

# Yu Xia's Problem Set 4

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September 2022

## 1

$$r_{15}^m = \frac{r_{15}^a}{12} = 0.003$$

We have:

$$M_{15} = \frac{P \cdot r_{15}^m}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + r_{15}^m)^{180}}}$$

If  $P = \$160\text{K}$ ,

$$M_{15} = \boxed{1,151.69}$$

$$TP_0 = 180M_{15} = \boxed{207,303}$$

If  $P = \$150\text{K}$ ,

$$M_{15} = \boxed{1,079.71}$$

$$TP_1 = 180M_{15} = \boxed{194,346}$$

In 5.1,  $\rho^a = 0.02$  is given.

$$\rho^m = \frac{\rho^a}{12} = \frac{0.02}{12} = \frac{0.01}{6} = \frac{1}{600} \approx 0.017$$

The present value of the total annual rent is

$$C(c) = c \left( 1 + \frac{1}{1 + \rho^m} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(1 + \rho^m)^{11}} \right) = c \frac{1 + \rho^m}{\rho^m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1 + \rho^m)^{12}} \right)$$

$$\text{If } C = \$1,500, \quad \boxed{C(1500) = 17,836}$$

$$TP_0 - C(c) - \frac{TP_1}{1 + \rho^a} = 207,303 - 17,836 - \frac{194,346}{1.02} \approx 189,467 - 190,535.29 \approx \boxed{-1,068.29}$$

$$\text{If } C = \$2,000, \boxed{C(2000) = 23,782}$$

$$TP_0 - C(c) - \frac{TP_1}{1 + \rho^a} = 207,303 - 23,782 - \frac{194,346}{1.02} \approx 183,521 - 190,535.29 \approx \boxed{-7,014.29}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c^* &= \frac{\rho^m}{1 + \rho^m} \frac{TP_0 - \frac{TP_1}{1 + \rho^a}}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + \rho_m)^{12}}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{600}}{1 + \frac{1}{600}} \frac{207,303 - \frac{194,346}{1 + 0.02}}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{1}{600}\right)^{12}}} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{600}}{\frac{601}{600}} \frac{207,303 - \frac{194,346}{1.02}}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{601}{600}\right)^{12}}} \\ &= \frac{600}{601} \frac{207,303 - \frac{194,346}{1.02}}{1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}} \\ &\approx \boxed{1410.1423} \end{aligned}$$

## 2

If  $r_u^a = 0.04$

$$r_u^m = \frac{r_u^a}{12} = \frac{0.04}{12} = \frac{0.01}{3} = \frac{1}{300} \approx 0.00333$$

When  $P = \$150K$ ,

$$M_u = \frac{P \cdot r_u^m}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + r_u^m)^{180}}} = \frac{150,000 \cdot \frac{1}{300}}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{301}{300}\right)^{180}}} = \frac{1500 \cdot \frac{1}{3}}{1 - \left(\frac{300}{301}\right)^{180}} \approx \frac{500}{1 - 0.5493595} \approx \frac{500}{0.45} \approx \boxed{1,109.53}$$

$$TP_u = 180M_u \approx 180 \times 1,109.53 \approx 199,715.7$$

$$\mathbb{E}[TP] = \pi TP_u + (1 - \pi) TP_1 \approx 0.5 \times 199,715.7 + 0.5 \times 194,346 \approx \boxed{197,030.9}$$

### 3

If the prices go up by 10 percent,  $P_u = 170\text{K}$ .

$$M_u = \frac{P_u \cdot r_{15}^m}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + r_{15}^m)^{180}}} = \frac{170,000 \cdot 0.003}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{3}{1000}\right)^{180}}} = \frac{170 \cdot 3}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1003}{1000}\right)^{180}}} = \frac{510}{1 - \left(\frac{1000}{1003}\right)^{180}} \approx \boxed{1,223.6658}$$

$$TP_u = 180M_u \approx \boxed{220,259.84}$$

If the prices go down by 10 percent,  $P_d = 130\text{K}$ .

$$M_d = \frac{P_d \cdot r_{15}^m}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + r_{15}^m)^{180}}} = \frac{130,000 \cdot 0.003}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(1 + \frac{3}{1000}\right)^{180}}} = \frac{130 \cdot 3}{1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{1003}{1000}\right)^{180}}} = \frac{390}{1 - \left(\frac{1000}{1003}\right)^{180}} \approx \boxed{935.7442}$$

$$TP_d = 180M_d \approx \boxed{168,433.99}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[TP] = 0.45TP_u + 0.55TP_d \approx 0.45 \times 220,259.8 + 0.55 \times 168,434 \approx \boxed{191755.62}$$

### 4

By **1**, we have the critical value  $c^* \approx 1410.1423$ , comparing buying now and buying a year afterward.

