

## A quick note to explain how these values I'm calculating are relevant

### 1. Building Blocks: $d_1$ and $d_2$

First, we combine our inputs—current stock price  $S$ , strike  $K$ , time to expiry  $T$ , risk-free rate  $r$ , and implied volatility  $\sigma$ —into two intermediate terms:

$$d_1 = \frac{\ln(S/K) + (r + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2)T}{\sigma\sqrt{T}}, \quad d_2 = d_1 - \sigma\sqrt{T}.$$

Intuitively,  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  measure how far “in or out of the money” the option is, accounting for time and volatility.

### 2. Delta ( $\Delta$ )

- **Definition:** Change in option price per \$1 move in the underlying.

- **Formula:**

$$\Delta_C = \Phi(d_1), \quad \Delta_P = \Phi(d_1) - 1,$$

where  $\Phi$  is the standard normal CDF.

- **Interpretation:** A call delta of 0.6 means if the stock rises \$1, the option price rises by about \$0.60.

### 3. Gamma ( $\Gamma$ )

- **Definition:** Change in delta per \$1 move in the underlying.

- **Formula:**

$$\Gamma = \frac{\phi(d_1)}{S\sigma\sqrt{T}},$$

where  $\phi$  is the standard normal PDF.

- **Interpretation:** High gamma means delta is very sensitive to underlying moves, requiring frequent hedge adjustments.

### 4. Vega

- **Definition:** Change in option price per 1% change in implied volatility.

- **Formula:**

$$\text{Vega} = S\phi(d_1)\sqrt{T}.$$

- **Interpretation:** Vega of 0.10 means a 1% increase in volatility raises the option price by \$0.10.

## 5. Theta ( $\Theta$ )

- **Definition:** Change in option price per unit time decay (typically one day).
- **Formula (call):**

$$\Theta_C = -\frac{S \phi(d_1) \sigma}{2\sqrt{T}} - r K e^{-rT} \Phi(d_2).$$

- **Interpretation:** A theta of  $-\$0.05$  per day means the option loses  $\$0.05$  in value each day if nothing else changes.

## PDF: Probability Density Function

- A PDF,  $f(x)$ , describes the relative likelihood that a continuous random variable  $X$  is near the value  $x$ .
- Key property:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) dx = 1.$$

- Probability that  $X$  lies in  $[a, b]$ :

$$P(a \leq X \leq b) = \int_a^b f(x) dx.$$

- *Example:* Standard normal PDF  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}$ .

## CDF: Cumulative Distribution Function

- A CDF,  $F(x)$ , gives the probability that  $X$  is at most  $x$ :

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(t) dt.$$

- By construction,  $F(x)$  increases from 0 (as  $x \rightarrow -\infty$ ) to 1 (as  $x \rightarrow +\infty$ ).
- *Example:* Standard normal CDF, denoted  $\Phi(x)$ , is the area under the normal curve up to  $x$ .

## Relation to Options

- In Black-Scholes formulas,  $\phi(d)$  (the PDF) appears in gamma and vega.
- $\Phi(d)$  (the CDF) appears in delta and the option price itself.