Liability driven investment

IAPF Trustee Meeting



23 May 2017

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- Putting theory into practice
- Considerations for the Irish market

Introduction to liability driven investment



To stabilise the funding ratio, we need to put the liabilities at the heart of your investment strategy

The impact of changing inflation

Cash flow to be paid in 20yrs

















The impact of changing interest rates



Liabilities of a defined benefit pension scheme



Factors that affect the present value of scheme liabilities

Matching a pension scheme's liabilities using bonds

Bonds have been the traditional hedging asset



Matching assets and liabilities

- Bonds can be used to match the fixed and inflation-linked liabilities with the following constraints:
 - Bond cash flows are lumpy
 - Long dated bonds are scarce
 - Inefficient use of capital in the long run

Source: BMO Global Asset Management

Swaps

A simplified example:



Swaps

A simplified example:



Matching using derivatives





Matching using derivatives



Source: BMO Global Asset Management. For illustrative purposes only.

Swaps allow schemes to mitigate key risks without using up their assets



Matching using derivatives



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Swaps allow schemes to mitigate key risks without using up their assets

Risk reduction with LDI



Asset allocation

increase 0.7% Scenario

*Liabilities have a duration 22 of years and are 60% inflation-linked. Corporate bonds modelled using the iBoxx Sterling Non Gilts Index, gilts modelled as the FTSE Gilts 15+ Index and Index-linked gilts modelled as the FTSE Index-Linked Gilts 5+ Index. LDI modelled assuming a 100% hedge of the funded liabilities. Market moves modelled based on 5 years on monthly data to 30.06.2014

Risk reduction with LDI



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Managing counterparty risk

Key risk management tools

- Centrally cleared positions:
 - Initial margin
 - Variation margin
- Traditional over the counter positions:
 - Counterparty vetting & monitoring
 - Daily collateralisation
 - Diversification



*Indicates that bank is one of BMO Global Asset Management's central clearing members List of counterparty banks is subject to change.

What is central clearing?

- Bilateral trades executed directly with the bank
 - Direct counterparty exposure



What is central clearing?



- No direct counterparty risk



Monitoring and managing leverage



For illustrative purposes only



Monitoring and managing leverage



For illustrative purposes only

Monitoring and managing leverage



For illustrative purposes only

Putting theory into practice

Designing the LDI portfolio



Hedge portfolio analysis

- Interest rate sensitivity referred to as PV01 or DV01
- Inflation sensitivity referred to as IE01 or INF01
- Portfolio design should account for non-LDI bonds such as corporate bonds



BMO's range of euro LDI funds



- We launched our Swap fund products in 2006
- €1bn invested in EUR LDI swap funds
- Flexibility to protect against:
 - Real interest rates
 - Nominal interest rates
- The funds are leveraged around 3x on average
- Backed by conservative money market fund
- Rebalancing mechanism to prevent leverage becoming too high or too low
- Centrally cleared to reduce counterparty risk
- The funds have an independent custodian and fund administrator

Bespoke LDI funds

A unitised fund set up for the exclusive use of a single client

- Provides a segregated style solution
 - Without the need for a custodian
 - With a short lead time
- Unitised fund details:
 - Luxembourg domiciled Fonds Commun de Placement (FCP)
 - Fully ring-fenced sub-fund legal structure
 - No upfront set-up costs
- Derivative based strategies can be supported by efficient single collateral pool
- BMO Global Asset Management can easily:
 - Rebalance allocations to target
 - De-risk in response to intra-day triggers
 - Ensure ongoing collateral sufficiency
 - Add or remove investments in response to client instructions



Creating the right portfolio structure

	LDI pooled funds	Segregated portfolio	Bespoke fund
Lead time	Short	Long	Medium
Ease of implementation	High	Medium	High
Hedging instruments	Swaps	Swaps and bonds	Swaps and bonds
Ease of monitoring	High	High	High
Hedge accuracy	Good	Excellent	Excellent
Flexibility	Limited	Excellent	Excellent
Typical min investment	€1m	€100m	€100m

• LDI manager can provide guidance as to the most appropriate portfolio structure

The range of segregated/bespoke management approaches

Each portfolio is tailored to the client's unique requirements



- Core LDI portfolios typically take one of the forms illustrated above
- Non-core derivative strategies can be combined with the above including: swaptions, synthetic equity, equity protection, volatility controlled equity, FX, synthetic credit

Expanding the hedge - trigger monitoring

- Flexibility to monitor a wide range of trigger types
 - Funding level triggers
 - Yield-based triggers
 - Swap rates
 - Bond yields
 - Best of both
- We currently monitor over 100 separate triggers
- Advice on trigger levels and structure
- Regular review of triggers to ensure ongoing suitability



Triggers can be monitored daily, in real time

Source: BMO Global Asset Management. Bloomberg

Maintaining the effectiveness of the hedge



- LDI is not a fire and forget strategy ongoing monitoring is important
- Get the right people doing the right jobs delegate where possible
- Balance cost with accuracy

Considerations for the Irish market

LDI considerations for an Irish Pension Fund

Stabilising the funding ratio

- Key strategic questions:
 - What liabilities?
 - How much to hedge?
- Key implementation questions:
 - Assets to use?
 - What inflation best matches liabilities?
 - When to hedge? e.g. based on affordability
 - Set triggers to automate?

Ongoing liabilities

- Determined by the Scheme Actuary
- Can be hedged by investing in appropriate bonds and/or swaps

Funding Standard (MFS)

- Defined by The Pensions Authority
- Ability to hedge limited to proportion linked to market interest rates
- "Investibility" increases as maturity of scheme increases
- Include Risk Reserve

10% x (MFS liabilities less bond assets and cash) plus

Change in value of MFS liabilities less change in value of assets, if a 0.5% fall in interest rates

Hedging inflation

- Scheme liabilities linked to Irish CPI or similar
- Limited market for Irish inflation-linked instruments



Gross inflation linked government bond issuance (euro PV01)

• First ever Irish inflation linked bond issued April 2017!

Hedging inflation

- Eurozone inflation (HICPx) is a sensible proxy given common currency
- Active management can additionally look at the relative value between the main inflation markets



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