

Financial derivatives

Lecture 3: Pricing of forward and futures

Douglas Chung



Derivative pricing

Idea and assumptions behind derivative pricing

$$\text{Equity Derivatives} = \begin{cases} w_e \text{ Stocks} \\ 1-w_e \text{ Bonds} \end{cases}$$

Law of one price:

- The price of a derivative is equal to the cost of its **replicating (synthetic) portfolio** that **provides identical payoffs**.

No arbitrage condition: *dynamic portfolio*

- Arbitrage opportunities that **offer net cash inflows without any net cash outflows** cannot persist in an **efficient market**.

To simplify our analysis, we will make the following **assumptions**:

- There are **no transaction cost**.
- There are **no restrictions** on short selling. Short sellers can invest proceeds of short sales.
- Investors can **borrow and lend** at the **common risk-free rate**.

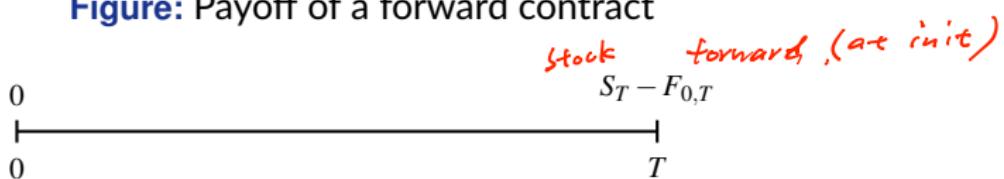
Forward payoff

Payoff of a forward contract



If we **long** a forward contract at time $t = 0$, we will get the following **payoff** when it matures at time $t = T$:

Figure: Payoff of a forward contract



In other words, the payoff can be **broken down** into two parts:

1. the price of the **underlying asset** at **maturity**: S_T ;
2. the price of the **forward contract** at **initiation**: $F_{0,T}$.

Pricing of equity forwards

Equity forward

An equity forward contract gives the buyer the obligation to buy the underlying stock at the pre-specified price on the maturity date. For simplicity, let's assume the following: F_0, T

Seller

sell

- The underlying non-dividend paying stock is traded at S_0 .
- The continuously compounded risk-free interest rate is r .
- The maturity date of the forward is T .

Replicating forward payoff

Table: Cash flow of replicating a forward

	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Buy a forward (long)	0	$S_T - F_{0,T}$
2. Short the stock	S_0	$-S_T$ <i>return stock</i>
3. Invest the proceeds at r	$-S_0$ <i>save it at risk-free rate</i>	$S_0 e^{rT}$
Net cash flow	0	$S_0 e^{rT} - F_{0,T} = 0$

In the absence of arbitrage, a portfolio with zero net cash flow now should have zero net cash flow in the future. Since r , T , and S_0 are known, the price of a forward contract is given by the cost-of-carry formula:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{rT} \quad (\text{continuous})$$

invest o today, get o in future

Cost of carry formula: 持有成本 thm.

① pos: cost of storage, no income .

future price > spot price.

② neg: Dividend paying.

future price < spot price.

Replicating forward payoff

(Long)

In essence, we create a **replicating portfolio** of the **forward contract** at time $t = 0$ by:

1. buying the stock at S_0 ; $\Rightarrow S_T$
2. borrowing S_0 at the risk-free rate. $\Rightarrow -S_0 e^{rT}$

By doing so, we have a **current payoff** of $S_0 - S_0 = 0$. At time $t = T$, we have to **close our positions** by:

1. selling the stock at S_T ;
2. returning $S_0 e^{rT}$ to the lender.

Thus, the **synthetic forward contract** has a **final payoff** of:

合成的

$$S_T - S_0 e^{rT} = S_T - F_{0,T}$$

Arbitrage from an overvalued forward

sell buy
What if $F_{0,T} > S_0 e^{rT}$? *Mispricing*

Table: Arbitrage from an overvalued forward

	Cash flow:		
Actions:	<i>sell</i>	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Sell a forward (<i>high</i>)		0	$F_{0,T} - S_T$
2. Buy the stock		$-S_0$	S_T
3. Borrow S_0 at r		S_0	$-S_0 e^{rT}$
Net cash flow		0	$F_{0,T} - S_0 e^{rT} > 0$

- The synthetic forward is relatively *cheaper* than the forward.
- We can make an **arbitrage profit** by **buying the replicating portfolio (*buy low*)** and **selling the forward (*sell high*)**.

Arbitrage from an undervalued forward

What if $F_{0,T} < S_0 e^{rT}$?

