

# *Hedging and Risk Management of Basket and Dynamic Default Swaps*

*Risk 2001*

*Jean-Paul LAURENT*

*Professor, ISFA Actuarial School, University of Lyon,  
Scientific Advisor, BNP PARIBAS, Fixed Income Research and Strategies*

*Correspondence*

*laurent.jeanpaul@online.fr or jean-paul.laurent@univ-lyon1.fr*

*Web page : <http://laurent.jeanpaul.free.fr/>*

*Hedging and Risk Management of Basket and  
Dynamic Default Swaps:  
Topics to be addressed*

- **Dynamic hedging strategies involving credit default swaps**
- **Joint hedging of default risk and credit spread risk**
- **Hedging variable credit exposure**
- **Hedging credit spread options**
- **Hedging basket credit derivatives**
  
- *Reference paper: “**On the edge of completeness**”, RISK, October 1999.*

## *Credit risk: the global picture*

- **Portfolio approaches to credit risk.**
- **Closing the gap between supply and demand (of credit risk): from pass-through to credit derivatives**
  - **Securitization.**
  - **Default Swaps .**
  - **Dynamic Default Swaps, Basket Credit Derivatives.**
  - **Credit Spread Options**
    - **The previous means tend to be more integrated.**
    - **Technical innovations favour efficient risk transfer.**
- **The early stages of hedging credit derivatives.**
- **The nature of credit risk.**

## *Portfolio approaches to credit risk*

- **Distribution of losses**
  - Consider some time horizon (say one year).
  - A given portfolio of credits, lines of credit, corporate bonds, interest rate swaps and forex swaps dealt with various defaultable counterparties, OTC options, tranches of CDO's.
  - Some of the credit exposures may be partially protected through collateral, credit insurance, prioritisation,...
  - The aim is to construct a distribution of losses arising from credit risk (and other financial risks).
  - From this distribution, one may consider different *risk indicators*, such as quantiles (VaR measures), Expected shortfall,...

## *Portfolio approaches to credit risk*

- **Topics currently addressed (portfolio approaches):**
  - **Databases on default events, credit spreads, the use of external data (credit ratings, expected default frequencies).**
  - **Assessing default risk on non quoted or small counterparties.**
  - **Integrating default risk approaches for smaller credits (mortgages, consumer loans) and**
  - **wrong way exposure, correlation between financial variables (such as interest rates, stock indices, exchange rates) and defaults.**
  - **The use of Value at Risk for credit risk : a well diversified portfolio may have a greater VaR then**
  - **What should be the good criteria for portfolio optimisation**

## *Portfolio approaches to credit risk*

- **Topics currently addressed (portfolio approaches):**
- **Modelling of correlation**
  - non Gaussian variables,
  - default times, default losses, indicators of credit events,
- **consistency over different time horizons,**
- **joint modelling of defaults and credit spread risk.**
- **Relating portfolio approaches based on historical data and market prices on traded default risk**
  - some inconsistencies may appear between prices of basket default swaps from the two points of view.

## *Portfolio approaches to credit risk*

- From *assessment* to *management* of credit risk.
- Credit risk profile (Expected and unexpected loss) of portfolios can be modified. Risk/Return ratios can be enhanced.
  - By using *credit derivatives*
  - Through securitization schemes
  - By *dynamic management* of credit exposures : we can think of reducing credit exposures when credit spreads rise.
- Dynamic approaches to the hedging and management of credit risk are being transposed to the financial industry.
  - This will eventually enhance the ability of credit derivatives desks to an efficient management of more sophisticated risks.

## *Portfolio approaches to credit risk*

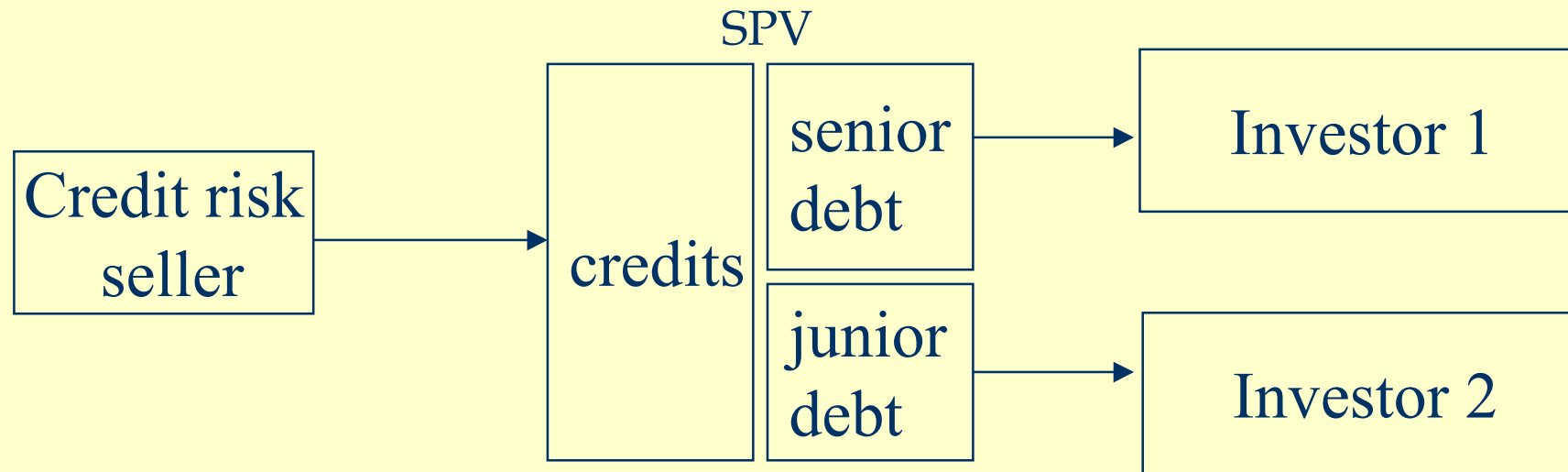
- **From *assessment* to *management* of credit risk.**
- **Understanding the main ideas and techniques regarding dynamic hedging of credit risk in the credit derivatives world may be useful to *credit risk managers, capital managers, CRO,...***
  - **As end users of credit protection structures, sellers of credit risk**
  - **To better manage some dynamic aspects of credit risk management, such as variable credit exposure :**
    - risk reduction can be achieved through a dynamic use of standard products (plain CDS) and through more sophisticated derivatives (dynamic CDS, basket CDS).



