



# **EM600 - Engineering Economics and Cost Analysis**

## ***Lecture 04: Understanding Rates of Return***

- References:
  - Park, Chan S. Contemporary Engineering Economics. New Jersey: Pearson Prentice Hall, 2006 (Chapter 7)
  - Lang, Hans J. and Merino, Donald M. The Selection Process for Capital Projects. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc. 2002 (Chapter 4)
  - Ganguly, A. Engineering Economics Using Excel. New Jersey: SSE, 2008

After completing this module you should understand the following:

- Return on Investment (ROI)
- IRR: Internal Rate of Return
- Incremental IRR
- Mutually Exclusive Alternatives

- Key Definitions: (Lang & Merino)
  - Return on Total Investment: (ROI)

$$\text{ROI} = \frac{\text{Average Net Income per Year}}{\text{Original Book Value or First Cost}}$$

- Limitations:
  - Time value of money is not taken into account.
    - » Cash flows are not discounted.
    - » The contribution of earlier years is understated.
    - » The contribution of later years is overstated.
  - Noncash flow streams e.g depreciation, are involved in calculating the ROI.

- Key Definitions: (Chan S. Park)

- Internal Rate of Return (IRR):

- *The internal rate of return is the interest rate charges on the unrecovered balance of the investment such that, when the project terminates, the unrecovered project balance will be zero.*
      - *The IRR equates the present worth, future worth and annual equivalence worth of the entire series of cash flows to zero.*

$$\sum PW = 0; \quad \sum AE = 0; \quad \sum FW = 0$$

- *This internal rate of return is the return that a company would earn if it invested in itself rather than investing the money elsewhere.*

- Key Differences:
  - Return on Investment:
    - Does not account for the time value of money.
    - Undiscounted figure of merit.
  - Internal Rate of Return (IRR):
    - Accounts for the time value of money.
    - Discounted figure of merit.

- Rate of Return Computational Methods:
  - Direct solution method
    - Two-flow transaction project (an investment followed by a single payment).
    - OR
    - Project with a service life of two years of return.
    - Set up PW or FW equation using cash flows given and set equation equal to zero.
  - Trial-and-error method
    - Complicated cash flows.
    - Linear Interpolation.
  - Computer solution method
    - Complicated cash flows.
    - Solve graphically.
    - Use Excel IRR function.



- Direct solution method:
  - Example 1: (Chan S. Park, example 7.3)
    - Consider two investment projects with the following cash flow transactions:

n	Project 1	Project 2
0	-\$2,000	-\$2,000
1	0	\$1,300
2	0	\$1,500
3	0	-
4	\$3,500	-



- Calculate the IRR,  $i^*$ , for each project.



- Direct solution method:
  - Example 1: (Chan S. Park, example 7.3)
  - Project 1:

- **Present Worth (PW) Method:**

$$PW(i^*) = \sum_{n=1}^N F(1+i^*)^{-n} + P = 0$$

$$PW(i^*) = \$3,500(1+i^*)^{-4} - \$2,000 = 0$$

$$\$2,000 = \$3,500(1+i^*)^{-4} \Rightarrow 0.5714 = \frac{1}{(1+i^*)^4} \Rightarrow (1+i^*)^4 = \frac{1}{0.5714} \Rightarrow (1+i^*)^4 = 1.75$$

$$i^* = (1.75)^{-1/4} - 1$$

$$i^* = 0.1502 = 15.02\%$$

- **Future Worth (FW) Method:**

$$FW(i^*) = \sum_{n=1}^N P(1+i^*)^n + F = 0$$

$$FW(i^*) = -\$2,000(1+i^*)^4 + \$3,500 = 0$$

$$\$3,500 = \$2,000(1+i^*)^4$$

$$1.75 = (1+i^*)^4$$

$$i^* = (1.75)^{1/4} - 1$$

$$i^* = 0.1502 = 15.02\%$$



- Direct solution method:
  - Example 1: (Chan S. Park, example 7.3)
  - Project 2:

- **Present Worth (PW) Method:**

$$PW(i^*) = \sum_{n=1}^N F(1+i^*)^{-n} + P = 0$$

$$PW(i^*) = \$1,300(1+i^*)^{-1} + \$1,500(1+i^*)^{-2} - \$2,000 = 0$$

Transform into a quadratic equation where,  $x = (1+i^*)^{-1}$

$$\Rightarrow PW(X) = \$1,500x^2 + \$1,300x - \$2,000 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} = \frac{-1,300 \pm \sqrt{1,300^2 - 4(1,500)(2,000)}}{2(1,500)}$$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0.8 \text{ OR } x = -1.667$$

Solve for  $i^*$  using the values for  $x$

$$\Rightarrow x = 0.8 \therefore i^* = \frac{1}{0.8} - 1 = 25\%$$

$$\Rightarrow x = -1.667 \therefore i^* = \frac{1}{-1.667} - 1 = -160\% \dots \text{no economic significance}$$

- **Future Worth (FW) Method yields the same answer.**

- Trial-and-Error Method:
  - **Overview:** Linear Interpolation
    - Definition:
      - *Interpolation is a method of constructing new data points within the range of a discrete set of known data points.<sup>1</sup>*
    - Key Steps:
      - Estimate an IRR value for which  $PW > 0$
      - Estimate an IRR value for which  $PW < 0$
      - Interpolate to find where  $PW = 0$

