

Stochastic Interest Rate Modeling in a Low Interest Rate Environment

Dr. Felix Hentschel
Allianz Pension Consult GmbH

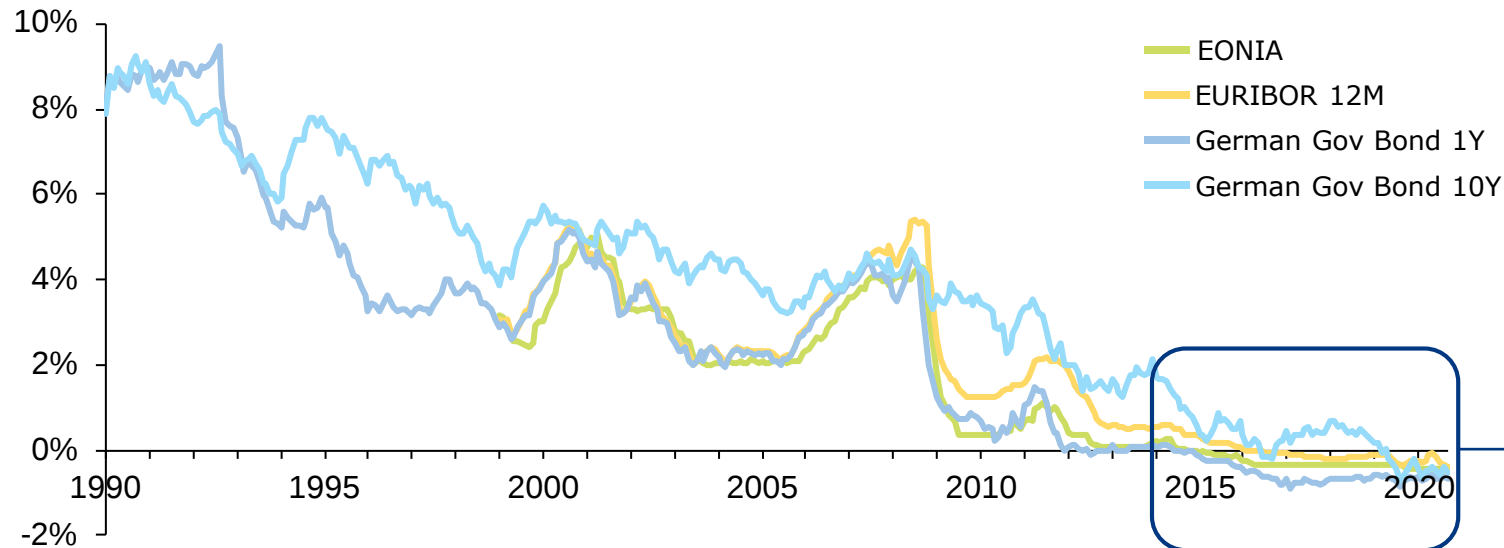
Agenda

- 1** Historical interest rates
- 2** Interest rate models: overview
- 3** Interest rate models: calibration and simulation

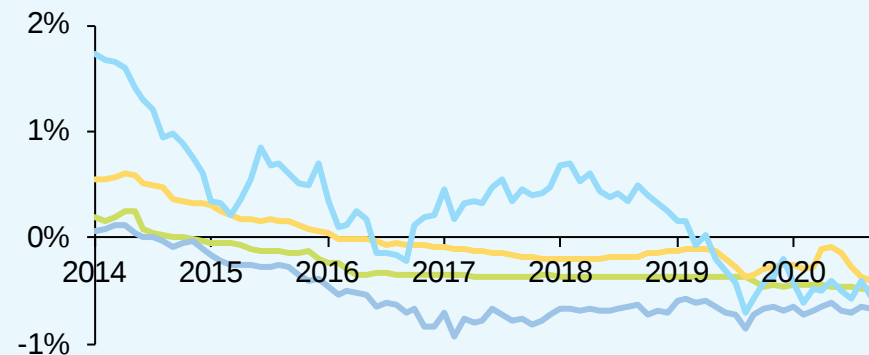
Agenda

- 1** Historical interest rates
- 2 Interest rate models: overview
- 3 Interest rate models: calibration and simulation

Historical interest rates

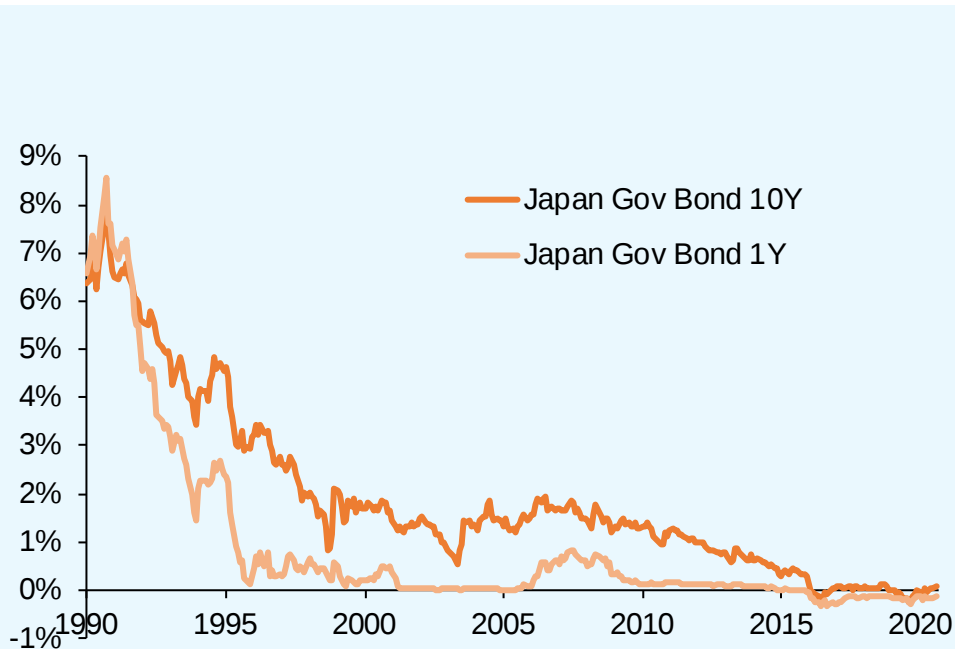


Interest rates on a low level in the last years



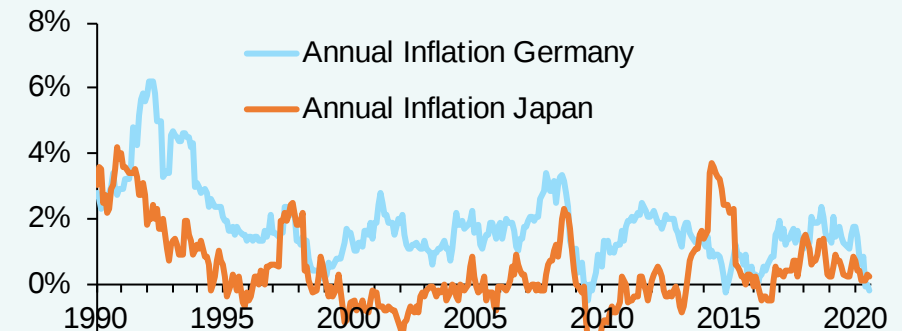
Digression: Japan - economy with long period of low interest rates

Low interest rates for long period...



