

# Financial Risk: Credit Risk, Lecture 3

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# Content of Lecture

- Discussion of a mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton model
- Derive the large-portfolio approximation formula in this framework
- Discussion how to incorporate random losses in the mixed binomial loss model

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Consider a credit portfolio model, not necessary homogeneous, with  $m$  obligors, and where each obligor can default up to fixed time point, say  $T$ .
- Assume that each obligor  $i$  (think of a firm named  $i$ ) follows the Merton model, in the sense that obligor  $i$ 's assets  $V_{t,i}$  follows the dynamics

$$dV_{t,i} = \mu_i V_{t,i} dt + \sigma_i V_{t,i} dB_{t,i} \quad (1)$$

where  $B_{t,i}$  is a stochastic process defined as

$$B_{t,i} = \sqrt{\rho} W_{t,0} + \sqrt{1 - \rho} W_{t,i} \quad (2)$$

where  $\rho \in [0, 1]$  and  $W_{t,0}, W_{t,i}, \dots, W_{t,m}$  are **independent** standard **Brownian motions**.

- It is then possible to show that  $B_{t,i}$  is also a standard **Brownian motion**. Hence, due to (1) we then know that  $V_{t,i}$  is a GBM so by using Ito's lemma, we get

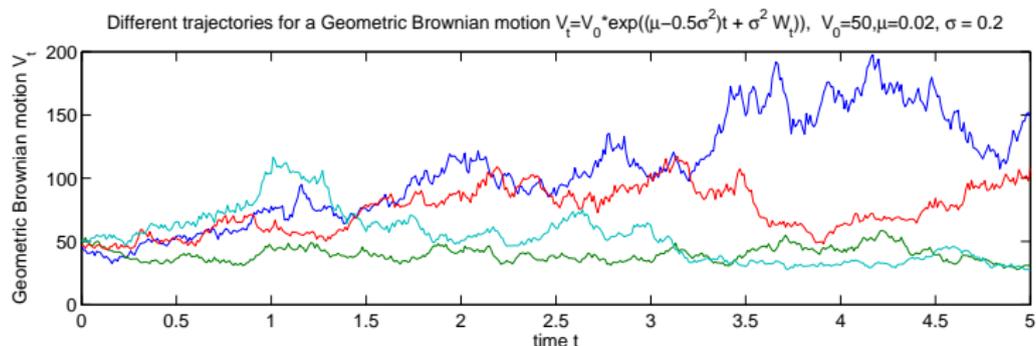
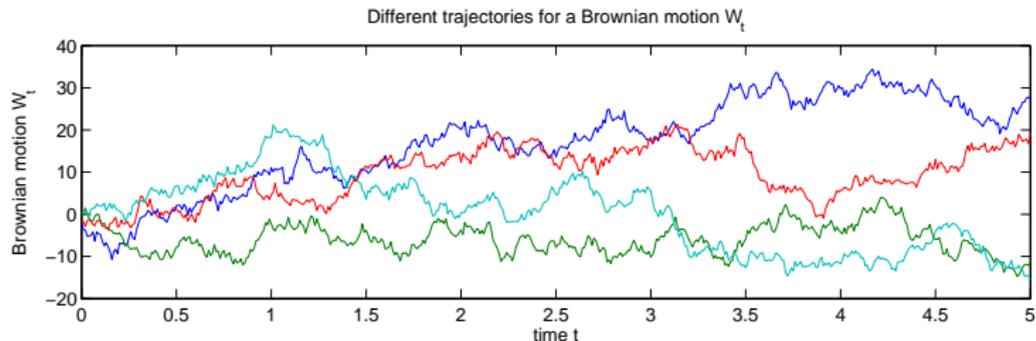
$$V_{t,i} = V_{0,i} e^{(\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)t + \sigma_i B_{t,i}} \quad (3)$$

# Stochastic processes and the Brownian motion

- A continuous-time stochastic process  $(Z_t)_{t \in [0, \infty)}$ , is a collection of random variables indexed by time  $t \in [0, \infty)$ ,
- For a given random outcome, a continuous-time stochastic process  $Z_t$  can be seen as a function of time  $t \geq 0$
- Example of a continuous-time stochastic process is the **Brownian motion**  $(W_t)_{t \geq 0}$  sometimes also denoted a Wiener process.
- The following holds for a **Brownian motion**  $(W_t)_{t \geq 0}$ 
  1.  $W_0 = 0$
  2.  $(W_t)_{t \geq 0}$  has a continuous path with probability one
  3. For  $0 \leq s < t$  then  $W_t - W_s \sim N(0, t - s)$ , i.e.  $W_t - W_s$  is normally distributed with zero mean and variance  $t - s$ .
  4.  $(W_t)_{t \geq 0}$  has independent increments, i.e. for any time points  $0 < s_1 < t_1 \leq s_2 < t_2$  then  $W_{t_1} - W_{s_1}$  is independent of  $W_{t_2} - W_{s_2}$

