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1 Fair Pricing of a random payment

Theme Exchange a fixed payment for a random payment.

Q: What criterion can we apply to justify fairness in the exchange?

Point: There are more than one criteria. Under which condition the criterion apply, and which do not?

1) Suppose X is a random payment, then $E(X)$ is the fair price of X .

Justified by the LLN.

So the criteria must be that the payment is repeated many times and independent.

Call Option on a fixed day the holder can choose to buy a share of stock for fixed price K .

Let S be the price of the stock on that day and our profit is $X = (S - K)_+$.

Clearly this cannot follow LLN because we only have one day.

Pricing by Risk Preference: Utility function: $U : \text{cash} \rightarrow \text{happiness}$

Indifference pricing: ϕ is our utility function, then our indifference price is $\phi^{-1}(\mathbb{E}(\phi(X)))$

Jensen's Inequality: ϕ convex $\implies \mathbb{E}(\phi(X)) \geq \phi(\mathbb{E}(X))$

Risk Aversion: ϕ concave $\implies \mathbb{E}(\phi(X)) \leq \phi(\mathbb{E}(X))$