Sequential Tranche Paydown

- In the sequential tranche paydown structure, Class A receives principal paydown and prepayments before Class B, which in turn does it before Class C, and so on.
- Each tranche thus has a different effective maturity.
- Each tranche may even have a different coupon rate.

An Example

- Consider a two-tranche sequential-pay CMO backed by \$1,000,000 of mortgages with a 12% coupon and 6 months to maturity.
- The cash flow pattern for each tranche with zero prepayment and zero servicing fee is shown on p. 1142.
- The calculation can be carried out first for the **Total** columns, which make up the amortization schedule.
- Then the cash flow is allocated.
- Tranche A is retired after 4 months, and tranche B starts principal paydown at the end of month 4.

CMO Cash Flows without Prepayments

	-									
Month	Interest			Principal			Remaining principal			
	А	В	Total	A	В	Total	A		В	Tot
							500,000	50	0,000	1,000,
1	5,000	5,000	10,000	$162,\!548$	0	$162,\!548$	$337,\!452$	50	0,000	837,
2	3,375	5,000	8,375	$164,\!173$	0	$164,\!173$	$173,\!279$	50	0,000	673,
3	1,733	5,000	6,733	165,815	0	$165,\!815$	7,464	50	0,000	507,
4	75	5,000	5,075	7,464	160,009	$167,\!473$	0	33	9,991	339,
5	0	3,400	3,400	0	$169,\!148$	$169,\!148$	0	17	0,843	170,
6	0	1,708	1,708	0	$170,\!843$	$170,\!843$	0		0	
Total	10,183	25,108	$35,\!291$	500,000	500,000	1,000,000				

The total monthly payment is 172,548. Month-*i* numbers reflect the *i*th monthly payment.

Another Example

- When prepayments are present, the calculation is only slightly more complex.
- Suppose the single monthly mortality (SMM) per month is 5%.
- This means the prepayment amount is 5% of the *remaining* principal.
- The remaining principal at month *i after* prepayment then equals the scheduled remaining principal as computed by Eq. (7) on p. 46 times $(0.95)^i$.
- This done for all the months, the total interest payment at any month is the remaining principal of the previous month times 1%.

Another Example (continued)

- The prepayment amount equals the remaining principal times 0.05/0.95.
 - The division by 0.95 yields the remaining principal before prepayment.
- Page 1146 tabulates the cash flows of the same two-tranche CMO under 5% SMM.
- For instance, the total principal payment at month one, \$204,421, can be verified as follows.

Another Example (concluded)

- The scheduled remaining principal is \$837,452 from p. 1142.
- The remaining principal is hence $837452 \times 0.95 = 795579$, which makes the total principal payment 1000000 - 795579 = 204421.
- As tranche A's remaining principal is \$500,000, all 204,421 dollars go to tranche A.

- Incidentally, the prepayment is $837452 \times 5\% = 41873$.

• Tranche A is retired after 3 months, and tranche B starts principal paydown at the end of month 3.

CMO Cash Flows with Prepayments

Month	Interest			Principal			Remain ng principal			
	А	В	Total	А	В	Total	А	E		Tota
							500,000	500	,000	1,000,0
1	5,000	5,000	10,000	$204,\!421$	0	$204,\!421$	$295,\!579$	500	,000	795,5
2	2,956	5,000	$7,\!956$	$187,\!946$	0	$187,\!946$	$107,\!633$	500	,000	607,6
3	$1,\!076$	5,000	6,076	$107,\!633$	64,915	$172,\!548$	0	435	,085	435,0
4	0	4,351	4,351	0	158,163	158, 163	0	276	,922	276,9
5	0	2,769	2,769	0	144,730	144,730	0	132	,192	132,1
6	0	1,322	1,322	0	$132,\!192$	$132,\!192$	0		0	
Total	9,032	$23,\!442$	32,474	500,000	500,000	1,000,000				

Month-i numbers reflect the *i*th monthly payment.

Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities (SMBSs)^a

- The principal and interest are divided between the PO strip and the IO strip.
- In the scenarios on p. 1141 and p. 1143:
 - The IO strip receives all the interest payments under the Interest/Total column.
 - The PO strip receives all the principal payments under the Principal/Total column.

^aThey were created in February 1987 when Fannie Mae issued its Trust 1 stripped MBS.

Stripped Mortgage-Backed Securities (SMBSs) (concluded)

- These new instruments allow investors to better exploit anticipated changes in interest rates.^a
- The collateral for an SMBS is a pass-through.
- CMOs and SMBSs are usually called derivative MBSs.

^aSee p. 357 of the textbook.

Prepayments

- The prepayment option sets MBSs apart from other fixed-income securities.
- The exercise of options on most securities is expected to be "rational."
- This kind of "rationality" is weakened when it comes to the homeowner's decision to prepay.
- For example, even when the prevailing mortgage rate exceeds the mortgage's loan rate, some loans are prepaid.

Prepayment Risk

- Prepayment risk is the uncertainty in the amount and timing of the principal prepayments in the pool of mortgages that collateralize the security.
- This risk can be divided into contraction risk and extension risk.
- Contraction risk is the risk of having to reinvest the prepayments at a rate lower than the coupon rate when interest rates decline.
- Extension risk is due to the slowdown of prepayments when interest rates climb, making the investor earn the security's lower coupon rate rather than the market's higher rate.

