

15.415 Foundations of Modern Finance

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Lecture 10: Options, Part 2



Key concepts

- Binomial model: risk-neutral pricing
- State prices
- Exotic options
- American options
- Empirical implementation of the binomial model
- The Black-Scholes-Merton model
- Option Greeks
- Implementing the BSM model
- Brief history of option pricing

Binomial option pricing model

- Consider the binomial model in a general form.
- The stock and bond prices are given by the following processes:

$$S_0 \begin{cases} uS \\ dS \end{cases} \qquad 1 \begin{cases} 1 + r \\ 1 + r \end{cases}$$

where $u > 1 + r > d$ to avoid arbitrage between the stock and the risk-free asset.

- Consider a call option on the stock with a strike of K . Its payoff will be

$$S_0 \begin{cases} C_u = \max[0, uS - K] \\ C_d = \max[0, dS - K] \end{cases}$$

- We price the call by replication.

Binomial option pricing model

- Form a replication portfolio with the stock and bond:

- δ shares of the stock,
- b dollars in the riskless bond.

such that:

$$\delta uS + b(1 + r) = C_u$$

$$\delta dS + b(1 + r) = C_d$$

- Unique solution:

$$\delta = \frac{C_u - C_d}{(u - d)S}, \quad b = \frac{1}{1 + r} \frac{uC_d - dC_u}{(u - d)}$$

- We then have:

$$C = \delta S + b = \frac{C_u - C_d}{u - d} + \frac{1}{1 + r} \frac{uC_d - dC_u}{(u - d)}$$

Risk neutral probability

- Define:

$$q_u = \frac{(1 + r) - d}{u - d}, \quad q_d = \frac{u - (1 + r)}{u - d}$$

- We can then write:

$$C = \frac{q_u C_u + q_d C_d}{1 + r}$$

- Since $0 < q_u, q_d < 1$ and $q_u + q_d = 1$, we can interpret $q_u = q$ and $q_d = 1 - q$ as probabilities for the up- and down-states.
- We then have:

$$C = \frac{q C_u + (1 - q) C_d}{1 + r} = \frac{E^Q[C_T]}{1 + r}$$

where $E^Q[\cdot]$ is the expectation under probability $Q = (q, 1 - q)$, which is called the **risk-neutral probability**.

Risk neutral probability

- With the risk neutral probability, we can price any asset easily.
- Consider the example from Part 1:

- Parameters are $S = 50$ and $u = 1.5, d = 0.5, r = 1.1$. Then,

$$q = \frac{1.1 - 0.5}{1.5 - 0.5} = 0.6$$

- The stock price is:

$$S = \frac{(0.6)(75) + (0.4)(25)}{1 + 0.1} = 50$$

- The bond price is:

$$B = \frac{(0.6)(1.1) + (0.4)(1.1)}{1 + 0.1} = 1$$

- The price of a call option on the stock with a strike of \$50 is:

$$C = \frac{(0.6)(25) + (0.4)(0)}{1 + 0.1} = 13.64$$

Risk neutral probability

A two-period call on the stock with a strike $K = 50$:

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{E^Q[C_2]}{(1+r)^2} \\ &= \frac{(0.6)^2(62.5) + (0.6)(0.4)(0) + (0.4)(0.6)(0) + (0.4)^2(0)}{(1+0.1)^2} \\ &= \frac{22.5}{1.1^2} = 18.60 \end{aligned}$$

A put on the stock with a strike $K = 50$:

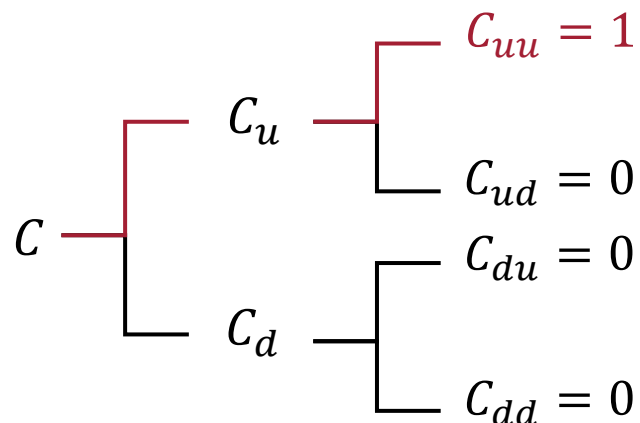
$$\begin{aligned} P &= \frac{(0.6)^2(0) + 2(0.6)(0.4)(12.5) + (0.4)^2(37.5)}{(1+0.1)^2} \\ &= \frac{12.0}{1.1^2} = 9.92 \end{aligned}$$

