

EXAM 6 – CANADA, FALL 2013

18. (3 points)

A reinsurer is entering into a commutation agreement with a primary insurer. The following information is available about the transaction as at December 31, 2012.

Period	Estimated Payment to Reinsurer (\$)
2013	\$350,000
2014	\$150,000

Assume the following:

- Required capital is based on a regulatory approach.
- The company must hold target capital equal to 180% of required capital.
- A margin of 10% of the claims liability is required.
- The discount rate is 1%.
- The risk cost of capital rate is 5%.
- All payments are made in the middle of the year.

a. (2.5 points)

Estimate the commuted value of the claims.

b. (0.5 point)

Identify an advantage and a disadvantage of this transaction from the primary insurer's perspective.

- Benefits must be paid out within 2 weeks
 - Premium reduction to be returned directly or indirectly to employees
- b)
- Additional Benefits
 - Direct \$ refund
 - No candidate got full marks on this subpart
- c)
- Employee is fired for misconduct
 - Employee quit voluntarily
 - Employee on strike as part of a union

Examiner's report:

Most of the candidates poorly answered the question as it is not an important part of the syllabus. We graded this question quite generously for parts a and b accepting all answers close to the model solution. For part c) it was generally quite well answered as it had already been asked in the past and is also considered general knowledge even to those who have not read the paper.

Question 17

Answer key:

Max policy acquisition expenses deferrable = Net UEP + Premium Deficiency + unearned commission
 – net policy liabilities in connection with UEP
 = 155,000 + 0 + 1,000 – 134,000 = 22,000 breakdown properly

The company has recorded 22,500 but the maximum is 22,000 so the amount of acquisition expenses deferred much be reduced by \$500. However since there is enough unearned premium to cover the expected policy liabilities there is no need for a premium deficiency.

X: 0
 Y: 22,000
 Z: 22,000

Actual candidate answer for full marks:

$EQU = 155\ 000 - 134\ 000 + 1\ 000 = 22\ 000$
 Like DPAE is greater than EQU, it should be reduced to the level of EQU

$Y = 22\ 000$ $Z = 22\ 000$ like DPAE = EQU
 $X = 0$ because EQU is positive

Examiner's report:

Candidates performed well on this question in general. Some candidates did not input the unearned commission into the Max policy acquisition expense deferrable formula. A few candidates had calculation errors while the underlying formula was correct.

Question 18

Answer key:

a.

	Formula	2013	2014	Total
Estimated Payments in period (a)		350,000	150,000	500,000
Payment Duration (b)		0.5	1.5	
Discount Rate (c)		1%	1%	
Present Value Claims Cash Flow (d)	$(a) \cdot (1+c) \exp(-b)$	348,263	147,778	496,041
Undiscounted Future Payments (e)		500,000	150,000	
Required Margin (f)		10%	10%	
Regulatory Capital at 180% (g)	$(e) \cdot (f) \cdot 1.8$	90,000	27,000	
Risk Cost of Capital (h)		5%	5%	
Cost of Capital in Period (i)	$(g) \cdot (h)$	4,500	1,350	
Duration (j)		1	2	
Risk (k)	$(i) \cdot (1+c) \exp(-j)$	4,455	1,323	5,779
Commuted Value	$(d) + (k)$			501,820

b.

Advantages:

- Removes concern over credit worthiness of the reinsurer
- Accelerated settlement, ending relationship with the reinsurer
- Savings in administrative costs of monitoring/reporting claims
- Improvement in perceived wealth as cash is valued higher than receivables
- Certain immediate amount is substituted for an uncertain future amount
- Tax benefit through creation of a marginal underwriting loss

Disadvantages:

- Have to hold capital for additional risk (support the liabilities)
- Cash outlay, forgo other investment opportunities
- Risk of future adverse loss experience

Actual candidate answer for full marks:

a.

	Total	2013	2014
Estimated payment	500,000	350,000	150,000
PV at $i=1\%$	496,041	$350K/1.01^{.5} = 348,263$	$150K/1.01^{1.5} = 147,778$
Capital required		$500,000 \times 10\% \times 180\% = 90,000$	$150,000 \times 10\% \times 180\% = 27,000$
Cost of capital		$90,000 \times 5\% = 4,500$	$27,000 \times 5\% = 1,350$

PV Cost of capital	5,778	$4,500/1.01^1=4,455$	$1,350/1.01^2=1,323$
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Estimated commuted value of claims = 496,041 + 5,778 = 501,819

Alternative to the Solution Key:

AP = Ambivalence point

Assume tax rate is 35%

$AP = [AP - 0.95\min(\text{Reported Reserves}, APV)] \text{ Tax rate} + PV(\text{loss})$

$PV = 350K/(1.01^{0.5}) + 150K/(1.01^{1.5}) = 496,041$

$APV = PV (1 + MfAD_{\text{Claims}}) = 496,041 \times (1.1) = 545,645$

$AP = [AP - 0.95\min(500K, 545,645)] \times 0.35 + 496,041$

$AP = 0.35AP - 166,250 + 496,041$

$AP = 507,371$

b.

Sample 1:

Advantage:

- The primary insurer exchanges an uncertain future amount by a certain amount immediately.

Disadvantage:

- The primary insurer may be subject to adverse development (court award, social inflation, ...)

Sample 2:

Advantage:

- The primary gets a cash flow immediately for assuming the liabilities

Disadvantage:

- The company must now hold capital in order to support the liabilities.

Sample 3 (assumes primary insurer is buyer of commutation agreement):

Advantage:

- Not subject to adverse development of loss any more

Disadvantage:

- Cash outlay, forgone some other investment opportunities

Examiner's report:

a. Many candidates attempted to use the Steeneck Ambivalence Point calculation, but not all inputs were given. These candidates were awarded partial marks.

Other common mistakes involved using 350,000 instead of 500,000 as undiscounted future payment in calculation of required capital, mis-applying the 180% regulatory capital, the 5% risk cost of capital, and the durations of 1 and 2 for the PV of risk.

b. Because the table in the question incorrectly stated that the payment was to the reinsurer, and not from the reinsurer, many candidates reversed the advantages/disadvantages listed above. These candidates were given full marks.

Question 19

Answer key: