



CIFA PART III SECTION 5

FIXED INCOME INVESTMENTS ANALYSIS

WEDNESDAY: 29 November 2017.

Time Allowed: 3 hours.

Answer ALL questions. Marks allocated to each question are shown at the end of the question. Show ALL your workings.

QUESTION ONE

(a) Explain the following types of sovereign bonds:

- (i) Fixed-rate bonds. (1 mark)
- (ii) Floating-rate bonds. (1 mark)
- (iii) Inflation-linked bonds. (1 mark)

(b) Summarise three factors that could affect the interest rate on a repurchase agreement (repo) rate transaction. (3 marks)

(c) Emase Omanyala, an investor, buys a 4-year, 10% annual coupon payment bond with a yield-to-maturity of 5%. Emase intends to sell the bond in two years time once the second coupon payment is received. The coupon reinvestment rate after the bond purchase and the yield-to-maturity at the time of sale is 3%. The face value of the bond is Sh.100.

Required:

- (i) The purchase price for the bond. (2 marks)
- (ii) The horizon yield. (3 marks)

(d) A bond trader is provided with the following information relating to three bonds with annual coupon payments and a par value of Sh.100.

Bond	Coupon payment (Sh.)	Maturity (years)	Yield -to-maturity (%)
X	0	1	5.00
Y	2	2	5.20
Z	6	3	6.00

Required:

- (i) Determine the current term structure of spot interest rates. (3 marks)
- (ii) Illustrate how you would synthetically replicate a zero-coupon bond with a maturity of 3 years and a par value of Sh.100. (3 marks)
- (iii) Calculate the no-arbitrage price of the bond. (3 marks)

(Total: 20 marks)

QUESTION TWO

(a) Explain the following terms as used in valuation of fixed-income instruments:

- (i) Spot curve. (2 marks)
- (ii) Par curve. (2 marks)
- (iii) Forward curve. (2 marks)

(b) Your national government intends to issue a sovereign bond. As a fixed income professional, you have been consulted to advise on the issue.

Required:

Advise the treasury of your national government on three key areas that should be included in the basic framework for evaluating and assigning a credit rating of your national government before issuing the sovereign bond. (3 marks)

- (c) A corporate bond offers a 5% coupon rate and has exactly 3 years remaining to maturity. Interest is paid annually.

The following rates are available from the benchmark spot curve:

Time-to-maturity (years)	Spot rate (%)
1	4.86
2	4.95
3	5.65

The bond is currently trading at a Z - spread of 234 basis points and has a par value of Sh.100.

Required:

The value of the corporate bond.

(4 marks)

- (d) Peter Mutuku, an investor, buys a three-year bond with a 5% coupon rate paid annually. The bond, with a yield-to-maturity of 3%, is purchased at a price of Sh.105.657223 per Sh.100 of the face value.

Required:

Calculate the bond's approximate modified duration assuming a 5 basis points change in yield-to-maturity (YTM).

(7 marks)

(Total: 20 marks)

QUESTION THREE

- (a) Analyse three risks associated with relying on credit rating agencies when investing in fixed-income securities. (6 marks)
- (b) Credit risk analysis is extremely important to a well-functioning economy. Financial crises often originate in the mis-measuring of, and changes in, credit risk. Mis-rating can result in mispricing and misallocation of resources.

Required:

In relation to the above statements, discuss four credit risk measures of a bond.

(8 marks)

- (c) The following information relates to three newly issued AAA rated bonds:

	Bond characteristics		
	Bond A	Bond B	Bond C
Coupon	7%	7%	7%
Maturity date	August 3, 2021	August 3, 2021	August 3, 2021
Modified duration	4.15	4.17	4.16
Standard convexity	0.21	0.21	0.21

Effective duration and effective convexity for various shifts in the term structure

Term	Bond A		Bond B		Bond C	
	Effective Duration	Effective Convexity	Effective Duration	Effective Convexity	Effective Duration	Effective Convexity
-500	0.49	0.47	4.35	22.65	4.34	22.51
-300	0.49	0.47	4.28	22.04	4.27	21.86
-100	0.48	0.48	4.20	21.56	4.18	21.18
+100	4.11	20.57	0.48	0.47	4.12	20.66
+300	4.04	19.98	0.48	0.44	4.05	20.03
+500	3.97	19.35	0.47	0.44	3.98	19.45

