

# Market Microstructure and Algorithmic Trading

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- OTC markets are off-exchange “quote-driven” markets that are based on a network of market makers that set prices at which liquidity takers can trade.
- To set prices, liquidity providers in OTC markets constantly stream bid and ask quotes.
- They also respond to requests made by their clients: Request For Quotes.
- Market makers in OTC markets compete for clients.

Let's find a model for competition among market makers in OTC markets:

- Assume a market maker observes the midprice  $S_t$  of an asset and streams bid and ask quotes  $S_t - \delta_t^b$  and  $S_t + \delta_t^a$ .
- Assume  $\lambda^b$  is the **intensity of the selling** trading flow that a market maker would receive if the price of liquidity  $\delta^b$  at the bid is zero.
- Similarly,  $\lambda^a$  is the **baseline intensity of the buying trading flow**.
- The buy/sell trading flow is sensitive to the price of liquidity  $\delta^{b,a}$ :

$$\mathbb{P}[\text{execution of receiving an order at the bid/ask}] = \exp \left\{ -\kappa^{b,a} \delta \right\}.$$

- Intensity of order arrival at the bid/ask for the market maker:

$$\lambda^{b,a} \exp \left\{ -\kappa^{b,a} \delta^{b,a} \right\}.$$

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# Setup

- A market maker (MM) operates in an OTC market for a trading period  $[0, T]$  (usually one trading day).
- They are in charge of streaming bid/ask quotes for a single asset whose midprice is modelled by the process  $S$ .
- The agent controls the depths  $\delta^b$  and  $\delta^a$  of the bid and ask quotes  $S_t - \delta_t^b$  and  $S_t + \delta_t^a$  that they propose around the midprice  $S$ .
- At every instant in the trading window  $[0, T]$ , the MM reassesses market conditions and the inventory level and streams new quotes  $S_t - \delta_t^b$  and  $S_t + \delta_t^a$ .

# Order arrival

- The baseline intensity of order arrival at the bid side is  $\lambda^b$  and at the ask side is  $\lambda^a$ .
- Two counting (controlled) processes  $N_t^{b,\delta}$  and  $N_t^{a,\delta}$  model the number of sell orders and buy orders, respectively, that the market maker fills.
- The orders arrive at Poisson times with intensities  $\Lambda^b(\delta^b)$  and  $\Lambda^a(\delta^a)$ :

$$\boxed{\begin{cases} \Lambda^b(\delta^b) = \lambda^b e^{-\kappa^b \delta^b} \\ \Lambda^a(\delta^a) = \lambda^a e^{-\kappa^a \delta^a} \end{cases},} \quad (1)$$

- $\kappa^b, \kappa^a > 0$  are the rates of decay of the sell and buy pressure, respectively, as a function of the price of liquidity.

# Inventory

- The MM manages inventory risk: they choose boundaries on how long or short their position is in the security.
- Let  $Q$  denote the MM's inventory. The MM chooses  $\underline{q} < 0$  and  $\bar{q} > 0$  such that they fill trades only when the inventory satisfies  $Q \in (\underline{q}, \bar{q})$ .
- We modify the intensity functions above and we set

$$\begin{cases} \Lambda^b(\delta^b) = \lambda^b e^{-\kappa^b \delta^b} \mathbf{1}_{Q < \bar{q}} \\ \Lambda^a(\delta^a) = \lambda^a e^{-\kappa^a \delta^a} \mathbf{1}_{Q > \underline{q}}, \end{cases}$$

- The inventory  $Q$  and the boundaries  $\underline{q}, \bar{q}$  are integers that represent a number of shares.

# Dynamics

## ■ Price:

$$dS_t = \sigma dW_t, \quad S_0 \in \mathbb{R}_+ \text{ is known,}$$

## ■ Inventory:

$$dQ_t^\delta = dN_t^{\delta,b} - dN_t^{\delta,a}, \quad Q_0^\delta = 0.$$

## ■ Cash:

$$dX_t^\delta = - (S_t - \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,b} + (S_t + \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,a}, \quad X_0^\delta = X_0 \in \mathbb{R} \text{ known.}$$

## The performance criterion

$$H^\delta(t, x, S, q) = \mathbb{E}_{t, x, q, S} \left[ X_T + Q_T^\delta (S_T^\delta - \alpha Q_T^\delta) - \phi \int_t^T (Q_u)^2 du \right],$$

where  $\alpha \geq 0$  is the terminal penalty from liquidating any remaining inventory,  $\phi \geq 0$  scales the quadratic running inventory penalty.

