

Mathematical Finance

Introduction to Binary Tree Models,
Stochastic Calculus and Black-Scholes Theory

Assignment 3

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AIMS
4–22 January 2010

1. Denote by $P(0)$ the price of a European put option with exercise time T and strike price K in the Black-Scholes model. Starting from the formula

$$P(0) = \mathbb{E}^* [e^{-rT} h(S(T))],$$

where

$$h(S(T)) = \max(K - S(T), 0)$$

is the put payoff, and following a similar argument as for a call option presented in the lectures, derive the following formula for the put option price:

$$P(0) = e^{-rT} K N(-d_2) - S(0) N(-d_1),$$

where

$$d_1 = \frac{\ln \frac{S(0)}{K} + (r + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2) T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}}, \quad d_2 = \frac{\ln \frac{S(0)}{K} + (r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2) T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}},$$

and where

$$N(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

is the cumulative distribution function of the standard normal distribution $N(0, 1)$.

2. A digital call option with strike price K exercised at time T has payoff

$$h(S(T)) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } S(T) \geq K, \\ 0 & \text{if } S(T) < K. \end{cases}$$

We denote the time 0 price of such a European digital call option by $D(0)$. Starting with the formula

$$D(0) = \mathbb{E}^* [e^{-rT} h(S(T))]$$

and working in the Black-Scholes model, derive the following expression for the price of a digital call option:

$$D(0) = e^{-rT} N(d_2),$$

where d_2 and N are as above.