Source: Ministry of Finance Japan, IMF, eurostat

... but differences in other economic indicators



Agenda

- 1** Historical interest rates
- 2** Interest rate models: overview
- 3** Interest rate models: calibration and simulation

Spot rate, short rate and yield curve

Spot rate $R(t, T)$

Spot interest rate $R(t, T)$
at time t for maturity T

Zero-coupon-bond price $P(t, T)$

$$P(t, T) = e^{-R(t, T) \cdot (T-t)}$$

Short rate $r(t)$

$$r(t) = \lim_{T \rightarrow t^+} R(t, T)$$

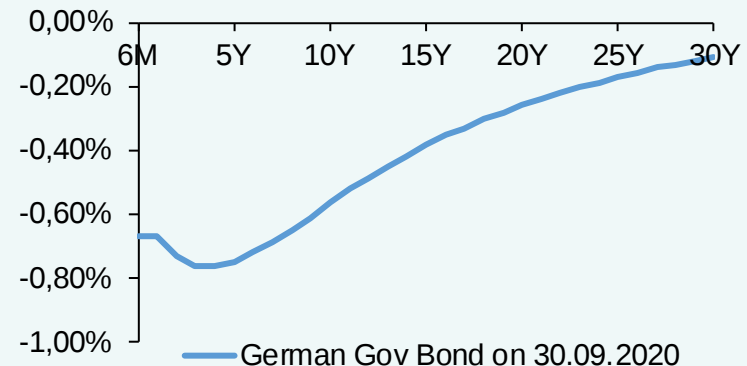
Spot rates for fixed maturity T

Fixed maturity $T = 10$ years, different times t



Yield curve: spot rates for fixed time t

Fixed time $t = 30.09.2020$, different maturities T



Vasicek model

Short rate dynamics

$$dr(t) = k(\theta - r(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

with

- k - speed of mean reversion
- θ - long term mean level
- σ - instantaneous volatility
- W - Brownian motion

Properties

Mean reverting

if $r(t) > \theta \Rightarrow (\theta - r(t)) < 0$ (the interest rate decreases over time)

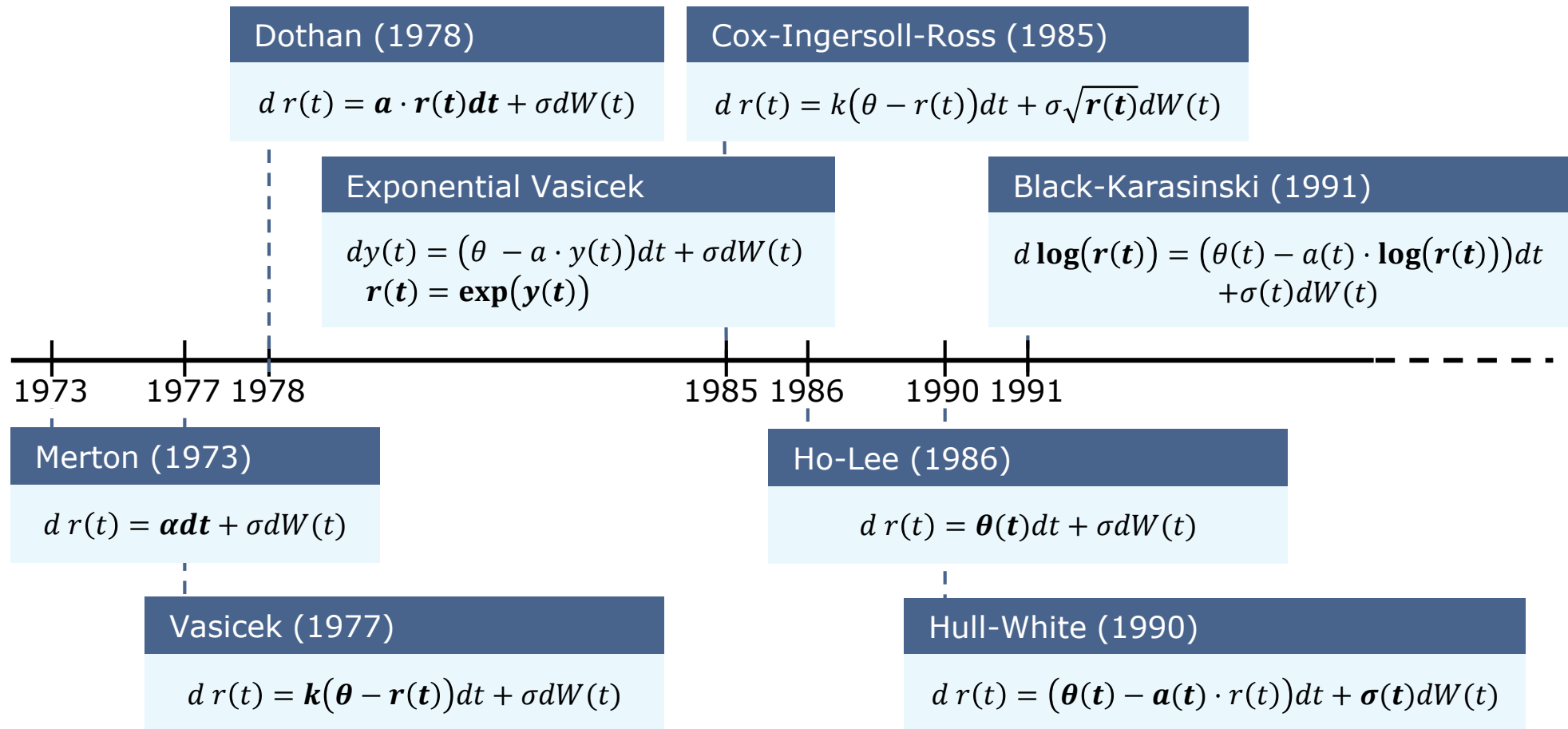
if $r(t) < \theta \Rightarrow (\theta - r(t)) > 0$ (the interest rate increases over time)

