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PRM Certification - Exam II: Mathematical Foundations of Risk Measurement

PRMIA 8002

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sales@dumpsarena.co

sales@dumpsarena.co
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QUESTION NO: 1

Let X be a random variable normally distributed with zero mean and let Y be a random variable normally distributed with zero mean and variance σ^2 . Then the correlation between X and Y is:

- A. negative
- B. zero
- C. not defined
- D. positive

ANSWER: B**QUESTION NO: 2**

What is the total derivative of the function $f(x,y) = \ln(x+y)$, where $\ln()$ denotes the natural logarithmic function?

- A. $1 / (x+y)$
- B. $(\Delta x + \Delta y) / (x+y)$
- C. $-\Delta x / (x+y) - \Delta y / (x+y)$
- D. $\ln(x+y) \Delta x + \ln(x+y) \Delta y$

ANSWER: B**QUESTION NO: 3**

The first derivative of a function $f(x)$ is zero at some point, the second derivative is also zero at this point. This means that:

- A. f has necessarily a minimum at this point
- B. f has necessarily a maximum at this point
- C. f has necessarily neither a minimum nor a maximum at this point
- D. f might have either a minimum or a maximum or neither of them at this point

ANSWER: D**QUESTION NO: 4**

You invest \$100 000 for 3 years at a continuously compounded rate of 3%. At the end of 3 years, you redeem the investment. Taxes of 22% are applied at the time of redemption. What is your approximate after-tax profit from the investment, rounded to \$10?

- A. \$9420
- B. \$7350
- C. \$7230
- D. \$7100

ANSWER: B

QUESTION NO: 5

An underlying asset price is at 100, its annual volatility is 25% and the risk free interest rate is 5%. A European put option has a strike of 105 and a maturity of 90 days. Its Black-Scholes price is 7.11. The options sensitivities are: delta = -0.59; gamma = 0.03; vega = 19.29. Find the delta-gamma approximation to the new option price when the underlying asset price changes to 105

- A. 6.49
- B. 5.03
- C. 4.59
- D. 4.54

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 6

Consider a binomial lattice where a security price S moves up by a factor u with probability p , or down by a factor d with probability $1 - p$. If we set $d > 1/u$ then which of the following will be TRUE?

- A. The lattice will not recombine
- B. The probability of an up move will not be constant
- C. There will always be a downward drift in the lattice
- D. None of the above

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 7

An asset price S is lognormally distributed if:

- A. the change in price (dS) is normally distributed
- B. $1/S$ is normally distributed
- C. $\ln(dS/S)$ is normally distributed
- D. $\ln(1+dS/S)$ is normally distributed

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 8

A linear regression gives the following output:

Figures in square brackets are estimated standard errors of the coefficient estimates. What is the value of the test statistic for the hypothesis that the coefficient of x is zero against the alternative that is less than zero?

- A. 0.125
- B. 2.5
- C. -1.25
- D. -2.5

ANSWER: D

QUESTION NO: 9

A quadratic form is

- A. defined as a positive definite Hessian matrix.
- B. an algebraic expression in two variables, x and y , involving x^2 , xy , and y^2 terms.
- C. a specific solution of the Black-Scholes pricing formula
- D. an algebraic expression in two variables, x and y , involving x^2 , xy , and y^2 terms.

ANSWER: B

QUESTION NO: 10

The bisection method can be used for solving $f(x)=0$ for a unique solution of x , when

- A. The function $f(x)$ is continuous and monotonic
- B. The function $f(x)$ is differentiable

- C. The function $f(x)$ is differentiable and we have an explicit expression for the derivative
- D. The function $f(x)$ is continuous

ANSWER: A