

A Production-Based Model for the Term Structure

Urban J. Jermann

Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania

Production-based asset pricing in the literature

- General equilibrium with endogenous capital

Production-based asset pricing in the literature

- General equilibrium with endogenous capital
- "Pure" production-based:

Production-based asset pricing in the literature

- General equilibrium with endogenous capital
- "Pure" production-based:
 - ▶ Firm's return function of investment, productivity ... (Cochrane 1991)

Production-based asset pricing in the literature

- General equilibrium with endogenous capital
- "Pure" production-based:
 - ▶ Firm's return function of investment, productivity ... (Cochrane 1991)
 - ▶ "Complete" production-based pricing (Cochrane 1988, 1993, Belo 2010, Jermann 2010)

What is done

- Present a production-based model for pricing nominal bonds

What is done

- Present a production-based model for pricing nominal bonds
- Examine implied term structure quantitatively and analytically

Findings

- Match average and standard deviation of longer term yields

Findings

- Match average and standard deviation of longer term yields
- Time-varying premiums, partially match Fama-Bliss

Findings

- Match average and standard deviation of longer term yields
- Time-varying premiums, partially match Fama-Bliss
- Depreciation rates are important for term premium

Real Model, 1

- Uncertainty: $s \in (s_1, s_2)$, current realization s_t , history s^t

Real Model, 1

- Uncertainty: $s \in (s_1, s_2)$, current realization s_t , history s^t
- Firms solve

$$\max_{\{l, K'\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \sum_{s^t} P(s^t) \left[\begin{array}{l} F(\{K_j(s^{t-1})\}_{j \in (1,2)}, s^t) \\ - \sum_{j=1}^2 H_j(K_j(s^{t-1}), l_j(s^t)) \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad K_j(s^t) = K_j(s^{t-1})(1 - \delta_j) + l_j(s^t), \quad \forall s^t, j,$$

Real Model, 1

- Uncertainty: $s \in (s_1, s_2)$, current realization s_t , history s^t
- Firms solve

$$\max_{\{l, K'\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \sum_{s^t} P(s^t) \left[\begin{array}{l} F(\{K_j(s^{t-1})\}_{j \in (1,2)}, s^t) \\ - \sum_{j=1}^2 H_j(K_j(s^{t-1}), l_j(s^t)) \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{s.t. } K_j(s^t) = K_j(s^{t-1})(1 - \delta_j) + l_j(s^t), \quad \forall s^t, j,$$

- $F(\dots) = \sum_{j=1}^2 A_j(s^t) K_j(s^{t-1})$

Real Model, 1

- Uncertainty: $s \in (s_1, s_2)$, current realization s_t , history s^t
- Firms solve

$$\max_{\{I, K'\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \sum_{s^t} P(s^t) \left[\begin{array}{l} F(\{K_j(s^{t-1})\}_{j \in (1,2)}, s^t) \\ - \sum_{j=1}^2 H_j(K_j(s^{t-1}), I_j(s^t)) \end{array} \right]$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad K_j(s^t) = K_j(s^{t-1})(1 - \delta_j) + I_j(s^t), \quad \forall s^t, j,$$

- $F(\dots) = \sum_{j=1}^2 A_j(s^t) K_j(s^{t-1})$
- $H_j(\dots) = \left\{ \frac{b_j}{v_j} (I_j(s^t) / K_j(s^{t-1}))^{v_j} + c_j \right\} K_j(s^{t-1})$

Real Model, 2

First-order conditions

$$1 = \sum_{s_{t+1}} P(s_{t+1}|s^t) R_j^l(s^t, s_{t+1}) \text{ for } j = 1, 2$$

with

$$R_j^l(s^t, s_{t+1}) \equiv \left(\frac{F_{K_j}(s^t, s_{t+1}) - H_{j,1}(s^t, s_{t+1}) + (1 - \delta_j) q_j(s^t, s_{t+1})}{q_j(s^t)} \right)$$

and

$$q_j(s^t) = H_{j,2}(\dots) = b_j \left(\frac{l_j(s^t)}{K_j(s^{t-1})} \right)^{\nu_j - 1}$$

