



# The term structures of equity and interest rates<sup>☆</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

This paper proposes a dynamic risk-based model capable of jointly explaining the term structure of interest rates, returns on the aggregate market, and the risk and return characteristics of value and growth stocks. Both the term structure of interest rates and returns on value and growth stocks convey information about how the representative investor values cash flows of different maturities. We model how the representative investor perceives risks of these cash flows by specifying a parsimonious stochastic discount factor for the economy. Shocks to dividend growth, the real interest rate, and expected inflation are priced, but shocks to the price of risk are not. Given reasonable assumptions for dividends and inflation, we show that the model can simultaneously account for the behavior of aggregate stock returns, an upward-sloping yield curve, the failure of the expectations hypothesis, and the poor performance of the capital asset pricing model.

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## 1. Introduction

Empirical studies of asset pricing have uncovered a rich set of properties of the time series of aggregate stock market returns, of the term structure of interest rates, and of the cross-section of stock returns. Average returns on the aggregate stock market are high relative to short-term interest rates. Relative to dividends, aggregate stock

returns are highly volatile. They are also predictable; the return on the aggregate market in excess of the short-term interest rate is predictably high when the price–dividend ratio is low and predictably low when the price–dividend ratio is high. The term structure of interest rates on U.S. government bonds is upward-sloping, and excess bond returns are predictable by yield spreads and by linear combinations of forward rates. In the cross-section, stocks with low ratios of price to fundamentals (value stocks) have higher returns than stocks with high ratios of price to fundamentals (growth stocks), despite the fact that they have lower covariance with aggregate stock returns. These facts together are inconsistent with popular benchmark models and therefore represent an important challenge for theoretical modeling of asset prices.<sup>2</sup>

One approach to explaining these properties of asset prices is to propose a fully specified model of investor preferences, endowments, and cash flows on the assets of interest. Under this approach, the returns investors demand for bearing risks (the prices of risk) are endogenously

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<sup>2</sup> See Campbell (2003) and Cochrane (1999) for recent surveys of the empirical literature and discussion of these benchmark models.

determined by the form of preferences and the process for aggregate consumption. These prices of risk in turn determine risk premiums, volatility, and covariances on the assets in equilibrium. Models that follow this approach typically have a small number of free parameters and generate tight implications for asset prices. We refer to this as the *equilibrium approach*.

A second approach is to directly specify the stochastic discount factor (SDF) for the economy. Foundational work by Harrison and Kreps (1979) demonstrates that, in the absence of arbitrage, there exists a process (known as a stochastic discount factor) that determines current prices on the basis of future cash flows. Given that such a process exists, this second approach specifies the SDF process directly, without reference to preferences or endowments. The exogenously specified SDF implies processes for the prices of risk which determine asset pricing properties. Models based on the SDF typically have a large number of degrees of freedom and therefore allow for substantial flexibility in matching asset prices. Indeed, the parameters of the SDF and of cash flows are often backed out from asset prices. We refer to this as the *SDF approach*.

In this paper, we seek to explain the aggregate market, cross-sectional, and term structure facts within a single model. To do so, we combine elements of both approaches described above. We assume that only risk arising from aggregate cash flows is priced directly, thus maintaining the strict discipline about the number and nature of priced factors imposed by the equilibrium approach. We determine the parameters of the cash-flow processes based on data from the cash flows themselves. This modeling approach maintains the parsimony that is typical of equilibrium models. However, rather than specifying underlying preferences, we directly specify the stochastic discount factor as in the SDF approach. Our goal is to introduce a small but crucial amount of flexibility in order to explain the facts listed in the first paragraph.

Our model's ability to match the data stems in part from properties of the time-varying price of risk, which results in time-varying risk premiums on stocks and bonds. As in Brennan, Wang, and Xia (2004) and Lettau and Wachter (2007), we assume first-order autoregressive (AR(1)) processes for both the price of risk and the real interest rate. To model the nominal term structure of interest rates, we introduce an exogenous process for the price level (Cox, Ingersoll, and Ross, 1985; Boudoukh, 1993) such that expected inflation follows an AR(1). Realized inflation can therefore be characterized as a first-order autoregressive moving average process (ARMA(1,1)). Following Bansal and Yaron (2004) and Campbell (2003), we assume an AR(1) process for the expected growth rate of aggregate cash flows.

We calibrate the dividend, inflation, and risk-free rate processes to their counterparts in U.S. data. The price of risk is then calibrated to match aggregate asset pricing properties. Several properties of these processes are key to the model's ability to fit the data. First, a volatile price of risk is necessary to capture the empirically demonstrated property that risk premiums on stocks and bonds

are time-varying. This time-varying price of risk also allows the model to match the volatility of stock and bond returns given low volatility of dividends, real interest rates, and inflation. Second, the real risk-free rate is negatively correlated with fundamentals. This implies a slightly upward-sloping real yield curve. Expected inflation is also negatively correlated with fundamentals, implying a yield curve for nominal bonds that is more upward-sloping than the real yield curve.

Our model illustrates a tension between the upward slope of the yield curve and the value premium. The value premium implies that value stocks, which are short-horizon equity (because their cash flows are weighted more toward the present), have greater expected returns than growth stocks, which are long-horizon equity (because their cash flows are weighted more toward the future). Therefore, the "term structure of equities" slopes downward, not upward. However, the very mechanism that implies an upward-sloping term structure of interest rates, namely a negative correlation between shocks to fundamentals and shocks to the real interest rate, also implies a growth premium. We show that correlation properties of shocks to the price of risk are key to resolving this tension. Namely, when the price of risk is independent of fundamentals, the model can simultaneously account for the downward-sloping term structure of equities and the upward-sloping term structure of interest rates.

To summarize, our model generates quantitatively accurate means and volatilities for the aggregate market and for Treasury bonds, while allowing for low volatilities in fundamentals. The model can replicate the predictability in excess returns on the aggregate market, the negative coefficients in Campbell and Shiller (1991) bond yield regressions, and the tent-shaped coefficients on forward rates found by Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005). Finally, besides capturing the relative means of value and growth portfolios, our model also captures the striking fact that value stocks have relatively low risk according to conventional measures like standard deviation and covariance with the market. Therefore, our model replicates the well-known outperformance of value, and underperformance of growth relative to the capital asset pricing model (CAPM).

Our paper builds on studies that examine the implications of the term structure of interest rates for the stochastic discount factor. Dai and Singleton (2002, 2003) and Duffee (2002) demonstrate the importance of a time-varying price of risk for explaining the predictability of excess bond returns. Like these papers, we also construct a latent factor model in which bond yields are linear. Ang and Piazzesi (2003), Bikbov and Chernov (2008), and Duffee (2006) introduce macroeconomic time series into the SDF as factors; in our work, macroeconomic time series also are used to determine the SDF. Unlike our work, these papers focus exclusively on the term structure.

We also build on a literature that seeks to simultaneously explain prices in bonds and in the aggregate stock market (see Bakshi and Chen, 1996; Bansal and Shaliastovich, 2007; Bekaert, Engstrom, and Grenadier, 2006; Buraschi and Jiltsov, 2007; Gabaix, 2008; Lustig, Van Nieuwerburgh, and

Verdelhan, 2008; Wachter, 2006). We extend these studies by exploring the consequences of our pricing kernel for a cross-section of equities defined by cash flows. In particular, we show that the model can reproduce the high premium on value stocks relative to growth stocks and the fact that value stocks have a low variance and low covariance with the aggregate market.

Finally, we also build on work that seeks to simultaneously explain the aggregate market and returns on value and growth stocks. Several studies link observed returns on value and growth stocks to new sources of risk (Campbell and Vuolteenaho, 2004; Campbell, Polk, and Vuolteenaho, 2010; Lustig and van Nieuwerburgh, 2005; Piazzesi, Schneider, and Tuzel, 2007; Santos and Veronesi, 2006; Yogo, 2006). Others more closely relate to the present study in that they model value and growth stocks based on their underlying cash flows (Berk, Green, and Naik, 1999; Carlson, Fisher, and Giammarino, 2004; Gomes, Kogan, and Zhang, 2003; Hansen, Heaton, and Li, 2008; Kiku, 2006; Lettau and Wachter, 2007; Santos and Veronesi, 2010; Zhang, 2005). Unlike these studies, our study also seeks to explain the upward slope of the nominal yield curve and time-variation in bond risk premiums. As we show, jointly considering the term structure of interest rates and behavior of value and growth portfolios has strong implications for the stochastic discount factor.

## 2. The model

In this section we introduce a model in which prices are driven by four state variables: expected dividend growth, expected inflation, the short-term real interest rate and the price of risk. Appendix A solves a more general model in which prices are driven by an arbitrary number of (potentially latent) factors.

### 2.1. Dividend growth, inflation, and the stochastic discount factor

The model specified in this section has six shocks, namely, a shock to dividend growth, to inflation, to expected dividend growth, to expected inflation, to the real risk-free rate, and to the price of risk. Let  $\epsilon_{t+1}$  denote a  $6 \times 1$  vector of independent standard normal shocks that are independent of variables observed at or before time  $t$ . We use bold font to denote matrices and vectors.

Let  $D_t$  denote the level of the aggregate real dividend at time  $t$  and  $d_t = \log D_t$ . We assume that the log growth rate of the aggregate dividend is conditionally normally distributed with a time-varying mean  $z_t$  that follows a first-order autoregressive process:

$$\Delta d_{t+1} = z_t + \sigma_d \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (1)$$

$$z_{t+1} = (1 - \phi_z)g + \phi_z z_t + \sigma_z \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (2)$$

where  $\sigma_d$  and  $\sigma_z$  are  $1 \times 6$  vectors of loadings on the shocks  $\epsilon$ , and  $\phi_z$  is the autocorrelation. The conditional standard deviation of dividend growth is  $\sigma_d = \sqrt{\sigma_d \sigma_d'}$ . In what follows, we will use the notation  $\sigma_i = \sqrt{\sigma_i \sigma_i'}$  to refer to the conditional standard deviation of  $i$ , and  $\sigma_{ij} = \sigma_i \sigma_j'$  to

refer to the covariance between shocks to  $i$  and to  $j$ . For the purpose of discussion, we assume that the autocorrelations of  $z$  and of the remaining three state variables are between zero and one; thus, each variable is stationary and positively autocorrelated.<sup>3</sup> The parameter  $g$  can therefore be interpreted as the unconditional mean of dividend growth.

Because we are interested in pricing nominal bonds, we also specify a process for inflation. Let  $\Pi_t$  denote the price level and  $\pi_t = \log \Pi_t$ . Inflation follows the process

$$\Delta \pi_{t+1} = q_t + \sigma_\pi \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (3)$$

$$q_{t+1} = (1 - \phi_q)\bar{q} + \phi_q q_t + \sigma_q \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (4)$$

where  $\sigma_\pi$  and  $\sigma_q$  are  $6 \times 1$  vectors of loadings on the shocks,  $\bar{q}$  is the unconditional mean of inflation, and  $\phi_q$  is the autocorrelation. In what follows, all quantities will be expressed in real terms unless it is stated otherwise; multiplying by  $\Pi_t$  converts a quantity from real to nominal terms.

Discount rates are determined by the real risk-free rate and by the price of risk. Let  $r_{t+1}^f$  denote the continuously compounded risk-free return between times  $t$  and  $t+1$ . Note that  $r_{t+1}^f$  is known at time  $t$ . We assume that

$$r_{t+1}^f = (1 - \phi_r)\bar{r}^f + \phi_r r_t^f + \sigma_r \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (5)$$

where  $\sigma_r$  is a  $6 \times 1$  vector of loadings on the shocks,  $\bar{r}^f$  is the unconditional mean of  $r_t^f$ , and  $\phi_r$  is the autocorrelation. The variable that determines the price of risk, and therefore risk premiums in this homoskedastic model, is denoted  $x_t$ . We assume

$$x_{t+1} = (1 - \phi_x)\bar{x} + \phi_x x_t + \sigma_x \epsilon_{t+1}, \quad (6)$$

where  $\sigma_x$  is a  $6 \times 1$  vector of loadings on the shocks,  $\bar{x}$  is the unconditional mean of  $x_t$ , and  $\phi_x$  is the autocorrelation.

To maintain a parsimonious model, we assume that only fundamental dividend risk is priced directly. This assumption implies that the price of risk is proportional to the vector  $\sigma_d$  (the formulas in Appendix A allow for a more general price of risk). Other risks are priced insofar as they covary with aggregate cash flows. Besides reducing the degrees of freedom in the model, this specification allows for easier comparison to models based on preferences, such as those of Campbell and Cochrane (1999) and Menzly, Santos, and Veronesi (2004). The stochastic discount factor (SDF) is thus given by

$$M_{t+1} = \exp\{-r_{t+1}^f - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_d^2 x_t^2 - x_t \sigma_d \epsilon_{t+1}\}.$$

Because the SDF is a quadratic function of  $x_t$ , the model is in the essentially affine class (Dai and Singleton, 2002; Duffee, 2002). Asset prices are determined by the Euler equation

$$E_t[M_{t+1} R_{t+1}] = 1, \quad (7)$$

where  $R_{t+1}$  denotes the real return on a traded asset. Given the lognormal specification, the maximal Sharpe

<sup>3</sup> However, realized dividend growth may be (and in fact will be) negatively autocorrelated.

ratio is given by

$$\begin{aligned} SR_t &= \max \frac{E_t R_{t+1} - R_{t+1}^f}{(\text{Var}_t[R_{t+1} - R_{t+1}^f])^{1/2}} = \frac{(\text{Var}_t[M_{t+1}])^{1/2}}{E_t[M_{t+1}]} \\ &= \sqrt{e^{x_t^2 \sigma_d^2} - 1} \approx |x_t| \sigma_d \end{aligned}$$

(see Campbell and Cochrane, 1999; Lettau and Uhlig, 2002; Lettau and Wachter, 2007).

## 2.2. Prices and returns on bonds and equities

### 2.2.1. Real bonds

Let  $P_{nt}^r$  denote the price of an  $n$ -period real bond at time  $t$ . That is,  $P_{nt}^r$  denotes the time- $t$  price of an asset with a fixed payoff of one at time  $t+n$ . Because this asset has no intermediate payoffs, its return between  $t$  and  $t+1$  equals

$$R_{n,t+1}^r = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^r}{P_{nt}^r}. \quad (8)$$

The prices of real bonds can be determined recursively from the Euler equation given in (7). Substituting in (8) for the return implies that

$$E_t[M_{t+1}P_{n-1,t+1}^r] = P_{nt}^r, \quad (9)$$

while the fact that the bond pays a single unit at maturity implies that  $P_{0t}^r = 1$ . Appendix C verifies that (9) is satisfied by

$$P_{nt}^r = \exp\{A_n^r + B_{rn}^r(r_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^r(x_t - \bar{x})\}. \quad (10)$$

The coefficient on the risk-free rate is given by

$$B_{rn}^r = -\frac{1 - \phi_r^n}{1 - \phi_r}. \quad (11)$$

The coefficient on the price of risk is given by the recursion

$$B_{xn}^r = B_{x,n-1}^r \phi_x - B_{rn,n-1}^r \sigma_{dr} - B_{xn,n-1}^r \sigma_{dx}, \quad (12)$$

with boundary condition  $B_{x0}^r = 0$ . The constant term  $A_n^r$  is defined by (C.8). The yield to maturity on a real bond is defined as

$$y_{nt}^r = -\frac{1}{n} \log P_{nt}^r = -\frac{1}{n} (A_n^r + B_{rn}^r(r_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^r(x_t - \bar{x})) \quad (13)$$

and is linear in the state variables.

Eq. (10) shows that prices of real bonds are driven by the risk-free rate and by the price of risk. Expected dividend growth and expected inflation do not directly influence the prices of real bonds (though they might influence these prices indirectly through correlations with  $r_{t+1}^f$  and with  $x_t$ ). As (11) shows, an increase in the risk-free rate lowers the bond price. Moreover, the magnitude of the price response to a change in  $r_{t+1}^f$  is increasing in maturity. This is the duration effect, and it is driven by the persistence  $\phi_r$ . Because the risk-free rate is persistent, a higher value today suggests that future values will also be high. Because of compounding, the further out the cash flow, the larger the effect a change in the risk-free rate has on the price. As (12) shows, the sign of the effect of the price-of-risk variable depends on the correlations  $\sigma_{dr}$  and  $\sigma_{dx}$ . The sign and magnitude of the effect of an increase in

the price of risk is best understood by examining the formula for risk premiums, as we now explain.

Let  $r_{nt}^r = \log R_{nt}^r$  be the continuously compounded return on the real zero-coupon bond of maturity  $n$ . Because real bond prices are lognormally distributed,  $r_{nt}^r$  is conditionally normally distributed. We derive risk premiums by taking the logs of both sides of Eq. (7) and use the properties of the lognormal distribution to evaluate the expectation. It follows that the risk premiums on real zero-coupon bonds satisfy

$$E_t[r_{n,t+1}^r - r_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Var}_t(r_{n,t+1}^r) = \text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^r, \Delta d_{t+1}) x_t. \quad (14)$$

Note that the second term on the left hand side of (14) is an adjustment for Jensen's inequality. Eqs. (10) and (11) imply that

$$\text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^r, \Delta d_{t+1}) = B_{rn,n-1}^r \sigma_{dr} + B_{xn,n-1}^r \sigma_{dx}. \quad (15)$$

Risk premiums on real bonds are time-varying and proportional to  $x_t$ . Given a value for  $x_t$ , the level of risk premiums is determined by the correlations  $\sigma_{dr}$  and  $\sigma_{dx}$ . Comparing (12) and (15), it is clear that the same variables that drive risk premiums influence the coefficients  $B_{xn}^r$  with a negative sign. This is not surprising, as  $B_{xn}^r$  represents the effects of the price-of-risk variable on the price of the real bond. When bonds carry positive risk premiums,  $B_{xn}^r < 0$ , which implies that an increase in  $x_t$  lowers the price of real bonds. Moreover, if risk premiums are increasing in maturity, the greater the maturity, the greater the effect of an increase in  $x_t$  on the price.

### 2.2.2. Equity

Let  $P_{nt}^d$  denote the time- $t$  price of the asset that pays the aggregate dividend at time  $t+n$ . We will refer to this asset as zero-coupon equity. In solving for the price, it is convenient to scale  $P_{nt}^d$  by the aggregate dividend at time  $t$  to eliminate the need to consider  $D_t$  as a state variable. The return on this zero-coupon equity claim is equal to

$$R_{n,t+1}^d = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^d}{P_{nt}^d} = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^d/D_{t+1}}{P_{nt}^d/D_t} \frac{D_{t+1}}{D_t}. \quad (16)$$

Let  $r_{nt}^d = \log R_{nt}^d$  denote the continuously compounded return. Substituting (16) into the Euler equation (7) implies that  $P_{nt}^d$  satisfies the recursion

$$E_t \left[ M_{t+1} \frac{D_{t+1}}{D_t} \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^d}{D_{t+1}} \right] = \frac{P_{nt}^d}{D_t}, \quad (17)$$

with boundary condition  $P_{0t}^d/D_t = 1$ . Appendix C verifies that (17) is solved by a function of the form

$$\frac{P_{nt}^d}{D_t} = \exp\{A_n^d + B_{zn}^d(z_t - g) + B_{rn}^d(r_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^d(x_t - \bar{x})\}. \quad (18)$$

The coefficients on expected dividend growth and the risk-free rate are given by

$$B_{zn}^d = \frac{1 - \phi_z^n}{1 - \phi_z}, \quad B_{rn}^d = -\frac{1 - \phi_r^n}{1 - \phi_r}. \quad (19)$$

The coefficient on the price of risk satisfies the recursion

$$B_{xn}^d = B_{x,n-1}^d \phi_x - \sigma_d^2 - B_{zn,n-1}^d \sigma_{dz} - B_{rn,n-1}^d \sigma_{dr} - B_{xn,n-1}^d \sigma_{dx}, \quad (20)$$

with boundary condition  $B_{x0}^d = 0$ . The constant term  $A_n^d$  is defined by (C.14). Following logic similar to that used to compute risk premiums on zero-coupon bonds, we find that risk premiums on zero-coupon equity claims are given by

$$E_t[r_{n,t+1}^d - \bar{r}_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2}\text{Var}_t(r_{n,t+1}^d) = \text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^d, \Delta d_{t+1})x_t, \quad (21)$$

where (18) and (19) imply that

$$\text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^d, \Delta d_{t+1}) = \sigma_d^2 + B_{z,n-1}^d \sigma_{dz} + B_{r,n-1}^d \sigma_{dr} + B_{x,n-1}^d \sigma_{dx}. \quad (22)$$

Eq. (18) shows that price–dividend ratios are driven by expected dividend growth, by the real interest rate and by the price of risk. Expected inflation does not directly influence equity valuations. As (19) shows, an increase in expected dividend growth increases prices. Because expected dividend growth is persistent, and because  $D_{t+n}$  cumulates shocks between  $t$  and  $t+n$ , the greater is the maturity  $n$ , the greater is the effect of changes in  $z_t$  on the price. An increase in the real interest rate lowers the equity price, and this effect is greater, the greater is the maturity. The intuition is the same as that for real bonds.

As in the case of real bonds, the effect of a change in the price of risk on equities is more subtle and depends on risk premiums. Comparing (20) and (22) indicates that the variables that influence risk premiums on equities also govern the evolution of  $B_{xn}^d$ . Risk premiums on zero-coupon equity are determined by the variance of cash flows, and the covariance of cash flows with shocks to expected dividend growth, to the risk-free rate, and to the price of risk. For the model to account for the value premium, risk premiums on equities will need to be decreasing in maturity rather than increasing. For this reason,  $B_{xn}^d$  will be a non-monotonic function of  $n$ . We will discuss risk premiums on zero-coupon equities more fully later in the paper.

In our model, the aggregate market portfolio is the claim to all future dividends. Therefore, its price–dividend ratio is given by

$$\frac{P_t^m}{D_t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{P_{nt}^d}{D_t} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \exp[A_n^d + B_{zn}^d(z_t - \bar{g}) + B_{rn}^d(\bar{r}_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^d(x_t - \bar{x})]. \quad (23)$$

Appendix B describes sufficient conditions on the parameters such that (23) converges for all values of the state variables. The return on the aggregate market equals

$$R_{t+1}^m = \frac{P_{t+1}^m + D_{t+1}}{P_t^m} = \frac{(P_{t+1}^m/D_{t+1}) + 1}{P_t^m/D_t} \frac{D_{t+1}}{D_t}. \quad (24)$$

Note that the price–dividend ratio is not an affine function of the state variables.

### 2.2.3. Nominal bonds

Let  $P_{nt}^\pi$  denote the real price of a zero-coupon nominal bond maturing in  $n$  periods. The real return on this bond equals

$$R_{n,t+1}^\pi = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^\pi}{P_{nt}^\pi} = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^\pi \Pi_{t+1}}{P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t} \frac{\Pi_t}{\Pi_{t+1}}. \quad (25)$$

Let  $r_{n,t+1}^\pi = \log R_{n,t+1}^\pi$  denote the continuously compounded return on this bond. This asset is directly analogous to the

dividend claim above: the “dividend” is the reciprocal of the price level, and the “price–dividend ratio” on this asset is its nominal price  $P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t$ .

The Euler equation holds for the real return on this bond; therefore, the price satisfies

$$E_t \left[ M_{t+1} \frac{\Pi_t}{\Pi_{t+1}} P_{n-1,t+1}^\pi \Pi_{t+1} \right] = P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t, \quad (26)$$

with boundary condition  $P_{0t}^\pi \Pi_t = 1$ . Appendix C shows that the recursion (26) can be solved by a function of the form

$$P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t = \exp[A_n^\pi + B_{qn}^\pi(q_t - \bar{q}) + B_{rn}^\pi(\bar{r}_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^\pi(x_t - \bar{x})]. \quad (27)$$

The coefficients on expected inflation and the risk-free rate are given by

$$B_{qn}^\pi = -\frac{1 - \phi_q^n}{1 - \phi_q}, \quad B_{rn}^\pi = -\frac{1 - \phi_r^n}{1 - \phi_r}. \quad (28)$$

The coefficient on the price of risk satisfies the recursion

$$B_{xn}^\pi = B_{x,n-1}^\pi \phi_x + \sigma_{d\pi} - B_{q,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dq} - B_{r,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dr} - B_{x,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dx}, \quad (29)$$

with boundary condition  $B_{x0}^\pi = 0$ . The constant term  $A_n^\pi$  is defined by (C.20). Following logic similar to that used to compute risk premiums on real bonds, risk premiums on nominal bonds are equal to

$$E_t[r_{n,t+1}^\pi - \bar{r}_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2}\text{Var}_t(r_{n,t+1}^\pi) = \text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^\pi, \Delta d_{t+1})x_t, \quad (30)$$

where

$$\text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^\pi, \Delta d_{t+1}) = -\sigma_{d\pi} + B_{q,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dq} + B_{r,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dr} + B_{x,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dx}.$$

Real risk premiums on nominal bonds are determined by the loadings on expected inflation, the real risk-free rate and the price of risk, along with the covariance of each of these sources of risk with shocks to fundamentals. In addition, risk premiums are determined by the covariance of unexpected inflation with fundamentals.

Eq. (27) shows that nominal bond prices are driven by expected inflation, the real interest rate, and the price of risk. Expected dividend growth does not directly influence nominal bond prices. As (28) shows, an increase in expected inflation lowers nominal bond prices at all maturities. This effect is greater, the greater the maturity, because  $\Pi_{t+n}$  cumulates shocks between  $t$  and  $t+n$ . An increase in the real interest rates lowers nominal bond prices at all maturities; the greater the maturity, the greater is this effect because of duration. The same variables that determine risk premiums govern the evolution of  $B_{xn}^\pi$ . Because nominal bonds will have risk premiums that are positive and increasing in maturity,  $B_{xn}^\pi$  will be negative and decreasing in maturity. That is, an increase in the price of risk will lower prices of nominal bonds, and will have a greater effect on long-term bonds than short-term bonds.

We also consider the nominal return on the nominal bond, and the nominal yield. Following [Campbell and Viceira \(2001\)](#), we use the superscript \$ to denote nominal quantities for the nominal bond. The nominal (continuously compounded) yield to maturity on this



bond is equal to

$$y_{nt}^S = -\frac{1}{n} \log(P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t) = -\frac{1}{n} (A_n^\pi + B_{qn}^\pi (q_t - \bar{q}) + B_{rn}^\pi (r_{t+1}^f - \bar{r}^f) + B_{xn}^\pi (x_t - \bar{x})) \quad (31)$$

and, like the yield on the real bond, is linear in the state variables. Finally, we use the notation  $R_{n,t+1}^S$  to denote the nominal return on the nominal  $n$ -period bond:

$$R_{n,t+1}^S = \frac{P_{n-1,t+1}^\pi \Pi_{t+1}}{P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t}.$$

Risk premiums on nominal bonds (relative to the one-period nominal bond) are also of interest. It follows from the equation for nominal prices (27) that

$$E_t[r_{n,t+1}^S - y_{1t}^S] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Var}_t(r_{n,t+1}^S) = \text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^S, \Delta d_{t+1}) x_t, \quad (32)$$

where

$$\text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^S, \Delta d_{t+1}) = B_{q,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dq} + B_{r,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dr} + B_{x,n-1}^\pi \sigma_{dx}.$$

This section has shown that risk premiums on all zero-coupon assets are proportional to  $x_t$ . While there is some conditional heteroskedasticity in the aggregate market that arises from time-varying weights on zero-coupon equity, this effect is small. A natural way to drive a wedge between time-variation in bond and stock premiums is to allow for time-varying correlations as in [Campbell, Sunderam, Viceira \(2009\)](#). For simplicity and to maintain our focus on the slope of the term structures of equity and interest rates, we do not pursue this route here.

### 2.3. Average slope of the term structure of equity and interest rates

Prior to describing the full calibration of the model and results from simulated data, we use the results developed above to describe the model's qualitative implications for risk premiums on bonds and stocks. We illustrate the issues by comparing bonds and equity maturing in two periods with those maturing in one period. It follows from (14) and (15) that the risk premium of the real bond maturing in two periods equals

$$E_t[r_{2,t+1}^r - r_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Var}_t(r_{2,t+1}^r) = -\sigma_{dr} x_t.$$

The risk premium on the one-period real bond is, by definition, equal to zero. The term  $\sigma_{dr}$  represents the covariance of shocks to the real interest rate with shocks to dividend growth: a negative covariance leads to a positive risk premium on the two-period bond because it implies that bonds pay off in good times (bond prices move in the opposite direction from the risk-free rate). The same term appears in the average spread between the yields of the one- and the two-period bond:

$$E[y_2^r - y_1^r] = -\frac{1}{2} \sigma_{dr} - \frac{1}{4} \sigma_r^2 \quad (33)$$

(see (13) and (C.8)). The second term represents an adjustment for Jensen's inequality and is relatively small.

The risk premiums on one- and two-period equity claims are equal to

$$E_t[r_{1,t+1}^d - r_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Var}_t(r_{1,t+1}^d) = \sigma_d^2 x_t, \quad (34)$$

$$E_t[r_{2,t+1}^d - r_{t+1}^f] + \frac{1}{2} \text{Var}_t(r_{2,t+1}^d) = (\sigma_d^2 - \sigma_{dr} + \sigma_{dz} - \sigma_d^2 \sigma_{dx}) x_t. \quad (35)$$

While the one-period equity claim is only exposed to unexpected changes in dividends, the two-period equity claim is also exposed to unexpected changes in the interest rate, expected dividend, and the price of risk. These risk factors are represented by the covariance terms  $\sigma_{dz}$ ,  $\sigma_{dr}$ , and  $\sigma_{dx}$ . If these processes are correlated with the priced fundamental dividend factor, the risk premium of the two-period equity claim will be different from the one-period premium. Note that the extent to which two-period equity is driven by  $x_t$  depends on the one-period premium. This explains why  $\sigma_d^2$  multiplies  $\sigma_{dx}$  in (35).

The positive premium of value (short-horizon) stocks over growth (long-horizon) stocks in the data suggests that the equity term structure is downward-sloping. Thus, the premium on two-period equity should be less than that on one-period equity. Comparing (33) to (34) and (35) suggests that an upward-sloping term structure of interest rates requires interest rate shocks to be negatively correlated with dividend shocks ( $\sigma_{dr} < 0$ ). *Ceteris paribus*, this effect leads also to an upward-sloping term structure of equity, which implies a growth premium rather than a value premium.

As shown in [Lettau and Wachter \(2007\)](#), a key parameter for the slope of the equity term structure is the correlation of fundamental dividend risk with shocks to the price-of-risk process  $x_t$ . To understand the role of this correlation, consider the special case of  $\sigma_{dx} = 1$  and  $\sigma_{dr} = \sigma_{dz} = 0$ . In this case, the two-period equity claim is riskless, as (35) shows. Recall that returns of zero-coupon equity depend on dividend growth and the change in the price-dividend ratio (see (16)). If  $\sigma_{dx} = 1$ , positive dividend shocks are associated with positive price-of-risk shocks. In this special case, the effect on the price-dividend ratio cancels out the effect on the dividend growth rate, creating a perfectly hedged one-period return. This example illustrates a general property of the model. If dividend shocks are associated with positive price-of-risk shocks ( $\sigma_{dx} > 0$ ), long-term equity tends to be less risky than short-term equity. On the other hand, if  $\sigma_{dx} < 0$ , the equity term structure tends to be upward-sloping, which is inconsistent with the large value premium in the data.

While the correlation  $\sigma_{dx}$  does not enter the formulas for the risk premium and the yield of the two-period bond, it does for bonds of maturities greater than two periods. A negative correlation between interest rates and fundamentals implies that long-term bonds have positive risk premiums. Because bond prices are determined by risk premiums, it follows that changes in risk premiums are another source of risk for these bonds. Holding all else equal,  $\sigma_{dx} < 0$  leads to a term structure that is more upward-sloping than otherwise. However, as explained above,  $\sigma_{dx} < 0$  also leads to higher expected returns on long-term equities relative to short-term equities, the opposite of what cross-sectional asset pricing data suggest. The root of the problem is that duration operates for both bonds and equities; when shocks to discount rates

are priced, risk premiums on all long-term instruments are driven up relative to short-term instruments.

In the calibration that follows, we show that it is indeed possible to match both the upward slope of the term structure of interest rates and the downward slope of the term structure of equities in a model where the risk-free rate and the risk premium vary. Part of the answer lies in the role of expected dividend growth which appears in the equations for equities above, and part of the answer lies in the role of expected inflation which influences risk premiums on nominal bonds.

