

ACCA

Financial Management (FM)

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FORMULAE

Formulae Sheet

Economic order quantity

$$= \sqrt{\frac{2C_0D}{C_h}}$$

Miller–Orr Model

Return point = Lower limit + $\left(\frac{1}{3} \times \text{spread}\right)$

$$\text{Spread} = 3 \left[\frac{\frac{3}{4} \times \text{transaction cost} \times \text{variance of cash flows}}{\text{interest rate}} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

The Capital Asset Pricing Model

$$E(r_i) = R_f + \beta_i (E(r_m) - R_f)$$

The asset beta formula

$$\beta_a = \left[\frac{V_e}{(V_e + V_d(1-T))} \beta_e \right] + \left[\frac{V_d(1-T)}{(V_e + V_d(1-T))} \beta_d \right]$$

The Growth Model

$$P_0 = \frac{D_0(1+g)}{(r_e - g)} \quad r_e = \frac{D_0(1+g)}{P_0} + g$$

Gordon's growth approximation

$$g = br_e$$

The weighted average cost of capital

$$\text{WACC} = \left[\frac{V_e}{V_e + V_d} \right] k_e + \left[\frac{V_d}{V_e + V_d} \right] k_d(1-T)$$

The Fisher formula

$$(1+i) = (1+r)(1+h)$$

Purchasing power parity and interest rate parity

$$S_1 = S_0 \times \frac{(1+h_c)}{(1+h_b)} \quad F_0 = S_0 \times \frac{(1+i_c)}{(1+i_b)}$$



Present Value Table

Present value of 1 i.e. $(1 + r)^{-n}$

Where r = discount rate
 n = number of periods until payment

Periods (n)	Discount rate (r)										
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	
1	0.990	0.980	0.971	0.962	0.952	0.943	0.935	0.926	0.917	0.909	1
2	0.980	0.961	0.943	0.925	0.907	0.890	0.873	0.857	0.842	0.826	2
3	0.971	0.942	0.915	0.889	0.864	0.840	0.816	0.794	0.772	0.751	3
4	0.961	0.924	0.888	0.855	0.823	0.792	0.763	0.735	0.708	0.683	4
5	0.951	0.906	0.863	0.822	0.784	0.747	0.713	0.681	0.650	0.621	5
6	0.942	0.888	0.837	0.790	0.746	0.705	0.666	0.630	0.596	0.564	6
7	0.933	0.871	0.813	0.760	0.711	0.665	0.623	0.583	0.547	0.513	7
8	0.923	0.853	0.789	0.731	0.677	0.627	0.582	0.540	0.502	0.467	8
9	0.914	0.837	0.766	0.703	0.645	0.592	0.544	0.500	0.460	0.424	9
10	0.905	0.820	0.744	0.676	0.614	0.558	0.508	0.463	0.422	0.386	10
11	0.896	0.804	0.722	0.650	0.585	0.527	0.475	0.429	0.388	0.350	11
12	0.887	0.788	0.701	0.625	0.557	0.497	0.444	0.397	0.356	0.319	12
13	0.879	0.773	0.681	0.601	0.530	0.469	0.415	0.368	0.326	0.290	13
14	0.870	0.758	0.661	0.577	0.505	0.442	0.388	0.340	0.299	0.263	14
15	0.861	0.743	0.642	0.555	0.481	0.417	0.362	0.315	0.275	0.239	15
(n)	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%	16%	17%	18%	19%	20%	
1	0.901	0.893	0.885	0.877	0.870	0.862	0.855	0.847	0.840	0.833	1
2	0.812	0.797	0.783	0.769	0.756	0.743	0.731	0.718	0.706	0.694	2
3	0.731	0.712	0.693	0.675	0.658	0.641	0.624	0.609	0.593	0.579	3
4	0.659	0.636	0.613	0.592	0.572	0.552	0.534	0.516	0.499	0.482	4
5	0.593	0.567	0.543	0.519	0.497	0.476	0.456	0.437	0.419	0.402	5
6	0.535	0.507	0.480	0.456	0.432	0.410	0.390	0.370	0.352	0.335	6
7	0.482	0.452	0.425	0.400	0.376	0.354	0.333	0.314	0.296	0.279	7
8	0.434	0.404	0.376	0.351	0.327	0.305	0.285	0.266	0.249	0.233	8
9	0.391	0.361	0.333	0.308	0.284	0.263	0.243	0.225	0.209	0.194	9
10	0.352	0.322	0.295	0.270	0.247	0.227	0.208	0.191	0.176	0.162	10
11	0.317	0.287	0.261	0.237	0.215	0.195	0.178	0.162	0.148	0.135	11
12	0.286	0.257	0.231	0.208	0.187	0.168	0.152	0.137	0.124	0.112	12
13	0.258	0.229	0.204	0.182	0.163	0.145	0.130	0.116	0.104	0.093	13
14	0.232	0.205	0.181	0.160	0.141	0.125	0.111	0.099	0.088	0.078	14
15	0.209	0.183	0.160	0.140	0.123	0.108	0.095	0.084	0.074	0.065	15



Annuity Table

Present value of an annuity of 1 i.e. $\frac{1 - (1 + r)^{-n}}{r}$

Where r = discount rate
 n = number of periods

Periods (n)	Discount rate (r)										
	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%	
1	0.990	0.980	0.971	0.962	0.952	0.943	0.935	0.926	0.917	0.909	1
2	1.970	1.942	1.913	1.886	1.859	1.833	1.808	1.783	1.759	1.736	2
3	2.941	2.884	2.829	2.775	2.723	2.673	2.624	2.577	2.531	2.487	3
4	3.902	3.808	3.717	3.630	3.546	3.465	3.387	3.312	3.240	3.170	4
5	4.853	4.713	4.580	4.452	4.329	4.212	4.100	3.993	3.890	3.791	5
6	5.795	5.601	5.417	5.242	5.076	4.917	4.767	4.623	4.486	4.355	6
7	6.728	6.472	6.230	6.002	5.786	5.582	5.389	5.206	5.033	4.868	7
8	7.652	7.325	7.020	6.733	6.463	6.210	5.971	5.747	5.535	5.335	8
9	8.566	8.162	7.786	7.435	7.108	6.802	6.515	6.247	5.995	5.759	9
10	9.471	8.983	8.530	8.111	7.722	7.360	7.024	6.710	6.418	6.145	10
11	10.37	9.787	9.253	8.760	8.306	7.887	7.499	7.139	6.805	6.495	11
12	11.26	10.58	9.954	9.385	8.863	8.384	7.943	7.536	7.161	6.814	12
13	12.13	11.35	10.63	9.986	9.394	8.853	8.358	7.904	7.487	7.103	13
14	13.00	12.11	11.30	10.56	9.899	9.295	8.745	8.244	7.786	7.367	14
15	13.87	12.85	11.94	11.12	10.38	9.712	9.108	8.559	8.061	7.606	15
(n)	11%	12%	13%	14%	15%	16%	17%	18%	19%	20%	
1	0.901	0.893	0.885	0.877	0.870	0.862	0.855	0.847	0.840	0.833	1
2	1.713	1.690	1.668	1.647	1.626	1.605	1.585	1.566	1.547	1.528	2
3	2.444	2.402	2.361	2.322	2.283	2.246	2.210	2.174	2.140	2.106	3
4	3.102	3.037	2.974	2.914	2.855	2.798	2.743	2.690	2.639	2.589	4
5	3.696	3.605	3.517	3.433	3.352	3.274	3.199	3.127	3.058	2.991	5
6	4.231	4.111	3.998	3.889	3.784	3.685	3.589	3.498	3.410	3.326	6
7	4.712	4.564	4.423	4.288	4.160	4.039	3.922	3.812	3.706	3.605	7
8	5.146	4.968	4.799	4.639	4.487	4.344	4.207	4.078	3.954	3.837	8
9	5.537	5.328	5.132	4.946	4.772	4.607	4.451	4.303	4.163	4.031	9
10	5.889	5.650	5.426	5.216	5.019	4.833	4.659	4.494	4.339	4.192	10
11	6.207	5.938	5.687	5.453	5.234	5.029	4.836	4.656	4.486	4.327	11
12	6.492	6.194	5.918	5.660	5.421	5.197	4.988	4.793	4.611	4.439	12
13	6.750	6.424	6.122	5.842	5.583	5.342	5.118	4.910	4.715	4.533	13
14	6.982	6.628	6.302	6.002	5.724	5.468	5.229	5.008	4.802	4.611	14
15	7.191	6.811	6.462	6.142	5.847	5.575	5.324	5.092	4.876	4.675	15





Chapter 1

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to explain the nature of financial management and its importance, both for profit making and for not-for-profit organisations.

2. The nature and scope of financial management

The role of the Financial Manager is to make the right decisions in order to achieve the objectives of the company in the future.

The four key areas that the Financial Manager is concerned with are as follows:

(a) The raising of long-term finance:

The company needs finance for investment and in order to expand. Finance can be raised from shareholders or from debt – it is the job of the Financial Manager to be aware of the different sources of finance and to decide which source to use.

(b) The investment decision:

Decisions have to be made as to where capital is to be invested. For example, is it worth launching a new product? Is it worth expanding the factory? Is it worth acquiring another company?

It is the Financial Manager's role to decide on which criteria to employ in making this kind of investment decision.

(c) The management of working capital:

In order for the company to operate, it will have to accept a certain level of receivables and it will have to carry a certain level of inventory.

Although these are needed to operate the business successfully, they require long-term investment of capital that is not directly earning profits.

Receivables and inventory are just two components of working capital (working capital = current assets less current liabilities) and it is a job of the Financial Manager to ensure that the working capital is managed properly i.e. that it is high enough to enable the company to operate efficiently, but that it does not get out of control and end up wasting money for the company.

(d) The management of risk:

One of the roles of the Financial Manager is to manage the risk due to changing exchange rates if the business trades abroad, and to manage the risk due to changes in interest rates if the business borrows or deposits money.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





Chapter 2

THE FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENT

1. Introduction

One of the main areas of importance for the financial manager is the raising of finance.

In this chapter we look at the framework within which he operates and the institutions and markets that can help him in this respect.

2. Financial intermediation

Companies need to raise money in order to finance their operations. However, it is often difficult for them to raise money directly from private individuals and therefore they often turn to institutions and organisations that match firms that require finance with individuals who want to invest.

One example of a **financial intermediary** is a bank. They make loans to companies using the money that has been deposited with them by individuals.

2.1. The features of the service that they are providing are as follows:

(a) Aggregation:

Individuals are each depositing relatively small amounts with the bank, but the bank is able to consolidate and lend larger amounts to companies.

(b) Maturity Transformation:

Most individuals are depositing money for relatively short periods, but the bank is able to transform this into longer term loans to companies in the knowledge that as some individuals withdraw their deposits, others will take their place.

(c) Diversification of risk:

Many individuals may be scared of lending money directly to one particular company because of the risk of that company going bankrupt. However, a bank will be lending money to many companies and will therefore be reducing the risk to themselves and therefore to the individuals whose money they are using.

Ordinary banks (or **clearing banks**) are one example of a financial intermediary, as explained above.

2.2. Other examples of financial intermediaries include:

- Pension funds
- Investment Trusts / Unit Trusts
- State Savings Banks



3. The financial markets

The financial markets include both the capital markets and the money markets. The following activity takes place on these markets:

Primary market activity – the selling of new issues to raise new funds. Secondary market activity – the trading of existing financial instruments.

3.1. The main capital markets are:

- The Official List at the London Stock Exchange.
- The Alternative Investment Market (AIM), which has fewer regulations and less cost than the Official List and is therefore attractive to smaller companies.
- The Eurobond market where bonds denominated in any currency other than that of the national currency of the issuer are traded. Eurobonds are generally issued by large international companies and have a 10 to 15 year term.

These markets provide long-term capital in the form of equity capital, ordinary and preference shares for example, or loan capital such as debentures. Companies requiring funds for five years or more will use the capital markets.

3.2. The money markets.

The money market is not actually a physical market but is the term used to describe the trading between financial institutions, primarily done over the telephone.

The main areas of trading include:

The discount market	where bills of exchange are traded.
The inter-bank market	where banks lend each other short-term funds.
The eurocurrency market	where banks trade in all foreign currencies, usually in the form of certificates of deposit. The need for this trading arises when, for instance, a UK company borrows funds in a foreign currency from a UK bank.
The certificate of deposit market	where certificates of deposit are traded.
The local government market	where local authorities trade in debt instruments.
The inter-company market	where companies lend directly between themselves.
The finance house market	where short-term loans raised by finance houses are traded.

These markets are for short-term lending and borrowing where the maximum term is normally one year.

Companies requiring medium term (one to five years) capital will generally raise these funds through banks.



4. Stock exchange operations

4.1. The functions and purpose of the Stock Exchange

The main function of the Stock Exchange is to ensure a fair, orderly and efficient market for the transfer of securities, and the raising of new capital through the issue of new securities. In order to do this the Stock Exchange has stringent regulations which are designed to ensure that:

- (a) Only suitable companies are allowed to have their securities traded on the Stock Exchange;
- (b) All relevant information is made publicly available as soon as possible – in this way investors can make informed decisions.
- (c) All investors deal on the same terms and at the same prices.
- (d) The more efficient and fair the Stock Exchange is seen to be, the more willing people will be to invest their money in the Exchange and the more successful it will become.

4.2. How are shares bought and sold?

If an investor wants to buy or sell shares he contacts a “broker”. The broker will either act as an agent and deal through a “market maker” or he may deal himself, in which case he is known as a “broker dealer”. The broker will charge a fee for his services, whilst a market maker will generate a profit through the “bid – offer spread”, which is simply the difference between the price he is willing to pay for a share and the price at which he is willing to sell it.

Most trading is done over the telephone and once a market maker strikes a bargain, that bargain falls due for settlement in ten days’ time. This is known as the rolling settlement system.

4.3. How are shares valued?

Shares are valued by market forces at the price at which there are as many willing sellers as there are willing buyers. For instance, if a share is overvalued there will be more people keen to sell their holding than there will be willing to buy, and this will inevitably depress the market price.

- (a) Some trading will be done for speculative reasons:
 - ▶ A “bull” is someone who believes that prices will rise. He buys shares in the hope of selling them in the future for a profit.
 - ▶ A “bear” is someone who believes prices will fall. He sells shares in the belief he will be able to buy them back later for less.

When there are more bulls than bears prices will rise, and when there are more bears than bulls prices will fall.

- (b) Such speculative dealing has an important role as:
 - ▶ it reduces fluctuations in the market; for instance, as the market falls and prices fall, more and more speculators will become “bullish” and start to buy again, thus arresting the fall in the market
 - ▶ it ensures that there is always a ready market in all shares; in other words, there will always be someone willing to buy or sell at the right price.



5. Financial market efficiency

An **efficient market** is one in which the market price of all securities traded on it reflects all the available information. A **perfect market** is one which responds immediately to the information made available to it.

An efficient and perfect market will ensure that quoted share prices are as fair as possible, in that they accurately and quickly reflect a company's financial position with respect to both current and future profitability.

5.1. The Efficient Market Hypothesis

The Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) considers whether market prices reflect all information about the company. Three potential levels of efficiency are considered.

(a) **Weak-form efficiency:**

Share prices reflect all the information contained in the record of past prices. Share prices follow a random walk and will move up or down depending on what information about the company next reaches the market.

If this level of efficiency exists it should not be possible to forecast price movements by reference to past trends.

(b) **Semi-strong form efficiency:**

Share prices reflect all information currently publicly available. Therefore the price will alter only when new information is published.

If this level of efficiency has been reached, price movements could only be forecast if unpublished information were known. This would be known as insider dealing.

(c) **Strong-form efficiency:**

Share prices reflect all information, published and unpublished, that is relevant to the company.

If this level of efficiency has been reached, share prices cannot be predicted and gains through insider dealing are not possible as the market already knows everything!

Given that there are still very strict rules outlawing insider dealing, gains through such dealing must still be possible and therefore the stock market is at best only semi-strong form efficient.



5.2. The level of efficiency of the stock market has implications for financial managers:

(a) **The timing of new issues:**

Unless the market is fully efficient the timing of new issues remains important. This is because the market does not reflect all the relevant information, and hence advantage could be obtained by making an issue at a particular point in time just before or after additional information becomes available to the market.

(b) **Project evaluation:**

If the market is not fully efficient, the price of a share is not fair, and therefore the rate of return required from that company by the market cannot be accurately known. If this is the case, it is not easy to decide what rate of return to use to evaluate new projects.

(c) **Creative accounting:**

Unless a market is fully efficient creative accounting can still be used to mislead investors.

(d) **Mergers and takeovers:**

Where a market is fully efficient, the price of all shares is fair. Hence, if a company is taken over at its current share value the purchaser cannot hope to make any gain unless economies can be made through scale or rationalisation when operations are merged. Unless these economies are very significant an acquirer should not be willing to pay a significant premium over the current share price.

(e) **Validity of current market price:**

If the market is fully efficient, the share price is fair. In other words, an investor receives a fair risk/return combination for his investment and the company can raise funds at a fair cost. If this is the case, there should be no need to discount new issues to attract investors.



6. Money market interest rates

Different financial instruments offer different interest rates. In order to understand why this is, it is necessary to appreciate the factors which determine the appropriate interest rate for a particular financial instrument.

6.1. The factors which determine interest rates:

(a) **The general level of interest rates in the economy.**

(b) **The level of risk:**

The higher the level of risk the greater return an investor will expect. For instance, an investor in a building society is taking very little risk and hence receives only a small return. Conversely, a purchaser of shares is taking a significant risk and hence will expect a greater return. This is known as the risk-return trade off.

The additional return required before someone would be indifferent between investing in an equity share or a deposit account will differ from individual to individual, as we all have a different attitude to risk. Therefore the relationship between risk and return is different for each individual.

(c) **The duration of a loan:**

If it is assumed that in the long-term interest rates are expected to remain stable then the longer the length of the loan the higher the interest rate will be. This is quite simply because lending money in the longer term has additional risk for the lender as for instance the risk of default increases.

(d) **The need for the financial intermediaries to make a profit:**

For instance, a depositor at a building society will receive a lower rate of interest than a borrower will be charged.

(e) **Size:**

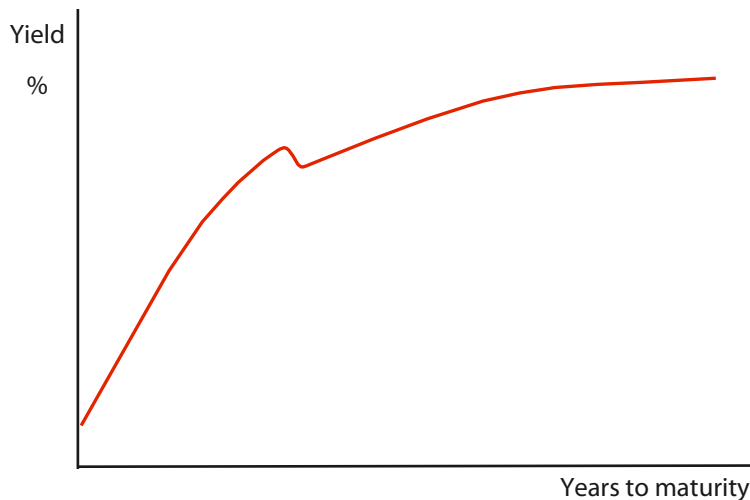
If a large sum of money is lent or borrowed, there are administrative savings; hence a higher rate of interest can be paid to a lender and a lower rate of interest can be charged to a borrower than would normally be the case.



6.2. Yield curves

The yield of a security will alter according to the length of time before the security matures. This is known as the term structure of interest rates.

If, for example, a graph were drawn showing the yield of various government securities against the number of years to maturity, a yield curve such as the one below might result.



It is important for financial managers to be aware of the shape of the yield curve, as it indicates to them the likely future movements in interest rates and hence assists in the choice of finance for the company.

6.3. The shape of the curve can be explained by the following:

(a) Expectations theory:

If interest rates are expected to increase in the future, a curve such as that above may result. The curve may invert if interest rates are expected to decline. Everything else being equal, a flat curve would result if interest rates are not expected to change.

(b) Liquidity preference theory:

Yields will need to rise as the term to maturity increases, as by investing for a longer period the investor requires compensation for deferring the use of cash invested. The longer the period for which they are deprived of cash, the more compensation they require

(c) Segmentation theory:

Different investors are interested in different segments of the yield curve. Short-term yields, for example, are of interest to financial intermediaries such as banks. Hence the shape of the yield curve in that segment is a reflection of the attitudes of the investors active in that sector. Where two sectors meet there is often a disturbance or apparent discontinuity in the yield curve as shown in the above diagram.



7. Total shareholder return

The total shareholder return over one year is defined as being the dividend received during the year plus/minus the change in the share price over the year, expressed as a percentage of the share price at the beginning of the year.

Example 1

The share price of XYZ plc at 1 January 2015 was \$4.80 per share. During the year a dividend of \$0.20 per share was paid, and the share price at the end of the year was \$5.10.

Calculate the total shareholder return over the year

Example 2

The share price of PQR plc at 1 January 2015 was \$6.50 per share. During the year a dividend of \$0.50 per share was paid, and the share price at the end of the year was \$6.40.

Calculate the total shareholder return over the year

8. Fintech

Fintech (FINancial TEChnology) describes the use of technology to improve financial activities.

Although traditional banks have made use of it by the introduction of internet banking using computers and mobile phones, most innovation has been in services that are 'disrupting' the traditional financial service industry by offering alternative ways that serve to avoid the use of the traditional businesses.

For example, companies now exist that provide banking services entirely on-line without the need to have physical bank branches. Other companies give the ability to transfer money in different currencies between countries entirely on-line and are therefore able to charge lower fees. Similarly, companies have been created that allow the trading of shares and of cryptocurrencies entirely on-line, again proving attractive to customers because of the instant access and the lower fees.

Fintech is being used to automate banking services, trading in shares etc., investing, and insurance.

As a result, traditional financial service providers now have much greater competition and are being forced to change their long-standing practices.

There are two possible dangers in this rapid move to Fintech that these new businesses need to keep abreast of.



One is the obvious security threat due to hacking etc. when business is being conducted online and these Fintech companies need to ensure that they implement the necessary security procedures.

The other is government regulation. Traditional financial services are highly regulated by the relevant states, and the states need to ensure that the regulations are updated sufficiently to include the new fintech operators. In particular the regulations relating to money laundering (the conversion of money earned illegally into 'supposedly' legal money).

You are expected in the exam to understand what is meant by Fintech, to be aware of the benefits to users, and also to be aware of the dangers that need to be addressed, It is not an area where you can be asked to perform calculations.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





WORKING CAPITAL MANAGEMENT

Chapter 3

MANAGEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL (1)

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to explain the nature of working capital and the importance of it to the financial manager. We will also consider various ratios and measures which may be useful to the financial manager in assessing how well it is being controlled.

2. What is working capital?

Working capital is the name given to net current assets which are available for day-to-day operating activities.

It normally includes inventories, receivables, cash (and cash equivalents), less payables.

Working capital = receivables + cash + inventory – payables

3. Investment in working capital

Working capital needs financing, just as does the investment in machines.

However, it is the investment in non-current assets that (hopefully!) earns profits for the company. Investment in working capital does not directly earn profits.

If this were the only consideration, then it would be better to invest all the finance available in non-current assets and to keep working capital to an absolute minimum.

On the other hand, all companies need some working capital in order to keep the business running

- they need to allow customers to buy on credit (and therefore have receivables) otherwise they would lose business to competitors.
- they need to carry inventories of finished goods in order to be able to fulfil demand
- they need to have a short-term cash balance in order to be able to pay their bills.

The company therefore faces a trade-off between profitability and liquidity, and it is up to the financial manager to decide on the optimal level of working capital and to ensure that it is managed properly.



4. The financing of working capital

Whatever level of working capital the business decides to hold, it has to be financed from somewhere.

The business must decide whether to use **short-term** or **long-term** finance.

Long-term finance is either raised from equity in the form of share issues etc., or from long-term borrowing.

Short-term finance generally involves overdraft borrowing and/or delaying payment to payables.

Short-term finance is often cheaper (although not always – interest rates on overdrafts can be very high, and delaying payment to payables can involve the loss of discounts).

However, short-term finance is risky as it is repayable on demand.

In the past it was generally thought that since working capital involved short-term assets it should be financed by short-term finance, whereas non-current assets – being long-term – should be financed by long-term finance.

A more modern view is that in fact the overall level of working capital remains fixed in the long-term (**permanent working capital**) and that there are day-to-day fluctuations above this permanent level (**temporary working capital**).

