

Financial Mathematics

MATH 5870/6870¹
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¹Based on Robert L. McDonald's *Derivatives Markets*, 3rd Ed, Pearson, 2013.

Chapter 3. Insurance, Collars, and Other Strategies

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§ 3.1 Basic insurance strategies

§ 3.2 Put-call parity

§ 3.3 Spreads and collars

§ 3.4 Speculating on volatility

§ 3.5 Problems

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§ 3.1 Basic insurance strategies

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It is possible to mimic a long forward position on an asset by
buying a call + selling a put,
with each option having the same strike price and expiration time.

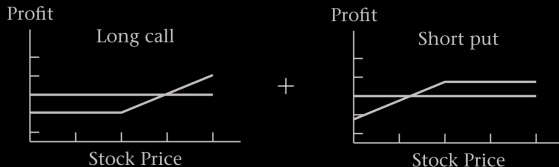
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A synthetic forward

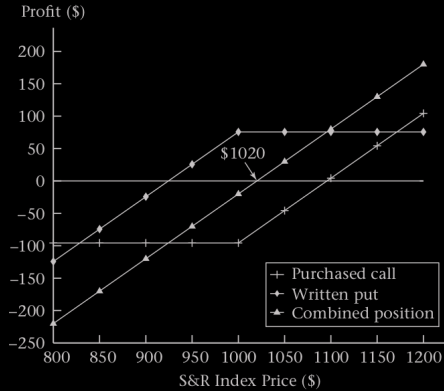
Example 3.2-1 Working with the S&R index. Suppose that

| | |
|---|----------|
| 6-month interest rate | 2% |
| premium for 1000-strike 6-month call | \$93.809 |
| premium for 1000-strike 6-month put | \$74.201 |

Draw profit diagram for the combined position of a purchased call with a written put, namely,



Solution.



A synthetic long forward contract

We pay the net option premium

We pay the strike price

The actual forward

We pay zero premium

We pay the forward price

Basic Assumption

The net cost of buying the index using options
must equal
the net cost of buying the index using a forward contract.

NO ARBITRAGE!

The Put-Call parity equation

$$\text{Call}(K, T) - \text{Put}(K, T) = \text{PV}(F_{0,T} - K)$$

- ▶ K : strike price
- ▶ T : expiration date
- ▶ $\text{Call}(\cdot, \circ)$: the premium for call.
- ▶ $\text{Put}(\cdot, \circ)$: the premium for put.
- ▶ $F_{0,T}$: the forward price at time T if one enters at time 0 into a long forward position.
- ▶ $\text{PV}(\cdot)$: the present value function.

Example 3.2-2 Check Example 3.2-1 to see if the put-call parity equation is satisfied.

Solution. We need to check:

$$\$93.809 - \$74.201 \stackrel{?}{=} \text{PV}(\$1,000 \times 1.02 - \$1,000)$$

Clearly, LHS = \$19.61. On the other hand, the RHS is equal to

$$\begin{aligned}\text{PV}(\$1,000 \times 1.02 - \$1,000) &= \text{PV}(1,000 \times (1.02 - 1)) \\ &= \text{PV}(1,000 \times 0.02) \\ &= \frac{1,000 \times 0.02}{1.02} \\ &= \$19.61.\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the put-call parity equation is satisfied. □

$$\text{Call}(K, T) - \text{Put}(K, T) = \text{PV}(F_{0,T} - K)$$



$$\text{PV}(F_{0,T}) + \text{Put}(K, T) = \text{Call}(K, T) + \text{PV}(K)$$

Buying the index and buying the put

generate the same payoff as

buying the call and buying a zero-coupon bond (i.e. lending) $\text{PV}(K)$

$$\text{Call}(K, T) - \text{Put}(K, T) = \text{PV}(F_{0,T} - K)$$

$$\Updownarrow$$

$$\text{PV}(F_{0,T}) - \text{Call}(K, T) = \text{PV}(K) - \text{Put}(K, T)$$

Writing a covered call

has the same profit as

lending $\text{PV}(K)$ and selling a put

$$\text{Call}(K, T) - \text{Put}(K, T) = \text{PV}(F_{0,T}) - \text{PV}(K)$$

Revisit four positions in Section 3.1

| Position | Meaning | equivalent to |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Inuring a long position (floors) | $\text{Index} + \text{Put}$ | $\text{Bound} + \text{Call}$ |
| Inuring a short position (caps) | $-\text{Index} + \text{Call}$ | $-\text{Bound} + \text{Put}$ |
| Covered call writing | $\text{Index} - \text{Call}$ | $\text{Bound} - \text{Put}$ |
| Covered put writing | $-\text{Index} - \text{Put}$ | $-\text{Bound} - \text{Call}$ |