

Slide 1



The Cost of Goods Sold

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John Moyer
CARE Meeting, June 9, 2021


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Live Poll


Which best describes your employer?

Answers

- Insurer
- Reinsurer
- Broker
- Consultant
- Regulator, rating agency, other


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Slide 4

 converse risk

Live Poll Answers

Slide 5

 converse risk

Ten Reasons to Love Distortions

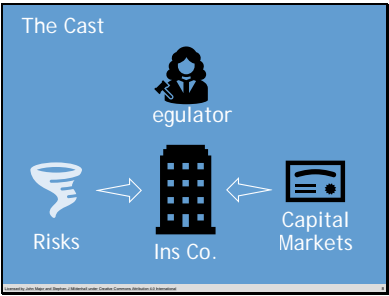
Slide 6

$\{\text{risk}\} \times \{\text{capital structure}\} \rightarrow \text{price}$

Slide 7



Slide 8



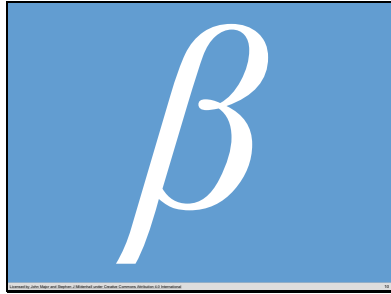
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Classical All-Equity Pricing

$$P = EL + r(a - P)$$

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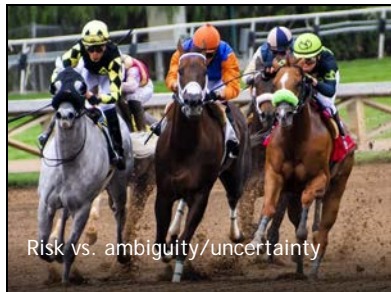
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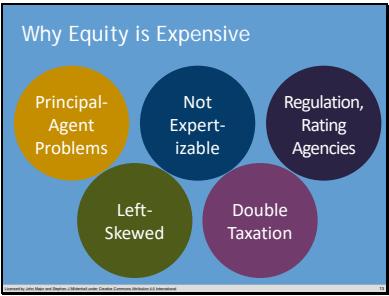
Slide 11



Slide 12



Slide 13



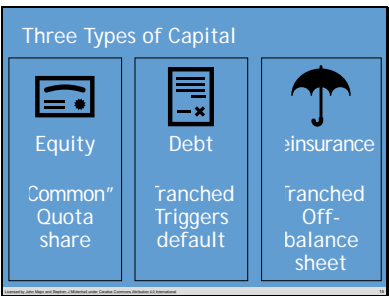
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Capital vs. Equity

Capital = assets net of policyholder liabilities

Equity = owner's residual value

Slide 15



Slide 16



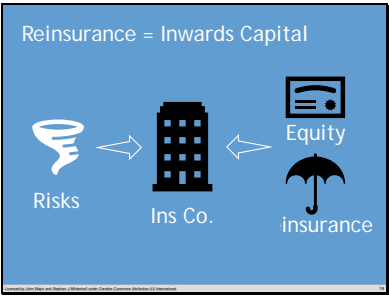
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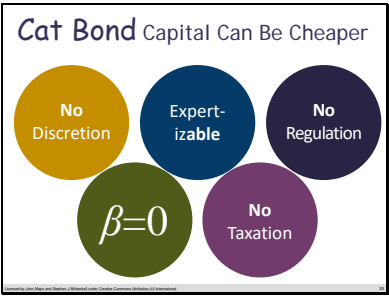
Slide 18



Slide 19



Slide 20



Slide 21

Live Poll

Which best describes your familiarity with distortion (or spectral) risk measures, such as the proportional hazards transform or the Wang transform?

- No familiarity
- Aware, but have never used
- Experimented, but do not use in "production"
- Implemented in day-to-day production pricing tools
- What? There are other ways to price?

