Class notes for ChE 4N04
Engineering Economics section

Ethics and Law

Safety and Environment

Engineering science

Process and Product Design

..

Economics

Risk and uncertainty

Chemistry and Biology

Project Management

..

We all must be able to apply basic concepts of economics because economics plays an important role in every engineering decision.

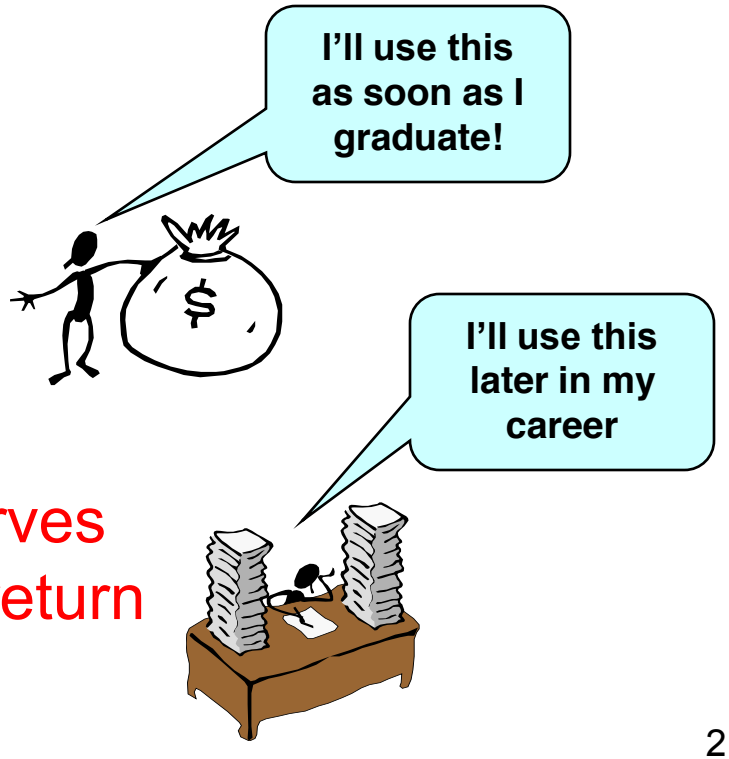
Course principles have many applications

Engineering Economics

- Evaluate profitability of alternative investments

Personal Finance

- When to buy that new car!
- Determine proper level of borrowing and saving
- Calculate income taxes



Corporate Finance

- Provide adequate cash reserves
- Determine minimum rate of return

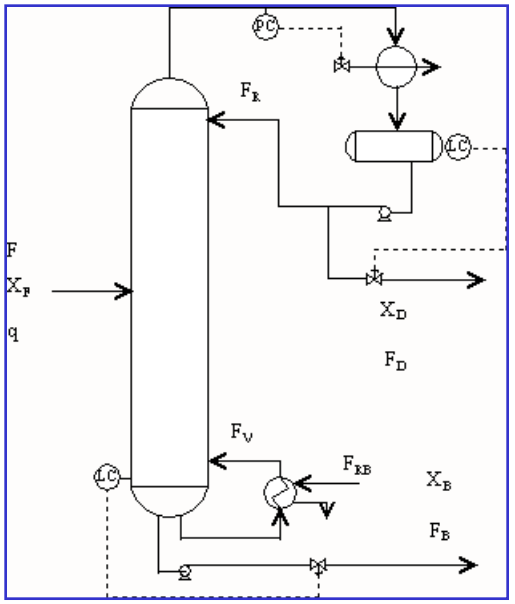
Your first task at your new job

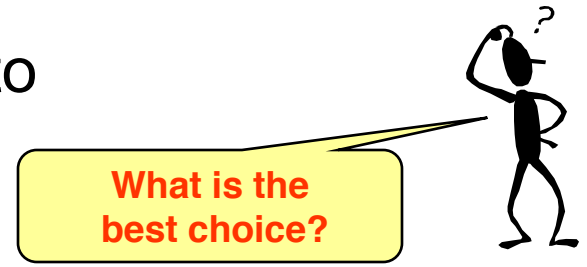
Supervisor to you: We want to increase our production rate by 35%, but the distillation tower is at its maximum capacity (liquid and vapour flows).

Evaluate the following feasible alternatives and determine the most financially attractive.

After some creative brainstorming …

1. Build a parallel distillation tower
2. Replace trays with packing
3. Increase the number of trays
4. Contract the extra production to another company
5. Change operating conditions





Roadmap for engineering economics topic

- **Four major topics**
  - Time value of money
  - Quantitative measures of profitability
  - Selecting from among alternatives
  - Cost estimating

  } **Able to evaluate potential projects and select the best**

- **Lecture exercises and thought questions**
- **Class workshop**
- **Midterm (individual)**
- **Application in the SDL Project**

Four major topics in engineering economics

1. **Time value of money**

   - How do we compare money at different times?

2. **Quantitative measures of profitability**

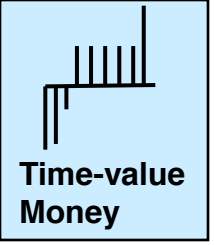
   - How do we determine the "profit" or "*financial attractiveness*" of an investment?

3. **Systematic comparison of alternatives**

   - How do we ensure that we select the "best" investment from various alternatives?

4. **Estimation of costs and income**

   - How do we determine these costs before we buy?

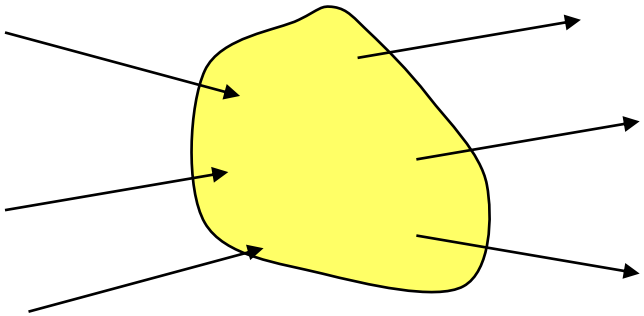


Time value of money

Let's use our modeling skills to determine a "*money balance*"

Revenues or incomes flow into the system.

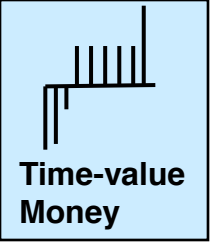
For example:
- Product sales
- Equipment sales
- Licensing fees



Expenditures or costs flow out of the system, e.g.,

For example:
- Feed costs
- Fuel and electricity
- Employee salaries

Important definition: Cash flows are transfers of money that cross the system boundary. The system is typically a "project".



Time value of money

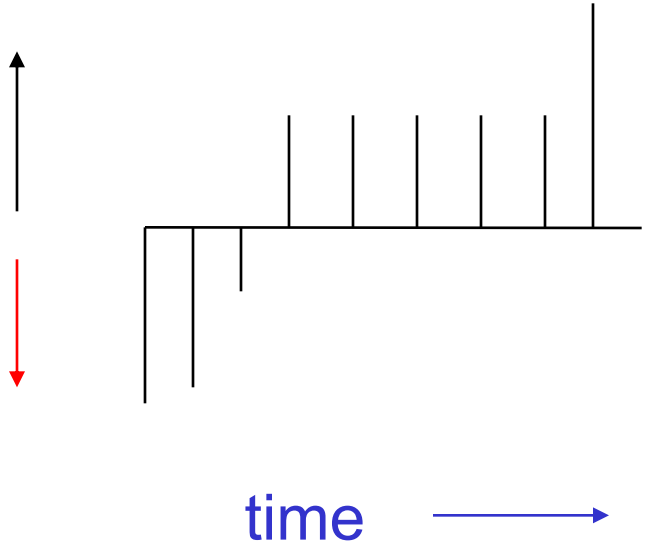
Cash flows occur over time

We sum the revenues and expenditures within each time period to give the net cash flow at a time. We plot these in a cash flow diagram.

Cash flow diagram

Positive net cash flow

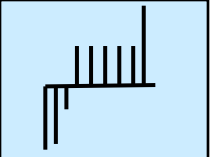
Negative net cash flow



Periods are numbered from 0 to the end of analysis.

Period can be any time duration; often one year periods for engineering projects

Cash flows are in units of money ($)

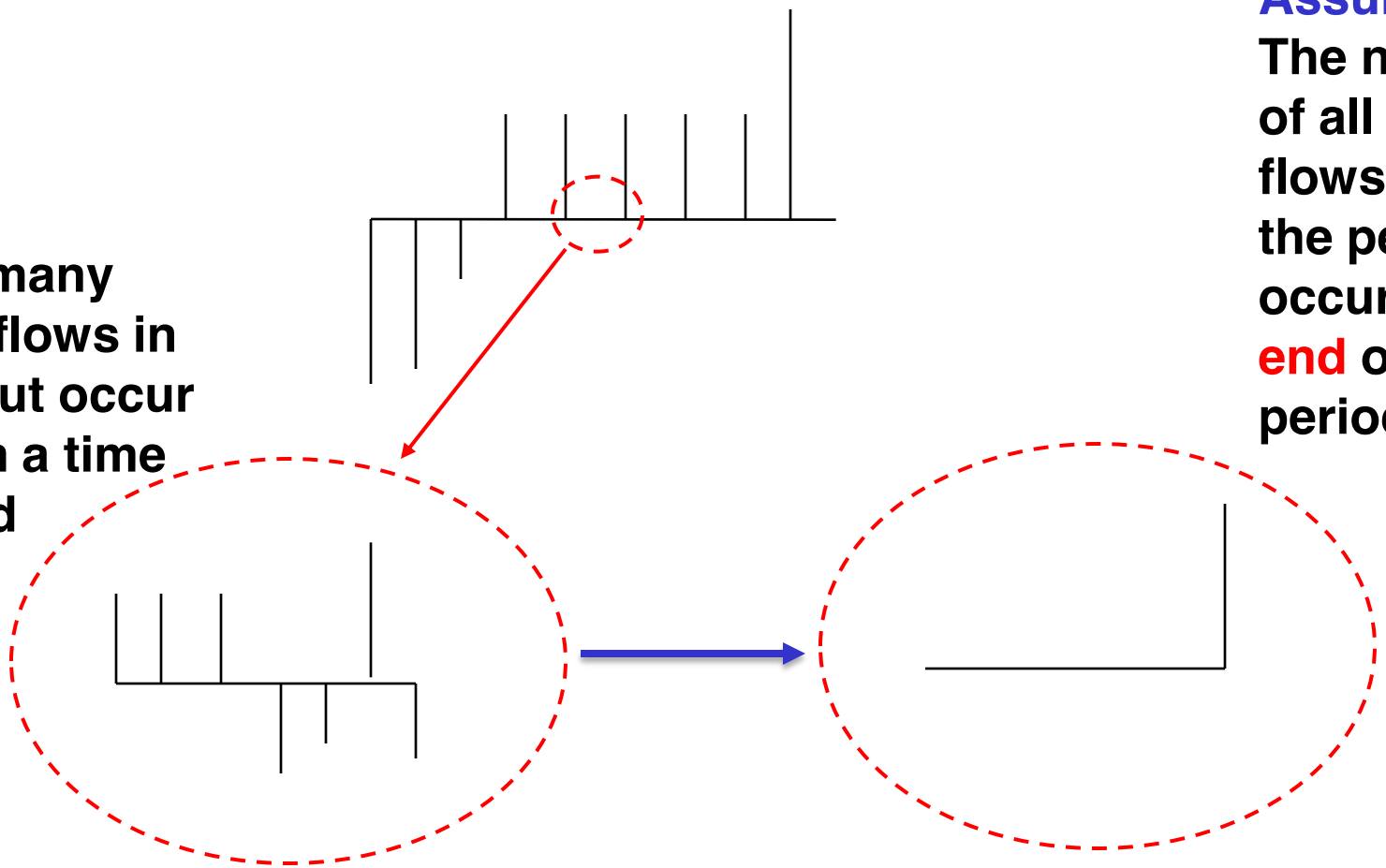


Time value of money

Cash flow diagram and analysis

Assumption: The net sum of all cash flows during the period occurs at the **end** of the period.

