

**BUS 864**  
**Class Notes**  
**February 22, 2006**  
Anton Theunissen

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## 1 A Simple Default Model

### 1.1 Constant Default Intensity

Assume that defaults (or ‘credit events’) ‘arrive’/occur according to a Poisson process with constant per unit time intensity,  $\lambda > 0$  ( $\lambda$  is the average number of occurrences per unit time). We refer to a Poisson variable as  $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$ .  $X$  indicates the number of default events that occur in some interval  $[0, t]$ . For  $t = 1$ :

$$p(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} \tag{1}$$

$$P(x) = \sum_{k=0}^x e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \tag{2}$$

$$E(X) = \lambda \tag{3}$$

$$\text{Var}(X) = \lambda \tag{4}$$

$$\tag{5}$$

For most of our purposes we will only be concerned with the first occurrence of a credit event. Let  $\tau$  denote the time of the (first) credit event. Consider the probability that  $\tau$  does not occur in the interval  $[0, t]$  ( $t > 0$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau > t) &= e^{-\lambda t} \frac{(\lambda t)^0}{0!} \\ &= e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned} \tag{6}$$

The probability that  $\tau \in [0, t]$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau \leq t) &= 1 - Pr(\tau > t) \\ &= 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned} \tag{7}$$

So default times are exponential random variables,  $\tau \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ . For  $t \geq 0$ :

$$f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \quad (8)$$

$$F(t) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \quad (9)$$

$$E(\tau) = 1/\lambda \quad (10)$$

$$\text{Var}(\tau) = 1/\lambda^2 \quad (11)$$

The exponential distribution is ‘memoryless’. For  $s, t > 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau > s + t \mid \tau > t) &= \frac{1 - F(s + t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+t)}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= e^{-\lambda s} \\ &= \mathbf{p}(\tau > s) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

The hazard rate function for the exponential distribution is:

$$\begin{aligned} h(t) &= \frac{f(t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda t}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= \lambda \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

This follows from the ‘memoryless’ property.

### 1.1.1 Calibration

We can ‘extract’  $\lambda$  from bond prices, default swap spreads, asset swap spreads, etc.

Notation:

$b(0, t)$	spot price of a risk-free zero coupon bond maturing at $t$
$V(0, T)$	spot price of a default risky bond maturing at $T$
$c$	annual coupon rate
$R$	recovery rate (fraction of par)
$S(0, T)$	spot spread for default swap with term $T$

Bond Prices:

Continuous coupons, default at any  $t \in [0, T]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} V(0, T) &= \int_0^T c [1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T) + \int_0^T R f(t) b(0, t) dt \\ &= c \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt + e^{-(r+\lambda)T} + R\lambda \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt \\ &= \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} + \left[ 1 - \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} \right] e^{-(r+\lambda)T} \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Discrete coupons ( $n$  per year), default on coupon dates only:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V(0, T) &= \frac{c}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [(1 - F(t_i)) b(0, t_i) + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T)] \\
 &\quad + R \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [F(t_i) - F(t_{i-1})] b(0, t_i)
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Default Swaps:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S(0, T) \int_0^T [1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt &= \int_0^T (1 - R) f(t) b(0, t) dt \\
 S(0, T) \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt &= (1 - R) \lambda \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt \\
 \lambda &= \frac{S(0, T)}{1 - R}
 \end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

## 1.2 Time-varying Default Intensity

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## 1 Reduced-form Default Models

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### 1.1 Constant Intensity

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$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau > s + t \mid \tau > t) &= \frac{1 - F(s + t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+t)}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= e^{-\lambda s} \\ &= \mathbf{p}(\tau > s) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

This implies:

$$1 - F(s + t) = [1 - F(t)] [1 - F(s)] \quad (13)$$

The hazard rate function for the constant intensity exponential distribution is:

$$\begin{aligned} h(t) &= \frac{f(t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda t}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= \lambda \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

This follows from the ‘memoryless’ property. In this document we will refer to  $h(t)$  and  $\lambda(t)$  interchangeably.

### 1.1.1 Calibration

If default intensities are constant, we can ‘extract’  $\lambda$  from a single bond price, default swap spread, asset swap spread, etc., for a given issuer or reference entity:

Notation:

$b(0, t)$	spot price of a risk-free zero coupon bond maturing at $t$
$V(0, T)$	spot price of a default risky bond maturing at $T$
$c$	annual coupon rate
$R$	constant recovery rate (fraction of par)
$S(0, T)$	spot par or ‘break-even’ spread for a default swap with term $T$

Bond Prices:

Continuous coupons, default at any  $t \in [0, T]$ :

$$V(0, T) = \int_0^T c[1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T) + \int_0^T R f(t) b(0, t) dt \quad (15)$$

If we assume that the risk-free rate is constant:

$$\begin{aligned}
V(0, T) &= c \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt + e^{-(r+\lambda)T} + R\lambda \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt \\
&= \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} + \left[ 1 - \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} \right] e^{-(r+\lambda)T}
\end{aligned} \tag{16}$$

Discrete coupons ( $n$  per year), default ‘revealed’ on coupon dates only:

$$\begin{aligned}
V(0, T) &= \frac{c}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [(1 - F(t_i)) b(0, t_i) + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T)] \\
&\quad + R \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [F(t_i) - F(t_{i-1})] b(0, t_i)
\end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

Default Swaps:

For deterministic recovery rates and continuously paid default swap spreads:

$$\begin{aligned}
S(0, T) \int_0^T [1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt &= \int_0^T (1 - R) f(t) b(0, t) dt \\
S(0, T) \int_0^T e^{-\lambda t} b(0, t) dt &= (1 - R) \lambda \int_0^T e^{-\lambda t} b(0, t) dt \\
\lambda &= \frac{S(0, T)}{1 - R}
\end{aligned} \tag{18}$$

### 1.1.2 Implications of constant default intensities

Consider a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$  to keep things simple. For each of the  $n$  bonds, equation 17 becomes:

$$V(0, t_i) = [1 - F(t_i)] b(0, t_i) \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \tag{19}$$

since there is a single default intensity for the firm:

$$\lambda = -\ln \left[ \frac{V(0, t_i)}{b(0, t_i)} \right] \frac{1}{t_i} \quad \forall i \tag{20}$$

This implies a (very) restrictive relationship across the term structure of bond prices for any given issuer. We see the same thing if we consider this firm as the reference entity to a number of default swaps with varying terms to maturity. It is obvious from 18 that constant default intensity implies that the term structure of default swap spreads is ‘flat’. In general, constant default intensity models imply constant credit spreads, or ‘flat’ credit spread term structures. There is no reason for this to be the case in the ‘real’ world.

## 1.2 Time-varying intensity

We can do a little better if we allow default intensities to be deterministic functions of time,  $\lambda(t)$ . Recall the definition of the hazard rate:

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda(t) &= \frac{f(t)}{1 - F(t)} \\
&= -\frac{d}{dt} \ln[1 - F(t)]
\end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

(22)

So the hazard rate (uniquely) determines  $F(t)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^t \lambda(s) ds &= -\ln[1 - F(t)] \\ F(t) &= 1 - \exp\left[\int_0^t \lambda(s) ds\right]\end{aligned}\tag{23}$$

### 1.2.1 Calibration

Bond Prices:

Consider again a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$ . For each of the  $n$  bonds:

$$V(0, t_i) = [1 - F(t_i)] b(0, t_i) \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\tag{24}$$

Since default intensity is no longer required to be constant, we can extract  $n$  default intensities:

$$\lambda(0, t_i) = -\ln\left[\frac{V(0, t_i)}{b(0, t_i)}\right] \frac{1}{t_i}\tag{25}$$

We can rewrite equation 23 for discrete time intervals:

$$F(t_k) = 1 - \exp\left[\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda(t_{i-1}, t_i)(t_i - t_{i-1})\right]\tag{26}$$

We can now write survival probabilities as:

$$\begin{aligned}e^{-\lambda(0, t_3)t_3} &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_3)(t_3 - t_1)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_2)t_2} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_2)(t_2 - t_1)} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \quad \text{etc.}\end{aligned}\tag{27}$$

Default swaps:

For a term structure of default swap spreads,  $S(0, t_1), S(0, t_2), \dots, S(0, t_n)$ , default intensities are:

$$\lambda(0, t_i) = \frac{S(0, t_i)}{1 - R}\tag{28}$$

The ‘spot’ hazard rates (intensities),  $\lambda(0, t_i)$  are constant over the time intervals  $(0, t_i)$ . Hence we are specifying a ‘step-function’ or ‘piece-wise’ constant function for the ‘forward’ hazard rates,  $\lambda(t_i, t_{i+1})$ .