# *Closing the gap between supply and demand*



- From pass-through to credit derivatives
- Securitization of credit risk:



- **Credit risk seller can transfer loans to SPV or instead use default swaps**
- **All credit trades are simultaneous.**
- **No residual risk remains within SPV.**

## *Closing the gap between supply and demand*



- **Securitization of credit risk**
  - **Financial intermediaries provide structuring and arrangement advice.**
    - Low capital at risk for financial intermediaries
  - **credit models are used to assess credit risks**
    - No need of hedging models

## *Closing the gap between supply and demand*

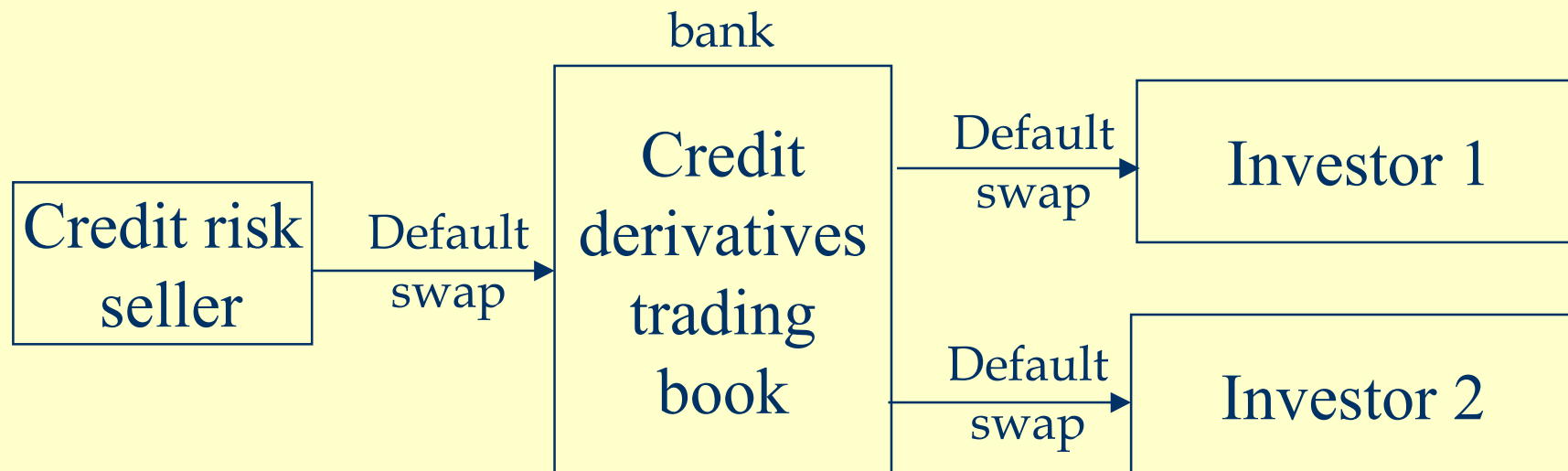


- **There is room for financial intermediation of credit risk**
  - The transfers of credit risk between commercial banks and investors may not be simultaneous.
  - Since at one point in time, demand and offer of credit risk may not match.
    - Meanwhile, credit risk remains within the balance sheet of the financial intermediary.
  - It is not further required to find customers with exact opposite interest at every new deal.
    - Residual risks remain within the balance sheet of the financial intermediary.

## *Closing the gap between supply and demand*



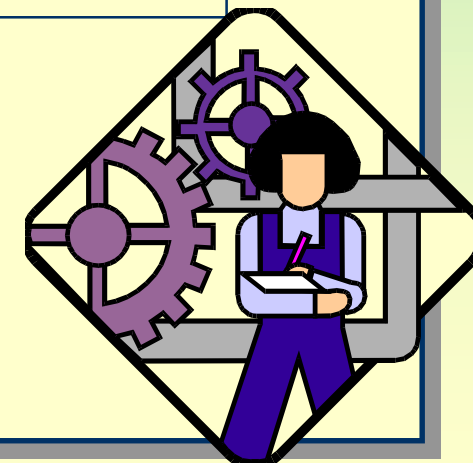
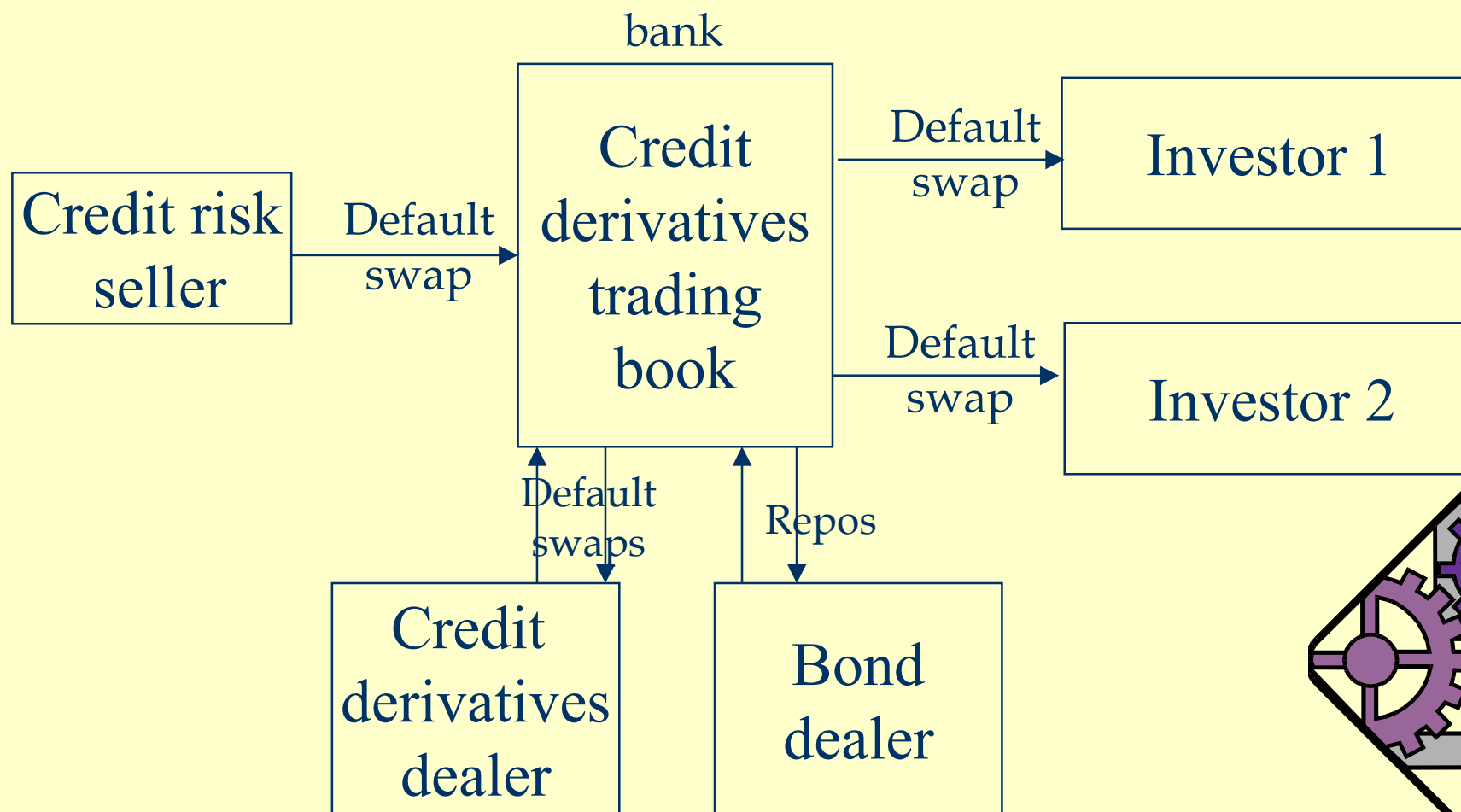
- **Emphasis on:**
  - portfolio effects: correlation between default events
  - posting collateral
  - computation of capital at risk, risk assessment
- **Main issues:**
  - capital at risk can be high
  - what is the competitive advantage of investment banks



