

# Financial Mathematics

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<sup>1</sup>Based on Robert L. McDonald's *Derivatives Markets*, 3rd Ed, Pearson, 2013.

## Chapter 5. Financial Forwards and Futures

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§ 5.1 Alternative ways to buy a stock

§ 5.2 Prepaid forward contracts on stock

§ 5.3 Forward contracts on stock

§ 5.4 Futures contracts

§ 5.5 Problems

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Three ways to determine the payment for the prepaid forward contracts  
(no dividend case)

- ▶ Pricing the prepaid forward by analogy
- ▶ Pricing the prepaid forward by discounted present value
- ▶ Pricing the prepaid forward by arbitrage

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## Pricing the prepaid forward by analogy

In the absence of dividends, whether you receive physical possession today or at time  $T$  is irrelevant: In either case you own the stock, and at time  $T$  it will be exactly as if you had owned the stock the whole time. Hence,

$$F_{0,T}^p = S_0$$

## Pricing the prepaid forward by discounted present value

Let  $\alpha$  be risk-adjusted discount rate.

Let  $\mathbb{E}_0(S_T)$  be the expected stock price at time  $T$ .

Hence,

$$F_{0,T}^p = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_0(S_T)}_{=S_0 \times e^{\alpha T}} \times e^{-\alpha T} = S_0$$

## Pricing the prepaid forward by arbitrage

Arbitrage = Free money

The price of a derivative should be such that

**no arbitrage is possible.**

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1. If  $F_{0,T}^p > S_0$ : find the arbitrage.

2. If  $F_{0,T}^p < S_0$ : find the arbitrage.

Hence,  $F_{0,T}^p = S_0$ .

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## Pricing prepaid forwards with dividends

### – Discrete dividends

Suppose a stock is expected to make dividend payments of  $D_{t_i}$  at time  $t_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Then

$$F_{0,T}^P = S_0 - \sum_{i=1}^n PV_{0,t_i}(D_{t_i}),$$

where  $PV_{0,t}(\cdot)$  is the present value at time zero of a time  $t$  payment.

**Example 5.2-1** Suppose XYZ stock costs \$100 today and is expected to pay a \$1.25 quarterly dividend, with the first coming 3 months from today and the last just prior to the delivery of the stock. Suppose the annual continuously compounded risk-free rate is 10%. The quarterly continuously compounded rate is therefore 2.5%. Find a 1-year prepaid forward contract for the stock would cost.

Solution.

$$F_{0,1}^T = \$100 - \sum_{i=1}^4 \$1.25 \times e^{-0.025i} = \$93.30.$$



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## Pricing prepaid forwards with dividends – Continuous dividends

Let  $\delta$  be the compounded dividend yield. Then

$$F_{0,T}^P = S_0 e^{-\delta T}$$

**Example 5.2-2** Suppose that the index is \$125 and the annualized daily compounded dividend yield is 3%. Find the prepaid forward price at one year.

Solution.

$$F_{0,1}^p = \$125e^{-0.03 \times 1} = \$121.306.$$



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