### 3. Implications for returns on stocks and bonds

To study our model's implications for returns on the aggregate market, on real and nominal bonds, and for portfolios sorted on scaled-price ratios, we simulate 100,000 quarters from the model. Given simulated data on shocks  $\epsilon_t$ , and on expected dividend growth  $z_t$ , expected inflation  $q_t$ , the real risk-free rate  $r_t^f$ , and the price-of-risk variable  $x_t$ , we compute real prices of real bonds given (10), ratios of prices to the aggregate dividend for zero-coupon equity (18), and nominal prices of nominal bonds (27). We also compute a series for realized dividend growth (1) and realized inflation (3). In what follows, we focus attention on the aspects of the model that differ from that of Lettau and Wachter (2007): namely, the term structure of interest rates and the interactions between state variables and returns. Simulated moments for the aggregate market are very similar to those found in our earlier paper.

#### 3.1. Calibration

The model specifies processes for dividends, inflation, the real risk-free rate, and the price of risk. We calibrate the inflation parameters to data on inflation, dividend parameters to data on dividends, and risk-free rate parameters to data on interest rates. The process for the price of risk and correlations between the price-of-risk process and the other variables is then determined jointly by the term structure of interest rates and equity prices. Tables 1–3 give the calibrated values for the means and autocorrelations, the cross-correlations, and the standard deviations, respectively.

To calibrate the process for inflation, we use the maximum likelihood estimates of Wachter (2006). As Wachter shows, the likelihood function implied by (3) and (4) is the same as that for an ARMA(1,1) process. This is estimated on quarterly data from the second quarter of 1952 to the second quarter of 2004. The mean of expected inflation is 3.68% per annum, and expected inflation is found to have an annual autocorrelation of 0.78 (equivalent to a quarterly autocorrelation of 0.94). The volatility of expected inflation is 0.35% per annum, while the volatility of unexpected inflation is 1.18% per annum. The correlation between shocks to expected and unexpected inflation cannot be identified from inflation data alone. As in Wachter (2006), we set this correlation equal to one. This has the benefit of reducing the parameter space (because it reduces the number of shocks by one, and therefore eliminates five

**Table 1**

State variable means and autocorrelations.

Means of expected dividend growth, expected inflation, and the risk-free rate are in annual terms (i.e., multiplied by four). Autocorrelations for all state variables are in annual terms (i.e., raised to the 4th power). The model is simulated at a quarterly frequency.

State variable	Unconditional mean	Autocorrelation
Expected dividend growth $z_t$	1.29%	0.90
Expected inflation $q_t$	3.68%	0.78
Real risk-free rate $r_t^f$	0.96%	0.92
Price of risk $\sigma_d x_t$	0.85	0.85

**Table 2**

Conditional cross-correlations of shocks.

The table reports conditional cross-correlations of shocks to dividend growth  $\Delta d_t$ , inflation  $\Delta \pi_t$ , expected dividend growth  $z_t$ , expected inflation  $q_t$ , the risk-free rate  $r_{t+1}^f$ , and the price-of-risk variable  $x_t$ . The model is simulated at a quarterly frequency.

Variable	$\Delta \pi_t$	$z_t$	$q_t$	$r_{t+1}^f$	$x_t$
$\Delta d_t$	−0.30	−0.83	−0.30	−0.30	0
$\Delta \pi_t$		0	1.00	0	0
$z_t$			0	0	0.35
$q_t$				0	0
$r_{t+1}^f$					0

**Table 3**

Conditional standard deviations of shocks.

The table reports conditional standard deviations of shocks in annual percentage terms (i.e., multiplied by 200) for dividend growth  $\Delta d_t$ , inflation  $\Delta \pi_t$ , expected dividend growth  $z_t$ , expected inflation  $q_t$ , the risk-free rate  $r_t^f$ , and the scaled price-of-risk variable  $\sigma_d x_t$ . The model is simulated at a quarterly frequency.

Variable	$\Delta d_t$	$\Delta \pi_t$	$z_t$	$q_t$	$r_t^f$	$\sigma_d x_t$
Conditional standard deviation	10.00	1.18	0.32	0.35	0.19	40.00

correlations), and it does not appear to reduce the model's ability to fit the data.

Following Lettau and Wachter (2007), the process for dividend growth is calibrated based on an annual data set of Campbell (2003) that begins in 1890; we update it to 2004 using data from the Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP). Average log dividend growth is set to 1.29%, the average for real growth in log dividends over that period. We assume the volatility of realized dividend growth is equal to 10%, a value that falls between estimates in the long data ( $\sim 14\%$ ), and in the post-war sample ( $\sim 6\%$ ). Dividend growth is unpredictable over this sample;  $R^2$  values are essentially zero, and coefficients are insignificant. These facts suggest a standard deviation of  $z_t$  that is low relative to the standard deviation of realized dividend growth. We find that a standard deviation of 0.32% per annum is consistent with the data in that it implies  $R^2$  values that range from less than 1% to 2% at the ten-year horizon. The autocorrelation for  $z_t$  and the correlation between shocks to  $z_t$  and shocks to dividends is calibrated in the same way as in Lettau and

Wachter (2007); namely, the consumption–dividend ratio is used as an empirical proxy for  $z_t$ . Lettau and Ludvigson (2005) show that if consumption follows a random walk and if the consumption–dividend ratio is stationary, the consumption–dividend ratio captures the predictable component of dividend growth. The consumption–dividend ratio can therefore be identified with  $z_t$  up to an additive and multiplicative constant. We therefore take the autocorrelation of  $z_t$  to be 0.90, the autocorrelation of the consumption–dividend ratio over the 1890–2004 period. We take the correlation between shocks to  $z_t$  and shocks to  $\Delta d_t$  to be  $-0.83$ , equal to the correlation between these shocks over the 1890–2004 period.

Data on nominal interest rates are taken from CRSP. The yield on the 90-day Treasury bill represents the short-term nominal yield. Yields of maturities from one to five years are taken from Fama–Bliss data, which begin in 1952. We choose the mean of the real risk-free rate in order to match the sample mean of the short-term nominal yield over the 1952–2004 period. Our procedure is as follows. From (31) and (C.20), it follows that the mean of the one-period nominal yield is given by

$$E y_{1t}^S = \bar{r}^f + \bar{q} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_\pi^2 - \sigma_{d\pi}\bar{x}.$$

Namely, the expected short-term nominal yield is the sum of the real risk-free rate, expected inflation, the negative of one-half times the volatility of realized inflation (Jensen's inequality adjustment), and an inflation risk premium. The sample mean on the three-month bill is 1.31% (5.23% per annum). The terms  $\bar{q}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}\sigma_\pi^2$  are known from the inflation calibration; subtracting the former and adding the latter to 1.31% implies a (quarterly) value of 0.39%. Based on this value for  $\bar{r}^f$ , we then calibrate  $\sigma_{d\pi}$  and  $\bar{x}$  as described below, and adjust  $\bar{r}^f$  for the inflation risk premium (which turns out to equal 0.15% per quarter). Because the moments of the aggregate market are relatively insensitive to the precise value of  $\bar{r}^f$ , it is not necessary to repeat this process more than once to obtain the correct value of the nominal yield.<sup>4</sup>

Choosing the autocorrelation and the volatility of the risk-free rate is less straightforward than choosing the level because these parameters are less tightly linked to their counterparts in nominal interest rate data (for example, the volatility of nominal interest rates in the model depends, in a nonlinear way, on the volatilities and autocorrelations of the real risk-free rate, the price of risk, and expected and realized inflation). We first choose a set of values to give reasonable implications for the autocorrelation and volatility of nominal interest rates, given a process for  $x_t$ . We then re-calibrate the process for  $x_t$  based on the new values for  $r_t^f$ , and repeat as necessary. Given that the autocorrelation of inflation is 0.78 (in annual terms), the autocorrelation of the real risk-free rate must be higher in order to match the autocorrelations of nominal yields, which are above this value. The autocorrelations and volatilities in the model and in the data are shown in Table 4. An autocorrelation of 0.92 for

**Table 4**

Moments of zero-coupon bond yields.

Each panel displays means, standard deviations, and one-year autocorrelations of bond yields. Yields are in annual percentage terms. Panel A displays moments of real yields in the model, Panel B displays moments of nominal yields in the model, and Panel C displays moments of nominal yields in monthly data from 1952 to 2004.

Maturity (years)	0.25	1	2	3	4	5
<i>Panel A: Real bonds</i>						
Mean	0.91	1.05	1.23	1.40	1.56	1.71
Standard deviation	1.95	1.89	1.83	1.79	1.75	1.71
AC(1)	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.92	0.91
<i>Panel B: Nominal bonds</i>						
Mean	5.15	5.53	5.98	6.38	6.73	7.04
Standard deviation	2.89	2.80	2.73	2.70	2.68	2.67
AC(1)	0.85	0.85	0.86	0.86	0.86	0.87
<i>Panel C: Data</i>						
Mean	5.23	5.59	5.80	5.98	6.11	6.19
Standard deviation	2.93	2.93	2.87	2.80	2.76	2.72
AC(1)	0.80	0.82	0.84	0.85	0.86	0.87

the risk-free rate results in an autocorrelation for the three-month bond that is somewhat higher than in the data, but that matches the autocorrelations for longer term bonds exactly. Choosing the volatility of the risk-free rate to be 0.19% per annum results in a good fit to volatilities across the maturity spectrum. The volatility of the three-month yield is 2.89% in the model versus 2.93% in the data, while the volatility of the five-year yield is 2.67% in the model versus 2.72% in the data. The model is therefore able to capture the fact that interest rate volatilities decrease in the maturity of the bond.

The parameters of the process for  $x_t$  are chosen to fit moments of stock returns. Like the volatility and persistence of the real risk-free rate, these values are chosen numerically; there is no analytical formula that links these parameters to population moments implied by the model. The average price of risk,  $\bar{x}\sigma_d$ , is chosen to be 0.85; this generates an average maximal quarter Sharpe ratio of  $\sqrt{\exp(0.85^2)-1} = 1.03$ . As shown in Table 7, a high value of  $\bar{x}$  allows us to come close to the high Sharpe ratio of the extreme value portfolio (0.58 in the model versus 0.63 in the data). The Sharpe ratio on the market (not reported in the tables) is equal to a reasonable 0.40. Note that while the extreme value portfolio has the highest Sharpe ratio of the ten portfolios in our cross-sectional calibration, it does not achieve the maximal Sharpe ratio. In order to achieve the maximal Sharpe ratio, its return would need to be perfectly correlated with the dividend shock. However, because some of its payoffs occur in future periods, its return depends, to some degree, on expected dividend growth, real interest rates, and the price of risk.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The difference between the simulated value of 5.15% and the mean of 5.23% is due to simulation noise.

<sup>5</sup> In Lettau and Wachter (2007), we choose a lower value for  $\bar{x}\sigma_d$ , 0.625. Resetting  $\bar{x}$  to this value in the present model implies lower Sharpe ratios and risk premiums. Specifically, the Sharpe ratio for the market portfolio is 0.25 and the Sharpe ratio for the extreme value



To match the high volatility and predictability of stock returns given the low volatility of fundamentals as described above, the volatility of the price-of-risk variable must be high. We choose the volatility of shocks to  $\sigma_d x_t$  to be 40, implying a volatility of the price–dividend ratio of 0.36, close to its value of 0.40 in the data. We choose the persistence of  $x_t$  to equal 0.85; this implies a persistence of 0.86 for the price–dividend ratio, close to its value of 0.87 in the data. In fact, long-horizon stock returns are slightly more predictable than in the data: the regression of the stock returns on the price–dividend ratio has an  $R^2$  of 45% at the one-year horizon, compared with 25% the 1890–2004 sample. Raising the volatility or the persistence of  $x_t$  to match the data counterparts exactly would increase the amount of predictability.

Risk premiums in the model are determined by correlations with realized dividends  $d_t$ . The correlation between expected inflation  $q_t$  and realized dividend growth determines the premium for nominal over real bonds. A value of  $-0.30$  implies that nominal bonds will carry a premium over real bonds, and moreover, that this premium increases in maturity (because realized inflation and expected inflation are perfectly correlated, realized inflation also must have a correlation of  $-0.30$  with  $d_t$ ). The correlation between the real risk-free rate and expected dividend growth is also  $-0.30$ . This implies an upward-sloping real term structure. As explained in detail in Section 3.3, these values represent a compromise between fitting the upward slope of the yield curve and the deviations from the expectations hypothesis. The more negative are these correlations, the greater the slope of the yield curve, and the greater the deviation from the expectations hypothesis. The correlation with expected inflation mainly affects the behavior of short-term yields, while the correlation with the real interest rate mainly affects the behavior of long-term yields. Finally, as in Lettau and Wachter (2007), the correlation between  $x_t$  and dividend growth is set to be zero. The implication of this parameter choice is discussed further in Section 3.4.

For simplicity, we assume that most remaining correlations are equal to zero.<sup>6</sup> Exceptions are the correlation between realized and expected inflation (as discussed above) and between expected dividend growth and the price of risk. We allow this latter correlation to be positive based on direct evidence in Lettau and Ludvigson (2005) that expected dividend growth is positively correlated with the risk premium on stocks. Indeed, Lettau and Wachter (2007, Table 8) show that the price–dividend

ratio predicts dividend growth with a negative sign at long horizons (though the effect is insignificant). This counter-intuitive result supports the notion that expected dividend growth and discount rates move in the same direction, and that the discount rate effect is stronger than the cash-flow effect. We set the correlation between  $x_t$  and  $z_t$  to be 0.35; this reduces the predictability of dividend growth to nearly zero at long horizons despite the persistence of expected dividend growth. Raising the correlation further results in a variance-covariance matrix for which the Cholesky decomposition fails to exist.<sup>7</sup>

In this calibration, we have set a number of interaction terms equal to zero. Richer models that are used to estimate the term structure allow arbitrary cross-correlations of shocks and interactions through conditional means. Results from term structure studies (e.g., Dai and Singleton, 2003; Duffee, 2002) suggest that such interactions may be important for fully capturing the dynamics of the term structure of interest rates. Appendix A calculates prices under a more general model that allows for such interactions. Empirically, however, it is not clear how to cleanly identify these parameters with our macro-based approach. Moreover, our simpler model has the advantage that it is easier to interpret. While our model may miss some of the term structure properties captured by the more complex models, it nonetheless seems appropriate for our current purpose.

### 3.2. Prices and returns as functions of the state variables

Fig. 1 shows the factor loadings on each state variable for prices of real bonds, nominal bonds, and equity as functions of maturity. As discussed in Section 2, and shown in this figure, the factor loadings on the risk-free rate are negative. An increase in the real risk-free rate decreases prices of all assets. The factor loading on expected inflation is negative for nominal bonds and zero otherwise: An increase in expected inflation decreases nominal bond prices, while leaving other prices unchanged. The factor loading on expected dividend growth is positive for equities and zero otherwise: An increase in expected dividend growth increases stock prices, while leaving other prices unchanged. The magnitude of all of these effects increases as a function of maturity, and the assumptions of AR(1) processes implies that the rate of increase declines exponentially.

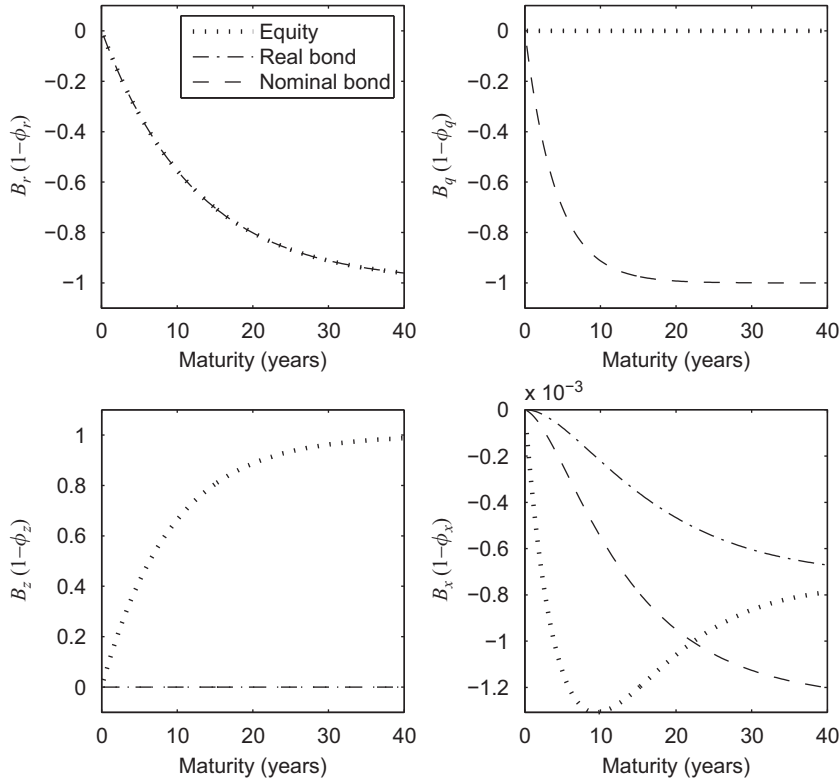
Fig. 1 also shows that the dynamic effects of changes in the price of risk are subtle and differ qualitatively from the effects of the other processes. For real bonds,  $B_{xn}^r$  is negative and decreasing in magnitude, like the coefficient on the risk-free rate. However, in contrast to that of  $B_{rm}^r$ , the rate of decrease of  $B_{xn}^r$  does not die out exponentially. The reason for this is the interaction between duration and increasing risk premiums. At short maturities, the price of risk has little impact (as compared to the risk-free

(footnote continued)

portfolio is 0.35. The term structure has a flatter slope (the difference between the average five-year and three-month yield is 1.36%). Because discount rates are lower, the average price–dividend ratio is higher and equal to 35.3. The qualitative implications of the model are unchanged. These results differ from those of Lettau and Wachter (2007) in large part because of the presence of a time-varying real interest rate. This introduces a source of risk which is priced to a lesser extent than dividend risk.

