

On the existence of non-constant volatility in the Bachelier and Black-Scholes formulae

KAIS HAMZA

School of Mathematical Sciences, Monash University 3800, Australia
[Kais.Hamza@sci.monash.edu.au]

FIMA KLEBANER

School of Mathematical Sciences, Monash University 3800, Australia
[Fima.Klebaner@sci.monash.edu.au]

This paper looks at the existence of non-constant volatilities that agree with the Bachelier and Black-Scholes formulae for all strikes. More specifically, we ask the question of whether one can find a volatility process θ_t such that

$$\forall K, \quad \mathbf{E}[(S_T - K)^+ | \mathcal{F}_t] = C(T, t, K, \theta_t, S_t),$$

where $C(T, t, K, \sigma, z)$ denotes the expressions for the call options for the Bachelier and Black-Scholes models respectively.