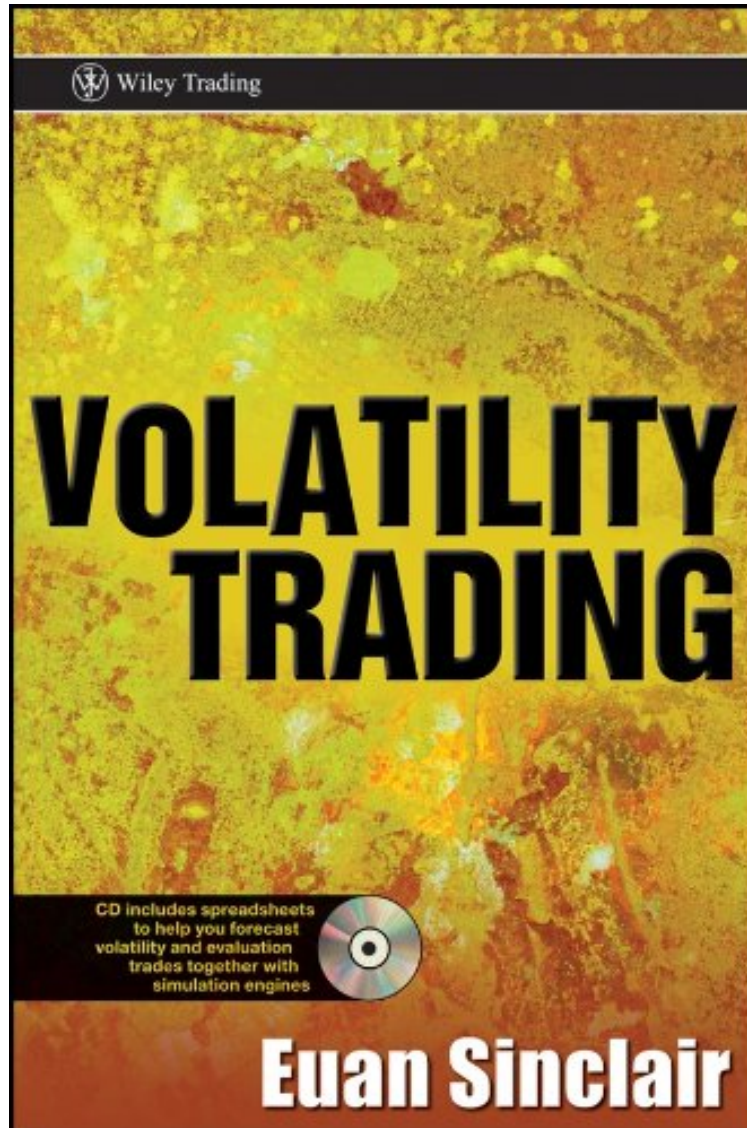


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Volatility Trading, + CD-ROM (Wiley Trading)

Euan Sinclair

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Euan Sinclair : Volatility Trading, + CD-ROM (Wiley Trading) before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Volatility Trading, + CD-ROM (Wiley Trading):

28 of 30 people found the following review helpful. "Potpourri"By G. BurnettIn "Volatility Trading" Euan Sinclair presents a compilation of the most notable features of many, many theorists. A lot of the theories have no practical value but they do make colourful commentary that leads to a meaningful conclusion. In addition he includes a potpourri of formulae including the Corrado and Su formula for including kurtosis and skewness in the normal Black Scholes Merton model call value. The Corrado Su skew curve, skew and kurtosis cones and volatility cones are

included in files on the CD-Rom which accompanies the book. Please note that Sinclair states that most of the information in "Options, Futures and other Derivatives" by John C Hull is prerequisite to reading his book. Sinclair's book is not suitable for beginners. 9 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Outstanding By Nathan S. Marlar I thoroughly enjoyed the writer's style. He obviously knows what he is talking about. He is very generous with information and offers some very helpful excel spreadsheets to complement the book. This allows the reader to gain a more practical understanding of the concepts presented. In my opinion the author presents the complex concepts of volatility trading in the most digestible form possible, but with that said, be prepared to use some math and do some thinking. Some things can only be broken down so far. The author is a professional trader and it shows. If you want to do some work and learn how this game works, then take the time to read and understand this book.... On the other hand, if you want to be a dilettante, crying and blaming the author because you don't understand the math, seek life elsewhere. Highly recommended. P.S. I recently took down this review in order to read the book again and see if I still felt the same way about it. I couldn't think of anything I wanted to change, except to take another chance to emphasize how informative and helpful this book is. 6 of 8 people found the following review helpful. excellent book By Touma M. Elias This is certainly one of the best books I read about Volatility. It is very practical and reveals a lot of details of the anatomy of trades, which were never covered in such details, in other books. I would like, however, to see the author make all his, software used, available to the public, in a software package that can be bought or licensed. Excellent book. Tom Elias.

