

YIELD TO MATURITY:

Imagines: you pay price P today, then hold to maturity:

For example: A coupon bond has YTM, i , satisfying

$$P = \frac{C}{1+i} + \frac{C}{(1+i)^2} + \dots + \frac{C}{(1+i)^N} + \frac{F}{(1+i)^N}$$

Today's price \rightarrow All coupon payments until maturity Face value payment at maturity

RATE OF RETURN:

Imagines: you pay price P_t today, hold for 1 year, collect any payments, then sell for P_{t+1} tomorrow.

Rate of return: r

e.g. For a coupon bond

$$P_t = \frac{C}{1+r} + \frac{P_{t+1}}{1+r}$$

collect 1 coupon payment Sell after 1 year

With some algebra

$$P_t + rP_{t+1} = C + P_{t+1}$$
$$\Rightarrow \left[r = \frac{C}{P_t} + \frac{P_{t+1} - P_t}{P_t} \right] \leftarrow \text{The usual formula}$$