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## 1 Reduced-form Default Models

(Read: Giesecke (2002), pp. 15 - 24).

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### 1.3 Stochastic Intensity

## 2 Dependence or Correlation

### 2.1 Default Event Dependence

(Read: Lucas (2003), Schönbucher (2003), pp. 289 - 301).

### 2.2 Default Time Dependence

#### 2.2.1 Copula Functions

(Read: Li (2000), Schönbucher (2003), pp. 326 - 331).

## 3 Credit Instruments and Derivatives

Read:

### 3.1 “Single Name” Products

#### 3.1.1 Asset Swaps

#### 3.1.2 Total Return Swaps

#### 3.1.3 Credit Default Swaps

Exotics

### 3.2 Correlation Instruments

#### 3.2.1 Basket Default Swaps

#### 3.2.2 Index Tranches

## 4 Reading

Giesecke, Kay, *Credit Risk Modeling and Valuation: An Introduction*, 2002. (Web site).

Li, David, *On Default Correlation: A Copula Function Approach*, RiskMetrics, 2000. (Web site).

Lucas, Douglas,  *$N^{\text{th}}$  to Default Swaps and Notes: All about Default Correlation*, UBS, 2003. (Web site).

Schönbucher, Phillip, *Credit Derivatives Pricing Models*, Wiley, 2003. (Reserve).

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## 1 Reduced-form Default Models

### Reading

Giesecke (2002), pp. 15 - 24.  
O’Kane and Schlögl (2001), pp.13 - 30.

We assume that defaults (or ‘credit events’) ‘arrive’/occur according to a Poisson process with some per unit time intensity,  $\lambda > 0$ . We can choose to have the intensity be constant, time-varying (but deterministic), or stochastic.

### 1.1 Constant Intensity

Defaults (or ‘credit events’) ‘arrive’/occur according to a (homogeneous) Poisson process with constant per unit time intensity,  $\lambda > 0$  ( $\lambda$  is the average number of occurrences per unit time). We refer to a Poisson variable as  $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$ .  $X$  indicates the number of default events that occur in some interval  $[0, t]$ . For  $t = 1$ :

$$p(x) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^x}{x!} \quad (1)$$

$$P(x) = \sum_{k=0}^x e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{E}(X) = \lambda \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{Var}(X) = \lambda \quad (4)$$

$$(5)$$

For most of our purposes we will only be concerned with the first occurrence of a credit event. Let  $\tau$  denote the time of the (first) credit event. Consider the probability that  $\tau$  does not occur in the interval  $[0, t]$  ( $t > 0$ ):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau > t) &= e^{-\lambda t} \frac{(\lambda t)^0}{0!} \\ &= e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

The probability that  $\tau \in [0, t]$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau \leq t) &= 1 - \mathbf{p}(\tau > t) \\ &= 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

So default times are exponential random variables,  $\tau \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ . For  $t \geq 0$ :

$$f(t) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \quad (8)$$

$$F(t) = 1 - e^{-\lambda t} \quad (9)$$

$$\mathbf{E}(\tau) = 1/\lambda \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{Var}(\tau) = 1/\lambda^2 \quad (11)$$

The exponential distribution is ‘memoryless’. For  $s, t > 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{p}(\tau > s + t \mid \tau > t) &= \frac{1 - F(s + t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\lambda(s+t)}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= e^{-\lambda s} \\ &= \mathbf{p}(\tau > s) \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

This implies:

$$1 - F(s + t) = [1 - F(t)][1 - F(s)] \quad (13)$$

The hazard rate function for the constant intensity exponential distribution is:

$$\begin{aligned} h(t) &= \frac{f(t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda t}}{e^{-\lambda t}} \\ &= \lambda \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

This follows from the ‘memoryless’ property. In this document we will refer to  $h(t)$  and  $\lambda(t)$  interchangeably.

