Consider a portfolio comprising of a \$100,000 par value 3-year zero coupon bond and a \$100,000 par value 20-year zero coupon bond.

US Treasury yield curve rates

| Term | 1 | 2 | 3 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 20 | 30 |
|--------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| (Year) | | | | | | | | |
| Spot | 0.15 | 0.48 | 0.75 | 1.18 | 1.44 | 1.55 | 1.98 | 1.93 |
| Rate | | | | | | | | |
| (%) | | | | | | | | |

By mapping the cash flows to vertices at 3 and 20 years, the PV01 of the two bonds are calculated.

PV01 of the 3-year zero coupon bond

| Years to |) | Cash Flow | Spot Rate | Present | Spot Rate | Present | PV01 |
|----------|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-------|
| Maturity | | | (%) | Value | (%) | Value | |
| 3 | | 100,000 | 0.75 | 97,783.33 | 0.74 | 97,812.46 | 29.13 |

PV01 of the 20-year zero coupon bond

| Years to | Cash Flow | Spot Rate | Present | Spot Rate | Present | PV01 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| Maturity | | (%) | Value | (%) | Value | |
| 20 | 100,000 | 1.98 | 67,561.59 | 1.97 | 67,694.22 | 132.63 |

Principal component analysis (PCA) is performed on the correlation matrix of daily changes in spot rates, using data between January 2010 and December 2020.

Results of the PCA

| Principal | Eigenvalue | Variance | Explained | Cumulativ | 'e |
|----------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Component (PC) | | (%) | - | Variance | Explained |
| | | | | (%) | - |
| 1 | 6.3248 | | 79.06 | | 79.06 |
| 2 | 1.0033 | | 12.54 | | 91.60 |
| 3 | 0.4305 | | 5.38 | | 96.98 |
| 4 | 0.1366 | | 1.71 | | 98.69 |
| 5 | 0.0548 | | 0.68 | | 99.37 |
| 6 | 0.0216 | | 0.27 | | 99.64 |
| 7 | 0.0153 | | 0.19 | | 99.83 |
| 8 | 0.0131 | | 0.16 | | 99.99 |

The first 3 principal components are retained for parsimony reason since they explain more than 95% of the total variance. The 3-factor model is in line with Litterman and Scheinkman (1991). They identified that there are 3 common factors influencing the yield curve: level, slope, and curvature.

Eigenvectors for the first 3 principal components

| | PC1 | PC2 | PC3 |
|-------|--------|---------|---------|
| DGS1 | 0.2283 | -0.6862 | 0.6726 |
| DGS2 | 0.3342 | -0.3995 | -0.3726 |
| DGS3 | 0.3657 | -0.2371 | -0.3708 |
| DGS5 | 0.3848 | -0.0198 | -0.2556 |
| DGS7 | 0.3877 | 0.1194 | -0.1017 |
| DGS10 | 0.3835 | 0.2240 | 0.0647 |
| DGS20 | 0.3642 | 0.3375 | 0.2683 |
| DGS30 | 0.3526 | 0.3668 | 0.3457 |

Net sensitivities on PC risk factors

| PC | 1 | 2 | 3 |
|------|---------|---------|---------|
| Beta | 58.9567 | 37.8559 | 24.7832 |

The portfolio volatility is

$$\sigma_{daily} = \sqrt{58.9567^2(6.3248) + 37.8559^2(1.0033) + 24.7832^2(0.4305)} = \$153.9043$$

$$\sigma_{monthly} = 153.9043 \times \sqrt{20} = \$688.2809$$

The 5% 1-month VaR of the portfolio is \$1135.66.