## The value function

$$H(t, x, S, q) = \sup_{\delta \in \mathcal{A}} H^\delta(t, x, S, q),$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_{t, x, S, q}$  is the expectation conditioned on (with a slight abuse of notation)  $X_t = x$ ,  $S_t = S$ , and  $Q_t = q$ .

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The dynamics are

$$\begin{cases} dSt &= \sigma dW_t \\ dQ_t^\delta &= dN_t^{\delta,b} - dN_t^{\delta,a} \\ dX_t^\delta &= -(S_t - \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,b} + (S_t + \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,a} \end{cases}$$

The HJB is

$$0 = \partial_t H(t, x, q, S) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \partial_{SS} H(t, x, q, S) - \phi q^2 \quad (2a)$$

$$+ \sup_{\delta^a} \{ (H(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) - H(t, x, q, S)) \} ? \quad (2b)$$

$$+ \sup_{\delta^b} \{ (H(\cdot, \cdot, \cdot, \cdot) - H(t, x, q, S)) \} ?, \quad (2c)$$

subject to the terminal condition

$$H(T, x, S, q) = x + qS - \alpha q^2.$$

The dynamics are

$$\begin{cases} dS_t &= \sigma dW_t \\ dQ_t^\delta &= dN_t^{\delta,b} - dN_t^{\delta,a} \\ dX_t^\delta &= - (S_t - \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,b} + (S_t + \delta_t^b) dN_t^{\delta,a} \end{cases}$$

The HJB is

$$0 = \partial_t H(t, x, q, S) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \partial_{SS} H(t, x, q, S) - \phi q^2 \quad (3a)$$

$$+ \lambda^a \sup_{\delta^a} \left\{ e^{-\kappa^a \delta^a} (H(t, x + (S + \delta^a), q - 1, S) - H(t, x, q, S)) \right\} 1_{q > \underline{q}} \quad (3b)$$

$$+ \lambda^b \sup_{\delta^b} \left\{ e^{-\kappa^b \delta^b} (H(t, x - (S - \delta^b), q + 1, S) - H(t, x, q, S)) \right\} 1_{q < \bar{q}}, \quad (3c)$$

subject to the terminal condition

$$H(T, x, S, q) = x + qS - \alpha q^2.$$



Next step? Propose the ansatz

$$H(t, x, q, S) = x + qS + h(t, q).$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} H(t, x + (S + \delta^a), q - 1, S) - H(t, x, q, S) &= x + (S + \delta^a) + (q - 1)S + h(t, q - 1) \\ &\quad - x - qS - h(t, q) \\ &= \delta^a + h(t, q - 1) - h(t, q) \end{aligned}$$

$$H(t, x + (S - \delta^b), q + 1, S) - H(t, x, q, S) = \delta^b + h(t, q + 1) - h(t, q)$$

Substitute in the HJB and find

$$0 = \partial_t h(t, q) - \phi q^2 + \lambda^a \sup_{\delta^a} \left\{ e^{-\kappa^a \delta^a} (\delta^a + h(t, q - 1) - h(t, q)) \right\} 1_{q > \underline{q}} \quad (4a)$$

$$+ \lambda^b \sup_{\delta^b} \left\{ e^{-\kappa^b \delta^b} (\delta^b + h(t, q + 1) - h(t, q)) \right\} 1_{q < \bar{q}}, \quad (4b)$$



Next step ? Solve the supremum to obtain the optimal feedback distances  $\delta^{b,*}$  and  $\delta^{a,*}$ :

$$\delta^{b,*}(t, q) = \frac{1}{\kappa^b} - h(t, q + 1) + h(t, q), \quad q \neq \bar{q}, \quad (5a)$$

$$\delta^{a,*}(t, q) = \frac{1}{\kappa^a} - h(t, q - 1) + h(t, q), \quad q \neq \underline{q}. \quad (5b)$$

- The first components  $1/\kappa^{a,b}$  optimise the instantaneous expected profit from a roundtrip trade: the expected profit from a roundtrip trade is

$$\delta^b \Lambda^b(\delta^b) + \delta^a \Lambda^a(\delta^a)$$

which is maximal for  $\delta^b = 1/\kappa$  and  $\delta^a = 1/\kappa$ ,

- The first component corresponds to the optimal strategy of a market maker who does not penalise inventory.
- The second component is related to changes in the value function due to an inventory change after trades are filled.