Permanent working capital, being long-term, should be financed by long-term sources of finance.

Temporary working capital should be financed by short-term sources of finance.



5. Working capital ratios

5.1. Liquidity ratios:

$$\text{Current ratio} = \frac{\text{Current assets}}{\text{Current liabilities}}$$

We would normally expect this to be > 1.

A current ratio of less than 1 could indicate liquidity problems.

$$\text{Quick ratio} = \frac{\text{Current assets} - \text{inventory}}{\text{Current liabilities}}$$

The same idea as the current ratio, but without inventory on the basis that it is inventory that will take the longest time to turn into cash.

Clearly the Quick Ratio will be lower than (or equal to!) the Current Ratio, and a Quick Ratio of slightly less than 1 is not necessarily dangerous – it very much depends on the type of business.

5.2. Efficiency ratios:

$$\text{Inventory turnover} = \frac{\text{Cost of goods sold p.a.}}{\text{Average inventory}}$$

This shows how quickly inventory is being sold

$$\text{Receivables' turnover} = \frac{\text{Credit sales p.a.}}{\text{Average receivables}}$$

This shows how quickly debts are being collected

$$\text{Payables' turnover} = \frac{\text{Credit purchases p.a.}}{\text{Average payables}}$$

This shows how quickly payables are being paid

5.3. Problems with the use of ratios:

- The use of statement of financial position is dangerous in that they represent only one point in time which may be unusual (due to, for example, seasonal factors)
- There may be window-dressing
- They only look at the past – not the future
- They are of little value unless used in comparisons.



6. The Operating Cycle

The **operating cycle** (or **cash operating cycle** or **working capital cycle**) of a business is the length of time between the payment for materials entering into inventory and the receipt of the proceeds of sales.

It is useful to compare the operating cycle of a company from year to year, or with similar companies – a lengthening operating cycle will normally be cause for concern.

Example 1

The table below gives information extracted from the annual financial statements of Management plc for the past year.

Management plc - Extracts from annual accounts

Inventories: raw materials	\$108,000
work in progress	\$75,600
finished goods	\$ 86,400
Purchases of raw materials	\$518,400
Cost of production	\$675,000
Cost of goods sold	\$756,000
Sales	\$864,000
Receivables	\$172,800
Payables	\$ 86,400

Calculate the length of the working capital cycle (assuming 365 days in the year).

Solution

				<i>Days</i>
1	Receivables days	$\frac{\text{Average receivables}}{\text{Credit sales}}$	× 365	
2	Inventory days			
	(a) Finished goods	$\frac{\text{Average finished goods}}{\text{Cost of sales}}$	× 365	
	(b) W.I.P	$\frac{\text{Average WIP}}{\text{Cost of production}}$	× 365	
	(c) Raw material	$\frac{\text{Average raw material}}{\text{Raw material purchases}}$	× 365	
	LESS:			
3	Payables days	$\frac{\text{Average payables}}{\text{Credit purchases}}$	× 365	()

Net operating cycle =



7. Overcapitalisation and Overtrading

Overcapitalisation is where the overall level of working capital is too high.

The solution is to reduce the level of working capital by better management of receivables, cash and inventory.

As a result the company will need less financing, or alternatively will have more finance available for profit-earning investment in non-current assets.

Overtrading (or under-capitalisation) is where the level of working capital is too low.

Consider the following example:

Illustration 1

		Current year	Next year
Non-current Assets		500	
Current Assets			
Inventory	100		
Receivables	200		
Cash	50		
	<hr/>	350	
Current liabilities			
Payables	150		
	<hr/>		
		200	
		<hr/>	
		\$700	
Long term Capital		<hr/>	\$700

The company intends to double in size over the next year. They raise \$500 long-term capital and invest it all in fixed assets

In this situation the company has severe liquidity problems, even though they may well be trading very profitably.

The solution is to raise additional long-term finance. Assuming the company is trading profitably then this should be possible.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





Chapter 4

MANAGEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL (2) – INVENTORY

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to examine approaches to managing inventory efficiently. The two most important approaches are the EOQ model and the 'Just-in-time' approach.

2. The EOQ model

There are many approaches in practice to ordering inventory of goods from suppliers. Here we will consider one particular approach – that of ordering fixed quantities each time.

For example, if a company needs a total of 12,000 units each year, then they could decide to order 1,000 units to be delivered 12 times a year. Alternatively, they could order 6,000 units to be delivered 2 times a year. There are obviously many possible order quantities.

We will consider the costs involved and thus decide on the order quantity that minimises these costs (the **economic order quantity**).



3. Costs involved

3.1. The costs involved in an inventory ordering systems are as follows:

- the purchase cost
- the reorder cost
- the inventory-holding cost

3.2. Purchase cost

This is the cost of actually purchasing the goods. Over a year the total cost will remain constant regardless of how we decide to have the items delivered and is therefore irrelevant to our decision.

(Unless we are able to receive discounts for placing large orders – this will be discussed later in this chapter)

3.3. Re-order cost

This is the cost of actually placing orders. It includes such costs as the administrative time included in placing an order, and the delivery cost charged for each order.

If there is a fixed amount payable on each order then higher order quantities will result in fewer orders needed over a year and therefore a lower total reorder cost over a year.

3.4. Inventory holding cost

This is the cost of holding items in inventory. It includes costs such as warehousing space and insurance and also the interest cost of money tied up in inventory.

Higher order quantities will result in higher average inventory levels in the warehouse and therefore higher inventory holding costs over a year.



4. Minimising costs

One obvious approach to finding the economic order quantity is to calculate the costs p.a. for various order quantities and identify the order quantity that gives the minimum total cost.

Example 1

Janis has demand for 40,000 desks p.a. the purchase price of each desk is \$25. There are ordering costs of \$20 for each order placed. Inventory holding costs amount to 10% p.a. of inventory value.

Calculate the inventory costs p.a. for the following order quantities, and plot them on a graph:

- (a) 500 units
- (b) 750 units
- (c) 1000 units
- (d) 1250 units

5. The EOQ formula

A more accurate and time-saving way to find the EOQ is to use the formula that will be provided for you in the exam, if needed.

The formula is:

$$EOQ = \sqrt{\frac{2C_o D}{C_H}}$$

Where C_o = fixed costs per order

D = annual demand

C_H = the stockholding cost per unit per annum

(Note: you are not required to be able to prove this formula)

Example 2

For the information given in Example 1,

- (a) **use the EOQ formula to calculate the Economic Order Quantity.**
- (b) **calculate the total inventory costs for this order quantity.**



6. Quantity discounts

Often, discounts will be offered for ordering in large quantities. The problem may be solved using the following steps:

1. Calculate EOQ ignoring discounts
2. If it is below the quantity which must be ordered to obtain discounts, calculate total annual inventory costs.
3. Recalculate total annual inventory costs using the order size required to just obtain the discount
4. Compare the cost of step 2 and 3 with the saving from the discount and select the minimum cost alternative.
5. Repeat for all discount levels

Example 3

For the information given in Example 1 the supplier now offers us discounts on purchase price as follows:

<i>Order quantity</i>	<i>discount</i>
0 to < 5,000	0 %
5,000 to < 10,000	1 %
10,000 or over	1.5 %

Calculate the Economic Order Quantity.



7. The Just-in-time system

Under this approach, minimum inventories are held of Finished Goods, Work-in-Progress, and Raw Materials.

The conditions necessary for the business to be able to operate with minimum inventories include the following:

7.1. Finished Goods:

- a short production period, so that goods can be produced to meet demand ('demand-pull' production)
- good forecasting of demand
- good quality production, so that all production is actually available to meet demand

7.2. Work-in-Progress:

- a short production period. If the production is faster, then the level of WIP will automatically be lower.
- the flexibility of the workforce to expand and contract production at short notice

7.3. Raw Materials:

- the ability to receive raw materials from suppliers as they are needed for production (instead of being able to take from inventory). This requires the selection of suppliers who can deliver quickly and at short notice.
- guaranteed quality of raw material supplies (so that there are no faulty items holding up production).
- the flexibility of suppliers to deliver more or less at short notice.
- tight contracts with suppliers, with penalty clauses, because of the reliance placed on suppliers for quality and delivery times.

A 'just-in-time' approach is a philosophy affecting the whole business. The benefits are not just cost savings from lower inventory-holding costs and less risk of obsolete inventory, but benefits in terms of better quality production (and therefore less wastage), greater efficiency, and better customer satisfaction.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





Chapter 5

MANAGEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL (3) – RECEIVABLES AND PAYABLES

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to look at ways in which companies may manage receivables and payables more efficiently and thus reduce the level of working capital.

2. Receivables

The reason for the existence of receivables is that the business is prepared to sell to customers on credit. The higher the receivables, the more cost there is for the company – both in terms of the interest cost and in terms of the greater risk of losses through bad debts.

An easy solution would be to stop selling on credit and to insist on immediate cash payment, but this would risk the losing of customers if competitors offer credit.

There is no 'best' level for receivables – it depends very much on the type of business and the credit terms offered by competitors – but it is in the interest of all companies to keep the level of receivables as low as possible in the circumstances.

2.1. Points to consider as part of efficient management:

- (a) Credit checks and credit limits - before granting credit customers should be assessed as to their ability to pay, and credit limits set for all accounts
 - ▶ use credit rating agencies (e.g. Dunn and Bradstreet)
 - ▶ ask for trade and bank references from new customers
 - ▶ analyse the payment record of existing customers
 - ▶ assess the financial statements of large customers
 - ▶ review credit limits regularly
- (b) Credit terms and settlement discounts:
 - ▶ these will be greatly influenced by competition and trade custom
 - ▶ the company must quantify the cost of any settlement discounts and decide whether the benefits outweigh the cost
 - ▶ ensure that customers are aware of the terms and settlement discounts by printing them on orders, invoices and statements
 - ▶ ensure that any discount policy is enforced – most customers will attempt to take the discount as a matter of course, whether or not they have paid on time.



- (c) Collection procedures:
- ▶ Set clearly defined procedures to be followed. Set timings for issuing demand letters, making chasing telephone calls, and stopping deliveries.
 - ▶ Decide when outside assistance is needed (e.g. the use of collection agencies or lawyers)
 - ▶ Compare the cost of taking direct legal action with that of using outside help.
- (d) Charge interest on overdue invoices:

2.2. Invoice discounting and factoring

Invoice discounting is the selling of an invoice to a third party (usually a bank) for a lower (discounted) amount. This way the supplier gets cash immediately and it is the bank who has to wait for payment (hence the lower or discounted amount).

Factoring is paying another company to administer all or part of the receivables ledger.

Depending on the fee paid to the factor, different facilities may be bought.

The basic level of factoring involves paying the factor to handle all the administration – maintaining the sales ledger and collecting the debts.

For a higher fee, the factor will advance money to the company before the debts have been collected. For example, the factor may advance 80% of the value of sales immediately on invoicing.

For a higher fee still, the factor may accept responsibility for any bad debts – the company is effectively insured against bad debts. This is known as 'non-recourse factoring'. (Normal factoring, where the company keeps the responsibility for any bad debts, is known as 'with-recourse factoring')

2.3. Examination arithmetic on receivables management

Most arithmetical questions in the examination relating to receivables management involve consideration as to whether or not a change in collection policy is worthwhile.

There are two techniques that you must be aware of – being able to consider whether or not it is worthwhile offering a simple settlement discount, and being able to consider whether or not a change in collection policy (either by using discounts or using a factor) is worthwhile.



(a) Simple settlement discount**Example 1**

Customers currently take three months credit. We are considering offering a discount of 4% for payment within one month.

Sales are \$12,000,000 p.a..

We are paying overdraft interest of 20% p.a..

Calculate the effective % cost p.a. of the discount.

Should we offer the discount?

(b) Change of policy**Example 2**

A company has sales of \$20,000,000 p.a..

Customers currently take credit as follows:

<i>Days</i>	<i>%'age</i>
30	20%
60	50%
90	30%

They are considering offering a discount of 1% for payment within 30 days. It is estimated that 60% of customers will take advantage of the discount (and that the remainder will take a full 90 days).

The company's bank overdraft rate is 15% p.a..

Calculate the net cost or benefit of the change of policy.

Should they offer the discount?

(assume 365 days in a year)

Example 3

Our sales are \$10,000,000 p.a. and customers currently pay as follows:

<i>Month</i>	<i>% of time</i>
1	20%
2	30%
3	50%

We are considering whether or not to factor our debts. The factor will pay us 100% of debts after 1 month. The fee is 2% of turnover. As a result we will be able to lose some credit control staff at a saving of \$20,000 p.a..

The company's bank overdraft rate is 18% p.a.

Calculate the net cost or benefit p.a. of changing to the new policy.



3. Payables

Payables may be used as a source of short-term finance. If a company delays payment by a further month then they now have a further months use of the cash.

However, delaying payment may lose the company it's credit status with the supplier and could result in supplies being stopped.

Additionally, the company could lose the benefit of any settlement discount offered by the supplier for early payment.

In exactly the same way as for receivables, we can calculate the annual effective cost of refusing any settlement discount offered, and compare this with the cost of financing working capital.

Example 4

A supplier offers a 2% discount if invoices are paid within 10 days of receipt. Currently we take 30 days to pay invoices and therefore do not receive the discount.

Calculate the annual % effective cost of refusing the discount.

Example 5

A company currently takes 40 days credit from suppliers on the basis that this is 'free' finance.

Annual purchases are \$100,000 and the company pays overdraft interest of 13%.

Payment within 15 days would attract a 1.5% quick settlement discount.

Should the company pay sooner in order to take advantage of the discount

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:

"Management of foreign accounts receivable"

"Receivables collection"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 6

MANAGEMENT OF WORKING CAPITAL (4) – CASH

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to discuss the reasons for the holding by a company of short-term cash balances, and to consider ways of managing these cash balances effectively.

2. Reasons for holding cash:

- Transaction motive
- Precautionary motive
- Speculative motive

3. Methods of dealing with cash shortages:

- Reduce inventories
- Defer capital expenditure
- Defer or reduce dividends
- Chase receivables to pay earlier
- Postpone the payment of payables
- Use short-term borrowing (overdraft)
- Sell surplus assets
- Sale and leaseback



4. Cash surpluses

A cash surplus may arise over the short term, medium term, or long term.

Possible uses of surplus cash include:

4.1. Short term

- Reduce overdraft
- Invest in short-term Treasury Stock
- Invest in bank deposit account
- Invest in 'blue-chip' shares

4.2. Long term:

- Invest in new projects
- Acquire other companies
- Increase dividends
- Buy back shares
- Repay long term loans

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5. Cash Management models

5.1. Cash budgets

Cash budgets are probably the most important tool in practice for the management of any company's cash position. They are vital to identifying in advance a likely deficit or surplus in order that appropriate action can be taken to avoid any problem or profit from any opportunity.

6. Cash budgets

6.1. Proforma

<i>Period</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Receipts					
Cash sales	x	x	x	x	x
Receipts from credit customers	x	x	x	x	x
Other income		x			x
	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>
Payments					
Cash purchases	x	x	x	x	x
Payments for credit purchases	x	x	x	x	x
Rent and rates	x			x	
Wages	x	x	x	x	x
Light and heat		x			x
Salaries	x	x	x	x	x
Telephone	x			x	
Insurance			x		
	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>
Surplus/(deficit)					
Balance b/f	–	(x)	(x)	(x)	x
Balance c/f	<u>(x)</u>	<u>(x)</u>	<u>(x)</u>	<u>x</u>	<u>x</u>

Additionally, cash flows relating to non-current assets or financing should be included as appropriate.



Example 1

You are presented with the following flow forecasted cash flow data for your organisation for the period November 20X1 to June 20X2. It has been extracted from functional flow forecasts that have already been prepared.

	NovX1	DecX1	JanX2	FebX2	MarX2	AprX2	MayX2	JuneX2
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Sales	80,000	100,000	110,000	130,000	140,000	150,000	160,000	180,000
Purchases	40,000	60,000	80,000	90,000	110,000	130,000	140,000	150,000
Wages	10,000	12,000	16,000	20,000	24,000	28,000	32,000	36,000
Overheads	10,000	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	20,000	20,000
Dividends		20,000						40,000
Capital expenditure			30,000			40,000		

You are also told the following.

- Sales are 40% cash 60% credit. Credit sales are paid two months after the month of sale.
- Purchases are paid the month following purchase.
- 75% of wages are paid in the current month and 25% the following month.
- Overheads are paid the month after they are incurred.
- Dividends are paid three months after they are declared.
- Capital expenditure is paid two months after it is incurred.
- The opening cash balance is \$15,000.

The managing director is pleased with the above figures as they show sales will have increased by more than 100% in the period under review. In order to achieve this he has arranged a bank overdraft with a ceiling of \$50,000 to accommodate the increased inventory levels and wage bill for overtime worked.

- Prepare a cash flow forecast for the six-month period January to June 20X2.**
- Comment on your results in the light of the managing director's comments and offer advice.**



6.2. The Baumol model

The Baumol model is very similar to the EOQ model for managing inventory, and uses the same formula.

Suppose that a company has forecast that its cash requirement over the coming year is \$1.5m and that the cash use is constant throughout the year. They have the cash available, but it is currently invested and is earning interest. To transfer the entire amount immediately would lose interest for the whole year and it would therefore be more sensible to transfer amounts throughout the year as required. However, each time cash is transferred there is a fee payable (to sell investments) and therefore the more transfers the greater the cost.

The Baumol model gives a formula for the optimum amount to be transferred each time:

$$\text{Economic quantity of cash} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times \text{Annual cash required} \times \text{cost of ordering cash}}{\text{Net interest cost of holding cash}}}$$

Example 2

Next year a company forecasts a cash requirement of \$1,500,000, the use being constant throughout the year.

The company has investments in excess of this amount which are earning 9.5% p.a..

The company earns interest of 5% on their current account bank balance.

The cost of selling investments is \$150 per transaction

- If the company sells \$150,000 of investments each time, calculate the total cost p.a. to the company.**
- What is the optimal economic quantity of cash to transfer each time in order to minimise costs?**
- At the EOQ, what is the total cost p.a. to the company?**

6.3. The Miller Orr model

The Miller Orr model does manage to achieve a reasonable degree of realism without being too elaborate.

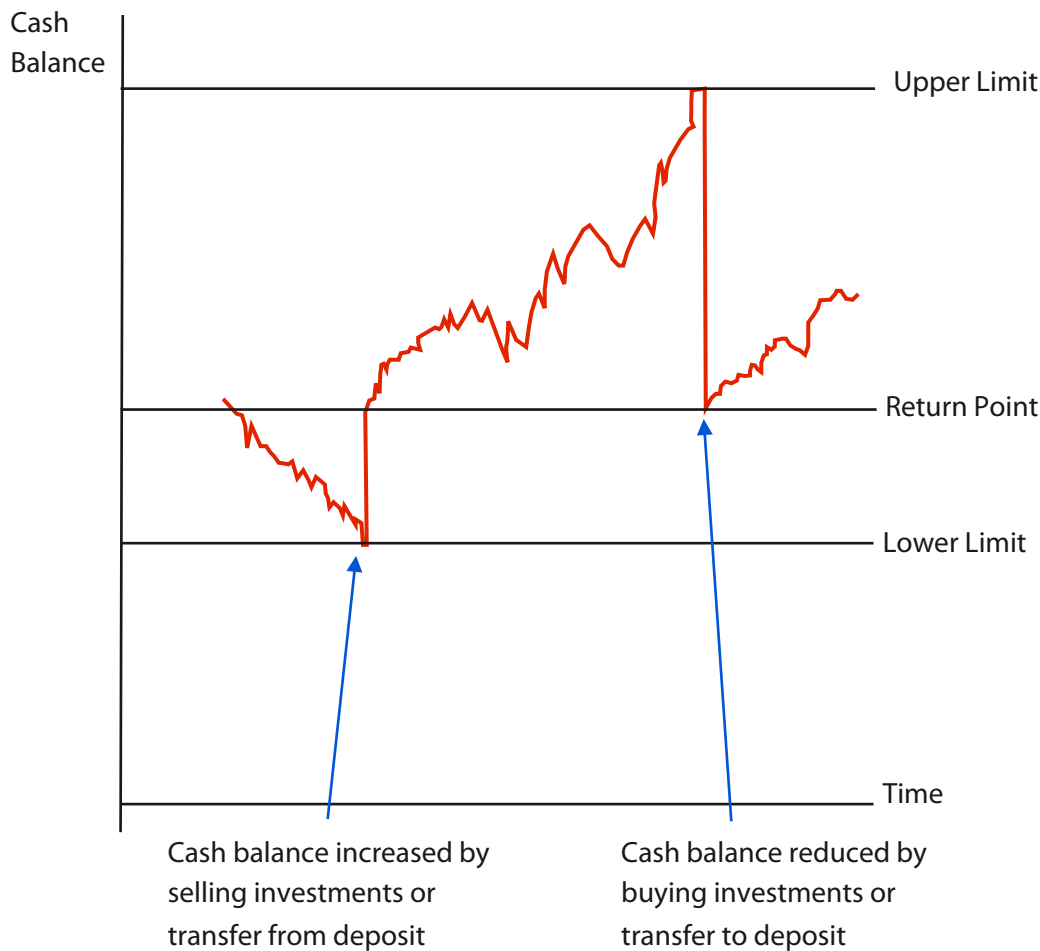
In practice cash flows are likely to fluctuate considerably from day-to-day. There is also a likelihood that the balances are likely to 'wander' upwards or downwards over a period.

The Miller Orr model fixes limits on the upper and lower levels.

The basic steps involved are as follows:

- A safety level or lower limit of cash is decided upon.
- A statistical calculation is made based on the variations of the cash flows, in order to agree an allowable range of fluctuations.
- Using this calculated range, an upper limit of cash is fixed.
- The cash balance is managed to ensure that the balance is always kept between the upper and lower limits.





Miller Orr produced formulae as follows:

$$\text{Return point} = \text{Lower limit} + \left(\frac{1}{3} \times \text{spread}\right)$$

$$\text{Spread} = 3 \left(\frac{\frac{3}{4} \times \text{transaction cost} \times \text{variance of cash flows}}{\text{interest rate}} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

(these formulae are given in the examination)

Example 3

A company has decided it needs a minimum balance of \$10,000. The transaction cost (of making transfers to/from deposit) is \$5 per transaction. The standard deviation of cash flows is \$2,000 per day, and the interest rate is 5.11% p.a. (or $5.11/365 = 0.014\%$ per day)

What should be the upper and lower limits, and the return point?

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



INVESTMENT APPRAISAL

Chapter 7

INVESTMENT APPRAISAL – METHODS

1. Introduction

In this and the following chapters we will be looking at how the Financial Manager should go about making capital investment decisions. For example, they may have to decide whether or not it is worthwhile investing \$1,000,000 in a new factory. Alternatively they may have to make the choice between several available investments.

2. Discounted Cash Flow – Net Present Value

This approach looks at the expected cash flows from the investment in question. If over the life of the investment there is an expected cash surplus, then the project will be accepted, whereas if an expected cash deficit the project will be rejected.

To account for the fact that money will be tied up in the project over a period of years (and will therefore either result in interest being paid on money borrowed for the investment, or interest lost on the money invested), the cash flows are discounted at the cost of money (or cost of capital) to the company before calculating the net surplus or deficit and making the decision.

Example 1

A machine will cost \$80,000.

It has an expected life of 4 years with an anticipated scrap value of \$10,000.

Expected net operating cash inflows each year are as follows:

1	20,000
2	30,000
3	40,000
4	10,000

The cost of capital is 10% p.a..

Calculate the Net Present Value of the investment and determine whether or not it should be accepted.



- Make sure that you remember the terminology (discount factor; present values; net present value), and that you remember how to use the tables given in the examination for the discount factors.
- Note that we usually assume that operating cash flows arise at the ends of years. In practice it is more likely that the flows are spread over each year, but assuming ends of years not only makes the arithmetic simpler, but also looks at a 'worse-case scenario' with regard to the timing.

Example 2

In the previous example, what reservations might you have about your investment decision?

3. Discounted Cash Flow – Internal Rate of Return

One problem in practice with using a Discounted Cash Flow approach to investment appraisal is that it is virtually impossible to calculate accurately the Cost of Capital for a company.

In the previous example, we decided that using a Cost of Capital of 10% the project was worthwhile. However, suppose the Cost of Capital was not 10% but 11%. With a higher rate of interest we would expect the NPV to be lower. If still positive then we would still be happy to accept, but if it were negative then we should reject.

