

Lecture 20: Bond Risk

Monday, April 10, 2023 14:41



20-bond-risk

QTM 385 Quantitative Finance

Lecture 20: Bond risk and duration

Instructor: Ruoxuan Xiong

Suggested reading: Investments Ch 16



Interest rate sensitivity

- Bond *prices* and *yields* are *inversely related*: As yields increase, bond prices fall; as yields fall, bond prices rise
- **Interest rate sensitivity**: The *sensitivity* of *bond prices* to *changes in market interest rates and yields*
- When YTM is y , the bond price is $P = \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\text{Coupon}}{(1+y)^t} + \frac{\text{Par value}}{(1+y)^T}$
- Suppose the YTM changes by Δy . The new YTM is $y + \Delta y$ and the new price is $P + \Delta P$
- The sensitivity can be measure by $\Delta P/P$



Measuring interest rate sensitivity

- **Interest rate sensitivity**: The *sensitivity* of *bond prices* to *changes in market interest rates and yields*
- The sensitivity can be measured by how change in its yield to maturity Δy results in the proportional change in a bond's price $\Delta P/P$
- We can show

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D \times \frac{\Delta(1+y)}{1+y}$$

where D is the Macaulay's duration (defined in the next slide)



Macaulay's duration

- **Macaulay's duration:** the average of t weighted by the “importance” each coupon or principal payment w_t

$$D = \sum_{t=1}^T t \times w_t$$

- w_t is defined as

$$w_t = \frac{CF_t / (1 + y)^t}{P}$$

- $\sum_{t=1}^T w_t = 1$, y is the bond's yield to maturity, and CF_t is the cash flow at time t
- D is a measure of the average maturity of the bond's promised cash flows



Modified duration and bond sensitivity

- **Modified duration:** $D^* = \frac{D}{1+y}$

- We have

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D \times \frac{\Delta(1+y)}{1+y} = -D^* \Delta y$$

- by using $\Delta(1+y) = \Delta y$
- Bond's price sensitivity to interest rate changes generally *increases with duration*



Interest rate sensitivity

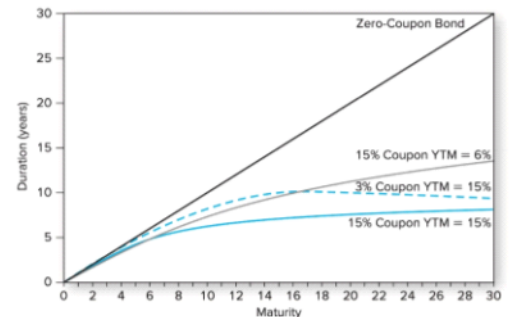
- The sensitivity and duration is affected by
 - Yield to maturity
 - Time to maturity
 - Coupon rate



Duration for zero coupon bond

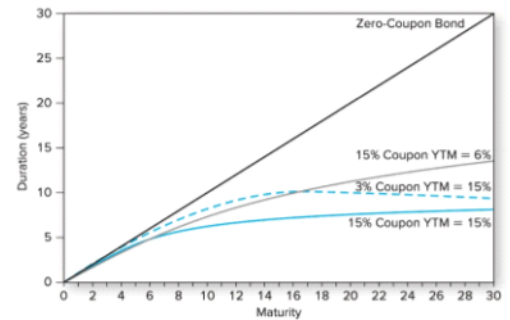
- The duration of a zero-coupon bond equals its time to maturity
 - A coupon bond has a lower duration than a zero with equal maturity

$$D = \sum_{t=1}^T t \times w_t = \sum_{t=1}^T t \times \frac{CF_t / (1+y)^t}{\text{Bond price}} = T \times \frac{CF_T / (1+y)^T}{\text{Bond price}} = T$$



Duration vs YTM

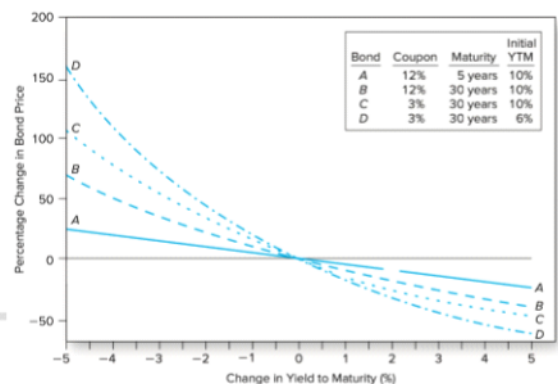
- Holding other factors constant, the **duration** of a coupon bond is **higher** when the bond's **yield to maturity** is **lower**
 - Comparing **two 15% coupon bonds**, the lower-yield bond has longer duration
- At lower yields, the more distant payments have relatively greater present values and a greater share of the bond's total value (duration is higher)
- $$D = \sum_{t=1}^T t \times \frac{CF_t / (1+y)^t}{\text{Bond price}}$$



Interest rate sensitivity vs YTM

- **Property 1:** The **sensitivity** of a bond's price to a change in its yield is **inversely related** to the **yield to maturity** at which the bond currently is selling
 - Bond C has a **higher yield to maturity** than bond D
 - Bond C is **less sensitive** to changes in yields

