

Article

Reconstructing the Local Volatility Surface from Market Option Prices

Soobin Kwak ¹, Youngjin Hwang ¹, Yongho Choi ², Jian Wang ³, Sangkwon Kim ¹ and Junseok Kim ^{1,*}

¹ Department of Mathematics, Korea University, Seoul 02841, Korea; soobin23@korea.ac.kr (S.K.); youngjin_hwang@korea.ac.kr (Y.H.); ksk8863@korea.ac.kr (S.K.)

² Department of Computer & Information Engineering (Information Security), Daegu University, Gyeongsan-si 38453, Korea; yongho_choi@daegu.ac.kr

³ School of Mathematics and Statistics, Nanjing University of Information Science and Technology, Nanjing 210044, China; 003328@nuist.edu.cn

* Correspondence: cfdkim@korea.ac.kr

Abstract: We present an efficient and accurate computational algorithm for reconstructing a local volatility surface from given market option prices. The local volatility surface is dependent on the values of both the time and underlying asset. We use the generalized Black–Scholes (BS) equation and finite difference method (FDM) to numerically solve the generalized BS equation. We reconstruct the local volatility function, which provides the best fit between the theoretical and market option prices by minimizing a cost function that is a quadratic representation of the difference between the two option prices. This is an inverse problem in which we want to calculate a local volatility function consistent with the observed market prices. To achieve robust computation, we place the sample points of the unknown volatility function in the middle of the expiration dates. We perform various numerical experiments to confirm the simplicity, robustness, and accuracy of the proposed method in reconstructing the local volatility function.

Keywords: local volatility function; Black–Scholes equations; option pricing; finite difference method

MSC: 65M06; 65M22; 65M32



Citation: Kwak, S.; Hwang, Y.; Choi, Y.; Wang, J.; Kim, S.; Kim, J.

Reconstructing the Local Volatility Surface from Market Option Prices. *Mathematics* **2022**, *10*, 2537. <https://doi.org/10.3390/math10142537>

Academic Editor: Francisco Jareño

Received: 20 June 2022

Accepted: 20 July 2022

Published: 21 July 2022

Publisher's Note: MDPI stays neutral with regard to jurisdictional claims in published maps and institutional affiliations.



Copyright: © 2022 by the authors. Licensee MDPI, Basel, Switzerland. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>).

1. Introduction

In 1973, Fischer Black and Myron Scholes first introduced the Black–Scholes (BS) equation for option pricing [1]:

$$\frac{\partial u(S, t)}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}(\sigma S)^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(S, t)}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial u(S, t)}{\partial S} - ru(S, t) = 0, \quad (1)$$

where $u(S, t)$ is the option value, S is the underlying price, t is the time variable, σ is the volatility of S , and r is the short interest rate. Equation (1) is solved using boundary conditions and a payoff condition at time $t = T$. The BS equation was derived under the assumption of constant volatility. However, it is widely known that the BS equation with constant volatility cannot accurately produce market option prices. In general, as volatility increases, the prices of options also tend to rise because of the increasing chances of options ending in the money. The volatility and option prices are positively correlated with each other. A generalized BS model was proposed to overcome the limitations of the BS equation with a constant volatility term:

$$\frac{\partial u(S, t)}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2}[\sigma(S, t)S]^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(S, t)}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial u(S, t)}{\partial S} - ru(S, t) = 0, \quad (2)$$

where $\sigma(S, t)$ is the space- and time-dependent volatility function [2]. Here, we call $\sigma(S, t)$ by the local volatility function because it is a function of both the asset price S and time

t , which is a generalization of the constant volatility. Implied volatility is the volatility calculated by inputting the market option price, strike, current underlying asset price, maturity time, and interest rate into the BS equation with a constant volatility, which makes both the theoretical and market option prices the same. Therefore, the implied volatility is the function of the market option price, strike, current underlying asset price, maturity time, and interest rate. We can construct an implied volatility surface by changing strike prices and maturity times while fixing the other parameter values. Note that we are interested in constructing a local volatility function, which is a function of the asset price S and time t not strike price and time.

Various studies have been conducted on reconstructing volatility surfaces using market option prices. Jin et al. [3] proposed a reconstruction method for a non-constant volatility model using the BS equation. Georgiev and Vulkov [4] developed a fast and efficient computational method for reconstructing the time-dependent local volatility surface and used a predictor-corrector scheme because of the non-uniqueness of the local volatility surface. Hofmann et al. [5] developed a simultaneous reconstruction of volatility and interest rate functions from call-and put-price functions and overcame the ill-posedness using a two-parameter Tikhonov regularization. Georgiev and Vulkov [6] also considered the simultaneous recovery of the temporally changing volatility and interest rate functions. Using the BS model, Park et al. [7] proposed a calibration technique of the time-dependent volatility and interest rate functions. Zhang et al. [8] reconstructed the local volatility function using Dupire's equation with total variation regularization. In quantitative finance, the reconstruction of local volatility is an important inverse problem [9]. In [2], the authors studied the inverse problem of solving a time-dependent local volatility function using option prices. In [10,11], the authors proposed local volatility function reconstruction algorithms that use an effective region of volatility. In [12], the authors presented a simple and efficient algorithm using a jump-diffusion model to calculate time-dependent volatility. Recently, deep learning has been attracting attention from the financial field, and a large part of it has been used for financial time series prediction [13]. Pradeepkumar and Ravi [14] proposed a neural network method for predicting the volatility of financial time series and verified its superior performance compared to several other machine learning methods. Hellmuth and Klingenberg [15] presented a numerical variation based on Bi-Fidelity on a machine learning method. Option pricing studies [16–18] on various financial products have been conducted, as well as option pricing studies [19–21] on the BS equation.

The primary contribution of this paper is to propose a simple, efficient, and accurate computational method for reconstructing the local volatility function using only given market option prices, expiration times, strike prices, and the generalized BS equation. Some assumptions and additional requirements in the existing literature are Tikhonov regularization, Dupire's equation, and effective region of volatility. Compared to the previous methods, which involve several assumptions and additional requirements for reconstructing the local volatility function, the proposed algorithm only uses the minimum requirements. Therefore, it is one of the simplest reconstruction methods for the local volatility function.

The layout of this paper is as follows. In Section 2, we present the proposed algorithm for optimizing the local volatility function. In Section 3, computational experiments are performed to demonstrate the efficiency and accuracy of the proposed algorithm. Finally, in Section 4, conclusions are presented.

