

List of topics in this lecture

- Analytical expression of option price $C(s, t)$ at time t when $S(t) = s$
 - Expected reward at time T for paying $C(s, t)$ for the option
 - Nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$ at time t
 - Effect of interest rate: option price increase with interest rate
 - Effect of volatility: option price increase with volatility
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Review

Black-Scholes option pricing model

Evolution of the stock price

$$dS = \mu S dt + \sigma S dW \quad \text{with Ito interpretation}$$

Options associated with a stock

1 unit of call option = the right to buy 1 share of ABC at price K at time T .

1 unit of put option = the right to sell 1 share of ABC at price K at time T .

Assumption on the price of an option

The option price at time t is a deterministic function of the current stock price $S(t)$ and the current time t .

Option price function: $C(s, t)$,

the deterministic function connecting the stock price and the option price

The key question:

Suppose I am a market maker and I am required to set and publish $C(s, t)$.

How should I set function $C(s, t)$ to avoid a guaranteed loss?

Delta hedging portfolio

1 unit of delta hedging of time t

= owning (-1) unit of call option and $C_s(S(t), t)$ shares of stock.

Caution: the composition of portfolio varies with t .

Net gain/loss in time period $[0, T]$

Suppose that over time period $[0, T]$, we maintain a portfolio of $F(S(t), t)$ units delta hedging of time t , at time t by carrying out transactions needed to adjust the portfolio.

We set $F(s, t) \equiv \left(C(s, t) - C_s(s, t)s \right) r - C_t(s, t) - \frac{1}{2} C_{ss}(s, t) \sigma^2 s^2$

...

$$G_{\text{Total}} = \int \left(\left(C(s, t) - C_s(s, t)s \right) r - C_t(s, t) - \frac{1}{2} C_{ss}(s, t) \sigma^2 s^2 \right)^2 \bigg|_{s=S(t)} dt$$

G_{Total} would be a risk-free gain unless $(\cdot) \equiv 0$.

Governing equation of $C(s, t)$

$$\begin{cases} C_t(s, t) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 s^2 C_{ss}(s, t) = r(C(s, t) - s C_s(s, t)) \\ C(s, t) \big|_{t=T} = \max(s - K, 0) \end{cases}$$

End of review

Analytical expression of $C(s, t)$

We solve for $C(s, t)$ from the PDE and the final condition.

We use a change of variables to write it as a simple initial value problem.

Change of variables

New time variable

$\tau = T - t$ time to expiration

$\Rightarrow t = T - \tau$

New spatial (price) variable

$$x = \log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) (T - t)$$

$$\Rightarrow s = K \exp \left(x - \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) \tau \right)$$

New price function

$$u(x, \tau) = e^{r(T-t)} C(s, t)$$

$$\Rightarrow C(s, t) = e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau)$$

Derivatives of $C(s, t)$

We start with the derivatives of (τ, x) with respect to (t, s) .

$$\frac{\partial \tau}{\partial t} = -1, \quad \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial s} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left(\log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) (T - t) \right) = - \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial x}{\partial s} = \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left(\log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) (T - t) \right) = \frac{1}{s}$$

We express derivatives of $C(s, t)$ in terms of those of $u(x, \tau)$ using the chain rule.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} C(s, t) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} \left[e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) \right] \cdot \frac{\partial \tau}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) \right] \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial t} \\ &= r e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} u(x, \tau) - \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} C(s, t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) \right] \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial s} = e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \cdot \frac{1}{s}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial s^2} C(s, t) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \cdot \frac{1}{s} \right] \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial s} \left[e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \right] \cdot \frac{1}{s} - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} \\ &= e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x, \tau) \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \cdot \frac{1}{s^2} \end{aligned}$$

Equation for $u(x, \tau)$

Substituting these derivatives into the PDE for $C(s, t)$, we obtain the PDE for $u(x, \tau)$.

$$\begin{aligned} &\underbrace{r e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} u(x, \tau) - \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau)}_{C_t(s, t) \equiv T_1 + T_2 + T_3} \\ &+ \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \underbrace{\left[e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x, \tau) - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \right]}_{\frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 s^2 C_{ss}(s, t) \equiv T_4 + T_5} = \underbrace{r \left(e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau) - e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u(x, \tau) \right)}_{r(C(s, t) - s C_s(s, t)) \equiv T_6 + T_7} \end{aligned}$$