Even if it is positive at 11%, what about 12%? What about 13%?

Because of the uncertainty regarding the Cost of Capital it would be useful to know the breakeven rate of interest i.e. the rate of interest at which the project would have an NPV of zero.

The rate of interest at which the NPV of the project is zero is known as the Internal Rate of Return (IRR).

In order to estimate the IRR, we calculate the NPV of the project at two different rates of interest and estimate a rate giving an NPV of zero assuming linearity. (In fact the relationship of the NPV to the rate of interest is not linear but curvilinear. However, the approximation resulting from an assumption of linearity is sufficient for our purposes.

Example 3

For the project in example 1:

- Calculate the NPV of the project at an interest rate of 15%
- Estimate the IRR of the project using your results from part (a) and from Example 1.
- Interpret the result of (b).



4. Discounted Cash Flow – annuities and perpetuities

Most examples in the examination are like the one in example 1 - with differing cash flows each year, each of which needs to be discounted separately.

However, you will sometimes be presented with cash flows that are equal each year, in which case there is a faster and simpler approach to discounting.

An equal cash flow each year (e.g. \$10,000 p.a. for 10 years) is known as an annuity.

If the annuity were expected to continue for ever, it is known as a perpetuity.

4.1. Annuities

The discount factor for an annuity may be calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Annuity discount factor} = \frac{1 - (1 + r)^{-n}}{r}$$

Where:

r = discount rate

n = number of periods

However, it is rare in the examination to need to use the formula because tables are provided for annuity discount factors.

Example 4

A machine will cost \$45,000 and is expected to generate \$8,000 for each of the following 8 years. The cost of capital is 15% p.a..

Calculate the NPV of the investment.

Example 5

The cost of capital is 12% p.a.

What is the present value of \$20,000 first receivable in 4 years time and thereafter each year for a total of 10 years?



4.2. Perpetuities

The discount factor for a perpetuity is: $\frac{1}{r}$

Where r = rate of interest

(These are not provided in tables for you – you must remember the discount factor)

Example 6

A machine costs \$100,000 and is expected to generate \$12,000 p.a. in perpetuity.

The cost of capital is 10% p.a.

What is the NPV of the project?

Example 7

The rate of interest is 5% p.a.

What is the present value of \$18,000 first receivable in 5 years time and thereafter annually in perpetuity?

5. Other approaches to investment appraisal

In theory, the discounted cash flow approach is the best method of appraisal. This is because it considers the cash flows and the timing of these flows. It is cash that is needed to pay dividends to the shareholders, and cash that is needed to expand the company by the acquisition of new investments.

However, in practice, whatever may be best in theory, shareholders and managers will be interested in other things – in particular the affect that a new investment will have on the profits of the business.

For this reason, there are many other criteria employed for investment decisions in addition to (or instead of) discounted cash flow.

In your examination, you will be required almost always to use the DCF approach. However, do be aware of two other approaches that are common in practice – Accounting Rate of Return and Payback Period.



5.1. Accounting Rate of Return

This approach is an accounts based measure and considers the expected profitability of an investment.

The Accounting Rate of Return (ARR) is defined as:

$$\frac{\text{the average profits p.a. from an investment}}{\text{the average book value of the investment}} \times 100\%$$

The ARR is compared with a target rate of return to decide whether or not the investment is worthwhile.

The target rate of return will normally be the current Return on Capital Employed for the company.

Example 8

A machine will cost \$80,000.

It has an expected life of 4 years with an anticipated scrap value of \$10,000.

Expected net operating cash inflows each year are as follows:

1	20,000
2	30,000
3	40,000
4	10,000

Calculate the ARR of the project.



5.2. Payback period

The payback period is defined as being the number of years it takes for a project to recoup the original investment in cash terms.

The payback period is compared with a target period – if the project pays for itself sooner then it should be accepted, if not then it should be rejected.

The payback period is useful when the future flows have a high level of uncertainty. The further into the future we are forecasting, then the more uncertain the flows are likely to be. By choosing projects with faster payback periods, we are more certain that the projects will indeed end up making a surplus.

Payback period and DCF techniques are often combined by calculating a discounted payback period – this involves discounting the cash flows and then calculating how many years it takes for the discounted cash flows to repay the initial investment.

Example 9

A machine will cost \$80,000.

It has an expected life of 4 years with an anticipated scrap value of \$10,000.

Expected net operating cash inflows each year are as follows:

1	20,000
2	30,000
3	40,000
4	10,000

Calculate the payback period of the project.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 8

RELEVANT CASH FLOWS FOR DCF

1. Introduction

In the previous chapter we looked at the arithmetic involved in investment appraisal using the Discounted Cash Flow approach.

However, the main problem in examination questions is arriving at the cash flows in the first place. In this chapter we will consider how to establish the cash flows of investments in order to be then able to apply the DCF techniques.

2. Relevant costs

The general rule is that we are interested in all **future, incremental** (or extra), **cash flows** to the company as a result of undertaking the investment.

We are not interested in the following:

- money already committed (or sunk costs)
- historic costs
- non-cash flows (especially depreciation)
- book values
- interest costs (because these are dealt with by the discounting)

We are interested in both direct and opportunity cash costs and revenues.

Direct costs are those costs directly related to the investment e.g. the new machine will incur running costs of \$10,000 p.a..

Opportunity costs are costs that occur elsewhere in the company due to acceptance of an investment e.g. buying a new machine will result in losing revenue of \$10,000 p.a. that is currently being earned by the company from another machine.

OpenTuition



Example 1

A research project which to date has cost the company \$150,000 is currently under review.

If the project were allowed to proceed, it will be completed in approximately one year, when the results would be sold to a government agency for \$300,000.

Shown below are the additional expenses which the managing director estimates will be necessary to complete the work.

Materials:

The materials required have just been purchased at a cost of \$60,000. They are toxic and, if not used in this project must be disposed of at a cost of \$5,000.

Labour:

Skilled labour is hard to recruit. The workers concerned have been transferred to this project from a production department, and the production manager claims that if the men were returned to him they could generate sales of \$150,000 in the next year. The prime cost of these sales would be \$100,000 including \$40,000 for the labour cost itself. The overhead absorbed into this production would amount to \$20,000.

Research staff:

It has already been decided that when work on this project ceases, the research department will be closed. Research wages for the year are \$60,000, and redundancy and severance pay has been estimated at \$15,000 now, or \$35,000 in one years time.

Equipment:

The project utilises a special microscope which cost \$18,000 three years ago. It has a residual value of \$3,000 in another two years, and a current disposal value of \$8,000. If used in the project it is estimated that the disposal value in a years time will be \$6,000.

Share of general building services:

The project is charged with \$35,000 p.a. to cover its share of general building expenses. Immediately the project is discontinued, the space occupied by the project could be sub-let for an annual rental of \$7,000.

Advise the managing director as to whether or not the project should be allowed to proceed, explaining your reasons for the treatment of each item.

(Ignore the time value of money)



3. Working capital

It is very common in questions to be told that in addition to the cash needed to buy a machine, cash is also needed immediately to finance working capital requirements.

The working capital requirements relate to such things as the carrying of inventory of raw materials and the financing of receivables resulting from the sales.

Unless told differently, we always assume that the working capital results in a cash outflow at the time it is needed, that the requirement remains for the life of the investment, but that it is released (and therefore results in a cash inflow) at the end of the project.

Note that in several recent exam questions the examiner has stated within the question that the machine in question will be replaced at the end of its life. This implies that the product will still continue to be made and that therefore the working capital will still be needed. In this case you should not recover the working capital at the end of the project.

Example 2

A machine costs \$100,000 to purchase. In addition a further \$20,000 working capital will be required at the start of the project.

The project is expected to last 4 years and to have a scrap value of \$20,000 at the end of its useful life.

Net operating cash flows are expected to be \$30,000 p.a. for the first two years and \$40,000 p.a. for the following two years.

All operating flows are to be assumed to occur at the ends of year.

Calculate the net cash flow for each of the years in question (you are not required to discount or arrive at an investment decision).

Example 3

A machine costs \$15,000 and is expected to last for 4 years with a scrap value of \$2,000 at the end of 4 years.

The sales revenue and operating costs for each of the 4 years have been estimated as follows:

Year	1	2	3	4
Sales revenue	5,000	11,000	8,000	9,000
Operating costs	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000

Working capital of 10% of the years revenue is required at the start of each year

Calculate the net cash flow for each of the years in question.



4. Taxation

If a company undertakes a new investment which generates higher profits, then there will be extra tax payable as a result. This extra tax payable is an extra cash flow resulting from the project and therefore needs including on our table of cash flows. (Note that if a new investment were to make a loss, then the company would as a result pay less tax than before. This tax saving is effectively a cash receipt (or cash inflow) resulting from the project.)

There are two tax affects on our appraisal.

In each year, any extra profit will result in extra tax payable.

Additionally, the initial capital investment will result in additional capital allowances being available to the company which will result in less tax payable (a tax saving).

In the examination you will be told the rate of tax, when the tax is payable and also the way in which capital allowances are given. Your task is to read the question carefully, perform the relevant calculations, and include the resulting tax cash flows in your table of cash flows.

When dealing with tax in this examination we make the following simplifying assumptions:

- tax is calculated on operating cash flows (in practice it is on adjusted operating profits)
- there is no advance tax payable
- there is no tax on working capital (either the outflow or the inflow)
- there is no 'pool' of assets for capital allowance calculations – capital allowances are calculated in isolation for the investment in question
- no other taxes are relevant (e.g. capital gains tax)

Example 4

A company has a year end of 31 December each year.

It is considering the purchase of a new machine on 1 January 2003 at a cost of \$10,000.

The machine is expected to generate net operating cash flows of \$5,000 during the first year , \$7,000 during the second year, and \$8,000 during the third year.

It is intended to sell the machine at the end of the third year for \$6,000.

Additional working capital of \$1,000 will be required at the start of the project.

Corporation tax is 30% payable one year in arrears.

Capital allowances are available at 25% p.a. on a reducing balance basis.

The cost of capital is 10%

Calculate the NPV of the project and advise as to whether it should be accepted or rejected.



5. Inflation

In order to calculate an NPV we need to estimate the cash flows which we expect will occur for each year of the investments life.

In practice (and, more importantly, in the examination) it is often the case that some cash flows would be expected to be constant each year were it not for the effect of inflation. E.g. we might need to pay rent for new premises of \$10,000 each year. We do not expect to need different premises and therefore the rent would remain at \$10,000 for each year subject to inflationary increases.

As a result it is often the case that future cash flows are quoted at the current amount together with an estimate for inflation. E.g. rent of \$10,000 p.a. inflating at 5% p.a..

For our DCF calculations we need to discount the actual forecasted cash flows, and therefore it is often necessary for us to do the arithmetic inflating the cash flows by the rate of inflation in order to complete our cash flow table.

Example 5

Ventspils plc are considering buying a new machine in order to produce a new product.

The machine will cost \$2,800,000 and is expected to last for 3 years at which time it will have an estimated scrap value of \$1,000,000

They expect to produce 100,000 units p.a. of the new product which will be sold for \$20 p.u. in the first year.

Production costs p.u. (at current prices) are as follows:

Materials \$8

Labour \$7

Materials are expected to inflate at 8% p.a. and labour is expected to inflate at 5% p.a.

Fixed overheads of the company currently amount to \$1,000,000. The management accountant has decided that 20% of these should be absorbed into the new product

The company expects to be able to increase the selling price of the product by 7% p.a.

An additional \$200,000 of working capital will be required at the start of the project.

Capital allowances: 25% reducing balance

Tax: 25%, 1 year in arrears

Cost of Capital: 10%

Calculate the NPV of the project and advise as to whether or not it should be accepted.



6. Inflation – real rates

The method of dealing with inflation covered in the previous section is normally the most sensible and efficient approach, and is normally the approach expected in the examination. i.e. calculate the actual (or nominal) cash flows, and discount at the actual (or nominal) cost of capital.

However, very occasionally you might be presented with the situation where all flows are expected to inflate at the same rate of inflation. In these circumstances you can still use the method already discussed, but alternatively there is a 'short-cut' approach that can save time.

Instead of having to inflate each flow using the rate of inflation and then having to discount each at the cost of capital, the same result can be achieved by discounting the current price flows (or real cash flows) at an effective (or real) cost of capital.

The effective cost of capital is calculated using the formula:

$$(1 + i) = (1 + r)(1 + h)$$

where i = the actual cost of capital (the nominal rate)

r = the real cost of capital

h = the general inflation rate

(note that this formula is on the formula sheet provided in the examination - the Fisher formula)

Example 6

A new machine will cost \$120,000 and is expected to last 3 years with no scrap value.

It is expected that production will be 10,000 units p.a.

The selling price is \$20 p.u. and the variable production costs \$14 p.u. (both quoted in current prices).

Inflation is expected to be 5% p.a., and the cost of capital is 15% p.a..

Calculate the NPV of the project

- inflating each flow to get the nominal cash flows, and discounting at the nominal cost of capital**
- discount the real (current price) flows at the real cost of capital**
- why, in theory, will the decision remain the same whatever the actual rate of inflation turns out to be.**

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Advanced investment appraisal"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 9

DISCOUNTED CASH FLOW – FURTHER ASPECTS

1. Introduction

This chapter deals with three specific situations of investment appraisal which are occasionally asked in the examination – capital rationing; replacement decisions; and, lease v buy decisions.

For each of these situations it is important to understand the nature of the problem and the way in which the standard techniques, which we have already covered, are applied.

2. Capital Rationing

Capital rationing is the term used to cover the situation when the company has limited funds available for investment. This can either be because there is only a limited amount available to be borrowed (**hard** capital rationing) or alternatively the company decides to itself place a limit on the amount that it is prepared to borrow (**soft** capital rationing).

The object of the exercise is to decide how best to invest a limited amount of capital available when there are several investments available.

The best solution will be the one giving the greatest total NPV.

The approach to be used depends on whether or not the projects are infinitely divisible.



2.1. Infinitely divisible projects

If projects are said to be **infinitely divisible**, it means that it is possible to invest in any fraction of a project (up to a maximum of 100% of the project). We also assume that if we invest in (say) 10% of a project then all the flows will be 10% of the full project flows and that therefore the resulting NPV will be 10% of the full project NPV.

The approach is as follows:

- calculate the NPV per \$ of initial investment (**the profitability index**)
- rank the projects in terms of their profitability indexes
- invest as much as possible in the project with the highest profitability index, then go to the project with the next highest, and so on until the capital available is exhausted.

2.2. Non-infinitely divisible projects

If projects are not infinitely divisible it is only possible to invest in whole projects.

In this situation there is no 'quick' method – the only approach is to look at all possible combinations of projects that are possible using the limited amount of capital available, and choose the combination that gives the highest total NPV.

Example 1

A company has the following 4 projects available:

	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>
0	(500)	(600)	(300)	(400)
1	221	207	194	181
2	221	207	194	181
3	221	207	–	181
4	–	207	–	–
NPV @ 10%	50	57	36	50

What should the company's investment decision be if:

- There is no capital rationing**
- Capital is restricted to \$1,600 at time 0 and the projects are infinitely divisible**
- Capital is restricted to \$1,600 at time 0 and the projects are not infinitely divisible.**



3. Replacement

We have looked in previous chapters at many examples where the decision was whether or not to invest in a new machine.

However, very often we may have decided to purchase a machine, but knowing that it will not last forever we have to decide how often to replace it.

For example, you might own a car which you expect will continue to work for 10 years before needing to be scrapped and replaced. However, the older it becomes the more expensive it will become to maintain and the lower price you will get for it when you sell it.

As a result, you may decide that it is better to replace it (say) every three years. By doing this you will avoid paying very high maintenance costs and will receive a higher sales price. The downside of course is that you would have to pay the price of a new one more frequently.

The purpose of the exercise is to determine the optimal replacement policy.

The approach will be illustrated using the following example.

Example 2

A machine costs \$72,000 and has a maximum life of 3 years.

The running costs each year are as follows:

Year	
1	7,200
2	9,600
3	12,000

The estimated scrap values are as follows:

Year	
1	24,000
2	16,600
3	9,600

The cost of capital is 15%

How often should the machine be replaced?



4. Lease versus Buy

When deciding whether or not an investment is worthwhile, we usually assume that we will be purchasing the asset.

However, having made the acquisition decision we could be required to consider financing the machine by way of leasing it rather than buy outright purchase.

In order to make this financing decision we need to calculate the PV of the costs of buying the assets with the PV of the costs of leasing the asset. In both cases we will discount at the after-tax cost of borrowing and choose that method which gives the lower PV (and hence least cost).

Example 3

A company is considering whether to buy a new machine at a cost of \$100,000 or alternatively to lease it for \$35,000 p.a. (lease payments payable at the start of each year).

Buying it will involve borrowing money at an after tax interest cost of 7% p.a.

If the machine is bought, it will be bought on the last day of current financial year.

The machine will be needed for 4 years, and (if purchased) will have a scrap value after 4 years of \$10,000.

Corporation Tax is 30% (payable one year after the end of the financial year)

Capital allowances are 25% (reducing balance).

Should the machine be leased or purchased?

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Equivalent annual costs and benefits"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 10

INVESTMENT APPRAISAL UNDER UNCERTAINTY

1. Introduction

A major reservation of any investment appraisal decision is that the figures used in the calculations are only estimates and stand to be uncertain. Clearly if any of the cash flows used in the decision turn out to be different from what was estimated, the decision itself could be affected.

In this chapter we will look at four approaches that attempt to either reduce the problem or quantify the possible effect of the problem.

2. Sensitivity analysis

Sensitivity analysis analyses the effect of changes made to variables in the problem in order to determine their effect on the decision.

First we calculate the NPV of the project on the basis of the best estimates.

Then we calculate what % change (or sensitivity) in each of the variables would result in a NPV of zero (i.e. the breakeven position – any further change would change the decision).

By considering the sensitivity of each variable we can ascertain which variables are the most critical and therefore perhaps need more work confirming our estimates.

Example 1

Daina has just set up a new company and estimates that the cost of capital is 15%.

Her first project involves investing in \$150,000 of equipment with a life of 15 years and a final scrap value of \$15,000.

The equipment will produce 15,000 units p.a. generating a contribution of \$2.75 each. She estimates that additional fixed costs will be \$15,000 p.a..

- (a) **Determine, on the basis of the above figures, whether the project is worthwhile**
- (b) **Calculate the sensitivity to change of:**
 - i. **the initial investment**
 - ii. **the sales volume p.a.**
 - iii. **the contribution p.u.**
 - iv. **the fixed costs p.a.**
 - v. **the scrap value**
 - vi. **the cost of capital**
- (c) **comment on the results**



3. Simulation

Simulation is a technique which allows more than one variable to change at the same time.

You will not be required in the examination to actually perform a simulation, but you should be aware of the principle involved.

3.1. Essentially, the stages are as follows:

- identify the major variables
- specify the relationship between the variables
- attach probability distributions to each variable and assign random numbers to reflect the distribution
- simulate the environment by generating random numbers
- record the outcome of each simulation
- repeat the simulation many times to be able to obtain a probability distribution of the possible outcomes



4. Expected values

With this approach, we identify the various possible outcomes for each uncertain variable, together with the associated probability.

We then use for each uncertain variable the weighted average outcome (or expected outcome), and use these figures in our investment appraisal calculation.

Example 2

Daiga plc is considering launching a new product.

This will require additional capital investment of \$200,000.

The selling price of the product will be \$10 p.u.. Daiga has ascertained that the probability of a demand of 50,000 units p.a. is 0.5, with a probability of 0.4 that it will be 20% higher, and a 0.1 probability that it will be 20% lower.

The company expects to earn a contribution of 50% and expects fixed overheads to increase by \$140,000 per year.

The time horizon for appraisal is 4 years. The machine will be sold at the end of 4 years for \$50,000.

The cost of capital is 20% p.a.

(a) Calculate the expected NPV of the project

(b) Assuming that the demand is certain at 50,000 units p.a. what is the NPV of the project if fixed overheads are uncertain as follows:

<i>Fixed overheads</i>	<i>Probability</i>
100,000	0.20
140,000	0.35
180,000	0.25
220,000	0.20



5. Risk-adjusted discount rate

Although it is easy enough to identify that the estimated returns from a project are uncertain, it is not normally realistic in practice to identify the various possible outcomes and then attach probabilities to each of them.

The risk inherent in a project depends very much on the type of activity involved. For example, investing in a new project to sell solar-powered vehicles is perhaps more risky than a new project to sell accountancy services.

(Note that higher risk does not mean that the project is automatically worse – solar-powered vehicles might give a much higher return, but equally there is the possibility of them giving a much lower return).

Although all people have different attitudes to risk, it is generally the case that people will be prepared to accept projects with higher risk provided that the expected return is higher.

One approach to dealing with this is to discount higher risk projects using a higher rate of interest – effectively adding a premium to the interest rate for risk, or using a risk-adjusted discount rate.

We will discuss this approach in a later chapter - the idea forms the basis for a technique known as the capital asset pricing model.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



BUSINESS FINANCE AND BUSINESS VALUATIONS

Chapter 11

SOURCES OF FINANCE – EQUITY

1. Introduction

In order to finance long-term investments and the overall working capital, the company needs to raise long-term capital. It is part of the role of the Financial Manager to decide how best to raise this capital. Overall the choice is between equity finance (from shareholders) and debt finance (from lenders). In this chapter we consider the different ways of raising equity finance and in the following chapter the different ways of raising debt finance. In the third chapter on this topic we consider the factors involved in choosing between equity and debt finance.

2. Methods of issuing shares

2.1. New shares – quoted companies

If a company is already quoted on a stock exchange then the following methods are available for the issue of new shares:

Public issue (offer for subscription)

A sale direct to the general public. Shares are advertised at a fixed offer price and the public are invited to buy them.

Public offer for sale by tender

A sale direct to the general public. However a price for the shares is not fixed and the public are invited to bid for shares.

Placing

With a placing, a sponsor (usually a merchant bank) arranges for its clients to buy shares. However, at least 25% of the shares placed must be made available to the general public.

Rights issue

An offer to existing shareholders to buy new shares in proportion to their existing shareholdings. You can be asked to perform calculations regarding rights issues and these are explained later in this chapter.



2.2. New shares – unquoted companies

If a company is unquoted, then they essentially have two choices:

Remain unquoted

In this case new shares can only be issued by way of a rights issue or a private placing

Become quoted

If they choose (and are able) to become quoted on a stock exchange, then the methods listed above become available to them.

It is difficult for a small company to become quoted on a stock exchange and have access to more finance because it is necessary that the company is already of a certain size before it will be accepted on to a stock exchange.

To help smaller companies, there exist two stock exchanges in the UK – the full exchange (or Official List) which is for large companies, and the AIM (Alternative Investment Market) which is for smaller companies.

You are not required to learn the detailed requirements for the two exchanges but the purpose of the AIM is to enable smaller companies to get their shares traded on a stock exchange so that they can then raise more share finance more easily and become bigger.

3. Rights issues

A rights issue is an issue of shares to existing shareholders.

The number of shares that each shareholder is offered is in proportion to their existing shareholding. The shares are offered at a relatively low price and the effect of the issue is to reduce the market value of all the shares in issue.

Example 1

Current share price is \$5 per share.

The company makes a rights issue of 1 for 4 at \$3.

- (a) **What is the theoretical ex-rights value per share?**
- (b) **What is the value of a right?**

Example 2

The current share price is \$8 per share.

The company makes a rights issue of 1 for 3 at \$6 per share.

- (a) **What is the ex-rights market value?**
- (b) **What is the value of a right?**
- (c) **Mrs X owns 1,200 shares. She takes up half her rights and sells the other half. Calculate the effect on her wealth.**



4. Bonus issues / Stock splits / Scrip dividends

4.1. Bonus issues

Bonus issues (or **scrip issues**) are the turning of reserves into share capital and issuing free shares to existing shareholders. The new shares are issued in proportion to shareholders' existing shareholdings.

They are issued free and are therefore not a source of finance.

They have the effect of reducing the market value per share of all the shares in issue, and can thus make the shares more marketable.

4.2. Stock splits

Stock splits occur when shares are split in value. For instance each existing \$1 share might be split into two 50c shares.

The total share capital of the company is unchanged, but there will be more shares in issue.

No cash is raised and therefore this is not a source of finance. It will have the effect of reducing the market value per share of all the shares in issue, and can thus make the shares more marketable.

4.3. Scrip dividends

This is the offering to shareholders of new shares instead of a cash dividend.

Shareholders are given the choice of whether to take the dividend in the form of cash or new shares. The incentive for shareholders is that it is a cheaper way of acquiring new shares than buying them on the stock exchange, and also there can be tax advantages.

