



Month End Summary of Commodity Futures and Options  
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**Intro:**

We are pleased to welcome you to our May 2022 month end report.

May could be considered a more consolidating month for most markets. In general we see some of the nosebleed moves abate, but the equity indexes have taken somewhat of a swan dive.

The US interest rate and government debt market showed a general rally in the short and medium ends of the term structure. This extended to the option implied volatility skews. The general trend was a parallel shift downwards in the curves. The threat of further rate moves is dependent on inflation numbers being released in the coming days and FED statements.

Agricultural commodities had more muted moves this month. However, the higher interest rates, real estate prices and general fear of economic malaise have put the brakes on timber. Implied volatility was up, but in a very measured way. Some of the proteins: milk, feeder cattle and lean hogs showed spikes in their prices. Milk, Soybean meal and rice exhibit vol spikes. The front month skews of corn, wheat and soybeans were mostly unchanged month over month. This doesn't mean the skews didn't move. They moved a lot, but settled near where they started. The vol of vol was high, even if that did not translate into a sticky move. Wheat's put wing is significantly down (even if the rest of the skew didn't change much).

Equity index futures were down across the board. The at the money vols were also, paradoxically, down. The VIX index was also down this period. The sell off may be headed into some short term exhaustion. Perhaps the summer doldrums have come a bit earlier and this down draft is on autopilot. The skews were quite stiff, with the odd exception that the near puts were offered, while extreme downside seems to have caught a bid. Again, perhaps the major players aren't worried about a slow grind and the risk is a sharp massive move down.

The metals markets, perhaps taking a cue from rates, were mostly quiet. Platinum was up 4% while its sister element palladium was down 9.5%. The palladium move could be in connection to fears of economic slowdown and less spending on autos. At the money volatility was mostly down. The curves were all mostly parallel shifted down, with the exception of gold. In gold we see call vol being a bit more aggressively sold.

Indexes were all down, with the exception of the VIX. In general, the Dow Jones futures were down the least with the Nasdaq 100 down the most. The VIX was up 13 vol points. The implied volatility for all of the contracts was up dramatically. This bid in equity index vol is the strongest we have witnessed since the 2020 drawdown.

Energy was the fly in the ointment. Even a rock on a dusty country road in Texas has heard about the rise in Natty gas prices. Natural gas rallied 9%, as did WTI and Brent Crude. Refined gasoline futures rallied 11%. The old heating oil/diesel/ULSD contract fell 6.4%. The fall was a bit surprising since there were stories circulating about the imminent stock outs in the commodity (at least on the US East coast). The European gas contract TFT/TFO should a decline in prices and levels. The market is relying on US natural gas slaking the thirst for European demand. Time will tell if this will be enough. The crude and crude derivative markets exhibited reductions in vol, while natural gas vol rallied. The change in skews in these markets was somewhat unremarkable.

Foreign exchange markets were mostly a one way train. Implied volatility lessened this month, and the US dollar lost ground against other currencies, except for BTC, Bitcoin. The Bitcoin contract plummeted

another 18% and implied volatility rallied. The other interesting things to note is that there are calendar spreads in the Euro and Pound (implied volatility termstructures) that have spiked at the 6 month and one year marks.

As always we welcome you to visit our website and hope to help you manage risk!

CommodityVol.com is here to serve your needs around modeling, forecasting and understanding the market. If you have needs for commodity skews, parameterized surfaces (including stochastic volatility models), please do not hesitate to contact us! [info@commodityvol.com](mailto:info@commodityvol.com)

## **At The Money Roundup of Products**

## InterestRates

exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
CBT/26	2 YR US Treasury Note	+0.188 [+0.2%]	-0.005 [-19.8%]
CBT/25	5 YR US Treasury Note	+0.695 [+0.6%]	-0.016 [-25.1%]
CBT/21	10 YR US Treasury Note	+1.109 [+0.9%]	-0.020 [-21.9%]
CBT/17	30 YR US Treasury Bond	+0.344 [+0.2%]	-0.031 [-19.1%]
CME/ED	Eurodollar	+0.135 [+0.1%]	-0.005 [-67.6%]
CBT/UBE	Long Term US Treasury Bond	-1.344 [-0.9%]	-0.042 [-17.7%]

exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
CME/DK	Class IV Milk	+1.100 [+4.5%]	+0.027 [+33.1%]
CBT/C	Corn	-0.500 [-6.2%]	+0.010 [+3.2%]
CME/62	Feeder Cattle	+3.700 [+2.3%]	-0.006 [-3.8%]
CBT/KW	KC HRW Wheat	+0.675 [+6.1%]	-0.012 [-3.2%]
CME/LN	Lean Hog	+8.100 [+8.1%]	-0.037 [-16.6%]
CME/48	Live Cattle	-4.825 [-3.6%]	-0.029 [-15.3%]
CME/LB	Lumber110	-264.500 [-28.8%]	+0.056 [+10.0%]
CME/NF	Nonfat Dry Milk	+3.200 [+1.8%]	+0.010 [+19.3%]
CBT/O	Oats	+0.157 [+2.4%]	-0.004 [-0.9%]
ENXT_COM/OCO	Rapeseed	-2.250 [-0.3%]	-0.002 [-0.6%]
CBT/14	Rough Rice	+0.380 [+2.2%]	+0.099 [+60.1%]
CBT/S	Soybean	+0.380 [+2.3%]	+0.010 [+4.8%]
CBT/06	Soybean Meal	-16.100 [-3.7%]	+0.028 [+12.1%]
CBT/07	Soybean Oil	-2.170 [-2.7%]	-0.018 [-5.1%]
CBT/W	Wheat	+0.320 [+3.0%]	-0.014 [-3.5%]

## EquityIndex

exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
CBT/YM	E-Mini Dow	-9.000 [-0.0%]	-0.027 [-12.0%]
CME/NQ	E-Mini Nasdaq	-426.500 [-3.3%]	-0.020 [-6.1%]
CME/RTO	E-Mini Russell 2000	-17.900 [-1.0%]	-0.021 [-6.7%]
CME/RTM	E-Mini Russell EOM	-17.200 [-0.9%]	-0.029 [-9.1%]
CME/ES	E-Mini S&P 500	-19.750 [-0.5%]	-0.018 [-6.9%]
CBOE/VIX	VIX Volatility Index	-6.150 [-19.0%]	-0.626 [-40.4%]

## Metals

exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
COMEX/HX	Copper	+0.028 [+0.7%]	-0.059 [-19.2%]
COMEX/OG	Gold	-15.200 [-0.8%]	-0.033 [-18.6%]
NYMEX/PAO	Palladium	-209.700 [-9.5%]	-0.032 [-5.9%]
NYMEX/PO	Platinum	+35.500 [+3.8%]	+0.011 [+3.6%]
COMEX/SO	Silver	-0.896 [-4.0%]	-0.043 [-14.1%]

## Energy

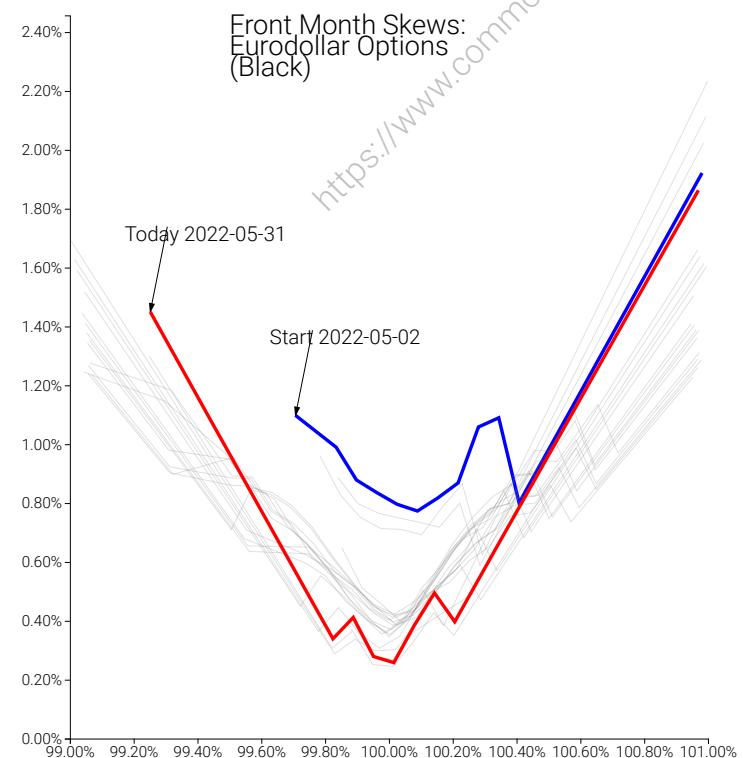
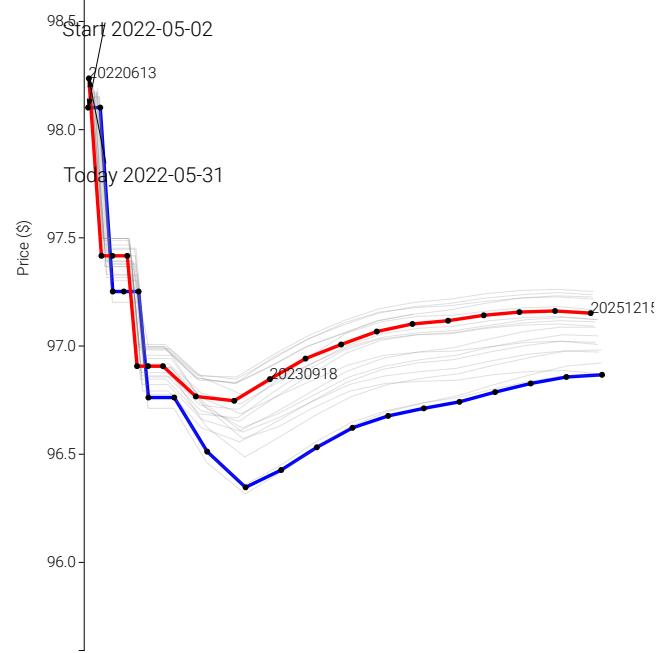
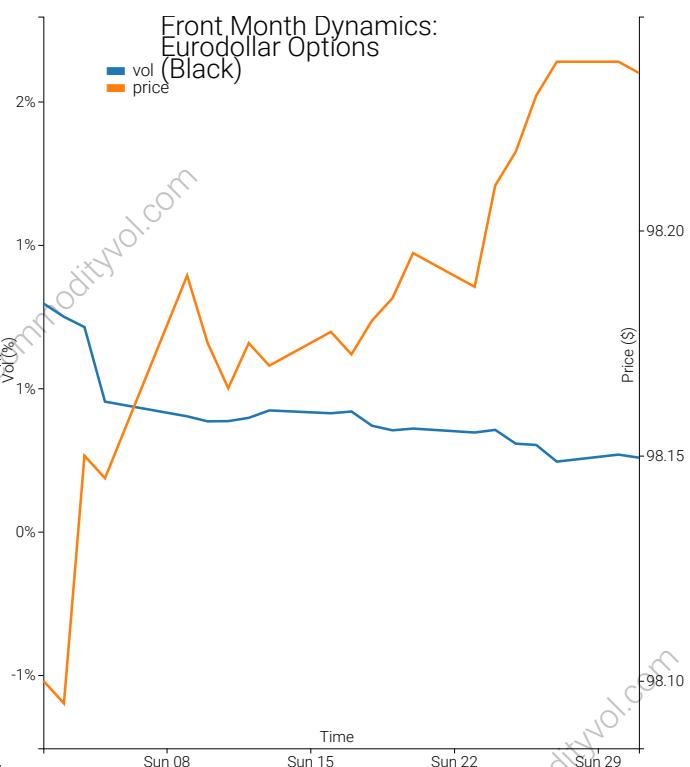
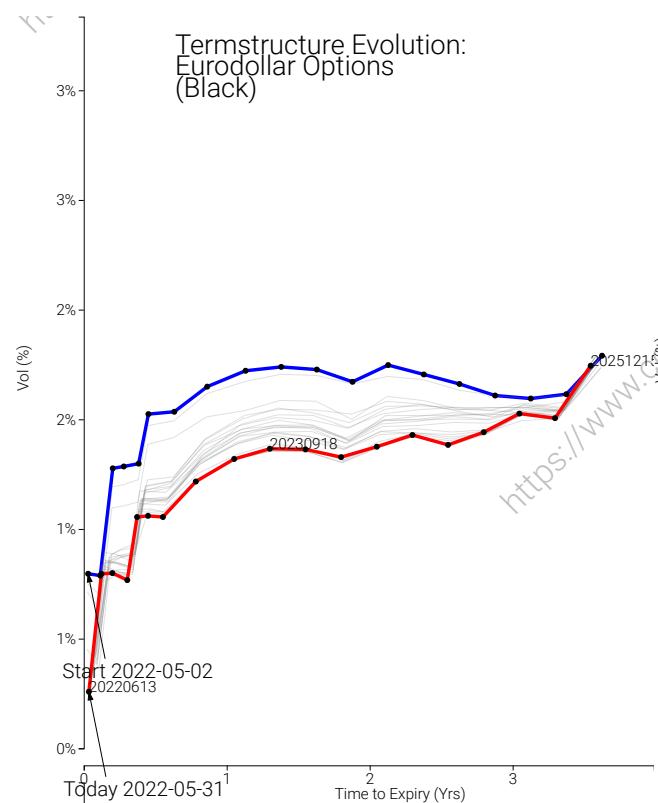
exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
NYMEX/BZO	Brent Crude Oil Margin	+8.020 [+7.5%]	-0.065 [-12.1%]
NYMEX/BE	Brent Euro Style	+8.020 [+7.5%]	-0.057 [-10.7%]
NYMEX/CVR	Chicago Ethanol(platts) Average Price	+0.085 [+3.2%]	-0.040 [-18.3%]
NYMEX/LO	Crude Oil	+9.500 [+9.0%]	-0.024 [-4.4%]
NYMEX/TFO	Dutch TTF Natural Gas	-3.047 [-3.1%]	-0.696 [-38.6%]
NYMEX/LN	European Natural Gas	+0.670 [+9.0%]	+0.073 [+9.9%]
NYMEX/E7	Henry Hub Financial Last Day	+0.670 [+9.0%]	+0.067 [+9.2%]
NYMEX/ON	Natural Gas	+0.670 [+9.0%]	+0.071 [+9.7%]
NYMEX/OH	NY Harbor ULSD	-0.270 [-6.4%]	-0.115 [-18.0%]
NYMEX/OB	RBOB	+0.406 [+11.6%]	-0.029 [-5.3%]

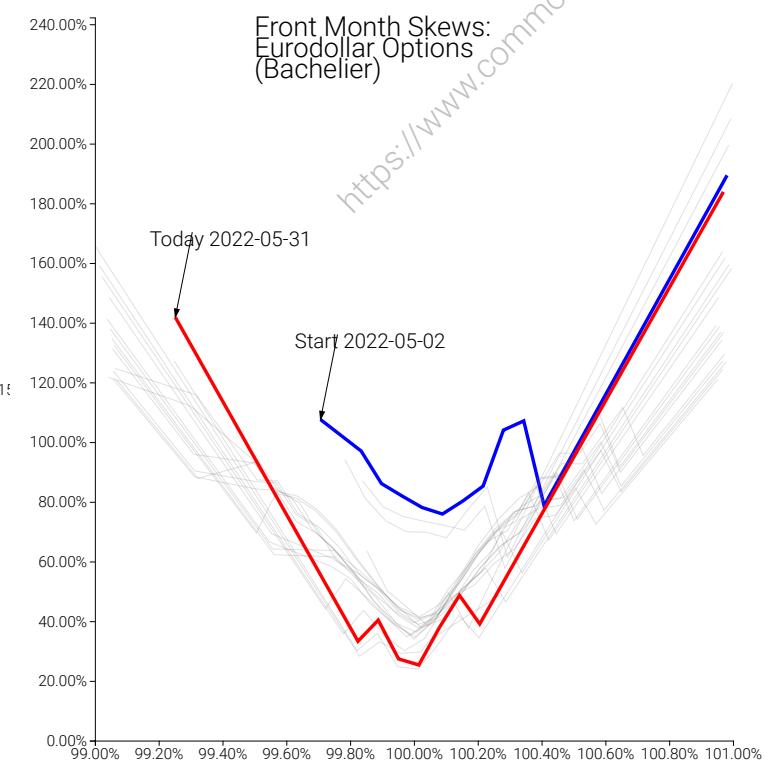
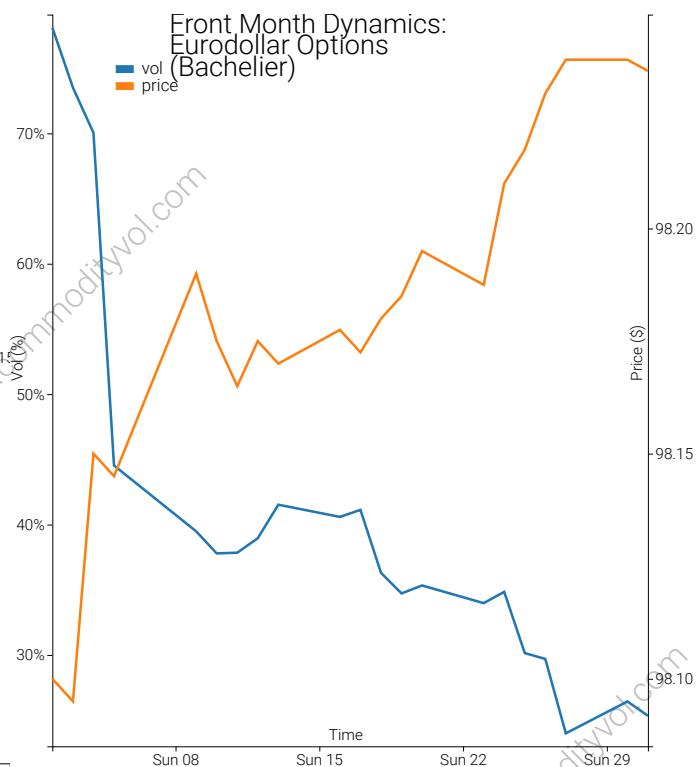
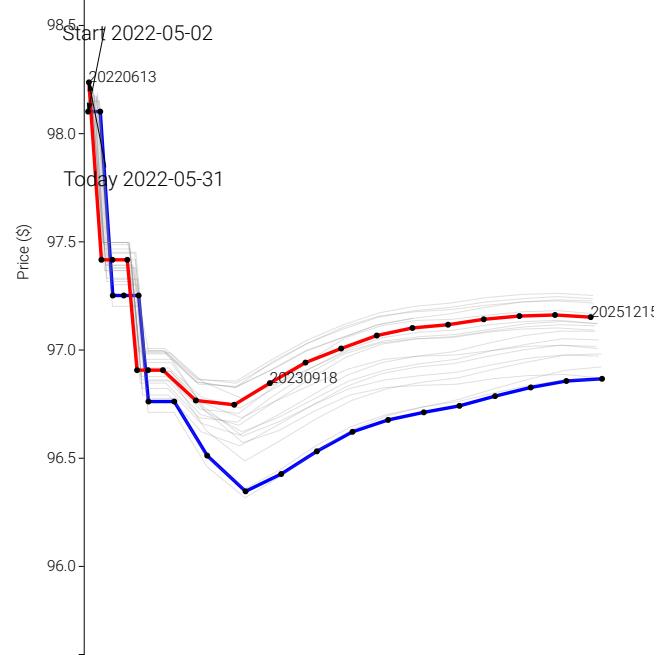
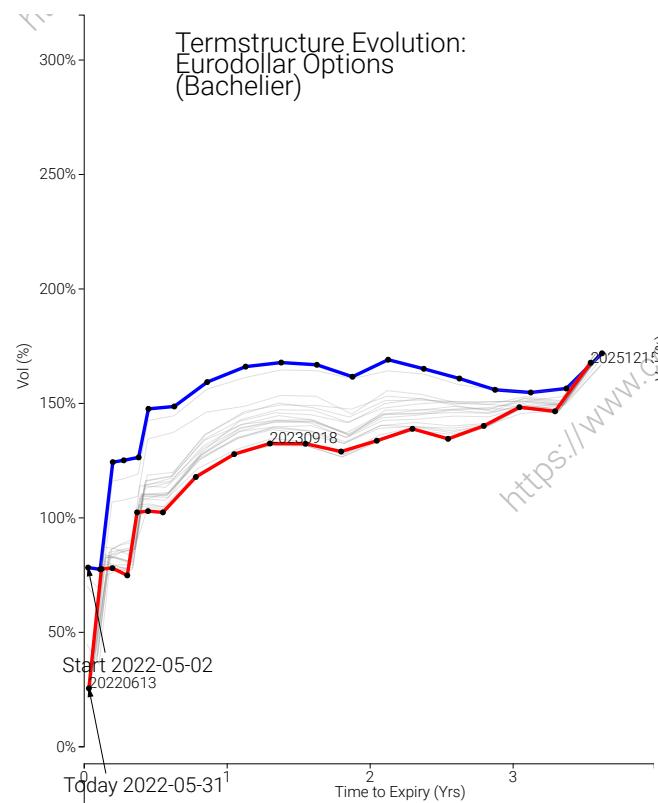
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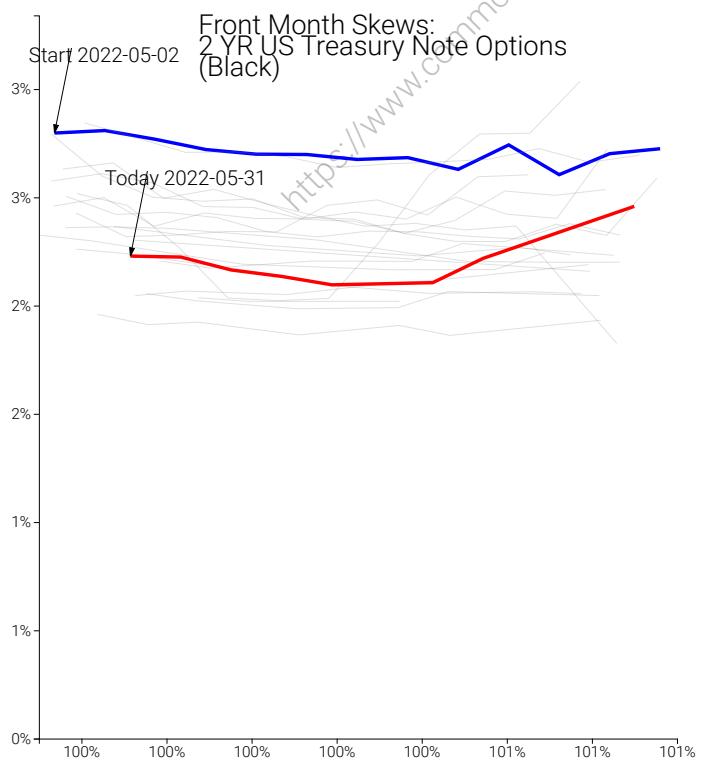
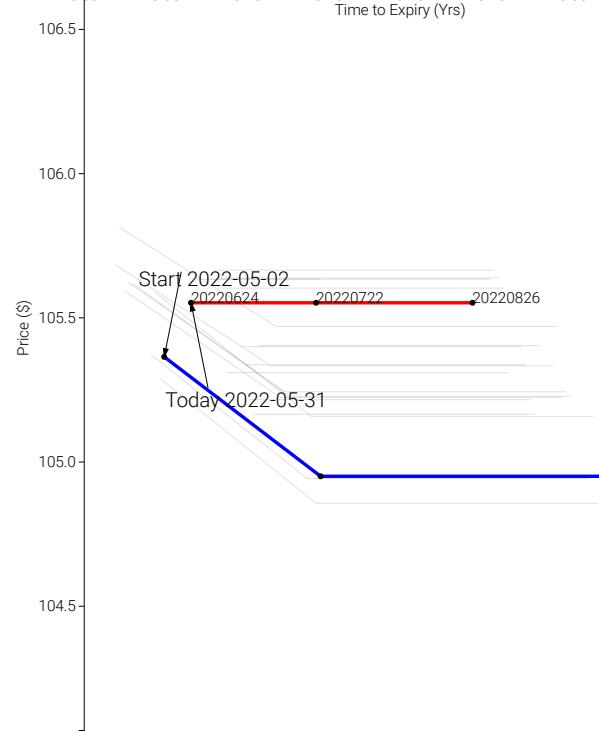
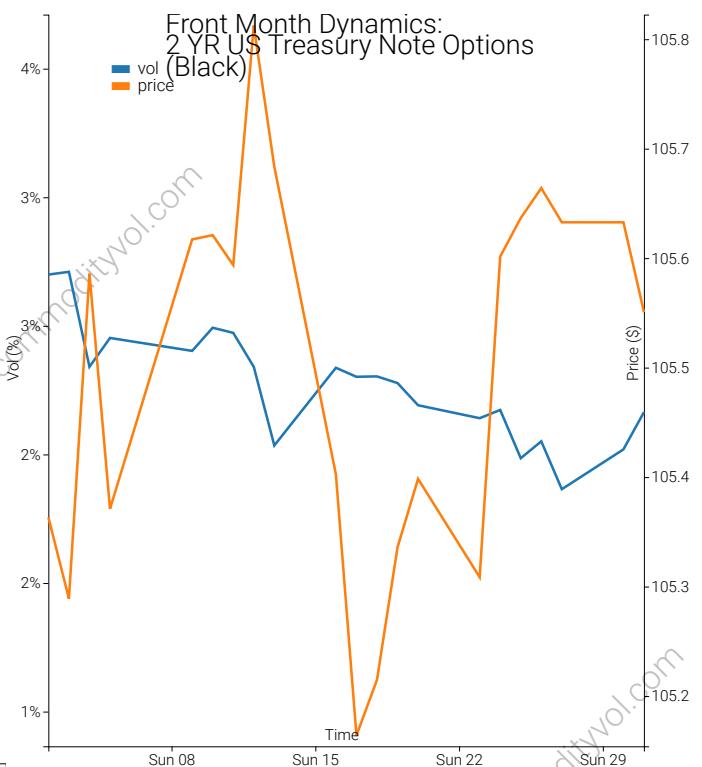
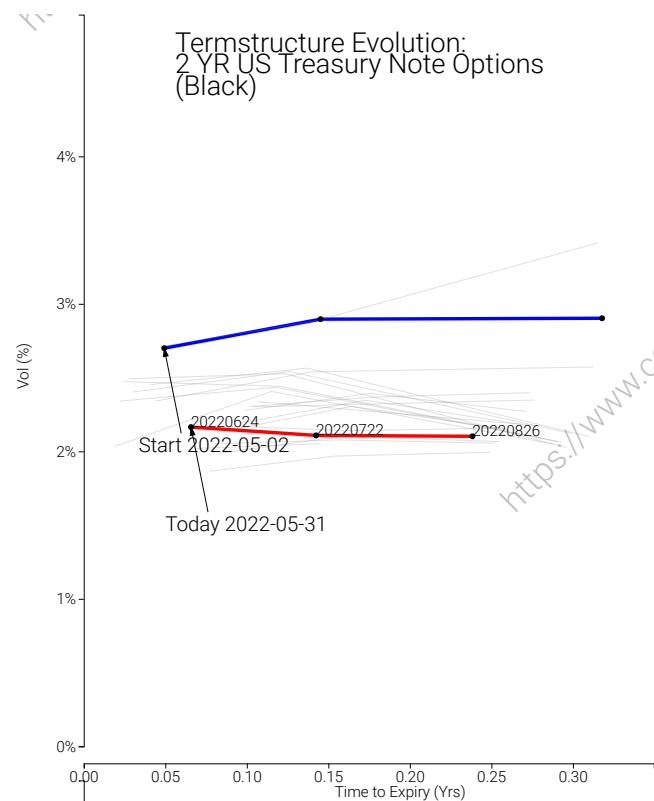
exch/prod	desc	futures chng [%]	vol chng [%]
CME/ADU	AUDUSD 2pmfix	+0.014 [+2.0%]	-0.075 [-40.1%]
CME/BTC	Bitcoin	-6890.000 [-17.9%]	+0.094 [+18.0%]
CME/BR	BRLUSD Monthly	+0.016 [+8.2%]	-0.078 [-39.6%]
CME/CAU	CADUSD 2pmfix	+0.016 [+2.0%]	-0.055 [-44.2%]
CME/CHU	CHFUSD 2pmfix	+0.027 [+2.6%]	-0.044 [-35.6%]
CME/EUU	EURUSD 2pmfix	+0.029 [+2.8%]	-0.063 [-44.5%]
CME/GBU	GBPUSD 2pmfix	+0.014 [+1.1%]	-0.066 [-41.4%]
CME/JPU	JPYUSD 2pmfix	+0.000 [+1.6%]	-0.073 [-43.5%]
CME/MP	Mexican Peso	+0.001 [+2.7%]	-0.052 [-32.0%]
CME/NE	New Zealand	+0.009 [+1.4%]	-0.079 [-37.4%]

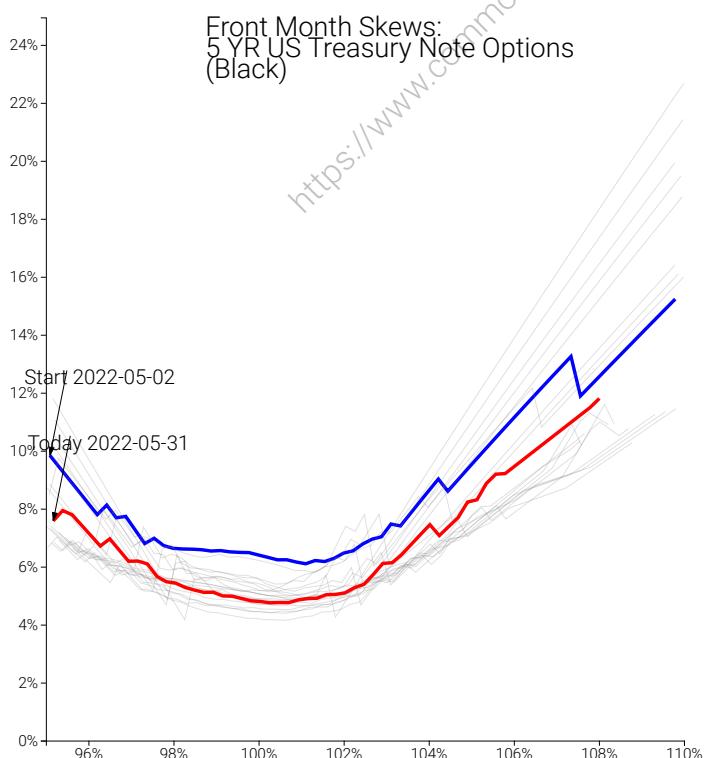
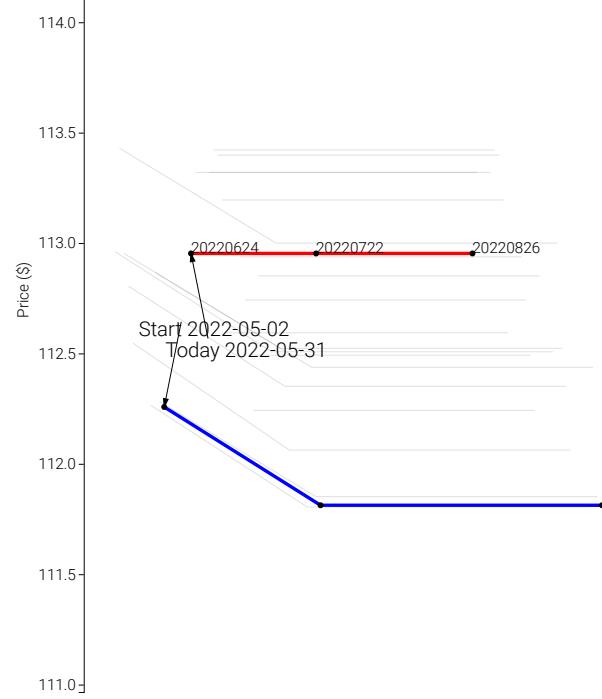
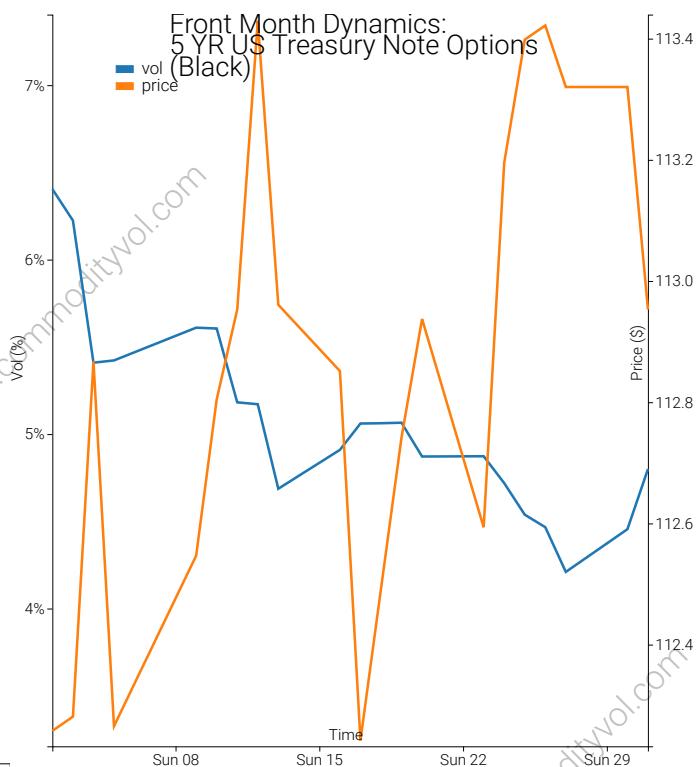
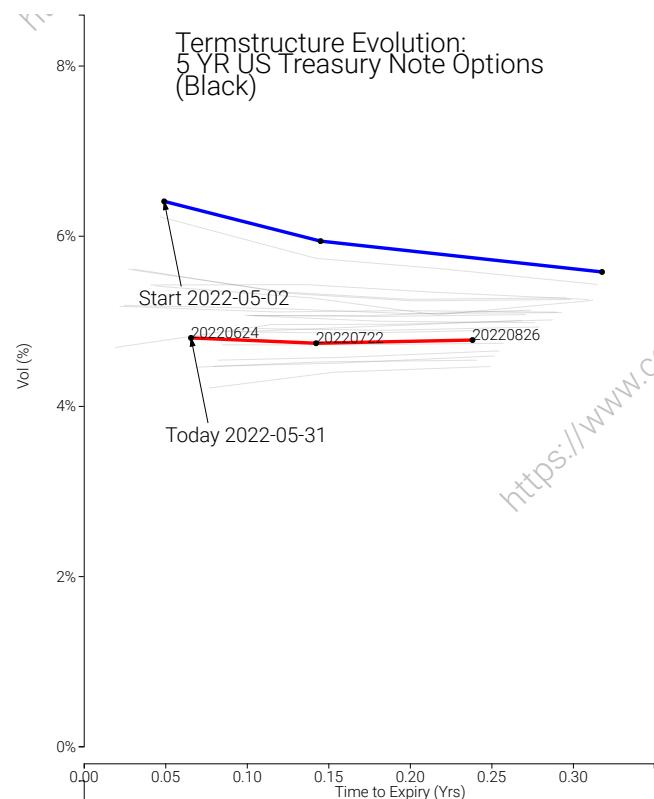
## **Skews, Termstructures and more**

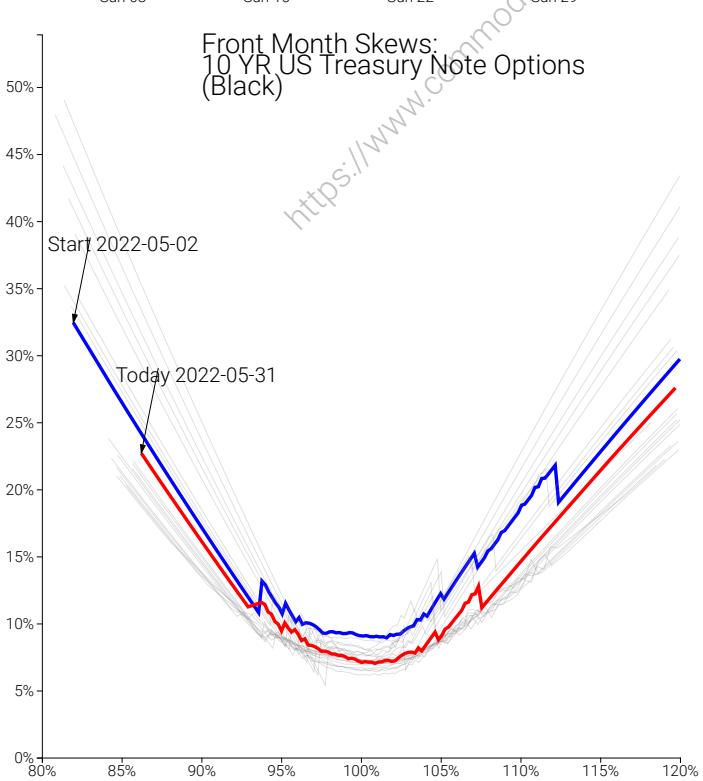
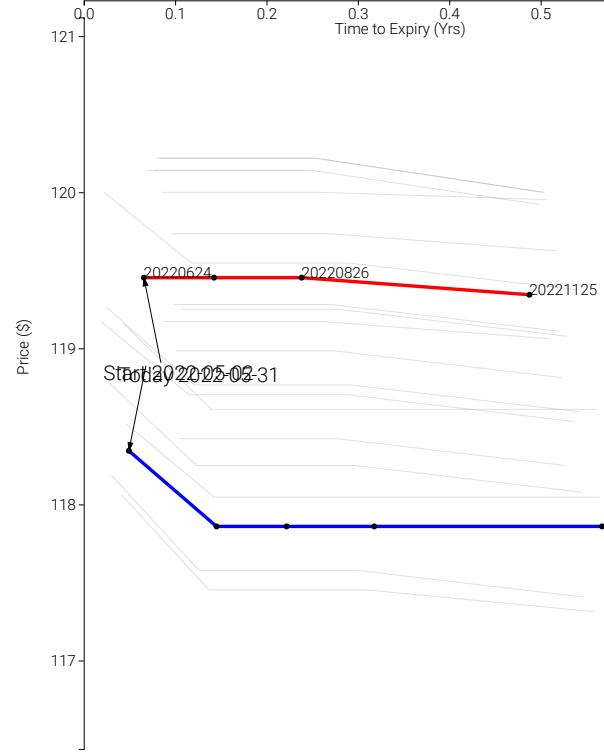
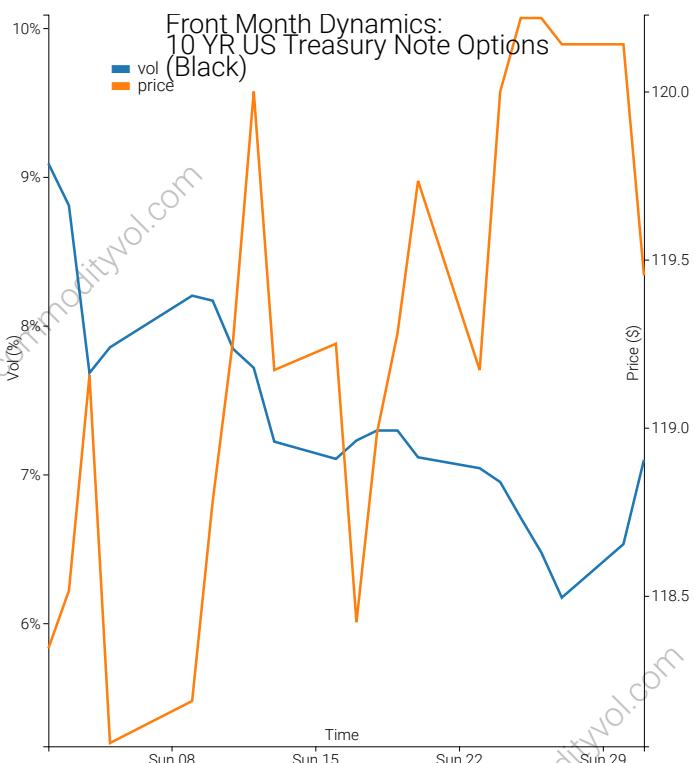
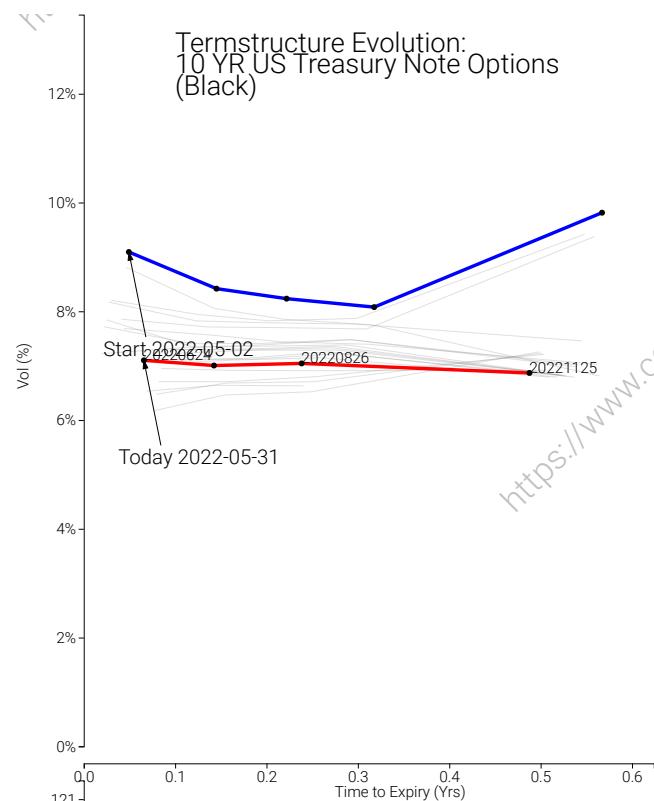
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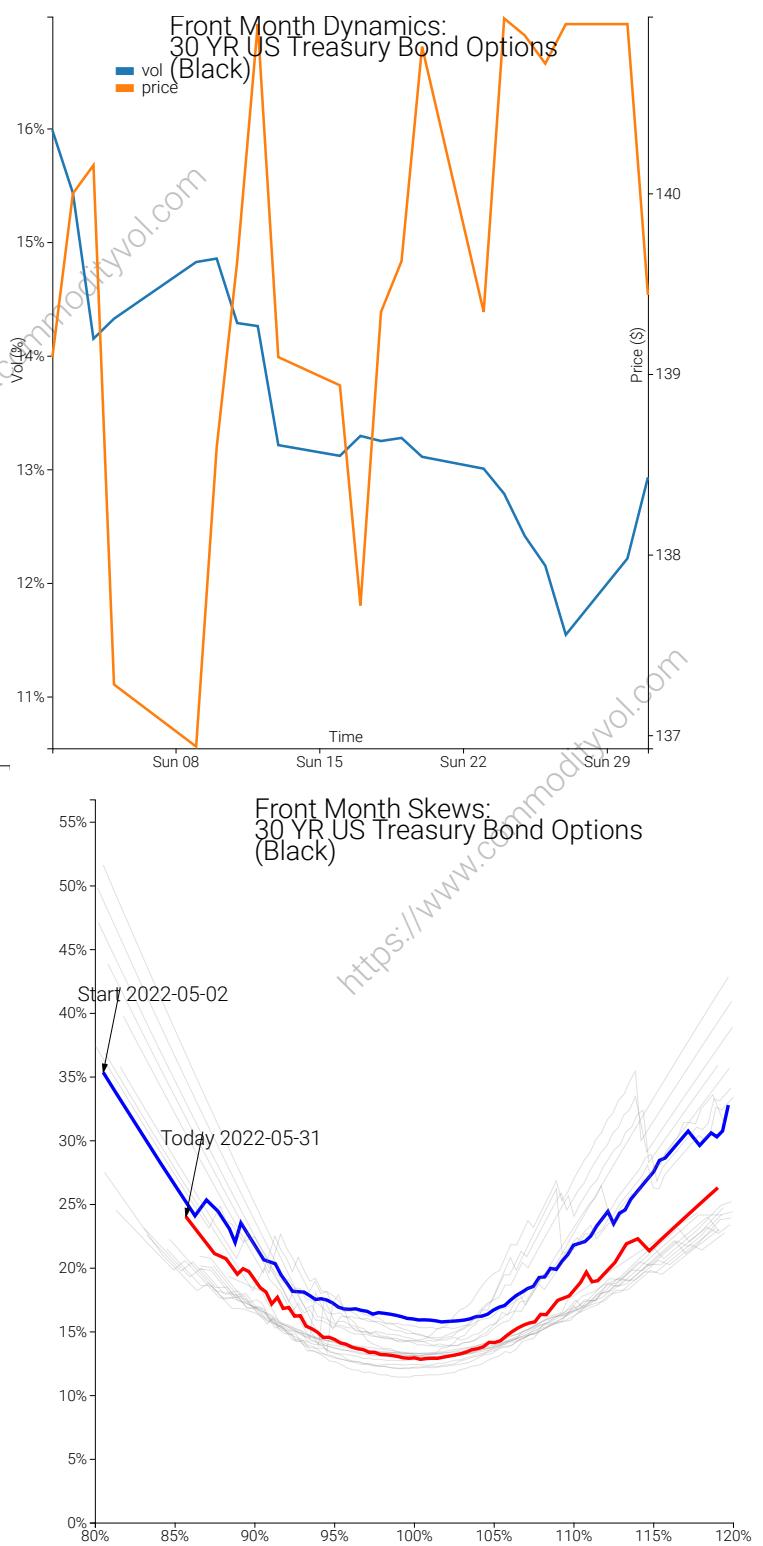
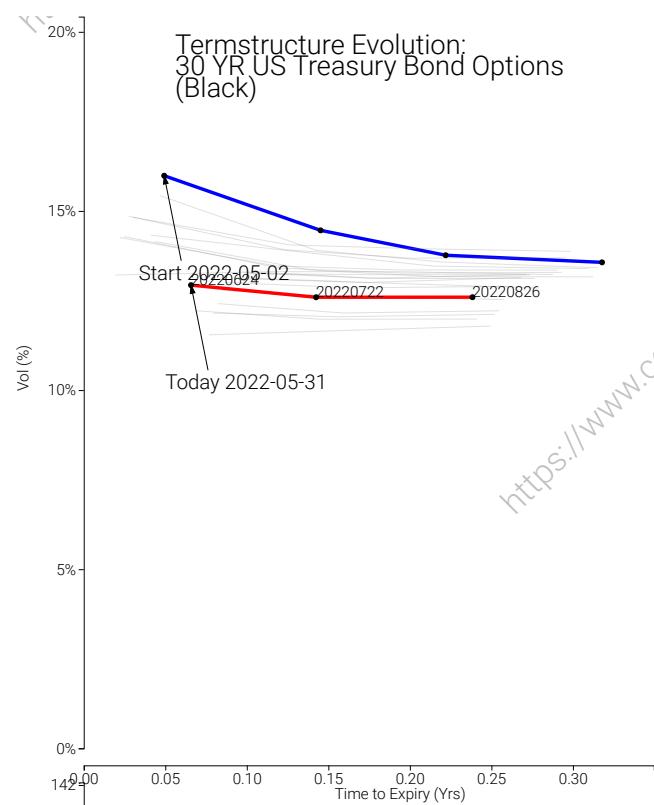


