Day Count Conventions: Actual/Actual

- The first "actual" refers to the actual number of days in a month.
- The second refers to the actual number of days in a coupon period.
- The number of days between June 17, 1992, and October 1, 1992, is 106.
  - 13 days in June, 31 days in July, 31 days in August, 30 days in September, and 1 day in October.

Day Count Conventions: 30/360

- Each month has 30 days and each year 360 days.
- The number of days between June 17, 1992, and October 1, 1992, is 104.
  - 13 days in June, 30 days in July, 30 days in August, 30 days in September, and 1 day in October.
- In general, the number of days from date $D_1 \equiv (y_1, m_1, d_1)$ to date $D_2 \equiv (y_2, m_2, d_2)$ is

$$360 \times (y_2 - y_1) + 30 \times (m_2 - m_1) + (d_2 - d_1)$$

- But if d_1 or d_2 is 31, we need to change it to 30 before applying the above formula.

Day Count Conventions: 30/360 (concluded)

- An equivalent formula without any adjustment is (check it)

$$360 \times (y_2 - y_1) + 30 \times (m_2 - m_1 - 1)$$
$$+ \max(30 - d_1, 0) + \min(d_2, 30).$$

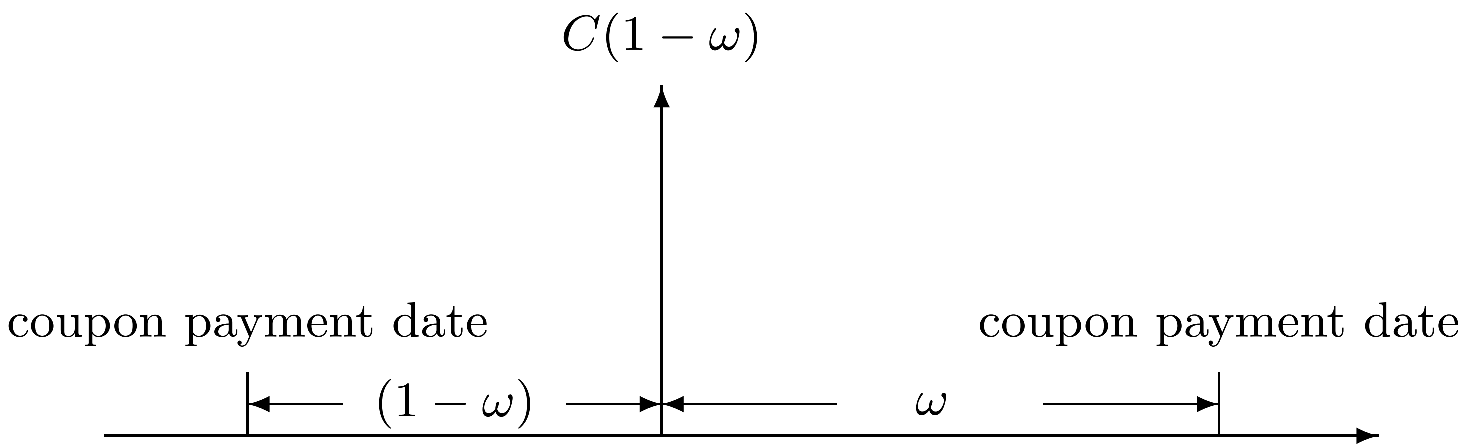
- Many variations regarding 31, Feb 28, and Feb 29.

Full Price (Dirty Price, Invoice Price)

- In reality, the settlement date may fall on any day between two coupon payment dates.
- Let

$$\omega \equiv \frac{\begin{array}{c}\text{number of days between the settlement}\\ \text{and the next coupon payment date}\end{array}}{\text{number of days in the coupon period}}. \tag{11}$$

Full Price (continued)



Full Price (concluded)

- The price is now calculated by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{PV} &= \frac{C}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega}} + \frac{C}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega+1}} \cdots \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{C}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega+i}} + \frac{F}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega+n-1}}. \qquad (12) \end{aligned}$$

