Lecture 4

The yield curve

Financial instruments and pricing

Fall 2019

ONE HEEK SEO

The yield curve

- ❖The yield curve
- Forward yields
- Pricing interest rate instruments using the yield curve

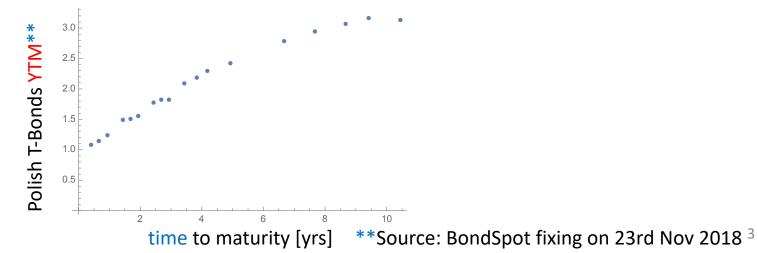
❖The (interest rate) instruments pricing formula used so far assumed a constant effective rate of return (the same yield y was used to discount all future CFs, independent of t)*

$$\sum_{t} CF(t)DF(t) = \sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y)^{t}} = 0 \qquad (1)$$
shows that the yield y=YTM is NOT constant over time but it is

❖Real market statistics shows that the yield y=YTM is NOT constant over time but it is rather some function of time ⇒ the yield curve: y(t)

*NOTE: instead of the anually compounded yield y, one alternatively can (and sometimes does) use the continuously compounded yield y_c , then:

$$DF(t) = exp(-y_c t)$$



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 - From Lecture 2 we know, that for fixed coupon bonds, the effective lifetime of a bond is usually shorter than the time to maturity (e.g. duration D < maturity T) \Rightarrow problem: one can solve (1) for y=YTM, BUT which time t is appropriate in y(t) ?-maturity, (modified) duration, average lifetime, ... ?

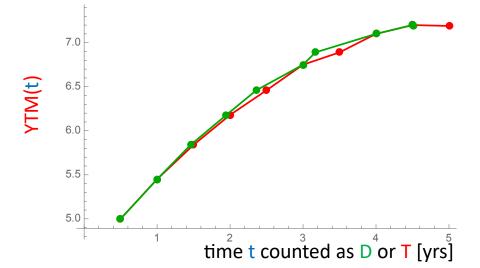
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Real market statistics shows that the yield y=YTM is NOT constant over time but it is rather some function of time \Rightarrow the yield curve: y(t)

Bond	(dirty) Price PV	CPN rate [%]	maturity (T) [yrs]	YTM [%]	Duration (D) [yrs]
AAA	102,47	5	0,5	5,00	0,50
BBB	99,57	5	1,0	5,45	1,00
CCC	99,40	4	1,5	5,84	1,46
DDD	97,84	5	2,0	6,18	1,95
EEE	99,18	5	2,5	6,46	2,36
FFF	82,20	-	3,0	6,75	3,00
GGG	100,28	6	3,5	6,89	3,17
ННН	76,00	-	4,0	7,10	4,00
JJJ	73,13	-	4,5	7,20	4,50
KKK	91,08	5	5,0	7,19	4,52



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$$\sum_{t} CF(t)DF(t) = \sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 \qquad (2)$$

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- Real market statistics shows that the yield y=YTM is NOT constant over time but it is rather some function of time \Rightarrow the yield curve: y(t)
 - □ From Lecture 2 we know, that for fixed coupon bonds, the effective lifetime of a bond is usually shorter than the time to maturity (e.g. duration D < maturity T) \Rightarrow problem: one can solve (1) for y=YTM, BUT which time t is appropriate in y(t) ?-maturity, (modified) duration, average lifetime, ... ?



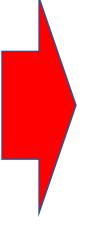
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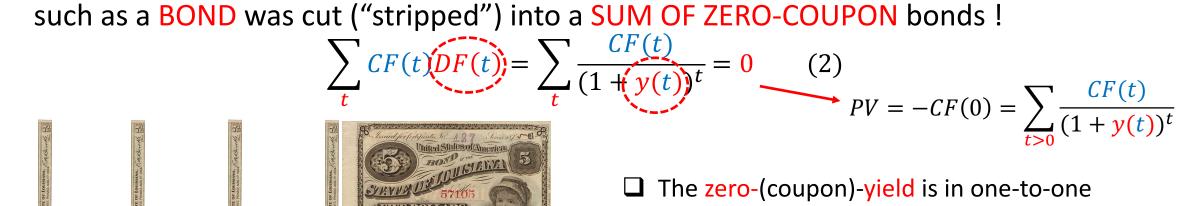


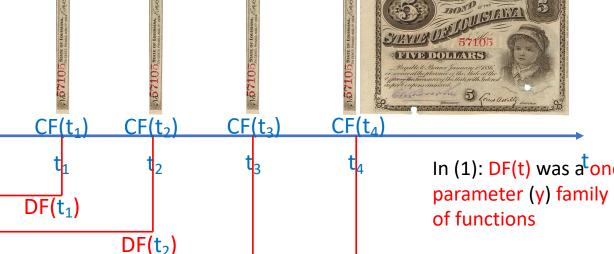






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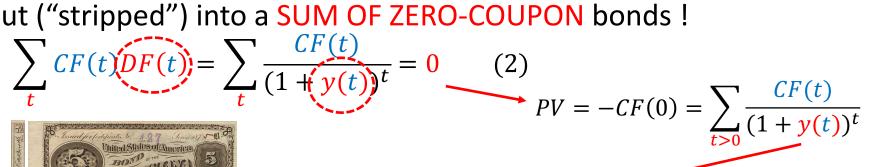


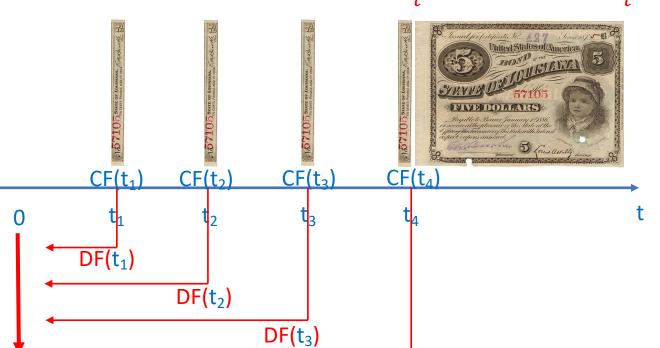
 $DF(t_4)$

DF(t₃)

- ☐ The zero-(coupon)-yield is in one-to-one correspondence with the Discount Factor y(t) ←→DF(t)
- Previously: each DF(t) was globally constrained:
- In (1): DF(t) was a^tone- DF(t) = $(1+y)^{-t}$, y = YTM = const.!
 - NOW: various DF(t) get independent! $DF(t) = (1+y(t))^{-t}$

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 $DF(t_4)$

- For an <u>individual</u> bond with future #CFs > 1, y(t) of course does NOT have a unique solution!
- \Box It is: ONE eqn. for #CFs unknown variables:DF(t_i)
- In example (left) one can e.g. fix DF(t_1), ..., DF(t_3) at ANY level and DF(t_4) will be simply given by:

$$DF(t_4) = \frac{PV - \sum_{i=1}^{3} CF(t_i)DF(t_i)}{CF(t_4)}$$

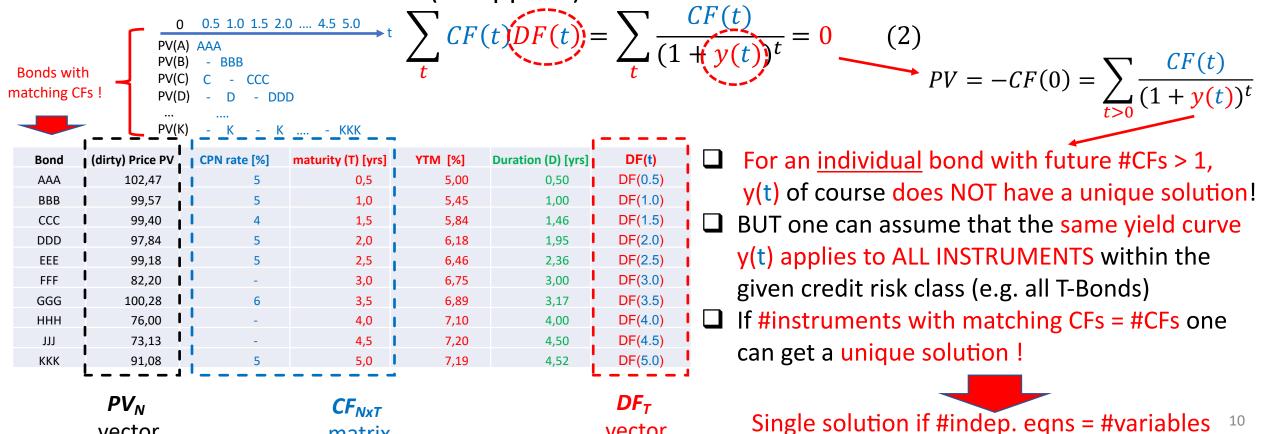
Infinitely many solutions !!! (1 eqn. with 4 vars)9

vector

matrix

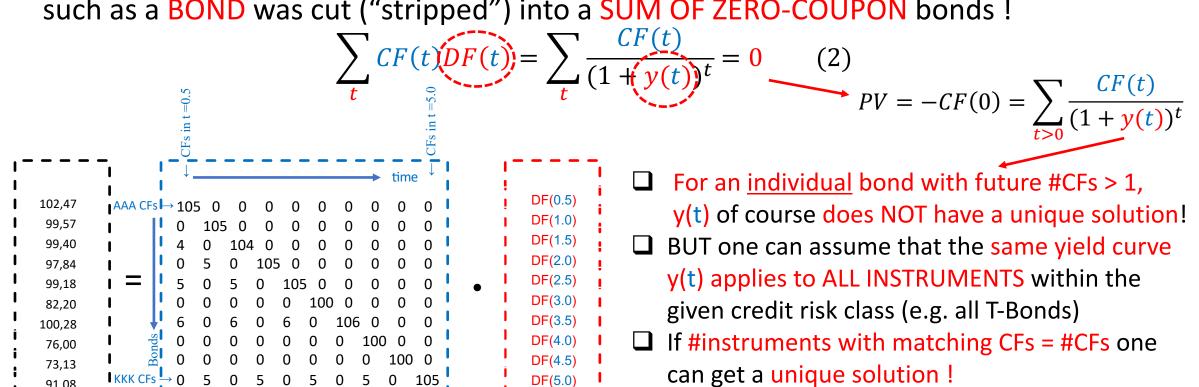
The yield curve: the zero-coupon curve

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The yield curve: the zero-coupon curve

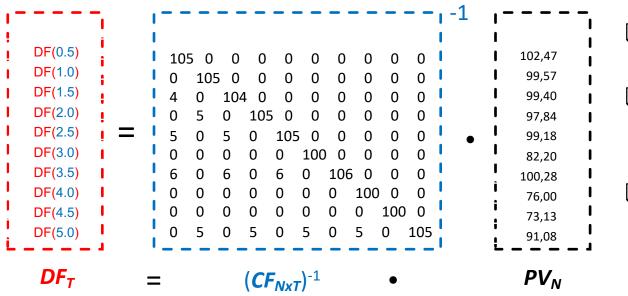
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$$PV = -CF(0) = \sum_{t>0} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}}$$
(CF) = T, then:

If N=T and rank(*CF*) = T, then:



matrix

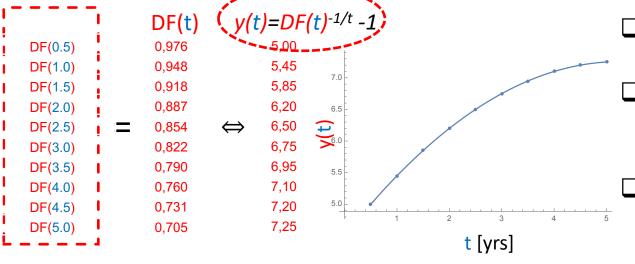
- For an <u>individual</u> bond with future #CFs > 1, y(t) of course does NOT have a unique solution!
- BUT one can assume that the same yield curve y(t) applies to ALL INSTRUMENTS within the given credit risk class (e.g. all T-Bonds)
- If #instruments with matching CFs = #CFs one can get a unique solution!

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$$CF = T, \text{ then:}$$

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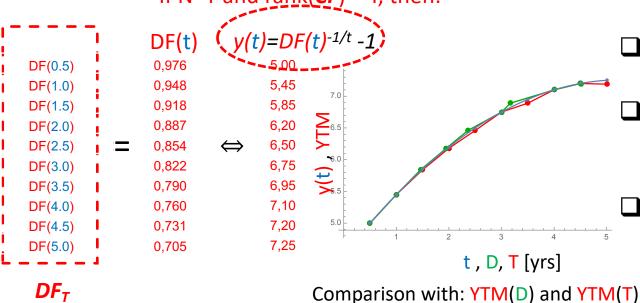
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If N=T and $\underline{rank}(CF) = T$, then:



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The yield curve: bootstrapping

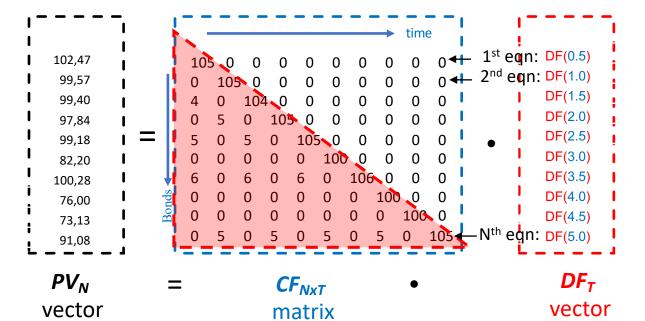
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$$(y(t)=DF(t)^{-1/t}-1)$$

ut ("stripped") into a SUM OF ZERO-COUPON bonds!
$$\sum_{t} CF(t)DF(t) = \sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+(y(t))^{t})} = 0 \qquad (2)$$
if **CF** matrix is triangular

$$PV = -CF(0) = \sum_{t>0} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}}$$

Solving for DF(t) is extremely simple if *CF* matrix is <u>triangular</u>



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$$\sum_{t} CF(t)DF(t) = \sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 \qquad (2)$$
or DF(t) is extremely simple if CF matrix is triangular

Solving for DF(t) is extremely simple if *CF* matrix is <u>triangular</u>

$$PV_n = \sum_t CF_{nt} \cdot DF_t$$

- This is for a special choice of (matching CFs) "benchmark" bonds, with maturities shifted by a constant time step
- In such a case one has an iterative formula:

$$DF(t_n) = \frac{PV_n - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} CF(t_i)DF(t_i)}{CF(t_n)}$$

- One starts with bonds with 1 CF and solves: $DF(t_1) = \frac{PV_1}{CF(t_1)}$
- Then for bonds with 2 CFs: $DF(t_2) = \frac{PV_2 CF(t_1)DF(t_1)}{CF(t_2)}$
- This is called **BOOTSTRAPPING**!

- For an individual bond with future #CFs > 1, y(t) of course does NOT have a unique solution!
- ☐ BUT one can assume that the same yield curve y(t) applies to ALL INSTRUMENTS within the given credit risk class (e.g. all T-Bonds)
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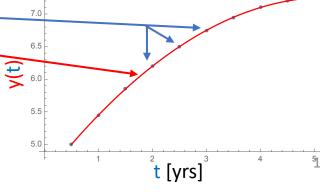
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$$PV = -CF(0) = \sum_{t>0} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}}$$

- *By applying the same universal yield curve y(t) to a series of "benchmark" bonds / other interest rate instruments and using the bootstrapping method (or, in general, solving: $PV_n = \sum_t CF_{nt} \cdot DF_t$) one gets a NONPARAMETRIC (exact) estimate of y(t_n) at the data ("collocation") points: t_n
- For intermadiate t (i.e. $t_n < t < t_{n+1}$) one can interpolate



The yield curve: parametric fitting

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$$y(t) = DF(t)^{-1/t} - 1$$

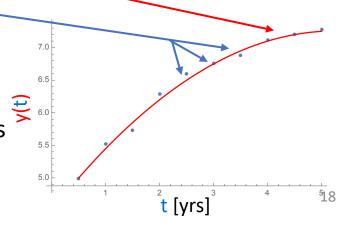
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$$\sum_{t} CF(t)DF(t) = \sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 \qquad (2)$$

$$PV = -CF(0) = \sum_{t>0} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}}$$

- Alternatively one can choose to FIT some function y(t) (PARAMETRIC estimate) to the bond / other instruments data
 - One assumes: $PV_n = \sum_t CF_{nt} \cdot DF_t + \varepsilon_n$, where ε_n is some stochastic noise, and thus $y(t_n)$ is not exact at data points
 - \square One solves for the MIN. SS = $\sum_{n} \varepsilon_{n}^{2}$ or MAX. likelihood parameters*
 - ☐ This is especially usefull when one wants to use more / less data** than "benchmark" bonds or one cannot find bonds with matching CFs

*More about statistical methods in data fitting will be tought in "Risk Management" Lectures.

**One usually weights the bond data, depending on the total nominal issued, liquidity, ...



The yield curve: parametric fitting

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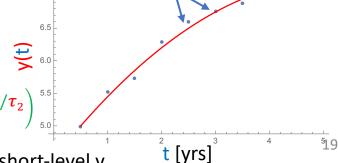
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- Alternatively one can choose to FIT some function y(t) (PARAMETRIC estimate) to the bond / other instruments data
- One must of course choose some yield curve model, e.g..
 - ☐ Polynomial function
 - ☐ Splines (piecewise polynomials)
 - ☐ Nelson-Siegel

Nelson-Siegel
$$y(t) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \frac{1 - e^{-t/\tau}}{t/\tau} + \beta_2 \left(\frac{1 - e^{-t/\tau}}{t/\tau} - e^{-t/\tau} \right) + \beta_3 \left(\frac{1 - e^{-t/\tau_2}}{t/\tau_2} - e^{-t/\tau_2} \right)^{\frac{5.5}{5.0}}$$

Svensson

The parameters ("factors") have interpretation, e.g. β_0 : long-level y, β_1 : short-level y, ...

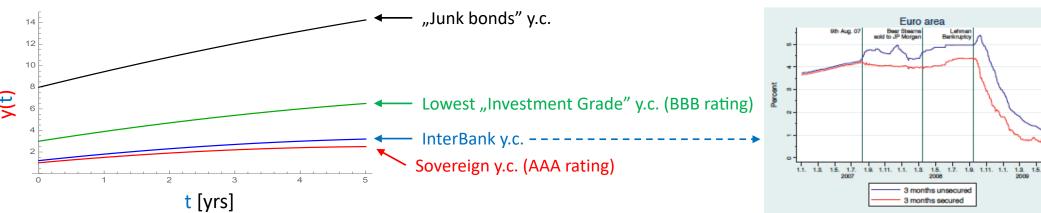


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The yield curve: final notes

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 \quad (2)$$

- Remember that the (zero coupon) yield curve y(t) is universal for a given credit risk \Rightarrow in fact one has many different yield curves y(t), each one for a different risk class!
 - ☐ e.g. State Treasury, interbank market, ...
 - ☐ the credit risk is related to the yield difference ("spread") over the safest (AAA rating) class: usually domestic currency denominated State Treasury ("sovereign") Bills & Bonds
 - ☐ the credit risk spread usually rises with t (as default probability increases with time)



❖The yield curves discussed so far were purely deterministic. One can as well assume some STOCHASTIC short rate model which will translate into (longer) Bond prices and thus the yields will become a stochastic proces*

^{*}More about this in the end of this series of Lectures (if time permits).

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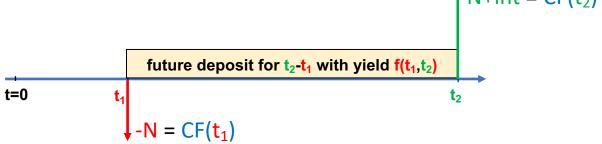
The yield curve

- ❖The yield curve
- Forward yields
- Pricing interest rate instruments using the yield curve

Forward yields

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1 + y(t))^{t}} = 0 \quad (2)$$

- Assume that one knows the (zero-coupon) yield curve: y(t) for any t > 0 (at least up to some t_{max}), e.g. one has used the bootstrap method and interpolated intermediate points, or one has fitted some function y(t)
- ❖ Using eqn. (2) the yields y(t) can be used to price any interest rate instrument (of a given credit risk class), e.g. using (2) for any bond one can solve for: $PV = -CF(0) = \sum_{t>0} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^t}$
- Let's use the y(t) to compute ("forward") yield: $f(t_1,t_2)$ of a future deposit* starting in t_1 ($t_1 > 0$) and ending in t_2 ($t_1 < t_2 < t_{max}$)**



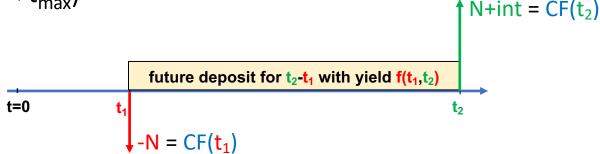
- * This can be as well a loan (if we reverse the signs of CFs)
- **Recall from Lecture 3 that the interest rate of such a deposit is equivalent to the " $t_1 \times t_2$ " FRA rate.

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Forward yields

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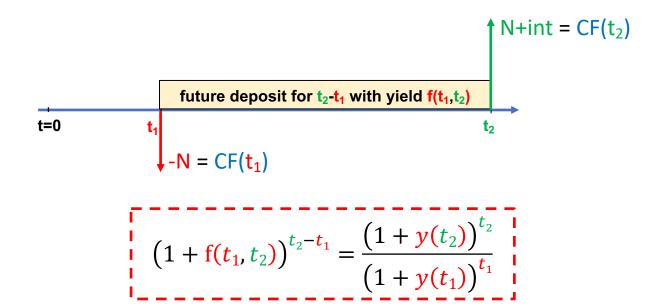


✓ From the deposit one has: $N(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = N + int \Rightarrow -CF(t_1)(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = CF(t_2)$

Forward yields

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- ❖ Forward yields f(t₁,t₂) are completely determined by current yields y(t) (for any 0<t₁<t₂< t_{max})

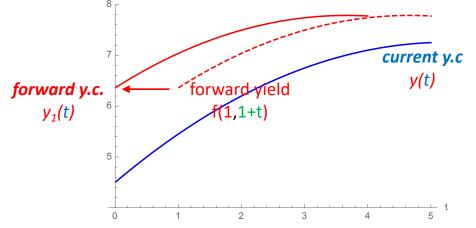


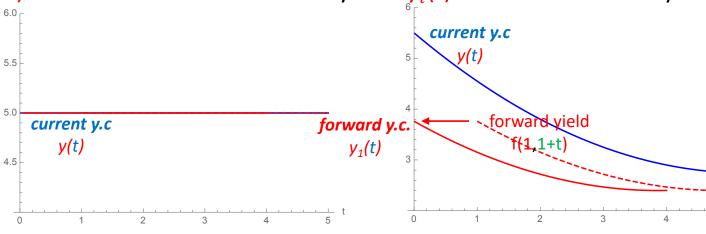
Forward yields: forward yield curve

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- ❖Forward yields f(t₁,t₂) are completely determined by current yields y(t) (for any 0<t₁<t₂< t_{max})
 - \square Current (i.e. measured in t=0) yield curve y(t) determines the forward yield curve y_{\tau}(t) = f(\tau, \tau+t)

 \square Alternatively: current (investors') EXPECTATIONS about future yields $y_{\tau}(t)$ determine current y.c. y(t)





$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}}$$

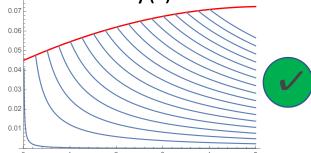
$$y_{t_1}(t_2-t_1)\equiv f(t_1,t_2)$$

Forward yields: constraints on y(t)

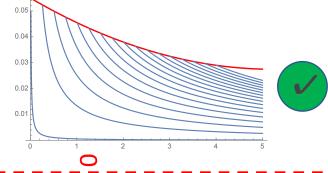
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- Forward yields $f(t_1,t_2)$ are completely determined by current yields y(t) (for any $0 < t_1 < t_2 < t_{max}$)
 - \square Current (i.e. measured in t=0) yield curve y(t) determines the forward yield curve y_{\tau}(t) = f(\tau, \tau+t)
 - \square Alternatively: current (investors') EXPECTATIONS about future yields $y_{\tau}(t)$ determine current y.c. y(t)
 - Relation puts some constraints on current y(t) if one assumes non-negative forward yields $y_{\tau}(t)>0^*$

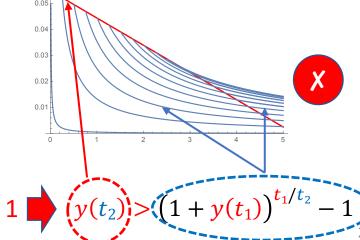
then if y(t) is DECREASING it should be CONVEX enough!



*As market data show this does not have to be true (e.g. negative interest rates in Switzerland)



$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}} >$$



- ❖The yield curve
- Forward yields
- Pricing interest rate instruments using the yield curve

ONE HEEK SEO

Pricing interest rate instruments

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 (2)$$

- Assume that one knows the current (zero-coupon) yield curve: y(t) for any t > 0 (at least up to some t_{max}), e.g. one has used the bootstrap method and interpolated intermediate points, or one has fitted some function y(t)
 - The yields y(t) together with eqn. (2) can be used to price any interest rate instrument, provided future CFs are known, e.g. for a fixed interest rates
- **❖** Knowing current yields one can also compute forward yields f(t₁,t₂) (for any 0<t₁<t₂< t_{max})

$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}}$$

- \Box The forward yield $f(t_1,t_2)$ is the current expectation (forecast) of the future (unknown) yield given by the current y.c.
- ☐ This can be used to forecast* (unknown) future CFs, e.g. based on floating interest rates like "-BOR"
- \square If necessary, one should of course remember to convert the (forward) yield into the nominal rate r_{ZM} using some day count convention:

*The exact mechanism why this forecast works (at least for pricing) will be explained in Lecture5

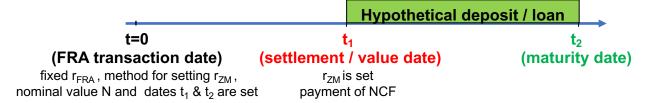
$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = 1 + r_{ZM} DCF_{t_2 - t_1}$$
 the Day Count Factor used for r_{ZM} , e.g. $DCF_{t_2 - t_1} = (t_2 - t_1)/36$ \$

Pricing FRA

$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}}$$
(3)
$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1 + y(t))^t} = 0$$
(2)

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0$$
 (2)

Let's price the Forward Rate Agreement, i.e. let's compute r_{FRA}. Recall from Lecture 3 that the counterparties fix the future (FRA) rate r_{FRA} of a (hypothetical) deposit/loan of nominal value N.