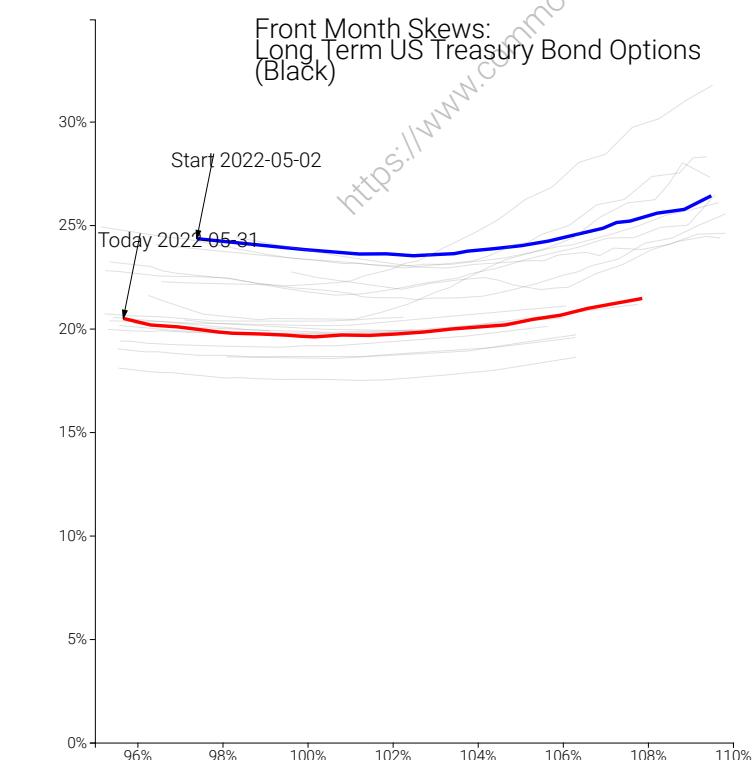
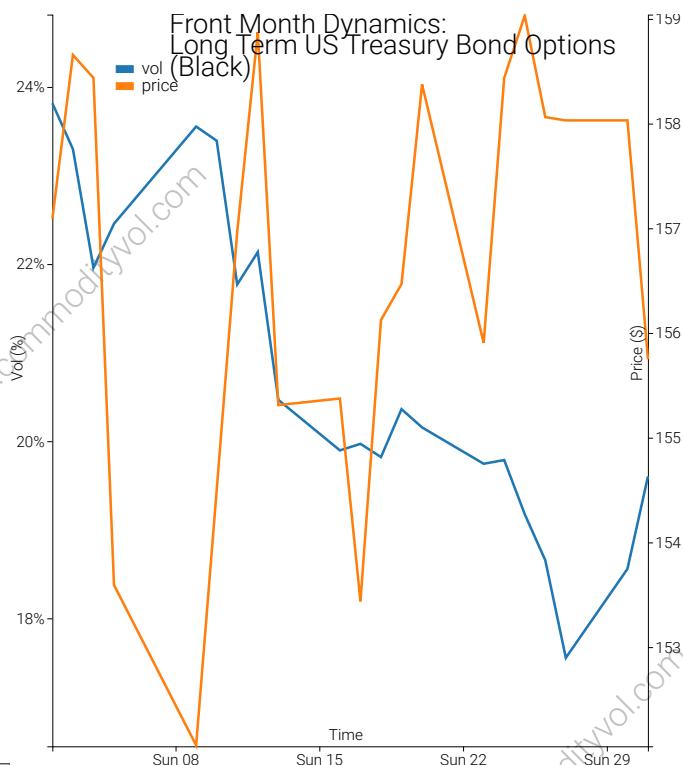
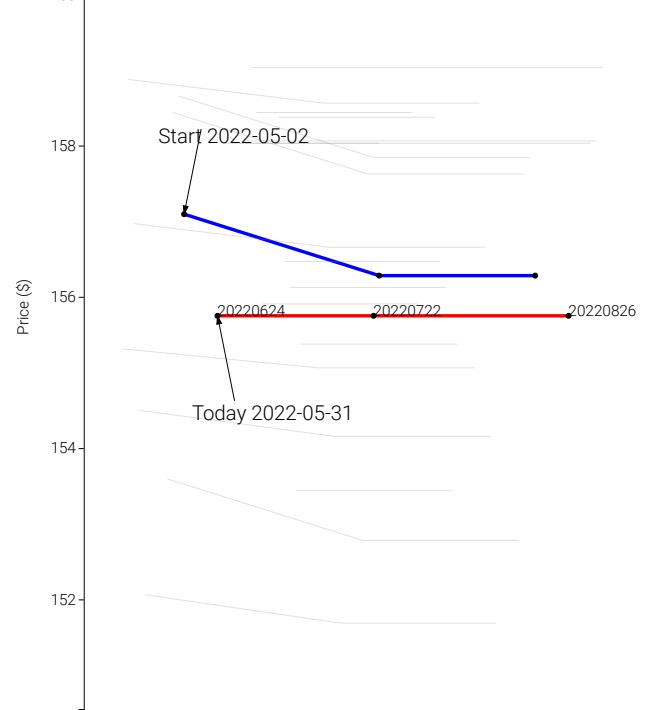
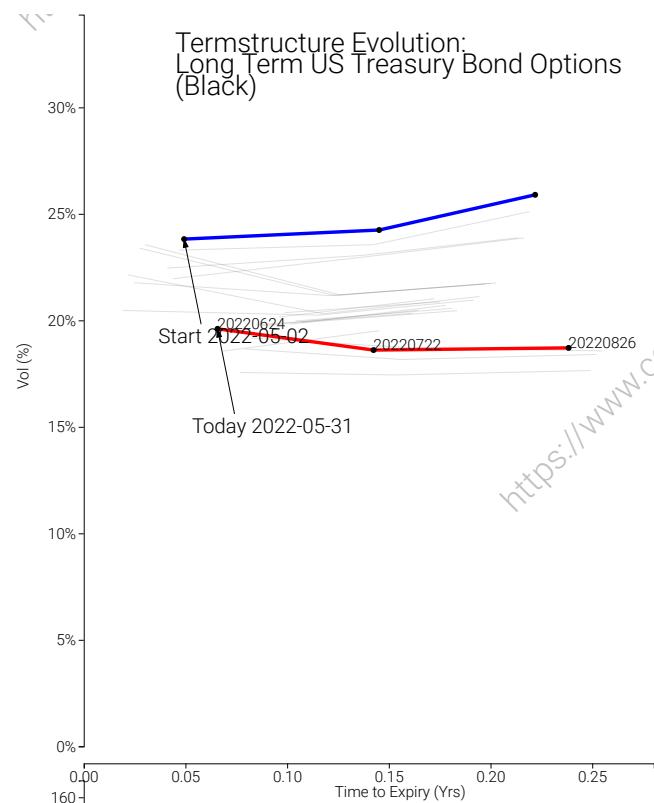




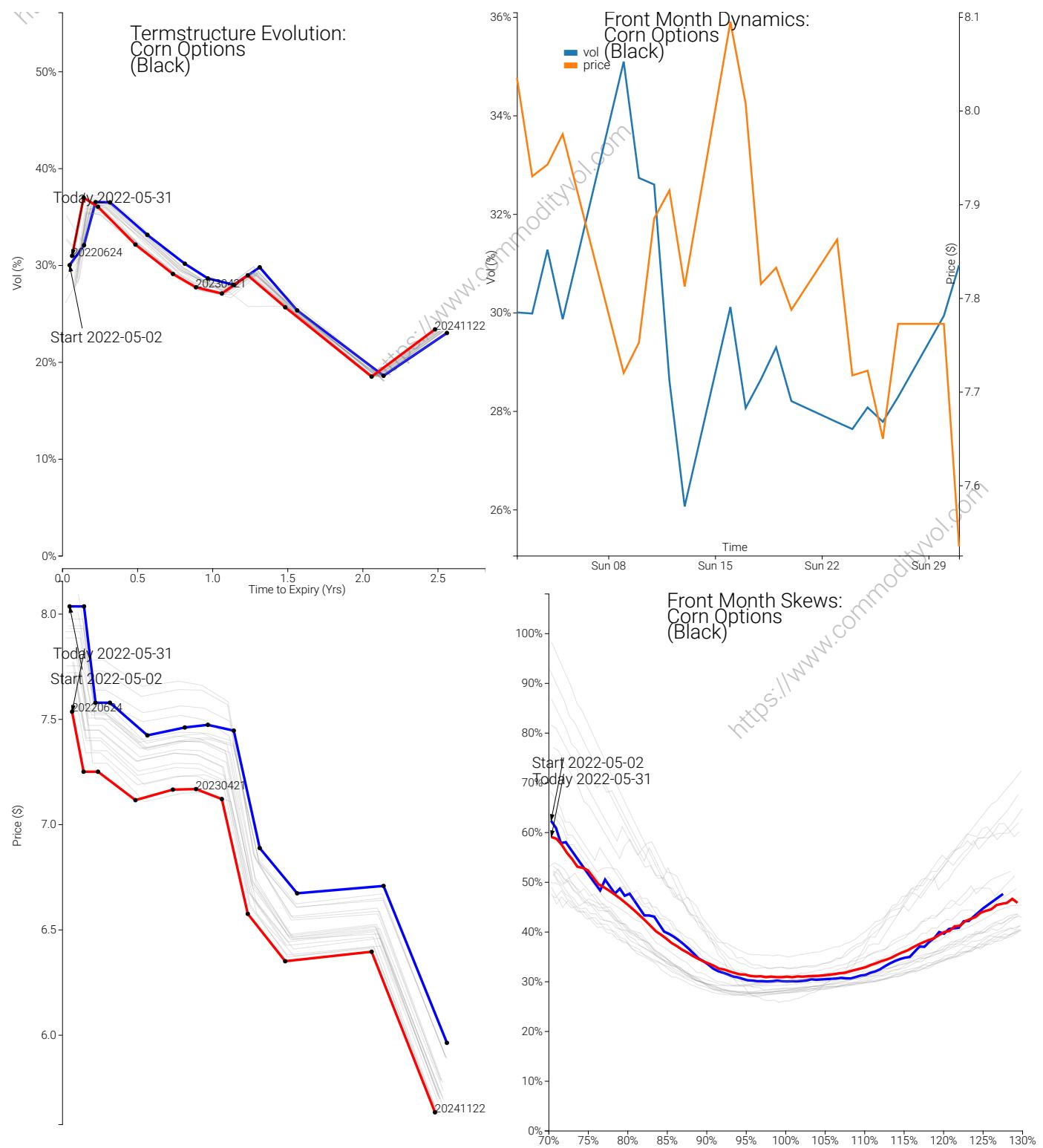


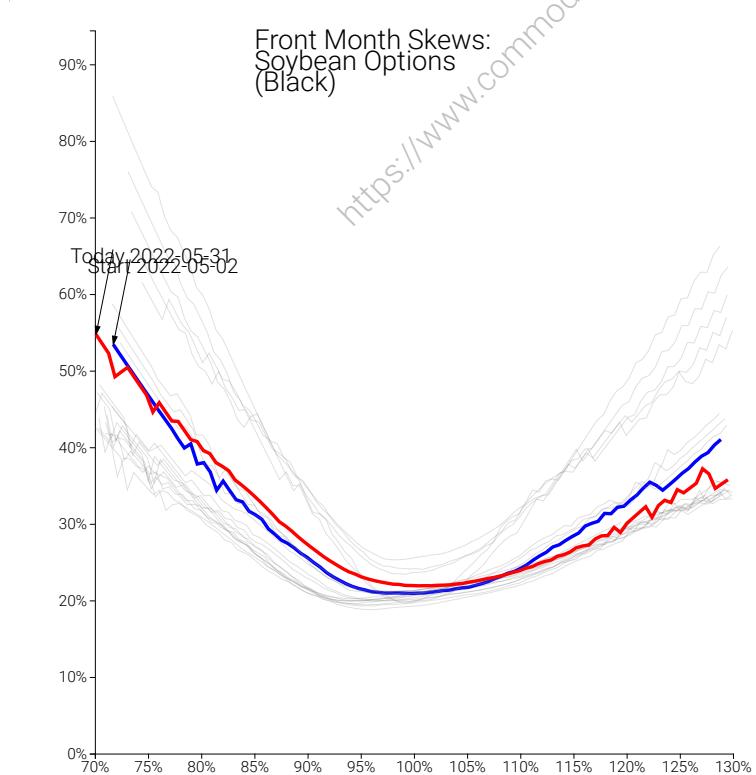
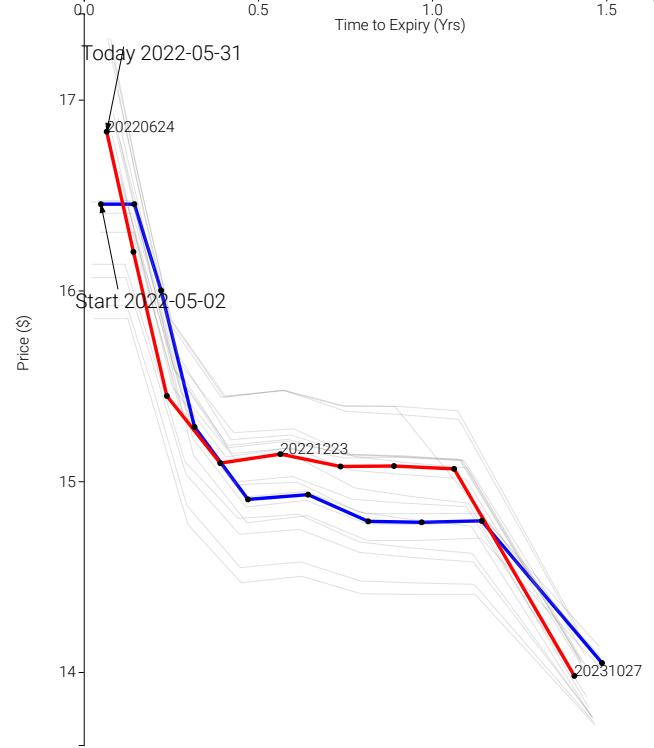
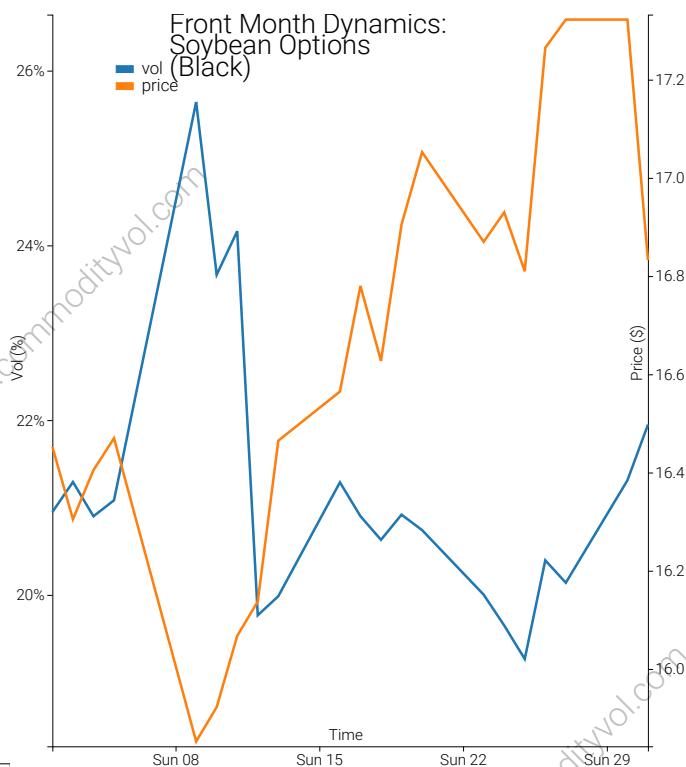
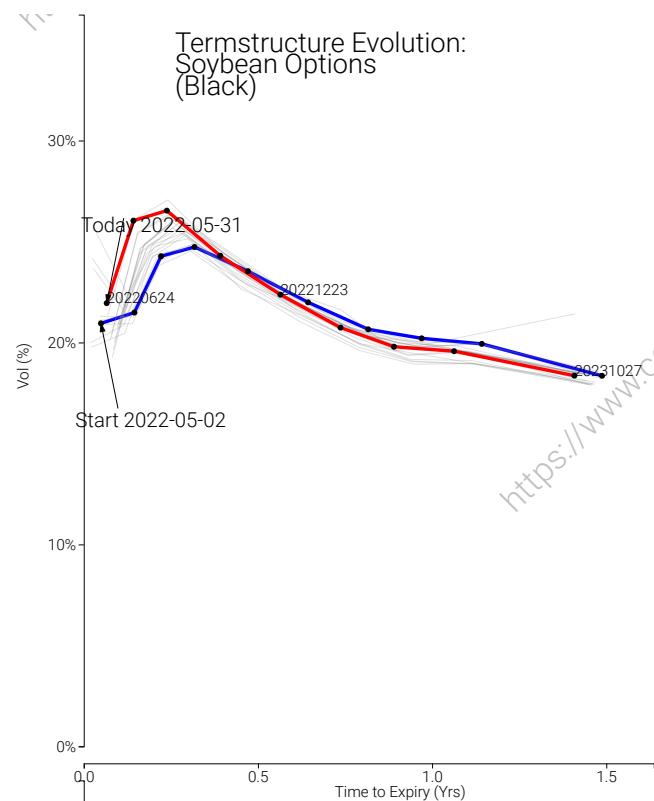


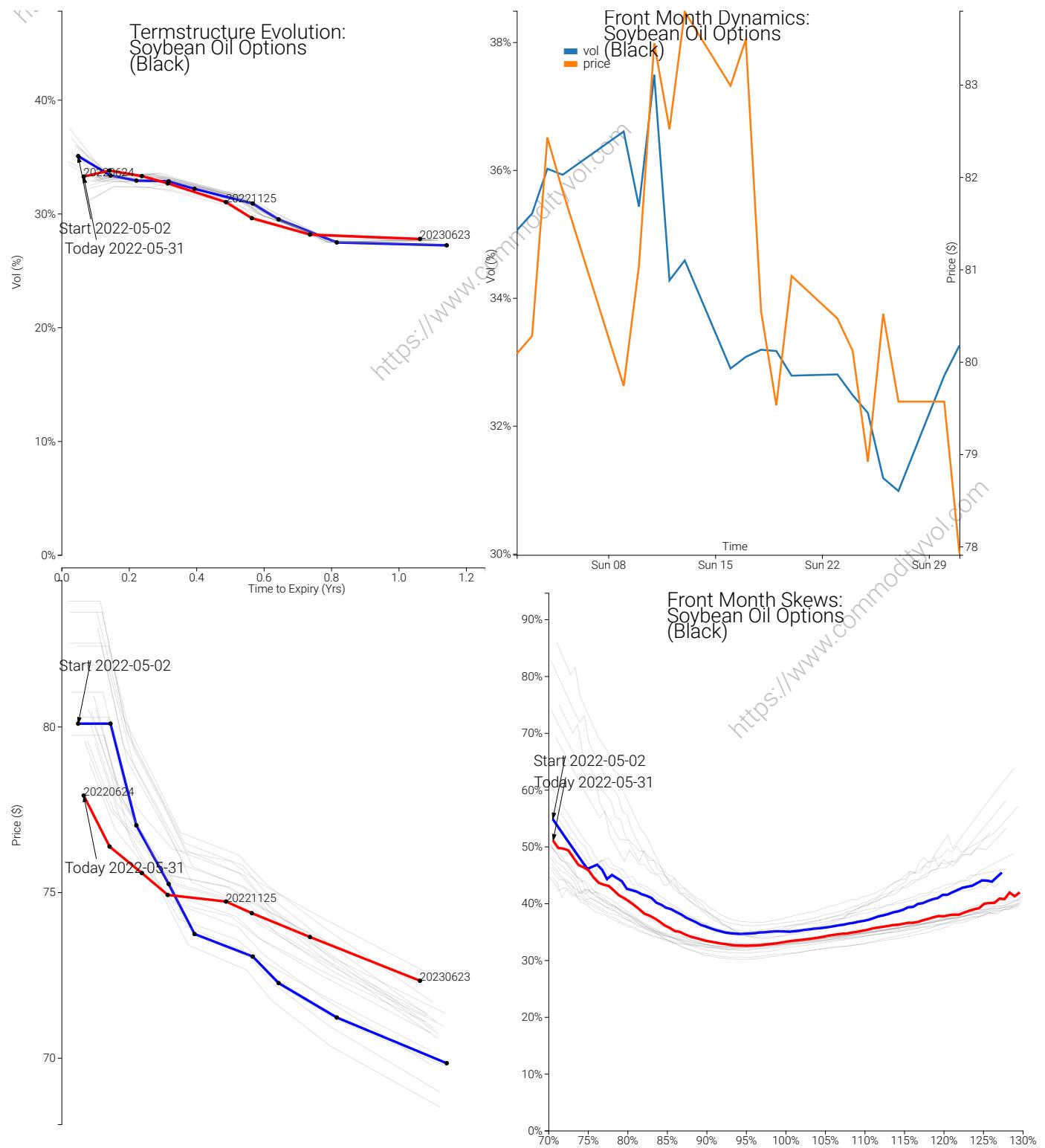


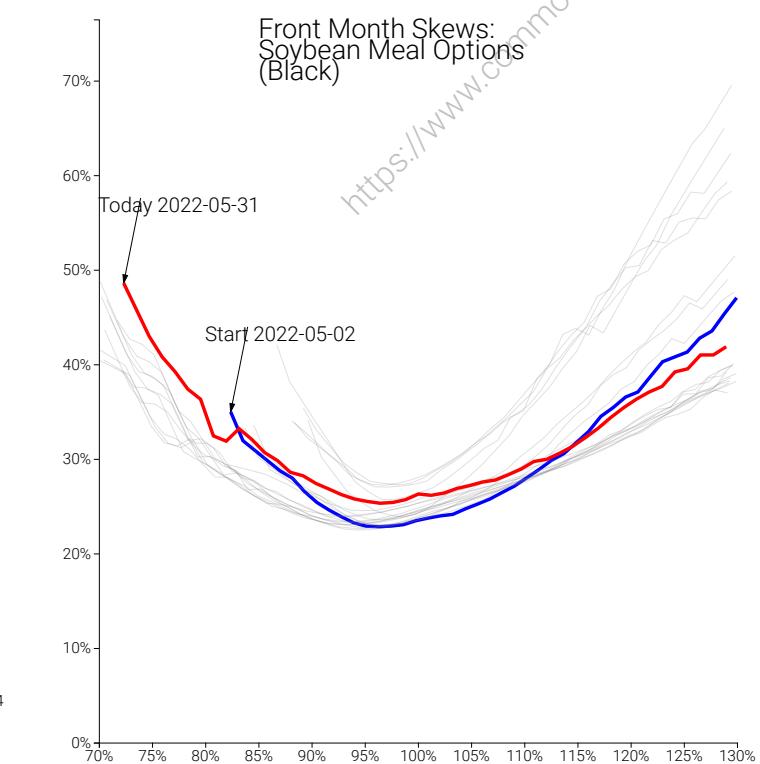
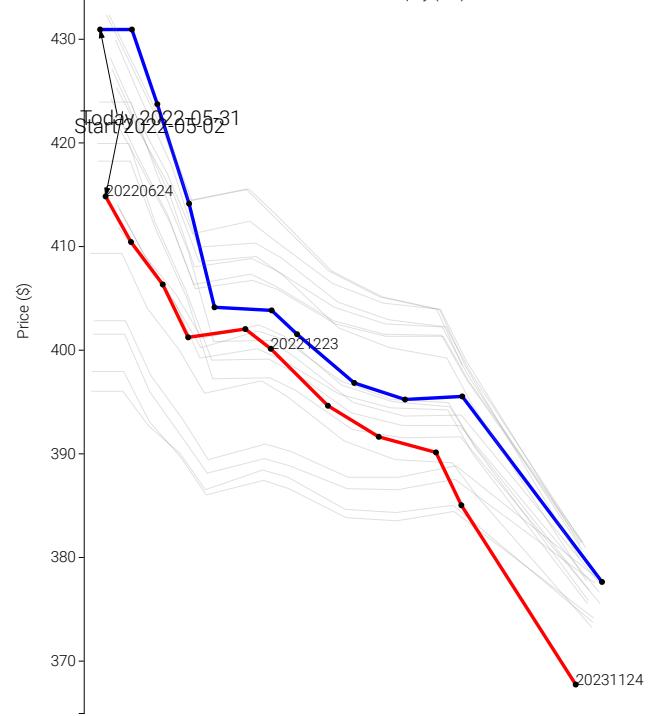
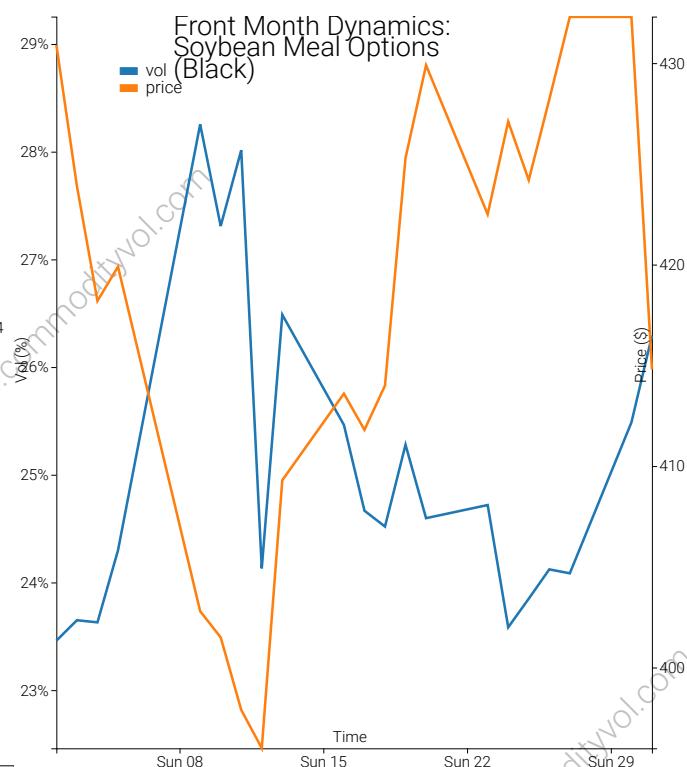
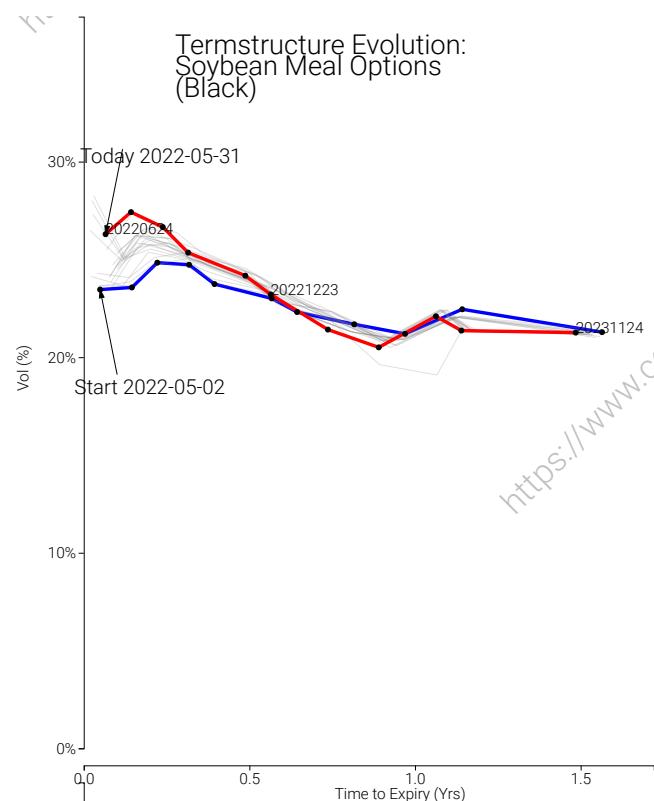


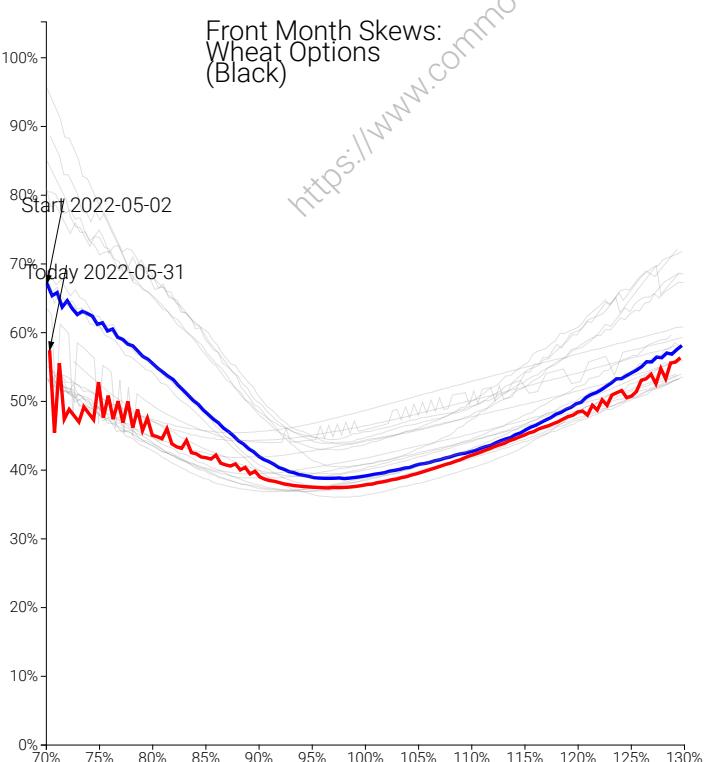
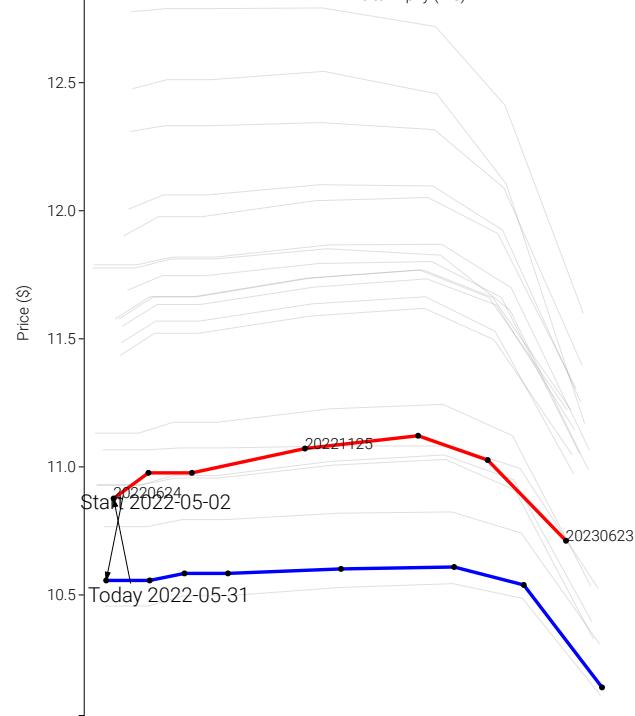
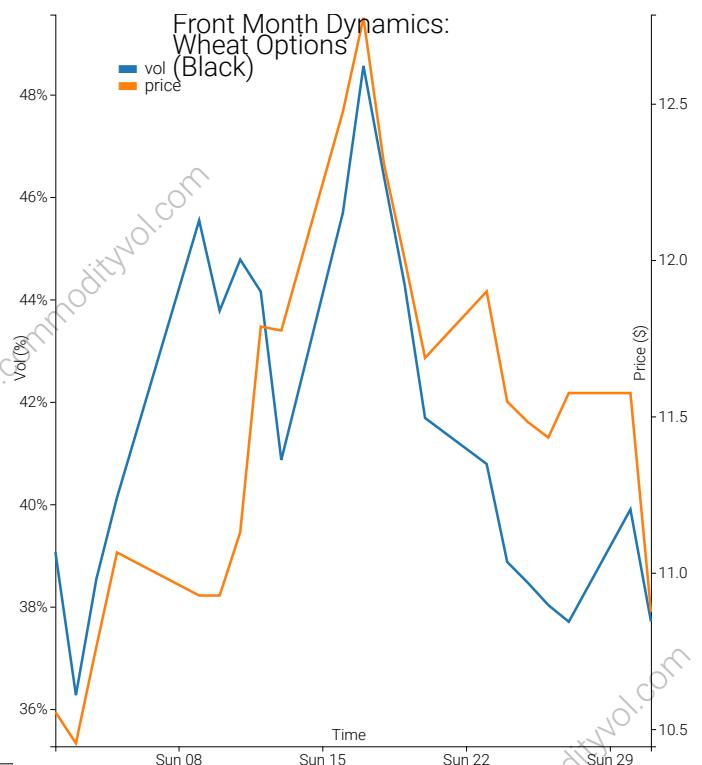
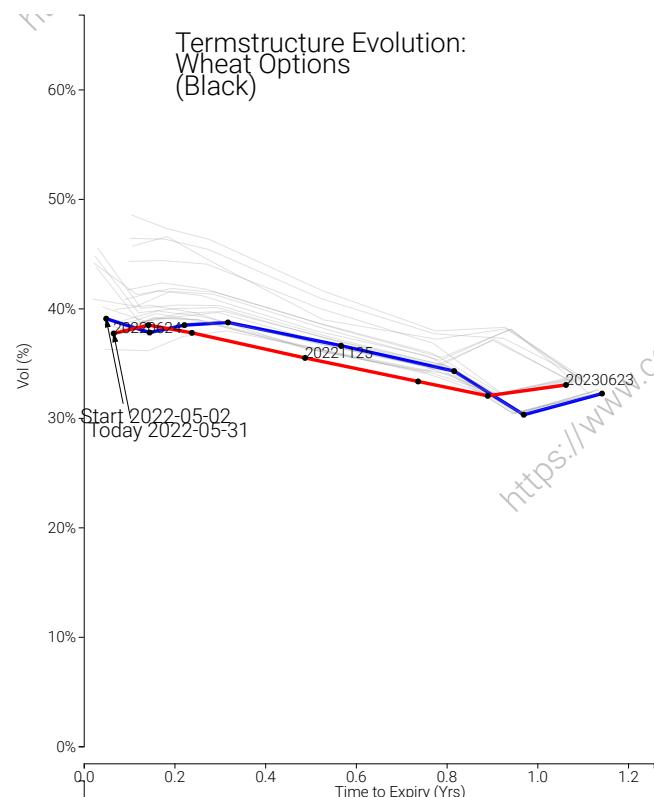
**Ags: Grains, Oilseeds, and so forth**

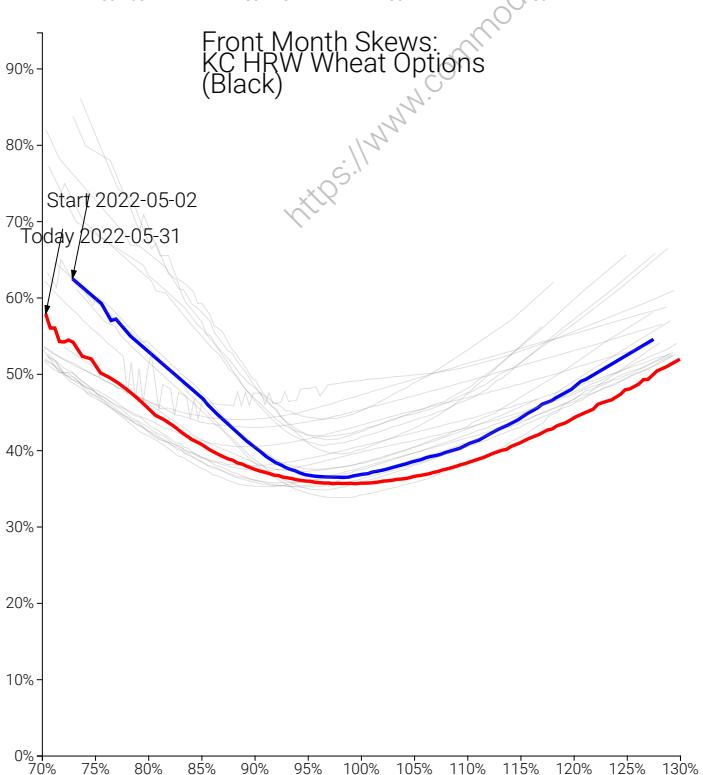
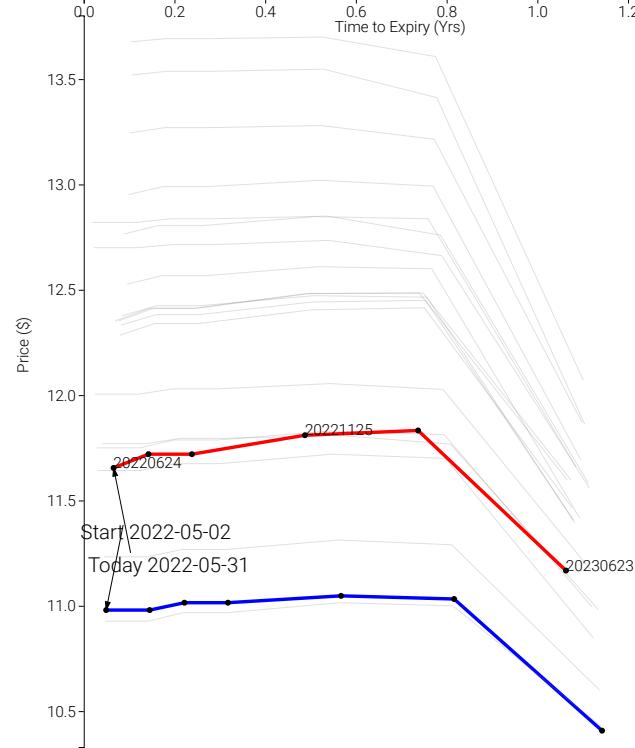
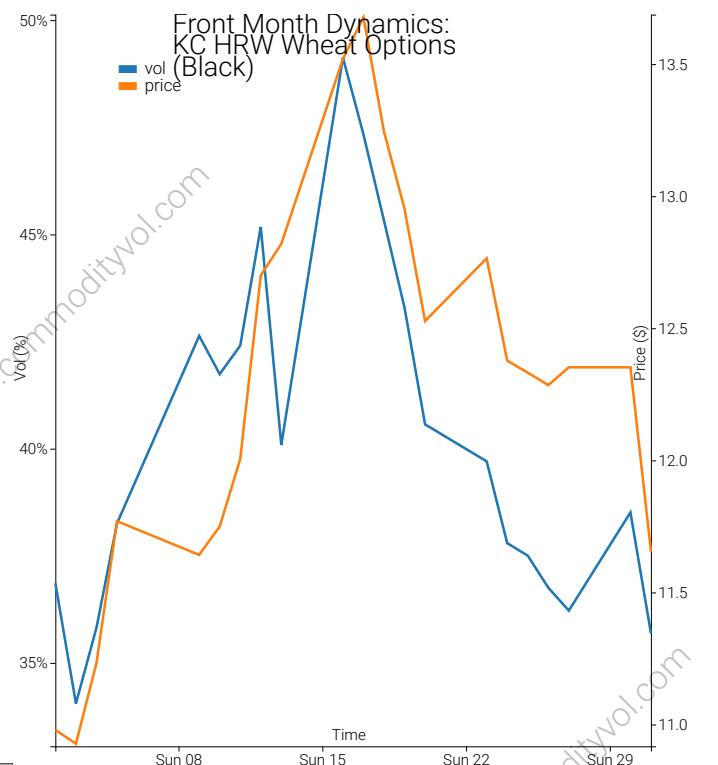
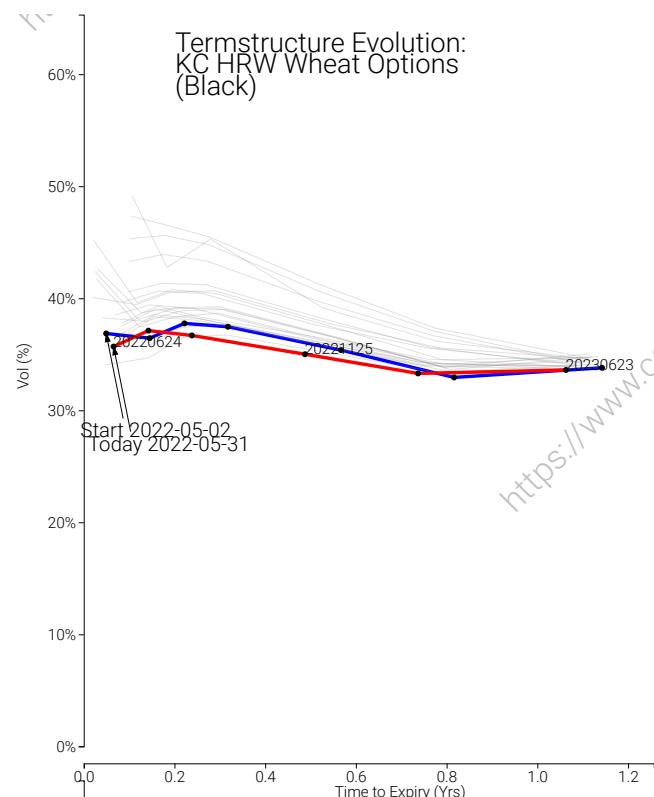