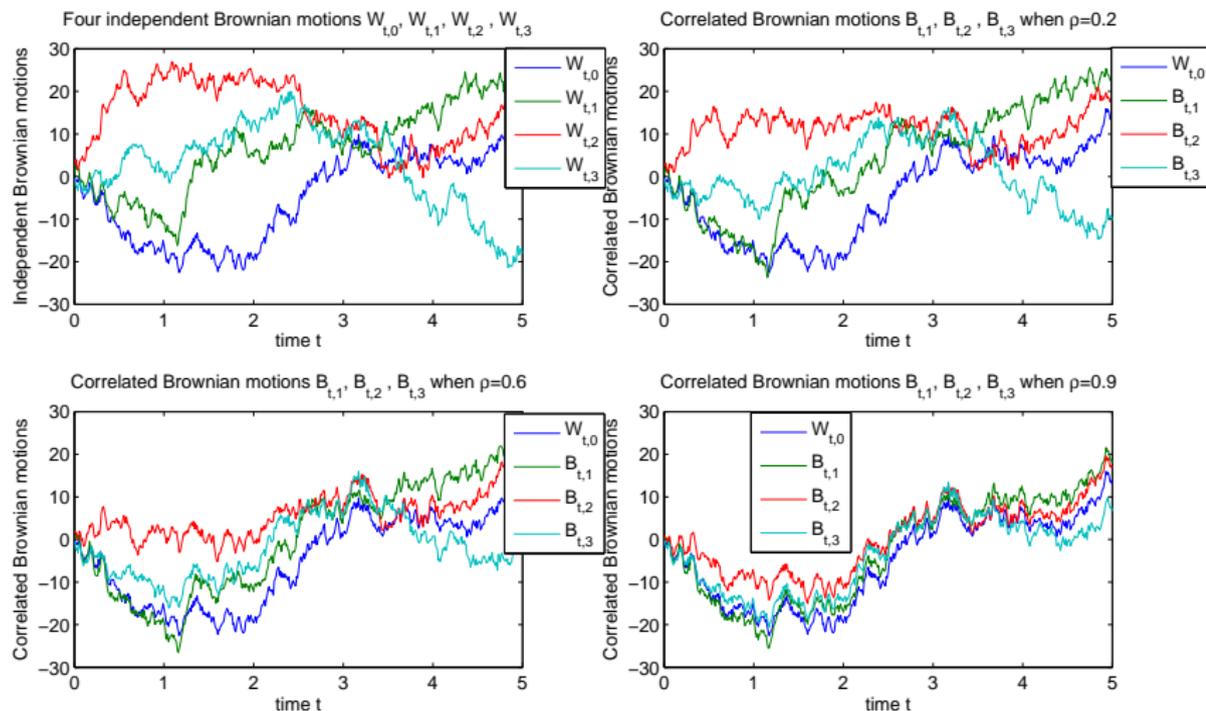
# Brownian motion and Geometric Brownian motion

Different trajectories for a Brownian motion  $W_t$  and corresponding Geometric Brownian motion  $V_t = V_0 e^{(\mu - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)t + \sigma^2 W_t}$  for  $V_0 = 50$ ,  $\mu = 0.02$ ,  $\sigma = 0.2$



# Correlated Brownian motions $B_{t,i}$

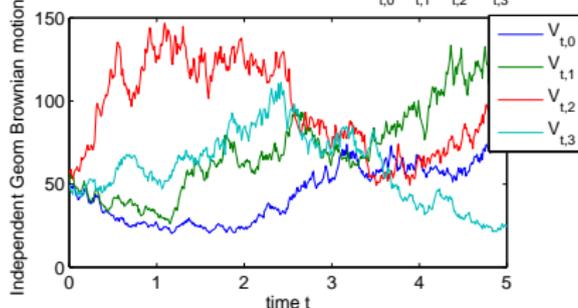
Correlated Brownian motions  $B_{t,i}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ , given by (2) for different  $\rho$



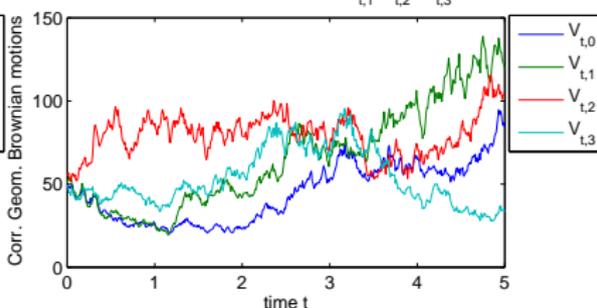
# Correlated Geometrical Brownian motions $V_{t,i}$

Correlated geom. Brownian motions  $V_{t,i}$  as in (3) when  $B_{t,i}$  as in (2) for different  $\rho$ , and same as in prev. slide.  $V_{t,i} = 50$ ,  $\mu_i = 0.02$ ,  $\sigma_i = 0.2$  for each  $i = 1, 2, 3$

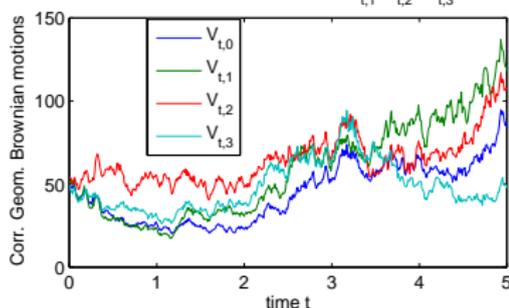
Independent Geometric Brownian motions  $V_{t,0}, V_{t,1}, V_{t,2}, V_{t,3}$ ,  $\rho=0$