Real Model, 3

- Recovering state prices

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1^l(s^t, s_1) & R_1^l(s^t, s_2) \\ R_2^l(s^t, s_1) & R_2^l(s^t, s_2) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P(s_1|s^t) \\ P(s_2|s^t) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{1}$$

Real Model, 3

- Recovering state prices

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_1^l(s^t, s_1) & R_1^l(s^t, s_2) \\ R_2^l(s^t, s_1) & R_2^l(s^t, s_2) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} P(s_1|s^t) \\ P(s_2|s^t) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{1}$$

- so that state prices depend on

$$\left(\frac{l_1(s^t)}{K_1(s^{t-1})}, \frac{l_2(s^t)}{K_2(s^{t-1})}, \lambda_1^l(s^{t+1}), \lambda_2^l(s^{t+1}), A_j(s^{t+1}) \right)$$

Nominal bonds

- Assume $\lambda^P(z_t)$, with $z_t \in (\mathfrak{z}_1, \mathfrak{z}_2)$

Nominal bonds

- Assume $\lambda^P(z_t)$, with $z_t \in (\beta_1, \beta_2)$
- Assume investment and technology not contingent on inflation.
For instance,

$$P(s_1|s^t) = P(s_1|s^t, z_t) = P(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + P(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)$$

Nominal bonds

- Assume $\lambda^P(z_t)$, with $z_t \in (\beta_1, \beta_2)$
- Assume investment and technology not contingent on inflation. For instance,

$$P(s_1|s^t) = P(s_1|s^t, z_t) = P(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + P(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)$$

- Inflation not directly priced. For instance,

$$P(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) = \left(\frac{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t)}{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + \Pr(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)} \right) P(s_1|s^t), \text{ and}$$

$$P(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t) = \left(1 - \frac{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t)}{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + \Pr(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)} \right) P(s_1|s^t)$$

Nominal bonds

- Assume $\lambda^P(z_t)$, with $z_t \in (\beta_1, \beta_2)$
- Assume investment and technology not contingent on inflation. For instance,

$$P(s_1|s^t) = P(s_1|s^t, z_t) = P(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + P(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)$$

- Inflation not directly priced. For instance,

$$P(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) = \left(\frac{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t)}{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + \Pr(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)} \right) P(s_1|s^t), \text{ and}$$

$$P(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t) = \left(1 - \frac{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t)}{\Pr(s_1, \beta_1|s^t, z_t) + \Pr(s_1, \beta_2|s^t, z_t)} \right) P(s_1|s^t)$$

- If inflation and investment independent

$$V_t^{\$(1)}(s^t, z_t) = \{P(s'_1|s^t) + P(s'_2|s^t)\} E\left(\frac{1}{\lambda^P} | s^t, z_t\right)$$

Table 1: Parameter values

Parameter	Symbol	Value
Investment rates	$\lambda^I(\mathfrak{s}_1), \lambda^I(\mathfrak{s}_2)$	0.9497, 1.1109
Serial correlation		0.2
Relative freq. of low		0.8
Inflation rates	$\lambda^P(\mathfrak{z}_1), \lambda^P(\mathfrak{z}_2)$	1.0169, 1.0763
Serial correlation		0.8
Relative freq. of low		1.9
Depreciation rates	δ_E, δ_S	0.112, 0.031
Relative value of cap.	K_E/K_S	0.6
Adjustment cost par.	b_E, b_S, c_E, c_S so that \bar{q}	1.5
Adjustment cost curv.	ν_E, ν_S	2.2385, 4.1080
Marginal prod. of cap.	A_E, A_S so that \bar{R}_E, \bar{R}_S	1.04515, 1.05773

Table 2: Equity returns and short term yields		
	Model	Data
$E \left(r_M - y^{(1)} \right) \%$	4.64	4.64
$\sigma \left(r_{M,r} \right) \%$	17.13	17.13
$E \left(y^{(1)} \right) \%$	5.29	5.29
$\sigma \left(y^{(1)} \right) \%$	2.98	2.98

Yields, y , are from Fama and Bliss, defined as $-\ln(\text{price})/\text{maturity}$, stock returns are the logs of value-weighted returns from CRSP, $r_{M,r}$ is the stock return deflated by the CPI-U. All data is 1952-2010.