Prepayment Risk (concluded)

- Prepayments can be in whole or in part.
 - The former is called liquidation.
 - The latter is called curtailment.
- The holder of a pass-through security is exposed to the total prepayment risk associated with the underlying pool of mortgage loans.
- The CMO is designed to alter the distribution of that risk among the investors.

Other Risks

- Investors in mortgages are exposed to at least three other risks.
 - Interest rate risk is inherent in any fixed-income security.
 - Credit risk is the risk of loss from default.
 - * For privately insured mortgage, the risk is related to the credit rating of the company that insures the mortgage.
 - Liquidity risk is the risk of loss if the investment must be sold quickly.

Prepayment: Causes

Prepayments have at least five components.

Home sale ("housing turnover"). The sale of a home generally leads to the prepayment of mortgage because of the full payment of the remaining principal.

Refinancing. Mortgagors can refinance their home mortgage at a lower mortgage rate. This is the most volatile component of prepayment and constitutes the bulk of it when prepayments are extremely high.

Prepayment: Causes (concluded)

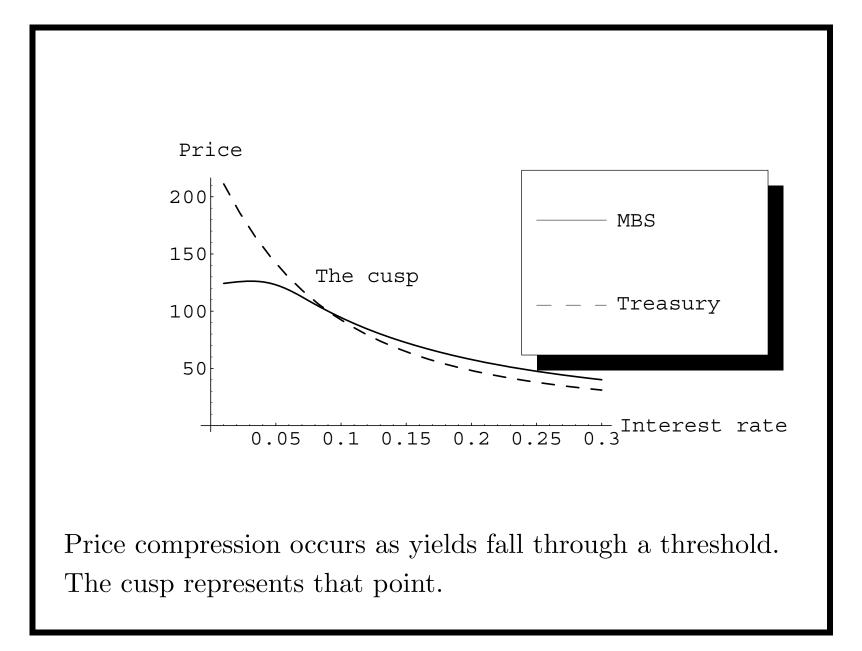
- **Default.** Caused by foreclosure and subsequent liquidation of a mortgage. Relatively minor in most cases.
- **Curtailment.** As the extra payment above the scheduled payment, curtailment applies to the principal and shortens the maturity of fixed-rate loans. Its contribution to prepayments is minor.
- Full payoff (liquidation). There is evidence that many mortgagors pay off their mortgage completely when it is very seasoned and the remaining balance is small. Full payoff can also be due to natural disasters.

Prepayment: Characteristics

- Prepayments usually increase as the mortgage ages first at an increasing rate and then at a decreasing rate.
- They are higher in the spring and summer and lower in the fall and winter.
- They vary by the geographic locations of the underlying properties.
- They increase when interest rates drop but with a time lag.

Prepayment: Characteristics (continued)

- If prepayments were higher for some time because of high refinancing rates, they tend to slow down.
 - Perhaps, homeowners who do not prepay when rates have been low for a prolonged time tend never to prepay.
- Plot on p. 1157 illustrates the typical price/yield curves of the Treasury and pass-through.



Prepayment: Characteristics (concluded)

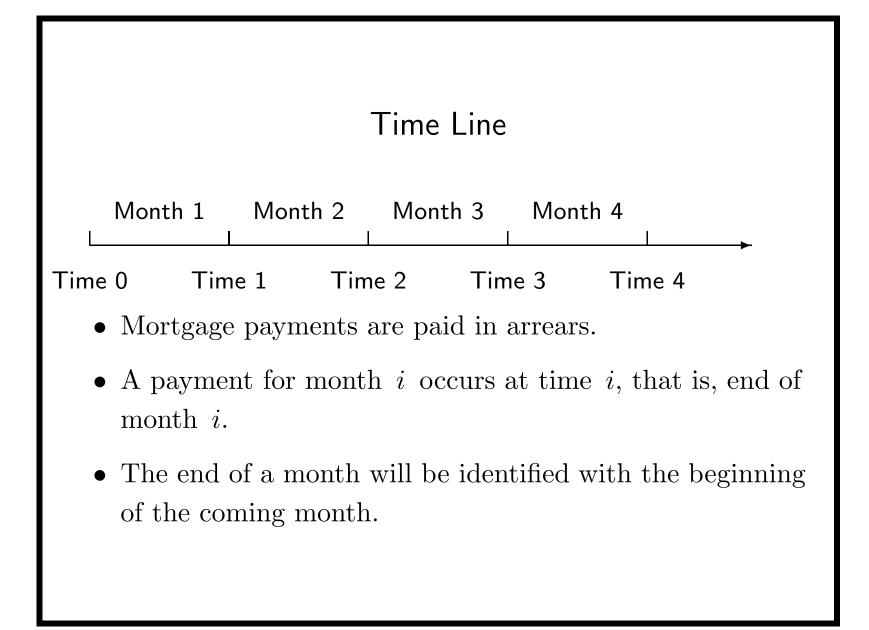
- As yields fall and the pass-through's price moves above a certain price, it flattens and then follows a downward slope.
- This phenomenon is called the price compression of premium-priced MBSs.
- It demonstrates the negative convexity of such securities.