2. Methodology

We now briefly describe the proposed algorithm of optimizing the local volatility function. We use the generalized BS Equation (2) to reconstruct the local volatility function $\sigma(S, t)$ from market option prices. Equation (2) can be rewritten as

$$\frac{\partial u(S, \tau)}{\partial \tau} = \frac{1}{2}[\sigma(S, \tau)S]^2 \frac{\partial^2 u(S, \tau)}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial u(S, \tau)}{\partial S} - ru(S, \tau), \quad (3)$$

for $(S, \tau) \in \Omega \times (0, T]$ with initial condition $u(S, 0)$, where $\tau = T - t$. We numerically solve Equation (3) using the finite difference scheme. Let $u_i^n \equiv u(S_i, n\Delta\tau)$ be the numerical solution of Equation (3) for $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_S$ and $n = 0, 1, \dots, N_\tau$. In this study, unless otherwise specified, we use a uniform temporal size $\Delta\tau = 1/360$. We use the non-uniform asset price discrete domain as shown in Figure 1. Here, $h_i = S_{i+1} - S_i$ and $S_1 = 0$.

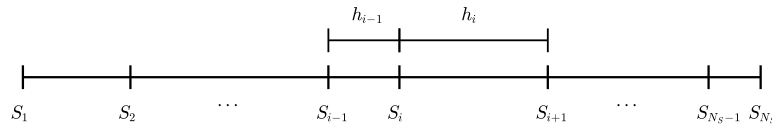


Figure 1. Non-uniform grid with spatial step size h_i .

Let $\sigma_i^n \equiv \sigma(S_i, n\Delta\tau)$ be discrete variable volatility. Using the implicit Euler method, we discretize Equation (3) as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta\tau} &= \frac{(\sigma_i^{n+1}S_i)^2}{2} \left(\frac{2u_{i-1}^{n+1}}{h_{i-1}(h_i + h_{i-1})} - \frac{2u_i^{n+1}}{h_i h_{i-1}} + \frac{2u_{i+1}^{n+1}}{h_i(h_i + h_{i-1})} \right) \\ &+ rS_i \left(\frac{-h_i u_{i-1}^{n+1}}{h_{i-1}(h_i + h_{i-1})} + \frac{(h_i - h_{i-1})u_i^{n+1}}{h_{i-1}h_i} + \frac{h_{i-1}u_{i+1}^{n+1}}{h_i(h_{i-1} + h_i)} \right) - ru_i^{n+1}. \end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

We can then rewrite Equation (4) as

$$\alpha_i u_{i-1}^{n+1} + \beta_i u_i^{n+1} + \gamma_i u_{i+1}^{n+1} = b_i, \quad \text{for } i = 2, \dots, N_S, \tag{5}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i &= \frac{rS_i h_i - (\sigma_i^{n+1}S_i)^2}{h_{i-1}(h_i + h_{i-1})}, \quad \beta_i = \frac{1}{\Delta\tau} - \frac{rS_i(h_i - h_{i-1}) - (\sigma_i^{n+1}S_i)^2}{h_{i-1}h_i} + r, \\ \gamma_i &= -\frac{S_i h_{i-1}}{h_i(h_{i-1} + h_i)} - \frac{(\sigma_i^{n+1}S_i)^2}{h_i(h_{i-1} + h_i)}, \quad b_i = \frac{u_i^n}{\Delta\tau}. \end{aligned}$$

We use the zero Dirichlet boundary condition at S_1 , that is, $u_1^{n+1} = 0$, and linearity condition at S_{N_S} , that is, $u_{N_S+1}^{n+1} = 2u_{N_S}^{n+1} - u_{N_S-1}^{n+1}$, for all n [22]. To numerically solve the discrete system (5), we use the Thomas algorithm [23]. Note that the generalized BS equation is a degenerate parabolic partial differential equation and has a zero coefficient in front of the partial derivatives at $S_1 = 0$. However, we use the homogeneous Dirichlet boundary condition at S_1 ; therefore, we do not encounter a degenerate problem. In addition, we assume a positive local volatility function. Let us assume that we have market option prices $\{U_\beta^\alpha\}$ at T_α for $\alpha = 1, \dots, M_\alpha$ and exercise prices K_β for $\beta = 1, \dots, M_\beta$. Here, $T_1 < \dots < T_{M_\alpha}$ and $K_1 < \dots < K_{M_\beta}$. Using the given option prices $\{U_\beta^\alpha\}$, we compute the local volatility function $\sigma(S, t)$ by minimizing the following mean-square error (MSE) [10]:

$$\mathcal{E}(\sigma) = \frac{1}{M_\alpha M_\beta} \sum_{\alpha=1}^{M_\alpha} \sum_{\beta=1}^{M_\beta} \omega_\beta^\alpha [u_{K_\beta}(\sigma; S_0, T_\alpha) - U_\beta^\alpha]^2, \tag{6}$$

where $u_{K_\beta}(\sigma; S_0, T_\alpha)$ is the computational solution at $S = S_0$ of Equation (3) with strike price K_β at time T_α and initial condition $u_i^0 = \max(S_i - K_\beta, 0)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, N_S$. Here, ω_β^α is one if market data are used; zero otherwise. We apply the *lsqcurvefit* function in MATLAB R2021a [24] to compute the optimal volatility function σ that minimizes cost function $\mathcal{E}(\sigma)$. To achieve robust computation, we place points of the unknown volatility function at the middle times of the expiration dates [3]. We use the following notation $t_1 = 0$; $t_q = (T_{q-1} + T_q)/2$ for $q = 2, \dots, M_\alpha - 1$ and $t_{M_\alpha} = T_{M_\alpha}$, as shown in Figure 2a.