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State prices

- We can consider the following “digital option”: it pays off \$1 only in a given future state.
- A digital option that pays \$1 at $t = 2$ only if stock price goes up in both periods:



- Denote the price of this option by ϕ_{uu} . Similarly, we have ϕ_{ud} , ϕ_{du} , ϕ_{dd} .
- ϕ_{uu} , ϕ_{ud} , ϕ_{du} , and ϕ_{dd} are the (Arrow-Debreu) state prices.
- Each gives the price of a “state-contingent claim”, which pays off one unit only in a given state.

State prices and risk-neutral probabilities

- State prices are proportional to risk-neutral probabilities:

$$\phi_u = \frac{q}{1+r}, \quad \phi_d = \frac{1-q}{1+r}$$

$$\phi_{uu} = \frac{q^2}{(1+r)^2}, \quad \phi_{ud} = \frac{q(1-q)}{(1+r)^2}, \quad \phi_{du} = \frac{(1-q)q}{(1+r)^2}, \quad \phi_{dd} = \frac{(1-q)^2}{(1+r)^2}$$

- Knowing the state prices, we can price any security whose payoff is given by the path of the stock price.

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Exotic options: risk-neutral pricing

- Payoff of exotic options is path-dependent.
- For example, payoff of a look-back option may depend on the maximum stock price observed over the life of the option contract.
- Original pricing by replication is not practical: the number of nodes on the binomial tree grows exponentially with the number of time periods.
 - Without path dependence, the tree *recombines*: “ud” node = “du” node, etc.
- Can use risk-neutral pricing for exotic options.
- Estimate the option price by Monte Carlo simulation: sample from the set of terminal nodes according to their risk-neutral probabilities.
- Replicating portfolio can be computed at each node once the option prices are known.

Example: Asian option

- Two-period ($T = 3$) Asian call option with a strike of \$40. Its payoff is:

$$C_3 = \max[0, \bar{S}_3 - 40]$$

where \bar{S}_3 is the average price between $t = 1$ and 3.

- Then

$$S = 50 \begin{cases} 75 & \begin{cases} 112.5 \\ 37.5 \end{cases} \\ 25 & \begin{cases} 37.5 \\ 12.5 \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

$$C \begin{cases} C_u & \begin{cases} C_{uu} = 39.17 \\ C_{ud} = 14.17 \end{cases} \\ C_d & \begin{cases} C_{du} = 0 \\ C_{dd} = 0 \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

- The price of the call is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} C &= \frac{(0.6)^2(39.17) + (0.6)(0.4)(14.17) + (0.4)(0.6)(0) + (0.4)^2(0)}{(1 + 0.1)^2} \\ &= \frac{17.50}{1.1^2} = 14.46 \end{aligned}$$

Example: Asian option

- Compute the replicating portfolio as needed, for each visited node.
- For example, to compute the replicating portfolio at node “ u ” at $t = 1$, need to know only the prices of the option in nodes “ uu ” and “ ud ”.
- Buy δ shares of stock, and invest b at the risk-free rate, where

$$\delta = \frac{39.17 - 14.17}{112.5 - 37.5} = 0.333,$$

$$b = C_u - \delta uS = \frac{0.6 \times 39.17 + 0.4 \times 14.17}{1.1} - 0.333 \times 75 = 1.52$$

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American options: pricing

- The holder of the option may decide to exercise at any point before maturity.
- Option value P satisfies:

$$P_t = \max \left(\text{Payoff}_t, \frac{1}{1 + r_f} E_t^Q [P_{t+1}] \right)$$

American put option

		t=0	t=1	t=2	Option Payoff
Strike	100				
u	1.2				
d	0.8				
r_f	0.1				
q	0.75				
			Stock Tree		
		100.00	120.00	144.00	0.00
				96.00	4.00
			80.00	96.00	4.00
				64.00	36.00
Physical probability			Option Tree		
p	0.5				
		5.17	0.91	0.00	
				4.00	
			20.00	4.00	
				36.00	
			No-exercise value		
			10.91		

American options: dynamic replication

- Replicate the option using the same algorithm as for European options: compute the option's delta from option prices and stock prices:

$$\delta = \frac{C_u - C_d}{(u - d)S}$$

$$b = \frac{1}{1 + r} \frac{uC_d - dC_u}{(u - d)}$$

$$\frac{0.91 - 20.00}{120.00 - 80.00} = -0.48$$

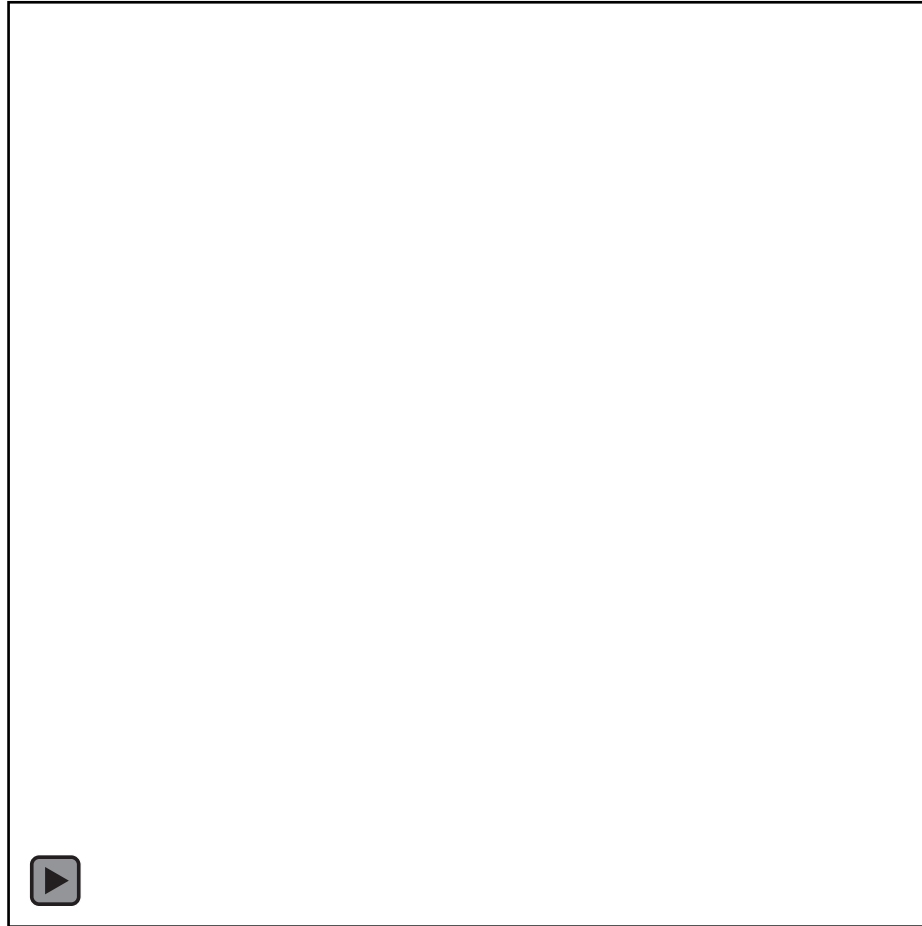
	t=0	t=1	t=2
Stock Tree			
	100.00	120.00	144.00 96.00
		80.00	96.00 64.00
Option Tree			
	5.17	0.91	0.00 4.00
		20.00	4.00
No-exercise value			
		10.91	36.00
Delta			
	-0.48	-0.08	
		-1.00	
Risk-free investment			
		10.91	
	52.89	100.00	

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Implementing binomial model

- Binomial distribution of log returns converges to Normal distribution.



Implementing binomial model

- Key model parameters u and d need to be chosen to reflect the distribution of the stock return.
- One possible choice is:

$$u = \exp\left(\sigma \sqrt{\frac{T}{n}}\right), \quad d = 1/u, \quad p = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right) \sqrt{\frac{T}{n}}$$

where μ and σ are the mean and standard deviation of the stock's annual return, and n is the number of steps in a year.

- We refer to σ as the stock's **volatility**.

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Black-Scholes-Merton formula

- If we let the period-length get smaller and smaller, in the limit we obtain the option pricing formula:

$$C(S, K, T) = SN(x) - KR^{-T}N(x - \sigma\sqrt{T})$$

- x is defined by:

$$x = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{S}{KR^{-T}}\right)}{\sigma\sqrt{T}} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma\sqrt{T}$$

- T is time to option maturity, in units of a year;
- $R = 1 + r$, where r is the annual riskless interest rate;
- σ is the volatility of annual returns on the underlying asset;
- $N(\cdot)$ is the cumulative normal density function;
- S is log-normally distributed (i.e., $\ln S$ is normally distributed).

