

Real Options Implications for Regulatory Policy

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Objectives

- Uncertainty Modelled
- Dynamic Models
- Regulation Modelled
- Cost of Regulation Estimated

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Agenda

- Overview/Literature Review
- Real Options
- Regulatory Distortions
- Investment Criterion
- Implications for Regulation
- Future Research

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Overview/Literature Review

- Regulatory Models
- Dynamic Models
- Real Options Approach

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Regulatory Models

- Investments Distortions
 - ▶ Wrong incentives
 - ▶ Averch-Johnson
- Static/Comparative Static
- Certainty

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Dynamic Models

- Growth Models
- Certainty
 - ▶ Complete information
 - ▶ Exogenous depreciation

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Real Options

- **Valuation Models**
 - ▶ Project valuations
 - ▶ No retail pricing
- **No Regulatory Models**

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Agenda

- **Overview**
- **Real Options**
 - ▶ What are they?
 - ▶ Types of Options

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What Are Real Options?

- **Financial Option Analogy**
 - ▶ Right
 - ▶ Not obligation
 - ▶ Upside potential (profit)
 - ▶ Limit downside risk (loss)

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
 - ▶ To wait to determine if a "good" state-of-nature obtains

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
 - ▶ To obtain salvage value or opportunity cost of the asset

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
- **Shutdown & Restart**
 - ▶ To wait for a "good" state-of-nature and re-enter

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
- **Shutdown & Restart**
- **Time-to-build**
 - ▶ **To delay or default on project - a compound option**

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
- **Shutdown & Restart**
- **Time-to-build**
- **Contract**
 - ▶ **To reduce operations if state is worse than expected**

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
- ...
- **Contract**
- **Switch**
 - ▶ **To use alternative technologies depending on input prices**

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- ...
- **Contract**
- **Switch**
- **Expand/Growth/Learn**
 - ▶ **To expand if state-of-nature is better than expected**

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Types of Options

- **Defer**
- **Abandon**
- **Shutdown & Restart**
- **Time-to-build**
- **Contract**
- **Switch**
- **Expand/Growth/Learn**

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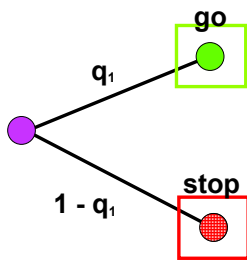
Agenda

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- **Real Options**
- **Regulatory Distortions**

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Assumptions/Model



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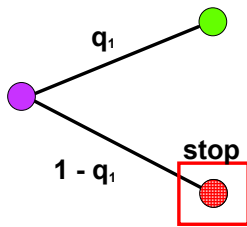
Regulatory Distortions

- **Revenue Constraint**
 - ▶ Rate-based, rate-of-return
 - ▶ Price Caps
 - ▶ Interconnection prices
 - ▶ UNEs price ceiling
 - ▶ Modelled as "Good" Ceiling

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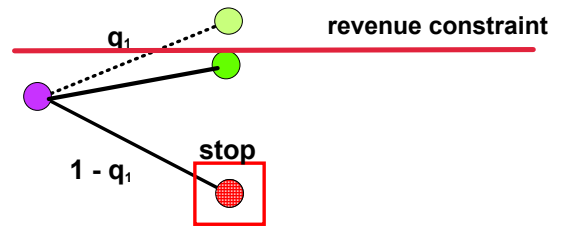
Regulatory Distortions



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Regulatory Distortions



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Regulatory Distortions

- **Revenue Constraint**
 - ▶ Rate-based, rate-of-return
 - ▶ Price Caps
 - ▶ UNEs price ceiling
 - ▶ Modelled as "Good" Ceiling
- **Defer**

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Regulatory Distortions

- **Defer: To wait to determine if a "good" state-of-nature obtains**

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Delay: Waiting to Invest

- Value in Waiting
- Like Call Option
- Influences:
 - ▶ uncertainty
 - ▶ foregone profits
- Choice:
 - Max [immediate investment, waiting, 0]

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Description of Options

- Revenue Constraint
- Defer: To wait to determine if a "good" state-of-nature obtains
- Abandon: To obtain salvage value or opportunity cost of the asset