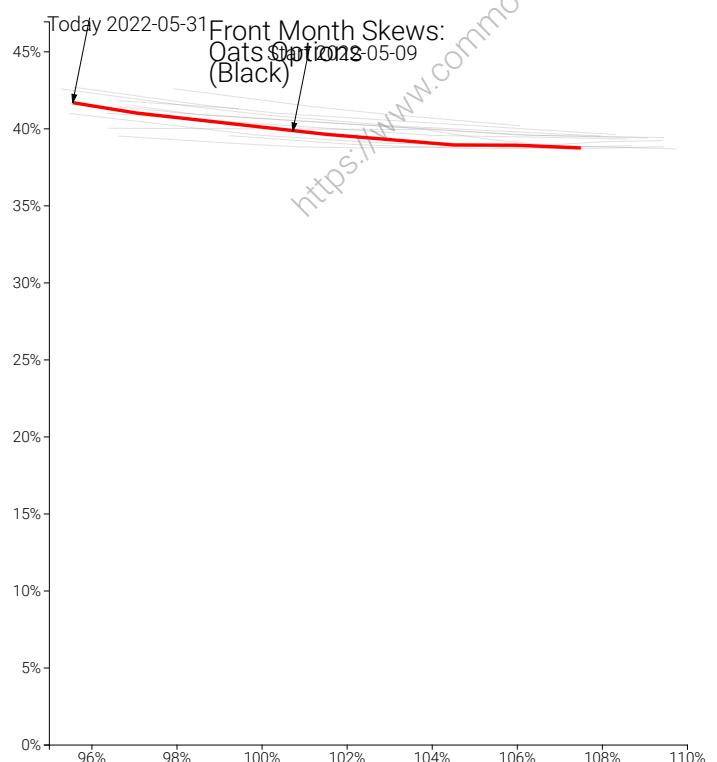
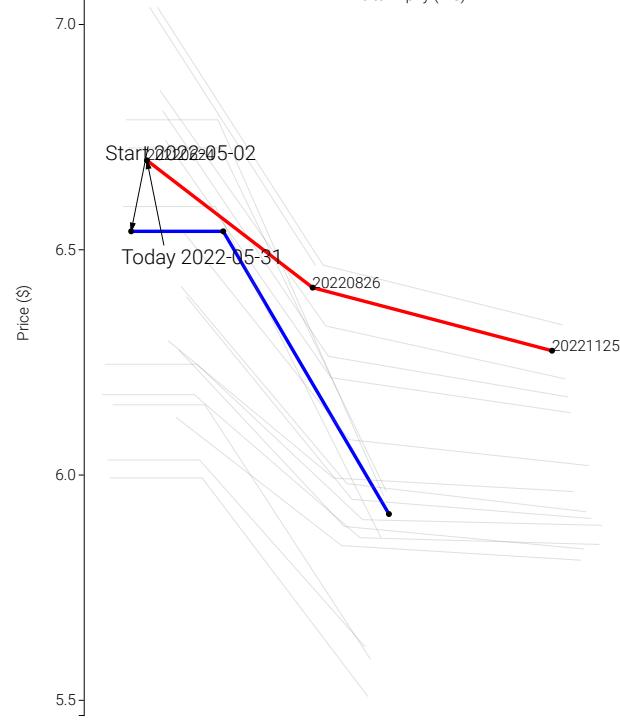
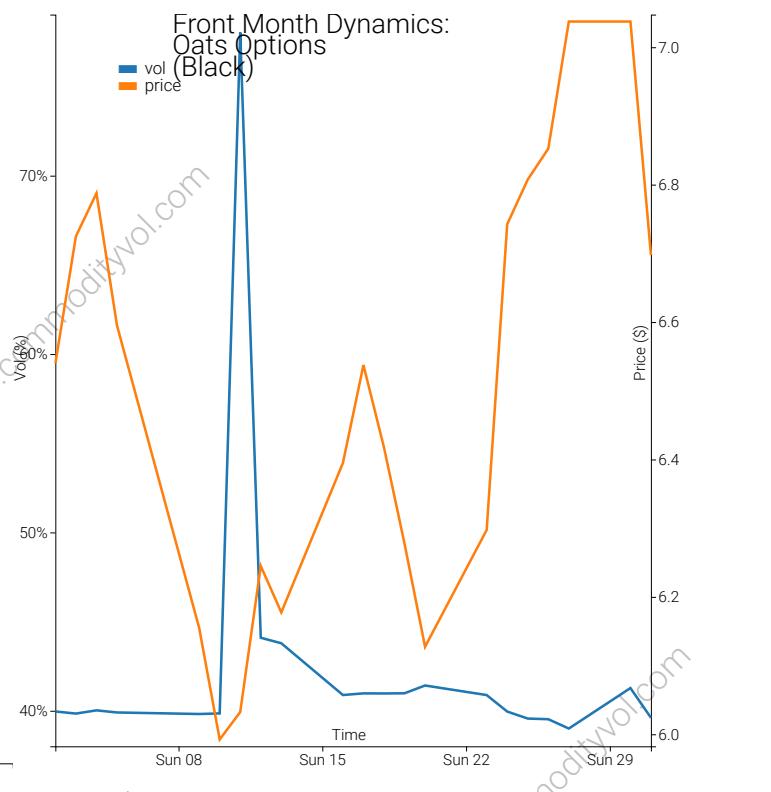
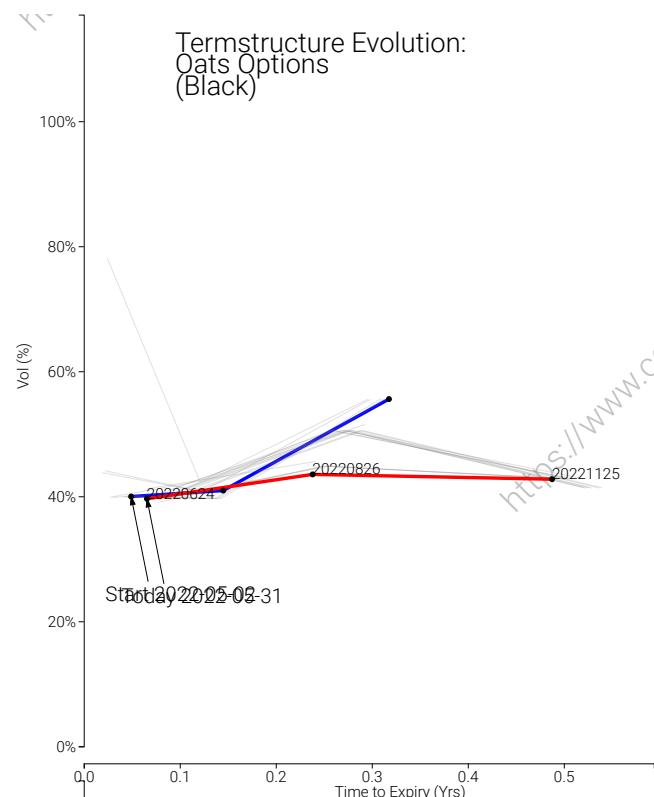


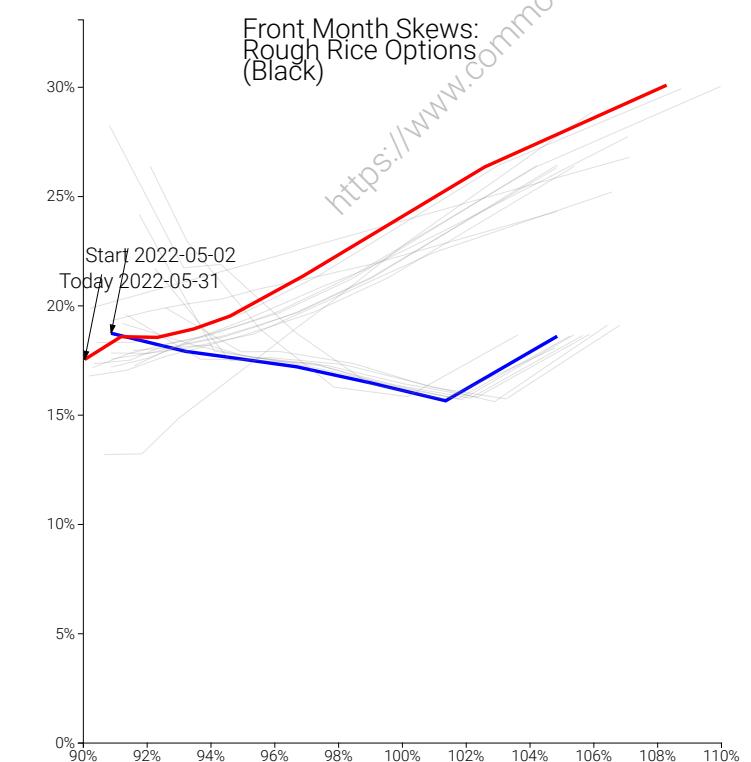
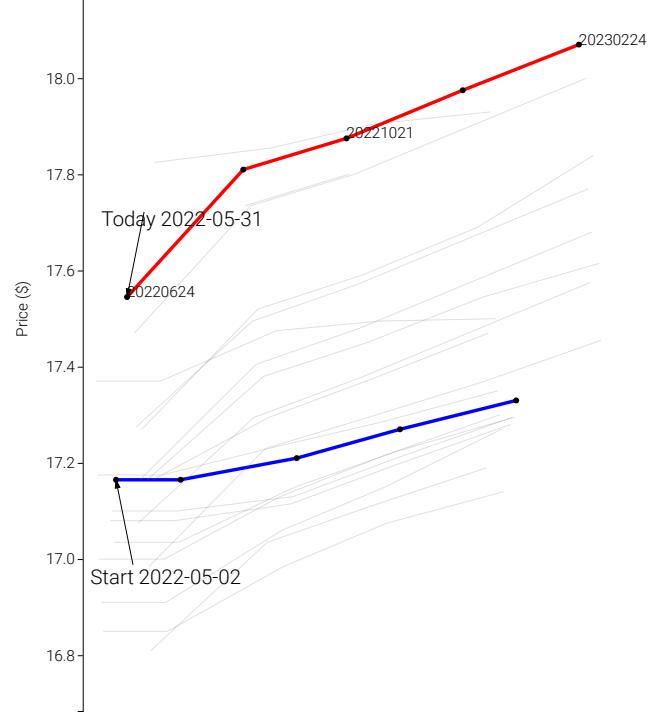
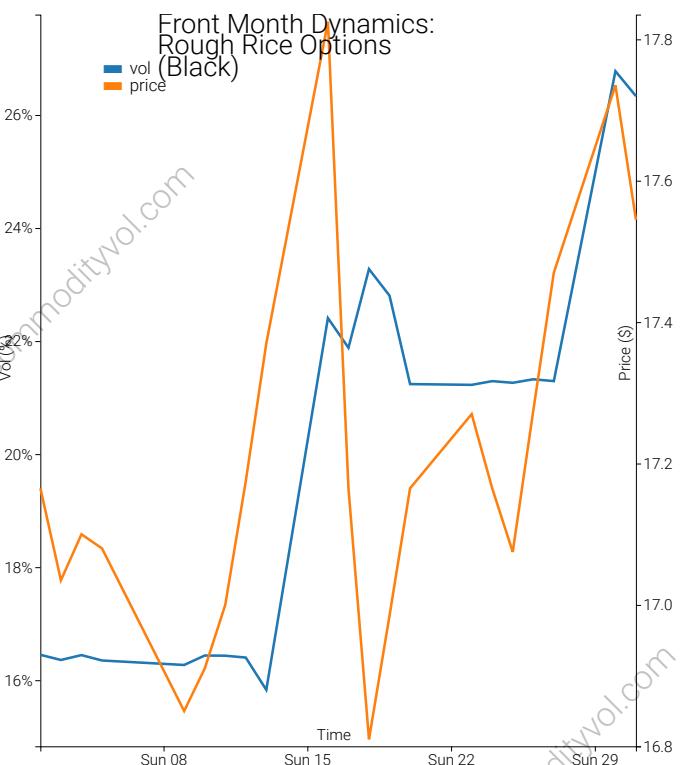
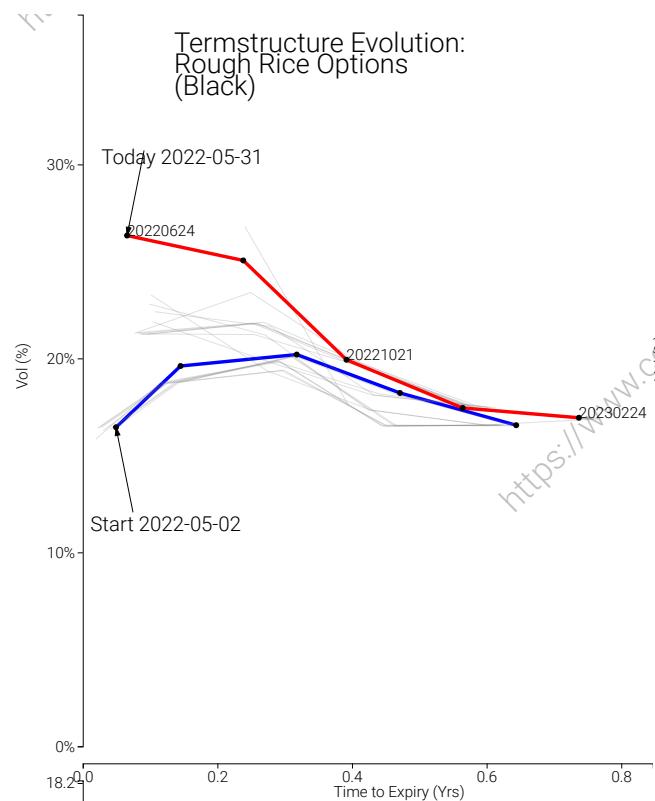


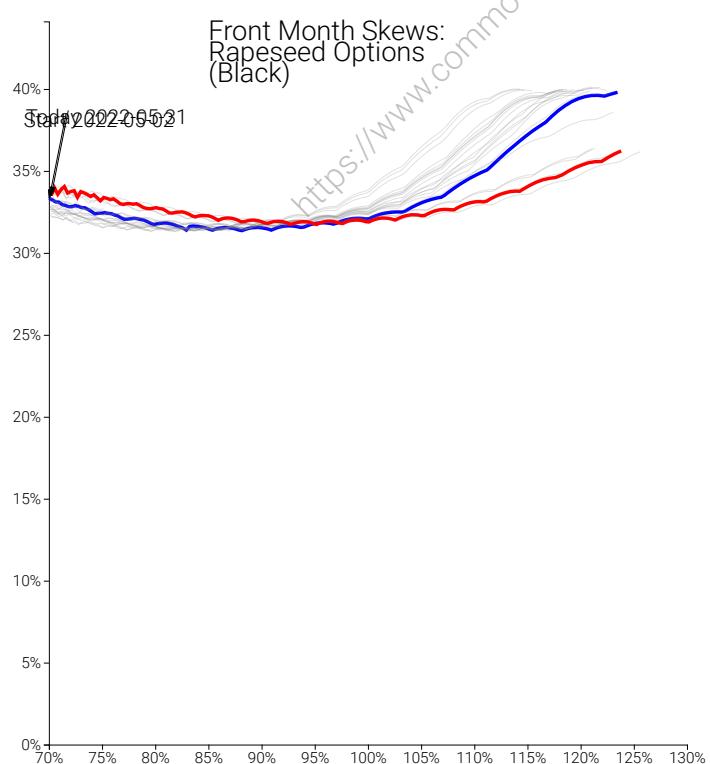
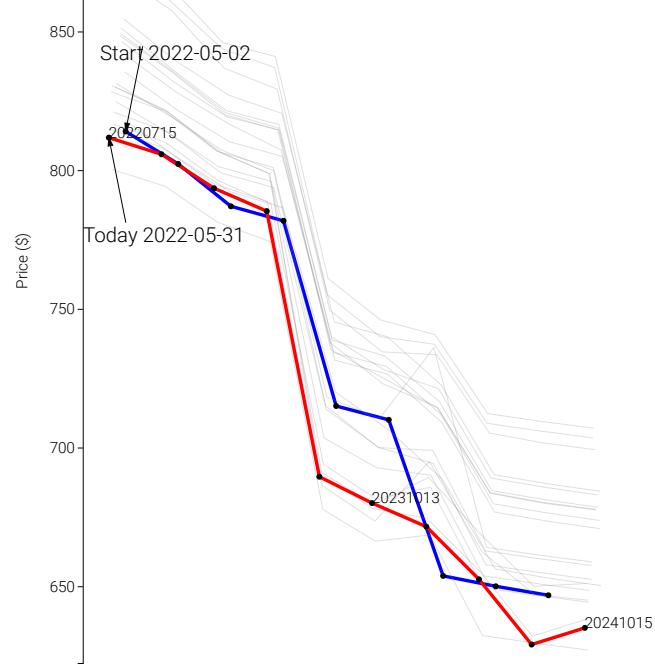
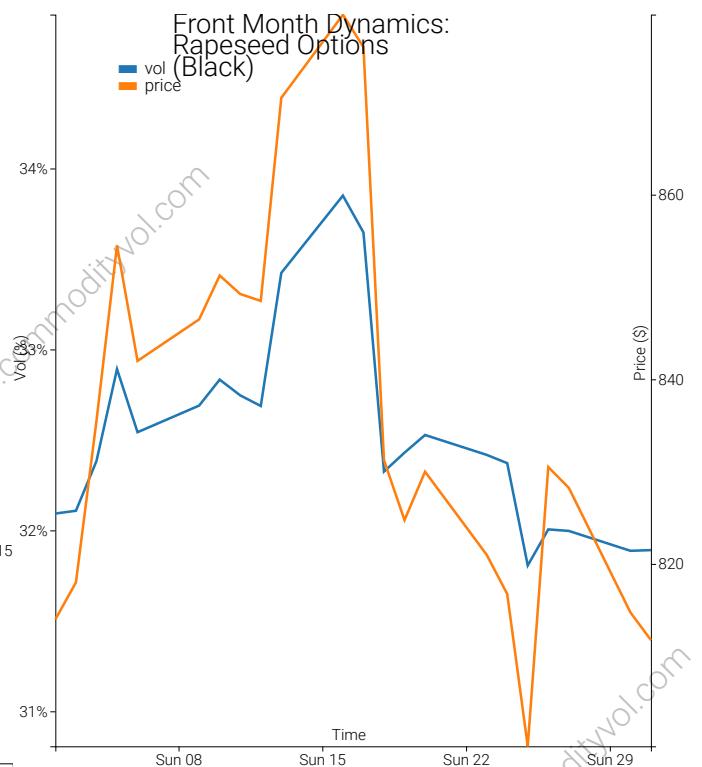
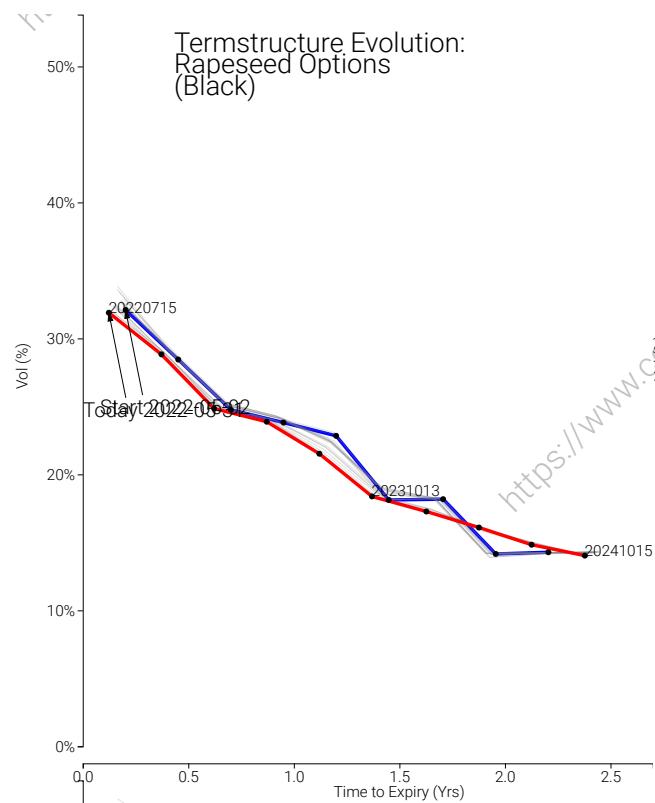


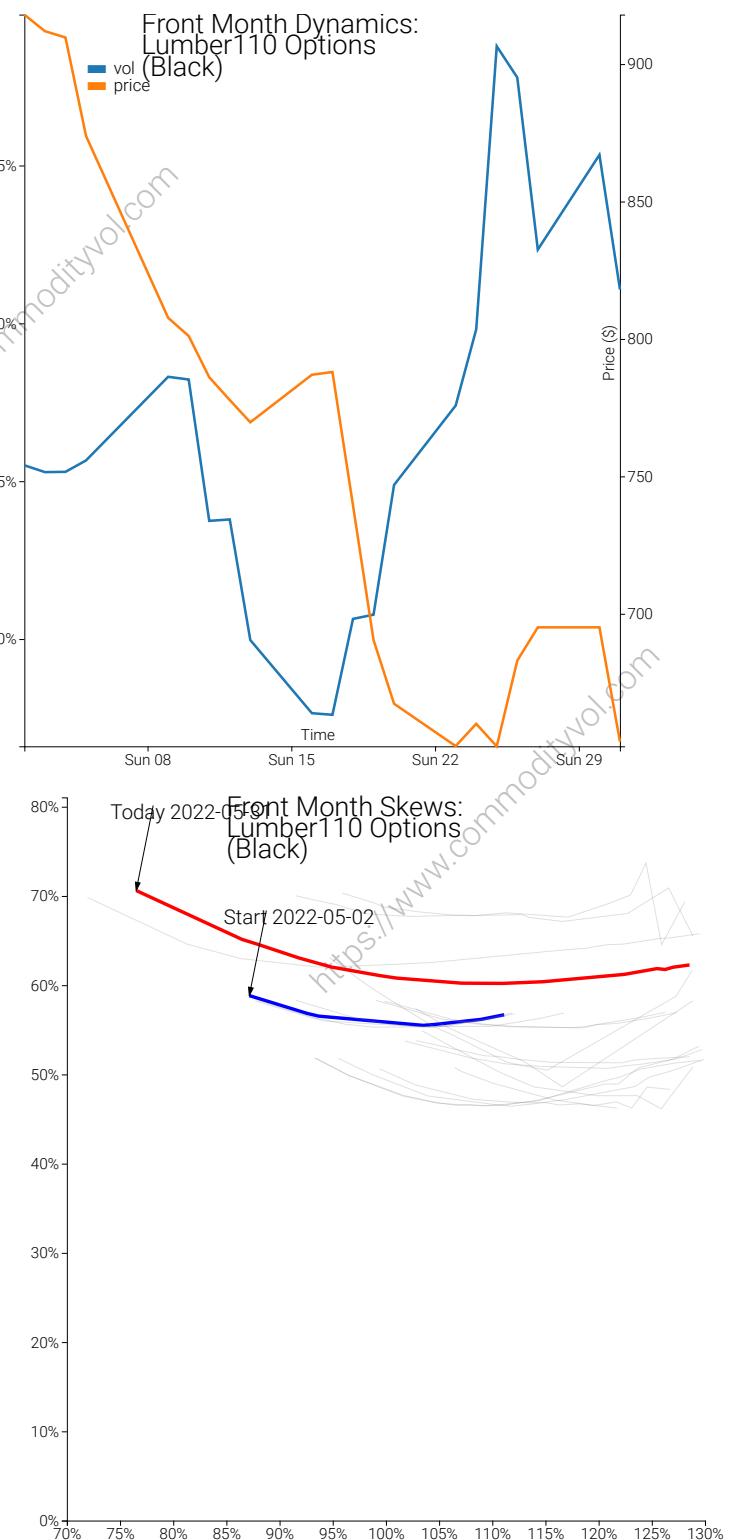
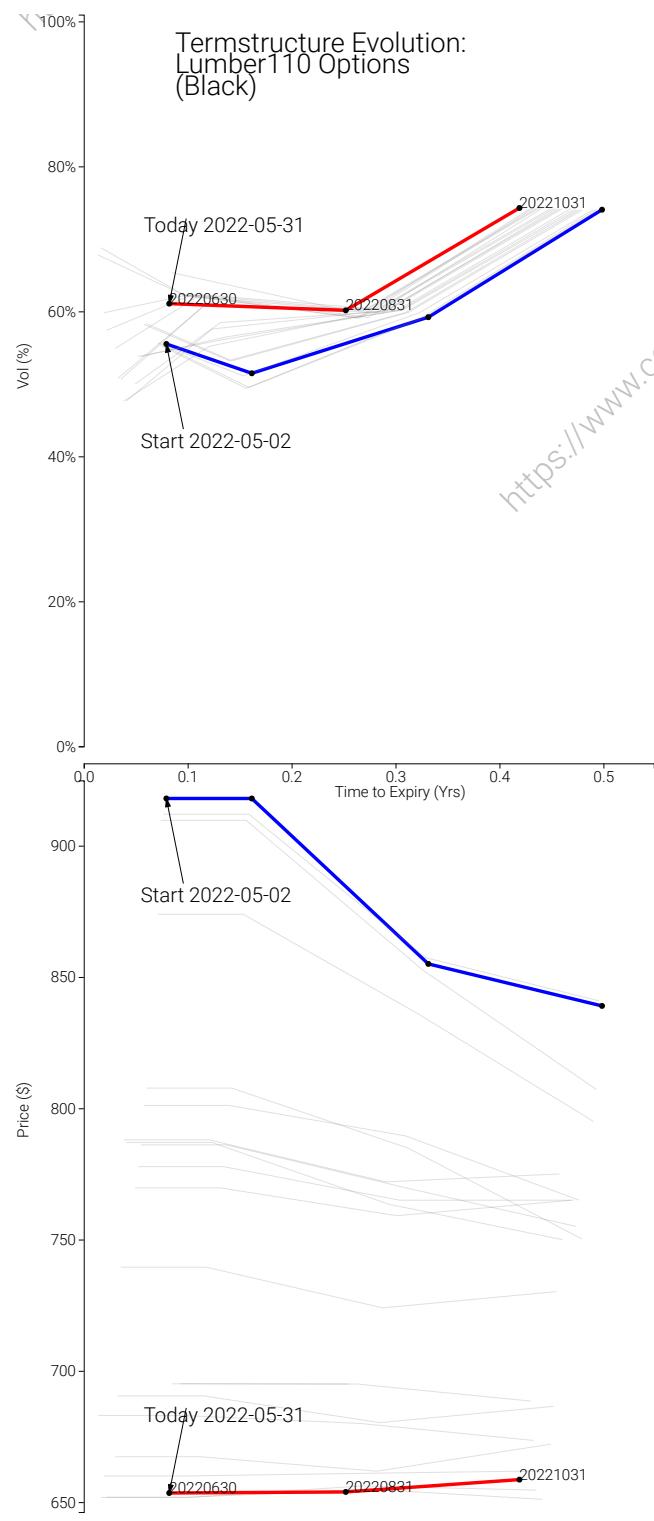




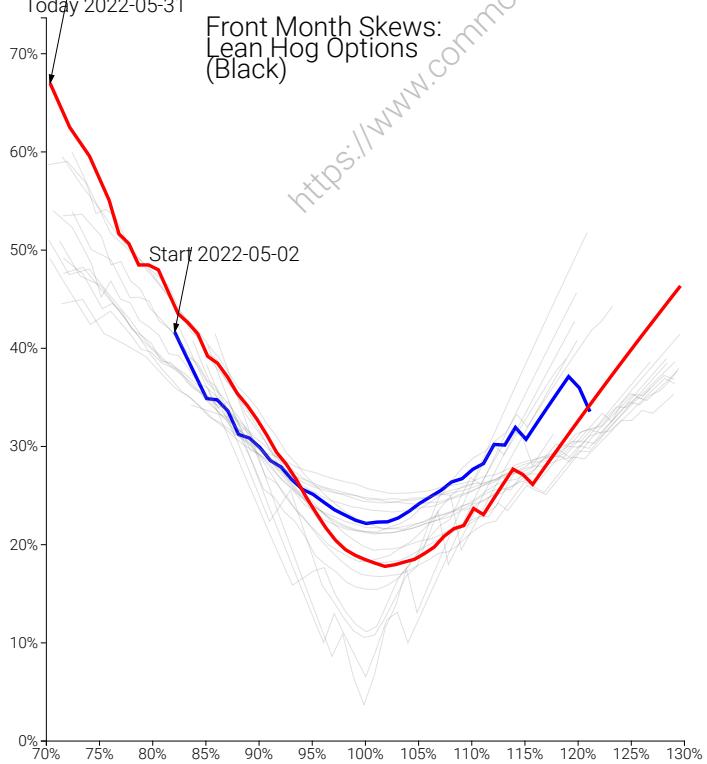
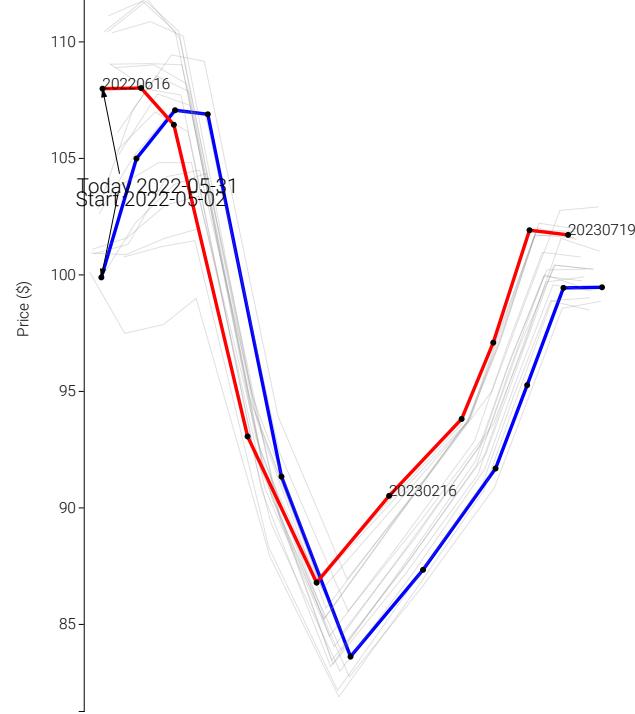
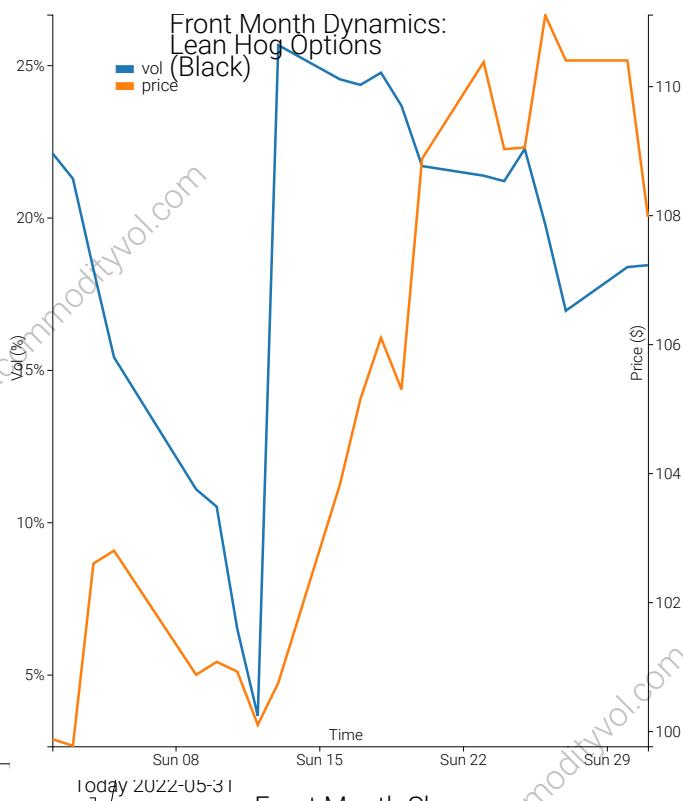
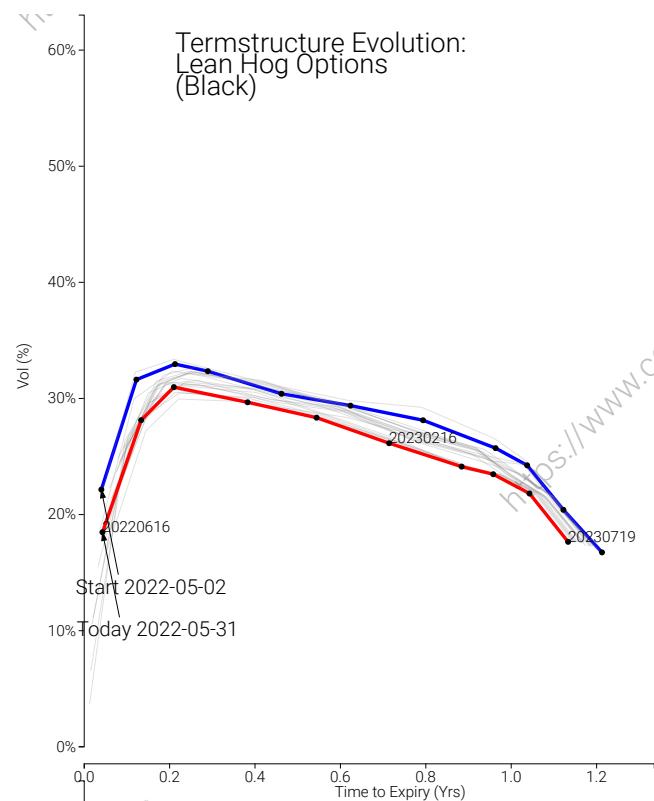


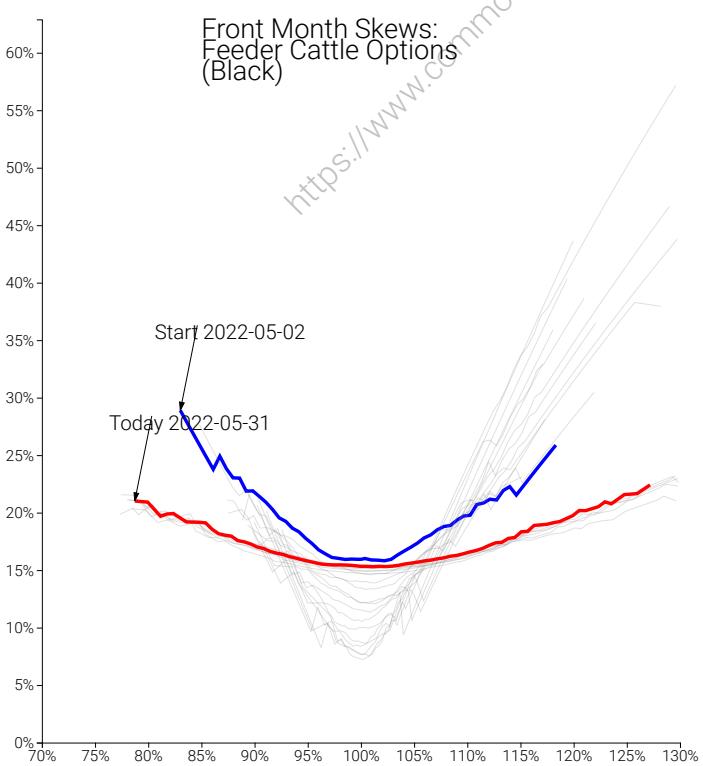
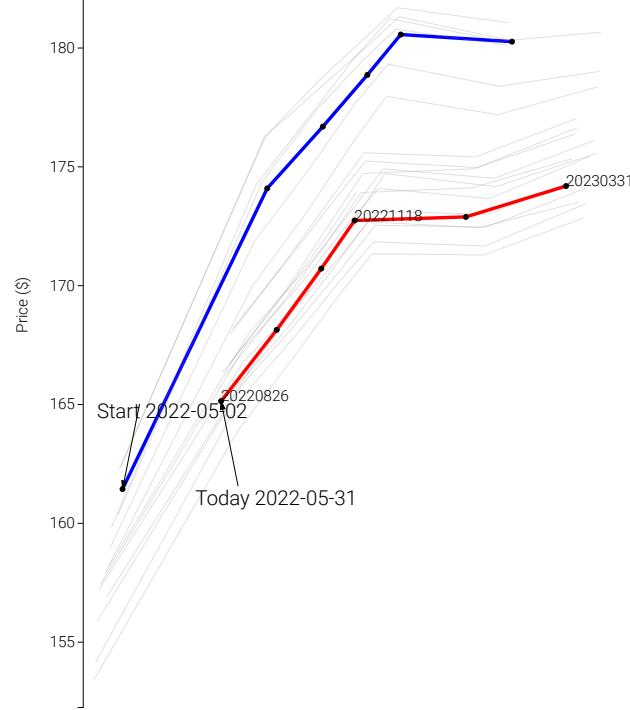
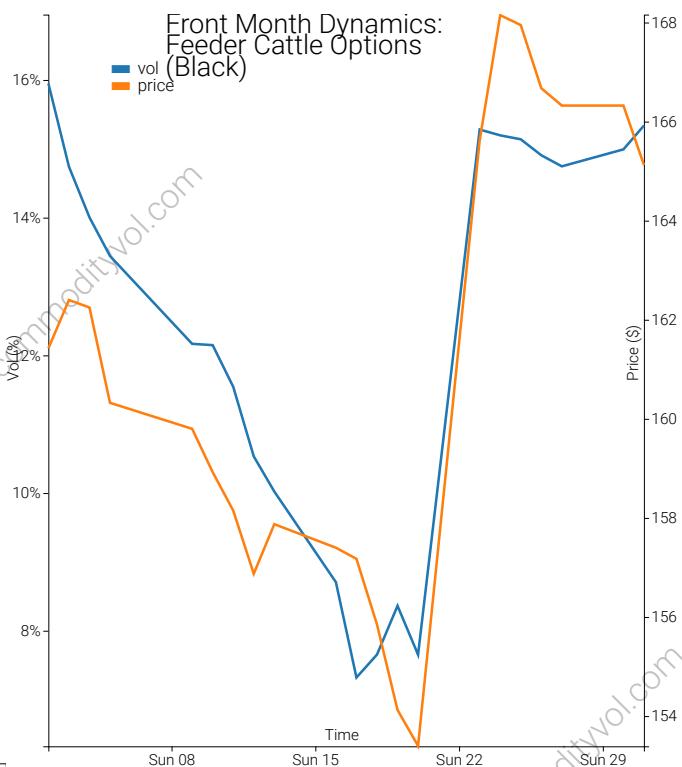
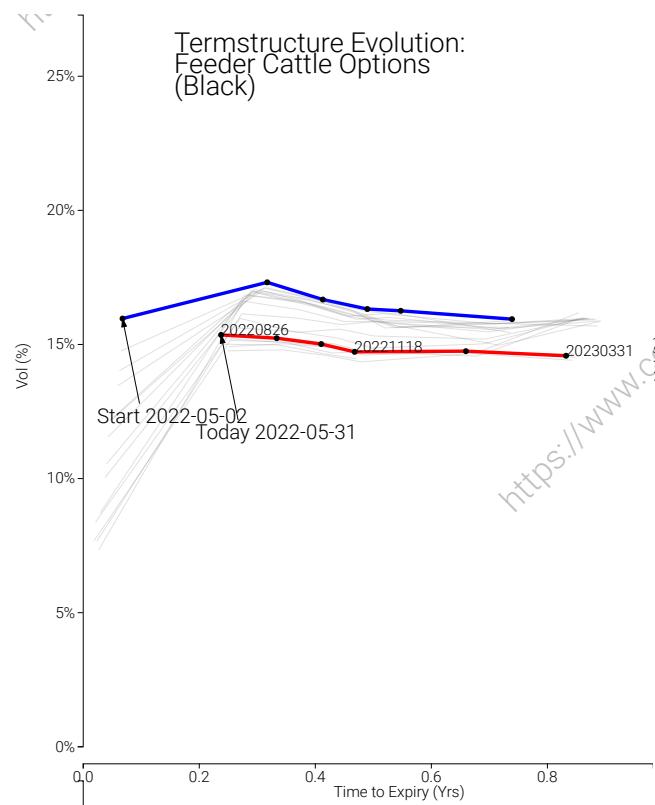


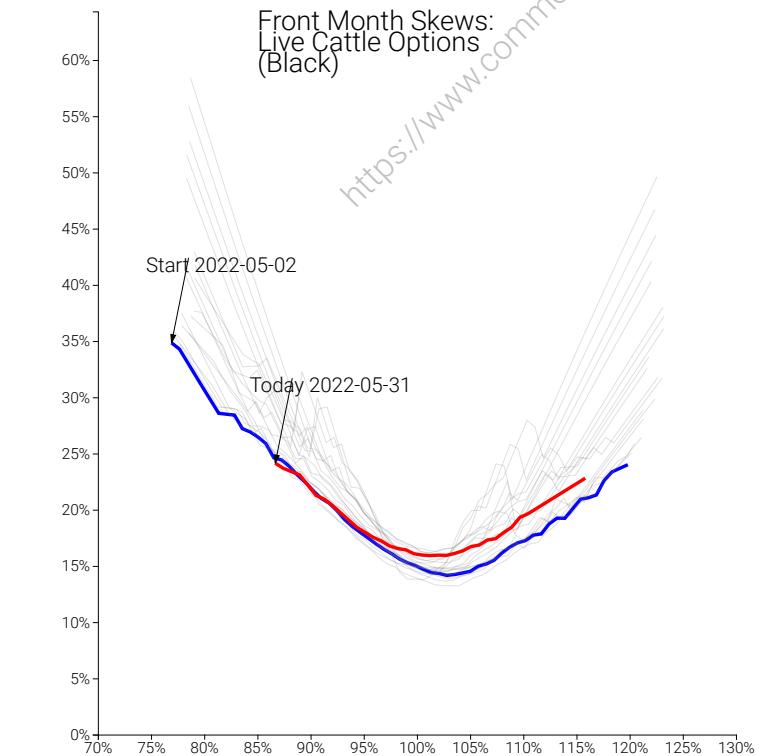
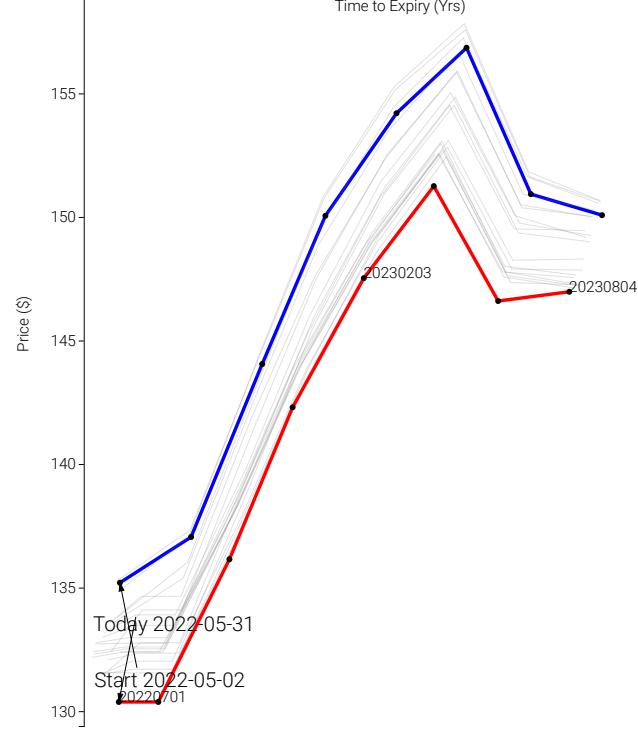
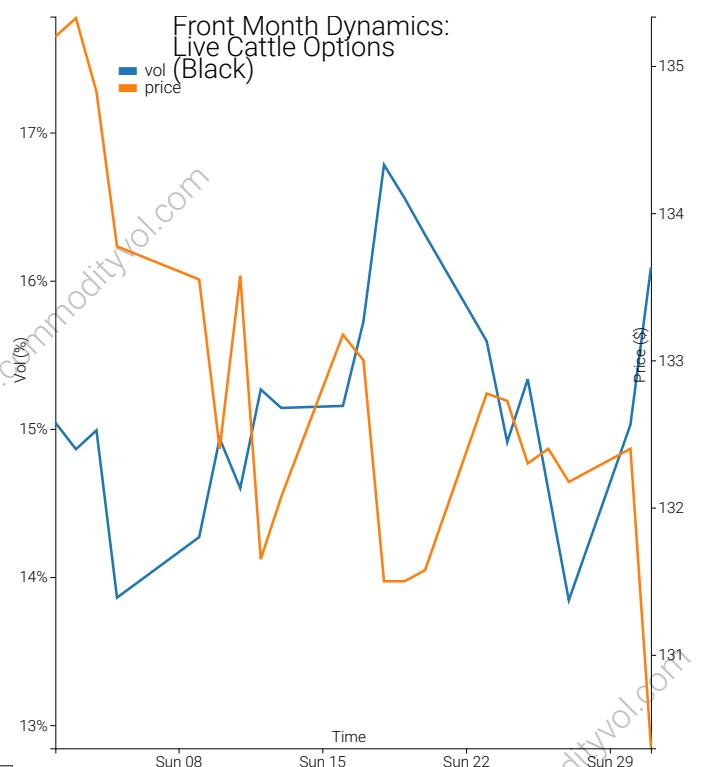
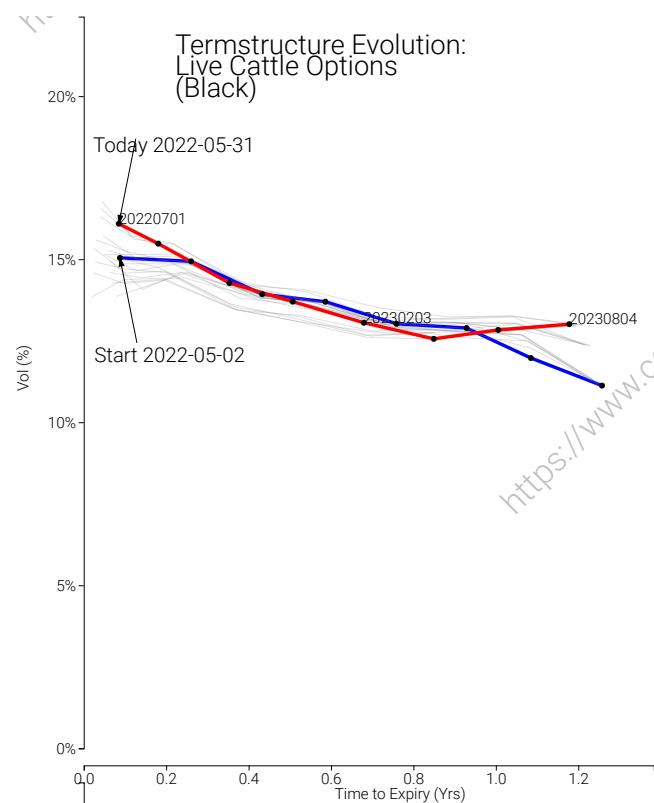