### 1.1.1 Calibration

If default intensities are constant, we can ‘extract’  $\lambda$  from a single bond price, default swap spread, asset swap spread, etc., for a given issuer or reference entity:

Notation:

$b(0, t)$	spot price of a risk-free zero coupon bond maturing at $t$
$V(0, T)$	spot price of a default risky bond maturing at $T$
$c$	annual coupon rate
$R$	constant recovery rate (fraction of par)
$S(0, T)$	spot par or ‘break-even’ spread for a default swap with term $T$

Bond Prices:

Continuous coupons, default at any  $t \in [0, T]$ :

$$V(0, T) = \int_0^T c[1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T) + \int_0^T R f(t) b(0, t) dt \quad (15)$$

If we assume that the risk-free rate is constant:

$$\begin{aligned} V(0, T) &= c \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt + e^{-(r+\lambda)T} + R\lambda \int_0^T e^{-(r+\lambda)t} dt \\ &= \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} + \left[ 1 - \frac{c + R\lambda}{r + \lambda} \right] e^{-(r+\lambda)T} \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

Discrete coupons ( $n$  per year), default ‘revealed’ on coupon dates only:

$$\begin{aligned} V(0, T) &= \frac{c}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [(1 - F(t_i)) b(0, t_i) + [1 - F(T)] b(0, T)] \\ &\quad + R \sum_{i=1}^{nT} [F(t_i) - F(t_{i-1})] b(0, t_i) \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Default Swaps:

For deterministic recovery rates and continuously paid default swap spreads:

$$\begin{aligned} S(0, T) \int_0^T [1 - F(t)] b(0, t) dt &= \int_0^T (1 - R) f(t) b(0, t) dt \\ S(0, T) \int_0^T e^{-\lambda t} b(0, t) dt &= (1 - R) \lambda \int_0^T e^{-\lambda t} b(0, t) dt \\ \lambda &= \frac{S(0, T)}{1 - R} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

### 1.1.2 Implications of constant default intensities

Consider a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$  to keep things simple. For each of the  $n$  bonds, equation 17 becomes:

$$V(0, t_i) = [1 - F(t_i)] b(0, t_i) \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \quad (19)$$

since there is a single default intensity for the firm:

$$\lambda = -\ln \left[ \frac{V(0, t_i)}{b(0, t_i)} \right] \frac{1}{t_i} \quad \forall i \quad (20)$$

This implies a (very) restrictive relationship across the term structure of bond prices for any given issuer. We see the same thing if we consider this firm as the reference entity to a number of default swaps with varying terms to maturity. It is obvious from 18 that constant default intensity implies that the term structure of default swap spreads is ‘flat’. In general, constant default intensity models imply constant credit spreads, or ‘flat’ credit spread term structures. There is no reason for this to be the case in the ‘real’ world.

## 1.2 Time-varying intensity

We can do a little better if we allow default intensities to be deterministic functions of time,  $\lambda(t)$ . Recall the definition of the hazard rate:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(t) &= \frac{f(t)}{1 - F(t)} \\ &= -\frac{d}{dt} \ln[1 - F(t)] \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

(22)

So the hazard rate (uniquely) determines  $F(t)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^t \lambda(s) ds &= -\ln[1 - F(t)] \\ F(t) &= 1 - \exp \left[ \int_0^t \lambda(s) ds \right] \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

### 1.2.1 Calibration

Bond Prices:

Consider again a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$ . For each of the  $n$  bonds:

$$V(0, t_i) = [1 - F(t_i)] b(0, t_i) \quad i \in \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \quad (24)$$

Since default intensity is no longer required to be constant, we can extract  $n$  default intensities:

$$\lambda(0, t_i) = -\ln \left[ \frac{V(0, t_i)}{b(0, t_i)} \right] \frac{1}{t_i} \quad (25)$$