Accrued Interest

- The quoted price in the U.S./U.K. does not include the accrued interest; it is called the clean price or flat price.
- The buyer pays the invoice price: the quoted price *plus* the accrued interest (AI).
- The accrued interest equals

$$C \times \frac{\begin{array}{c}\text{number of days from the last}\\ \text{coupon payment to the settlement date}\end{array}}{\text{number of days in the coupon period}} = C \times (1 - \omega).$$

Accrued Interest (concluded)

- The yield to maturity is the r satisfying Eq. (12) on p. 76 when PV is the invoice price:

$$\text{clean price} + \text{AI} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \frac{C}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega+i}} + \frac{F}{\left(1+\frac{r}{m}\right)^{\omega+n-1}}.$$

Example (“30/360”)

- A bond with a 10% coupon rate and paying interest semiannually, with clean price 111.2891.
- The maturity date is March 1, 1995, and the settlement date is July 1, 1993.
- There are 60 days between July 1, 1993, and the next coupon date, September 1, 1993.
- The accrued interest is $(10/2) \times (1 - \frac{60}{180}) = 3.3333$ per \$100 of par value.

Example ("30/360") (concluded)

- The yield to maturity is 3%.
- This can be verified by Eq. (12) on p. 76 with
  - $\omega = 60/180$,
  - $n = 4$,
  - $m = 2$,
  - $F = 100$,
  - $C = 5$,
  - PV$= 111.2891 + 3.3333$,
  - $r = 0.03$.

Price Behavior (2) Revisited

- Before: A bond selling at par if the yield to maturity equals the coupon rate.
- But it assumed that the settlement date is on a coupon payment date.
- Now suppose the settlement date for a bond selling at par (i.e., the *quoted price* is equal to the par value) falls between two coupon payment dates.
- Then its yield to maturity is less than the coupon rate.
  - The short reason: Exponential growth to C is replaced by linear growth, hence "overpaying."

Bond Price Volatility

“Well, Beethoven, what is this?”
— Attributed to Prince Anton Esterházy

Price Volatility

- Volatility measures how bond prices respond to interest rate changes.
- It is key to the risk management of interest rate-sensitive securities.

Price Volatility (concluded)

- What is the sensitivity of the percentage price change to changes in interest rates?
- Define price volatility by

$$-\frac{\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}}{P}. \tag{13}$$

Price Volatility of Bonds

- The price volatility of a level-coupon bond is

$$-\frac{(C/y)\, n - \left(C/y^2\right)\left((1+y)^{n+1} - (1+y)\right) - nF}{(C/y)\left((1+y)^{n+1} - (1+y)\right) + F(1+y)}.$$

  - F is the par value.
  - C is the coupon payment per period.
  - Formula can be simplified a bit with $C = Fc/m$.

- For bonds without embedded options,

$$-\frac{\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}}{P} > 0.$$

- What is the volatility of the bond in Eq. (12) on p. 76?

Macaulay Duration[a]

- The Macaulay duration (MD) is a weighted average of the times to an asset's cash flows.
- The weights are the cash flows' PVs divided by the asset's price.
- Formally,

$$\text{MD} \equiv \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^{n} i \, \frac{C_i}{(1+y)^i}.$$

- The Macaulay duration, in periods, is equal to

$$\text{MD} = -(1+y) \, \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \frac{1}{P}. \tag{14}$$

[a]Macaulay (1938).

MD of Bonds

- The MD of a level-coupon bond is

$$\text{MD} = \frac{1}{P}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{iC}{(1+y)^i} + \frac{nF}{(1+y)^n}\right]. \tag{15}$$

- It can be simplified to

$$\text{MD} = \frac{c(1+y)\left[(1+y)^n - 1\right] + ny(y-c)}{cy\left[(1+y)^n - 1\right] + y^2},$$

  where c is the period coupon rate.

- The MD of a zero-coupon bond equals n, its term to maturity.

- The MD of a level-coupon bond is less than n.

Remarks

- Equations (14) on p. 87 and (15) on p. 88 hold only if the coupon C, the par value F, and the maturity n are all independent of the yield y.
  - That is, if the cash flow is independent of yields.
- To see this point, suppose the market yield declines.
- The MD will be lengthened.
- But for securities whose maturity actually decreases as a result, the price volatility[a] may decrease.