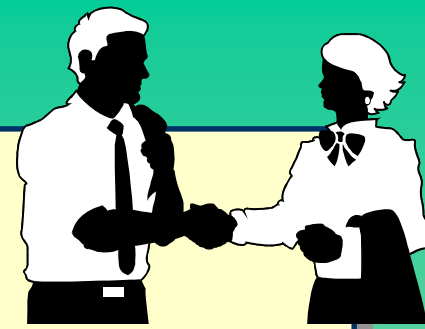
## *Closing the gap between supply and demand*



- ***Hedging*** credit risk enhances ability to transfer credit risk by *lowering capital at risk*



## *Closing the gap between supply and demand*



- **Anatomy of a general **dynamic default swap****
  - A dynamic default swap is like a standard default swap but with variable nominal (or exposure)
  - However the periodic premium paid for the credit protection remains fixed.
  - The protection payment arises at default of one given single risky counterparty.
- **Examples**
  - **cancellable swaps**
  - quanto default swaps
  - credit protection of vulnerable swaps, OTC options.
  - credit protection of a portfolio of contracts (full protection, excess of loss insurance, partial collateralization)
- **Efficient ways to transfer credit risk**

## Closing the gap between supply and demand



- Example: **defaultable interest rate swap**
- Consider a defaultable interest rate swap (with unit nominal)
  - We are default-free, our counterparty is defaultable.
  - We consider a (fixed-rate) *receiver* swap on a standalone basis.
- Recovery assumption, payments in case of default:
  - if default at time  $\tau$ , compute the default-free value of the swap:  $PV_\tau$
  - and get: 
$$\delta(PV_\tau)^+ + (PV_\tau)^- = PV_\tau - (1-\delta)(PV_\tau)^+$$
  - $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$  recovery rate,  $(PV_\tau)^+ = \text{Max}(PV_\tau, 0)$ ,  $(PV_\tau)^- = \text{Min}(PV_\tau, 0)$
  - *In case of default,*
    - we receive default-free value  $PV_\tau$
    - *minus*
    - loss equal to  $(1-\delta)(PV_\tau)^+$ .

## Closing the gap between supply and demand



- Example: **defaultable interest rate swap**
- Using a hedging instrument rather than a credit reserve
  - Consider a dynamic default swap paying  $(1-\delta)(PV_\tau)^+$  at default time  $\tau$  (if  $\tau \leq T$ ), where  $PV_\tau$  is the present value of a default-free swap with *same fixed rate* than defaultable swap.
  - At default, we receive  $(1-\delta)(PV_\tau)^+ + PV_\tau - (1-\delta)(PV_\tau)^+ = PV_\tau$

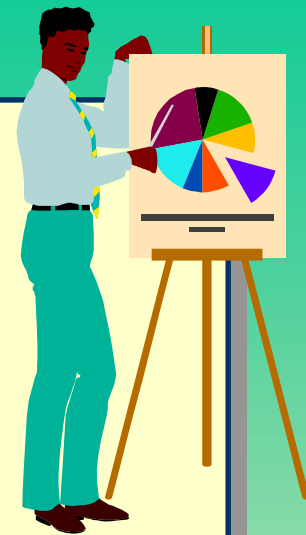


## *The nature of credit risk*



- **Pricing at the cost of the hedge:**
  - If some risk can be hedged, its price should be the cost of the hedge.
  - Think of a plain vanilla stock index call. Its replication price is 10% (say).
  - One given investor is ready to pay for 11% (He feels better off with such an option, than doing nothing). Should he really give this 1% to the market ?
- **The feasibility of hedging (« completeness ») is a fundamental idea.**
  - If credit instruments can be hedged, pricing dynamic default swaps, basket default swaps based only on historical data and portfolio approaches will eventually lead to arbitrage opportunities.
  - Good news for knowledgeable individuals. Bad news for the understanding of risks.

## *The nature of credit risk*

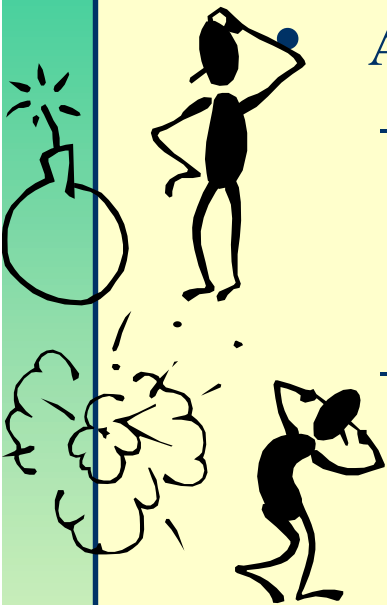


- **Misconceptions about *credit risk*.**
  - **At the early stage of credit risk analysis, a common idea was that credit risk was not hedgeable :**
    - incomplete markets, multiplicity of risk-neutral measures.
    - In firm-value models and complete information, default bonds are (too simplistically) considered as equity barrier options.
- **When some a *defaultable bond* is already traded, then the market can become *complete*.**
  - **If there is also credit spread risk (that is not fully correlated to other financial variables), then we need (at least) two defaultable bonds.**

## *The early stages of hedging credit derivatives*

- **Static arbitrage of plain default swaps with *short selling* underlying defaultable bond**
  - CDS premiums should be related to credit spreads on floaters.
- **One step further: hedging non standard maturities assuming smooth credit curves.**
  - “bond strippers” : allow to compute prices of risky zero-coupon bonds.
- **Consider a six years maturity CDS hedged with a five years maturity CDS of same nominal.**
  - Protection at default time.
  - Since maturities of credit derivatives do not perfectly match, credit spread risk.
  - We may need several maturities of CDS + some assumptions on the dynamics of CDS premiums in order to hedge credit spread risk.

## *The early stages of hedging credit derivatives*



### **Assessing the varieties of risks involved in credit derivatives**

- **Specific risk or credit spread risk**

- *prior to default*, the P&L of a book of credit derivatives is driven by changes in credit spreads.

- **Default risk**

- *in case of default*, if unhedged,

- dramatic jumps in the P&L of a book of credit derivatives.