<sup>6</sup> Correlations between variables not including  $d_t$  do not directly impact risk premiums and thus, have modest implications for the return moments that are the focus of this paper.

<sup>7</sup> Intuitively,  $z_t$  and  $d_t$  are highly negatively correlated. This implies a relation between correlations of variables with  $z_t$  and correlations with variables and  $d_t$ . As explained below,  $d_t$  and  $x_t$  have a zero correlation, so the correlation between  $z_t$  and  $x_t$  cannot be too far from zero.



**Fig. 1.** Solutions to  $B_{rn}$ , the sensitivity of prices to the real risk-free rate (top left); to  $B_{qn}$ , the sensitivity of prices to expected inflation (top right); to  $B_{zn}$ , the sensitivity of prices to expected dividend growth (bottom left); and to  $B_{xn}$ , the sensitivity of prices to the price-of-risk variable. Dotted lines denote the solutions for zero-coupon equity prices expressed in real terms, dashed-dotted lines denote the solutions for real bond prices expressed in real terms, and dashed lines denote the solutions for nominal bond prices expressed in nominal terms. The solutions are scaled by the persistence  $\phi$  of the variables. The solution for  $B_r$  is identical for all three asset classes. The solution for  $B_q$  is identical for equities and real bonds and equal to zero. The solution for  $B_z$  is identical for real and nominal bonds and equal to zero.

rate) because these assets have very small risk premiums. At long maturities, the price of risk has large impact (as compared to the risk-free rate) because these assets have large risk premiums. Therefore, shocks to  $x_t$  have a greater effect at longer maturities than would be suggested by the size of the persistence  $\phi_x$ . Similar comparisons hold for  $B_{xn}^\pi$ , the effect of the price of risk on nominal bonds.

For equities, the factor loading on  $x_t$  is not even monotonic. Over a range of zero to ten years,  $B_{xn}^d$  decreases in maturity. This is the duration effect: the longer the maturity, the more sensitive the price is to changes in the risk premium. After ten years,  $B_{xn}^d$  increases, and then asymptotes to a level that is lower than  $B_{x0}^d$ .<sup>8</sup> This increase is somewhat surprising because it appears to contradict the notion of duration: long-maturity equity should be more sensitive to changes in the risk premium than short-maturity equity. However, because shocks to expected dividend growth are negatively correlated with shocks to realized dividend growth, long-maturity equity acts as a hedge. This effect generates risk premiums on long-maturity equity that are relatively low. Because long-

maturity equity has lower risk premiums, it is less sensitive to changes in  $x_t$ .

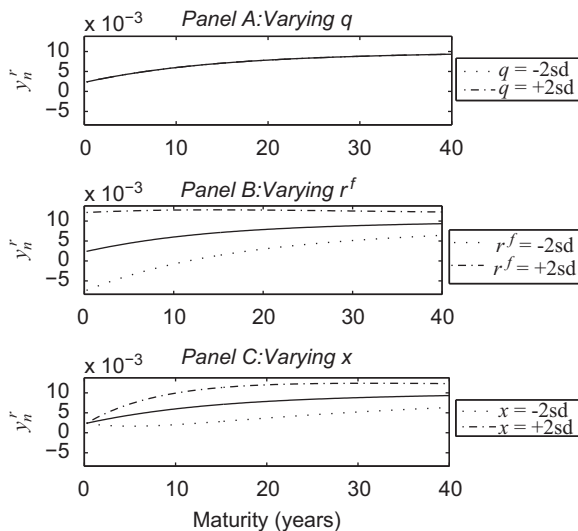
Fig. 2 shows the zero-coupon yield curve for real bonds, while Fig. 3 shows the zero-coupon yield curve for nominal bonds. The figures show yields at their long-run averages, and when the state variables are two standard deviations above or below their long-run averages. An increase in either the risk-free rate or the price of risk increases yields at all maturities. The risk-free rate and (in the case of nominal bonds) expected inflation have the greatest effect for short-term yields. In contrast,  $x_t$  has very little effect on short-term yields, and much greater effect on medium and long-term yields.

### 3.3. The term structure of interest rates

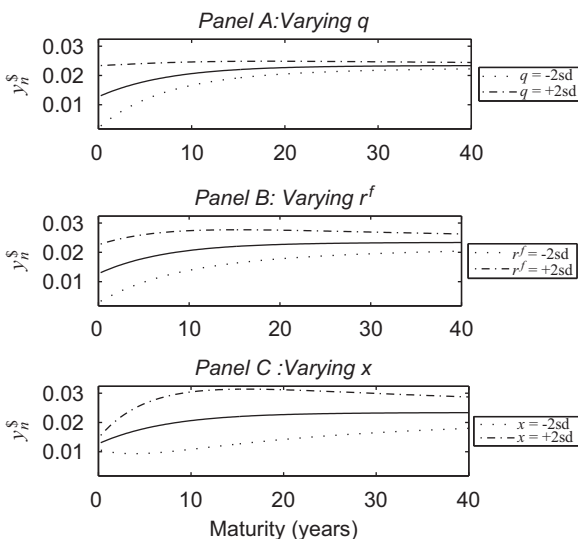
#### 3.3.1. Means and volatilities of yields

Table 4 shows the implications of the model for means, standard deviations, and annual autocorrelations of nominal and real bond yields. Data moments for bond yields using the CRSP Fama-Bliss data set are provided for comparison. These data are available starting in June of 1952, and are monthly. For the three-month yield, we use the bid yield on the 90-day Treasury bond, also available from CRSP.

<sup>8</sup> In the figure,  $B_{xn}^d$  has the appearance of asymptoting to the same level as  $B_{x0}^d$ ; however,  $B_{xn}^d$  remains lower than  $B_{x0}^d$  even in the limit.



**Fig. 2.** Yields on zero-coupon real bonds. Panel A shows quarterly yields on real bonds as a function of maturity when the state variables are equal to their long-run mean (solid line), and when expected inflation  $q_t$  is equal to the long-run mean plus (dashed-dotted line) or minus (dotted line) two unconditional quarterly standard deviations. All other state variables are kept at their long-run mean. Panel B shows analogous results when the real risk-free rate  $r_t^f$  is varied by plus or minus two unconditional quarterly standard deviations. Panel C shows analogous results when the price-of-risk variable  $x_t$  is varied by plus or minus two unconditional quarterly standard deviations.



**Fig. 3.** Yields on zero-coupon nominal bonds. Panel A shows quarterly nominal yields on nominal bonds as a function of maturity when the state variables are equal to their long-run mean (solid line), and when expected inflation  $q_t$  is equal to the long-run mean plus (dashed-dotted line) or minus (dotted line) two unconditional quarterly standard deviations. All other state variables are kept at their long-run mean. Panel B shows analogous results when the real risk-free rate  $r_t^f$  is varied by plus or minus two unconditional quarterly standard deviations. Panel C shows analogous results when the price-of-risk variable  $x_t$  is varied by plus or minus two unconditional quarterly standard deviations.

Panel A shows that the real yield curve is upward-sloping. This occurs because of the negative correlation between the real risk-free rate and fundamentals. Because

bond prices fall when the real risk-free rate rises, bond prices fall when growth in fundamentals is low. Therefore, long-term real bonds carry a risk premium over short-term real bonds, a risk premium that is reflected in the yield spread.

The negative correlation between the real risk-free rate and fundamentals also drives the nominal term spread. In the case of nominal bonds, there is an additional effect arising from the negative correlation between fundamentals and expected inflation. This negative correlation implies that nominal bond prices fall when fundamentals are low, leading to a positive inflation risk premium: this effect also operates in the models of Piazzesi and Schneider (2006) and Wachter (2006). The model's implications are consistent with empirical evidence that yields on indexed Treasury bonds are increasing in maturity, but that this slope is less than for nominal bonds (Roll, 2004).

The model implies volatilities for nominal bonds that are close to those in the data across all maturities. Volatilities are decreasing in maturity, as in the data. This decrease follows from the stationary autoregressive nature of the underlying processes. The table also shows annual autocorrelations (in the data, these are calibrated based on overlapping monthly observations). The autocorrelations are also similar, though the pattern is flatter in the model (0.85 at the short end, 0.87 at the long end) than in the data (0.80 at the short end and 0.87 at the long end).

### 3.3.2. Campbell and Shiller (1991) regressions

Table 5 shows the outcome of regressions of changes in yields on yield spreads:

$$y_{n-h,t+h} - y_{nt} = \alpha_n + \beta_n \frac{1}{n-h} (y_{nt} - y_{1t}) + e_{t+h},$$

for real and nominal yields in simulated data.<sup>9</sup> Historical data are provided for comparison. We take  $h=4$ , corresponding to an annual frequency. These “long-rate” regressions are performed by Campbell and Shiller (1991) to test the hypothesis of constant risk premiums on bonds. The coefficient  $\beta_n$  is equal to one if and only if risk premiums are constant. Campbell and Shiller find that the coefficients are in fact negative, indicating that risk premiums on bonds vary substantially over time.

As Table 5 shows, the model also implies a significant departure from the expectations hypothesis. Coefficients  $\beta_n$  are negative for all maturities. However, the failure of the expectations hypothesis is not as extreme in the model as in the data. This reflects a general limitation of models driven by a single homoskedastic factor. Indeed, Dai and Singleton (2002) find, within the affine class, only a model with three factors driving the price of risk is capable of fully matching the failure of the expectations hypothesis.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>9</sup> This equation, like others below, holds both for real and nominal bonds. We therefore omit the  $r$  and  $\$$  superscripts.

<sup>10</sup> In contrast, a single-factor model that allows for significant heteroskedasticity in the state variable can successfully match these data (Wachter, 2006). It is also possible that part of the deviation in the data is reflective of a peso problem (Bekaert, Hodrick, and Marshall, 2001) that is not captured by the model.

**Table 5**

Long-rate regressions on bond yields.

The table reports annual regressions of changes in yields on the scaled yield spread:

$$y_{n-t,t+4} - y_{nt} = \alpha_n + \beta_n \frac{1}{n-4} (y_{nt} - y_{1t}) + \text{error}.$$

We report results for real bonds in the model and nominal bonds in the model and in the data. For each data regression, the table reports ordinary least squares (OLS) estimates of the regressors, Newey-West (1987) corrected *t*-statistics (in parentheses), and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). For each model regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors and  $R^2$ -statistics. The maturities of the bonds range from two to five years. Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

Maturity (years)	2	3	4	5
<b>Panel A: Real bonds</b>				
$\beta_n$	−0.64	−0.67	−0.68	−0.70
$R^2$	[0.02]	[0.02]	[0.02]	[0.02]
<b>Panel B: Nominal bonds</b>				
$\beta_n$	−0.60	−0.59	−0.59	−0.59
$R^2$	[0.02]	[0.02]	[0.02]	[0.01]
<b>Panel C: Data</b>				
$\beta_n$	−0.76	−1.11	−1.50	−1.48
<i>t</i> -Statistic	(−1.66)	(−2.02)	(−2.42)	(−2.13)
$R^2$	[0.03]	[0.04]	[0.06]	[0.05]

Using the model, it is possible to write the coefficients  $\beta_n$  in terms of more fundamental quantities. This sheds light on the mechanism behind the failure of the expectations hypothesis in the model, as well as tension between the model's ability to match the average yield curve and the magnitude of the failure of the expectations hypothesis. For the purposes of this derivation, we assume  $h=1$ . By definition

$$\beta_n = \frac{\text{Cov}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{nt}, y_{nt} - y_{1t})}{\text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})} (n-1). \quad (36)$$

It follows from the definition of the bond return that

$$r_{n,t+1} = y_{nt} - (n-1)(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{nt}).$$

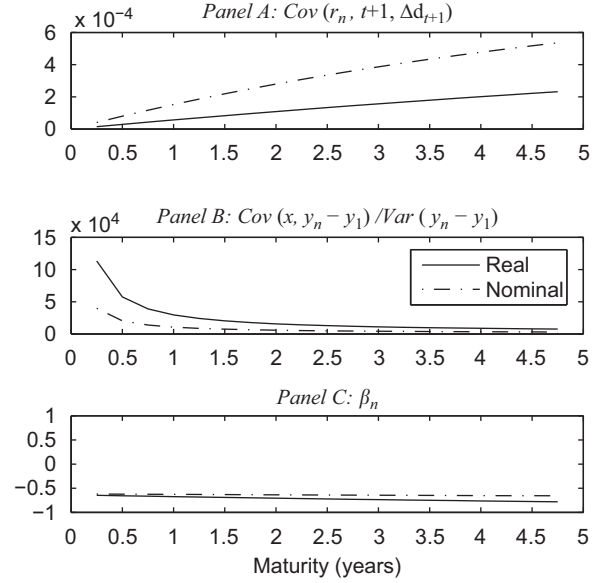
Rearranging and taking expectations implies

$$E_t[y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{nt}] = \frac{1}{n-1} (y_{nt} - y_{1t}) - \frac{1}{n-1} E_t[r_{n,t+1} - y_{1t}]. \quad (37)$$

Substituting into (36) and noting that time- $(t+1)$  shocks have zero correlation with time- $t$  yields, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_n &= \frac{\text{Cov}(y_{nt} - y_{1t} - E_t[r_{n,t+1} - y_{1t}], y_{nt} - y_{1t})}{\text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})} \\ &= 1 - \text{Cov}(r_{n,t+1}, \Delta d_{t+1}) \frac{\text{Cov}(x_t, y_{nt} - y_{1t})}{\text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})}, \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

where the second line follows from (14). If  $x_t$  were constant, then the covariance term in this expression would be zero and  $\beta_n = 1$ , its value implied by the expectations hypothesis. The deviation from the expectations hypothesis depends on two quantities. The first is  $\text{Cov}(r_{n,t+1}, \Delta d_{t+1})$ , the covariance between bond returns and fundamentals. This determines the average risk premium on the bond as indicated by (14). The greater are risk premiums on bonds, the greater the deviation from the expectations hypothesis. The second term is the coefficient from a regression of  $x_t$  on the yield spread. The more risk premiums covary with yield spreads,



**Fig. 4.** Decomposition of coefficients from long-rate regressions. Panel A shows the covariance between the return on an  $n$ -period bond and fundamentals as a function of maturity. Panel B shows the coefficient from a regression of the price-of-risk variable  $x_t$  on the yield spread as a function of the yield maturity. Panel C shows the coefficient  $\beta_n$  from the regression

$$y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{nt} = \alpha_n + \beta_n \frac{1}{n-1} (y_{nt} - y_{1t}) + \text{error},$$

as a function of maturity. Results are shown for real bonds (solid lines) and nominal bonds (dotted lines). The covariance between returns and fundamentals, the coefficient from a regression of  $x_t$  on the yield spread and  $\beta_n$  are related by the equation

$$\beta_n = 1 - \text{Cov}(r_{n,t+1}, \Delta d_{t+1}) \frac{\text{Cov}(x_t, y_{nt} - y_{1t})}{\text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})}.$$

The results are from data simulated from the model at a quarterly frequency.

then, the greater the deviation from the expectations hypothesis.

Fig. 4 displays  $\text{Cov}(r_{n,t+1}, \Delta d_{t+1})$ ,  $\text{Cov}(x_t, y_{nt} - y_{1t}) / \text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})$ , and  $\beta_n$  for real and nominal bonds. As Panel A shows,  $\text{Cov}(r_{n,t+1}, \Delta d_{t+1})$  increases in maturity, reflecting the fact that risk premiums increase in maturity and that the term spread is upward-sloping. Risk premiums are greater for nominal bonds than for real bonds, and increase faster in the maturity. Despite this, as shown in Panel C, the model implies a greater deviation from the expectations hypothesis for real bonds than for nominal bonds. Moreover, the model predicts coefficients that are roughly constant in maturity over the range of zero to five years, while risk premiums are upward-sloping. The reason is that the upward slope for risk premiums is canceled out by a downward slope in  $\text{Cov}(x_t, y_{nt} - y_{1t}) / \text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})$ , which arises from the mean-reverting nature of  $x_t$ . Moreover, nominal bonds, whose yields are driven by expected inflation as well as by discount rates, have lower values of  $\text{Cov}(x_t, y_{nt} - y_{1t}) / \text{Var}(y_{n-1,t+1} - y_{1t})$ . This explains why the model produces a less dramatic failure of the expectations hypothesis for nominal bonds, despite their higher risk premiums.

### 3.3.3. Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005) regressions

Finally, we ask whether the model can explain the findings of Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005). Cochrane and Piazzesi regress annual excess bond returns on a linear combination of forward rates, where the forward rate for loans between periods  $t+n$  and  $t+n+h$  is defined as the difference between the log price of the nominal bond maturing in  $n-h$  periods and the log price of the nominal bond maturing in  $n$  periods:

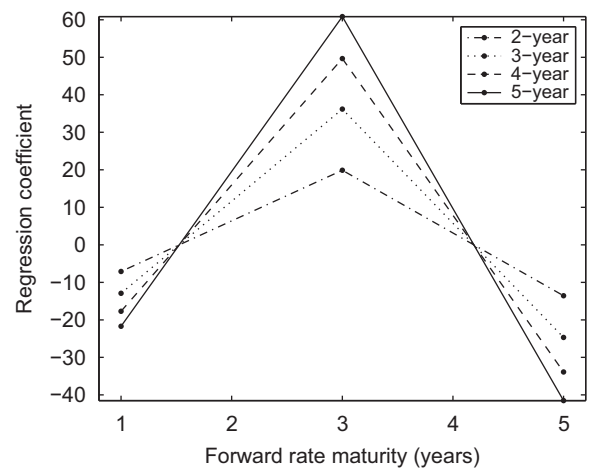
$$f_{nt}^s = \log(P_{n-h,t}^\pi \Pi_t) - \log(P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t) = \log P_{n-h,t}^\pi - \log P_{nt}^\pi.$$

In what follows, we take  $h=4$  so that the forward rate is annual. We refer to  $n$  as the forward-rate maturity. Cochrane and Piazzesi show that the regression coefficients on the forward rates form a tent-shape pattern as a function of maturity (see also Stambaugh, 1988). Moreover, they show that a single linear combination of forward rates has substantial predictive power for bond returns across maturities.

These results offer support for our model's assumptions in that they imply that a single predictive factor drives much of the predictability in bond returns. In our model, that factor is represented by the latent variable  $x_t$ . Forward rates, like bond prices, are linear combinations of factors; therefore, some linear combination of forward rates will uncover  $x_t$ . The model therefore predicts that some linear combination of forward rates will be the best predictor of bond returns, and that the regression coefficients for bonds of various maturities should be the same up to a constant of proportionality (because the true premiums are all proportional to  $x_t$ ).

We replicate the Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005) analysis in our simulated data. We report results for forward rates with  $n=1, 3$ , and 5 years, but the results are robust to alternative choices. Fig. 5 shows the regression coefficients as a function of the forward-rate maturity. As this figure shows, the model reproduces the tent-shape in regression coefficients.<sup>11</sup> Table 6 reports  $R^2$ -statistics in the model and in the data. From monthly Fama-Bliss data (beginning in 1952 and ending in 2004), we construct overlapping annual observations. The  $R^2$ -statistics in the model are smaller than those in the data (16% versus 24% for the five-year bond), but still economically significant.<sup>12</sup>

Given the three-factor affine structure of the model, it is straightforward to solve for the linear combination of any three forward rates that is proportional to the price of risk  $x_t$ . Appendix D gives an analytical formula for these regressions coefficients, and shows that they must either form a tent- or a "V"-shape. For example, if we use the one, three, and five-quarter forward rates, and assume that the horizon for forward rates is one-quarter, the



**Fig. 5.** Regressions of excess bond returns on forward rates. Annual returns on two-, three-, four-, and five-year nominal bonds, in excess of the return on the one-year bond, are regressed on the one-, three-, and five-year forward rates in data simulated from the model. The figure shows the resulting regression coefficients as a function of the forward-rate maturity.

**Table 6**

$R^2$ -statistics from forward-rate regressions.

Annual continuously compounded excess returns on zero-coupon bonds of maturities ranging from two to five years are regressed on three forward rates in the model and five forward rates in the data. Bond returns are in excess of the return on the one-year bond. In the model, the forward-rate maturities are one, three, and five years. In the data, forward-rate maturities are one, two, three, four, and five years. The table reports the resulting  $R^2$ -statistics for real bonds in the model, nominal bonds in the model, and nominal bonds in the data. Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

	Maturity in years			
	2	3	4	5
Real bonds	0.14	0.14	0.13	0.12
Nominal bonds	0.22	0.20	0.18	0.16
Data	0.22	0.23	0.27	0.24

linear combination

$$-\phi_q^2 \phi_r^2 f_{1t} + (\phi_q^2 + \phi_r^2) f_{3t} - f_{5t} \quad (39)$$

equals  $x_t$  up to a constant of proportionality. The shape arises in part from the fact that forward rates are highly correlated. The coefficient on the first and the third forward rates must be the opposite sign of that on the middle forward rate in order to undo the effects of expected inflation  $q_t$  and the risk-free rate  $r_t^f$ . Because  $q_t$  and  $r_t^f$  enter into the equation for forward rates with the same sign at all maturities, undoing their effects requires that the coefficients reverse in sign.

Whether the shape is a tent or a "V" depends on the pattern of forward-rate sensitivities to  $x_t$ . Simulation results suggest that a tent-shape occurs as long as  $x_t$  is not extremely persistent (i.e., not more persistent than both  $r_t^f$  and  $q_t$ ). The derivation in Appendix D gives some insight into why this might be true. Intuitively, if  $x_t$  is extremely persistent, then the forward rate with the

<sup>11</sup> The regression coefficients are larger in magnitude than those shown in Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005); this occurs because the correlation between bond returns in our model is greater than that in the data.

<sup>12</sup> The differences between these  $R^2$ -statistics and those reported in Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005) are due to a difference in sample period; their sample begins in 1964 whereas ours begins in 1952.



greatest maturity among the three regressors will also be relatively sensitive to  $x_t$ . In this case, a “V”-shape results because the linear combination that exactly replicates  $x_t$  loads positively on the forward rate of greatest maturity. However, if the persistence of  $x_t$  lies between that of  $r_t^f$  and  $q_t$ , the middle forward rate will be relatively sensitive to  $x_t$ . In this case, a tent-shape results because the linear combination that exactly replicates  $x_t$  loads positively on the middle forward rate. The preceding results in this section suggest that this is the most empirically relevant case because it is the case that also allows the model to capture facts about equity returns. Perhaps surprisingly, the model implies a tent-shape even if the persistence of  $x_t$  is below that of  $r_t^f$  and  $q_t$ . As discussed in Section 3.2, the response of the yield curve to a change in  $x_t$  depends on the pattern of bond risk premiums, which in turn depend on the persistences of  $r_t^f$  and  $q_t$ . Therefore, a change in  $x_t$  can have a large effect on intermediate-maturity bonds even if  $x_t$  is not very persistent itself. For this reason, the tent-shape is typical of the model (in the sense that it holds for a variety of realistic calibrations), while the “V”-shape is the exception.

### 3.4. The cross-section of equities

This section shows the implications of the model for portfolios formed by sorting on price ratios. Following Lynch (2003) and Menzly, Santos, and Veronesi (2004), we exogenously specify a share process for cash flows on long-lived assets. For each year of simulated data, we sort these assets into deciles based on their price–dividend ratios and form portfolios of the assets within each decile. We then calculate returns over the following year. This follows the procedure used in empirical studies of the cross-section (e.g., Fama and French, 1992). We then perform statistical analysis on the portfolio returns.

We specify our share process so that assets pay a nonzero dividend at each time (implying that the price–dividend ratio is well-defined), so that the total dividends sum up to the aggregate dividend of the market (so that the model is internally consistent), and so that the cross-sectional distribution of dividends, returns, and price ratios is stationary. The continuous-time framework of Menzly, Santos, and Veronesi (2004) allows the authors to specify the share process as stochastic, and yet keep shares between zero and one. This is more difficult in discrete time, and for this reason we adopt the simplifying assumption that the share process is deterministic. We assume the same process as in Lettau and Wachter (2007): shares grow at a constant rate of 5% per quarter for 100 quarters, and then shrink at the same rate for the next 100 quarters. Lettau and Wachter show that these parameters imply a cross-sectional distribution of dividend and earnings growth similar to that in the data.

More precisely, consider  $N$  sequences of dividend shares  $s_{it}$ , for  $i=1, \dots, N$ . For convenience, we refer to each of these  $N$  sequences as a firm, though they are best thought of as portfolios of firms in the same stage of the life-cycle. As our ultimate goal is to aggregate these firms into portfolios based on price–dividend ratios, this simplification does not affect our results. Firm  $i$  pays  $s_{it}$  of the

aggregate dividend at time  $t$ ,  $s_{i,t+1}$  of the aggregate dividend at time  $t+1$ , etc. Shares are such that  $s_{it} \geq 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^N s_{it} = 1$  for all  $t$  (so that the firms add up to the market). Because firm  $i$  pays a dividend sequence  $s_{i,t+1}D_{t+1}, s_{i,t+2}D_{t+2}, \dots$ , no-arbitrage implies that the ex-dividend price of firm  $i$  equals

$$P_{it}^F = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} s_{i,t+n} P_{t+n}^d.$$

Let  $\underline{s}$  be the lowest share of a firm in the economy, and assume without loss of generality that firm 1 starts at  $\underline{s}$ , namely  $s_{11} = \underline{s}$ . We assume that the share grows at a constant rate  $g_s$  until reaching  $s_{1,N/2+1} = (1+g_s)^{N/2}\underline{s}$  and then shrinks at the rate  $g_s$  until reaching  $s_{1,N+1} = \underline{s}$  again. At this point, the cycle repeats. All firms are ex ante identical, but are “out of phase” with one another: As firms move through the life-cycle, they slowly shift (on average) from the growth category to the value category, and then revert back to the growth category. Firm 1 starts out at  $\underline{s}$ , Firm 2 at  $s_{21} = (1+g_s)\underline{s}$ , Firm  $N/2$  at  $s_{N/2,1} = (1+g_s)^{N/2-1}\underline{s}$ , and Firm  $N$  at  $s_{N1} = (1+g_s)\underline{s}$ . The variable  $\underline{s}$  is such that the shares sum to one for all  $t$ .<sup>13</sup> We set the number of firms to 200, implying a 200-quarter, or equivalently, 50-year life-cycle for a firm. These share processes fully define the firms in the economy.

Panel A of Table 7 shows moments implied by the model. We compute the expected excess return, the volatility of the excess return, and the Sharpe ratio. We also compute the abnormal return relative to the CAPM ( $\alpha_i$ ), and the coefficient on the market portfolio ( $\beta_i$ ) from a time-series regression of expected excess portfolio returns on expected excess market returns. Panel B shows counterparts from the data when portfolios are formed on the book-to-market ratio. Monthly data from 1952 to 2004 are from Ken French's Web site. Lettau and Wachter (2007) show that very similar results occur when portfolios are formed on earnings-to-price or cash-flow-to-price ratios.

Comparing the first line of Panel A with that of Panel B shows that the model matches most of the spread between expected returns on value and growth stocks. In both the model and the data, the expected excess return is about 6% per annum for the extreme growth portfolio. In the model, the extreme value portfolio has an expected excess return of 10%, compared with 11% in the data. Comparing the second line of Panel A with that of Panel B shows that, in the model, the risk of value stocks is lower than that of growth stocks, just as in the data. Sharpe ratios increase from about 0.3 for the extreme growth portfolio to about 0.6 for the extreme value portfolio.

More importantly, the model is able to match the value puzzle. Even though the model predicts that value stocks have high expected returns, value stocks in the model have lower CAPM  $\beta$ 's than growth stocks. The CAPM  $\alpha$  in the model is  $-2.5\%$  per annum for the extreme growth portfolio and rises to  $3.3\%$  per annum for the extreme

<sup>13</sup> That is,  $\sum_{i=1}^N s_{it} = \underline{s} + (1+g_s)^{N/2}\underline{s} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{N/2-1} (1+g_s)^i \underline{s} = 1$ .

**Table 7**

Moments of equity portfolio returns.

In Panel A, firms in simulated data are sorted into deciles based on their dividend–price ratios in each simulation year. Returns are calculated over the subsequent year (portfolio 1 consists of firms with the lowest dividend–price ratios, portfolio 10 with the highest). In Panel B, firms in historical data are sorted into deciles based on their book-to-market ratio. Returns are calculated on a monthly basis and annualized (multiplied by 12 in the case of means and intercepts and  $\sqrt{12}$  in the case of standard deviations). Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004. In both panels,  $R^i - R_t^f$  refers to the return on the  $i$ th portfolio in excess of the return on the short-term nominal bond, where both returns are measured in real terms. Intercepts ( $\alpha_i$ ) and slope coefficients ( $\beta_i$ ) are from OLS time-series regressions of excess portfolio returns on the excess market return. Means, intercepts, and standard deviations are reported in percentage terms.

Portfolio	G 1	2	3	4	Growth to Value		7	8	9	V 10	V-G 10-1
					5	6					
<i>Panel A: Model</i>											
$ER^i - R_t^f$	5.72	5.90	6.18	6.57	7.09	7.69	8.33	8.92	9.45	10.35	4.63
$\sigma(R^i - R_t^f)$	20.72	20.90	21.03	21.05	20.84	20.30	19.45	18.50	17.85	17.86	8.17
Sharpe ratio	0.28	0.28	0.29	0.31	0.34	0.38	0.43	0.48	0.53	0.58	0.57
$\alpha_i$	−2.52	−2.44	−2.24	−1.87	−1.30	−0.51	0.47	1.49	2.35	3.33	5.85
$\beta_i$	1.02	1.03	1.04	1.04	1.04	1.01	0.97	0.92	0.88	0.87	−0.15
<i>Panel B: Data</i>											
$ER^i - R_t^f$	5.91	6.74	7.38	7.29	8.35	8.62	8.56	10.30	10.32	11.64	5.73
$\sigma(R^i - R_t^f)$	17.60	15.87	15.79	15.45	14.64	14.74	14.71	15.09	15.81	18.37	14.93
Sharpe ratio	0.34	0.43	0.47	0.47	0.57	0.58	0.58	0.68	0.65	0.63	0.38
$\alpha_i$	−1.72	−0.30	0.40	0.65	2.19	2.35	2.58	4.20	4.02	4.70	6.41
$\beta_i$	1.10	1.02	1.01	0.96	0.89	0.91	0.87	0.88	0.91	1.01	−0.10

value portfolio. The corresponding numbers in the data are −1.7% per annum and 4.7% per annum.

These results for value and growth stocks may at first seem counter-intuitive, especially given the implications of the model for the term structure of interest rates. The term structure results in the previous section show that long-run assets require higher expected returns than short-run assets. The results in this section show that the opposite is true for equities. For equities, it is the short-run assets that require high expected returns.

The model resolves this tension between the downward-sloping term structure of equities and the upward-sloping term structure of interest rates by the dividend process, the inflation process, and the price-of-risk process  $x_t$ . As implied by the data, expected dividend growth is negatively correlated with realized dividend growth. This makes growth stocks a hedge and reduces their risk premium relative to what would be the case if, say, expected inflation were constant. Moreover, expected inflation is negatively correlated with realized dividend growth. This makes long-term nominal bonds riskier than short-term nominal bonds and riskier than real bonds.