Bond C	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond price	Bond D	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond price
	-0.05	1.04730338		-0.05	1.594191137
	-0.045	0.880782208		-0.045	1.32754004
	-0.04	0.733066971		-0.04	1.094110533
	-0.035	0.601781555		-0.035	0.889467758
	-0.03	0.484867074		-0.03	0.709791761
	-0.025	0.380538041		-0.025	0.551789966
	-0.02	0.287244751		-0.02	0.412622373
	-0.015	0.203640966		-0.015	0.289837588
	-0.01	0.128556158		-0.01	0.181318099
	-0.005	0.060971633		-0.005	0.085233427
	0	0		0	0
	0.005	-0.055132508		0.005	-0.075753227
	0.01	-0.105101258		0.01	-0.143214256
	0.015	-0.150496341		0.015	-0.203413334
	0.02	-0.191833881		0.02	-0.257244658



Interest rate sensitivity vs YTM

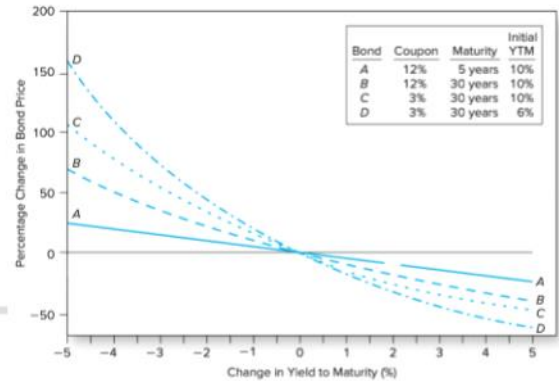
- **Property 2:** An *increase* in a bond's *yield to maturity* results in a *smaller* price change than a *decrease* in *yield* of equal magnitude

- Intuition: change by *increase* in interest rate $\propto \frac{1}{1+r} - \frac{1}{1+r+\Delta r} = \frac{\Delta r}{(1+r)(1+r+\Delta r)}$
- change by *decrease* in interest rate $\propto \frac{1}{1+r-\Delta r} - \frac{1}{1+r} = \frac{\Delta r}{(1+r)(1+r-\Delta r)}$
- $\frac{\Delta r}{(1+r)(1+r-\Delta r)} > \frac{\Delta r}{(1+r)(1+r+\Delta r)}$

Bond A	12% coupon, semi-annual bond	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond price
	5 year maturity bond		
	10% YTM		
Settlement date	11/15/20	-0.05	0.212682137
Maturity date	11/15/25	-0.045	0.188991689
Annual coupon rate	0.12	-0.04	0.165879928
Yield to maturity	0.1	-0.035	0.143330884
Redemption value (% of face value)	100	-0.03	0.121329074
Coupon payments per year	2	-0.025	0.09985948
		-0.02	0.078907536
		-0.015	0.058459115
		-0.01	0.038500516
		-0.005	0.019018443
		0	0
		0.005	-0.018567326
		0.01	-0.036695677
		0.015	-0.054396836
		0.02	-0.071682237

PRICE(settlement date, maturity date, annual coupon rate, yield to maturity)
Flat price (% of par)

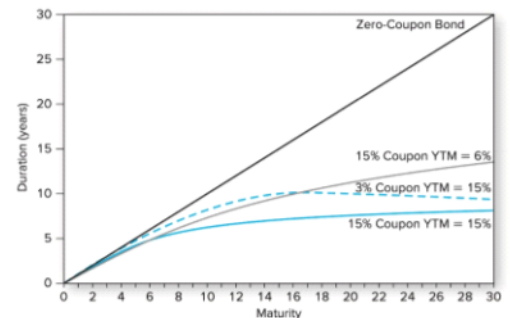
107.7217



Duration vs time to maturity

- Holding other factors constant, a bond's *duration generally increases* with its *time to maturity*
- Duration *need not always increase* with time to maturity. Example, 3% coupon bond with YTM 15% (deep discount bond)
- For coupon bonds, duration increases by less than a year with a year's increase in maturity

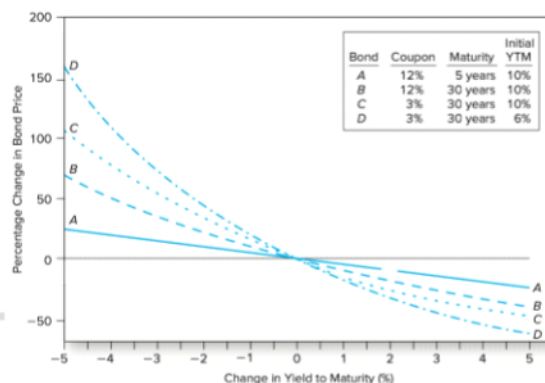
$$D = \sum_{t=1}^T t \times \frac{CF_t / (1+y)^t}{\text{Bond price}}$$



Interest rate sensitivity vs time to maturity

- **Property 3:** Prices of *long-term* bonds tend to be *more sensitive* to interest rate changes than prices of *short-term* bonds
 - Bond B (longer maturity) exhibits greater sensitivity to interest rate changes than bond A (shorter maturity)
 - Intuition: If rate increases, the bond price decreases; the impact is higher for more distant cash flows