1. "interpolation" Wikipedia.org. August 19 2008. <<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interpolation>>

- Trial-and-Error Method:
  - **Overview:** Linear Interpolation
    - Linear interpolation equation:

$$y = y_1 + \frac{(x - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)}$$

*where,*

$y_1$  &  $y_2$  = estimated values for the IRR

$x_1$  &  $x_2$  = corresponding PW values for  $y_1$  and  $y_2$

$y$  = actual IRR at PW = 0

$x$  = PW associated with actual IRR = 0

- Trial-and-Error Method:
  - **Overview:** Linear Interpolation
    - Key points to remember:
      - The relationship is not truly linear, therefore the closer the PW values (calculated using the estimated IRR values) are to zero, the more accurate the answer will be.
        - » Multiple answers can therefore exist.
      - The MARR is not needed to calculate the IRR.
      - The IRR should lie between the two estimated values.
    - Reference Chapter 2 of Engineering Economics Using Excel (Ganguly) for further detail on Linear Interpolation.

- Trial-and-error method:
  - Example 2: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - You need to consider a new safety review project for the production plan of a new drug for your company:



n	Costs	Savings	Net Cash Flow
0	-\$13,000	\$0	-\$13,000
1	-\$2,300	\$6,000	\$3,700
2	-\$2,300	\$7,000	\$4,700
3	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
4	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
5	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
6	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700

- Calculate  $i^*$  for this project.

- Trial-and-error method:
  - Example 2: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)

- $PW = -P + \sum_{n=1}^N A_n (P/F, i, n) + F(P/F, i, N)$

Guess 1: IRR = 30%

$$PW = -\$13,000 + \$3,700(P/F, 30\%, 1) + \$4,700(P/F, 30\%, 2) + \$6,700 \left[ \begin{array}{l} (P/F, 30\%, 3) \\ + (P/F, 30\%, 4) \\ + (P/F, 30\%, 5) \\ + (P/F, 30\%, 6) \end{array} \right]$$

$$PW = -\$13,000 + \$3,700(0.7692) + \$4,700(0.5917) + \$6,700 \left[ \begin{array}{l} (0.4552) \\ + (0.3501) \\ + (0.2693) \\ + (0.2072) \end{array} \right]$$

$$PW = \$1,215$$

- Trial-and-error method:
  - Example 2: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)

- $PW = -P + \sum_{n=1}^N A_n(P/F, i, N) + F(P/F, i, N)$

Guess 2: IRR = 35%

$$PW = -\$13,000 + \$3,700(P/F, 35\%, 1) + \$4,700(P/F, 35\%, 2) + \$6,700 \left[ \begin{array}{l} (P/F, 35\%, 3) \\ + (P/F, 35\%, 4) \\ + (P/F, 35\%, 5) \\ + (P/F, 35\%, 6) \end{array} \right]$$

$$PW = -\$13,000 + \$3,700(0.7407) + \$4,700(0.5487) + \$6,700 \left[ \begin{array}{l} (0.4604) \\ + (0.3011) \\ + (0.2230) \\ + (0.1652) \end{array} \right]$$

$$PW = -\$339$$



- Trial-and-error method:
  - Example 2: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Use linear interpolation to find where  $PW = 0$

$$y = y_1 + \frac{(x - x_1)(y_2 - y_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)}$$

$$(x, y) = (0, ?); \quad (x_1, y_1) = (\$1215, 30\%); \quad (x_2, y_2) = (-\$339, 35\%)$$