- **Real world issues with hedging plain CDS :**

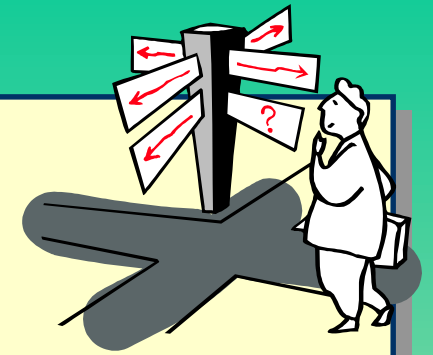
- **deliverance of some unknown underlying, possibly short-term or fixed rate long term bond,**
- **Management of short-selling and repo margins on illiquid bonds,**
- **« small inconsistencies » due to accrued coupons, accrued premiums.**
- **illiquid hedging default swaps**

## *Hedging credit derivatives: overview*



- Hedging default (and recovery) risk : an introduction.
  - Short term default swaps v.s. long-term default swaps
  - Credit spread transformation risk
- One step further: hedging *Dynamic Default Swaps, credit spread options*.
  - Hedging **default risk** through dynamics holdings in standard default swaps.
  - Hedging **credit spread risk** by choosing appropriate default swap maturities.
- Hedging : *Basket Default Swaps* some specificities
  - Uncertainty at default time

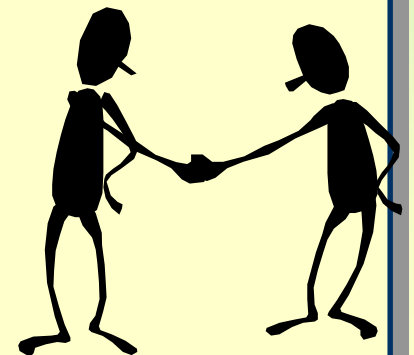
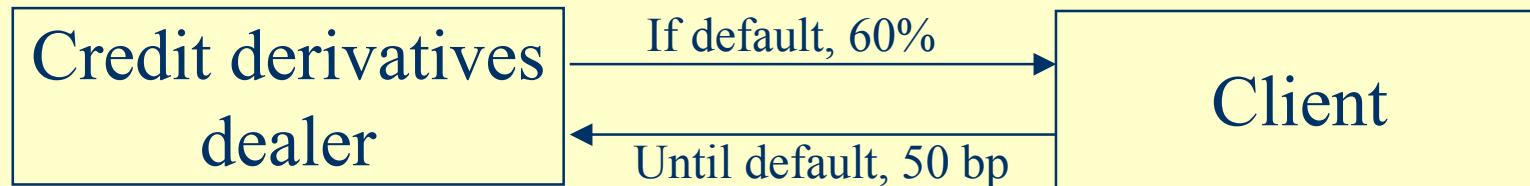
## *Hedging default risk: an introduction*



- **Disentangling risks in *credit instruments***
  - *Interest rate risk*: due to movements in default-free interest rates.
  - *Default risk*: default bond price jumps to recovery value at default time.
  - *Credit spread risk* (specific risk): variation in defaultable bond prices prior to default, due to changes in credit quality (for instance ratings migration) or changes in risk premiums.
  - *Recovery risk*: unknown recovery rate in case of default.
- **Hedging exotic credit derivatives will imply hedging all sources of risk.**
- ***A new approach* to credit derivatives modelling based on an hedging point of view**

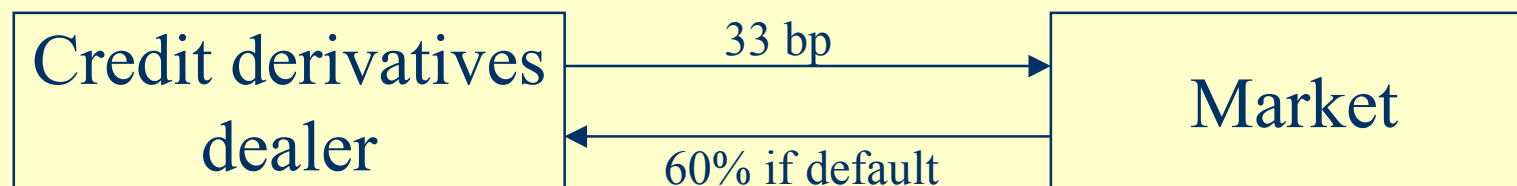
# Hedging default risk: an introduction

- **Purpose:**
  - Introduction to dynamic trading of default swaps
  - Illustrates how default and credit spread risk arise
- **Arbitrage between long and short term default swaps**
  - sell one long-term default swap
  - buy a series of short-term default swaps
- **Example:**
  - default swaps on a FRN issued by BBB counterparty
  - 5 years default swap premium : 50bp, recovery rate = 60%

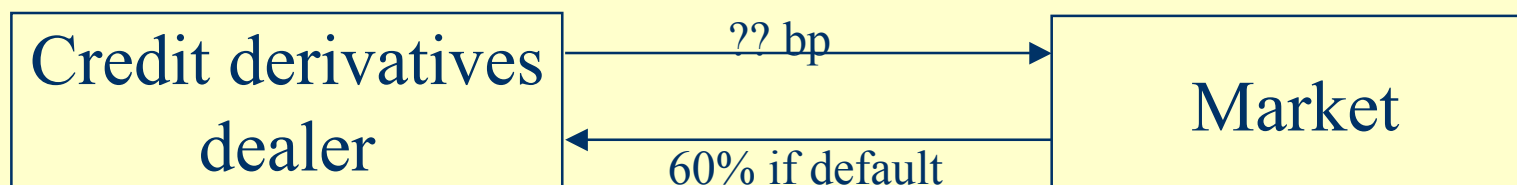


## *Hedging default risk: an introduction*

- **Rolling over short-term default swap**
  - at inception, one year default swap premium : 33bp
  - cash-flows after one year:



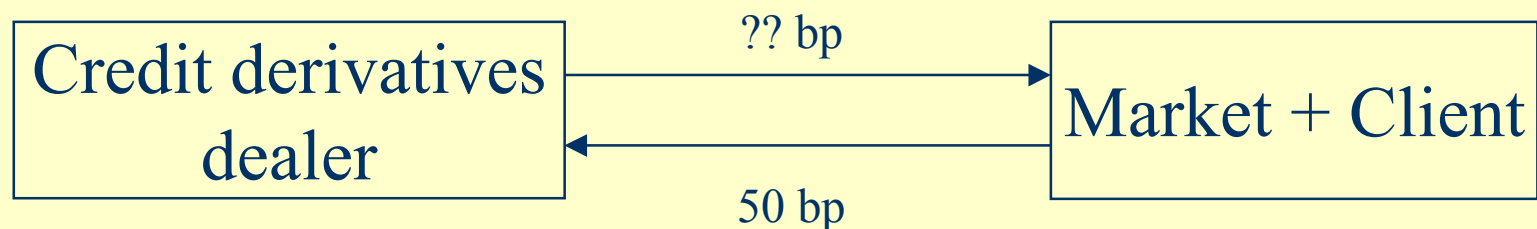
- **Buy a one year default swap at the end of every yearly period, if no default:**
  - Dynamic strategy,
  - future premiums depend on future credit quality
  - future premiums are unknown





