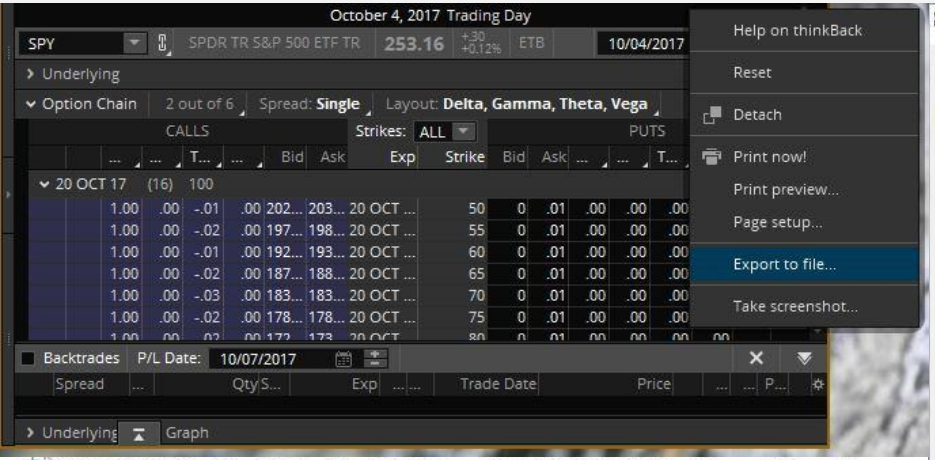
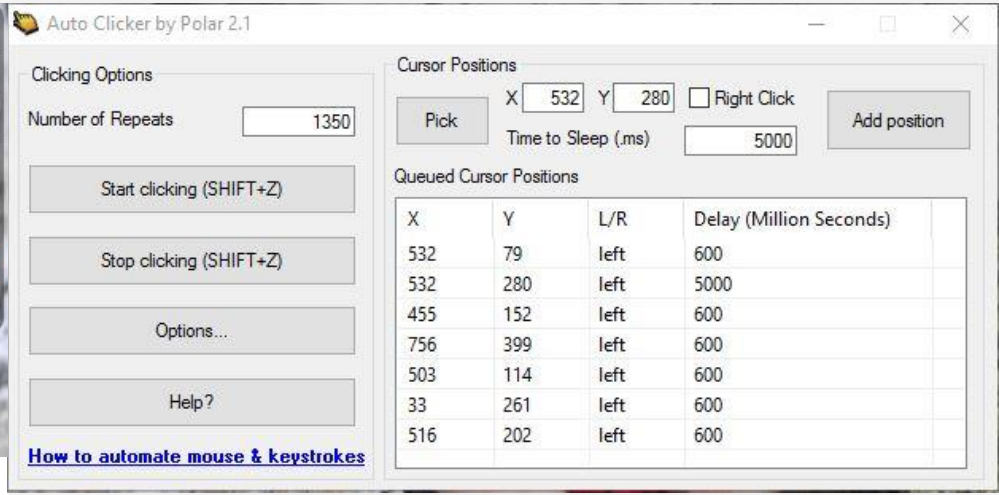
Data Acquisition





2006-01-15-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	7/10/2017 11:03 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-16-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	7/10/2017 11:03 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-17-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	7/10/2017 11:03 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-18-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	7/10/2017 11:04 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
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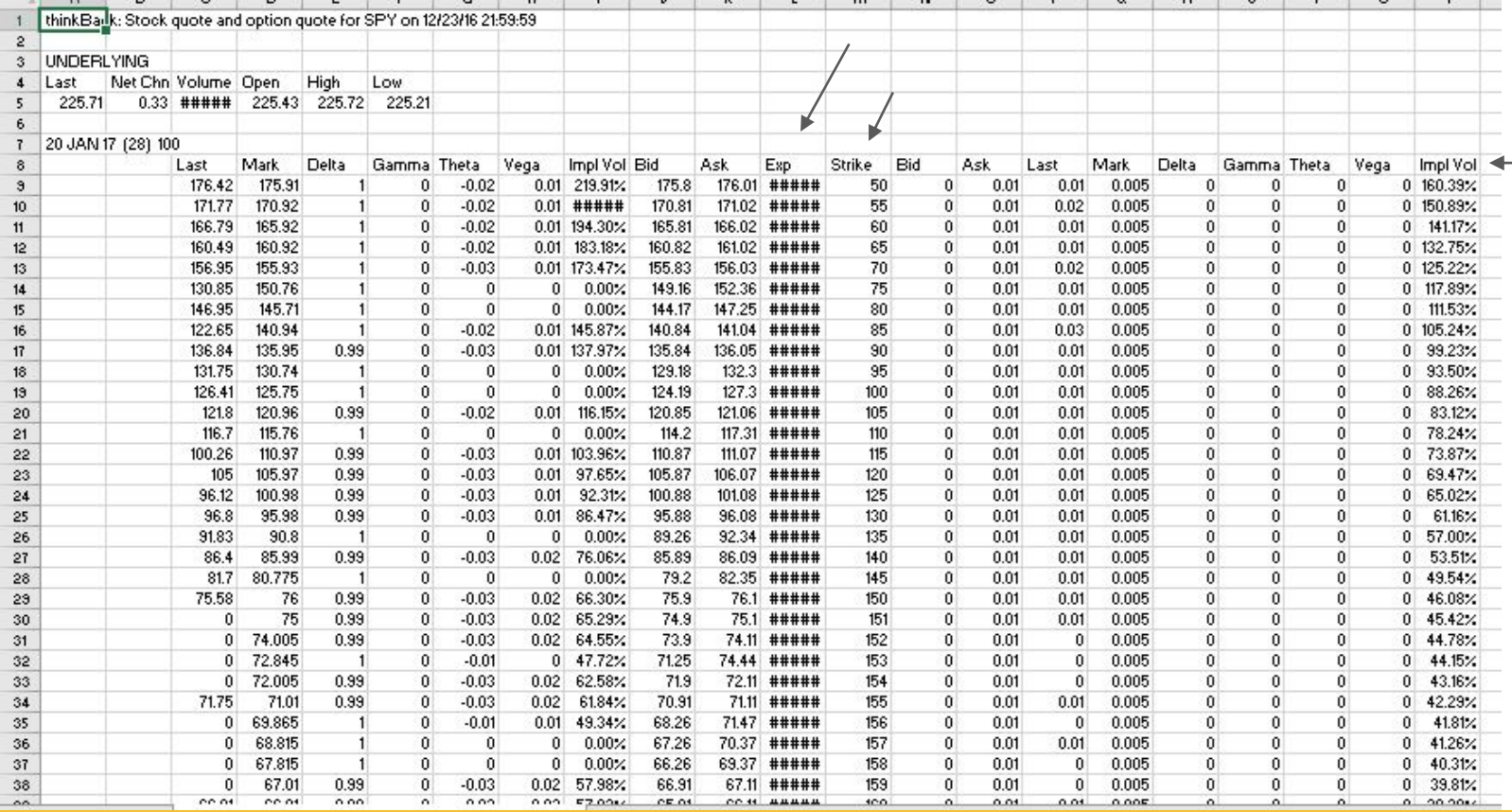
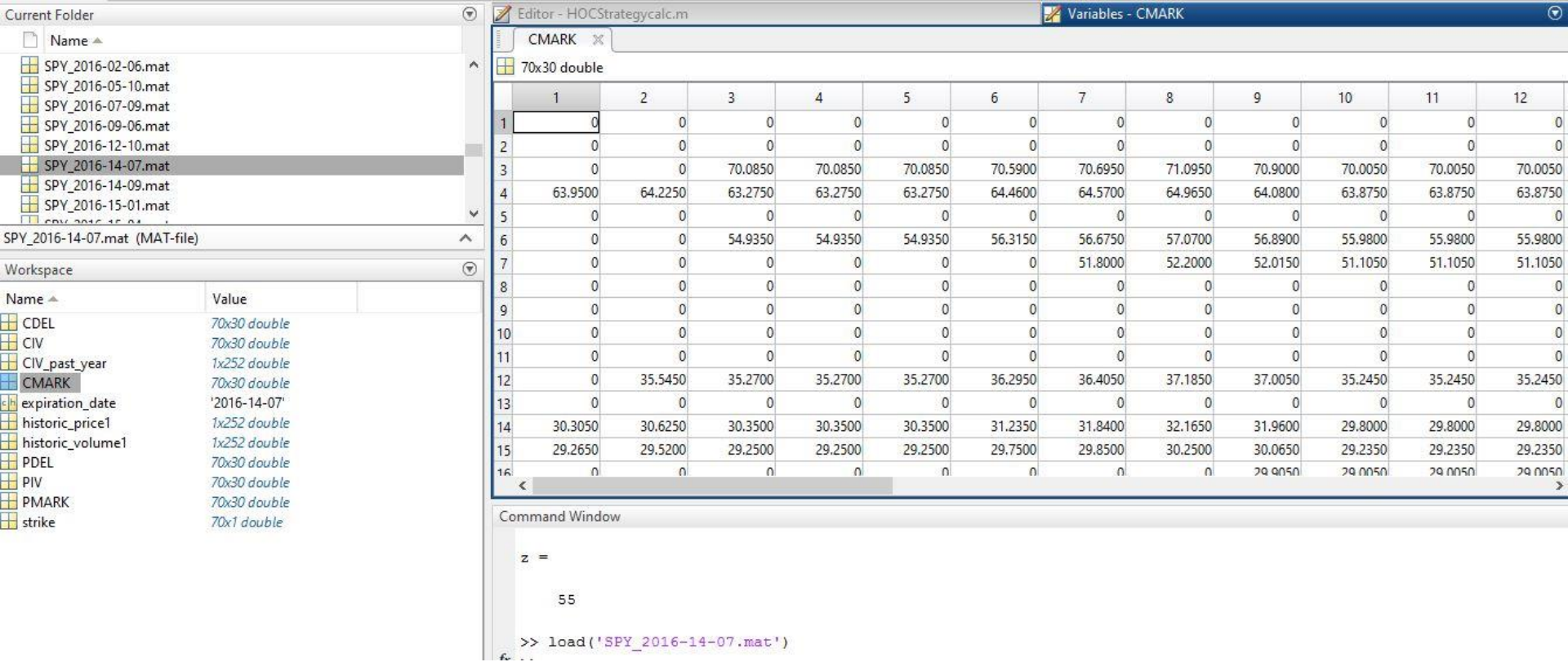
2006-01-20-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	7/10/2017 11:04 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-21-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	9/5/2017 1:54 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-22-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	9/5/2017 1:54 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-23-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	9/5/2017 1:54 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-24-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	9/5/2017 1:54 PM	Microsoft Excel C...