Table: Arbitrage from an undervalued forward

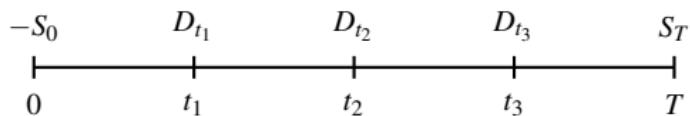
	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Buy a forward	0	$S_T - F_{0,T}$
2. Short the stock	S_0	$-S_T$
3. Invest the proceeds at r	$-S_0$	$S_0 e^{rT}$
Net cash flow	0	$S_0 e^{rT} - F_{0,T} > 0$

- The **forward** is relatively cheaper than the **synthetic forward**.
- We can make an **arbitrage profit** by **buying the forward (buy low)** and **selling the replicating portfolio (sell high)**.

Stock dividend

Since the payoff only occurs on the **delivery date** for any forward contracts, we have to account for **intermediate cash flows** such as **dividends or coupons** distributed during the period $T - t$

Figure: Payoff of buying a dividend paying stock



At time T , the **sum of all three discrete dividends** will become:

$$\sum D_T = D_{t_1} e^{r(T-t_1)} + D_{t_2} e^{r(T-t_2)} + D_{t_3} e^{r(T-t_3)}$$

Stock dividend

Table: Cash flow of a synthetic forward on a dividend paying stock

	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Buy the stock	$-S_0$	S_T
2. Get dividend at t_1	0	$D_{t_1}e^{r(T-t_1)}$
3. Get dividend at t_2	0	$D_{t_2}e^{r(T-t_2)}$
4. Get dividend at t_3	0	$D_{t_3}e^{r(T-t_3)}$
5. Borrow S_0 at r	S_0	$-S_0e^{rT}$
Net cash flow	0	$S_T + \sum D_T - S_0e^{rT}$

Stock dividend

Under the **no arbitrage condition**, we have:

$$S_T - F_{0,T} = S_T + \sum D_T - S_0 e^{rT}$$

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{rT} - \sum D_T$$

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{rT} - D_{t_1} e^{r(T-t_1)} - D_{t_2} e^{r(T-t_2)} - D_{t_3} e^{r(T-t_3)}$$

Let δ be the stock's **continuously compounded dividend yield**:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r-\delta)T}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 D_{t_i} e^{r(T-t_i)} \approx S_0 \times e^{-\delta T}$$

Pricing of currencies forwards

Currencies

To price forwards on GBP/USD exchange rate, we first define the **spot foreign exchange rate** as:

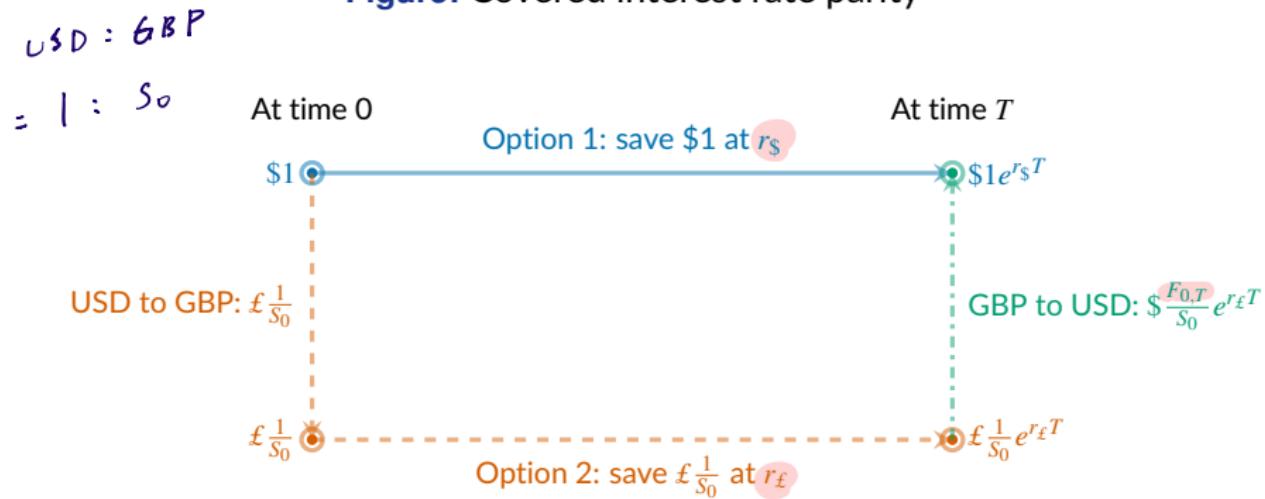
$$S_0 = \frac{\$s_0}{£1} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{USD: GBP} \\ = \$s_0 : £1. \end{matrix}$$