Assume you are in the end of year 1. You are considering whether to buy in the end of  $t = 1$  or the end of  $t = 2$ .

$$P^{t=2} = \$200,000 - 60,000 = \$140\text{K}.$$

On the other hand,

$$M_{15}^{t=2} = \frac{P^{t=2} \cdot r_{15}^m}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + r_{15}^m)^{180}}} = \frac{140,000 \cdot 0.003}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + 0.003)^{180}}} = \frac{140 \cdot 3}{1 - \frac{1}{(1.003)^{180}}} = \frac{420}{1 - \frac{1}{(1.003)^{180}}} \approx 1007.7248$$

$$TP_2 = 180M_{15}^{t=2} \approx 181,390.46$$

The critical value, comparing  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$ , is:

$$c^{*t} = \frac{\rho^m}{1 + \rho^m} \frac{TP_1 - \frac{TP_2}{1 + \rho^a}}{1 - \frac{1}{(1 + \rho_m)^{12}}} = \frac{600}{601} \frac{194,346 - \frac{181,390.5}{1.02}}{1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}} \approx \boxed{1388.6526}$$

If the rent at the end of  $t = 1$  is higher than \$1388.6526, buy at the end of  $t = 1$  (if you have already been in  $t = 1$ ). If the rent at the end of  $t = 1$  is less than \$1388.6526, wait another year and buy at the end of  $t = 2$  (if you have already been in  $t = 1$ ).

(i)

$$\text{If } TP_0 - C(c_0) - 0.9c_0 \left( \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} + \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{13}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{23}} \right) - \frac{TP_2}{(1+\rho^a)^2} < 0,$$

better to buy at  $t = 0$  than  $t = 2$  regardless of future change of rent.

That is,

$$\begin{aligned} 207,303 - c_0 \frac{1+\rho^m}{\rho^m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \right) \\ - 0.9c_0 \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{1+\rho^m} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{11}} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{(1+\rho^a)^2} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow 207,303 - c_0 \frac{1+\rho^m}{\rho^m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \right) \\ - \frac{0.9c_0}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \frac{1+\rho^m}{\rho^m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{(1+\rho^a)^2} < 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow 207,303 - c_0 \frac{1+\rho^m}{\rho^m} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{0.9}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{(1+\rho^a)^2} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 207,303 - c_0 \frac{1+\frac{1}{600}}{\frac{1}{600}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\left(1+\frac{1}{600}\right)^{12}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{0.9}{\left(1+\frac{1}{600}\right)^{12}} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{(1+0.02)^2} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 207,303 - c_0 \frac{\frac{601}{600}}{\frac{1}{600}} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{\left(\frac{601}{600}\right)^{12}} \right) \left( 1 + \frac{0.9}{\left(\frac{601}{600}\right)^{12}} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 207,303 - 601c_0 \left( 1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right) \left( 1 + 0.9 \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right) - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404} < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404} < 601c_0 \left( 1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right) \left( 1 + 0.9 \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow 601c_0 \left( 1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right) \left( 1 + 0.9 \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12} \right) > 207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404}$$

$$\Rightarrow c_0 > \frac{207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404}}{601 \left(1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}\right) \left(1 + 0.9 \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}\right)} \approx \boxed{1472.52} > 1410.1423$$

Buy at  $t = 0$  if  $c_0 > 1472.52$  regardless of future change.

$$\text{If } TP_0 - C(c_0) - 1.1c_0 \left( \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{12}} + \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{13}} + \dots + \frac{1}{(1+\rho^m)^{23}} \right) - \frac{TP_2}{(1+\rho^a)^2} > 0,$$

better to buy at  $t = 2$  than  $t = 0$  regardless of future change of rent.

That is,

$$\Rightarrow c_0 < \frac{207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404}}{601 \left(1 - \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}\right) \left(1 + 1.1 \left(\frac{600}{601}\right)^{12}\right)} \approx \boxed{1333.62} < 1410.1423$$

Buying at  $t = 0$  is the worst.

Now let's consider:

$$1.1 \times 1333.62 \approx 1466.9779 > 1388.6526$$

$$0.9 \times 1333.62 < 1333.62 < 1388.6526$$

Still cannot tell  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$ .