## *Hedging default risk: an introduction*

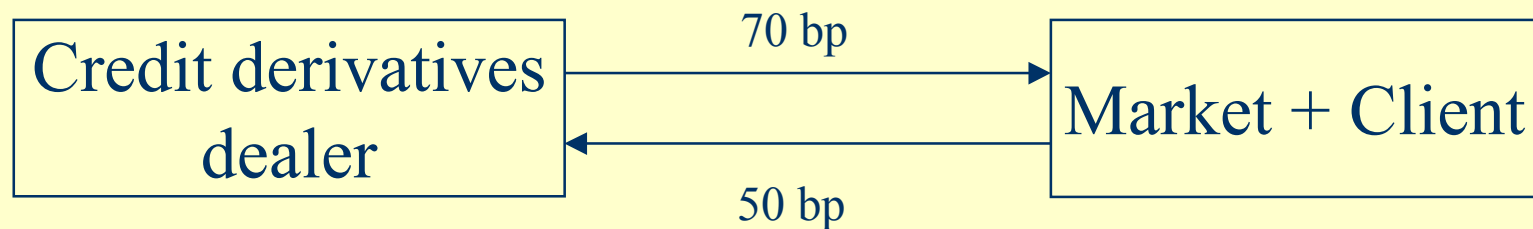
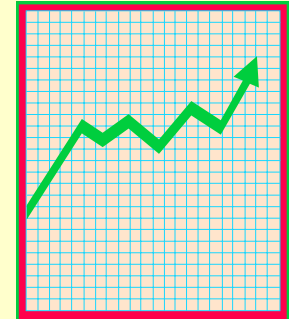
- *Risk analysis* of rolling over short term against long term default swaps



- **Exchanged cash-flows :**
  - Dealer receives 5 years (fixed) credit spread,
  - Dealer pays 1 year (variable) credit spread.
- **Full one to one protection at default time**
  - the previous strategy has eliminated one source of risk, that is default risk
  - Recovery risk has been eliminated too.

## *Hedging default risk: an introduction*

- **Negative exposure to an increase in short-term default swap premiums**
  - if short-term premiums increase from 33bp to 70bp
  - reflecting a lower (short-term) credit quality
  - and no default occurs before the fifth year



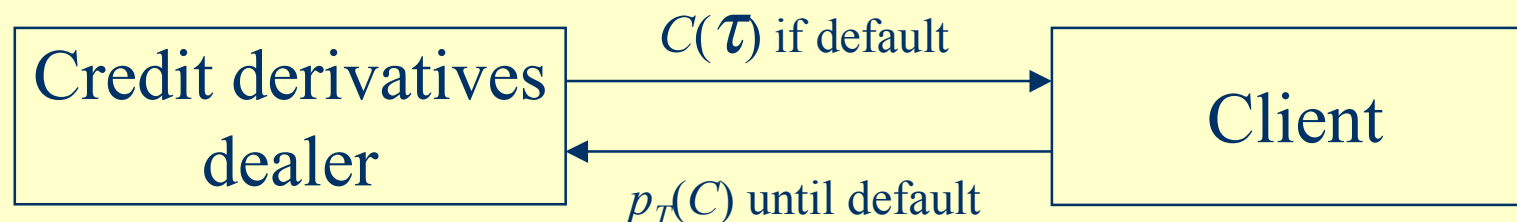
- **Loss due to negative carry**
  - long position in long term credit spreads
  - short position in short term credit spreads



## Hedging default risk: an introduction

- **Dynamic Default Swap**

- client pays to dealer a periodic premium  $p_T(C)$  until default time  $\tau$ , or maturity of the contract  $T$ .
- dealer pays  $C(\tau)$  to client at default time  $\tau$ , if  $\tau \leq T$ .

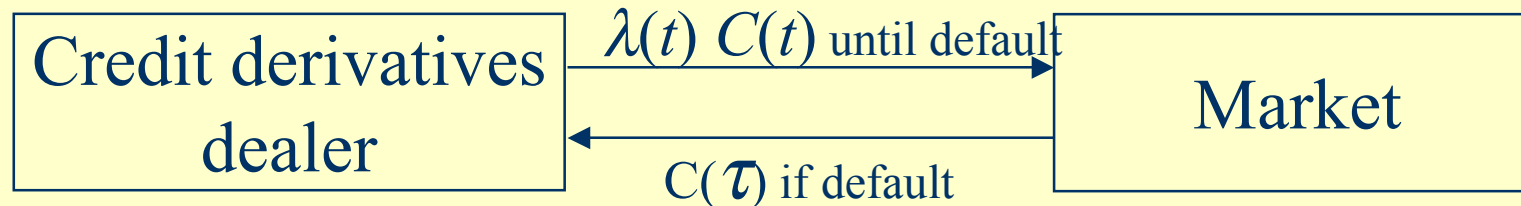


- **Hedging side:**

- Dynamic strategy based on standard default swaps:
- At time  $t$ , hold an amount  $C(t)$  of standard default swaps
- $\lambda(t)$  denotes the periodic premium at time  $t$  for a short-term default swap

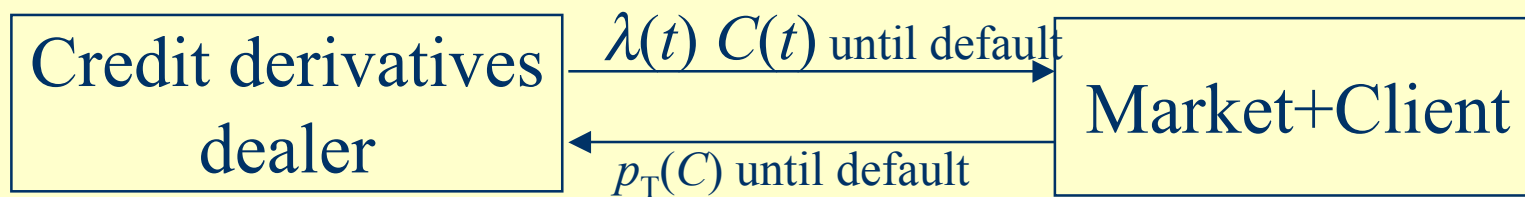
## Hedging default risk: an introduction

- Hedging side:



- Amount of standard default swaps equals the (variable) credit exposure on the dynamic default swap.