2006-01-25-StockAndOptionQuoteForSP...	9/5/2017 1:54 PM	Microsoft Excel C...

The first step was to obtain data on historical option prices. This was done using a program called ThinkorSwim, and required the use of an autoclicker, as ThinkorSwim only allows the downloading of a single of data at a time. Data was downloaded for every day, including non-trading days (such as weekends and holidays).



1	thinkBack: Stock quote and option quote for SPY on 12/23/16 21:59:59																			
2																				
3	UNDERLYING																			
4	Last	Net Chn	Volume	Open	High	Low														
5	225.71	0.33	#####	225.43	225.72	225.21														
6																				
7	20 JAN 17 (28) 100																			
8		Last	Mark	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega	Impl Vol	Bid	Ask	Exp	Strike	Bid	Ask	Last	Mark	Delta	Gamma	Theta	Vega	Impl Vol
9		176.42	175.91	1	0	-0.02	0.01	219.91%	175.8	176.01	#####	50	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	160.39%
10		171.77	170.92	1	0	-0.02	0.01	#####	170.81	171.02	#####	55	0	0.01	0.02	0.005	0	0	0	0	150.89%
11		166.79	165.92	1	0	-0.02	0.01	194.30%	165.81	166.02	#####	60	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	141.17%
12		160.49	160.92	1	0	-0.02	0.01	183.18%	160.82	161.02	#####	65	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	132.75%
13		156.95	155.93	1	0	-0.03	0.01	173.47%	155.83	156.03	#####	70	0	0.01	0.02	0.005	0	0	0	0	125.22%
14		130.85	150.76	1	0	0	0	0.00%	149.16	152.36	#####	75	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	117.89%
15		146.95	145.71	1	0	0	0	0.00%	144.17	147.25	#####	80	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	111.53%
16		122.65	140.94	1	0	-0.02	0.01	145.87%	140.84	141.04	#####	85	0	0.01	0.03	0.005	0	0	0	0	105.24%
17		136.84	135.95	0.99	0	-0.03	0.01	137.97%	135.84	136.05	#####	90	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	99.23%
18		131.75	130.74	1	0	0	0	0.00%	129.18	132.3	#####	95	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	93.50%
19		126.41	125.75	1	0	0	0	0.00%	124.19	127.3	#####	100	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	88.26%
20		121.8	120.96	0.99	0	-0.02	0.01	116.15%	120.85	121.06	#####	105	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	83.12%
21		116.7	115.76	1	0	0	0	0.00%	114.2	117.31	#####	110	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	78.24%
22		100.26	110.97	0.99	0	-0.03	0.01	103.96%	110.87	111.07	#####	115	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	73.87%
