

MASTER 1 in ECONOMICS  
MASTER 1 ECONOMIE ET STATISTIQUE  
MASTER 1 ECONOMIE ET DROIT

**Corporate finance / code : M1S26**

Lundi 1<sup>er</sup> juillet 2013

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↳ durée conseillée pour traiter ce sujet : 1 heure

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↳ **ATTENTION** : le nom de la matière et son code doivent être **IMPERATIVEMENT** recopiés sur la copie d'examen

Exercise 1: evaluating risky projects

In 1989, General Motors evaluated the acquisition of Hughes Aircraft corporation. GM assumed that Hughes had the same risk as Lockheed or Northrop, which had low-risk defense contracts similar to Hughes. GM's cost of capital was thus not appropriate to value this acquisition.

Assume the following :

Comparison	$\beta_E$	D/E
GM	1.2	0.4
Lockheed	0.9	0.9
Northrop	0.85	0.7

Target D/E for Hughes acquisition: 1

Hughes's expected real asset cash-flows next year: 300 million €

Growth rate of Hughes's cash-flows: 5% per year

Discount rate on debt: 8% (riskless rate)

Expected return of the market portfolio: 14%

Assume there are no taxes.

- 1) compute Hughes's asset  $\beta$ , by taking the average of the asset betas of Lockheed and Northrop
- 2) compute the appropriate cost of capital for Hughes's acquisition
- 3) determine the value of this acquisition with the cost of capital computed in 2)
- 4) determine the value of Hughes if GM uses its own cost of capital.

Exercise 2 : Purchasing stocks before or after dividend payment

XT Corporation will pay a 1\$ dividend, and tomorrow is the ex dividend date : if you buy a share tomorrow, you will not obtain the dividend. XT shares sell at 20\$ today, and are expected to sell at 19.2\$ tomorrow. If your personal tax rate is 25%, will you prefer to buy the stock today or tomorrow ? if it is 30 % ? 10% ?