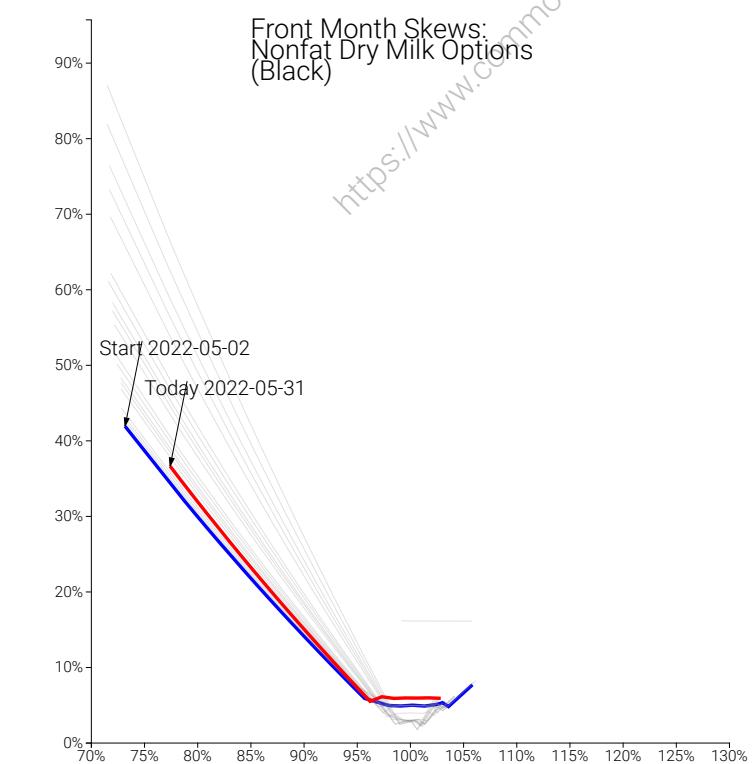
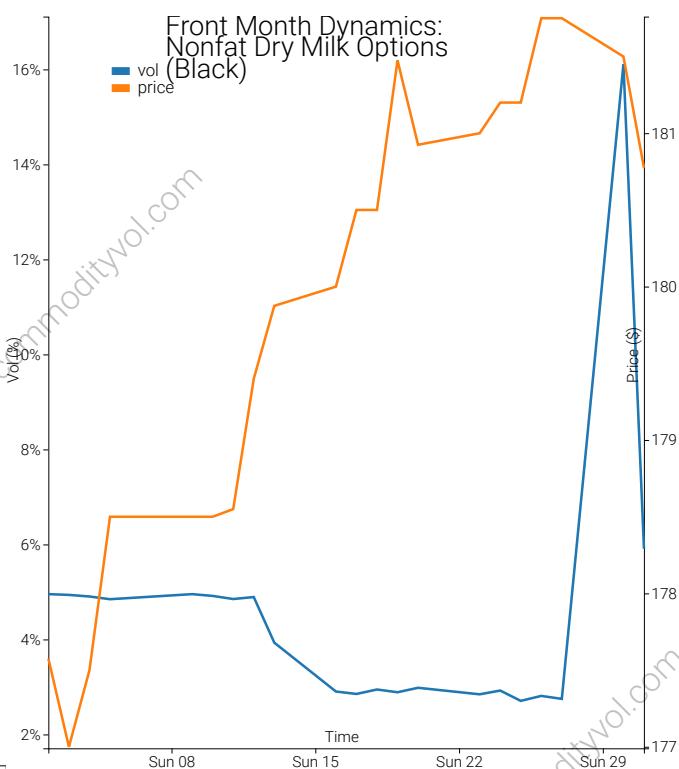
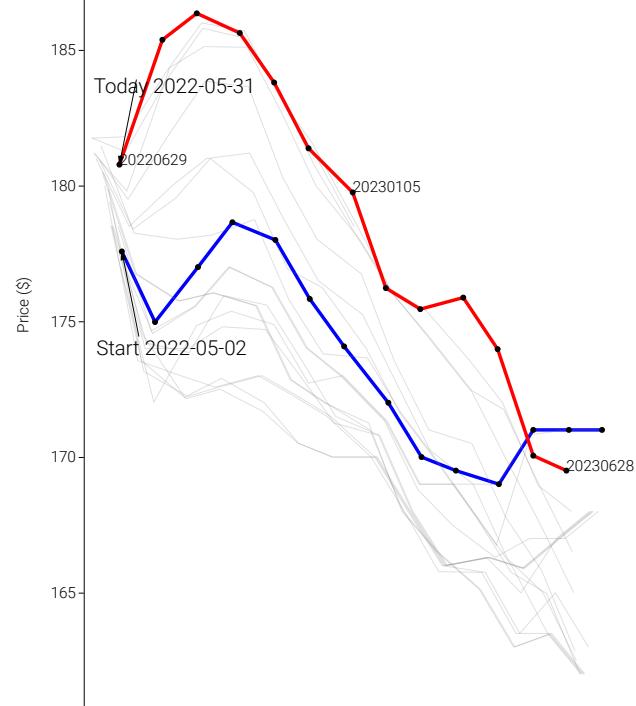
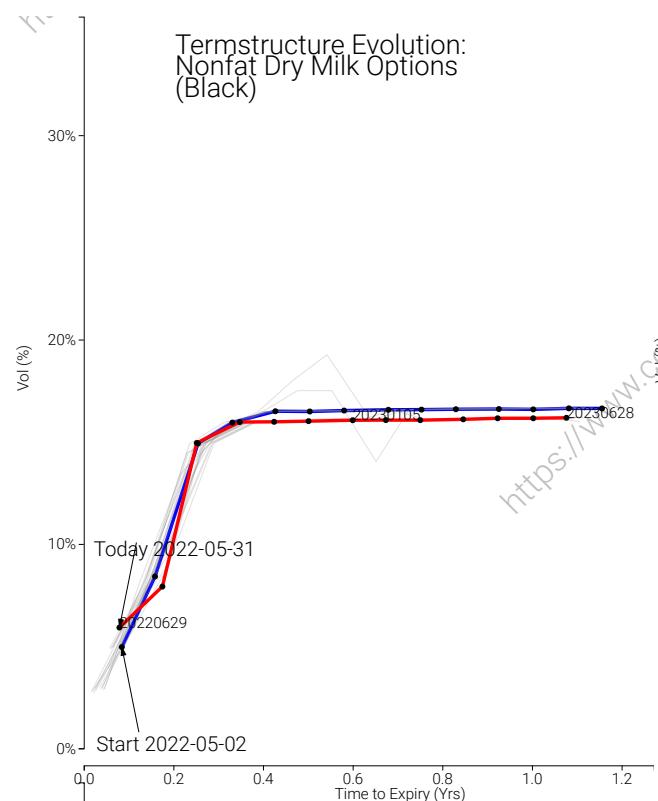


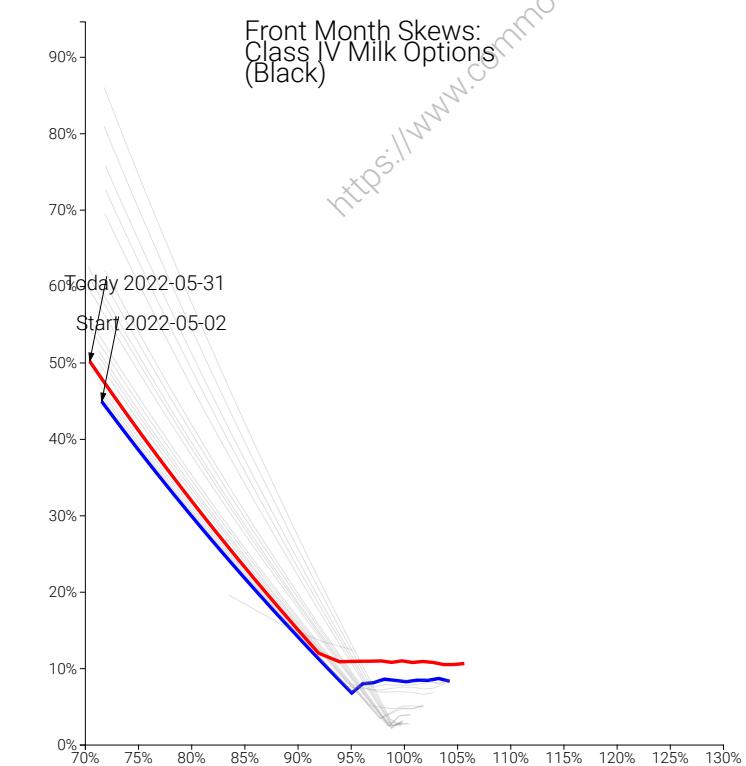
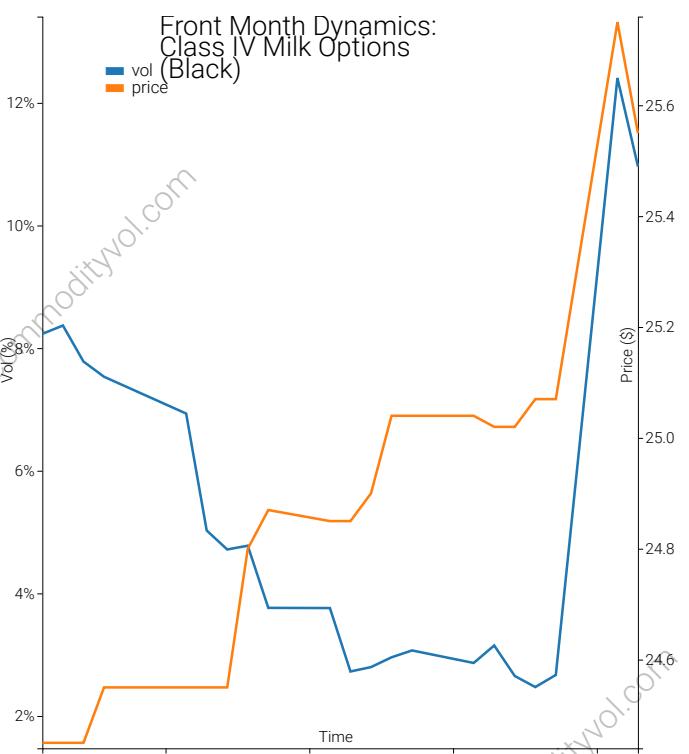
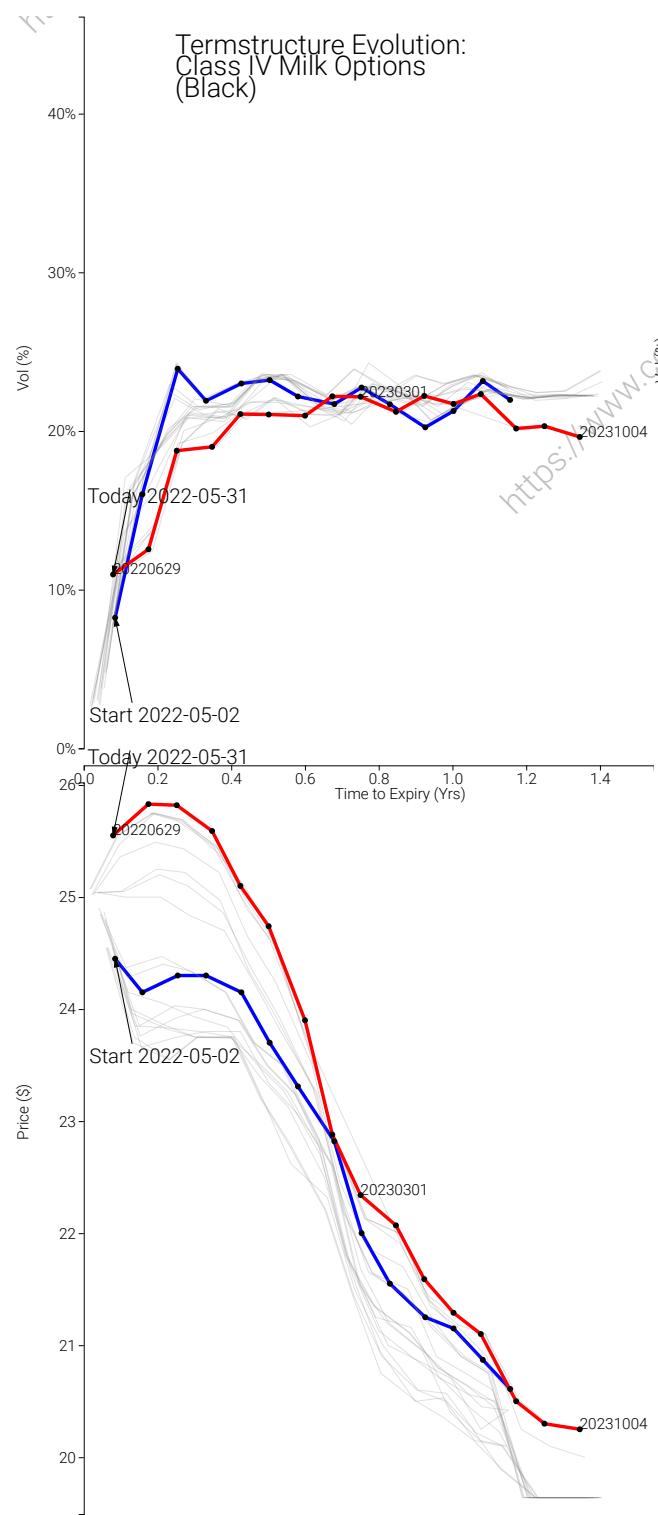
**Ags: Proteins, Meats and so forth**



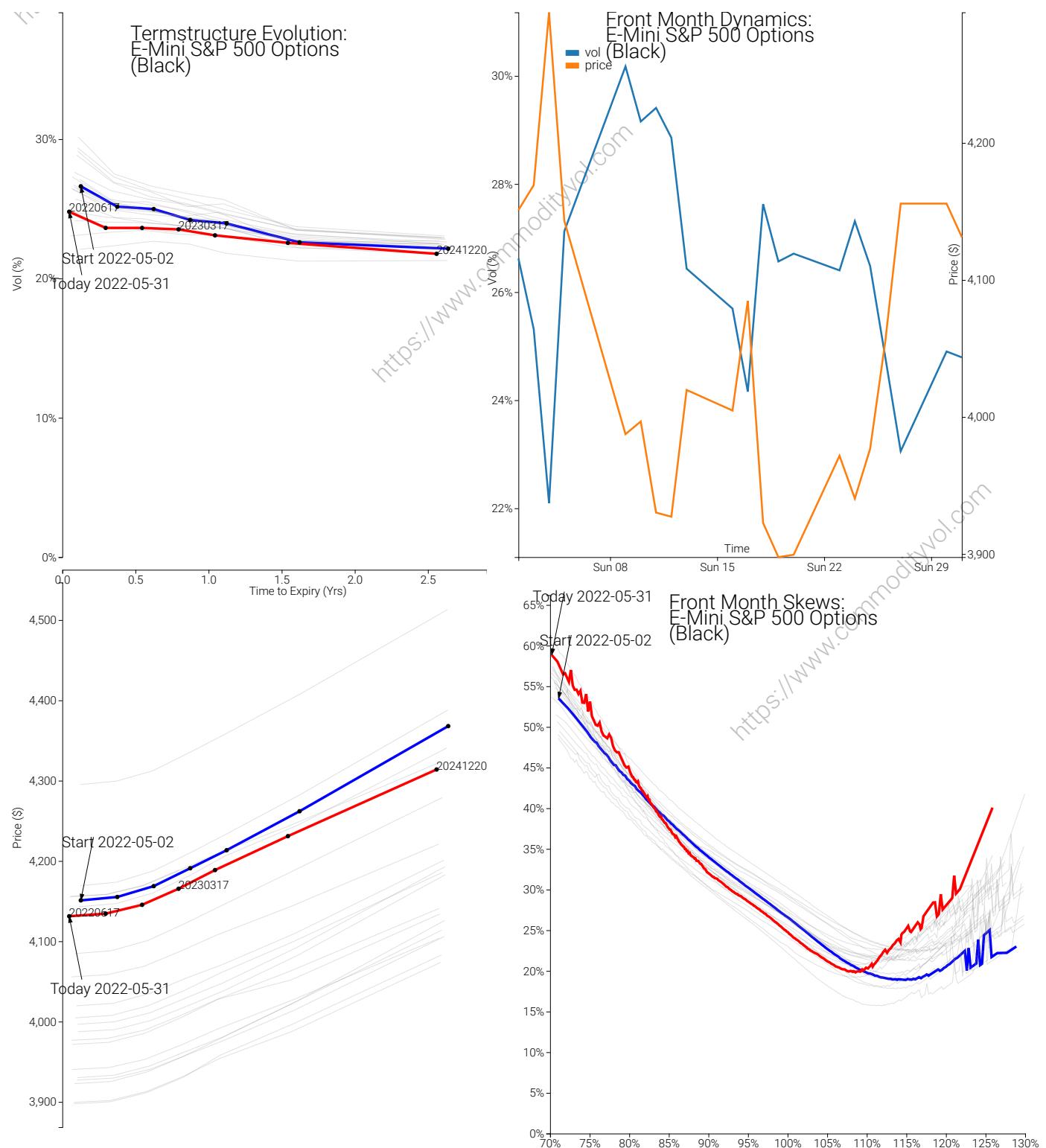


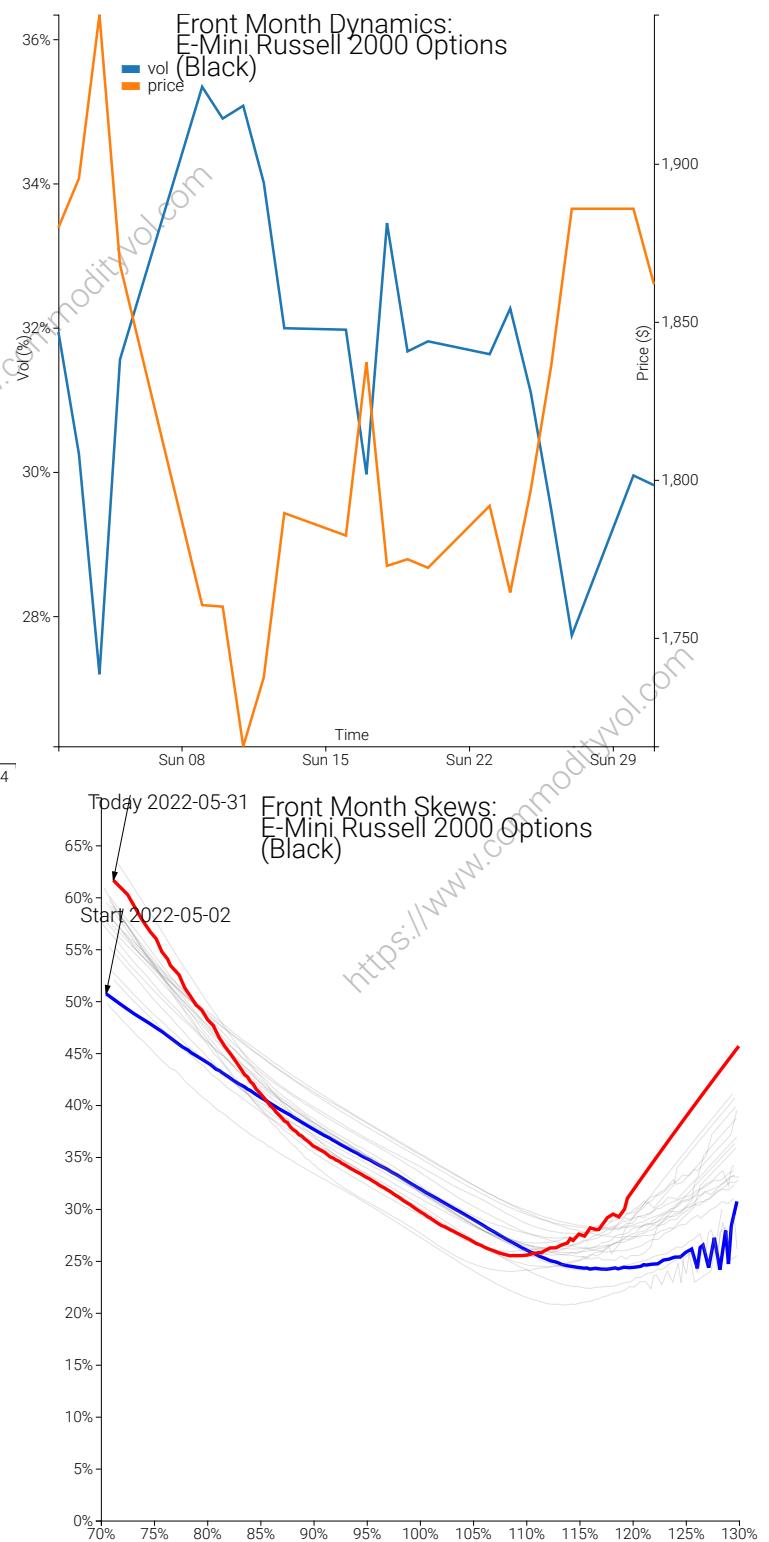
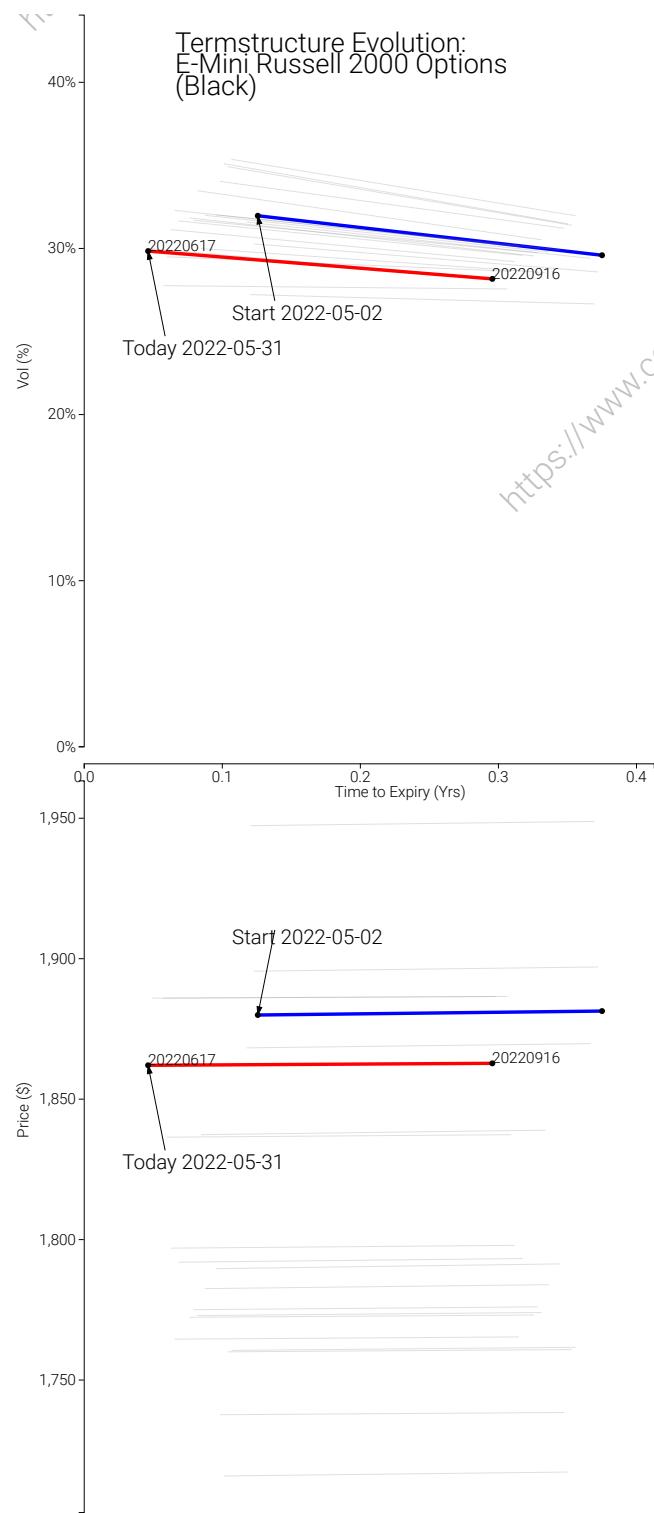


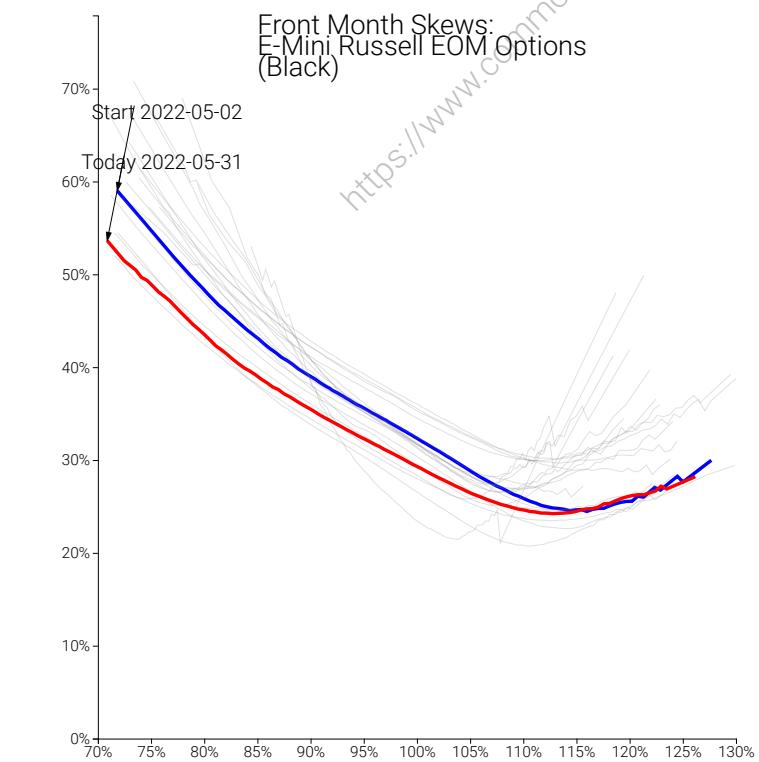
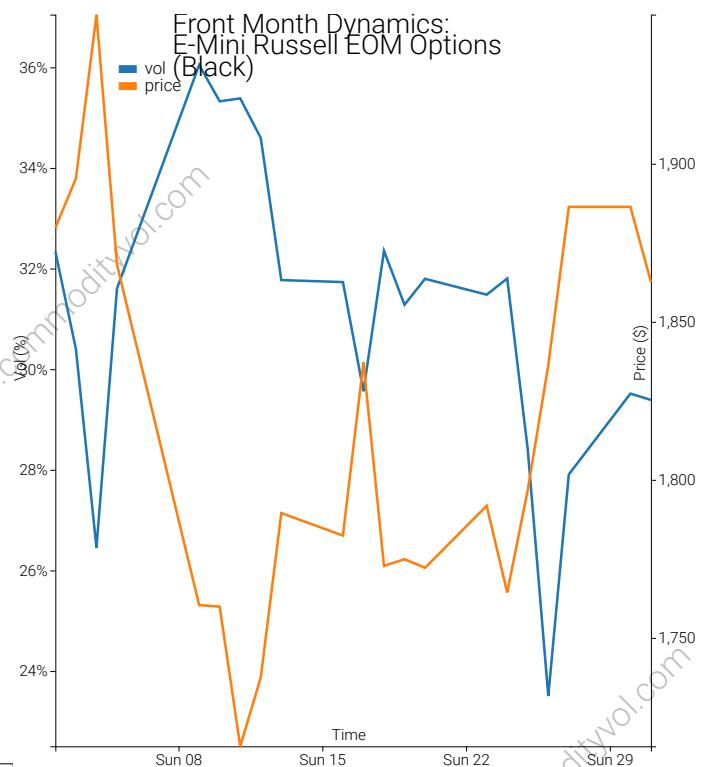
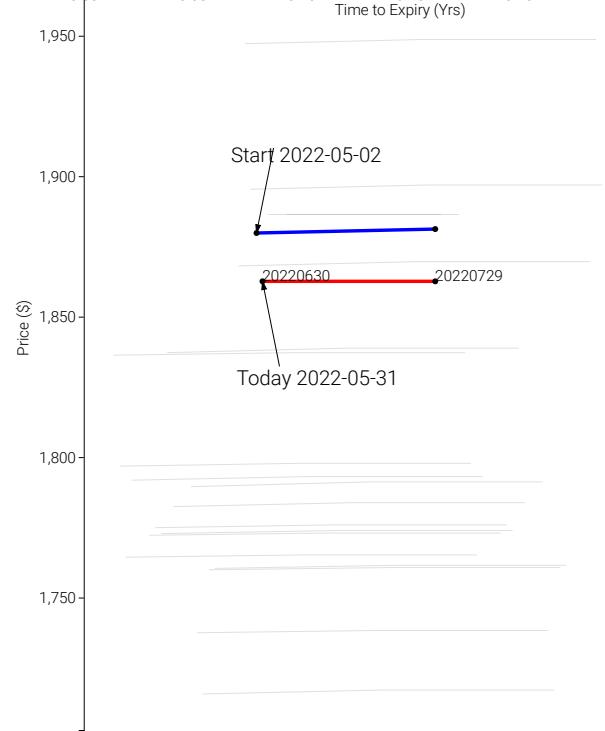
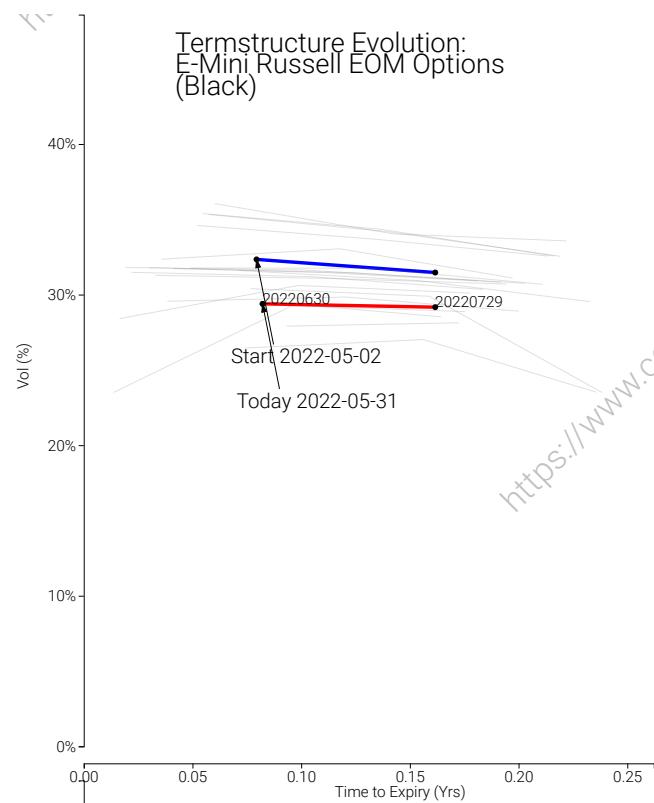


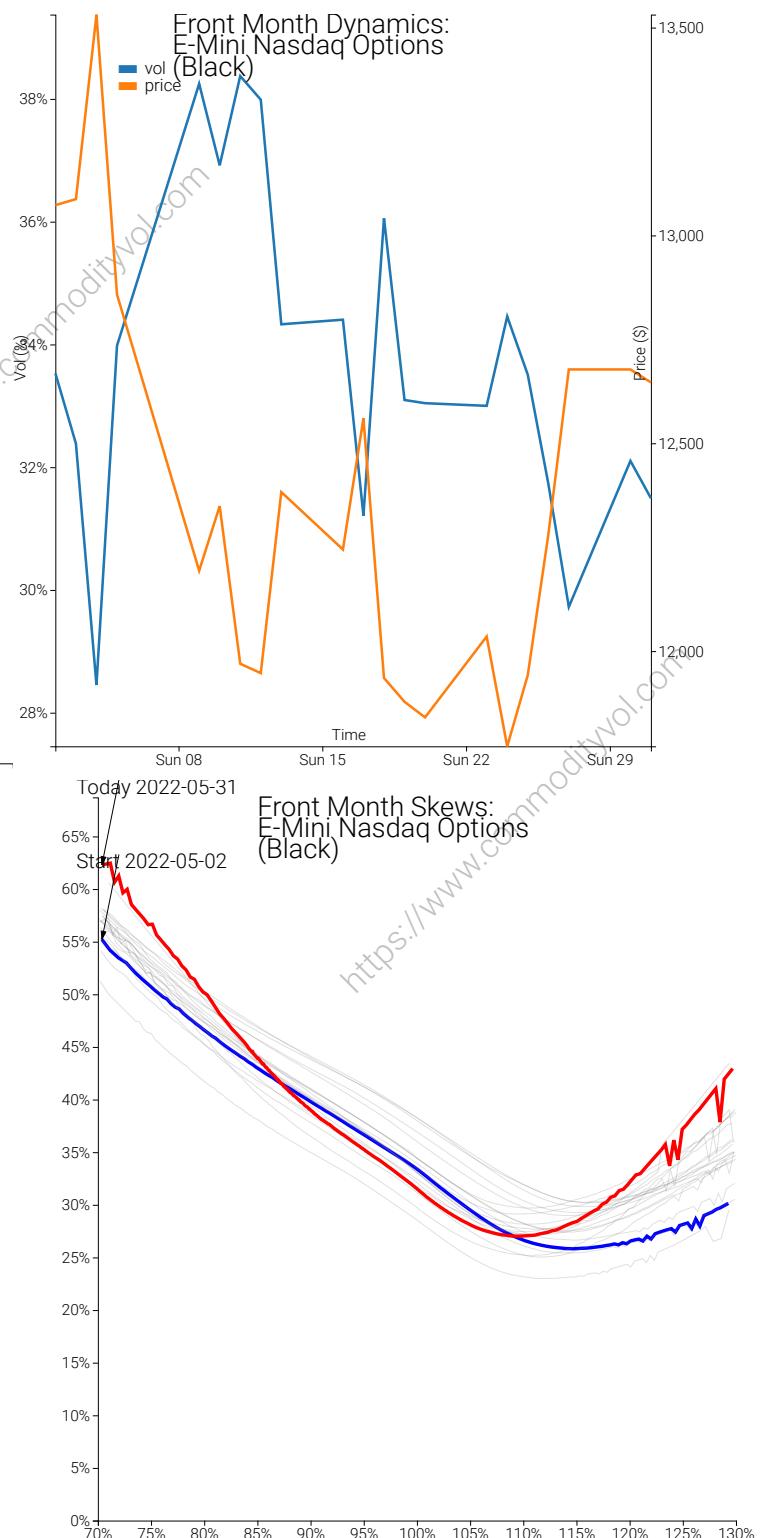
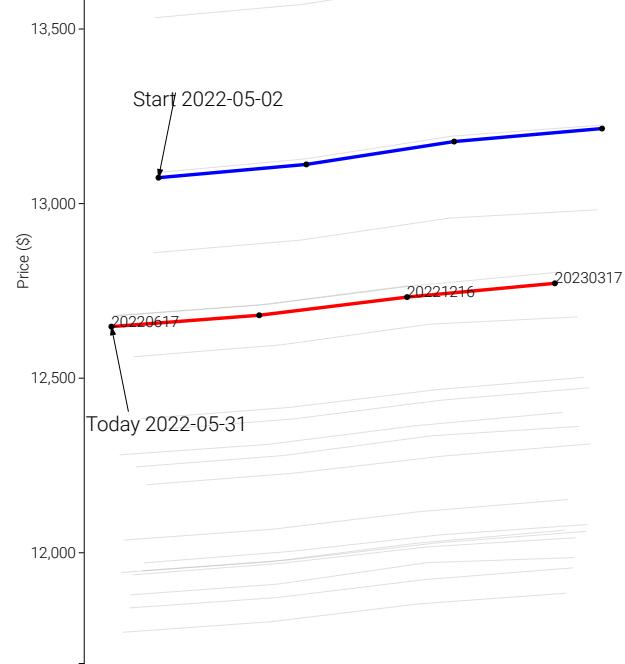
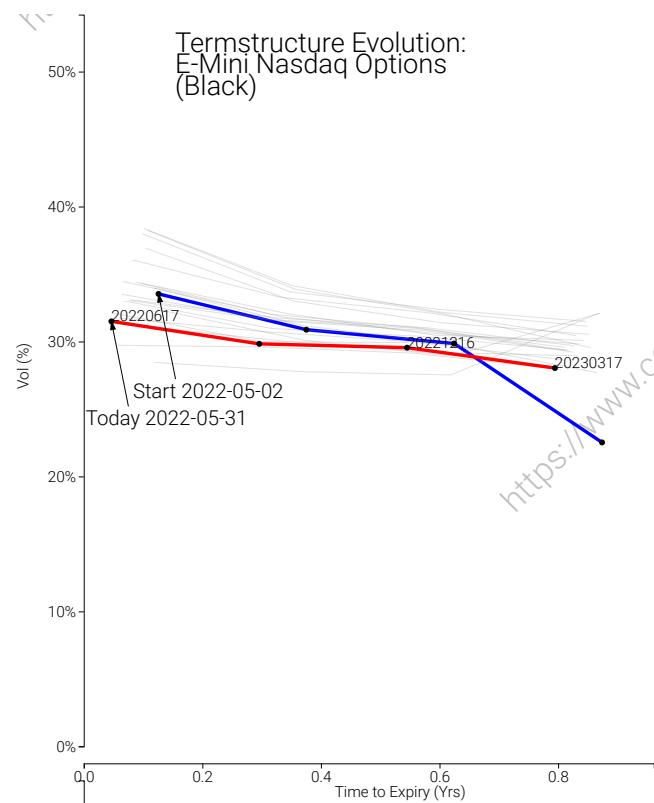


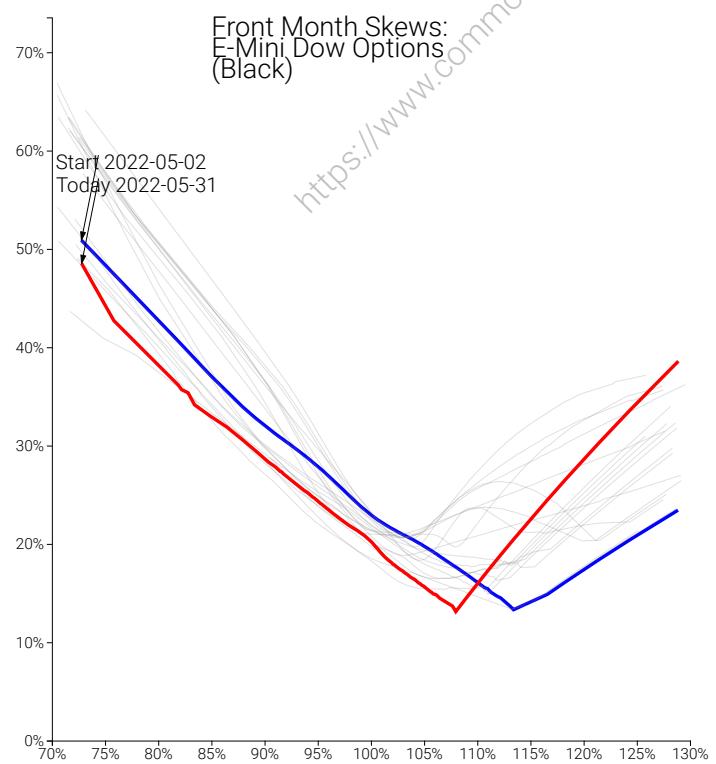
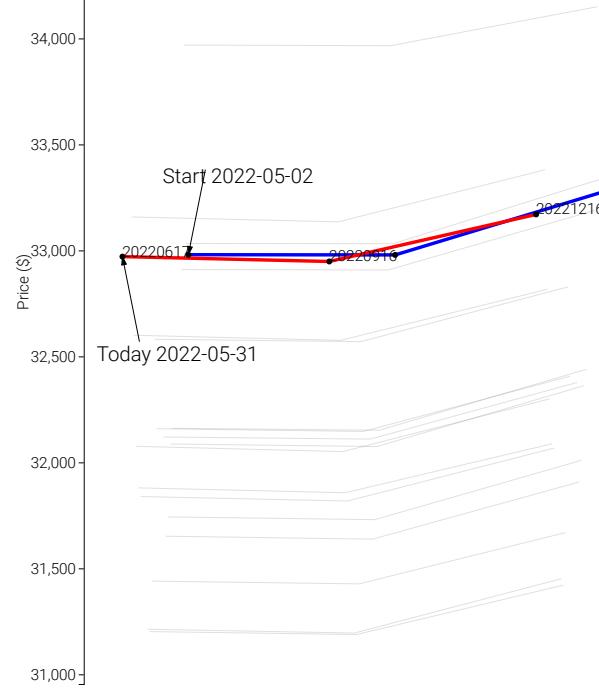
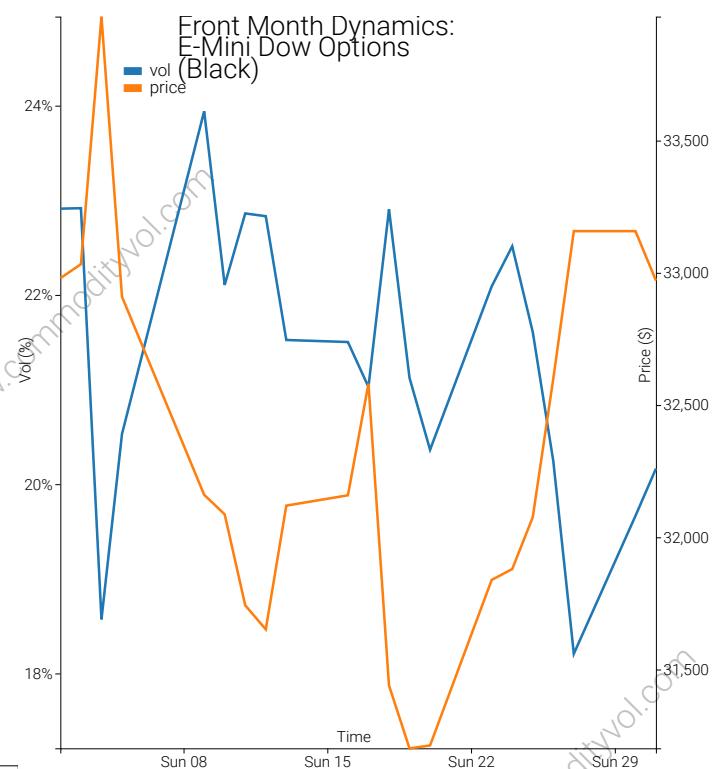
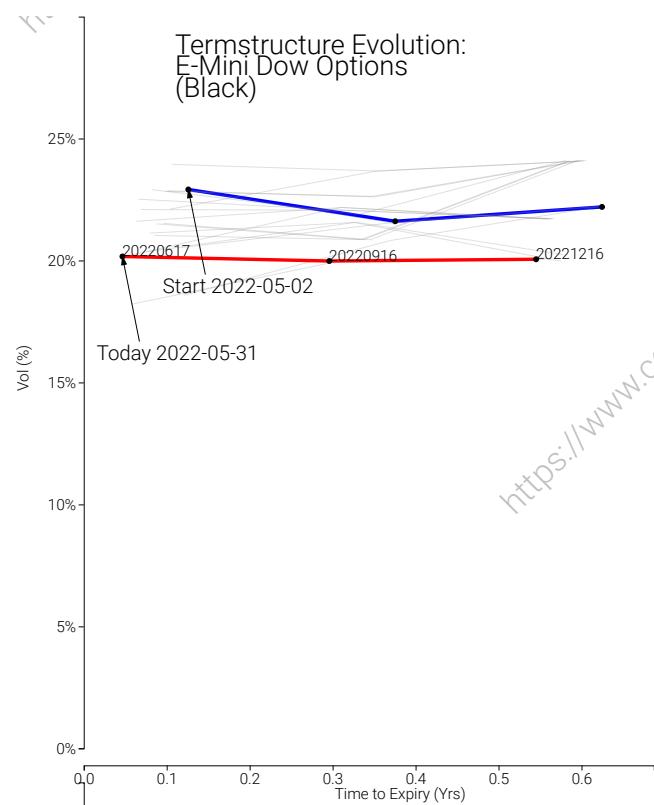
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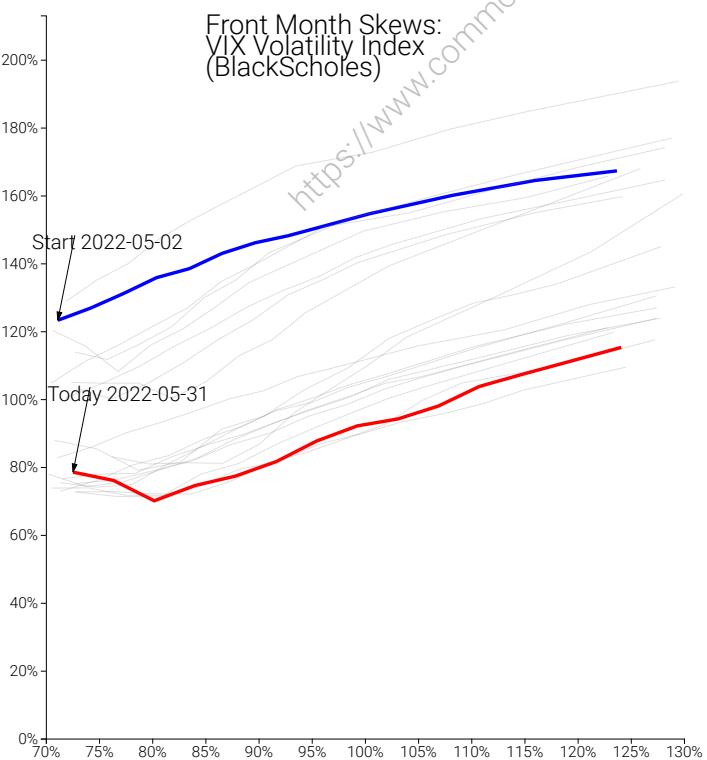
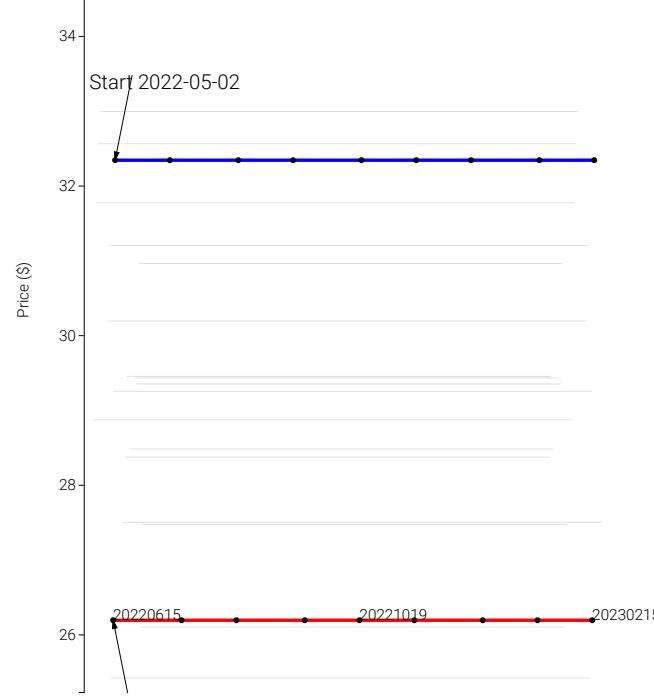
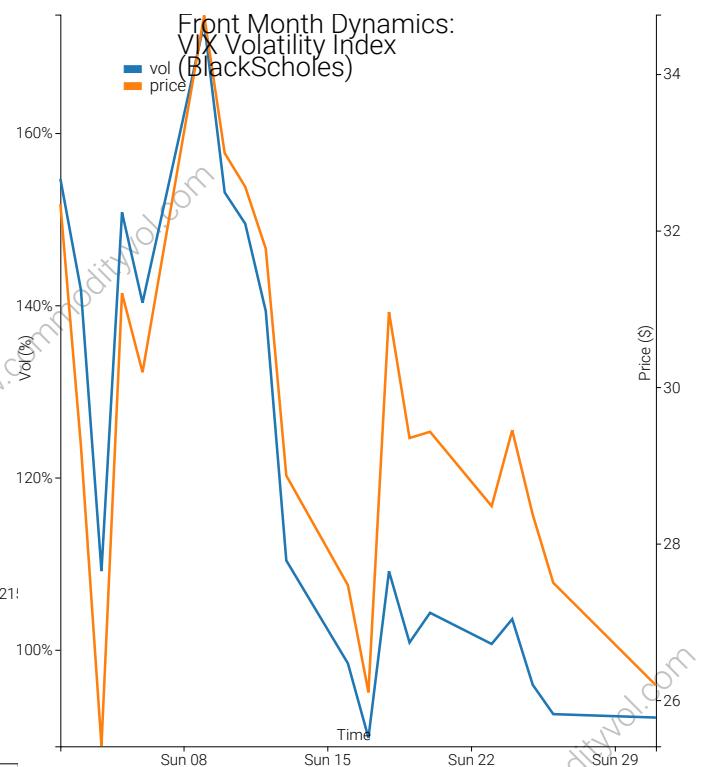
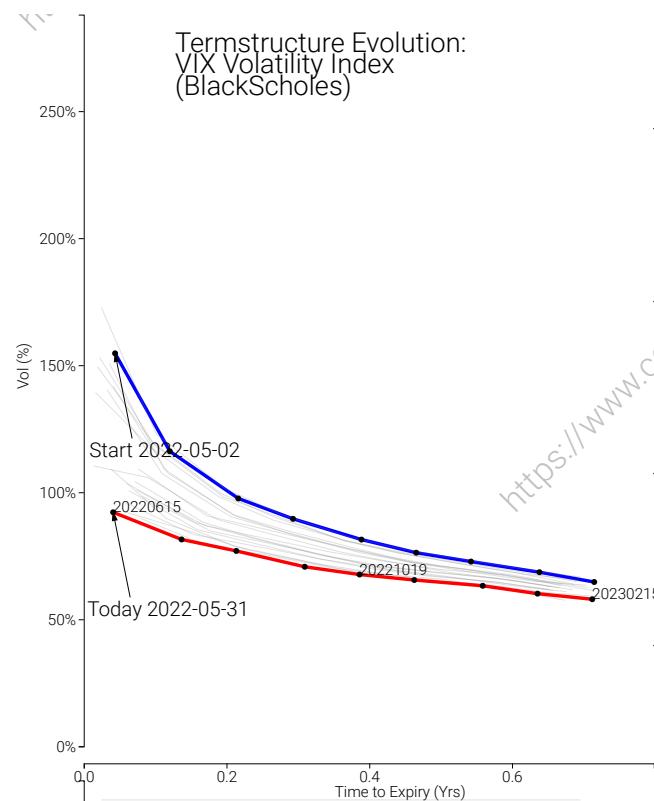




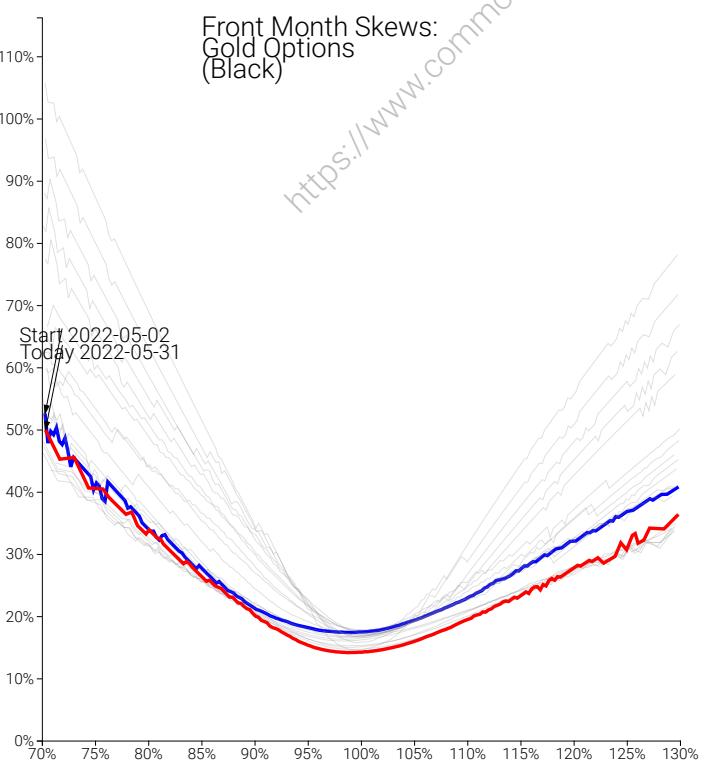
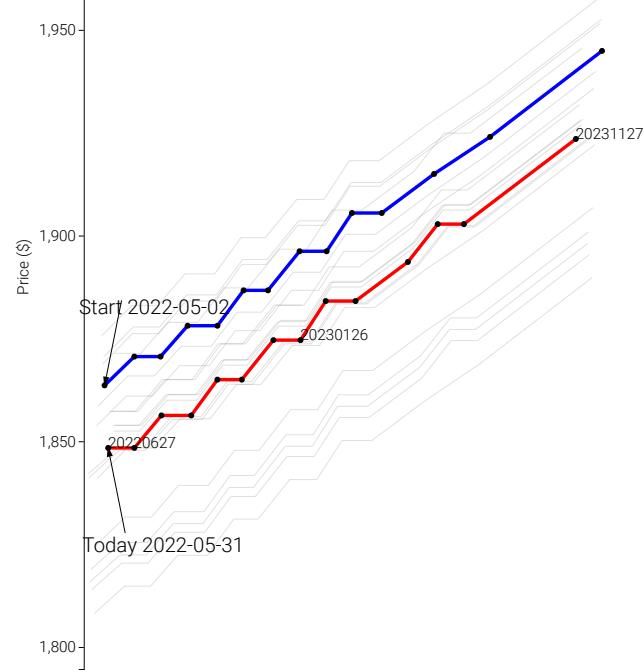
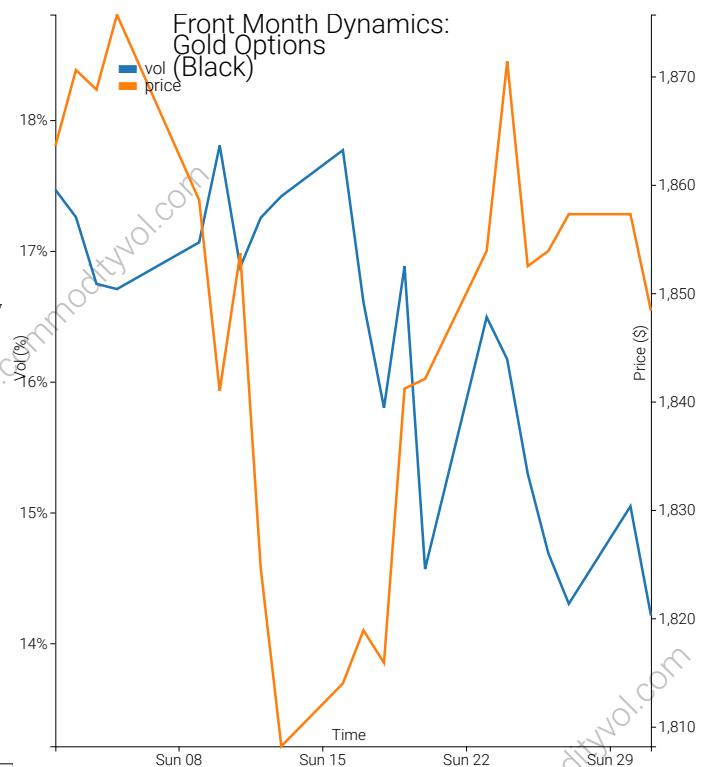
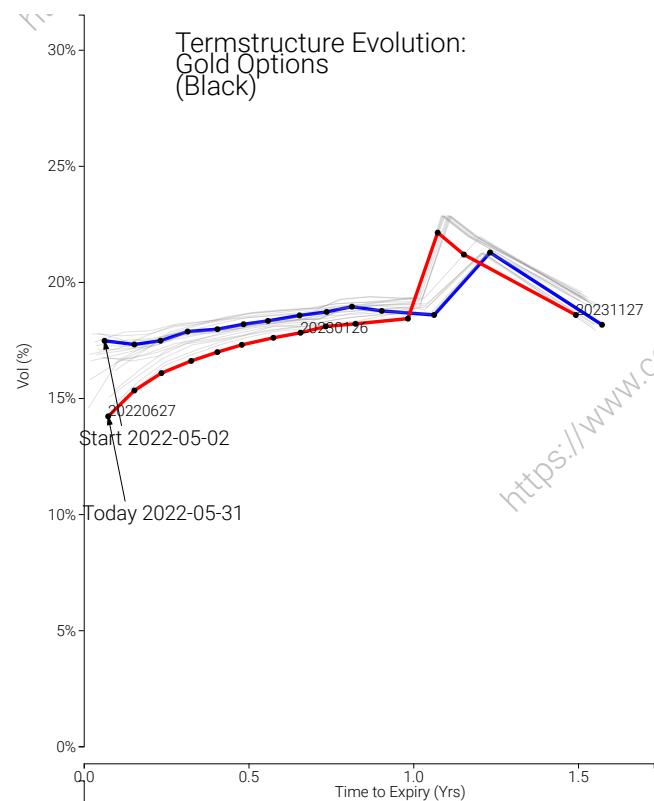


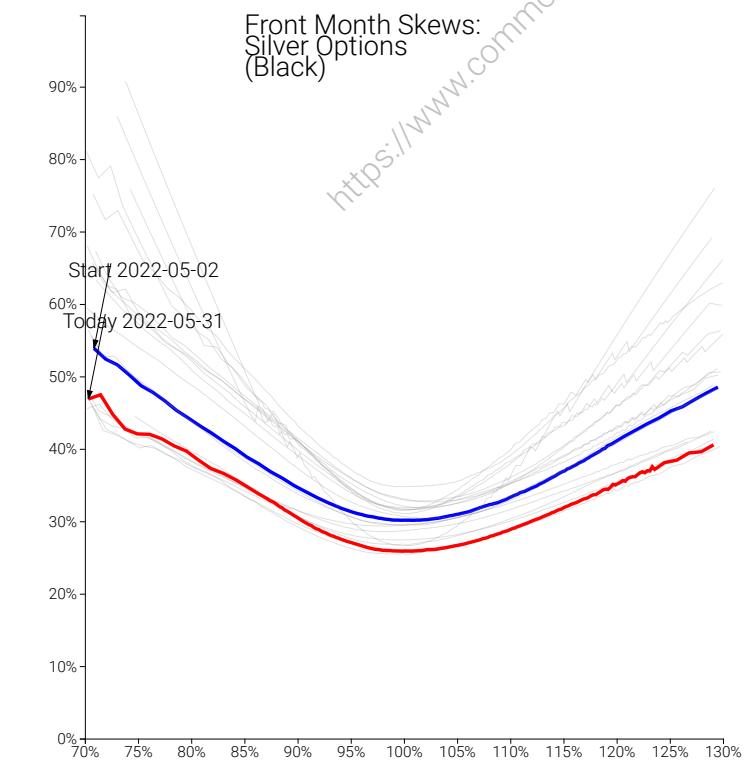
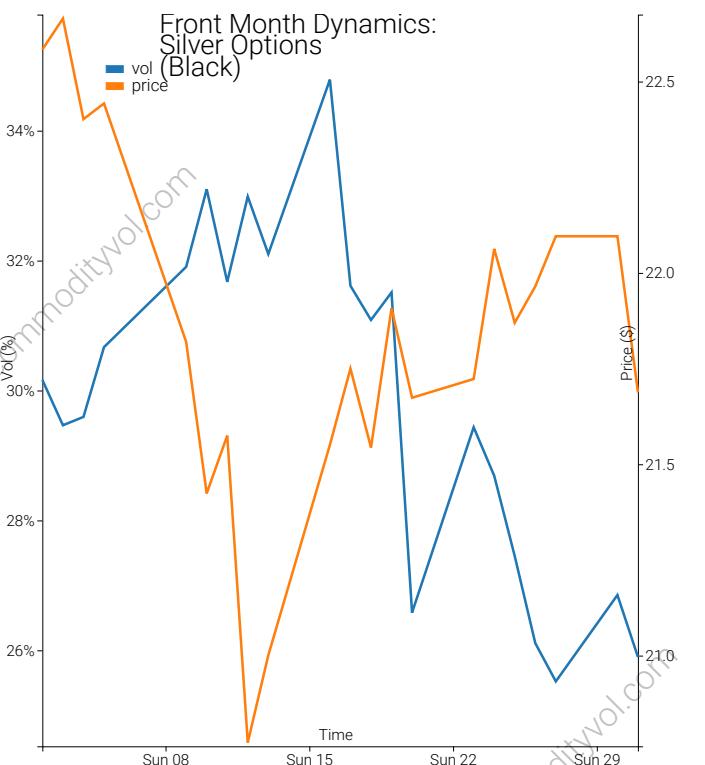
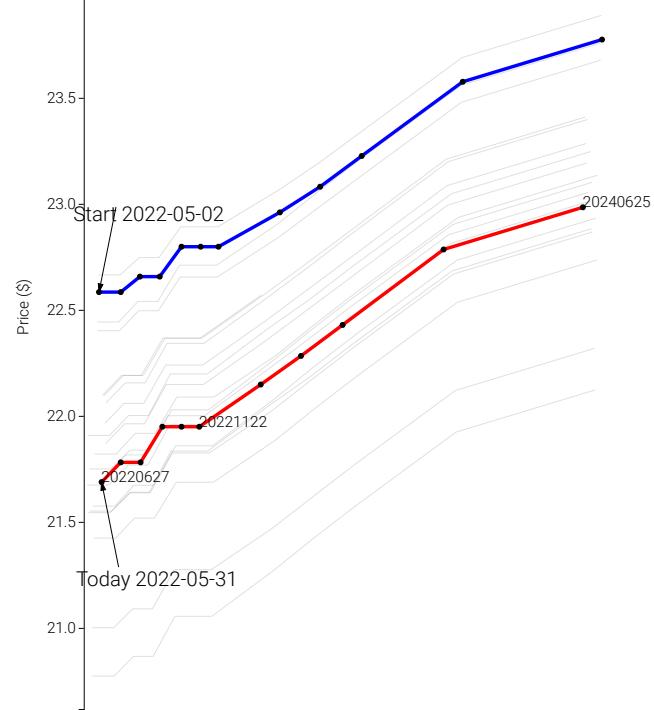
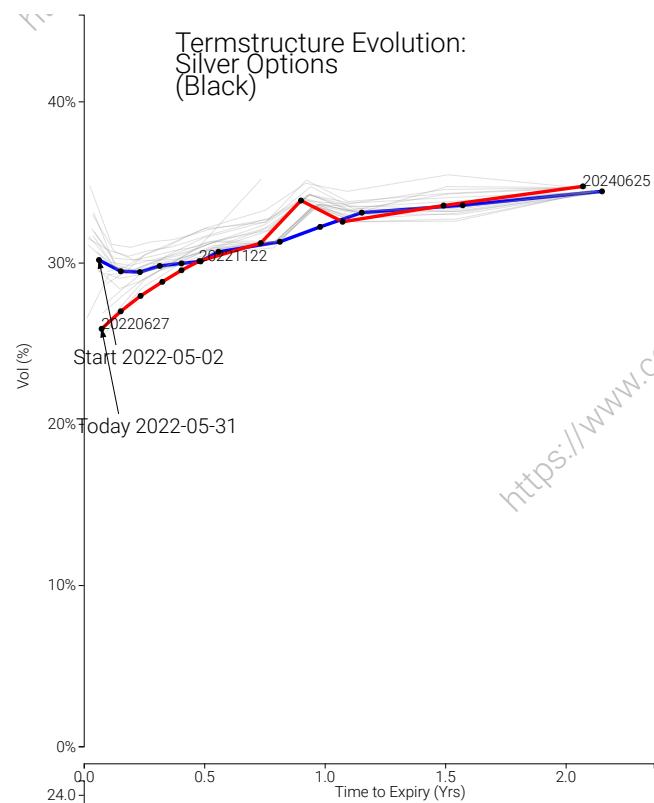


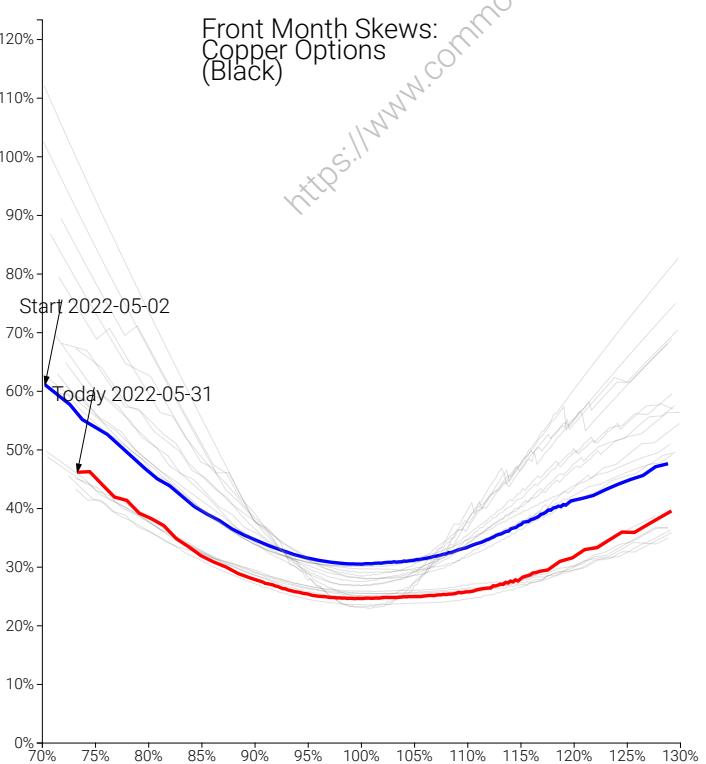
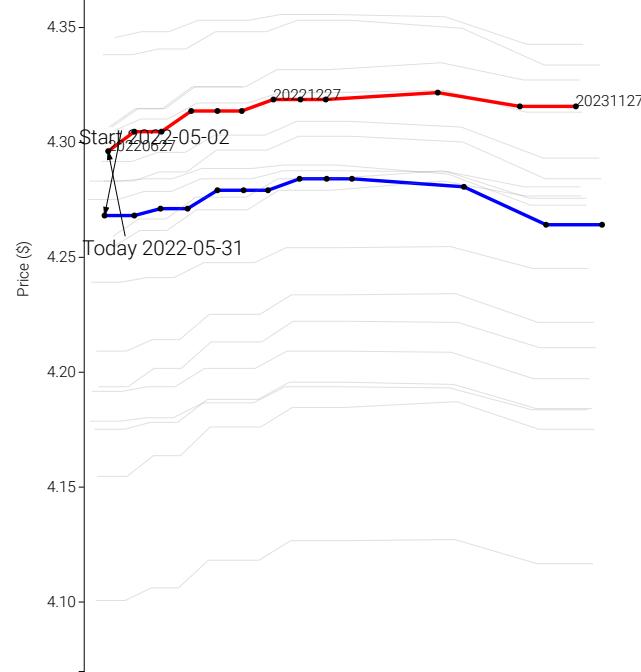
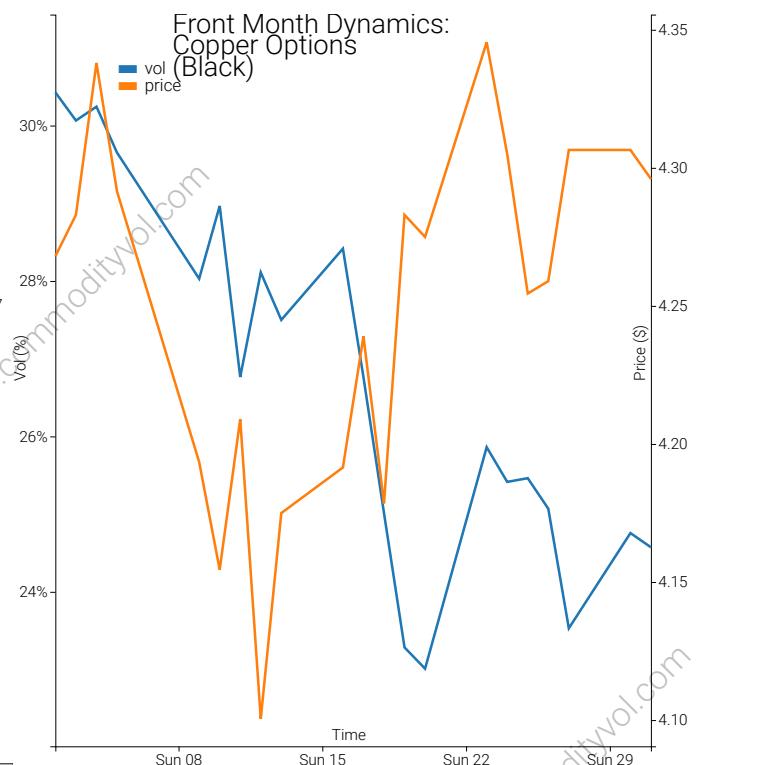
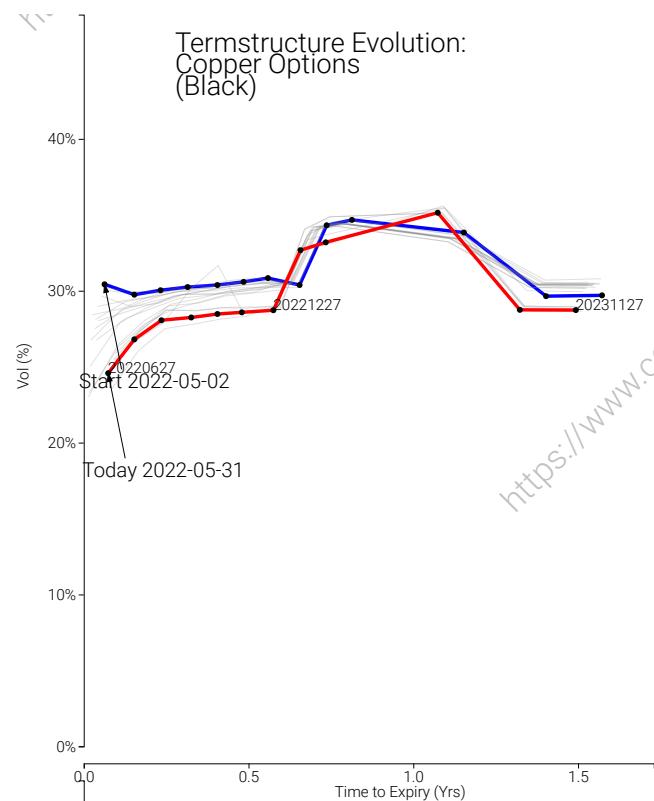


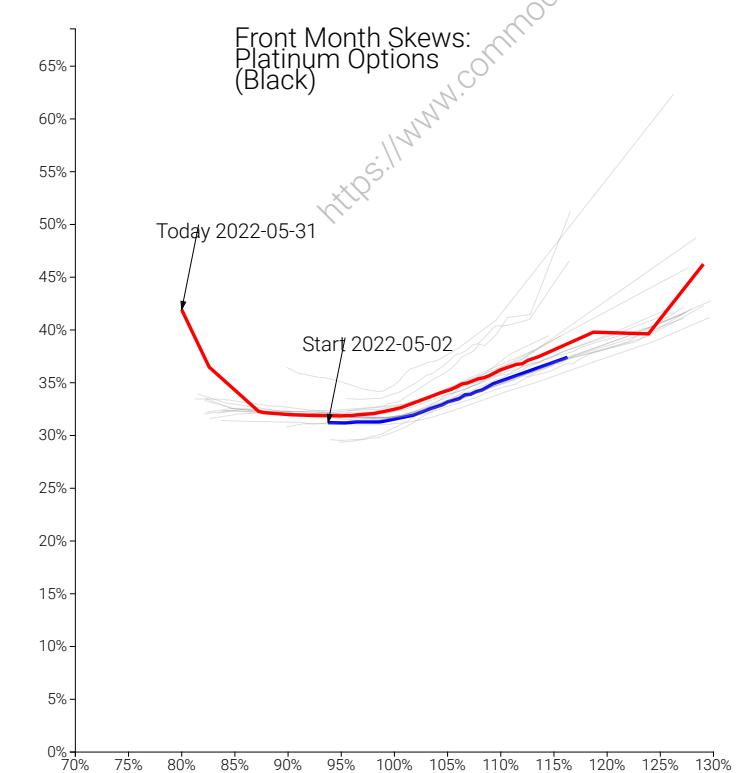
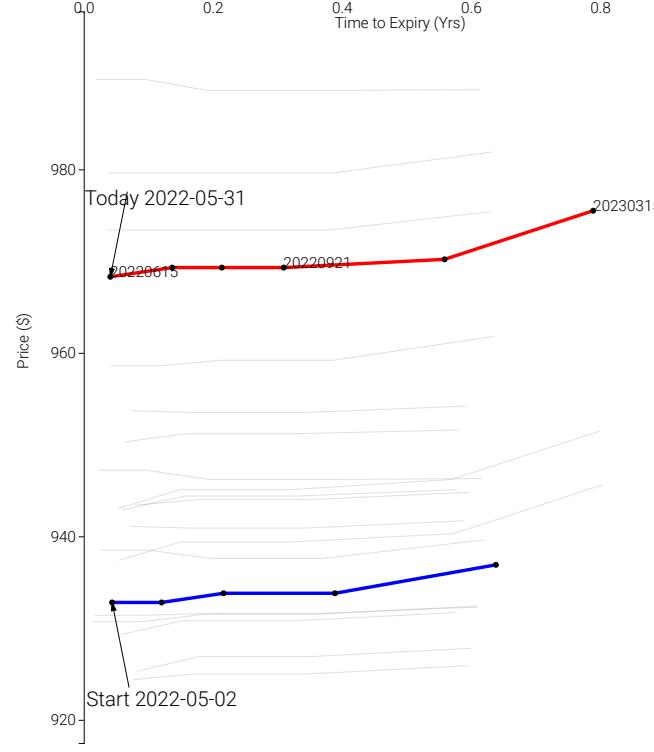
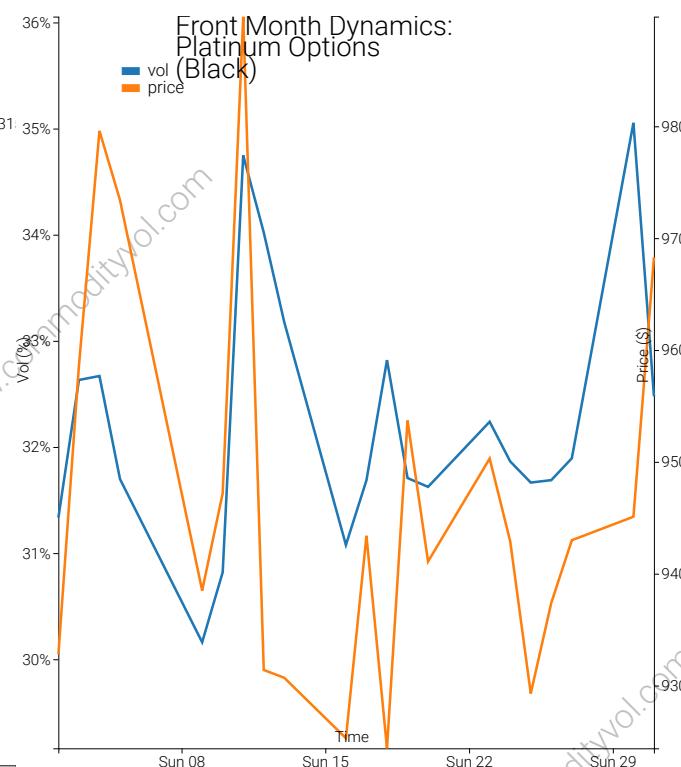
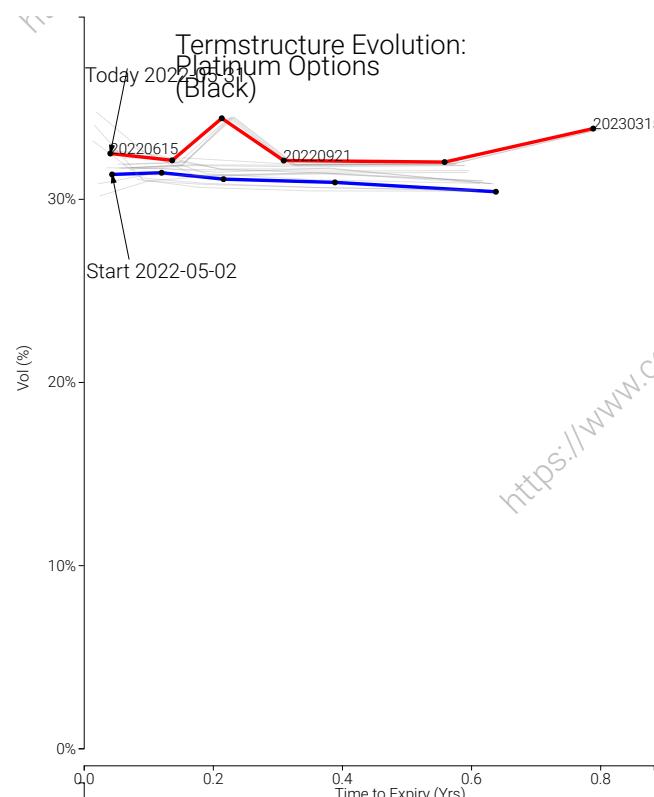


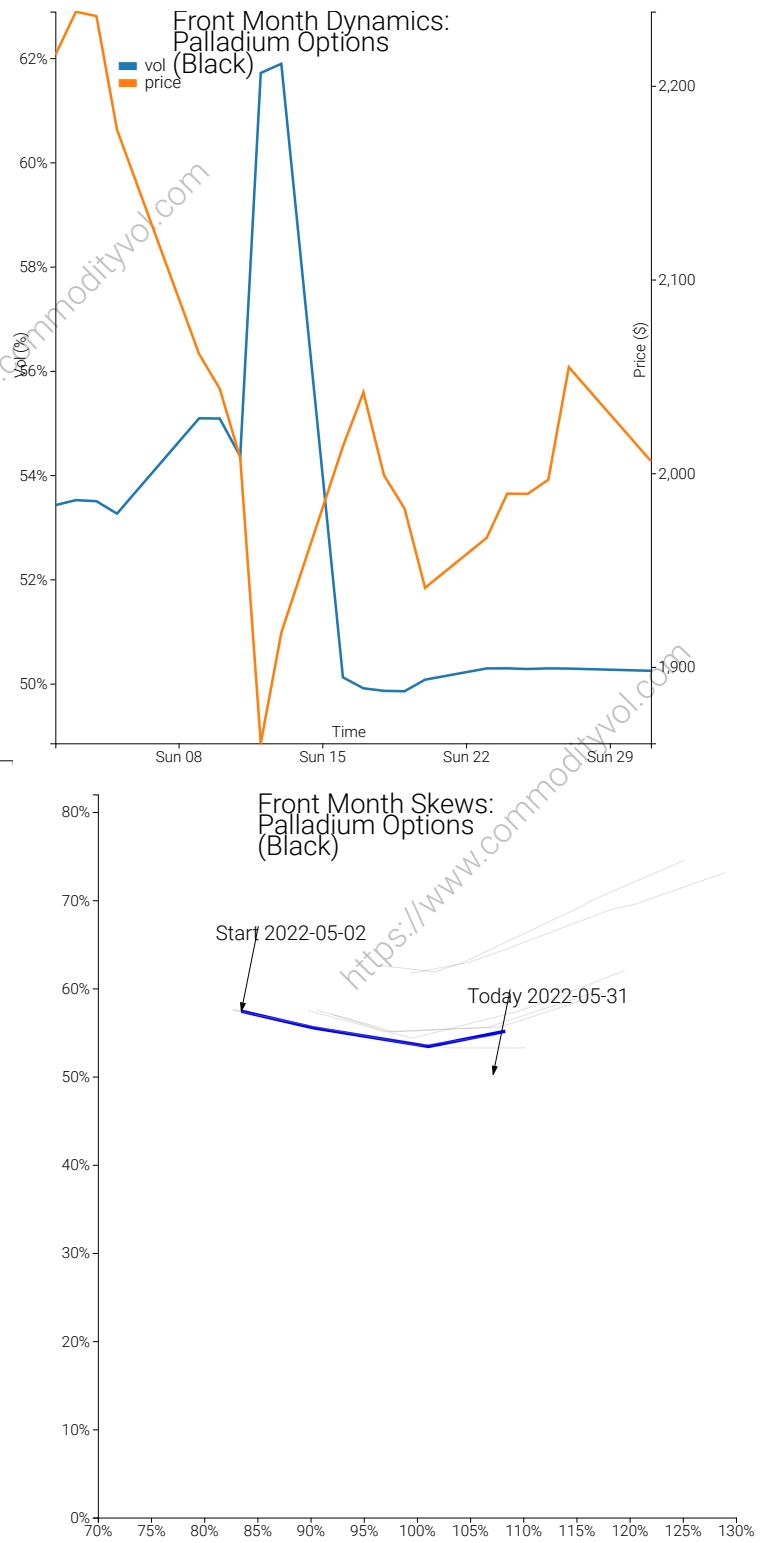
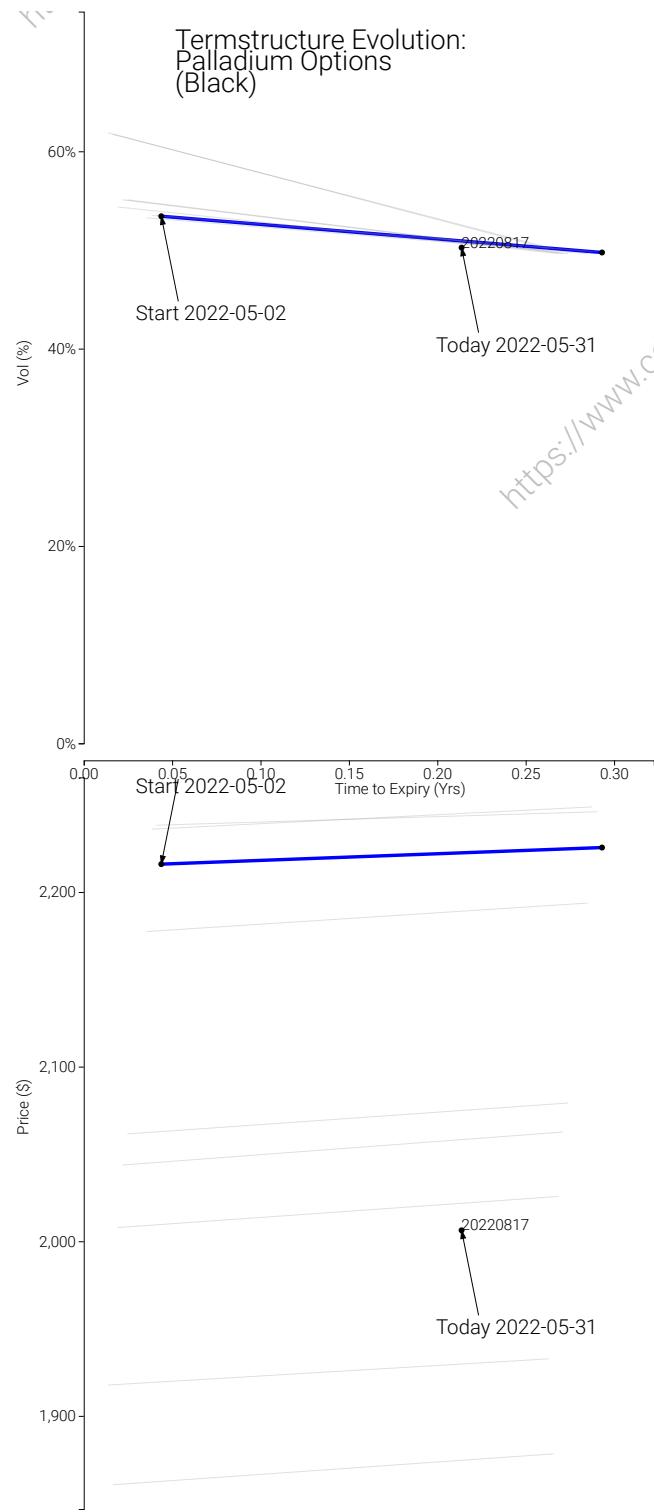
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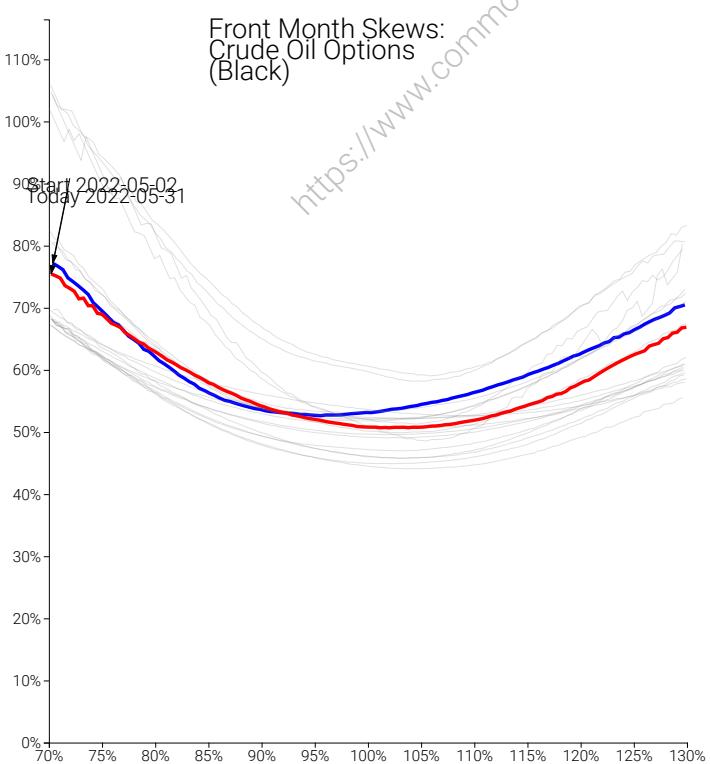
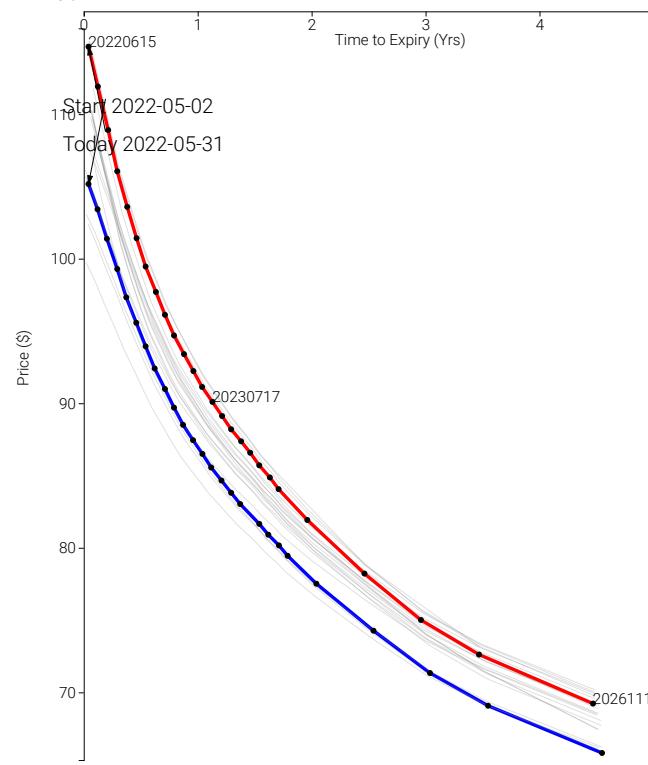
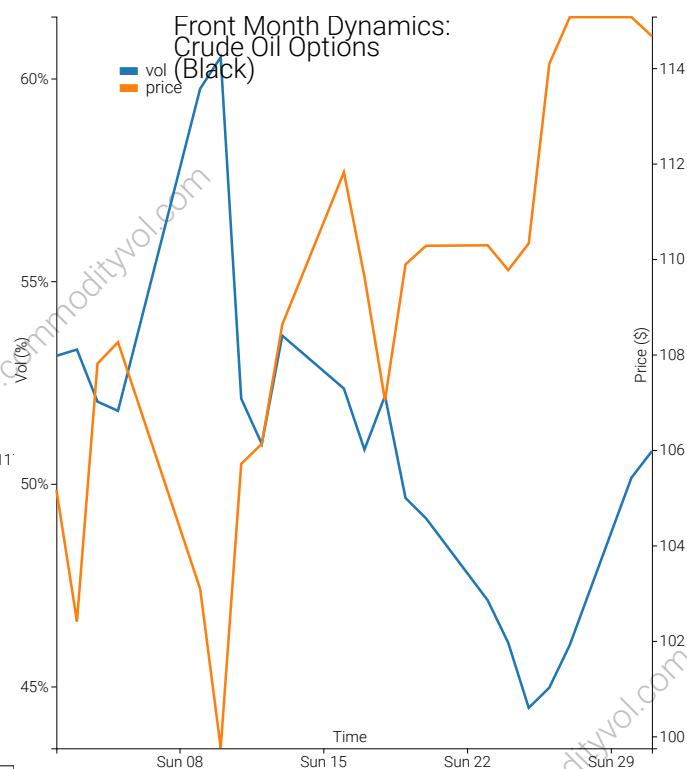
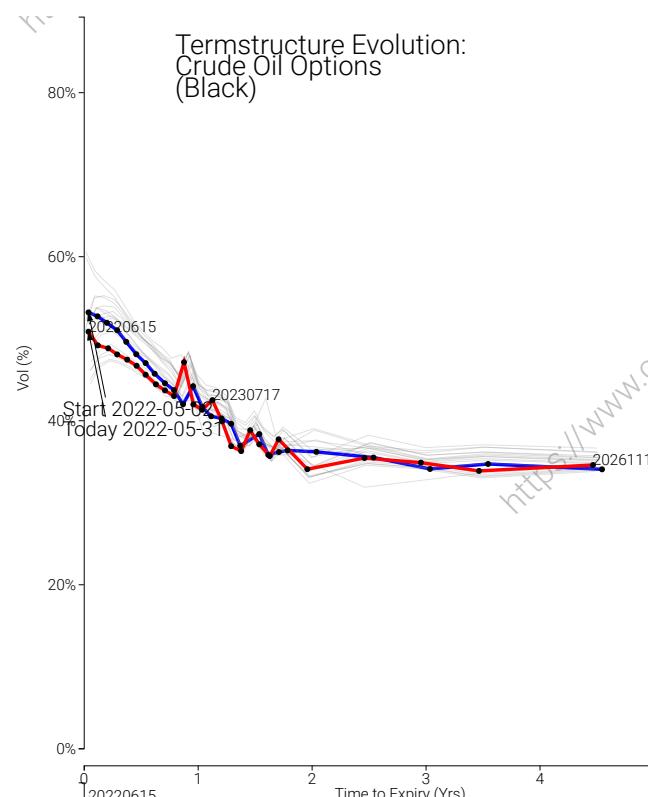


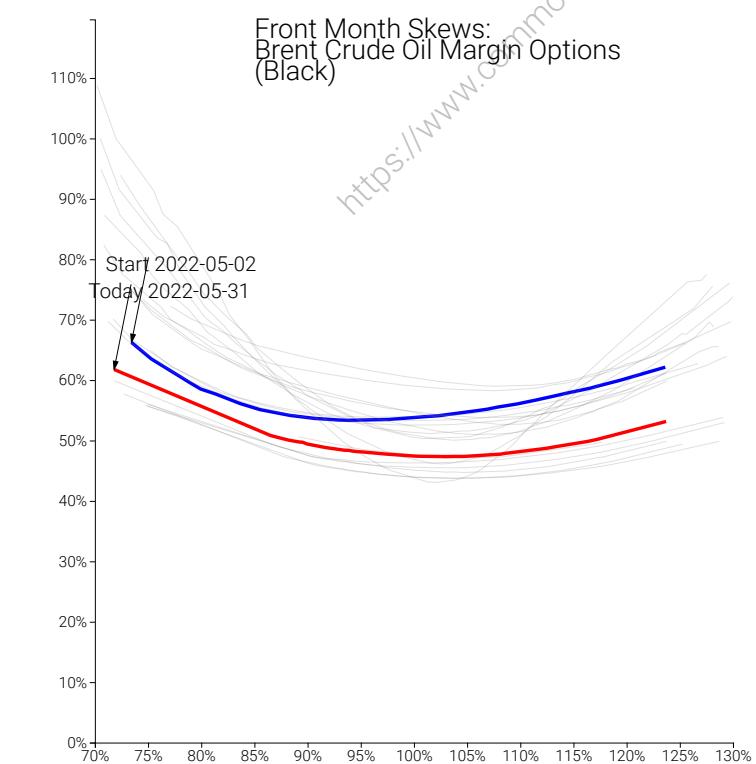
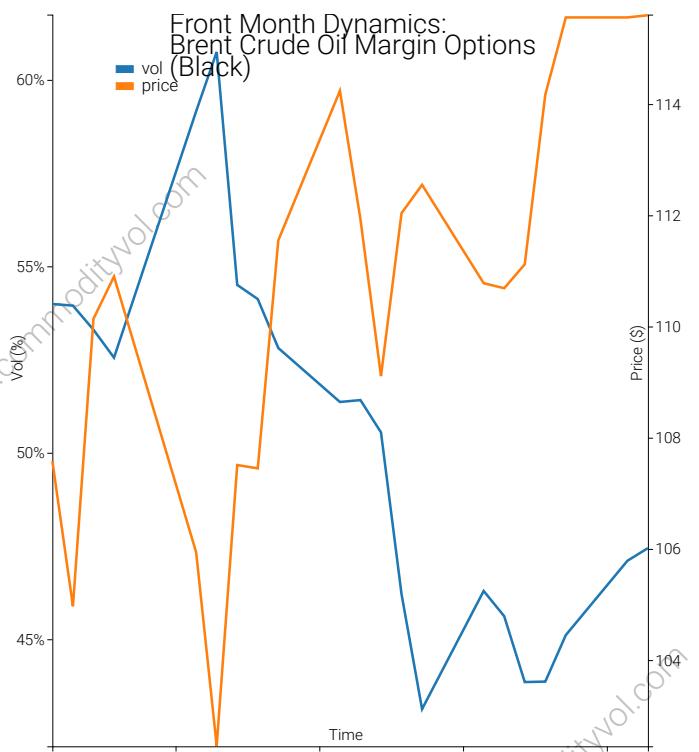
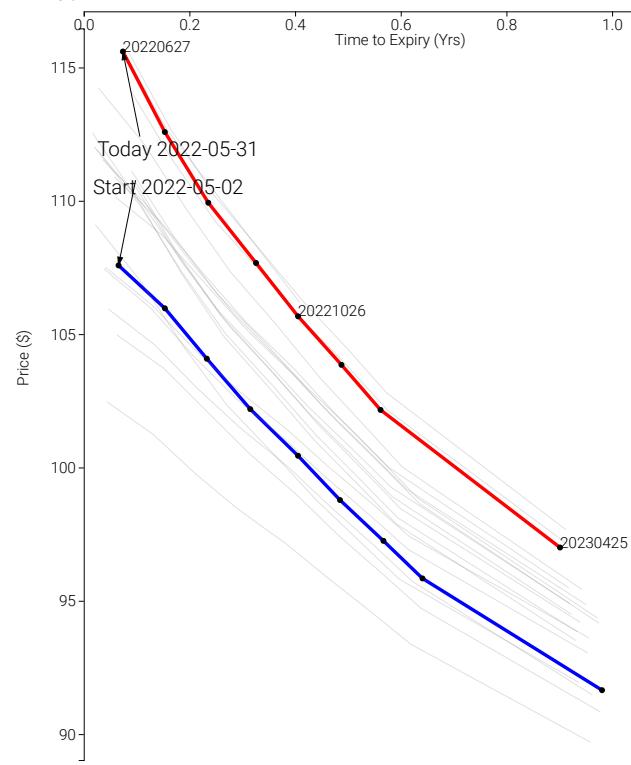
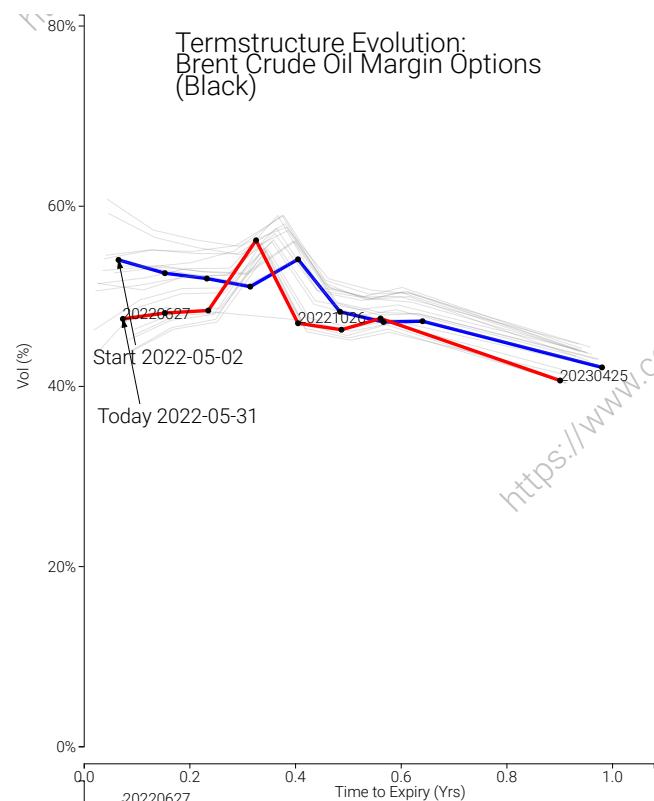


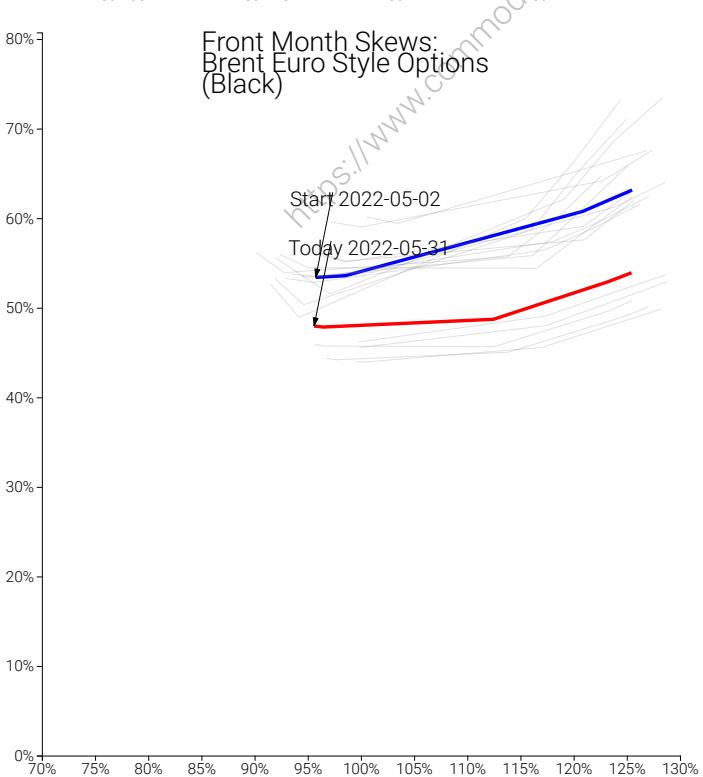
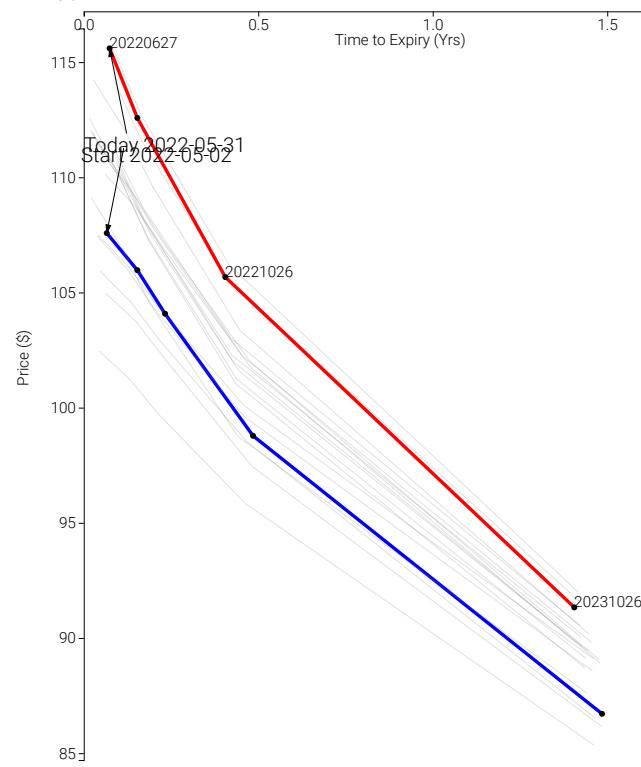
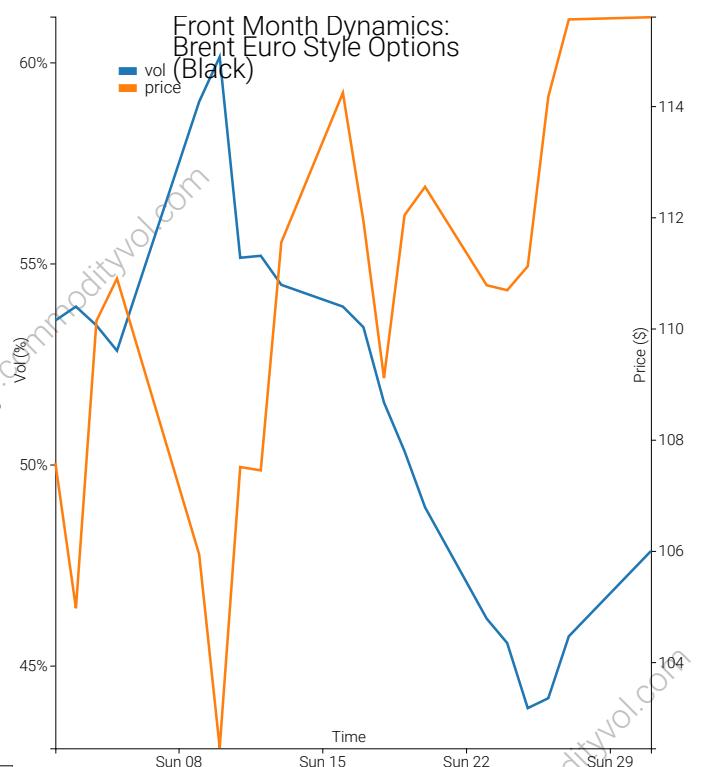
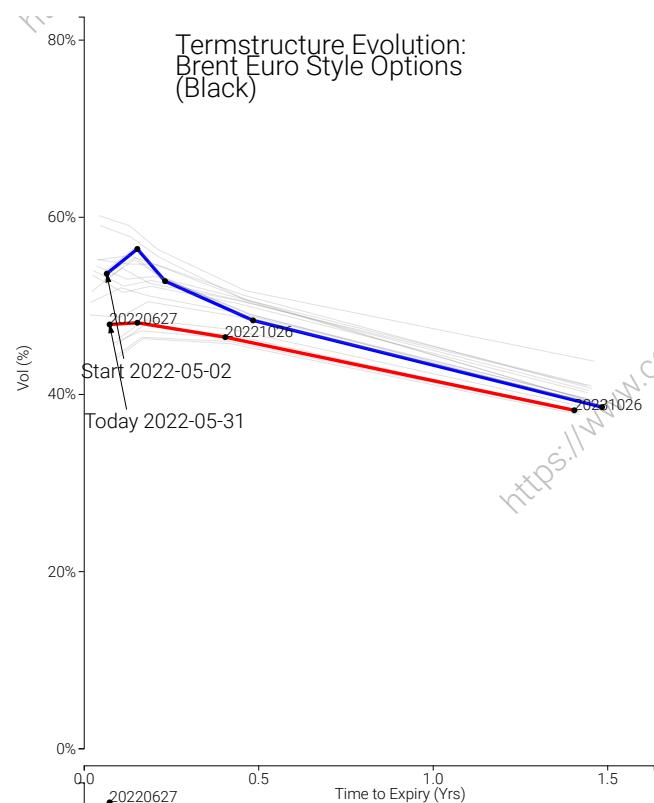


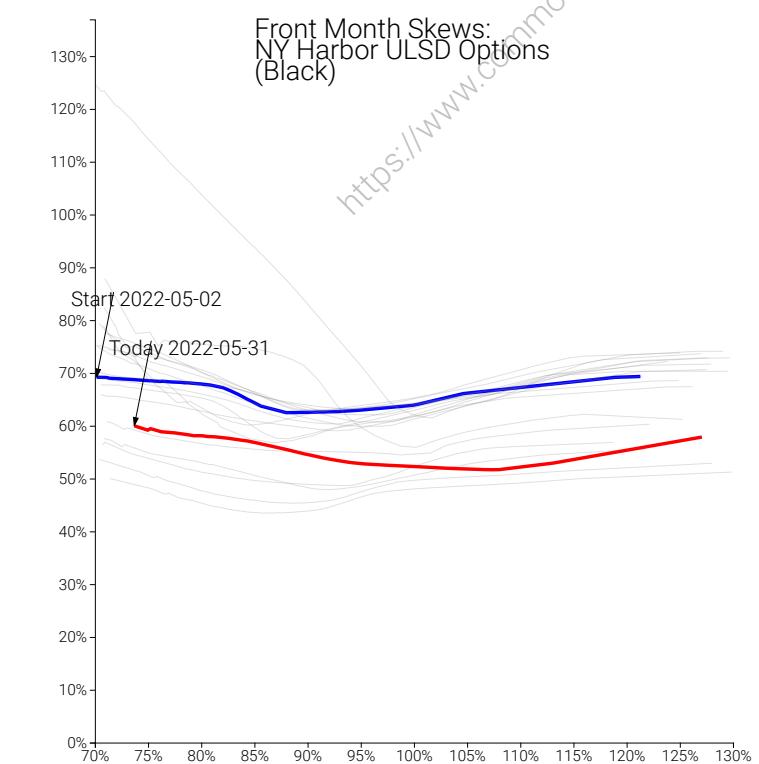
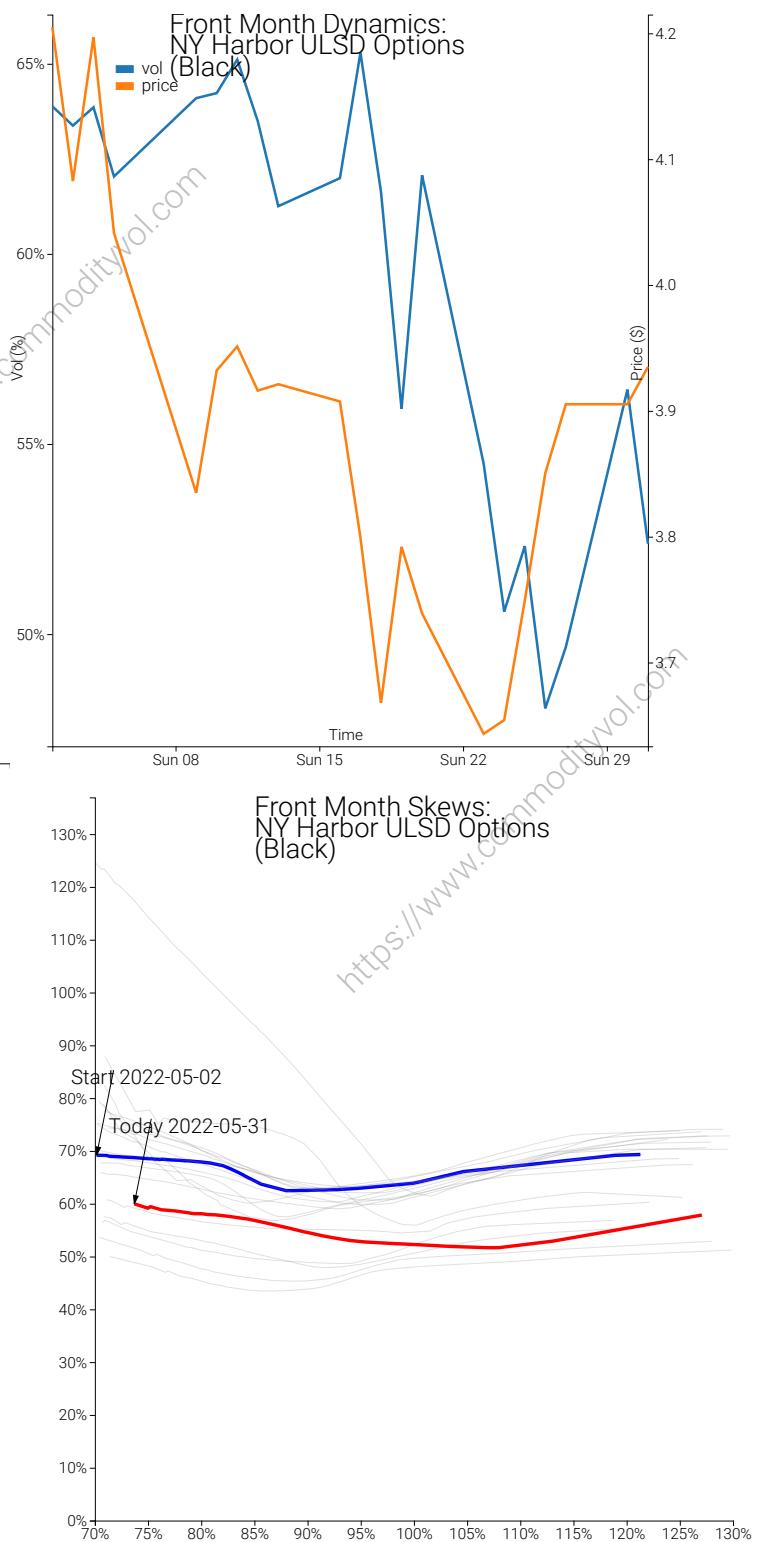
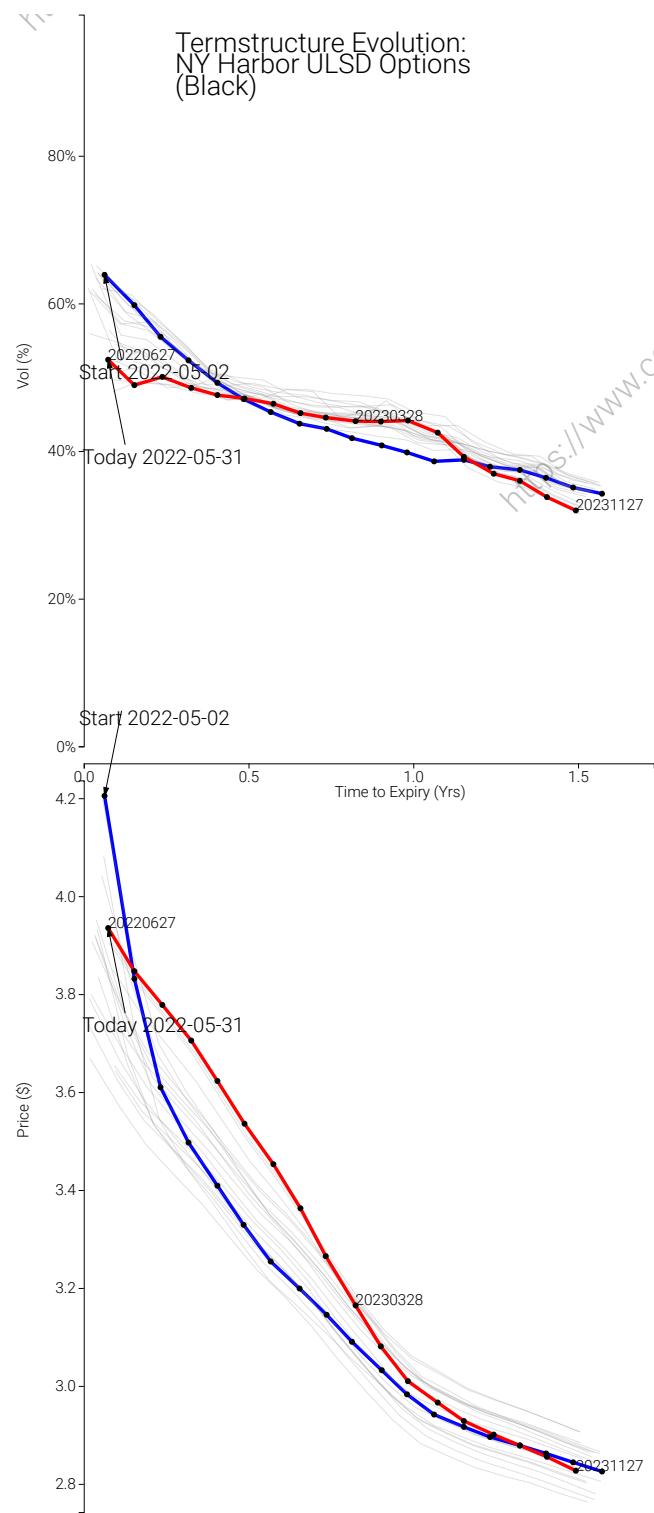


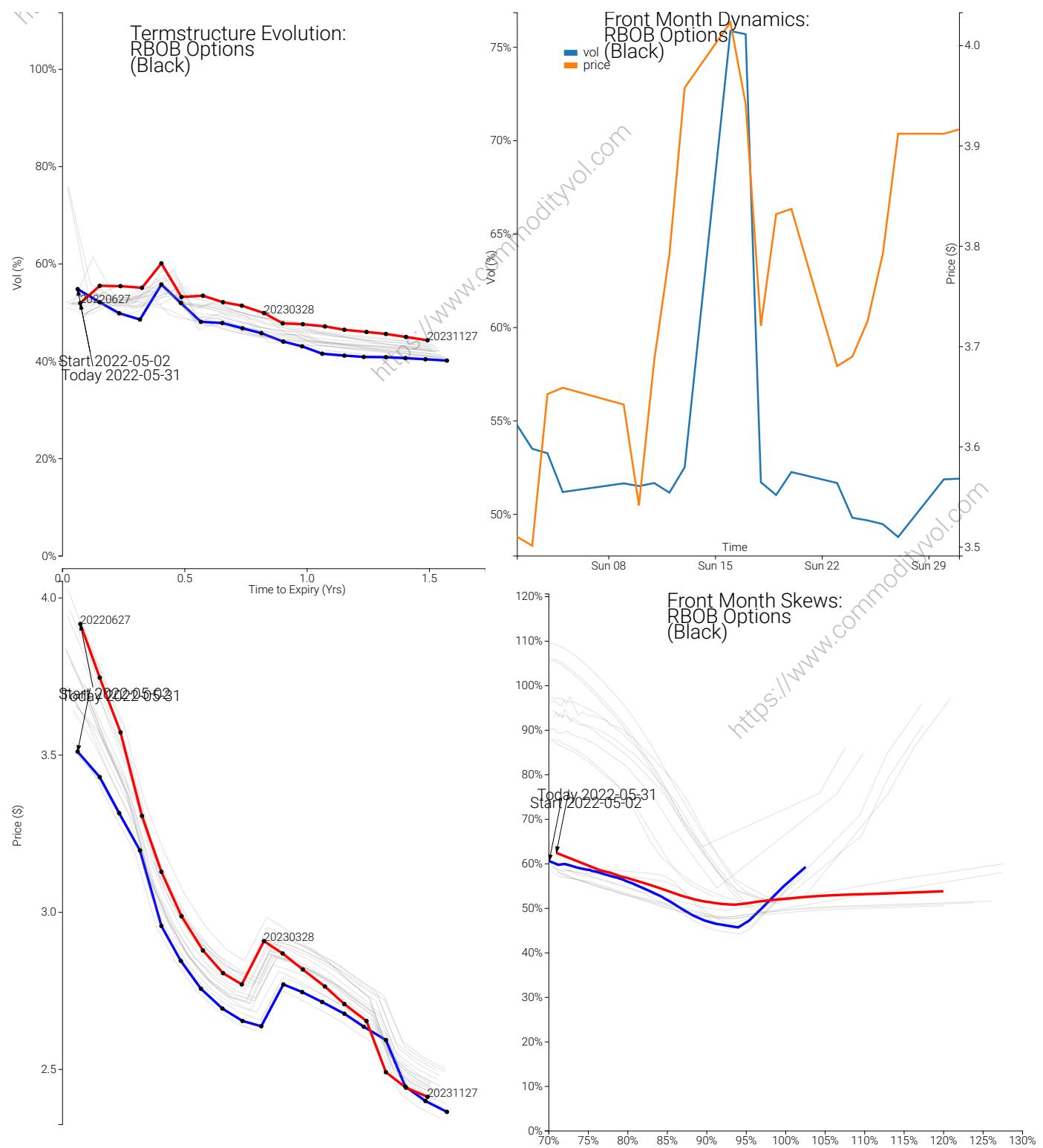
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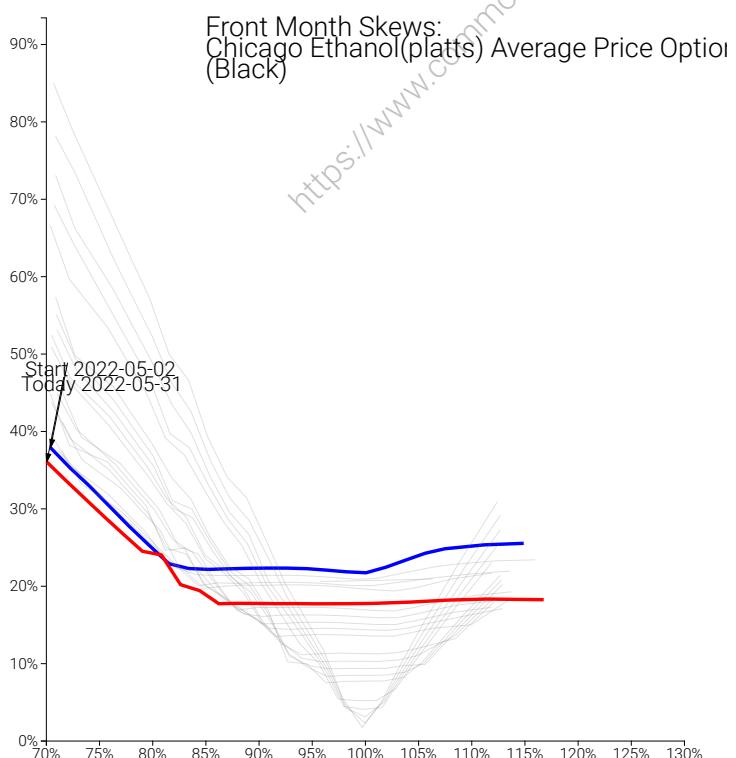
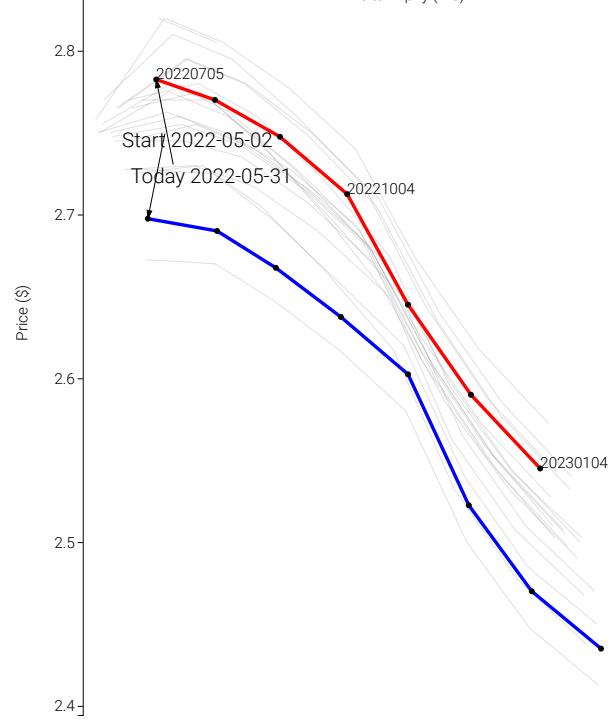
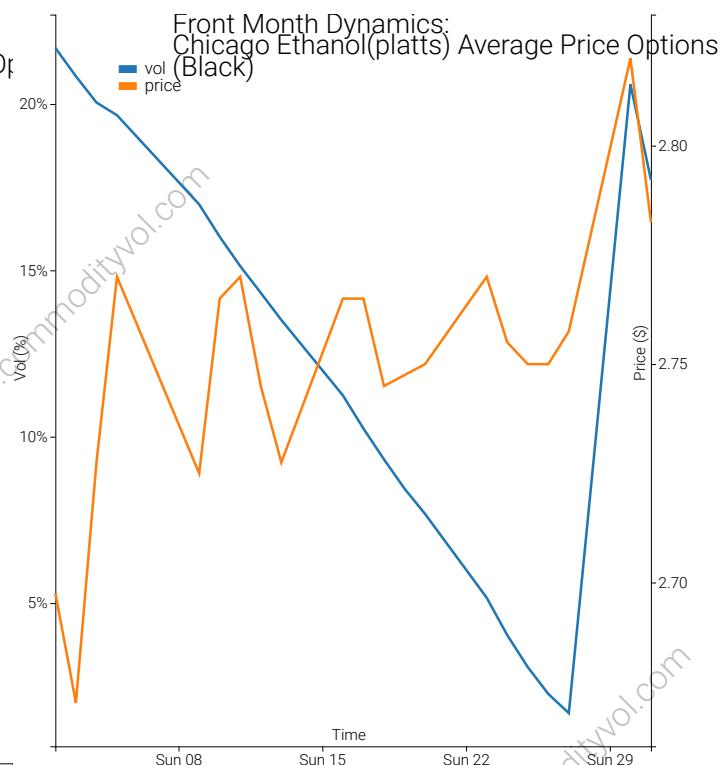
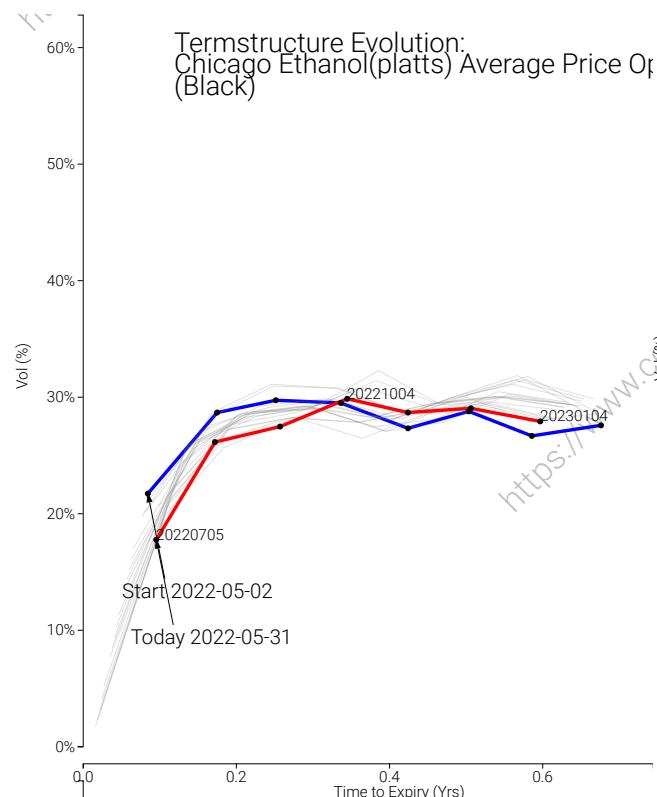




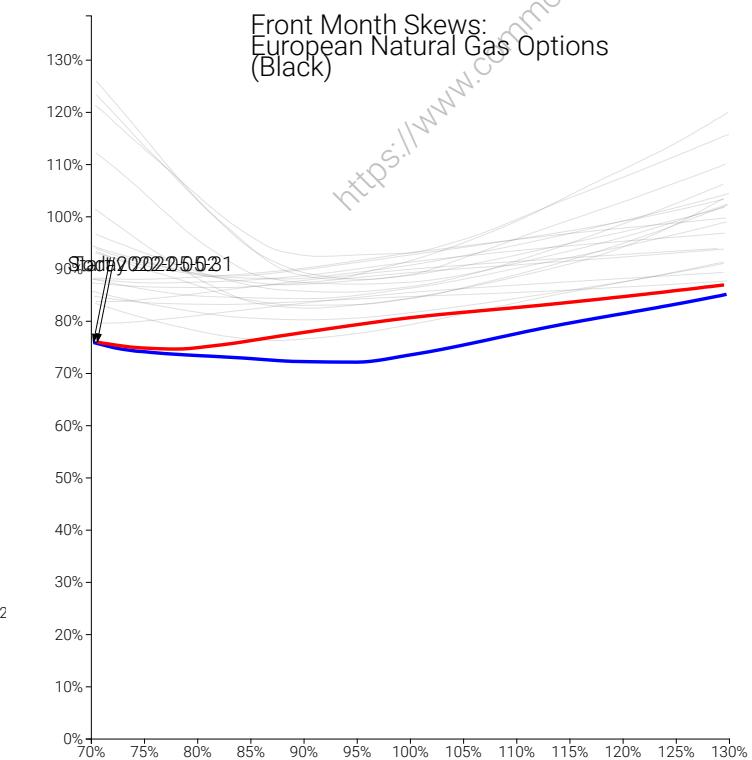
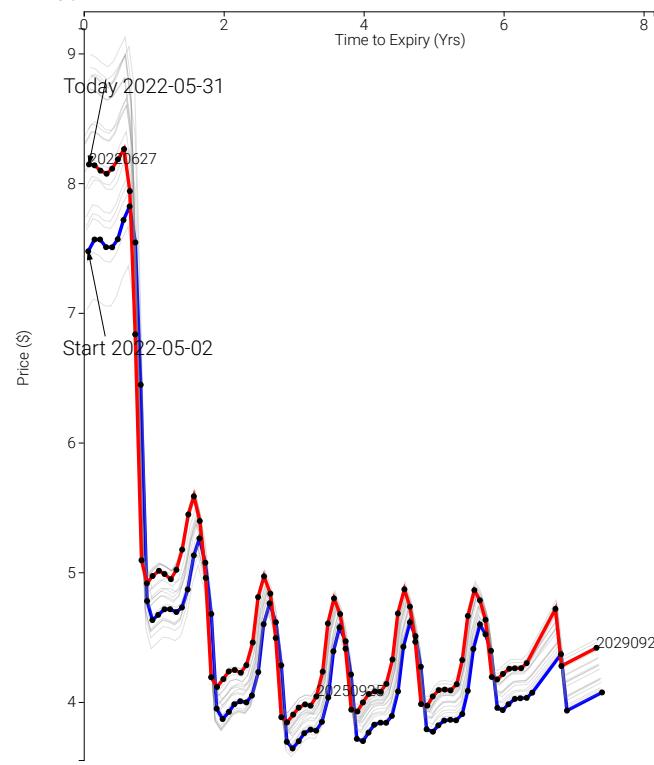
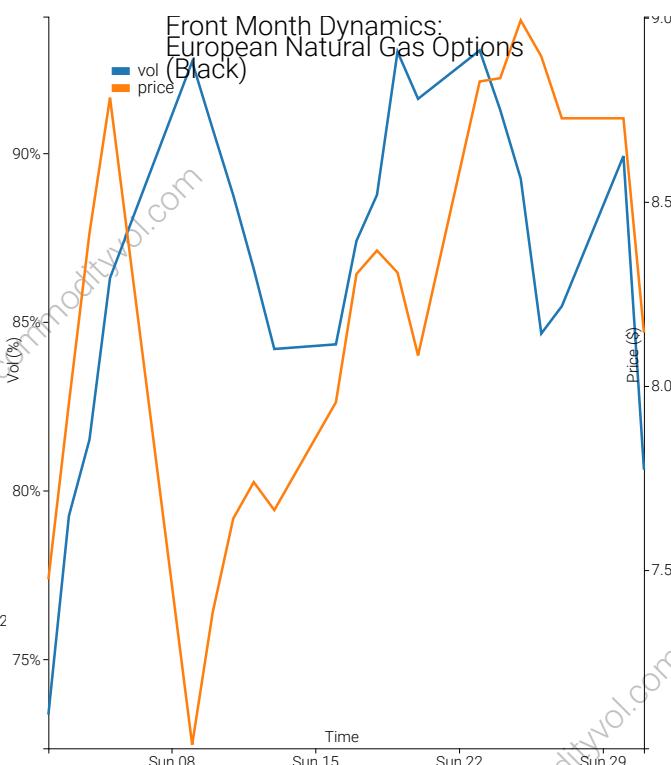
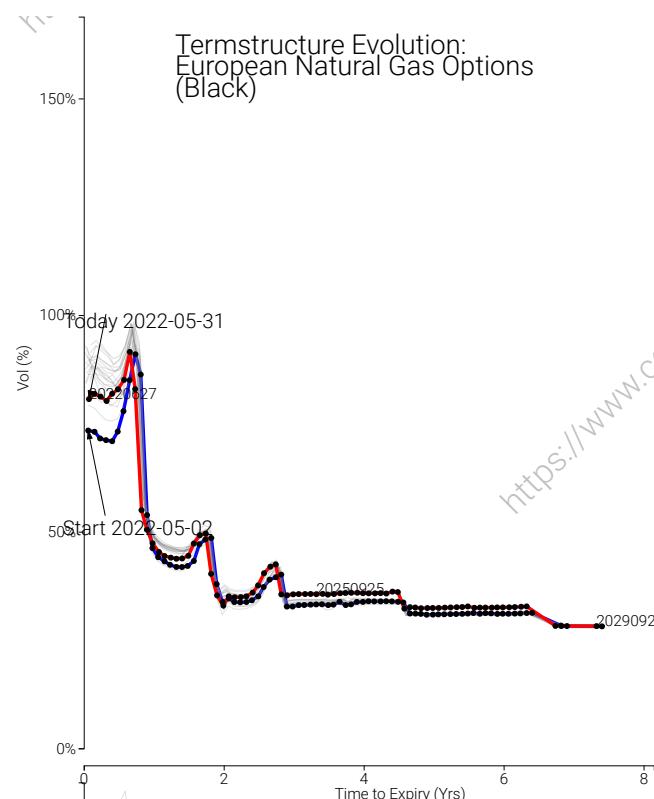


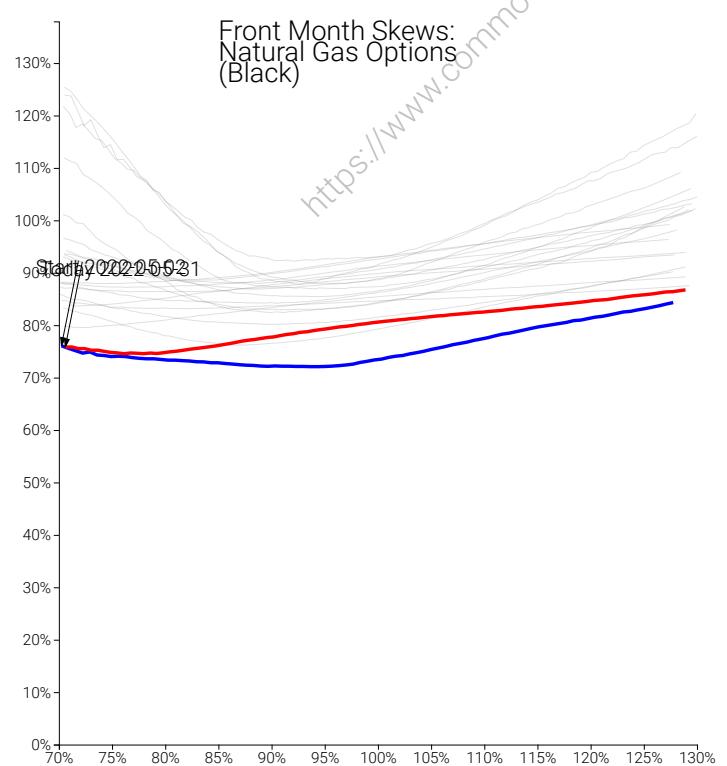
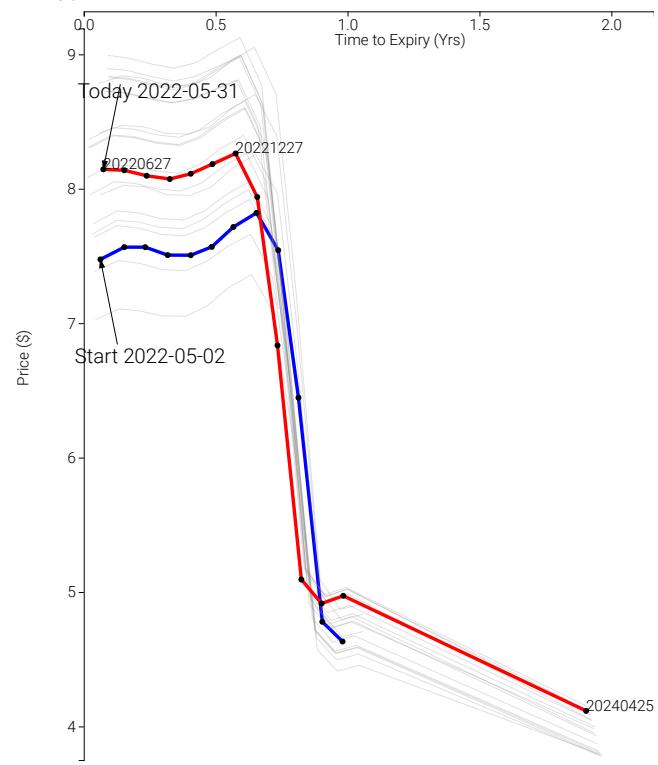
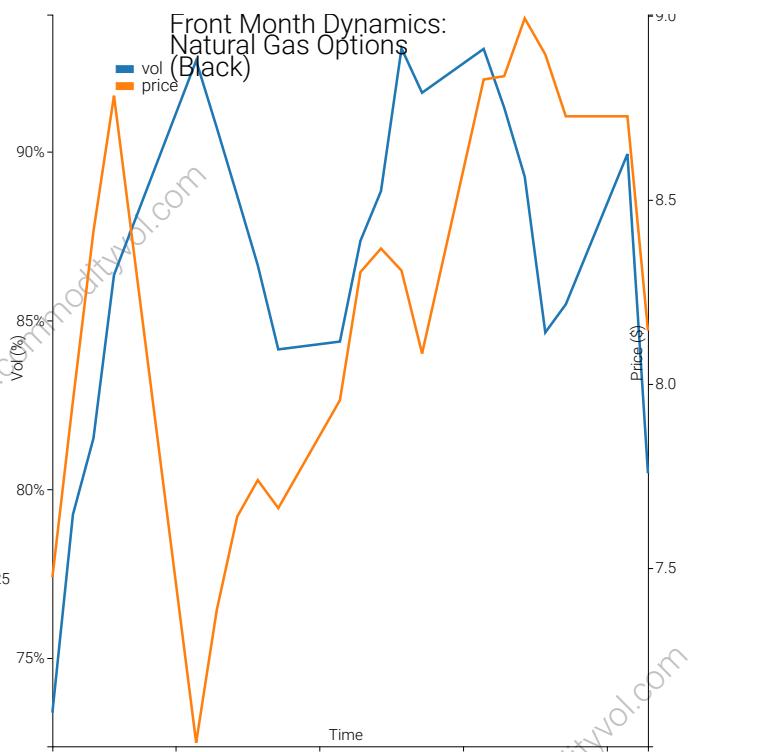
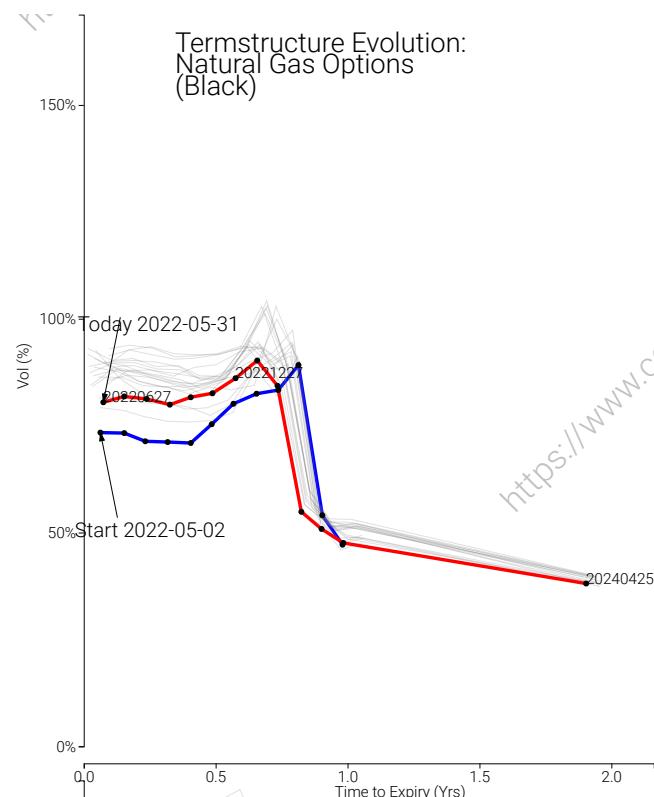


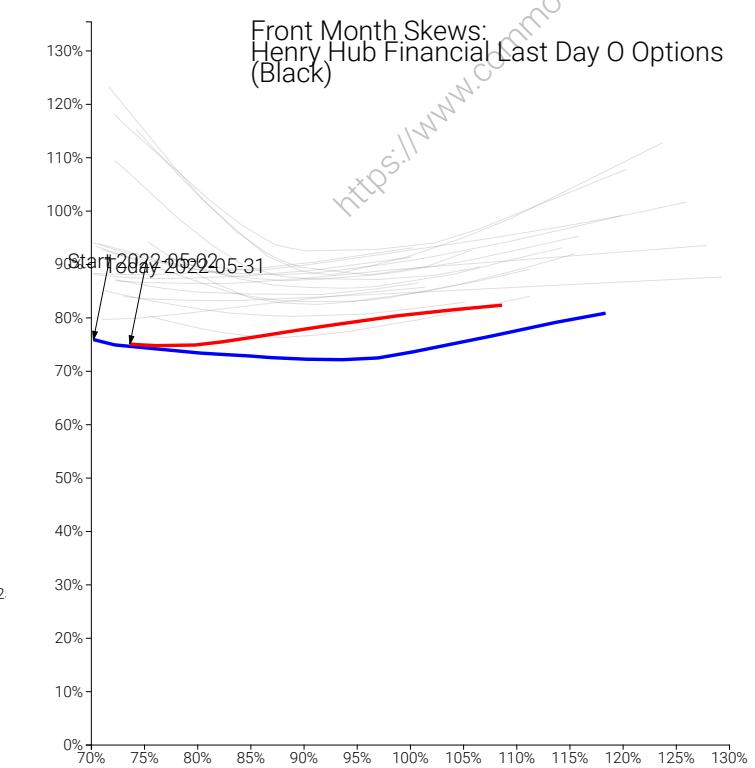
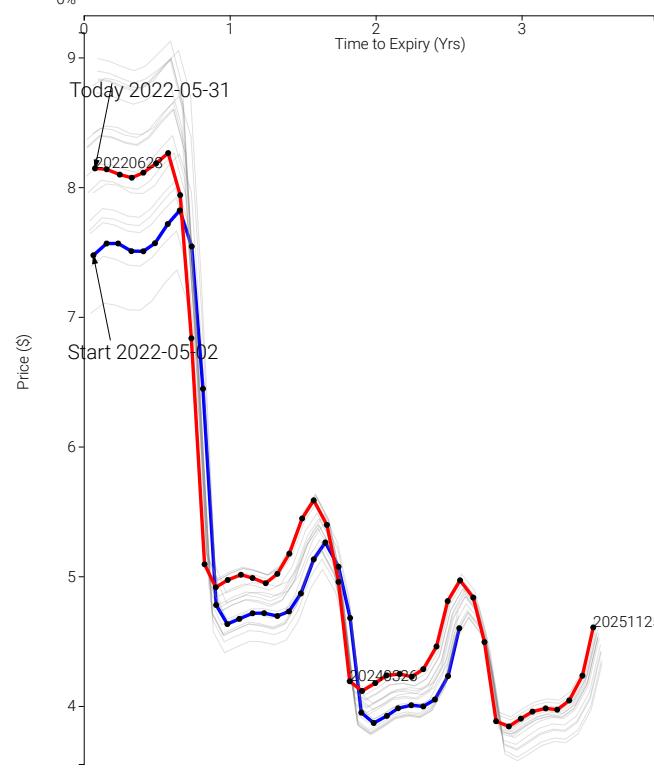
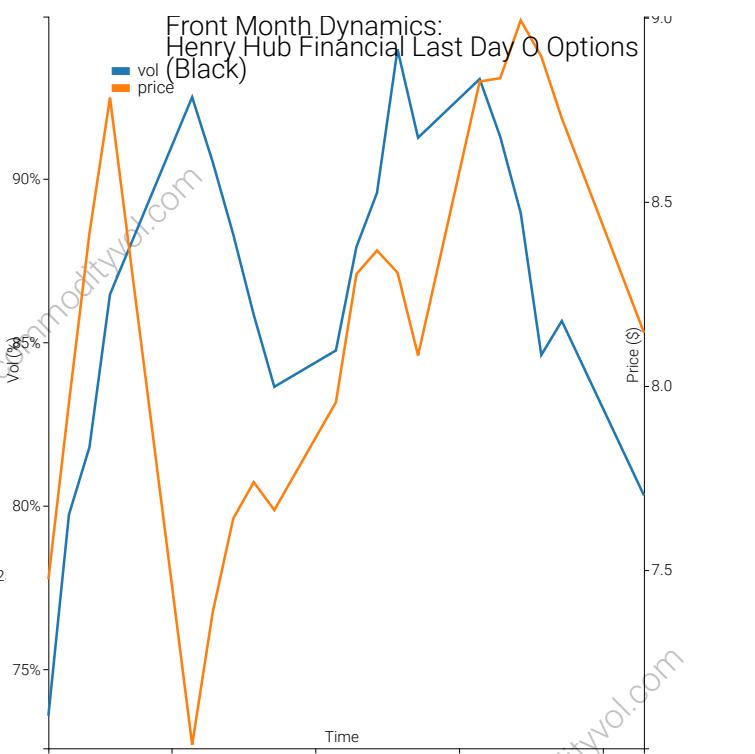
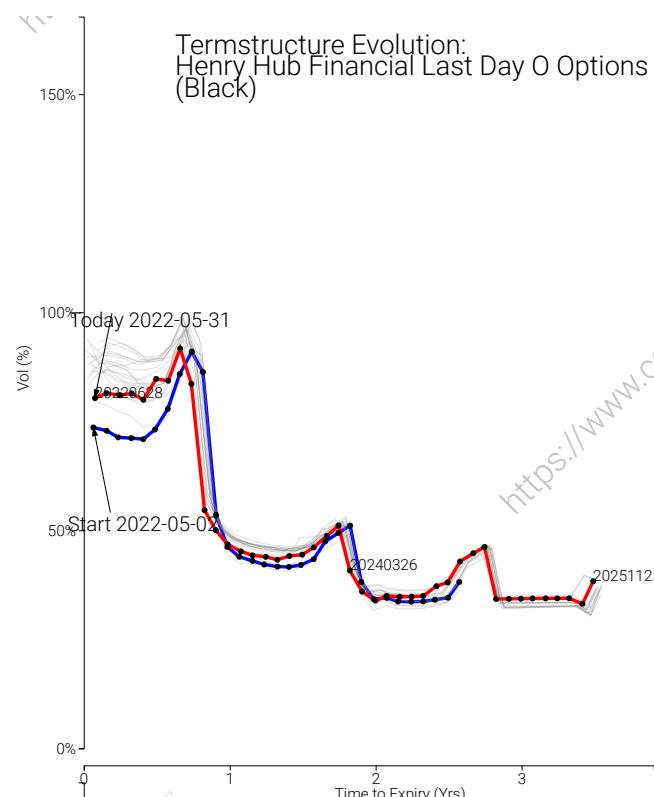




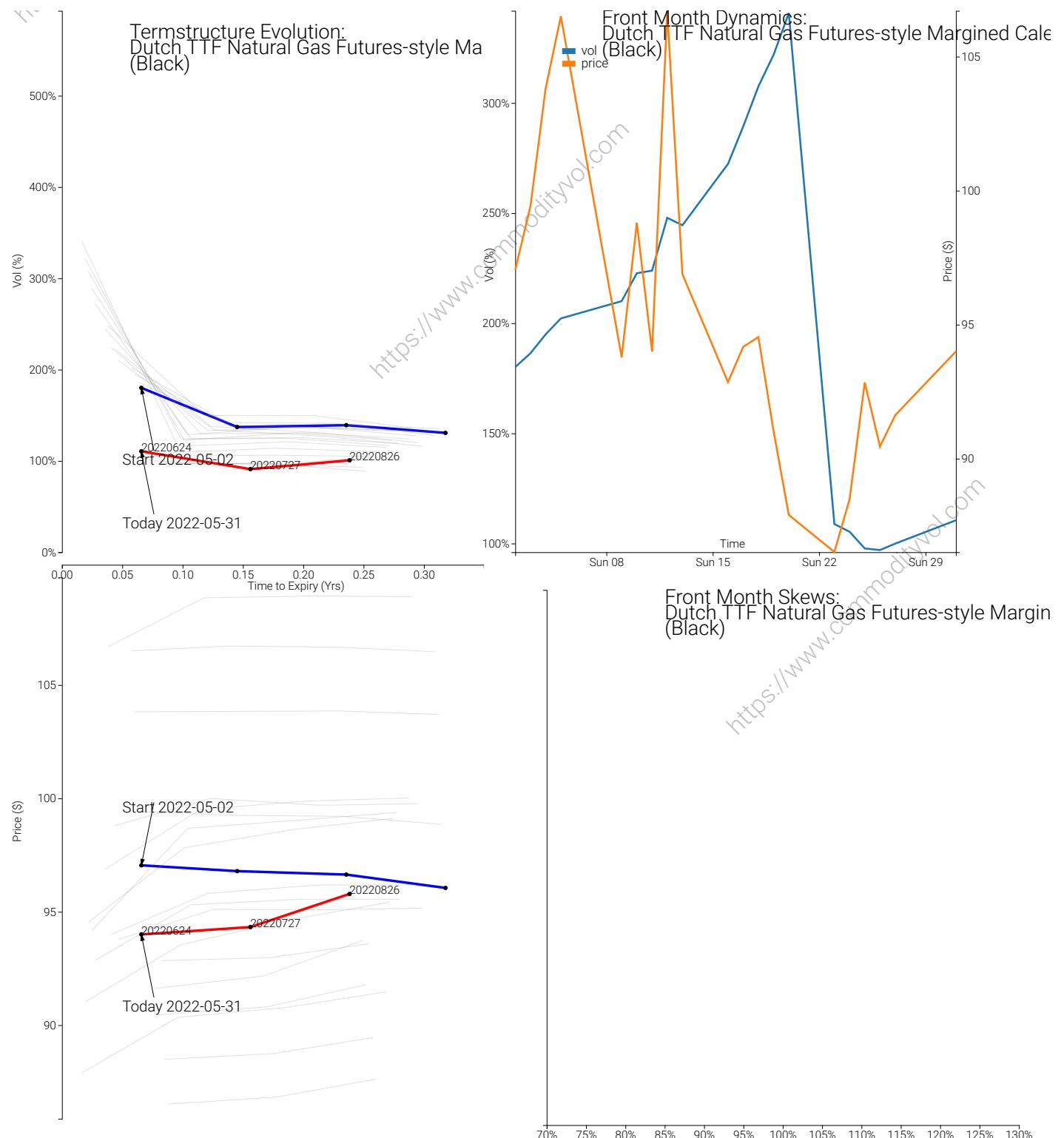
## **Energy: Natural Gas**



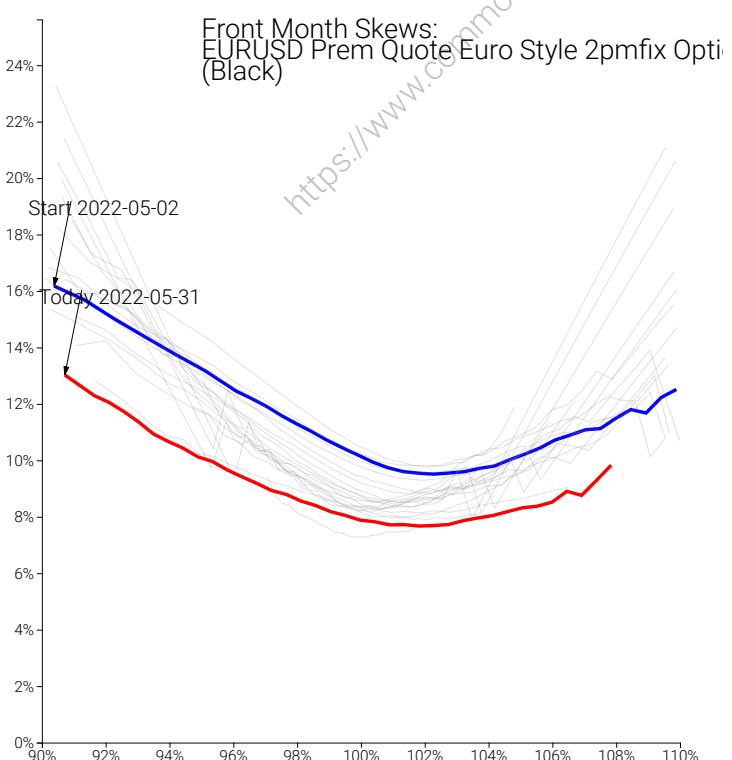
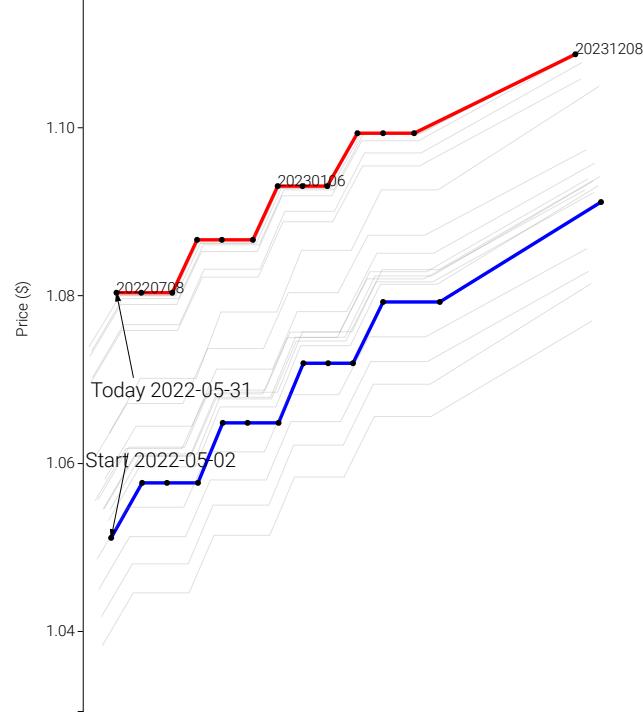
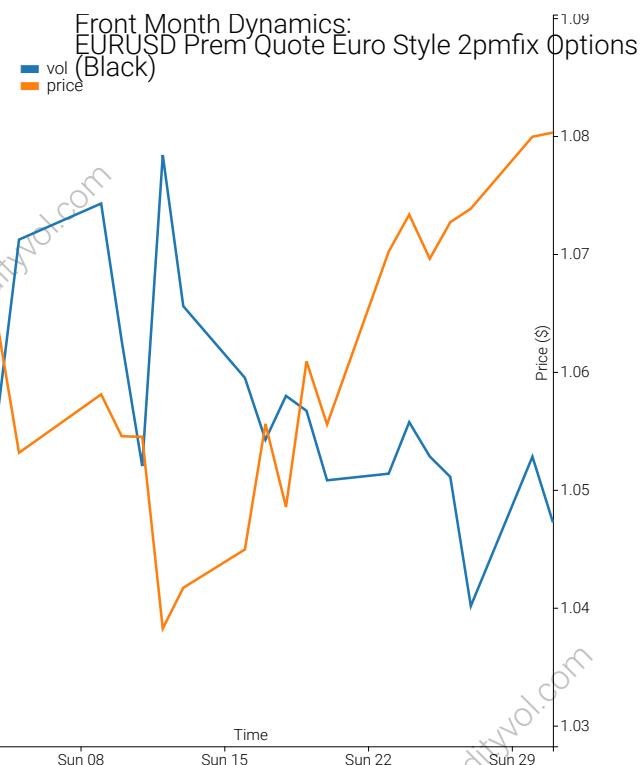
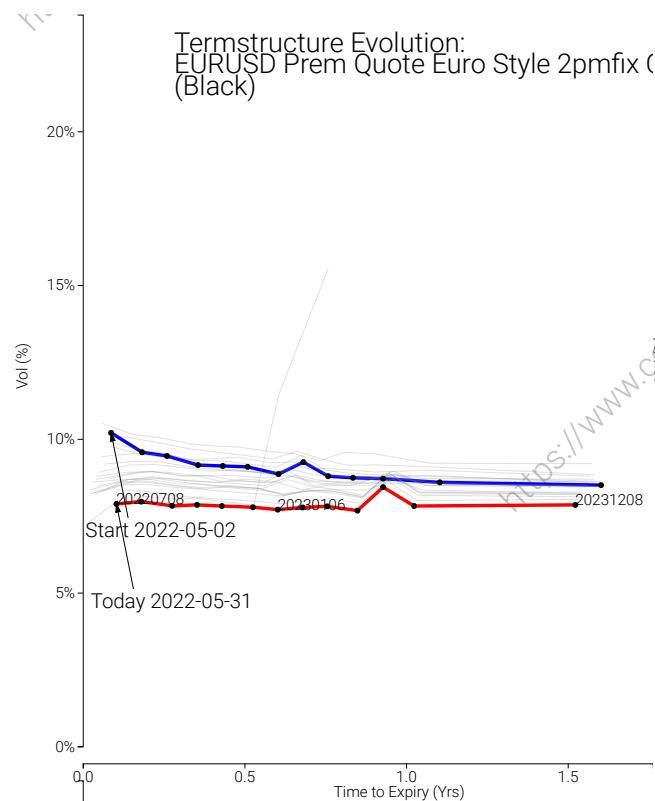


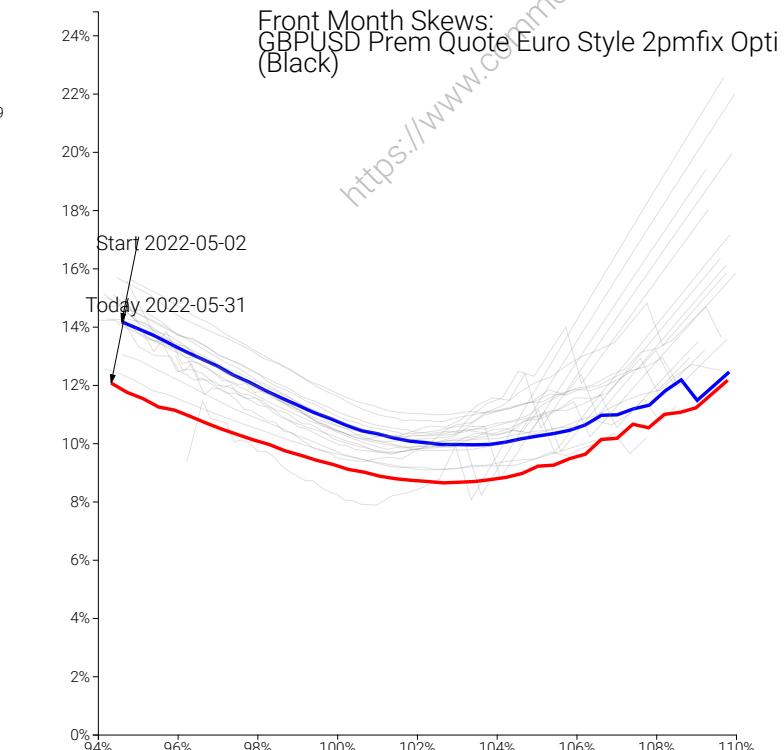
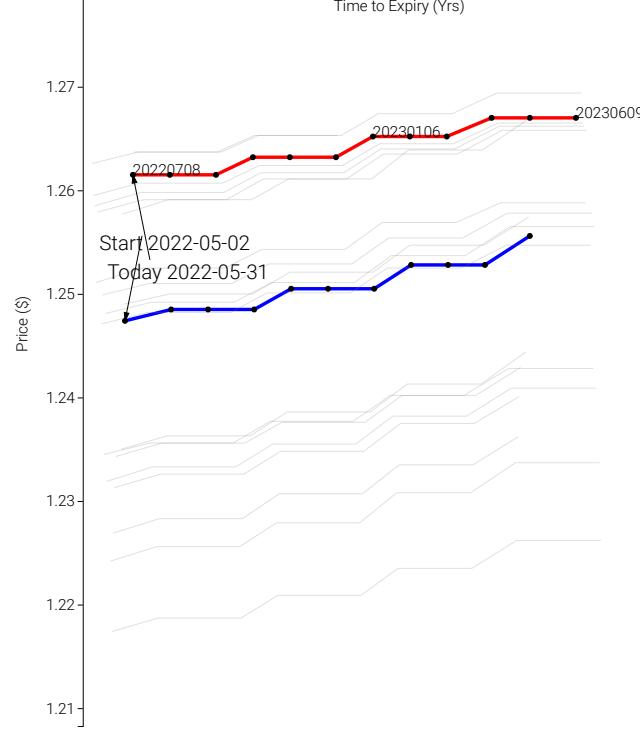
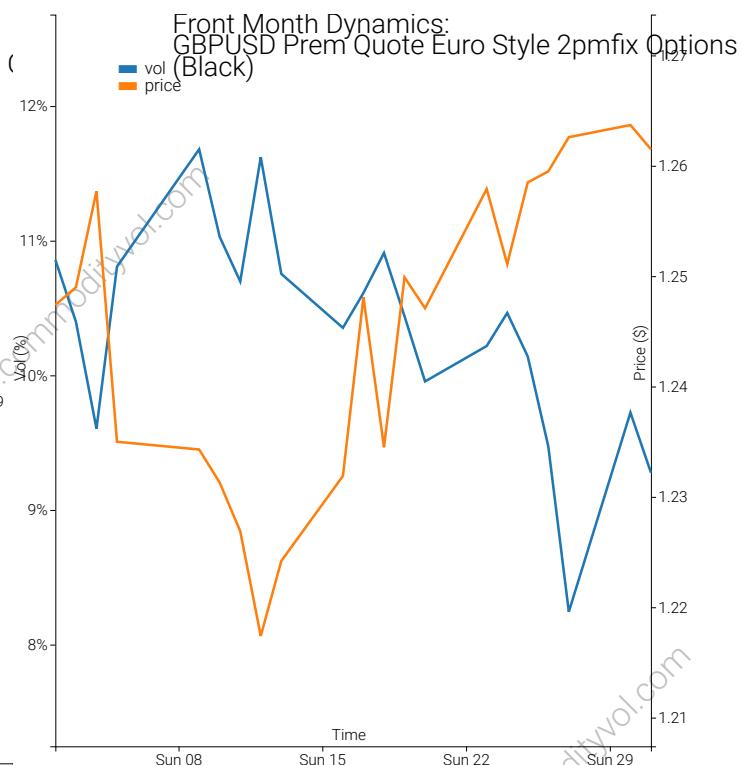
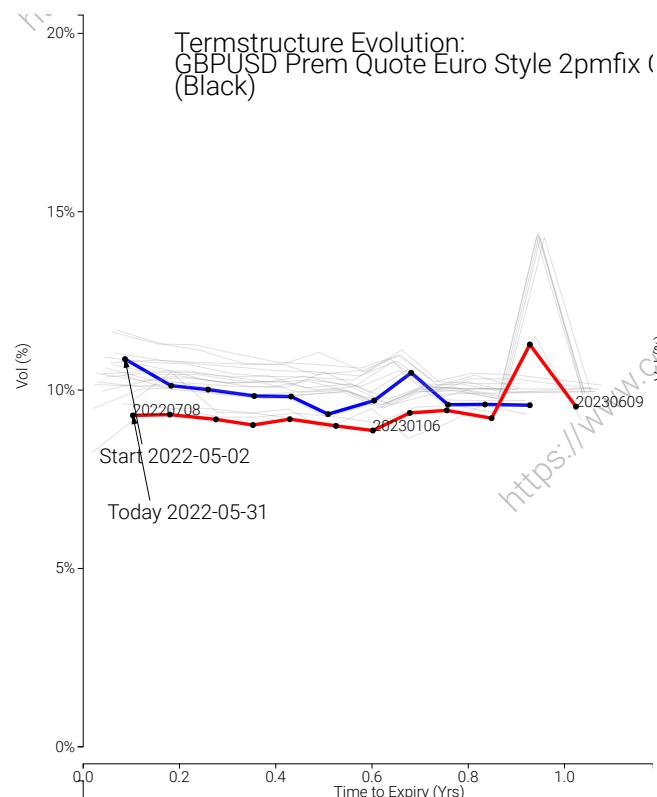


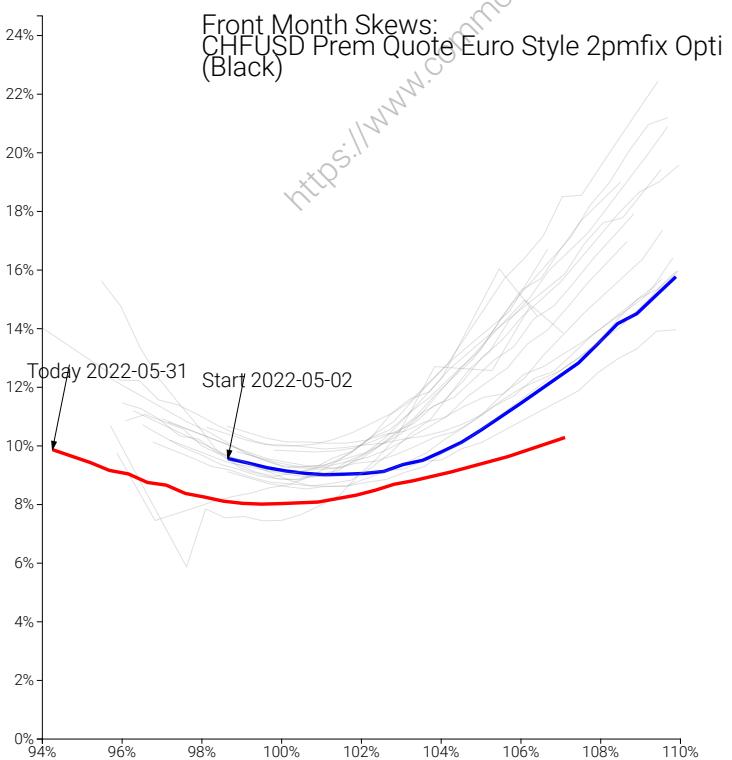
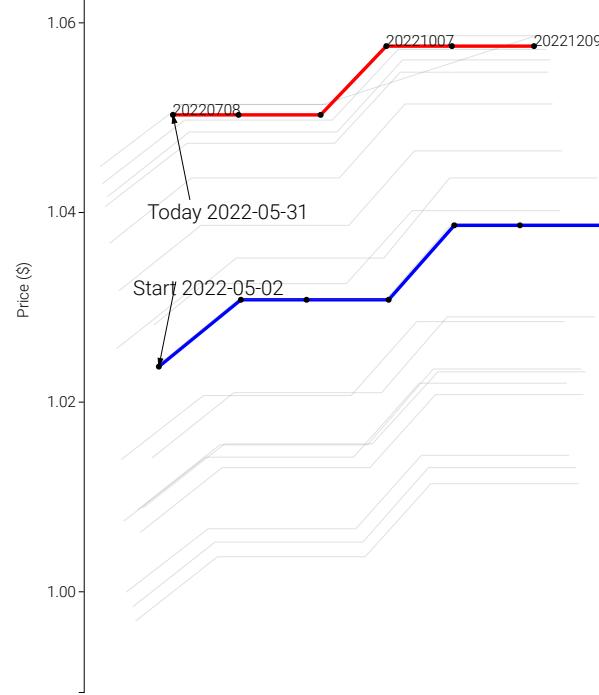
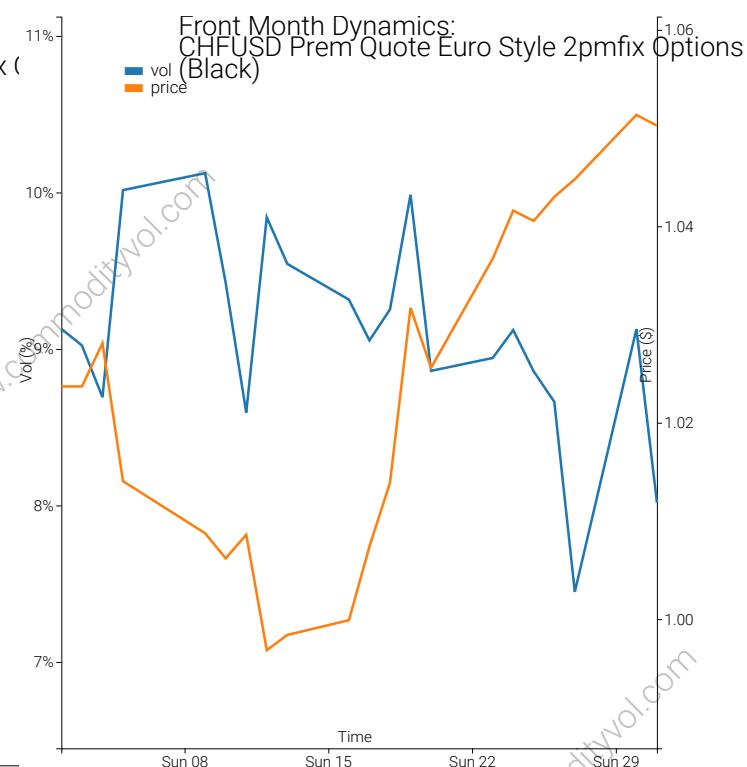
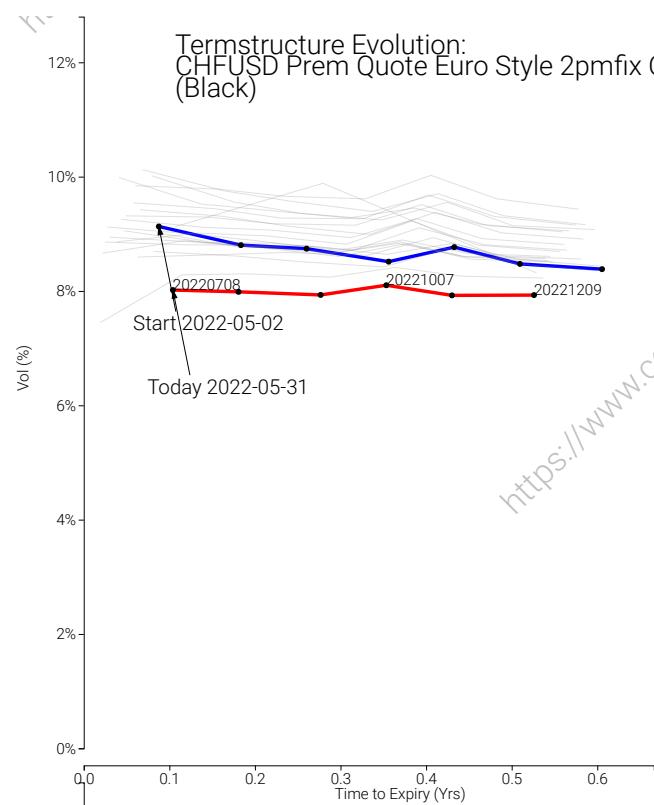
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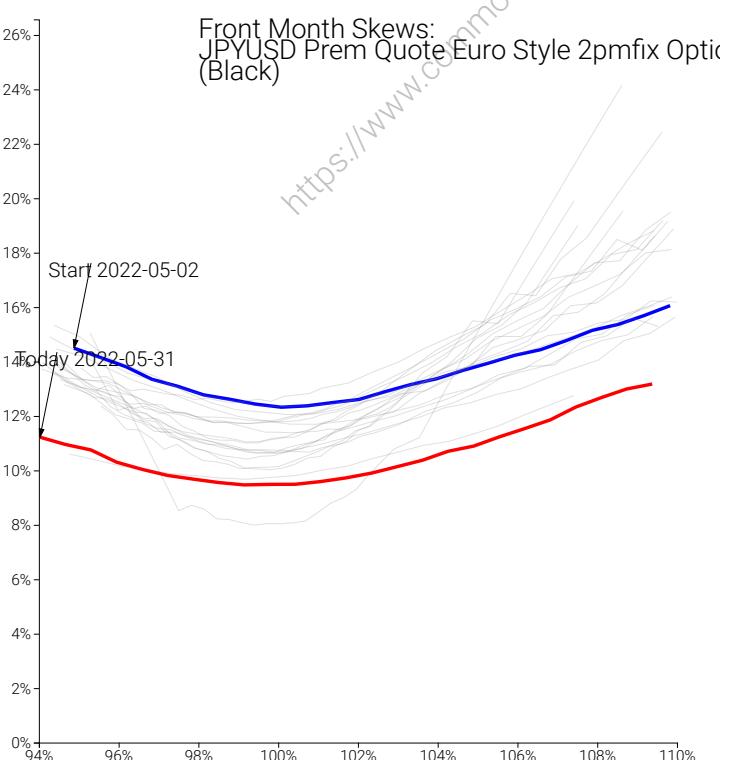
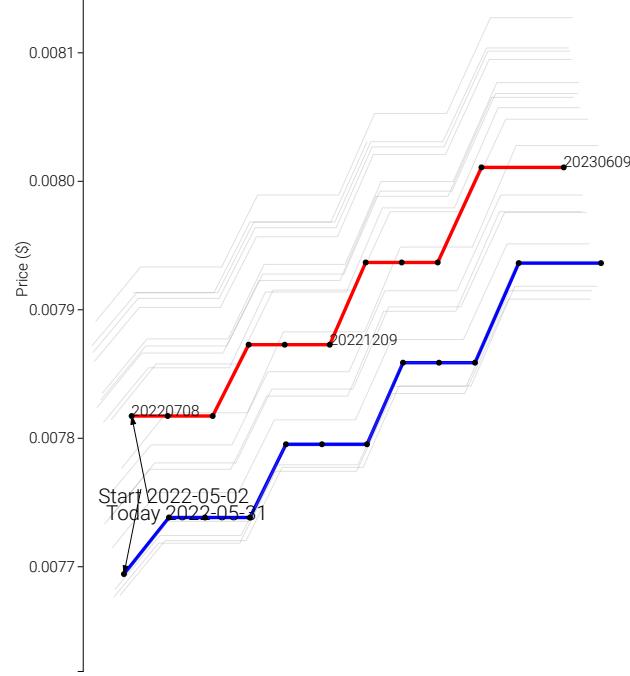
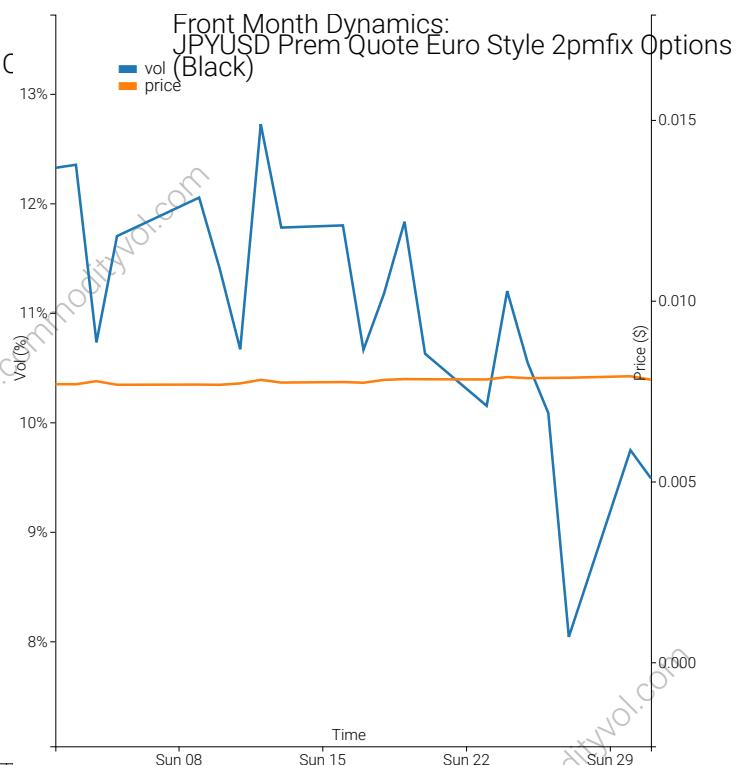
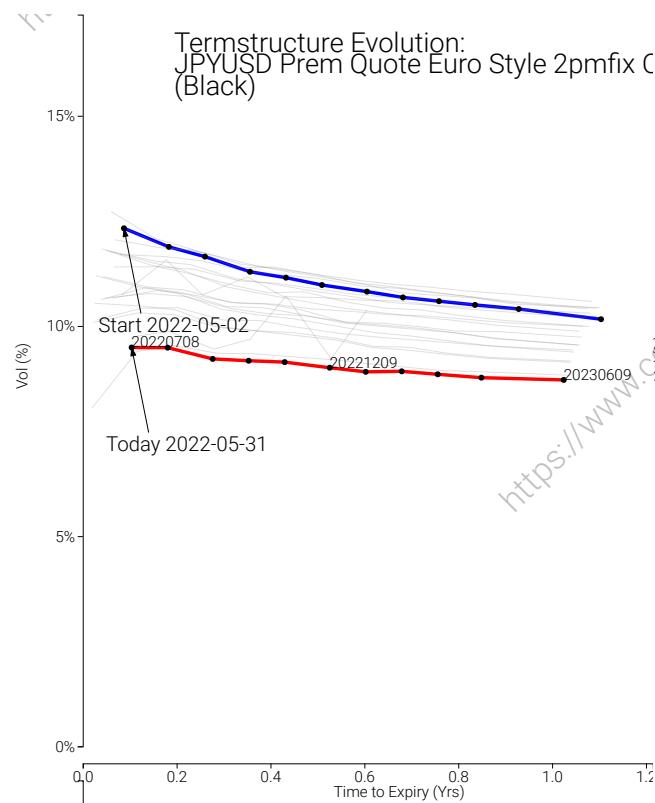