Black-Scholes-Merton formula

- An interpretation of the Black-Scholes-Merton formula:
 - The call is equivalent to a levered long position in the stock;
 - $SN(x)$ is the amount invested in the stock;
 - $KR^{-T}N(x - \sigma\sqrt{T})$ is the dollar amount borrowed;
- The option's delta is $N(x) = \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}$. It is the limit of the binomial formula as the time step converges to zero, and single-period stock price movements become infinitesimal:

$$\frac{C_u - C_d}{uS - dS} \rightarrow \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}$$

Black-Scholes-Merton formula

- The Black-Scholes-Merton formula has a convenient scaling property: all prices can be re-scaled in terms of multiples of the stock price:

$$\frac{C(S, K, T)}{S} = N(x) - \frac{KR^{-T}}{S} N(x - \sigma\sqrt{T})$$

$$x = \frac{\ln(\frac{S}{KR^{-T}})}{\sigma\sqrt{T}} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma\sqrt{T}$$

- Also, only cumulative stock return volatility matters: $\sqrt{\sigma^2 T}$.

Example: applying the BSM formula

- Consider a European call option on a stock with the following data.
- $S = 50$, $K = 50$, $T = 30/365$ (30 calendar days to maturity).
- The volatility σ is 30% per year;
- The current annual interest rate is 5.895% (simple rate).

Then:

$$x = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{50}{50(1.05895)^{-\frac{30}{365}}}\right)}{(0.3)\sqrt{\frac{30}{365}}} + \frac{1}{2}(0.3)\sqrt{\frac{30}{365}} = 0.0977$$

$$\begin{aligned} C &= 50N(0.0977) - 50(1.05895)^{-\frac{30}{365}}N\left(0.0977 - 0.3\sqrt{\frac{30}{365}}\right) \\ &= 50(0.53890) - 50(0.99530)(0.50468) = 1.83 \end{aligned}$$

Properties of option prices

- The stock price follows a geometric Brownian motion (lognormal returns).
- The interest rate is constant.
- The option price obtained by the binomial model converges to the Black-Scholes price.
- The BSM option prices satisfy:

Increase in	Call	Put
Stock price S	Increase	Decrease
Strike price K	Decrease	Increase
Volatility σ	Increase	Increase
Time to maturity T	Increase	Increase
Interest rate r	Increase	Decrease

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Option Greeks

- Option Greeks measure sensitivity of option prices to small changes in various inputs: the underlying price and model parameters
- Delta: $\delta = \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}$
- Gamma: $\Gamma = \frac{\partial \delta}{\partial S} = \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}$
- Theta: $\Theta = \frac{\partial C}{\partial T}$
- Vega: $\nu = \frac{\partial C}{\partial \sigma}$
- Omega: $\Omega = \frac{\partial C}{\partial S} \frac{S}{C}$

Option Greeks: an empirical example

US Budget Impasse Threatened Default in August 2011:
Stocks plummeted, calls dropped sharply, puts surged

