

M339F: April 10th, 2023.

Log Normal Tail Probabilities.

Example. Consider a non dividend paying stock.
What is the probability that the stock
outperforms a risk-free investment
under the risk-neutral probability measure?

→: The initially invested amount : $S(0)$

- If it's the risk-free investment, the balance @ time T is $S(0)e^{rT}$
- If it's the stock investment, the wealth @ time T is $S(T)$

$$\text{TP}^*[S(T) > S(0)e^{rT}] = ?$$

This question is equivalent to the question of whether the profit is positive under TP^* .

$$\text{TP}^*[S(T) - S(0)e^{rT} > 0] = ?$$

In the Black-Scholes model:

$$S(T) = S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} Z} \quad \text{with } Z \sim N(0,1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{TP}^*[S(0)e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z} > S(0)e^{rT}] = (\ln(\cdot) \text{ is increasing}) \\ &= \text{TP}^*[\cancel{rT} - \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z > \cancel{rT}] = \\ &= \text{TP}^*[\sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z > \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \cdot T] = \text{TP}^*[Z > \frac{\sigma \sqrt{T}}{2}] \quad (\text{symmetry of } N(0,1)) \\ &= N\left(-\frac{\sigma \sqrt{T}}{2}\right) \xrightarrow[T \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Motivation.

Consider a European call option w/ strike K and exercise date T . Under the risk-neutral probability \mathbb{P}^* , what is the probability that the option is in-the-money on the exercise date?

→ In the Black-Scholes model:

$$S(T) = S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z} \quad \text{w/ } Z \sim N(0,1)$$

We are calculating:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P}^*[S(T) > K] = \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z} > K] \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z} > \frac{K}{S(0)}] \quad (\ln(\cdot) \text{ is increasing}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z > \ln\left(\frac{K}{S(0)}\right)] \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[\sigma \sqrt{T} \cdot Z > \ln\left(\frac{K}{S(0)}\right) - (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T] \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[Z > \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{T}} \left(\ln\left(\frac{K}{S(0)}\right) - (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T \right)] \quad (\text{symmetry of } N(0,1)) \\ &= \mathbb{P}^*[Z < \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{T}} \left(\ln\left(\frac{S(0)}{K}\right) + (r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T \right)] \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad =: d_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{P}^*[S(T) > K] = N(d_2)$$

Consequently: The probability that the otherwise identical put is in-the-money is

$$\mathbb{P}^*[S(T) < K] = 1 - N(d_2) = N(-d_2)$$

Problem. Assume the Black-Scholes model.
Let the current stock price be \$100
You are given:

$$(i) \text{ } \mathbb{P}^* [S(\frac{1}{4}) < 95] = 0.2358$$

$$(ii) \text{ } \mathbb{P}^* [S(\frac{1}{2}) < 110] = 0.6026.$$

What's the expected time-1 stock price under \mathbb{P}^* ?

→ :

$$\mathbb{E}^* [S(T)] = S(0) e^{rT}$$

$$\text{In this problem : } \mathbb{E}^* [S(1)] = 100 e^r$$

In the B-S model :

$$S(T) = S(0) e^{(r - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}) \cdot T + \sigma \sqrt{T} Z}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}^* [S(1)] &= \\ &= 100 e^{N + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}} \end{aligned} \right\}$$

(i) : 95 is 23.58^{th} quantile of $S(\frac{1}{4})$

The 23.58^{th} quantile of $N(0,1)$: standard normal tables: -0.72

$$\text{or } \text{qnorm}(0.2358) = -0.72$$

$$95 = 100 e^{\mu \cdot (\frac{1}{4}) + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}} \cdot (-0.72)} /: 100$$

$$0.95 = e^{\mu \cdot (\frac{1}{4}) + \sigma \cdot (\frac{1}{2}) \cdot (-0.72)}$$

$$\ln(0.95) = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \mu - 0.36 \cdot \sigma$$

$$\underline{0.25\mu - 0.36\sigma = \ln(0.95)} \quad (i)$$

(ii) : 110 is the 60.26^{th} quantile of $S(\frac{1}{2})$

The 60.26^{th} quantile of $N(0,1)$: std normal tables: 0.26

$$\text{or } \text{qnorm}(0.6026) = 0.26$$

$$110 = 100 e^{\mu \cdot (\frac{1}{2}) + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (0.26)}$$

$$1.1 = e^{\mu \cdot (\frac{1}{2}) + \sigma \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot (0.26)}$$

$$\underline{0.5\mu + 0.26\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \sigma = \ln(1.1)} \quad (ii)$$

We solve the system of two equations w/ two unknowns:

$$\mu = \underline{\quad ? \quad} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma = \underline{\quad ? \quad}$$

$$2 \cdot (i) : -0.5\mu + 0.72\sigma = 2 \ln(0.95)$$

$$(ii) : 0.5\mu + 0.26\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \sigma = \ln(1.1)$$

$$(0.26\sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} + 0.72) \cdot \sigma = \ln(1.1) - 2 \ln(0.95)$$

$$\sigma = \underline{0.2189492}$$

$$4 \cdot (i) : \mu = 1.44(0.2189492) + 4 \ln(0.95) = \underline{0.11011}$$

Finally: $100e^{\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}} = 100e^{0.11011 + \frac{(0.2189)^2}{2}} = \underline{114.3488}$.

□