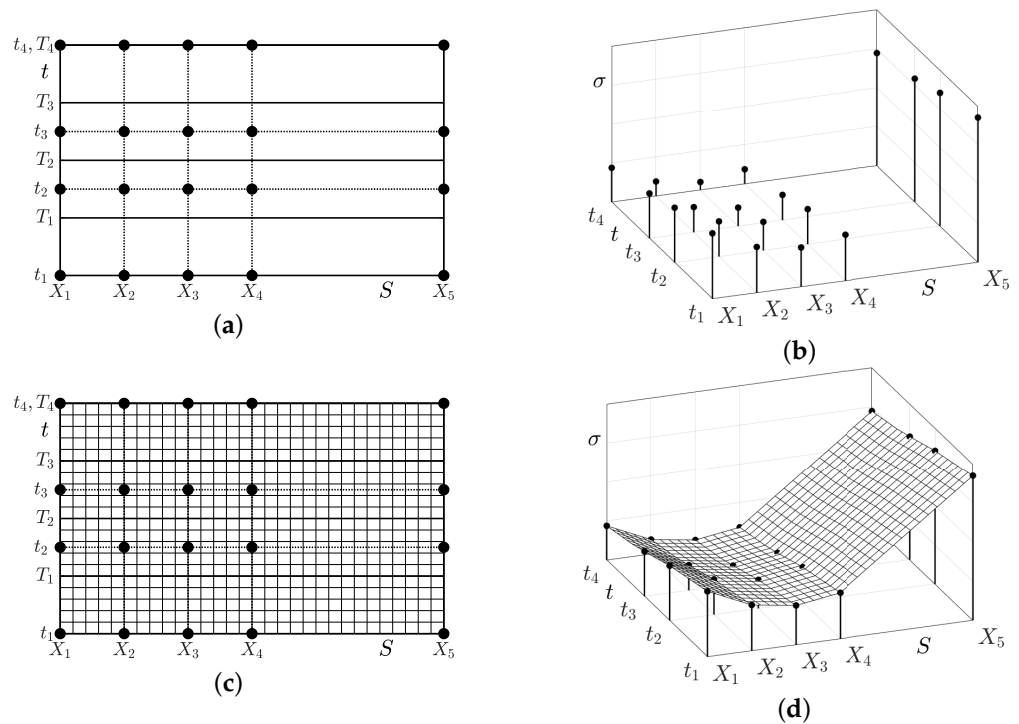


Figure 2. Schematics of the local volatility function in the proposed scheme: (a) sample point coordinates, (b) sample volatility values at the sample points, (c) grid used in the finite difference method, and (d) interpolated volatility values at the grid of query points.

Let us define the piecewise linearly interpolated volatility function $\sigma(S, t)$ that satisfies

$$\sigma(S, t) = \sigma_{pq} \text{ if } S = X_p \text{ and } t = t_q,$$

where (X_p, t_q) are the sample points and σ_{pq} are the sample volatility values at the sample points, as shown in Figure 2b. Figure 2c,d show the grid used in the finite difference method and the interpolated volatility values at the grid of query points, respectively.

The superior properties of the proposed method are its simplicity, efficiency, and accuracy in reconstructing the local volatility function using only the given market option prices, strike prices, expiration times, and generalized BS equation. For interested readers, MATLAB code with a uniform grid size is provided in the Appendix A.

3. Computational Experiments

We present several numerical experiments to demonstrate the effectiveness of the proposed algorithm. We also provide the CPU times using an Intel(R) Core(TM) i9-12900K CPU 3.19 GHz processor for each experiment.

3.1. Effect of Initial Guess of $\sigma(S, t)$

First, we examine the effect of the initial guess of $\sigma(S, t)$ on reconstructing the local volatility function. As a test problem, we consider the following local volatility function on $\Omega = (0, 3S_0) \times (0, 1)$; see Figure 3a:

$$\sigma(S, t) = 0.00001(S - S_0)^2 + 0.1 \cos(\pi t) - 0.2t + 0.4, \tag{7}$$

where $S_0 = 100$. The parameters used are $\Delta\tau = 1/360$, $N_S = 301$, $r = 0.01$, $T_\alpha = 0.25\alpha$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4$, and strike prices $K_\beta = 92.5 + 2.5\beta$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 5$. Using these parameter values, we generate market call option prices $\{U_\beta^\alpha\}$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4$ and $\beta = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$. Figure 3b shows the option prices computed using the given volatility function (7) and two reconstructed local volatility functions with different initial guesses. Figure 3c,e are

the reconstructed volatility surfaces using initial guesses $\sigma(S, t) = 0.1$ and $\sigma(S, t) = 0.9$, respectively. Figures 3d,f are the overlapped surfaces of (c) and (e) with the given reference volatility function, respectively.

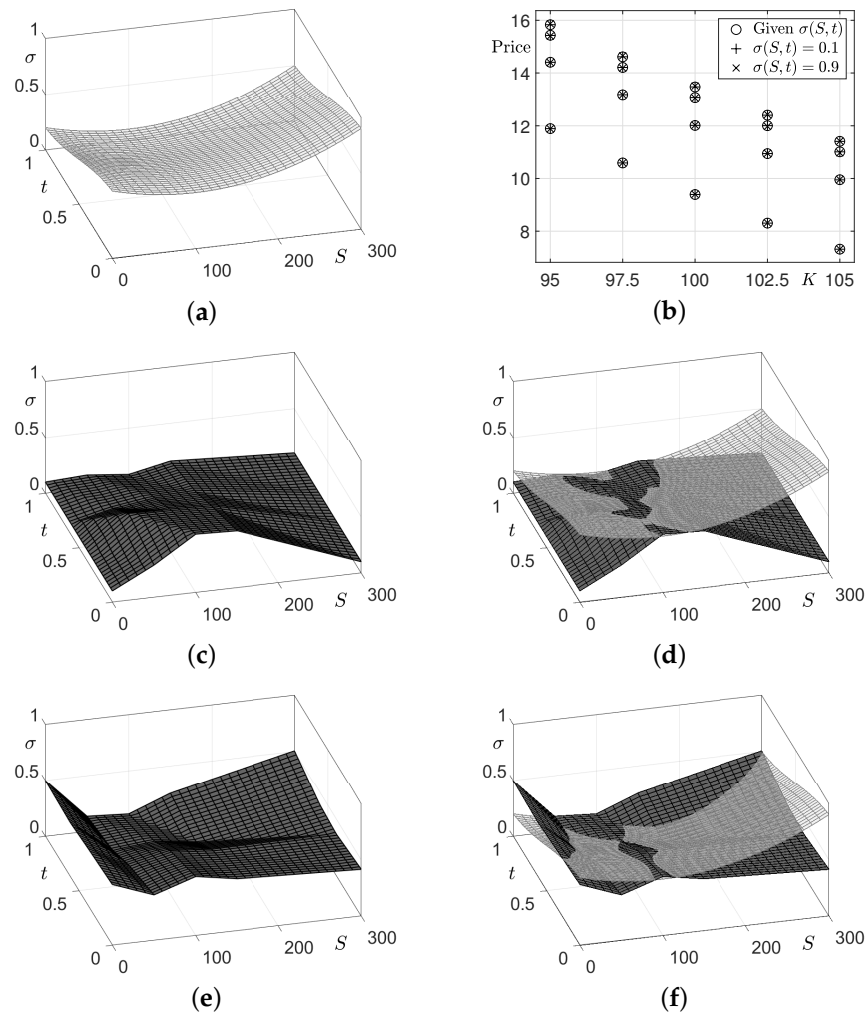


Figure 3. (a) Given local volatility function $\sigma(S, t) = 0.00001(S - S_0)^2 + 0.1 \cos(\pi t) - 0.2t + 0.4$. (b) Option prices computed using the given and reconstructed volatility functions. (c,e) are reconstructed volatility functions with initial guesses $\sigma(S, t) = 0.1$ and $\sigma(S, t) = 0.9$, respectively. (d,f) are the overlapped surfaces of (c) and (e) with (a), respectively.