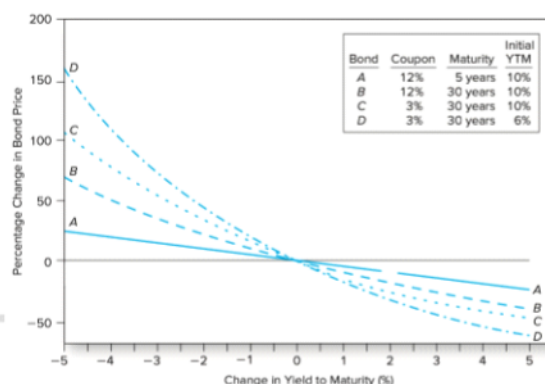
Bond A	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri	Bond B	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri
	-0.05	0.212682137		-0.05	0.750454396
	-0.045	0.188991689		-0.045	0.639408192
	-0.04	0.165879928		-0.04	0.538953875
	-0.035	0.143330884		-0.035	0.447898623
	-0.03	0.121329074		-0.03	0.365196378
	-0.025	0.09985948		-0.025	0.289928759
	-0.02	0.078907536		-0.02	0.221288553
	-0.015	0.058459115		-0.015	0.15856543
	-0.01	0.038500516		-0.01	0.101133569
	-0.005	0.019018443		-0.005	0.04844094
	0	0		0	0
	0.005	-0.018567326		0.005	-0.04462038
	0.01	-0.036695677		0.01	-0.085801929
	0.015	-0.054396836		0.015	-0.123883071
	0.02	-0.071682237		0.02	-0.159164236



Interest rate sensitivity vs time to maturity

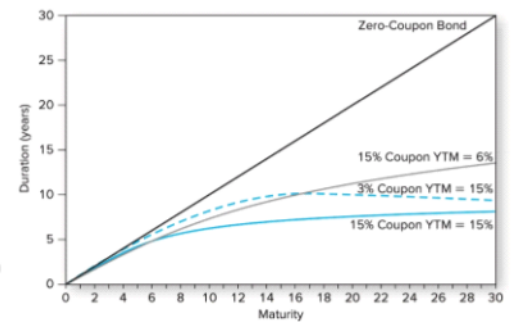
- **Property 4:** The sensitivity of bond prices to changes in yields increases at a decreasing rate as maturity increases. In other words, *interest rate risk* is *less than proportional* to *bond maturity*
 - Bond B has six times the maturity of bond A
 - Bond B has less than six times the interest rate sensitivity

Bond A	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri	Bond B	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri
	-0.05	0.212682137		-0.05	0.750454396
	-0.045	0.188991689		-0.045	0.639408192
	-0.04	0.165879928		-0.04	0.538953875
	-0.035	0.143330884		-0.035	0.447898623
	-0.03	0.121329074		-0.03	0.365196378
	-0.025	0.09985948		-0.025	0.289928759
	-0.02	0.078907536		-0.02	0.221288553
	-0.015	0.058459115		-0.015	0.15856543
	-0.01	0.038500516		-0.01	0.101133569
	-0.005	0.019018443		-0.005	0.04844094
	0	0		0	0
	0.005	-0.018567326		0.005	-0.04462038
	0.01	-0.036695677		0.01	-0.085801929
	0.015	-0.054396836		0.015	-0.123883071
	0.02	-0.071682237		0.02	-0.159164236



Duration vs coupon rate

- Holding maturity constant, a bond's **duration** is *lower* when the *coupon rate* is *higher*
 - Higher coupon rate bond: A higher fraction of total value is tied up in the earlier coupon payments (less sensitive to yields)
 - Comparing 3% and 15% coupon bonds with YTM 15%



Interest rate sensitivity vs coupon rate

- **Property 5:** Interest rate risk is inversely related to the bond's coupon rate. Prices of *low-coupon* bonds are *more sensitive* to changes in interest rates than prices of high-coupon bonds
 - Bond B has a **higher coupon rate** than bond C
 - Bond C is **more sensitive** to changes in interest rate
 - Intuition: price of low coupon bond depends more on distant cash flows (that are more sensitive to interest rate changes)

Bond B	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri	Bond C	changes in YTM	percentage changes in bond pri
	-0.05	0.750454396		-0.05	1.04730338
	-0.045	0.639408192		-0.045	0.880782208
	-0.04	0.538953875		-0.04	0.733066971
	-0.035	0.447898623		-0.035	0.601781555
	-0.03	0.365196378		-0.03	0.484867074
	-0.025	0.289928759		-0.025	0.380538041
	-0.02	0.221288553		-0.02	0.287244751
	-0.015	0.15856543		-0.015	0.203640966
	-0.01	0.101133569		-0.01	0.128556158
	-0.005	0.04844094		-0.005	0.060971633
	0	0		0	0
	0.005	-0.04462038		0.005	-0.055132508
	0.01	-0.085801929		0.01	-0.105101258
	0.015	-0.123883071		0.015	-0.150496341
	0.02	-0.159164236		0.02	-0.191833881