23		105	105.97	0.99	0	-0.03	0.01	97.65%	105.87	106.07	#####	120	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	69.47%
24		96.12	100.98	0.99	0	-0.03	0.01	92.31%	100.88	101.08	#####	125	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	65.02%
25		96.8	95.98	0.99	0	-0.03	0.01	86.47%	95.88	96.08	#####	130	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	61.16%
26		91.83	90.8	1	0	0	0	0.00%	89.26	92.34	#####	135	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	57.00%
27		86.4	85.99	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	76.06%	85.89	86.09	#####	140	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	53.51%
28		81.7	80.775	1	0	0	0	0.00%	79.2	82.35	#####	145	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	49.54%
29		75.58	76	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	66.30%	75.9	76.1	#####	150	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	46.08%
30		0	75	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	65.29%	74.9	75.1	#####	151	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	45.42%
31		0	74.005	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	64.55%	73.9	74.11	#####	152	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	44.78%
32		0	72.845	1	0	-0.01	0	47.72%	71.25	74.44	#####	153	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	44.15%
33		0	72.005	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	62.58%	71.9	72.11	#####	154	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	43.16%
34		71.75	71.01	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	61.84%	70.91	71.11	#####	155	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	42.29%
35		0	69.865	1	0	-0.01	0.01	49.34%	68.26	71.47	#####	156	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	41.81%
36		0	68.815	1	0	0	0	0.00%	67.26	70.37	#####	157	0	0.01	0.01	0.005	0	0	0	0	41.26%
37		0	67.815	1	0	0	0	0.00%	66.26	69.37	#####	158	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	40.31%
38		0	67.01	0.99	0	-0.03	0.02	57.98%	66.91	67.11	#####	159	0	0.01	0	0.005	0	0	0	0	39.81%

End of day option chain data was contained in a .csv file with this structure. Each data point has a corresponding expiration date, strike price, and category. Data was assigned to a .mat file labeled by stock symbol and expiration date, to a matrix corresponding to category, to the row in that matrix corresponding to the data point's strike price, and the column in that file corresponding to the date that data point was