---

[a] As originally defined in Eq. (13) on p. 85.

How Not To Think about MD

- The MD has its origin in measuring the length of time a bond investment is outstanding.
- But it should be seen mainly as measuring *price volatility*.
- Many, if not most, duration-related terminology cannot be comprehended otherwise.

Conversion

- For the MD to be year-based, modify Eq. (15) on p. 88 to
$$\frac{1}{P}\left[\sum_{i=1}^{n}\frac{i}{k}\,\frac{C}{\left(1+\frac{y}{k}\right)^{i}}+\frac{n}{k}\,\frac{F}{\left(1+\frac{y}{k}\right)^{n}}\right],$$
where y is the *annual* yield and k is the compounding frequency per annum.

- Equation (14) on p. 87 also becomes
$$\text{MD}=-\left(1+\frac{y}{k}\right)\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\frac{1}{P}.$$

- By definition, MD (in years) $=\dfrac{\text{MD (in periods)}}{k}$.

Modified Duration

- Modified duration is defined as

$$\text{modified duration} \equiv -\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\frac{1}{P} = \frac{\text{MD}}{(1+y)}. \tag{16}$$

- By the Taylor expansion,

$$\text{percent price change} \approx -\text{modified duration} \times \text{yield change}.$$

Example

- Consider a bond whose modified duration is 11.54 with a yield of 10%.
- If the yield increases instantaneously from 10% to 10.1%, the approximate percentage price change will be

$$-11.54 \times 0.001 = -0.01154 = -1.154\%.$$

Modified Duration of a Portfolio

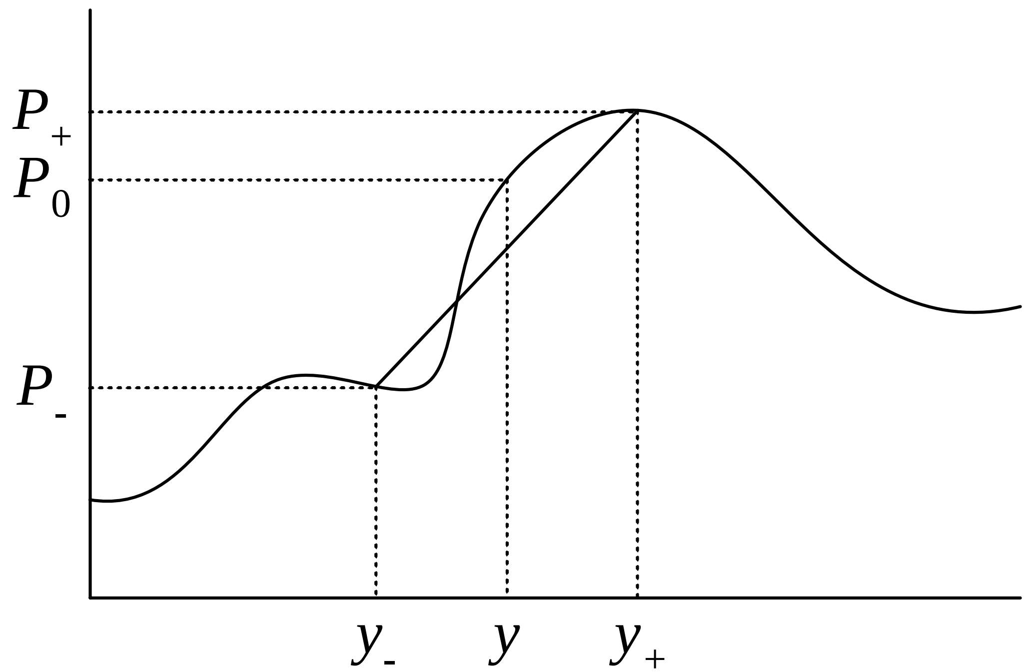
- The modified duration of a portfolio equals
$$\sum_i \omega_i D_i.$$
  - D_i is the modified duration of the ith asset.
  - ω_i is the market value of that asset expressed as a percentage of the market value of the portfolio.