Analysis of Mortgage-Backed Securities

Oh, well, if you cannot measure, measure anyhow. — Frank H. Knight (1885–1972)

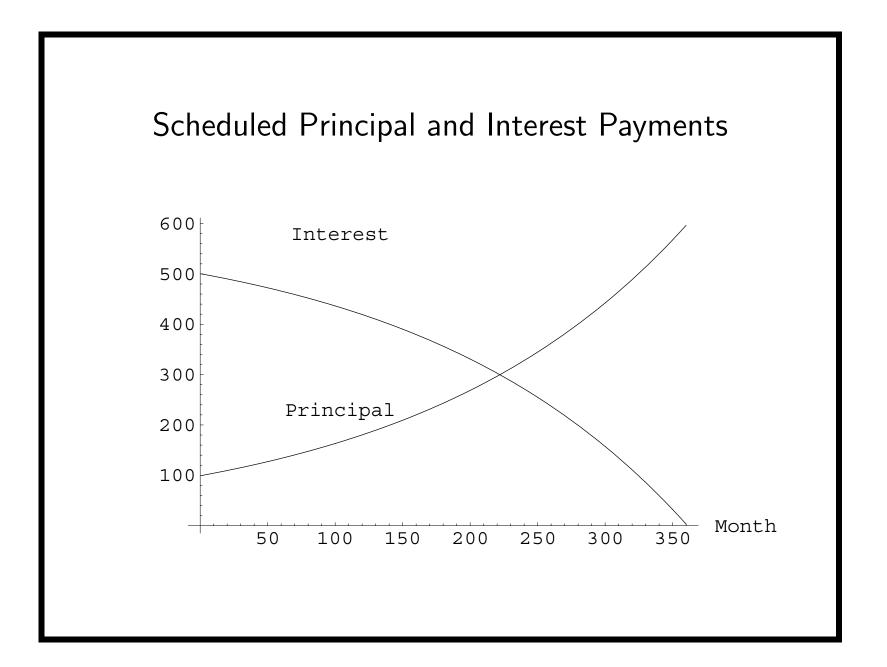
Uniqueness of MBS

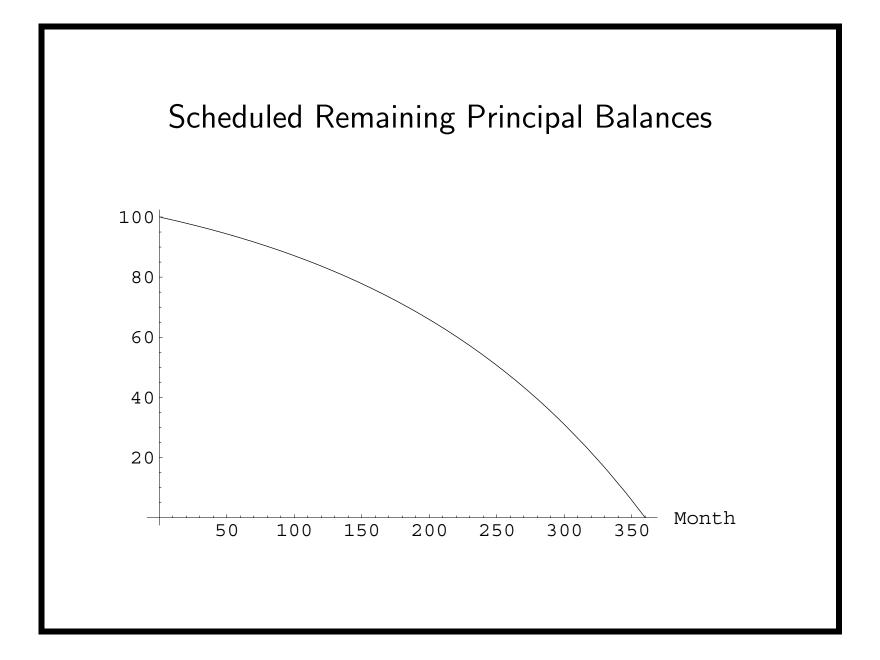
- Compared with other fixed-income securities, the MBS is unique in two respects.
- Its cash flow consists of principal and interest (P&I).
- The cash flow may vary because of prepayments in the underlying mortgages.



Cash Flow Analysis

- A traditional mortgage has a fixed term, a fixed interest rate, and a fixed monthly payment.
- Page 1164 illustrates the scheduled P&I for a 30-year, 6% mortgage with an initial balance of \$100,000.
- Page 1165 depicts how the remaining principal balance decreases over time.