$$y = 30\% - \frac{(0 - 1215)(35\% - 30\%)}{(-339 - 1215)}$$

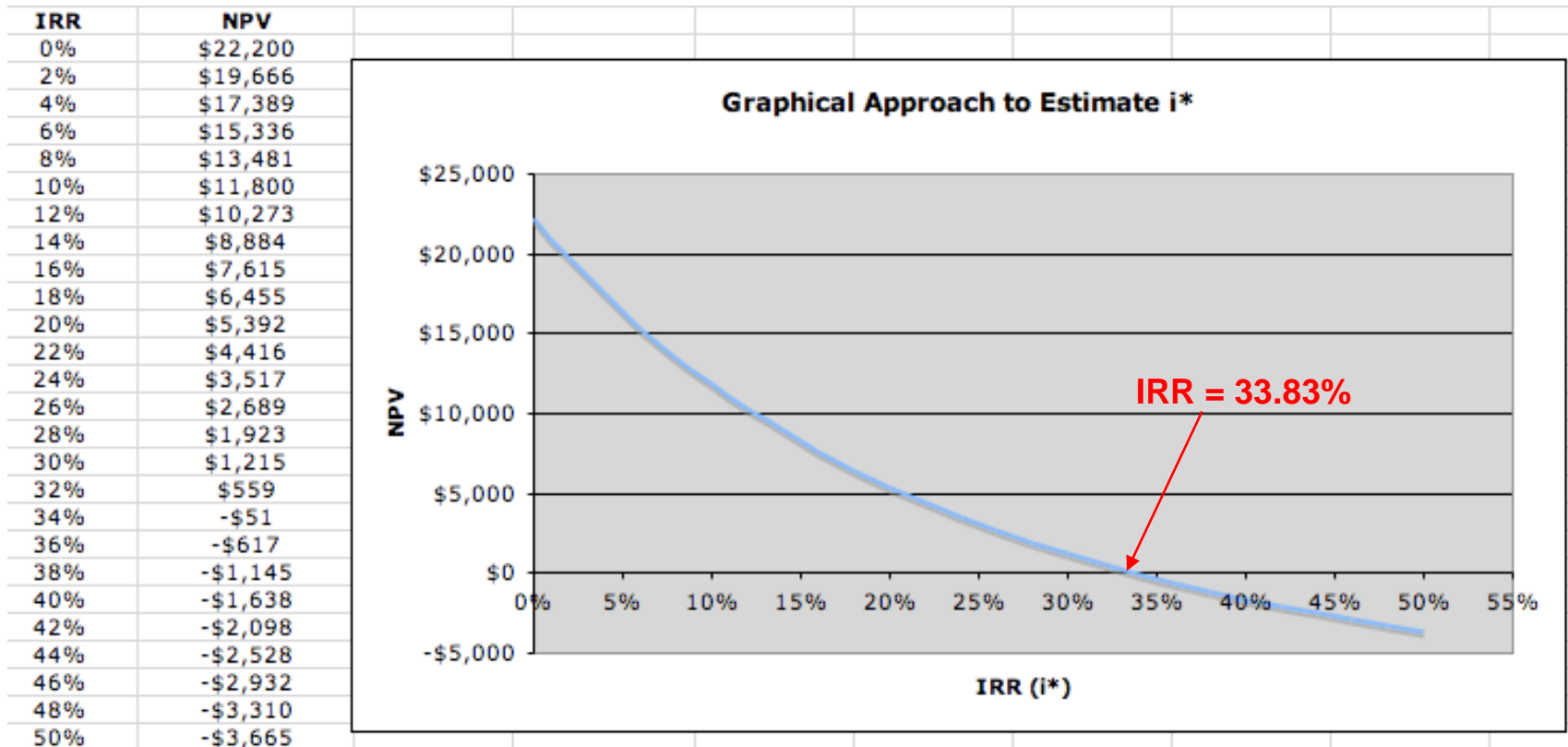
$$y = 33.91\%$$

- Trial-and-error method:
  - Example 2: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Remember:
      - The closer the PW values are to 0, the more accurate the linear interpolation will be.
        - » The relationship is not truly linear.
      - For example,
        - » If guesses of 33% and 34% are used instead of 30% and 35%,
        - » PW values of \$249 and -\$51 and an IRR of 33.83% results.
      - Multiple solutions therefore exist.

- Computer solution method:
  - Example 3: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Consider the investment project with the cash flow transactions as detailed in example 2.
    - Calculate  $i^*$  for this project using the following methods:
      - Graphically
      - Excel IRR function



- Computer solution method:
  - Example 3: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Graphical Solution



- Computer solution method:
  - Example 3: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Graphical Solution: How to in Excel?
      - Arrange the data so that the x and y values are in adjacent columns.
      - Select the range of x and y values that has to be plotted.
      - Click on the Insert tab from the top of your Excel 2013 spreadsheet.
      - Select Scatter from the list of available charts (should be the last chart listed)
      - This will open up a window with various chart sub-types. Simply click the one you would like to use from this list.
      - Format the graph according to the requirements and convenience.
      - Reference Chapter 1 of Engineering Economics Using Excel (Ganguly) if using earlier versions of MS Excel

- Computer solution method:
  - Example 3: (Chan S. Park, example 7.4)
    - Excel IRR function

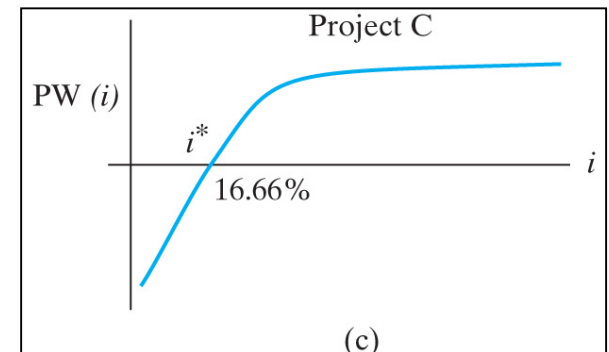
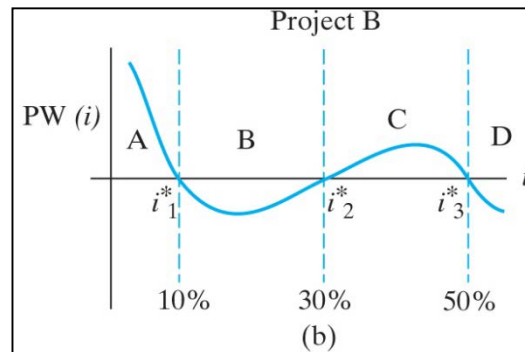
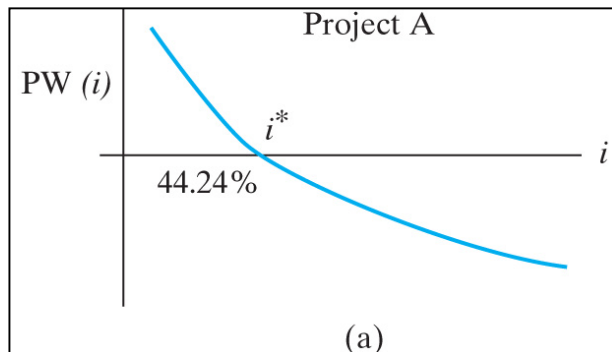
	A	B	C	D
1	n	Costs	Savings	Net Cash Flow
2	0	-\$13,000	\$0	-\$13,000
3	1	-\$2,300	\$6,000	\$3,700
4	2	-\$2,300	\$7,000	\$4,700
5	3	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
6	4	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
7	5	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
8	6	-\$2,300	\$9,000	\$6,700
9	IRR			=IRR(D2:D8,)
9	IRR			33.83%

