

FINANCIAL MATH 101

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COMPOUND INTEREST

Define...

FV	Future Value
PV	Present Value
y	years
p	compounding periods per year (365 days, 52 weeks, 12 months, 4 quarters)
N	Number of periods ($y \cdot p$)
I	annual <i>nominal</i> Interest rate
I/p	<i>periodic</i> interest rate
E	annual Effective interest rate

Formulas...

Years	FV
1	$PV \cdot (1+I)$
2	$PV \cdot (1+I) \cdot (1+I) = PV \cdot (1+I)^2$
...	
y	$PV \cdot (1+I)^y$

In general, with p compounding periods per year:

$$FV = PV \cdot (1+I/p)^N \quad (1)$$

Example: You give [Harvey CORE](#) \$10k and he promises to compound monthly at nominal interest rate 10% for five years. How much do you get back in five years?

We have $PV=\$10,000$, $I=0.1$, $p=12$, $y=5$, giving $N=60$ and $FV=\$16,453$.

And if *continuous* compounding (where e is base of natural logarithms, 2.718...):

$$FV = PV \cdot e^{yI} \quad (2)$$

Example: The Captain does Harvey one better (as usual). She will compound continuously, even as we speak. How much does she give back?

We have $PV=\$10,000$, $y=5$, $I=0.1$, giving $FV=\$16,487$, or \$34 more than Harvey!

Re-expressing (1):

$$PV = FV / (1+i/p)^N \quad (3)$$

Same formula to deflate future \$ to current \$ based on inflation rate I

Example: Given FV in Example (1), all else the same, what's PV? PV=\$10,000.

Example: Harvey's feeling good and says he will fork over a cool \$1 million 20 years from now, no strings (so he says). The annualized inflation rate during the 1990s was about 3%. If that inflation rate holds over the next 20 years, what would Harvey's generosity be worth today?

We have FV=\$1,000,000, I=0.03, p=1, y=20 (so N=20), giving PV=\$553,676.

Annual effective interest rate:

FV based on effective interest rate \equiv FV based on periodic interest rate

$$PV \cdot (1+E)^y = PV \cdot (1+i/p)^N$$

$$PV \cdot (1+E)^y = PV \cdot (1+i/p)^{y \cdot p}$$

Taking yth root:

$$(1+E) = (1+i/p)^p$$

Note that E=I when p=1 (annual compounding)

$$E = (1+i/p)^p - 1 \quad (4)$$

Example: Given the data in Example (1), we have I=0.1, p=12, giving E=0.1047, or an effective rate of 10.47% compared to a nominal rate of 10%.

ANNUITIES

Set of equal *periodic* payments. Not just annual, but originally conceived as annual, thus the name *annuity*. The most common period is monthly, as in mortgages and consumer loans.

Define...

PMT Payment (Annuity)

Formulas...

$$FV = PMT + PMT \cdot (1+i/p)^1 + PMT \cdot (1+i/p)^2 + \dots + PMT \cdot (1+i/p)^N$$

Last payment

First payment, same as formula (1)

This is the sum of a *geometric series*:

$$FV = PMT \cdot [(1+i/p)^N - 1] / (i/p) \quad (5)$$

Plug (5) into (3) to get after some algebraic manipulations:

$$PV = PMT \cdot [1 - (1+i/p)^{-N}] / (i/p) \quad (6)$$

Or solving for PMT:

$$\text{PMT} = \text{PV} \cdot (l/p) / [1 - (1+l/p)^{-N}] \quad (7)$$

PV is the amount of the loan and PMT is the payment in loan problems.

Example: What's the monthly payment on a \$250,000 house loan over 30 years at 7%?

Given PV=\$250,000, l=0.07, p=12, y=30, we have N=360 and PMT=\$1663.26.

ANNUALIZED RETURN

Define...

r_j return in year j

A Annualized return (average return per year)

Formulas...

$$\text{FV} = \text{PV} \cdot (1 + r_1) \cdot (1 + r_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 + r_y)$$

Plug formula (1) for FV, noting that A is used for l/p:

$$\text{PV} \cdot (1 + A)^y = \text{PV} \cdot (1 + r_1) \cdot (1 + r_2) \cdot \dots \cdot (1 + r_y)$$

This is a geometric mean

Solving for A:

$$A = [\prod (1 + r_j)]^{1/y} - 1 \quad (j=1, \dots, y) \quad (8)$$

Example: Returns are **20%** and **5%** over two years. The annualized return is:

$$A = [(1.20) \cdot (1.05)]^{1/2} - 1 = [1.26]^{1/2} - 1 = 1.122 - 1 = 0.122 \text{ or } \mathbf{12.2\%} \text{ (not the arithmetic mean } \mathbf{12.5\%}).$$