

EE431/438 Economics of Financial Markets and
Institutions

Exercise 2: Decision Under Uncertainty

1. d . If she want her wealth in both states to be equal, how many security j and security k she should buy ? (she is allowed to buy fractions of shares.)

Given that if she buys j units of security j and k units of security k , her wealth in both states would be equal. Then we can write:

her wealth in state 1 = her wealth in state 2

$$\begin{aligned} 10j + 20k &= 12j + 8k \\ \frac{k}{j} &= \frac{1}{6} \end{aligned}$$

If she can buy 1 units of security k and 6 units of security j , she would spend $\$(12)+(10*6) = 72$. Therefore, she must spend $\$ \frac{1200}{72}$ units of security k and $\frac{1200}{72} * 6$ units of security j .

*** Note : $\pi_1 \neq 1 - \pi_2$. This is because there could be more than 2 states of the world. The information on the two securities given is sufficient to find the prices of the two pure securities for the two states of nature.**