



21-bond-risk

## QTM 385 Quantitative Finance

## Lecture 21: Bond duration and convexity

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Suggested reading: Investments Ch 16

There are only  
4 ppl  
in class  
today

## Interest rate sensitivity

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

## Measuring interest rate sensitivity by duration

- By taking the first-order derivative of  $P$  with respect to  $y$ , we can approximate  $\Delta P/P$  by

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

*percentage change  
is linear?  
If  $\Delta y \uparrow$  bond price  $\downarrow$*

where  $D^* = \frac{D}{1+y}$  is the **modified duration**,  $D$  is the **Macaulay's duration** defined as

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

*Duration is always positive (den)*

and  $w_t$  is defined as ( $CF_t$  is the cash flow at time  $t$  and  $P$  is the current bond price)

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

for zero-coupon,  
duration is  
TIME  
(to maturity?)

why? derivative of bond price w.r. to yield

$$\frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^t} + \frac{\text{par}}{(1+y)^T} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{t=1}^T \left( -t \cdot \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^{t+1}} \right)$$

Then duration is defined as  
derivative w.r. respect to  $y$ .

## Determinants of interest rate sensitivity

## Determinants of interest rate sensitivity

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y = \left( \sum_{t=1}^T t \times \frac{CF_t / (1+y)^t}{P} \right) \times \frac{\Delta(1+y)}{1+y}$$

- Determinants of interest rate sensitivity and duration include

- Yield to maturity  $y$
  - Time to maturity  $T$
  - Coupon rate  $CF_t$
- So these can all affect % change

$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = - \frac{1}{(1+y)^{t+1}}$   
Then duration is defined as  
derivative w.r. respect to  $y$ .

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = \frac{1}{P} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T -t \times \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^{t+1}} \right) \Delta y \quad \text{then take out } -(1+y)$$

$$= - \left( \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{CF_t / (1+y)^t}{P} \cdot t \right) \cdot \frac{\Delta y}{1+y}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $W_t$

## Calculating duration in excel

- Use the `duration()` and `mduration()` function to calculate Macaulay's duration and modified duration
- Example: 2-year 8% semiannual coupon bond with 10% YTM

Inputs		Formula in column B
Settlement date	1/1/00	DATE(2000,1,1)
Maturity date	1/1/02	DATE(2002,1,1)
Annual coupon rate	0.08	8%
Yield to maturity	0.1	10%
Coupon per year	2	Semi Annual
Outputs		
Macaulay duration	1.8852	DURATION(B2,B3,B4,B5,B6)
Modified duration	1.7955	MDURATION(B2,B3,B4,B5,B6)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Period	Time until payment (Years)	Cash Flow	PV of CF (Discount rate = 5% per period)	Weights $W_t$	Column (F)	Column (G)
1	0.5	40	38.0952	0.0395	0.0197	
2	1	40	36.2812	0.0376	0.0376	
3	1.5	40	34.5535	0.0358	0.0537	
4	2	1080	855.6106	0.8871	1.7741	
Sum			964.5403	1.0000	1.8852	

## Question

- Question: What is the duration and modified duration for a 2-year zero-coupon bond with 10% YTM? How does the duration change with the coupon rate?

No coupon rate

IF  
Coupon rate  $\uparrow$  then  
duration  $\downarrow$   
(but not at a constant rate)

Duration is 2  
modified 1.0948

Inputs =

1/1/00  
1/1/02  
0  
0.1  
2

## Question

- Question: What is the duration and modified duration for a 4-year 8% semiannual coupon bond with 5% YTM? How does the duration change with the time to maturity?

Duration  
→ 3.5301  
Modified  
→ 3.4440

time to maturity ↑ then  
duration ↑  
but it increases  
at a decreasing rate  
(so not a constant  
rate)

Inputs:

1/1/00  
1/1/04  
0.08  
0.05  
2



## Question

- Question: What is the duration and modified duration for a 2-year 8% semiannual coupon bond with 5% YTM? What if the YTM is 15%? How does the duration change with YTM?