Affine term-structure model

$$P(t, T) = A(t, T) \cdot e^{-B(t, T) \cdot r(t)}$$

with A, B deterministic functions of time, depending on k, θ, σ

Short rate models*



* Selection of one-factor short rate models based on Brigo and Mercurio (2006)

Agenda

- 1** Historical interest rates
- 2** Interest rate models: overview
- 3** Interest rate models: calibration and simulation

Vasicek: calibration to historical data

Parameters

Short rate dynamics

$$dr(t) = k(\theta - r(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

Aim: calibrate parameters k, θ, σ to fit observed historical data.

Calibration: Maximum Likelihood Estimation

„choose parameter k, θ, σ , such that the observed data is most probable”

Given $n + 1$ short rates $r(t_0), \dots, r(t_n)$, the joint density function is

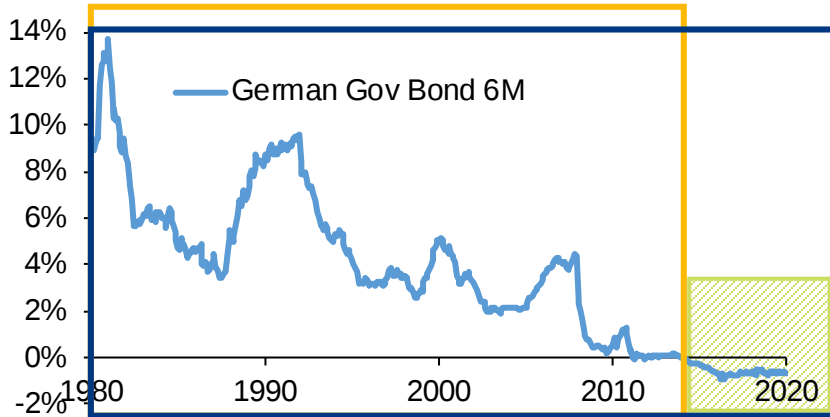
$$L(k, \theta, \sigma) = p(r(t_0)) \prod_{i=1}^n p(r(t_i) | r(t_{i-1}); k, \theta, \sigma).$$

Chose parameters to maximize L : $(k, \theta, \sigma) = \arg \max_{k, \theta, \sigma} L(k, \theta, \sigma)$

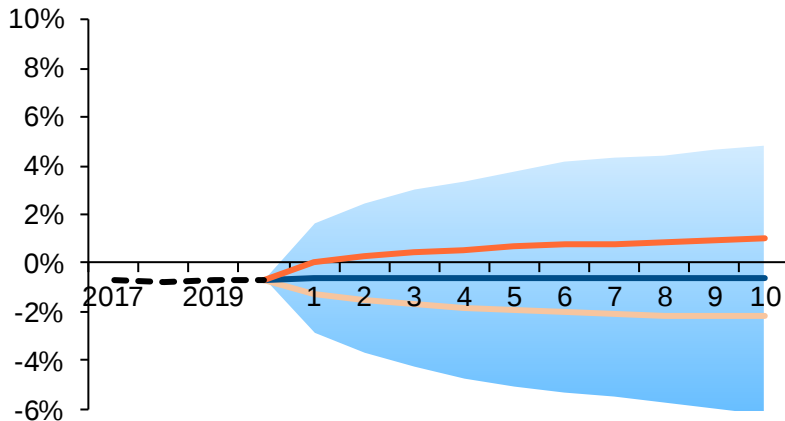
used data: 6-month German Government Bond Yield
(alternatives: EONIA, 3-month EURIBOR)

Vasicek results (German Gov Bond 6M)

Historical data (German Gov Bond 6M)

