

## The Effect of Correlation.

- If  $\rho = 1$ , then the feasible set is a **straight line** between the two assets.
- The higher the correlation, the **smaller the curvature of the feasible set**.
- If  $\rho = -1$ , then ...

Claim: There is a weight  $w$  of asset #1 such that the resulting portfolio is **risk-free**, i.e., its volatility is zero.

$$\rightarrow: \text{Var}[w \cdot R_1 + (1-w) \cdot R_2] = 0$$

$$w^2 \cdot \text{Var}[R_1] + (1-w)^2 \cdot \text{Var}[R_2]$$

$$+ 2w(1-w) \text{Cov}[R_1, R_2] = 0$$

$$w^2 \cdot \sigma_1^2 + (1-w)^2 \cdot \sigma_2^2 + 2w(1-w) \cdot \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 \cdot \rho = 0$$

$$w^2 \cdot \sigma_1^2 - 2w(1-w) \sigma_1 \cdot \sigma_2 + (1-w)^2 \cdot \sigma_2^2 = 0$$

$$(w \cdot \sigma_1)^2 - 2(w \sigma_1)((1-w) \sigma_2) + ((1-w) \sigma_2)^2 = 0$$

$$(w \cdot \sigma_1 - (1-w) \cdot \sigma_2)^2 = 0$$

$$w \cdot \sigma_1 - (1-w) \cdot \sigma_2 = 0$$

$$w(\sigma_1 + \sigma_2) = \sigma_2$$

$$w = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_1 + \sigma_2}$$