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Bullish Strategies

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Bullish Strategies

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Principal / Investor Education / OCC Instructor / The Options Industry Council (OIC)



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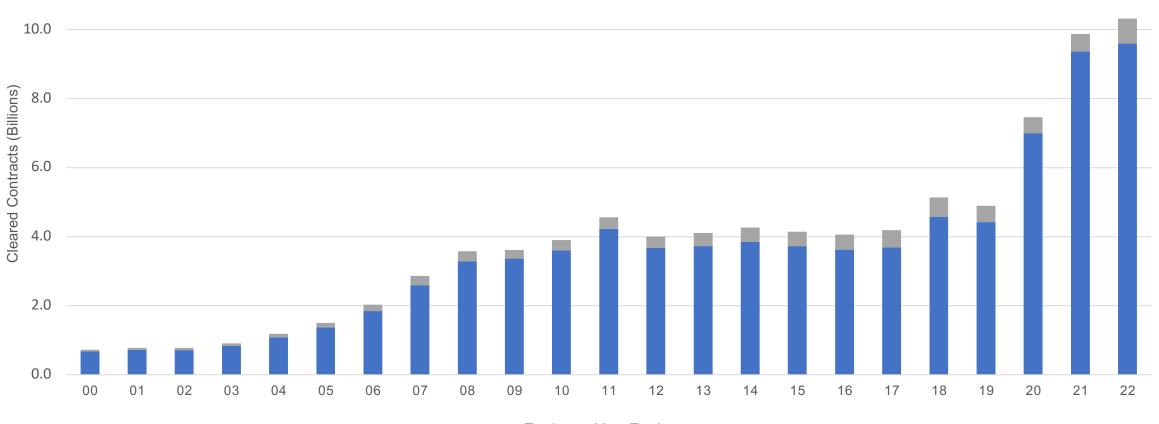
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Annual Options Volume 2000-2022

OCC Annual Contract Volume by Contract Type



■ Equity ■ Non-Equity

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Presentation Outline

- Long Call
- Covered Call
- Selling Puts
- Q&A



Why Options?

- Options give you more ways to implement your market research
- Options make it possible to target a variety of investment objectives:
 - Risk Reduction
 - Speculation
 - Income Generation
 - Stock Acquisition
- Options offer FLEXIBILITY!



Long Call

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Equity Call Options

- An equity call **buyer**:
 - Owns the **right to buy** underlying stock/ETF
 - Bullish on underlying
 - Needs stock movement > time decay



- An equity call seller:
 - Has the **obligation to sell** underlying stock/ETF
 - Likely already owns shares



Long Call – Speculating on Upside

- An investor has a bullish outlook on the share price. How can they capitalize on the move without buying shares?
- Strategies they might consider:
 - 1. Buy a Call
 - With consideration to time decay, profitability will generally require the market outlook to be correct on direction, magnitude, and timing

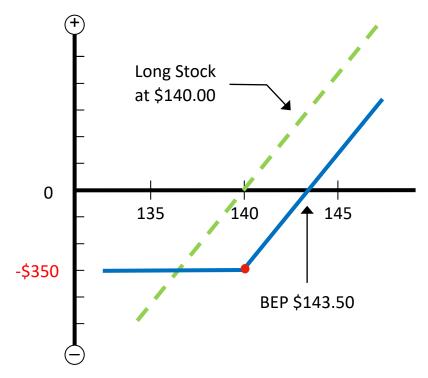
2. Buy a Call Spread

 Purchase a call and simultaneously sell a lower priced call to reduce cost and manage risk in exchange for limited profit potential

Long Call Example

Buy 140.00 strike call at \$3.50

(30 days to expiration, 25% implied volatility)



Break-even at Expiration: Strike Price + Call Premium Paid \$140.00 + \$3.50 = \$143.50

> Maximum Loss: \$3.50 Call Premium Paid \$350.00 Total

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Covered Call – Moderately Bullish

- An investor has enjoyed a nice gain in their stock position. As further upside potential becomes limited, how can they use options to lower risk?
- Techniques they might consider:
 - 1. Sell slightly out-of-the money (OTM) calls

 Sell call options at a strike price that is considered resistance for the shares (select strike as low as possible)