Slide 22

convex risk

Live Poll Answers

Slide 23

Fund Risk-Bearing Assets by Layer

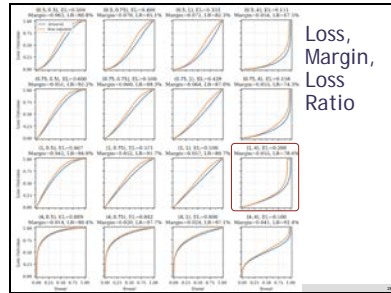
$P = vEL + da$
 $P(x) = vS(x) + d$

Slide 24

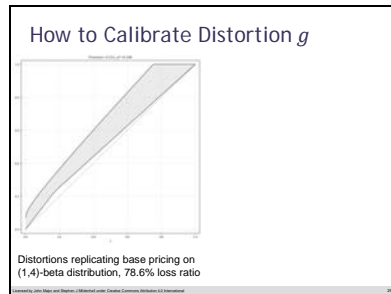
How to Calibrate Distortion g

$\{\text{risk}\} \times \{\text{capital structure}\} \rightarrow \text{price}$

Slide 28



Slide 29



Slide 30

There is a unique lowest cost capital structure

Slide 31

Allocation When $X = \sum X_i$

- $EL_i = E[X_i] = \int x_i f(x) dx$
- $P_i = E[X_i g'(S(X))] = \int x_i g'(x) f(x) dx$
- Call P_i the **natural allocation**
- Terms and conditions apply

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Slide 32

Allocation in Practice

Spreadsheet or SQL or R or Python or ...

- Rows = simulations
- Columns = loss by line and in total
- Group-by & sort total loss and average
- Compute $S(x)$ and $gS(x)$, difference
- Sum-product

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Ambiguity

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Slide 34

Ambiguity is not Bayes-able

Slide 35

Ambiguity and Distortions

Slide 36

Underwriters and Distortions

- Distortion pricing = worst of a set of scenario outcomes
- The distortion controls how much event probabilities can increase

Slide 37

diversity risk

Live Poll

A legitimate pricing rule that is consistent with finance theory must have which of the following properties?
1. It only charges for non-diversifiable risk
2. It is linear: the price of a bundle is the sum of the prices of the parts
3. It does not allow arbitrage opportunities

Answers

- 1 only
- 2 only
- 3 only
- 1, 2, and 3
- Don't understand the question

Slide 38

diversity risk

Live Poll Answers

Slide 39

Finance Theory and Distortions

- Bid-ask spread = market imperfection
- Decreases the effectiveness of no-arbitrage
- Distortion pricing is consistent with financial theory

Slide 40

Optimization and Distortions

- Optimization = marginal improvements
- Natural allocation has a marginal interpretation

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{\rho(X + tX_i) - \rho(X)}{t} = E[X_i g'(S(X))]$$

Slide 41

Top Ten Reasons To Love Distortions

1. Calibrate to capital structure
2. Can calibrate to market pricing
3. Practical spreadsheet implementation
4. Easy to work with catastrophe model output
5. Sensitive to shape of risk
6. Marginal risk interpretation
7. Weighted average of TVaR interpretation
8. Worst-over-scenarios interpretation
9. Consistent with underwriting
10. Consistent with financial theory

Slide 42

Major Analytics

Part II: Reinsurance Applications

Slide 43

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SRM Use Cases

Policy pricing / technical premium

LOB assessment

LOB capital cost allocation

Reinsurance decisions

Slide 44

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SRM Principal Modes

- "A/B": Evaluate $\rho(X_G)$ and $\rho(X_N)$; compare
- Allocate: $NA(X_C; X_G)$ where $X_C = X_G - X_N$

Slide 45

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Applying the Modes

Use Case	A/B	Alloc
Policy pricing / technical premium	No	Yes
LOB assessment	??	Yes
LOB capital cost allocation	No	Yes
Reinsurance decisions	Yes	Yes

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Case Study

- Use reinsurance to minimize total cost of risk
- VERY simple portfolio: 2 lines
- VERY simple XOL contract: on line 1
- Illustrate the two modes

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Reinsurance Example

Gross				Net 2 xs 2 (X1), premium = 0.38			
X1	X2	X _G	p	X1 _C	X1 _N	X2	X _N
1	1	2	0.7	0	1	1	2
2	3	5	0.1	0	2	3	5
4	2	6	0.1	2	2	2	4
3	4	7	0.1	1	2	4	6

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Our Distortion Function

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First Mode: A/B

- A/B the gross and net positions
- Which one has lower total cost?

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Gross Valuation

X_G	X_N	p	S	$g(S)$	dg_G
2	2	0.7	0.3	0.391	0.609
5	5	0.1	0.2	0.304	0.087
6	4	0.1	0.1	0.152	0.152
7	6	0.1	0	0	0.152

$\sum X_{Gi} dg_i = 3.630$
= gross premium

Slide 51

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Net Valuation

X_G	X_N	p	S	$g(S)$	dg_N
2	2	0.7	0.3	0.391	0.609
6	4	0.1	0.2	0.304	0.087
5	5	0.1	0.1	0.152	0.152
7	6	0.1	0	0	0.152

$\sum X_{Ni} dg_i = 3.239$
= net premium

Slide 52

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A/B Gross and Net

3.239 Net premium

+0.380 Cost of reinsurance

=3.619 Total cost, net position

vs

3.630 Gross premium + 0 *r/i* cost

0.011 Difference

Conclusion: *r/i* a marginally good deal.