- Net position is a “*basis swap*”:



- The client transfers **credit spread risk** to the credit derivatives dealer

## *One step further: Hedging dynamic default swaps*



- Hedging *credit risk*
  - Uniqueness of *equivalent martingale measure*.
- PV of plain and dynamic default swaps
- Hedging dynamic default swaps
  - Hedging *default risk*
  - Explaining *theta* effects
  - Hedging default risk *and* credit spread risk
- Hedging Credit spread options

# hedging credit risk

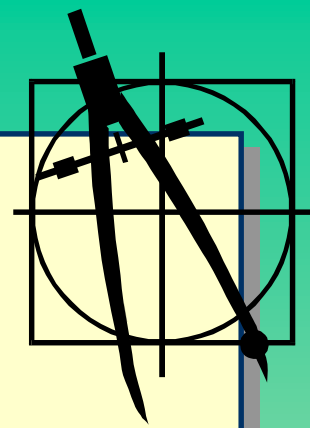
- “**firm-value**” models :
  - Modelling of firm’s assets
  - First time passage below a critical threshold
- **risk-intensity** based models
  - Default arrivals are no longer predictable
  - Model conditional local probabilities of default  $\lambda(t) dt$
  - $\tau$  : default date,  $\lambda(t)$  *risk intensity* or *hazard rate*

$$\lambda(t)dt = P[\tau \in [t, t + dt] | \tau > t]$$

- We need a hedging based approach to pricing.

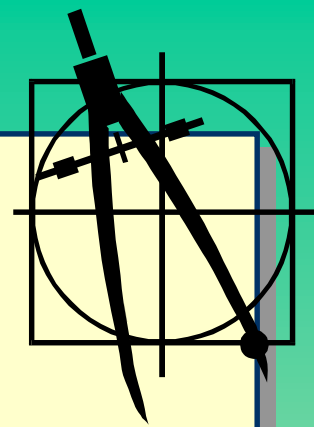


## Hedging credit risk



- Uniqueness of equivalent martingale measure
  - Assume deterministic default-free interest rates
  - $r(t)$  default-free short rate,  $\tau$ , default time
  - $I(t) = 1_{\{\tau > t\}}$  indicator function.  $I(t)$  jumps from 1 to 0 at time  $\tau$ .
  - $\mathbb{H}_t = \sigma(I(s), s \leq t)$ : natural filtration of  $\tau$ .
  - $P(\tau \in [t, t+dt[ \mid \mathbb{H}_t) = E(I(t) - I(t+dt) \mid \mathbb{H}_t) = \lambda(t)I(t)dt$ ,
  - $\lambda$  (historical) *default intensity* (wrt  $\mathbb{H}_t$ ):
    - *Girsanov theorem*: Under any equivalent probability  $Q$ , the risk-intensity of  $\tau$  becomes  $\lambda(t)\phi(t)$  with  $\phi(t) > 0$ .
  - $Q(\tau \in [t, t+dt[ \mid \mathbb{H}_t) = E^Q(I(t) - I(t+dt) \mid \mathbb{H}_t) = \lambda(t)\phi(t)I(t)dt$ ,
- **Risky discount bond** with maturity  $T$  : pays  $1_{\{\tau > t\}}$  at time  $T$

## Hedging credit risk

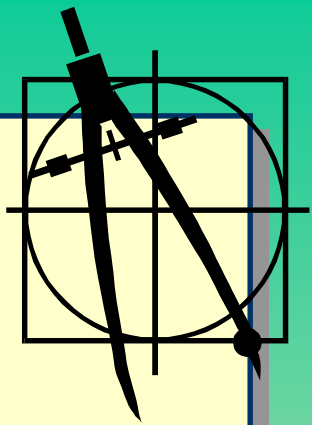


- $\bar{B}(t, T) \in H_t$   $t$ -time price of **risky discount bond**.
- **Lemma:** Let  $Z \in H_t$ . Then  $Z$  is constant on  $\{\tau > t\}$ .
  - **Proof:**  $\{\tau > t\}$  is an atom of  $H_t$ . Every random variable is constant on atoms
- $\bar{B}(t, T)$  is constant on  $\{\tau > t\}$  and  $\bar{B}(t, T) = 0$  on  $\{\tau \leq t\}$ .
- $\Rightarrow \bar{B}(t, T) = c(t, T)1_{\{\tau > t\}} = c(t, T)I(t)$  where  $c(t, T)$  is deterministic.
  - **Then,**  $d\bar{B}(t, T) = c_t(t, T)I(t)dt + c(t, T)dI(t)$
- Let  $Q$  be an *equivalent martingale measure*.
  - **Then**  $E^Q [d\bar{B}(t, T) | H_t] \stackrel{(2)}{=} I(t) \times (c_t(t, T) - c(t, T)\lambda(t)\phi(t)) dt$
- **On the other hand,**  $E^Q [d\bar{B}(t, T) | H_t] \stackrel{(1)}{=} r(t)\bar{B}(t, T)dt = r(t)c(t, T)I(t)dt$

$$(1)+(2) \Rightarrow \boxed{\lambda(t)\phi(t) \stackrel{(3)}{=} -r(t) + d \ln c(t, T) / dt}, \text{ on } \{\tau > t\}$$



## Hedging credit risk



- Thus  $\phi(t)$  and then  $Q$  are identified (uniqueness) from  $\bar{B}(t, T)$ 
  - Let us denote:  $\bar{r}(t) = r(t) + \lambda(t)\phi(t)$
  - Thus:  $d \ln c(t, T) / dt = \bar{r}(t)dt$  with  $c(T, T)=1$
  - Which provides:  $c(t, T) = \exp - \int_t^T \bar{r}(s)ds$  (predefault price).
- **Summary of results:**
  - $\bar{r}(t)$  defaultable short rate,  $\boxed{\lambda(t)\phi(t) = \bar{r}(t) - r(t)}$  risk-neutral intensity
  - Defaultable bond:  $\bar{B}(t, T) = 1_{\{\tau > t\}} \exp - \int_t^T (r(s) + \lambda(s)\phi(s)) ds$
  - risk-neutral measure  $Q$ , with intensity of default  $\lambda(t)\phi(t)$ : **pricing**.
  - Historical measure  $P$ , with intensity of default  $\lambda(t)$ : **portfolio approaches**

## *PV of credit contracts*



- **Risky discount bond price (no recovery):**

$$\bar{B}(t, T) = E_t \left[ 1_{\{\tau > T\}} \exp - \int_t^T r(s) ds \right] = 1_{\{\tau > t\}} E_t \left[ \exp - \int_t^T (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right]$$

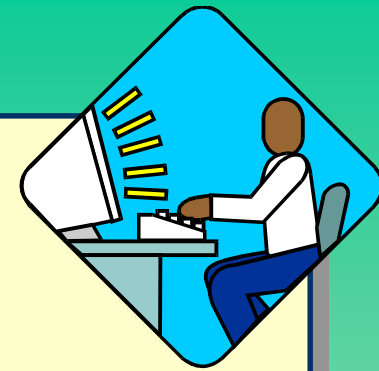
–  $\lambda$ : **risk-neutral intensity**

- **More generally let  $X_T$  be a payoff paid at  $T$ , if  $\tau > T$ :**

$$PV_X(t) = E_t \left[ X_T 1_{\{\tau > T\}} \exp - \int_t^T r(s) ds \right] = 1_{\{\tau > t\}} E_t \left[ X_T \exp - \int_t^T (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right]$$

- $\exp - \int_t^T (r + \lambda)(s) ds$  **stochastic risky discount factor**

## *PV of plain default swaps (continuous premiums)*



- **Time  $u$  -PV of a plain default swap:**
  - Maturity  $T$ , *continuously* paid premium  $p$ , recovery rate  $\delta$
  - Risk-free short rate  $r$ , default intensity  $\lambda$
  - $E_u$  expectation conditional on information carried by financial prices.
  - $r + \lambda$  is the « risky » short rate : payoffs discounted at a higher rate
  - Similar to an index amortizing swap (payments only if no prepayment).