Effective Duration

- Yield changes may alter the cash flow or the cash flow may be so complex that simple formulas are unavailable.
- We need a general numerical formula for volatility.
- The effective duration is defined as

$$\frac{P_- - P_+}{P_0(y_+ - y_-)}.$$

  - P_- is the price if the yield is decreased by Δy.
  - P_+ is the price if the yield is increased by Δy.
  - P_0 is the initial price, y is the initial yield.
  - Δy is small.


P+
P0
P-
y-
y
y+

Effective Duration (concluded)

- One can compute the effective duration of just about any financial instrument.
- Duration of a security can be longer than its maturity or negative!
- Neither makes sense under the maturity interpretation.
- An alternative is to use

$$\frac{P_0 - P_+}{P_0 \, \Delta y}.$$

  - More economical but theoretically less accurate.

The Practices

- Duration is usually expressed in percentage terms — call it $D_\%$ — for quick mental calculation.[a]
- The percentage price change expressed in percentage terms is then approximated by

$$-D_\% \times \Delta r$$

when the yield increases instantaneously by $\Delta r\%$.
  - Price will drop by 20% if $D_\% = 10$ and $\Delta r = 2$ because $10 \times 2 = 20$.
- $D_\%$ in fact equals modified duration (prove it!).

[a] Neftci (2008), "Market professionals do not like to use decimal points."

Hedging

- Hedging offsets the price fluctuations of the position to be hedged by the hedging instrument in the opposite direction, leaving the total wealth unchanged.
- Define dollar duration as

$$\text{modified duration} \times \text{price} = -\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}.$$

- The approximate *dollar* price change is

$$\text{price change} \approx -\text{dollar duration} \times \text{yield change}.$$

- One can hedge a bond with a dollar duration D by bonds with a dollar duration $-D$.

