

U Wealth : Your partner in mastering financial instruments.

GUIDE TO UNDERSTANDING ASSET CLASSES : LEVERAGED STRUCTURED PRODUCTS

We want you to feel comfortable making suitable investment decisions based on knowledge of the opportunities and risks of given financial instruments.

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FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS: OPPORTUNITIES AND RISKS

The higher the complexity of a financial instrument, the higher its potential risk – but the higher, too, the opportunities for returns.

WHAT ARE STRUCTURED PRODUCTS?

Structured products are synthetic investment products that usually combine two or more financial instruments, one of them often being an option.

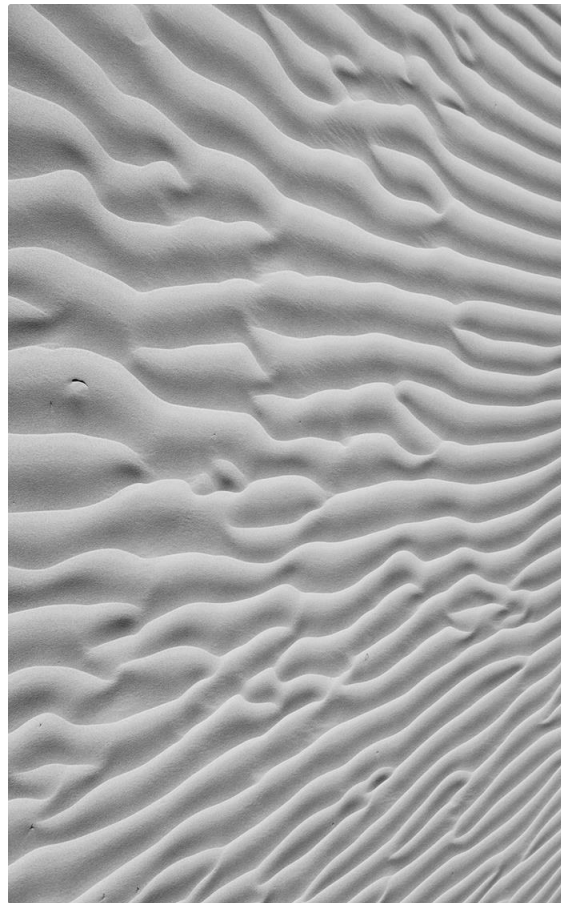
The purpose is to **tailor the risk properties**, which cannot be found in standard financial instruments, in order to suit the specific market expectations and investment objectives of investors.

Structured products can give access to markets not easily covered by other financial instruments.

Structured products are available for a range of risk categories.

This document focuses on principal (capital) protected structured products. Additional explanatory material is available for yield enhancement and participation products (non-principal protected) as well as for leveraged products.

In case of ETP, product could also consist of only one Digital Asset as underlying which is not classified as a financial instrument.



ADVANTAGES/ DISADVANTAGES

ADVANTAGES

- Can be used to reduce risk by adding them to an existing portfolio.
They provide
 - capital protection
 - volatility reduction.
- They cater to market expectations not easily met by other instruments, e.g. sideways movements of markets or low-yield market environments.
- They can offer yield enhancement.
- They have the potential for enhanced returns.
- There is a broad range of assets available.
- They are tailored to investors' expectations.

DISADVANTAGES

- Returns are not easily predictable.
- There can be price uncertainty.
- Because they are tailored, the market may be less liquid.
- Structured products are in most cases unsecured debt, and the credit quality of the issuer (issuer risk) needs to be considered.
- Structured products may be difficult to understand, depending on the product.

The advantages and disadvantages of structured products are highly product-specific.

IMPORTANT RISKS TO CONSIDER

Important risks

- The choice and quality of the issuer are important.
 - Structured products expose the issuer of the product, not the issuer of the underlying, to risks.
 - Structured products are very specific instruments; such liquidity may be less than with other products and depends on the issuer's market making.
- Structured products often include option characteristics: the price of the product does not move in a linear way due to varying pricing factors. Thus, the pay-off profile may only be reached at maturity.
- If the product is quoted in a different currency, the additional currency risk needs to be considered. Specific structured products may hedge this risk (quanto).
- Each structured product has its own risk characteristics and suitability for individual market expectations. It may enhance or limit the market risks to which the underlying asset is subject. The following product categories are important.

