

M3392 : December 9th, 2024.

Delta Hedging [cont'd].

Say, an agent writes an option @ time $\cdot 0$. Let the value function of this option be denoted by

$$v(s, t)$$

At time $\cdot 0$, they write the option \Rightarrow They get $v(S(0), 0)$

At time $\cdot t$, the value of the agent's position

$$-v(s, t) \checkmark$$

To (partially) hedge this position, they trade in the shares of the underlying stock to maintain a

delta-neutral portfolio,

i.e., a portfolio which has

$$\Delta_{\text{Port}}(s, t) = 0$$

Theoretically possible

At time $\cdot t$, let $N(s, t)$ denote the required number of shares in the portfolio to maintain Δ -neutrality.

The total value of the portfolio:

$$v_{\text{Port}}(s, t) = -v(s, t) + N(s, t) \cdot s$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} v_{\text{Port}}(s, t) = -\Delta(s, t) + N(s, t) = 0$$

$$N(s, t) = \Delta(s, t) \quad \checkmark$$

Example. An agent writes a call option @ time $\cdot 0$.

At time $\cdot t$, the agent's unhedged position is

$$-v(s, t)$$

\Rightarrow

$N(s, t) = \Delta_C(s, t)$ in the Δ -hedge

\Rightarrow In particular, @ time $\cdot 0$:

$$N(S(0), 0) = \Delta_C(S(0), 0) > 0$$

The agent must long this much of a share.

\Rightarrow The total position:

$$v_{\text{Port}}(S(0), 0) = -v_c(S(0), 0) + \Delta_c(S(0), 0) S(0)$$

Example. An agent writes a put @ time 0.

At any time t , their unhedged position is

$$-v_p(s, t)$$

\Rightarrow They must maintain $N(s, t) = \Delta_p(s, t) = -N(-d_1(s, t)) < 0$
in the Δ -hedge

\Rightarrow They must short a fraction of a share.

\Rightarrow Their total initial position:

$$v_{\text{Port}}(S(0), 0) = -v_p(S(0), 0) + \Delta_p(S(0), 0) \cdot S(0)$$

In the Black-Scholes model:

$$\begin{aligned} v_{\text{Port}}(S(0), 0) &= - \left(K e^{-rT} N(-d_2(S(0), 0)) - S(0) N(-d_1(S(0), 0)) \right) \\ &\quad + (-N(-d_1(S(0), 0))) \cdot S(0) \\ &= -K e^{-rT} N(-d_2(S(0), 0)) \end{aligned}$$

□