Derivative Securities Fall 2011
Lecture 2: Forward & Futures Markets

Sources:
Instructor’s notes,
J.C. Hull, Chapters 2, 3
CME Group (www.cme.com)
Energy Information Administration (www.eia.gov)
Yahoo!Finance
Bloomberg (www.bloomberg.com)
Contract for Forward Delivery (commodity, stocks, currencies)

- Example: Forward contract for $N=1,000,000$ shares of stock XYZ to be delivered in $T=1$ year, at price of $K$ dollars per share

- Short must hedge by buying the stock at the starting date

1. borrow to buy the stock $(t=0)$
2. collect dividends, if any $(0<t<T)$
3. exchange stock for stipulated price $(t=T)$
4. return loan + interest $(t=T)$
The Notion of Forward Price

\( S_t \) = stock price at time \( t \), \( r \) = interest rate
loan value (per share) = \( S_0 \); loan + interest = \( S_0 e^{rT} \)
dividends = \( d_i, i = 1, \ldots, N \)

short pays: \( S_0 e^{rT} \)
short collects: \( K + \sum_{i=1}^{N} d_i e^{r(T-T_i)} \)
profit/loss for short: \( K + \sum_{i=1}^{N} d_i e^{r(T-T_i)} - S_0 e^{rT} \)

\[ K = e^{rT} \left( S_0 - \sum_{i=1}^{N} d_i e^{-rT_i} \right) \equiv F_{0,T} \]

This is the cash-and-carry model for the forward price
Evolution of Forward Price

• If the forward contract is negotiated at the forward price, its value at time 0 is zero. In principle, no cash-flows are required initially.

• If $K$ is different from the forward price, then there should be an initial cash-flow $e^{-rT}(F_{0T} - K)$ by the long to the short because the contract is **off-market**.

• At time $t$, the new forward price is

$$F_{tT} = e^{r(T-t)} \left[ S_t - \sum_{T_i > t} e^{-r(T_i-t)} d_i \right]$$

and the value of the forward contract for the long is

$$V_t = Ne^{-r(T-t)} \left[ F_{t,T} - F_{0,T} \right]$$

• This is the amount that the short would be willing to pay to ``get out of the contract''. It is known as the Mark-to-Market value of the forward contract.
MTM profit/loss for the long

\[
\Delta V_t = V_{t+\Delta t} - V_t \\
= N \cdot e^{-r(T-t-\Delta t)} [F_{t+\Delta t,T} - F_{0,T}] - N \cdot e^{-r(T-t)} [F_{t,T} - F_{0,T}] \\
\geq N \cdot \Delta [e^{-r(T-t)} [F_{t,T} - F_{0,T}]] \\
= N \cdot r \Delta t \cdot e^{-r(T-t)} [F_{t,T} - F_{0,T}] + N \cdot e^{-r(T-t)} \Delta F_{t,T} \\
= r \Delta t \cdot V_t + N \cdot \Delta \left( S_t - \sum_{T_i > t} e^{-r(T_i-t)} d_i \right) - N \cdot S_t r \Delta t \\
= r \Delta t \cdot V_t + N \cdot \Delta S_t - N \cdot S_t r \Delta t - N \cdot (\text{dividend paid on } (t, t+\Delta t))
\]

MTM change = (Interest on accumulated MTM) + (profit/loss from stock price change) - (financing of stock) - (dividends)
Total Return Swap

• Consider stock XYZ. The total return corresponds to the appreciation and dividends over the period of interest (including dividend reinvestment).

• Hedge: borrow money to buy the stock, collect dividends, reinvest them, sell stock, pay loan.

• A TRS is essentially a forward transaction in which the Long finances the asset purchase by the Short. Usually TRS are cash-settled, which makes sense.
Contracts for Differences (CFDs)

- CFD is an OTC contract that delivers in the future the difference between today’s price and the price of an underlying security in the future.

- The `fair value` of the fee in the CFD contract is simply the cost of financing the asset, minus dividends, etc.

- If the contract is settled at expiration then fee = \( F_{0,T} - S_0 = (e^{rT} - 1)S_0 - \sum_i d_i e^{r(T-T_i)} \)

- A one-day CFD on a stock is also known as ``synthetic stock’’. (Popular in Europe, Asia). Can be both long or short. Not available in US.
Futures contracts

- Forward contracts are generally negotiated bilaterally on the basis on spot price and cost of carry (interest rate, dividends).

- Futures contracts are exchange-traded versions of forwards, where the settlement price is negotiated directly on an exchange and there is daily MTM.