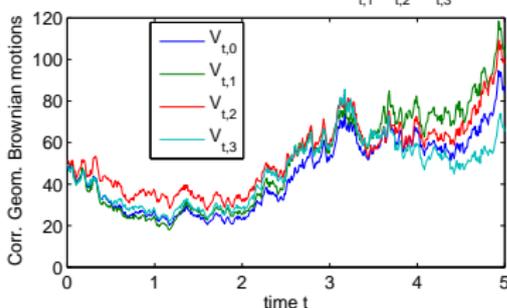
Correlated Geometric Brownian motions  $V_{t,1}, V_{t,2}, V_{t,3}$  when  $\rho=0.2$



Correlated Geometric Brownian motions  $V_{t,1}, V_{t,2}, V_{t,3}$  when  $\rho=0.6$



Correlated Geometric Brownian motions  $V_{t,1}, V_{t,2}, V_{t,3}$  when  $\rho=0.9$



# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- The intuition behind (1) and (2) is that the asset for each obligor  $i$  is driven by a **common** process  $W_{t,0}$  representing the **economic environment**, and an **individual** process  $W_{t,i}$  unique for obligor  $i$ , where  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .
- This means that the asset for each obligor  $i$ , depend both on a macroeconomic random process (common for all obligors) and an idiosyncratic random process (i.e. unique for each obligor). This will create a **dependence** among these obligors. To see this, recall that  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j] - \mathbb{E}[X_i] \mathbb{E}[X_j]$  so due to (2)

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cov}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) &= \mathbb{E}[B_{t,i} B_{t,j}] - \mathbb{E}[B_{t,i}] \mathbb{E}[B_{t,j}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\sqrt{\rho}W_{t,0} + \sqrt{1-\rho}W_{t,i}\right)\left(\sqrt{\rho}W_{t,0} + \sqrt{1-\rho}W_{t,j}\right)\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\rho W_{t,0}^2 + \sqrt{\rho}\sqrt{1-\rho}\left(\mathbb{E}[W_{t,0}W_{t,i}] + \mathbb{E}[W_{t,0}W_{t,j}]\right)\right. \\ &\quad \left.+ (1-\rho)\mathbb{E}[W_{t,j}W_{t,i}]\right] \\ &= \rho\mathbb{E}[W_{t,0}^2] = \rho t\end{aligned}$$

where the third equality is due to  $\mathbb{E}[W_{t,j}W_{t,i}] = 0$  when  $i \neq j$ .

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Hence,  $\text{Cov}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \rho t$  which implies that there is a dependence of the processes that drives the asset values  $V_{t,i}$ . To be more specific,

$$\text{Corr}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \frac{\text{Cov}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j})}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(B_{t,i})}\sqrt{\text{Var}(B_{t,i})}} = \frac{\rho t}{\sqrt{t}\sqrt{t}} = \rho \quad (4)$$

so  $\text{Corr}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \rho$  which is the mutual dependence among the obligors created by the macroeconomic latent variable  $W_{t,0}$

- Note that if  $\rho = 0$ , we have  $\text{Corr}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = 0$  which makes the asset values  $V_{t,1}, V_{t,2}, \dots, V_{t,m}$  independent (so the obligors are independent).
- Next, let  $D_i$  be the debt level for each obligor  $i$  and recall from the Merton model that obligor  $i$  defaults if  $V_{T,i} \leq D_i$ , that is if

$$V_{0,i}e^{(\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)T + \sigma_i B_{T,i}} < D_i \quad (5)$$

which, by using the definition of  $B_{t,i}$  is equivalent with the event

$$\ln V_{0,i} - \ln D_i + (\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)T + \sigma_i \left( \sqrt{\rho}W_{T,0} + \sqrt{1-\rho}W_{T,i} \right) < 0 \quad (6)$$

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Next, recall that for each  $i$ ,  $W_{i,T} \sim N(0, T)$ , i.e.  $W_{i,T}$  is normally distributed with zero mean and variance  $T$ . Hence, if  $Y_i \sim N(0, 1)$ ,  $W_{i,T}$  has the same distribution as  $\sqrt{T}Y_i$  for  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m$  where  $Y_0, Y_1, \dots, Y_M$  also are independent. Furthermore, define  $Z$  as  $Y_0$ , i.e.  $Z = Y_0$ . This in (6) yields

$$\ln V_{0,i} - \ln D_i + (\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)T + \sigma_i \left( \sqrt{\rho}\sqrt{T}Z + \sqrt{1-\rho}\sqrt{T}Y_i \right) < 0 \quad (7)$$

and dividing with  $\sigma_i\sqrt{T}$  renders

$$\frac{\ln V_{0,i} - \ln D_i + (\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)T}{\sigma_i\sqrt{T}} + \sqrt{\rho}Z + \sqrt{1-\rho}Y_i < 0. \quad (8)$$

We can rewrite the inequality (8) as

$$Y_i < \frac{-(C_i + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}} \quad (9)$$

where  $C_i$  is a constant given by

$$C_i = \frac{\ln(V_{0,i}/D_i) + (\mu_i - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_i^2)T}{\sigma_i\sqrt{T}} \quad (10)$$

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Hence, from the previous slides we conclude that

$$V_{T,i} < D_i \quad \text{is equivalent with} \quad Y_i < \frac{-(C_i + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}} \quad (11)$$

where  $C_i$  is a constant given by (10). Next define  $X_i$  as

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } V_{T,i} < D_i \\ 0 & \text{if } V_{T,i} > D_i \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

- Then (11) implies that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 \mid Z] &= \mathbb{P}[V_{T,i} < D_i \mid Z] = \mathbb{P}\left[Y_i < \frac{-(C_i + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}} \mid Z\right] \\ &= N\left(\frac{-(C_i + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right) \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

where  $N(x)$  is the distribution function of a standard normal distribution.