If  $c_1 = 1.1c_0 < 1388.6526 \iff c_0 < \boxed{1262.4115} < 1333.62 < 1410.1423$ ,  $t = 2$  is better than  $t = 1$ ,  $t = 1$  is better than  $t = 0$ , even if future increase in rate. Thus buying at  $t = 2$  is the best regardless of future rent change.

If  $c_1 = 0.9c_0 > 1388.6526 \iff c_0 > \boxed{1542.9474} > 1410.1423 > 1333.62$ , buying at  $t = 2$  is worse than buying at  $t = 1$  regardless of future change. But at the same time,  $t = 0$  becomes the best choice.

If  $t = 1$  is the best time,

$$c_0 < 1410.1423 \text{ and } c_1 > 1388.6526.$$

$$\therefore c_1 \geq 0.9c_0$$

$\therefore 0.9c_0 > 1388.6526$  regardless of rent change. Follows the conclusion above.

It follows that:

Buy at  $t = 0$  if  $c_0 > 1472.52$  regardless of future change.

Buy at  $t = 2$  if  $c_0 < 1262.4115$  regardless of future change.

But it's still hard to draw a conclusion if  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1472.52$ , unless you know exactly how rate will change.

(ii)

Your expectation of the rent the next year is

$$\mathbb{E}[c_1] = 0.5 \cdot 1.1c_0 + 0.5 \cdot 0.9c_0 = c_0$$

If  $c_0 > 1410.1423 > 1388.6526$ , buy the house at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 < 1388.6526 < 1410.1423$ , buy the house at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1388.6526 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ ,

Buying at  $t = 1$  is better than buying at  $t = 0$ , at the same time,  $t = 1$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

So buying at  $t = 1$  is the optimal choice if  $1388.6526 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ .

To sum up,

If  $c_0 > 1410.1423$ , buy the house at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 = 1410.1423$ , indifferent between  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$ .

If  $1388.6526 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ , buying at  $t = 1$  is the optimal choice.

If  $c_0 = 1388.6526$ , indifferent between  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$ .

If  $c_0 < 1388.6526$ , buy the house at  $t = 2$ .

(iii)

If  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1472.52$ :

Case 1: If rent goes up at the end of  $t = 1$ ,  $c_1 = 1.1c_0 > 1.1 \times 1262.4115 \approx 1388.6526$ , buying a house at the end of  $t = 1$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

If  $c_0 < 1410.1423$ , buying at  $t = 1$  is the best choice.

If  $c_0 > 1410.1423$ , buying at  $t = 0$  is the best choice.

Case 2: If rent goes down at the end of  $t = 1$ ,  $c_1 = 0.9c_0 < 0.9 \times 1472.52 \approx 1325.27 < 1388.6526$ , buying a house at the end of  $t = 2$  is better than buying a house at the end of  $t = 1$ .

Since at  $t = 0$ , you don't know the rent at  $t = 1$ ,

$$\text{if } TP_0 - C(c_0) - \mathbb{E}[c_1] \left( \frac{1}{(1 + \rho^m)^{12}} + \frac{1}{(1 + \rho^m)^{13}} + \cdots + \frac{1}{(1 + \rho^m)^{23}} \right) - \frac{TP_2}{(1 + \rho^a)^2} < 0,$$

buy at  $t = 0$  according to your expectation,  $\mathbb{E}[c_1] = c_0$ .

That implies,

$$c_0 > \frac{207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404}}{601 \left( 1 - \left( \frac{600}{601} \right)^{12} \right) \left( 1 + \left( \frac{600}{601} \right)^{12} \right)} \approx \boxed{1399.6309}$$

If  $c_0 > 1399.6309$ , buying at  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

If  $c_0 < 1399.6309$ , buying at  $t = 2$  is better than  $t = 0$ .

If  $1410.1423 < c_0 < 1472.52$ :

Buying at  $t = 0$  is better than buying at  $t = 1$ , at the same time,  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

If  $1399.6309 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ :

Buying at  $t = 1$  is better than buying at  $t = 0$ , at the same time,  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

At the same time,  $c_1 = 0.9c_0 < 0.9 \times 1410.1423 \approx 1269.1281 < 1388.6526$ .  $t = 2$  is actually better than  $t = 1$ .

The case is that, you know  $t = 1$  is better than buying at  $t = 0$  at the beginning. You wait to  $t = 1$ . You find that rent goes down.  $t = 2$  becomes the best choice. But you cannot know the rent change in advance. At  $t = 0$ , your expectation is that  $t = 1$  is the best.