Table 3: Term structure

	Maturity (years)				
	1	2	3	4	5
Nominal yields					
Mean - Model %	5.29	5.44	5.58	5.72	5.86
Mean - Data %	5.29	5.49	5.67	5.81	5.90
Std - Model %	2.98	2.73	2.51	2.33	2.17
Std - Data %	2.98	2.93	2.85	2.80	2.75
Real yields					
Mean - Model %	1.68	1.84	2.00	2.15	2.31
Std - Model %	2.06	1.92	1.81	1.71	1.62

Table 4: Fama-Bliss excess return regressions

$$rx_{t+1}^{(n)} = \alpha + \beta \left(f_t^{(n)} - y_t^{(1)} \right) + \varepsilon_{t+1}^{(n)}$$

	Maturity (years)			
	2	3	4	5
Model - β	.3050	.3906	.5144	.6135
Data - β	.7606	1.0007	1.2723	.9952

Yields are from Fama and Bliss 1952-2010, $rx_{t+1}^{(n)}$ is the excess return of a n -period discount bond, $f_t^{(n)}$ is the forward rate, $(p_t^{(n-1)} - p_t^{(n)})$, $p_t^{(n)}$ the log of the price discount bond, and $y_t^{(1)}$ is the 1 period yield.

Table 5: Fama-Bliss excess return regressions

No inflation risk

$$rx_{t+1}^{(n)} = \alpha + \beta \left(f_t^{(n)} - y_t^{(1)} \right) + \varepsilon_{t+1}^{(n)}$$

		Maturity (years)			
		2	3	4	5
Model - β	no inflation risk	.4656	.6101	.7881	.9465
Model - β	real forward premium	.4667	.6039	.7866	.9473
Model - β	benchmark	.3050	.3906	.5144	.6135
Data - β		.7606	1.0007	1.2723	.9952

Continuous-time

- Assume univariate dz with discount factor process

$$\frac{d\Lambda}{\Lambda} = -r(\cdot) dt - \sigma(\cdot) dz$$

with given returns for the two types of capital

$$\frac{dR_j}{R_j} = \mu_j(\cdot) dt + \sigma_j(\cdot) dz, \text{ for } j = 1, 2$$

Continuous-time

- Assume univariate dz with discount factor process

$$\frac{d\Lambda}{\Lambda} = -r(\cdot) dt - \sigma(\cdot) dz$$

with given returns for the two types of capital

$$\frac{dR_j}{R_j} = \mu_j(\cdot) dt + \sigma_j(\cdot) dz, \text{ for } j = 1, 2$$

- The absence of arbitrage implies that

$$0 = -r + \mu_j - \sigma_j \sigma, \text{ for } j = 1, 2$$

so that

$$r = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_2$$
$$\sigma = \frac{\mu_2 - \mu_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1}$$

Capital return

The return to a given capital stock equals

$$\underbrace{\left\{ \begin{aligned} & \frac{A_j - c_j}{b_j \left(\frac{l_{j,t}}{K_{j,t}} \right)^{\nu_j - 1}} - (\nu_j - 1) \left(1 - \frac{1}{\nu_j} \right) l_{j,t} / K_{j,t} - \delta_j \\ & + (\nu_j - 1) \left[\left(\lambda^{l,j} - 1 \right) + \delta_j + \frac{1}{2} (\nu_j - 2) \sigma_{l,j}^2 \right] \end{aligned} \right\}}_{\mu_j(\cdot)} dt$$

