CHAPTER 1

BLACK-SCHOLES MODEL FOR PRICING CALL AND PUT OPTIONS

The Black-Scholes model is a mathematical model for pricing an options contract. The model was developed by Fischer Black, Myron Scholes, and Robert Merton in the early 1970s and is a cornerstone of modern financial theory. The Black-Scholes model provides a closed-form solution for the price of European call and put options.

1   Assumptions of the Black-Scholes Model

The Black-Scholes model is based on several assumptions:

Assumption 1.1: The assumptions of Black-Scholes model

1. The stock price follows a geometric Brownian motion with constant drift and volatility.

2. There are no arbitrage opportunities.

3. The markets are frictionless, with no transaction costs or taxes.

4. The risk-free interest rate is constant and known.

5. The options can only be exercised at expiration (European options).

2   Derivation of the Black-Scholes Equation

The derivation of the Black-Scholes equation involves the use of Ito's Lemma and the concept of a risk-neutral portfolio. Consider a stock whose price $S(t)$ follows the stochastic differential equation:

$$dS = \mu S dt + \sigma S dW \tag{1.1}$$

where:

- μ is the drift rate of the stock.

- σ is the volatility of the stock.

- W is a Wiener process or Brownian motion.

Definition 2.1: Call and Put Options

- **Call Option:** Gives the holder the right (but not the obligation) to buy an asset at a predefined date and price (strike price).

- **Put Option:** Gives the holder the right (but not the obligation) to sell an asset at a predefined date and price (strike price).

Under the black and scholes assumptions we the PDE of the price of an European Call :

Theorem 2.2: Black and Scholes PDE

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + rS\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2} = rC \tag{1.2}$$

Proof for Theorem.

Using Ito's Lemma we get :

$$dC = \frac{\partial C}{\partial t}dt + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}dS + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2 dt \tag{1.3}$$

Substituting dS into the equation, we get:

$$dC = \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\mu S + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2\right)dt + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\sigma S dW \tag{1.4}$$

This can be rearranged to:

$$dC = \left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\mu S + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2\right)dt + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}\sigma S dW \tag{1.5}$$

We form a risk-free portfolio by holding a position in the stock and an option. The change in the value of the portfolio is:

$$\Pi = -C + \Delta S \tag{1.6}$$

The change in the portfolio value is:

$$d\Pi = -dC + \Delta dS \tag{1.7}$$

Substituting dC and dS, and choosing $\Delta = \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}$, we get:

$$d\Pi = -\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2\right)dt \tag{1.8}$$

For the portfolio to be risk-free, $d\Pi$ must earn the risk-free rate r:

$$-\left(\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2}\sigma^2 S^2\right) = r\left(-C + \frac{\partial C}{\partial S}S\right) \tag{1.9}$$

Simplifying, we get the Black-Scholes partial differential equation:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} + rS\frac{\partial C}{\partial S} + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2\frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2} = rC$$

3   Solution to the Black-Scholes Equation for Call Options

To solve the Black-Scholes equation, we apply the boundary condition for a European call option:

$$C(S, T) = \max(S_T - K, 0) \tag{1.10}$$

where K is the strike price and T is the time to expiration.

Using the method of transforming variables, we obtain the solution for a call option:

Theorem 3.1: Black and Scholes formulas

The price of a call under black and scholes model is :

$$C(S,t) = S\Phi(d_1) - Ke^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(d_2) \tag{1.11}$$

where:

$$d_1 = \frac{\ln\left(\frac{S}{K}\right) + \left(r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)(T-t)}{\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} \tag{1.12}$$

$$d_2 = d_1 - \sigma\sqrt{T-t} \tag{1.13}$$

and Φ is the cumulative distribution function of the standard normal distribution.

Proof for Theorem.

▌ Left exercise for reader. ■

4   Solution to the Black-Scholes Equation for Put Options

Similarly, for a European put option, the boundary condition is:

$$P(S,T) = \max(K - S_T, 0) \tag{1.14}$$

The solution for a put option is given by:

$$P(S,t) = Ke^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(-d_2) - S\Phi(-d_1) \tag{1.15}$$

5   Greeks in the Black-Scholes Model

The Greeks are sensitivities of the option price to various factors:

5.1   Delta

Delta measures the sensitivity of the option price to changes in the underlying asset price:

$$\Delta_C = \frac{\partial C}{\partial S} = \Phi(d_1) \tag{1.16}$$

$$\Delta_P = \frac{\partial P}{\partial S} = \Phi(d_1) - 1 \tag{1.17}$$

5.2   Gamma

Gamma measures the sensitivity of delta to changes in the underlying asset price:

$$\Gamma = \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial S^2} = \frac{\Phi'(d_1)}{S\sigma\sqrt{T-t}} \tag{1.18}$$

5.3   Theta

Theta measures the sensitivity of the option price to the passage of time:

$$\Theta_C = -\frac{S\Phi'(d_1)\sigma}{2\sqrt{T-t}} - rKe^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(d_2) \tag{1.19}$$

$$\Theta_P = -\frac{S\Phi'(d_1)\sigma}{2\sqrt{T-t}} + rKe^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(-d_2) \tag{1.20}$$

5.4   Vega

Vega measures the sensitivity of the option price to changes in volatility:

$$\nu = \frac{\partial C}{\partial \sigma} = \frac{\partial P}{\partial \sigma} = S\sqrt{T-t}\Phi'(d_1) \tag{1.21}$$

5.5   Rho

Rho measures the sensitivity of the option price to changes in the risk-free interest rate:

$$\rho_C = K(T-t)e^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(d_2) \tag{1.22}$$

$$\rho_P = -K(T-t)e^{-r(T-t)}\Phi(-d_2) \tag{1.23}$$

6   Numerical Examples

> **Example : Call Option Pricing**
> Consider a European call option with $S = 100$, $K = 100$, $r = 0.05$, $\sigma = 0.2$, and $T = 1$
> year. Using the Black-Scholes formula, we calculate the call option price.

7   Conclusion

The Black-Scholes model is a fundamental tool in financial markets for pricing options. It provides insights into the behavior of option prices and the factors that affect them. Understanding the model and its derivations is crucial for anyone involved in finance.