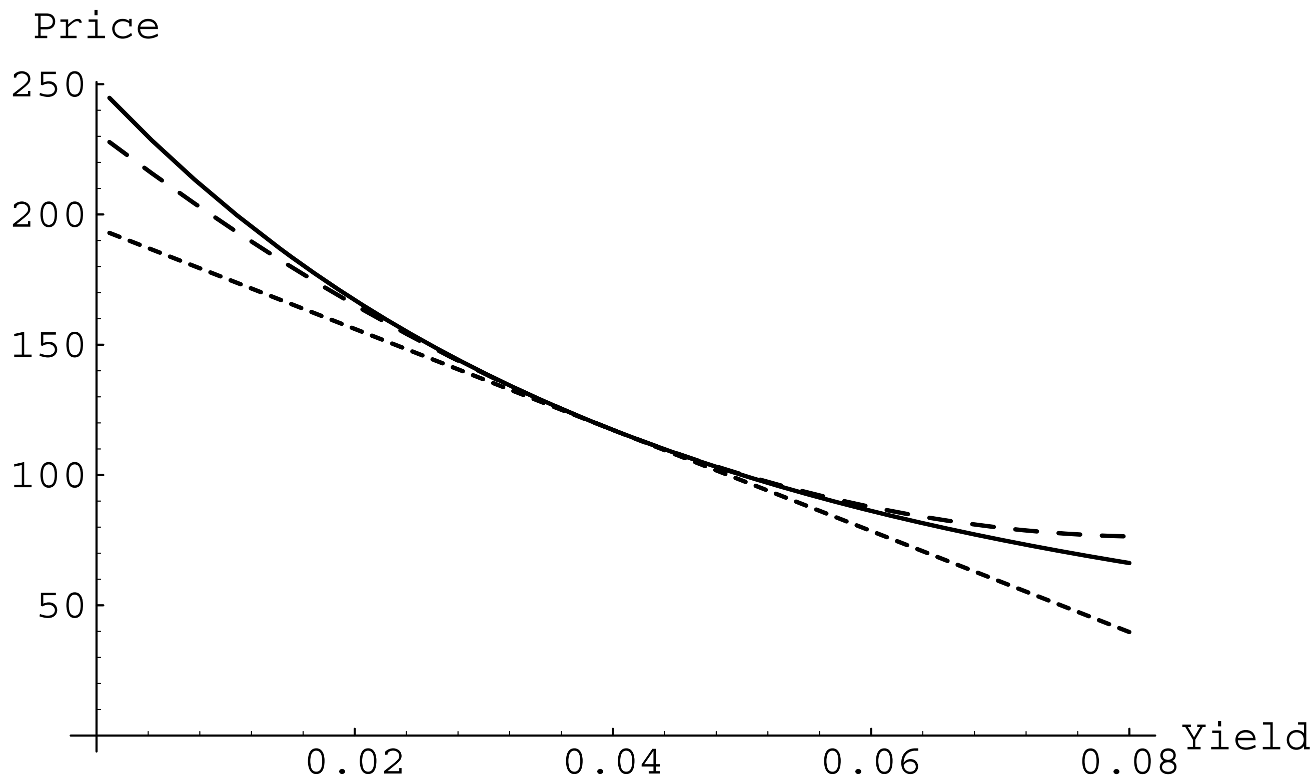
Convexity

- Convexity is defined as

$$\text{convexity (in periods)} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y^2}\,\frac{1}{P}.$$

- The convexity of a level-coupon bond is positive (prove it!).
- For a bond with positive convexity, the price rises more for a rate decline than it falls for a rate increase of equal magnitude (see plot next page).
- So between two bonds with the same price and duration, the one with a higher convexity is more valuable.[a]

[a] Do you spot a problem here (Christensen & Sørensen, 1994)?


Price
250
200
150
100
50
Yield
0.02
0.04
0.06
0.08

Convexity (concluded)

- Convexity measured in periods and convexity measured in years are related by

$$\textsf{convexity (in years)} = \frac{\textsf{convexity (in periods)}}{k^2}$$

when there are k periods per annum.

Use of Convexity

- The approximation $\Delta P/P \approx -$ duration $\times$ yield change works for small yield changes.
- For larger yield changes, use

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\Delta P}{P} &\approx \frac{\partial P}{\partial y}\frac{1}{P}\Delta y + \frac{1}{2}\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial y^2}\frac{1}{P}(\Delta y)^2\\ &= -\text{duration} \times \Delta y + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{convexity} \times (\Delta y)^2.\end{aligned}$$

- Recall the figure on p. 101.

The Practices

- Convexity is usually expressed in percentage terms — call it $C_{\%}$ — for quick mental calculation.
- The percentage price change expressed in percentage terms is approximated by

$$-D_{\%} \times \Delta r + C_{\%} \times (\Delta r)^2/2$$

  when the yield increases instantaneously by $\Delta r\%$.

  - Price will drop by 17% if $D_{\%} = 10$, $C_{\%} = 1.5$, and $\Delta r = 2$ because

$$-10 \times 2 + \frac{1}{2} \times 1.5 \times 2^2 = -17.$$

- $C_{\%}$ equals convexity divided by 100 (prove it!).

Effective Convexity

- The effective convexity is defined as

$$\frac{P_+ + P_- - 2P_0}{P_0 \left(0.5 \times (y_+ - y_-)\right)^2},$$

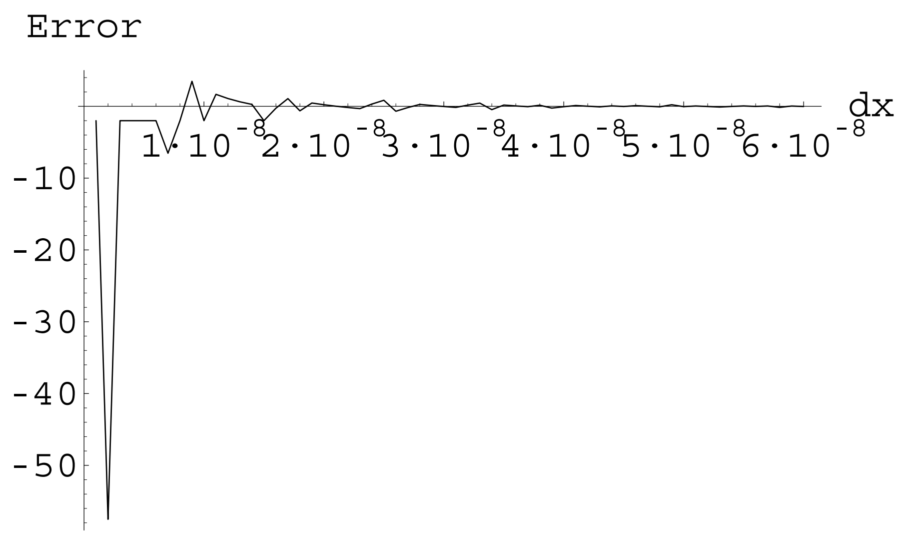
  - P_- is the price if the yield is decreased by Δy.
  - P_+ is the price if the yield is increased by Δy.
  - P_0 is the initial price, y is the initial yield.
  - Δy is small.