These results are in good agreement with each other in the effective volatility region, which is computed using the probability density function of a log-normal distribution to define the effective area. The existence of the effective domain is mainly due to the fact that the volatility term in the BS equation (2) is close to zero where the second derivatives of the option prices are small. In the case of call options, the option prices are close to linearly far away from the strike prices. As schematically shown in Figure 4, the boundary of the effective volatility region is a parabola-type shape; see [10] for more details.

Because the results are virtually independent of the initial guess, we will use $\sigma(S, t) = 0.5$ as an initial guess for reconstructing the local volatility function from now on. When $\sigma = 0.1$ and $\sigma = 0.9$, the CPU times for computing the local volatility functions are 36.73 and 36.04 s, respectively.

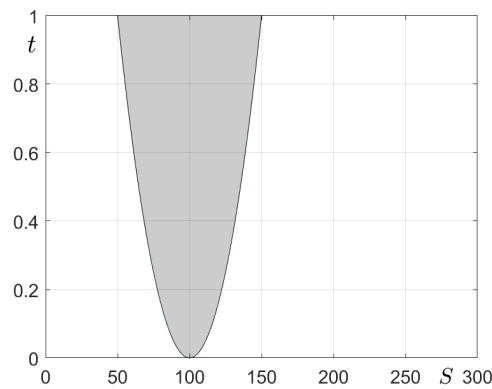


Figure 4. Schematic diagram of the effective volatility region.

In real-world practical applications, the local volatility function from the real-world market data may have oscillations. To confirm the proposed algorithm can recover the local volatility function that can generate such function, we consider a reference local volatility function similar to that in [25] (see Figure 5c):

$$\sigma(S, t) = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{4}{25} e^{\frac{t}{2}} \cos\left(\frac{4\pi S}{3S_0}\right) \text{ on } \Omega = (0, 3S_0) \times (0, 1), \tag{8}$$

where $S_0 = 100$. The parameters used are $\Delta\tau = 1/360$, $N_S = 301$, $r = 0.01$, $T_\alpha = 0.25\alpha$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4$, and strike prices $K_\beta = 75 + 5\beta$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 9$. Figure 5a shows the option prices calculated using the given volatility function (8) and reconstructed local volatility function. Figure 5b,d are the reconstructed local volatility function and overlapped surfaces with (c), respectively. The two local volatility surfaces are in good agreement each other in the effective volatility region, which is schematically shown in Figure 4, and the computed option prices are almost identical. We can observe the proposed algorithm can recover the oscillatory local volatility function. The CPU time for computing the local volatility function is 101.27 s.

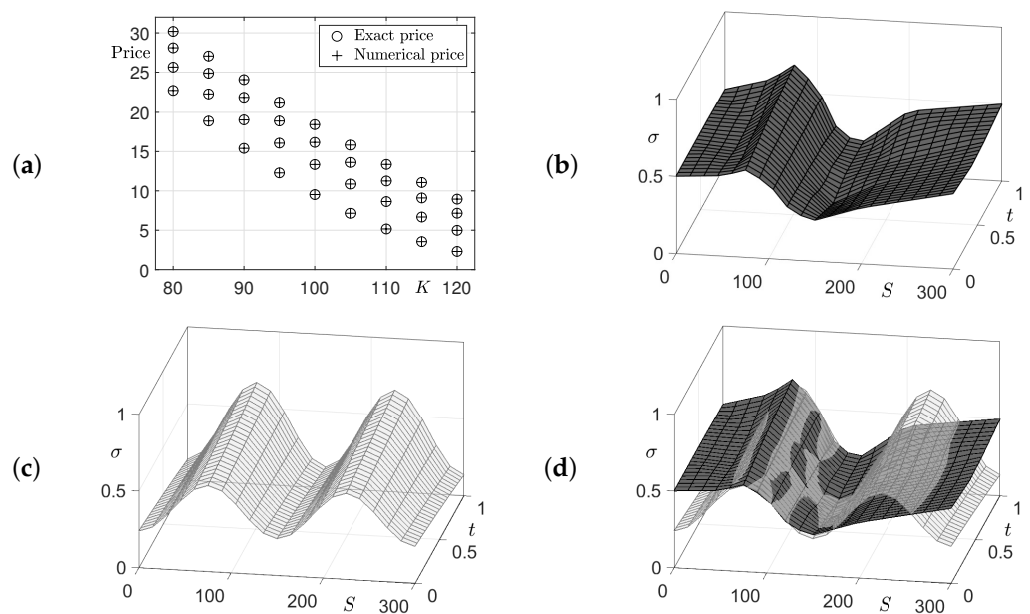


Figure 5. (a) Option prices computed using the given and reconstructed local volatility functions. (b) Reconstructed local volatility function. (c) Given local volatility function $\sigma(S, t) = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{4}{25} e^{t/2} \cos\left(\frac{4\pi S}{3S_0}\right)$. (d) Overlapped surfaces of (b,c).

We consider another reference local volatility function, which was used in [26] (see Figure 6c):

$$\sigma(S, t) = 0.1 \left(1 + \frac{S_0}{S} + \frac{(S - S_0)^2}{100S} \right) \text{ on } \Omega = (0, 3S_0) \times (0, 1), \tag{9}$$

where $S_0 = 100$. The parameters used are $\Delta\tau = 1/360$, $N_S = 301$, $r = 0$, $T_\alpha = 0.25\alpha$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, 3, 4$, and strike prices $K_\beta = 87.5 + 2.5\beta$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 11$. Figure 6a,b,d are the option prices computed using Equation (9) and reconstructed local volatility function, and the overlapped surfaces of the reference and reconstructed local volatility surfaces, respectively. The two local volatility surfaces are in good agreement each other in the effective volatility region, which is schematically shown in Figure 4 and the computed option prices are almost identical. The CPU time is 78.10 s.