- In the early years, the P&I consists mostly of interest.
- Then it gradually shifts toward principal payment with the passage of time.
- However, the total P&I payment remains the same each month, hence the term *level* pay.
- In the absence of prepayments and servicing fees, identical characteristics hold for the pool's P&I payments.

• From Eq. (7) on p. 46 the remaining principal balance after the *k*th payment is

$$C \, \frac{1 - \left(1 + r/m\right)^{-n+k}}{r/m}.\tag{148}$$

- -C is the scheduled P&I payment of an *n*-month mortgage making *m* payments per year.^a
- -r is the annual mortgage rate.
- For mortgages, m = 12.

^aSee Eq. (6) on p. 38.

• The scheduled remaining principal balance after k payments can be expressed as a portion of the original principal balance:

$$Bal_{k} \equiv 1 - \frac{(1+r/m)^{k} - 1}{(1+r/m)^{n} - 1}$$
$$= \frac{(1+r/m)^{n} - (1+r/m)^{k}}{(1+r/m)^{n} - 1}. \quad (149)$$

This equation can be verified by dividing Eq. (148)
(p. 1167) by the same equation with k = 0.

• The remaining principal balance after k payments is

 $\operatorname{RB}_k \equiv \mathcal{O} \times \operatorname{Bal}_k,$

where \mathcal{O} will denote the original principal balance.

- The term factor denotes the portion of the remaining principal balance to its original principal balance.
- So Bal_k is the monthly factor when there are no prepayments.
- It is also known as the amortization factor.

Cash Flow Analysis (concluded)

• When the idea of factor is applied to a mortgage pool, it is called the paydown factor on the pool or simply the pool factor.

An Example

• The remaining balance of a 15-year mortgage with a 9% mortgage rate after 54 months is

$$\mathcal{O} \times \frac{(1 + (0.09/12))^{180} - (1 + (0.09/12))^{54}}{(1 + (0.09/12))^{180} - 1}$$

= $\mathcal{O} \times 0.824866.$

• In other words, roughly 82.49% of the original loan amount remains after 54 months.

P&I Analysis

• By the amortization principle, the *t*th interest payment equals

$$I_t \equiv \text{RB}_{t-1} \times \frac{r}{m} = \mathcal{O} \times \frac{r}{m} \times \frac{(1+r/m)^n - (1+r/m)^{t-1}}{(1+r/m)^n - 1}.$$

• The principal part of the *t*th monthly payment is

$$P_{t} \equiv RB_{t-1} - RB_{t}$$

= $\mathcal{O} \times \frac{(r/m)(1 + r/m)^{t-1}}{(1 + r/m)^{n} - 1}.$ (150)

P&I Analysis (concluded)

• The scheduled P&I payment at month t, or $P_t + I_t$, is

$$(\operatorname{RB}_{t-1} - \operatorname{RB}_{t}) + \operatorname{RB}_{t-1} \times \frac{r}{m}$$
$$= \mathcal{O} \times \left[\frac{(r/m)(1+r/m)^{n}}{(1+r/m)^{n}-1} \right], \qquad (151)$$

indeed a level pay independent of t.^a

- The term within the brackets is called the payment factor or annuity factor.
- It is the monthly payment for each dollar of mortgage.

^aThis formula is identical to Eq. (6) on p. 38.

An Example

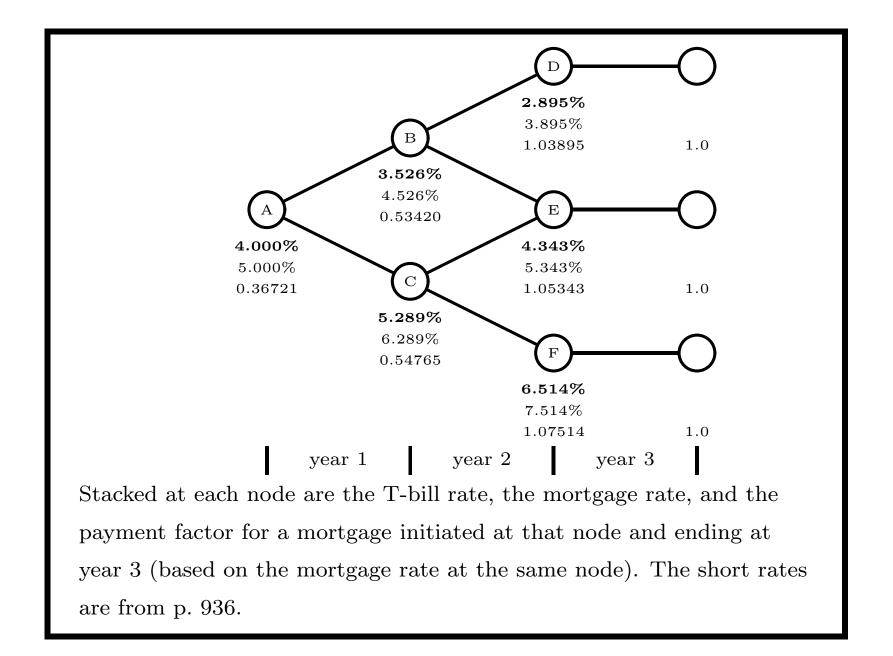
• The mortgage on pp. 40ff has a monthly payment of $250000 \times \frac{(0.08/12) \times (1 + (0.08/12))^{180}}{(1 + (0.08/12))^{180} - 1} = 2389.13$

by Eq. (151) on p. 1173.