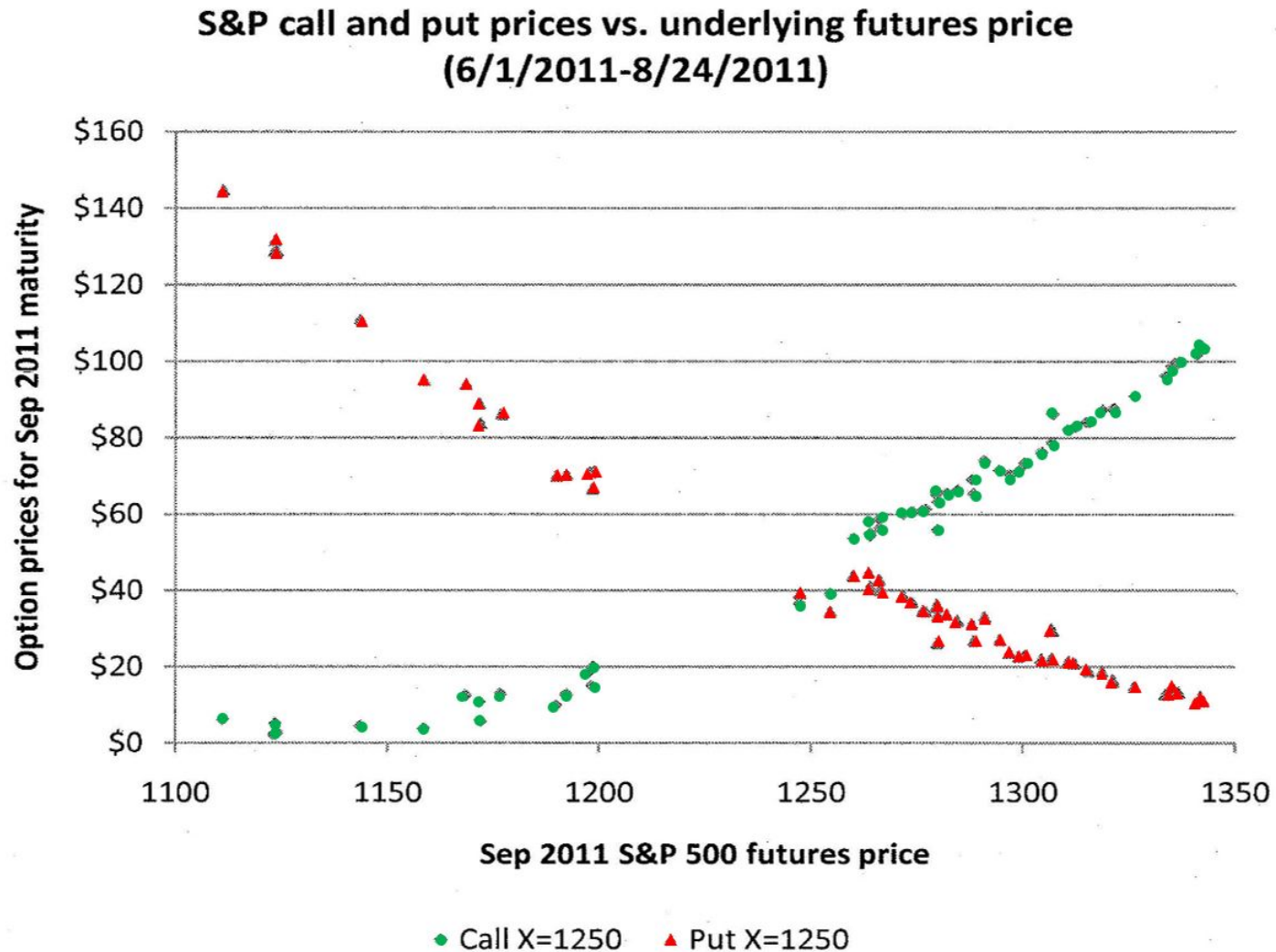
S&P futures, Sep 2011 contract, call options

Strike	8/1/2011	8/2/2011	8/3/2011	8/4/2011	8/5/2011	8/8/2011	8/9/2011	8/10/2011	8/11/2011	8/12/2011
SPU1 Index	1279.7	1247.3	1254.5	1198.7	1197.8	1111.3	1171.7	1123.5	1168.5	1176.8
1000	280.90	249.00	255.90	204.60	204.50	137.40	180.50	143.00	180.20	185.90
1050	232.00	200.80	207.20	158.80	158.90	99.30	136.40	102.80	136.70	141.50
1100	184.00	153.80	159.70	116.10	116.10	65.70	95.50	67.40	96.30	100.00
1150	137.80	109.70	114.70	77.30	78.20	38.20	59.10	37.80	60.80	63.10
1200	94.30	69.50	73.50	44.10	43.70	17.80	29.40	16.60	31.90	33.20
1250	55.80	36.50	39.00	20.10	18.80	6.20	10.70	5.20	12.60	13.00
1300	25.80	13.60	14.70	6.20	5.30	2.05	2.50	1.20	3.50	3.50
1350	7.40	3.00	3.15	1.40	1.05	0.60	0.70	0.45	0.70	0.75
1400	1.20	0.55	0.65	0.45	0.40	0.20	0.30	0.15	0.25	0.20
1450	0.25	0.10	0.15	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05

