

# Distance to default package

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This package provides fast functions to work with the Merton's distance to default model. We will denote the observed market values by  $S_t$  and unobserved asset values by  $V_t$ . We assume that  $V_t$  follows a geometric Brownian motion

$$dV_t = \mu V_t dt + \sigma V_t dW_t$$

We assume that we observe the assets over increments of  $dt$  in time. Thus, we will let  $V_k$  and  $V_{k+1}$  be the value at  $t_0 + k \cdot dt$ . Thus,

$$V_{k+1} = V_k \exp \left( \left( \mu - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) dt + \sigma W_t \right)$$

We further let  $r$  denote the risk free rate,  $D_t$  denote debt due at time  $t + T$ . Then

$$C(V_t, D_t, T, \sigma, r) = V_t N(d_1) - D_t \exp(-rT) N(d_1 - \sigma \sqrt{T})$$
$$d_1 = \frac{\log(V_t) - \log D_t + (r + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2) T}{\sigma \sqrt{T}} \quad (1)$$

$$S_t = C(V_t, D_t, T, \sigma, r) \quad (2)$$

where  $C$  is a European call option.  $d_1$  in equation (1) is the so-called distance to default. Equation (2) can be computed with the `BS_call` function. Further, the `get_underlying` can be used to invert the equation (2)

```
library(DtD)
(S <- BS_call(100, 90, 1, .1, .3))

## [1] 22.51

get_underlying(S, 90, 1, .1, .3)

## [1] 100
```

To illustrate the above then we can simulate the underlying and transform the data into the stock price as follows

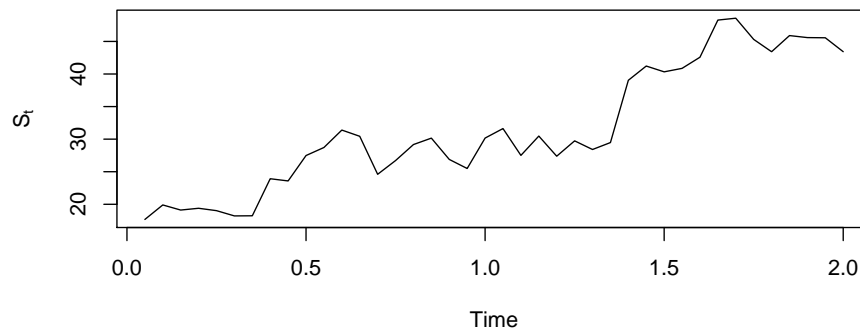
```

# assign parameters
std <- .1
mu <- .05
dt <- .05
V_0 <- 100
t. <- seq(dt, 2, by = dt)
D <- c(rep(80, 27), rep( 70, length(t.) - 27))
r <- c(rep( 0, 13), rep(.02, length(t.) - 13))

# simulate underlying
set.seed(83992673)
V <- V_0 * exp(
  (mu - std^2/2) * t. + cumsum(rnorm(length(t.), sd = std * sqrt(dt))))

# compute stock price
S <- mapply(BS_call, V, D, T = 1, r, std)
plot(t., S, type = "l", xlab = "Time", ylab = expression(S[t]))

```



Despite that the model assume a constant risk free rate than we let it vary in this example. We end by plotting the stock price. Further, we can confirm that we the same underlying after transforming back

```

all.equal(V, get_underlying(S, D, 1, r, std))

## [1] TRUE

```

## 1 Drift and volatility estimation