• This number agrees with the number derived earlier on p. 40.

Pricing Adjustable-Rate Mortgages

- We turn to ARM pricing as an interesting application of derivatives pricing and the analysis above.
- Consider a 3-year ARM with an interest rate that is 1% above the 1-year T-bill rate at the beginning of the year.
- This 1% is called the margin.
- Assume this ARM carries annual, not monthly, payments.
- The T-bill rates follow the binomial process, in boldface, on p. 1176, and the risk-neutral probability is 0.5.



- How much is the ARM worth to the issuer?
- Each new coupon rate at the reset date determines the level mortgage payment for the months until the next reset date as if the ARM were a fixed-rate loan with the new coupon rate and a maturity equal to that of the ARM.
- For example, for the interest rate tree on p. 1176, the scenario A → B → E will leave our three-year ARM with a remaining principal at the end of the second year different from that under the scenario A → C → E.

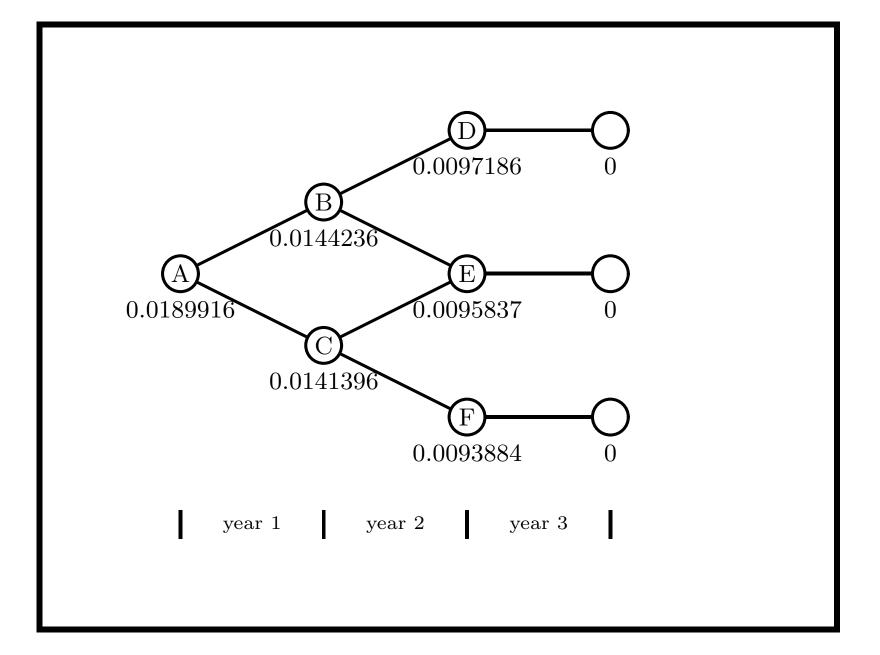
- This path dependency calls for care in algorithmic design to avoid exponential complexity.
- Attach to each node on the binomial tree the annual payment per \$1 of principal for a mortgage initiated at that node and ending at year 3.

– In other words, the payment factor.

• At node B, for example, the annual payment factor can be calculated by Eq. (151) on p. 1173 with r = 0.04526, m = 1, and n = 2 as

$$\frac{0.04526 \times (1.04526)^2}{(1.04526)^2 - 1} = 0.53420.$$

- The payment factors for other nodes on p. 1176 are calculated in the same manner.
- We now apply backward induction to price the ARM (see p. 1180).
- At each node on the tree, the *net* value of an ARM of value \$1 initiated at that node and ending at the end of the third year is calculated.
- For example, the value is zero at terminal nodes since the ARM is immediately repaid.



• At node D, the value is

$$\frac{1.03895}{1.02895} - 1 = 0.0097186,$$

which is simply the net present value of the payment 1.03895 next year.

– Recall that the issuer makes a loan of \$1 at D.

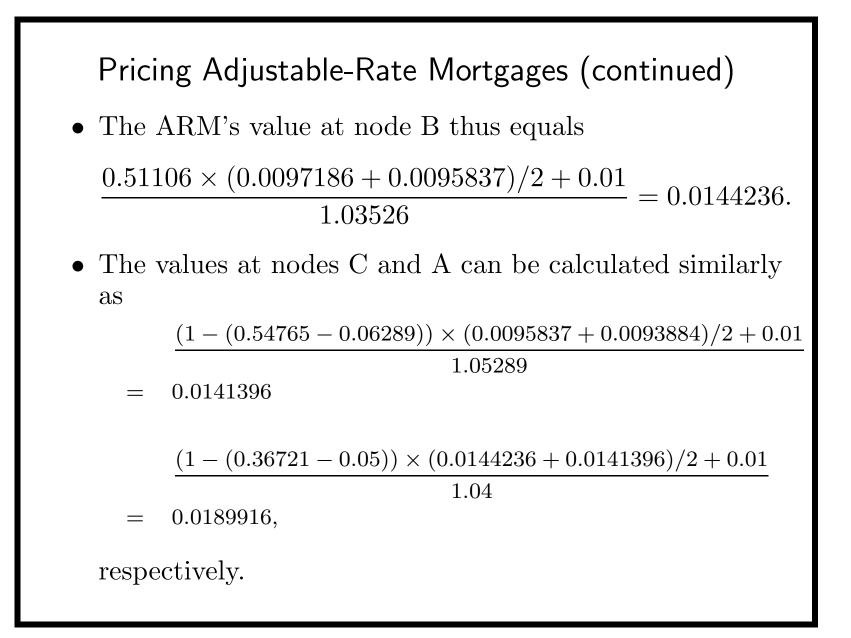
• The values at nodes E and F can be computed similarly.