In other words, it takes s_0 USD to buy 1 GBP. Similarly, 1 USD is equivalent to $1/s_0$ GBP. Similarly, we define **the forward foreign exchange rate** as:

$$F_{0,T} = \frac{\$f_{0,T}}{£1}$$

Covered interest rate parity

Figure: Covered interest rate parity



If we have 1 USD at time 0, we have two investment options:

1. Invest 1 USD at $r_{\$}$ until time T .
2. Exchange 1 USD for $1/S_0$ GBP at time 0 then invest it at $r_{\text{£}}$ until time T . Convert GBP back to USD using the forward.

Pricing of currencies forward

The forward price should **equalize** outcomes of the two investment options. Therefore:

$$\$ \frac{F_{0,T}}{S_0} e^{r_f T} = \$1 e^{r\$ T}$$

After moving terms:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r\$ - r_f)T}$$

For discrete interest rates:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 \frac{1 + r\$,0,T}{1 + r\$,0,T}$$

$$\frac{F_{0,T}}{S_0} (1 + r\$,0,T) = (1 + r\$,0,T)$$

Pricing of commodity forwards

Commodities

The **cost-of-carry formula** works well in pricing financial forwards and futures:

- Transaction costs are low.
- Short selling is permitted.

The same **cannot be said** for commodities:

- Some underlying assets are **costly to store** (e.g. oil and electricity) or **impossible to trade** (e.g. weather).
- Producers receive **economic value (convenience yield)** from owning the commodity.

E.g. coffee bean.

Storage cost

Table: Cash flow of a synthetic forward on a commodity

	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Buy the commodity	$-S_0$	S_T
2. Borrow S_0 at r	S_0	$-S_0 e^{rT}$
3. Pay storage cost	0	$-C$
Net cash flow	0	$S_T - S_0 e^{rT} - C$

Storage cost

payoff of forward contract.

Under the **no arbitrage condition**, we have:

$$\cancel{S_T - F_{0,T}} = \cancel{S_T} - S_0 e^{rT} - C$$
$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{rT} + C$$

Let c be the storage costs per unit of commodity:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$$

Storage cost

What if $F_{0,T} > S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$?

Table: Arbitrage when $F_{0,T} > S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$

	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Short the forward	0	$F_{0,T} - \cancel{S_T}$
2. Buy the commodity	$-S_0$	S_T
3. Borrow S_0 at r	S_0	$-S_0 e^{rT}$
4. Pay storage cost	0	$-C$
Net cash flow	0	$F_{0,T} - S_0 e^{(r+c)T} > 0$

Therefore, the upper bound of commodity forward is: *impossible*

Hence, $S_0 e^{(r+c)T} \geq F_{0,T}$

Lease rate

What if $F_{0,T} < S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$?

- Owners of commodities are usually **reluctant to sell or lend** their holdings in the **spot market**.
- **Inventories** of commodities provide **flexibility** to change **production plans** and **insurance** against a **stock-out**.
- Arbitragers who wish to **short sell** a commodity have to pay a **lease rate** l to commodity owner.



borrow commodities.

since com... provide benefit...

least rate (l) is like a cost.

Lease rate

What if $F_{0,T} < S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$? (和上頁 opposite)
 $S_0 e^{(r-l)T}$.

Table: Arbitrage when $F_{0,T} < S_0 e^{(r+c)T}$

	Cash flow:	
Actions:	$t = 0$	$t = T$
1. Buy the forward	0	$\cancel{S_T} - F_{0,T}$
2. Short the commodity	S_0	$\cancel{-S_T}$
3. Lend S_0 at r	$-S_0$	$S_0 e^{rT}$
4. Pay lease rate	0	$-L$
Net cash flow	0	$S_0 e^{(r-l)T} - F_{0,T} > 0$

Therefore, the **lower bound** of commodity forward is:

$$F_{0,T} \geq S_0 e^{(r-l)T}$$

Convenience yield

c : storage cost.

l : lease rate
(borrow cost)

租借
租赁

The no-arbitrage region of commodity forward is:

$$S_0 e^{(r+c)T} \geq F_{0,T} \geq S_0 e^{(r-l)T}$$

upper lower

To make the observed commodity forward price in line with the model, we have to introduce a **convenience yield** y where:

If $l+c \leq y$.

lend at l ,

pay c , earn y

\in

$l+c \geq y \geq 0$
 $(l+c)$

便利
收益.

spot.
Demand ↑; $y↑$)

So the commodity forward price is given by:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r+c-y)T}$$

持有 spot
商品
的
便利
收益.