- Excel Formula: IRR(values,guess)
  - » Values = cash flow (including initial investment and salvage value if any)
  - » Guess = an IRR value can be estimated. This can be left blank as in this example.
  - » Reference Chapter 2 of Engineering Economics Using Excel (Ganguly) for further detail.

- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction:
    - Simple Investment:
      - An investment in which the initial cash flows are negative and only one sign change occurs in the remaining cash flow series.
    - Simple Borrowing:
      - An investment in which the initial cash flows are positive and only one sign change occurs in the remaining cash flow series.
    - Nonsimple Investment:
      - An investment in which one or more sign change occurs in the cash flow series.

- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction: (Chan S. Park, example 7.1)
    - Simple and Nonsimple Investments:

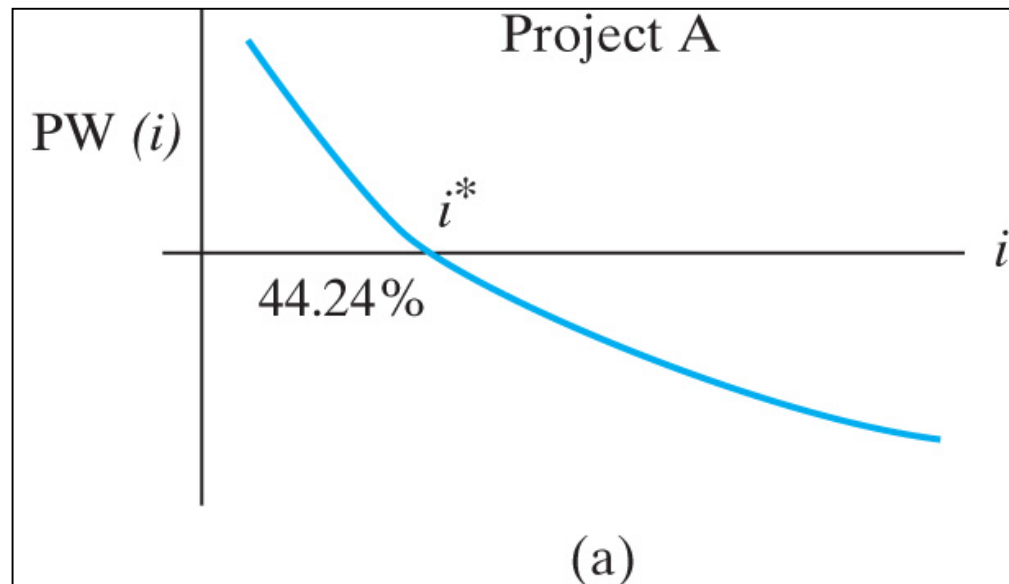
Period n	Net Cash Flow		
	Project A	Project B	Project C
0	-\$1,000	-\$1,000	\$1,000
1	-\$500	\$3,900	-\$450
2	\$800	-\$5,030	-\$450
3	\$1,500	\$2,145	-\$450
4	\$2,000		



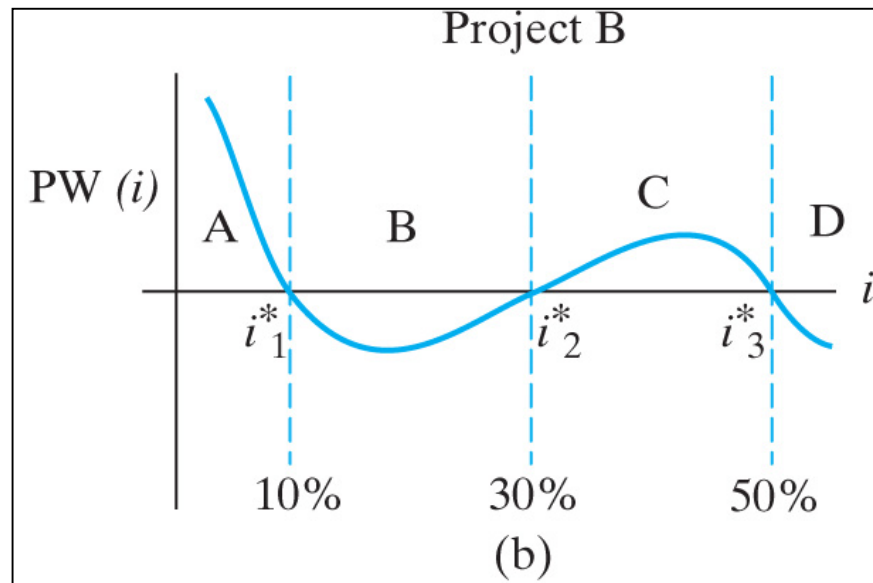
Present-Worth Profiles (Chan S. Park, Figure 7.1)