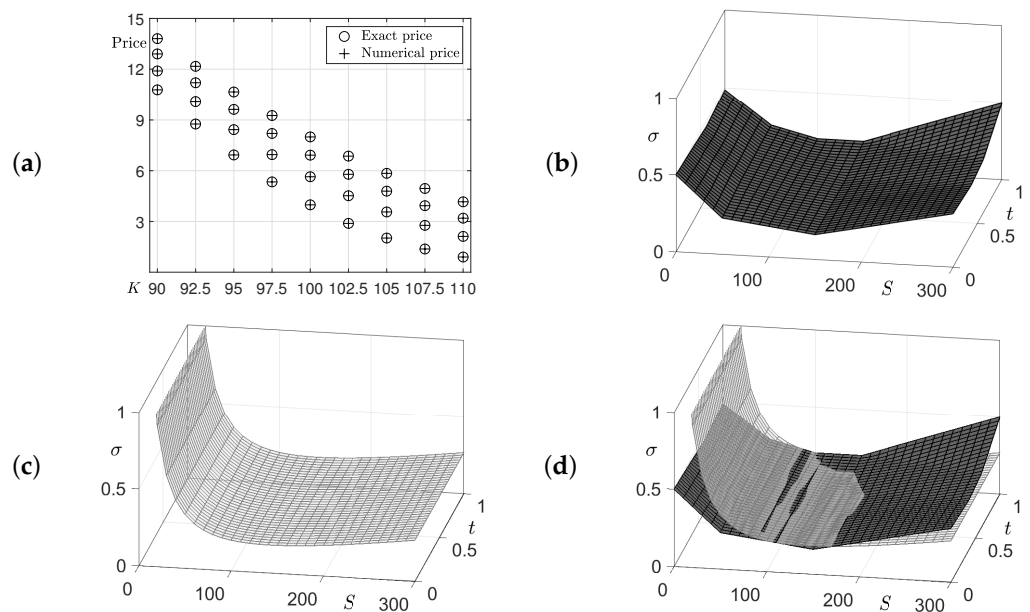


Figure 6. (a) Option prices computed using the given and reconstructed local volatility functions. (b) Reconstructed local volatility function. (c) Given local volatility function $\sigma(S, t) = 0.1 \left(1 + \frac{S_0}{S} + \frac{(S - S_0)^2}{100S} \right)$. (d) Overlapped surfaces of (b,c).

Next, we consider a more complex local volatility function on $\Omega = (0, 3S_0) \times (0, 1)$ with respect to the time variable (see Figure 7c):

$$\sigma(S, t) = 0.00001(S - S_0)^2 + 0.1 \cos(6\pi t) - 0.2t + 0.4, \tag{10}$$

where $S_0 = 100$. The parameters used are $\Delta\tau = 1/360$, $N_S = 301$, $r = 0.01$, $T_\alpha = \alpha/12$ for $\alpha = 1, 2, \dots, 12$, and strike prices $K_\beta = 90 + 2.5\beta$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 7$. Figure 7a,b,d are the option prices computed using Equation (10) and reconstructed local volatility function, and the overlapped surfaces of the reference and reconstructed local volatility surfaces, respectively. The two local volatility surfaces are in good agreement each other in the effective volatility region, which is schematically shown in Figure 4, and the computed option prices are almost identical. The CPU time is 369.66 s.

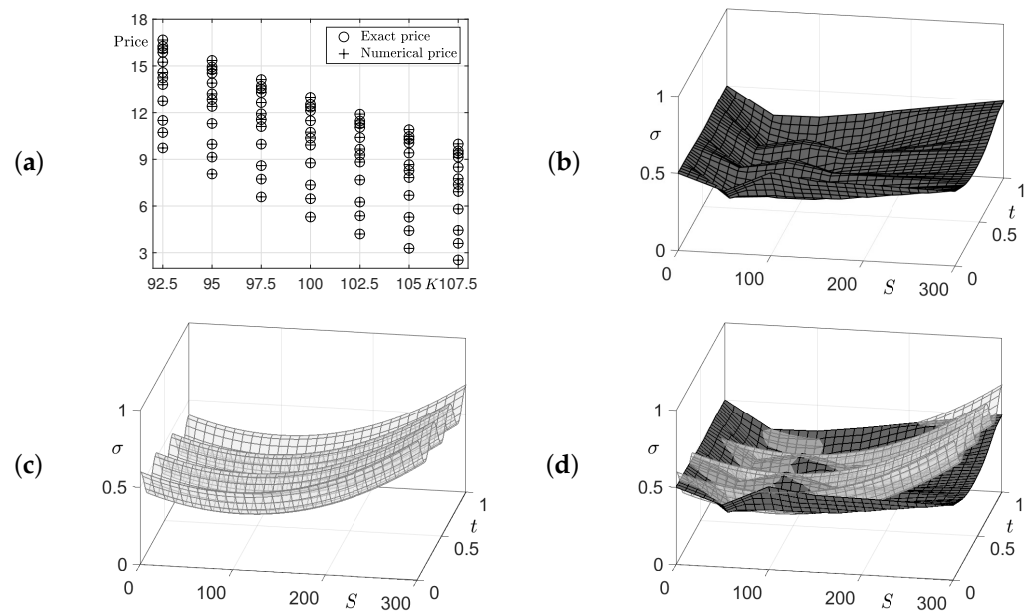


Figure 7. (a) Option prices computed using the given and reconstructed local volatility functions. (b) Reconstructed local volatility function. (c) Given local volatility function $\sigma(S, t) = 0.00001(S - S_0)^2 + 0.1 \cos(6\pi t) - 0.2t + 0.4$. (d) Overlapped surfaces of (b,c).

3.2. Local Volatility Surface from KOSPI 200 Index

We perform a real market test using the proposed algorithm to obtain a local volatility function with KOSPI 200 index call option datasets on 14 January 2020. Table 1 lists real market data with the various strikes and maturities. The strikes used in the table are $K_\beta = 310 + 2.5(\beta - 1)$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ and the maturity times are $T_1 = 30\Delta\tau$, $T_2 = 58\Delta\tau$, and $T_3 = 86\Delta\tau$, where $\Delta\tau = 1/365$. The current value of the KOSPI 200 index is $S_0 = 301.53$ and the interest rate is $r = 0.0149$.

Table 1. KOSPI 200 index call option prices on 14 January 2020 with respect to the strike and maturity. Our data source is the market data system of the Korea Exchange (KRX Market Data System: <https://data.krx.co.kr/>, accessed on 19 June 2022).