Whenever the **spot supplies** are **tight** relative to the **consumption demand**, the **convenience yield** becomes **larger**.

Term structure of forwards

Backwardation and contango

Contango:

- Forward or futures price **increases** with maturity.
- **Typical** for commodity forward as holding commodities entails **storage costs** that are **increasing** with maturity.

Backwardation:

$T \uparrow, c \uparrow$.

- Forward or futures price **decreases** with maturity.
- Common for commodities with **large convenience yields**.

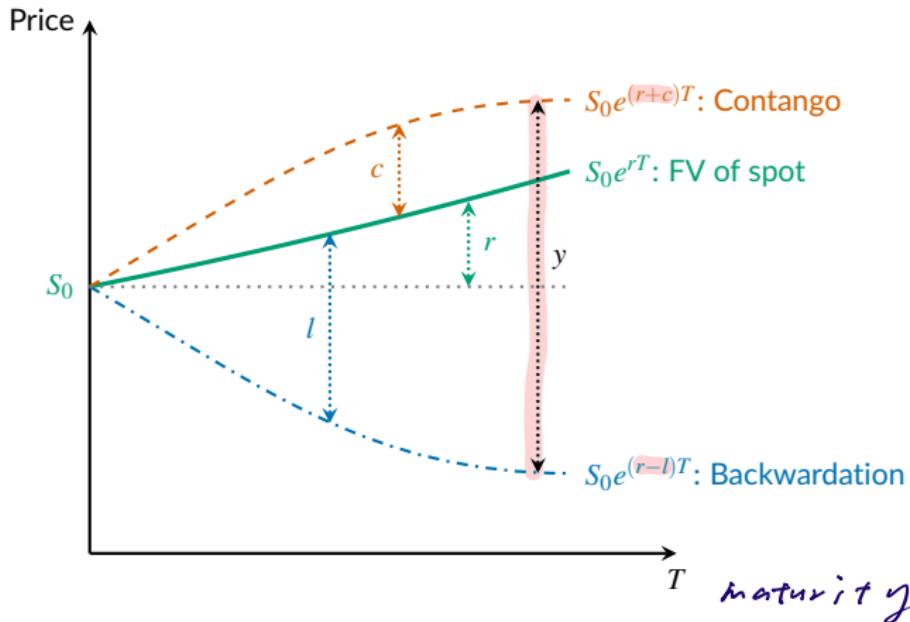
$y \uparrow$. (better off holding spot)

Backwardation and contango

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r+c-y)T}$$

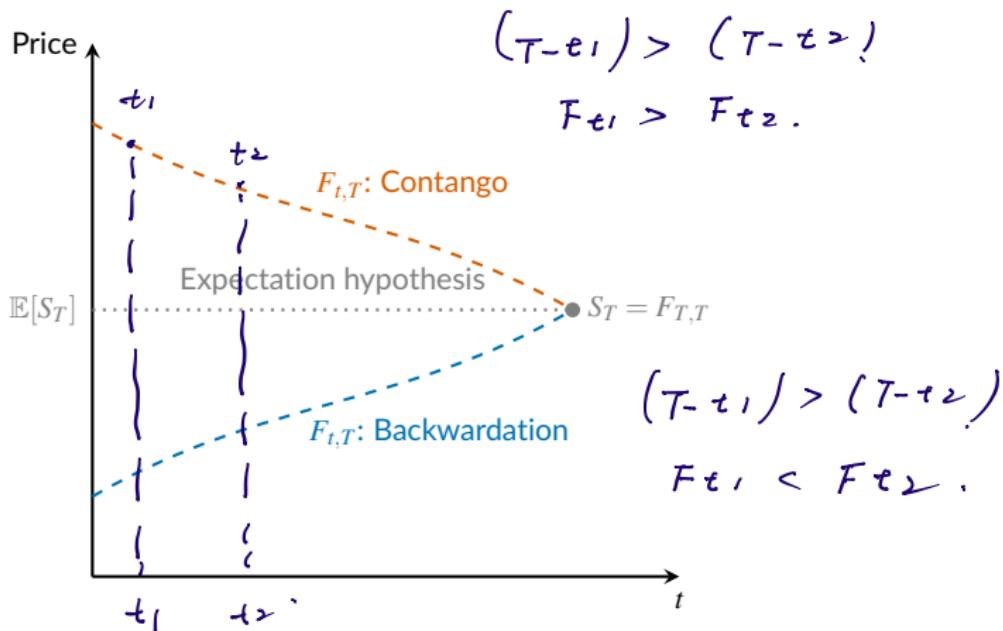
where $r+c \geq y \geq 0$

Figure: Decomposition of the convenience yield



Backwardation and contango

Figure: Term structure of forwards



Pricing of interest rate forwards

Fixed income basics

Let r_T be the T -month **interbank interest rate**. The present value of a dollar due in d days is:

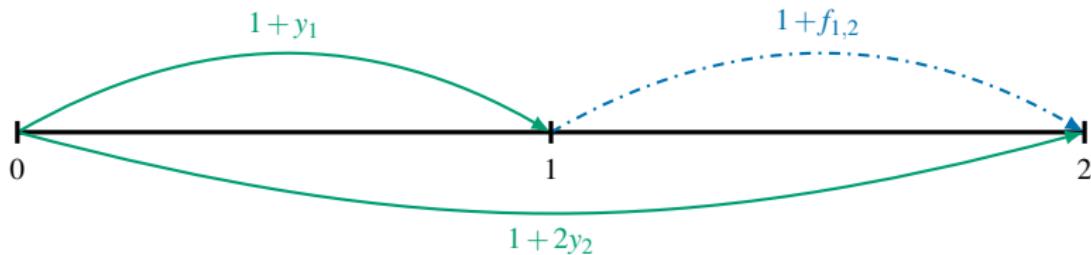
$$B(T) = \frac{1}{1 + r_T \frac{d}{360}}$$

For example, if the current three-month interest rate is 9%, the present value of a dollar receivable after three months (91 days) is:

$$B(3) = \frac{1}{1 + (0.09) \frac{91}{360}} = 0.9778$$

Forward rates

Let y_1 be the annualized spot rate (YTM) of a 1-year zero-coupon T-note from year 0 to 1 and y_2 be the annualized YTM of a 2-year zero-coupon T-note from year 0 to 2.



The price of a 1-year zero-coupon T-note:

$$B(12) = \frac{\$100}{1+y_1} \quad \text{if } y_1 = \frac{100}{B(12)}$$

The price of a 2-year zero-coupon T-note:

$$B(24) = \frac{\$100}{(1+2y_2)} \quad (1+2y_2) = \frac{100}{B(24)}$$

Forward rates

Further, let $f_{1,2}$ be the **annualized forward rate** from year 1 to 2.
We can then choose between two investment options:

1. Invest \$1 in 1-year zero-coupon T-note then reinvest:

After two years: $\$1 \times (1 + y_1) \times (1 + f_{1,2})$ 分 ~~錢~~.

2. Invest \$1 in 2-year zero-coupon T-note:

After two years: $\$1 \times (1 + 2y_2)$ -> K.

By equating returns of the two options, we can infer the expected future interest rate:

$$f_{1,2} = \frac{1 + 2y_2}{1 + y_1} - 1 = \frac{B(12) - B(24)}{B(24)} \quad \text{if } -$$

$$\frac{\frac{100}{B(24)}}{\frac{100}{B(12)}} - 1 = \left(\frac{100}{B(24)} \times \frac{B(12)}{100} \right) - 1$$

Forward rate agreements (FRAs)

Forward rate agreements (FRAs) are forward contracts issued on interest rates as underlying assets. For instance:

$t \times T$ FRA
↓
start ↓
end.

refers a $T - t$ investment period that begins in month t and ends in month T . The settings of a FRA are:

- ✓ ■ No actual exchange of the principal P .
- The long side receives the difference between a reference floating rate r_t and a fixed rate k on time t .

$$(r_t - k.)$$

FRA payoffs

3/15

We enter into a long position in a 4×7 FRA on March 15:

- Three month floating rate: r_t
- Principal amount: $P = \$5,000,000$
- Fixed rate: $k = 5\%$
- Beginning date: July 15 (four months from now)
- Ending date: October 15 (seven months from now)

Suppose $r_t = 5.4\%$ on July 15, the payoff is:

$$(5.4\% - 5\%) \times \frac{92}{360} \times \$5,000,000 = \$5,111.11$$

$16 + 31 + 30 + 15 = 31 \times 2 + 30 = 92$

To discount it back to July 15, we will receive this amount from the seller on July 15:

$$\frac{\$5,111.11}{1 + (0.054) \frac{92}{360}} = \$5,041.54$$

FRA payoffs

yearly.

