Exercises for seminar no. 6

(2) revised

Consider a real investment project lasting for one period only, with deterministic costs, B = 1200, producing a deterministic quantity, A = 100, of some commodity. The output price is P_t , which has uncertain future values. Revenue and costs of the project appear within the same time period.

At t = 0 there are traded forward contracts on the commodity for delivery at t = 1. These have a forward price, $F_{01} = 19$. Today's price is $P_0 = 18$. The output price follows a GBM with $\sigma = 0.29$. The risk free interest rate factor is $e^r = 1.125$.

Find the value of having a claim to the project opportunity at t = 0 under three alternative assumptions:

- 2(a) The project is undertaken at t = 0.
- 2(b) One commits at t = 0 to undertaking the project at t = 1.
- 2(c) After P_1 is known, one will have the choice of undertaking the project at t = 1 or never.

For part (c), show that the cash flow from the project at t = 1, as seen from t = 0, is equal to the cash flow from an option (or a number of equal options), as a function of the uncertain output price P_t . Try to find the valuation at t = 0 of such a cash flow.

(The Black-Scholes-Merton formula is not quite what you need for this, but you may use it anyhow.)

(The numbers which were part of the previous version of this problem, N(1.73) and N(1.44), will not be useful if you use the standard Black-Scholes-Merton version.)