- **Assumption:** the intensity functions  $\Lambda^b$  and  $\Lambda^a$  decay at the same rate  $\kappa = \kappa^a = \kappa^b$ .
- We propose the following ansatz

$$h(t, q) = \frac{1}{\kappa} \log \omega(t, q),$$

- The HJB simplifies to

$$0 = \partial_t \omega(t, q) - \phi \kappa q^2 \omega(t, q) + e^{-1} \lambda^a \omega(t, q - 1) 1_{q > \underline{q}} + e^{-1} \lambda^b \omega(t, q + 1) 1_{q < \bar{q}},$$

subject to the terminal condition

$$\omega(T, q) = \exp(-\kappa \alpha q^2).$$

## The equation

$$0 = \partial_t \omega(t, q) - \phi \kappa q^2 \omega(t, q) \\ + e^{-1} \lambda^a \omega(t, q-1) 1_{q > \underline{q}} + e^{-1} \lambda^b \omega(t, q+1) 1_{q < \bar{q}},$$

is a system of ODEs:

- The inventory  $q$  can only take the values  $\{\underline{q}, \underline{q} + 1, \dots, \bar{q} - 1, \bar{q}\}$ ,
- For a fixed time  $t$ ,  $\omega(t, q)$  can only take the finitely many value  $\{\omega(t, \underline{q}), \omega(t, \underline{q} + 1), \dots, \omega(t, \bar{q} - 1), \omega(t, \bar{q})\}$ .
- Define the vector  $\mathbf{w}(t) = (\omega(t, \underline{q}), \omega(t, \underline{q} + 1), \dots, \omega(t, \bar{q} - 1), \omega(t, \bar{q}))^\top$ .
- $\mathbf{w}$  solves the ODE  $0 = \partial_t \mathbf{w}(t) + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{w}(t)$ ,

$$\text{where } \mathbf{A} \in \mathcal{M}_{\bar{q}-\underline{q}+1}(\mathbb{R}) \text{ and } \mathbf{A}_{i,q} = \begin{cases} -\phi \kappa q^2, & i = q, \\ \lambda^a e^{-1}, & i = q - 1, \\ \lambda^b e^{-1}, & i = q + 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

The solution to the first-order homogeneous matrix ODE is straightforward:

$$\mathbf{w}(t) = \exp(\mathbf{A}(T - t)) \mathbf{z}, \quad (6)$$

where the vector  $\mathbf{z}$  is  $(\bar{q} - \underline{q} + 1)$ -dimensional that writes

$$\mathbf{z} = \left( e^{-\alpha \kappa \underline{q}^2}, \dots, e^{-\alpha \kappa \bar{q}^2} \right)^\top.$$

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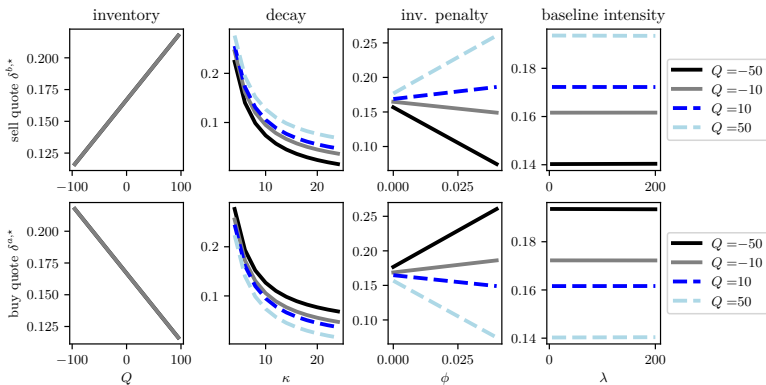
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- Quotes as a function of inventory ?
- Quotes as a function of decay  $\kappa$  ?
- Quotes as a function of inv. penalty  $\phi$  ?

## Discussion



Optimal distances  $\delta^{b,*}$  and  $\delta^{a,*}$  in as a function of model parameters for different values of the inventory. The default parameters are  $\lambda = 50$ ,  $T = 1$  minute,  $\phi = 2 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $\kappa = 100$ , and  $Q_0 = 5$ . The terminal time is  $T = 30$  minutes and the terminal penalty is  $\alpha = 10^{-4}$ .