Suppose $r_t = 4.7\%$ on July 15, the payoff is:

$$(4.7\% - 5\%) \times \frac{92}{360} \times \$5,000,000 = -\$3,833.33$$

To discount it back to July 15, we will give this amount from the seller on July 15:

$$\frac{-\$3,833.33}{1 + (0.047) \frac{92}{360}} = -\$3,787.83$$

Pricing of FRAs

The payoff to the long position in FRA is thus:

$$\frac{(r_t - k) \times \frac{d}{360}}{1 + r_t \frac{d}{360}} \times P$$

By adding and subtracting $P/(1 + r_t \frac{d}{360})$, we have:

$$\frac{P + Pr_t \frac{d}{360} - P - Pk \frac{d}{360}}{1 + r_t \frac{d}{360}}$$

Which is the same as:

$$\frac{P(1 + r_t \frac{d}{360})}{1 + r_t \frac{d}{360}} - \frac{P(1 + k \frac{d}{360})}{1 + r_t \frac{d}{360}} = P - \frac{P(1 + k \frac{d}{360})}{1 + r_t \frac{d}{360}}$$

Pricing of FRAs

At time 0 , we expect the payoffs at time t to be:

1. a certain cash inflow of P ;
2. an uncertain cash outflow of $\frac{P(1+k\frac{d}{360})}{1+r_t\frac{d}{360}}$.

At time t , r_t is known so the uncertain cash outflow can be invested at the same rate. At time T , the cash outflow becomes:

$$\frac{P(1+k\frac{d}{360})}{1+r_t\frac{d}{360}} \times (1+r_T\frac{d}{360}) = P(1+k\frac{d}{360})$$

Pricing of FRAs

As a result, the future payoffs of a FRA are:

1. a certain cash inflow of P at time t ;
2. a certain cash outflow of $P(1 + k \frac{d}{360})$ at time T .

The time 0 present value is given by:

$$\frac{B(t)P}{1+t} - \frac{B(T)P(1+k \frac{d}{360})}{1+T} = 0$$

So the arbitrage-free FRA price is:

$$k^* = \frac{B(t) - B(T)}{B(T)} \times \frac{360}{d}$$

$$\left(\frac{B(t)}{B(T)} - 1 \right) \frac{360}{d} = k^*$$

Reference interbank interest rates

LIBOR reform

In the past, the London interbank offered rate (Libor) is the standard reference interest rate for interbank borrowing and lending on eurodollar deposits (USD deposits outside of the US).

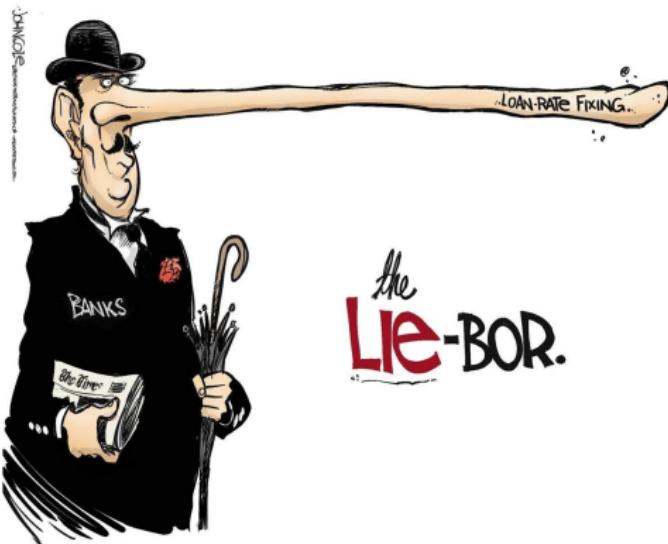


Figure: Source: John Cole/Scranton Times Tribune

LIBOR reform

By the end of 2021, new **benchmark interest rates** will replace Libor. Examples include:

- United States: Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR)
- Euro Zone: Euro Overnight Index Average (Eonia)
- United Kingdom: Sterling Overnight Index Average (Sonia)
- Switzerland: Swiss Average Rate Overnight (Saron)
- Japan: Tokyo Interbank Offered Rate (Tibor) and Tokyo Overnight Average Rate (Tonar)

Pricing of futures

Pricing of futures

can determine
time, location,
quantity, quality ...
(interest rate future contracts!).
Benefit seller, buyer will anticipate
lead to current # ↓

It is difficult to price futures contract analytically:

- The **delivery options** in futures create **uncertainty** about the grade of the underlying asset to be **delivered** at maturity.
- The **daily marked-to-market** procedure generates **uncertain intermediate cash flows.**

- Accounting practice:
 - adjust value by current market conditions.
 - Getting how much? if sold at current timing

Marked-to-market and pricing of futures

F : forward f : future. r : interest rate.