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Regulatory Distortions

- Price Ceilings
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs/Interconnection)
- Obligation to Serve
 - ▶ Universal service

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Regulatory Distortions

- Price Ceilings
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs)
- Obligation to Serve
 - ▶ Universal service
 - Lack of delay

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Regulatory Distortions

- Price Ceilings
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs)
- Obligation to Serve
 - ▶ Universal service
 - Lack of delay
 - Lack of abandonment

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Regulatory Distortions

- Price Ceilings
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs)
- Obligation to Serve
 - ▶ Universal service
 - ▶ Pay telephones

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Regulatory Distortions

- **Price Ceilings**
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs)
- **Obligation to Serve**
 - ▶ Universal service
 - ▶ Pay telephones
 - Lack of abandonment

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Regulatory Distortions

- **Price Ceilings**
 - ▶ Revenue constraints
 - ▶ Price setting (UNEs)
- **Obligation to Serve**
 - ▶ Universal service
 - Lack of delay
 - Lack of abandonment
 - ▶ Pay telephones
 - Lack of abandonment

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Regulation Distortions

- **Costly**
 - ▶ Cash flow constrained
 - ▶ Delay-cash flow constrained
 - ▶ Abandon-cash flow constraint
- **Unrecognized Cost**

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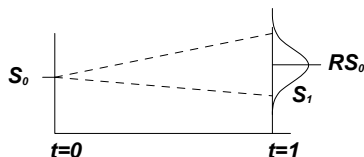
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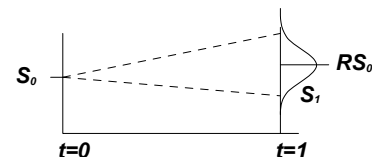
A Risk-Neutral Model (Continuous Additive)



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A Risk-Neutral Model (Continuous Additive)

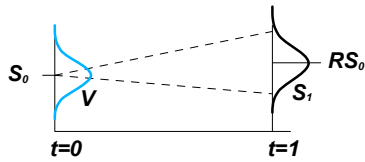


$$E\left[\frac{S_1}{R}\right] = \frac{1}{R}RS_0 = S_0$$

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A Risk-Neutral Model (Continuous Additive)

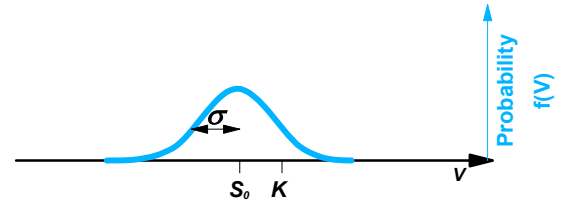


$$\frac{S_1}{R} \equiv V$$

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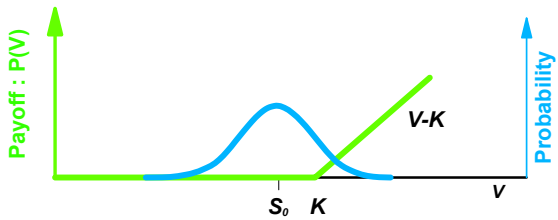
Call Option



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Call Option

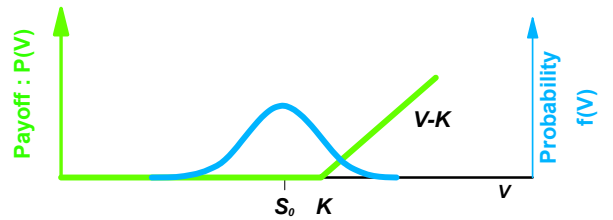


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Call Option Price

$$C = \hat{E}[P(V)] = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} P(V)f(V)dV$$

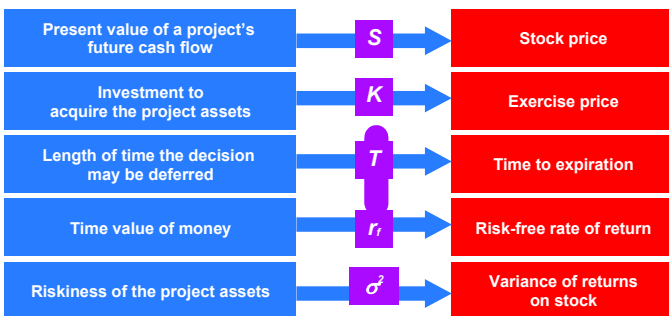


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Defer Option

Call Option



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Example

Defer Option	Variable	
Present value of operating future cash flow	S	\$100 million
Investment to Equipment at time T=1	K _T	\$110 million
Length of time the decision may be deferred	T	1 year
Risk-free rate	r _f	6%
Riskiness of the project	σ	\$30 million