Example: E-mini S&P futures from Chicago Mercantile Exchange

-- Contract Size: $50 times the S&P futures price

-- Tick size (minimum variation): 0.25 pts = $12.50

-- Contract Months: Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec

-- Settlement: Third Friday of the contract month (a.m.), in cash.
In futures exchanges, the traders face the credit risk of the clearinghouse instead of the risk of individual counterparties. The CH collects margin and marks-to-market daily its member accounts.
CME E-mini S&P 500 contract (daily quotes)
E-mini S&P intraday chart
How futures work (ex. E-Mini S&P)

• Traders post bids and offers and quantities on Futures contracts during the trading session

• Traders can buy (go long) contracts or sell (go short contracts). For every long there is a short (trades cleared by the exchange).

• On the settlement date, the contract is worth exactly the S&P 500 index times the contract size

• During the lifetime of the contract, if the futures price changes the PNL for a trader long N contracts is \( \Delta E = N \times 50 \times \Delta f \) where \( f \) is the futures price (mark-to-market).

• Example: a trader is long 20 Sep 11 contracts. At noon, \( F=1140 \), and at 3:30 PM its value is 1163.50. The traders’ profit is

\[
20 \times 50 \times (1163.50-1140) = 1000 \times 23.50 = \$23,500.
\]
Futures versus forwards with the same settlement date

• Suppose that a trader is long one contract at the start of day 1 and carries the position to expiration, n days later. Assume contract size 1 for simplicity. The profit/loss is

\[ \Delta E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( f_i - f_{i-1} \right) e^{r(n-i)\Delta t} \]

• If he has a position in \( e^{-r(n-i)\Delta t} \) contracts on day \( i \), then, accordingly

\[ \Delta E = \sum_{i=1}^{n} e^{-r(n-i)\Delta t} e^{r(n-i)\Delta t} \left( f_i - f_{i-1} \right) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( f_i - f_{i-1} \right) \]

\[ = f_n - f_0 \]

\[ = I_n - f_0 \]

Since futures have zero cost, the PNL from this strategy matches exactly that of a Forward contract on the index. Conclusion: \( f_{0,T} = F_{0,T} \)
Equivalence of Futures and Forwards

• The argument of the previous slide shows that if the funding rates are constant, then index futures satisfy

\[ f_{0,T} = F_{0,T} \]

• The same argument applies if interest rates can be ``locked in'' in the future, i.e. if the interest rates for date \( i \) is \( r_i \)

• In particular, the futures markets provide an interesting relation between the spot price of the underlying index, the funding rate and the dividend flows provided by holding the index (cash & carry arbitrage).

• They can be used to gain exposure to the underlying index or to arbitrage the carry costs.
Continuous Dividends

- Equity indexes have a very frequent flow of small dividend payments

\[ I_t = \sum_{i=1}^{m} w_i S_i \]

- Currencies have a "dividend" corresponding to the foreign interest rate

- In these cases, it is convenient to model the dividends as a continuous dividend yield \( q \): the dividend paid over one day is modeled as \( I \cdot q \Delta t \)

- A one-day investment in the basket underlying an equity index has total PnL (including financing for one day)

\[ \Delta I + qI \Delta t - rI \Delta t \]

Capital gain/loss  Dividend income  Financing cost
Forward price and continuous dividends

- Invest in $e^{-q(T-t)}$ units of the underlying basket of stocks at time $t$, financing daily, and assuming zero initial equity. The PnL for any given day is

\[
\Delta E_t = rE_t \Delta t + e^{-q(T-t)}(\Delta I_t + qI_t \Delta t - rI_t \Delta t) \\
= rE_t \Delta t + e^{-q(T-t)} e^{+(q-r)(T-t)} \Delta \left( e^{-(q-r)(T-t)} I_t \right) \\
= rE_t \Delta t + e^{-r(T-t)} \Delta \left( e^{-(q-r)(T-t)} I_t \right)
\]

Hence

\[
\Delta E_t - rE_t \Delta t = e^{-r(T-t)} \Delta \left( e^{-(q-r)(T-t)} I_t \right) \\
e^{-rt} \left( \Delta E_t - rE_t \Delta t \right) = e^{-rT} \Delta \left( e^{-(q-r)(T-t)} I_t \right) \\
\Delta \left( e^{-rt} E_t \right) = e^{-rT} \Delta \left( e^{-(q-r)(T-t)} I_t \right) \\
\therefore \quad E_T - e^{-rT} E_0 = E_T = I_T - e^{-(q-r)T} I_0
\]
Cash & Carry Argument

• The trader that does this strategy can deliver the basket, which has market price $I_T$, against a payment of $I_0e^{(r-q)T}$ or settle for the difference in cash.