recorded. Which expiration dates were included in a csv would change depending on the date, and more strikes would be added to a given expiration date as the date of the csv approached the expiration date.



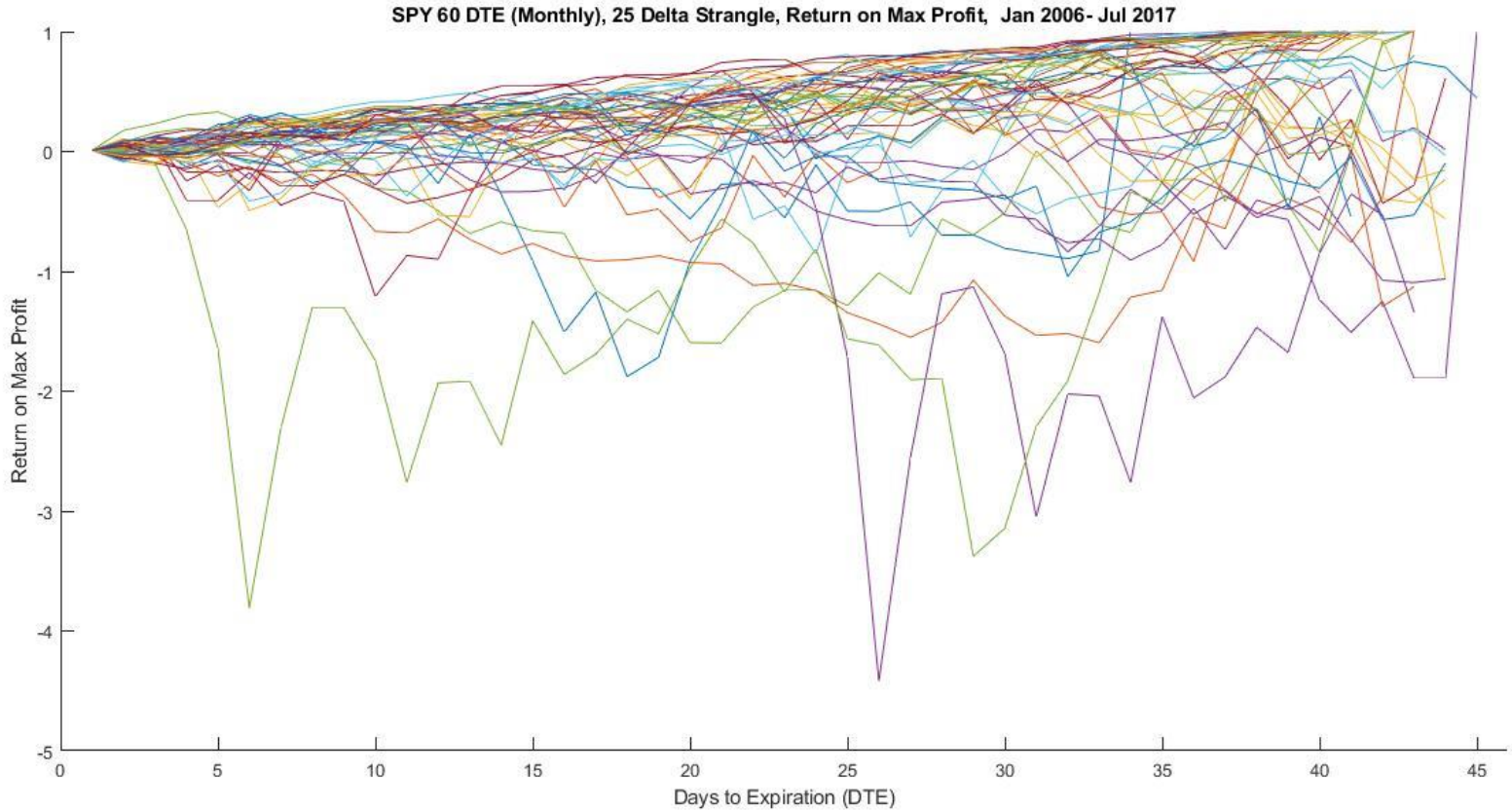
In the current folder section, .mat files labeled with the underlying stock symbol and expiration date are listed. The contents of the SPY 7/14/16 expiration data is displayed in the workspace. The call market prices, labeled CMARK in the workspace, is displayed. The zeros in the matrix correspond to strike prices that had not yet been available in the market. The strike prices are stored in the workspace variable labeled strike. Also included are delta and implied volatility values for both calls and puts, as well as the previous year of closing stock prices and stock volume for the underlying stock, as measured from the first day of data in the file.

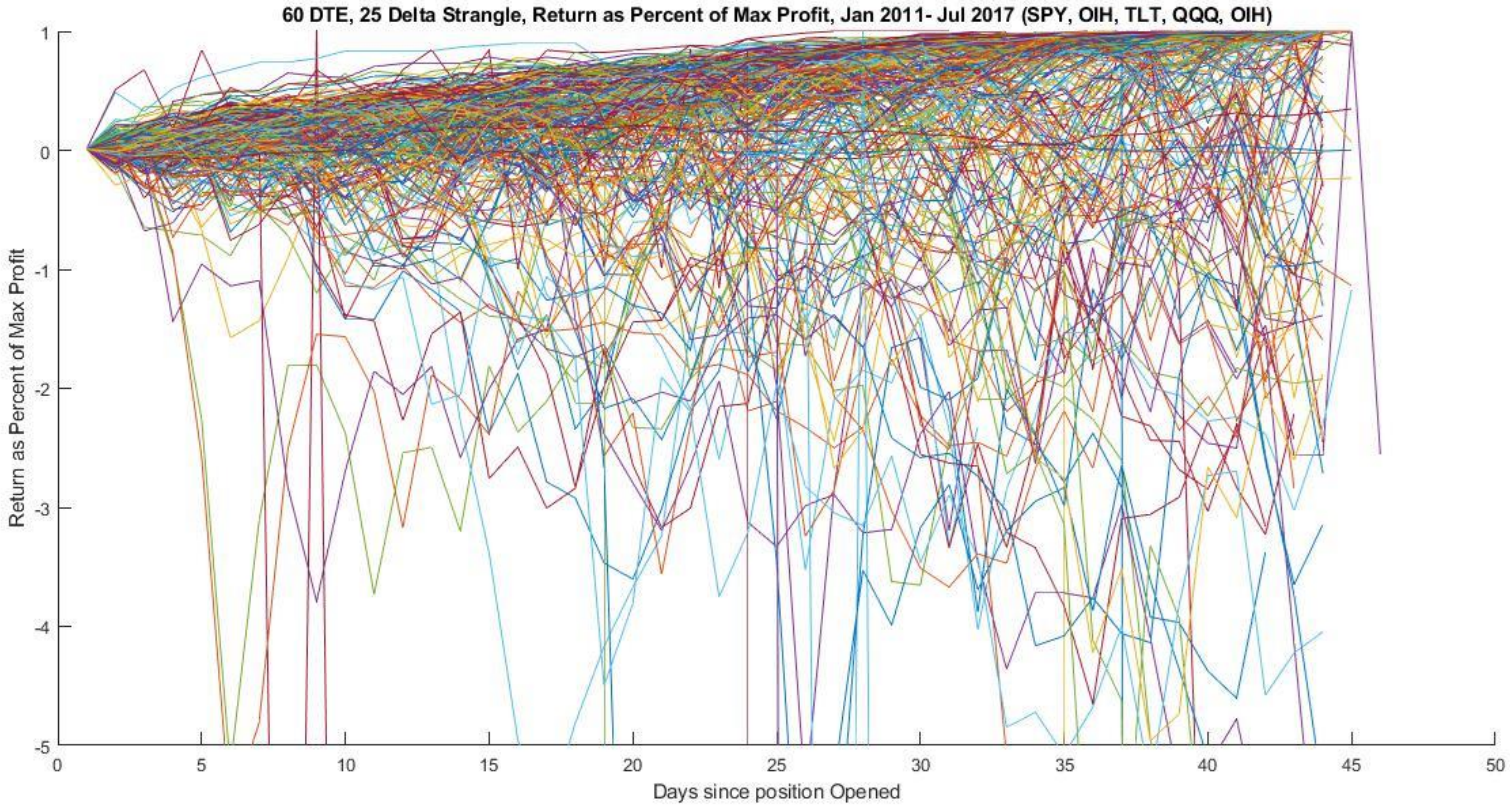
Discussion

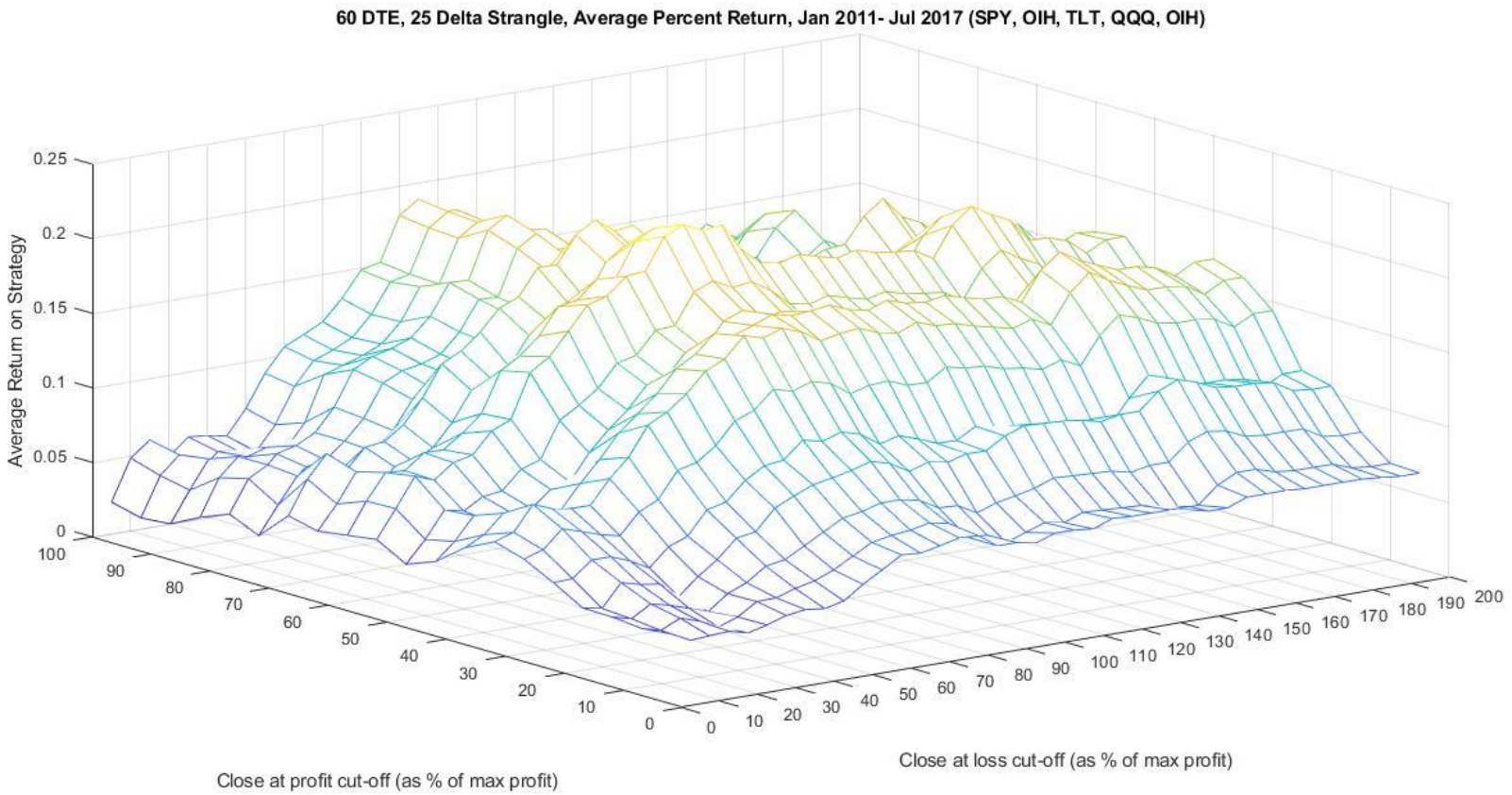
Assigning data to a .mat file was achieved by finding all unique expiration dates in a given .csv, then either creating the .mat file if it didn't already exist, or loading the file if it did exist. While this is computationally inefficent (organizing 1 year of data requires importing data from 365 .csv, and for each .csv file requires loading, saving and closing between 1 and 3 .mat files), it is the only way I could figure out how to do this.