We can rewrite equation 23 for discrete time intervals:

$$F(t_k) = 1 - \exp \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda(t_{i-1}, t_i)(t_i - t_{i-1}) \right] \quad (26)$$

We can now write survival probabilities as:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\lambda(0, t_3)t_3} &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_3)(t_3 - t_1)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_2)t_2} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_2)(t_2 - t_1)} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Default swaps:



For a term structure of default swap spreads,  $S(0, t_1), S(0, t_2), \dots, S(0, t_n)$ , default intensities are:

$$\lambda(0, t_i) = \frac{S(0, t_i)}{1 - R} \quad (28)$$

The ‘spot’ hazard rates (intensities),  $\lambda(0, t_i)$  are constant over the time intervals  $(0, t_i)$ . Hence we are specifying a ‘step-function’ or ‘piece-wise’ constant function for the ‘forward’ hazard rates,  $\lambda(t_i, t_{i+1})$ .

### 1.3 Stochastic Intensity

## 2 Dependence or Correlation

### 2.1 Default Event Dependence

#### Reading

Goodman (2003).

Schönbucher (2003), pp. 289 - 301.

### 2.2 Default Time Dependence

#### 2.2.1 Copula Functions

#### Reading

Li (2000).

Kakodkar, et al (2003) pp. 32 - 36.

Schönbucher (2003), pp. 326 - 331.

$C(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a copula function if:

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \mathbf{p}(U_1 \leq u_1, \dots, U_n \leq u_n) \quad (C(\cdot) \text{ is a distribution function})$$

$$C(1, \dots, 1, u_i, 1, \dots, 1) = u_i \quad (C(\cdot) \text{ has uniform marginals})$$

#### Sklar’s Theorem (1959)

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= C(F_1(x_1), \dots, F_n(x_n)) \\ &= C(u_1, \dots, u_n) \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

If  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  are continuous, then  $C(\cdot)$  is unique.

Useful properties:

1.  $C(\cdot)$  is invariant to (strictly) increasing transformations.
2.  $\max(u_1 + u_2 \dots + u_n - n + 1, 0) \leq C(u_1, \dots, u_n) \leq \min(u_1, \dots, u_n)$

#### Product Copula

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = u_1 \cdot u_2 \cdot \dots \cdot u_n \quad (30)$$

#### Gaussian Copula

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\Sigma}(u_1, \dots, u_n) &= C_{\Sigma}(F_1(x_1), \dots, F_n(x_n)) \\ &= \Phi_{\Sigma}^n(\Phi^{-1}(F_1(x_1)), \dots, \Phi^{-1}(F_n(x_n))) \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$\Sigma$  is the covariance matrix.

## 3 Credit Instruments and Derivatives

### 3.1 Single Reference Entity Products

#### 3.1.1 Asset Swaps

#### 3.1.2 Total Return Swaps

#### 3.1.3 Credit Default Swaps

#### 3.1.4 Exotics

### 3.2 Portfolio Products

#### 3.2.1 Credit Indices

- Standardized portfolios of corporate and sovereign reference entities ('credits') with liquid markets for outstanding debt/CDS.
- Standardized documentation for unfunded credit default swap contracts referencing the indexes.
- Transparent rules based approach to portfolio construction and maintenance ('the roll').
- Liquidity with as many as 16 dealers making markets with pricing screens on Bloomberg.
- Electronic trading on Creditex.
- Developed, maintained and licensed by Dow Jones (*www.djindexes.com*).

#### North American and Emerging Market Indices

- Dow Jones CDX indexes formed from merger of North American TRAC-X and iBoxx credit indexes in April 2004.
- Indices managed by:
  - Dow Jones Indexes - branding, licensing, marketing.
  - CDS IndexCo (consortium of 16 broker/dealers) - marketing, market makers.
  - Markit Group Ltd - index administration - data tracking and dissemination, oversees index rolls, day-to-day running of IndexCo.
- Dow Jones CDX.NA.IG
  - Portfolio of 125 North American corporate reference entities, distributed among 5 industry sectors and 18 sub-sectors.
  - All reference entities are investment grade (S&P and Moody's) at time of 'roll' (every March 20 and September 20).
  - Maturities: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 years.
  - Index composition identical across all maturities.
- Dow Jones CDX.NA.HY
  - 100 sub-investment grade corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones CDX.EM
  - 14 sovereign issuers - e.g. Brazil, Russia, South Africa.

