

Fuel Cell Research Solution

Part 1: Present Value of the Bond

		Present Value of Each Payment at Various Interest Rates			
Year	Pmt	4%	5%	6%	
0	100	100.00	100.00	100.00	<-- Each cell is $pmt/(1+R)^{year}$
1	-7	-6.73	-6.67	-6.60	
2	-7	-6.47	-6.35	-6.23	
3	-7	-6.22	-6.05	-5.88	
4	-7	-5.98	-5.76	-5.54	
5	-7	-5.75	-5.48	-5.23	
6	-7	-5.53	-5.22	-4.93	
7	-7	-5.32	-4.97	-4.66	
8	-7	-5.11	-4.74	-4.39	
9	-7	-4.92	-4.51	-4.14	
10	-107	-72.29	-65.69	-59.75	
Bond Subtotal:		-24.33	-15.44	-7.36	<-- Total PV for each R

Continued ...

Part 2: Present Value of the Research Project

	4%	5%	6%	
PV of payoff in year 10:	250.00	200.00	166.67	<-- Each cell is \$10/R
PV of payoff in year 0:	168.89	122.78	93.07	<-- Year 10 payment discounted to year 0
Cost at year 0	-100.00	-100.00	-100.00	<-- Year 0 costs
Research Subtotal:	68.89	22.78	-6.93	<-- Total PV for each R

Part 3: Overall Value of the Combined Project

Bond plus Research:	44.56	7.34	-14.29	<-- Total PV of the project for each R
---------------------	-------	------	--------	--

Do not do the project at high interest rates because the payoff comes too far in the future and isn't enough to cover the costs.

At 5%, the project would be worthwhile, but just barely.

At low interest rates, the project is a winner. When rates are low, the year-10 value of the stream of \$10 million payments is most valuable, and the year-0 PV is highest.

Note

You may have been tempted to cancel out the \$100M flows in period 0. Since they are equal and occur in the same period, doing that doesn't affect the final NPV. However, it's better not to do it because it muddles up the internal details of the analysis. It makes the bond look worse than it is (in the 5% case, negative 115M rather than negative 15M), and makes the research project look better than it really is (123M rather than 23M).