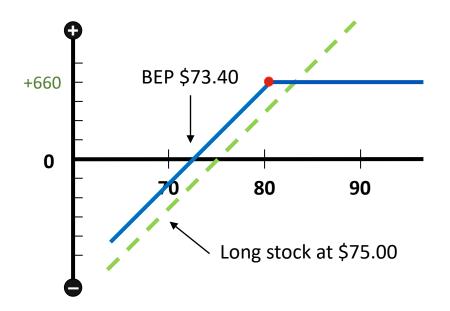
2. Stagger strike selection and sell fewer calls than shares owned

 Allows the investor to scale out of the position as the stock rallies and realize healthy gains on a small portion of their position should the stock price rise dramatically

Covered Call Example

Own 100 shares XYZ at \$75.00 Sell 1 XYZ 80 call at \$1.60

(40 days to expiration, 35% implied volatility)



Break-even at Expiration:

Stock Price Paid – Call Premium Received \$75.00 – \$1.60 = \$73.40

Maximum Profit if Assigned:

Effective Stock Sale Price -

Stock Price Paid

(\$80.00 + \$1.60) - \$75.00 = \$6.60

• \$660.00 Total

Does not include commissions, fees, margin interest or taxes.

Covered Call – Management Techniques

• Stock Rallies:

 \odot Close position (likely when option has little or no time value) \odot Hold and prepare for assignment

Stock Consolidates:

 \odot Close position by selling stock after option expires OTM \odot Sell another call?

Stock Declines:

Close position before losses become too large
Roll down strike price of call (possibly to a later expiration)

Selling Puts



Equity Put Options

- An equity put **<u>buyer</u>**:
 - Owns the **<u>right to sell</u>** underlying stock/ETF
 - If speculating, is bearish on underlying
 - If shares are already owned, is buying protection



- An equity put <u>seller</u>:
 - Has the **obligation to buy** underlying stock/ ETF
 - Generate potential income while waiting for share price drop



Selling Puts – Cautiously Bullish

- An investor is bullish on the long-term prospects for share price appreciation but considers current levels too expensive. How can their account benefit while waiting for a share price pullback?
- Strategy they might consider:

Sell a Put

 Receive premium while accepting the obligation to purchase shares at a carefully selected strike price

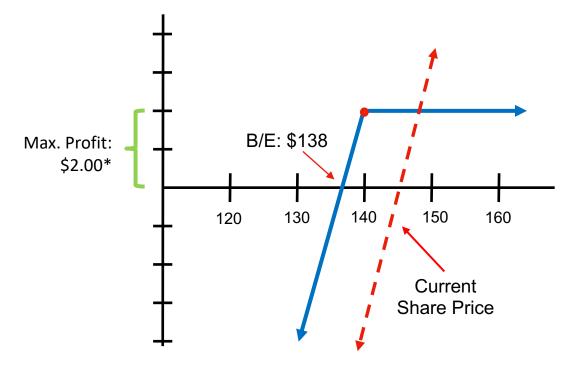
Cash Secured Put Example

Stock XYZ at \$146

Sell 140 put at \$2.00

(30 Days until expiration, 25% Volatility)

Break-even at expiration: Strike price – Premium \$140 - \$2.00 = \$138.00



* Max profit of \$2.00 does not reflect resulting long stock position should assignment occur

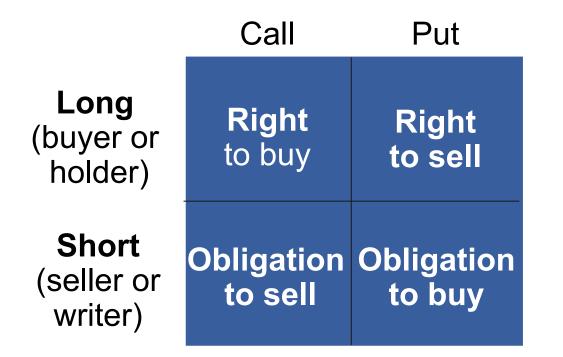
Not including commissions

Appendix: Options Basics



Calls and Puts

Options contracts **give...**



- 100 shares of the underlying
- at the strike price
- any time before expiration