Product category	Risk	Short description
Capital protection	 Less risk	A product that guarantees a limitation of the risk of total loss under certain conditions.
Yield enhancement		A product that combines a fixed income product with an option.
Participation		A product that usually carries the full risks of the underlying with/without contingent capital protection.
Leverage		Products that make use of leverage effects to maximise possible returns at the risk of total loss.
Leverage with knock-out		Products that make use of leverage effects to maximise possible returns at the risk of total loss.

A structured product is an individual contract with the issuer of the product. Please refer to the product disclosure statements for detailed information on the rights, obligations, and risks involved in a specific investment.

WHAT TO EXPECT FROM STRUCTURED PRODUCTS

Investment horizon

Short term

Medium term

Long term

Income expectation

Capital gain

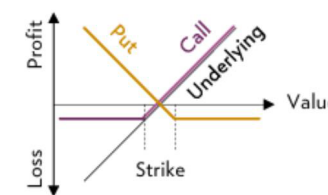
Regular interest

Irregular dividends

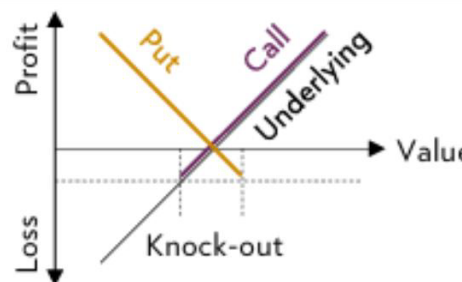
Market expectation

Different product categories cater to different market expectations. See following pages for further details.

IMPORTANT TO KNOW BEFORE INVESTING IN LEVERAGE WITHOUT KNOCK-OUT

Class	Warrant	Leverage without knock-out
Maximum gain	Difference between strike and actual price of underlying asset	Difference between strike and actual price of underlying multiplied by leveraging factor
Maximum loss	Total loss of capital invested	Total loss or up-to-redemption amount in case of a stop-loss limit
Profit/loss	 • Different ratios available • Available for different market expectations (call and put) • Useable for hedging purposes • Constant surveillance of product needed • No short sales possible	 • Early redemption in case stop-loss limit is triggered • Leverage maximises returns at the cost of higher risks
Expectations	Available for both rising and declining value of underlying	Available for both rising and declining value of underlying
Specific risks	Products include leverage. Their price may react in a non-linear way to changes in the market value of the underlying asset.	If the value of the underlying assets falls below the barrier, the loss can theoretically be as high as the capital invested, with the exception of any coupon payment that took place. The price of the product may fall already if the underlying value drops near the barrier without touching it.
Comments	• Behaves similarly to options • The liquidity depends on the liquidity of the underlying	Products using futures as an underlying may suffer from rolling costs

IMPORTANT TO KNOW BEFORE INVESTING IN LEVERAGE WITH KNOCK-OUT

Class	Warrant with knock-out
Maximum gain	Difference between strike and actual value of underlying
Maximum loss	Total loss of capital invested
Profit/loss	 • Different ratios available • Product immediately terminated as worthless when knock-out price is reached • Less influenced by time decay and volatility • No short sales available
Expectations	Available for both rising and declining value of underlying
Specific risks	Products include leverage. Their price may react in a non-linear way to changes in the market value of the underlying asset. • The product may terminate early and becomes worthless even before maturity when knock-out is reached.

A CLOSER LOOK AT EXCHANGE TRADED PRODUCTS (ETP)

WHAT ARE ETP?

ETP are a sub-category of structured products and hence are technically considered as structured products but can also have many elements of fund similar instruments

The main difference is that ETP are listed and traded on exchanges while structured products are mostly traded on primary markets

ETP can be benchmarked to various investments categories, such as commodities, currencies, stocks, bonds or digital assets

	Structured product (SP)	Exchange traded product (ETP)
LEGAL STRUCTURE	• Often unsecured debt obligations of financial institutions	• Legally ETPs are non-interest bearing notes (structured products) • Usually set up via Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)
OWNERSHIP OF UNDERLYING ASSET?	• Debt contract promises return linked to underlying asset; but • SP may be hedged (1:1) or not • Can trade at premium/discount to NAV and has counterparty risk	• Debt contract promises return linked to underlying asset • ETP are typically 100% collateralized
TRADING	• Mostly primary markets (subscription and redemption at NAV) • Secondary trading possible: Issuer makes OTC market	• Market making via Authorized Participants • Analogous to ETF: Trading difference minimized

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON RISKS OR ON OTHER AVAILABLE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS, PLEASE REQUEST TO YOUR RELATIONSHIP MANAGER ON U WEALTH EDUCATIONAL MATERIAL.

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