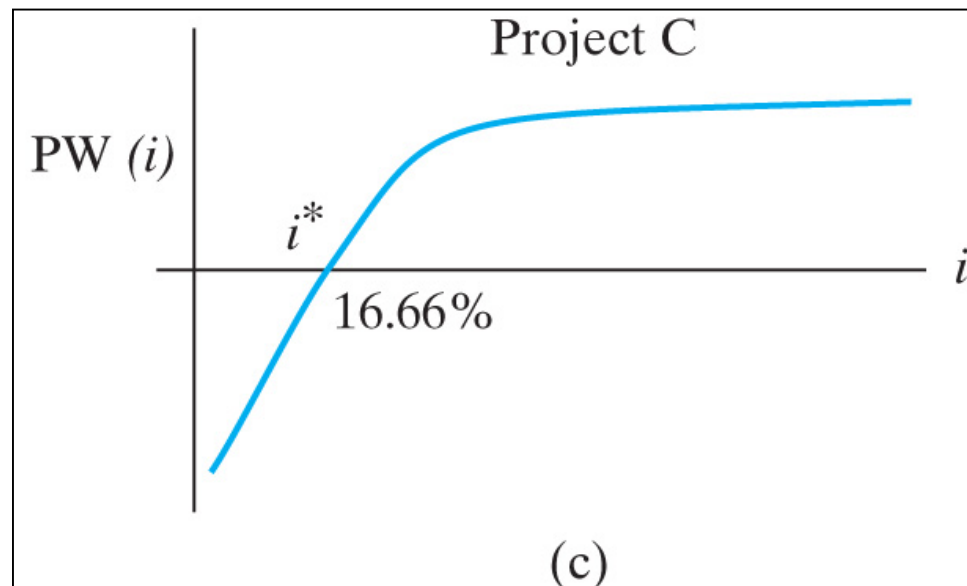
- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction: (Chan S. Park, example 7.1)
    - Simple and Nonsimple Investments:
      - Project A represents many common simple investments.
      - The NPW profile (curve) crosses the x-axis only once.



- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction: (Chan S. Park, example 7.1)
    - Simple and Nonsimple Investments:
      - Project B represents a nonsimple investment.
      - The NPW profile (curve) crosses the x-axis at multiple points.

