

# Package ‘DtD’

July 21, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Distance to Default

**Version** 0.2.2

**Maintainer** Benjamin Christoffersen <boennecd@gmail.com>

**Description** Provides fast methods to work with Merton's distance to default model introduced in Merton (1974) <[doi:10.1111/j.1540-6261.1974.tb03058.x](https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1540-6261.1974.tb03058.x)>. The methods includes simulation and estimation of the parameters.

**License** GPL-2

**Encoding** UTF-8

**BugReports** <https://github.com/boennecd/DtD/issues>

**LazyData** true

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

**Imports** Rcpp, checkmate

**Suggests** knitr, rmarkdown, testthat, microbenchmark

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**RoxygenNote** 7.0.1

**SystemRequirements** C++11

**NeedsCompilation** yes

**Author** Benjamin Christoffersen [cre, aut],  
R-core [cph],  
Robert Gentleman [cph],  
Ross Ihaka [cph]

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2020-02-11 08:30:02 UTC

## Contents

BS_call . . . . .	2
BS_fit . . . . .	3

BS_fit_rolling . . . . .	4
BS_sim . . . . .	6
merton_ll . . . . .	7
<b>Index</b>	<b>9</b>

---

BS_call	<i>European Call Option Price and the Inverse</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

Computes the European call option and the inverse. All vectors with length greater than one needs to have the same length.

**Usage**

```
BS_call(V, D, T., r, vol)

get_underlying(S, D, T., r, vol, tol = 1e-12)
```

**Arguments**

- V                numeric vector or scalar with price of the underlying asset.
- D                numeric vector or scalar with debt due in T..
- T.               numeric vector or scalar with time to maturity.
- r                numeric vector or scalar with risk free rates.
- vol              numeric vector or scalar with volatilities,  $\sigma$ s.
- S                numeric vector with observed stock prices.
- tol              numeric scalar with tolerance to [get\\_underlying](#). The difference is scaled if the absolute of S is large than tol as in the tolerance argument to [all.equal.numeric](#).

**Value**

Numeric vector or scalar with price of the underlying asset or equity price.

**See Also**

[BS\\_fit](#)

**Examples**

```
library(DtD)
set.seed(58661382)
sims <- BS_sim(
  vol = .2, mu = .03, dt = .1, V_0 = 100, T. = 1, D = rep(80, 20), r = .01)

stopifnot(with(
```

```

    sims, isTRUE(all.equal(V, get_underlying(S, D, T, r, vol))))))
stopifnot(with(
  sims, isTRUE(all.equal(S, BS_call(V, D, T, r, vol))))))

```

---

BS\_fit

---

*Fit Black-Scholes Parameters*


---

**Description**

Function to estimate the volatility,  $\sigma$ , and drift,  $\mu$ . See vignette("Distance-to-default", package = "DtD") for details. All vectors with length greater than one needs to have the same length. The Nelder-Mead method from [optim](#) is used when method = "mle". Either time or dt should be passed.

**Usage**

```

BS_fit(
  S,
  D,
  T.,
  r,
  time,
  dt,
  vol_start,
  method = c("iterative", "mle"),
  tol = 1e-12,
  eps = 1e-08
)

```

**Arguments**

S	numeric vector with observed stock prices.
D	numeric vector or scalar with debt due in T..
T.	numeric vector or scalar with time to maturity.
r	numeric vector or scalar with risk free rates.
time	numeric vector with the observation times.
dt	numeric scalar with time increments between observations.
vol_start	numeric scalar with starting value for $\sigma$ .
method	string to specify which estimation method to use.
tol	numeric scalar with tolerance to <a href="#">get_underlying</a> . The difference is scaled if the absolute of S is large than tol as in the tolerance argument to <a href="#">all.equal.numeric</a> .
eps	numeric scalar with convergence threshold.