- The last equality in (13) follows from the fact that  $Y_i \sim N(0,1)$  and that  $Y_i$  is independent of  $Z$  in (11).

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Next, assume that all obligors in the model are identical, so that  $V_{0,i} = V_0$ ,  $D_i = D$ ,  $\mu_i = \mu$  and thus  $C_i = C$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .
- Then we have a homogeneous static credit portfolio, where we consider the time period up to  $T$ .
- Furthermore, Equation (13) implies that

$$\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 | Z] = N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1 - \rho}}\right) \quad (14)$$

where  $C$  is a constant given by (10) with  $V_{0,i} = V_0$ ,  $D_i = D$ ,  $\sigma_i = \sigma$  and thus  $C_i = C$  for all obligors  $i$ .

- Let  $Z$  be the "economic background variable" in our homogeneous portfolio and define  $p(Z)$  as

$$p(Z) = N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1 - \rho}}\right) \quad (15)$$

where  $N(x)$  is the distribution function of a standard normal distribution.

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Since,  $p(Z) \in [0, 1]$ , we would like to use  $p(Z)$  in a mixed binomial model.
- To be more specific, let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m$  be identically distributed random variables such that  $X_i = 1$  if obligor  $i$  defaults before time  $T$  and  $X_i = 0$  otherwise.
- Furthermore, conditional on  $Z$ , the random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m$  are independent and each  $X_i$  have default probability  $p(Z)$ , that is

$$\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 | Z] = p(Z) = N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right). \quad (16)$$

- We call this the **mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton model** or sometimes simply a **mixed binomial Merton model**.

# The mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton Model

- Recall that the total credit loss in the portfolio at time  $T$ , called  $L_m$ , is

$$L_m = \sum_{i=1}^m \ell X_i = \ell \sum_{i=1}^m X_i = \ell N_m \quad \text{where } N_m = \sum_{i=1}^m X_i$$

- In the **mixed binomial Merton model**  $Z$  is a continuous random variable on  $\mathbb{R}$  so from last lecture we know that the loss distribution  $F_{L_m}(x)$  is given by

$$F_{L_m}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\lfloor \frac{x}{\ell} \rfloor} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \binom{m}{k} p(z)^k (1-p(z))^{m-k} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} dz. \quad (17)$$

where  $p(u) = N\left(\frac{-(C+\sqrt{\rho}u)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right)$

- However, if  $m$  is "large" we have the following approximation for the loss distribution  $F_{L_m}(x) = \mathbb{P}[L_m \leq x]$

$$F_{L_m}(x) \approx F\left(\frac{x}{\ell m}\right) \quad \text{if } m \text{ is "large"}. \quad (18)$$

for any  $x \in [0, \ell m]$  and where  $F(x) = \mathbb{P}[p(Z) \leq x]$ .

# The mixed binomial Merton model and LPA, cont.

- We therefore next want to find an explicit expression of  $F(x)$  where  $F(x) = \mathbb{P}[\rho(Z) \leq x]$ . From (16) we know that  $\rho(Z) = N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right)$  where  $Z$  is a standard normal random variable, i.e.  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ .
- Hence,  $F(x) = \mathbb{P}[\rho(Z) \leq x] = \mathbb{P}\left[N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right) \leq x\right]$  so

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}\left[N\left(\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}}\right) \leq x\right] &= \mathbb{P}\left[\frac{-(C + \sqrt{\rho}Z)}{\sqrt{1-\rho}} \leq N^{-1}(x)\right] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[-Z \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}\left(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) + C\right)\right] \\ &= N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}\left(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) + C\right)\right)\end{aligned}$$

where the last equality is due to

$\mathbb{P}[-Z \leq x] = \mathbb{P}[Z \geq -x] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[Z \leq -x]$  and  $1 - N(-x) = N(x)$  for any  $x$ , due to the symmetry of a standard normal random variable.

# The mixed binomial Merton model and LPA, cont.

- Hence,  $F(x) = N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) + C)\right)$  so what is left is to find  $C$ .
- Since our model is inspired by the Merton model, we have that

$$X_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } V_{T,i} < D \\ 0 & \text{if } V_{T,i} > D \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

so  $\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1] = \mathbb{P}[V_{T,i} < D]$ . However, from (8) and (11) we conclude that

$$V_{T,i} < D \Leftrightarrow \sqrt{\rho}Z + \sqrt{1-\rho}Y_i \leq -C \quad (20)$$

where  $C$  is given by Equation (10) in the homogeneous case where  $V_{0,i} = V_0$ ,  $D_i = D$ ,  $\sigma_i = \sigma$ ,  $\mu_i = \mu$  and consequently  $C_i = C$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

Furthermore, since  $Z$  and  $Y_i$  are standard normals then  $\sqrt{\rho}Z + \sqrt{1-\rho}Y_i$  will also be standard normal. Hence,  $\mathbb{P}[\sqrt{\rho}Z + \sqrt{1-\rho}Y_i \leq -C] = N(-C)$  and this observation together with (20) implies that

$$\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1] = \mathbb{P}[V_{T,i} < D] = N(-C). \quad (21)$$