The (only one) CF from " $t_1 \times t_2$ " FRA contract is made in the settlement date t_1 and is equal to:

$$CF(t_1) = NCF = \frac{N (r_{ZM} - r_{FRA})DCF_{t_2 - t_1}}{1 + r_{ZM}DCF_{t_2 - t_1}}$$
 the Day Count Factor used for r_{ZM} , e.g. $DCF_{t_2 - t_1} = (t_2 - t_1)/365$

- From (2) it is straightforward that r_{FRA} should be set such that $CF(t_1)=NCF=0 \implies r_{FRA}=r_{ZM}$
- \clubsuit The future (unknown) floating nominal rate r_{7M} can be "forecasted" form the forward yield:

$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = 1 + r_{ZM} DCF_{t_2 - t_1}$$

***** Which can be computed from (3), thus (as $r_{FRA} = r_{ZM}$): $r_{FRA} = \left(\frac{(1+y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1+y(t_1))^{t_1}} - 1\right) / DCF_{t_2-t_1}$

Pricing IRS

$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}}$$
(3)
$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1 + y(t))^t} = 0$$
(2)

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 (2)$$

Let's price the Interest Rate Swap, i.e. let's compute rigg. Recall from Lecture 3 that the counterparties exchange (swap) the future stream of payments (called the "legs" of IRS) computed on the nominal value N of the swap. One leg is calculated using fixed interest rate r_{IRS} while the other leg is based on floating interest rate r_{ZM} .



 \clubsuit The CFs (made in $t_1, t_2, ..., T$) are equal to:

the Day Count Factor, e.g.
$$DCF_{t_2-t_1} = (t_2-t_1)/365$$
 $CF(t_i) = NCF(t_i) = N (r_{ZM}(t_{i-1}) - r_{IRS})DCF_{t_i-t_{i-1}}$

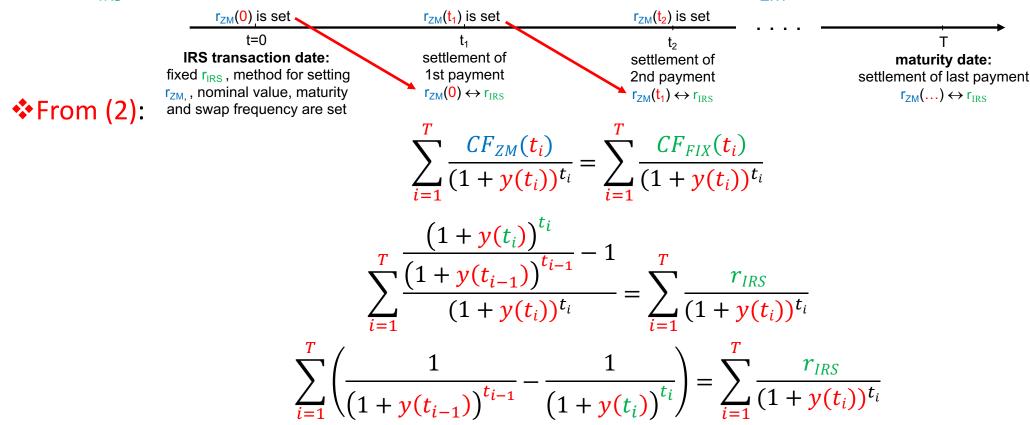
- *****For simplicity let's assume: YEARLY SWAP payments (e.g. 1Y WIBOR \leftrightarrow r_{IRS}) with ACT/ACT ICMA convention (i.e. $t_2 - t_1 = 1$, $DCF_{t_2 - t_1} = 1$) $\Rightarrow r_{ZM}(t_{i-1}) = f(t_{i-1}, t_i)$
- **❖**Let's split the net payments into the fixed and the floating leg (and set N = 1):
 - \square fixed CFs: $CF_{FIX}(t_i) = r_{IRS}$
 - Indicating CFs: $CF_{ZM}(t_i) = r_{ZM}(t_{i-1}) = f(t_{i-1}, t_i) = \text{from } (3) = \frac{(1+y(t_i))^{t_i}}{(1+y(t_{i-1}))^{t_{i-1}}} 1$