• Conclusion: for continuous dividends, we have

\[
F_{0,T} = I_0e^{(r-q)T}
\]

• One can view the forward or futures price for a basket that trades liquidly in the spot market as the market’s estimate of the financing costs and dividend stream for the basket of stocks.

• This leads to an arbitrage strategy between index futures and cash equities or exchange-traded funds (ETFs). Traders can estimate whether the basket is “rich” or “cheap” relative to the futures on a given maturity.
Example

- On Sep 13 2011, at 11:40 am, the December E Mini contract is trading at 1161.00. The index value is 1165.88. There are 68 trading days before settlement. Therefore

\[
r - q = \frac{252}{68} \ln \left( \frac{1161.00}{1165.88} \right) = -0.0155442 = -1.554\%
\]

\[
r = 0.12\% \text{ (Fed Funds)}
\]

\[
q = 1.554 + 0.12 = 1.674\% \text{ (implied dividend yield)}
\]

- The dividend yield for the SPY ETF listed in Yahoo!Finance is 1.99%. If we take this as the reference yield, the E-mini futures is expensive and an arbitrage trade could be possible. (Must take into acct also bid/ask and other transaction costs. The "profit’’ would be 1.99-1.67=0.32\% (annualized).

PNL for 68 days = 0.086 \% or 8.6 basis points. \text{(Not much.... 😊)}

- Futures are in line with the basket.
Currency Forwards & Futures

• Currency trading (FX) can be viewed as investing in foreign overnight deposits and hence earn interest (which is like a continuous dividend) as well as currency appreciation depreciation

• Usually, term rates are quoted in simply compounded terms. 

\[
F_{0,T} = Se^{(r_d-r_f)T} = S \left( \frac{1 + R_dT}{1 + R_fT} \right); \quad S = \text{spot rate}
\]

• Example: Spot USD/BRL (Brazilian Real)=1.7135 (Bloomberg) Brazil 1 year rate= 10.94%, US 1 year rate =0.09%

\[
F_{0,1}^{USD/BRL} = \frac{1}{1.7135} \times \left( \frac{1 + 0.0009}{1 + 0.1094} \right) = 0.583601 \times 0.902199
\]

\[
= 0.526524
\]

\[
F_{0,1}^{BRL/USD} = \frac{1}{0.526524} = 1.8999
\]

Rates are interbank rates (LIBOR, etc)
Currency Forward Curves

• Quoting vs. the dollar, for simplicity (USD=domestic currency)

• If \( R_f > R_d \) then the forward is lower than the spot (*downward sloping*)
  Associated with positive carry

• If \( R_f < R_d \) then the forward is lower than the spot (*upward sloping*)
  Associated with negative carry

\[
\begin{align*}
F & \quad \text{Forward} \\
\text{Spot} & \quad \text{Spot}
\end{align*}
\]

Foreign interest rate > Domestic Interest rate: Forward is cheaper than spot
CME FX Futures (Example EUR/USD)

- Contract size: USD 125,000
- Month listings: Six months in the March quarterly cycle (Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec)
- Minimum price increment = $0.0001 per contract ($12.50/contract)
- Last trade: 9:16 AM (CT), second business day before the 3rd Wednesday of the contract month (usually Monday)
Dec 2011 Euro-Globex Futures
December 2011 Euro contract (intraday– 5 min intervals)
Example: Hedging receivables

- European car exporter wants to hedge his dollar revenues until December. He expects to collect $30,000,000 USD for the sale of cars by Dec 16 and believes that EUR will be volatile with respect to the dollar. How can he hedge?

- Using the Dec 11 contract as a reference, EUR/USD=1.3712 (futures-implied exchange rate)
  Notional in Euros: \( \frac{30,000,000}{1.3712} = EUR \ 21,878,646 \)
  Number of contracts: \( \frac{21,878,646}{125,000} = 175 \) contracts (rounded)

- Scenario 1: in December EUR=1.45 USD
  PNL futures= 175*(14500-13712)*12.5 = 1,723,750 = \( 1,188,793 \) EUR
  Forex = 30,000,000/1.45 = 20,689,655 EUR
  Total = 21,878,448 EUR

- Scenario 2: in December EUR=1.25 USD
  PNL futures= 175*(12500-13712)*12.5 = (2,651,250) = (2,121,000) EUR
  Forex = 30,000,000/1.25 = 24,000,000 EUR
  Total = 21,879,000 EUR

This works as if he exchanged his receivables at the rate EUR/USD=1.3712.
Eurodollar Futures (Interest Rates)

- Underlying instrument: **Eurodollar time deposit with 3 months maturity**
  Notional Amount $1,000,000

- Eurodollar deposits are bank deposits which are outside the jurisdiction of the Fed (not FDIC insured) offered by major international banks.

