

Operations Research in Finance:

A Novice Introduction to Financial Engineering

Çağın Ararat
Bilkent University

April 10, 2018

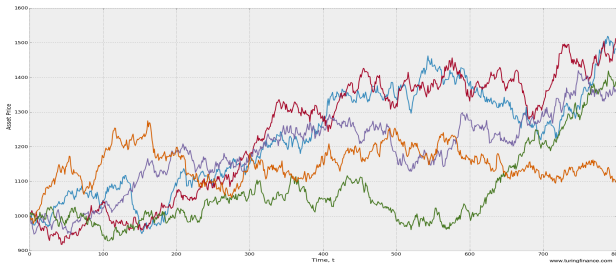
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 - a lot of **uncertainty** (randomness)



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 - Stocks of companies
 - Gold
 - Oil
 - Foreign currencies (USD, EUR, etc.)
- More complicated securities such as options, forward and futures contracts have payoffs that are based on the price of an underlying security. These are called **derivative securities**.
 - Options
 - Forward contracts
 - Futures contracts

- Where are these securities traded?
 - **Exchanges:** Regulated centralized markets where security buyers and sellers meet and negotiate on the prices. Participating companies must obey certain rules. All transactions are secured by the exchange. Many stocks and options are traded on exchanges.
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 - Exchange: Borsa İstanbul (stocks, gold, derivatives)
 - OTC market: Grand Bazaar Effective Market, Gold Market

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Financial engineering: modeling

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- Stock prices fluctuate a lot!
- Prices from April 9, 2017 to April 9, 2018:

Facebook, Inc. Common Stock

NASDAQ: FB - Apr 9, 1:43 PM EDT

159.82 USD ↑2.62 (1.67%)

1 day 5 day 1 month 3 months 1 year 5 years max



Open 157.82
High 160.53
Low 156.04

Mkt cap 464.74B
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- The numbers of buyers and sellers are affected by many economic, political, social, technological factors, which, in turn, affect the prices as well.
- Instead of explaining all these factors, as financial engineers, we take the data as is and try to find a **mathematical model** that is consistent with data.

- Let us consider the prices during April 9, 2018 (yesterday):

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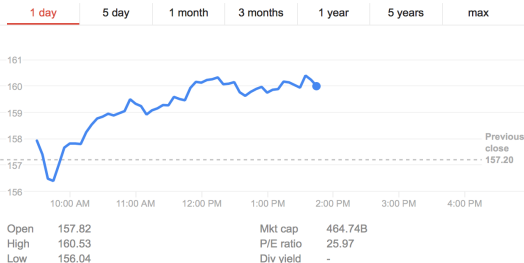
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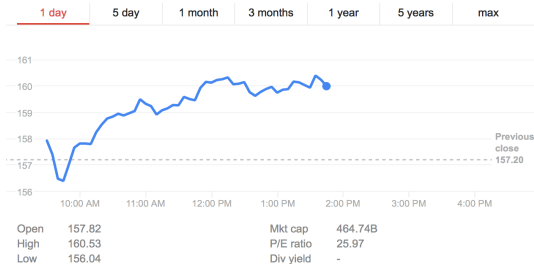
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- Considering a full day, we may classify time as
 - Past: 9:30 am - 1:47 pm
 - Present: 1:47 pm
 - Future: 1:47 pm - 4:00 pm

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- Derivatives pricing...

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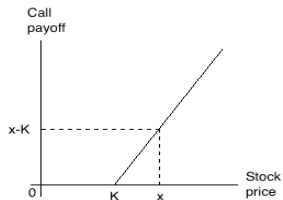
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- If the strike price is more expensive, that is, if $S_T \leq K$, then the holder does nothing and gets zero payoff.
- Therefore, the payoff from the call option is given by

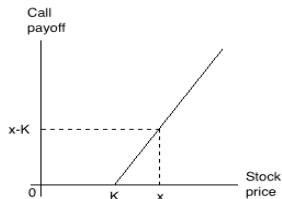
$$h(S_T) = \max \{S_T - K, 0\} = (S_T - K)^+.$$

- $x \mapsto h(x) = (x - K)^+$ is called the **payoff function**.



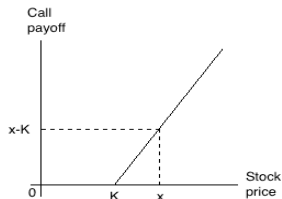
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- How to determine the price of this call option?

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 - In general, you need a more sophisticated procedure: run an algorithm, solve a system of equations, solve an **optimization** problem, etc. (More on optimization: IE 202, IE 303)
 - For more complex options, you can only calculate the price approximately via computational techniques.

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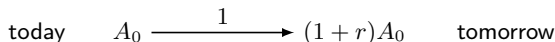
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(More in IE 342 Engineering Economic Analysis)

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(More in IE 342 Engineering Economic Analysis)
 - Suppose that the (unit) bond price is A_0 liras today so that the price will increase to $A_1 = A_0(1 + r)$ liras tomorrow.

bond price tree



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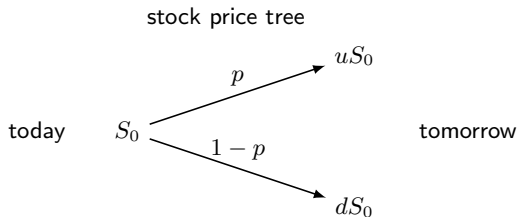
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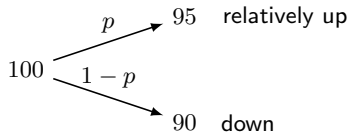
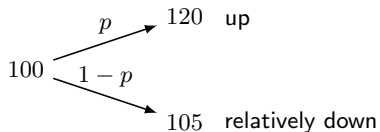
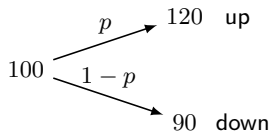
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 - Just like flipping a coin in high school probability: up for heads, down for tails.
 - Suppose that the (unit) stock price is S_0 liras today. Let us denote by S_T the price tomorrow. So

$$S_T = \begin{cases} uS_0 & \text{if the price goes up} \\ dS_0 & \text{if the price goes down} \end{cases}$$



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- The words *up* and *down* are used only in the relative sense.



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- **Question:** What should be the relationship among $u - 1, d - 1, r$ for the model to be *financially sound*?
- Possible cases:
 - **Case 1:** $d - 1 < u - 1 \leq r$. The bond always outperforms the stock.
 - **Case 2:** $r \leq d - 1 < u - 1$. The stock always outperforms the bond.
 - **Case 3:** $d - 1 < r < u - 1$. There is no clear winner. The performance of the bond is in between the good (up) and bad (down) performances of the stock.

Kahoot time!

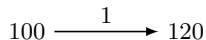
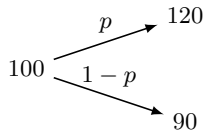
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- The bond always outperforms the stock. As a rational investor, you would always invest money in the bond and never in the stock.
- An even better idea is to buy (long) bonds and sell (short) stocks. This way you can make free money.

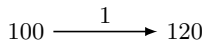
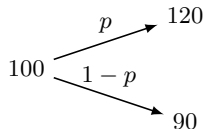
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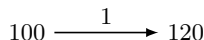
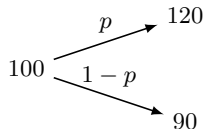
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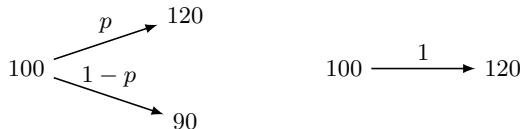
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- Wait until tomorrow! The new value of your bond is $A_1 = 120$ liras. Withdraw this amount from the bank.

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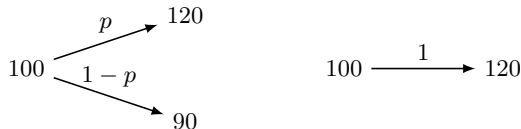
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- If the stock price goes up to 120, then buy a stock with your 120 liras. Give the stock back to its original holder (lender). Your net gain is zero in this case.
- If the stock price goes down to 90, then buy a stock with 90 of your 120 liras. Give the stock back to its holder. Your net gain is $120 - 90 = 30$ liras in this case.