K_β	310.0	312.5	315.0	317.5	320.0
$T_1 = 30\Delta\tau$	1.43	0.93	0.59	0.35	0.20
$T_2 = 58\Delta\tau$	2.99	2.29	1.66	1.22	0.89
$T_3 = 86\Delta\tau$	4.28	3.51	2.79	2.13	1.84

Figure 8 shows the results of the proposed method by applying the real market call option prices, as listed in Table 1. We can confirm that the computational prices obtained from the proposed method are very similar to the real market values at each maturity and strike price. It can be inferred from Figure 8a,b that the proposed algorithm works well in the real market KOSPI 200 call option data. The CPU time is 9.90 s.

Let us consider another real-world financial test. Table 2 lists the real market data with respect to the strikes and maturities. Strikes used in the table are $K_\beta = 355 + 2.5(\beta - 1)$ for $\beta = 1, 2, \dots, 5$ and the maturity times are $T_1 = 6\Delta\tau$, $T_2 = 34\Delta\tau$, and $T_3 = 62\Delta\tau$, where $\Delta\tau = 1/365$. The current value of the KOSPI 200 index is $S_0 = 356.01$ and interest rate is $r = 0.0151$.

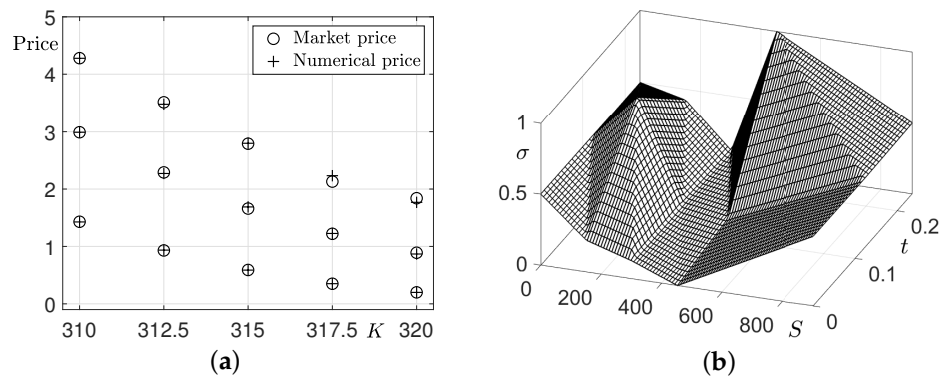


Figure 8. (a) Call option market and computed prices. (b) Reconstructed local volatility function.

Table 2. KOSPI 200 index call option price on 8 April 2022 with respect to the strike and maturity. Our data source is the market data system of the Korea exchange (KRX Market Data System: <https://data.krx.co.kr/>, accessed on 19 June 2022).

K_β	355.0	357.5	360.0	362.5	365.0	367.5	370.0	372.5	375.0	377.5	380.0	382.5	385.0	387.5	390.0
$T_1 = 6\Delta\tau$	3.61	2.20	1.22	0.62	0.25	0.11	0.05	0.02	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01
$T_2 = 34\Delta\tau$	7.52	6.09	4.85	3.82	2.95	2.18	1.60	1.14	0.79	0.54	0.39	0.27	0.21	0.15	0.12
$T_3 = 62\Delta\tau$	10.00	8.55	7.04	6.35	5.29	4.37	3.32	2.68	2.30	1.74	1.47	1.16	0.91	0.72	0.55

Figure 9 shows the result of the proposed method by applying the real market call option prices as listed in Table 2. We can find that numerical values from the proposed method are quite similar with the real market values at each maturity and strike price. It can be inferred from Figure 9a,b that the proposed algorithm works well in the real market KOSPI 200 call option data. The CPU time is 9.58 s.

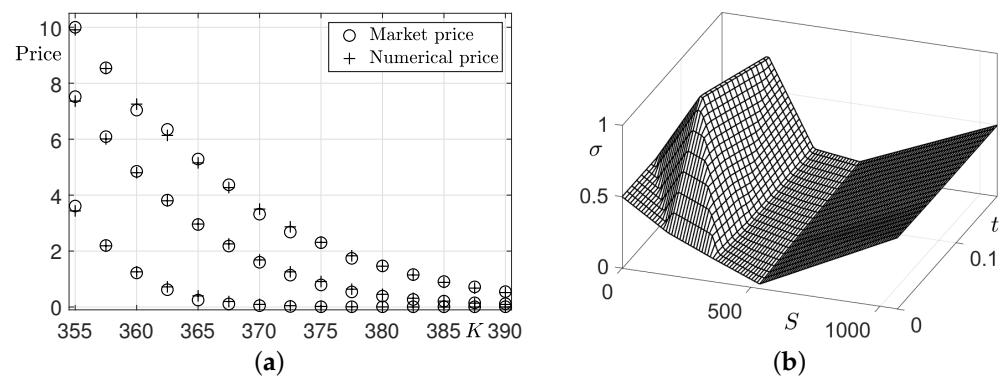


Figure 9. (a) Call option market and computed prices. (b) Reconstructed local volatility function.

4. Conclusions

In this article, we presented a simple and accurate numerical method for reconstructing the local volatility function, which is dependent on both the values of the underlying asset and time, from given market option prices. The generalized BS equation and finite difference method were used. We reconstructed the local volatility function, which provides the best fit between the theoretical and market option prices. We performed several computational experiments and the results demonstrated the efficiency and accuracy of the proposed algorithm in reconstructing the local volatility function. Traders and risk managers use portfolios to hedge risks posed by volatility. Our proposed computational method accurately reflects real market volatility. Therefore, it is expected that portfolios constructed using the proposed method will be helpful to them. In future work, we plan to apply the proposed method to the calibration of the local volatility jump-diffusion models [27,28]. The proposed scheme will be extended using the generalized fractional BS

equation [29] for better interpretation of the real financial market. Furthermore, it would be interesting to use put option market prices in reconstructing the local volatility function and consider the total cost functional consisting call and put option prices. In this study, we focused on real financial data from South Korea. Therefore, it will be useful to investigate the performance of the propose algorithm in other nations' financial indexes, such as the Hang Seng, S&P 500, and Euro Stoxx 50 indices.

Author Contributions: Conceptualization, Conceptualization, S.K. (Soobin Kwak) and J.K.; methodology, S.K. (Soobin Kwak) and J.K.; software, S.K. (Soobin Kwak) and Y.C.; validation, S.K. (Soobin Kwak), Y.C., J.W., S.K. (Sangkwon Kim) and J.K.; investigation, S.K. (Soobin Kwak), Y.C. and J.W.; writing—original draft preparation, S.K. (Soobin Kwak), Y.C., J.W., S.K. (Sangkwon Kim) and J.K.; writing—review and editing, S.K. (Soobin Kwak), Y.H., S.K. (Sangkwon Kim) and J.K.; visualization, S.K. (Soobin Kwak), Y.H. and Y.C.; supervision, J.K.; project administration, J.K. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Funding: The corresponding author (J.S. Kim) was supported by the Brain Korea 21 FOUR through the National Research Foundation of Korea funded by the Ministry of Education of Korea.