- Effective convexity is most relevant when a bond's cash flow is interest rate sensitive.

- Numerically, choosing the right Δy is a delicate matter.

Approximate $d^2 f(x)^2/dx^2$ at $x = 1$, Where $f(x) = x^2$

- The difference of $((1 + \Delta x)^2 + (1 - \Delta x)^2 - 2)/(\Delta x)^2$ and 2:



- This numerical issue is common in financial engineering but does not admit general solutions yet (see pp. 792ff).

Interest Rates and Bond Prices: Which Determines Which?[a]

- If you have one, you have the other.
- So they are just two names given to the same thing: cost of fund.
- Traders most likely work with prices.
- Banks most likely work with interest rates.

[a]Contributed by Mr. Wang, Cheng (R01741064) on March 5, 2014.

Term Structure of Interest Rates

Why is it that the interest of money is lower,
when money is plentiful?
— Samuel Johnson (1709–1784)

If you have money, don't lend it at interest.
Rather, give [it] to someone
from whom you won't get it back.
— Thomas Gospel 95

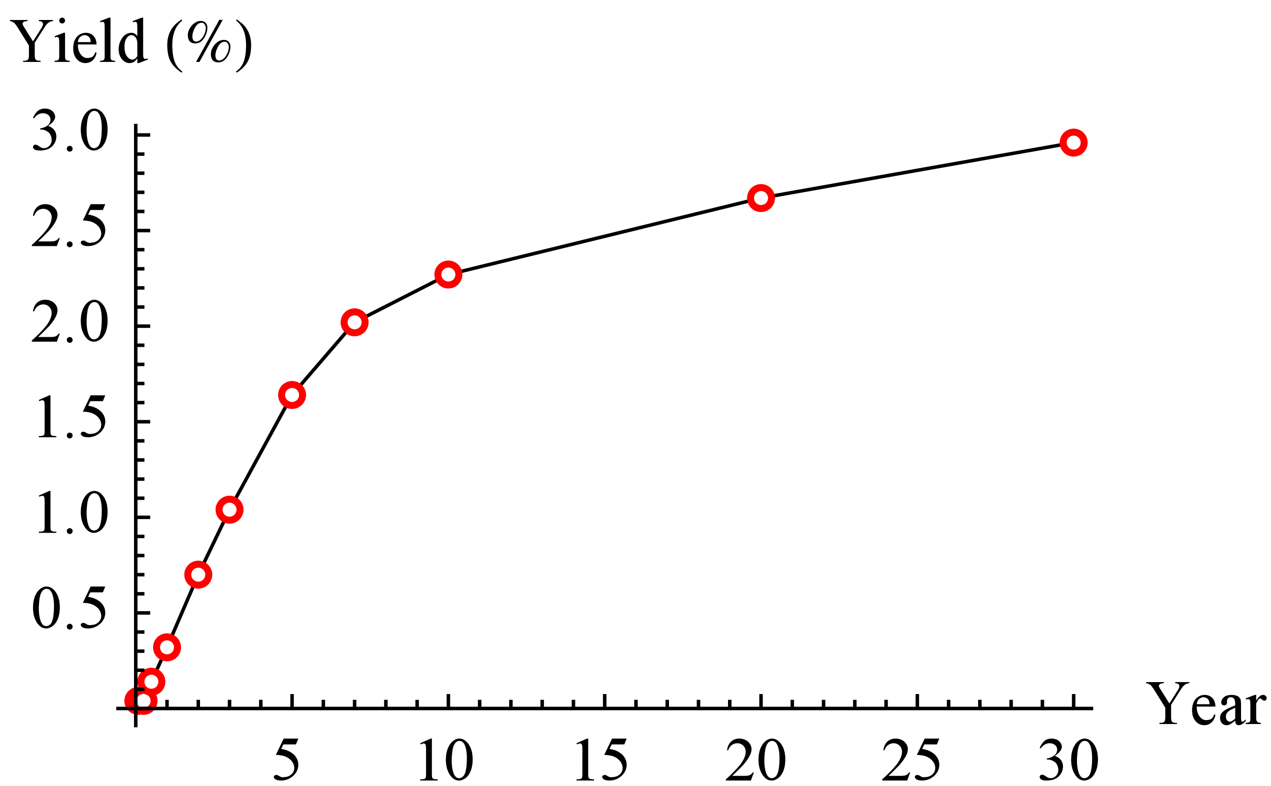
Term Structure of Interest Rates

- Concerned with how interest rates change with maturity.
- The set of yields to maturity for bonds form the term structure.
  - The bonds must be of equal quality.
  - They differ solely in their terms to maturity.
- The term structure is fundamental to the valuation of fixed-income securities.

Term Structure of Interest Rates (concluded)

- Term structure often refers exclusively to the yields of zero-coupon bonds.
- A yield curve plots the yields to maturity of coupon bonds against maturity.