## European and Asian Indices

- Dow Jones iTraxx indexes.
- Managed by International Index company - shareholders are 9 broker/dealers.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Europe - 125 investment grade corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Asia ex Japan - 30 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Japan - 50 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Australia - 25 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.

## 3.3 Correlation Instruments

### 3.3.1 Basket Default Swaps

### 3.3.2 Index Tranches

## 4 References

Giesecke, Kay, *Credit Risk Modeling and Valuation: An Introduction*, 2002. (Bus 864 web site).

Kakodkar, Atish et al, *Correlation Trading*, Merrill Lynch, 2003. (Bus 864 web site).

Li, David, *On Default Correlation: A Copula Function Approach*, RiskMetrics, 2000. (Bus 864 web site).

Goodman, Laurie et al, *N<sup>th</sup> to Default Swaps and Notes: All about Default Correlation*, UBS, 2003. (Bus 864 web site).

O'Kane Dominic and Lutz Schlögl, *Modelling Credit: Theory and Practice*, Lehman, 2001. (Bus 864 web site).

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**BUS 864**  
**Class Notes**  
**March 15, 2006**  
Anton Theuissen

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I plan to update this document from time to time. Please check back regularly for the latest version.

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#### Bond Prices:

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### 1.1.2 Implications of constant default intensities

Consider a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$  to keep things simple. For each of the  $n$  bonds, equation 17 becomes:

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### 1.2.1 Calibration

Bond Prices:

Consider again a firm that has issued a number of zero coupon bonds,  $V(0, t_1), V(0, t_2), \dots, V(0, t_n)$ . Assume  $R = 0$ . For each of the  $n$  bonds:

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We can rewrite equation 23 for discrete time intervals:

$$F(t_k) = 1 - \exp \left[ \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda(t_{i-1}, t_i)(t_i - t_{i-1}) \right] \quad (26)$$

We can now write survival probabilities as:

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\lambda(0, t_3)t_3} &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_3)(t_3 - t_1)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_2)t_2} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \\ &= e^{-\lambda(0, t_1)t_1} e^{-\lambda(t_1, t_2)(t_2 - t_1)} e^{-\lambda(t_2, t_3)(t_3 - t_2)} \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

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$$\lambda(0, t_i) = \frac{S(0, t_i)}{1 - R} \quad (28)$$

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### 1.3 Stochastic Intensity

## 2 Dependence or Correlation

### 2.1 Default Event Dependence

#### Reading

Goodman (2003).

O’Kane and Schlögl (2001), pp.31 - 35.

Schönbucher (2003), pp. 289 - 301.

### 2.2 Default Time Dependence

#### 2.2.1 Copula Functions

#### Reading

Li (2000).

Kakodkar, et al (2003), pp. 32 - 36.

Schönbucher (2003), pp. 326 - 331.

$C(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  is a copula function if:

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = \mathbf{P}(U_1 \leq u_1, \dots, U_n \leq u_n) \quad (C(\cdot) \text{ is a distribution function})$$

$$C(1, \dots, 1, u_i, 1, \dots, 1) = u_i \quad (C(\cdot) \text{ has uniform marginals})$$

#### Sklar’s Theorem (1959)

$$\begin{aligned} F(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= C(F_1(x_1), \dots, F_n(x_n)) \\ &= C(u_1, \dots, u_n) \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

If  $F_1, \dots, F_n$  are continuous, then  $C(\cdot)$  is unique.

Useful properties:

1.  $C(\cdot)$  is invariant to (strictly) increasing transformations.
2.  $\max(u_1 + u_2 \dots + u_n - n + 1, 0) \leq C(u_1, \dots, u_n) \leq \min(u_1, \dots, u_n)$

#### Product Copula

$$C(u_1, \dots, u_n) = u_1 \cdot u_2 \cdot \dots \cdot u_n \quad (30)$$

#### Gaussian Copula

$$\begin{aligned} C_{\Sigma}(u_1, \dots, u_n) &= C_{\Sigma}(F_1(x_1), \dots, F_n(x_n)) \\ &= \Phi_{\Sigma}^n(\Phi^{-1}(F_1(x_1)), \dots, \Phi^{-1}(F_n(x_n))) \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

$\Sigma$  is the covariance matrix.