The prices of inflation and dividend risks are important for accounting for the combined behavior of equities and bonds. However, they are not sufficient. As the discussion in Section 2.3 indicates, characteristics of the price-of-risk process  $x_t$  are also crucial. Because equities carry a higher risk premium than bonds, they are more sensitive to changes in  $x_t$  in the sense that a greater proportion of their variance comes from  $x_t$  than from  $r_t^f$  as compared to both real and nominal bonds. In our specification, variation in the price of risk is itself unpriced. This implies variability in returns on growth stocks (on account of duration), but, at the same time, low expected returns because this variability comes in the

form of risk that the representative investor does not mind bearing.

### 3.5. Interactions

#### 3.5.1. Comparison between the model and the data

We now examine the model's implications for interactions between the aggregate market, the term structure of interest rates, and the cross-section of equities. We consider four state variables in the data and in the model: the price–dividend ratio, the yield spread, the linear combination of forward rates that best predicts bond returns, and the value spread. We also consider three excess returns: the return on the market portfolio over the short-term bond, the return on the five-year nominal bond over the short-term bond, and the return on the value portfolio over the growth portfolio. We calculate cross-correlations of the four state variables, cross-correlations of the three excess returns, and predictive regressions of each excess return on each state variable.

We construct the prices and return series using monthly data from 1952 to 2004 (because Fama–Bliss data on bond yields begin in June of 1952, this is the earliest starting point we consider for all of the series in this section). The price–dividend ratio in the data is constructed by dividing the price of the value-weighted CRSP index by the dividends paid over the previous year. The yield spread is the five-year yield (from Fama–Bliss data) minus the three-month yield (equal to the bid yield on the 90-day Treasury bond). Both yields are nominal and continuously compounded. We create a forward-rate factor following the approach of [Cochrane and Piazzesi \(2005\)](#), namely, we compute the average excess holding period return on bonds of maturities ranging from two to five years and regress it on annual forward rates with maturities ranging from one to five years. In what follows,

we refer to this linear combination of forwards (and its analogue in the model) as the CP factor. The value spread is defined as in Cohen, Polk, and Vuolteenaho (2003). That is, we start with the six portfolios formed by first sorting firms into two portfolios by size and then into three portfolios by the book-to-market ratio (see Fama and French, 1993). The value portfolio then consists of the portfolio that equally weights the portfolio of large stocks with high book-to-market ratios and the portfolio of small stocks with high book-to-market ratios. The growth portfolio is likewise formed from the portfolio of large stocks with low book-to-market ratios and the portfolio of small stocks with low book-to-market ratios. The value spread is the difference between the log book-to-market ratio of the value portfolio and the log book-to-market ratio of the growth portfolio. Data on these portfolios are from Ken French's Web site.

The return on the value-weighted CRSP index represents the market return. We construct the return on the five-year nominal bond using yields on the four- and five-year bonds from Fama-Bliss data. To form excess returns, we subtract the return on the 90-day Treasury bill. We construct the value-minus-growth return using returns on the value portfolio and the growth portfolio as defined in the previous paragraph. All returns are continuously compounded, and we form overlapping annual (and five-year) observations from the monthly data.

We construct the price-dividend ratio and yield spread in the model as described in previous sections. We construct the CP factor as in the data, except that (to avoid colinearity) we use the one-, three-, and five-year forward rates rather than all five forwards. The value spread is the dividend-price ratio on the extreme value portfolio minus the dividend-price ratio on the extreme growth portfolio. The market return and bond return were defined previously; we subtract from these returns the real return on the one-quarter nominal bond. The value-minus-growth return is formed using the return on the extreme value portfolio and the return on the extreme growth portfolio. All returns are real and continuously compounded. The model is simulated at a quarterly frequency. From these quarterly observations, we create an annual time series of state variables and annual returns.

Table 8 shows the cross-correlations between the state variables in the model and in monthly data. The table shows that the price-dividend ratio and the yield spread are negatively correlated in the model (because increases in  $x_t$  positively impact the price-dividend ratio but negatively impact the yield spread), but slightly positively correlated in the data. The price-dividend ratio is also negatively correlated with the CP factor (not surprisingly, because the linear combination of forward rates is perfectly correlated with  $x_t$ ). This correlation is close to zero in the 1952–2004 sample. The model correctly accounts for the strong positive correlation between the price-dividend ratio and the value spread. This positive correlation results from the fact that the market and the value spread both respond negatively to increases in  $x_t$  and  $r_t^f$  and positively to increases in  $z_t$  (note that growth firms are more sensitive than value firms to changes in these variables). The

**Table 8**

Cross-correlation of state variables.

The table reports correlations between the log price-dividend ratio on the market portfolio, the spread between the five-year yield and the three-month yield on nominal bonds (the yield spread), the linear combination of forward rates constructed to best predict average holding-period returns on bonds (the CP factor), and the value spread. In the model, the value spread is defined as the log dividend-price ratio of the value portfolio minus the log dividend-price ratio of the growth portfolio. In the data, the value spread is defined as the log book-to-market ratio of the value portfolio minus the log book-to-market ratio of the growth portfolio. Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

	Yield spread	CP factor	Value spread
<i>Panel A: Model</i>			
Price-dividend ratio	−0.47	−0.73	0.86
Yield spread		0.80	−0.10
CP factor			−0.32
<i>Panel B: Data</i>			
Price-dividend ratio	0.17	0.03	0.70
Yield spread		0.69	0.03
CP factor			−0.14

**Table 9**

Cross-correlation of excess returns.

The table reports correlations between three continuously compounded annual excess returns: the return on the market portfolio in excess of the return on the short-term nominal bond, the return on the nominal five-year zero-coupon bond in excess of the short-term nominal bond, and the return on the value portfolio in excess of the return on the growth portfolio. Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

	Bond return	V-G return
<i>Panel A: Model</i>		
Market return	0.83	−0.44
Bond return		−0.28
<i>Panel B: Data</i>		
Market return	0.15	−0.33
Bond return		0.15

correlation between the value spread and the yield spread is small and negative in the model and small and positive in the data. The correlation between the value spread and the CP factor is negative in both the model and the data, though the model correlation is larger in magnitude (−0.32 versus −0.14).

Table 9 shows the cross-correlations between the three returns in the model and in the data. The correlation between excess returns on the market and excess returns on bonds is positive, both in the model and in the data, though the model correlation is higher (0.83 versus 0.15). This positive correlation occurs because both bond and stock returns are driven to a large extent by  $x_t$ . Likewise, the model predicts a negative correlation between bond returns and the value-minus-growth portfolio. However, the model correctly captures the moderately negative correlation between the value-minus-growth return and the market return (−0.44 in the model and −0.33 in the data). It may at first seem surprising that the model can match this negative correlation: after all, both the equity

**Table 10**

Long-horizon regressions of returns on the price–dividend ratio.  
The table reports regressions

$$\sum_{i=1}^H r_{t+i}^e = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (p_t^m - d_t) + \text{error},$$

where  $r_{t+i}^e$  is either the excess return on the market portfolio, the excess return on the five-year nominal zero-coupon bond, or the return on the strategy that is long the value portfolio and short the growth portfolio. Returns are measured over horizons of one year and five years. The right-hand side variable is the lagged price–dividend ratio on the market. For each model regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). For each data regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors, Newey–West (1987) corrected  $t$ -statistics (in parentheses), and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

Horizon	Market return		Bond return		V–G return	
	1	5	1	5	1	5
<i>Panel A: Model</i>						
$\beta_1$	–0.14	–0.50	–0.06	–0.20	–0.08	–0.31
$R^2$	[0.07]	[0.23]	[0.09]	[0.22]	[0.15]	[0.19]
<i>Panel B: Data</i>						
$\beta_1$	–0.11	–0.40	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.01
$t$ -Statistic	(–1.99)	(–3.37)	(0.89)	(1.02)	(0.40)	(0.18)
$R^2$	[0.07]	[0.17]	[0.01]	[0.02]	[0.01]	[0.00]

premium and the value premium depend on  $x_t$  with a positive sign. However, this correlation is determined to a large degree by unexpected, rather than expected returns. Positive shocks to  $x_t$  and  $r_t^f$  lead to negative market return shocks, while positive shocks to  $z_t$  lead to positive market return shocks. These factors also influence the value-minus-growth return, but with the opposite sign because they affect growth firms more than value firms. The correlation is not perfectly negative because of the role of shocks to realized dividends, which influence the market portfolio and the value-minus-growth portfolio in the same direction.

Tables 10–13 show the outcomes from predictive regressions of each state variable on the three returns. We consider return horizons of one and five years. Table 10 reports regressions of the three returns on the lagged price–dividend ratio. The price–dividend ratio predicts excess returns on the market in both the data and the model. However, the model implies that the price–dividend ratio should predict excess returns on bonds, a fact that does not hold up in the data. Finally, the price–dividend ratio predicts returns on the value-minus-growth strategy with a negative sign in the model, but fails to predict this return in the data.

Table 11 repeats the exercise for the yield spread. The model's predictions are in line with the data in that the yield spread is capable of predicting both market and bond excess returns in the model and in the data with the correct sign (however, the effect for bonds is insignificant at longer horizons). The model produces the correct sign for the value-minus-growth portfolio at the one-year horizon, though the  $R^2$ -statistic is greater in the model than in the data. In the data (but not in the model), the sign of the relation reverses at the five-year horizon. However, the effect is insignificant. Table 12 reports

**Table 11**

Long-horizon regressions of returns on the yield spread.  
The table reports regressions

$$\sum_{i=1}^H r_{t+i}^e = \beta_0 + \beta_1 (y_{5t}^s - y_{1t}^s) + \text{error},$$

where  $r_{t+i}^e$  is either the excess return on the market portfolio, the excess return on the five-year nominal zero-coupon bond, or the return on the strategy that is long the value portfolio and short the growth portfolio. Returns are measured over horizons of one year and five years. The right-hand side variable is the lagged spread between the yield on the five-year nominal zero-coupon bond and the yield on the three-month zero-coupon bond. For each model regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). For each data regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors, Newey–West (1987) corrected  $t$ -statistics (in parentheses), and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

Horizon	Market return		Bond return		V–G return	
	1	5	1	5	1	5
<i>Panel A: Model</i>						
$\beta_1$	3.15	12.00	1.42	5.35	1.87	7.01
$R^2$	[0.07]	[0.25]	[0.11]	[0.30]	[0.14]	[0.18]
<i>Panel B: Data</i>						
$\beta_1$	4.15	12.68	2.48	1.66	2.30	–4.82
$t$ -Statistic	(1.78)	(3.04)	(3.56)	(0.72)	(1.33)	(–1.76)
$R^2$	[0.04]	[0.10]	[0.13]	[0.01]	[0.02]	[0.04]

**Table 12**

Long-horizon regressions of returns on the linear combination of forward rates.

The table reports regressions

$$\sum_{i=1}^H r_{t+i}^e = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \theta' f_t + \text{error},$$

where  $r_{t+i}^e$  is either the excess return on the market portfolio, the excess return on the five-year nominal zero-coupon bond, or the return on the strategy that is long the value portfolio and short the growth portfolio. Returns are measured over horizons of one year and five years. The right-hand side variable is a lagged linear combination of forward rates on nominal bonds, constructed as in Cochrane and Piazzesi (2005). For each model regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). For each data regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors, Newey–West (1987) corrected  $t$ -statistics (in parentheses), and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

Horizon	Market return		Bond return		V–G return	
	1	5	1	5	1	5
<i>Panel A: Model</i>						
$\beta_1$	3.80	14.07	1.67	6.18	2.26	8.67
$R^2$	[0.11]	[0.37]	[0.17]	[0.43]	[0.23]	[0.30]
<i>Panel B: Data</i>						
$\beta_1$	1.11	2.80	1.46	2.58	0.94	–0.24
$t$ -Statistic	(1.15)	(1.44)	(4.79)	(3.70)	(1.66)	(–0.21)
$R^2$	[0.02]	[0.03]	[0.24]	[0.14]	[0.02]	[0.00]

results for the CP factor. The results in this table are qualitatively similar to those for the yield spread.<sup>14</sup>

<sup>14</sup> The size of the predictive coefficients is larger in the model than in the data because the linear combination of forward rates is smoother.

**Table 13**

Long-horizon regressions of returns on the value spread.  
The table reports regressions

$$\sum_{i=1}^H r_{t+i}^e = \beta_0 + \beta_1(\text{value spread})_t + \text{error},$$

where  $r_{t+i}^e$  is either the excess return on the market portfolio, the excess return on the five-year nominal zero-coupon bond, or the return on the strategy that is long the value portfolio and short the growth portfolio. Returns are measured over horizons of one year and five years. The right-hand side variable is the value spread, constructed as the log dividend–price ratio of the value portfolio minus the log dividend–price ratio of the growth portfolio in the model and as in [Cohen, Polk, and Vuolteenaho \(2003\)](#) in the data. For each model regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). For each data regression, the table reports OLS estimates of the regressors, [Newey–West \(1987\)](#) corrected  $t$ -statistics (in parentheses), and  $R^2$ -statistics (in brackets). Data are monthly from 1952 to 2004.

Horizon	Market return		Bond return		V–G return	
	1	5	1	5	1	5
<i>Panel A: Model</i>						
$\beta_1$	–0.20	–0.75	–0.07	–0.24	–0.12	–0.46
$R^2$	[0.02]	[0.06]	[0.02]	[0.04]	[0.04]	[0.05]
<i>Panel B: Data</i>						
$\beta_1$	–0.25	–0.63	0.05	0.14	0.23	0.62
$t$ -Statistic	(–2.07)	(–2.15)	(1.04)	(0.74)	(2.05)	(3.61)
$R^2$	[0.05]	[0.07]	[0.02]	[0.02]	[0.09]	[0.17]

**Table 13** reports regressions of the returns on the value spread. The model correctly captures the sign and degree to which the value spread predicts the aggregate market return in the data. In both model and data, the value spread has little ability to predict bond returns. In the model, the value spread predicts the return on the value-minus-growth portfolio with a negative sign, though the effect is economically small (the  $R^2$  is 5% at a five-year horizon). In the data however, the value spread predicts the value-minus-growth return with a positive sign.

How should we think about the wedge between model and data when it comes to the value spread's ability to predict the value-minus-growth return? The discrepancy may in part arise from the construction of the value spread in the data, a construction which favors small stocks. Other methods of constructing the value spread that weight large stocks more heavily do not have a statistically significant ability to predict the value minus growth return. Given that our results may be best interpreted as a theory for large stocks (even the value stocks in the model are large and well-diversified), it may be that this deviation in predictive ability is not a significant failing.

A closer look at the model also indicates that the sign of the relation may not be an intrinsic property, but may rather depend on the precise definition of value and growth. The value spread is negatively correlated with  $x_t$  in our calibration because the growth portfolio is more sensitive to changes in  $x_t$  than is the value portfolio. This is why the value spread predicts the value-minus-growth return with a negative sign. However, as shown in [Fig. 1](#),

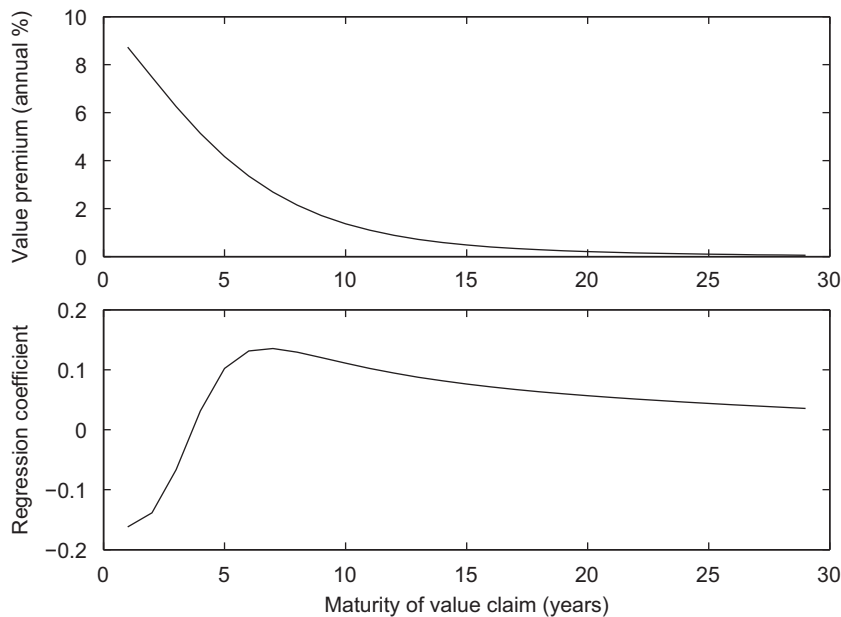
the effect of  $x_t$  on the price–dividend ratio reverses at sufficiently long maturities: medium-maturity equity loads more on  $x_t$  than does short-maturity, but long-maturity equity loads less on  $x_t$  than does medium-maturity equity. Our current construction of firms implies that even the extreme growth firm consists primarily of medium-maturity equity. A construction that puts more weight on long-maturity equity could produce a different result.