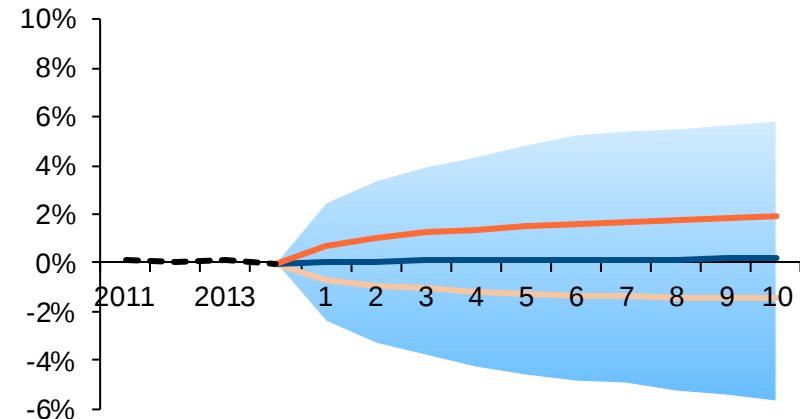


Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020

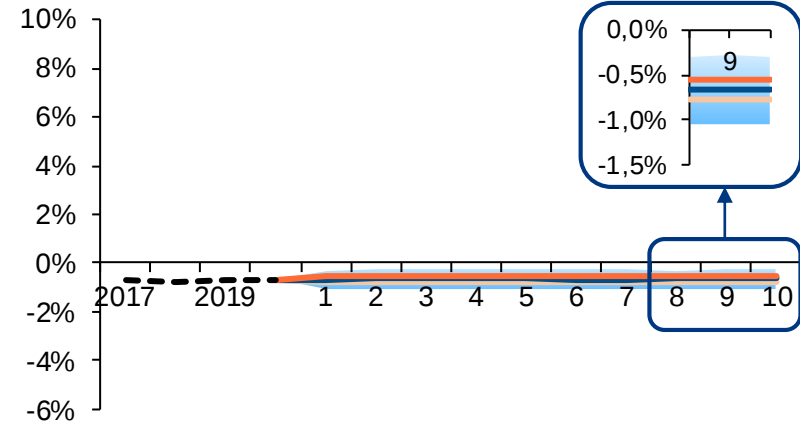


--- History 1%-99% Quantile 25% Quantile

Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2014



Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020



50% Quantile 75% Quantile

Cox-Ingersoll-Ross

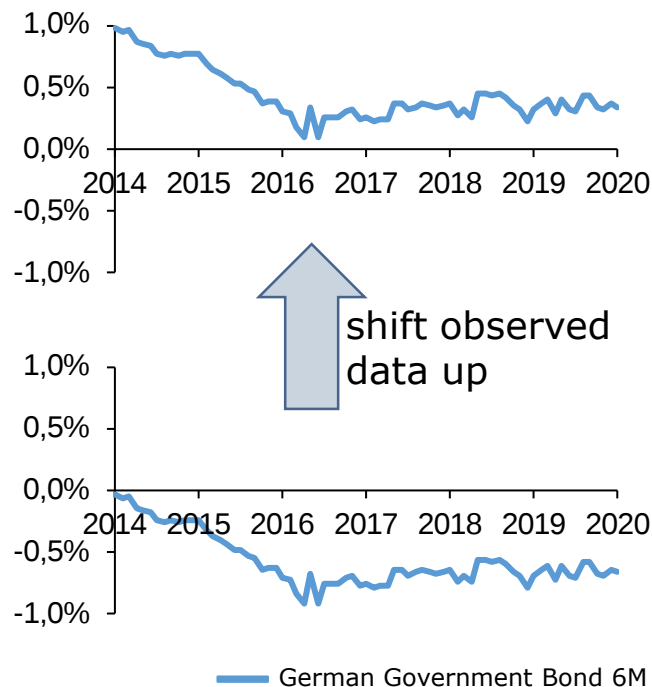
Short rate dynamics

$$dr(t) = k(\theta - r(t))dt + \sigma\sqrt{r(t)}dW(t)$$

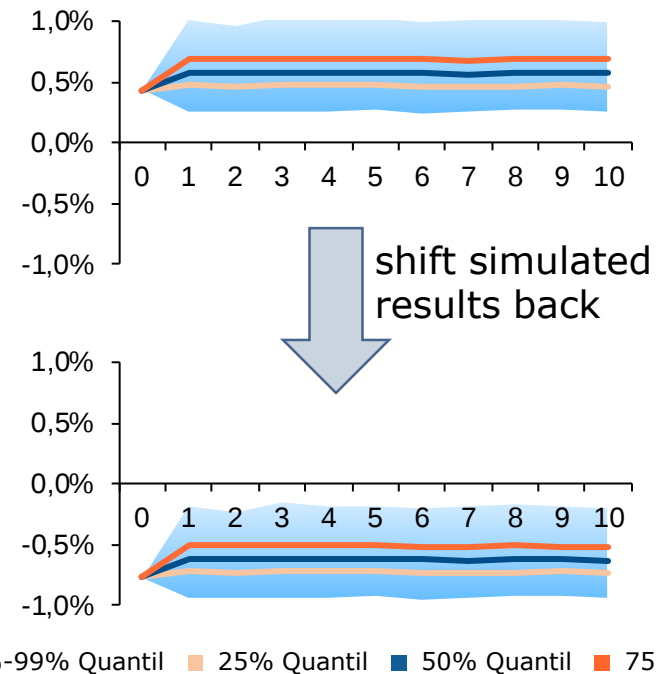
➡ Gives positive interest rates

Calibration to negative interest rates: shift observed data

(cf. Orlando et. al., 2019)

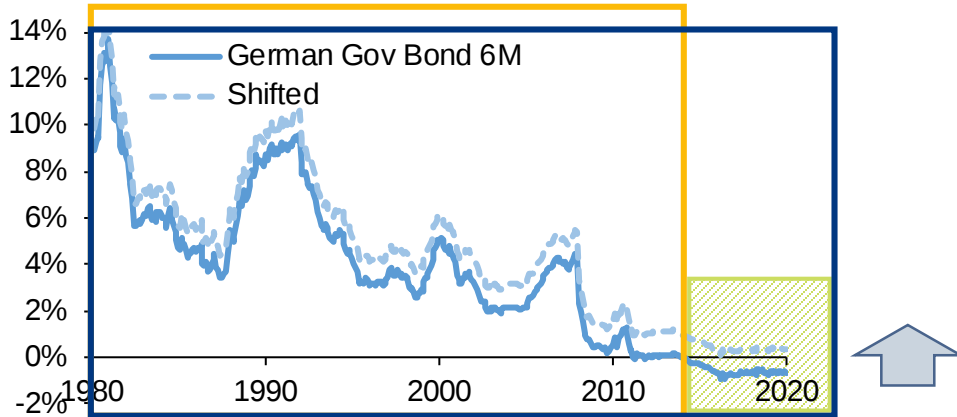


calibration
&
simulation

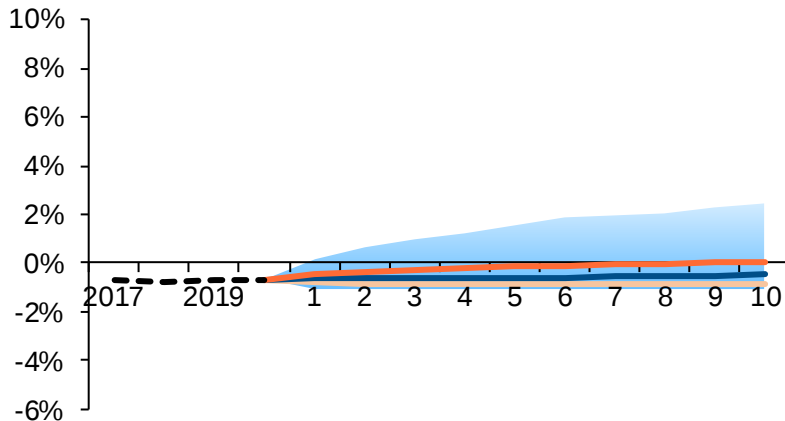


Cox-Ingersoll-Ross results (German Gov Bond 6M)

Historical data (German Gov Bond 6M)