Institutional Review Board Statement: Not applicable.

Informed Consent Statement: Not applicable.

Data Availability Statement: Not applicable.

Acknowledgments: The authors appreciate the reviewers for the constructive and helpful comments in the revision of this paper.

Conflicts of Interest: The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Appendix A

The following code is the main program with a uniform grid size, which is also available from the corresponding author's webpage: <https://mathematicians.korea.ac.kr/cfdkim/open-source-codes/>, accessed on 19 June 2022.

```

1 clear all;
2 global Nx h x r dt S0 t T T2 NK xx yy Xq Yq A;
3 S0 = 100; r = 0.01; Nx = 301; Lx = 3*S0; x = linspace(0,Lx,Nx); h = x(2)-x(1);
4 dt = 1.0/360.0; T = [90 180 270 360]; LT = length(T);
5 t = linspace(0,dt*T(LT),T(LT)+1); [Xq,Yq] = meshgrid(x,t); T2(1) = 0;
6 for ti = 2:LT-1
7     T2(ti) = (T(ti-1)+T(ti))/2;
8 end
9 T2(LT) = T(LT);
10 for vj = 1:T(LT)+1
11     for vi = 1:Nx
12         exvol(vi,vj) = 0.00001*(x(vi)-S0)^2+0.1*cos(pi*t(vj))-0.2*t(vj)+0.4;
13         xxx(Nx*(vj-1)+vi) = x(vi); yyy(Nx*(vj-1)+vi)=t(vj);
14         exv(Nx*(vj-1)+vi) = exvol(vi,vj);
15     end
16 end
17 ST = [95:2.5:105]; NK = length(ST);
18 for k = 1:LT
19     A(1+NK*(k-1):k*NK,1) = ST; A(1+NK*(k-1):k*NK,2) = T(k);
20 end
21 xdata = A(:,1); xx = xxx; yy = yyy; CV = BScallT(exv,xdata);
22 tmp = [x(1) 0.5*S0 S0 1.5*S0 x(end)]; xx = []; yy = [];
23 for j = 1:LT
24     xx = [xx tmp]; yy(1+length(tmp)*(j-1):j*length(tmp)) = dt*T2(j);
25 end
26 vol0 = 0.5*ones(length(xx),1); lb = 0*vol0; ub = 0*vol0+1.0;
27 options = optimset('MaxIter',5);
28 vol = lsqcurvefit(@BScallT, vol0, xdata, CV, lb, ub, options);
29 U = griddata(xx,yy,vol,Xq,Yq); V = BScallT(vol, CV);
30 figure(1); clf;
31 mesh([x(1:10:end) x(end)], [t(1:10:end) t(end)], exvol([1:10:end end],[1:10:end end]))
32 axis([x(1) x(end) t(1) t(end) 0 1]); view(-15,45); grid on; box on
33 set(gca,'fontsize',18); title('Given local volatility surface')
34 xlabel('$S$', 'Interpreter', 'latex'); ylabel('$t$', 'Interpreter', 'latex');
35 zlabel('$\sigma$', 'Interpreter', 'latex', 'rotation', 0)
36 figure(2); clf; hold on; box on; grid on

```

```

37 plot(A(:,1),CV,'ko','linewidth',1,'markersize',10);
38 plot(A(:,1),V,'kx','linewidth',1,'markersize',10);
39 axis([ST(1)-.5 ST(end)+.5 min([min(CV) min(V)])-.5 max([max(CV) max(V)]+.5)]);
40 set(gca,'fontsize',18); legend('Interpreter','latex','string',...
41 {'Given $\sigma(S,t)$','Reconstructed $\sigma(S,t)$'})
42 xlabel('$K$', 'Interpreter', 'latex'); ylabel('Price', 'Interpreter', 'latex');
43 figure(3); clf;
44 mesh([x(1:10:end) x(end)],[t(1:10:end) t(end)],U([1:10:end end],[1:10:end end]))
45 axis([x(1) x(end) t(1) t(end) 0 1]); view(-15,45); grid on; box on
46 set(gca,'fontsize',18); title('Reconstructed local volatility surface')
47 xlabel('$S$', 'Interpreter', 'latex'); ylabel('$t$', 'Interpreter', 'latex');
48 zlabel('$\sigma$', 'Interpreter', 'latex', 'rotation', 0)
49 figure(4); clf; hold on; view(-15,45); grid on; box on
50 mesh([x(1:10:end) x(end)],[t(1:10:end) t(end)],U([1:10:end end],[1:10:end end]))
51 mesh([x(1:10:end) x(end)],[t(1:10:end) t(end)],exvol([1:10:end end],[1:10:end end]))
52 axis([x(1) x(end) t(1) t(end) 0 1]); set(gca,'fontsize',18)
53 title('Overlapped local volatility surfaces')
54 xlabel('$S$', 'Interpreter', 'latex'); ylabel('$t$', 'Interpreter', 'latex');
55 zlabel('$\sigma$', 'Interpreter', 'latex', 'rotation', 0)
56 function V = BScallIT(vol, CV)
57 global Nx h x r dt S0 xx yy Xq Yq A;
58 vf = griddata(xx,yy,vol,Xq,Yq)';
59 for j = 1:length(A(:,1))
60 Nt = A(j,2); u(:,1) = max(x-A(j,1),0);
61 for n = 1:Nt
62 for i = 2:Nx
63 a(i-1) = r*x(i)/(2*h)-(vf(i,Nt-n+1)*x(i))^2/(2*h^2);
64 d(i-1) = 1/dt+(vf(i,Nt-n+1)*x(i))^2/h^2+r;
65 c(i-1) = -r*x(i)/(2*h)-(vf(i,Nt-n+1)*x(i))^2/(2*h^2);
66 end
67 a(Nx-1) = a(Nx-1)-c(Nx-1); d(Nx-1) = d(Nx-1)+2*c(Nx-1);
68 b = u(2:Nx,n)/dt; u(2:Nx,n+1) = thomas(a,d,c,b);
69 end
70 V(j,1) = interp1(x,u(:, Nt+1),S0);
71 end
72 end
73 function x = thomas(alpha,beta,gamma,f)
74 n = length(f);
75 for i = 2:n
76 mult = alpha(i)/beta(i-1); beta(i) = beta(i)-mult*gamma(i-1); f(i) = f(i)-mult*f(i-1);
77 end
78 x(n) = f(n)/beta(n);
79 for i = n-1:-1:1
80 x(i) = (f(i)-gamma(i)*x(i+1))/beta(i);
81 end
82 end