S&P futures, Sep 2011 contract, put options

Strike	8/1/2011	8/2/2011	8/3/2011	8/4/2011	8/5/2011	8/8/2011	8/9/2011	8/10/2011	8/11/2011	8/12/2011
SPU1 Index	1279.7	1247.3	1254.5	1198.7	1197.8	1111.3	1171.7	1123.5	1168.5	1176.8
1000	1.50	1.95	1.60	6.10	6.90	26.20	9.00	19.60	11.90	9.30
1050	2.55	3.65	2.90	10.30	11.30	38.10	14.80	29.40	18.30	14.80
1100	4.45	6.70	5.40	17.50	18.40	54.40	23.90	43.90	27.90	23.30
1150	8.20	12.50	10.30	28.70	30.50	76.90	37.40	64.30	42.30	36.30
1200	14.70	22.30	19.10	45.40	45.90	106.40	57.70	93.00	63.40	56.40
1250	26.10	39.20	34.50	71.30	70.90	144.80	88.90	131.60	94.00	86.10
1300	46.10	66.20	60.10	107.40	107.40	190.60	130.70	177.60	134.90	126.60
1350	77.60	105.60	98.60	152.60	153.10	239.10	178.90	226.80	182.10	173.80
1400	121.40	153.10	146.00	201.60	202.50	288.80	228.50	276.50	231.60	223.30
1450	170.40	202.70	195.50	251.30	252.30	338.70	278.30	326.50	281.50	273.20

Option Greeks: an empirical example



Call options and Greeks

Call Option Price Changes (\$ and %) Depend on Strike Price

In the money: big \$ moves, modest % moves

Out of the money: smaller \$ moves, bigger % moves

<u>SP500 Call Options</u>			“Delta” $\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\right)$		“Omega” $\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} \frac{S}{C}\right)$	
SP500	8/1/2011	8/10/2011	Change	Chg/ChgU	%Change	Elasticity
Underlying	1279.70	1123.50	-156.20	1.00	-12.2	1.0
1000	280.90	143.00	-137.90	0.88	-49.1	4.0
1050	232.00	102.80	-129.20	0.83	-55.7	4.6
1100	184.00	67.40	-116.60	0.75	-63.4	5.2
1150	137.80	37.80	-100.00	0.64	-72.6	5.9
1200	94.30	16.60	-77.70	0.50	-82.4	6.8
1250	55.80	5.20	-50.60	0.32	-90.7	7.4
1300	25.80	1.20	-24.60	0.16	-95.3	7.8
1350	7.40	0.45	-6.95	0.04	-93.9	7.7
1400	1.20	0.15	-1.05	0.01	-87.5	7.2
1450	0.25	0.05	-0.20	0.00	-80.0	6.6

Put options and Greeks

Put Option Price Changes (\$ and %) Depend on Strike Price

In the money: big \$ moves, modest % moves

Out of the money: smaller \$ moves, bigger % moves

SP500 Call Options			“Delta” $\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\right)$		“Omega” $\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} \frac{S}{C}\right)$	
SP500	8/1/2011	8/10/2011	Change	Chg/ChgU	%Change	Elasticity
Underlying	1279.70	1123.50	-156.20	1.00	-12.2	1.0
1000	1.5	19.6	18.10	-0.12	1206.7	-98.9
1050	2.6	29.4	26.85	-0.17	1052.9	-86.3
1100	4.5	43.9	39.45	-0.25	886.5	-72.6
1150	8.2	64.3	56.10	-0.36	684.1	-56.1
1200	14.7	93	78.30	-0.5	532.7	-43.6
1250	26.1	131.6	105.50	-0.68	404.2	-33.1
1300	46.1	177.6	131.50	-0.84	285.2	-23.4
1350	77.6	226.8	149.20	-0.96	192.3	-15.8
1400	121.4	276.5	155.10	-0.99	127.8	-10.5
1450	170.4	326.5	156.10	-1.00	91.6	-7.5

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Implementing Black-Scholes


- To implement the Black-Scholes formula, we need to estimate volatility σ .
- Two possible estimates.
- Historic volatility: develop statistical estimates using past returns on the underlying asset.
 - E.g., use daily returns over a given period to estimate daily volatility (standard deviation);
 - Annualize by multiplying daily volatility by $\sqrt{252}$.
- Implied volatility: price options relative to each other.
 - Use the market price of another option (e.g., ATM);
 - Assume that it is given by the BSM formula to solve for σ , which gives the implied volatility.

