



**STEVENS**  
INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY  
THE INNOVATION UNIVERSITY®

# E355 - Engineering Economics

**Lecture 02 B:** Understanding Cash Flow  
Diagrams, Interest Rates and Time Value  
of Money

**Chapters:** 2, 3, 4

Kathryn D. Abel, Ph.D.

School of Systems & Enterprises





# Lecture Objectives

After completing this module you should understand the following:

- Cash flow diagram: basics, ‘how to’ and types (arithmetic, geometric gradient)
- Time Value of Money
- Overview of simple and compound interests – calculation methods including continuous compounding
- Nominal, periodic and effective interest rates
- Equivalence calculations with nominal and effective interest rates

## Why?

- Understand Long term impacts of time on economic value.  
How do you plan for retirement?
- Evaluate different interest rates and determine what they mean. Which savings option is best and why?
- Visualize Economic Values at different points in time to evaluate positive or negative financial impact. This should be a foundation for all economic decisions.



# Economic Equivalence

Economic Equivalence:

Definition:

*The process of comparing two different cash amounts at different points in time.*

Can assess:

- Single Payments
- Series of Payments





# Economic Equivalence:

## Guiding Principles

- Equivalence calculations made to compare alternatives require a common time basis.
- Equivalence depends on interest rate.
- Equivalence calculations may require the conversion of multiple payment cash flows to a single cash flow.
- Equivalence is maintained regardless of point of view.



# Equivalence

- Consider two investment opportunities: A and B. If you are indifferent to one or the other in making a choice between them, they are said to be equivalent.
- Equivalence allows us to convert from any P(Present Value) to any F (Future Value) and vice versa.



# Equivalence

## Show Video:

### Time Value of Money

# What is $i$ ?

## MARR

### Minimum Attractive Rate of Return

- The interest rate that the company wants to earn on its investments.
- Selection is usually a policy decision made by top management.
- MARR can change over the life of a project.

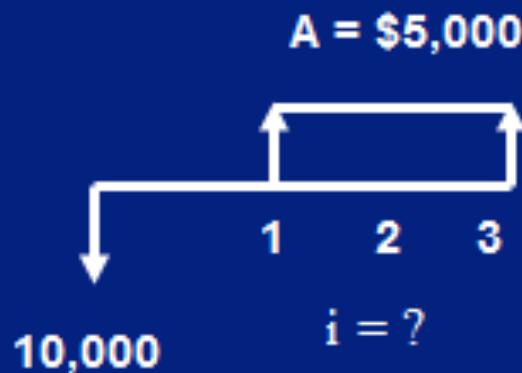
Based on:

- Cost of Capital
- Risk

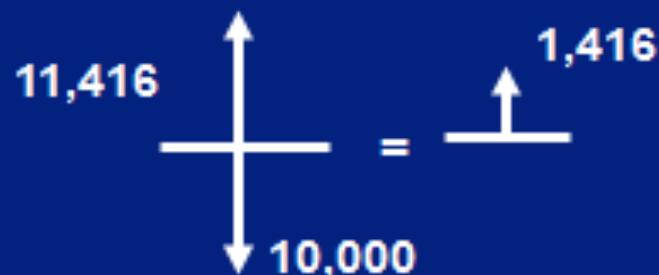


# Equivalence

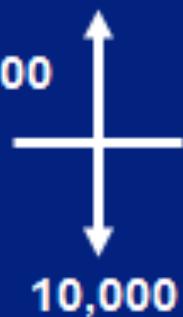
## Equivalence Cash Flow Diagrams



At some interest rate these cash flows are equivalent



You can add/subtract discrete cash flows as long as they are at the same point in time



# Manipulating Rates of Return

- Aligning time horizons
- Adding and subtracting cash flows
- Manipulating gradients



# Single Cash Flow

- Compound Amount Factor
  - Used to find the future worth (FW) of a present value
  - Find F given P, i and N

$$F = P(1 + i)^N = P(F/P, i, N)$$

Same as  
Compound Interest

Single Payment Compound Amount Factor  
(TABLE FACTOR)

# Single Cash Flow

- **Present Worth Factor**

- Used to find the present worth (PW) of a future value.
- Find P given F, i and N.
- Opposite of compounding
- Known as “discounting”.

$$P = F(1 + i)^{-N} = F(P/F, i, N)$$

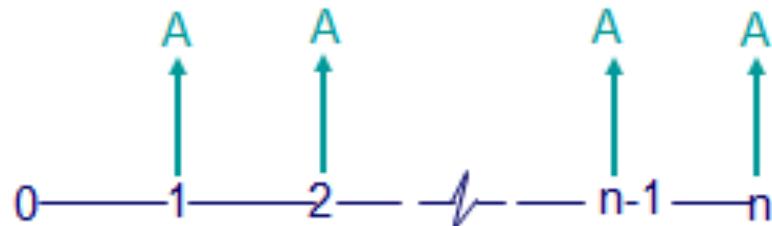
From Compound  
Interest Formula

Single Payment Discount Amount Factor  
(TABLE FACTOR)

# Uniform Series

## Uniform Series Notation:

$A$  = an end-of-period cash flow in a uniform series, continuing for  $n$  periods

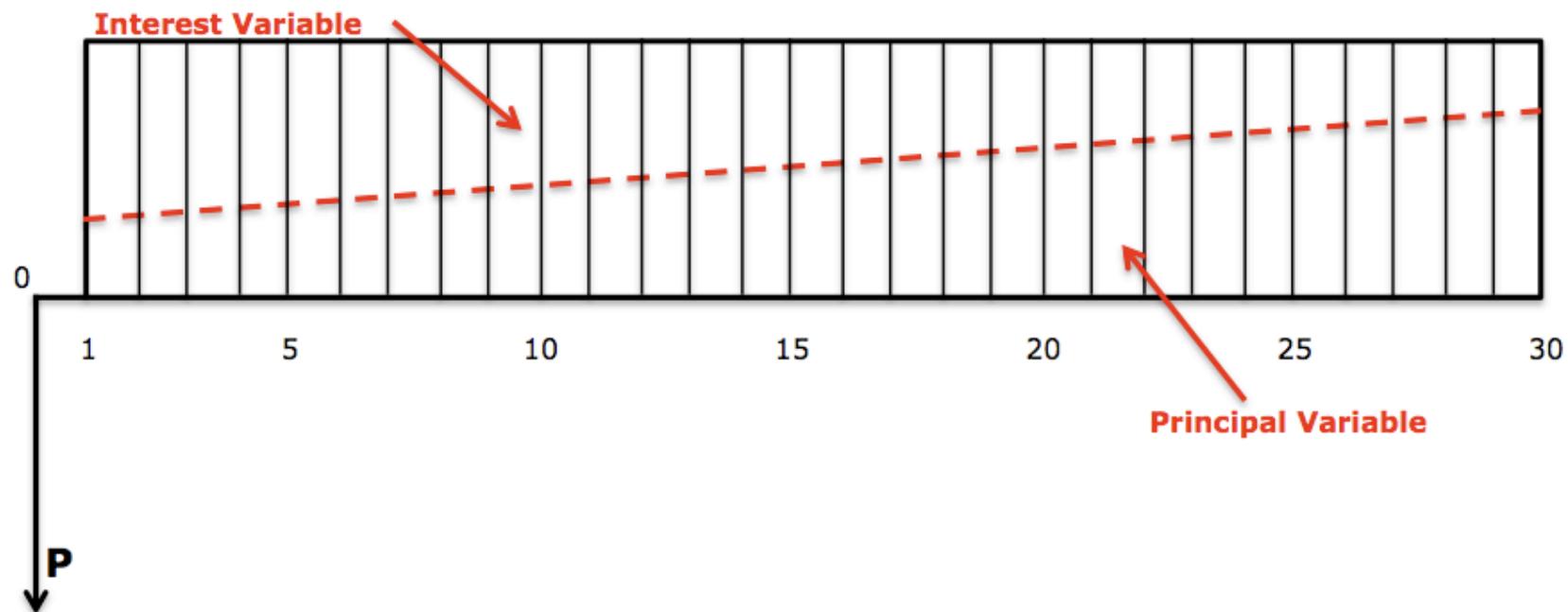


## Examples

- Automobile loans, mortgage payments, insurance premium, rents
- Estimated future costs and benefits

# Debt Management: Commercial Loans

- **Amortized Loan**
  - Sample Cash Flow Diagram:





# Equal (Uniform) Series

- **Compound-Amount Factor**
  - Used to find the future worth (FW) of an annuity
  - Find F given A, i and N

$$F = A \left[ \frac{(1+i)^N - 1}{i} \right] = A(F / A, i, N)$$

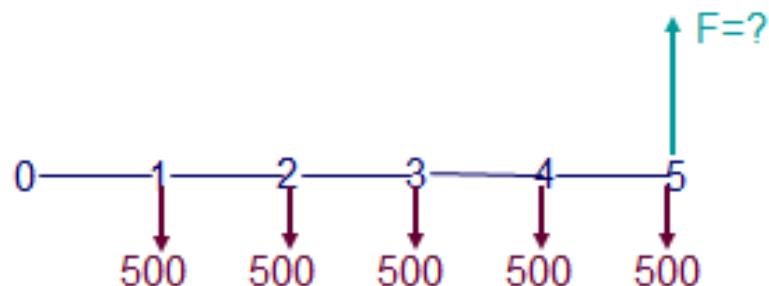
Equal (Uniform) Payment Series Compound Amount Factor  
(TABLE FACTOR)



# Uniform Series

## Example 4-1: Uniform Series Compound Interest Formulas

\$500 were deposited in a credit union (pays 5% compounded annually) at the end of each year for 5 years, how much do you have after the 5<sup>th</sup> deposit?



$$F = A \left[ \frac{(1+i)^n - 1}{i} \right] = A(F/A, i, n)$$
$$= 500(F/A, 5\%, 5) = 500(5.526) = \$2673.00$$



# Equal (Uniform) Series

- **Sinking-Fund Factor**

- Used to find the annual worth (AW) of a future value.
- Find A given F, i and N
- Sinking Fund:
  - *Interest bearing account into which a fixed sum is deposited each interest period*
  - Uses
    - Replacing fixed assets
    - Retiring corporate bonds

Equal (Uniform) Payment Series Sinking-Fund Factor  
**(TABLE FACTOR)**

$$A = F \left[ \frac{i}{(1+i)^N - 1} \right] = F(A/F, i, N)$$



# Equal (Uniform) Series

- **Capital Recovery (Annuity) Factor**
  - Used to find the annual worth (AW) of a present value.
  - Find A given P, i and N.
  - Capital Recovery Factor:
    - Used to determine the revenue requirements needed to address the upfront capital costs for projects.
  - Annuity
    - A *level stream of cash flows for a fixed period of time.* (Chan S. Park)

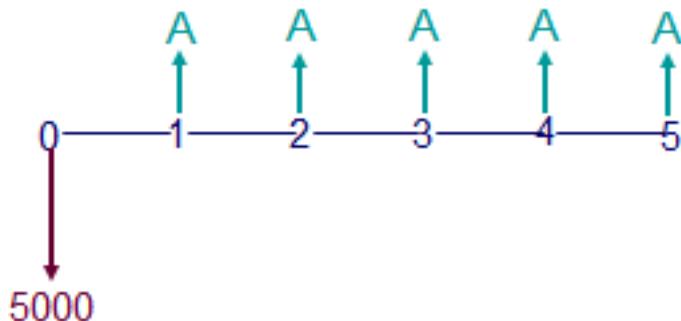
$$A = P \left[ \frac{i(1+i)^N}{(1+i)^N - 1} \right] = P(A/P, i, N)$$

Equal (Uniform) Payment Series  
Capital Recovery Factor  
**(TABLE FACTOR)**

# Uniform Series Example

## Example 4-3: Uniform Series Compound Interest Formulas

A machine costs \$5000 and has a life of 5 years. If interest rate is 8%, how much must be saved every year to recover the investment?



$$A = P(A/P, i, n)$$

$$= 5000(A/P, 8\%, 5) = 5000(0.2505) = \$1252.00$$



# Uniform Series Example

- **Present-Worth Factor**

- Used to find the present worth (PW) of an annuity.
- Find P given A, i and N.
- Uses:
  - Used to determine the what should be invested now in order to withdraw A dollars at the end of each of the next N periods.  
(Chan S. Park)

$$P = A \left[ \frac{(1+i)^N - 1}{i(1+i)^N} \right] = A(P/A, i, N)$$

- Excel Formula:  $A = \text{PMT}(i, N, P, F, \text{Type})$

- Type = 0 (payments at end of period)
- Type = 1 (payments at start of period)
- For this class, assume Type = 0 unless otherwise specified