```

References

- Black, F.; Scholes, M. The pricing of options and corporate liabilities. *J. Political Econ.* **1973**, *81*, 637–654. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Deng, Z.C.; Hon, Y.C.; Isakov, V. Recovery of time-dependent volatility in option pricing model. *Inverse Probl.* **2016**, *32*, 115010. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Jin, Y.; Wang, J.; Kim, S.; Heo, Y.; Yoo, C.; Kim, Y.; Kim, J.; Jeong, D. Reconstruction of the time-dependent volatility function using the Black–Scholes model. *Discret. Dyn. Nat. Soc.* **2018**, *2018*, 3093708. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Georgiev, S.G.; Vulkov, L.G. Fast reconstruction of time-dependent market volatility for European options. *Comput. Appl. Math.* **2021**, *40*, 1–19. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Hofmann, C.; Hofmann, B.; Pichler, A. Simultaneous identification of volatility and interest rate functions—a two-parameter regularization approach. *Electron. Trans. Numer.* **2019**, *51*, 99–117. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Georgiev, S.G.; Vulkov, L.G. Simultaneous identification of time-dependent volatility and interest rate for European options. *AIP Conf. Proc.* **2021**, *2333*, 090006.
- Park, E.; Lyu, J.; Kim, S.; Lee, C.; Lee, W.; Choi, Y.; Kwak, S.; Yoo, C.; Hwang, H.; Kim, J. Calibration of the temporally varying volatility and interest rate functions. *Int. J. Comput. Math.* **2022**, *99*, 1066–1079. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Zhang, R.Y.; Xu, F.F.; Huang, J.C. Reconstructing local volatility using total variation. *Acta Math. Sin. Engl. Ser.* **2017**, *33*, 263–277. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Saporito, Y.F.; Yang, X.; Zubelli, J.P. The calibration of stochastic local-volatility models: An inverse problem perspective. *Comput. Math. Appl.* **2019**, *77*, 3054–3067. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Kim, S.; Kim, J. Robust and accurate construction of the local volatility surface using the Black–Scholes equation. *Chaos Solitons Fractals* **2021**, *150*, 111116. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Kim, S.; Han, H.; Jang, H.; Jeong, D.; Lee, C.; Lee, W.; Kim, J. Reconstruction of the local volatility function using the Black–Scholes model. *J. Comput. Sci.* **2021**, *51*, 101341. [\[CrossRef\]](#)
- Georgiev, S.G.; Vulkov, L.G. Computation of the unknown volatility from integral option price observations in jump–diffusion models. *Math. Comput. Simul.* **2021**, *188*, 591–608. [\[CrossRef\]](#)

13. Ozbayoglu, A.M.; Gudelek, M.U.; Sezer, O.B. Deep learning for financial applications: A survey. *Appl. Soft Comput.* **2020**, *93*, 106384. [[CrossRef](#)]
14. Pradeepkumar, D.; Ravi, V. Forecasting financial time series volatility using particle swarm optimization trained quantile regression neural network. *Appl. Soft Comput.* **2017**, *58*, 35–52. [[CrossRef](#)]
15. Hellmuth, K.; Klingenberg, C. Computing Black Scholes with Uncertain Volatility—A Machine Learning Approach. *Mathematics* **2022**, *10*, 489. [[CrossRef](#)]
16. Wang, J.; Yan, Y.; Chen, W.; Shao, W.; Tang, W. Equity-linked securities option pricing by fractional Brownian motion. *Chaos Solitons Fractals* **2021**, *144*, 110716. [[CrossRef](#)]
17. Kim, S.T.; Kim, H.G.; Kim, J.H. ELS pricing and hedging in a fractional Brownian motion environment. *Chaos Solitons Fractals* **2021**, *142*, 110453. [[CrossRef](#)]
18. Mao, C.; Liu, G.; Wang, Y. A Closed-Form Pricing Formula for Log-Return Variance Swaps under Stochastic Volatility and Stochastic Interest Rate. *Mathematics* **2021**, *10*, 5. [[CrossRef](#)]
19. Krzyżanowski, G.; Magdziarz, M. A computational weighted finite difference method for American and barrier options in subdiffusive Black–Scholes model. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **2021**, *96*, 105676. [[CrossRef](#)]
20. Rujivan, S.; Rakwongwan, U. Analytically pricing volatility swaps and volatility options with discrete sampling: Nonlinear payoff volatility derivatives. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **2021**, *100*, 105849. [[CrossRef](#)]
21. Fedorov, V.E.; Dyshae, M.M. Group classification for a class of non-linear models of the RAPM type. *Commun. Nonlinear Sci. Numer. Simul.* **2021**, *92*, 105471. [[CrossRef](#)]
22. Windcliff, H.; Forsyth, P.A.; Vetzal, K.R. Analysis of the stability of the linear boundary condition for the Black–Scholes equation. *J. Comput. Financ.* **2004**, *8*, 65–92. [[CrossRef](#)]
23. Thomas, L. *Elliptic Problems in Linear Differential Equations Over a Network: Watson Scientific Computing Laboratory*; Columbia University: New York, NY, USA, 1949.
24. MATLAB. 9.10. 0.1602886 (R2021a). 2021.
25. Albani, V.; De Cezaro, A.; Zubelli, J.P. Convex regularization of local volatility estimation. *Int. J. Theor. Appl. Financ.* **2017**, *20*, 1750006. [[CrossRef](#)]
26. Geng, J.; Navon, I.M.; Chen, X. Non-parametric calibration of the local volatility surface for European options using a second-order Tikhonov regularization. *Quant Financ.* **2014**, *14*, 73–85. [[CrossRef](#)]
27. Kim, N.; Lee, Y. Estimation and prediction under local volatility jump–diffusion model. *Phys. A Stat. Mech. Appl.* **2018**, *491*, 729–740. [[CrossRef](#)]
28. Xu, Z.; Jia, X. The calibration of volatility for option pricing models with jump diffusion processes. *Appl. Anal.* **2019**, *98*, 810–827. [[CrossRef](#)]
29. Rezaei, M.; Yazdani, A.R.; Ashrafi, A.; Mahmoudi, S.M. Numerical pricing based on fractional Black–Scholes equation with time-dependent parameters under the CEV model: Double barrier options. *Comput. Math. Appl.* **2021**, *90*, 104–111. [[CrossRef](#)]