Example: implied volatility

- Need to price a call on a stock with a strike price of \$110 and a maturity of 1 year. Suppose that the current stock price is \$100 and the one-year interest rate 6.18%.
- Suppose that another call with a strike price of \$120 is trading at a market price of \$3.16. The volatility that makes the Black-Scholes price of this call equal to its market price is $\sigma = 19\%$. This is the implied volatility.
- We can then use 19% in the Black-Scholes formula to obtain the price of the first call.
- Potential problem: Implied volatility may be different for options with different strikes and maturities (smile and smirk patterns in implied volatility).

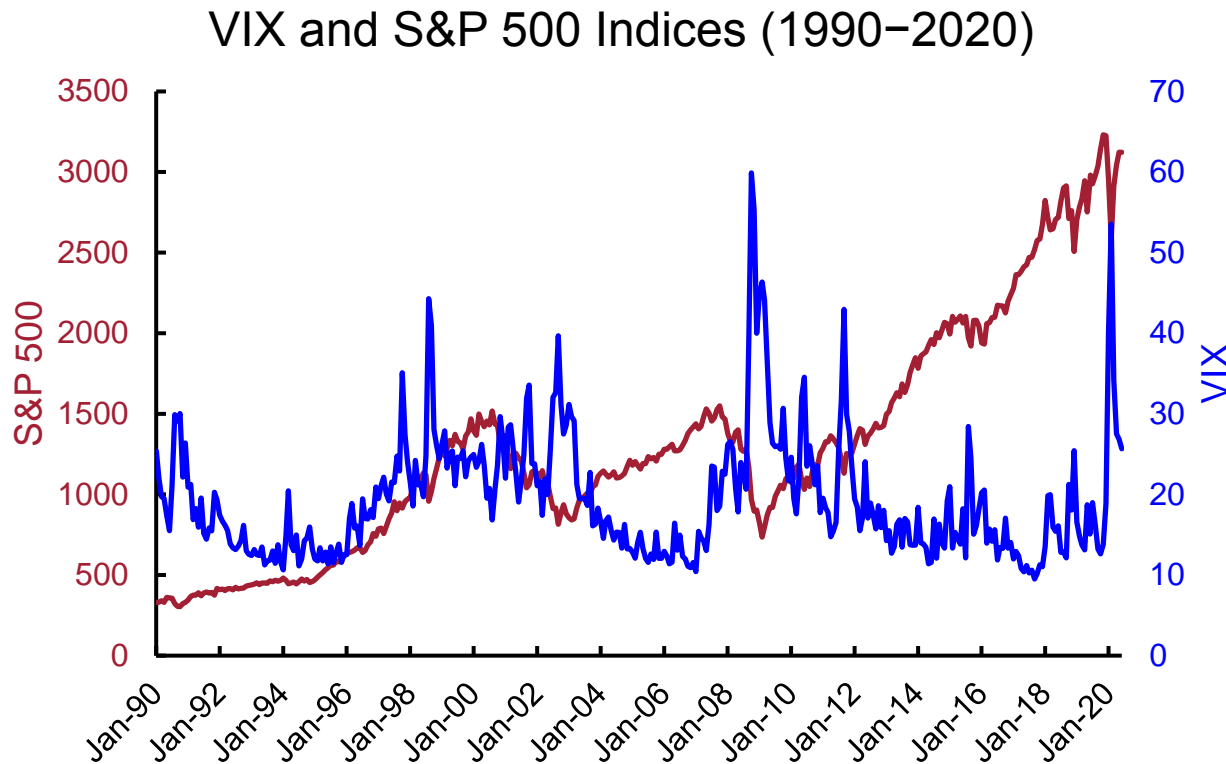
Implied volatility

Implied volatility may be different for options with different strikes and maturities (smile/smirk)