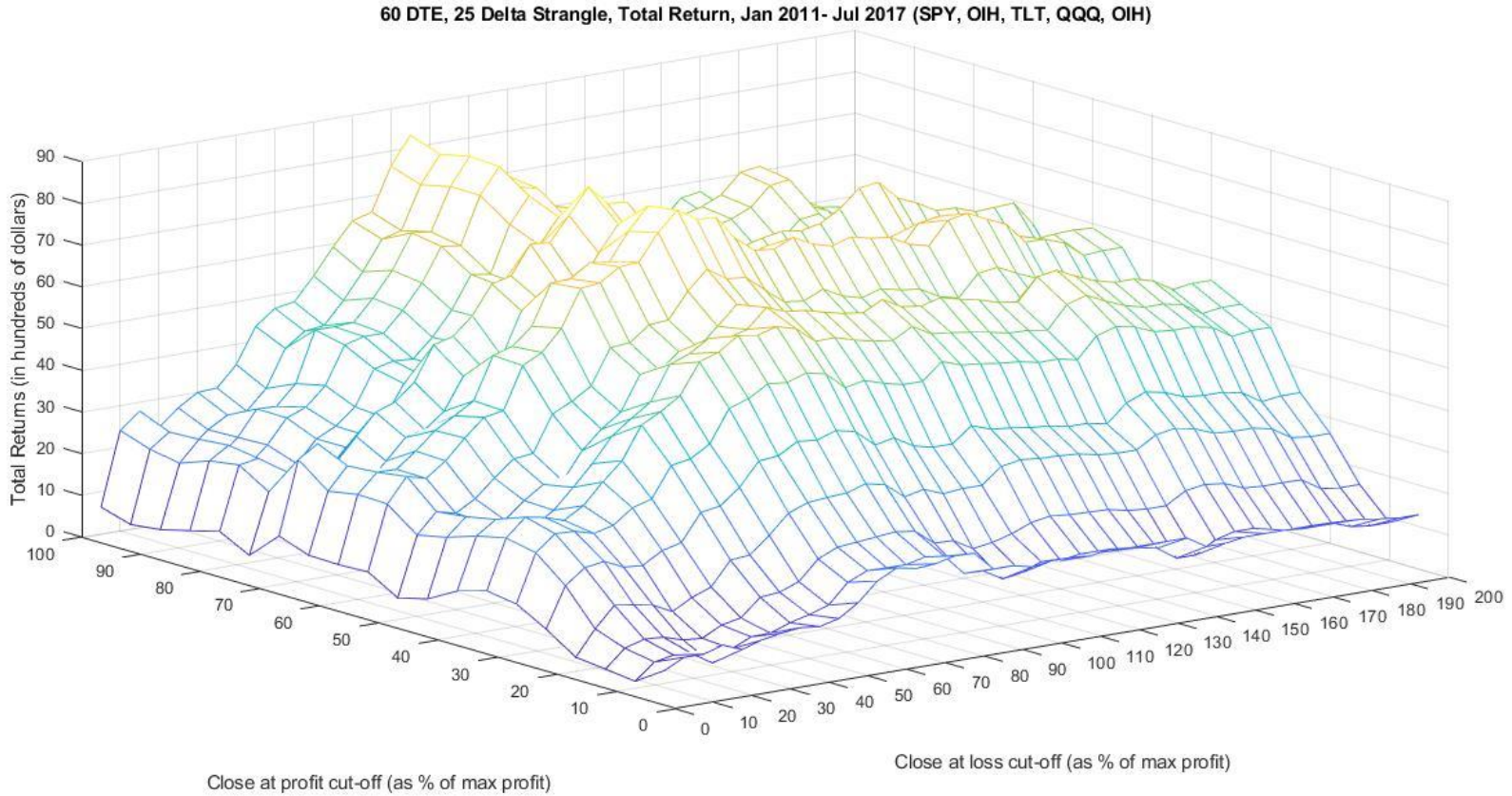
The real difficulty was figuring out how to organize the strikes. Essentially, each .csv could have different strike prices for a given expiration date, so the row indices in one .csv file would not necessarily correspond to the row indices in the next. In order to keep row indices organized, I would create a matrix with a preset range of possible strikes, assign new data to the rows in that matrix, and then once all the data was organized, I would remove rows with all zeros. While this may not be the most efficient way to accomplish this, it was a simple way to keep track of the row indices across .csv files. I was also able to apply this system in my real time option data downloader, which required the strike prices for hundreds of different underlying stocks, all of which would have different ranges.

I also had to figure out how to remove non-trading days from the data, since there wasn't any realistic way to program the auto clicker to skip non-trading days. This was accomplished by checking if the data for one day was identical to the data for the previous day, which would almost certainly not occur between two trading days.