Equal (Uniform) Payment Series  
Present Worth Factor  
(TABLE FACTOR)



# Equal Uniform Series

- **Present-Worth Factor**

- Used to find the present worth (PW) of an annuity.
- Find P given A, i and N.
- Uses:
  - Used to determine the what should be invested now in order to withdraw A dollars at the end of each of the next N periods.  
(Chan S. Park)

$$P = A \left[ \frac{(1+i)^N - 1}{i(1+i)^N} \right] = A(P/A, i, N)$$

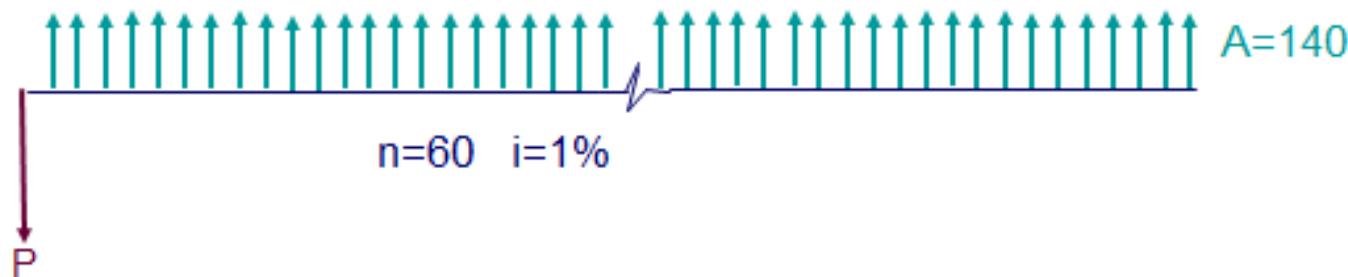
Equal (Uniform) Payment Series  
Present Worth Factor  
(TABLE FACTOR)

- Excel Formula:  $A = \text{PMT}(i, N, P, F, \text{Type})$ 
  - Type = 0 (payments at end of period)
  - Type = 1 (payments at start of period)
  - For this class, assume Type = 0 unless otherwise specified

# Uniform Series Example

## Example 4-4 – Uniform Series Compound Interest Formulas

Should you spend \$6800 to buy a contract that pays \$140 at the end of each month for 5 years if the desired return is 1% per month?



$$P = A(P/A, i, n)$$

$$= 140(P/A, 1\%, 60) = 140(44.955) = \$6293.70$$

The contract only worth \$6293.70, so reject the offer.



# Equivalence Calculations: Effective Interest Rates

- **Payment Period = Compounding Period.**
  - Identify # compounding periods per year, M
    - $M = K$  (payment period)
    - $M = CK$ , therefore,  $C = 1$
  - Calculate effective interest rate per period (periodic interest rate),
  - Determine # of compounding periods,
    - $N = M \times (\text{number of years})$
  - Calculate PW, AW or FW using  $i$  and  $N$



# Equivalence Calculations: Effective Interest Rates

- **Payment Period < 'OR' > Compounding Period.**
  - Identify # compounding periods per year (M), the number of payment periods per year (K), the number of interest periods per payment period (C).
  - Calculate effective interest rate per period (periodic interest rate),
    - Discrete:  $i = \left(1 + \frac{r}{M}\right)^c - 1$
    - Continuous:  $i = e^{\frac{r}{K}} - 1$
  - Determine # of compounding periods,
    - $N = K \times (\text{number of years})$
  - Calculate PW, AW or FW using i and N



# Effective Rate per Payment Period

## Supplemental Example

Suppose that you make quarterly deposits in a savings account that earns 9% interest compounded monthly.



# Effective Rate per Payment Period

## Supplemental Example

Given:

$$r = 9\%$$

M= 12 interests periods per year

K= 4 quarterly payments per year

C= 3 interest periods per quarter

Find: i

$$i = \left( 1 + \frac{r}{CK} \right)^C - 1$$



# Effective Rate per Payment Period

## Supplemental Example (cont'd)

Suppose that you make quarterly deposits in a savings account that earns 9% interest compounded monthly.

$$i = \left[ 1 + \frac{0.09}{12} \right]^3 - 1 = 2.27\%$$



# Effective Rate per Payment Period

## Supplemental Example (cont'd)

This figure illustrates the relationship between the nominal and effective interest rates per payment period.