IBM US \$ ↑ 128.27 +1.28  N128.26 / 128.27 N 1x11															
At 18:40 d Vol 4,267,080 0 127.10 N H 128.56 N L 127.06 N Val 546.582M															
IBM US Equity		95) Actions		97) Settings		Option Monitor									
IBM 128.27 1.28 1.008% 128.26 / 128.27 Hi 128.56 Lo 127.06 Volm 4267080 HV 19.48															
Center 128.27		Strikes 5		Exp 21-Jun-19		Exch US Composite		92) 07/17/19 C ERN »							
Calc Mode		As of 03-Jun-2019													
81) Center Strike		82) Calls/Puts		83) Calls		84) Puts		85) Term Structure		87) Moneyness					
Calls						Strike	Puts								
Ticker		Bid	Ask	Last	IVM	Volm	Ticker		Bid	Ask	Last	IVM	Volm		
21-Jun-19 (18d); CSize 100; R 2.40; IFwd 128.27						5	21-Jun-19 (18d); CSize 100; R 2.40; IFwd 128.27								
1) IBM 6/21/19 C126		4.10	4.25	4.20	24.91	1	126.00		51) IBM 6/21/19 P126		1.69	1.75	1.80	24.54	59
2) IBM 6/21/19 C127		3.40	3.55	3.35	23.97	5	127.00		52) IBM 6/21/19 P127		2.02	2.08	2.01	23.89	58
3) IBM 6/21/19 C128		2.83	2.90	2.99	23.37	77	128.00		53) IBM 6/21/19 P128		2.40	2.48	2.54	23.29	82
4) IBM 6/21/19 C129		2.29	2.36	2.26	22.88	76	129.00		54) IBM 6/21/19 P129		2.86	2.93	2.75	22.74	85
5) IBM 6/21/19 C130		1.81	1.88	1.66	22.38	239	130.00		55) IBM 6/21/19 P130		3.35	3.50	3.35	22.31	62
19-Jul-19 (46d); CSize 100; R 2.44; IFwd 128.52						5	19-Jul-19 (46d); CSize 100; R 2.44; IFwd 128.52								
6) IBM 7/19/19 C120		10.60	10.90	10.45	30.61	1	120.00		56) IBM 7/19/19 P120		1.96	2.08	2.08	29.92	98
7) IBM 7/19/19 C125		7.00	7.25	7.07	28.45	13	125.00		57) IBM 7/19/19 P125		3.35	3.55	3.46	28.25	110
8) IBM 7/19/19 C130		4.15	4.35	4.10	26.77	45	130.00		58) IBM 7/19/19 P130		5.45	5.60	5.35	26.39	181
9) IBM 7/19/19 C135		2.12	2.25	2.25	25.16	249	135.00		59) IBM 7/19/19 P135		8.40	8.60	8.50	24.75	47
10) IBM 7/19/19 C140		.86	1.00	.93	23.69	181	140.00		60) IBM 7/19/19 P140		12.10	12.45	12.75	23.01	14
16-Aug-19 (74d); CSize 100; IDiv 1.48 USD; R 2.47;						5	16-Aug-19 (74d); CSize 100; IDiv 1.48 USD; R 2.47								
11) IBM 8/16/19 C120		11.10	11.60	11.30	27.72	22	120.00		61) IBM 8/16/19 P120		3.05	3.25	3.15	27.56	317
12) IBM 8/16/19 C125		7.70	7.95	7.35	26.76	11	125.00		62) IBM 8/16/19 P125		4.70	4.90	4.90	25.99	8
13) IBM 8/16/19 C130		4.80	5.05	4.64	24.95	53	130.00		63) IBM 8/16/19 P130		7.00	7.25	7.02	24.60	4
14) IBM 8/16/19 C135		2.80	2.90	2.87	23.88	47	135.00		64) IBM 8/16/19 P135		10.05	10.30	11.00y	23.42	
15) IBM 8/16/19 C140		1.39	1.52	1.44	22.63	47	140.00		65) IBM 8/16/19 P140		12.10	14.30	14.15	17.68	10
20-Sep-19 (109d); CSize 100; IDiv 1.48 USD; R 2.4						5	20-Sep-19 (109d); CSize 100; IDiv 1.48 USD; R 2.4								
16) IBM 9/20/19 C120		11.60	12.05	11.70	26.10	2	120.00		66) IBM 9/20/19 P120		3.60	3.85	3.95	25.47	15
Australia 61 2 9777 8600 Brazil 5511 2395 9000 Europe 44 20 7330 7500 Germany 49 69 9204 1210 Hong Kong 852 2977 6000															
Japan 81 3 3201 8900 Singapore 65 6212 1000 U.S. 1 212 318 2000 Copyright 2019 Bloomberg Finance L.P.															
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Implied volatility: VIX

- VIX is a composite summary of implied vols across call and put options with different strike prices.
- VIX is an indicator of future market volatility over the next 30 days.



Key concepts

- Binomial model: risk-neutral pricing
- State prices
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- Exotic options
- Empirical implementation of the binomial model
- The Black-Scholes-Merton model
- Option Greeks
- Implementing the BSM model
- Brief history of option pricing

Brief history of option pricing

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Key concepts

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Scratch pad