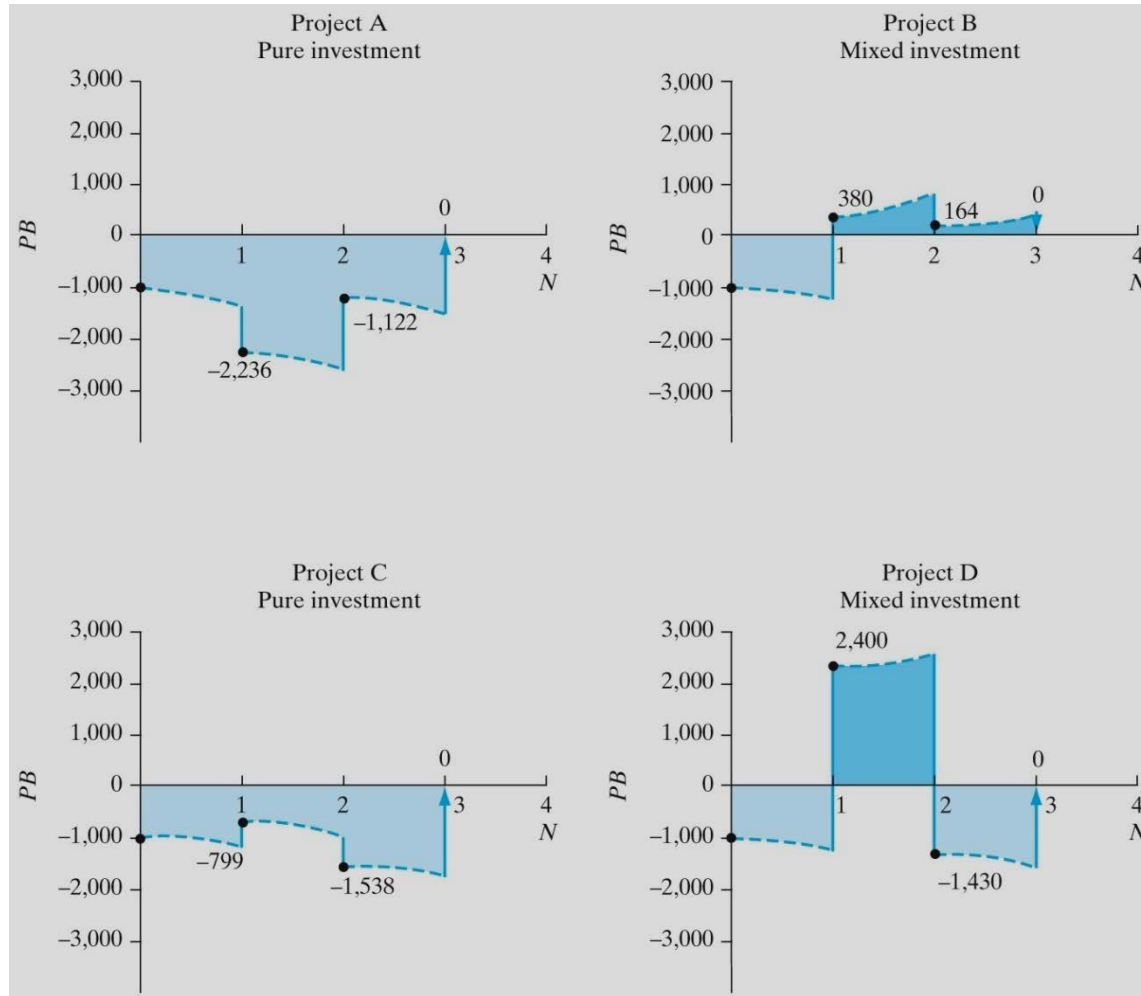


- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction: (Chan S. Park, example 7.1)
    - Simple and Nonsimple Investments:
      - Project C represents a simple borrowing cashflow.
      - There is only 1 sign change, however, the first cashflow is positive.



- Decision Rules and IRR:
  - Introduction:
    - Pure Investment:
      - An investment in which the firm never borrows money from the project.
      - Project balances (PB) are  $\leq$  zero throughout the life of the investment with the first cashflow being negative.
      - Simple investments will always be pure investments.
    - Mixed investment:
      - An investment in which the firm borrows money from the project during the investment period.
      - PB  $>$  zero at some point during the life of the investment. Here the firm acts as a borrower, not an investor.

## Decision Rules: Internal Rate of Return



*Examples of Pure and Mixed investment projects (Chan S. Park, Figure 7.4)*

- Recall the following important definitions:
  - MARR:
    - **Minimum Attractive Rate of Return**
    - The minimum interest rate that the firm wants to earn on its investment.
  - IRR:
    - **Internal Rate of Return**
    - The actual interest rate that the firm earns on its investment.
    - The IRR equates the present worth, future worth and annual equivalence worth of the entire series of cash flows to zero.

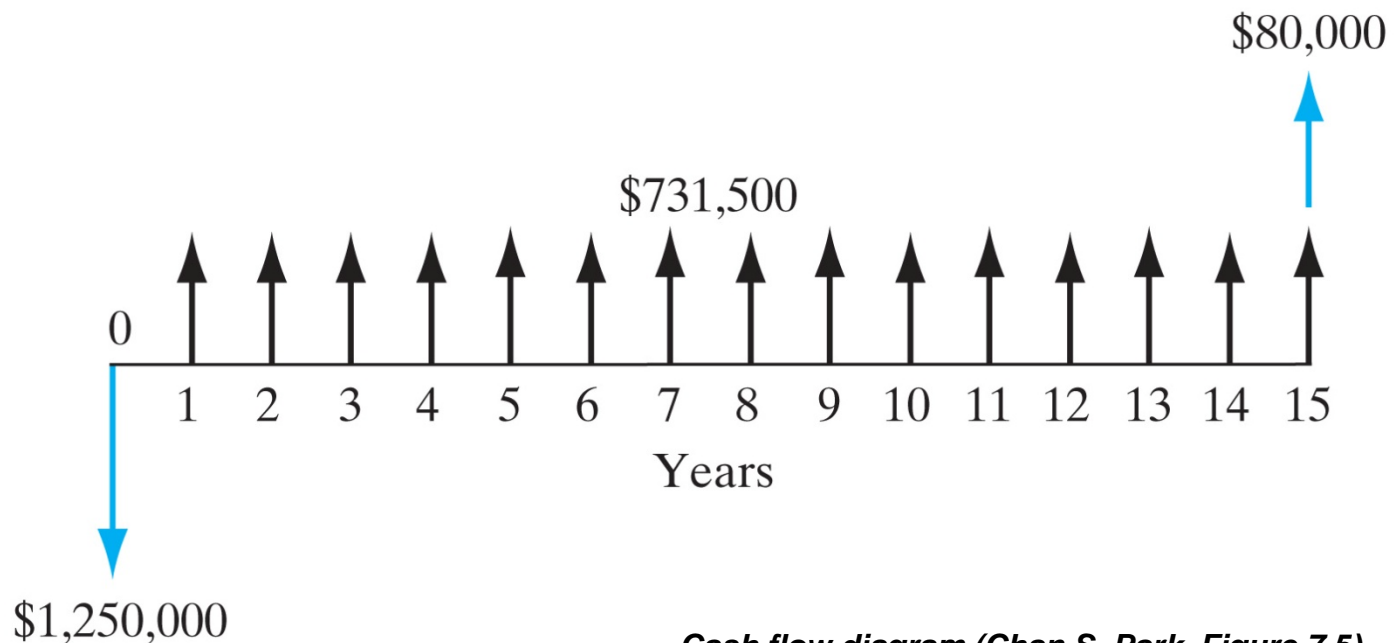
- Decision rules\* for ***pure investment projects***:
  - If  $IRR > MARR \rightarrow$  ACCEPT
  - If  $IRR = MARR \rightarrow$  INDIFFERENT
  - If  $IRR < MARR \rightarrow$  REJECT

\* **Note:**

Only applicable for single project evaluation.