For the company, this is a source of new finance in that new shares are issued (effectively) for cash. It is a cheap way of raising finance and does not risk upsetting the shareholders in the same way that a reduction in dividend may do.



5. Internally generated finance

The most common source of finance for most companies is to use retained earnings. This is equity finance in that all the earnings of the company belong to the shareholders. However, most companies do not pay out all their earnings as dividends, but instead retain a proportion of them as a source of finance in order to expand the company.

Retained earnings are the best source of finance in that they avoid issue costs and the cash is immediately available.

5.1. Dividend irrelevancy theory

In theory it is irrelevant whether a company pays out all its earnings to shareholders as dividend, or retains all the earnings for investment (or any combination of the two).

The reason for this is that although a lower dividend obviously means less immediate cash for the shareholders, this is compensated for by the fact that the extra investment by the company will increase the value of the company (and its share value).

In theory the shareholders will be indifferent because the increase in the value of their shares will compensate them for the lower dividend.

5.2. Dividend policy in practice

Although in recent years it has become common for companies to have high retention of earnings and pay low dividends (or even to pay no dividends – e.g. Microsoft), it is risky for a company to change its dividend policy without considering the consequences.

In particular they need to consider the following:

5.3. The Clientele effect

A constant dividend policy (e.g. always distributing 20% of earnings, or always increasing dividend by

5% p.a.) will attract a group of shareholders to whom the policy is suited (in terms of, for example, their tax position, or their need for income). Changing the dividend policy will upset these shareholders.

5.4. The Signalling effect

A reduction in dividend might be seen by the financial markets as a sign of company weakness.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 12

SOURCES OF FINANCE – DEBT

1. Introduction

In this chapter we will look at the various ways available to a company of raising debt finance.

2. Types of long-term debt

2.1. Debentures, Loan Stock or Bonds

A debenture is a written acknowledgement of a debt containing provisions for the payment of interest and repayment of the principal.

The debentures may be **secured** or **unsecured**. Secured means that if the company goes into liquidation then the debenture holders have first charge on the assets that are used as security. Unsecured debentures do not have this benefit and therefore usually need a higher rate of interest to compensate lenders.

Debentures can be traded on a stock exchange, normally in units of \$100 nominal. They carry a fixed rate of interest and the interest is expressed as a % of nominal value.

Irredeemable debentures are never repaid (and do not exist in practice!). Redeemable debentures are repayable at a fixed date (or during a fixed period) in the future. They are usually repaid at their nominal value (at par) but may be issued as repayable at a premium on nominal value.

E.g. 10% Debentures 2005 quoted at 96 p.c.

(a) Advantages

- ▶ The interest paid by the company is usually less than the dividend the company would have to pay to shareholders. This is because investors find them less risky than shares and therefore require a lower return.
- ▶ The interest paid is tax allowable to the company and therefore the net cost to the company is reduced.

(b) Disadvantage

- ▶ The higher the amount of debt finance, the more fixed interest has to be paid out of profits that would otherwise be available to shareholders. This makes the dividends more risky as far as the shareholders are concerned. This point will be explained in more detail in the next chapter.



2.2. Debt redeemed at a premium

These are debentures which are issued at a nominal value, but are repayable at a premium on nominal value on maturity.

Investors will effectively receive a 'bonus' on maturity and will therefore be prepared to accept a lower rate of interest from year to year.

The advantage to companies which are growing is that they pay low interest during the life of the debentures. Hopefully, when the time comes to redeem the debentures the company will be in a position to redeem them at a premium

3. Returns on debt

3.1. Interest yield:

$$\text{Interest yield} = \frac{\text{Annual interest payment}}{\text{Market value of debt}} \times 100\%$$

This measures the return to investors each year ignoring any 'profit' or 'loss' on redemption.

3.2. Redemption yield:

This is the overall return earned by investors taking into account both the annual interest and the gain or loss on redemption.

(Note that you will not be required to calculate the redemption yield in Paper F9 – you are only expected to understand what it represents)

4. Convertibles and Warrants

4.1. Convertibles

Convertibles are debentures that give the investor the choice on redemption of either taking cash or taking a pre-determined number of shares in the company.

Example 1

A company has in issue 8% debentures 2010.

On maturity the debentures may be redeemed at par or converted to 20 ordinary shares in company for every \$100 nominal.

The share price is currently \$4.50 per share.

What will debenture holders choose to do on maturity if the share price of the company in 2010 is

- (i) \$4 per share
- (ii) \$6 per share



The attraction of convertibles to investors is that they allow them to gain if the company does well (and the share price increases), but they do not lose if the company does badly (provided that the company does not collapse completely!).

The advantage to the company is that they will be able to offer a lower rate of interest (because investors find them attractive). Also, provided the company does well and investors do convert, the company will avoid any cash flow problem associated with repaying the debentures.

4.2. Warrants

A warrant is a right given to investors to subscribe for new shares at a future date at a fixed price.

They are sometimes issued with debentures in order to make them more attractive to investors (and therefore allow the company to pay lower interest).

The warrants may be bought or sold separately from the debentures during the exercise period.

5. Crowd funding and peer-to-peer funding

Crowd funding is not a source of debt finance (despite using this chapter to explain it!).

It is the practice of funding a project by raising money from a large number of people - most commonly via the internet. In return for their funding the investors will sometime receive shares in the company or (more often) will receive a reward such as, for example, early receipt of the product being produced and/or a discount on the price of the product.

Peer-To-Peer funding is debt finance, and again is very much internet based. Businesses or individuals needing to borrow money apply online and the software determines the credit risk and the rate of interest to be charged. Individuals with money to invest stipulate the amount they are prepared to invest and select the level of interest they wish to earn. The software then allocates the investments to the borrowers, and the operators of the system make money by taking a service fee.



6. Preference shares

These are shares with a fixed rate of dividend having a prior claim on profits available for distribution (unlike ordinary shares where the dividend can fluctuate).

Although legally equity, these are often treated as debt because they carry a fixed rate of dividend.

Dividends are only payable if there are sufficient distributable profits. If not sufficient, then the right to dividend is carried forward if they are **cumulative** preference shares. Otherwise the right to dividend for that year is lost.

The dividends are not tax deductible to the company.

On liquidation of a company, preference shares rank before ordinary shareholders.

(a) Advantages:

- ▶ they do not carry voting rights and there is therefore no loss of control
- ▶ unlike debt, dividends do not have to be paid if not enough profits and the shares are not secured on the company's assets

(b) Disadvantages:

- ▶ dividends are not tax allowable, unlike debt interest
- ▶ to attract investors there will be a need to pay a higher rate of interest because of the extra risk for shareholders.

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Business Finance for SMEs"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 13

CAPITAL STRUCTURE AND FINANCIAL RATIOS

1. Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to consider the choice between raising finance from equity or from debt and discuss the best capital structure for a company. In addition we will summarise various key financial ratios .

2. Financial Gearing

2.1. Definition

Financial gearing measures the proportion of a company's financing that comes from debt as opposed to equity.

The attraction of debt finance is that lenders are likely to require a lower return than shareholders because an investment in debt is less risky than an investment in shares. In addition, debt interest payable by the company is normally allowable for tax which makes the net cost even lower.

However, the reason that company's do not automatically raise as much of their finance from debt as possible is that increasing the amount of debt in a company (or increasing the gearing) creates more risk for the shareholders.

The reason for the increase in risk to shareholders is that fixed interest must be paid each year before the company is able to pay dividends.



Example 1

Two companies, U and G, are both generating operating profits (before interest) of \$100. U is an ungeared company (with no debt finance) whereas G is a geared company and has to pay debt interest of \$30 p.a..

Tax is payable at 30%, and both companies distribute all available earnings as dividend.

	<i>U</i>	<i>G</i>
Profits	100	100
Debt Interest	–	30
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	100	70
Tax @ 30%	(30)	(21)
Available for shareholders	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>
	70	49

Calculate the % change in dividends that will result in both companies, if profits were to fall by:

- (a) 20%
(b) 40%

Measures of financial gearing

There are two standard ways of calculating the gearing ratio.

It can be defined as either:

- $$\frac{\text{Debt borrowing} + \text{preference share capital}}{\text{Ordinary share capital} + \text{reserves}}$$

or alternatively:

- $$\frac{\text{Debt borrowing} + \text{preference share capital}}{\text{Total long term capital}}$$

Either measure can be used (unless the examination specifies one measure). The result will differ depending on which measure is used, but in both cases the figure will increase with higher proportions of debt.

Gearing is best measured using market values for debt and for equity. If, however, market values are not available then use Statement of Financial Position values.



Example 2

Lavetal plc has the following summarised Statement of Financial Position:

Non-current assets	200,000
Current assets	50,000
	<hr/>
	250,000
Share Capital (10c shares)	10,000
Reserves	130,000
	<hr/>
	140,000
Debentures	100,000
Current liabilities	10,000
	<hr/>
	250,000

The market values at date of the Statement are:

Shares: \$2.20 per share

Debentures: 95 p.c.

Calculate the gearing ratio of Lavetal using:

- (a) book values
- (b) market values



3. Operating Gearing

3.1. Fixed operating costs

With financial gearing, it is the fixed interest payments that create the extra risk for shareholders.

However, company's may have fixed operating costs due to the way they have structured their operating costs between fixed costs and variable costs. More fixed operating costs increase the risk for the shareholders in exactly the same way as do fixed interest costs.

Example 3

Companies A and B both have sales of \$100,000 p.a. and costs of \$60,000 p.a..

However company A has structured its costs such that \$50,000 are variable and \$10,000 are fixed, whereas B has variable costs of \$20,000 and fixed costs of \$40,000.

	<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>
Sales	100,000	100,000
Variable costs	50,000	20,000
Fixed costs	10,000	40,000
	60,000	60,000
Profit	40,000	40,000

Calculate the % change in profits in both companies that results from:

- (a) an increase in sales volume of 10%
- (b) a reduction in sales volume of 20%

As with financial gearing, the profits of the company with the higher proportion of fixed costs is more risky than the other.

A company has flexibility as to how to structure its costs. For example, staff costs can be fixed by employing staff on annual contracts, or can be variable by employing staff on a day-to-day basis.

In times of growth it will be advantageous to have a high proportion of fixed costs and a low proportion of variable costs. However, in times of recession the opposite is true.

3.2. Measures of operating gearing

There is no standard measure of operating gearing, however the suggested measure is as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Contribution}}{\text{Operating profit}}$$



4. Other financial ratios

Example 4

Statement of Financial Position at 31 December

	<i>2002</i>	<i>2001</i>
Non-current assets	300,000	320,000
Current assets	80,000	70,000
	<u>380,000</u>	<u>390,000</u>
Ordinary Share capital (10c shares)	60,000	60,000
7% Preference shares (\$1 shares)	40,000	40,000
Reserves	<u>160,000</u>	<u>140,000</u>
	260,000	240,000
6% Debentures	100,000	100,000
Current liabilities	20,000	50,000
	<u>380,000</u>	<u>390,000</u>

Statement of Profit or Loss for the year ended 31 December

	<i>2002</i>	<i>2001</i>
Sales	<u>510,000</u>	<u>480,000</u>
Profit before interest and tax	52,000	49,000
Interest	6,000	6,000
Profit before tax	<u>46,000</u>	<u>43,000</u>
Tax	12,000	10,000
Net profit after tax	<u>34,000</u>	<u>33,000</u>
Dividends:		
Ordinary shares	20,000	15,000
Preference shares	2,800	2,800
Retained profit	<u>11,200</u>	<u>15,200</u>



The market values at 31 December:

	2002	2001
ordinary shares	\$0.83	\$0.72
preference shares	\$0.90	\$1.01
6% debentures	\$110	\$118

Calculate (for each of the two years) the following ratios:

Debt holder ratios:

- Interest cover
- Interest yield

Shareholder ratios:

- Dividend per share
- Dividend cover
- Dividend yield
- Earnings per share (EPS)
- Price earnings ratio (P/E ratio)

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 14

SOURCES OF FINANCE – ISLAMIC FINANCE

1. Introduction

Under the principles of Islamic law, wealth must be generated from legitimate trade and asset-based investment. Also, investments must have a social and ethical benefit. Speculative investments are not allowed, and investments in such areas as alcohol and gambling are forbidden.

2. Riba

As a consequence of the laws regarding the generation of wealth, it is strictly forbidden to use money for the purpose of making money – i.e. it is forbidden to charge interest (**riba**).

Financial institutions cannot therefore make money by charging interest, but instead provide services for a fee or enter into a form of agreement with the client in which the risk and the profits or losses are shared between the institution and the client.

3. Islamic financial instruments

You should be aware of the following Islamic financial instruments and be able to briefly discuss them:

(a) Murabaha

This is effectively a form of **credit sale**, where the customer receives the goods but pays for them later on a fixed date.

However, instead of charging interest, a fixed price is agreed before delivery – the mark-up effectively including the time value of money.

(b) Ijara

This is effectively a **lease**, where the lessee pays rent to the lessor to use the asset.

Depending on the agreement, at the end of the rental period the lessor might take back the asset (effectively an operating lease) or might sell it to the lessee (effectively a finance lease – Ijara-wa-Iqtina).

Whatever the agreement, the lessor remains the owner of the asset and is responsible for maintenance and insurance, thus incurring the risk of ownership.

(c) Muduraba

This is similar to **equity finance**, or a special kind of partnership. The investor provides capital and the business partner runs the business. Profits are shared between both parties, but all losses are attributable to the investor (limited to the capital provided).



(d) Musharaka

This again is similar to a partnership, but here both parties provide both capital and expertise. Profits are shared between the parties according to whatever ratio is agreed in the contract, but losses are shared in proportion to the capital contributions.

It is regarded as being similar to **venture capital**.

(e) Sukuk

This is the equivalent of **debt finance** (Islamic bonds).

Sukuk must have an underlying tangible asset, and the holders of the Sukuk certificates have ownership of a proportional share of the asset, sharing revenues from the asset but also sharing the ownership risk.

An example may be where the financial institution purchases a property financed by Sukuk certificates and rents it out at fixed rent. The certificate holders receive a share of the rent (instead of interest) and a share of the eventual sale proceeds.

The Sukuk manager is responsible for managing the assets on behalf of the Sukuk holders (and can charge a fee). The Sukuk holders have the right to dismiss the manager.

(Although there can be a secondary market as with conventional debt (the purchase and sale of certificates on the stock exchange) it is currently very small. Most Sukuk are bought and held – virtually all of any trading is done by institutions.)

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Introduction to Islamic finance"



Chapter 15

THE VALUATION OF SECURITIES – THEORETICAL APPROACH

1. Introduction

In this chapter we will look at what, in theory, determines the market value of equity and of debt. It is this theory which forms the basis for most of the arithmetic that is generally required in the examination in questions on this area.

In practice many other factors are likely to be relevant. These will be covered in the next chapter, and although important they are more relevant for discussion questions than for computations.

2. The valuation of equity – constant dividends

The market value of a share is effectively determined by the shareholders – it is the price that shareholders are prepared to pay for a share on the stock exchange.

In theory, the amount that shareholders are prepared to pay depends on two factors:

- the dividends that they expect to receive in the future
- the rate of return that shareholders require

Example 1

Alpha plc has in issue \$1 shares and has just paid a dividend of 20c per share. Dividends are expected to remain constant. Shareholders required rate of return is 10% p.a.

What will be the current market value per share?

Example 2

Beta plc has in issue \$0.50 shares and has just paid a dividend of 15c per share. Dividends are expected to remain constant. Shareholders required rate of return is 12%.

What will be the current market value per share?



3. Cum div / ex div values

In both the above examples, the company had just paid a dividend, and therefore anyone buying the share would have to wait for a year until they were to receive their first dividend (in the examination we ignore the possibility of interim dividends).

We call this situation an 'ex div' valuation.

Suppose, however, that the company was about to pay a dividend. This would mean that someone buying the share would receive a dividend virtually immediately (in addition to all the future dividends). Therefore the price that they will be prepared to pay will be higher by the amount of the dividend about to be paid.

We call this situation a 'cum div' valuation.

Market value cum div = market value ex div + dividend about to be paid

Example 3

Beta plc has in issue \$0.50 shares and is about to pay a dividend of 15c per share. Dividends are expected to remain constant. Shareholders required rate of return is 12%.

What will be the current market value per share?

In the examination you will only be asked to deal with the situation where a dividend has either just been paid (ex div) or is about to be paid (cum div). In practice, the next dividend might be due in 3 months time – this would make the arithmetic a little more involved, but will not be required in the examination.

In the examination, you always assume that market values are ex div, unless you are told otherwise.

4. The valuation of equity – non-constant dividends

The arithmetic in the previous section is very simple, but in practice it is unlikely that the shareholders will be expecting constant dividends in the future. They will usually be expecting them to change – hopefully to grow!

The full dividend valuation model, which copes with any expected future stream of dividends is the following:

The **market value** of a share is the present value of future expected dividends, discounted at the shareholders required rate of return.

This will deal with any future dividend stream – including of course the simple situation in the previous section of constant dividends.



Example 4

Beta plc has in issue \$0.50 shares and has just paid a dividend of 15c per share. Dividends are expected to remain constant. Shareholders required rate of return is 12%.

Calculate the current market value per share.

Although we can use this model for any future dividend stream, you will only be expected to deal with constant dividends, or (more likely) the situation where dividends are expected to grow at a constant rate.

5. The valuation of equity – constant growth rate in dividends

In this situation it is possible to use the dividend valuation model to derive a formula for the market value of a share. The proof of this is not in the examination syllabus – you are only expected to be able to use the formula. (If you are interested in the proof, then you can find it in the Study text).

The formula is:

$$\text{Market Value} = \frac{D_0 (1 + g)}{(r_e - g)}$$

where:

D_0 = the current dividend

r_e = the share holders required rate of return

g = the expected rate of growth in dividends p.a.

Example 5

Gamma plc has just paid a dividend of 30c per share. Dividends are growing at the rate of 4% p.a.. The shareholders required rate of return is 15% p.a..

Calculate the market value per share.



Example 6

Epsilon plc has just paid a dividend of 40c per share. Dividends are growing at the rate of 6% p.a.. The shareholders required rate of return is 20% p.a..

Calculate the market value per share.

In practice, it is unlikely that dividends will grow at a constant rate. However, appreciate that the market value is based on the dividends that shareholders expect to receive. Shareholders are perhaps more likely to expect an average rate of growth p.a. than expect that the dividends will grow at different specific rates each year.

In the examination you will only be expected to deal with constant rate of growth and therefore to use the formula.

Example 7

Omega plc has just paid a dividend of 20c per share. It is intended that the dividend will remain at 20c for each of the next 2 years and thereafter will grow at 4% per year. The shareholders required rate of return is 15% p.a.

Calculate the market value per share

6. The valuation of debt

Here we are talking about traded debt. This is debt borrowing that is traded on a stock exchange and therefore has a market value.

Unless you are told otherwise, debt is traded in units of \$100 nominal and is referred to as 'debentures', 'loan stock', or 'bonds' – they are different words for the same thing.

Debt (in the examination) carries a fixed rate of interest, but this is based on the nominal value of the debt. This rate of interest is known as the coupon rate. The market value at any time will depend on the rate of return that investors are currently requiring.

The basis of valuation is, in theory, exactly the same as for equity:

The market value of debt is the present value of future expected receipts discounted at the investors required rate of return.



7. The valuation of debt – irredeemable debt

Irredeemable debt is debt that is never repaid. The holder of this debt will simply receive interest each year for ever (unless they choose to sell it on the stock exchange, in which case the purchase will continue to receive the interest).

Example 8

P plc has in issue \$500,000 10% irredeemable debentures.

Investors currently require a return of 8% p.a..

What will be the market value of the debt?

The answer that we have calculated is an ex int market value – as before, the cum int value would be the ex int value plus any interest about to be received. However, again, we always assume values to be ex int unless told otherwise.

The market value of irredeemable debt can be expressed as a formula as follows:

$$\text{Market Value} = \frac{1}{k_d}$$

where:

I = the interest p.a. on £100 nominal

k_d = the investors required rate of return

Example 9

Q plc has in issue \$1,000,000 6% irredeemable debentures.

Investors currently require a return of 12% p.a..

What will be the market value of the debt?



8. The valuation of debt – redeemable debt

In practice, debt is not irredeemable but redeemable which means that the company will repay the borrowing at some specified date in the future.

The valuation of redeemable debt is the one place where there is no formula and where we have no choice but to use first principles.

Example 10

R plc has in issue \$400,000 8% debentures redeemable in 5 years time at a premium of 10%.

Investors require a return of 12% p.a.

Calculate the market value of the debt.

Example 11

S plc has in issue \$1,000,000 7% debentures redeemable in 4 years time at par.

Investors require a return of 10% p.a.

Calculate the market value of the debt.

Example 12

T plc has in issue 8% debentures 2010.

On maturity the debentures may be redeemed at par or converted to 20 ordinary shares in the company for every \$100 nominal.

The share price is currently \$4.50 per share, and this is expected to grow at 7% p.a..

If 'now' is the end of 2007,

Investors require a return of 10%

(a) Calculate the market value of the debt

(b) Calculate the conversion premium

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 16

THE VALUATION OF SECURITIES – PRACTICAL ISSUES

1. Introduction

We have looked at the theoretical valuation of securities but for various reasons the theory does not work perfectly in practice.

In this chapter we look at the limitations of the theory and consider practical issues.

2. Limitations of the dividend valuation model

Although expected future dividends and the shareholders required rate of return certainly do impact upon the market value of shares, it would be unrealistic to expect the theory to work perfectly in practice.

2.1. Main reasons for this include:

- The stock exchange is not perfectly efficient, and therefore the market value of a share may be distorted from day-to-day by factors such as rumours about a takeover bid.
- In practice, market values do not change instantly on changes in expectations – the speed at which the market value changes depends on the volume of business in the share.
- The model only deals with constant growth in dividends. In practice this may not be the case. However, do appreciate that the growth used in the model is the future growth that shareholders are expecting – this is perhaps more likely to be at a constant rate. The big problem is determining the rate of growth that shareholders expect! It is clearly impossible to ask them and to any estimate that we make for our calculations is only an estimate and course be completely different from the rate of growth that shareholders are in fact expecting.



3. Financial Accounts based valuations of equity

Other common, practical approaches to valuing shares in unquoted companies are:

3.1. Net assets basis

on this approach the value per share is calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Value of net assets}}{\text{Number of shares}}$$

A problem is on what basis to value the net assets:

- realisable value – this would only be sensible if the company was about to be wound up
- replacement value – this would be more sensible from the point of view of another company considering making an offer for the shares in our company. However, it would be ignoring the value of any goodwill.
- Book value – this is normally of little relevance, since the book values of assets are unlikely to even approximate to the actual values.

3.2. Earnings basis

- This approach uses the price earnings ratio of a similar quoted company.

$$\text{PE ratio} = \frac{\text{Market value per share}}{\text{Earnings per share}}$$

- For example, if the latest set of accounts for a publishing company show earnings per share of 50c, and quoted publishing companies currently have PE ratios of 18, then the price per share for our company would be $50c \times 18 = \$9$

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Business valuations"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 17

THE COST OF CAPITAL

1. Introduction

In an earlier chapter we looked at the theoretical valuation of equity and of debt. In this chapter we will apply the same principles to the calculation of the cost of equity and the cost of debt.

This is much more important, in that in order to appraise investments the company needs to know the cost of capital to use. The calculations in this chapter will start to help us to calculate this cost of capital.

2. The cost of equity

If a company is trying to decide whether or not to invest in a new project, they will need to know the cost of the money being used. If the project is being financed by shareholders (either by way of a new issue of shares, or by the use of retained earnings), then we need to be able to calculate the rate of return that shareholders will require.

The only way that we are able to estimate the likely cost of future equity finance is to look at the existing shares and determine what rate of return the shareholders are currently demanding.

We can do this for quoted shares by using the principles described in the earlier chapter when we calculated the market value of shares. We said that the market value of a share depends on the future expected dividends and the shareholders required rate of return.

For quoted shares we know the market value (it is printed in the newspapers!) and therefore if we know the future expected dividends, we can simply work backwards.

Example 1

S plc has in issue \$1 shares with a market value of \$2.40 per share. A constant dividend of 30c per share has just been paid.

What is the shareholders required return (k_e), (and therefore the cost of equity to the company)?

The problem with this example is that it assumes that shareholders are expecting a constant dividend. In practice, as we discussed before, it is more likely that they are expecting growth in dividends.