# The mixed binomial Merton model and LPA, cont.

- Recall that  $\bar{p} = \mathbb{E}[\rho(Z)] = \int_0^1 \rho(z) f_Z(z) dz$  so  $\bar{p} = \mathbb{P}[X_i = 1]$  since  $\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 | Z] = \rho(Z)$  and thus

$$\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 | Z]] = \mathbb{E}[\rho(Z)] = \bar{p}$$

- Hence, from (21) we have  $\bar{p} = N(-C)$  so

$$C = -N^{-1}(\bar{p}) \quad (22)$$

which means that we can ignore  $C$  (and thus also ignore  $V_0, D, \sigma$  and  $\mu$ , see (10)) and instead directly work with the default probability  $\bar{p} = \mathbb{P}[X_i = 1]$ . Hence, we estimate  $\bar{p}$  to 5%, say, which then implicitly defines the quantiles  $V_0, D, \sigma$  and  $\mu$  via (10) and (22).

- Finally, going back to  $F(x) = N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) + C)\right)$  and using (22) we conclude that

$$F(x) = N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}\left(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) - N^{-1}(\bar{p})\right)\right) \quad (23)$$

where  $F(x) = \mathbb{P}[\rho(Z) \leq x]$ .

# The mixed binomial Merton model and LPA, cont.

- Hence, if  $m$  is large enough, we can in the mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton model, use (34) to get the following approximation for the loss distribution  $F_{L_m}(x) = \mathbb{P}[L_m \leq x]$

$$\mathbb{P}[L_m \leq x] \approx N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}\left(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}\left(\frac{x}{\ell m}\right) - N^{-1}(\bar{p})\right)\right). \quad (24)$$

where  $\bar{p} = \mathbb{P}[X_i = 1]$  is the individual default probability for each obligor.

- The approximation (23) or equivalently, (24) is sometimes denoted the **LPA in a static Merton framework**, and was first introduced by Vasicek 1991, at KMV, in the paper "*Limiting loan loss probability distribution*".
- The **LPA in a Merton framework** and its offsprings (i.e. variants) is today **widely** used in the industry (Moody's-KMV, CreditMetrics etc. etc.) for risk management of large credit/loan portfolios, especially for computing regulatory capital in **Basel II** and **Basel III** (Basel III is currently being implemented (since end of 2013)).

# The mixed binomial Merton model: The role of $\rho$

- Recall from (4), that  $\rho$  was the correlation parameter describing the dependence between the Brownian motions  $B_{t,i}$  that drives each obligor  $i$ 's asset price, i.e.  $\text{Cov}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \rho t$  for all  $t > 0$  so  $\text{Corr}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \rho$ .
- Since  $X_i = 1_{\{V_{T,i} \leq D\}}$  we know that if  $\rho > 0$  then  $X_i$  and  $X_j$  are **dependent** in the sense that  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) \neq 0$ . To see this, note that if  $\rho > 0$  then

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) &= \mathbb{E} [1_{\{V_{T,i} \leq D\}} 1_{\{V_{T,j} \leq D\}}] - \mathbb{E} [1_{\{V_{T,i} \leq D\}}] \mathbb{E} [1_{\{V_{T,j} \leq D\}}] \\ &= \mathbb{P} [V_{T,i} \leq D, V_{T,j} \leq D] - \mathbb{P} [V_{T,i} \leq D] \mathbb{P} [V_{T,j} \leq D] \quad (25) \\ &= \mathbb{P} [V_{T,i} \leq D, V_{T,j} \leq D] - \bar{p}^2\end{aligned}$$

and  $\mathbb{P} [V_{T,i} \leq D, V_{T,j} \leq D] \neq \bar{p}^2$  since  $\text{Corr}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = \rho > 0$  implies (see also Equation (20) and (21))

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P} [V_{T,i} \leq D, V_{T,j} \leq D] &= \mathbb{P} [B_{T,i} < -\sqrt{T}C, B_{T,j} < -\sqrt{T}C] \\ &\neq \mathbb{P} [B_{T,i} < -\sqrt{T}C] \mathbb{P} [B_{T,j} < -\sqrt{T}C] = \bar{p}^2.\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) > 0$  when  $\rho > 0$  since  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = \text{Var}(p(Z)) > 0$  for  $i \neq j$ .

# The mixed binomial Merton model: The role of $\rho$ , cont.

- Next, assume that  $\rho = 0$  so that  $\text{Cov}(B_{t,i}, B_{t,j}) = 0$ . Furthermore, by (2) we have that  $B_{t,i} = W_{t,i}$  when  $\rho = 0$  since

$$B_{t,i} = \sqrt{0}W_{t,0} + \sqrt{1-0}W_{t,i} = W_{t,i} \quad (26)$$

where  $W_{t,0}, W_{t,i}, \dots, W_{t,m}$  are **independent** standard Brownian motions.

- Equation (26) and the **independence** among  $W_{t,0}, W_{t,i}, \dots, W_{t,m}$  then imply

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}[V_{T,i} \leq D, V_{T,j} \leq D] &= \mathbb{P}\left[B_{T,i} < -\sqrt{TC}, B_{T,j} < -\sqrt{TC}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[W_{T,i} < -\sqrt{TC}, W_{T,j} < -\sqrt{TC}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left[W_{T,i} < -\sqrt{TC}\right] \mathbb{P}\left[W_{T,j} < -\sqrt{TC}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{P}[V_{T,i} \leq D] \mathbb{P}[V_{T,j} \leq D] = \bar{p}^2 \end{aligned}$$

and plugging this into (25) yields that  $\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = 0$ .