- Price quote = 100-3mLIBOR on a 360 day year.
  1bp move in 3mLIBOR corresponds to $25 move in the contract

- Tick size: 0.0025% = $6.25 per contract for nearest month; 0.0050% per contract for all other months ($12.50/contract)

- Contract months: Mar, Jun, Sep, Dec extending for 10 years, plus first 4 months

- Settlement price = 100 – 3m LIBOR

- Last trading = 11AM London time, of the second trading day before the third Wednesday of the month
Example

- The Dec 2011 contract settled on 9/12/2011 at 99.42, implying 3m LIBOR for Dec=100-99.42=0.58%
Forward rate agreements

- A Forward Rate Agreement is an OTC contract to enter into a term loan in the future at a pre-established interest rate.

- ED Futures can be used to hedge positions in FRAs and to determine the "fair value" of a FRA.

T0: trade date  T1: settlement date  T2: maturity date
Cash & carry with interest rate futures

- The cost calculation of the cash & carry trade that we described for indices and currencies is modified for ED futures because the financing is correlated with the settlement LIBOR rate, so we must take into account the impact on the cash and carry strategy as rates change.

- PNL is the forward value of all intermediate cash-flows from futures position.

\[
\Delta f_1 = f_1 - f_0 \quad \Delta f_2 \quad \Delta f_3 \quad \Delta f_4 \quad \ldots \ldots \ldots
\]
Reinvesting the cash-flows at the going rate that day

- Each cash-flow is invested at the LIBOR term rate at the end of the trading period
- The question is how this change in the reinvestment rate affect the final outcome.
Tailing strategy to hedge FRA

Date $t_{i-1}$ : Position in $e^{-R_{i-1}(T-T_i)}$ contracts

Date $t_i$ : Invest the proceeds at rate $R_i$

$$PNL = \sum_{1}^{n} e^{R_i(n-i)\Delta t} e^{-R_{i-1}(n-i)\Delta t} (f_i - f_{i-1})$$

$$= \sum_{1}^{n} e^{(R_i-R_{i-1})(n-i)\Delta t} (f_i - f_{i-1})$$

$$\approx \sum_{1}^{n} (1 + (R_i - R_{i-1})(n-i)\Delta t)(f_i - f_{i-1})$$

$$= \sum_{1}^{n} (f_i - f_{i-1}) + \sum_{1}^{n} (f_i - f_{i-1})(R_i - R_{i-1})(n-i)\Delta t$$

$$= f_n - f_0 + \sum_{1}^{n} (R_{i-1} - R_i)(R_i - R_{i-1})(n-i)\Delta t$$

$$= f_n - f_0 - \sum_{1}^{n} (R_i - R_{i-1})^2(n-i)\Delta t = R_0 - R_n - \sum_{1}^{n} (R_i - R_{i-1})^2(n-i)\Delta t$$

Assume proceeds can be invested at 3m LIBOR rate implied by ED futures -- otherwise we need to consider correlations
Convexity in ED Futures

• The tailing strategy with long ED futures produces a PNL equal to
  --- the difference between the Futures Rate and the Settlement Rate
  --- a negative quantity which is quadratic in the rate increments

• A long will “lock in” the futures rate for buying a 3m deposit starting at settlement BUT will have a negative cash-flow from hedging rate moves

• A short will “lock in” the futures rate for selling a 3m deposit starting at settlement BUT will have a positive cash-flow from hedging rate moves

• This is known as convexity.
  --- Long Futures/Short Forward = short convexity
  --- Short Futures/Long Forward = long convexity
FRAs and Convexity Adjustment to Futures

• The previous argument shows that the rate the long “locks in” should be lower (cheaper) than the futures implied rate to compensate for negative convexity:

\[ R^{Forward} < R^{Futures} \]

• How much cheaper? We approximate the error term by its “expected value”, as follows:

\[
\left( R_i - R_{i-1} \right)^2 \approx E \left( R_i - R_{i-1} \right)^2 = \sigma^2 \Delta t
\]

\[
\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( R_i - R_{i-1} \right)^2 (n-i) \Delta t \approx \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma^2 \Delta t (n-i) \Delta t
\]

\[
= \sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^{n} (T - T_i) \Delta t = \sigma^2 \int_{0}^{T} (T - t) dt
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 T^2
\]
Forward Rates Implied by ED Futures

$$R_{\text{forward}} = R_{\text{futures}} - \frac{1}{2} \sigma^2 T^2$$

- In practice, the constant in front of the variance may be modified to account for imperfect correlations between the funding rate and the futures-implied LIBOR rate.