• At node B, we first figure out the remaining principal balance after the payment one year hence as

1 - (0.53420 - 0.04526) = 0.51106,

because \$0.04526 of the payment of \$0.53426 constitutes the interest.

• The issuer will receive \$0.01 above the T-bill rate next year, and the value of the ARM is either \$0.0097186 or \$0.0095837 per \$1, each with probability 0.5.



- The value of the ARM to the issuer is hence \$0.0189916 per \$1 of loan amount.
- The above idea of scaling has wide applicability in pricing certain classes of path-dependent securities.^a

^aFor example, newly issued lookback options.

More on ARMs

- ARMs are indexed to publicly available indices such as:
 LIBOR.
 - The constant maturity Treasury rate (CMT).
 - The Cost of Funds Index (COFI).
- COFI is based on an average cost of funds.
- So it moves relatively sluggishly compared with LIBOR.
- Since 1990, the need for securitization gradually shift in LIBOR's favor.^a

^aMorgenson (2012). The LIBOR rate-fixing scandal broke in June 2012. A sample email on August 20, 2007: "ok, i will move the curve down 1bp maybe more if I can".

More on ARMs (continued)

- If the ARM coupon reflects fully and instantaneously current market rates, then the ARM security will be priced close to par and refinancings rarely occur.
- In reality, adjustments are imperfect in many ways.
- At the reset date, a margin is added to the benchmark index to determine the new coupon.

More on ARMs (concluded)

- ARMs often have periodic rate caps that limit the amount by which the coupon rate may increase or decrease at the reset date.
- They also have lifetime caps and floors.
- To attract borrowers, mortgage lenders usually offer a below-market initial rate (the "teaser" rate).
- The reset interval, the time period between adjustments in the ARM coupon rate, is often annual, which is not frequent enough.
- These terms are easy to incorporate into the pricing algorithm.

Expressing Prepayment Speeds

- The cash flow of a mortgage derivative is determined from that of the mortgage pool.
- The single most important factor complicating this endeavor is the unpredictability of prepayments.
- Recall that prepayment represents the principal payment made in excess of the scheduled principal amortization.

Expressing Prepayment Speeds (concluded)

- Compare the amortization factor Bal_t of the pool with the reported factor to determine if prepayments have occurred.
- The amount by which the reported factor is exceeded by the amortization factor is the prepayment amount.

Single Monthly Mortality

- A SMM of ω means ω% of the scheduled remaining balance at the end of the month will prepay (recall p. 1143).
- In other words, the SMM is the percentage of the remaining balance that prepays for the month.
- Suppose the remaining principal balance of an MBS at the beginning of a month is \$50,000, the SMM is 0.5%, and the scheduled principal payment is \$70.
- Then the prepayment for the month is

```
0.005 \times (50,000 - 70) \approx 250
```

dollars.

Single Monthly Mortality (concluded)

• If the same monthly prepayment speed s is maintained since the issuance of the pool, the remaining principal balance at month i will be

$$\operatorname{RB}_{i} \times \left(1 - \frac{s}{100}\right)^{i}.$$
 (152)

• It goes without saying that prepayment speeds must lie between 0% and 100%.

An Example

- Take the mortgage on p. 1171.
- Its amortization factor at the 54th month is 0.824866.
- If the actual factor is 0.8, then the (implied) SMM for the initial period of 54 months is

$$100 \times \left[1 - \left(\frac{0.8}{0.824866} \right)^{1/54} \right] = 0.05666677\%.$$

• In other words, roughly 0.057% of the remaining principal is prepaid per month.

Conditional Prepayment Rate

• The conditional prepayment rate (CPR) is the annualized equivalent of a SMM,

$$CPR = 100 \times \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{SMM}{100} \right)^{12} \right].$$