# The mixed binomial Merton model: The role of $\rho$ , cont.

- From the above studies we conclude that

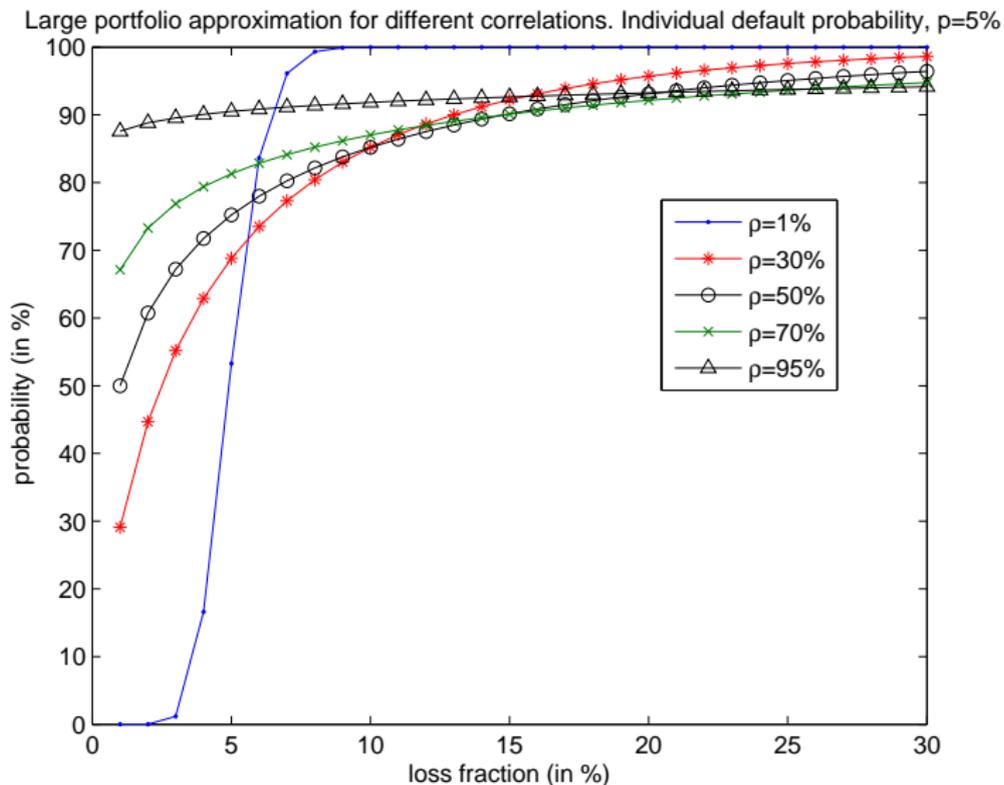
$$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = 0 \quad \text{if } \rho = 0 \quad (27)$$

and

$$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) > 0 \quad \text{if } \rho > 0. \quad (28)$$

- We therefore conclude that  $\rho$  is a measure of **default dependence** among the zero-one variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_m$  in the mixed binomial Merton model.

# The mixed Merton binomial model and LPA



- Given the limiting distribution  $F(x)$

$$F(x) = N\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho}}\left(\sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x) - N^{-1}(\bar{p})\right)\right) \quad (29)$$

we can also find the density  $f_{\text{LPA}}(x)$  of  $F(x)$ , that is  $f_{\text{LPA}}(x) = \frac{dF(x)}{dx}$ .