To explore the magnitude of this effect, we consider a simplified model of value and growth portfolios. We form pairs of equity “zeros” (i.e., zero-coupon equity claims), with cash flows separated by ten years. The shorter-term claim is the value claim; the longer-term claim is the growth claim. The analogue of the value spread is the log price of the value claim less the log price of the growth claim.<sup>15</sup> To be consistent, we define the value-minus-growth return using the same claims. That is, we take the log return on the value claim and subtract the log return on the growth claim. For example, our first pair consists of the one-year zero and the 11-year zero; the value spread is defined as the log price of the 11-year zero minus the log price of the one-year zero, and the value-minus-growth return is defined as the return on the one-year minus the return on the 11-year. We regress the value-minus-growth return for this pair on the value spread, and repeat for the pair consisting of the two-year and the 12-year, and so forth. The advantage of this method is that it clarifies the relation between the sign of the regression results and the maturity of the claims.

The results are shown in [Fig. 6](#). The top panel shows the “zero-coupon” value premium, defined as the expectation of the difference between the log value return and the log growth return. As this panel shows, this difference is always positive, confirming that the value premium takes the correct sign for all maturities. The difference between the expected returns goes to zero as the maturity of the claims rises; this occurs because the model is stationary and thus, the expected returns converge as the maturity approaches infinity. The bottom panel shows the sign of the regression coefficient in the predictive regression. The sign of the coefficient is negative when the maturity of the value claim is less than three years (thus, the maturity of the growth claim is less than 13 years), and crosses zero between three years and four years. This is consistent with the behavior of the model reported in [Table 13](#): When the value claim is essentially short-horizon and the growth claim is medium-horizon, the sign of the predictive coefficient is (counterfactually) negative. However, when the value claim has a maturity of four years or greater, the regression coefficient is positive, as it is in the data.

<sup>15</sup> In the full model, we define the value spread as the log dividend–price ratio on the value portfolio less the log dividend–price ratio on the growth portfolio. For the zeros, however, there is no dividend stream. To form stationary ratios, we can scale the prices by the aggregate dividend; the aggregate dividend will then cancel when we take the differences of the log ratios.





**Fig. 6.** Coefficient on the zero-coupon value spread in a predictive regression as a function of the maturity of the claims. The top panel shows the zero-coupon value premium; the bottom panel shows the coefficient from a predictive regression of the value-minus-growth return on the value spread. For this figure, the value claim is defined as a zero-coupon equity claim with maturity  $n$ , the growth claim is a zero-coupon equity claim with maturity  $n+10$ . The value-minus-growth return is defined as the difference between the log return on the value claim and the log return on the growth claim. The value premium is defined as the expectation of the value-minus-growth return. The value spread is the log price of the value claim minus the log price of the growth claim. The resulting value premium and the regression coefficient are shown as functions of  $n$ . Returns and the regression horizon are annual.

### 3.5.2. Are the correlations between markets parameter-specific?

The above results show that the model largely succeeds at capturing the ability of equity state variables to predict equity returns and bond state variables to predict bond returns (an exception is the sign of the coefficient when the value-minus-growth return is regressed on the value spread, discussed in the paragraphs above). However, the model implies correlations between these two markets that are higher than in the data. We now argue that these correlations are likely to pose a puzzle for any model with a single factor driving risk premiums.

Consider a general homoskedastic model with  $m$  factors such that a single linear combination of these factors drives the price of risk. Such a model is described in Appendix A; the model we have calibrated in this paper is a special case. In any such model, the price of risk is observable up to an additive and multiplicative constant provided one can observe  $m$  forward rates. The reasoning is as follows: The forward rates are linear combinations of the  $m$  factors, so (provided that there is a nonzero term premium), there must be some linear combination of the  $m$  forward rates that uncovers the price of risk (Appendix D explicitly computes this combination for the three-factor model calibrated in the paper). Because risk premiums on zero-coupon instruments are equal to a constant times the price of risk plus a shock,<sup>16</sup> this linear combination can be identified by a regression of excess

returns on lagged forward rates. Namely, the price of risk can be identified by running [Cochrane and Piazzesi \(2005\)](#) regressions, and the resulting price of risk will be proportional to the CP factor.

The discussion in the previous paragraph shows that the correlation between the price-dividend ratio and the CP factor (which is near zero in the data), is equal to the correlation between the price-dividend ratio and  $x_t$ . Let  $p_t^m - d_t = \log(P_t^m/D_t)$ , the log price-dividend ratio on the market. Consider a projection of the log price-dividend ratio onto  $x_t$ :

$$p_t^m - d_t = \frac{\text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)}{\sigma_x^2} x_t + x_t^0, \quad (40)$$

where  $x_t^0 = p_t^m - d_t - (\text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)/\sigma_x^2)x_t$  has zero covariance with  $x_t$ . The population  $R^2$  of the projection (40) is given by

$$R_{p^m-d, x}^2 = \left( \frac{\text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)}{\sigma_x^2} \right)^2 \frac{\sigma_x^2}{\text{Var}(p_t^m - d_t)} = \text{Corr}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)^2. \quad (41)$$

Intuitively, (41) measures the proportion of the variance of the price-dividend ratio that is explained by changes in risk premiums. Eq. (41), together with the reasoning in the previous paragraph, shows that a model capable of explaining the near-zero correlation between the CP factor and the price-dividend ratio would also have to require that the price-dividend ratio be driven almost exclusively by factors other than risk premiums. In a fully specified SDF model such as the one in this paper, these factors could only be expected dividend growth and the risk-free rate. Longstanding empirical results (e.g.,

<sup>16</sup> We prove this result in Section 2 for the special case that we calibrate. However, the reasoning holds for the more general model described in Appendix A.

Campbell and Shiller, 1988; Cochrane, 1992) indicate that these factors have very little influence on the price–dividend ratio, and indeed, that the price–dividend ratio is driven mainly by future risk premiums. To summarize: if a single factor drives risk premiums, (41) must be high to explain the evidence on the predictability of excess stock returns. However, (41) is also the square of the correlation of the price–dividend ratio with the CP factor. In the data, the correlation between these two variables is quite low.

We can also use (41) to generalize the model's implications for return predictability across markets. Namely, we show below that under a reasonable parametrization of a model with a single factor driving risk premiums, excess returns that are predictable by the price–dividend ratio should also be predictable by the CP factor and conversely, excess returns predictable by the CP factor should also be predictable by the price–dividend ratio.<sup>17</sup> Thus, the data on cross-market predictability are puzzling for a general class of models, not simply for our calibration.

Let  $r_{t+1}$  be the continuously compounded excess return on a zero-coupon instrument. For example, for an  $n$ -period nominal bond,  $r_{t+1} = r_{n,t+1}^s - y_{1t}^s$ . Let  $\eta$  be the term multiplying  $x_t$  in the risk premium on this asset; for the nominal bond in the model we solve in Section 2,  $\eta = \text{Cov}_t(r_{n,t+1}^s, \Delta d_{t+1})$ . It follows from (32) that the excess return can be written as

$$r_{t+1} = \text{constant} + \eta x_t + \epsilon_{r,t+1}, \quad (42)$$

where  $\epsilon_{r,t+1}$  is mean zero and uncorrelated with any variable known at time  $t$ . Because the CP factor is perfectly correlated with  $x_t$ , the population  $R^2$  of a predictive regression of  $r_{t+1}$  on the CP factor equals

$$R_{r,CP}^2 = \frac{\eta^2 \sigma_x^2}{\text{Var}(r_{t+1})}.$$

The shock  $\epsilon_{r,t+1}$  is uncorrelated with time- $t$  variables, so it is also uncorrelated with the part of the price–dividend ratio that is orthogonal to  $x_t$ . It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(r_{t+1}, p_t^m - d_t) &= \text{Cov}\left(\eta x_t + \epsilon_{r,t+1}, \frac{\text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)}{\sigma_x^2} x_t + x_t^0\right) \\ &= \eta \text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t). \end{aligned}$$

The population  $R^2$  of a predictive regression of the return on the price–dividend ratio is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} R_{r,p^m-d}^2 &= \frac{\eta^2 \text{Cov}(p_t^m - d_t, x_t)^2}{\text{Var}(r_{t+1}) \text{Var}(p_t^m - d_t)} = \frac{\eta^2 \sigma_x^2}{\text{Var}(r_{t+1})} R_{p^m-d,x}^2 \\ &= R_{r,CP}^2 R_{p^m-d,x}^2. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Eq. (43) shows that the ratio between the  $R^2$  from a regression on the price–dividend ratio and a regression on the CP factor equals the proportion of the variance of the price–dividend ratio explained by  $x_t$ . The computation above only holds exactly for zero-coupon returns because these are the only assets for which (42) applies. However, it holds as an approximation for more complex returns,

such as the return on the market. Further, while we have written these equations assuming the regression takes place one period ahead, the fact that  $x_t$  follows a first-order autoregressive process implies that this result holds for regressions at any horizon.

Comparing Tables 10 and 12 shows that the ratio of the  $R^2$ 's for bond returns implied by the model is 0.53 for a one-year horizon and 0.51 for a five-year horizon. The correlation between the price–dividend ratio and the CP factor in the model is  $-0.73$ , so, from (41),  $R_{p^m-d,x}^2 = 0.53$ , confirming these calculations (the minor discrepancy for the five-year horizon can be explained by simulation error). In the data, the price–dividend ratio has very little ability to forecast bond returns over this sample, implying a ratio of 0.04 at a one-year horizon and 0.14 at a five-year horizon. As the discussion above demonstrates, it is hard to see how a model with one factor driving risk premiums could simultaneously capture the ability of bond factors to predict bond returns and the inability of stock factors to predict bond returns. More broadly, these results suggest that explaining these correlations and predictive regressions requires a model with multiple factors driving risk premiums. A challenge for future research will be to not only specify these factors, but also to assign them economic content.

#### 4. Conclusion

This paper has shown that properties of the cross-section of returns, the aggregate market, and the term structure of interest rates can all be understood within a single framework. We introduced a parsimonious model for the pricing kernel capable of accounting for the behavior of value and growth stocks, nominal bonds, and the aggregate market. At the root of the model are dividend, inflation, and interest rate processes calibrated to match their counterparts in the data. Time-varying preferences for risk, modeled using a first-order autoregressive process for the price of risk, capture the observed volatility in equity returns and bond yields, as well as time-varying risk premiums in the equity and the bond markets.

Our model highlights a challenge for any model that attempts to explain both bonds and the cross-section of equities. The upward-sloping yield curve for bonds indicates that investors require compensation in the form of a positive risk premium for holding high-duration assets. However, data on value and growth stocks imply the opposite: investors require compensation for holding value stocks, which are short-horizon equity. Our model addresses this tension by specifying a real risk-free rate that is negatively correlated with fundamentals and a price-of-risk shock that has zero correlation with fundamentals. We hope that future work will suggest micro-economic foundations for these specifications.

#### Appendix A. General model

Let  $H_t$  be an  $m \times 1$  vector of state variables at time  $t$  and let  $\epsilon_{t+1}$  be an  $(m+2) \times 1$  vector of independent standard normal shocks. We assume that the state

<sup>17</sup> This statement holds precisely for returns on zero-coupon instruments; it holds approximately for returns on complex instruments such as the market portfolio.

variables evolve according to the vector autoregression

$$\mathbf{H}_{t+1} = \mathbf{\Theta}_0 + \mathbf{\Theta}\mathbf{H}_t + \mathbf{\sigma}_H \mathbf{\epsilon}_{t+1}, \quad (\text{A.1})$$

where  $\mathbf{\Theta}_0$  is  $m \times 1$ ,  $\mathbf{\Theta}$  is  $m \times m$ , and  $\mathbf{\sigma}_H$  is  $m \times (m+2)$ . Assume that the aggregate dividend  $D_{t+1}$  follows the process (1) and that the price level  $\Pi_{t+1}$  follows the process (3). However, expected dividend growth, expected inflation, the risk-free rate, and the price of risk will be general affine functions of the underlying state vector:

$$z_t = \delta_0 + \delta' \mathbf{H}_t,$$

$$q_t = \eta_0 + \eta' \mathbf{H}_t,$$

$$r_{t+1}^f = \alpha_0 + \alpha' \mathbf{H}_t,$$

$$x_t = \xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t,$$

where  $\delta_0$ ,  $\eta_0$ ,  $\alpha_0$ , and  $\xi_0$  are scalars and  $\delta$ ,  $\eta$ ,  $\alpha$ , and  $\xi$  are  $m \times 1$  vectors. Assume that the intertemporal marginal rate of substitution takes the form

$$M_{t+1} = \exp\{-r_{t+1}^f - \frac{1}{2} \|\lambda\|^2 x_t^2 - x_t \lambda' \mathbf{\epsilon}_{t+1}\}. \quad (\text{A.2})$$

The price of risk is therefore  $x_t \lambda$ . In the main text, we impose the restriction  $\lambda = \sigma_d'$ .

We describe the solution method for the case of zero-coupon equity. Consider the recursion (17), and conjecture that the solution takes the form

$$\frac{P_{nt}^d}{D_t} = \exp\{A_n^d + \mathbf{B}_n^d \mathbf{H}_t\}, \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where  $A_n^d$  is a scalar and  $\mathbf{B}_n^d$  is  $1 \times m$ . Substituting (A.3) into (17) and expanding out the expectation implies

$$\begin{aligned} E_t[\exp\{-\alpha_0 - \alpha' \mathbf{H}_t - \frac{1}{2}(\xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t)^2 \|\lambda\|^2 \\ - (\xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t) \lambda' \mathbf{\epsilon}_{t+1} + \delta_0 + \delta' \mathbf{H}_t + \sigma_d \mathbf{\epsilon}_{t+1} \\ + A_{n-1}^d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d (\mathbf{\Theta}_0 + \mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{H}_t + \mathbf{\sigma}_H \mathbf{\epsilon}_{t+1})\}] \\ = \exp\{A_n^d + \mathbf{B}_n^d \mathbf{H}_t\}. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from properties of the lognormal distribution that

$$\begin{aligned} \exp\{-\alpha_0 - \alpha' \mathbf{H}_t - \frac{1}{2}(\xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t)^2 \|\lambda\|^2 + \delta_0 + \delta' \mathbf{H}_t + A_{n-1}^d \\ + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d (\mathbf{\Theta}_0 + \mathbf{\Theta} \mathbf{H}_t) + \frac{1}{2}(\sigma_d - (\xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t) \lambda' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H) \\ (\sigma_d - (\xi_0 + \xi' \mathbf{H}_t) \lambda' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H)'\} = \exp\{A_n^d + \mathbf{B}_n^d \mathbf{H}_t\}. \end{aligned}$$

Matching coefficients implies<sup>18</sup>:

$$\mathbf{B}_n^d = -\alpha' + \delta' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \mathbf{\Theta} - (\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H) \lambda \xi', \quad (\text{A.4})$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_n^d = -\alpha_0 + \delta_0 + A_{n-1}^d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \mathbf{\Theta}_0 - (\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H) \lambda \xi_0 \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_d \sigma_d' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H \sigma_d' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H \sigma_H' \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

with  $\mathbf{B}_0^d = \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}$  and  $A_0^d = 0$ . Note that the terms that are quadratic in  $\mathbf{H}_t$  cancel.

Note that the recursion for real bonds (9) takes the same form as the recursion for equities (17), except that there is no dividend growth term. We can therefore apply

(A.4) and (A.5), provided that we replace  $\delta_0$  with 0,  $\delta_1$  with  $\mathbf{0}_{m \times 1}$ , and  $\sigma_d$  with  $\mathbf{0}_{1 \times (m+2)}$ . Therefore, real bond prices satisfy

$$P_{nt}^r = \exp\{A_n^r + \mathbf{B}_n^r \mathbf{H}_t\}, \quad (\text{A.6})$$

where  $A_n^r$  is a scalar and  $\mathbf{B}_n^r$  is a  $1 \times m$  vector satisfying

$$\mathbf{B}_n^r = -\alpha' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r \mathbf{\Theta} - \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r \sigma_H \lambda \xi', \quad (\text{A.7})$$

$$A_n^r = -\alpha_0 + A_{n-1}^r + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r \mathbf{\Theta}_0 - \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r \sigma_H \lambda \xi_0 + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r \sigma_H \sigma_H' \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^r, \quad (\text{A.8})$$

with  $\mathbf{B}_0^r = \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}$  and  $A_0^r = 0$ .

