

Lecture 6: 08/11/22

Proof of Prop. 3.8:

Without loss of generality: short hedge

Hedger's effective cashflow received from selling asset S at time t_2 :

$$N_A \cdot S_{t_2} + N_F (F_{t_1} - F_{t_2}) = N_A S_{t_1} + N_A \underbrace{(S_{t_2} - S_{t_1})}_{=\Delta S} + N_F \underbrace{(F_{t_1} - F_{t_2})}_{=-\Delta F}$$

$$= N_A S_{t_1} + N_A \left(\Delta S - \underbrace{\frac{N_F}{N_A}}_{=h} \Delta F \right) \quad (*)$$

At time t_1 : Choose h s.t. variance of $(*)$ is minimized

Specifically: Minimize

$$\text{Var}(\Delta S - h \Delta F) = f(h)$$

$$\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)}} \in [-1, 1]$$

Compute

$$\begin{aligned} f(h) &= \text{Var}(\Delta S - h \Delta F) = \underbrace{\text{Var}(\Delta S)}_{=\sigma_S^2} + \underbrace{\text{Var}(-h \Delta F)}_{=h^2 \underbrace{\text{Var}(\Delta F)}_{=\sigma_F^2}} + 2 \underbrace{\text{Cov}(\Delta S, -h \Delta F)}_{=-2h \underbrace{\text{Cov}(\Delta S, \Delta F)}_{=\rho \sigma_F \sigma_S}} \\ &= \sigma_S^2 + h^2 \sigma_F^2 - 2h \rho \sigma_S \sigma_F \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{First order opt. cond.: } f'(h) = 2h \sigma_F^2 - 2\rho \sigma_S \sigma_F = 0 \Leftrightarrow h = \rho \frac{\sigma_S}{\sigma_F}$$

$$\text{Second order opt. cond.: } f''(h) = 2\sigma_F^2 > 0$$

$$\text{Minimum variance hedge ratio: } h^* = \rho \frac{\sigma_S}{\sigma_F}$$

Example 4.5:

2-year bond: principal \$100, coupons at 6% p.a. (semiannually paid)