$$+ \underbrace{(\nu_j - 1) \sigma_{l,j}}_{\sigma_j(\cdot)} dz$$

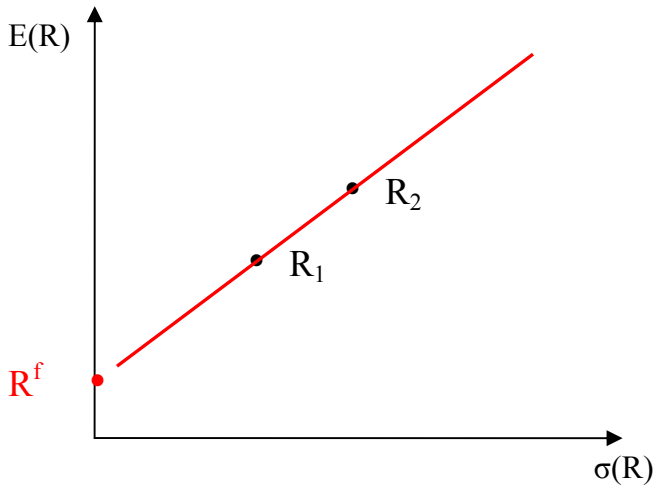
Sharpe ratio

At steady state, $I/K = \lambda' - 1 + \delta$, and with $\sigma_{I,j} = \sigma_I$, the Sharpe ratio is given by

$$\sigma|_{ss} = \frac{\mu_j - r}{\sigma_j} = \frac{\mu_2 - \mu_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} = \frac{\bar{R}_2 - \bar{R}_1}{(\nu_2 - \nu_1) \sigma_I} + \frac{\nu_1 + \nu_2 - 3}{2} \sigma_I$$

with

$$\bar{R} = \frac{A - c}{b \left(\lambda' - (1 - \delta) \right)^{\nu - 1}} + \left(1 - \frac{1}{\nu} \right) \lambda' + \frac{1}{\nu} (1 - \delta)$$



Dynamics of the short rate

- The short rate equals

$$r = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_2$$

Dynamics of the short rate

- The short rate equals

$$r = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_2$$

- Specializing to the case $\sigma_{I_j} = \sigma_I$

$$r = \frac{\nu_2 - 1}{\nu_2 - \nu_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\nu_1 - 1}{\nu_2 - \nu_1} \mu_2$$

Dynamics of the short rate

- The short rate equals

$$r = \frac{\sigma_2}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\sigma_1}{\sigma_2 - \sigma_1} \mu_2$$

- Specializing to the case $\sigma_{I_j} = \sigma_I$

$$r = \frac{\nu_2 - 1}{\nu_2 - \nu_1} \mu_1 - \frac{\nu_1 - 1}{\nu_2 - \nu_1} \mu_2$$

- $dr = \mu_r(\cdot) dt + \sigma_r(\cdot) dz$: at steady state, for $\sigma_{I_j} = \sigma_I$, and λ^{I_j} and σ_I constant,

$$\sigma_r|_{ss} = \frac{(\nu_2 - 1)(\nu_1 - 1)}{\nu_2 - \nu_1} [\bar{R}_2 - \bar{R}_1 + \delta_2 - \delta_1] \sigma_I$$

Table 6: Term premium: continuous-time versus discrete-time model

	Cont.-time	Discrete-time
	$-\sigma_r \sigma$	$E_t \left(r_{t+1}^{(2)} - y_t^{(1)} \right)$
Benchmark	.0024	.0022
$\delta_1 = \delta_2, \bar{R}_1 = \bar{R}_2,$	0	0.00001
$\delta_1 = \delta_2$	-0.00044	-0.00036
$\bar{R}_1 = \bar{R}_2, \delta_1 = .112 > \delta_2 = .0313$.0017	.0015
$\bar{R}_1 = \bar{R}_2, \delta_1 = .0313 < \delta_2 = .112$	-0.0017	-0.0018

Conclusion

- Two-sector q-theoretical model can do a good job replicating averages and volatilities of longer term US yields

Conclusion

- Two-sector q-theoretical model can do a good job replicating averages and volatilities of longer term US yields
- Time-varying term premiums are evidenced through Fama-Bliss regressions

Conclusion

- Two-sector q-theoretical model can do a good job replicating averages and volatilities of longer term US yields
- Time-varying term premiums are evidenced through Fama-Bliss regressions
- Even with homoscedastic investment and inflation, the market price of risk and the volatility of the short rate are naturally time-varying, driven by time-varying investment to capital ratios