## 3 Credit Instruments and Derivatives

### Reading

O’Kane (2001).

O’Kane et al (2003), pp.1 -30.

Schönbucher (2003), chapter 2.

### 3.1 Single Reference Entity Products

#### 3.1.1 Asset Swaps

##### Reading

Lando (2004), pp. 169 - 178. (Background on interest rate swaps).

O’Kane and Sen (2004), pp. 9 - 11.

Default-risky bond combined with a swap of coupons for a floating rate (risk-free rate + asset swap spread).

Par floater:

$$1 = \int_0^T r(t)b(0, t) dt + b(0, T) \quad (32)$$

Par-par asset swap spread satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 + c \int_0^T b(0, t) dt &= V(0, T) + \int_0^T [r(t) + S_a(0, T)] b(0, t) dt \\ &= V(0, T) + S_a(0, T) \int_0^T b(0, t) dt + \int_0^T r(t)b(0, t) dt \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

Rearranging:

$$\begin{aligned} S_a(0, T) &= \frac{1}{\int_0^T b(0, t) dt} \left[ 1 - V(0, T) + c \int_0^T b(0, t) dt - \int_0^T r(t)b(0, t) dt \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\int_0^T b(0, t) dt} \left[ c \int_0^T b(0, t) dt + b(0, T) - V(0, T) \right] \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

#### 3.1.2 Total Return Swaps

#### 3.1.3 Credit Default Swaps

##### Reading

O’Kane and Turnbull (2003).

#### 3.1.4 Exotics

### 3.2 Portfolio Products

#### 3.2.1 Credit Indices

- Standardized portfolios of corporate and sovereign reference entities (‘credits’) with liquid markets for outstanding debt/CDS.
- Standardized documentation for unfunded credit default swap contracts referencing the indexes.

- Transparent rules based approach to portfolio construction and maintenance ('the roll').
- Liquidity with as many as 16 dealers making markets with pricing screens on Bloomberg.
- Electronic trading on Creditex.
- Developed, maintained and licensed by Dow Jones (*www.djindexes.com*).

### North American and Emerging Market Indices

- Dow Jones CDX indexes formed from merger of North American TRAC-X and iBoxx credit indexes in April 2004.
- Indices managed by:
  - Dow Jones Indexes - branding, licensing, marketing.
  - CDS IndexCo (consortium of 16 broker/dealers) - marketing, market makers.
  - Markit Group Ltd - index administration - data tracking and dissemination, oversees index rolls, day-to-day running of IndexCo.
- Dow Jones CDX.NA.IG
  - Portfolio of 125 North American corporate reference entities, distributed among 5 industry sectors and 18 sub-sectors.
  - All reference entities are investment grade (S&P and Moody's) at time of 'roll' (every March 20 and September 20).
  - Maturities: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10 years.
  - Index composition identical across all maturities.
- Dow Jones CDX.NA.HY
  - 100 sub-investment grade corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones CDX.EM
  - 14 sovereign issuers - e.g. Brazil, Russia, South Africa.

### European and Asian Indices

- Dow Jones iTraxx indexes.
- Managed by International Index company - shareholders are 9 broker/dealers.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Europe - 125 investment grade corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Asia ex Japan - 30 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Japan - 50 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.
- Dow Jones iTraxx Australia - 25 most liquid (mostly investment grade) corporate reference entities.

## 3.3 Correlation Instruments

### 3.3.1 Basket Default Swaps

### 3.3.2 Index Tranches

#### Reading

Kakodkar(2003).

O'Kane and Livesey (2004).

## DJ.CDX.NA.IG

Same term structure of maturities as underlying index.

Five year and ten year maturities have greatest liquidity.

0% – 3% ('Equity')

3% – 7%

7% – 10%

10% – 15%

15% – 30%

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