

# **Capital Markets** Homework # 3 (Due in class) Preparation for Friday, November 5, 2004

# **Topic: Bond Arbitrage and T-Bills**

Please clearly indicate "Homework #3" in the header of your turned-in answers for proper grade recording.

## **Preparatory Readings:**

Re-read CP-2, Fabozzi, pp. 130-131

### CP-3, Livingston, Chapter 8 (pp. 121-128)

Knowing how to read Wall Street Journal quotations is essential for solving the following problems. See pages 94-95 in The Wall Street Journal Guide to Understanding Money and Investing. Make sure that you locate the relevant column before looking for a specific security. For instance, for problem 1, you should first find the "Treasury Bills" column.

Bonds are quoted using a bid-asked spread. The difference between bid and asked is the profit a broker makes for "making a market". You buy a bond using the asked price. You sell a bond using the bid price.

- 1. Use the attached page from the Nov. 16<sup>th</sup> 1999 *Wall Street Journal* (quotations as of Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>). There is a Treasury bill that matures on Jan. 6<sup>th</sup>, 2000. Assume the settlement date is Nov 16th.
  - a) What is the bill's quoted bank discount asked yield?
  - b) What is the price you would have to pay to buy this bill at the quoted price on Nov.  $16^{\text{th}}$ ?
  - c) Adjust this yield to compare it with the quoted yield on U.S. Treasury notes and bonds (i.e. adjust it to a bond-equivalent yield).
- 2. Use the attached issue of the *WSJ* to answer the following questions. Assume all trades settle (money exchanges hands) on November 15<sup>th</sup> at the prices quoted.
  - a) If you wanted to buy a \$1,000,000 face value position in the 7½ % Treasury Note which matures on November 15, 2001, what is the "invoice" price you would have to pay? i.e. the *WSJ* quote plus accrued interest?
  - b) What is the correct yield to maturity for this security at the quoted price?
  - c) What would the quoted price of this bond have to be in order for its yield to maturity to equal 6.00%?

- d) Construct a schedule of cash flows resulting from the purchase of \$1,000,000 face value of this note assuming it is held to maturity.
- e) Now assume that settlement is on November 16<sup>th</sup>, rather than the 15<sup>th</sup>. What is the "invoice" price the buyer would pay if the *WSJ* quoted price remained the same?
- 3. It is easier to solve this next problem with a spreadsheet. The key point of this exercise is that the cash flow generated by buying one treasury security can be replicated by buying a series of other treasury securities. The costs of buying these cash flows, however, may be different. It is like buying exactly the same goods (i.e., "cash flows" in our case), but paying different prices when buying single goods rather than an assortment pack. What would you do to attempt to profit from this potential mispricing situation? . . . of course something can be done after you map out the cash flows in question, construct a replicating portfolio using other securities, and calculate how much it will cost you to buy all the cash flows.

Refer to the bond in Question 2 to answer the following questions. Settlement date remains Nov. 15, 1999.

- a) Consider the schedule of cash flows constructed in Question 2 part (d) for the 7½% Treasury Note which matures on November 15, 2001. Can a portfolio of Treasury Strips be purchased which would replicate the cash flows of the Treasury Note referred to in Question 2? (*Hint: The answer is YES!*) If so, how? Use "ci" T. Strips for coupon interest payments and "np" T. Strips for the ending principal payment. (Hint: use the T.Strips that are marked with the dots on the attached *WSJ* Government Bond Page).
- b) What would be the total cost of creating (purchasing) such a strip portfolio? (You'll need to construct a spreadsheet for this.)
- c) Would the strip portfolio you constructed in b) be any more or less "risky" than the Treasury Note? Why is this important to know?
- d) Now consider a situation where you already own the Treasury Note in Question 2. What are the total proceeds you could likely get for it if you sold it?
- e) Compare the sales price calculated in d) to the cost of the portfolio calculated in b). Is there a difference? Is there a profit (i.e., *arbitrage*) opportunity for an investor here?
- f) Now consider a situation where you already own the strip portfolio that replicates the Treasury Note. How much could you likely get for this portfolio if you liquidated it (i.e. the bid price)?
- g) Compare the sales price calculated in f) to the total price in part a) of Question 2. Is there a difference? Is there a profit (i.e., *arbitrage*) opportunity for an investor here?
- h) Advanced Question: If this Note were being bought or sold on a <u>non</u>-coupon payment date (rather than an exact treasury six-month aniversary), what changes in your calculations would need to be made?