When there is growth in dividends we use exactly the same formula as in Chapter 15, but rearranged.



2.1. The formula

$$r_e = \frac{D_0(1+g)}{P_0} + g$$

where:

r_e = the share holders required rate of return (=cost of equity)

D_0 = the current dividend

P_0 = the current market value per share (ex div) 0

g = the rate of dividend growth p.a.

Example 2

T plc has in issue 50c shares with a market value of \$4.20 per share. A dividend of 40c per share has just been paid.

Dividends are growing at 6% p.a..

What is the cost of equity?

Example 3

U plc has in issue \$1 shares with a market value of \$3.60 per share. A dividend of 30c per share has just been paid.

Dividends are growing at 8% p.a..

What is the cost of equity?



3. Estimating the rate of growth in dividends

When using the formula for the cost of equity, we need to know the rate of dividend growth that shareholders expect in the future. If this figure is given us in the examination then there is obviously no problem.

However, you may be expected to estimate the dividend growth rate using one of two approaches:

- using the rate of growth in the past
- using the 'rb' model

3.1. Past dividend growth

Example 4

It is now the year 2001, and X plc has paid out the following total dividends in past years:

1996	\$28,000
1997	\$29,000
1998	\$32,000
1999	\$31,000
2000	\$33,000

Estimate the average rate of growth of dividends p.a..

3.2. 'rb' growth

This approach considers the reason for growth in dividends. In order to have long-term growth in dividends, the company needs to achieve long-term growth in earnings.

In order to achieve long-term earnings growth, the company needs to expand, which will require additional investment. The only long-term, continual source of finance that shareholders will be in a position to expect is the retention of earnings. If all earnings are distributed as dividends then shareholders will not be in a position to expect growth, whereas the more of the earnings that are retained for expansion then the more growth shareholders will be expecting.

The growth can be estimate using the following formula:

$$g = r b$$

where:

b = the proportion of earnings retained in the company

r = the rate of return that the company can earn on re-investment



What follows is a short illustration of the principle of rb growth:

COMPANY A

Earnings \$100, all distributed as dividend (no retention)

	Yr 0	Yr 1	Yr 2
Earnings	100	100	100
Retained	–	–	–
Dividend.	100	100	100

High dividend; no dividend growth; no growth in market value

COMPANY B

Earnings \$100; 40% distributed as dividend. Retention is re-invested at 10% p.a.

	Yr 0	Yr 1	Yr 2
Earnings	100	100	106
Retained	60	106	112.36
Dividend	40	42.4	44.944

Annotations: Retention at Yr 0 is 60 (60%) which grows at 10% to 72.6 at Yr 1. Retention at Yr 1 is 72.6 (63.6) which grows at 10% to 80.064 at Yr 2. Dividend at Yr 0 is 40 which grows at 6% to 42.4 at Yr 1. Dividend at Yr 1 is 42.4 which grows at 6% to 44.944 at Yr 2.

Lower dividend; growth in dividends; growth in market value.

Growth rate = $r \times b = 10\% \times 60\% = 6\%$ p.a.

Example 5

Y plc retains 40% of earnings each year and is able to reinvest so as to earn a return of 20% p.a.

What is the expected growth rate in dividends?

Example 6

Z plc has in issue \$1 shares with a market value of \$2.80 per share. A dividend of 20c per share has just been paid (earnings per share were 32c).

The company is able to invest so as to earn a return of 18% p.a..

- Estimate the rate of growth in dividends
- Estimate the cost of equity
- Estimate the market value per share in 2 years time



4. The cost of debt

If we intend to raise debt to finance a project then we need to estimate the return that debt lenders will require. The best way we can estimate this is to look at existing debt in the company and calculate the current cost.

If the company has traded debt, we can do this by using the valuation theory (from Chapter 15) backwards! We know the current market value and the future receipts and can therefore calculate the investors' required rate of return.

There is one additional problem however. Although it is the investors required rate of return that determines the rate of interest that the company has to pay, we assume that any debt interest payable attracts tax relief for the company and that therefore the actual cost of debt to the company is lower. (Note: throughout this examination we ignore the effect of income tax on the investor)

4.1. Irredeemable debt

Remember from Chapter 7 that irredeemable debt is debt that is never repaid. It does not exist in practice, but in the examination you assume debt to be irredeemable unless told otherwise.

Example 7

F plc has in issue 8% irredeemable debentures quoted at 90 p.c. ex int.

- (a) **what is the return to investors (k_d) ?**
- (b) **what is the cost to the company, if the rate of corporation tax is 30%?**

4.2. Redeemable debt

Example 8

G plc has in issue 6% debentures quoted at 85 ex int.

The debentures are redeemable in 5 years time at a premium of 10%

- (a) **What is the return to investors (k_d) ?**
- (b) **What is the cost to the company if the rate of corporation tax is 30%?**



5. The weighted average cost of capital (WACC)

In the previous sections we have seen how to calculate the cost of both equity and debt.

However, most company are financed using a mixture of both equity and debt.

It is useful for our later work to be able to calculate the average cost of capital to the company. We do this by calculating the cost of each source of finance separately (as in the previous sections) and then calculating a weighted average cost, using the ex div/int market values of the equity and debt.

Example 9

J plc is financed as follows:

Equity – 5 million \$1 shares quoted at \$2.50 cum div, on which a constant dividend of 32c per share is about to be paid.

Debt - \$4M 8% debentures quoted at 92 ex int.

Corporation tax is 30%

- (a) Calculate the returns to investors on equity and on debt
- (b) Calculate the WACC to the company

Example 10

K plc is financed as follows:

Equity – 10 million \$1 shares quoted at \$3.20 ex div, on which a dividend of 20c per share has just been paid. Dividends are growing at 8% p.a..

Debt - \$6M 10% debentures quoted at 105 ex int. The debentures are redeemable in 6 years time at a premium of 10%

Corporation tax is 30%

Calculate the weighted average cost of capital

The weighted average cost of capital is often (but not always) the rate that we use for the discounting of cash flows when we do investment appraisal. However, this chapter is simply about the arithmetic – we will discuss the relevance of the WACC in the following chapters.

NOTE: Although the formula for the WACC is given on the formula sheet, it is only correct if the debt is irredeemable. If the debt is redeemable (as is more likely in the exam), then the term $k_d(1-t)$ should be replaced with the cost of debt (the IRR of the after-tax flows).

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 18

WHEN (AND WHEN NOT!) TO USE THE WACC FOR INVESTMENT APPRAISAL

1. Introduction

In the previous chapter we looked at the calculation of the Weighted Average Cost of Capital. This is often used as the discount rate for investment appraisal, but as we will consider in this chapter, it is only suitable in certain circumstances.

In this chapter we will discuss the factors involved in determining an appropriate discount rate, and in the following chapters look at the calculations involved.

2. The Weighted Average Cost of Capital

In the last chapter we looked at the following example:

- J plc is financed as follows:
- Equity – 5 million \$1 shares quoted at \$2.50 cum div, on which a dividend of 32c per share is about to be paid.
- Debt - \$4M 8% debentures quoted at 92 ex int.
- Corporation tax is 30%
- Calculate the WACC to the company

We calculated the Return to Shareholders, and hence the Cost of Equity to be 14.68%,.

We also calculated the Return to Debt lenders as being 8.70%, and therefore the Cost of Debt (after tax) as 6.09%.

It is not surprising that the Cost of Equity is higher than the Cost of Debt.

There are two reasons for this:

- (a) Equity investors require a higher return (14.68%) than Debt lenders (8.70%) because equity investors accept more risk than debt lenders. They accept the risk that their dividends stand to fluctuate, whereas debt lenders are guaranteed a fixed interest receipt each year (provided of course that the company does not perform too badly).
- (b) Debt interest attracts corporation tax relief, whereas dividends do not. This makes debt borrowing cheaper still for the company.

We then calculated a Weighted Average Cost of Capital of 12.51%. This is certainly the current overall cost of capital to the company, but what we require, for the purposes of investment appraisal, is the cost of the extra finance to be raised for the new investment.



There are two reasons why the cost of this additional finance raised is likely to be different from the current cost of capital.

- **Changes in the level of gearing**

If, for example, the new finance is to be raised entirely from equity, then two things will happen.

Firstly, the level of gearing in the company will change, and this clearly will effect the weightings when we come to calculate the WACC.

Secondly, higher gearing will increase the level of risk for the shareholders (you will remember this from your previous studies) and therefore shareholders are likely to require a higher rate of return, which will in turn increase the cost of equity.

As a result, the WACC is likely to change as a result of the way in which the new finance is raised.

- **Changes in the level of business risk**

One factor that will influence the current cost of equity (and hence the current WACC) is the level of risk of the business of the company. Shareholders of a company engaged in a risky type of business are likely to require a higher return than shareholders in a less risky business.

If more finance is to be raised in order to invest in a new project, then the riskiness of the project will effect the shareholders' required rate of return. The more risky the project the higher return that they are likely to demand. As a result, the WACC is again likely to change depending as to how risky the new project is.

3. When to use the WACC for investment appraisal

As a result of the above discussion, it is only reasonable to use the current WACC when we can be sure that the cost of the new finance will be the same as the current WACC. We can only be sure of this if two conditions apply:

- **The level of gearing in the company will remain unchanged**

If the new project is financed part equity and part debt, in such a way as to keep the level of gearing unchanged, then the first of the two factors in the previous section becomes irrelevant.

and,

- **The new investment carries the same level of risk as the existing activities of the company**

If both of these factors apply, then it is reasonable to assume that the WACC of the company will remain unchanged and that therefore the cost of the additional finance will be equal to the existing WACC. We can therefore appraise the project at the existing WACC.



4. What if the conditions for using the current WACC do not exist?

If either the level of gearing changes, or the level of business risk changes, then it is not valid to use the current WACC as the discount rate for the new investment. We need to know the cost of the additional finance for the project and therefore need to be able to measure the effect of changes in gearing and changes in business risk.

We will consider these in the following chapters.

In the next chapter we will look at the work of Modigliani and Miller who investigated the effect of gearing. In the following chapters we will look at Portfolio Theory and (more importantly) the Capital Asset Pricing Model, which consider the effect of business risk. We will then put the two together and develop an overall model for determining how to appraise projects.

Do however make sure that you are happy with the logic of this chapter. In an examination, if you are given no information about how a project is financed and about the business risk of the project, then you assume that both remain unchanged and you do discount at the current WACC as calculated in the previous chapter. If, on the other hand, one or both of the factors do change then you will need the theories presented in the following chapters.





Chapter 19

THE COST OF CAPITAL – THE EFFECT OF CHANGES IN GEARING

1. Introduction

In this chapter we will look at the effect of gearing on the cost of capital for a company, and the implications of it for the way in which a company raises finance and the way in which it should appraise investments.

Importantly, in this chapter we will not consider the effect of investing in projects that are more or less risky than the current activities of the company – we will consider this separately in the following chapters. We will therefore assume in all examples that any new projects have the same level of business risk as the current activities of the company.

2. The 'Traditional Theory' of gearing.

2.1. It has long been accepted that:

- (a) equity borrowing is more expensive than debt borrowing (for the reasons stated in the previous chapter)
- and,
- (b) that higher levels of gearing increase the risk to shareholders, and therefore result in higher costs of equity.

It would seem sensible therefore that if the level of gearing in a company changes, then so to will the WACC.

Example 1

Complete the following table by calculating the WACC at each level of gearing.

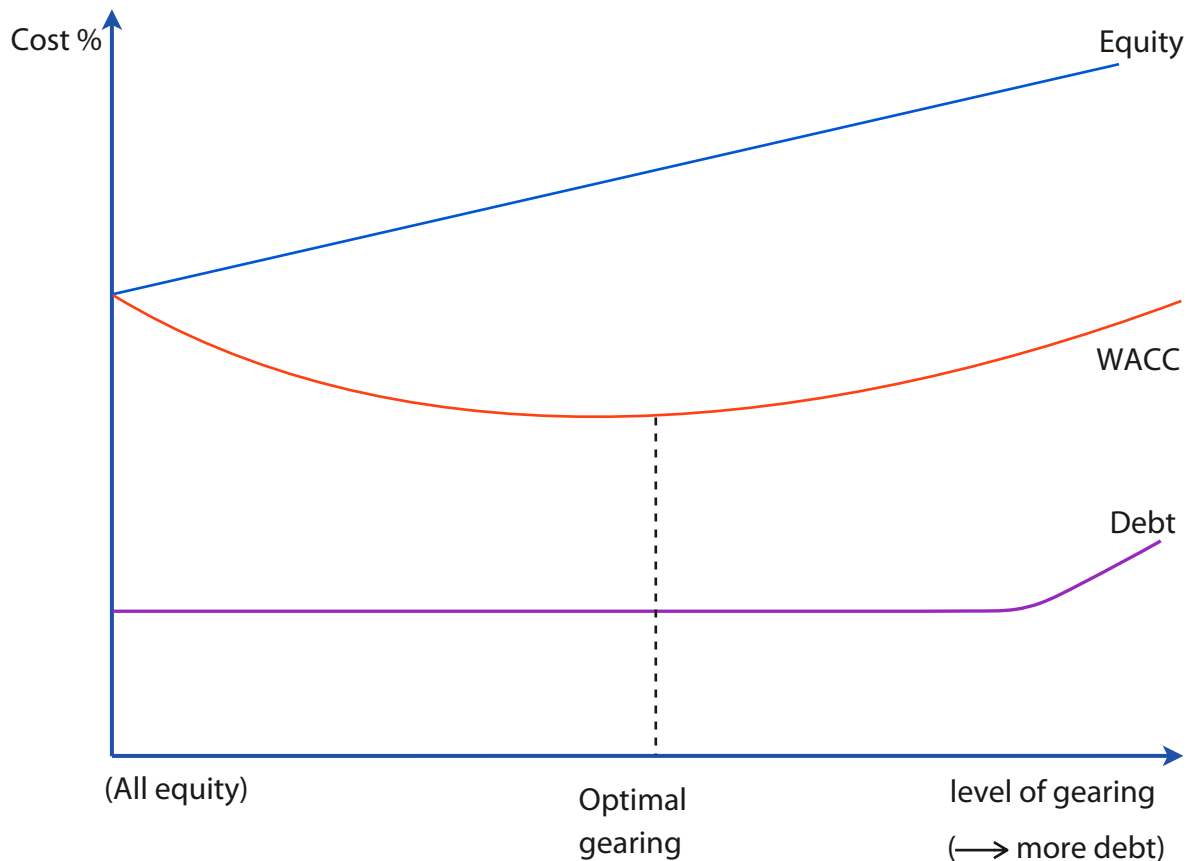
Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	60%/40%	40%/60%	20%/80%
Cost of Equity	20%	22%	25%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	10%	10%	10%	12%	16%
WACC					

The figures above are only invented in order to illustrate what seems an obvious proposition – that as the level of gearing changes, the WACC stands also to change.

If it is the case that the WACC changes with gearing, then there must be a level of gearing at which the WACC is a minimum.



2.2. This can be illustrated on a simple graph:



Note that the above graph is only illustrative. The actual way in which the cost of equity reacts to changes in gearing does not matter – all that matters is that as gearing increases, the cost of equity will increase and the weighted changes. As a result it seems sensible that the WACC will change in some way and that therefore there must be a level of gearing at which the WACC is at a minimum – the optimal level of gearing.

2.3. The implications of the above are as follows:

- Since a company should always wish to borrow in the cheapest possible way, it should raise debt finance until it achieves the optimal level of gearing
- Once the company has reached its optimal level of gearing, it should maintain that level of gearing by raising future finance part equity/part debt in such a way as to keep the optimal level of gearing unchanged.
- Whilst gearing up, the company should appraise projects at the cost of the extra finance raised (the marginal cost of capital).
- Once optimal gearing has been achieved (and is maintained) then projects should be appraised at the cost of the extra finance raised. However, since the WACC will remain unchanged, the cost of the extra finance will be equal to the WACC.

All of the above is really an expression of common sense rather than any theory.

Certainly, in an examination and in the absence of any additional information, we assume that the company has reached its optimal level of gearing and is maintaining it. We do therefore appraise projects at the WACC.

However, although the above does illustrate the fact that it is important that a company thinks carefully about how to raise additional finance, it would be useful if a company were



able to know in advance as to what their optimal level of gearing were in order that they could go straight to it!

The traditional theory only illustrates the importance of gearing, it does not attempt to quantify the effect of changes in gearing.

In the 1950's, two academics – Modigliani and Miller – decided to try and quantify it on the basis that the risk to shareholders through higher gearing is something that is quantifiable. As a result we should be able to predict the effect of the cost of equity of higher gearing, and therefore predict the WACC.

3. Modigliani and Millers' theory of gearing – ignoring taxes

Modigliani and Miller did not argue with the traditional view that higher gearing created more risk for shareholders, and that therefore the cost of equity would increase. What they did was quantify the effect that higher gearing would have on the cost of equity (making various assumptions regarding a 'perfect world' – these will be listed later).

They produced a formula that would give the cost of equity for any level of gearing (the formula is not in the syllabus for your examination), but when they used this to calculate the WACC, they found (in the absence of taxation) that in fact the WACC would remain constant for all levels of gearing.

If you are wondering how this can be possible, consider the following example.

Example 2

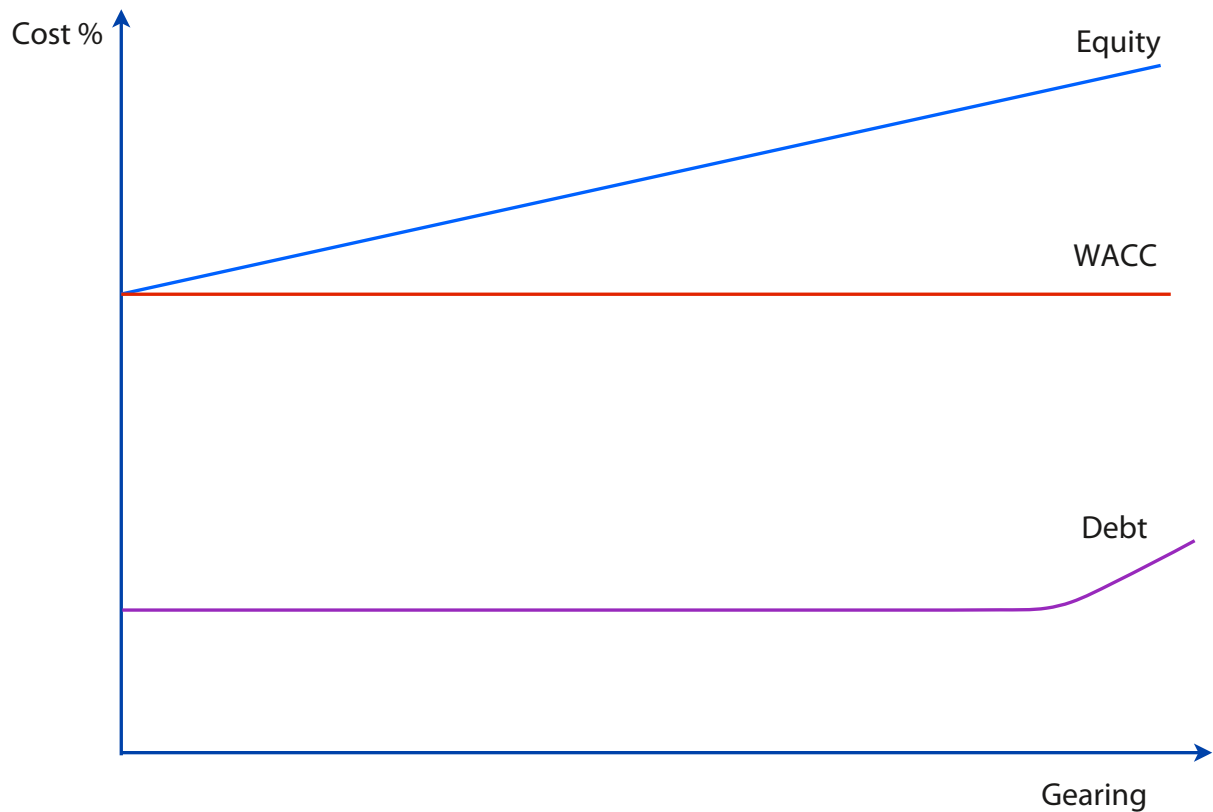
Complete the following table by calculating the WACC at each level of gearing.

Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	50%/50%	40%/60%
Cost of Equity	20%	22.5%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	10%	10%	10%	10%
WACC				

They proved that although the cost of equity does indeed increase with higher gearing, it does not increase in a random way but in such a precise way as to keep the WACC constant.



3.1. A simple graphical illustration of their results is as follows:



3.2. The implications of their results are as follows:

- it is irrelevant how a company raises finance – the overall cost of borrowing will be unaffected
- all investments should be appraised at the WACC, however they are actually financed.

A further implication is that the total market value of the company (equity plus debt) will be unaffected by changes in gearing. This is to an extent logical, because whichever way in which the company is financed, the total available for distribution will be unchanged – if more goes to debt then there is less to equity, and vice versa, but the total must be the same. Therefore, why should the total value of the company be any different?

Modigliani and Millers' proof is outside your syllabus and is therefore not reproduced in these notes. If you are interested in seeing it then you can find it in the Study Text, although you do not need to learn the proof.

Although the above caused a lot of interest at the time, it had limited practical relevance because it ignored all taxes.

They therefore went further and developed their model for a world with tax. They introduced Corporation Tax into their model (but initially ignored Personal Taxes) and it is this model (and the associated formulae) that you need to learn for the examinations.



4. Modigliani and Millers' theory of gearing – with corporation tax

As we saw in the previous chapters, the effect of corporation tax is to reduce the cost of debt to the company (because of tax relief on interest payments). However, corporation tax has no effect on the cost of equity because dividends are not tax allowable.

Let us repeat Example 2, but introduce corporation tax at 30%. This will reduce the cost of debt to only 70% of the previous figures.

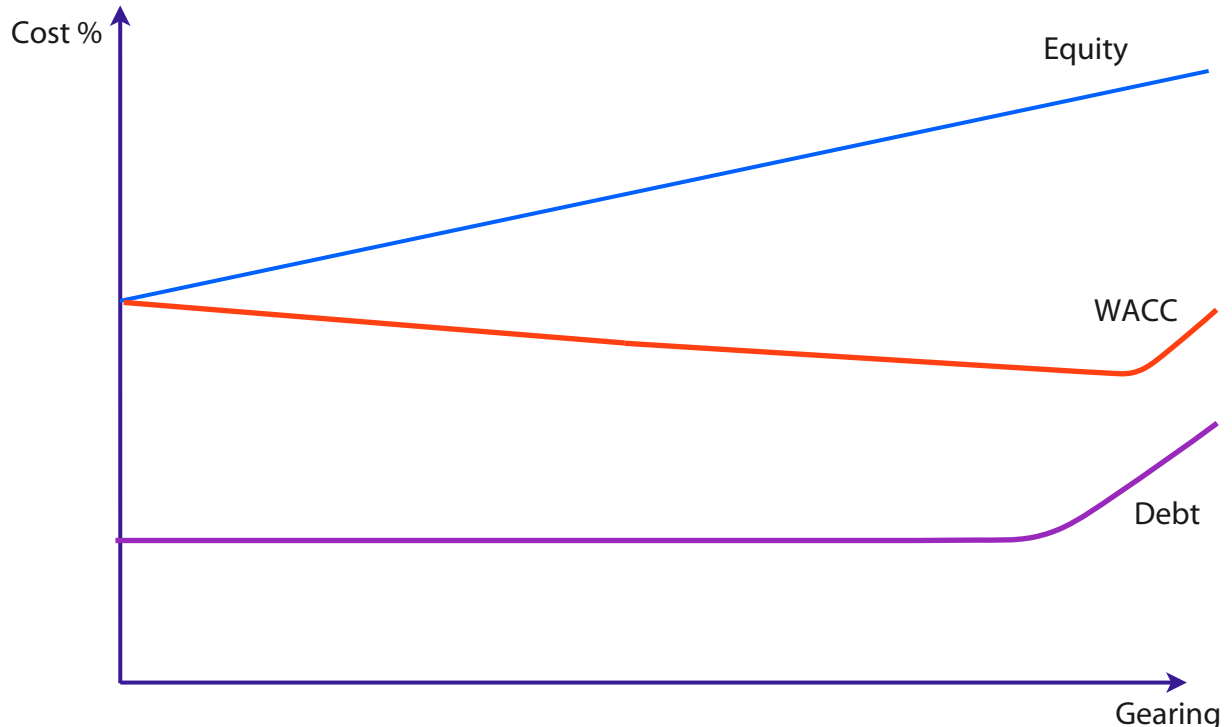
Example 3

Complete the following table by calculating the WACC at each level of gearing.

Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	50%/50%	40%/60%
Cost of Equity	20%	22.5%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	7%	7%	7%	7%
WACC				

They proved that with corporation tax, higher levels of gearing resulted in a lower WACC (because of the benefit of the tax relief on debt interest).

4.1. A simple graphical illustration of their results is as follows.



4.2. The implications of the above are as follows:

- the WACC will fall with higher levels of gearing
- a company should raise as much debt as possible (in order to get as much tax relief as possible)



A further implication of the above is that as the level of gearing increases, the total market value of the company (equity plus debt) will also increase. This is in fact logical because as the company has more debt borrowing and therefore pays more interest, they will pay less tax on the same (before interest) profits and therefore be able to distribute more in total (to equity and debt together). If they are able to distribute more then certainly the total value of the company should be higher.

Again, Modigliani and Miller produced formulae expressing how the WACC and the total market value of the company are affected by the level of gearing.

Although the introduction of corporation tax did make the model more practical, it did still ignore personal tax. They did do further work on the effect of personal taxation, but this is not in your syllabus and is not therefore in these notes. If you do wish to read about it you can find it in the Study Text.

5. Modigliani and Millers' assumptions

Although you are not expected to know the proof of Modigliani and Millers' theory, you are expected (for written parts to questions) to be aware of the main assumptions that they made in producing their theory.

5.1. Their main assumptions are as follows:

- shareholders have perfect knowledge
- shareholders act rationally with regard to risk
- a perfect market exists
- debt interest is tax allowable (and the company is able to get the benefit of it)
- investors are indifferent between corporate gearing and personal gearing
- the debt borrowing is irredeemable

6. Pecking order theory

Pecking order theory has been developed as an alternative to traditional theory. It states that firms will prefer retained earnings to any other source of finance, and then will choose debt, and last of all equity

6.1. The order of preference will be:

- Retained earnings
- Straight debt
- Convertible debt
- Preference shares
- Equity shares

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Optimal capital structure"



Chapter 20

CAPITAL ASSET PRICING MODEL

1. Introduction

In the previous chapter we looked at the effect of gearing and Modigliani and Millers hypothesis.

In this chapter we will ignore gearing and look at the effect of changes in business risk on the shareholder.

Please note that for the whole of this chapter we will ignore the effect of gearing and therefore assume throughout that we are dealing with companies that are financed entirely from equity.

2. What is business risk?

Why is it that some shares in some companies are viewed as inherently more risky than shares in other companies? It is because the nature of their business is more risky. As a result, the potential fluctuations in profits (and hence dividends) in the future are greater. If things go well shareholders may well receive much higher dividends, but the risk is that things may go badly in which case they will receive much lower dividends. The greater the potential fluctuations in returns, the greater we say that the risk is.

3. Two types of business risk

There are two different reasons why one company may be more risky than another.

(a) Unsystematic risk (or company specific risk)

This is risk due to factors within the particular company, such as poor labour relations or the appointment of a new management director.

(b) Systematic risk (or market risk)

This is risk due to general economic factors, such as the level of inflation or changes in the exchange rate.

A shareholder can 'remove' the unsystematic risk by creating a portfolio of shares on the basis that although each share individually has unsystematic risk, it 'cancels out' with the risk of other shares in the portfolio. We say that a well-diversified portfolio is one where the unsystematic risk has been completely removed. (i.e. diversified away)

Systematic risk exists in all companies and cannot be removed – all companies will be affected by, for example, the level of inflation. However, the level of systematic risk depends on the type of business and will be different for different types of business.

Although each individual shareholder may not hold a well-diversified portfolio of shares, we assume that shareholders overall are well-diversified and that it is shareholders overall who determine the return given by a share (because it is they who determine the market value of



the share). Capital Asset Pricing Model assumes therefore that it is the level of systematic risk that determines the required return from an investment.

4. Measurement of systematic risk

There are several ways in which we could attempt to measure the systematic risk of an investment, but the standard way is to measure it relative to the risk of the stock exchange as a whole. The stock exchange index is the average of all the shares on the stock exchange, and is risky (in that it fluctuates). Some shares fluctuate more than the average, whereas some fluctuate less than the average.

We use β to measure the systematic risk, and β is defined as being the systematic risk of the investment as a proportion of the risk of the market (or stock exchange) as a whole.

(Calculating β 's is not examined in Paper F9 – where needed, the β will be given. In practice the β 's for large companies are regularly published in financial management journals.)

If an investment has a β of 1, it has 1 times the risk of the market – i.e. it has the same risk as the market.

If an investment has a $\beta > 1$, then it is more risky than the market.

If an investment has a $\beta < 1$, then it is less risky than the market.

If an investment has a β of 0, then it has zero risk, or we say that it is risk-free.

In practice, no investment is completely without risk, but we assume that short-term government securities are effectively risk-free.



5. The determination of the required return from an investment

As stated earlier, we assume that investors overall are well-diversified, and that therefore it is the level of systematic risk that will determine the required return.

The following formula is given to you in the examination:

$$E(r_i) = R_f + \beta_i (E(r_m) - R_f)$$

where:

R_f = the risk-free rate, and

$E(r_m)$ = the return from the market

Example 1

Q plc has a β of 1.5

The market is giving a return of 12% and the risk free rate is 5%

What will be the required return from Q plc?

Example 2

R plc has a β of 0.8.

The market is giving a return of 16% and the risk free rate is 8%.

What will be the required return from R plc?

Example 3

S plc is giving a return of 20%.

The stock exchange as a whole is giving a return of 25%, and the return on government securities is 8%.

What is the β of S plc?



6. Using CAPM for investment appraisal

If the financial manager is considering an investment in a new project, then since it is shareholders money that is being invested, he should appraise the investment in the same way as would shareholders if they were investing their money directly.

As a result the required return from the project (and hence the discount rate) should be calculated from the β of the project.

Example 4

T plc is all equity financed. It wishes to invest in a project with an estimated β of 1.4, which is significantly different from the business risk characteristics of T's current operations.

The project requires an outlay of \$100,000 and is expected to generate returns of \$15,000 p.a. in perpetuity.

The market return is 11% and the risk free rate is 6%.

Estimate the minimum return that T will require from the project and assess whether or not the project is worthwhile.

7. The limitations of CAPM

7.1. The two main limitations of CAPM are as follows:

- it is difficult to estimate the β of a project accurately. Generally we use the β of a company operating in the same type of business as the project, which restricts it to large projects
- the theory of CAPM was developed as just a single period model, whereas in practice most investment projects will be expected to continue for more than one year.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 21

CAPM AND MM COMBINED

1. Introduction

In the two previous chapters we have discussed the effect of gearing on a company and then the effect of different levels of business risk.

Most companies will have some gearing and therefore the shareholders required return will be affected by both factors.

Similarly, if the financial manager is considering an investment in a new project, then the required return will be affected both by the business risk of the project and by the way in which the project is financed.

In this chapter we will put the two parts together and decide how a project should be appraised.

2. The effect of gearing on the β

In the previous chapter we ignored gearing completely and so the only risk was the business risk.

However, any gearing in a company makes a share in that company more risky.

Published β 's are for shares and therefore measure not just the business risk of the company but, in addition, the effect of any gearing in the company – we call this the share β , or the equity β , or the geared β .

There is a formula, which is given to you in the examination, which allows us to remove the effect of the gearing and calculate what the β would be if there was no gearing – we call this β the asset β , or the earnings β , or the ungeared β .

The formula is as follows:

$$\beta_a = \left[\frac{V_e}{(V_e + V_d(1-T))} \beta_e \right] + \left[\frac{V_d}{(V_e + V_d(1-T))} \beta_d \right]$$

where:

β_a is the asset or ungeared β

β_e is the equity or geared β

β_d is the β of debt in the geared company

V_e is the market value of equity in the geared company

V_d is the market value of debt in the geared company

T is the rate of corporation tax



Note that unless told otherwise, we assume that debt is risk-free and therefore the second part of the formula disappears.

Example 1

P plc has a gearing ratio (debt to equity) of 0.4 and the β of its shares is 1.8.

Q plc has a gearing ratio of 0.2 and the β of its shares is 1.5.

The rate of corporation tax is 30%.

- (a) which is the more risky share?
- (b) which company has the more risky business activity?

3. Estimating a discount rate for an investment

We are now in a position to estimate a discount rate to use for a project with any level of business risk, financed in any way.

3.1. The steps are as follows:

- (a) determine the β for the project. If necessary use the β of a similar company. If the β is a share β then it will need to be ungeared using the gearing of the similar company.
- (b) if the project is to be financed entirely from equity, then the required return (and hence the discount rate) will be determined directly from the β calculated in step (a).

Example 2

X plc is an oil company with a gearing ratio (debt to equity) of 0.4. Shares in X plc have a β of 1.48.

They are considering investing in a new operation to build ships, and have found a quoted shipbuilding company – Y plc. Y plc has a gearing ratio (debt to equity) of 0.2, and shares in Y plc have a β of 1.8.

The market return is 18% and the risk free rate is 8%.

Corporation tax is 25%

Calculate the project specific cost of equity

Note: this example does raise the problem as to what the discount rate should be if the project is to be financed partly by debt. However this is not in the syllabus for F9 and is covered in Paper P4.

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
 “Cost of capital, gearing and CAPM (part 1 and part 2)”

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



RISK MANAGEMENT

Chapter 22

FORECASTING FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES

1. Introduction

If the currency of a country is allowed to float, then the exchange rate against other currencies will fluctuate.

In this chapter we will consider the factors that affect exchange rates and look at two arithmetical approaches to attempting to forecast a future exchange rate.

2. Factors affecting the exchange rate

The exchange rate between two currencies is primarily determined by supply and demand for the currencies.

The supply and demand are in turn influenced by factors including:

- the rates of inflation in the two countries
- the level of interest rates in the two countries
- economic and political prospects
- the balance of payments



3. Purchasing Power Parity

One important influence on exchange rates is the relative inflation rates in the two countries.

The Purchasing Power Parity theory uses inflation rates to predict the future movements in exchange rates. It states that identical goods should sell at the same price when converted into the same currency. As the local currency prices change with inflation, then the exchange rates should change to keep the relative price the same.

Illustration

An item currently costs £100 in the UK.

The current exchange rate is \$/£ 1.50.

The rates of inflation are 2% p.a. in the UK and 4% p.a. in the US.

- (a) **what will be the price of the item in 1 years time in the UK and in the US**
 (b) **as a result, what will be the exchange rate in 1 years time?**

The above can be expressed as a formula, which is given to you in the examination:

$$S_1 = S_0 \times \frac{(1+h_c)}{(1+h_b)}$$

Example 1

The exchange rate is currently \$/£ 1.70

The inflation rate in the US is 5% p.a. and in the UK is 2% p.a..

What will the exchange rate be in:

- (a) **one years time**
 (b) **two years time**

Example 2

The exchange rate is currently ¥ / £ 2030

The inflation rate in Japan is 4% p.a. and in the UK is 8% p.a..

What will the exchange rate be in:

- (a) **one years time**
 (b) **two years time**



4. The Fisher effect

The Fisher effect looks at the relationship between interest rates and expected inflation rates.

The actual rate of interest is said to be made up of two parts – the real required rate of return (or the real interest rate), together with a premium for inflation.

The actual interest rate will therefore increase or decrease with increases or decreases in the rate of inflation.

The following formula relates the interest rate to the inflation rate, and is given to you in the examination:

$$(1 + i) = (1 + r) \times (1 + h)$$

where:

i is the actual interest rate (or nominal or money rate)

r is the real interest rate

h is the inflation rate

5. Interest Rate Parity

This theory uses relative interest rates to predict the future exchange rate.

The formula is given in the exam and is as follows:

$$F_0 = S_0 \times \frac{(1 + i_c)}{(1 + i_b)}$$

You will see that it is exactly the same as the Purchasing Power Parity formula, except that it uses interest rates instead of inflation rates.

The formula is used in exactly the same way.

It is, of course, unlikely that either Purchasing Power Parity or Interest Rate Parity will predict the exchange rate exactly, because there are so many other factors that will influence it.

However, you will see in the next chapter that forward exchange rates are calculated using the Interest Rate Parity formula.

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





Chapter 23

FOREIGN EXCHANGE RISK MANAGEMENT

1. Introduction

Globalisation has served to increase the amount of foreign trade which has in turn increased the amount of foreign currency transactions that companies have. Any dealing in foreign currency presents the problem of the risk of changes in exchange rates. The adoption in most of Europe of the single currency – the euro – has removed the problem for companies trading within Europe, but for trading with companies in other countries an important role of the financial manager is to look for ways of removing or reducing this risk.

This chapter looks at the different ways available for the removal or reduction of the risk of changes in exchange rates.

2. Types of risk

2.1. Transaction risk

This is the risk that a transaction in a foreign currency at one exchange rate is settled at another rate (because the rate has changed). It is this risk that the financial manager may attempt to manage and forms most of the work in the rest of this chapter.

2.2. Translation (or accounting) risk

This relates to the exchange profits or losses that result from converting foreign currency balances for the purposes of preparing the accounts.

These are of less relevance to the financial manager, because they are book entries as opposed to actual cash flows.

2.3. Economic risk

This refers to the change in the present value of future cash flows due to unexpected movements in foreign exchange rates. E.g. raw material imports increasing in cost.

3. The foreign exchange market

The foreign exchange market is known as FOREX. The biggest centre is the London FOREX market, although since the market is very competitive virtually no differences exist between one FOREX market and another.



4. Exchange rates

The exchange rate on a given day is known as the **spot rate** and two prices are quoted, depending on whether we are buying or selling the currency – the difference is known as the spread.

In the examination, the way exchange rates are quoted is always the amount of the first mentioned currency that is equal to one of the second mentioned currency.

For example, suppose we are given an exchange rate as follows:

\$/£ 1.6250 – 1.6310

In this quote, the first number (1.6250) is the exchange rate if **we** are buying the first mentioned currency (\$'s), and (1.6310) is the rate if **we** are selling the first mentioned currency (\$'s).

(Alternatively, if you prefer, the first number is the rate at which the bank will sell us \$'s and the second number the rate at which the bank will buy \$'s from us. It is up to you how you choose to remember it, but it is vital that you get the arithmetic correct!)

Example 1

A plc receives \$100,000 from a customer in the US.

The exchange rate is \$/£ 1.6250 – 1.6310.

How many £'s will A plc receive?

Usually the questions in the examination relate to real currencies (such as dollars and euros). However, occasionally the examiner invents currencies which makes the answer a little less obvious – it becomes even more important that you know the rules.

Example 2

Jimjam is a company based in India, where the currency is the Indian Rupee (IR). They owe money to a supplier in Ruritania, where the currency is Ruritanian Dollars (R\$). The amount owing is R\$ 240,000.

The current exchange rate is IR/R\$ 8.6380 – 9.2530

How many Indian Rupees will Jimjam have to pay?



5. Methods of hedging transaction exposure

In the above examples, our answers are (hopefully!) correct provided that we convert the money at the spot rate. The problem is that if the transaction is not going to take place until some time in the future, the exchange rate stands to change. We obviously have no idea what the rate will be – it may change to our advantage or to our disadvantage – and therefore there is risk.

The following methods of removing or reducing this risk are the methods of which you must be aware for the examination:

- (a) Invoicing in home currency
- (b) Leading and lagging
- (c) Netting
- (d) Matching

The above methods do not require any special techniques, but in addition you must have knowledge of the following:

- (a) forward contracts
- (b) money market hedges
- (c) currency futures
- (d) currency options
- (e) currency swaps

You can be required to perform calculations for the first two methods. For the other three you will not be required to do calculations but are required to understand the idea behind them.



7. Money market hedging

This approach involves converting the foreign currency at the current spot, which therefore makes future changes in the exchange rate irrelevant. However, if we are (for example) not going to receive the foreign currency for 3 months, then how can we convert the money today? The answer is that we borrow foreign currency now at fixed interest, on the strength of the future receipt.

Example 6

P is due to receive \$5M in 3 months time.

Spot: \$/£ 1.5384 – 1.5426

Current 3 month interest rates: US prime 5.2% – 5.8%

UK LIBOR 3.6% – 3.9%

Show how P can use the money markets to hedge the risk.

Example 7

Q is due to pay \$8M in 3 months time.

Spot: \$/£ 1.6201 – 1.6283

Current 3 month interest rates: US prime 6.4% – 6.9%

UK LIBOR 9.2% – 9.9%

Show how Q can use the money markets to hedge the risk.



8. Currency futures

If we buy a sterling futures contract it is a binding contract to buy pounds at a fixed rate on a fixed date. This is similar to a forward rate, but there are two major differences:

- (a) delivery dates for futures contracts occur only on 4 dates a year – the ends of March, June, September and December.
- (b) futures contracts are traded and can be bought and sold from / to others during the period up to the delivery date.

For these two reasons, most futures contracts are sold before the delivery date – speculators use them as a way of gambling on exchange rates. They buy at one price and sell later – hopefully at a higher price. To buy futures does not involve paying the full price – the speculator gives a deposit (called the margin) and later when the future is sold the margin is returned plus any profit on the deal or less and loss. The deal must be completed by the delivery date at the latest. In this way it is possible to gamble on an increase in the exchange rate. However, it is also possible to make a profit if the exchange rate falls! To do this the speculator will sell a future at today's price (even though he has nothing to sell) and then buy back later at a (hopefully) lower price. Again, at the start of the deal he has to put forward a margin which is returned at the end of the deal plus any profit and less any loss.

The role of the financial manager is not to speculate with the company's cash, but he can make use of a futures deal in order to 'cancel' (or hedge against) the risk of a commercial transaction.

Here is a simple example just to illustrate the basic principles.

Please note that you cannot be asked for any calculations in this examination.

Example 8

R is in the US and needs £800,000 on 10 August.

Spot today (12 June) is: \$/£ 1.5526 – 1.5631

September \$/£ futures are available. The price today (12 June) is 1.5580.

Show the outcome of using a futures hedge (assuming that the spot and the futures prices both increase by 0.02).

8.1. Note:

- (a) the futures price on any day is not the same as the spot exchange rate on that date. They are two different things and the futures prices are quoted on the futures exchanges – in London this is known as LIFFE (the London International Financial Futures Exchange). More importantly, the movement in the futures price over a period is unlikely to be exactly the same as the movement in the actual exchange rate. The futures market is efficient and prices do move very much in line with exchange rates, but the movements are not the same (unlike in the simple example above).
- (b) In practice any deal in futures must be in units of a fixed size. It is therefore not always possible to enter into a deal of precisely the same amount as the underlying transaction whose risk we are trying to hedge against.

For both the above reasons, the use of futures is unlikely to result in a perfect hedge.



9. Options

If we know that we are going to need to convert currency at a future date but we think that the exchange rate is going to move in our favour, then it would be more sensible to leave the transaction to be converted at spot on the relevant date, rather than hedge against the risk and therefore not receive the benefit of the exchange rate movements.

The above would be perfectly sensible if we were certain that the rate was going to move in our favour, but of course it is impossible to be completely certain and therefore there would still be a risk that we were wrong and that the rate moved against us.

In this situation – where we are reasonably confident that the rate will move in our favour – then it might be worthwhile considering a currency option. With a currency option we have the right (or option) to convert at a fixed rate on a future date (as with the use of a forward rate), but we do not have to exercise the right.

As a result, if the exchange rate does move in our favour then we will throw away the option and simply convert at whatever the spot rate happens to be. If, however, the exchange rate moves against us then we will use the option and convert at the fixed rate.

Since we will get the benefit of any movement in our favour, but not suffer if the exchange rate moves against us, options do not come free! We will have to pay (now) for the option whether or not we eventually decide to use it. The amount we have to pay is called the option **premium**.

9.1. OTC options

OTC stands for 'over-the-counter' and refers to the buying of an option as a private deal from a bank. The company will approach the bank stating the amount, the future date, and the exchange rate required, and the bank will quote a premium. It is then up to the company whether or not to accept the quote and purchase the option.

Example 9

It is 1 April and X plc expects to receive \$2 million on the 30th June.

The current spot rate is \$/£ 1.5190 and X expects that this rate will move in their favour.

They have purchased from the bank an option to sell \$2 million on 30 June at an exercise price of \$/£ 1.5200, and the bank have charged a premium of £50,000.

Show the outcome on 30 June if the spot exchange rate on that date is:

(a) \$/£ 1.5180

(b) \$/£ 1.6153

9.2. Traded options

As an alternative to buying a 'tailor-made' OTC option from a bank, it is possible to buy and sell currency option on the currency exchanges. A benefit of this is that the premiums are driven by market forces and the company can therefore be more certain of paying a fair price. However, traded options are only available between major currencies, at various quoted exchange rates, exercisable on various quoted dates, and for fixed size units.



10. Currency swaps

Currency swaps are much less popular than interest rate swaps (which will be explained in a later chapter).

They are best explained by way of a short illustration:

A UK company is intending to invest in the US and will therefore be earning income in \$'s. They need to borrow money for the investment and have decided to borrow \$'s (as a way of reducing the impact of changes in exchange rate – the closer their interest payments are to their receipts the less the effect on them of exchange rate movements).

Another company in the US is intending to invest in the UK and for the same reasons as above they wish to borrow £'s.

Both companies can organise their borrowing independently, but a US company is likely to be able to borrow \$'s at a lower interest rate than a UK company (and vice versa).

10.1. A solution which stands to benefit both companies is as follows:

- (a) the UK company borrows £'s and the US company borrows an equivalent amount of \$'s. The two parties then swap funds at the current spot rate.
- (b) The UK company agrees to pay the US company the annual cost of the interest on the \$ loan. In return the US company pays the £ interest cost of the £ borrowing by the UK company.
- (c) At the end of the period the two parties then swap back the principal amounts. This could be at the prevailing spot rates or at a predetermined amount in order to reduce foreign exchange transaction exposure.

Swaps are generally arranged by banks (who act as a 'dating agency' finding the parties to a swap). The bank will arrange guarantees, but they will charge commissions for their service.

More recently there has been a tendency for large companies to arrange swaps directly with each other (and not using banks, thus saving costs). The tendency is known as 'disintermediarisation' (!!).

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:
"Foreign currency risk and its management"

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)



Chapter 24

INTEREST RATE RISK MANAGEMENT

1. Introduction

In this chapter we will consider the nature of interest rate risk and ways in which this risk can be managed.

Note that throughout this chapter we will be considering a company wishing to borrow money. All of the techniques dealt with are equally available for a company wishing to deposit money.

2. The nature of interest rate risk

Interest rates on borrowing have fluctuated greatly over the past. Companies can borrow money at either floating interest rates or at fixed interest rates. If they have floating rate borrowing, then clearly they are subject to the risk of future interest rate changes. We will consider the possible advantages and disadvantages of this form of borrowing later.

However, more important for the examination is fixed interest borrowing. It would appear that this carries no risk in that any later changes in the interest rate are irrelevant. However, there can still be a problem which is illustrated below.

Illustration

It is now 1 June. A company has decided that they will wish to take out a loan of \$100,000 for six months, starting in 3 months time on 1 September.

If they were to take the loan today then the rate of interest that they would be charged is 10% p.a. (fixed).

The problem is that they are not taking the loan today but in 3 months time. If they do nothing then there is a risk that by the time they actually take the loan the rate of interest will have changed.

The risk that we are concerned about is therefore the risk of interest rates changing between now and the date the loan starts (not the risk of interest rates changing after the start of the loan – the loan will be taken at a fixed rate).



3. Methods of managing interest rate risk

The methods with which you must be familiar for the examination are the following:

- (a) forward rate agreements
- (b) interest rate guarantees
- (c) interest rate futures
- (d) interest rate options

The above are all ways of managing the risk involved with fixed interest borrowing, and will be dealt with in this chapter.

In addition you must be familiar with swaps which are rather different.

4. Forward rate agreements

A forward rate agreement (FRA) is the fixing of an interest rate now to apply to a loan starting at a fixed future date.

It is an OTC (over-the-counter) transaction and effectively involves asking the bank to quote an interest rate now to apply to a specified amount of borrowing, for a specified period, the loan to start at a specified future date. Once the interest rate has been agreed, then if the actual rate at the start of the loan is any different the bank and the company will settle up for the difference.

4.1. Terminology

If we ask the bank to quote an FRA 3-9 on \$100,000 then it means that we want a fixed interest rate to be quoted for a loan of \$100,000 starting in 3 months time and ending in 9 months time (i.e. for a 6 month loan).