**Value**

A list with the following components

ests	estimates of $\sigma$ , and drift, $\mu$ .
n_iter	number of iterations when method = "iterative" and number of log likelihood evaluations when method = "mle".
success	logical for whether the estimation method converged.

**Warning**

Choosing `tol >= eps` or roughly equal may make the method alternate between two solutions for some data sets.

**Examples**

```
library(DtD)
set.seed(83486778)
sims <- BS_sim(
  vol = .1, mu = .05, dt = .1, V_0 = 100, T. = 1, D = rep(80, 20), r = .01)

with(sims,
  BS_fit(S = S, D = D, T. = T, r = r, time = time, method = "mle"))
```

---

BS\_fit\_rolling

*Fit Black-Scholes Parameters Over Rolling Window*


---

**Description**

Function to estimate the volatility,  $\sigma$ , and drift,  $\mu$ . E.g., the window can be over a given number of months. See `vignette("Distance-to-default", package = "DtD")` for details.

**Usage**

```
BS_fit_rolling(
  S,
  D,
  T.,
  r,
  time,
  dt,
  vol_start,
  method = c("iterative", "mle"),
  tol = 1e-12,
  eps = 1e-08,
  grp,
  width,
  min_obs
)
```

**Arguments**

S	numeric vector with observed stock prices.
D	numeric vector or scalar with debt due in T..
T.	numeric vector or scalar with time to maturity.
r	numeric vector or scalar with risk free rates.
time	numeric vector with the observation times.
dt	numeric scalar with time increments between observations.
vol_start	numeric scalar with starting value for $\sigma$ .
method	string to specify which estimation method to use.
tol	numeric scalar with tolerance to <a href="#">get_underlying</a> . The difference is scaled if the absolute of S is large than tol as in the tolerance argument to <a href="#">all.equal.numeric</a> .
eps	numeric scalar with convergence threshold.
grp	integer vector with the group identifier (e.g., units of months).
width	integer scalar with the units of grp to include in the rolling window.
min_obs	integer scalar for the minimum number of observation required in each window.

**Value**

Matrix with the grp, number of observation in the window, parameter estimates, and 'n\_iter' as in [BS\\_fit](#), and whether the estimation method was successful.

An error attribute is added in case other code than [optim](#) fails. It is a list of lists with the grp index where the method failed and the output from [try](#).

**See Also**

[BS\\_fit](#)

**Examples**

```
# Simulate data
set.seed(55770945)
n <- 21L * 3L * 12L # 21 trading days for 3 years w/ 12 months
sims <- BS_sim(
  vol = .1, mu = .05, dt = .1, V_0 = 100, T. = 1,
  D = runif(n, 80, 90), r = runif(n, 0, .01))
sims$month <- (1:nrow(sims) - 1L) %/% 21L + 1L

# throw out some months
sims <- subset(sims, !month %in% 15:24)

# assign parameters
grp <- sims$month
width <- 12L # window w/ 12 month width
min_obs <- 21L * 3L # require 3 months of data

# estimate results with R loop which is slightly simpler then the
```

```

# implementation
grps <- unique(grp)
out <- matrix(
  NA_real_, nrow = length(grps), ncol = 6,
  dimnames = list(NULL, c("mu", "vol", "n_iter", "success", "n_obs", "grp")))
for(g in grps){
  idx <- which(grps == g)
  keep <- which(grp %in% (g - width + 1L):g)
  out[idx, c("n_obs", "grp")] <- c(length(keep), g)
  if(length(keep) < min_obs)
    next
  res <- with(
    sims[keep, ],
    BS_fit(S = S, D = D, T. = T, r = r, time = time, method = "iterative",
           vol_start = 1))
  out[idx, c("mu", "vol", "n_iter", "success")] <- rep(
    do.call(c, res[c("ests", "n_iter", "success")]), each = length(idx))
}

# we get the same with the R function
out_func <- with(sims, BS_fit_rolling(
  S = S, D = D, T. = T, r = r, time = time, method = "iterative",
  grp = month, width = width, min_obs = min_obs))

all.equal(out[, names(out) != "n_iter"],
          out_func[, names(out_func) != "n_iter"])

```

BS\_sim

*Simulate Stock Price and Price of Underlying Asset***Description**

At least one of D, r, or T. needs to have the desired length of the simulated series. All vectors with length greater than one needs to have the same length.

