

# Compound Interest

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## 0.1 Compound interest with only principal

Let's assume we want to invest with  $p$  amount for principal. The annual interest rate is  $r$ . The annual interest rate is distributed  $n$  times per year. We want to see how much our investment grows over  $t$  years:

$$p' = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t}$$

Let's explain the formula with an example. If  $n = 12$  and  $t = 1$ , then:

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= p \\ p_1 &= p_0 \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right) = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right) \\ p_2 &= p_1 \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right) = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^2 \\ &\vdots \\ p_{12} &= p_{11} \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right) = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{12} \end{aligned}$$

## 0.2 Compound interest with principal and recurring contribution

We introduced a new variable. Let's assume  $m$  is the number of times that we contribute  $c$  in a year.

### 0.2.1 When $n = 1 \wedge m = 1$

Let's assume  $n = 1$  and we have a recurring contribution of  $c$  once every year ( $m = 1$ ). Let's assume  $e_i$  is  $c$  as well as its growth if we start investing it in year  $i$  for  $t - i$  years:

$$e_i = c \times (1 + r)^{t-i}$$

We assumed the contribution started at the end of the year. If it's at the beginning of the year, we call it  $b_i$ :

$$b_i = c \times (1 + r)^{t-i+1}$$

The total growth is:

$$\begin{aligned} t_e &= p \times (1 + r)^t + \sum_{i=1}^t e_i \\ t_b &= p \times (1 + r)^t + \sum_{i=1}^t b_i \end{aligned}$$

Let's calculate the second part of  $t_e$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t e_i &= \sum_{i=1}^t c \times (1+r)^{t-i} \\
 &= \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} c \times (1+r)^i \\
 &= c \times \sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (1+r)^i \\
 &= c \times (1 + (1+r)^1 + (1+r)^2 + \dots + (1+r)^{t-1}) \\
 &= c \times \frac{(1+r)^t - 1}{(1+r) - 1} \\
 &= c \times \frac{(1+r)^t - 1}{r}
 \end{aligned}$$

Note that we use the fact that  $\sum_{i=0}^{t-1} (1+r)^i$  is **geometric series**. So we have:

$$t_e = p \times (1+r)^t + c \times \frac{(1+r)^t - 1}{r}$$

With a similar approach we can calculate  $t_b$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t b_i &= \sum_{i=1}^t c \times (1+r)^{t-i+1} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^t c \times (1+r)^i \\
 &= c \times ((1+r)^1 + (1+r)^2 + \dots + (1+r)^t) \\
 &= c \times (1+r) \times (1 + (1+r)^1 + (1+r)^2 + \dots + (1+r)^{t-1}) \\
 &= c \times (1+r) \times \frac{(1+r)^t - 1}{r}
 \end{aligned}$$

So we have:

$$t_b = p \times (1+r)^t + c \times (1+r) \times \frac{(1+r)^t - 1}{r}$$

## 0.2.2 General formula for recurring contribution

Here is the formula:

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$$t_e = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} + \sum_{i=1}^{m \times t} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t - i \times \frac{n}{m}}$$

$$t_b = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} + \sum_{i=0}^{m \times t - 1} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t - i \times \frac{n}{m}}$$

Let's explain it with some examples.

$$n = 12 \wedge m = 4 \wedge t = 1$$

Here is an overall overview of interests and contributions:

$$\overbrace{r_1, r_2, r_3}^{c_1}, \overbrace{r_4, r_5, r_6}^{c_2}, \overbrace{r_7, r_8, r_9}^{c_3}, \overbrace{r_{10}, r_{11}, r_{12}}^{c_4}$$

As we defined it before  $e_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  contribution of  $c$  and its growth. We contribute it at the end of the interval. On the other hand,  $b_i$  is the  $i^{th}$  contribution of  $c$  and its growth in which we started the contribution at the beginning of the interval. We can verify  $e_1$  and  $b_1$ . The former starts from  $r_4$  and the latter from  $r_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} e_1 &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)^{12 \times 1 - 1 \times \frac{12}{4}} \\ &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)^9 \\ b_1 &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)^{12 \times 1 - 0 \times \frac{12}{4}} \\ &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{12}\right)^{12} \end{aligned}$$

$$n = 4 \wedge m = 12 \wedge t = 1$$

Here is an overall overview of interests and contributions:

$$\overbrace{c_1, c_2, c_3}^{r_1}, \overbrace{c_4, c_5, c_6}^{r_2}, \overbrace{c_7, c_8, c_9}^{r_3}, \overbrace{c_{10}, c_{11}, c_{12}}^{r_4}$$

The interests of  $e_1$  starts at  $c_2$  and the interests of  $b_1$  starts at  $c_1$ . This is a bit different than the other case because we contribute more than one per interest interval. Let's first consider the following fact:

$$\begin{aligned} p &= \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{1}{3}} \\ \implies c \times p^3 &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right) \end{aligned}$$

This fact helps us to find out  $e_1$  and  $b_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
e_1 &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{1-\frac{1}{3}} \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{4-1} \\
&= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{4-1 \times \frac{1}{3}} \\
b_1 &= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{4-0 \times \frac{1}{3}}
\end{aligned}$$

Now lets use geometric series sum formula to simplify  $t_e$  and  $t_b$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{i=1}^{m \times t} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t - i \times \frac{n}{m}} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{mt-1} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m} \times i} \\
&= c \times \sum_{i=0}^{mt-1} \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m} \times i} \\
&= c \times \frac{\left(\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}}\right)^{m \times t} - 1}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} - 1} \\
&= c \times \frac{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} - 1}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} - 1}
\end{aligned}$$

So we have:

$$t_e = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} + c \times \frac{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} - 1}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} - 1}$$

Now let's focus on  $t_b$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
&\sum_{i=0}^{m \times t - 1} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t - i \times \frac{n}{m}} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{m \times t} c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m} \times i} \\
&= c \times \sum_{i=1}^{m \times t} \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m} \times i} \\
&= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} \times \sum_{i=0}^{mt-1} \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m} \times i} \\
&= c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} \times \frac{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} - 1}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} - 1}
\end{aligned}$$

Now we have  $t_b$ :

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$$t_b = p \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} + c \times \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} \times \frac{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{n \times t} - 1}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{\frac{n}{m}} - 1}$$