Bond w/ lower YTM tends  
to be riskier  
duration ↑ when YTM ↓

When you start with a higher YTM, the  
price Δ is smaller? So duration smaller  
So less risky

Inputs:

1/1/00	1/1/00
1/1/02	1/1/02
0.08	0.08
0.05	0.15
2	2
↓	↓
1.8910	1.6793
1.8449	1.7482

## Comparing actual price change and duration formula

- Based on the duration formula  $\Delta P/P = -D^* \Delta y$ , the approximated price change is

$$\bar{\Delta P} = P \times (-D^* \Delta y) = 105.6430 \times (-1.8449 \times 0.02) = -3.8980$$

$$< -3.8064 = \Delta P$$

- The predicted change is more than the actual change

2 year, 8% semiannual bond 5% YTM		2% increase in YTM	
Settlement date	1/1/00	Settlement date	1/1/00
Maturity date	1/1/02	Maturity date	1/1/02
Annual coupon rate	0.08	Annual coupon rate	0.08
Yield to maturity	0.05	Yield to maturity	0.07
Redemption value (% of face value)	100	Redemption value (% of face value)	100
Coupon payments per year	2	Coupon payments per year	2
Flat price (% of par)	105.6430	Flat price (% of par)	103.9365
		Price difference	-3.8064

then  $\Delta P = 105.6430 - 103.9365 = -1.7065$   
 $\frac{-1.7065}{105.6430} \approx -1.62\%$

## The duration approximation underestimates the value

- The percentage change in the value of a bond approximately equals the product of modified duration times the change in the bond's yield

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y$$

- Approximates well for small changes

- The duration approximation with slope  $-D^*$  always understates the value of the bond

when using duration formula, ...

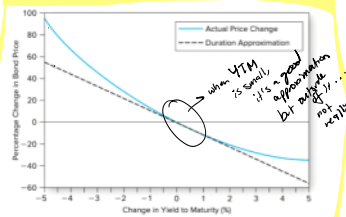


→ & overestimates  
the risk

- Approximates well for small changes
- The duration approximation with slope  $-D^*$  always understates the value of the bond

When using duration formula,  
the predicted change is always smaller  
than actual change

Slope is -modified duration



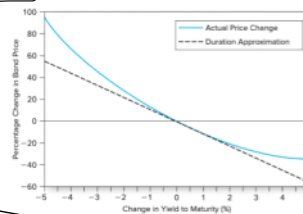
So it is a conservative approximation.

## Convexity of a bond

- **Convexity** of a bond: the second derivative (the rate of change of the slope) of the price-yield curve divided by bond price

$$\text{Convexity} = \frac{1}{P} \frac{\Delta^2 P}{\Delta y^2} = \frac{1}{P \times (1+y)^2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^t} (t^2 + t) \right]$$

assuming  
1  
in  
derivation  
to the  
right?



$$\rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \sum_{t=1}^T \left( -t \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^{t+1}} \right) \right)$$

$$= \sum_{t=1}^T -t \cdot \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^{t+2}} \cdot (- (t+1))$$

combine like terms  
to get

$$= \sum_{t=1}^T (t(t+1)) \cdot \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^{t+2}}$$

take out  $(1+y)^2$

to get

## Approximating price change by convexity

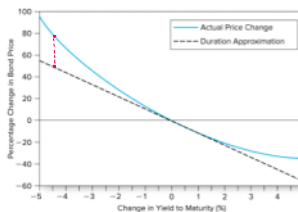
- Approximate the change in bond price by both duration and convexity

$$\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{Convexity} \times (\Delta y)^2$$

also non-  
negative

convexity  
is always  
non-negative?