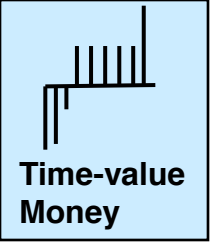
Very many cash flows in and out occur within a time period



Time-value
Money

Time value of money

Draw a cash flow diagram for your life from age 10 to age 40 with periods of 5 years

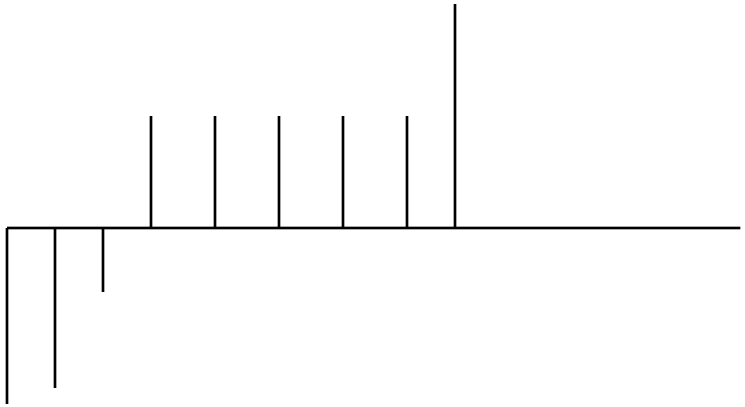


Time value of money

We plot the end-of-period, or the cumulative cash flows

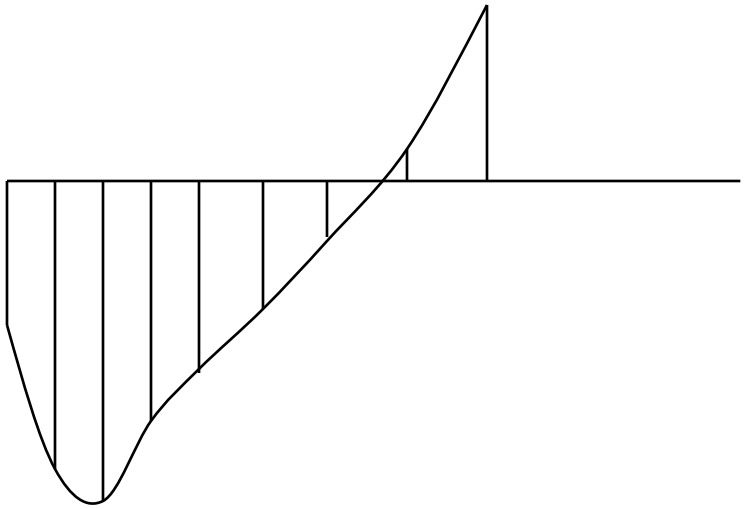
Cash flow diagram

(at each period)

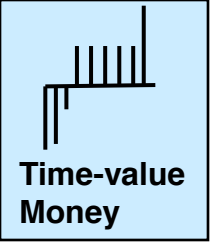


Cumulative cash flow diagram

(the cumulative sum of the above plot)



We'll use both types of representation, with the top plot used more often.

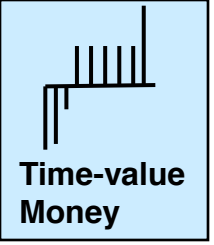


Time value of money

Key question: Why is there a "time value of money"?

Class exercise: A family member asks you to lend her $100. She promises to pay you exactly three years later. She will give you $100 then.

***Is this a good financial proposition*? Why?**



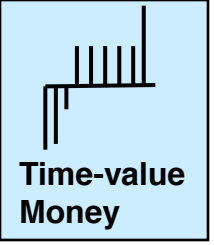
Time value of money

Why is there a “time value”?

- **The owner of money must defer its use**
- **The owner incurs risk**

Thus, money in the future is worth less than money now.

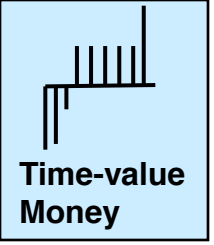
We must take this into account, as our employer’s money will almost always be spent over a long period of time.



Time value of money

How do we characterize time value?

- **We use an interest rate, so that the effect of time is proportional to the total amount of money involved.**

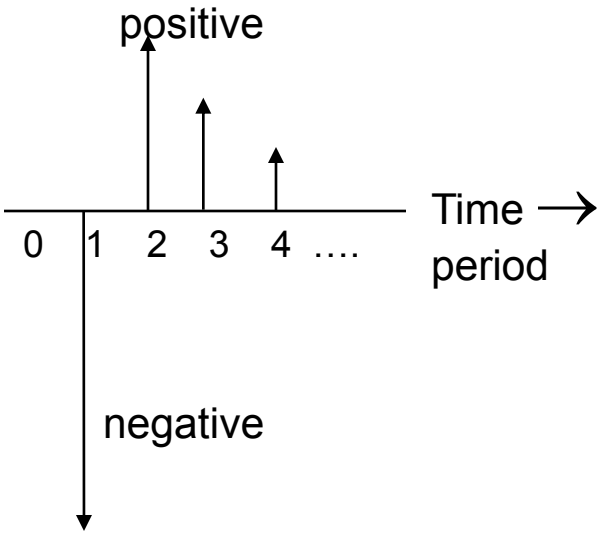


Time value of money

We will use cash flow diagrams to summarize the behaviour of the system.

We need to calculate the value of all cash flows at the same time to make an economic analysis.

Cash flow at each period ($)

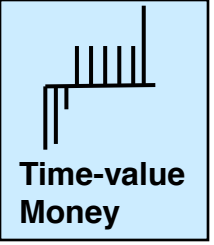


P = present value (period = 0)

F = future value (period > 0)

i = interest rate

n = number of periods between present and future



Time value of money

Example 1:

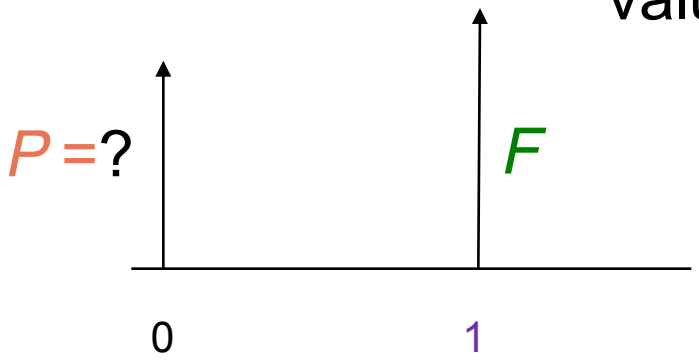
We would like a future amount $F = \$1000$
But we have only $P = \$800$ to invest now.

What interest rate is required to obtain F at $n = 1$ year from now?

Example 2:

We would like a future amount $F = \$1000$ at $n = 1$ year from now.

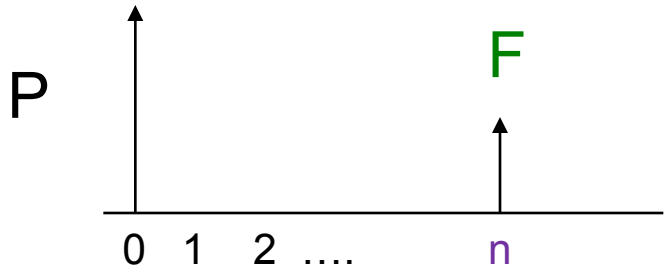
Given an interest rate $i=0.04$ [4%], how much should we invest today, called the present value, P ?



Time value of money

Determine the relationships between ***P*** and ***F*** for

n time periods, with compound interest rate *i*

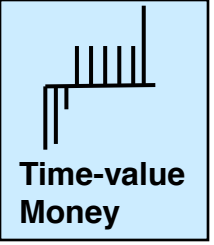


$$F_n = P\,(1 + i)^n$$

What is the present value of a revenue of *F* = $1000 at time *n* for each year *n* = 1, 2 … 10 at 10% per year time value of money?