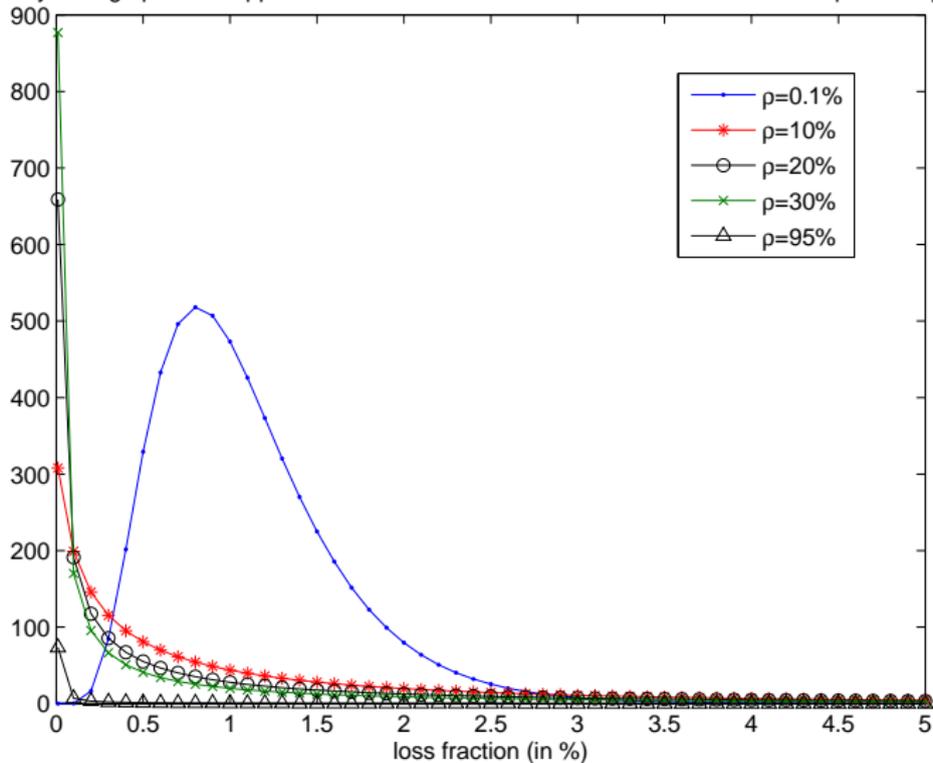
- It is possible to show that

$$f_{\text{LPA}}(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1-\rho}{\rho}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}(N^{-1}(x))^2 - \frac{1}{2\rho}\left(N^{-1}(\bar{p}) - \sqrt{1-\rho}N^{-1}(x)\right)^2\right) \quad (30)$$

- This density is just an approximation, and fails for small number of the loss fraction.

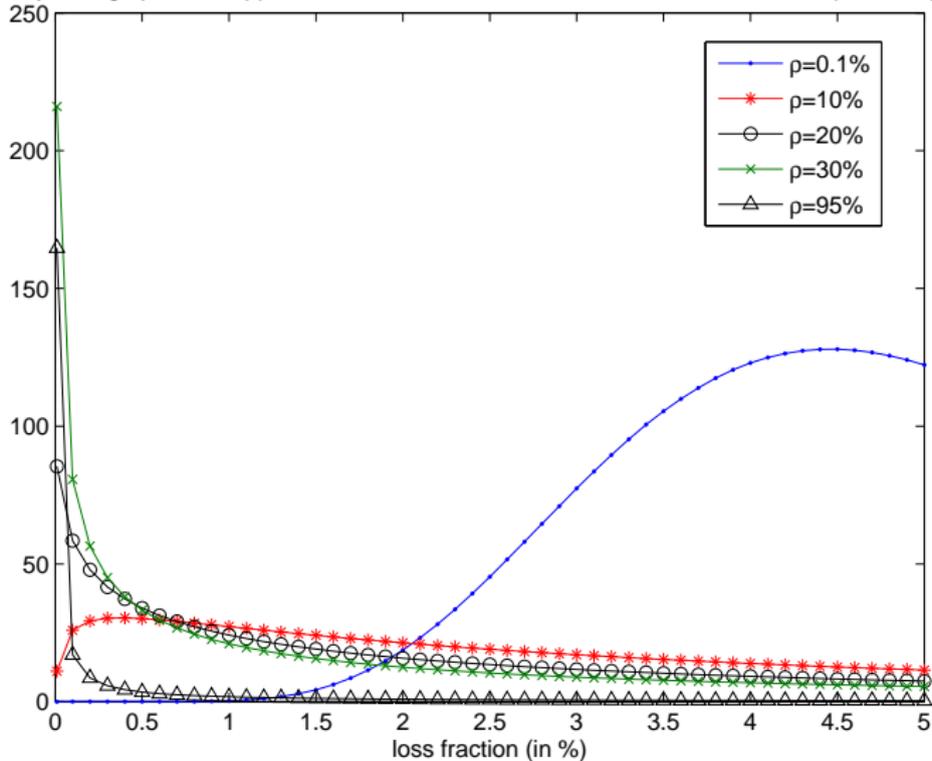
# The mixed Merton binomial model and LPA, cont.

Density of large portfolio approximation for different correlations. Individual default probability,  $p=1\%$



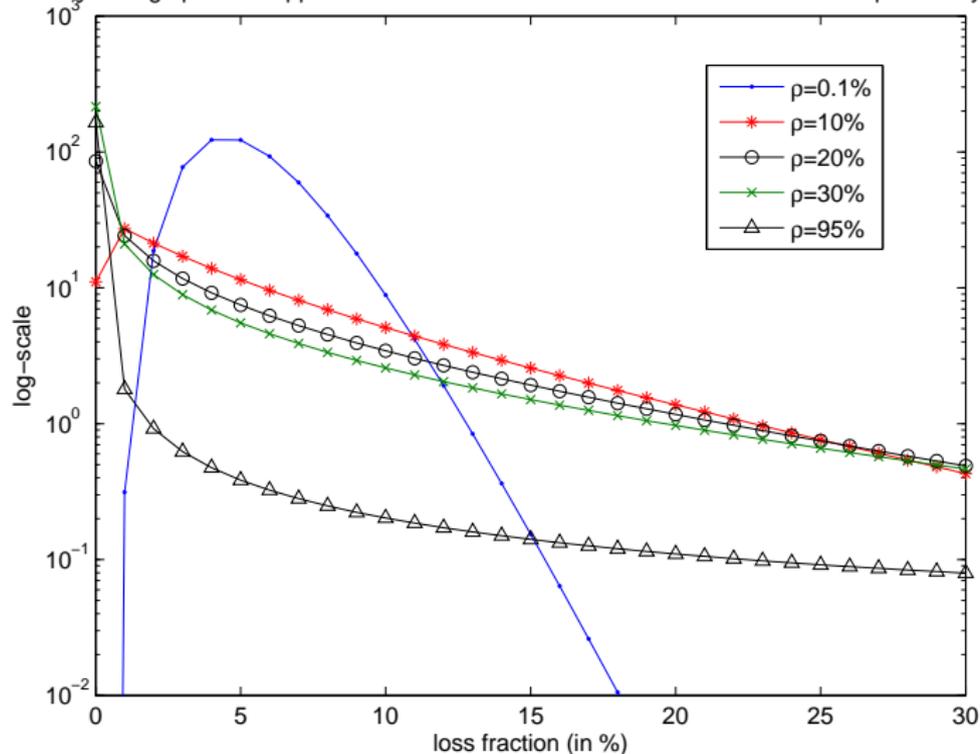
# The mixed Merton binomial model and LPA, cont.