• Conversely,

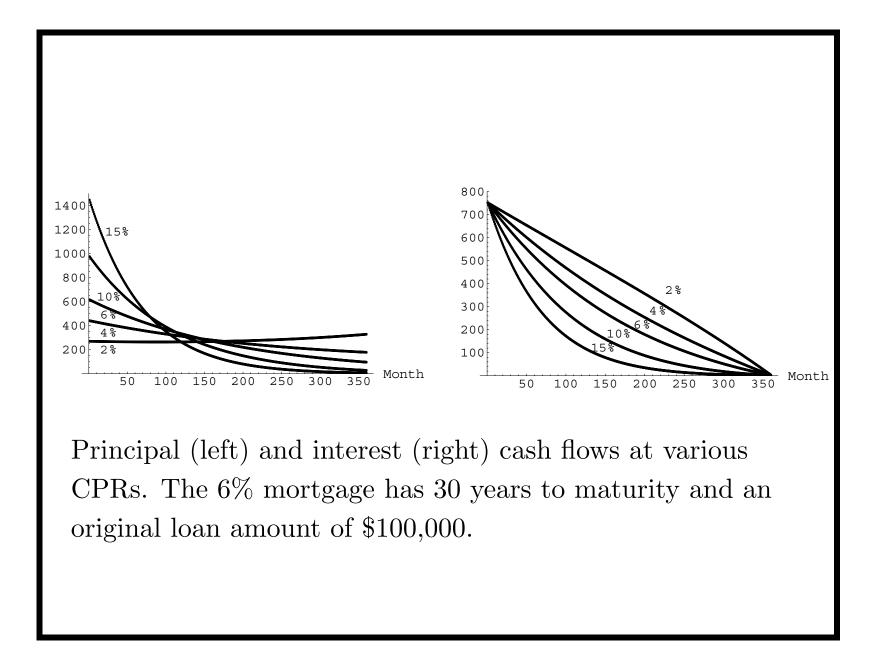
$$\mathrm{SMM} = 100 \times \left[1 - \left(1 - \frac{\mathrm{CPR}}{100} \right)^{1/12} \right]$$

Conditional Prepayment Rate (concluded)

• For example, the SMM of 0.0566677 on p. 1192 is equivalent to a CPR of

$$100 \times \left[1 - \left(1 - \left(\frac{0.0566677}{100}\right)^{12}\right)\right] = 0.677897\%.$$

- Roughly 0.68% of the remaining principal is prepaid annually.
- The figures on 1195 plot the principal and interest cash flows under various prepayment speeds.
- Observe that with accelerated prepayments, the principal cash flow is shifted forward in time.

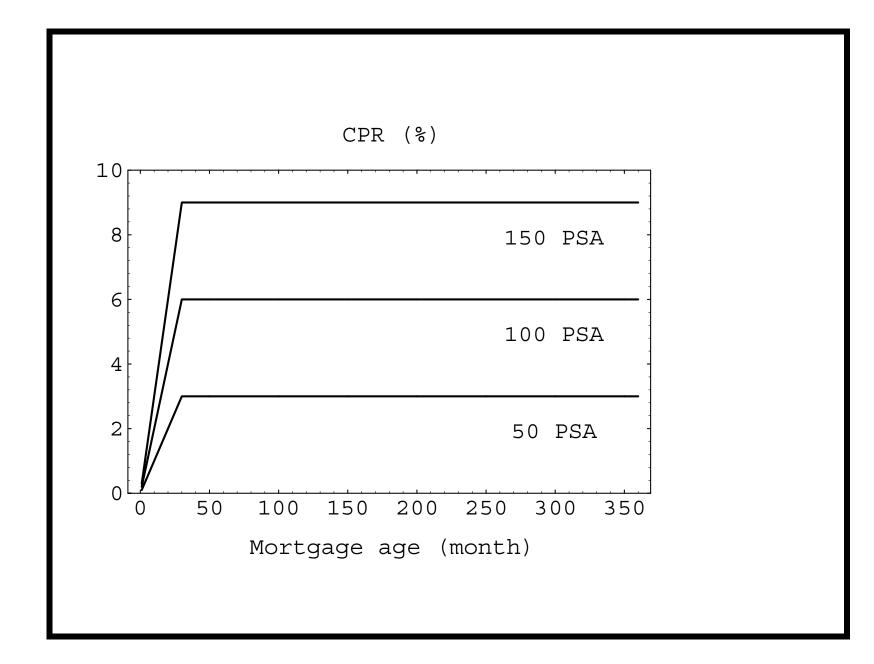


PSA

- In 1985 the Public Securities Association (PSA) standardized a prepayment model.
- The PSA standard is expressed as a monthly series of CPRs.
 - It reflects the increase in CPR that occurs as the pool seasons.
- At the time the PSA proposed its standard, a seasoned 30-year GNMA's typical prepayment speed was ~ 6% CPR.

PSA (continued)

- The PSA standard postulates the following prepayment speeds:
 - The CPR is 0.2% for the first month.
 - It increases thereafter by 0.2% per month until it reaches 6% per year for the 30th month.
 - It then stays at 6% for the remaining years.
- The PSA benchmark is also referred to as 100 PSA.
- Other speeds are expressed as some percentage of PSA.
 - 50 PSA means one-half the PSA CPRs.
 - 150 PSA means one-and-a-half the PSA CPRs.