- The dependence is quadratic in time, which means that the adjustment is negligible for short maturities and increases with maturity.

- In the US, ED futures are often used to estimate Forward rates for periods < 5 years, taking into account convexity adjustments.

- This is useful for building interest swap curves, forward rate curves, for OTC trading.
Commodity Futures
Example: Light Sweet Crude Oil (WTI) Futures

- Contract unit: 1,000 barrels
- Quote: dollars & cents per barrel
- Minimum size: $0.01 per barrel ($10)
- Listed contracts: consecutive months for the current year and next 5 years
- Delivery: Physical FOB (expenses for the seller) at any storage facility in Cushing OK with pipeline access to select facilities (TEPPCO), Cushing Storage, Equilon Pipeline Co.). Grade and quality are specified in the contract.
- Delivery on any day of the delivery month.
CL V1 (Oct 2011)
CL X1 (Nov 11)
Theoretical Pricing

• No basis between futures and forwards, since commodity is not correlated to funding rate

• Cash & carry costs include transportation and storage and "convenience" of having oil to be able to deliver it and replace it later

\[ q = (\text{convenience yield}) - (\text{transportation}) - (\text{storage costs}) \]

\[ r = \text{term rate} \]

\[ S_0 = \text{``spot''} \]

\[ F_{0,T} = S_0 e^{(r-q)T} \]

• The shape of the forward curve depends on the supply/demand of oil on the ground and forecasts thereof.
1<sup>st</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Month CL contracts in 2011

(source: Energy Information Administration)
CL1 and CL4 around the Kuwait war (1990)

Irak invades Kuwait
August 20, 1990

contango
backwardation
Rolling futures

• Rolling futures means moving from one contract to another as time passes to generate a constant-maturity position across time.

• Application: this allows traders to maintain exposure to the underlying commodity beyond the first expiration.

• Example: the USO (United States Oil Trust) is an ETF (exchange-traded fund) which invests in a rolled futures strategy in CL1 / CL2.

\[ I_t = \text{USO}, \quad F_t^1 = \text{CL1}, \quad F_t^2 = \text{CL2} \]

\[ a_t = \text{fraction of the funds invested notionally in CL1} \]

\[ \frac{\Delta I_t}{I_t} = \frac{I_{t+1} - I_t}{I_t} = a_t \frac{\Delta F_t^1}{F_t^1} + (1 - a_t) \frac{\Delta F_t^2}{F_t^2} + r\Delta t \]
Rolling futures gives rise to a "drift" relative to spot

\[
\frac{\Delta I_t}{I_t} = a_t \frac{\Delta F_t^1}{F_t^1} + (1 - a_t) \frac{\Delta F_t^2}{F_t^2} + r\Delta t
\]

\[
F_t^i = S_t e^{(r - q_i)(T - t_i)} \quad : \quad \frac{\Delta F_t^i}{F_t^i} = \frac{\Delta S_t}{S_t} - (r - q_i)\Delta t
\]

\[
\frac{\Delta I_t}{I_t} = a_t \left( \frac{\Delta S_t}{S_t} - (r - q_1)\Delta t \right) + (1 - a_t) \left( \frac{\Delta S_t}{S_t} - (r - q_2)\Delta t \right) + r\Delta t
\]

\[
= \frac{\Delta S_t}{S_t} - r\Delta t + (a_t q_1 + (1 - a_t)q_2)\Delta t + r\Delta t
\]

\[
= \frac{\Delta S_t}{S_t} + (a_t q_1 + (1 - a_t)q_2)\Delta t
\]
Slope, drift and the performance of rolled strategies

- If $q < 0$ – i.e., low convenience yield, high storage costs, contango situation the rolled future strategy under-performs the commodity

- If $q > 0$ -- i.e. high convenience yield, storage costs are low compared to the demand for crude, the rolled strategy outperforms crude

- Conclusion: rolled futures funds like USO should underperform the commodity in times when there is contango (upward sloping futures curve)
USO Fund vs Spot WTI

United States Oil ETF (USO) vs Spot WTI Crude Oil

Spot WTI Crude Oil Prices

USO ETF substantially underperformed spot when crude oil futures were in steep contango
Implied r-q from ratio between CL4 and CL1

Super-contango

Contango

Backwardation