5. Interest Rate Guarantees

An interest rate guarantee (IRG) is an arrangement with the bank whereby the bank fix a maximum interest rate to be applied to a loan of a specified amount, for a specified period, starting on a specified future date.

It is effectively an option, in that if interest rates rise above the agreed rate then the company is protected whereas if interest rates should fall then the company gets all the benefit. Since the company can only benefit, and not lose, the bank will charge a premium for the IRG which is payable immediately, whether or not the option is eventually exercised.

It is an OTC instrument and can not be traded.



6. Interest rate futures

Interest rate futures operate in a similar way to currency futures in that they are instruments that change as interest rates change, that an investor can buy today and sell later (or sell today and buy later). At the end of the deal any profit or loss is calculated and settled between the investor and the dealer. A company intending to borrow money on a future date can leave the borrowing at risk but use a futures 'gamble' to create an opposite risk that will net off against the risk of the underlying transaction.

Interest rate futures are not quoted as actual interest rates, but as a number which is 100 – interest rate.

For example, a futures price of 92.00 is equivalent to an interest rate of 8% p.a.

Similarly, an interest rate of 12% p.a. has an equivalent future price of 88.00.

6.1. It is important to note two things.

Firstly, if a company is borrowing money, then they will suffer if interest rates rise between now and the date the loan will start. If interest rates do rise, then the futures price will fall. They need to make a profit from the future to cover against the increased interest, and the way in which they can make a profit from a falling futures price is to sell futures today and buy them back later at a lower price. **A borrower will always SELL futures.**

Secondly, the futures available are what are called 3 month futures. This means that any profit or loss is always calculated for 3 months even though the equivalent interest rate is quoted on a 12 month basis. This means that if the futures price changes by 2.00, this is equivalent to a change of 2% p.a., but any profit or loss is only calculated for a 3 month period and so will be 0.5% (2% divided by 4). This is always 3 months and has nothing to do with the length of the loan. It does however mean that we have to be careful to match the amount of the 'gamble' taking account of the length of the loan.

You will see how we deal with these two points in the following example. This example is intended to demonstrate how we use interest rate futures in a simple way.

Please note that you cannot be asked for any calculations in this exam.

Example 1

Today is 3 October, and interest rates are 8% p.a.. X plc will wish to borrow \$6M for 6 months starting on 1 January.

3 months January interest rate futures are available at 92.00.

Show how interest rate futures may be used to hedge the risk, and calculate the outcome on 1 January.

(Assume that on 1 January interest rates have changed to 10% and the futures price to 90.00)



6.2. Additional points:

- (a) Futures can only be dealt in contracts of fixed amounts.
- (b) In practice the change in futures prices will not exactly equate to the change in interest rates – the difference being the basis risk.
- (c) The previous two points mean that it is unlikely that we will end up with a perfect hedge.

7. Interest rate options

In section 5 of this chapter we looked at Interest Rate Guarantees, which are effectively options but are OTC.

Traded options are also available – these are traded which means that the premia payable are determined by market forces and therefore we can be more certain that we are paying a fair price.

The effect of them is (for borrowers) to limit the maximum interest payable.

8. Caps, Floors, and Collars

A borrower will use options to fix a maximum interest rate – we refer to a maximum rate as being an interest rate cap.

Similarly, a depositor will be interested in fixing a minimum interest rate, and could use options to do so. We refer to a minimum interest rate as an interest rate floor.

A collar is the name we give to the situation where we fix a maximum and a minimum interest rate. A borrower would achieve this by buying an interest rate cap, and selling (to a depositor) an interest rate floor.

The reason the borrower might do this is that they would have to pay a premium for the cap, but would receive a premium for the floor. In this way they end up paying a lower net premium but still having a cap (but in return, having to accept a floor).



9. Fixed or floating?

The advantage of fixed rate borrowing is that once the loan has been taken out, the interest payments are then certain and there is no risk due to future movements in interest rates.

However, a company may prefer to borrow at floating rate for two reasons:

- (a) they think that interest rates are going to fall and thus borrowing at floating rate will enable them to get the benefit of the fall (although clearly there is still a risk that they are wrong and that interest rates will rise)
- (b) more importantly, if they are in a type of business whose income rises and falls as interest rates rise and fall then it makes good sense to borrow at floating rate so that their expense falls as their income falls.

10. Interest rate swaps

Whether a company chooses to borrow fixed or floating, some companies can borrow at better rates than other companies depending on their credit rating.

Because of this, it is potentially (but not always) possible for two companies to swap their borrowings in a way that saves money for both of them.

This is illustrated in the following example:

Example 2

Company X can borrow at a fixed rate of 10% or at a floating rate of LIBOR + 3%.

Company Y can borrow at a fixed rate of 12% or at a floating rate of LIBOR + 6.5%.

Company X wishes to borrow at fixed rate, whereas company Y wishes to borrow at floating rate.

Show how a swap can benefit both companies.

Now read the following technical article available on the ACCA website:

“Hedging techniques for interest rate risk”

When you finished this chapter you should attempt the [online FM MCQ Test](#)





Chapter 25

THE TREASURY FUNCTION

1. Introduction

The role of the treasury management function within a business is to manage the firm's financial resources in the short-term, and to manage the exposure to risk. The management of cash has been dealt with in Chapter 6 of these Course Notes, and the management of risk has been dealt with in Chapters 23 and 24.

The purpose of this chapter is to explain the role of the money markets and to explain the characteristics of the principal money market instruments.

2. What is 'the money market'?

The money market is one part of the overall financial markets, and deals with short-term (usually up to thirteen months) borrowing and lending.

It serves to allow companies with surplus funds to be able to invest such that companies needing funds are able to borrow.

In addition it allows governments to raise money and also to implement monetary policy.

The three main functions that are of relevant to the treasury function of a business are:

- (a) The provision of short-term liquidity
- (b) The provision of short-term trade finance
- (c) Allowing the business to manage its exposure to foreign currency risk and interest rate risk

3. The role of the banks and other financial institutions.

Commercial banks are at the centre of the money markets and act as an intermediary between lenders and borrowers.

The commercial banks lend money to each other (interbank lending), which enables them to comply with regulations regarding the amounts that the banks must have in reserves. The rate of interest that they charge each other is known as LIBOR (London interbank offer rate) and this acts as a benchmark for all short-term borrowing and lending by the banks (e.g. a bank may decide to lend money at LIBOR plus 2%).

Governments also participate in the money markets. They raise money by issuing short-term Treasury Bills.

In addition, the state (through the Central Bank) influences the supply of money and the interest rates by selling or buying back Treasury Bills to or from the banks, and by changing the reserve requirements of the banks.



Companies participate, not just by depositing with or borrowing from the banks, but also by issuing their own 'commercial paper' – their equivalent of Treasury Bills – which are short term borrowings.

4. Principal money market instruments

Certificates of deposit (CD's)

These are deposits with a bank for fixed periods, usually carrying fixed interest. The rate of interest offered by the bank will depend on the amount deposited and the time period. On maturity the money is withdrawn together with the interest that has accrued. (There are not usually paper certificates any more – it is just a time deposit with the bank.)

Treasury Bills

These are short-term borrowings by governments with fixed maturity dates (a maximum of twelve months). They do not pay interest (zero-coupon), but instead are issued at a discount on par value (so the lender receives more on maturity than they originally lent).

Commercial paper

These are similar to Treasury Bills (short-term borrowing, usually zero-coupon and issued at a discount) but are issued by large corporations.

They are unsecured and therefore are only realistically issued by companies with excellent credit ratings.

Eurodollar deposits

These are time deposits (for fixed periods, carrying fixed interest) in dollars with banks that are outside the United States. (The deposits can be in any country outside the United States – the 'euro' in the word has no connection with Europe or the Euro currency!)

Repurchase agreements (REPO's)

This is effectively a way of borrowing money – the borrower sells securities (e.g. Treasury Bills) to the lender (and so raises cash) together with an agreement to buy back the securities at a later date at a price higher than the original sale price. (The difference between these prices effectively being the interest (the repo rate)).

Derivatives

Derivatives are financial products whose values come from the price of a particular money market instrument. For example, you will already have read about interest rate futures in Chapter 24 of these notes. These are a derivative in that their value comes from interest rates.

The derivatives that you should be aware of for this examination are all covered in Chapter 24.



EMPLOYABILITY AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

Chapter 26

EMPLOYABILITY AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

1. Introduction

The ACCA has introduced this new section into the syllabus for all of the Applied Skills and Strategic Professional examinations now that all the examinations in all locations will be computer based.

However, it does not require the same sort of learning as for other syllabus areas because it is primarily focussed on ensuring that students are capable of using the Computer Based Exam software.

The level of skill needed to be able to use the CBE software can also be beneficial for your employment.

Many students will already have a high level of skill on computers and be familiar with the use of word processors and spreadsheets. However, those provided in the exam software might not be identical to those that you are familiar with and, in addition, it is essential that you are able to navigate the software efficiently so as not to waste time in the exam.

There are many excellent resources available on the ACCA website to assist you, and so in this chapter we will direct you to some of the relevant ACCA pages and explain their importance.

2. Navigating the exam and the tools available

The exam screen has a top bar and a bottom bar.

On the **top bar** there are options to call up an 'online calculator', to call up the 'scratch pad', and to 'flag for review'.

The online calculator is used in the normal way and can be switched at any time between a basic mode and a scientific mode. You can use your own calculator instead provided that it does not store or display text.

The scratch pad can be used to make notes and do your own rough workings, but nothing written on the scratchpad will actually be marked. You will also be provided with paper if sitting the exam in an exam centre and so you can use this for workings instead - the paper will be collected in at the end of the exam but, again, nothing on this rough paper will be marked. (Note: if you are sitting the exam remotely then paper is not allowed and you can only use the scratchpad.)



The 'flag for review' option enables you to put a mark against a question to enable you to quickly come back to it again later. This is for questions where you are unsure about your answer and want to do more work on it later should there be time.

On the **bottom bar** are the arrows for moving forwards or backwards through the questions. In addition there is a 'navigator' option which when chosen displays a list of all of the questions enabling you to go straight to a particular question.

Finally there is the option of calling up the formula sheet (which is an online copy of the sheet that is printed at the front of these lecture notes).

[You can watch a video illustrating the use of all these features here:](#)

3. Section A of the exam - Objective Test Questions

This section comprises 15 objective test questions of 2 marks each. There are various ways in which these questions may be presented e.g. multiple choice and drop down lists. You should be familiar with the various ways from your Revision Kit, but it is essential that you practice also on computer using the specimen and practice exams available on the ACCA Practice Platform.

4. Section B of the exam - Objective Test Case Question

This section comprises three case style questions. Each starts with a scenario followed by 5 questions of two marks each. The questions are examined in the same ways as in Section A, and the questions are designed such that each is independent of each other so that getting one question wrong will not stop you getting the other questions correct.

Again you will have seen these kind of questions in your Revision Kit but must also practice attempting them on computer.

5. Section C of the exam - Constructed Response Questions

This section contains 2 full questions of 20 marks each and each of the questions will have more than one part. Some parts will require calculations whereas other parts will require a discussion.

For calculations the program provides a spreadsheet in which to enter your calculations. For efficiency you should make use of the functions and formulae available in the spreadsheet (you do not need to type out separately the formulae used - the marker will be able to see them).

You can find details of the functions and formulae that are available in the ACCA booklet linked in the next section of this chapter. Do note that the NPV and IRR functions are available in the spreadsheet.

For discussion parts you are provided with a word processor and, again, details of the functions available such as underlining and 'copy and paste' are in the ACCA booklet.



6. ACCA Resources

You will find many resources on the ACCA website and the more you refer to the better.

[Go first to the following page](#)

On this page, under the heading "Resources" you will find a link to download "FM essentials on one page". Clicking on this will download a useful small chart headed up "How to approach

Financial Management". One of the headings on this chart is 'Key Resources' and clicking on each of the items listed in turn will take you to more detail. Each of these 'Key Resources' is worth reading.

In addition it is important to visit [FM Specimen Exams](#)

On this page you will find useful information, but also toward the bottom of the page you will find a link to "Guide to ACCA session CBEs". This will download a leaflet which details everything about the CBEs including, importantly, a list of the functions and formulae available in the spreadsheet and the word processor (and how to input the formulae in the spreadsheet).

Below, on the same webpage, there is information on how to access the CBE specimen and practice exams - it is essential to use these resources in your exam preparation.

7. Revision Kit Live

On our main Paper PM page you will find a link to a section called '[Revision Kit Live](#)' in which you will find lectures working through several past exam questions. It includes a lecture working through the whole of a computer based exam, not just explaining the answers but importantly the approach to CBE.





ANSWERS TO EXAMPLES

Chapter 1

No examples

Chapter 2

Answer to example 1

$$\text{Total shareholder return} = (0.20 + (5.10 - 4.80)) / 4.80 = 10.42\%$$

Answer to example 2

$$\text{Total shareholder return} = (0.50 + (6.40 - 6.50)) / 6.50 = 6.15\%$$

Chapter 3

Answer to Example 1

		<i>Days</i>
Receivables days	= $\frac{172,800}{864,000} \times 365 =$	73
Inventory days		
(a) Finished goods	= $\frac{86,400}{756,000} \times 365 =$	42
(b) W.I.P	= $\frac{75,600}{675,000} \times 365 =$	41
(c) Raw materials	= $\frac{108,000}{518,400} \times 365 =$	76
		232
Less:		
Payables days	= $\frac{86,400}{518,400} \times 365 =$	(61)
	Net operating cycle	171 days



Chapter 4

Answer to Example 1

Order Quantity	Number of orders	Average stock	Reorder cost p.a.	Stockholding cost p.a.	Total stock cost p.a.
500	80	250	1600	625	2225
750	53.33	375	1067	938	2005
1000	40	500	800	1250	2050
1250	32	625	640	1563	2203

An order quantity of 750 units is the cheapest of the four options.

Answer to Example 2

$$(a) \text{ E.O.Q.} = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 20 \times 40,000}{2.50}} = 800 \text{ units}$$

(b)	Number of orders	Average stock	Reorder cost p.a.	Stockholding cost p.a.	Total stock cost p.a.
	50	400	1000	1,000	\$2,000

Answer to Example 3

Order Quantity	Average stock	Number of orders	Reorder cost p.a.	Stockholding cost p.a.	Purchase cost p.a.	Total cost p.a.
800	400	50	1000	1,000	1,000,000	1,002,000
5,000	2,500	8	160	6,188	990,000	996,348
10,000	5,000	4	80	12,313	985,000	997,393

The best option would be to order in quantities of 5,000 units each time and therefore receive a 1% discount.

Chapter 5

Answer to Example 1

Consider an invoice of \$100 (any amount will do)

With discount: 1 month 96

Without discount: 3 months 100

$$\text{Effective cost} = \frac{4}{96} \times 100\% = 4.1667\% \text{ over 2 months}$$

$$= \left((1.041667)^{\frac{12}{2}} - 1 \right) = 0.2775 / 27.75\%$$

27.75% > 20% therefore better to **not** offer discount



Answer to Example 2

Current position:

Average receivable days: $(30 \times 0.20) + (60 \times 0.50) + (90 \times 0.30) = 63$ daysAverage receivables: $63/365 \times \$20,000,000 = \mathbf{\$3,452,054}$

New policy:

Average receivable days: $(30 \times 0.60) + (90 \times 0.40) = 54$ daysAverage receivables: $54/365 \times \$20,000,000 = \mathbf{\$2,958,904}$

Cost of new policy:	\$ p.a.
Discount ($1\% \times 60\% \times \$20,000,000$)	<u>120,000</u>

Benefits of new policy:

Old receivables: 3,452,054

New receivables: 2,958,904Fall in receivables 493,150Interest saving: $15\% \text{ p.a.} \times \$493,150 =$ \$73,973Net cost of offering discount \$46,027 p.a.

Therefore do not offer discount.

Answer to Example 3

Current position:

Average receivable period: $(1 \times 0.20) + (2 \times 0.30) + (3 \times 0.50) = 2.3$ monthsAverage receivables: $\frac{2.3}{12} \times £10,000,000 = £1,916,666$

New position:

Average receivable period: 1 month

Average receivables: $\frac{1}{12} \times £10,000,000 = £833,333$

Cost of new policy:

Cost of factor ($2\% \times \$10,000,000$) $\$200,000$ p.a.

Benefits of new policy:

Staff saving 20,000

Old receivables: 1,916,666

New receivables: 833,333Fall in receivables 1,083,333Interest saving: $18\% \times 1,083,333 =$ 195,000Total benefit of using a factor $\$215,000$ p.a.Net benefit $\$15,000$ p.a.

Do employ the factor.



Answer to Example 4

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Effective cost} &= \frac{2}{98} \times 100\% = 2.0408\% \text{ over 20 days (30-10)} \\ &= \left((1.020408)^{\frac{365}{20}} - 1 \right) \\ &= 0.4458 / 44.58\%\end{aligned}$$

Answer to Example 5

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Effective cost} &= \frac{1.5}{98.5} \times 100\% = 1.5228\% \text{ over 25 days (40-15)} \\ &= \left((1.015228)^{\frac{365}{25}} - 1 \right) \\ &= 1.2469 / 24.69\%\end{aligned}$$

24.69% > 13% therefore do take the discount

[alternative approach:

Current payables: $40/365 \times \$100,000 = 10,959$

New payables: $15/365 \times \$100,000 = 4,110$

Fall in payables: **\$6,849**

Interest cost of paying early:

$13\% \times 6,849 = \mathbf{\$890 \text{ p.a.}}$

Benefit of discount:

$1.5\% \times \$100,000 = \mathbf{\$1,500 \text{ p.a.}}$

There is a net benefit, so do take the discount]



Chapter 6

Answer to Example 1

(a)	January \$	February \$	March \$	April \$	May \$	June \$
Cash receipts						
Cash sales	44,000	52,000	56,000	60,000	64,000	72,000
Credit sales	48,000	60,000	66,000	78,000	84,000	90,000
	<u>92,000</u>	<u>112,000</u>	<u>122,000</u>	<u>138,000</u>	<u>148,000</u>	<u>162,000</u>
Cash payments						
Purchases	60,000	80,000	90,000	110,000	130,000	140,000
Wages: 75%	12,000	15,000	18,000	21,000	24,000	27,000
Wages: 25%	3,000	4,000	5,000	6,000	7,000	8,000
Overheads	10,000	15,000	15,000	15,000	20,000	20,000
Dividends			20,000			
Capital expenditure			30,000			40,000
	<u>85,000</u>	<u>114,000</u>	<u>178,000</u>	<u>152,000</u>	<u>181,000</u>	<u>235,000</u>
b/f	15,000	22,000	20,000	(36,000)	(50,000)	(83,000)
Net cash flow	7,000	(2,000)	(56,000)	(14,000)	(33,000)	(73,000)
c/f	<u>22,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>	<u>36,000</u>	<u>(50,000)</u>	<u>(83,000)</u>	<u>(156,000)</u>

(b) The overdraft arrangements are quite inadequate to service the cash needs of the business over the six-month period. If the figures are realistic then action should be taken now to avoid difficulties the near future. The following are possible courses of action.

- i. Activities could be curtailed.
- ii. Other sources of cash could be explored, for example a long-term loan to finance the capital expenditure and a factoring arrangement to provide cash due from accounts receivable more quickly.
- iii. Efforts to increase the speed of debt collection could be made.
- iv. Payments to accounts payable could be delayed.
- v. The dividend payments could be postponed (the figures indicate that this is a small company, possibly owner-managed).
- vi. Staff might be persuaded to work at a lower rate in return for, say, an annual bonus or a profit-sharing agreement.
- vii. Extra staff might be taken on to reduce the amount of overtime paid.
- viii. The stock holding policy should be reviewed; it may be possible to meet demand from current production and minimise cash tied up in inventories.



Answer to Example 2

	\$ p.a.
(a) Order cost: $\frac{1,500,000}{150,000} \times \$150 =$	1,500
Interest lost on investments $\left(\frac{150,000 + 1,500,000}{2} \right) \times 9.5\%$	78,375
less: Interest earned on bank balance $\frac{150,000}{2} \times 5\% =$	(3,750)
	\$76,125
(b) $EOQ = \sqrt{\frac{2 \times 1,500,000 \times 150}{(0.095 - 0.05)}} = \$100,000$ each time	
	\$ p.a.
(c) Order cost: $\frac{1,500,000}{100,000} \times \$150 =$	2,250
Interest lost on investments	76,000
less: Interest earned on bank balance $\frac{100,000}{2} \times 5\% =$	(2,500)
	\$75,750

Answer to Example 3

$$\text{Spread} = 3 \times \left[\frac{\frac{3}{4} \times 5 \times 4,000,000}{0.00014} \right]^{\frac{1}{3}}$$

$$= 3 \times 4,750 = \mathbf{14,250}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Upper limit} &= \text{lower limit} + \text{spread} \\ &= 10,000 + 14,250 \\ &= \mathbf{24,250} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Return point} &= 10,000 + \frac{1}{3} \times 14,250 \\ &= \mathbf{14,750} \end{aligned}$$



Chapter 7

Answer to Example 1

		df @ 10%	P.V.
0	(80,000)	1	(80,000)
1	20,000	0.909	18,180
2	30,000	0.826	24,780
3	40,000	0.751	30,040
4	20,000	0.683	13,660
	N.P.V	+	<u>6,660</u>

+ 've – Accept

Answer to Example 2

No Answer

Answer to Example 3

(a)		df @ 15%	P.V.
0	(80,000)	1	(80,000)
1	20,000	0.870	17,400
2	30,000	0.756	22,680
3	40,000	0.658	26,320
4	20,000	0.572	11,440
	N.P.V		<u>(2,160)</u>

– 've – Reject

$$(b) \quad IRR = 10\% + \frac{6,660}{6,660 + 2,160} \times 5\% = \mathbf{13.78\%}$$

(c) no answer

Answer to Example 4

		df @ 15%	P.V.
0	(45,000)	1	(45,000)
1–8	8,000	4.487	35,896
	N.P.V		<u>(9,104)</u>

– 've – Reject

Answer to Example 5

		df @ 12%
	1 – 13	6.424
Less:	1 – 3	2.402
	4 – 13	<u>4.022</u>
4 – 13	20,000 × 4.022 =	80,440



Answer to Example 6

		df	P.V.
0	(100,000)	1	(100,000)
1-∞	12,000		120,000
		N.P.V	<u>20,000</u>

Answer to Example 7

	df @5%	
1-∞		20.000
less: 1-4		<u>3.546</u>
		<u>16.454</u>

5-∞ 18,000 × 16.454 = **296,172**

Answer to Example 8

Total cash flows:	100,000
Total depreciation:	(70,000)
Total profit	<u>30,000</u>

$$\text{Average annual profit} = \frac{30,000}{4} = 7,500$$

$$\text{Average book value} = \frac{80,000 + 10,000}{2} = 45,000$$

$$\text{A.R.R.} = \frac{7,500}{45,000} \times 100\% = 16.67\%$$

Answer to Example 9

		Total net cash flows
0	(80,000)	(80,000)
1	20,000	(60,000)
2	30,000	(30,000)
3	40,000	10,000
4	20,000	30,000

Payback period is between 2 and 3 years.

Either: is within 3 years

or is 23/4 years (assuming cash received evenly over third year)



Chapter 8

Answer to Example 1

Materials		(5,000)
Labour		
	(\$150,000 – \$60,000)	90,000
Research	– wages	60,000
	– severance (\$35,000 – \$15,000)	20,000
Equipment	(\$8,000 – \$6,000)	2,000
Lost rental		7,000
		<u>\$174,000</u>
Sales price		<u>\$300,000</u>

Project should be allowed to proceed.

