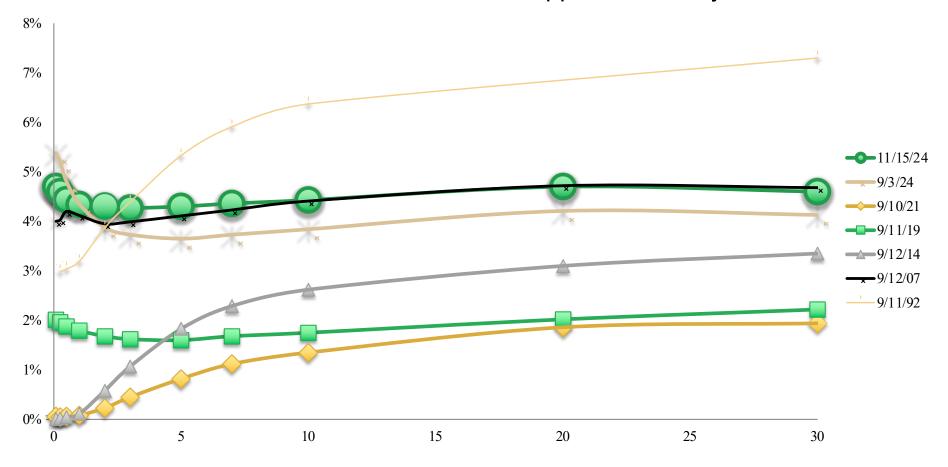
Risk Neutral Valuation Black-Scholes Equation

Vasily Strela

Yield Curve

- **Term Structure** of yields: Bonds of different maturities may have different yields.
- Discount factors for all times can be bootstrapped from the yield curve



Risk Neutral Valuation: Two-Horse Race Example

- One horse has 20% chance to win another has 80% chance
- \$10000 is put on the first one and \$50000 on the second

If odds are set 4-1:

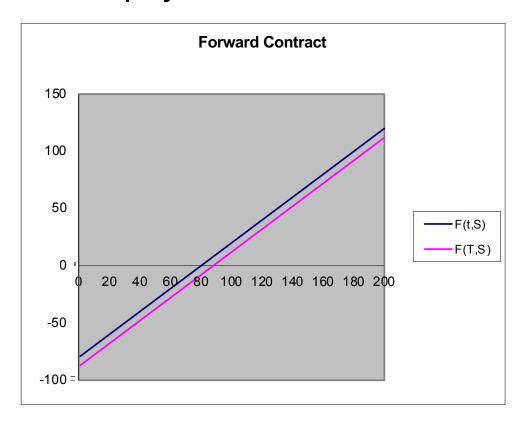
- Bookie may gain \$10000 (if first horse wins)
- Bookie may loose \$2500 (if second horse wins)
- Bookie expects to make 0.2 * (10000) + 0.8 * (-2500) = 0

If odds are set 5-1:

 Bookie will not lose or gain money no matter which horse wins

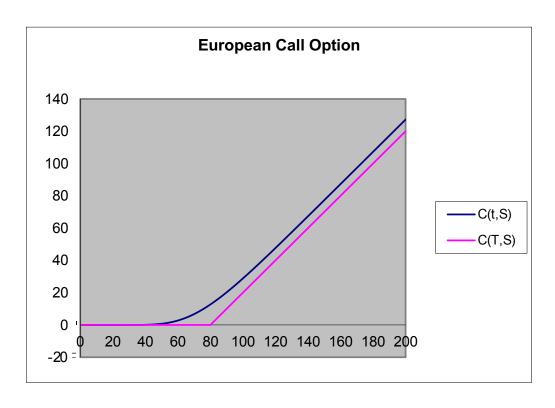
We are interested in finding prices of various derivatives.

Forward contract pays S-K at time T:



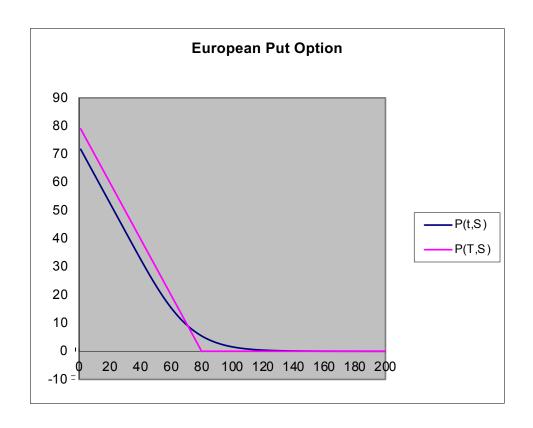
$$S(t)=80, K=88.41, T=2 \text{ (years)}$$

European Call option pays max(S-K,0) at time T



$$S(t)=80, K=80, T=2 \text{ (years)}$$

European Put option pays max(K-S, 0) at time T



$$S(t)=80, K=80, T=2$$
 (years)