Asked another way …

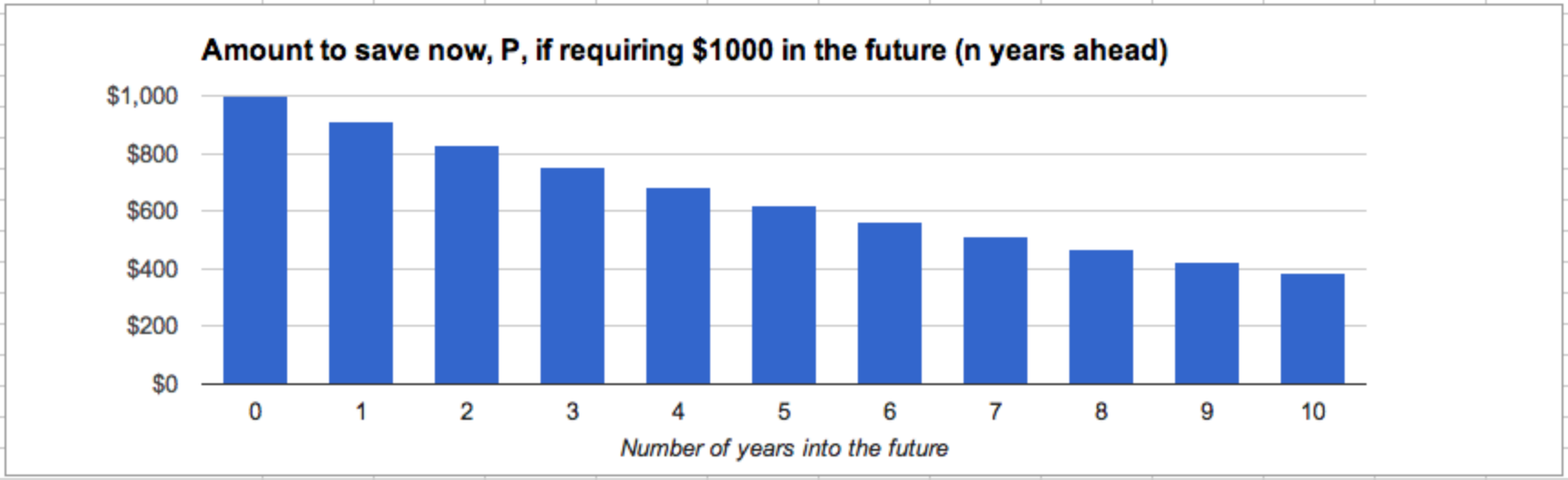
If you want to have *F*=$1000 in *n* = 1, 2, …10 years from now, how much do you have to invest right now, if interest rates remain at 10% per year?



All these spreadsheets are on the course website

Time value of money

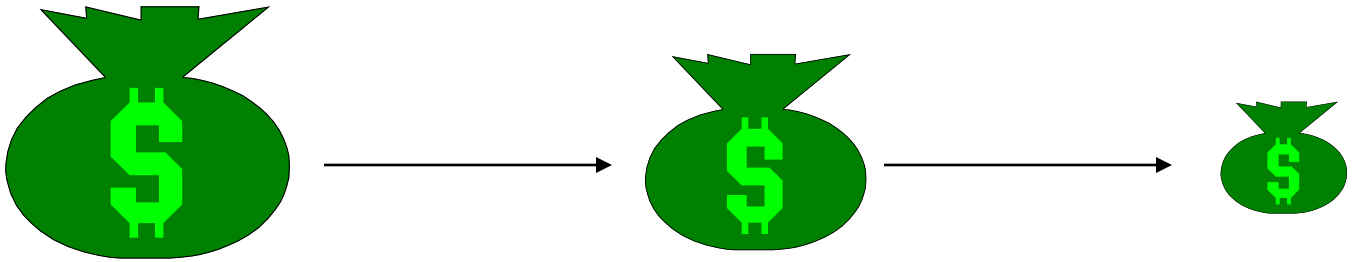
Amount in the future (F)	$1,000	(desired)									
Interest rate (i)	0.1										
Period, n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Present value required (P)	$1,000	$909	$826	$751	$683	$621	$564	$513	$467	$424	$386

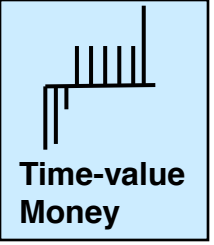


Interpretation : $621 right now (*n*=0) has the equivalent worth of what $1000 will have 6 years (*n*=5) from now, at interest rates of 10%.

Time value of money

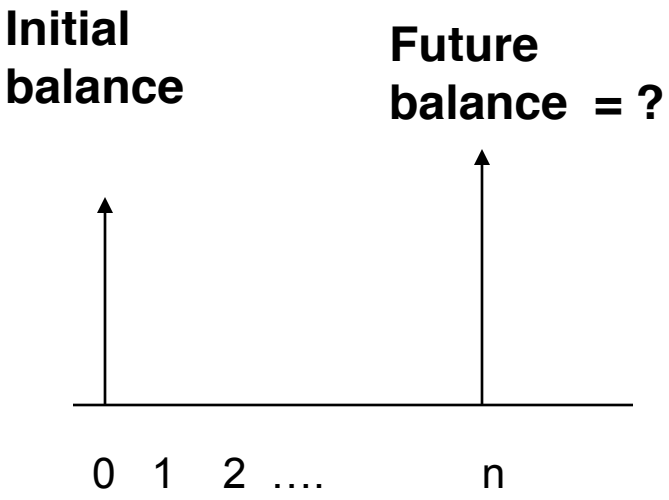
- Since money has a time value, money in the future has less value. We will characterize this decrease with the "time value of money".
- For a worthwhile investment, the net income in the future must be greater than the original expense.





Time value of money

Associated use of interest rates: When we place money in the bank, the bank increases the amount in our account according to an interest rate. This is payment for the bank using our money.



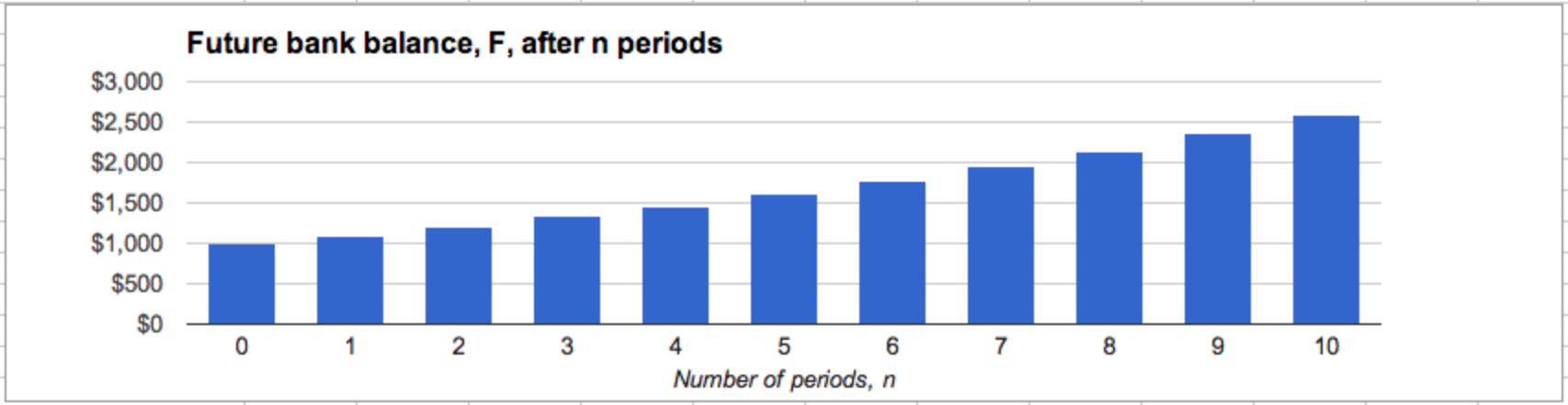
How do we calculate the future amount in our account?

$$\textbf{Future balance} = P\ (1 + i)^n$$

What is the amount in your account ten years after depositing $1000 at 10% per year interest rate?

Time value of money

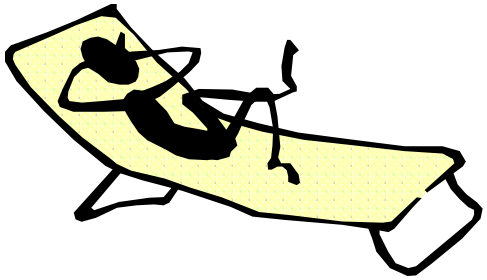
Amount invested (P)	$1,000										
Interest rate (i)	0.1										
Period, n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Bank balance, F	$1,000	$1,100	$1,210	$1,331	$1,464	$1,611	$1,772	$1,949	$2,144	$2,358	$2,594



Time value of money

If you want to get rich, just invest and wait

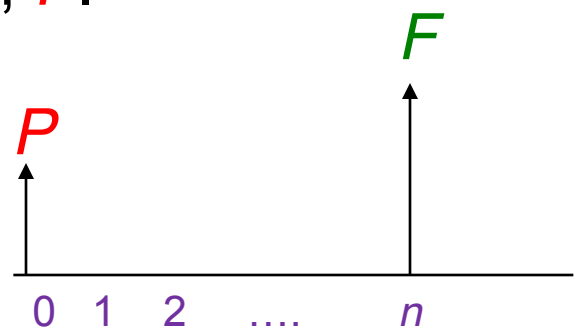
Invest $10,000/yr at 5% is worth after 35 years: $ 948,000
after 40 years: $ 1,268,000
after 45 years: $ 1,677,000



*"Compound interest is the eighth wonder of the world. He who understands it, earns it ... he who doesn't ... **pays it**."* – Albert Einstein

Time value of money

We can consider inflation, *i*, in a similar way. An amount of money in the future (*F*), is worth less than in the present, *P*.



$$F_n = P\,(1 + i)^n$$

What is the present value of *F*=$1000 at time = *n*

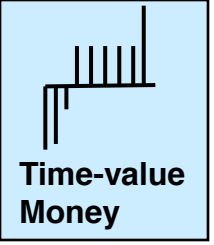
for each year (*n*= 1 to 10)

at 10% per year time value of money?

Asked another way …

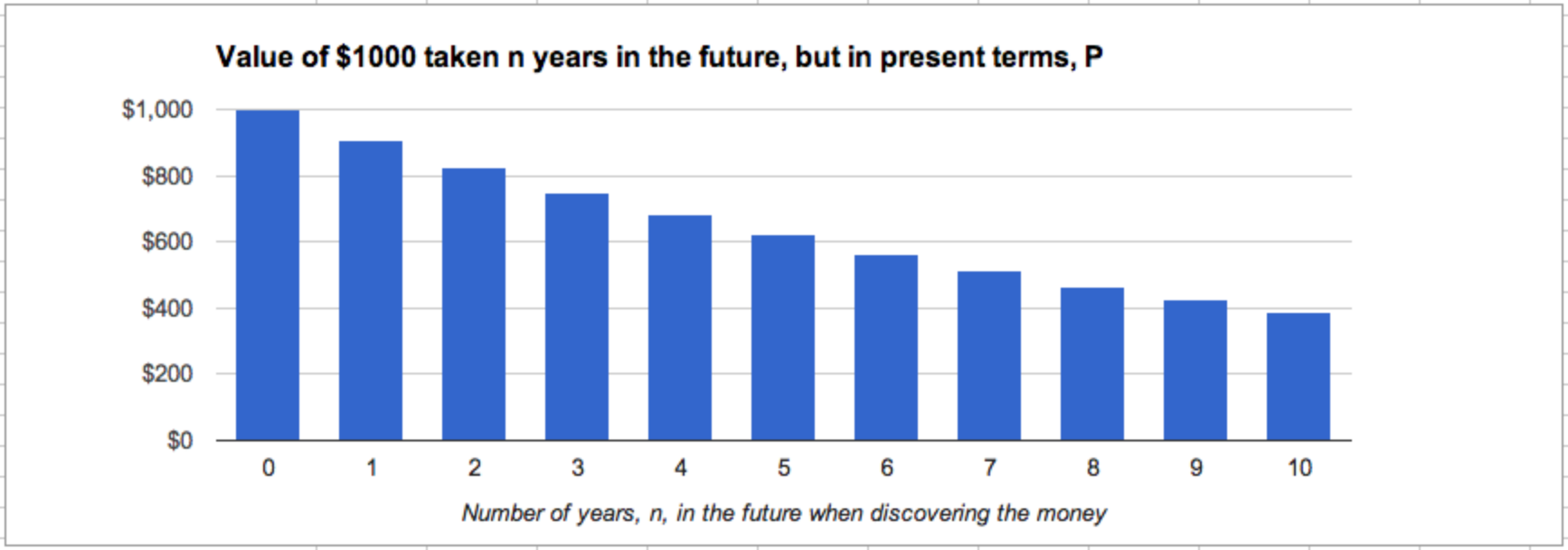
In *n* = 1, 2, …10 years from now you discover *F* = $1000 under your mattress, and you can go buy goods with those dollars.