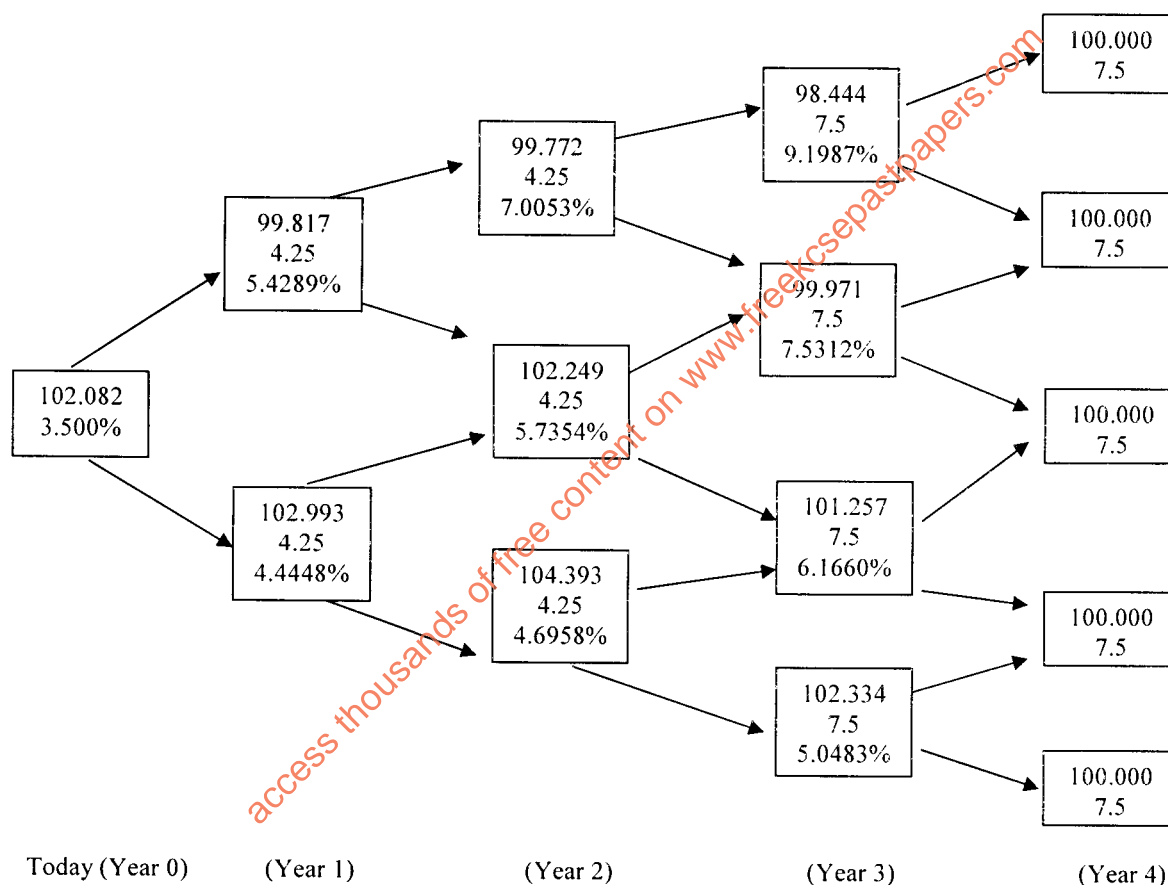
Required:

Justifying your answer, identify the:

- (i) Puttable bond. (2 marks)
 - (ii) Callable bond. (2 marks)
 - (iii) Option-free bond. (2 marks)
- (Total: 20 marks)**

QUESTION FOUR

- (a) Discuss three characteristics shared by equilibrium term structure models. (6 marks)
- (b) Highlight two methods that could be used to estimate interest rate volatility. (2 marks)
- (c) Describe three factors that could influence the level and volatility of yield spreads on corporate bonds. (3 marks)
- (d) The following information relates to a step-up coupon callable bond:



Additional information:

1. Step-up: 4.25% for year 1 and 2 and 7.50% for year 3 and 4.
2. Computed value: Coupon based on step-up schedule short-term rate (r)
3. The four-year step-up callable note pays 4.25% for two years and then 7.5% for two more years. This note is callable at par at the end of year 2 and year 3. It is assumed that interest rate volatility is 10%.

Required:

Determine the value of the embedded call option.

(9 marks)
(Total: 20 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

- (a) (i) Define the term “credit enhancement” as used in a bond issue. (1 mark)
- (ii) Distinguish between “internal credit enhancement” and “external credit enhancement”. (2 marks)
- (iii) Examine three forms of external credit enhancement. (3 marks)
- (b) Describe three types of bonds with embedded options. (6 marks)
- (c) The following information relates to three bonds A, B and C listed at MSE securities exchange:

Bond	Coupon (%)	Maturity (Years)	Price (%)
A	5	1	100.96
B	6.5	3	106.29
C	2	3	93.84

Additional information:

- Prices are in decimals.
- The bonds’ pay coupon annually.
- The par value of each bond is Sh.100.

Required:

- (i) The yield-to-maturity (YTM) for each bond. (3 marks)
- (ii) The 1-year, 2-year and 3-year spot rates. (5 marks)

(Total: 20 marks)

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