In Volatility Trading, Sinclair offers you a quantitative model for measuring volatility in order to gain an edge in your everyday option trading endeavors. With an accessible, straightforward approach. He guides traders through the basics of option pricing, volatility measurement, hedging, money management, and trade evaluation. In addition, Sinclair explains the often-overlooked psychological aspects of trading, revealing both how behavioral psychology can create market conditions traders can take advantage of—and how it can lead them astray. Psychological biases, he asserts, are probably the drivers behind most sources of edge available to a volatility trader. Your goal, Sinclair explains, must be clearly defined and easily expressed—if you cannot explain it in one sentence, you probably aren't completely clear about what it is. The same applies to your statistical edge. If you do not know exactly what your edge is, you shouldn't trade. He shows how, in addition to the numerical evaluation of a potential trade, you should be able to identify and evaluate the reason why implied volatility is priced where it is, that is, why an edge exists. This means it is also necessary to be on top of recent news stories, sector trends, and behavioral psychology. Finally, Sinclair underscores why trades need to be sized correctly, which means that each trade is evaluated according to its projected return and risk in the overall context of your goals. As the author concludes, while we also need to pay attention to seemingly mundane things like having good execution software, a comfortable office, and getting enough sleep, it is knowledge that is the ultimate source of edge. So, all else being equal, the trader with the greater knowledge will be the more successful. This book, and its companion CD-ROM, will provide that knowledge. The CD-ROM includes spreadsheets designed to help you forecast volatility and evaluate trades together with simulation engines.

From the Inside Flap Successful trading, says Euan Sinclair, is about developing a consistent process. You must have a goal; you must find trades with a clear statistical edge; you must capture that edge and size each trade in a way that is consistent with your goal. Everything else you do must be done within this framework. In Volatility Trading, Sinclair offers you a quantitative model for measuring volatility in order to gain an edge in your everyday option trading endeavors. With an accessible, straightforward approach, he guides traders through the basics of option pricing, volatility measurement, hedging, money management, and trade evaluation. In addition, Sinclair explains the often-overlooked psychological aspects of trading, revealing both how behavioral psychology can create market conditions traders can take advantage of—and how it can lead them astray. Psychological biases, he asserts, are probably the drivers behind most sources of edge available to a volatility trader. Your goal, Sinclair explains, must be clearly defined and easily expressed—if you cannot explain it in one sentence, you probably aren't completely clear about what it is. The same applies to your statistical edge. If you do not know exactly what your edge is, you shouldn't trade. He shows how, in addition to the numerical evaluation of a potential trade, you should be able to identify and evaluate the reason why implied volatility is priced where it is, that is, why an edge exists. This means it is also necessary to be on top of recent news stories, sector trends, and behavioral psychology. Finally, Sinclair underscores why trades need to be sized correctly, which means that each trade is evaluated according to its projected return and risk in the overall context of your goals. As the author concludes, while we also need to pay attention to seemingly mundane things like having good execution software, a comfortable office, and getting enough sleep, it is knowledge that is the ultimate source of edge. So, all else being equal, the trader with the greater knowledge will be the more successful. This book, and its companion CD-ROM, will provide that knowledge. The CD-ROM includes spreadsheets designed to help you forecast volatility and evaluate trades together with simulation engines. From the Back Cover Praise for VOLATILITY TRADING "Written by a mathematically literate trader, this concise guide is full of valuable insights—not just for volatility traders but for quantitative traders too. From Zakamouline's optimal delta-hedging approximation to

Browne's optimal trade-sizing policy, there is much interesting technical material that is put to work to provide a framework for thinking clearly about practical problems such as: When should we hedge? Should we double up or cut or position? How much capital should we allocate to a trade in the first place? This book raises the discussion of quantitative trading to a new level and I strongly recommend it.

—Jim Gatheral, author of *The Volatility Surface: A Practitioner's Guide*

Euan Sinclair's *Volatility Trading* fills a neglected gap in financial literature on trading volatility with options and updates and expands on basic works with contemporary strategies, insights, and technical detail. *Volatility Trading* is uncommonly clear, examples are well chosen, and explanations are thorough without being tedious. Not since Allan J. Baird's *Option Market Making* has there been a work on volatility strategies as well written and practical. Sinclair's modern treatment is a tremendous resource for options market makers and clients alike as they inescapably take a view on volatility with each position. *Volatility Trading* is destined to become a classic and is highly recommended for students and practitioners alike.

—James N. Ward, Head of High-Yield Investments, AXA Investment Managers Paris, and Professor of Finance, The American University of Paris

I wish this book had been available when I started. I had to discover its contents the hard way. It nicely illustrates what successful plain vanilla option trading is all about: a sound quantitative approach coupled with a few robust principles. It also should help to dispel the myth surrounding volatility trading: that is an obscure and highly complex field of financial voodoo that only a gifted few have the ability to understand and master.

—FDAXHunter, founding member of nuclearfinance.com

Euan Sinclair provides a unique and valuable insight into the art and science of option trading. With clarity and purpose, he demonstrates how the successful option trader judiciously selects the appropriate quantitative tools for the job—neither too rudimentary nor too complex but just right for each stage of the trading process. I strongly recommend this book to volatility traders and all options who wish to see 'behind the curtain' of option pricing.

—Carl Mason, Chief U.S. Equity Derivatives Strategist, Morgan Stanley

About the Author Euan Sinclair is an option trader with over ten years of experience trading options professionally. He specializes in the design and implementation of quantitative trading strategies. Sinclair is currently a proprietary option trader for Bluefin Trading, where he trades based on quantitative models of his own design. He holds a PhD in theoretical physics from the University of Bristol.