To price nominal bonds, note that the recursion (26) takes the same form as the equity recursion (17), except that growth in dividends is replaced by the inverse of inflation. Therefore, we can again apply (A.4) and (A.5), provided that we replace  $\delta_0$  with  $-\eta_0$ ,  $\delta$  with  $-\eta$ , and  $\sigma_d$  with  $-\sigma_\pi$ . Therefore, the nominal price of the nominal bond satisfies

$$P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t = \exp\{A_n^\pi + \mathbf{B}_n^\pi \mathbf{H}_t\}, \quad (\text{A.9})$$

where  $A_n^\pi$  is a scalar and  $\mathbf{B}_n^\pi$  is a  $1 \times m$  vector satisfying

$$\mathbf{B}_n^\pi = -\alpha' - \eta' + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \mathbf{\Theta} - (-\sigma_\pi + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \sigma_H) \lambda \xi', \quad (\text{A.10})$$

$$\begin{aligned} A_n^\pi = -\alpha_0 - \eta_0 + A_{n-1}^\pi + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \mathbf{\Theta}_0 - (-\sigma_\pi + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \sigma_H) \lambda \xi_0 \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_\pi \sigma_\pi' - \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \sigma_H \sigma_\pi' + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi \sigma_H \sigma_H' \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^\pi, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.11})$$

and  $\mathbf{B}_0^\pi = \mathbf{0}_{1 \times m}$  and  $A_0^\pi = 0$ .

## Appendix B. Convergence of the market price–dividend ratio in the general model

This appendix derives conditions that guarantee the convergence of the price–dividend ratio, assuming the general model in Appendix A. The results can be specialized to the model in Section 2 using the definitions in Appendix C. Let  $\mathbf{K}_1 = \mathbf{\Theta} - \sigma_H \lambda \xi'$  and  $\mathbf{K}_2 = -\alpha' + \delta' - \sigma_d \lambda \xi'$ . Then (A.4) can be rewritten as

$$\mathbf{B}_n^d = \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \mathbf{K}_1 + \mathbf{K}_2.$$

The limit of  $\mathbf{B}_n^d$  as  $n$  goes to infinity is the fixed point of this equation. As long as the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{K}_1$  have absolute value less than one, a fixed point exists (see Hamilton, 1994, Chapter 10). In this case,  $\mathbf{I}_m - \mathbf{K}_1$  is invertible, and the fixed point is

$$\bar{\mathbf{B}} = \mathbf{K}_2 (\mathbf{I}_m - \mathbf{K}_1)^{-1}.$$

Now assume that the eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{K}_1$  have absolute value less than one. In the general case, the price–dividend ratio is given by (23), where  $P_{nt}^d/D_t$  takes the general form (A.3). Define

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{A} = -\alpha_0 + \delta_0 + \bar{\mathbf{B}} \mathbf{\Theta}_0 - (\sigma_d + \bar{\mathbf{B}} \sigma_H) \lambda \xi_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sigma_d \sigma_d' + \bar{\mathbf{B}} \sigma_H \sigma_d' \\ + \frac{1}{2} \bar{\mathbf{B}} \sigma_H \sigma_H' \bar{\mathbf{B}}'. \end{aligned}$$

It follows from (A.5) that for sufficiently large  $N$ ,

$$A_n^d \approx \bar{A} n + \text{constant for } n \geq N,$$

<sup>18</sup> Because  $\xi' \mathbf{H}_t$  and  $\lambda'(\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H)'$  are each scalars,

$$\xi' \mathbf{H}_t \lambda' (\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H)' = \lambda' (\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H)' \xi' \mathbf{H}_t = (\sigma_d + \mathbf{B}_{n-1}^d \sigma_H) \lambda \xi' \mathbf{H}_t.$$

where the constant does not depend on  $n$ . Therefore,

$$\sum_{n=N}^L \exp\{A_n^d + \mathbf{B}_n^d \mathbf{H}_t\} \approx \exp\{\text{constant} + \bar{\mathbf{B}} \mathbf{H}_t\} \sum_{n=N}^L \exp\{\bar{A}n\}.$$

As long as  $\bar{A} < 0$ , the right-hand side approaches a finite limit for  $L \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Appendix C. Solution to the model in Section 2

The model in Section 2 can either be solved directly, or by applying the formulas in Appendix A under appropriate restrictions. The general model in Appendix A reduces to the model in Section 2 if

$$\delta = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \eta = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \alpha = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \xi = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

and if

$$\Theta = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_z & & & \\ & \phi_q & & \\ & & \phi_r & \\ & & & \phi_x \end{bmatrix}, \quad \sigma_H = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_z \\ \sigma_q \\ \sigma_r \\ \sigma_x \end{bmatrix}, \quad (\text{C.2})$$

where  $\Theta$  is a diagonal matrix. Further, set  $\Theta_0 = \mathbf{0}_{4 \times 1}$  so that  $g = \delta_0$ ,  $\bar{q} = \eta_0$ ,  $\bar{r}^f = \alpha_0$ , and  $\bar{x} = \xi_0$ . Label the elements of the vectors  $\mathbf{B}_n^r$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_n^d$ , and  $\mathbf{B}_n^\pi$  as follows:

$$\mathbf{B}_n^r = [B_{zn}^r, B_{qn}^r, B_{rn}^r, B_{xn}^r],$$

$$\mathbf{B}_n^d = [B_{zn}^d, B_{qn}^d, B_{rn}^d, B_{xn}^d],$$

$$\mathbf{B}_n^\pi = [B_{zn}^\pi, B_{qn}^\pi, B_{rn}^\pi, B_{xn}^\pi]. \quad (\text{C.3})$$

We continue to assume that the price of risk is given by the general form (A.2); the formulas in Section 2 can be obtained by setting  $\lambda = \sigma'_d$ .

For real bonds, (A.7) and (A.8) imply that

$$B_{zn}^r = B_{z,n-1}^r \phi_z, \quad (\text{C.4})$$

$$B_{qn}^r = B_{q,n-1}^r \phi_q, \quad (\text{C.5})$$

$$B_{rn}^r = -1 + B_{r,n-1}^r \phi_r, \quad (\text{C.6})$$

$$B_{xn}^r = B_{x,n-1}^r \phi_x - \sigma_{(n)}^r \lambda, \quad (\text{C.7})$$

$$A_n^r = -\bar{r}^f + A_{n-1}^r - \sigma_{(n)}^r \lambda \bar{x} + \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma_{(n)}^r\|^2, \quad (\text{C.8})$$

where

$$\sigma_{(n)}^r = B_{r,n-1}^r \sigma_r + B_{q,n-1}^r \sigma_q + B_{z,n-1}^r \sigma_z + B_{x,n-1}^r \sigma_x$$

is the vector of loadings on the shocks for the return on the  $n$ -period real bond. The boundary conditions are  $B_{z0}^r = B_{q0}^r = B_{r0}^r = B_{x0}^r = A_0^r = 0$ . Eqs. (C.4) and (C.5) together with the boundary conditions imply that  $B_{zn}^r = B_{qn}^r = 0$  for all  $n$ . The solution to (C.6) is  $B_{rn}^r = -(1 - \phi_r^n)/(1 - \phi_r)$ . The solution to (C.7) is

$$B_{xn}^r = \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} \frac{1 - \phi_\lambda^n}{1 - \phi_\lambda} - \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} \frac{\phi_r^n - \phi_\lambda^n}{\phi_r - \phi_\lambda}, \quad (\text{C.9})$$

where  $\phi_\lambda = \phi_x - \sigma_x \lambda$ .

In the case of equities, (A.4) and (A.5) imply that

$$B_{zn}^d = 1 + B_{z,n-1}^d \phi_z, \quad (\text{C.10})$$

$$B_{qn}^d = B_{q,n-1}^d \phi_q, \quad (\text{C.11})$$

$$B_{rn}^d = -1 + B_{r,n-1}^d \phi_r, \quad (\text{C.12})$$

$$B_{xn}^d = B_{x,n-1}^d \phi_x - \sigma_{(n)}^d \lambda, \quad (\text{C.13})$$

$$A_n^d = -\bar{r}^f + g + A_{n-1}^d - \sigma_{(n)}^d \lambda \bar{x} + \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma_{(n)}^d\|^2, \quad (\text{C.14})$$

where

$$\sigma_{(n)}^d = \sigma_d + B_{r,n-1}^d \sigma_r + B_{q,n-1}^d \sigma_q + B_{z,n-1}^d \sigma_z + B_{x,n-1}^d \sigma_x$$

is the vector of loadings on the shocks for the return on  $n$ -period zero-coupon equity. The boundary conditions are  $B_{z0}^d = B_{q0}^d = B_{r0}^d = B_{x0}^d = A_0^d = 0$ . Eq. (C.11) together with the boundary condition implies that  $B_{qn}^d = 0$  for all  $n$ . The solution to (C.10) is  $B_{zn}^d = (1 - \phi_z^n)/(1 - \phi_z)$ , while the solution to (C.12) is  $B_{rn}^d = -(1 - \phi_r^n)/(1 - \phi_r)$ . The solution to (C.13) is

$$B_{xn}^d = \left( -\sigma_d \lambda + \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} - \frac{\sigma_z \lambda}{1 - \phi_z} \right) \frac{1 - \phi_\lambda^n}{1 - \phi_\lambda} - \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} \frac{\phi_r^n - \phi_\lambda^n}{\phi_r - \phi_\lambda} + \frac{\sigma_z \lambda}{1 - \phi_z} \frac{\phi_z^n - \phi_\lambda^n}{\phi_z - \phi_\lambda}. \quad (\text{C.15})$$

In the case of nominal bonds, (A.10) and (A.11) imply that

$$B_{zn}^\pi = B_{z,n-1}^\pi \phi_z, \quad (\text{C.16})$$

$$B_{qn}^\pi = -1 + B_{q,n-1}^\pi \phi_q, \quad (\text{C.17})$$

$$B_{rn}^\pi = -1 + B_{r,n-1}^\pi \phi_r, \quad (\text{C.18})$$

$$B_{xn}^\pi = B_{x,n-1}^\pi \phi_x - \sigma_{(n)}^\pi \lambda, \quad (\text{C.19})$$

$$A_n^\pi = -\bar{r}^f - \bar{q} + A_{n-1}^\pi - \sigma_{(n)}^\pi \lambda \bar{x} + \frac{1}{2} \|\sigma_{(n)}^\pi\|^2, \quad (\text{C.20})$$

where

$$\sigma_{(n)}^\pi = -\sigma_\pi + B_{r,n-1}^\pi \sigma_r + B_{q,n-1}^\pi \sigma_q + B_{x,n-1}^\pi \sigma_x$$

is the vector of loadings on the shocks for the return on the  $n$ -period nominal bond. The boundary conditions are  $B_{z0}^\pi = B_{q0}^\pi = B_{r0}^\pi = B_{x0}^\pi = A_0^\pi = 0$ . Eq. (C.16) together with the boundary condition implies that  $B_{zn}^\pi = 0$  for all  $n$ . The solutions to (C.17) and (C.18) are given in the main text. The solution to (C.19) is

$$B_{xn}^\pi = \left( \sigma_\pi \lambda + \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} + \frac{\sigma_q \lambda}{1 - \phi_q} \right) \frac{1 - \phi_\lambda^n}{1 - \phi_\lambda} - \frac{\sigma_r \lambda}{1 - \phi_r} \frac{\phi_r^n - \phi_\lambda^n}{\phi_r - \phi_\lambda} - \frac{\sigma_q \lambda}{1 - \phi_q} \frac{\phi_q^n - \phi_\lambda^n}{\phi_q - \phi_\lambda}. \quad (\text{C.21})$$

### Appendix D. Cochrane-Piazzesi (2005) regressions

The forward rate for loans between periods  $t+n$  and  $t+n+h$  is given by the difference in log nominal prices of nominal bonds

$$f_{nt}^S = \log P_{n-h,t}^\pi \Pi_t - \log P_{nt}^\pi \Pi_t.$$

Let

$$C_{qn} = B_{q,n-h}^{\pi} - B_{qn}^{\pi}$$

and likewise for  $C_{rn}$  and  $C_{xn}$ . It follows from the formula for nominal bond prices (27), that

$$f_{nt}^s = C_{qn}q_t + C_{rn}r_{t+1}^f + C_{xn}x_t. \quad (D.1)$$

It follows from (28) that

$$C_{qn} = \phi_q^{n-h} \frac{1-\phi_q^h}{1-\phi_q}, \quad C_{rn} = \phi_r^{n-h} \frac{1-\phi_r^h}{1-\phi_r}. \quad (D.2)$$

The formula for  $C_{xn}$  is more complicated, but can be calculated from (C.21). Eq. (D.1) can be written in matrix form as

$$\mathbf{C} \begin{bmatrix} q_t \\ r_{t+1}^f \\ x_t \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f}_t, \quad (D.3)$$

where

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{bmatrix} C_{qn_1} & C_{rn_1} & C_{xn_1} \\ C_{qn_2} & C_{rn_2} & C_{xn_2} \\ C_{qn_3} & C_{rn_3} & C_{xn_3} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f}_t = \begin{bmatrix} f_{n_1t}^s \\ f_{n_2t}^s \\ f_{n_3t}^s \end{bmatrix},$$

for three forward-rate maturities  $n_3 > n_2 > n_1$ .

We now solve for the linear combination of forward rates that is proportional to  $x_t$ . Accordingly, let  $\theta$  be a  $3 \times 1$  vector such that  $\theta' \mathbf{f}_t = x_t$ . It follows from (D.3) that

$$\begin{aligned} \theta &= [0 \ 0 \ 1] \mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{C}|} [C_{qn_2}C_{rn_3} - C_{qn_3}C_{rn_2}, C_{rn_1}C_{qn_3} - C_{rn_3}C_{qn_1}, C_{qn_1}C_{rn_2} - C_{qn_2}C_{rn_1}], \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathbf{C}|} \frac{\phi_q^{-h} \phi_r^{-h} (1-\phi_q^h)(1-\phi_r^h)}{(1-\phi_q)(1-\phi_r)} \\ &\quad \times [\phi_q^{n_2} \phi_r^{n_3} - \phi_q^{n_3} \phi_r^{n_2}, \phi_q^{n_3} \phi_r^{n_1} - \phi_q^{n_1} \phi_r^{n_3}, \phi_q^{n_1} \phi_r^{n_2} - \phi_q^{n_2} \phi_r^{n_1}], \end{aligned} \quad (D.4)$$

where  $|\mathbf{C}|$  denotes the determinant of  $\mathbf{C}$ . Assume  $\phi_q \neq \phi_r$ . Because  $n_3 > n_2 > n_1$ , it follows that the first and third element of  $\theta$  must take the opposite sign from the second element of  $\theta$ . Therefore,  $\theta$  must either have a tent- or “V”-shape.

Whether  $\theta$  takes the form of a tent or a “V” depends on the sign of the determinant  $|\mathbf{C}|$ . The formula for the determinant of a  $3 \times 3$  matrix implies that  $|\mathbf{C}|$  is equal to a positive constant times

$$\begin{aligned} C_{xn_1}(\phi_q^{n_2} \phi_r^{n_3} - \phi_q^{n_3} \phi_r^{n_2}) + C_{xn_2}(\phi_q^{n_3} \phi_r^{n_1} - \phi_q^{n_1} \phi_r^{n_3}) \\ + C_{xn_3}(\phi_q^{n_1} \phi_r^{n_2} - \phi_q^{n_2} \phi_r^{n_1}). \end{aligned}$$

Consider the case of  $\phi_r > \phi_q$  (which holds in our calibration). It follows from (D.4) that  $\theta$  has a tent-shape if and only if  $|\mathbf{C}|$  is negative. This will occur when  $C_{xn_2}$  is large relative to  $C_{xn_1}$  and  $C_{xn_3}$ , namely, when the effect of  $x_t$  is largest at intermediate maturities. Simulation results show that this tends to occur when  $\phi_x$  is less than  $\phi_r$ . Long-maturity forward rates are then driven more by  $\phi_r$ . Even if  $\phi_x$  is less than  $\phi_q$ , it turns out that short-maturity forward rates are driven more by  $\phi_q$ , because the effect of a change in  $x_t$  tends to be determined by a combination of

$\phi_x$  and the autocorrelation of the most persistent source of risk that is correlated with fundamentals.

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