

**MONTRÉAL EXCHANGE**

# **Canadian Annual Derivatives Conference**

**November 26 to 28, 2018**

Québec City





**Institut canadien des dérivés**  
Canadian Derivatives Institute

**The essence of investment management is the management of risks, not the management of returns, well managed portfolios start with this precept**

Benjamin Graham

# Portfolio's net value changes follow a log-normal distribution

Geometric  
average  
return

$$\mu - \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$$

$$\mu - \frac{\sigma}{2}$$



**Arithmetic  
average return**

$$\frac{\sigma}{2}$$



**Volatility tax**

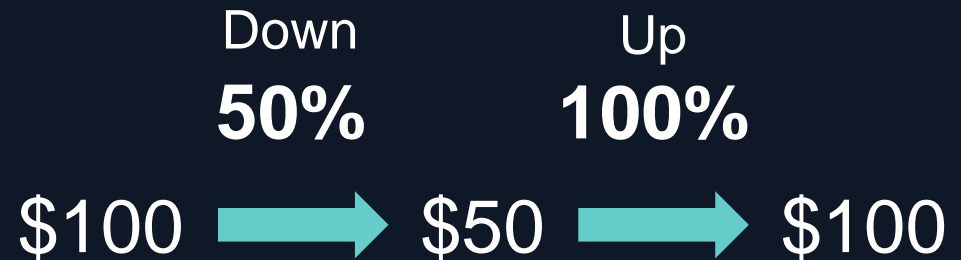
Mark Spitznagel

Volatility  
can be  
understood  
as a drag  
on the  
returns

# To raise a portfolio geometric average, an excellent starting point is to reduce its volatility tax

The goal of risk mitigation strategies is to solve this “vexing non-ergodicity, volatility tax problem”

Mark Spitznagel



# Never lose money

Warren  
Buffet

# Volatility is a way to measure uncertainty

**Market  
sentiment**

**Probability**

**Price  
movement**



An  
insurance  
product

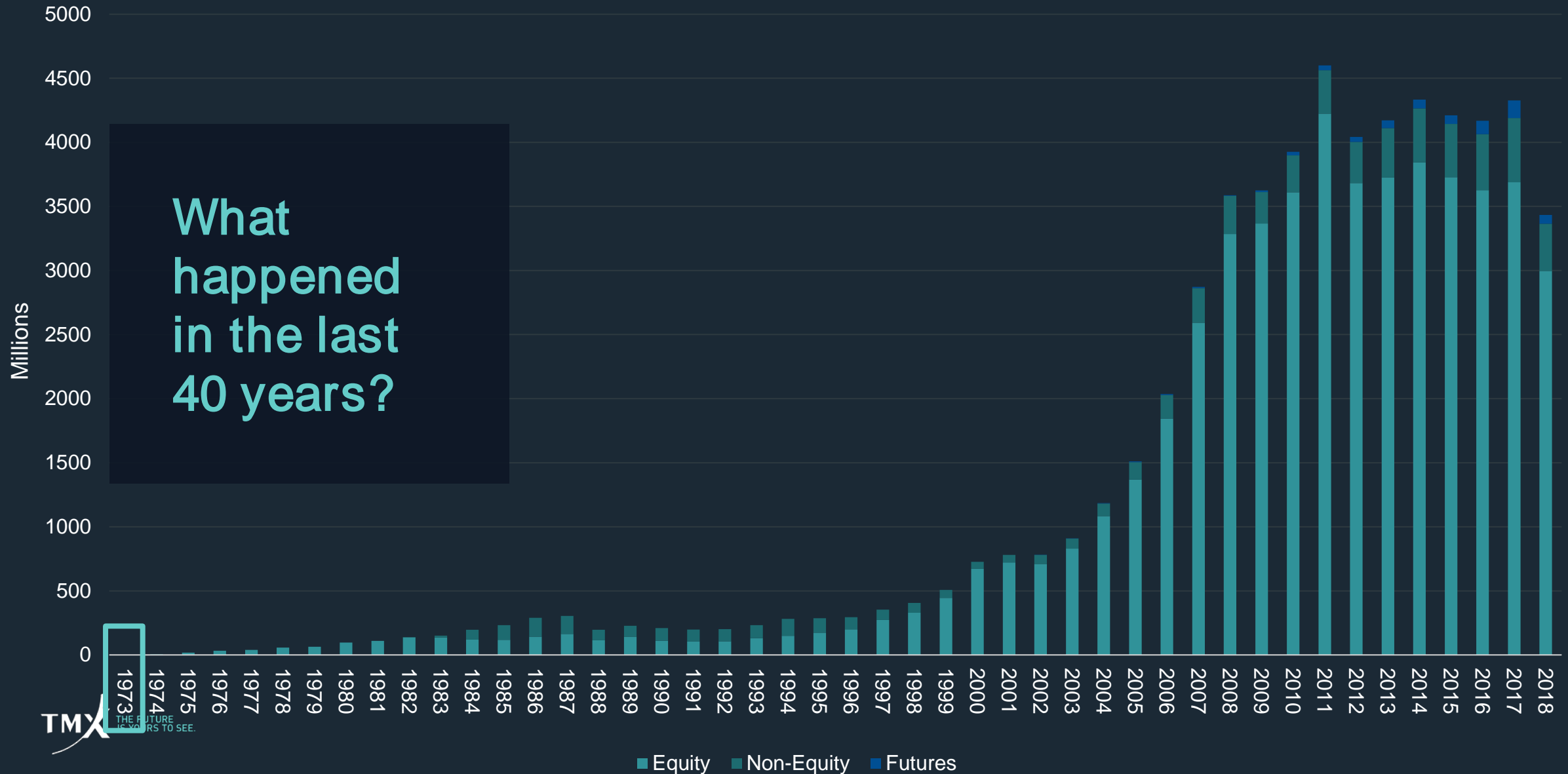
Gives  
the right  
but not the  
obligation

