Uncertainty in Cash Flows

James Woods

5/19/2016

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What do you mean "I don't know"?

▶ We are way more certain than we should be.

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- Example:
 - Make your best guess at the population of Keyna
 - Give yourself a reasonable upper and lower bound so you are 80% sure the true value is there.

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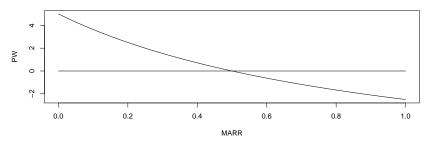
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You Have Seen Sensitivity Analysis

▶ Recall the PW diagrams we used in learning IRR?



Other Parameters

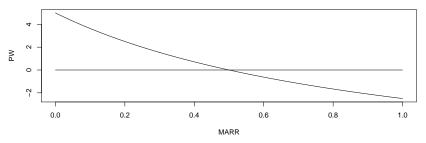
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$$PW = -10 + \frac{15}{(1+r)}$$



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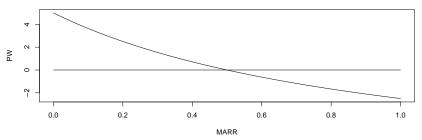
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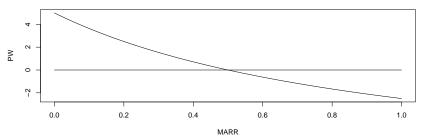
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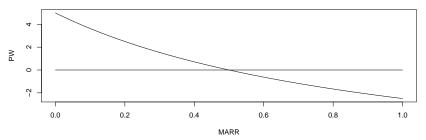
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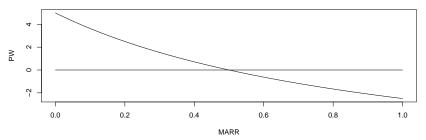
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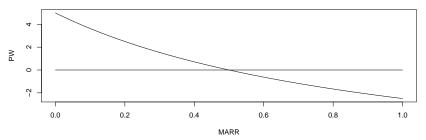
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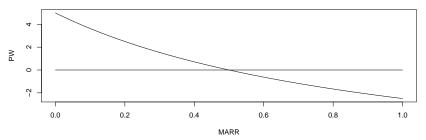
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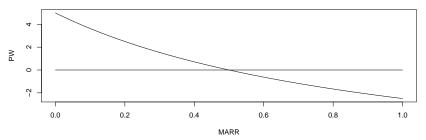
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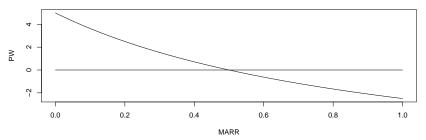
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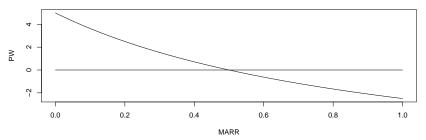
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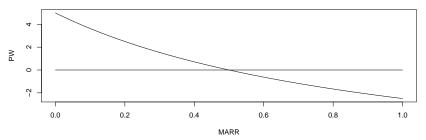
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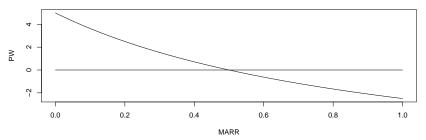
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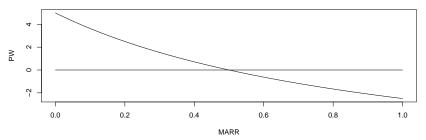
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Consider a simple constant series that we can describe the present worth with factor notation:

$$P = C + A(P|A, i = r, N = n)$$

Lots of parameters to vary:

- A, the size of the constant benefits.
- r, the discount rate
- n, how long you get payments
- C, the inital cost

We warned you about r and n so lets vary just A

$$r = .1$$
, $n = 10$, $C = -10$, $A \in [0, 5]$

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- r, the discount rate
- n, how long you get payments
- C, the inital cost

We warned you about r and n so lets vary just A

$$r=.1, n=10, C=-10, A \in [0,5]$$

PW Example

Consider a simple constant series that we can describe the present worth with factor notation:

$$P = C + A(P|A, i = r, N = n)$$

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Priors for Sensitivity Analysis

▶ In the examples above we just picked bounds.

Single Person

Multi-Person

Joint Distributions

Priors for Sensitivity Analysis

- ▶ In the examples above we just picked bounds.
- ▶ Book gives some bad advice on how to pick the design points, bounds, in a sensitivity analysis, \pm 20%.

Single Person

Multi-Person

Joint Distributions

Multiple Parameter Sensitivity

Spider Graphs

Monte Carlo Simulations

Interested in More?