How much would those same goods have cost, in today's dollars if inflation was 10% per year?



Time value of money

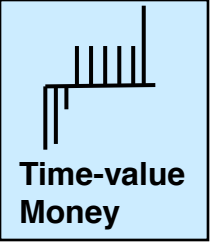
Amount discovered later (F)	$1,000										
Inflation rate (i)	0.1										
Period, n	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Value in present terms (P)	$1,000	$909	$826	$751	$683	$621	$564	$513	$467	$424	$386



Interpretation : If TVM (inflation) = 10%, then consider that something worth $467 now is what you'll have to pay $1000 for in 9 years (*n*=8) from now.

Trade, exchange rates, budget balances and interest rates

	Trade balance latest 12 months, $bn	Current-account balance latest 12 months, $bn	Current-account balance % of GDP 2014†	Currency units, per $ Sep 3rd	Currency units, per $ year ago	Budget balance % of GDP 2014†	Interest rates 3-month latest	Interest rates 10-year gov't bonds, latest
United States	-718.6 Jun	-405.9 Q1	-2.4	-	-	-2.9	0.23	2.41
China	+283.3 Jul	+163.6 Q2	+1.7	6.14	6.12	-2.9	4.66	4.00§§
Japan	-113.0 Jun	-5.2 Jun	+0.3	105	99.8	-7.8	0.13	0.54
Britain	-179.3 Jun	-117.7 Q1	-3.9	0.61	0.64	-4.6	0.55	2.42
Canada	nil Jun	-50.4 Q2	-2.8	1.09	1.05	-2.6	1.21	2.09
Euro area	+225.9 Jun	+297.9 Jun	+2.3	0.76	0.76	-2.5	0.15	0.95
Austria	-6.5 May	+8.8 Q1	+2.5	0.76	0.76	-3.0	0.15	1.23
Belgium	+21.7 Jun	-5.4 Mar	-0.6	0.76	0.76	-2.5	0.15	1.35
France	-82.9 Jun‡	-53.0 Jun‡	-1.2	0.76	0.76	-4.0	0.15	1.34
Germany	+270.3 Jun	+262.4 Jun	+7.2	0.76	0.76	+0.5	0.15	0.95
Greece	-24.6 Jun	+3.4 Jun	+0.6	0.76	0.76	-5.3	0.15	5.88
Italy	+49.1 May	+31.8 Jun	+1.3	0.76	0.76	-3.2	0.15	2.46
Netherlands	+65.8 Jun	+86.3 Q1	+10.0	0.76	0.76	-2.7	0.15	1.14
Spain	-29.9 Jun	-1.6 Jun	+0.7	0.76	0.76	-5.7	0.15	2.28
Czech Republic	+20.3 Jun	+0.2 Q1	nil	21.1	19.6	-1.8	0.35	1.28
Denmark	+12.4 Jun	+23.3 Jun	+6.5	5.67	5.67	-1.5	0.34	1.23
Hungary	+9.1 Jun	+4.7 Q1	+2.1	239	230	-2.9	2.13	4.47
Norway	+59.8 Jul	+57.9 Q2	+11.0	6.23	6.08	+12.2	1.75	2.35
Poland	-2.0 Jun	-4.8 Jun	-1.4	3.19	3.25	-3.5	2.36	3.02
Russia	+193.3 Jun	+51.5 Q2	+2.9	36.8	33.5	+0.3	9.87	9.52
Sweden	+6.1 Jul	+36.6 Q2	+6.3	7.01	6.62	-2.1	0.50	1.47
Switzerland	+29.7 Jul	+105.4 Q1	+12.3	0.92	0.94	+0.3	0.02	0.57
Turkey	-85.3 Jul	-52.2 Jun	-5.8	2.16	2.06	-2.6	9.29	9.09

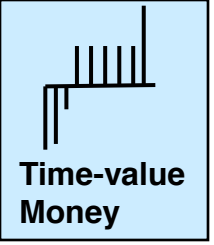


Time value of money

Class exercise: Your bank account is the "system". You have an initial revenue of $4,000 and the following monthly revenues and expenditures, and the bank pays 5% interest per month.

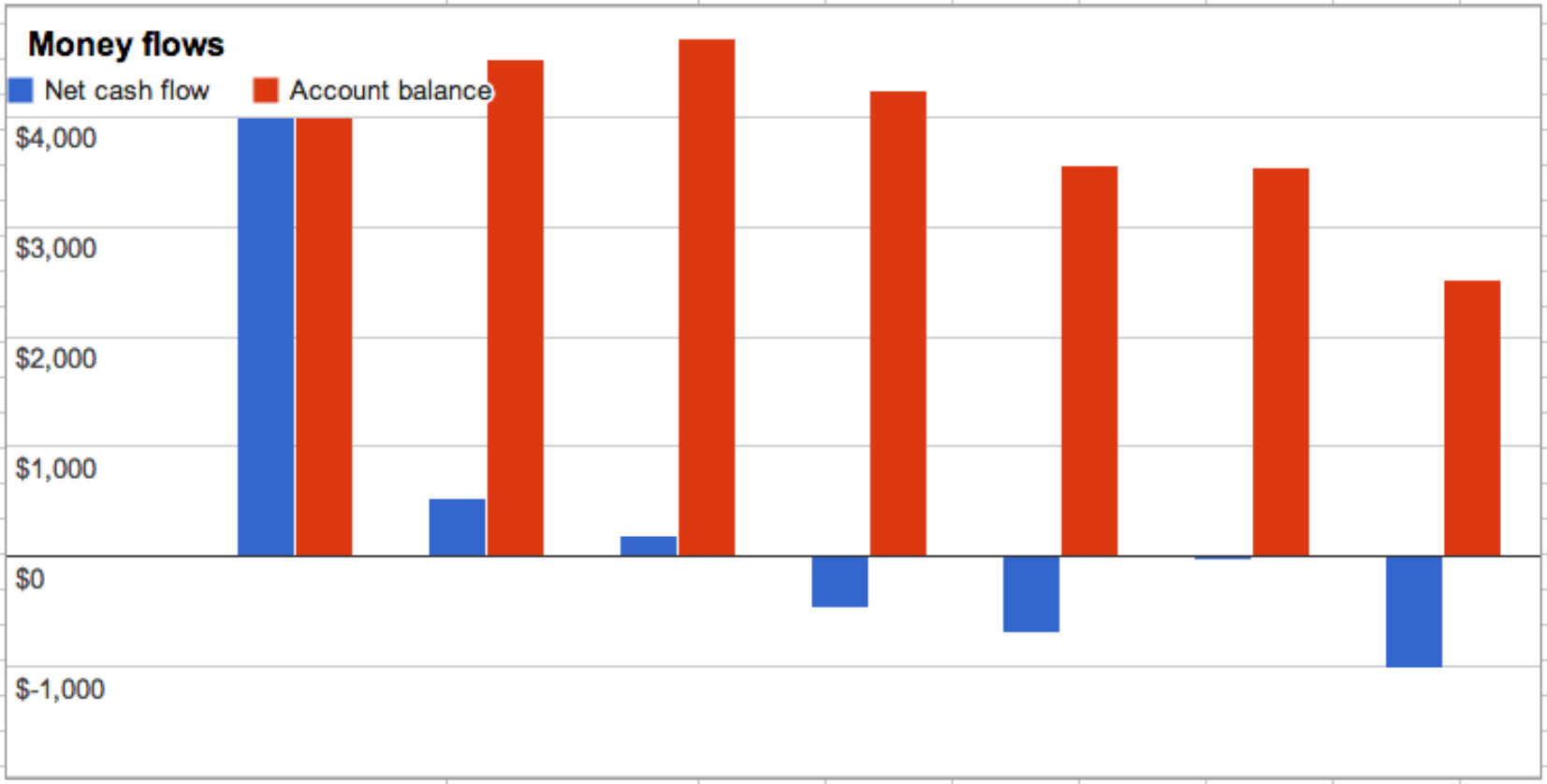
Plot the monthly balance *and* cash flow diagram for your bank account.

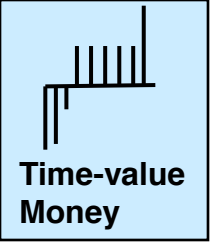
	Month	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Revenues		$4,000	$530	$530	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenses		$0	-$200	-$570	-$700	-$900	-$200	-$1,200



Time value of money

	Month	0	1	2	3	4	5	6
Revenues	A	$4,000	$530	$530	$0	$0	$0	$0
Expenses	B	$0	-$200	-$570	-$700	-$900	-$200	-$1,200
Interest earned at 5% per month	C = 0.05 x E(n-1)		$200	$227	$236	$213	$178	$177
Net cash flow	D = A + B + C	$4,000	$530	$187	-$464	-$687	-$22	-$1,023
Account balance	E = D + E(n-1)	$4,000	$4,530	$4,717	$4,252	$3,565	$3,543	$2,520





Time value of money

Now, let's relate the banking interest to the time value of money

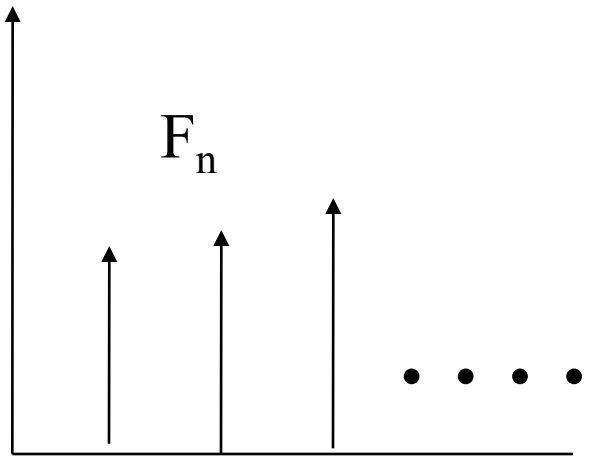
Class exercise: You deposit $5000 in a bank account with an annual compound interest rate i*. The time value of money is described by an interest rate i' (inflation rate).