Pricing IRS

$$(1 + f(t_1, t_2))^{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{(1 + y(t_2))^{t_2}}{(1 + y(t_1))^{t_1}}$$
(3)
$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1 + y(t))^t} = 0$$
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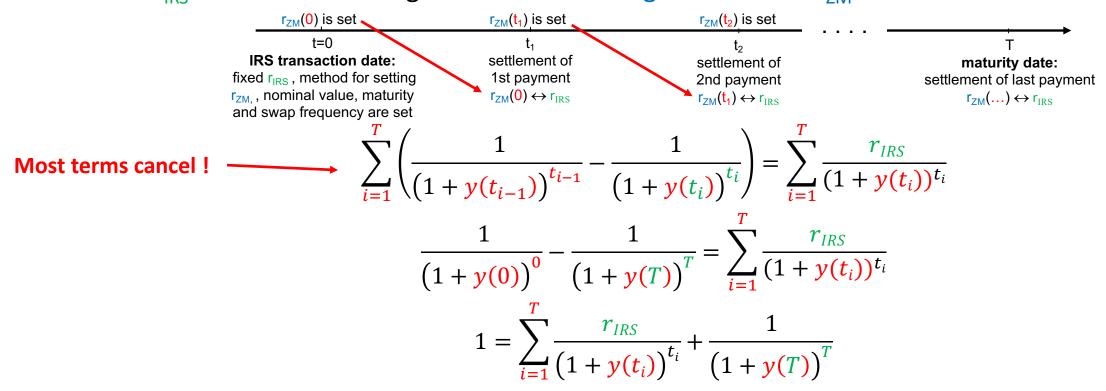


Pricing IRS

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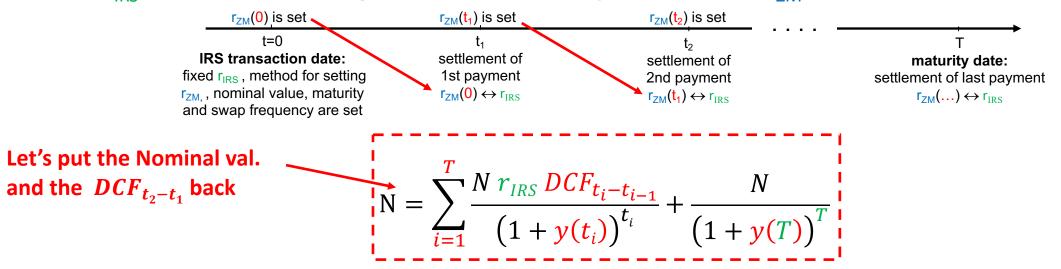


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- ❖The Interest Rate Swap is (in terms of pricing) equivalent to a fixed coupon bond with interest rate r_{IRS} sold at nominal value ("at par")!
- \clubsuit Knowing current yield curve y(t) one can easily solve $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$ for r_{IRS}

Using FRA and IRS for bootstrapping

$$\sum_{t} \frac{CF(t)}{(1+y(t))^{t}} = 0 (2)$$

As already discussed the current yield curve y(t) determines forward yields or alternatively the forward yields (i.e. future expectations) determine the current yield curve

 $1 + r_{FRA} DCF_{t_2 - t_1} = \frac{\left(1 + y(t_2)\right)^{t_2}}{\left(1 + y(t_1)\right)^{t_1}} \quad (*)$

❖Instead of just using cash / spot instruments data one can also use FRA and IRS market prices, i.e. r_{FRA} and r_{iRS} rates to determine the current yield curve

$$1 = \sum_{i=1}^{T} \frac{r_{IRS} DCF_{t_i - t_{i-1}}}{\left(1 + y(t_i)\right)^{t_i}} + \frac{1}{\left(1 + y(T)\right)^{T}} \quad (**)$$

- ❖This is especially useful for the InterBank yield curve* where standardized OTC interest rate derivatives are mostly traded among market participants. They include FRA with standard t₁xt₂ dates (usually up to 12M, e.g. 1x4, 2x5, 3x6, 4x7, ... FRA vs −BOR rate) and IRS with standard maturities T (usually from 1 to 10 yrs vs −BOR rate)
 - First one can look at the standard "-BOR" rates \Rightarrow y(t) for e.g. t = 1W, 1M, 3M, 6M, 9M, 12M
 - Then one looks at FRA with matching missing maturities, e.g. y(1M) & FRA 1x4 using (*) \Rightarrow y(5M)
 - Then one looks at matching IRS, e.g. y(1Y) & IRS2Y using (**) \Rightarrow y(2Y) (like for standard bonds used in bootstrapping)

^{*}For the sovereign (i.e. treasury) y.c. one will rather use "benchmark" T-Bills and T-bonds data

Summary