Mutually exclusive investment projects need the ***incremental analysis approach***.

- Example 4: (Chan S. Park, example 7.7)
  - For the following cash flows:
    - Calculate the IRR for the investment.
    - Should the investment be accepted or rejected? (MARR = 18%)



*Cash flow diagram (Chan S. Park, Figure 7.5)*



- Example 4: (Chan S. Park, example 7.7)
  - Trial-and-error:

$$PW = -P + A(P/A, i, N) + F(P/F, i, N)$$

Guess 1: IRR = 55%

$$PW = -\$1,250,000 + \$731,500(P/A, 55\%, 15) + \$80,000(P/F, 55\%, 15)$$

$$PW = \$78,254$$

Guess 2: IRR = 60%

$$PW = -\$1,250,000 + \$731,500(P/A, 60\%, 15) + \$80,000(P/F, 60\%, 15)$$

$$PW = -\$31,821$$

Using linear interpolation as before:

$$y = i^* = 58.55\%$$

- Excel IRR function:

- $i^* = 58.47\%$



$i^* > \text{MARR} \rightarrow \text{ACCEPT}$

- Mutually Exclusive Alternatives:
  - Two situations:
    - Alternatives with the same economic service life.
    - Alternatives that have unequal service lives.
  - Incremental IRR analysis is required because:
    - IRR is a relative (percentage) measure.
    - IRR ignores the scale of the investment
    - IRR cannot be analyzed in the same way as the 3 worths.

- Incremental IRR:

- What is Incremental IRR?

- The internal rate of return is calculated based on the incremental investment.
    - The incremental investment is calculated based on choosing a large project over a smaller project.

- Incremental IRR considers ***increments of investment***, therefore:

Cash Flow Difference = higher Investment Cost Project B  
- lower investment cost project A

- This ranking is IMPORTANT
    - Investment cost = P

- Incremental IRR:
  - Decision rules:
    - If  $IRR_{B-A} > MARR \rightarrow$  select B
    - If  $IRR_{B-A} = MARR \rightarrow$  select either project
    - If  $IRR_{B-A} < MARR \rightarrow$  select A



- Incremental IRR

- Initial investments are equal?

- Set up the increment so that the first non zero flow is negative.

- e.g.

n	A	B	A - B
0	-\$10,000	-\$10,000	\$0
1	\$650	\$6,740	-\$6,090
2	\$4,125	\$3,350	\$775
3	\$6,950	\$2,200	\$4,750
4	\$3,880	\$1,470	\$2,410
IRR	17%	19%	12.88%



- Incremental IRR
  - More than 2 mutually exclusive alternatives?
    - Compare in pairs by successive examination.
      - Consider 3 projects A, B, C
      - Verify  $IRR_A$  and  $IRR_B$  and  $IRR_C$  are each  $> MARR$ 
        - » Any project whose  $IRR < MARR$  can be ruled out
      - Compare each incremental pair:
        - » A and B
        - » A and C
        - » B and C
      - Find the best alternative.

- Incremental IRR
  - More than 2 mutually exclusive alternatives?
    - e.g. MARR = 15%, select best alternative

n	A	B	C	A - B	C - A	C - B
0	(\$2,500)	(\$1,500)	(\$4,000)	(\$1,000)	(\$1,500)	(\$2,500)
1	\$2,000	\$1,300	\$2,500	\$700	\$500	\$1,200
2	\$1,500	\$1,000	\$2,500	\$500	\$1,000	\$1,500
3	\$1,300	\$1,000	\$1,500	\$300	\$200	\$500
IRR	45.69%	56.49%	31.63%	27.61%	7.16%	15.17%

- Select alternative A.

Select A

Select A

Select C

Note - A already  
selected over C

- Incremental IRR
  - Mutually exclusive alternatives with equal revenues?
    - Comparison is on a cost only basis.
    - Calculate the IRR based on incremental cash flows.
    - Service projects is an example of this type of problem, e.g.
      - alternative manufacturing systems (batch / continuous, flexible / dedicated)
      - alternative equipment options
      - alternative power supply / heating / chilling options
      - . . . etc



- Incremental IRR

- Example 5: (Chan S. Park, example 7.13)

- Based on the following data and a MARR of 15% ( $N = 6$ ), using IRR, which manufacturing option should be chosen?



