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## What Do We Learn from Call Provision Terms?

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### Abstract

I investigate the determinants of whether a fixed-price callable corporate bond is callable at par or at a premium. I first show that something as simple as the time-series ratio of par to premium-callable bonds is highly dependent on whether one is using SDC, FISD or Bloomberg as a data source. Using FISD, which has the most comprehensive coverage of no-investment grade debt, I find that par-callable bonds are almost exclusively utilized by financial issuers in shorter term and smaller debt offerings that are often shelf-registered. Controlling for those factors, I find that call premiums are chosen in ways that support agency theoretic, asymmetric information, and tax arbitrage models of optimal call premiums.

**Keywords:** call provision, callable, call premium**JEL Classification:** G32[Suggested Citation](#) >[Show Contact Information](#) >[Download This Paper \(Delivery.cfm/SSRN\\_ID2892589\\_code216294.pdf?abstractid=2892589&mirid=1\)](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID2892589_code216294.pdf?abstractid=2892589&mirid=1)[Open PDF in Browser \(Delivery.cfm/SSRN\\_ID2892589\\_code216294.pdf?abstractid=2892589&mirid=1&type=2\)](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/Delivery.cfm/SSRN_ID2892589_code216294.pdf?abstractid=2892589&mirid=1&type=2)

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