If  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1399.6309$ :

Buying at  $t = 2$  is better than buying at  $t = 0$ , at the same time,

$$c_1 = 0.9c_0 < 0.9 \times 1399.6309 \approx 1259.6662 < 1388.6526$$

$t = 2$  is better than  $t = 1$ , if rent goes down.

In conclusion,

If  $c_0 > 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 < 1262.4115$ , buy at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1262.4115 \leq c_0 \leq 1472.52$ :

Case 1: rent increases.

If  $c_0 = 1262.4115$ , indifferent with  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$ .

If  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ , buy at  $t = 1$ .

If  $c_0 = 1410.1423$ , indifferent with  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$ .

If  $1410.1423 < c_0 \leq 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

Case 2: rent decreases,

If  $1410.1423 < c_0 \leq 1472.52$ , best choice is to buy at  $t = 0$ .

If  $1262.4115 \leq c_0 < 1410.1423$ , best choice is to buy at  $t = 2$ .

(iv)

Follows from (iii), but plug in  $0.9c_0$  in case 2.

$$\text{It implies } c_0 > \frac{207,303 - \frac{181,390.46}{1.0404}}{601 \left( 1 - \left( \frac{600}{601} \right)^{12} \right) \left( 1 + 0.9 \left( \frac{600}{601} \right)^{12} \right)} \approx 1472.52$$

If  $c_0 > 1472.52$ , buying at  $t = 0$  is the best.

If  $c_0 < 1472.52$ , buying at  $t = 2$  is better than  $t = 0$  if price goes down.

Case 2 is under the condition  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1472.52$ , where buying a house at the end of  $t = 2$  is better than buying a house at the end of  $t = 1$  if rent goes down.

So in Case 2, rent goes down, buy at  $t = 2$  is optimal.

To summarize:

If  $c_0 > 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 < 1262.4115$ , buy at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1262.4115 \leq c_0 \leq 1472.52$ :

Case 1, rent goes up,

If  $c_0 = 1262.4115$ , indifferent with  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$

if  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ , buy at  $t = 1$ ,

if  $c_0 = 1410.1423$ , indifferent with  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$ ,

if  $1410.1423 < c_0 \leq 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 0$ ,

Case 2, rent goes down, buy at  $t = 2$ .

(v)

If  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1472.52$ :

When  $1410.1423 < c_0 < 1472.52$ ,  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 1$ . You are comparing  $t = 0$  and  $t = 2$ .

Plug in  $\mathbb{E}[c_1]$  like (iii), we have  $1399.6309 < 1410.1423 < c_0 < 1472.52$ .  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 2$ .

When  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ ,  $t = 1$  is better than  $t = 0$ . You wait for another year.

If price goes up,  $c_1 = 1.1c_0 > 1.1 \times 1262.4115 \approx 1388.6526$ , you buy at  $t = 1$ .

If price goes down,  $c_1 = 0.9c_0 < 0.9 \times 1410.1423 \approx 1269.1281 < 1388.6526$ , you buy at  $t = 2$ .

In short,

If  $c_0 > 1410.1423$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 < 1262.4115$ , buy at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1262.4115 \leq c_0 \leq 1410.1423$ :

Wait for one year.

When rent goes up, buy at  $t = 1$ .

When rent goes down, buy at  $t = 2$ .



(vi)

If  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1472.52$ :

When  $1410.1423 < c_0 < 1472.52$ ,  $t = 0$  is better than  $t = 1$ . You are comparing  $t = 0$  and  $t = 2$ .

If rent goes up,  $c_0 > 1333.62$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

If rent goes down,  $c_0 < 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 2$ .

When  $1262.4115 < c_0 < 1410.1423$ :

Wait for one year.

If rent goes up,  $c_1 = 1.1c_0 > 1.1 \times 1262.4115 \approx 1388.6526$ , you buy at  $t = 1$ .

If price goes down,  $c_1 = 1.1c_0 < 0.9 \times 1410.1423 \approx 1269.1281 < 1388.6526$ , you buy at  $t = 2$ .

Thus,

If  $c_0 > 1472.52$ , buy at  $t = 0$ .

If  $c_0 < 1262.4115$ , buy at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1410.1423 < c_0 < 1472.52$ :

If rent goes up, buy at  $t = 0$ .

If rent goes down, buy at  $t = 2$ .

If  $1262.4115 \leq c_0 \leq 1410.1423$ :

Wait for one year.

When rent goes up, buy at  $t = 1$ .

When rent goes down, buy at  $t = 2$ .

I think (v) is closest to professor's meaning.