Calculate the present value of the bank account after n years.

Time-value Money

Time value of money

$C_0 = 5000$



$$F_n = C_0(1+i^*)^n$$

Interest earned on the investment

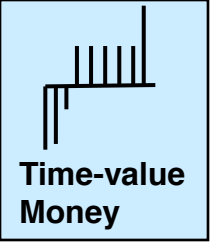
$$P = \frac{F_n}{(1+i')^n}$$

Present value of the investment

$$P = C_0 \frac{(1+i^*)^n}{(1+i')^n}$$

What is the result if $i^* = i'$?

How do we use this result to interpret the time-value of money?

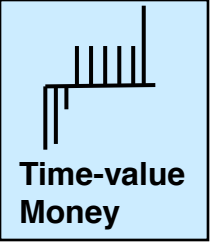


Time value of money

Class exercise

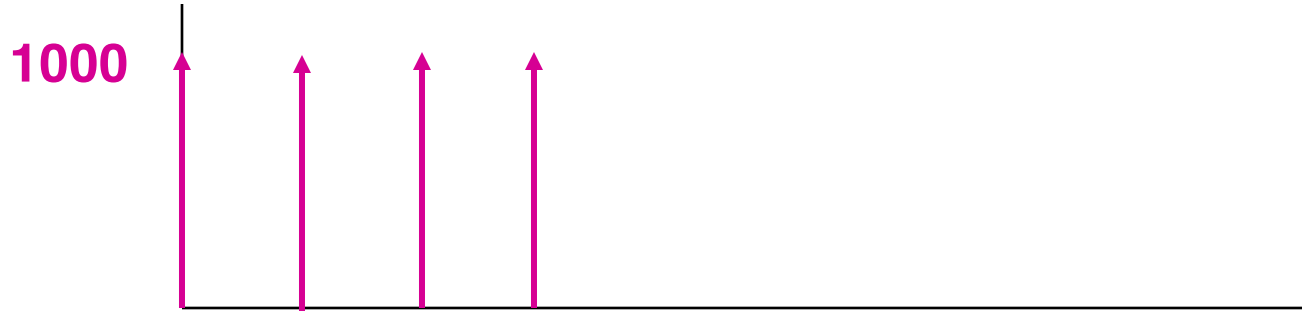
You have an income of $1000 per year for each of the 4 years of your undergraduate studies.

- Draw a cash flow diagram
- Determine the value for this income in the beginning of the first year when the inflation rate (time value of money) is 10%.



Time value of money

Class exercise

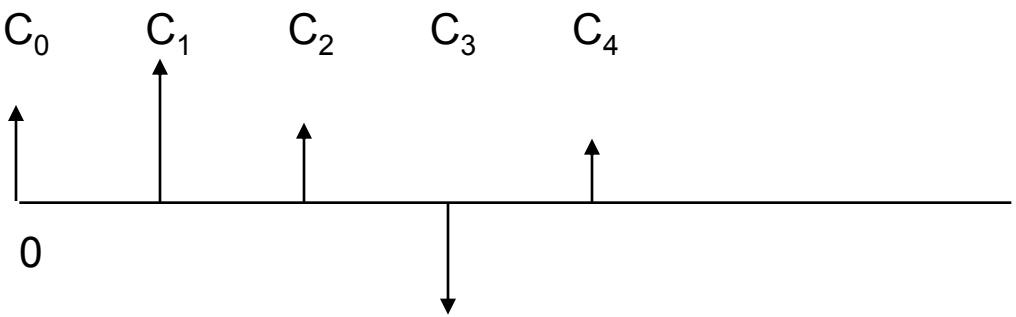


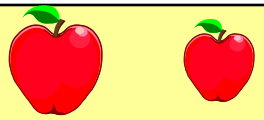
	Inflation rate, i =	0.1			
Period	n	**0**	**1**	**2**	**3**
Cash flow in the period	Fn	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000	$1,000
Cash flow in present value terms	P	$1,000	$909	$826	$751
Cumulate cash flow in present value terms		**$1,000**	**$1,909**	**$2,736**	**$3,487**

Interpretation: You could have replaced the cash flow with one revenue of $3487 at time period 0, that earned interest at 10%. Then make $1000 withdrawals in each year from the bank account. The balance will be $0 after the last withdrawal. Prove this interpretation for yourself in a spreadsheet.

Time value of money

Look ahead: We will be expressing values for different investments at the **same time** period for the purpose of comparison.

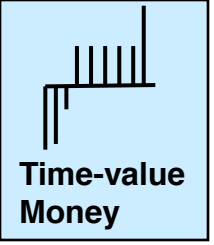




We need to compare apples and apples!

$$P = \frac{C_0}{(1+i)^0} + \frac{C_1}{(1+i)^1} + \frac{C_2}{(1+i)^2} + \frac{C_3}{(1+i)^3} + \frac{C_4}{(1+i)^4} + \cdots$$

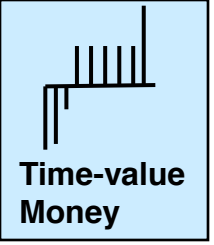
with C_n = cash flow at period n with a TVM rate of i



Time value of money

Some thoughts

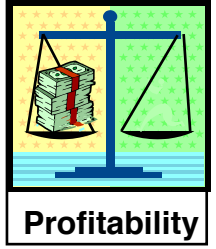
- **Interest factor tables:** Many tables are provided for relationships among *P*, *F* and annuity values for specified interest rates and periods
- **Calculations:** Many projects have unequal cash flows. The time-value calculations are easily performed using spreadsheets like Excel.
- **Life-long applications:** These concepts are useful for personal finances (mortgage rate, credit card borrowing, and so forth).



Time value of money

Group learning / Self-directed learning

1. Determine the meanings of **simple**, **compound**, **nominal**, **effective** and **continuous** interest.
2. How would the equations used in this section be changed if the interest rate depended on the period?
3. You have a balance of $4,000 on your credit card which has an interest rate of 24% (nominal, **compounded monthly**). How much do you have to pay per month to maintain your balance at $4,000? How much do you have to pay per month to clear your debt in one year?
4. What is the meaning of the term “usury”? What is the history of charging interest for loans? Read up on Sharia compliant finance (finance without charging interest on loans).
5. Investigate the **`=PV( )`** and **`=FV( )`** functions in spreadsheet software



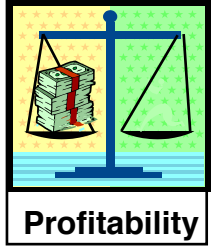
Measures of profitability

1. Time value of money
2. Quantitative measures of profitability
3. Systematic comparison of alternatives
4. Estimation of costs

- We need a systematic method for **comparing** expenses and incomes at different times using the time value of money
- We need to compare the project profitability with a **minimum acceptable performance**
- Many measures are in use; we'll look at four.

  - Two are useful and commonly used by engineers

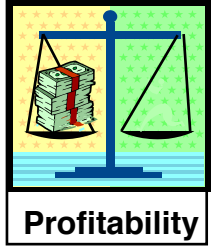
  - Two are not recommended, but are used in practice. We should know these as well.



Measures of profitability

The following organizations and decisions are not “profit based”; do they need measures of profitability?

- Universities
- Charities
- Governments
- For-profit companies when involved in
  - safety projects
  - environmental projects

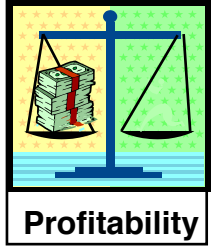


Measures of profitability

Examples for each category

- Universities – e.g. rent or purchase computers
- Charities - Invest in fund raising
- Governments - In-house or outsource tasks
- For-profit companies when involved in
  - safety projects
  - environmental projects

} Find project that satisfies goals at the lowest cost



Measures of profitability

Example

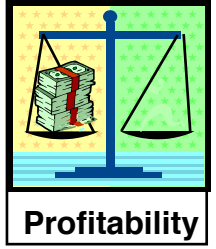
We can invest money yielding a 15% annually compounded return.

Compared to that, would the following project be financially attractive?

i.e. should we invest, or just park our money and earn the 15%?

Period	Cash Flow ($)
0	-91,093
1	20,000
2	40,000
3	40,000
4	40,000
5	30,000

Don’t know how to estimate the costs? Don’t worry, we will cover the topic soon.



Measures of profitability

Payback time

- This measure is often used as a “quick and dirty” measure of profitability
- We use it in our daily lives: how long does it take to pay back for …(car, vacation, new cell phone, *etc*)
- Also called *Payout Time*
- Defined in units of time (e.g. months or years)

The time for the cumulative cash flow to achieve a value of $0

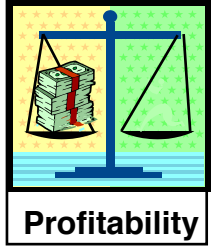
Usually (and in this course), payback time does not consider interest.