Since the margin account earns interest, we have the following relationships between forwards and futures:

- If $\text{Corr}(\Delta f, \Delta r) > 0$, futures prices will be higher than forward prices. *long future, if $\Delta r > 0$, margin ↑, interest payment ↑*
- If $\text{Corr}(\Delta f, \Delta r) < 0$, futures prices will be lower than forward prices. *margin ↑, interest payment ↓*
- If $\text{Corr}(\Delta f, \Delta r) = 0$, futures prices will be identical to forward prices. *($\Delta f = \Delta r + \Delta F$)*

For short-term contracts, the daily marked-to-market procedure has little impact on driving the price difference between forwards and futures.

In SR, $\Delta r \approx 0$

Unbiased expectation hypothesis

Forward prices versus future spot prices

The no-arbitrage forward price for a non-dividend paying stock:

$$F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{rT}$$

Under the **unbiased expectation hypothesis**:

$$F_{0,T} = \mathbb{E}[S_T] \Rightarrow F_{T,T} = S_T$$

Which implies a risk-free rate of return:

$$\mathbb{E}[S_T] = S_0 e^{rT}$$

all constant.
no arbitrage price.

Yet, stock is a risky investment with an **expected return** of m . The forward price has a **systematic downward bias** in forecasting future spot price.

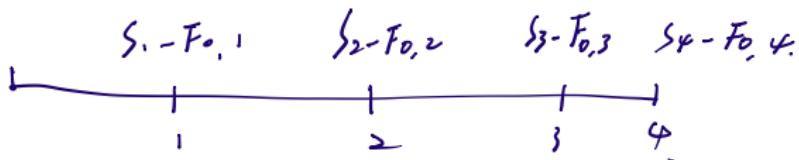
In real case *(tend to be < time value)*

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[S_T] = S_0 e^{mT} > S_0 e^{rT} = F_{0,T}$$

*based on
e.g. CAPM*

Swaps

Swap



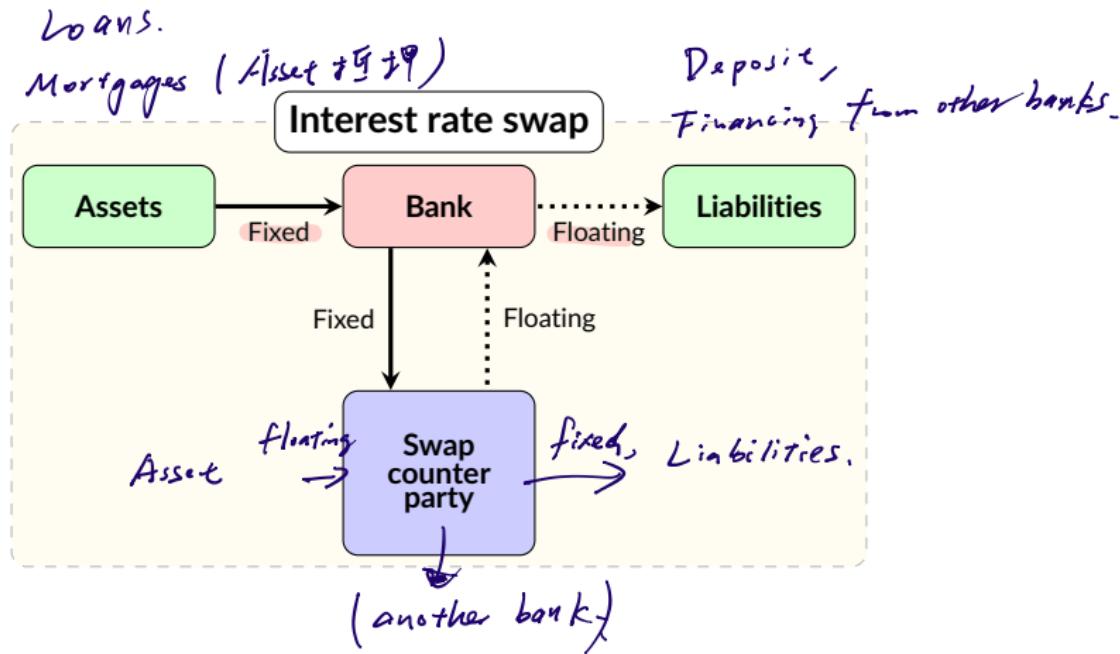
A swap is a contract between two counterparties for exchanging cash flows or financial instruments over a pre-specified period.