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- Such an opportunity to make free money is called an **arbitrage**.
- A sound market should be free of arbitrage opportunities. This principle is called **the principle of no-arbitrage (NA)**.

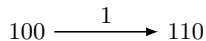
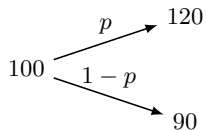
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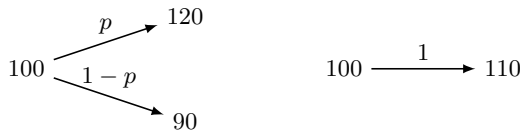
A very simple market model

- **Example:** Consider the following trees for the stock and the bond.



A very simple market model

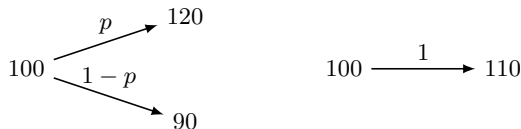
- **Example:** Consider the following trees for the stock and the bond.



- Start with no money today. Borrow one stock to be given back tomorrow and immediately sell it stock for $S_0 = 100$. Deposit your 100 liras into the bank by buying $\frac{S_0}{A_0} = \frac{100}{100} = 1$ bond.

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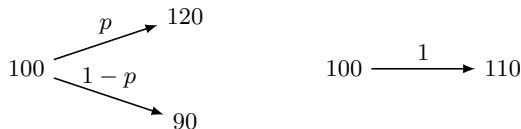
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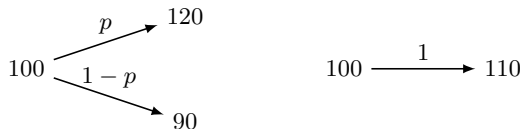
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- If the stock price goes up to 120, then borrow 10 liras from your friend and buy a stock all of your 120 liras. Give the stock back to the lender. You still owe 10 liras to your friend. Your net gain is -10 (loss) in this case.

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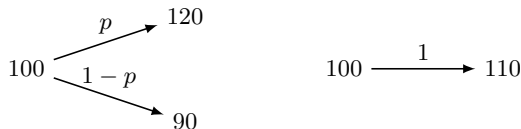
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- Hence, you make money with probability $1 - p > 0$ and lose money with probability $p > 0$. This is not an arbitrage!

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- Hence,

$$(\text{NA}) \text{ holds.} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad d - 1 < r < u - 1.$$

- This result is called the **fundamental theorem of asset pricing (FTAP)**. We will see why this is related to pricing assets (derivatives).

Pricing a call option

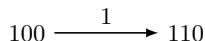
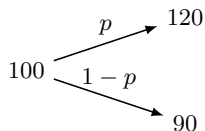
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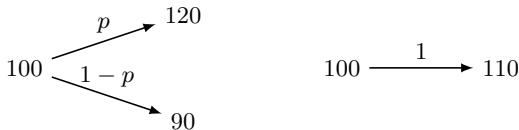
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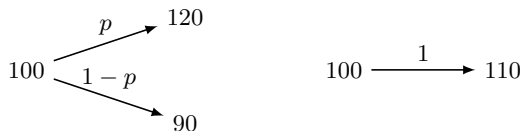
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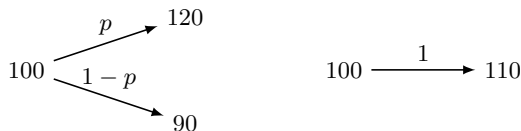
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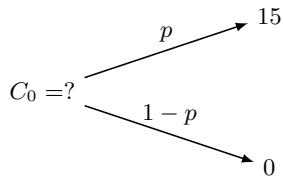
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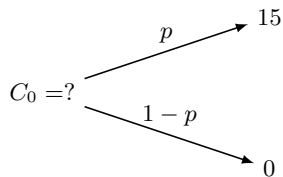
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- If the stock price goes down to 90 tomorrow, then it is not profitable for the option holder to buy a stock for 105. Hence, the holder does not exercise the option and gets no payoff.

- The payoff structure of the call can be summarized by the following tree:



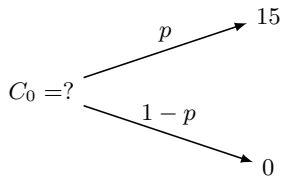
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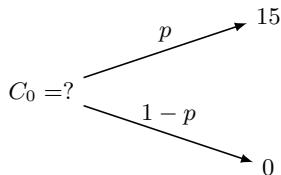
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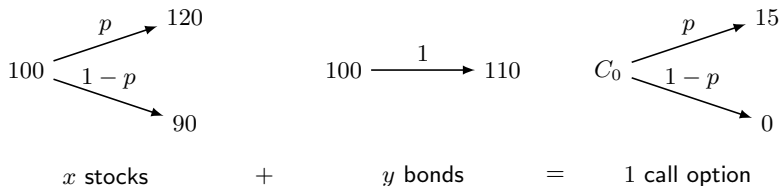


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- If C_0 is chosen to be too low or too high, then an arbitrage may arise.
- To determine C_0 , we will first **replicate** the call using stocks and bonds. The price of the replicating strategy will determine C_0 .

- **Question of replication:** Can we find a portfolio that consists of stocks and bonds and gives the same payoff as a call option?

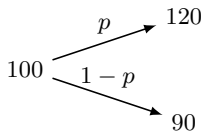
Pricing a call option

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- Let x be the number of stocks and y the number of bonds in such a portfolio. We need:

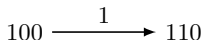


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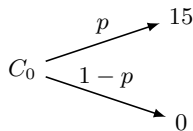


x stocks



y bonds

=



1 call option

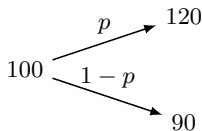
- Solve for (x, y) the system

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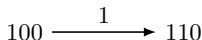
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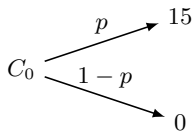


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=



1 call option

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$$120x + 110y = 15$$

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- There is a unique solution: $x = \frac{1}{2}, y = -\frac{9}{22}$. This is the replicating strategy.
- Hence, holding a call option is “equivalent” to holding $\frac{1}{2}$ stocks and owing $\frac{9}{22}$ bonds to somebody else.
- Hence, the price of the call should be given by $C_0 = 100x + 100y = \frac{100}{11}$. Done!

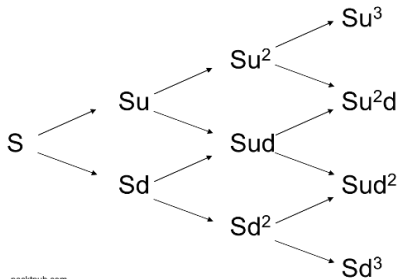
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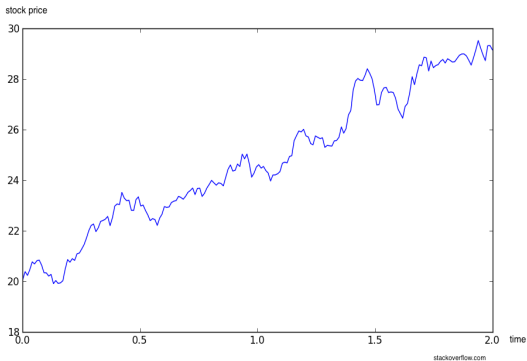
More general models

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- The choice of the model is simplistic. As we have seen earlier, prices fluctuate more than once a day.
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- Discrete time (multiple but finitely many periods): N -period binomial model

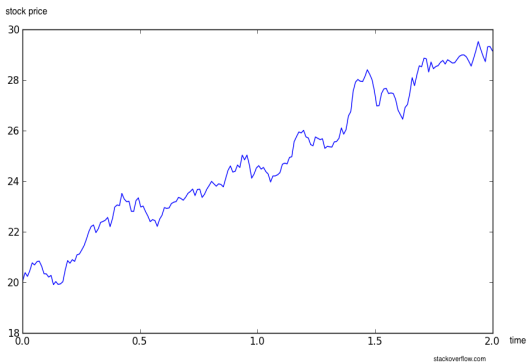


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- Continuous time (real time): Geometric Brownian motion (Black-Scholes model)



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- For details and more: IE 440 Introduction to Financial Engineering ☺

Thank you! Time for kahoot again!