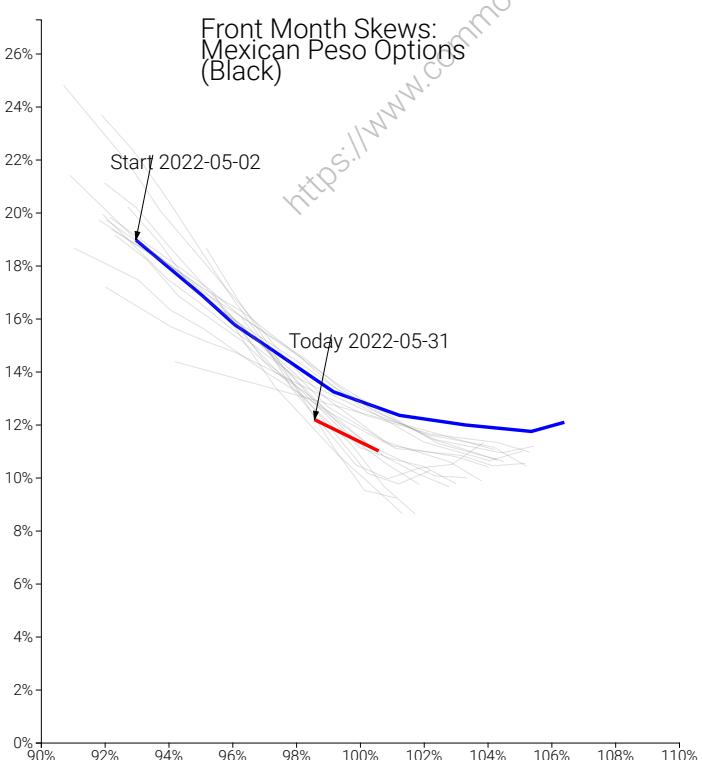
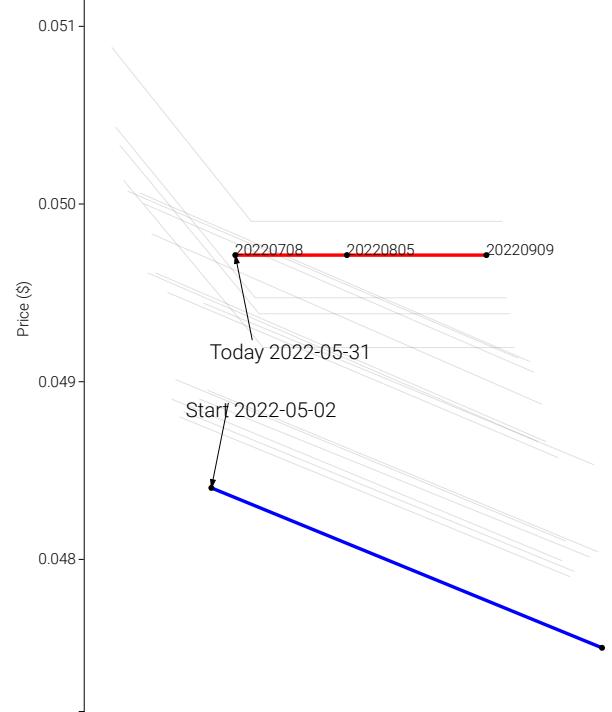
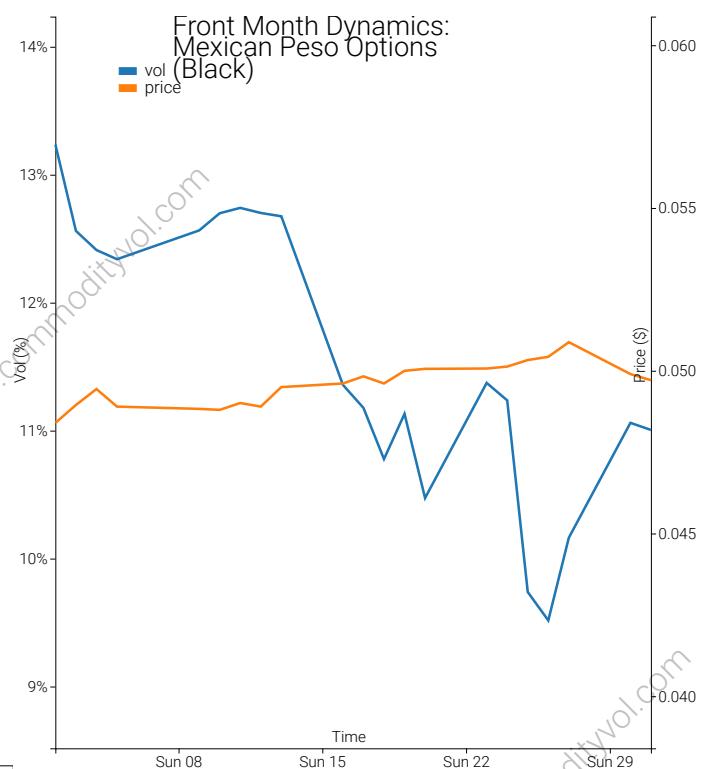
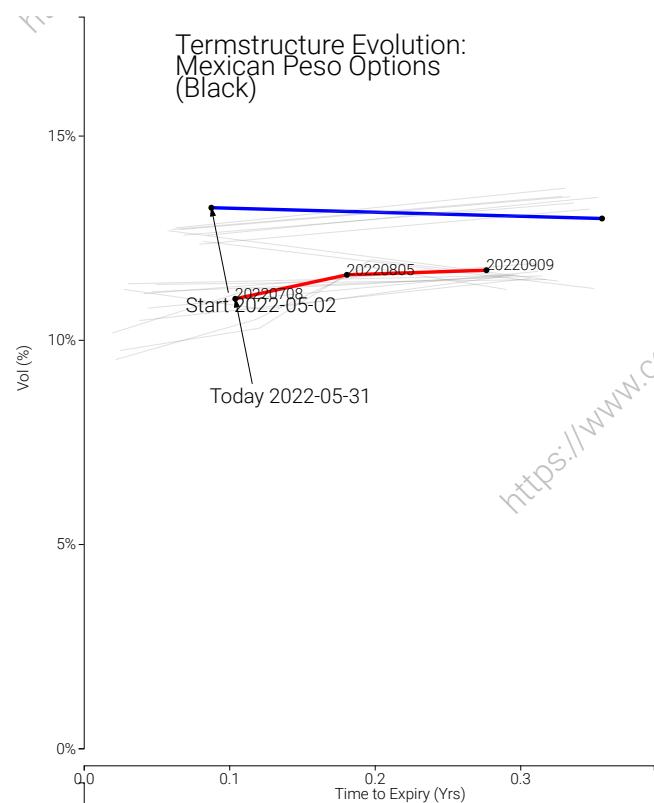
**Forex**

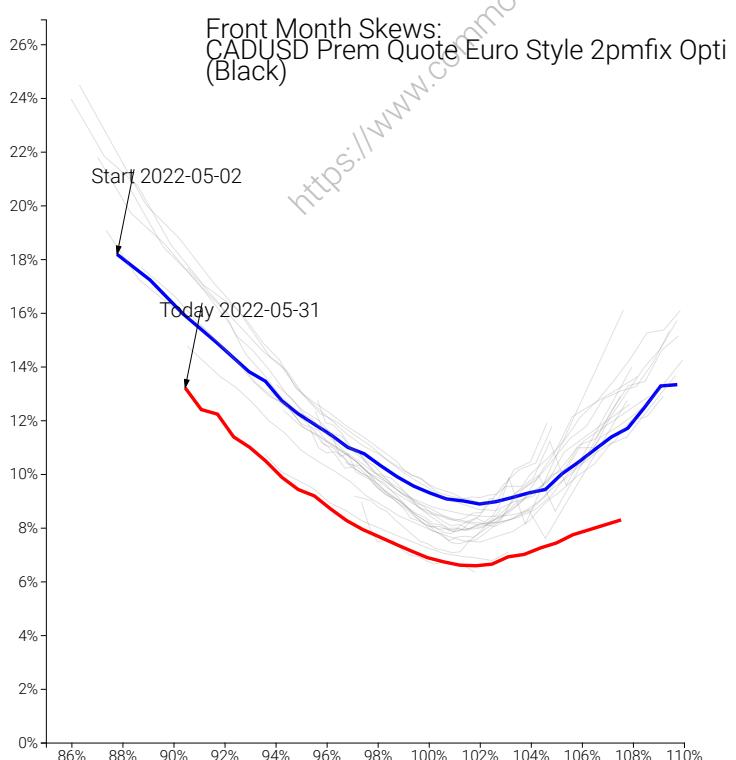
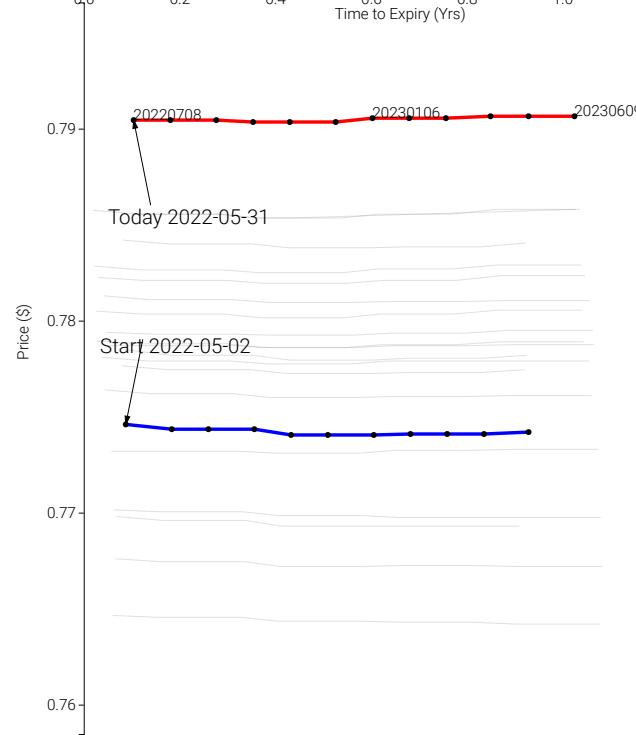
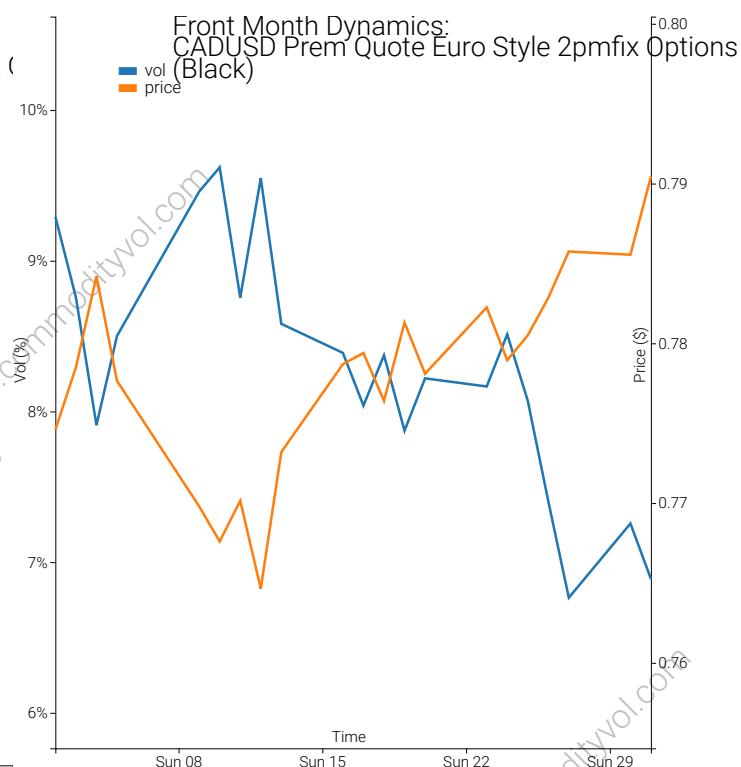
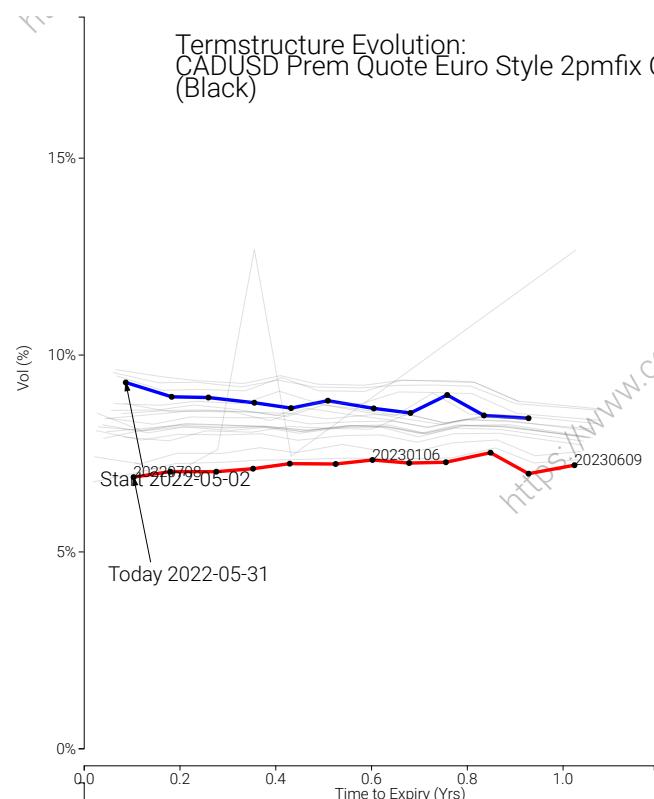


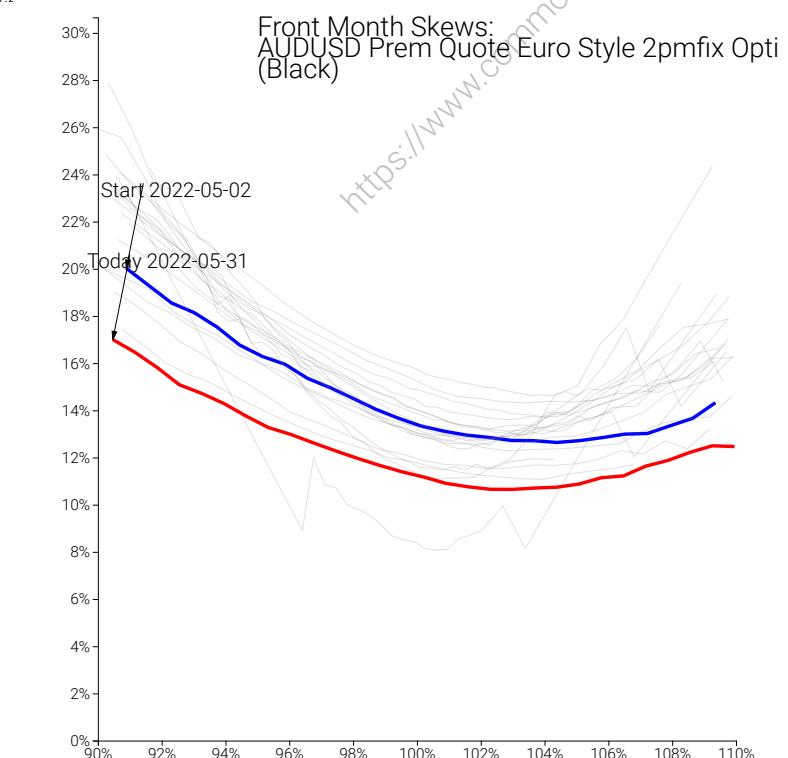
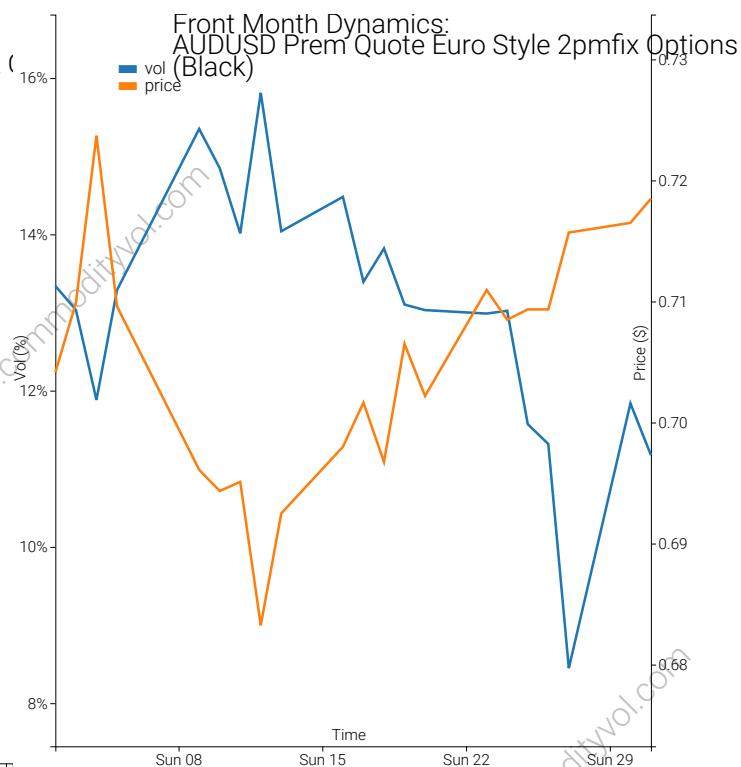
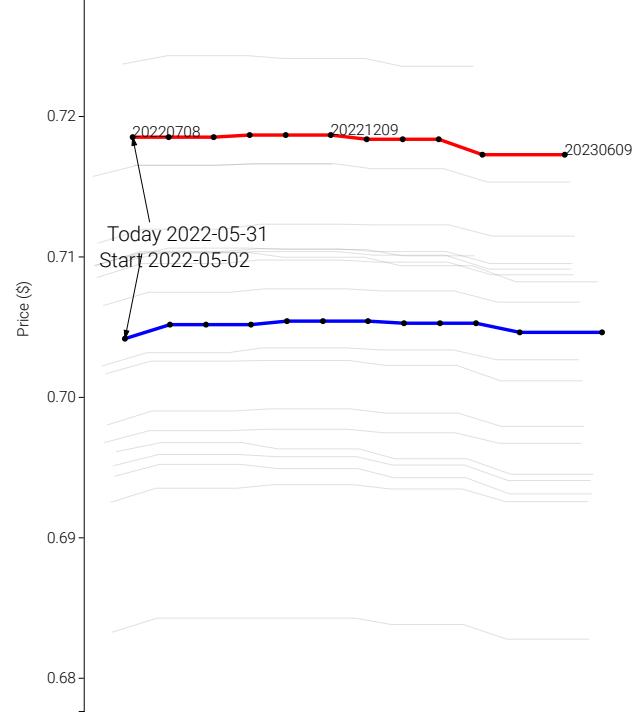
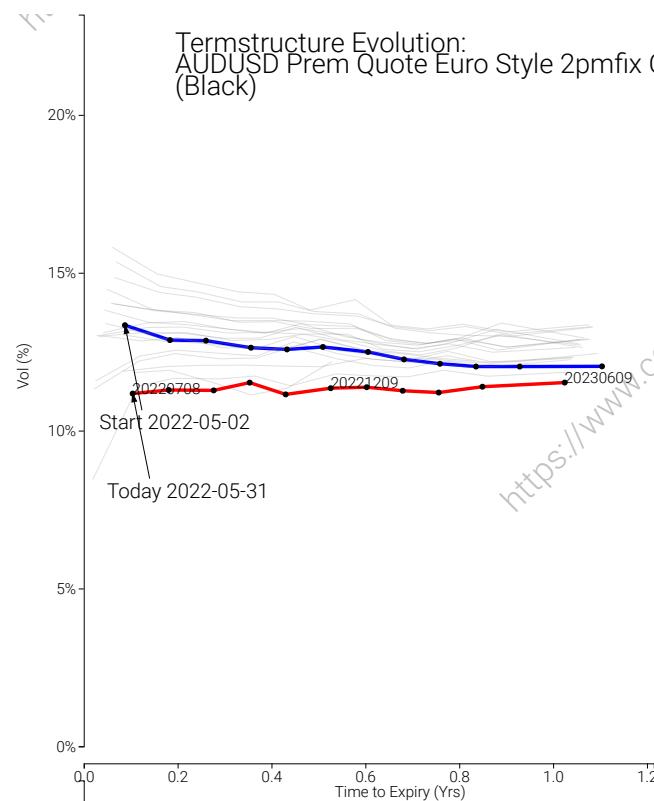


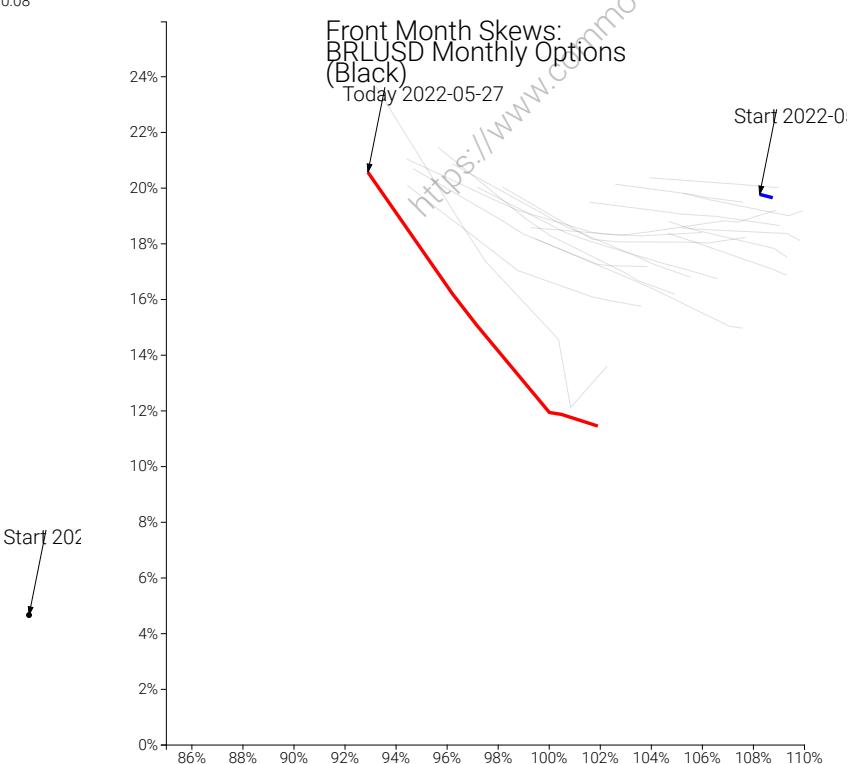
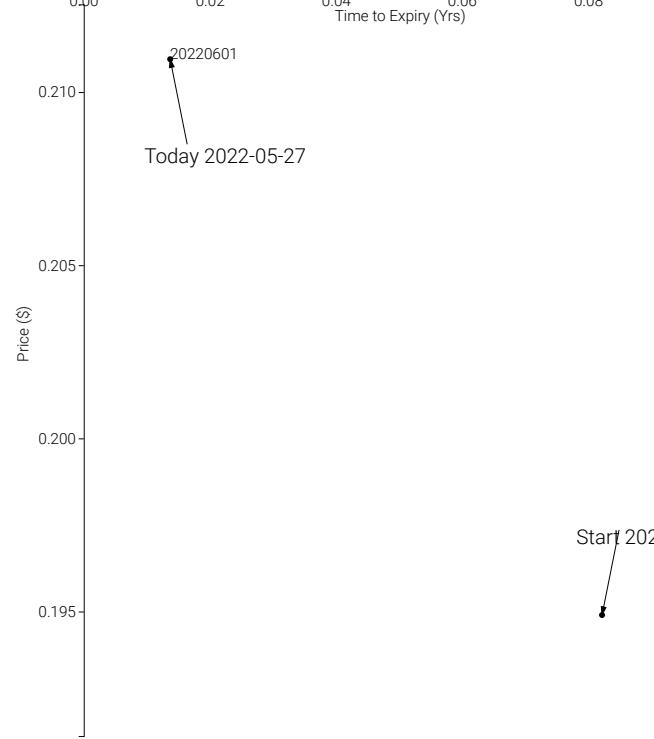
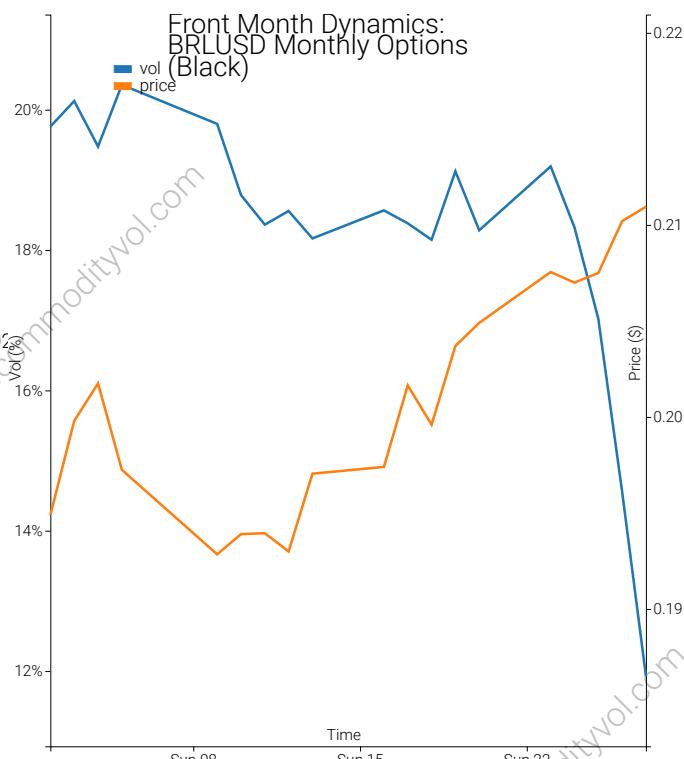
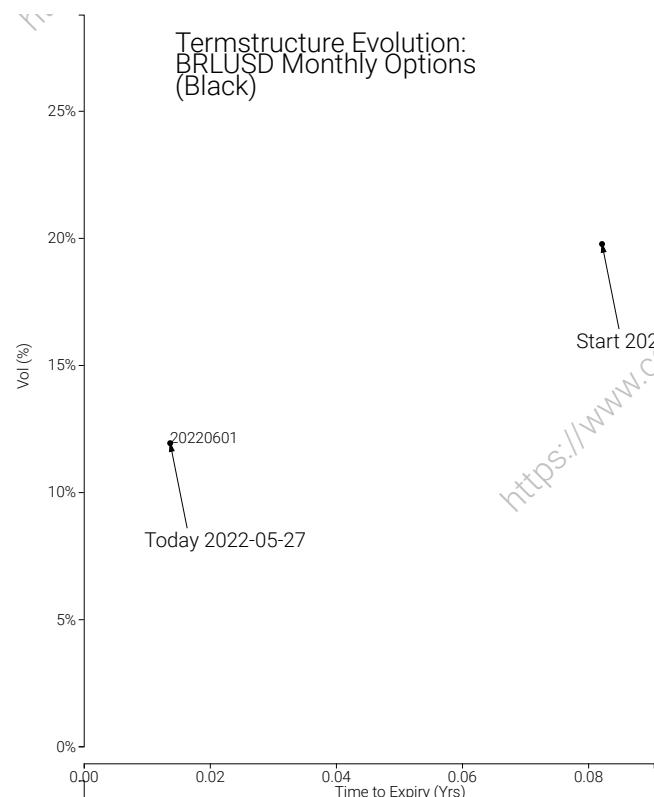


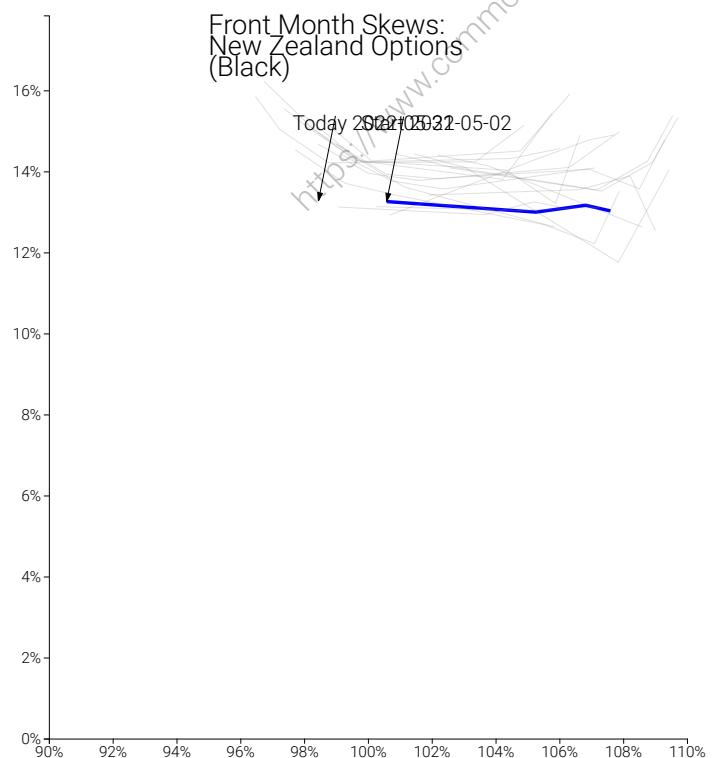
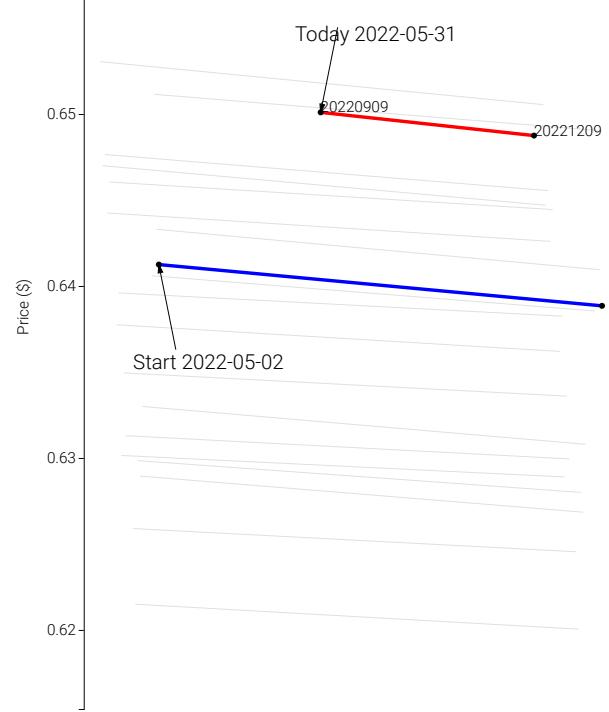
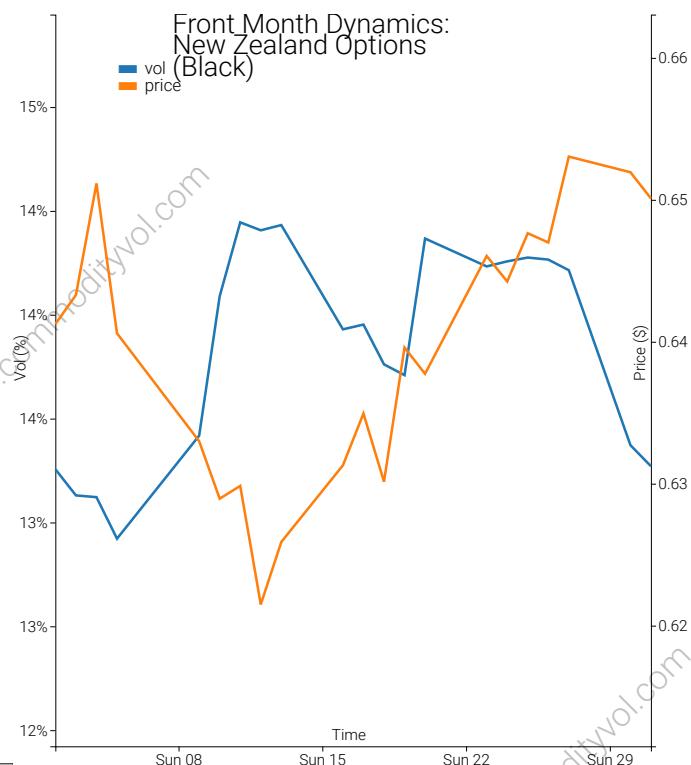
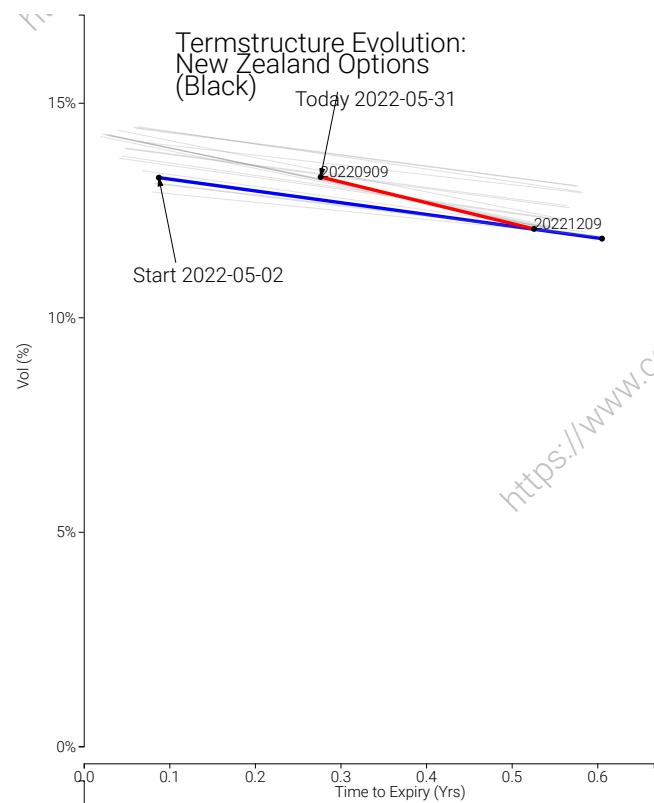


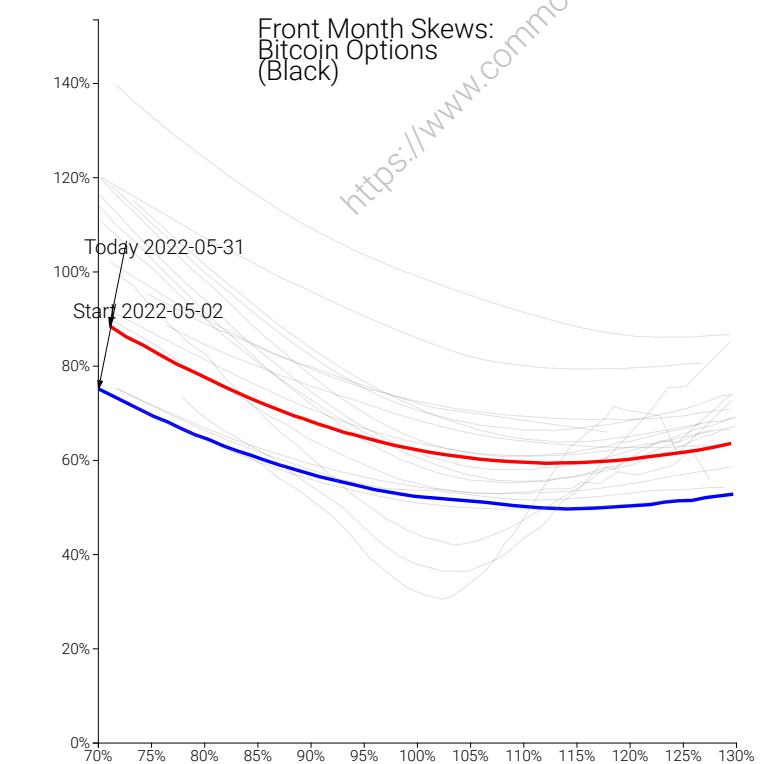
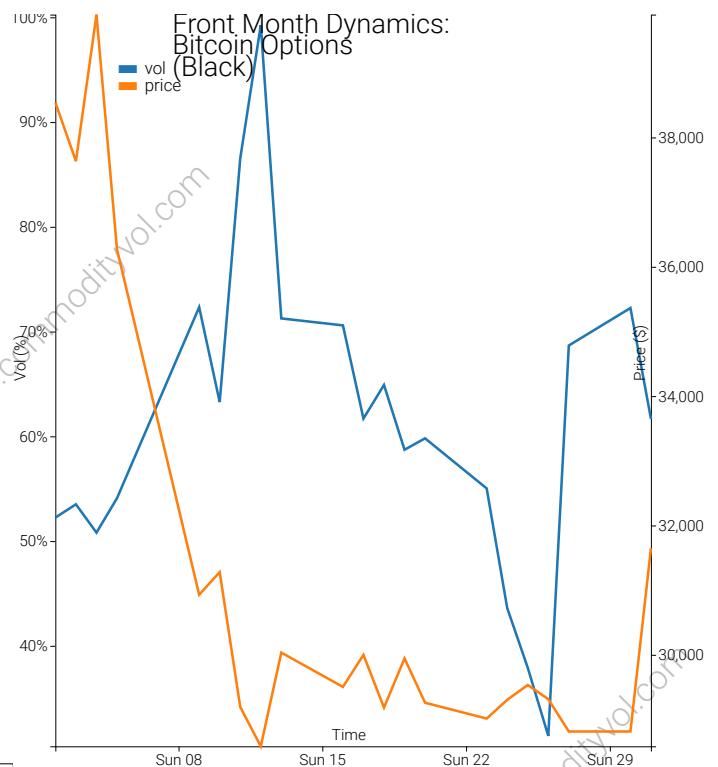
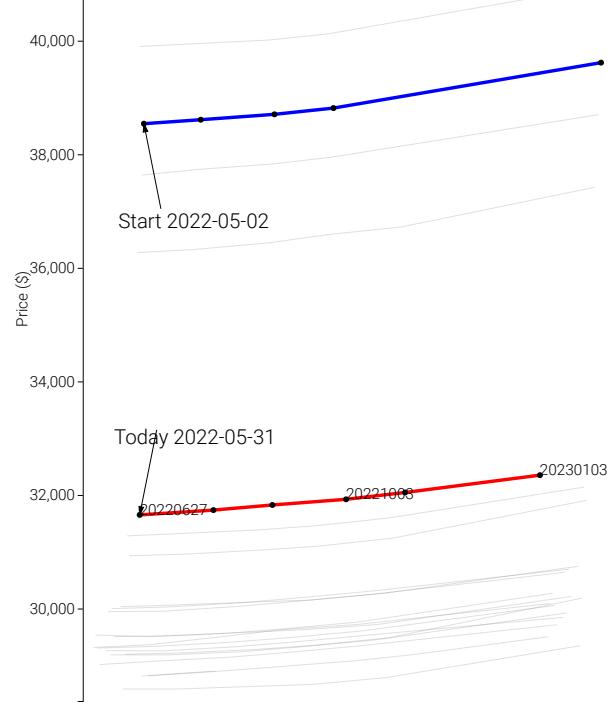
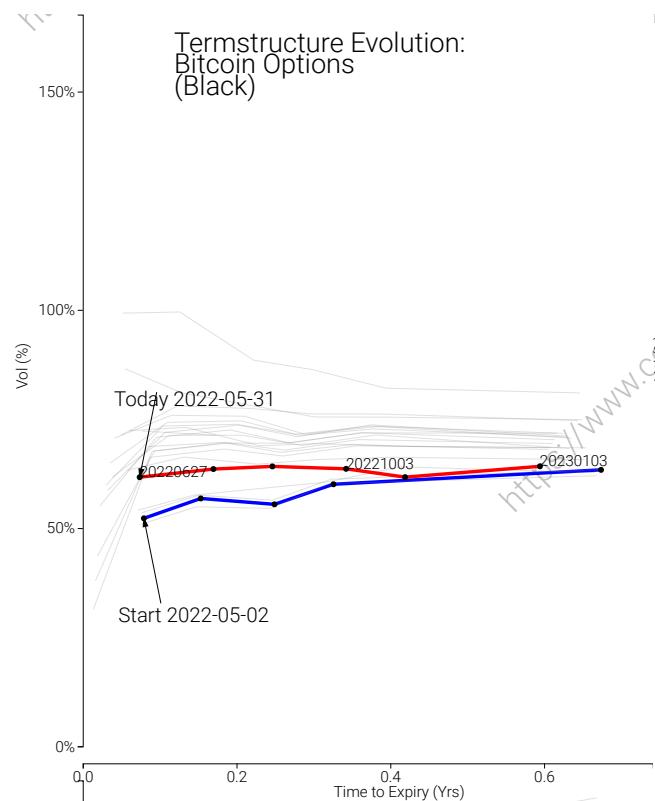










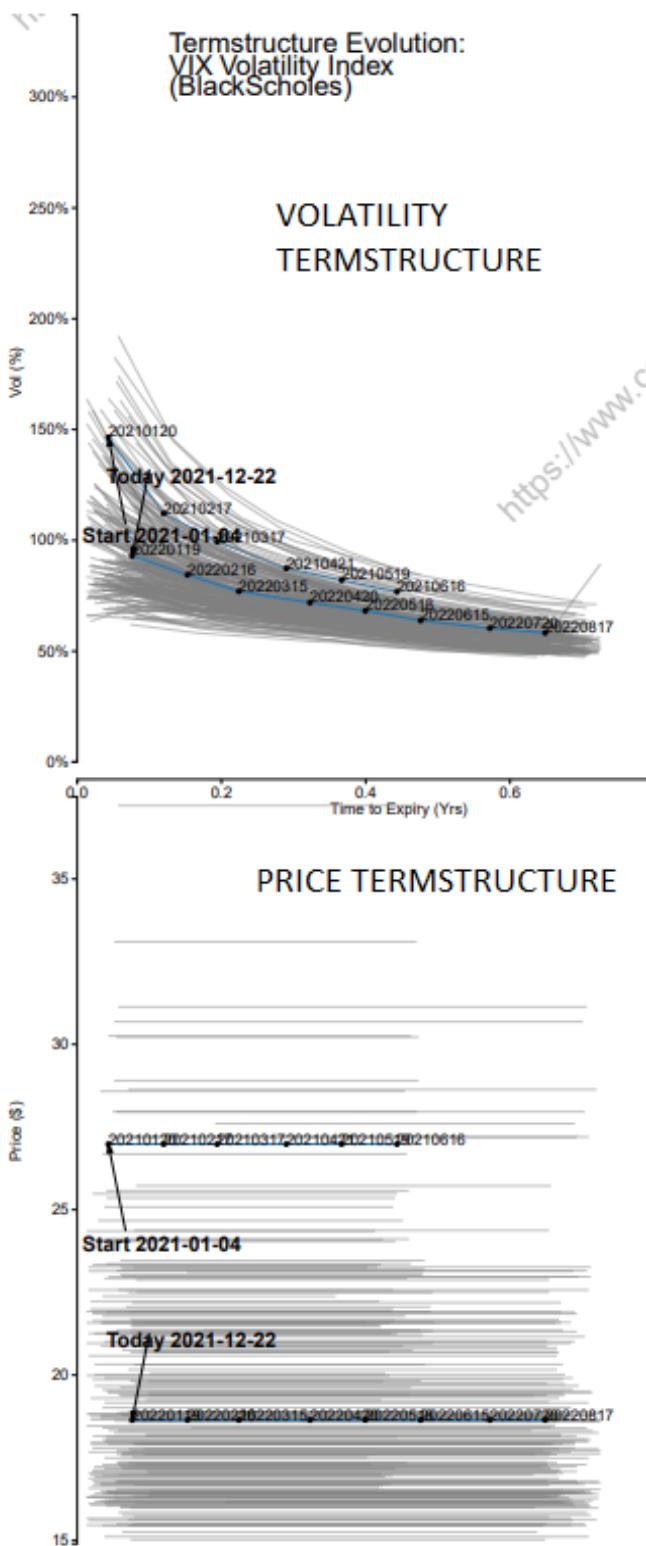


**Explanation:**

The document is composed of two parts. There is a tabular portion which summarizes the changes in front month futures prices and the changes in the at the money front month implied volatility. The results are presented as raw differences and percentage changes. The plots in this document try to give a feel for the evolution of the futures and options for each product type. The skew/termstructure/xyplots are broken out by major asset classes: Indexes, Fixed Income and so on.

## At the Money Volatility and Price Term Structures:

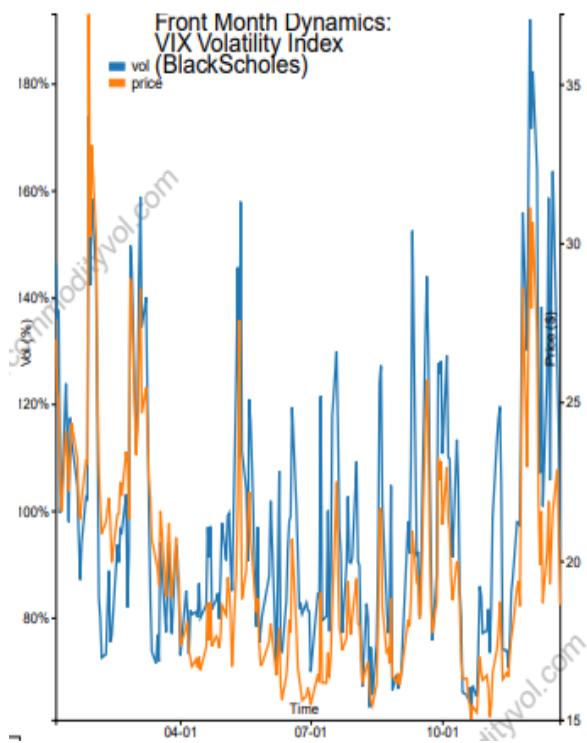
Stacked on top of the other on the left hand side, see the termstructures of vol and the (underlying) futures contract price.



The starting curve is the termstructure at the beginning of the period. This curve is labelled start and is typically colored blue. The ending curve is typically colored red and denoted by the text: Today. The greyed out lines are the termstructures for each day of the period. The hope is that the range of movements becomes apparent.

## Front Month At the Money Volatility and Front Month Price Over the Year:

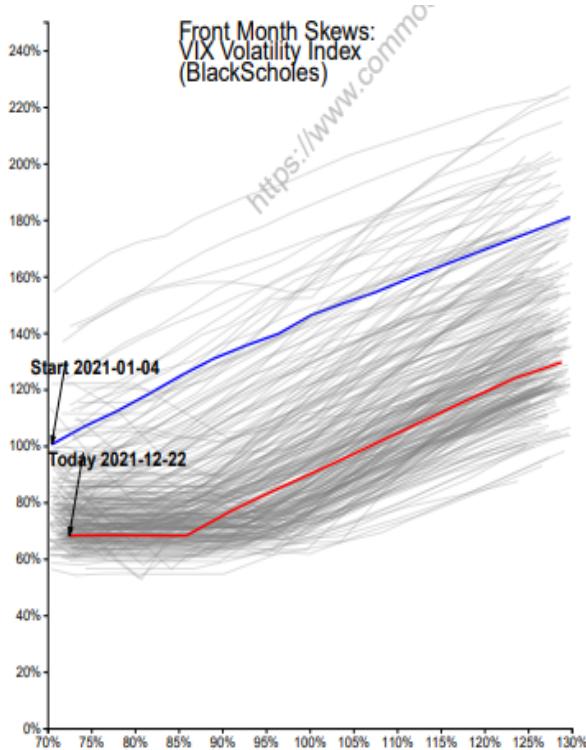
On the right hand panel we have the price and implied volatility of the front month contract.



At the money implied volatility is shown in blue and the axis on the left should be used to read off the values. The front month futures price is in orange and the right hand axis is where its value can be read.

## Front Month Skew:

On the right hand in the bottom panel we have the starting front month skew and the ending front month skew.



The front month skew is shown for the starting date. The starting curve is labelled as 'Start' and captioned with the date. The starting curve is blue. Conversely, the ending curve is shown in red and labeled Today. The y-axis shows the implied volatility and the x-axis shows the moneyness. The moneyness is a way to normalize the skew so that it is comparable across time.

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