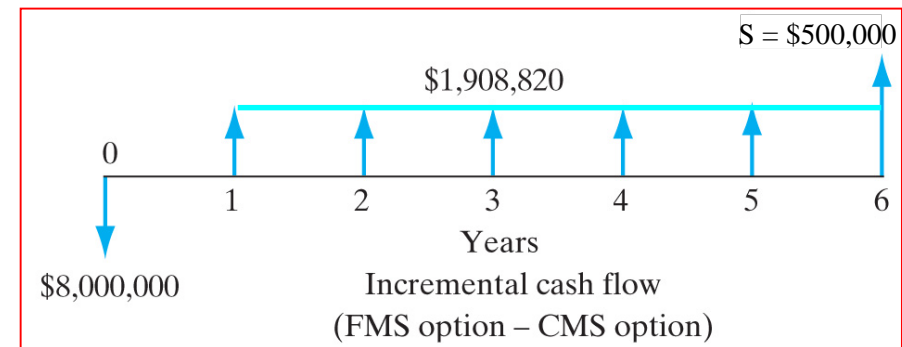
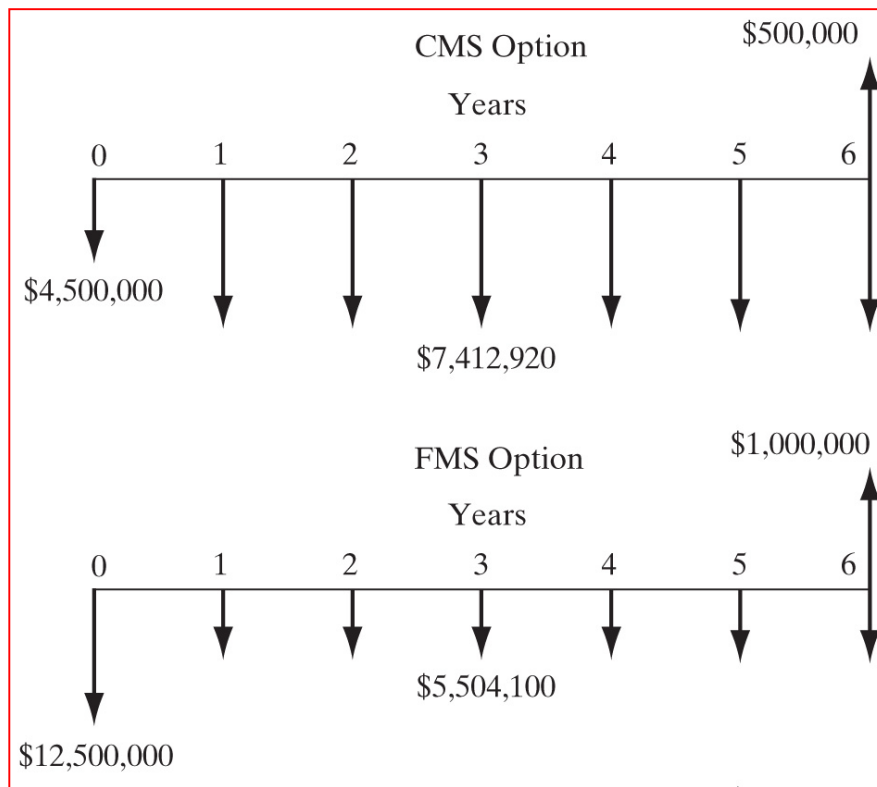
Items	CMS Option	FMS Option
<b>Annual O&amp;M costs:</b>		
Annual labor cost	\$1,169,600	\$707,200
Annual material cost	\$832,320	\$598,400
Annual overhead cost	\$3,150,000	\$1,950,000
Annual tooling cost	\$470,000	\$300,000
Annual inventory cost	\$141,000	\$31,500
Annual income taxes	\$1,650,000	\$1,917,000
<b>Total annual costs</b>	<b>\$7,412,920</b>	<b>\$5,504,100</b>
<b>Investment</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>	<b>\$12,500,000</b>
<b>Net salvage value</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>

- Incremental IRR
  - Example 5: (Chan S. Park, example 7.13)
    - Assumption:
      - Both manufacturing systems would yield the same level of revenues over the analysis period.
    - Comparison basis:
      - Cost only as the revenues are equal.
    - Approach:
      - Calculate IRR based on the incremental cash flows.
      - $I_{FMS} > I_{CMS}$
      - Therefore the incremental cash flow is FMS – CMS.

- Incremental IRR
  - Example 5: (Chan S. Park, example 7.13)

$n$	CMS Option	FMS Option	Incremental (FMS-CMS)
0	-\$4,500,000	-\$12,500,000	-\$8,000,000
1	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
2	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
3	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
4	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
5	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
6	-7,412,920	-5,504,100	1,908,820
Salvage	<b>\$500,000</b>	<b>\$1,000,000</b>	<b>\$500,000</b>

- Incremental IRR
  - Example 5: (Chan S. Park, example 7.13)



- Incremental IRR

- Example 5: (Chan S. Park, example 7.13)

- To calculate the incremental IRR, calculate  $i$  where  $PW = 0$

Objective: Calculate  $i$ , where  $PW_{FMS-CMS} = 0$

$$PW_{FMS-CMS} = -P + A(P/A, i, N) + S(P/F, i, N)$$

$$PW_{FMS-CMS} = -\$8,000,000 + \$1,908,820(P/A, i, 6) + \$500,000(P/F, i, 6)$$

Solving for  $i$  using trial - and - error yields,

$$i = 12.43\%$$

- Conclusion:

- $IRR_{FMS-CMS} = 12.43\%$
      - $MARR = 15\%$
      - $IRR_{FMS-CMS} < MARR$
      - Therefore, select CMS