- Given current price of the stock and assumptions on the dynamics of stock price, there is no uncertainty about the price of a derivative
- The price is defined only by the price of the stock and not by the risk preferences of the market participants
- Mathematical apparatus allows to compute current price of a derivative and its risks, given certain assumptions about the market

Risk Neutral Valuation: Replicating Portfolio

Consider *Forward* contract which pays S-K in time dt. One could think that its strike K should be defined by the "real world" transition probability p:

$$p(S_1-K)+(1-p)(S_2-K)=pS_1+(1-p)S_2-K$$

$$K_0 = pS_1 + (1-p)S_2$$

If
$$p=1/2$$
, $K_0=(S_1+S_2)/2$

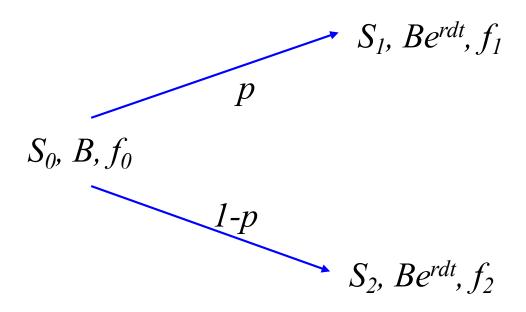
Risk Neutral Valuation: Replicating Portfolio

Consider the following strategy:

- 1. Borrow S_0 to buy the stock. Enter *Forward* contract with strike K_0
- 2. In time dt deliver stock in exchange for K_0 and repay S_0e^{rdt}
- If $K_0 > S_0 e^{rdt}$ we made riskless profit • If $K_0 < S_0 e^{rdt}$ we definitely lost money $\Rightarrow K_0 = S_0 e^{rdt}$
 - Current price of a derivative claim is determined by current price of a portfolio which exactly replicates the payoff of the derivative at the maturity

Risk Neutral Valuation: One step binomial tree

Suppose our economy includes stock S, riskless money market account B with interest rate r and derivative claim f. Assume that only two outcomes are possible in time dt:



Risk Neutral Valuation: One step binomial tree

For a derivative claim f, form a replicating portfolio f=aS+B. Then find a and B such that

$$f_1 = aS_1 + Be^{rdt}$$
$$f_2 = aS_2 + Be^{rdt}$$

It implies that

$$f_0 = aS_0 + B$$

Easy to see that

$$a = \frac{f_1 - f_2}{S_1 - S_2}$$
, $B = e^{-rdt} \frac{f_2 S_1 - f_1 S_2}{S_1 - S_2}$

$$f_0 = e^{-rdt} \left(S_0 e^{rdt} \frac{f_1 - f_2}{S_1 - S_2} + \frac{S_1 f_2 - S_2 f_1}{S_1 - S_2} \right)$$

Risk Neutral Valuation: One step binomial tree

One should notice that

$$f_0 = e^{-rdt} \left(f_1 \frac{S_0 e^{rdt} - S_2}{S_1 - S_2} + f_2 \frac{S_1 - S_0 e^{rdt}}{S_1 - S_2} \right)$$

$$f_0 = e^{-rdt}(f_1 p_{rn} + f_2(1 - p_{rn}))$$

where

$$p_{rn} = (S_0 e^{rdt} - S_2)/(S_1 - S_2), \quad 0 < p_{rn} < 1$$

Moreover

$$S_1 p_{rn} + S_2 (1 - p_{rn}) = e^{rdt} S_0$$

Risk Neutral Valuation: Continuous case

$$f_t = e^{-r(T-t)} E_Q(f_T)$$

Q is the risk neutral (martingale) measure under which

$$S_t = e^{-r(T-t)} E_Q(S_T)$$

Assume that the stock has log-normal dynamics:

$$dS = \mu S dt + \sigma S dW$$

Where dW is normally distributed with mean θ and standard deviation \sqrt{dt} (i.e. W is a Brownian Motion)

We want to find a replicating portfolio such that

$$df = adS + dB$$

Use Ito's formula:

$$df(S,t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}dS + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2}(dS)^2$$

$$(dS)^2 = \sigma^2 S^2 dt$$

(analogous to first order Taylor expansion, up to dt term)

$$df = adS + dB$$

Substitute df using Ito's formula, dS, and dB=rBdt

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}\mu S + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2\right)dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}\sigma SdW = (a\mu S + rB)dt + a\sigma SdW$$

Compare terms:

$$a = \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}, \qquad rB = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2} \sigma^2 S^2$$

B=f-aS is deterministic and as dB=rBdt

$$d(f-aS)=r(f-aS)dt$$

Substituting once again
$$df = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}dt + \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}dS + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2S^2dt$$
 and $a = \frac{\partial f}{\partial S}$

we obtain the Black-Scholes equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial S^2} \sigma^2 S^2 + \frac{\partial f}{\partial S} rS - rf = 0$$