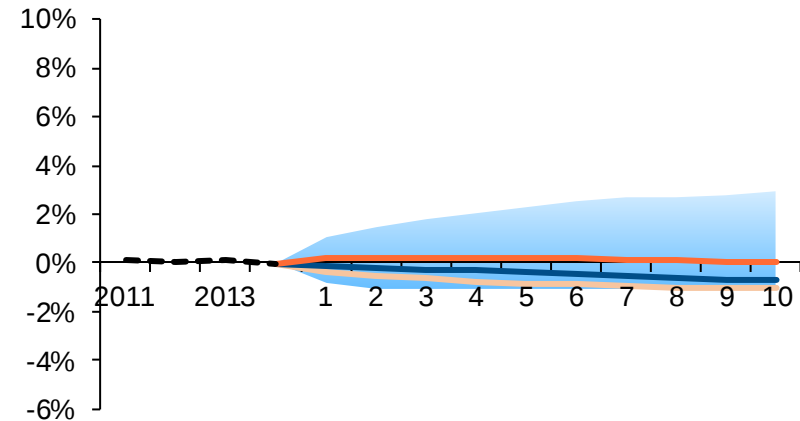


Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020

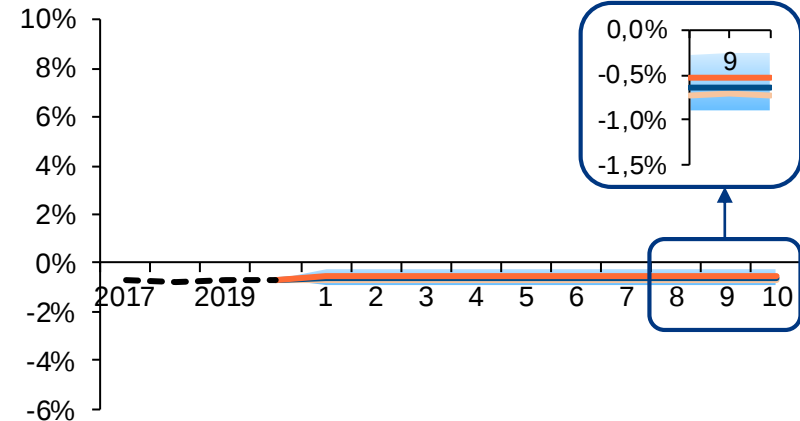


--- History 1%-99% Quantile 25% Quantile

Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2014



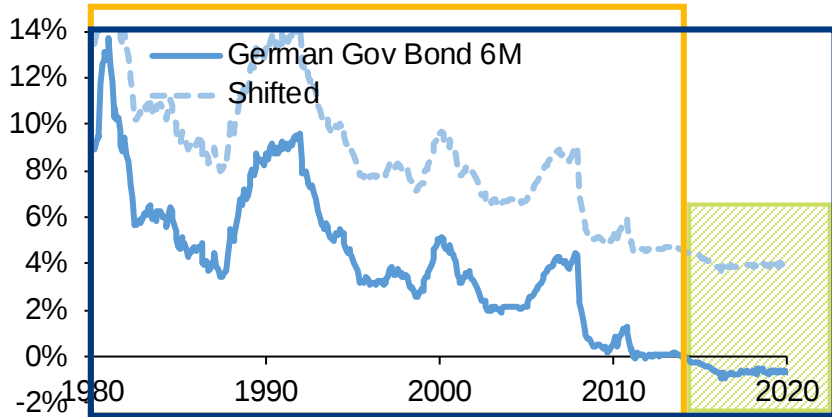
Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020



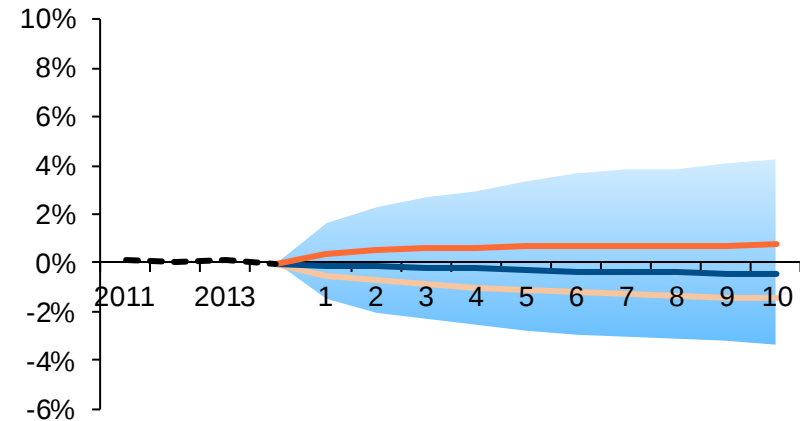
50% Quantile 75% Quantile

Cox-Ingersoll-Ross results (German Gov Bond 6M)

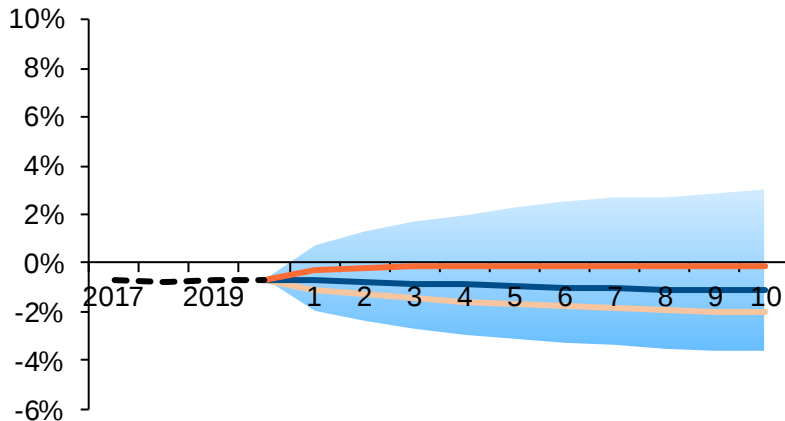
Historical data (German Gov Bond 6M)



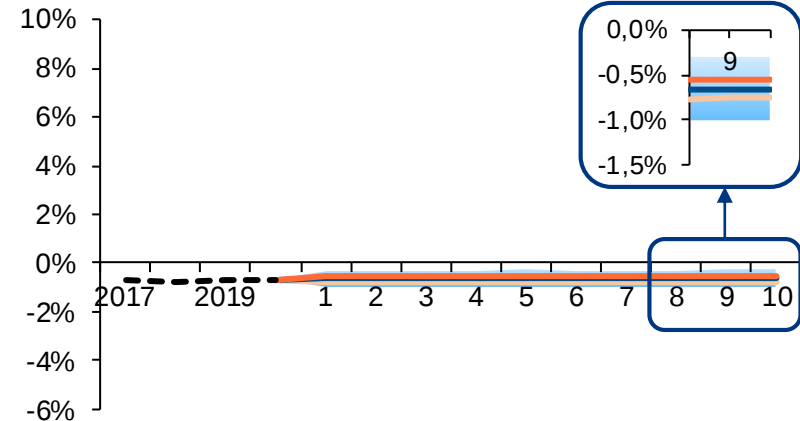
Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2014



Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020



Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020



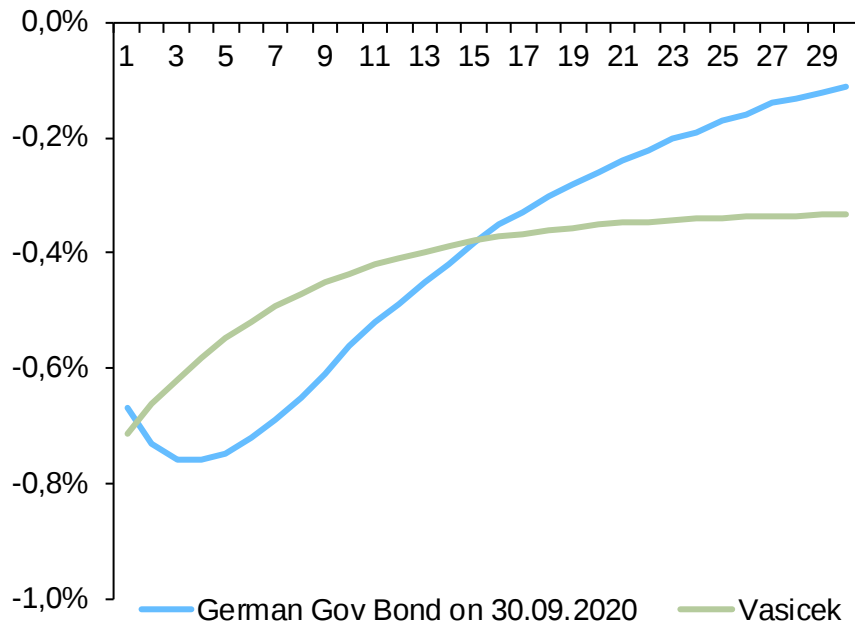
History 1%-99% Quantile 25% Quantile 50% Quantile 75% Quantile

Fitting the initial yield curve

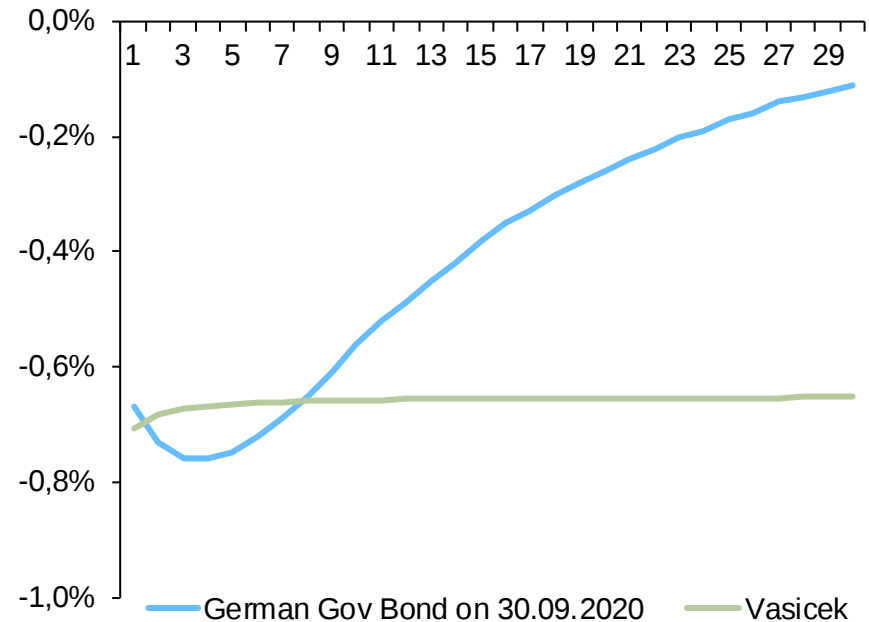
Connection between short rate and yield curve in an affine term-structure model

$$P(t, T) = e^{-R(t, T) \cdot (T-t)} = A(t, T) \cdot e^{-B(t, T) \cdot r(t)}$$

Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020



Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020



Three parameters (k, θ, σ) are not enough to fit the initial yield curve

Hull-White (1994) model

Short rate dynamics

$$dr(t) = (\theta(t) - a \cdot r(t))dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

Alternative representation

$$dx(t) = -a \cdot x(t)dt + \sigma dW(t)$$

$$r(t) = x(t) + \phi(t)$$

Calibration

long term mean

Calibration using market forward rates f^M

$$\phi(t) = f^M(0, t) + \frac{\sigma^2}{2a^2}(1 - e^{-at})^2$$

Market forward rates e.g. from Nelson-Siegel-Svenson curve of German Government Bonds

 Theoretical yield curve fits initial market yield curve

(cf. Brigo and Mercurio, 2006)

reversion and volatility

On one date: via *price of interest rate derivatives*

Minimize the difference between theoretical and empirical price PD (cf. Brigo and Mercurio, 2006)

$$(a, \sigma) = \arg \min_{a, \sigma} |PD^{model}(a, \sigma) - PD^{observed}|$$

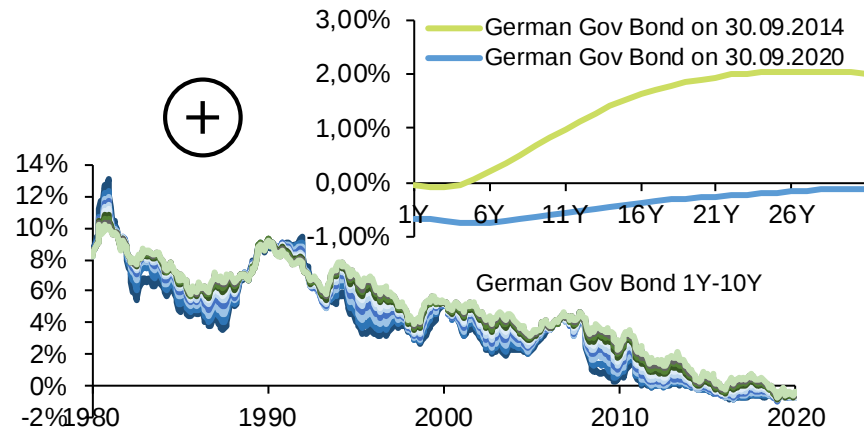
On history of dates: via *spot rate changes* (cf. Aas et. al., 2018)

Minimize the sum of squared differences between theoretical and empirical volatilities of monthly absolute spot rate changes ΔR with maturities $T_k, k = 1 \dots p$.

