

Johns Hopkins Engineering

Mathematical Finance

Module 1

Lecture 1

Basic Theory of Interest

Outline:

1. Simple Interest
2. Compound Interest
3. Present Value
4. Internal Rate of Return
5. Applications



Simple Interest

- An amount A invested at a simple annual rate r will produce $A(1 + nr)$ after n years.

- In general, we have

$V(n) = A(1 + n*r)$, where r is the periodic rate, n

is the number of periods and $V(n)$ is the accumulated amount after n periods.

- Note that $V(n)$ is a linear function of n .



Compound Interest

- An amount A invested at a compound annual rate r will by a factor $(1+r)$ each year. In fact the accumulated amount after n is given by:

$$V(n) = A(1 + r)^n$$

- In general interest can be compounded semiannually , quarterly, daily, hourly, ...etc. We have the following theorem.

- Theorem

If the principal A is invested at a periodic rate r compounded m times in each period, then the amount V in the account after n periods is

$$V = A(1 + r / m)^n$$



Compound Interest

- Effective Rate vs. Nominal Rate

The effective is the yearly rate that will produce the same result after 1 year without compounding.

Example

For an annual rate of 6% compounded daily,

$$\left(1 + \frac{0.06}{365}\right)^{365} = 1.0618 = (1 + 0.0618)$$

the effective rate is 6.18% and the nominal rate is 6%.

In general for a nominal r compounded m times in a year the effective r' rate is

$$r' = \left(1 + \frac{r}{m}\right)^m - 1$$



Continuous Compounding

- Recall

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{r}{m}\right)^m = e^r$$

- Let the principal P be invested in an account with annual rate r compounded m times in a year. After t years the account will produce

$$A(t) = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{m}\right)^{mt}$$

- Continuous compounding means that we let m goes to infinity, we obtain

$$A(t) = P \times \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{r}{m}\right)^{mt} = Pe^{rt}$$