Measures of profitability

Class exercise: Payback time

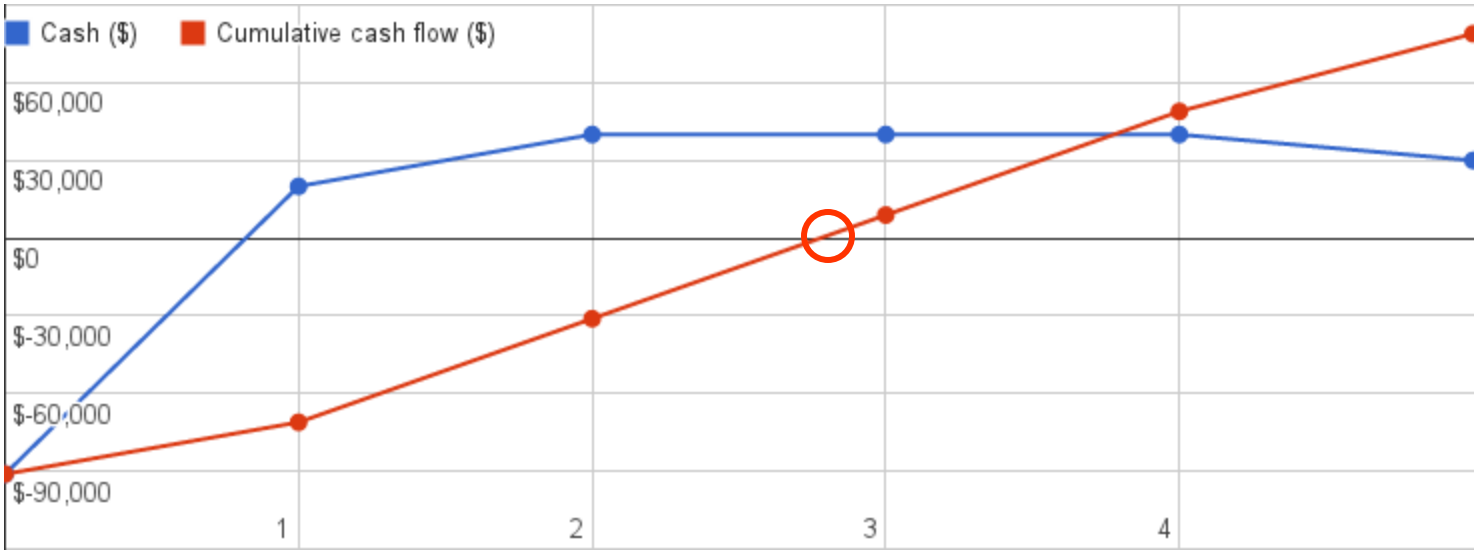
Determine the payback time for the cash flow defined in previous table

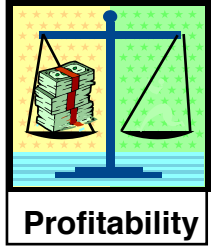
Period	Cash Flow ($)
0	-91,093
1	20,000
2	40,000
3	40,000
4	40,000
5	30,000



Measures of profitability

A plot (visual interpolation) used to determine the payback time





Measures of profitability

- What is the Payback time for a project that involves an original investment of $91,000 and provides an annual profit (positive cash flow) of $34,000 per year over the first three years and no depreciation.

  Payback time = 91/34 ≈ 2.7 years [rough calc.]

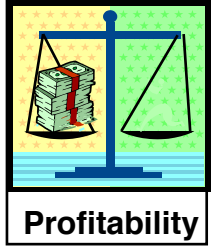
  Same payback time as previous example, but different cash flows

Notes

- No time value of money taken into account
- Doesn't consider what happens after payback

Not recommended!

Can be an effective screening tool though

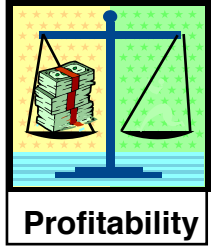


Measures of profitability

Return on original investment (ROI)

- Simple calculation
- ROI = $$\frac{\text{average annual profit}}{\text{fixed capital} + \text{working capital}}$$
- Expressed in units of percent per year

What is fixed capital?
What is working capital?

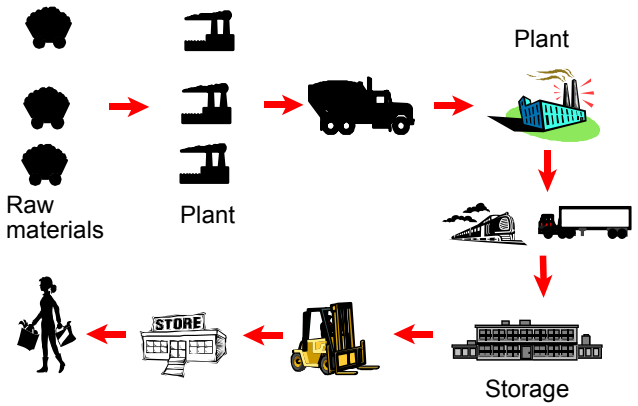


Measures of profitability

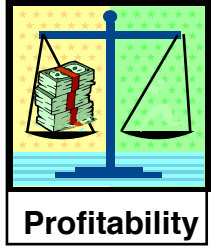
Working Capital

Working capital is the difference between current assets and current liabilities. (Estimation given later in course.) Examples include:

- Raw materials
- Work in progress (WIP), which is material part way through the production
- Supplies stored for manufacturing, e.g., catalyst
- Finished products in storage and transport that we still own
- Cash on hand to cover short-term expenses



A key feature of working capital is that it can be recovered when the plant is shutdown.



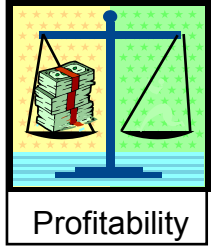
Measures of profitability

- Calculate the ROI for a project with fixed capital of $91,000, no working capital, and an average annual profit of $34,000.

$$ROI = 34/91 \times 100 \approx 34\%$$

Does not consider time value of money

Not recommended!



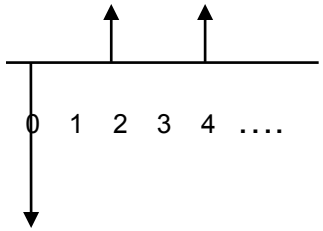
Measures of profitability

Net Present Value (NPV) (NP worth)

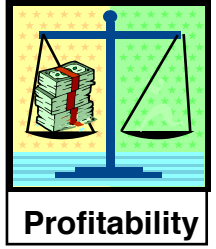
- Explicitly expressed as a **specific value of money**
- Defined as present value of all cash flows
- Sum up these present values (i.e. “net” them up)
- For N compounding periods in the life of the project, with a net cash flow in each period of C_n

recommended

$$\mathrm{NPV} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} C_n (1+i)^{-n}$$



What does NPV=$0 imply?

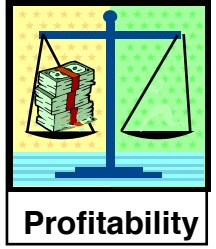


Measures of profitability

Class exercise: Net Present Value (NPV)

Period	Cash Flow ($)	PV of cash flow ($)
0	-91,093	
1	20,000	
2	40,000	
3	40,000	
4	40,000	
5	30,000	

Calculate the NPV for this project at 15% time value of money



Measures of profitability

Class exercise: Net Present Value (NPV)

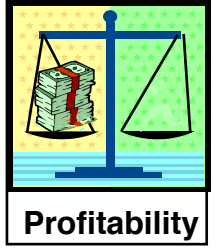
See the calculations below and *on the course website*

Payback time	Period	Cash ($)	Present value ($)	Cumulative sum of PV ($)	Cumulative cash flow ($)
	0	-$91,093	-$91,093	-$91,093	-$91,093
	1	$20,000	$17,391	-$73,702	-$71,093
Interest rate	2	$40,000	$30,246	-$43,456	-$31,093
0.15	3	$40,000	$26,301	-$17,155	$8,907
	4	$40,000	$22,870	$5,715	$48,907
	5	$30,000	$14,915	$20,630	$78,907

What does this value mean?

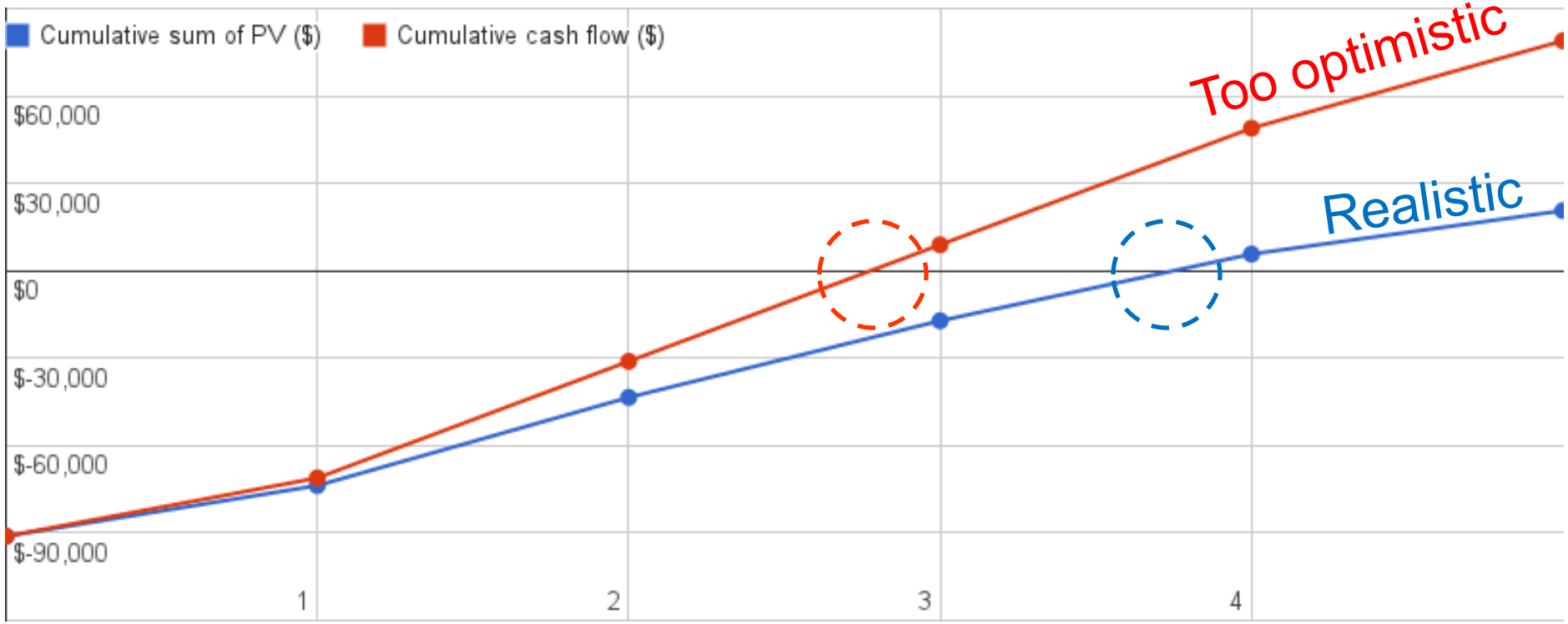
From prior exercise

This approach considers time value of money explicitly. Important for projects of long duration, and in high deflationary environments.

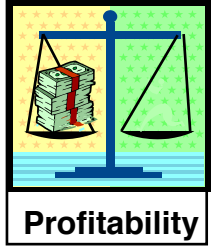


Measures of profitability

Class exercise: Net Present Value (NPV)



Payback time **not** taking time value of money into account is too optimistic.