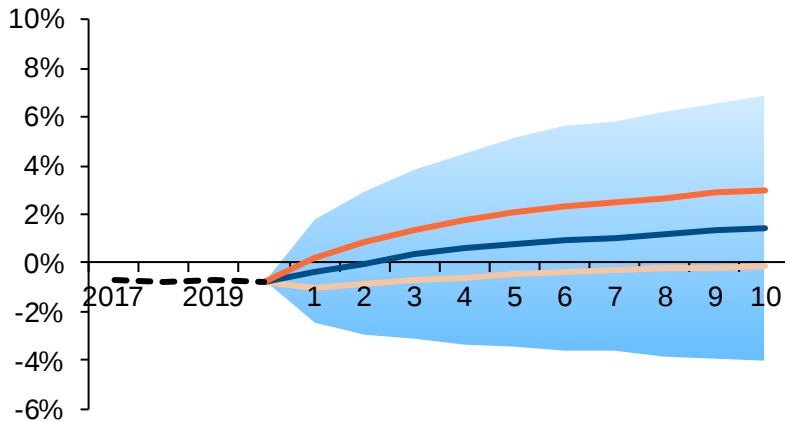
$$(a, \sigma) = \arg \min_{a, \sigma} \sum_{k=1}^p (\sigma_{\Delta R}^{model}(T_k; a, \sigma) - \sigma_{\Delta R}^{observed}(T_k))^2$$

Hull-White results

Historical data (German Gov Bonds)

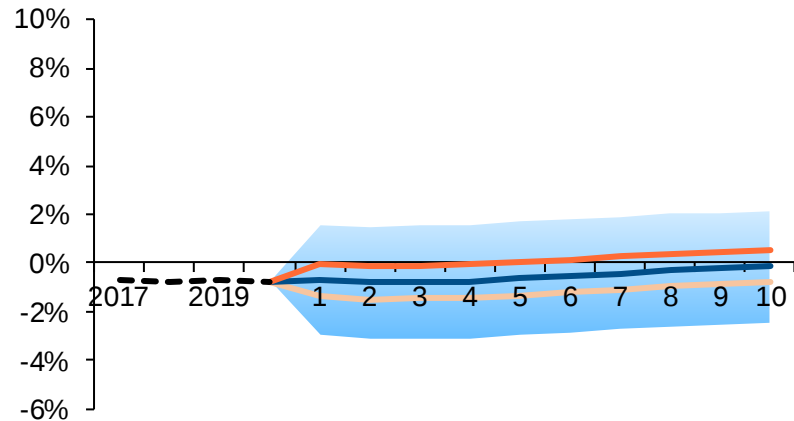


Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020



1%-99% Quantile

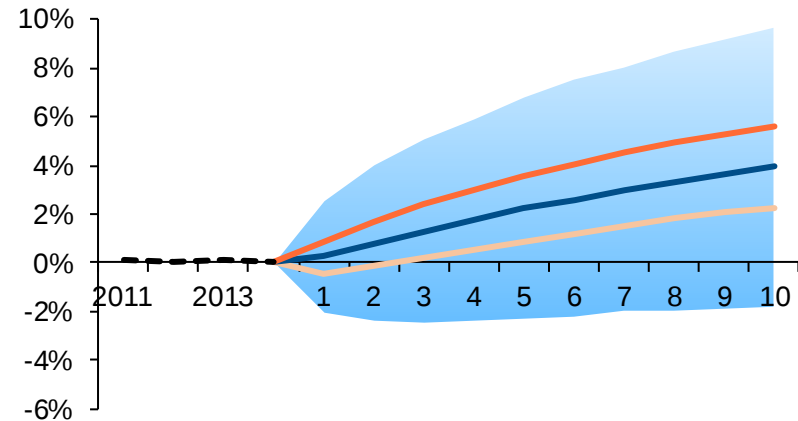
25% Quantile



50% Quantile

75% Quantile

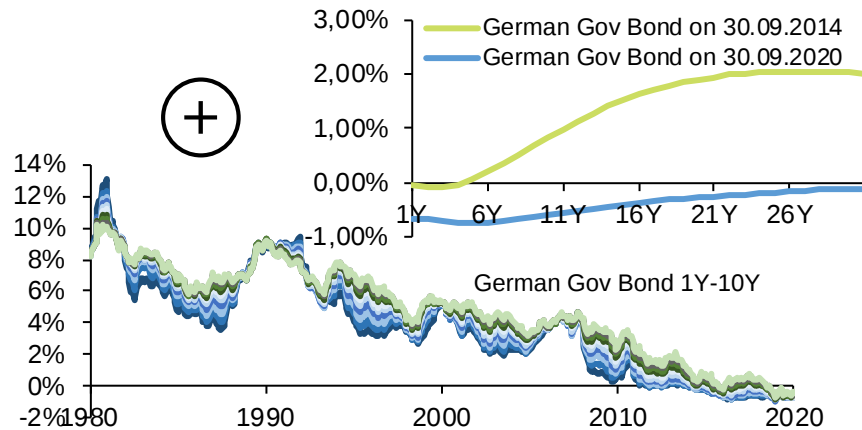
Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2014



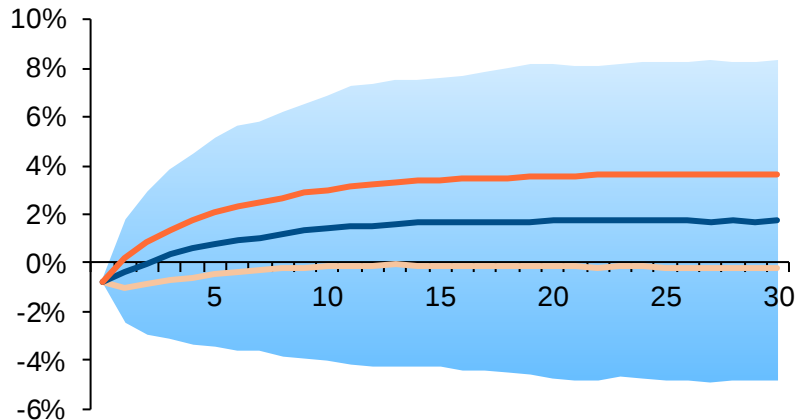
Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020

Hull-White results

Historical data (German Gov Bonds)



Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2020



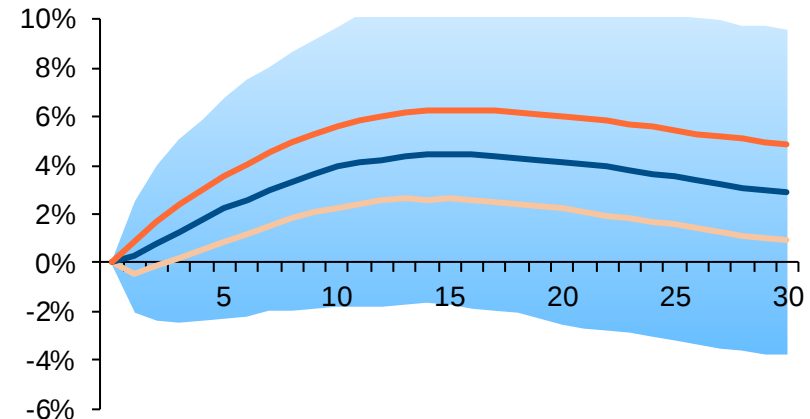
1%-99% Quantile

25% Quantile

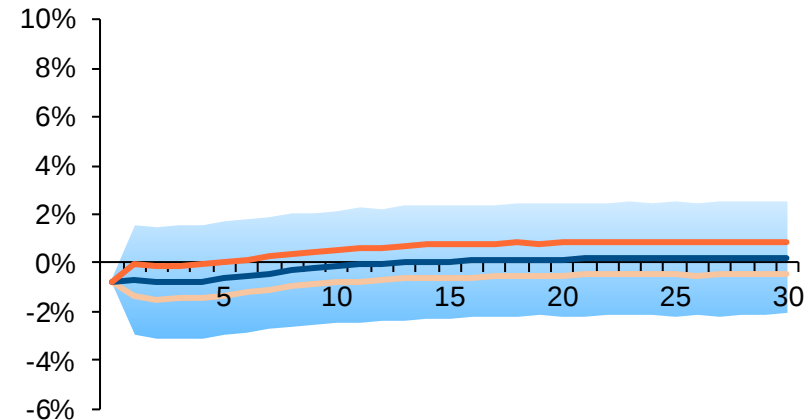
50% Quantile

75% Quantile

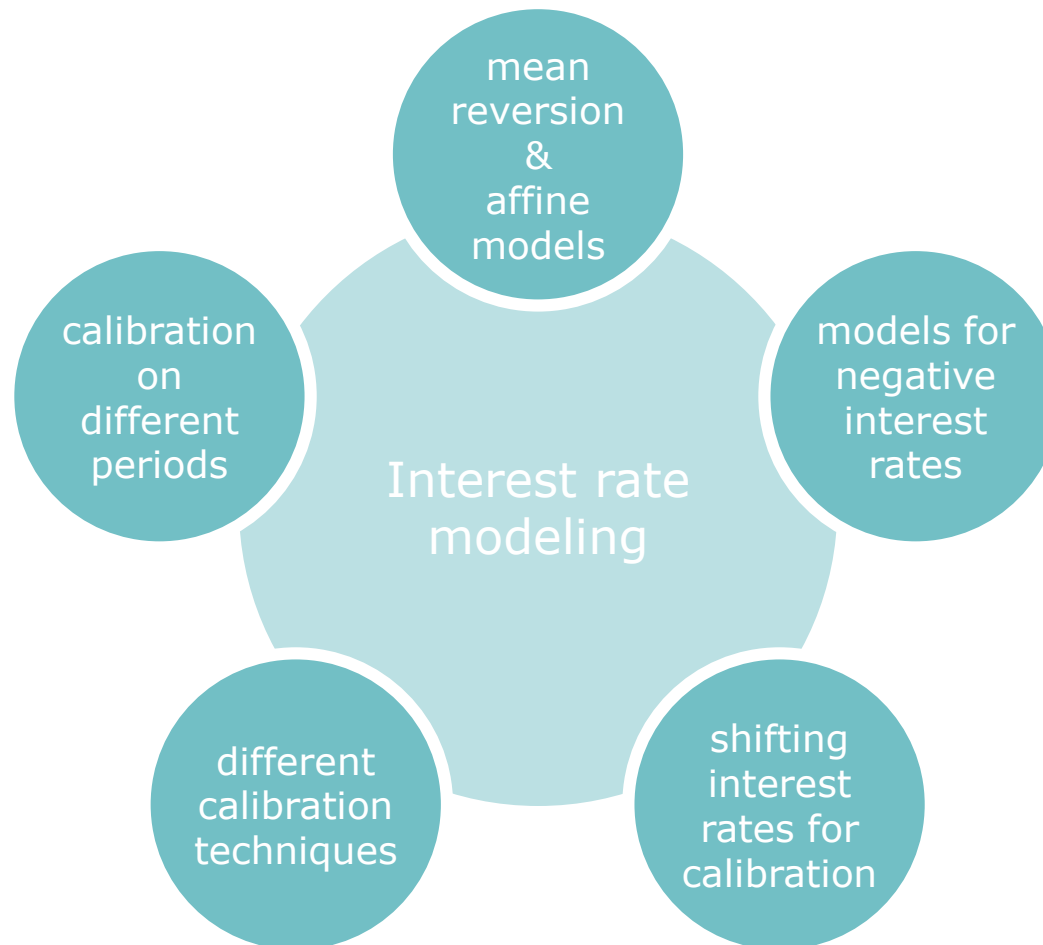
Calibration period 09/1980 – 09/2014



Calibration period 09/2014 – 09/2020



Main points discussed



Literature

- Aas, K., Neef, L. R., Williams, L., & Raabe, D. (2018) *Interest rate model comparisons for participating products under Solvency II*. Scandinavian Actuarial Journal, 2018.3, 203-224.
- Brigo, D. and Mercurio, F. (2006) *Interest rate models-theory and practice: with smile, inflation and credit*. Springer.
- Fischer, T., May, A. and Walther, B. (2003) *Anpassung eines CIR-1-Modells zur Simulation der Zinsstrukturkurve*. Blätter der DGVFM 26.2, 193-206.
- Orlando, G., Mininni, R. M. and Bufalo, M. (2019) *Interest rates calibration with a CIR model*. The Journal of Risk Finance 20.4, 370-387.

Thank you for your attention

Dr. Felix Hentschel

Allianz Pension Consult GmbH
Marienstraße 50
70178 Stuttgart

felix.hentschel@allianz.de