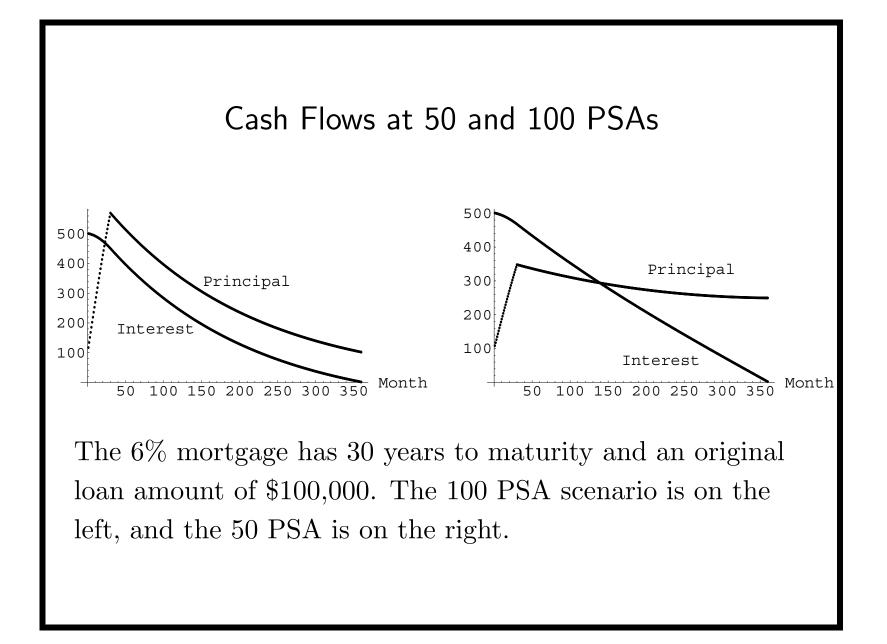
PSA (concluded)

• Mathematically,

 $CPR = \begin{cases} 6\% \times \frac{PSA}{100} & \text{if the pool age exceeds 30 months} \\ 0.2\% \times m \times \frac{PSA}{100} & \text{if the pool age } m \le 30 \text{ months} \end{cases}$

• Conversely,

 $PSA = \begin{cases} 100 \times \frac{CPR}{6} & \text{if the pool age exceeds 30 months} \\ 100 \times \frac{CPR}{0.2 \times m} & \text{if the pool age } m \le 30 \text{ months} \end{cases}$



Prepayment Vector

- The PSA tries to capture how prepayments vary with age.
- But it should be viewed as a market convention rather than a model.
- A vector of PSAs generated by a prepayment model should be used to describe the monthly prepayment speed through time.
- The monthly cash flows can be derived thereof.

Prepayment Vector (continued)

- Similarly, the CPR should be seen purely as a measure of speed rather than a model.
- If one treats a single CPR number as the true prepayment speed, that number will be called the constant prepayment rate.
- This simple model crashes with the empirical fact that pools with new production loans typically prepay at a slower rate than seasoned pools.
- A vector of CPRs should be preferred.

Prepayment Vector (concluded)

- A CPR/SMM vector is easier to work with than a PSA vector because of the lack of dependence on the pool age.
- But they are all equivalent as a CPR vector can always be converted into an equivalent PSA vector and vice versa.

Cash Flow Generation

- Each cash flow is composed of the principal payment, the interest payment, and the principal prepayment.
- Let B_k denote the actual remaining principal balance at month k.
- The pool's actual remaining principal balance at time i-1 is B_{i-1} .

• The scheduled principal and interest payments at time i are

$$\overline{P_i} \equiv B_{i-1} \left(\frac{\operatorname{Bal}_{i-1} - \operatorname{Bal}_i}{\operatorname{Bal}_{i-1}} \right)$$
(153)

$$= B_{i-1} \frac{r/m}{\left(1 + r/m\right)^{n-i+1} - 1}$$
(154)

$$\overline{I_i} \equiv B_{i-1} \frac{r-\alpha}{m} \tag{155}$$

 $-\alpha$ is the servicing spread (or servicing fee rate), which consists of the servicing fee for the servicer as well as the guarantee fee.

• The prepayment at time i is

$$PP_i = B_{i-1} \frac{Bal_i}{Bal_{i-1}} \times SMM_i.$$

- SMM_i is the prepayment speed for month *i*.

• If the total principal payment from the pool is $\overline{P_i} + PP_i$, the remaining principal balance is

$$B_{i} = B_{i-1} - \overline{P_{i}} - PP_{i}$$

$$= B_{i-1} \left[1 - \left(\frac{Bal_{i-1} - Bal_{i}}{Bal_{i-1}} \right) - \frac{Bal_{i}}{Bal_{i-1}} \times SMM_{i} \right]$$

$$= \frac{B_{i-1} \times Bal_{i} \times (1 - SMM_{i})}{Bal_{i-1}}.$$
(156)

• Equation (156) can be applied iteratively to yield^a

$$B_i = \operatorname{RB}_i \times \prod_{j=1}^i (1 - \operatorname{SMM}_j).$$
(157)

– The above formula generalizes Eq. (152) on p. 1191.

• Define

$$b_i \equiv \prod_{j=1}^i (1 - \mathrm{SMM}_j).$$

^aRB_i is defined on p. 1169.

- $I'_i \equiv \operatorname{RB}_{i-1} \times (r \alpha)/m$ is the scheduled interest payment.
- The scheduled P&I is^a

$$\overline{P_i} = b_{i-1}P_i$$
 and $\overline{I_i} = b_{i-1}I'_i$. (158)

• The scheduled cash flow and the b_i determined by the prepayment vector are all that are needed to calculate the projected actual cash flows.

^a P_i and I_i are defined on p. 1172.

If the servicing fees do not exist (that is, α = 0), the projected monthly payment *before* prepayment at month *i* becomes

$$\overline{P_i} + \overline{I_i} = b_{i-1}(P_i + I_i) = b_{i-1}C.$$
(159)

- C is the scheduled monthly payment on the original principal.^a
- See Figure 29.10 in the text for a linear-time algorithm for generating the mortgage pool's cash flow.

^aSee Eq. (151) on p. 1173.