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When assets co-move together, it is key to

- Manage risk at the portfolio level.
- A position that is risky in one asset can be offset by another position.
- Liquidity should be managed at the portfolio level: impact in one asset leads to impact on another asset.

The new **FRTB** (Fundamental Review of the Trading Book) regulation will lead practitioners to assess liquidity risks within a **centralised risk book** for capital requirements.

We consider a market with  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  assets.

A classical model for cointegration is the multi-OU process

$$dS_t = R(\bar{S} - S_t)dt + VdW_t$$

- $\bar{S}$  represents the unconditional long-term expectation of  $(S_t)_{t \in [0, T]}$ .
- $R$  steers the deterministic part of the process: mean reversion.
- $V$  drives the dispersion.  $\Sigma = VV^T$  is the covariation matrix of the process.

OU processes are well suited when prices exhibit mean reversion and/or when there exist one or several linear combinations of asset prices that are stationary (cointegration).

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# Setup

- We consider a market with  $d \in \mathbb{N}^*$  assets.
- A trader wishes to liquidate their portfolio over a period of time  $[0, T]$ , with  $T > 0$ .
- The inventory process  $Q = (Q_t^1, \dots, Q_t^d)^\top$  evolves as

$$\boxed{dQ_t = v_t dt, \quad Q_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \text{ given}}$$

- The fundamental prices of the  $d$  assets are a  $d$ -dimensional OU process  $S = (S_t^1, \dots, S_t^d)^\top$  with dynamics

$$\boxed{dS_t = R(\bar{S} - S_t)dt + VdW_t, \quad S_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d \text{ given}}$$

where  $R \in \mathcal{M}_d(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $V \in \mathcal{M}_{d,k}(\mathbb{R})$ .



## The performance criterion

$$\sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E} \left[ -\exp \left( -\gamma \left( \tilde{X}_T + Q_T^T \tilde{S}_T - Q_T^T \tilde{\Gamma} Q_T \right) \right) \right],$$

where  $\tilde{\Gamma} \in \mathcal{S}_d^+(\mathbb{R})$ .

An equivalent problem if we assume  $\Gamma = \tilde{\Gamma} - \frac{1}{2}K \in \mathcal{S}_d^+(\mathbb{R})$

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{X}_T + Q_T^T \tilde{S}_T - Q_T^T \tilde{\Gamma} Q_T &= \tilde{X}_0 + Q_0^T \tilde{S}_0 + \int_0^T Q_t^T d\tilde{S}_t - \int_0^T v^T \eta v dt - Q_T^T \tilde{\Gamma} Q_T \\ &= X_0 + Q_0^T S_0 + \int_0^T Q_t^T dS_t + \int_0^T Q_t^T K v_t dt \\ &\quad - \int_0^T v^T \eta v dt - Q_T^T \tilde{\Gamma} Q_T \\ &= X_T + Q_T^T S_T - Q_T^T \left( \tilde{\Gamma} - \frac{1}{2}K \right) Q_T - \frac{1}{2}Q_0^T K Q_0, \end{aligned}$$

where

$$dX_t = -v_t^T S_t dt - v^T \eta v dt.$$

Performance criterion is now

$$\sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}} \mathbb{E}_{t,x,q,s} \left[ -\exp \left( -\gamma \left( X_T + Q_T^\top S_T - Q_T \Gamma Q_T \right) \right) \right].$$

The value function of the problem  $u : [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is

$$u(t, x, q, s) = \sup_{v \in \mathcal{A}_t} \mathbb{E}_{t,x,q,s} \left[ -\exp \left( -\gamma \left( X_T + (Q_T)^\top S_T - Q_T \Gamma Q_T \right) \right) \right].$$

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The solution

Next step ?

Next step ? Use the ansatz

$$w(t, x, q, s) = -\exp(-\gamma(x + q^T s + \theta(t, q, s))), \quad (8a)$$

$$\forall(t, x, q, s) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{2d}, \quad (8b)$$

which simplifies the HJB to find

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & \partial_t \theta + \sup_{v \in \mathbb{R}^d} (v^T \nabla_q \theta - L(v)) + \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(\Sigma D_{SS}^2 \theta) \\ & - \frac{\gamma}{2} (q + \nabla_s \theta)^T \Sigma (q + \nabla_s \theta) + (\bar{S} - S)^T R^T (\nabla_s \theta + q) \end{aligned}$$

with terminal condition

$$\theta(T, q, s) = -q^T \Gamma q \quad \forall(q, s) \in \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d,$$

# Next step ?







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