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Net Present Value

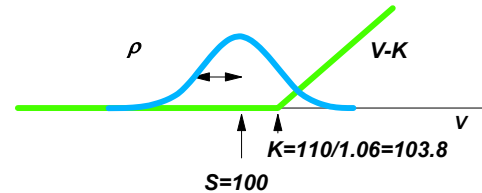
- ▶ $PV[\text{Cash out}] = PV[K_T]$
 $= 110/1.06$
 $= 103.8$
- ▶ $PV[\text{Cash in}] = S$
 $= E[PV[S_1]]$
 $= 100$
- ▶ $NPV = PV[\text{cash in}] - PV[\text{cash out}]$
 $= 100 - 103.8$
 $= -3.8$

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ROV (Real Option Value)

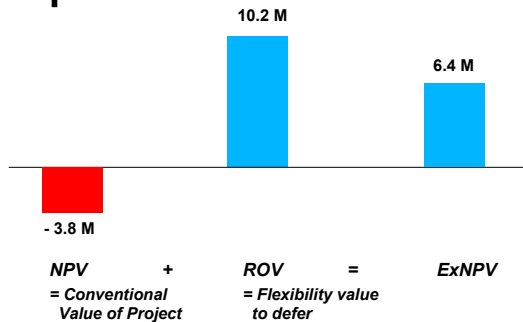
$$C = \int_K^{+\infty} (V - K) f(V) dV = 10.2$$



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Expanded NPV



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Methodology

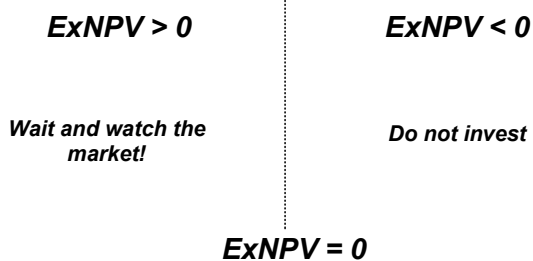
- When is $ExNPV = 0$, when $NPV < 0$?

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Methodology

- When is $ExNPV = 0$, when $NPV < 0$?



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Methodology

- If $NPV < 0$, when is $ExNPV = 0$? i.e.
- $ExNPV = ROV + NPV = 0$

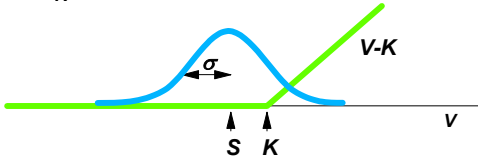
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Methodology

- ▶ When is $ExNPV = 0$, give $NPV < 0$?
- ▶ $ExNPV = ROV + NPV = 0$

$$\int_K^{+\infty} (V - K)f(V)dV + (S - K) = 0$$



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Solve

$$v = \frac{V - S}{\sigma} \quad : \text{Normal distribution } (0,1): f_N(v)$$

$$D \equiv \frac{|S - K|}{\sigma} = \frac{|NPV|}{\text{riskiness}}$$

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Solve

$$\int_K^{+\infty} (V - K)f(V)dV + (S - K) = 0$$

$$\int_D^{+\infty} (v - D)f_N(v)dv - D = 0$$

LHS (left hand side)