Slide 53

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Second Mode: Allocation

- Allocate premium from Gross to Net and Ceded components
- Allocate premium from Net to Gross and (-)Ceded components
- Is Ceded worth the *r/i* premium?

Slide 54

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Allocating Ceded from Gross Position

$$X_G = X_N + X1_C$$

X1	X2	X _G	dg _G	X1 _C
1	1	2	0.609	0
2	3	5	0.087	0
4	2	6	0.152	2
3	4	7	0.152	1

$\Sigma X1_C dg_i = 0.456 > 0.38 \text{ by } 0.076$

Slide 55

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Allocating Ceded from Net Position

$$X_N = X_G - X_{1C}$$

X_{1N}	X_2	X_N	dg_N	X_{1C}
1	1	2	0.609	0
2	2	4	0.087	2
2	3	5	0.152	0
2	4	6	0.152	1

Re-order!

$\sum X_{1C} dg_i = 0.326 < 0.38 \text{ by } 0.054$


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Conclusions about the r/i deal so far

- Direct A/B:
 - Eh, okay. **+0.011**
- Allocate starting at gross
 - Great! **+0.076**
- Allocate starting at net
 - Bad! **-0.054**
- How do I explain this to my boss?
 - What does it all really mean?



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Slide 57

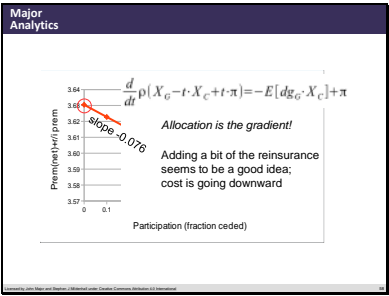
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A More Thorough A/B

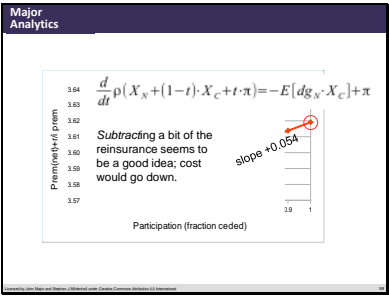
- Fractional participation t
- $X_N(t) = X_G - t \cdot X_C$
- Minimize total cost = $p(X_N(t)) + t \cdot (r/\hat{r}) \text{ prem}$

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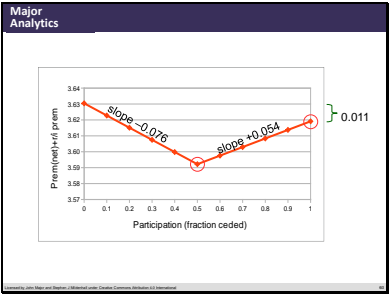
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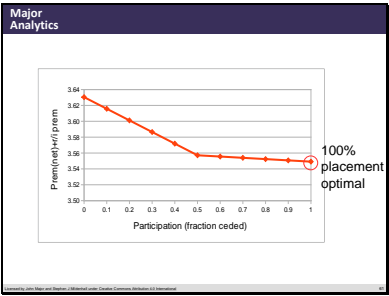
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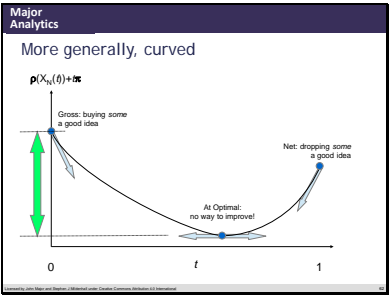
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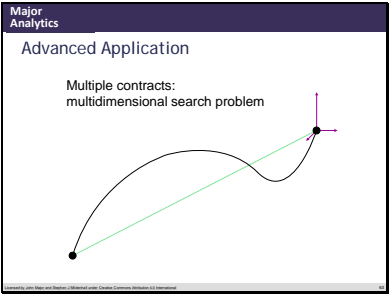
Slide 61



Slide 62



Slide 63



Slide 64

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Summary: Allocation for Decisions

- Allocation = gradient
- Faster than A/B
- Like using Taylor's Theorem
 - OK for small changes
 - Iffy for big

Slide 65

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Applying the Modes, Redux

Use Case	A/B	Alloc
Policy pricing / technical premium	No	Yes
LOB assessment	??	Yes
LOB capital cost allocation	No	Yes
Reinsurance decisions	Yes	Yes

Slide 66

Questions?