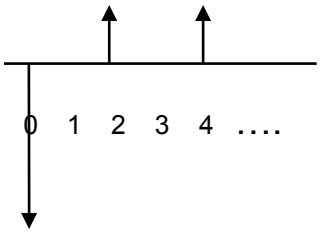


Measures of profitability

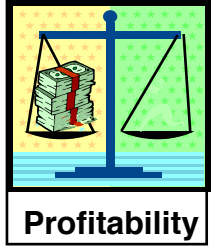
Discounted Cash Flow Rate Of Return (DCFRR)

- **Also called, Discounted Cash Flow (DCF)**
  Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
- Defined as **the interest rate** that results in a NPV of $0

$$\text{NPV} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} C_n (1+i)^{-n} = 0$$



recommended



Measures of profitability

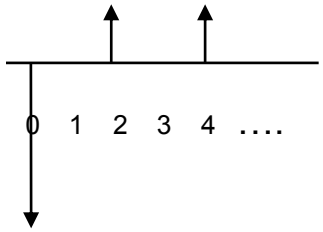
Internal Rate of Return (IRR)

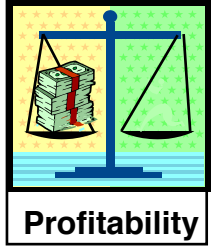
- Why *internal*? It is the NPV from this project's (internal) cash flows. NOT dependent on other project's.

- Simplest example: you invest $100 now and wish to have $108 next year. What is the rate of return, i.e. the IRR, required to achieve this?

Now use the equation below.

$$\text{NPV} = \sum_{n=0}^{N} C_n (1+i)^{-n} = 0$$



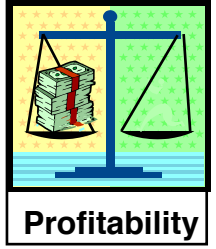


Measures of profitability

Class exercise: Discounted cash flow rate of return (DCFRR)

Period	Cash Flow ($)
0	-91,093
1	20,000
2	40,000
3	40,000
4	40,000
5	30,000

Calculate the DCFRR for this project (you'll need a computer for this)



Measures of profitability

Calculate the DCFRR for this project

DCFRR = $i = 0.236$ **or 23.6% (By trial and error, use "goal seek")**

Payback time	Period	Cash ($)	Present value ($)	Cumulative sum of PV ($)
	0	-$91,093	-$91,093	-$91,093
	1	$20,000	$16,182	-$74,911
Interest rate	2	$40,000	$26,184	-$48,727
0.23597	3	$40,000	$21,185	-$27,542
Adjust this value to get cumulative	4	$40,000	$17,141	-$10,401
sum of PV, i.e. NPV = 0	5	$30,000	$10,401	$0

So the DCFRR is 23.6% in this example over the 6 periods of the project's life.

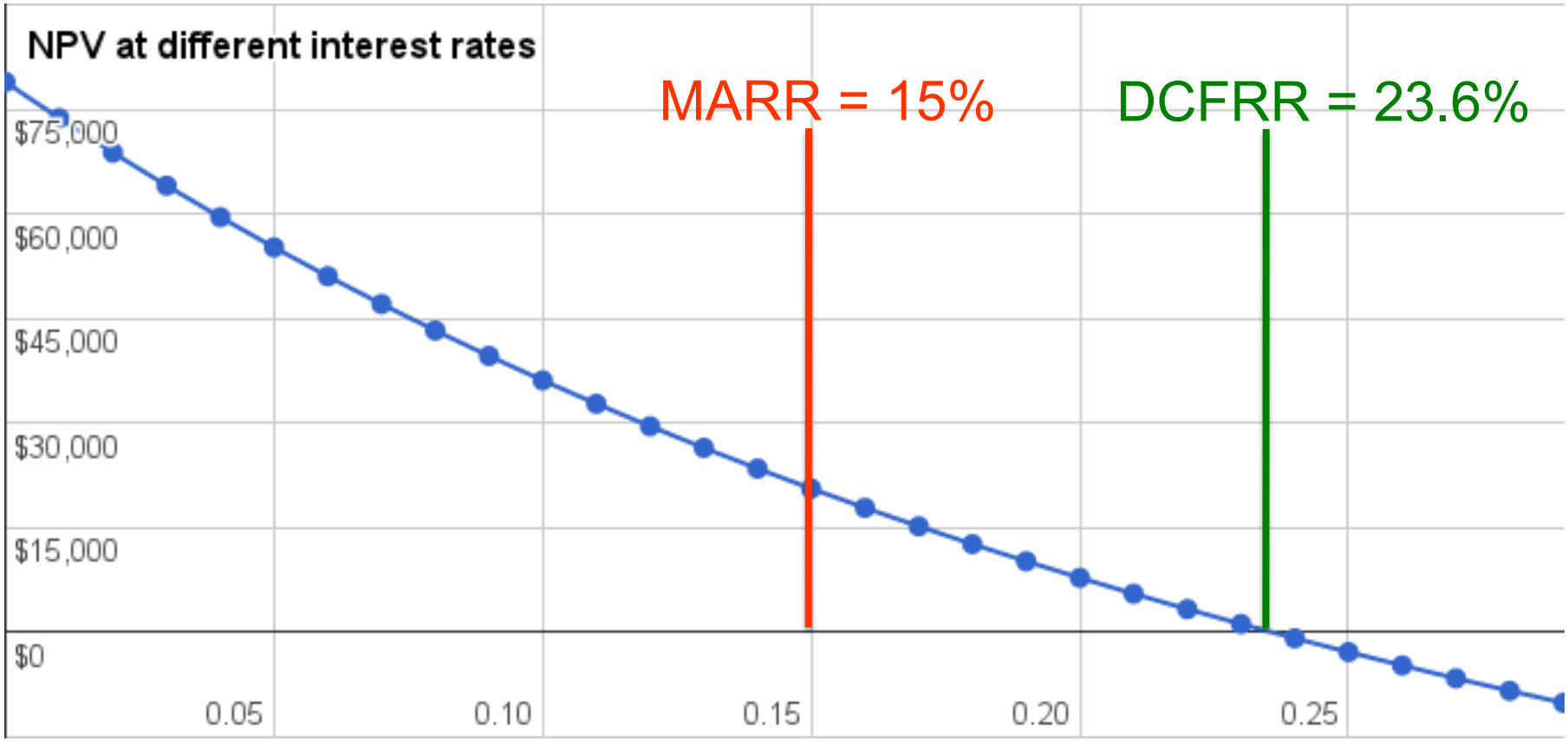
What does this value mean?

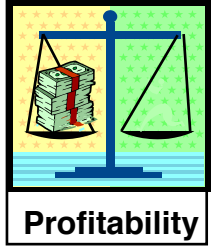
Considers time value of money explicitly

Measures of profitability

This is a fixed value that the company chooses

A profitable investment has DCFRR > MARR

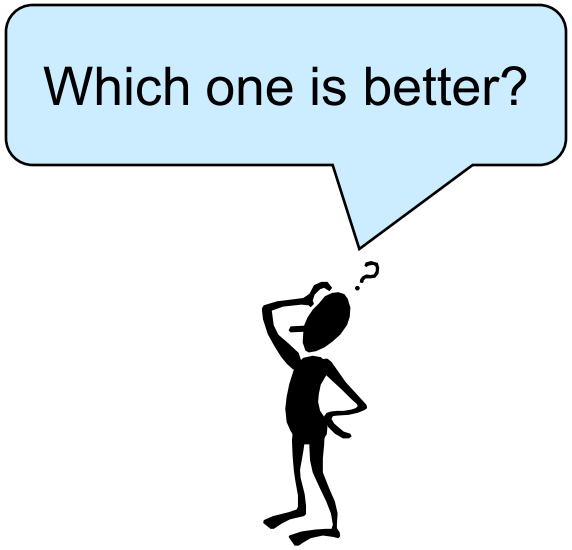




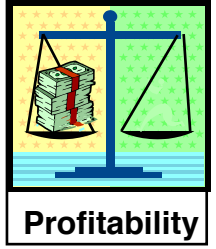
Measures of profitability

Calculate the DCFRR for the following cash flows

	year	0	1	2	3
Cash flows	A	-1000	750	390	180
	B	-1000	350	470	660
	C	-1000	533	467	400



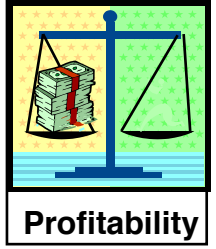
From Humphreys, Jelen's Cost and Optimization Engineering, page 117



Measures of profitability

Calculate the DCFRR for the following cash flows

Cash flow diagrams



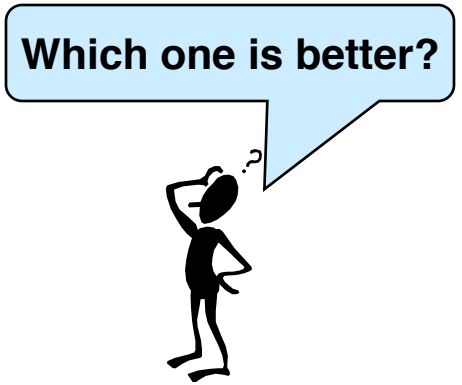
Measures of profitability

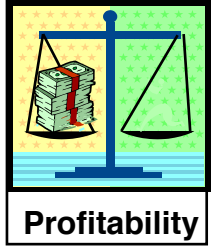
Calculate the DCFRR for the following cash flows

Period	Project A	Project B	Project C		Period	Cuml PV A	Cuml PV B	Cuml PV C
0	-$1,000	-$1,000	-$1,000		0	-$1,000	-$1,000	-$1,000
1	$750	$350	$533		1	-$375	-$708	-$556
2	$390	$470	$467		2	-$104	-$382	-$231
3	$180	$660	$400		3	$0	$0	$0
DCFRR	0.2000	0.2000	0.2000	*calculated with the =IRR(...) function*				

Different cash flows with the same DCFRR.

How do we interpret this?