- Similar to Taylor expansion up to 2nd order derivative
- The first term is the same as the duration rule
- The second term is the modification for convexity



## Example

- Consider a 30-year, 8% annual bond selling at par (initial YTM is 8%)
- The modified duration is 11.26

The duration is

$$D = \sum_{t=1}^T [t \times w_t] = \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ t \times \frac{CF_t}{P \times (1+y)^t} \right] = 12.15841$$

The modified duration is

$$D^* = D / (1+y) = 11.25778$$

```
P <- 1000
rate <- 0.08
y <- rate
year <- 30
CF <- rep(P * rate, year)
CF[year] <- CF[year] + P
duration <- 0
for (t in c(1:year)) {
  duration <- duration + t * CF[t] / ((1+y)^t) / P
}
duration
[1] 12.15841
duration
[1] 12.15841
modified.duration <- duration / (1+y)
modified.duration
[1] 11.25778
```

*In R*  
She posted an R markdown notebook

*In excel*

Inputs	Formula in column B
Settlement date	1/1/00 DATE(2000,1,1)
Maturity date	1/1/30 DATE(2002,1,1)
Annual coupon rate	0.08
Yield to maturity	0.08
Coupon per year	1

Outputs	
Macaulay duration	12.1584 DURATION(B2,B3,B4,B5,B6)
Modified duration	11.2578 MODURATION(B2,B3,B4,B5,B6)

*In excel, no formula for convexity → use R →*



## Convexity

- Consider a 30-year, 8% annual bond selling at par (initial YTM is 8%)
- The modified duration is 11.26
- The convexity is 212.4

The convexity is

$$\text{convexity} = \frac{1}{P \times (1+y)^2} \sum_{t=1}^T \left[ (t^2 + t) \times \frac{CF_t}{(1+y)^t} \right] = 212.4325$$

```
convexity <- 0
for (t in c(1:year)) {
  convexity <- convexity + (t^2 + t) * CF[t] / ((1+y)^t)
}
convexity <- convexity / (P * (1+y)^2)
convexity
[1] 212.4325
```



## Yield change and price change

- Consider a 30-year, 8% annual bond selling at par (initial YTM is 8%)
- The modified duration is 11.26
- The convexity is 212.4
- Suppose the yield is increased to 10%
- The price falls to \$811.46, a decline of 18.85%

Settlement date	1/1/00
Maturity date	1/1/30
Annual coupon rate	0.08
Yield to maturity	0.1
Redemption value (% of par)	100
Coupon payments per year	1
Flat price (% of par)	81.1462



## Duration approximation

- Consider a 30-year, 8% annual bond selling at par (initial YTM is 8%)
- The modified duration is 11.26
- Suppose the yield is increased to 10%
- The price falls to \$811.46, a decline of 18.85%
- The duration rule would predict a price decline of 22.52% → confirms duration formula
- $\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y = -11.26 \times 0.02 = -0.2252$

overestimates risk  
& underestimates price



## Duration with convexity approximation

- Consider a 30-year, 8% annual bond selling at par (initial YTM is 8%)
- The modified duration is 11.26
- The convexity is 212.4
- Suppose the yield is increased to 10%
- The price falls to \$811.46, a decline of 18.85%
- The duration-with-convexity rule would predict a price decline of 18.27%
  - $\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{convexity} \times \Delta y^2 = -11.26 \times 0.02 + \frac{1}{2} \times 212.4 \times 0.02^2 = -0.1827$
  - More accurate than the duration rule

much closer

we may underestimate the risk w/ convexity (overestimate price) in contrast to just the duration formula



## Question

- Question: What if the yield only increases by 0.1%? How much does the bond price fall? What is the decline predicted by the duration rule? What about the duration-with-convexity rule?

- Answer: The modified duration is 11.26 and the convexity is 212.4
- The duration rule would predict a price decline of 1.1126%
  - $\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y = -11.26 \times 0.001 = -0.01126$
- The duration-with-convexity rule would predict a price decline of 1.115%
  - $\frac{\Delta P}{P} = -D^* \Delta y + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{convexity} \times \Delta y^2 = -11.26 \times 0.001 + \frac{1}{2} \times 212.4 \times 0.001^2 = -0.01115$

