

M339D: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

## Arbitrage Portfolios.

Def'n. An arbitrage portfolio is a portfolio whose profit is:

- ? • non-negative in all states of the world  
and
- ? • strictly positive in at least one state of the world.

Unless it's specified otherwise in a particular problem/example we assume NO ARBITRAGE exists.

## Law of the Unique Price.

For simplicity, focus on static portfolios.

Assume that the payoff of two static portfolios, A and B, are equal, i.e.,

$$V_A(T) = V_B(T) \quad \checkmark$$

In general, two random variables, X and Y, are said to be equal if

$$\mathbb{P}[X = Y] = 1$$

On a finite probability space, this means that they must take the same value on every elementary outcome.

Our claim:

$$V_A(o) = V_B(o)$$

→ Assume, to the contrary, that

$$V_A(o) \neq V_B(o).$$

Without loss of generality, say,

$$\underbrace{V_A(o)}_{\text{relatively cheap}} < \underbrace{V_B(o)}_{\text{relatively expensive}}$$

Propose an arbitrage portfolio:

- long Portfolio A
  - short Portfolio B
- } Total Portfolio

Verify: • Initial Cost:  $V_A(0) - V_B(0) < 0$

Inflow of  
money @ time 0

• Payoff:  $V_A(T) - V_B(T) = 0$

$$\text{Profit} = \text{Payoff} - FV_{0,T} (\text{Initial Cost})$$

$$= 0 - FV_{0,T} (V_A(0) - V_B(0)) > 0$$

We created an  
arbitrage portfolio!

$\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$

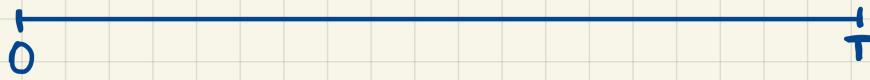


## Replicating Portfolios.

Def'n. Consider a European-style derivative security.  
A static portfolio w/ the same payoff as that of  
the derivative security is called its replicating portfolio.

Note: The initial price of the derivative security must be  
equal to the initial price of its replicating portfolio.

## Ways to Buy Stock.



### Outright purchase:

- pmt:  $S(0)$
- delivery

### Fully Leveraged Purchase:

- delivery

### Forward Contract:

- pmt:  $S(0)e^{rT}$
- pmt:  $F_{0,T}$
- delivery

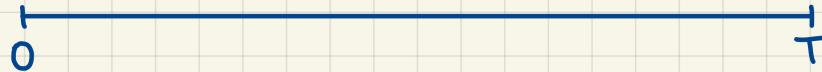
### Prepaid Forward:

- pmt:  $F_{0,T}^P$

prepaid forward price

- delivery

# Relationship Between Prepaid Forwards and Forwards.



Forward Contract:

Initial Cost = 0

$$\text{Payoff} = S(T) - F_{0,T}$$

Prepaid Forward:

Initial Cost =  $F_{0,T}^P$

$$\text{Payoff} = S(T)$$

Propose the following replicating portfolio for the prepaid forward:

- PORT { • forward contract  
• invest  $PV_{0,T}(F_{0,T})$  @ the ccfir  $r$  to be withdrawn @ time  $T$

Note: This is, indeed, a static portfolio.

So, we just need to check if the payoffs match.

$$\text{Payoff(PORT)} = \underbrace{S(T) - F_{0,T}}_{\text{forward contract}} + \underbrace{FV_{0,T}(PV_{0,T}(F_{0,T}))}_{\text{balance in the risk-free account}} = S(T)$$

⇒ We, indeed, obtained a replicating portfolio.

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{F_{0,T}^P = PV_{0,T}(F_{0,T})}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{F_{0,T} = FV_{0,T}(F_{0,T}^P)}$$

NO ARBITRAGE!