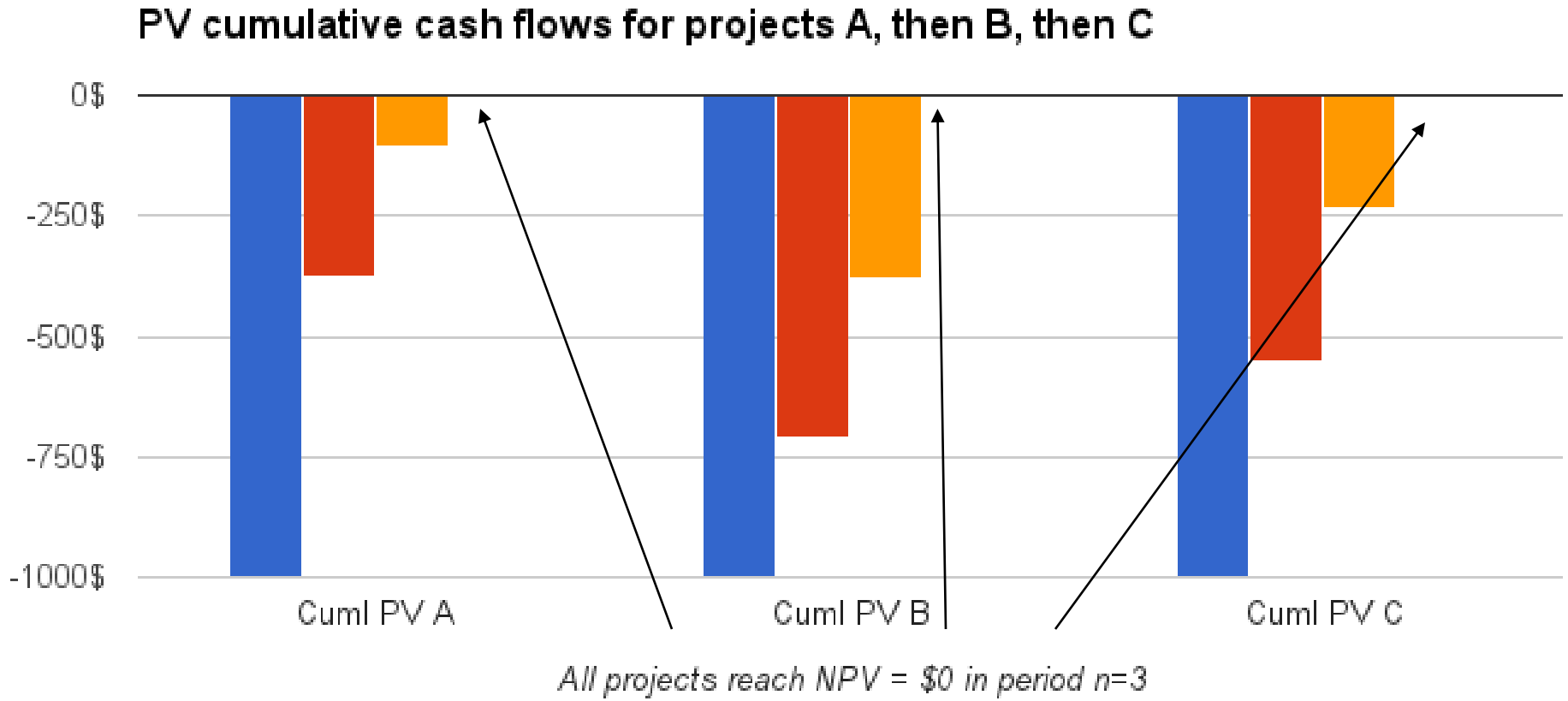


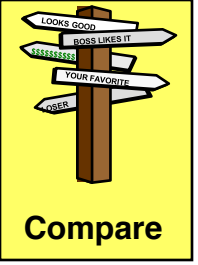


Measures of profitability

Calculate the DCFRR for the following cash flows

Cumulative NPV using $i_{\text{TVM}}=20\%$





We will come back to this topic again

Detour: Comparison of alternatives

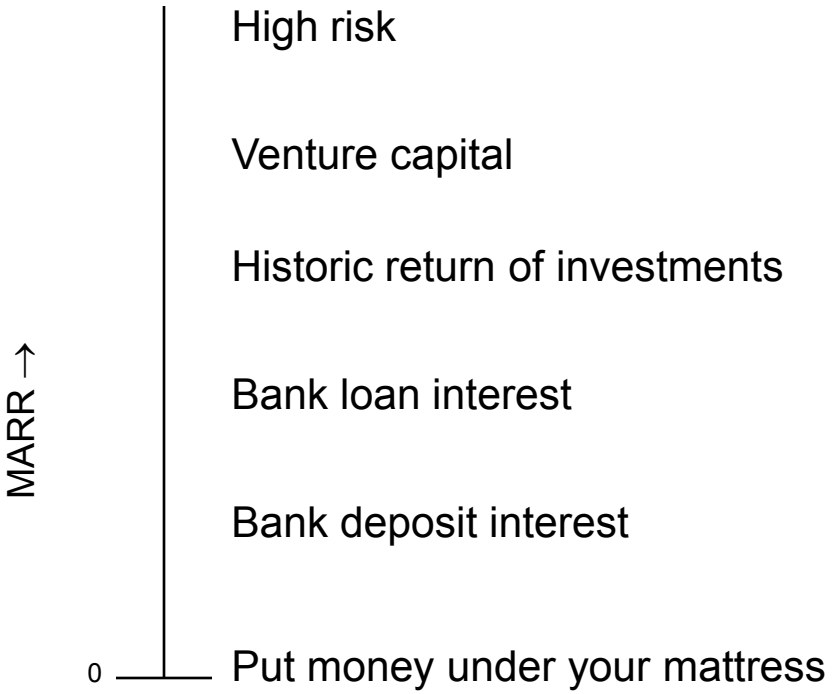
We will need to know the following term

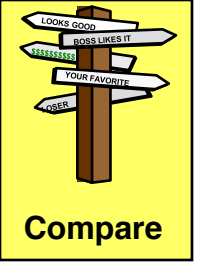
MARR = Minimum Acceptable (compound) Rate of Return

Desired return, considering risk

Weighted average cost of capital

Depends on debt and equity capital and percentage return to achieve breakeven.





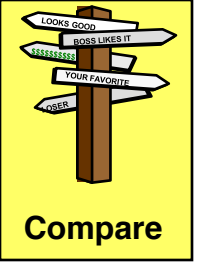
Detour: Comparison of alternatives

MARR = Minimum Acceptable Rate of Return

Sample values from Peters *et al*. Table 8-1.*

Description	Level of risk	Typical MARR (%)
Very low risk, hold capital short-term	Safe	4-8
New production capacity where company has established position in market	Low	8-16
New product or process technology, company has established market position	Medium	16-24
New process or product in new market	High	24-32
High R&D and marketing development	Very High	32-48

* Descriptions modified slightly



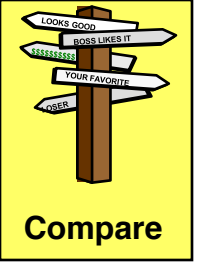
Detour: Comparison of alternatives

The analysis depends on the scenario

- Alternatives are: "project" *or* "do nothing"
- Independent alternatives

- Mutually exclusive alternatives
- Contingency dependent alternatives

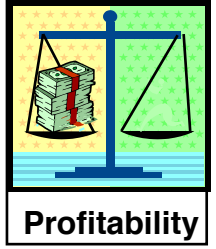
} *We cover these later*



Detour: Comparison of alternatives

Comparing one alternative with "Do nothing"

- The "do nothing" alternative in a large company implies the that the money can be invested with a return rate = **MARR**.
- We always have the (***independent***) alternative of placing the money in an interest bearing bank account. This defines a lower limit on MARR.
- Therefore, we always compare alternatives.

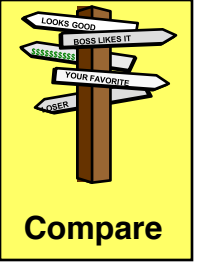


Measures of profitability

Can you have an investment with DCFRR **>** MARR, but NPV **<** \$0 (calculating NPV with i_{TVM}=MARR)?

Can you have an investment with DCFRR **<** MARR, but NPV **>** \$0 (calculating NPV with i_{TVM}=MARR)?

Can you have an investment with DCFRR **<** MARR, and NPV **<** \$0 (calculating NPV with i_{TVM}=MARR)?

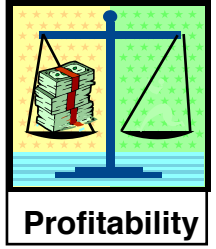


Detour: Comparison of alternatives

Independent alternatives

- Compare each alternative with the MARR
- Pick all combinations of investments for which:
  NPV > \$0 using i_{TVM} = MARR
  DCFRR > MARR
- Since they are independent, sufficient funds exist for all acceptable alternatives

Analysis for independent alternatives compares each project's DCFRR to the MARR



Measures of profitability

We have learned four measures of profitability

- **Payback time**
- **ROI**

Not recommended!

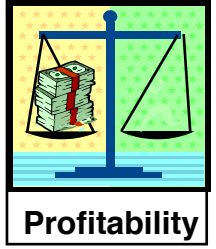
Unfortunately, both are used in everyday settings, so managers will often request these values. Just recognize their limitations.

- **NPV**
- **DCFRR**

Recommended

Note: both NPV and DCFRR require an estimate of *N* (project lifetime)

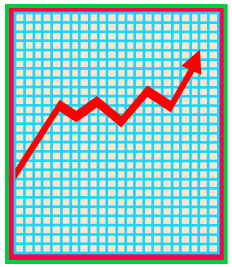
Which will you use in your course project and engineering practice?



Measures of profitability

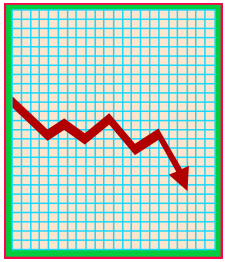
In summary, we have learned four methods

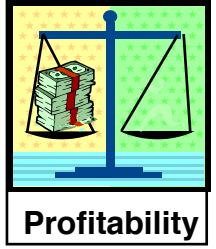
- What are they?
- Why did we learn more than one method?
- Which are recommended?
- Which will you use in your course projects?
- Which will you use in profession practice?



Is the project

profitable or unprofitable?

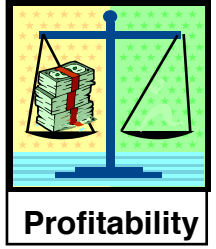




Measures of profitability

Self-directed learning: Covering the topic, extending beyond these visual aids.

1. For all four methods determine typical threshold values that define the boundary between attractive and unattractive projects Find the MARR for a company/sector you are interested in.
2. Investigate a fifth method, annual worth, define its threshold value, and explain when this method is most often used.
3. Determine how inflation affects the calculations of profitability measures.
4. Describe a mathematical method that you could use to calculate the DCFRR (IRR). How could you calculate the DCFRR (IRR) with the use of an Excel spreadsheet?



Measures of profitability

Extending profitability coverage

Depreciation and Taxes

must be taken into account