Exercise: Buy or Sell Underlying Stock

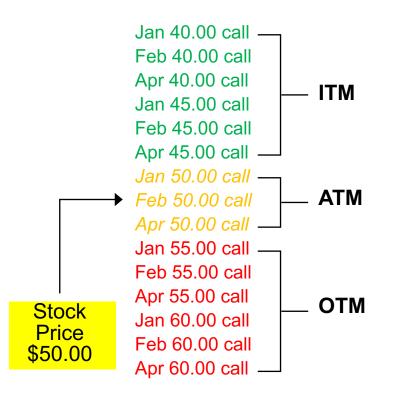
- The option <u>buyer</u> has the <u>right</u>:
 - to buy (for a call) or sell (for a put)
 - 100 shares of underlying stock/ETF
 - at the strike price per share
 - if he/she exercises a long contract
- To exercise, the buyer issues an exercise notice to his/her brokerage firm (or Auto-ex)
- Only option <u>buyers</u> may <u>exercise</u> an option contract

Assignment: Buy or Sell Underlying Stock

- The option <u>seller</u> has the <u>obligation</u>:
 - to sell (for a call) or buy (for a put)
 - 100 shares of underlying stock/ETF
 - at the strike price per share
 - if he/she is <u>assigned</u> an exercise notice
- Assignment notice is received from seller's brokerage firm
- Only option <u>sellers</u> may be <u>assigned</u> on an option contract

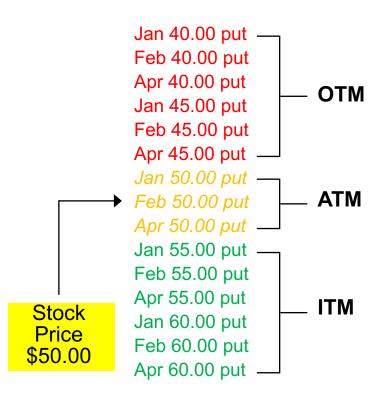
Calls: In-the-Money, At-the-Money, Out-ofthe-Money

- Call is in-the-money (ITM)
 - Strike price **below** stock price
- Call is <u>at-the-money</u> (ATM)
 - Strike price same as stock price
- Call is <u>out-of-the-money</u> (OTM)
 - Strike price above stock price



Puts: In-the-Money, At-the-Money, Out-ofthe-Money

- Put is <u>in-the-money</u> (ITM)
 - Strike price **above** stock price
- Put is <u>at-the-money</u> (ATM)
 - Strike price same as stock price
- Put is <u>out-of-the-money</u> (OTM)
 - Strike price **below** stock price



Intrinsic Value vs. Time Value

Option Premium: Intrinsic Value (if any) + Extrinsic (Time) Value

- Intrinsic value
 - in-the-money amount
- Extrinsic value
 - any premium in excess of intrinsic value
 - decays with time as expiration approaches ("time decay")
- At expiration option worth only **intrinsic value**
 - no time remaining
 - when exercised, only the intrinsic value of an option is received/delivered extrinsic value (if any) is lost

Option Premium and Volatility

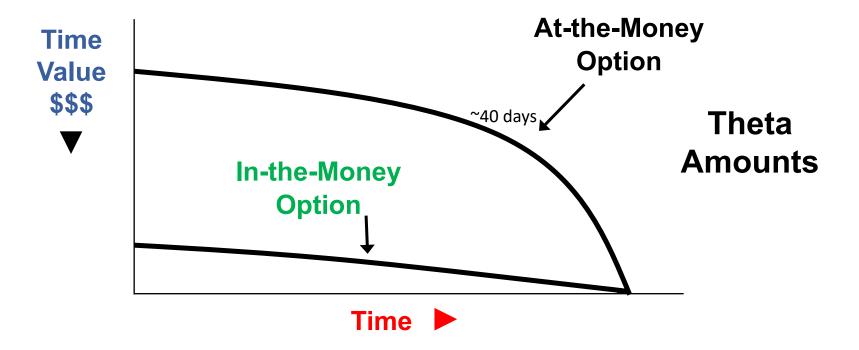
Option Premium:

- Driven by supply and demand from all market participants
- Quoted on a per share basis
- Consists of intrinsic value and extrinsic (time) value

Volatility:

- Historical Volatility (HV) reflects past movements in the stock price
- Implied Volatility (IV) is forward looking and is derived from option prices
- Changes in Implied Volatility have a positive correlation with changes in option prices

Option Theta and Expiry



Overall rate of time decay is exponential (accelerates towards expiry)

ATM = decay exponential = volatility is key decay factor

ITM = decay linear = cost-to-carry is key decay factor

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