### Attached is the WSJ Government Bond Page for use with Questions 1, 2, and 3.

C18 THE WALL STREET JOURNAL TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1999			
	BONDS, NOT	ES &	BILLS
Monday, Novembr	ver 15, 1999	Mat. Type	Ask Bid Asked Chg. Yld,
<ul> <li>Representative Over-the-Counter quotations</li> <li>more.</li> <li>Treasury bond, note and bill quotes a</li> </ul>	is based on transactions of \$1 million or are as of mid-afternoon. Colons in	Nov 12 ci Feb 13 ci	43:29         44:02         6.41           43:06         43:11         6.41           43:15         40:01         6.42
bid-and-asked quotes represent 32nds; 101:01 r n-Treasury note. Treasury bill quotes in hund discount. Dave to maturity calculated from se	means 101 1/32. Net changes in 32nds. dredths, quoted on terms of a rate of attiement date. All yields are to matu-	Aug 13 ci Nov 13 ci	42:15 42:21 0.42 41:24 41:29 6.43 41:02 41:07 6.43
rity and based on the asked quote. Latest 13-v For bonds callable prior to maturity, yields are	week and 26-week bills are boldfaced. e computed to the earliest call date for	Feb 14 ci May 14 ci	40:12 40:18 + 1 6.44 39:24 39:29 + 1 6.44
Source: Telerate/Cantor Fitzgerald	The for issues below part	Aug 14 ci Nov 14 ci Feb 15 ci	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
U.S. Treasury strips as of 3 p.m. Eastern \$1 million or more. Colons in bid-and-asked 99 1/32, Net changes in 32nds. Yields calculation	n time, also based on transactions or quotes represent 32nds; 99:01 means led on the asked quotation. ci-stripped	Feb 15 bp May 15 cl	38:04 38:09 + 1 6.40 37:08 37:14 + 1 6.44
coupon interest, bp-Treasury bond, stripped i principal. For bonds callable prior to maturit call date for issues guoted above par and to the	principal. np-Treasury note, stripped ty, yields are computed to the earliest e maturity date for issues below par.	Aug 15 bp Nov 15 cl	36:22 $36:27$ + 1 $6.4436:03$ $36:08$ + 1 $6.44$
Source: Bear, Stearns & Co. via Street Soft	Iware Technology Inc.	Nov 15 bp Feb 16 ci Feb 16 bp	36:03 36:08 6.44 35:17 35:22 + 1 6.44 35:18 35:24 - 1 6.43
Maturity Ask Ra Rate Mo/Yr Bid Asked Chg. Yid. 31	ate Mo/Yr Bid Asked Chg. Yid. 1/a Jan 091 98:13 98:14 4.08	May 16 cl May 16 bp	34:31 35:04 + 1 6.44 35:16 35:22 + 1 6.35
* 55/8 Nov 99n 100:00 100:02 + 1 3.89 5 * 73/4 Nov 99n 100:02 100:04 4.32 9 * 55/6 Doc 90n 100:02 100:04 4.32	1/2 May 09n 96:25 96:26 -1 5.94 1/a May 04-09 111:14 111:18 -2 6.14 Aug 09n 100:14 100:17 -2 6.93	Aug 16 cl Nov 16 cl Nov 16 bn	34:13 $34:18$ + 1 6.44 33:30 $34:03$ + 1 6.43 34:10 $34:15$ + 1 6.43
<sup>4</sup> 7 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Dec 99n 100:08 100:10 5.03 10 <sup>3</sup> <sup>4</sup> 6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> Jan 00n 100:03 100:05 5.29 11 <sup>3</sup>	3/8 Nov 04-09 117:26 117:30 -2 6.15 3/4 Feb 05-10 124:18 124:24 -2 6.16	Feb 17 ci May 17 ci	$\begin{array}{rrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrrr$
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