**Usage**

```
BS_sim(vol, mu, dt, V_0, D, r, T.)
```

**Arguments**

vol	numeric scalar with $\sigma$ value.
mu	numeric scalar with $\mu$ value.
dt	numeric scalar with time increments between observations.
V_0	numeric scalar with starting value of the underlying asset, $S_0$ .
D	numeric vector or scalar with debt due in T..
r	numeric vector or scalar with risk free rates.
T.	numeric vector or scalar with time to maturity.

**See Also**[BS\\_fit](#)**Examples**

```
library(DtD)
set.seed(79156879)
sims <- BS_sim(
  vol = .1, mu = .05, dt = .2, V_0 = 100, T. = 1, D = rep(80, 20), r = .01)

# plot underlying
plot(sims$V)

# plot stock
plot(sims$S)
```

merton\_ll

*Compute Log-Likelihood of Merton Model***Description**

Computes the log-likelihood for a given values of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ .

**Usage**

```
merton_ll(S, D, T., r, time, dt, vol, mu, tol = 1e-12)
```

**Arguments**

S	numeric vector with observed stock prices.
D	numeric vector or scalar with debt due in T..
T.	numeric vector or scalar with time to maturity.
r	numeric vector or scalar with risk free rates.
time	numeric vector with the observation times.
dt	numeric scalar with time increments between observations.
vol	numeric scalar with the $\sigma$ value.
mu	numeric scalar with the $\mu$ value.
tol	numeric scalar with tolerance to <a href="#">get_underlying</a> . The difference is scaled if the absolute of S is large than tol as in the tolerance argument to <a href="#">all.equal.numeric</a> .

**See Also**[BS\\_fit](#)

**Examples**

```

# we get the same if we call `optim` as follows. The former is faster and is
# recommended
set.seed(4648394)
sims <- BS_sim(
  vol = .1, mu = .05, dt = .1, V_0 = 100, T. = 1, D = rep(80, 20), r = .01)

r1 <- with(
  sims, BS_fit(S = S, D = D, T. = T, r = r, time = time, method = "mle",
    eps = 1e-8, vol_start = .2))

r2 <- optim(c(mu = 0, log_vol = log(.2)), function(par)
  -with(
    sims, merton_ll(S = S, D = D, T. = T, r = r, time = time,
      mu = par["mu"], vol = exp(par["log_vol"]))))

all.equal(r1$n_iter, unname(r2$counts[1]))
all.equal(r1$ests[1], r2$par[1])
all.equal(r1$ests[2], exp(r2$par[2]), check.attributes = FALSE)

# the log-likelihood integrates to one as it should though likely not the
# most stable way to test this
ll <- integrate(
  function(x) sapply(x, function(S)
    exp(merton_ll(
      S = c(1, S), D = .8, T. = 3, r = .01, dt = 1/250, vol = .2,
      mu = .05))),
  lower = 1e-4, upper = 6)
stopifnot(isTRUE(all.equal(ll$value, 1, tolerance = 1e-5)))

```



# Index

`all.equal.numeric`, [2](#), [3](#), [5](#), [7](#)

`BS_call`, [2](#)

`BS_fit`, [2](#), [3](#), [5](#), [7](#)

`BS_fit_rolling`, [4](#)

`BS_sim`, [6](#)

`get_underlying`, [2](#), [3](#), [5](#), [7](#)

`get_underlying(BS_call)`, [2](#)

`merton_ll`, [7](#)

`optim`, [3](#), [5](#)

`try`, [5](#)