SPY 60 DTE (Monthly), 25 Delta Strangle, Return on Max Profit, Jan 2006- Jul 2017
Return on Max Profit
Days to Expiration (DTE)
1
0
-1
-2
-3
-4
-5
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45


60 DTE, 25 Delta Strangle, Return as Percent of Max Profit, Jan 2011- Jul 2017 (SPY, OIH, TLT, QQQ, OIH)
Return as Percent of Max Profit
Days since position Opened
1
0
-1
-2
-3
-4
-5
0
5
10
15
20
25
30
35
40
45
50


60 DTE, 25 Delta Strangle, Average Percent Return, Jan 2011- Jul 2017 (SPY, OIH, TLT, QQQ, OIH)
Average Return on Strategy
0.25
0.2
0.15
0.1
0.05
0
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
Close at profit cut-off (as % of max profit)
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
180
190
200
Close at loss cut-off (as % of max profit)


60 DTE, 25 Delta Strangle, Total Return, Jan 2011- Jul 2017 (SPY, OIH, TLT, QQQ, OIH)
Total Returns (in hundreds of dollars)
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
100
90
80
70
60
50
40
30
20
10
0
Close at profit cut-off (as % of max profit)
0
10
20
30
40
50
60
70
80
90
100
110
120
130
140
150
160
170
180
190
200
Close at loss cut-off (as % of max profit)