

CQF Module 3.2 The Greeks

1. Use put-call parity to find the relationships between the deltas(Δ), gammas(Γ), vegas(*vega*), thetas(Θ), rhos(ρ) of European call and put options.

Solution: Starting with put-call parity

$$C(S, t) - P(S, t) = S - Ee^{-r(T-t)} \quad (*)$$

Differentiating (*) wrt S gives

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial S} = 1$$

i.e.

$$\Delta_C = 1 + \Delta_P \quad (1)$$

Now differentiate (*) for a 2nd time (i.e differentiate (1) once)

$$\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2} - \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial S^2} = 0,$$

i.e.

$$\Gamma_C = \Gamma_P.$$

We follow a similar approach for the other greeks.

Diff. (*) wrt σ to obtain

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \sigma},$$

and wrt t gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial C}{\partial t} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial t} &= -rEe^{-r(T-t)} \\ \Rightarrow \Theta_C &= \Theta_P - rEe^{-r(T-t)}. \end{aligned}$$

Finally, differentiate (*) wrt r

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial r} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial r} = E(T-t)e^{-r(T-t)},$$

i.e.

$$\rho_C = \rho_P + E(T-t)e^{-r(T-t)}.$$

2. Show that for a delta-neutral portfolio of options on a non-dividend paying stock, Π ,

$$\Theta + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \Gamma = r\Pi.$$

Solution: The portfolio satisfies the Black-Scholes equation

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

and so

$$\Theta + rS\Delta + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \Gamma = r\Pi$$

If the portfolio is is delta neutral, then $\Delta = 0$ and hence

$$\Theta + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \Gamma = r\Pi$$

3. Show that

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial \text{vega}}{\partial S}, \quad \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial^2 \text{vega}}{\partial S^2}, \quad \frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial \text{vega}}{\partial t}, \quad \frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial S}.$$

Solution: We use the same method as in the previous question to change the derivatives, i.e.

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial S} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} \right) = \frac{\partial \text{vega}}{\partial S}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \left(\frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2} \right) = \frac{\partial^2 \text{vega}}{\partial S^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Theta}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} (V_t) = \frac{\partial \text{vega}}{\partial t}$$

$$\frac{\partial \Delta}{\partial r} = \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial S} \right) = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial S}$$

4. The Black-Scholes formula for a European call option $C(S, t)$ is given by

$$C(S, t) = S \exp(-D(T-t))N(d_1) - E \exp(-r(T-t))N(d_2).$$

Show that the Speed of this option $\left(\frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial S}\right)$ is given by

$$\text{Speed} = \frac{\partial^3 C}{\partial S^3} = -\frac{\Gamma}{S} \left(1 + \frac{d_1}{\sigma \sqrt{T-t}}\right)$$

You do not need to prove the result for Γ .

Solution: We know that gamma for this option (standard result) is

$$\Gamma = \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))N'(d_1)}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \text{ where } N'(d_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp(-d_1^2/2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \Gamma}{\partial S} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \left\{ \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \exp(-d_1^2/2) \right\} \text{ there is also a factor } \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \text{ through out} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \left\{ \exp(-d_1^2/2) \right\} + \exp(-d_1^2/2) \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \left\{ \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \right\} \\ &= \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \exp(-d_1^2/2) \left\{ \frac{-d_1}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \right\} - \frac{1}{S} \left\{ \frac{\exp(-D(T-t))}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} \exp(-d_1^2/2) \right\} \\ &= \Gamma \left[\frac{-d_1}{\sigma S \sqrt{T-t}} - \frac{1}{S} \right] = -\frac{1}{S} \Gamma \left[1 + \frac{d_1}{\sigma \sqrt{T-t}} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

5. Consider a delta-neutral portfolio of derivatives, Π . For a small change in the price of the underlying asset, δS , over a short time interval, δt , show that the change in the portfolio value, $\delta \Pi$, satisfies

$$\delta \Pi = \Theta \delta t + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma \delta S^2$$

where $\Theta = \frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial t}$ and $\Gamma = \frac{\partial^2 \Pi}{\partial S^2}$.

Solution: Applying Itô's lemma to the value of the portfolio, Π :

$$\delta \Pi = \frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial S} \delta S + \frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial t} \delta t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi}{\partial S^2} \delta S^2$$

to order δt . If the portfolio is delta-neutral, then $\Delta = \frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial S} = 0$, and so

$$\delta \Pi = \frac{\partial \Pi}{\partial t} \delta t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \Pi}{\partial S^2} \delta S^2 = \Theta \delta t + \frac{1}{2} \Gamma \delta S^2.$$

6. (a) By differentiating the Black-Scholes equation with respect to σ , show that the vega of an option, $vega$, satisfies the differential equation

$$\frac{\partial vega}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 vega}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial vega}{\partial S} - rvega + \sigma S^2 \Gamma = 0$$

where $\Gamma = \partial^2 V / \partial S^2$. What is the final condition?

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial V}{\partial S} - rV = 0 \right) \rightarrow \\ & \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} \right) + \left\{ \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial S^2} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} \right) + \sigma S^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2} \right\} + rS \frac{\partial}{\partial S} \frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} - r \frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and we know $vega = \frac{\partial V}{\partial \sigma}$ & $\Gamma = \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2}$, hence

$$\frac{\partial vega}{\partial t} + \left\{ \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 vega}{\partial S^2} + \sigma S^2 \Gamma \right\} + rS \frac{\partial vega}{\partial S} - rvega = 0$$

at $t = T$ $V(S, T) = \max(S - E)$, we want a condition for v so

$$vega(S, T) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} V(S, T) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \max(S - E) = 0$$

So final condition is $vega(S, T) = 0$.

- (b) Similarly, find the PDE satisfied by ρ , the sensitivity of the option value to the interest rate.

We differentiate the BSE wrt r using the same method as above, in terms of switching around the derivative terms to obtain

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 \rho}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial S} - r\rho + S \frac{\partial V}{\partial S} - V = 0$$