Combining T_1 with T_6 , first part of T_3 with T_7 , second part of T_3 with T_5 , we obtain

$$-e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial \tau} u(x, \tau) + \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} u(x, \tau) = 0$$

$$\implies u_\tau(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 u_{xx}(x, \tau)$$

where $u(x, \tau)$ is related to $C(s, t)$ by

$$u(x, \tau) = e^{r\tau} C(s, t), \quad x = \log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) \tau, \quad \tau = T - t.$$

Initial condition for $u(x, \tau)$

We use $s = K \exp \left(x - \left(r - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \right) \tau \right)$ to write out $u(x, \tau)|_{\tau=0}$.

$$u(x, \tau)|_{\tau=0} = C(s, t)|_{t=T} = \max(s - K, 0) = K \max(e^x - 1, 0)$$

The initial value problem (IVP) for $u(x, \tau)$

$$\begin{cases} u_\tau(x, \tau) = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 u_{xx}(x, \tau) \\ u(x, \tau)|_{\tau=0} = K \begin{cases} (e^x - 1), & x > 0 \\ 0, & x < 0 \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

Solution of $u(x, \tau)$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x, \tau) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(y, 0) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \\ &= \frac{K}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_0^{\infty} (e^y - 1) \exp\left(-\frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \equiv K(I_2 - I_1) \end{aligned}$$

We express I_1 and I_2 in terms of the error function.

Recall that the normal CDF has the expression

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_{-\infty}^x \exp\left(-\frac{\xi^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) d\xi = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}}\right) \right)$$

We write out integral I_1 in terms of the error function.

$$I_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-(y-x)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy$$

change of variables $\xi = x - y$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_{-\infty}^x \exp\left(\frac{-\xi^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) d\xi = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}}\right) \right)$$

For integral I_2 , we first complete the square in the exponent.

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-(y-x)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau} + y\right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-[y^2 - 2(x + \sigma^2\tau)y + (x + \sigma^2\tau)^2]}{2\sigma^2\tau} + x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) dy \\ &= \exp\left(x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(\frac{-(y - x - \sigma^2\tau)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \end{aligned}$$

We then use change of variables $\xi = x + \sigma^2\tau - y$ to write I_2 as

$$\begin{aligned} I_2 &= \exp\left(x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_{-\infty}^{(x+\sigma^2\tau)} \exp\left(\frac{-\xi^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) d\xi \\ &= \exp\left(x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x + \sigma^2\tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}}\right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Combining I_1 and I_2 , we obtain an analytical expression for $u(x, \tau)$

$$\boxed{u(x, \tau) = \frac{K}{2} \exp\left(x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x + \sigma^2\tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}}\right) \right) - \frac{K}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}}\right) \right)}$$

Solution of $C(s, t)$

$$C(s, t) = e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau), \quad x = \log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 \right) \tau, \quad \tau = T - t$$

From the expression of x , we have

$$x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2} = \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \exp\left(x + \frac{\sigma^2\tau}{2}\right) = \frac{s}{K} e^{r\tau}$$

Using these results, we write $C(s, t) = e^{-r\tau} u(x, \tau)$ as

$$C(s,t) = \frac{s}{2} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}} \right) \right] - \frac{e^{-r\tau}K}{2} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\log \frac{s}{K} + \left(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}} \right) \right]$$

where $\tau = T - t$

Function $\phi(\eta)$ and its derivative

We re-write $C(s, t)$ as

$$C(s,t) = \frac{e^{-r\tau}K}{2} \left(\underbrace{\exp\left(\log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau\right)}_{\eta} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}} \right) \right] - \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2\tau}} \right) \right] \right)$$

$$\implies \boxed{C(s,t) = \frac{e^{-r\tau}K}{2} \phi(\eta, \omega), \quad \eta = \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\tau} \quad (C-1)$$

where function $\phi(\eta, \omega)$ is defined as

$$\phi(\eta, \omega) = e^{\eta} \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right] - \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right] \quad (F-1)$$

We calculate the derivative of $\phi(\eta, \omega)$.

$$\frac{d}{dz} \operatorname{erf}(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp(-z^2)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left(-\frac{(\eta^2 + 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\omega}}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \exp \left(-\frac{(\eta^2 - 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\omega}}$$

$$\implies e^{\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right)$$

$$\implies \boxed{\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \phi(\eta, \omega) = e^{\eta} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) > 0} \quad (DF-1)$$

Function $C_s(s, t)$

We use (DF-1) to calculate $C_s(s, t)$, which is needed in the delta hedging.

$$C(s, t) = \frac{e^{-r\tau} K}{2} \phi(\eta, \omega), \quad \eta = \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial s} C(s, t) = \frac{e^{-r\tau} K}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \phi(\eta, \omega) \frac{d\eta}{ds} = \frac{e^{-r\tau} K}{2} e^\eta \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) \frac{1}{s}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right), \quad e^\eta = \frac{s}{K} e^{r\tau}$$

We arrive at

$$C_s(s, t) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right), \quad \eta = \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

Expected reward for paying $C(s, t)$ for the option

We compare the rewards of buying the option vs not buying.

Nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$ at time t

$$e^{r(T-t)} C(s, t)$$

= the nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$ at time t

where $C(s, t)$ is the amount needed to buy the option at time t when the stock price is s .

We write out $e^{r(T-t)} C(s, t)$ using equation (C-1)

$$e^{r\tau} C(s, t) = \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta, \omega), \quad \eta = \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

Next we calculate the expected reward at time T for owning the option.

Evolution of $Y = \log(S)$

$$dS = \mu S dt + \sigma S dW, \quad \text{starting at } S(t) = s$$

The Ito interpretation of this SDE corresponds to

$$dY = \left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) dt + \sigma dW, \quad Y = \log(S) \text{ starting at } Y(t) = \log(s)$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad Y(T) = Y(t) + \left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) (T-t) + \sigma (W(T) - W(t))$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad Y(T) = \log(s) + \left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \tau + N(0, \sigma^2 \tau), \quad \tau = T-t$$

The probability density of $Y(T)$ is

$$\Rightarrow \rho_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(y - \log(s) - \left(\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right)$$

Expected reward at time T

$$\begin{aligned} E(\max(S(T) - K, 0)) &= E(\max(\exp(Y(T)) - K, 0)) \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \max(e^y - K, 0) \rho_Y(y) dy = \int_{\log(K)}^{\infty} (e^y - K) \rho_Y(y) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_{\log(K)}^{\infty} (e^y - K) \exp\left(-\frac{\left(y - \log(s) - \mu\tau + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \equiv J_2 - J_1 \end{aligned}$$

We calculate J_1 and J_2 similar to what did previously for I_1 and I_2 .

In J_1 , we use change of variables: $y = -\xi$

$$\begin{aligned} J_1 &= \frac{K}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_{-\infty}^{-\log(K)} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\xi + \log(s) + \mu\tau - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) d\xi \\ &= \frac{K}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\eta_\mu - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}}\right)\right), \quad \eta_\mu \equiv \log\frac{s}{K} + \mu\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2\tau \end{aligned}$$

In J_2 , we complete square and use change of variables: $y = -\xi$

$$\begin{aligned} J_2 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \int_{\log(K)}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(y - \log(s) - \mu\tau + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \exp(\log(s) - \mu\tau) \int_{\log(K)}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(y - \log(s) - \mu\tau - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) dy \\ &= \frac{K}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\tau}} \exp\left(\log\frac{s}{K} + \mu\tau\right) \int_{-\infty}^{-\log(K)} \exp\left(-\frac{\left(\xi + \log(s) + \mu\tau + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\tau\right)^2}{2\sigma^2\tau}\right) d\xi \end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{K}{2} \exp(\eta_\mu) \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta_\mu + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right), \quad \eta_\mu \equiv \log \frac{S}{K} + \mu\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

The expected reward at time T is

$$\begin{aligned} & E(\max(S(T) - K, 0)) \\ &= \frac{K}{2} \exp(\eta_\mu) \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta_\mu + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) - \frac{K}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta_\mu - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Recall the definition of $\phi(\eta, \omega)$ in (F-1).

We write the expected reward at time T as

$$E(\max(S(T) - K, 0)) = \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_\mu, \omega), \quad \eta_\mu \equiv \log \frac{S}{K} + \mu\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

We compare it with the nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$ at time t

$$e^{r\tau} C(s, t) = \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_r, \omega), \quad \eta_r \equiv \log \frac{S}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

The two values have the same form with r corresponding to μ .