- A par yield curve is constructed from bonds trading near par.

Yield Curve as of July 24, 2015



Four Typical Shapes

- A normal yield curve is upward sloping.
- An inverted yield curve is downward sloping.
- A flat yield curve is flat.
- A humped yield curve is upward sloping at first but then turns downward sloping.

Spot Rates

- The i-period spot rate $S(i)$ is the yield to maturity of an i-period zero-coupon bond.
- The PV of one dollar i periods from now is by definition

$$[\,1 + S(i)\,]^{-i}.$$

  - It is the price of an i-period zero-coupon bond.[a]
- The one-period spot rate is called the short rate.
- Spot rate curve: Plot of spot rates against maturity:

$$S(1), S(2), \ldots, S(n).$$

---

[a]Recall Eq. (9) on p. 61.

Problems with the PV Formula

- In the bond price formula (3) on p. 35,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{C}{(1+y)^i} + \frac{F}{(1+y)^n},$$

every cash flow is discounted at the same yield y.

- Consider two riskless bonds with different yields to maturity because of their different cash flow streams:

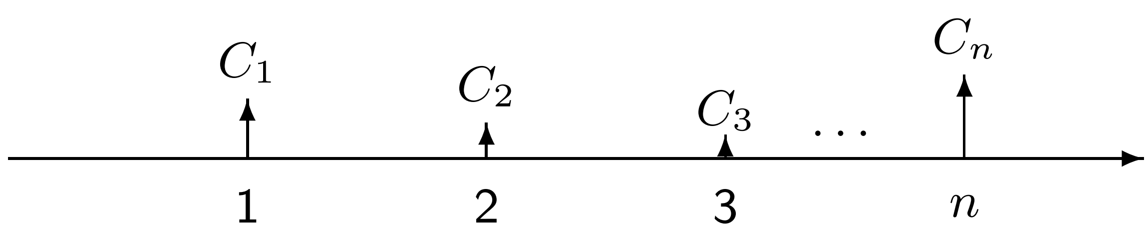
$$\begin{aligned} \text{PV}_1 &= \sum_{i=1}^{n_1} \frac{C}{(1+y_1)^i} + \frac{F}{(1+y_1)^{n_1}}, \\ \text{PV}_2 &= \sum_{i=1}^{n_2} \frac{C}{(1+y_2)^i} + \frac{F}{(1+y_2)^{n_2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Problems with the PV Formula (concluded)

- The yield-to-maturity methodology discounts their *contemporaneous* cash flows with *different* rates.
- But shouldn't they be discounted at the *same* rate?

