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University of Texas at Austin

Problem Set 3
Payoff. Profit.

Problem 3.1. Let the current price of a non-dividend-paying stock be \$40. The continuously compounded, risk-free interest rate is 0.04. You model the distribution of the time-1 price of the above stock as follows:

$$S(1) \sim \begin{cases} 45, & \text{with probability } 1/4, \\ 42, & \text{with probability } 1/2, \\ 38, & \text{with probability } 1/4. \end{cases}$$

What is your expected profit under the above model, if you invest in one share of stock at time-0 and liquidate your investment at time-1?

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Problem 3.2. To plant and harvest 20,000 bushels of corn, Farmer Jayne incurs total aggregate costs totaling \$33,000. The current spot price of corn is \$1.80 per bushel. What is the profit if the spot price is \$1.90 per bushel when she harvests and sells her corn?

- (a) About \$3,000 gain
- (b) About \$3,000 loss
- (c) About \$5,000 loss
- (d) About \$5,000 gain
- (e) None of the above

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