Expected reward of owning the option vs nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$

The reward at time T of owning the option is not risk-free (in fact, it has very high risk!). It is a random variable with the average

$$E(\max(S(T) - K, 0)) = \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_\mu, \omega)$$

The nominal value at time T of amount $C(s, t)$ at time t is risk-free.

$$e^{r\tau} C(s, t) = \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_r, \omega)$$

The basic principle of risk-reward tells us that we should have

$$\frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_\mu, \omega) > \frac{K}{2} \phi(\eta_r, \omega)$$

(DF-1) implies that $\phi(\eta, \omega)$ is an increasing function of η .

$$\implies \eta_\mu > \eta_r \implies \mu > r$$

Remarks:

- For the underlying stock, an investment is not risk-free.

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

$$\Rightarrow dE(S) = \mu E(S) dt$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dE(S)}{dt} = \mu E(S) \quad \text{which is an exponential growth with rate } = \mu$$

$\mu > r$ corresponds to the principle that the expected reward of a risky investment should be higher than the risk-free reward (based on interest rate).

- The risk-reward principle is true in the broader sense when we include rewards of all forms received from all sources.

Example:

Buying a lottery ticket.

I may assign a significant monetary value to the excitement of possibly winning or I may believe my number selection scheme will increase my chance so that my perceived average reward is significantly larger than the lottery ticket price.

The effect of interest rate r on $C(s, t)$

We write $C(s, t)$ as

$$C(s, t) = \frac{K}{2} e^{-r\tau} \phi(\eta, \omega) = \frac{s}{2} e^{-\eta} \phi(\eta, \omega), \quad \eta \equiv \log \frac{s}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

The effect of interest rate r is contained in variable η .

Differentiating $e^{-\eta} \phi(\eta, \omega)$ and using (F-1) and (DF-1), we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} (e^{-\eta} \phi(\eta, \omega)) = -e^{-\eta} \phi + e^{-\eta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} \phi = e^{-\eta} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial r} C(s, t) = \frac{s}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta} (e^{-\eta} \phi) \frac{d\eta}{dr} = \frac{s\tau}{2} e^{-\eta} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right) > 0$$

Conclusion:

Option price $C(s, t)$ increases with interest rate r .

Interpretation:

When interest rate r is higher, the perceived future drift μ for the stock price must be higher in one of the two ways below:

- The hike of interest rate r is in response to the increase in the perceived future drift μ . That is, the increase in the perceived future drift precedes the hike of interest rate.
- When the interest rate r is raised, it makes the stock less attractive as an investment. In response, the stock drops to a lower price to increase the future

percentage-wise gain so as to attract investors. When the perceived future drift is large enough, the stock price drop stops.

Thus, a higher interest rate r must correspond to a higher perceived future drift μ , in one way or the other. A higher perceived future drift μ increases the average reward at time T of owning the option and makes the option price higher.

The effect of volatility σ

The effect of volatility σ is contained in variable ω .

We differentiate $\phi(\eta, \omega)$ with respect to σ .

$$\phi(\eta, \omega) = e^\eta \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta + \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right] - \left[1 + \operatorname{erf} \left(\frac{\eta - \omega}{\sqrt{4\omega}} \right) \right], \quad \eta \equiv \log \frac{S}{K} + r\tau, \quad \omega = \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 \tau$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \phi(\eta, \omega) &= e^\eta \exp \left(\frac{-(\eta^2 + 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \left(-\frac{\eta}{4\omega^{3/2}} + \frac{1}{4\omega^{1/2}} \right) \\ &\quad - \exp \left(\frac{-(\eta^2 - 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \left(-\frac{\eta}{4\omega^{3/2}} - \frac{1}{4\omega^{1/2}} \right) \\ &= \exp \left(\frac{-(\eta^2 - 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \frac{1}{2\omega^{1/2}} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \phi(\eta, \omega) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \omega} \phi(\eta, \omega) \cdot \frac{d\omega}{d\sigma} = \exp \left(\frac{-(\eta^2 - 2\eta\omega + \omega^2)}{4\omega} \right) \frac{1}{2\omega^{1/2}} \cdot \sigma \tau > 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} C(s, t) = \frac{K}{2} e^{-r\tau} \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} \phi(\eta, \omega) > 0$$

Conclusion:

Option price $C(s, t)$ increases with volatility σ .

Interpretation:

A higher volatility increases the average reward at time T of owning the option and makes the option price higher.

The case of unknown σ

We can estimate σ from the past history of stock price and then use the estimated σ to predict the option price $C(s, t)$.

Conversely, we can use the current market price $C(s, t)$ of the option to estimate investors' perceived future volatility of the underlying stock.

- $C(s, t)$ increases with σ monotonically.

- For each realized sample of market price $C(s, t)$, there is a corresponding estimated value of future volatility σ .