1 on the region \mathcal{A}_1 and V_0 and V_1 on the region \mathcal{A}_2 , respectively.

Theorem 1. Suppose that U_i , ($i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) does not grow as much as $U_i \sim e^{y^2/2}$ as y goes to ∞ . Then, the leading order term U_0 and the correction term U_1 do not depend on the variable y ; that is,

$$U_i(t, x, y, \tau) = U_i(t, x, \tau), \quad i = 0, 1. \tag{32}$$

Suppose that V_i ($i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$) does not grow as much as $V_i \sim e^{y^2/2}$ as y goes to ∞ . Then, the leading order term V_0 and the correction term V_1 do not depend on the variable y ; that is,

$$V_i(t, x, y) = V_i(t, x), \quad i = 0, 1. \tag{33}$$

Proof. As (28) is an ordinary differential equation with respect to y , one can obtain the solution easily given by

$$P_0(t, x, y, \tau) = c_1(t, x, \tau) \int_0^y e^{((z-m)^2/2v^2)} dz + c_2(t, x, \tau) \tag{34}$$

for some functions c_1 and c_2 independent of y . Then, from the assumed growth condition, U_0 is independent of the variable y . Since U_0 is independent of y and each term of \mathcal{L}_1 contains derivative with respect to y , we have $\mathcal{L}_1 U_0 = 0$. So, U_1 is independent of y from the order $1/\sqrt{\epsilon}$ term (29).

Similarly, we have the results for V_0 and V_1 . □

The following theorem gives a partial differential equation for U_0 .

Theorem 2. *The leading order term U_0 is the solution of a partial differential equation problem given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(\bar{\sigma})} U_0(t, x, \tau) &= 0, \\ U_0(T, x, \tau) &= (x - K)^+, \quad 0 \leq \tau < D, \\ U_0(t, x, D) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

where

$$\bar{\sigma} = \sqrt{\langle f^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\int f^2(y) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\nu}} e^{-(y-m)^2/2\nu^2} dy}. \tag{36}$$

The leading order term V_0 is the solution of a partial differential equation problem given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(\bar{\sigma})} V_0(t, x) &= 0, \\ V_0(T, x) &= (x - K)^+. \end{aligned} \tag{37}$$

Proof. Since U_1 is independent of y and every term of \mathcal{L}_1 contains derivative with respect to the variable y , $\mathcal{L}_1 U_1 = 0$ holds and so the $\mathcal{O}(1)$ term (30) becomes

$$\mathcal{L}_0 U_2 + \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_0 = 0. \tag{38}$$

Thus we obtain a partial differential equation for U_2 which is the Poisson equation with respect to the operator \mathcal{L}_0 . Applying the centering condition, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(f(y))} U_0 \rangle &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \langle \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} \rangle \right) U_0 \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(\bar{\sigma})} \right) U_0 = \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(\bar{\sigma})} U_0 = 0. \end{aligned} \tag{39}$$

By adding the boundary condition (26) to this equation, the result for U_0 is derived.

Similarly, V_0 satisfies the problem (37). □

Now, we derive the correction term V_1 in the form of a partial differential equation satisfied by the term.

Theorem 3. *The correction term U_1 is the solution of a partial differential equation problem given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(\bar{\sigma})} U_1(t, x, \tau) &= W_2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 U_0}{\partial x^2} + W_3 x^3 \frac{\partial^3 U_0}{\partial x^3}, \\ U_1(T, x, \tau) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq \tau < D, \\ U_1(t, x, D) &= 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \end{aligned} \tag{40}$$

where

$$W_2 = \sqrt{2}\rho\nu \langle f\phi' \rangle - \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\nu \langle \Lambda\phi' \rangle, \tag{41}$$

$$W_3 = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}\rho\nu \langle f\phi \rangle. \tag{42}$$

The correction term V_1 satisfies a partial differential equation problem given by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(\bar{\sigma})} V_1(t, x) &= W_2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 V_0}{\partial x^2} + W_3 x^3 \frac{\partial^3 V_0}{\partial x^3}, \\ V_1(T, x) &= 0. \end{aligned} \tag{43}$$

Proof. From (38) and (39), we have a Poisson equation for U_2 with respect to the operator \mathcal{L}_0 given by

$$\mathcal{L}_0 U_2 = -(\mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} - \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(\bar{\sigma})}) U_0. \tag{44}$$

Define a function ϕ by the solution of an ordinary differential equation given by

$$\mathcal{L}_0 \phi(y) = f(y)^2 - \bar{\sigma}^2. \tag{45}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_0 U_2 &= -(\mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(f(y))} - \mathcal{L}_{\text{BS}(\bar{\sigma})}) U_0 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} (f^2(y) - \bar{\sigma}^2) x^2 \frac{\partial^2 U_0}{\partial x^2} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \mathcal{L}_0^{-1} (f^2(y) - \bar{\sigma}^2) x^2 \frac{\partial^2 U_0}{\partial x^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{46}$$

Thus we obtain

$$U_2(t, x, y, \tau) = -\frac{1}{2} (\phi(y) + k(t, x, \tau)) x^2 \frac{\partial^2 U_0}{\partial x^2}(t, x, \tau) \tag{47}$$

for some y -independent function k .

On the other hand, applying the centering condition to the $\sqrt{\epsilon}$ term (31), we have a partial differential equation for U_1 given by

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(\bar{\sigma})} U_1 = -\mathcal{L}_1 U_2. \tag{48}$$

Applying the operator \mathcal{L}_1 to (47), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Par}(\bar{\sigma})} U_1(l, x, \tau) &= W_2 x^2 \frac{\partial^2 U_0}{\partial x^2}(t, x, \tau) \\ &\quad + W_3 x^3 \frac{\partial^3 U_0}{\partial x^3}(t, x, \tau). \end{aligned} \tag{49}$$

By adding the boundary condition (26), we obtain the desired result for U_2 .

Using the similar argument as above, we have the result for V_1 . □

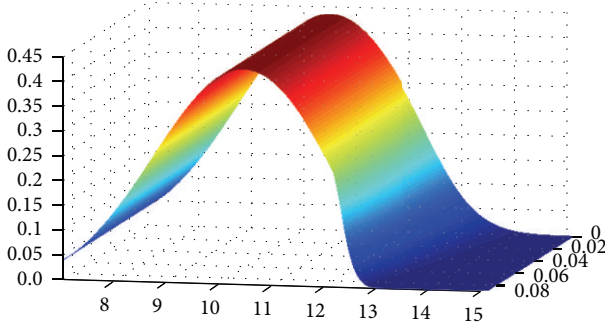


FIGURE 1: The leading order P_0 with respect to the price of underlying asset X_t and the barrier time τ_t .

4. Computation

This section shows the effect of the stochastic volatility on the Parisian option price through a numerical experiment.

In the previous section, we have derived the partial differential equations (35), (37), (40), and (43) for the leading order terms U_0 and V_0 and the correction terms U_1 and V_1 , respectively. So, we have an approximation of the Parisian option price P^e (12) in the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 P^e(t, x, y, \tau) &\approx P_0(t, x, \tau) + \sqrt{\epsilon}P_1(t, x, \tau) \\
 &:= P_0(t, x, \tau) + \tilde{P}_1(t, x, \tau),
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{50}$$

where the leading order term P_0 and the correction term P_1 are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_0(t, x, \tau) &= \begin{cases} U_0(t, x, \tau), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_1, \\ V_0(t, x), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_2, \end{cases} \\
 P_1(t, x, \tau) &= \begin{cases} U_1(t, x, \tau), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_1, \\ V_1(t, x), & \text{on } \mathcal{A}_2, \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{51}$$

respectively.

We use the finite difference method (more concretely, the Crank-Nicolson scheme) to solve the partial differential equations. The parameters are set by $B = 12$, $T = 1$, $t = 0$, $D = 0.1$, $K = 10$, $\bar{\sigma} = 0.2$, $r = 0.05$, $W_2 = -0.00001$, $W_3 = 0.0041$, and $\epsilon = 0.0001$.

Figure 1 shows the leading order term P_0 with respect to the price X_t (the range of X_t is from 6 to 15) and the barrier time τ_t (the range of τ_t is from 0 to $D = 0.1$). As the feature of Up and Out type option, one can observe that the option price is almost zero when the price X_t is bigger than the barrier B . Also the leading order term P_0 has the highest value near the strike price K , while the delta of P_0 is almost zero near the strike price K .

Figure 2 shows the correction term \tilde{P}_1 with respect to the price X_t (the range of X_t is from 6 to 15) and the barrier time τ_t (the range of τ_t is from 0 to $D = 0.1$). One can observe that the correction term \tilde{P}_1 has a big fluctuation near the strike price K . The interesting feature is that the delta of P_1 is instantaneously very high near the strike price K . Clearly, it shows a different aspect of the stochastic volatility model in comparison with the Black-Scholes model.

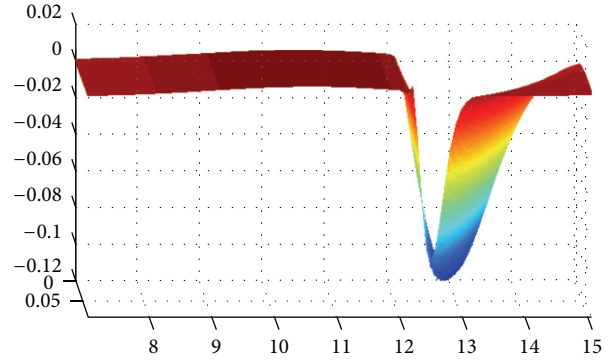


FIGURE 2: The correction term \tilde{P}_1 with respect to the price of underlying asset X_t and the barrier time τ_t .

5. Conclusion

Based on the shortcomings of the Black-Scholes model, we choose a stochastic volatility model for the underlying asset price and study the pricing of a Parisian option. Under the fast mean-reverting stochastic volatility assumption, we approach the problem asymptotically and obtain equations for the approximated price and gain the price numerically by using the finite difference method. A remarkable feature is found as a correction effect of the stochastic volatility to the Black-Scholes model near the barrier. It is observed that the correction term is negative and has a hump shape around the barrier. So, the price of the Parisian option under the stochastic volatility model is underpriced compared to the price under the Black-Scholes model, particularly, near the barrier.

Conflict of Interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this paper.

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