Answer to Example 2

	0	1	2	3	4
Machine	(100,000)				
Working capital	(20,000)				20,000
Scrap					20,000
Operating flows		30,000	30,000	40,000	40,000
Net cash flow	<u>(120,000)</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>80,000</u>

Answer to Example 3

	0	1	2	3	4
Machine	(15,000)				
Revenue		5,000	11,000	8,000	9,000
Operating costs		(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)	(2,000)
Scrap					2,000
Working capital	(500)	(600)	300	(100)	900
Net cash flow	<u>(15,500)</u>	<u>2,400</u>	<u>9,300</u>	<u>5,900</u>	<u>9,900</u>



Answer to Example 4**Capital allowance calculations:**

			<i>Tax savings</i>
y/e 31.12.03:	Cost	10,000	
	CA (25%)	$2,500 \times 30\%$	750
		7,500	
y/e 31.12.04:	CA (25%)	$1,875 \times 30\%$	563
		5,625	
y/e 31.12.05:	Proceeds	6,000	
	Bal charge	$375 \times 30\%$	(113)

Cash flows:

	0	1	2	3	4
Operating flows		5,000	7,000	8,000	
Tax on op. flows			(1,500)	(2,100)	(2,400)
Cost	(10,000)				
Sale				6,000	
Tax savings on Cap. Allowances			750	563	(113)
Working Capital	(1,000)			1,000	
Net cash flow	(11,000)	5,000	6,250	13,463	-2,513
d.f @ 10%	1	0.909	0.826	0.751	0.683
P.V.	(11,000)	4,545	5,163	10,111	-1,716
			NPV = <u>+6,695</u>	Accept	

Alternative layout of cash flows:

	0	1	2	3	4
Operating flows		5,000	7,000	8,000	
Cap. Allowances		(2,500)	(1,875)	375	
Taxable profit		2,500	5,125	8,375	
Tax on profit			(750)	(1,538)	(2,513)
Add: Capital Allowances		2,500	1,875	(375)	
Cost	(10,000)				
Sale				6,000	
Working Capital	(1,000)			1,000	
Net cash flow	(11,000)	5,000	6,260	13,461	(2,513)



Answer to Example 5**Capital allowances calculations:**

			Tax savings
Year 1	Cost	2,800,000	
	CA (25%)	$700,000 \times 25\%$	175,000
		<u>2,100,000</u>	
Year 2	CA (25%)	$525,000 \times 25\%$	131,250
		<u>1,575,000</u>	
Year 3	Sale	1,000,000	
	CA	$575,000 \times 25\%$	143,750

Cash flows:

	0	1	2	3	4
Operating flows					
Revenue		2,000	2,140	2,290	
Materials		(864)	(933)	(1,008)	
Labour		(735)	(772)	(810)	
		401	435	472	
Tax on op. flows			(100)	(109)	(118)
Cost	(2,800)				
Sale				1,000	
Tax saving on CA's			175	131	144
Working Capital	(200)			200	
Net cash flow	(3,000)	<u>401</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>1,694</u>	<u>26</u>
d.f @ 10%	1	0.909	0.826	0.751	0.683
P.V.	(3,000)	365	421	1,272	18
			NPV =	(924)	REJECT



Answer to Example 6

(a)	Current prices	Cash flows	d.f. @ 15%	P.V.
0	(120,000)	(120,000)	1	= (120,000)
1	$60,000 \times 1.05$	$= 63,000$	$\times 0.870$	$= 54,810$
2	$60,000 \times (1.05)^2$	$= 66,150$	$\times 0.756$	$= 50,009$
3	$60,000 \times (1.05)^3$	$= 69,457$	$\times 0.658$	$= 45,703$
			NPV	<u>+30,522</u>

$$1 + r = \frac{1 + m}{1 + i}$$

$$= \frac{1.15}{1.05} = 1.0952$$

(b) $r = 9.52\%$ (use 10% in the tables)

	Current prices	d.f. @ 10%	P.V.
0	(120,000)	1	= (120,000)
1 – 3	60,000	2.487	= 149,200
		NPV	<u>+29,220</u>

(Note: the difference is due to using an effective rate of 10% instead of 9.52%)

(c) In theory, higher inflation would lead to higher cost of capital. The real (or effective) rate would stay unchanged.

Chapter 9

Answer to Example 1

(a) With no capital rationing invest in all projects giving a positive N.P.V. In this example invest in all 4 projects.

(b)	A	B	C	D
N.P.V	<u>50</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>50</u>
Time 0 investment	<u>500</u>	<u>600</u>	<u>300</u>	<u>400</u>
N.P.V per \$	<u>\$0.10</u>	<u>\$0.095</u>	<u>\$0.12</u>	<u>\$0.125</u>
Ranking	<u>(3)</u>	<u>(4)</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>(1)</u>

	Investment Capital	N.P.V.
100% of D	400	50
100% of C	300	36
100% of A	500	50
$\frac{2}{3}$ of B	400	38
	<u>1,600</u>	<u>174</u>



(c) Either		N.P.V.
	A + B + C	143
	or A + B + D	157
	or B + C + D	143
Highest NPV is A + B + D		

Answer to Example 2

1 year replacement cycle:		d.f. @ 15%	P.V.
0	(72,000)	1	(72,000)
1	(7,200)	0.870	(6,264)
1	24,000	0.870	20,880
			NPV <u>(57,384)</u>

$$\text{Equivalent Annual cost} = \frac{57,384}{1 \text{ year annuity df}} = \frac{57,384}{0.870} = \$65,959 \text{ p.a.}$$

2 year replacement cycle:		d.f. @ 15%	P.V.
0	(72,000)	1	(72,000)
1	(7,200)	0.870	(6,264)
2	(9,600)	0.756	(7,258)
2	16,600	0.756	12,550
			NPV <u>72,972</u>

$$\text{E. A. C.} = \frac{72,972}{1.626} = \$44,878 \text{ p.a.}$$

3 year replacement cycle:		d.f. @ 15%	P.V.
0	(72,000)	1	(72,000)
1	(7,200)	0.870	(6,264)
2	(9,600)	0.756	(7,258)
3	(12,000)	0.658	(7,896)
3	9,600	0.658	6,317
			NPV <u>(87,101)</u>

$$\text{E. A. C.} = \frac{87,101}{2.283} = \$38,152 \text{ p.a.}$$

The machine should be replaced every 3 years.



Answer to Example 3

Capital allowances (if bought):

				Tax saved
Year 0	Cost	100,000		
	C.A.	25,000		
		<u>75,000</u>	× 30%	7,500
Year 1	C.A.	(18,750)		
		<u>56,250</u>	× 30%	5,625
Year 2	C.A.	(14,062)		
		<u>42,188</u>	× 30%	4,219
Year 3	C.A.	(10,547)		
		<u>31,641</u>	× 30%	3,164
Year 4	Scrap	10,000		
	C.A.	<u>21,641</u>	× 30%	6,492

Cash flows: BUY

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Cost	(100,000)					
Scrap					10,000	
Tax saved on CA's		7,500	5,625	4,219	3,164	6,492
Net cash flow	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>7,500</u>	<u>5,625</u>	<u>4,219</u>	<u>13,164</u>	<u>6,492</u>
d.f @ 7%	1	0.935	0.873	0.816	0.763	0.713
P.V.	(100,000)	7,012	4,911	3,443	10,044	4,629

NPV = (69,961)

Cash flows: LEASE

	0	1	2	3	4	5
Lease	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)	(35,000)		
Tax saved			10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500
Net cash flow	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>	<u>(24,500)</u>	<u>(24,500)</u>	<u>10,500</u>	<u>10,500</u>
d.f	1	0.935	0.873	0.816	0.763	0.713
P.V.	(35,000)	(32,725)	(21,388)	(19,992)	8,011	7,486

NPV = (93,608)

The decision should therefore be to **buy** the machine.

Chapter 10

Answer to Example 1

		d.f. @ 15%	P.V.	
(a)	0 cost	(150,000)	1	(150,000)
	1 – 15 Contribution	41,250 p.a.	5.847	241,189
	1 – 15 Fixed costs	(15,000) p.a.	5.847	(87,705)
	15 scrap	15,000	0.123	1,845
			NPV	<u>+5,329</u>

ACCEPT PROJECT

(b)	(i) sensitivity of initial investment =	$\frac{5,329}{150,000} \times 100\% = +3.55\%$
	(ii) sensitivity of sales volume =	$\frac{5,329}{241,189} \times 100\% = -2.21\%$
	(iii) sensitivity of contribution p.u. =	$\frac{5,329}{241,189} \times 100\% = -2.21\%$
	(iv) sensitivity of fixed costs =	$\frac{5,329}{87,705} \times 100\% = +6.08\%$
	(v) sensitivity of scrap value =	$\frac{5,329}{1,845} \times 100\% = -289\%$

		d.f. @ 20%	P.V.	
(vi)	0	(150,000)	1	(150,000)
	1 – 15	41,250	4.675	192,844
	1 – 15	(15,000)	4.675	(70,125)
	15	15,000	0.065	975
			NPV	<u>(26,306)</u>

$$\text{IRR} = 15\% + \frac{5,329}{5,329 + 26,306} \times 5\% = 15.84\%$$

$$\text{Sensitivity of cost of capital} = \frac{0.84}{15} \times 100\% = +5.6\%$$

(c) No answer



Answer to Example 2

(a) Expected demand = $(50,000 \times 0.5) + (60,000 \times 0.4) + (40,000 \times 0.1) = 53,000$ units

Expected contribution = $53,000 \times 50\% \times \$10 = \$265,000$ p.a.

		d.f. @ 20%	P.V.
0	(200,000)	1	(200,000)
1 – 4	265,000 p.a.	2.589	686,085
1 – 4	(140,000) p.a.	2.589	(362,460)
4	50,000	0.482	24,100
		Expected NPV	<u>\$147,725</u>

(b) Expected fixed overheads = $(100,000 \times 0.20) + (140,000 \times 0.35) + (180,000 \times 0.25) + (220,000 \times 0.20) = 158,000$ p.a.

		d.f. @ 20%	P.V.
0	(200,000)	1	(200,000)
1 – 4	250,000	2.589	647,250
1 – 4	(158,000)	2.589	(409,062)
4	50,000	0.482	24,100
		Expected NPV	<u>\$62,288</u>

Chapter 11**Answer to Example 1**

Consider a holding of 4 shares

	shares		\$
Current shares	4	Current value	20
New share	1	Price period	3
	<u>5</u>		<u>23</u>

New market share = $\frac{23}{5} = \$4.60$ per share

New market value:	\$4.60
Rights price	\$3.00
Value of a right	\$1.60



Answer to Example 2

	shares		\$
Current holding	3	Value	24
Rights	1	Cost	6
	<u>4</u>		<u>30</u>

$$\text{New market share} = \frac{30}{4} = \mathbf{\$7.50} \text{ per share}$$

Value of rights:

Market value	7.50
Cost	6.00
	<u>\$1.50</u>

Mrs X: current wealth (1,200 × \$8) \$9,600

New wealth:

Shares: (1,200 + (½ × ⅓ × 1,200)) = 1,400 at \$7.50 = 10,500

Cash:

Sales of rights (200 × \$1.50)	300
Cost of rights (200 × \$6)	<u>(1,200)</u>
	(900)

New net wealth \$9,600

Chapter 12**Answer to Example 1**

- (a) (i) Take cash of \$100 or 20 shares worth \$80
Take cash
- (b) (ii) Take cash of \$100 or 20 shares worth \$120
Take shares.

Chapter 13**Answer to Example 1**

(a)	U	G
Profits	80	80
Debt Interest	–	30
	<u>80</u>	<u>50</u>
Tax @ 30%	(24)	(15)
	<u>56</u>	<u>35</u>



Fall in dividend of

$$U: \frac{70 - 56}{70} = 20\%$$

$$G: \frac{49 - 35}{49 - 35} = 29\%$$

(b)

	U	G
Profits	60	60
Debt Interest	-	30
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	60	30
Tax @ 30%	(18)	(9)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	42	21

Fall in dividend of

$$U: \frac{70 - 42}{70} = 40\%$$

$$G: \frac{49 - 21}{49} = 57\%$$

Answer to Example 2

(a) Book values:

$$\text{Gearing} = \frac{100,000}{100,000 + 140,000} = 42\%$$

(b) Market values:

$$\text{Gearing} = \frac{95,000}{95,000 + 220,000} = 30\%$$



Answer to Example 3

(a)	A	B
Sales	110,000	110,000
Variable costs	<u>55,000</u>	<u>22,000</u>
Fixed costs	<u>10,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
	65,000	62,000
Profit	<u>45,000</u>	<u>48,000</u>

Increase in profit:

$$A: \frac{5,000}{40,000} = 12.5\%$$

$$B: \frac{8,000}{40,000} = 20\%$$

(b)	A	B
Sales	80,000	80,000
Variable costs	<u>40,000</u>	<u>16,000</u>
Fixed costs	<u>10,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>
	50,000	56,000
Profit	<u>30,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>

Decrease in profit:

$$A: \frac{10,000}{40,000} = 25\%$$

$$B: \frac{16,000}{40,000} = 40\%$$



Answer to Example 4

	2002	2001
Interest cover	$\frac{52,000}{6,000} = 8.67$	$\frac{49,000}{6,000} = 8.17$
Interest yield	$\frac{6,000}{110,000} = 5.45\%$	$\frac{6,000}{118,000} = 5.08\%$
Dividend per share	$\frac{20,000}{600,000} = \0.03	$\frac{15,000}{600,000} = \0.025
Dividend cover	$\frac{34,000 - 2,800}{20,000} = 1.56$	$\frac{33,000 - 2,800}{15,000} = 2.01$
Dividend yield	$\frac{20,000}{498,000} = 4\%$	$\frac{15,000}{432,000} = 3.5\%$
Earnings per share	$\frac{34,000 - 2,800}{600,000} = 5.2\text{p}$	$\frac{33,000 - 2,800}{600,000} = 5.03\text{p}$
P/E ratio	$\frac{83}{5.2} = 16$	$\frac{72}{5.03} = 14$

Chapter 14

No examples



Chapter 15

Answer to Example 1

$$\text{Market value} = \frac{20c}{10\%} = 200c (\$2.00)$$

Answer to Example 2

$$\text{Market value} = \frac{15c}{12\%} = 125c (\$1.25)$$

Answer to Example 3

$$\text{Market value (ex div)} = \frac{15c}{12\%} = 125c (\$1.25)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Market value (cum div)} &= 125 + 15 \\ &= 140c (\$1.40) \end{aligned}$$

Answer to Example 4

		<i>df</i>		<i>PV @ 12%</i>
1 - ∞	15c p.a. ×	$\frac{1}{0.12}$	=	125

Answer to Example 5

$$\text{Market value} = P_0 = \frac{30(1.04)}{0.15 - 0.04} = 284p (\$2.84)$$

Answer to Example 6

$$M V_{\text{ex div}} = P_0 = \frac{40(1.06)}{0.20 - 0.06} = 303p (\$3.03)$$

Answer to Example 7

$$\text{Market value at time 2} = P_2 = \frac{20c(1.04)}{0.15 - 0.04} = 189c (\$1.89)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Market value "now"} &= (20c \times 0.870) + (20c \times 0.756) + (189c \times 0.756) \\ &= 175c (\$1.75) \end{aligned}$$

Answer to Example 8

For \$100 nominal:

		<i>df</i>		<i>PV @ 8%</i>
1 - ∞	10p.a. ×	$\frac{1}{0.08}$	=	125
(= \$125 p.c. ex int.)				



Answer to Example 9

$$\text{Market value} = \frac{6}{0.12} = \$50 \text{ p.c. ex. int.}$$

Answer to Example 10

For \$100 nominal:

		<i>df @ 12%</i>	<i>PV @ 10%</i>
1 – 5	8 p.a.	3.605	28.84
5	110	0.567	62.37
			<hr/>
			\$91.21 p.c. ex. int.

Answer to Example 11

		<i>df @ 10%</i>	<i>PV @ 10%</i>
1 – 4	7 p.a.	3.170	22.19
4	100	0.683	68.30
			<hr/>
			\$90.49 p.c. ex. int.

Answer to Example 12

Value of the shares in 2020 = $20 \times \$4.50 \times 1.07^3 = \110 - therefore will expect to convert.

1 - 3	Interest	8 p.a.	2.487	19.90
3	Conversion	110	0.751	82.61

Total market value = $19.90 + 82.61 = \$102.51$

Conversion premium = $\$102.51 - (20 \times \$4.50) = \$12.51$

Chapter 16

No examples

Chapter 17**Answer to Example 1**

$$k_e = \frac{30}{240} = 12.5\%$$

Answer to Example 2

$$k_e = \frac{40 (1.06)}{420} + 0.06 = 16.10\%$$

Answer to Example 3

$$k_e = \frac{30 (1.08)}{360} + 0.08 = 17\%$$



Answer to Example 4

$$1+g = \sqrt[4]{\frac{33,000}{28,000}} = 1.042$$

$$g = 0.042 = 4.2\% \text{ p.a.}$$

Answer to Example 5

$$\begin{aligned} g &= r b \\ &= 0.20 \times 0.40 \\ &= 0.08 / 8\% \text{ p.a.} \end{aligned}$$

Answer to Example 6

$$r = 18\%$$

$$b = \frac{12}{32} = 37.5\%$$

- (a) $g = r b = 18\% \times 37.5\% = \mathbf{6.75\% \text{ p.a.}}$
- (b) $k_e = \frac{20(1.0675)}{280} + 0.0675 = 0.14375 / 14.375\%$
- (c) $MV \text{ in 2 years} = 280 (1.0675)^2 = 319 / \mathbf{\$3.19}$

Answer to Example 7

(a) $k_d = \frac{8}{90} = 8.89\%$

(b) Cost to company $\frac{8(1 - 0.30)}{90} = 6.22\%$
 (or $k_d = (1 - t) = 8.89\% \times (1 - 0.3) = 6.22\%$)

Answer to Example 8

(a)		df @ 10%	PV @ 10%	df @ 15%	PV @ 15%
	0 (85)	1	(85)	1	(85)
	1 – 5 6 p.a.	3.791	22.75	3.352	22.11
	5 110	0.621	68.31	0.497	54.67
			<u>6.07</u>		<u>(10.22)</u>

$$k_d = \text{IRR} = 10\% + \left(\frac{6.07}{6.07 \times 10.22} \right) \times 5\% = \mathbf{11.86\%}$$

(b)		df @ 10%	PV @ 10%
	0 (85)	1	(85)
	1 – 5 4.20 p.a.	3.791	15.92
	5 110	0.621	68.31
			<u>0.77 (= nearly 0!)</u>

Cost of debt = **10%**



Answer to Example 9

$$(a) \quad k_e = \frac{32}{250 - 32} = 14.68\%$$

$$k_d = \frac{8}{92} = 8.70\%$$

- (b) Cost of equity = $k_e = 14.68\%$
 Cost of debt = $8.70 \times 0.7 = 6.09\%$

$$\text{W.A.C.C.} = 14.68 \times \frac{10.9}{10.9 + 3.68} + 6.09 \times \frac{3.68}{10.9 + 3.68} = \mathbf{12.51\%}$$

Answer to Example 10

$$\text{Cost of equity} = k_e = \frac{20(1.08)}{320} + 0.08\% = \mathbf{14.75\%}$$

Cost of debt

		df @ 10%	PV @ 10%	df @ 5%	PV @ 5%
0	(105)	1	(105)	1	(105)
1 – 6	7 p.a.	4.355	30.49	5.076	35.53
6	110	0.564	62.04	0.746	82.06
			<u>(12.47)</u>		<u>12.59</u>

$$\text{Cost of debt} = \text{IRR} = 5\% + \left(\frac{12.59}{12.59 + 12.47} \times 5\% \right) = \mathbf{7.51\%}$$

$$\text{W.A.C.C.} = 14.75 \times \frac{32}{32 + 6.3} + 7.51 \times \frac{6.3}{32 + 6.3} = \mathbf{13.56\%}$$

Chapter 18

No examples

Chapter 19**Answer to Example 1**

Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	60%/40%	40%/60%	20%/80%
Cost of Equity	20%	22%	25%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	10%	10%	10%	12%	16%
WACC	20%	19.6%	19%	19.2%	19.8%

Answer to Example 2

Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	50%/50%	40%/60%
Cost of Equity	20%	22.5%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	10%	10%	10%	10%
WACC	20%	20%	20%	20%



Answer to Example 3

Equity / Debt	100%/0%	80%/20%	50%/50%	40%/60%
Cost of Equity	20%	22.5%	30%	35%
Cost of Debt	7%	7%	7%	7%
WACC	20%	19.4%	18.5%	18.2%

Chapter 20**Answer to Example 1**

Required return = 5% + (12% – 5%) 1.5 = **15.5%**

Answer to Example 2

Required return = 8% + (16% – 8%) 0.8 = **14.4%**

Answer to Example 3

20% = 8% + (25% – 8%) β

17 β = 12

$\beta = \frac{12}{17} = \mathbf{0.706}$

Answer to Example 4

Required return = 6% + (11% – 6%) 1.4 = **13%**

		df @ 13%	PV @ 13%
0	(100,000)	1	(100,000)
1 – ∞	15,000 p.a.	$\frac{1}{0.13}$	115,385
			<u>NPV +15,385</u>

The NPV is positive and so the project is worthwhile.

Chapter 21**Answer to Example 1**

(a) P is the more risky share (because it has higher share of β)

$$(b) \text{ P plc: } \beta_a = \frac{100}{100 + 40 \times 0.7} \times 1.8 = \mathbf{1.406}$$

$$(c) \text{ Q plc } \beta_a = \frac{100}{100 + 20 \times 0.7} \times 1.5 = \mathbf{1.316}$$

P has a higher asset β and so P has the more risky business activity.



Answer to Example 2

(i) determine a β for the project: $\frac{100}{100 + 20 \times 0.75} \times 1.8 = \mathbf{1.57}$

(ii) regear for X's gearing:

$$1.57 = \frac{100}{100 + 40 \times 75} \beta_e$$

$$\beta_e = 2.041$$

(iii) required return on equity
 $= 8\% + (18\% - 8\%) \times 2.041 = \mathbf{28.41\%}$

Chapter 22**Answer to Example 1**

(a) Exchange rate in 1 year = $1.70 \times \frac{1.05}{1.02} = \mathbf{1.75}$

(b) Exchange rate in 2 years = $1.75 \times \frac{1.05}{1.02} = \mathbf{1.80}$

Answer to Example 2

(a) Exchange rate in 1 year = $2,030 \times \frac{1.04}{1.08} = \mathbf{1.955}$

(b) Exchange rate in 2 years = $1,955 \times \frac{1.04}{1.08} = \mathbf{1.883}$

Chapter 23**Answer to Example 1**

$$\$100,000 \div 1.6310 = \text{£}61,312$$

Answer to Example 2

$$240,000 \times 9.2530 = \text{IR } 2,220,720$$

Answer to Example 3

$$200,000 \div 1.4910 = \$134,138$$

Answer to Example 4

$$\text{Forward rate} = 1.5385 - 0.0051 = 1.5334$$

$$150,000 \div 1.5334 = \text{£}97,822$$

Answer to Example 5

$$\text{Forward rate} = 1.6623 - 0.0020 = 1.6603$$

$$200,000 \div 1.6603 = \text{£}120.460$$



Answer to Example 6

Borrow \$'s:	$5\text{M} \div 1.0145$	=	\$4,928,536
Convert at spot	$4,928,536 \div 1.5426$	=	£3,194,954
Invest £'s	$3,194,954 \times 1.009$	=	£3,223,709

Answer to Example 7

Invest \$'s:	$8\text{M} \div 1.0116$	=	\$7,874,016
Convert at spot	$7,874,016 \div 1.6201$	=	£4,860,204
Borrow £'s	$4,860,204 \times 1.02475$	=	£4,980,494

Answer to Example 8

If converted at spot on 10 August:

$$800,000 \times 1.5631 = \$1,250,480$$

In 3 months time, spot	=	1.5726 – 1.5831
futures:		1.5780

Underlying transaction at spot:

$$800,000 \times 1.5831 = 1,266,480$$

Profits on futures

$$800,000 \times (1.5780 - 1.5580) = 16,000$$

Net payments	\$1,250,480
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Answer to Example 9

(a) Do not exercise option:

$$\$2\text{M} \div 1.5180 = £1,317,523$$

$$\text{less: premium} \quad 50,000$$

Net receipt	£1,267,523
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(b) Exercise option

$$\$2\text{M} \div 1.5200 = £1,315,789$$

$$\text{less: premium} \quad 50,000$$

Net receipt	£1,265,789
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Chapter 24

Answer to Example 1

$$\text{Sell futures – amount} = 6\text{M} \times \frac{6}{3} = \mathbf{\$12\text{M}}$$

On 1 January:

$$\text{Loan interest: } \$6\text{M} \times 10\% \times \frac{6}{12} \quad 300,000$$

$$\text{Profit on futures: } 12\text{M} \times \left(\frac{92 - 90}{400} \right) \quad (60,000)$$

$$\text{Net payment} \quad \underline{\underline{\$240,000}}$$

Answer to Example 2

If do own borrowing:

X	10%	
Y	L + 6.5%	
	L + 16.5%	

If do swap borrowing:

X	L + 3%	
Y	12%	
	L + 15%	

In total 1.5% may be saved

Chapter 25

No examples

