

Homework Set 3

Exercise 1 Derive the Black-Scholes equation for a general system of stocks $S(t) \in \mathbf{R}^d$ of the form

$$dS_i(t) = a_i(t, S(t))dt + \sum_{j=1}^d b_{ij}(t, S(t))dW_j(t), \quad i = 1, \dots, d$$

and the European option with final payoff $f(T, S(T)) = g(S(T))$. Here $g : \mathbf{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a given function e.g. $g(s) = \max\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^d s_i}{d} - K, 0\right)$.

Hint: Generalize the classroom derivation considering a self financing portfolio with all stocks and the option.

Exercise 2 Assume that $S(t)$ is the price of a single stock and that the assumptions made in the derivation of the Black-Scholes equation hold.

(i) Using a hedging argument, derive a PDE method to determine the price of a contingent claim with the (path dependent) payoff

$$\int_0^T h(t, S(t))dt,$$

for a given function h .

Hint: Introduce an auxiliary variable, $Y(t)$, with $Y(0) = 0$ and $dY_t = h(t, S(t))dt$. Let the price of the option be $f(t, S(t), Y(t))$ and use a replicating portfolio argument.

(ii) Use the Feynman-Kac representation to the option price above and express it as an expected value. What is the dynamics of the stock in such a representation?