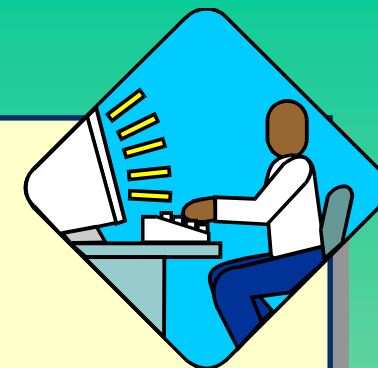
- **PV of *default payment leg*:**

$$1_{\{\tau > u\}} E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (1 - \delta) \lambda(t) dt \right] + 1_{\{\tau \leq u\}} (1 - \delta) \exp \int_\tau^u r(s) ds$$

- **PV of *premium payment leg*:**

$$1_{\{\tau > u\}} p \times E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) dt \right]$$

## *PV of dynamic default swaps (continuous premiums)*



- Time  $u$  -PV of a dynamic default swap
  - Payment  $C(\tau)$  at default time if  $\tau < T$ :

- PV of *default payment leg*

$$1_{\{\tau > u\}} E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) C(t) \lambda(t) ds \right] + 1_{\{\tau \geq u\}} C(\tau) \exp \int_\tau^u r(s) ds$$

- This embeds the plain default swap case where  $C(\tau) = 1 - \delta$

- PV of *premium payment leg*

$$1_{\{\tau > u\}} p \times E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) dt \right]$$

- Same as in the case of plain default swap

## *Hedging dynamic default swaps*

- **Exotic credit derivatives can be *hedged* against default:**
  - Constrains the amount of underlying standard default swaps.
  - Variable amount of standard default swaps.
  - Full protection at default time by construction of the hedge.
  - No more discontinuity in the P&L at default time.
  - Model-free approach.
- **Credit spread exposure has to be hedged by *other means*:**
  - Appropriate *choice of maturity* of underlying default swap
  - Use of CDS with different maturities.
  - Computation of sensitivities with respect to changes in credit spreads are model dependent.

## Hedging dynamic default swaps

- **PV at time  $u$  of a digital default swap**

$$PV(u) = 1_{\{\tau > u\}} E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (\lambda(t) - p) dt \right] + 1_{\{\tau \leq u\}} \exp \int_{\tau}^u r(t) dt$$

- At default time  $\tau$ , PV switches from  $E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (\lambda(t) - p) dt \right]$
- to one (default payment). If digital default swap at the money,  $dPV(\tau) = 1$

- **PV at time  $u$  of a dynamic default swap with payment  $C$ :  $PV_C(u)$**

$$1_{\{\tau > u\}} E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (\lambda(t)C(t) - p_C) dt \right] + 1_{\{\tau \leq u\}} C(\tau) \exp \int_{\tau}^u r(t) dt$$

- At default time  $\tau$ , PV switches from pre-default market value  $PV(\tau^-)$  to  $C(\tau)$
- **To hedge default risk, we hold  $(C(u) - PV_C(u))$  digital default swaps**
  - Variation of PV at default time on the hedging portfolio:

$$(C(\tau) - PV_C(\tau^-)) dPV(\tau) = C(\tau) - PV_C(\tau^-)$$

- **Hedging default risk is model free. No recovery risk.**

## Explaining theta effects in the P&L dynamics

- **Different aspects of “carrying” credit contracts through time.**
  - Analyse the risk-neutral dynamics of the P&L.
- Consider a *short* position in a dynamic default swap.
- ***Pre-default* Present value of the contract provided by:**

$$PV(u) = E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (p_T - \lambda(t)C(t)) dt \right]$$

- ***Net expected capital gain* (conditional on no default):**

$$E_u [PV(u + du) - PV(u)] = (r(u) + \lambda(u)) PV(u) du + (\lambda(u)C(u) - p_T) du$$

- ***Accrued cash-flows* (received premiums):  $p_T du$** 
  - By summation, **Incremental P&L (if no default between  $u$  and  $u+du$ ):**

$$r(u)PV(u)du + \lambda(u)(C(u) + PV(u))du$$

## Explaining theta effects in the P&L dynamics

- **Apparent extra return effect** :  $\lambda(u)(C(u) + PV(u))du$ 
  - But, probability of default between  $u$  and  $u+du$ :  $\lambda(u)du$ .
  - **Losses in case of default:**
    - Commitment to pay:  $C(u)$  + loss of PV of the credit contract:  $PV(u)$
    - $PV(u)$  consists in **unrealised** capital gains or losses in the credit derivatives book that “disappear” in case of default.
  - **Expected loss charge**:  $\lambda(u)(C(u) + PV(u))du$
- **Under risk-neutral probability, in average P&L does increase at rate  $r(u)$ !**
- **Hedging aspects:**
  - If we hold  $C(u) + PV(u)$  **short-term digital default swaps**, we are protected at default-time (**no jump in the P&L**).
  - **Premiums to be paid**:  $\lambda(u)(C(u) + PV(u))du$
  - **The hedged P&L increases at rate  $r(u)$  (mimics savings account).**



## Hedging default risk and credit spread risk

• Denote by  $I(u) = \mathbf{1}_{\{\tau > u\}}$ ,  $dI(u)$  = variation of jump part.

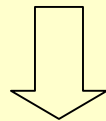
• Digital default swap:

– PV prior to default: 
$$PV^b(u) = E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (\lambda(u) - p) dt \right]$$

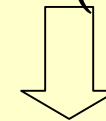
– PV after default: 
$$PV^a(u) = \exp \int_u^T r(t) dt$$

– PV whenever: 
$$PV(u) = I(u)PV^b(u) + (1 - I(u))PV^a(u)$$

$$dPV(u) = (PV^b(u) - PV^a(u))dI(u) + I(u)dPV^b(u) + (1 - I(u))dPV^a(u)$$



Discontinuous part  
default risk



Continuous part (credit spread risk)

• Discontinuous part : constrains the amount of hedging default swaps

– *After hedging default risk, no jump in the PV at default time.*

• Hedging continuous part (see below)

## *Hedging Default risk and credit spread risk*

- **Hedging continuous part**

- Assume some state variable following diffusion processes (i.e. no jumps in credit spreads).
- Pre-default PV of dynamic default swaps, plain CDS:

$$E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (\lambda(t)C(t) - p_C) dt \right]$$

- Provided as a solution of linear PDE.

- ***Credit spread risk* («continuous » part) is hedged by delta analysis:**

- Compute the sensitivities of dynamic default swap to be hedged and of hedging CDS w.r.t state variables.
- Choose amount of hedging CDS so that portfolio sensitivity =0.