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Solve

$$\int_K^{+\infty} (V - K)f(V)dV + (S - K) = 0$$

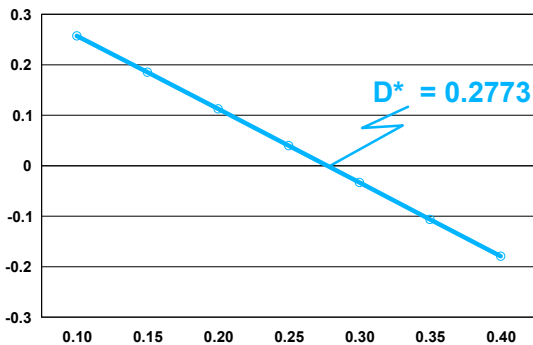
$$\int_D^{+\infty} (v - D)f_N(v)dv - D = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}D^2\right) - D \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{-D} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}v^2\right)dv - D = 0$$

LHS (left hand side)

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Solve



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Criterion

$ExNPV > 0$

$ExNPV < 0$

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Criterion

$$ExNPV > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS > 0$$

$$ExNPV < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS < 0$$

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Criterion

$$ExNPV > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D < D^*$$

$$ExNPV < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D > D^*$$

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Criterion

$$ExNPV > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D < D^*$$

$$ExNPV < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D > D^*$$

where

$$D \equiv \frac{|S-K|}{\sigma} = \frac{|NPV|}{\text{riskiness}}$$

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Criterion

$$ExNPV > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D < D^*$$

**Wait and watch
the market!**

$$ExNPV < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D > D^*$$

where

$$D \equiv \frac{|S-K|}{\sigma} = \frac{|NPV|}{\text{riskiness}}$$

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Criterion

$$ExNPV > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS > 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D < D^*$$

**Wait and watch
the market!**

$$ExNPV < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$LHS < 0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$D > D^*$$

Do not invest

where

$$D \equiv \frac{|S-K|}{\sigma} = \frac{|NPV|}{\text{riskiness}}$$

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Criterion

where

$$d \equiv \frac{S-K}{\sigma}$$



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- **d = NPV/riskiness**

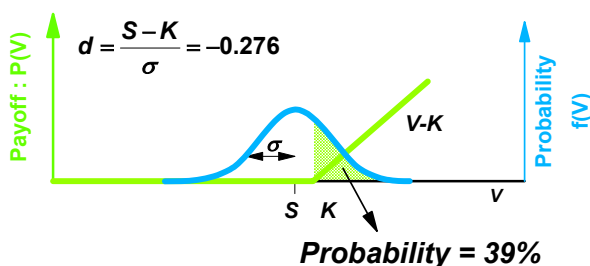
- - ▶ Uncertainty adjusted NPV
 - ▶ Risk normalized NPV

- **d = NPV/riskiness**

- - ▶ Uncertainty adjusted NPV
 - ▶ Risk normalized NPV
- **d = D***
 - ▶ The point of ExNPV = 0
 - ▶ Break-even point of NPV plus ROV

Loss Function

If $d = -D^*$, what is the probability the project payoff > 0 ?



-
- **Decision index d = NPV/Riskiness gives uncertainty adjusted NPV**
 - **d = D* = 0.277 gives the break-even point of NPV plus ROV**
 - **Make decision by observing d**

Agenda

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- **Investment Criterion**
- **Implications for Regulation**

Implications for Regulation

- **Impact on "riskiness"**
- **Reduces σ**

Implications for Regulation

- Impact on "riskiness"
- Reduces σ

$$v = \frac{V - S}{\sigma}$$

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Implications for Regulation

- Impact on "riskiness"
- Reduces σ

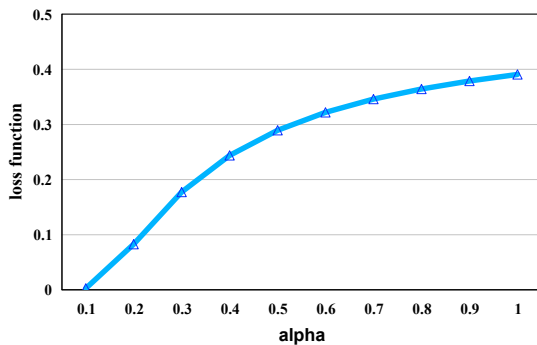
$$v = \frac{V - S}{\sigma}$$

let α equal regulatory constraint on σ i.e. $\alpha\sigma$

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Loss Function



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- Future Research

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Future Research

- Empirical Estimates
- Investment
 - ▶ Endogenous
 - ▶ Economic depreciation
- Ramsey Pricing

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