Spot Rate Discount Methodology

- A cash flow $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_n$ is equivalent to a package of zero-coupon bonds with the ith bond paying C_i dollars at time i.



Spot Rate Discount Methodology (concluded)

- So a level-coupon bond has the price

$$P = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{C}{[\,1 + S(i)\,]^i} + \frac{F}{[\,1 + S(n)\,]^n}. \tag{17}$$

- This pricing method incorporates information from the term structure.
- It discounts each cash flow at the corresponding spot rate.

Discount Factors

- In general, any riskless security having a cash flow $C_1, C_2, \ldots, C_n$ should have a market price of

$$P = \sum_{i=1}^{n} C_i d(i).$$

  - Above, $d(i) \equiv [\,1 + S(i)\,]^{-i}$, $i = 1, 2, \ldots, n$, are called the discount factors.
  - $d(i)$ is the PV of one dollar i periods from now.
  - This formula—now just a definition—will be justified on p. 204.

- The discount factors are often interpolated to form a continuous function called the discount function.

Extracting Spot Rates from Yield Curve

- Start with the short rate $S(1)$.
  - Note that short-term Treasuries are zero-coupon bonds.
- Compute $S(2)$ from the two-period coupon bond price P by solving

$$P = \frac{C}{1 + S(1)} + \frac{C + 100}{[\,1 + S(2)\,]^2}.$$

Extracting Spot Rates from Yield Curve (concluded)

- Inductively, we are given the market price P of the n-period coupon bond and

$$S(1), S(2), \ldots, S(n-1).$$

- Then $S(n)$ can be computed from Eq. (17) on p. 118, repeated below,

$$P = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{C}{[\,1 + S(i)\,]^{i}} + \frac{F}{[\,1 + S(n)\,]^{n}}.$$

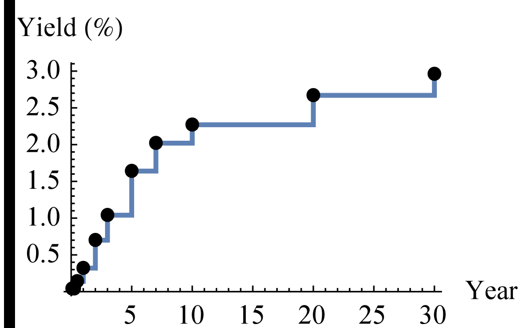
- The running time can be made to be $O(n)$ (see text).
- The procedure is called bootstrapping.

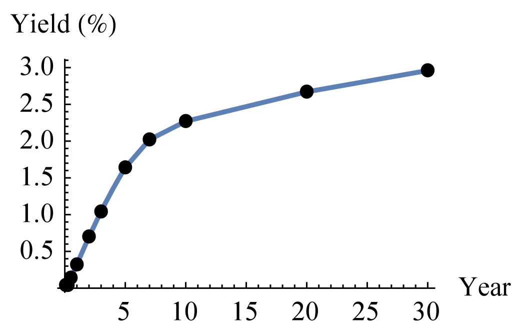
Some Problems

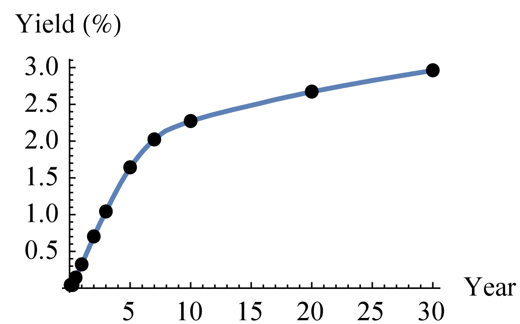
- Treasuries of the same maturity might be selling at different yields (the multiple cash flow problem).
- Some maturities might be missing from the data points (the incompleteness problem).
- Treasuries might not be of the same quality.
- Interpolation and fitting techniques are needed in practice to create a smooth spot rate curve.[a]

[a] Any economic justifications?

Which One?


Yield (%)
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
Year
5
10
15
20
25
30


Yield (%)
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
Year
5
10
15
20
25
30


Yield (%)
3.0
2.5
2.0
1.5
1.0
0.5
Year
5
10
15
20
25
30