Fisher Black, Myron Scholes – paper 1973

Myron Scholes, Robert Merton – Nobel Prize 1997

- Any tradable derivative satisfies the equation
- There is no dependence on actual drift μ
- We have a hedging strategy (replicating portfolio)
- By a change of variables Black-Scholes equation transforms into heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Boundary and *final* conditions are determined by the pay-off of a specific derivative

For European Call

$$C(S,T)=max(S-K,0)$$

$$C(0,t) = 0, C(\infty,t) \cong S$$

For European Put

$$P(S,T)=max(K-S,0)$$

$$P(0,t) = Ke^{-r(T-t)}, P(\infty,t) = 0$$

For European Call/Put the equation can be solved analytically

$$C_{t} = e^{-r(T-t)} \left(e^{r(T-t)} SN(d_{1}) - KN(d_{2}) \right)$$

$$P_{t} = e^{-r(T-t)} \left(KN(-d_{2}) - e^{r(T-t)} SN(-d_{1}) \right)$$

where

$$d_{1} = \frac{\ln(S/K) + (r + \sigma^{2}/2)(T - t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T - t}}$$

$$d_{2} = \frac{\ln(S/K) + (r - \sigma^{2}/2)(T - t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T - t}}$$

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

Black-Scholes: Risk Neutral Valuation

$$f_t = e^{-r(T-t)} E_Q(f_T)$$

Q is the risk neutral measure under which

$$dS = rSdt + \sigma SdW$$

$$pdf(S_T) = \frac{S_t}{\sigma ST\sqrt{2\pi T}} exp(-\frac{\left(\ln\left(\frac{S_T}{S_t}\right) - \left(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)(T - t)\right)^2}{2\sigma^2(T - t)})$$

For more complicated options or more general assumptions numerical methods have to be used:

- Finite difference methods
- Tree methods (equivalent to explicit scheme)
- Monte Carlo simulations

Black-Scholes equation: Conclusions

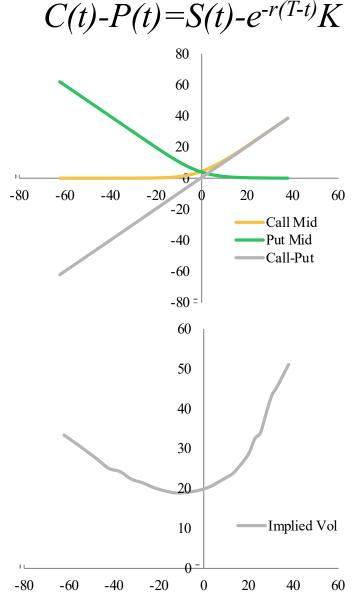
Modern financial services business makes use of

- PDE
- Numerical methods
- Stochastic Calculus
- Simulations
- Statistics
- Much, much more

Risk Neutral Valuation: Example (Call-Put Parity)

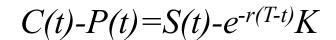


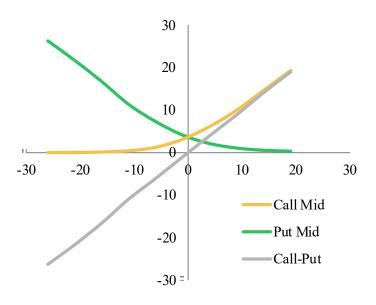
Source: Bloomberg L.P.



Risk Neutral Valuation: Example



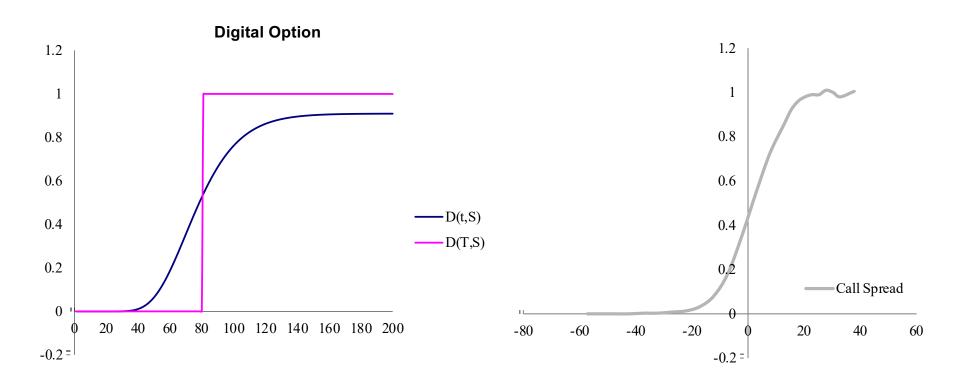




Source: Bloomberg L.P.

Risk Neutral Valuation: Example (Call Spread)

Digital option pays 1 if S > K at time T



$$S(t) = K = 80, T=2$$
 (years)

$$S(t)=113.54, T=81 \text{ (days)}$$



18.642 Topics in Mathematics with Applications in Finance Fall 2024

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: https://ocw.mit.edu/terms.