To buy  
or sell

At a  
certain  
price

Up to a  
certain  
date

# Option Market Annual Volume



# Black & Scholes Formula

$$C(S_t, t) = N(d_1)S_t - N(d_2)Ke^{-r\tau}$$

$$d_1 = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{\tau}} \left[ \ln\left(\frac{S_t}{K}\right) + \left(r + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}\right)\tau \right]$$

$$d_2 = d_1 - \sigma\sqrt{\tau}$$

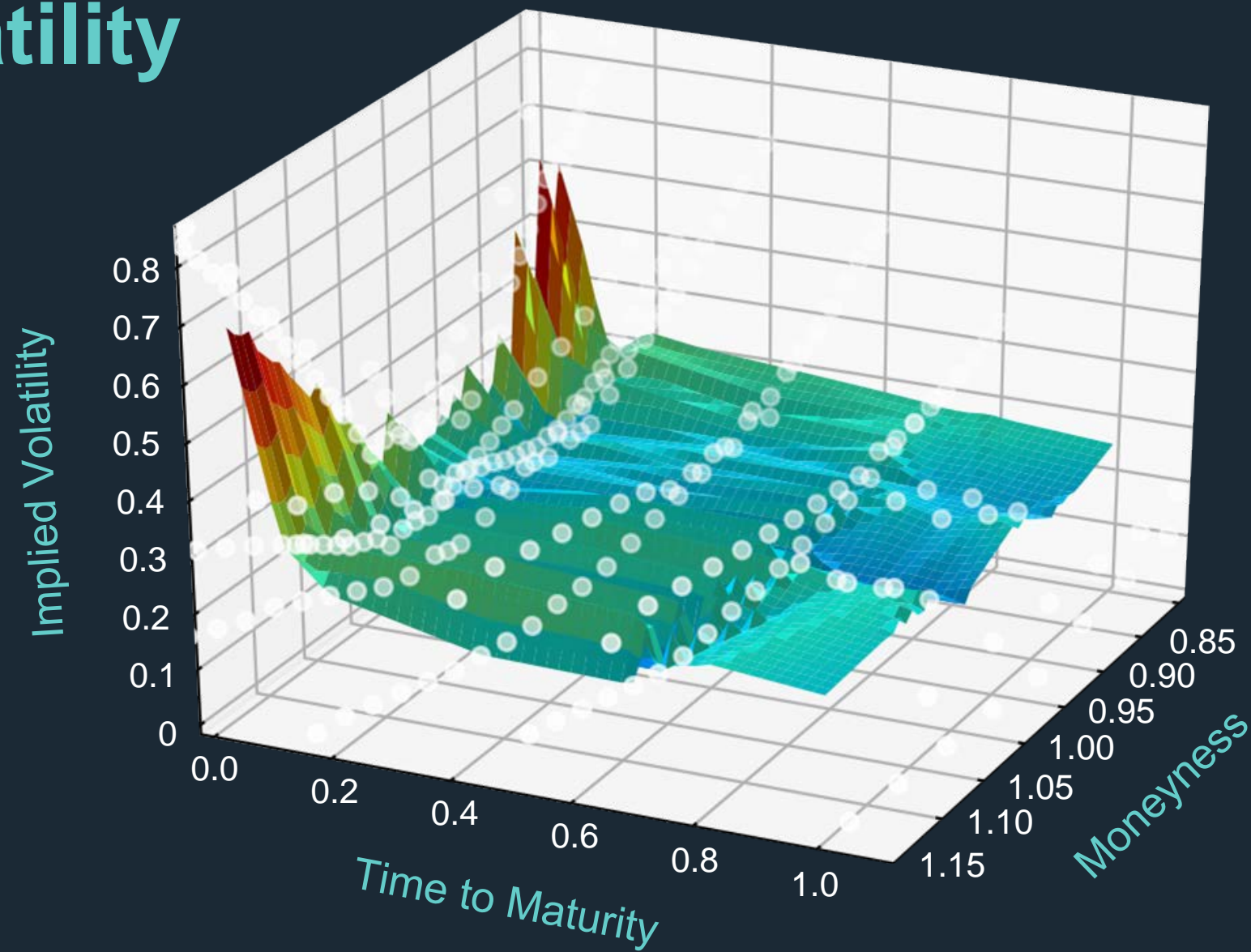
Option  
market  
in term  
of \$



4\$  
ITM  
0.5\$  
OTM

Option  
market  
in term of  
*Implied  
Volatility*

# Implied Volatility Surface



Is volatility  
an asset  
class?

How to  
extract  
alpha  
from the  
market?

A tale  
of two  
markets:  
OTC vs  
listed