## Hedging Default risk and credit spread risk

- **Example: hedging CDS with non standard maturities.**
  - Maturity  $T$ , premium  $p$ , pre-default PV:

$$PV_T^b(u) = E_u \left[ \int_u^T \left( \exp - \int_u^t (r + \lambda)(s) ds \right) \times (p - \lambda(u)(1 - \delta)) dt \right]$$

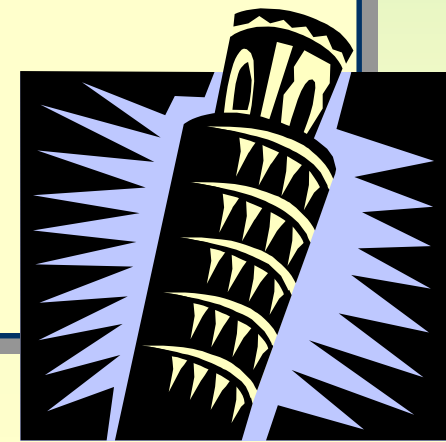
- PV jumps from  $PV_T^b(u)$  to  $-(1 - \delta)$  at default time.
- Hedging instruments: at the money traded CDS (PV(u)=0)
- Total amount of hedging CDS:  $\frac{1 - \delta + PV_T^b(u)}{1 - \delta} \approx 1$
- *Small recovery risk.*
- Hedging credit spread risk:
  - choose amount of hedging CDS so that the sensitivities of maturity  $T$  CDS and hedging CDS w.r.t to credit spreads are equal
  - Need of two hedging CDS (two constraints)

## *Hedging Default risk and credit spread risk*

- Hedging *default risk* only constrains the amount of underlying standard default swap.
  - Maturity of underlying default swap is arbitrary.
- Choose maturity (of underlying CDS) to be protected against **credit spread risk**
  - PV of dynamic default swaps and standard default swaps are sensitive to the level of credit spreads
  - Sensitivity of standard default swaps to a shift in credit spreads increases with maturity
  - Choose maturity of underlying default swap in order to equate sensitivities.
    - All the computations are *model dependent*.
    - Previous approach involves changing the maturity of underlying through time.

## *Hedging Default risk and credit spread risk*

- **Alternative approach: choose two given maturities**
- ***Several maturities* of underlying default swaps may be used to match sensitivities.**
  - For example, in the case of **defaultable** interest rate swap, the nominal amount of default swaps  $(PV_{\tau})^+$  is usually small.
  - ***Single*** default swap with nominal  $(PV_{\tau})^+$  has a ***smaller sensitivity*** to credit spreads than ***defaultable interest rate swap***, even for long maturities.
  - **Short** and **long** positions in default swaps are required to hedge ***credit spread risk***.



## *Hedging credit spread options*

- **Option to enter a given default swap with premium  $p$ , maturity  $T$  at exercise date  $T$ .**
  - Call option provides positive payoff if credit spreads increase.
    - Credit spread risk
  - If default prior to  $T$ , cancellation of the option
    - Default risk
- **The PV is of the form  $PV(u) = 1_{\{\tau > u\}} PV^b(u)$** 
  - Hedge default risk by holding an amount of  $PV^b(u)$  default swaps.
  - $PV^b(u)$  is usually small compared with payments involved in default swaps.
  - $PV^b(u)$  depends on risk-free and risky curves (mainly on credit spreads).
  - Credit spread risk is also hedged through default swaps.
- **Our previous framework for hedging default risk and credit spread risk still holds.**

## *Hedging Basket default swaps: some specificities*

- **Consider a basket of  $M$  defaultable bonds**
  - multiple counterparties
- **First to default swaps**
  - protection against the first default
- **$N$  out of  $M$  default swaps ( $N < M$ )**
  - protection against the first  $N$  defaults
- **Hedging and valuation of basket default swaps**
  - involves the joint (multivariate) modelling of default arrivals of issuers in the basket of bonds.
  - Modelling accurately the dependence between default times is a critical issue.

## *Hedging Basket default swaps: some specificities*

- Hedging Default Risk in Basket Default Swaps
- Example: first to default swap from a basket of two risky bonds.
  - If the first default time occurs before maturity,
  - The seller of the first to default swap pays the non recovered fraction of the defaulted bond.
  - Prior to that, he receives a periodic premium.
- Assume that the two bonds cannot default simultaneously
  - We moreover assume that default on one bond has *no effect* on the credit spread of the remaining bond.
- How can the seller be protected *at default time* ?
  - The only way to be protected at default time is to hold two default swaps with the *same nominal* than the *nominal* of the bonds.
  - The *maturity* of underlying default swaps does not matter.



## *Hedging Basket default swaps: some specificities*

- *hedge ratios* for first to default swaps
- Consider a first to default swap associated with a basket of two defaultable loans.
  - Hedging portfolios based on standard underlying default swaps
  - Uncertain hedge ratios if:
    - simultaneous default events
    - *Jumps* of credit spreads at default times
- **Simultaneous default events:**
  - If counterparties default *altogether*, holding the *complete* set of default swaps is a conservative (and thus expensive) hedge.
  - In the *extreme* case where default *always* occur altogether, we only need a single default swap on the loan with largest nominal.
  - In other cases, holding a *fraction* of underlying default swaps does not hedge default risk (if *only one* counterparty defaults).

## *Hedging Basket default swaps: some specificities*

- hedge ratios for first to default swaps
- What occurs if there is a jump in the credit spread of the second counterparty after default of the first ?
  - default of first counterparty means *bad news* for the second.
- If hedging with short-term default swaps, no capital gain at default.
  - Since PV of short-term default swaps is not *sensitive* to credit spreads.
- This is not the case if hedging with long term default swaps.
  - If credit spreads jump, PV of long-term default swaps jumps.
- Then, the amount of hedging default swaps can be reduced.
  - This reduction is *model-dependent*.

## *Hedging and Risk Management of Basket and Dynamic Default Swaps: conclusion*



- hazard rate based models :
  - default is a sudden, *non predictable* event,
  - that causes a sharp jump in defaultable bond prices.
  - Most dynamic default swaps and basket default derivatives have payoffs that are *linear* (at default) in the prices of defaultable bonds.
  - Thus, good news: **default risk** and **recovery risk** can be *hedged*.
  - More realistic approach to default.
  - *Hedge ratios* are robust with respect to default risk.
  - **Credit spread risk** can be hedged too, but model risk.

## *Hedging and Risk Management of Basket and Dynamic Default Swaps: conclusion*



- **Looking for a better understanding of credit derivatives**
  - payments in case of default,
  - volatility of credit spreads.
- **Bridge between risk-neutral valuation and the cost of the hedge approach.**
- **dynamic hedging strategy based on *standard default swaps*.**
  - hedge ratios in order to get protection at default time.
  - hedging default risk is *model-independent*.
  - importance of quantitative models for a better management of the P&L and the residual risks.