- It is essentially a series of forwards with different maturities.
- Swaps are usually OTC contracts between corporations or financial institutions.
- Swaps usually do not entail the exchange of principal amounts.
- Examples include interest rate swaps (IRS), currency swaps, commodity swaps, credit default swaps (CDS), and equity swaps.

Total Return Swap^s.

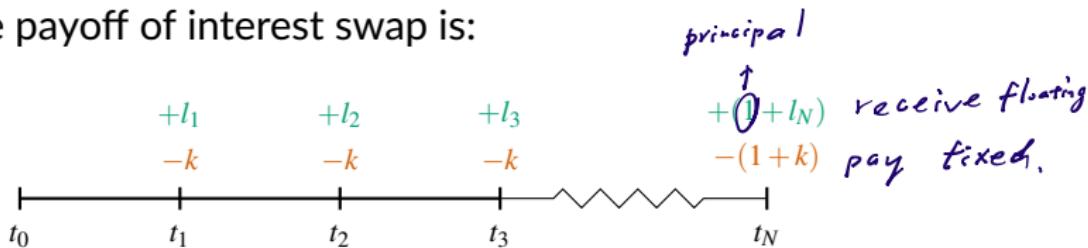
→ leveraged / Inverse ETFs.
2X. -1X. -2X.

Interest rate swaps



Pricing of interest rate swaps

Let l_n be the floating rate observed at t_n and k be the fixed swap rate. The payoff of interest swap is:



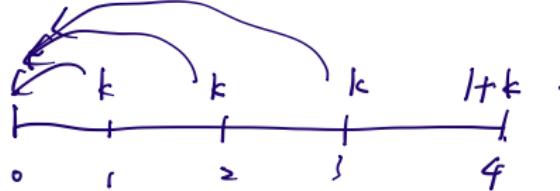
Furthermore, the present value factor is given by:

$$B(t_0, t_n) = \frac{\$1}{1 + r_{0,n}} \quad (1+k)$$

Since the swap contract involves **exchanging cash flows** between two parties, it is similar to a combined position of:

- a short position in a **fixed rate bond with coupons k** ;
- a long position in a **floating rate bond with coupons l_n** .

Pricing of interest rate swaps



The present value at inception for the **fixed rate part** is:

$$kB(t_0, t_1) + kB(t_0, t_2) + \cdots + kB(t_0, t_N) + B(t_0, t_N)$$

The present value at inception for the **floating rate part** is:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{l_1}{1+l_1} + \frac{l_2}{(1+l_1)(1+l_2)} + \cdots + \frac{1+l_N}{\prod_{n=1}^N (1+l_n)} \\ & = \frac{l_1 \prod_{n=1}^N (1+l_n) + l_2 \prod_{n=1}^N (1+l_n) + \cdots + (1+l_N)}{\prod_{n=1}^N (1+l_n)} \end{aligned}$$

=\$1

<^{2 periods} period> $pV(l_1) = \frac{l_1}{1+l_1}$

+ $pV(l_2) = \frac{l_2}{(1+l_1)(1+l_2)}$

<3 period)

$$PV(\ell_1) = \frac{\ell_1}{1+\ell_1}$$

$$PV(\ell_2) = \frac{\ell_2}{(1+\ell_2)(1+\ell_1)}$$

+) $PV(\ell_3) = \frac{1+\ell_3}{(1+\ell_3)(1+\ell_2)(1+\ell_1)}$

$$\frac{1+\cancel{\ell_2}}{(1+\ell_1)(1+\cancel{\ell_2})} + \frac{\ell_1}{1+\ell_1} = \frac{1+\ell_1}{1+\ell_1} = 1.$$

⇒ For n periods. ($n \in$ arb pos. const.)

The Floating rate is always one

Pricing of interest rate swaps

$$PV(\text{float Bond}) = PV(\text{Fixed Bond})$$

We need to find k such that the swap contract has zero value to both parties at inception. Both the **fixed rate part** and the **floating rate part** should be **priced at par** so:

$$\$1 = k[B(t_0, t_1) + \dots + B(t_0, t_N)] + B(t_0, t_N)$$

The swap rate is thus:

$$k^* = \frac{1 - B(t_0, t_N)}{B(t_0, t_1) + B(t_0, t_2) + \dots + B(t_0, t_N)}$$

target.