Density of large portfolio approximation for different correlations. Individual default probability,  $p=5\%$



# The mixed Merton binomial model and LPA, cont.

Density of large portfolio approximation for different correlations. Individual default probability,  $p=5\%$



# VaR in the mixed binomial Merton model

Consider a static credit portfolio with  $m$  obligors in a mixed binomial model inspired by the Merton framework where

- the individual one-year default probability is  $\bar{p}$
- the individual loss is  $\ell$
- the default correlation is  $\rho$

By assuming the LPA setting we can now state the following result for the one-year credit Value-at-Risk  $\text{VaR}_\alpha(L)$  with confidence level  $1 - \alpha$ .

## VaR in the mixed binomial Merton model using the LPA setting

With notation and assumptions as above, the one-year  $\text{VaR}_\alpha(L)$  is given by

$$\text{VaR}_\alpha(L) = \ell \cdot m \cdot N \left( \frac{\sqrt{\rho} N^{-1}(\alpha) + N^{-1}(\bar{p})}{\sqrt{1 - \rho}} \right). \quad (31)$$

Useful exercise: Derive the formula (31).

Note that variants of the formula (31) is extensively used for computing regulatory capital in **Basel II** and **Basel III**

# Random losses in the mixed binomial loss model

- In the last three lectures the individual loss  $\ell_i$  for each obligor  $i$  have been a constant  $\ell$  same for all obligors, when studying the mixed binomial loss model, that is  $\ell = \ell_1 = \ell_2 = \dots = \ell_m$
- It is possible to extend the mixed binomial loss models to allow for random losses  $\ell_i$  for each obligor  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$
- By homogeneity, the distribution of these losses must be same for all obligors, and by linearity of VaR, the losses are in percent, i.e. values in  $[0, 1]$
- Let  $Z$  be the mixing distribution in a mixed binomial model with individual default probability  $p(Z) = \mathbb{P}[X_i = 1 | Z]$  same for all obligors.
- One way to introduce random losses, is to let the individual losses  $\ell_i(Z)$  be random variables which conditional on  $Z$ , are i.i.d, all having the distribution  $\ell(Z)$  for some function  $\ell(x) \in [0, 1]$  for all  $x$
- Hence, **conditionally on  $Z$** , then  $\ell_1(Z), \ell_2(Z), \dots, \ell_m(Z)$  are i.i.d with distribution given by  $\ell(Z)$

# Random losses in the mixed binomial loss model, cont.

- The portfolio loss  $L_m$  will now be given by  $L_m = \sum_{i=1}^m \ell_i(Z)X_i$
- Depending on the nature of the individual loss distribution  $\ell(Z)$  one can sometimes get closed form expressions for the exact loss distribution  $F_{L_m}(x) = \mathbb{P}[L_m \leq x]$ , for example if  $\ell(Z)$  is a discrete distribution
- **Conditionally on  $Z$** , the random variables  $\ell_1(Z)X_1, \ell_2(Z)X_2, \dots, \ell_m(Z)X_m$  are i.i.d with distribution  $\ell(Z)p(Z)$ .
- Thus, **conditionally on  $Z$**  we can use the **law of large numbers** for  $\frac{L_m}{m}$  to conclude that

$$\text{given a "fixed" outcome of } Z \text{ then } \frac{L_m}{m} \rightarrow \ell(Z)p(Z) \text{ as } m \rightarrow \infty \quad (32)$$

- Since a.s convergence implies convergence in distribution then (32) implies that for any  $x \in [0, 1]$  we have

$$\mathbb{P} \left[ \frac{L_m}{m} \leq x \right] \rightarrow \mathbb{P} [\ell(Z)p(Z) \leq x] \quad \text{when } m \rightarrow \infty. \quad (33)$$

- We also have for any  $x \in [0, \infty)$ , or in fact any  $x \in [0, m]$  (why?) that

$$F_{L_m}(x) = \mathbb{P}[L_m \leq x] = \mathbb{P}\left[\frac{L_m}{m} \leq \frac{x}{m}\right]$$

and this in (33) then implies that

$$F_{L_m}(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}\left[\ell(Z)p(Z) \leq \frac{x}{m}\right] \quad \text{as } m \rightarrow \infty$$

where we recall that  $\ell(Z) \in [0, 1]$ .

- Hence, if  $m$  is "large" we have the following approximation

$$F_{L_m}(x) \approx \mathbb{P}\left[\ell(Z)p(Z) \leq \frac{x}{m}\right] \quad \text{for any } x \in [0, m] \quad (34)$$

- Depending on the nature of  $\ell(Z)$  one can sometimes get closed form expressions of  $\mathbb{P}[\ell(Z)p(Z) \leq x]$ , for example if  $\ell(Z)$  is a discrete distribution

Thank you for your attention!