

# BBSE3009 Project Management and Engineering Economics

<http://www.mech.hku.hk/bse/bbse3009/>



## Engineering economics analysis



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- Nominal and Effective Interest Rates
- Equivalence Calculations using Effective Interest Rates
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# Nominal and Effective Interest Rates

## Main Focus:

1. If **payments** occur more frequently than annual, how do you calculate economic equivalence?
2. If **interest period** is other than annual, how do you calculate economic equivalence?
3. How are **commercial loans** structured?
4. How should you manage your **debt**?

# Nominal and Effective Interest Rates

## Nominal Interest

**Rate:** 名義利率

Interest rate quoted  
based on an annual  
period

## Effective Interest

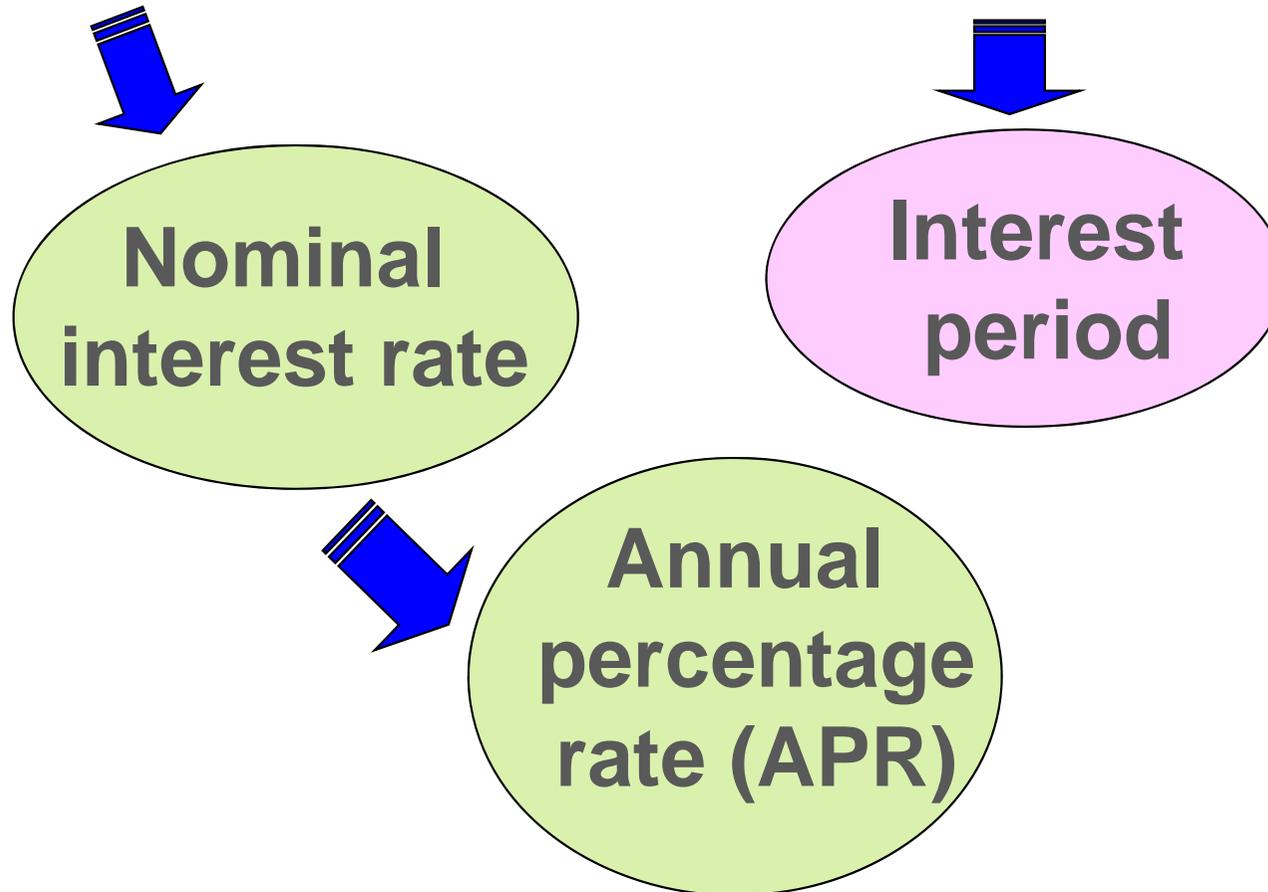
**Rate:** 實質利率

Actual interest earned  
or paid in a year or  
some other time  
period



# Financial Jargon

**18%** Compounded **Monthly**



# 18% Compounded Monthly

- What It Really Means?

- Interest rate per month ( $i$ ) =  $18\% / 12 = 1.5\%$
- Number of interest periods per year ( $N$ ) = 12

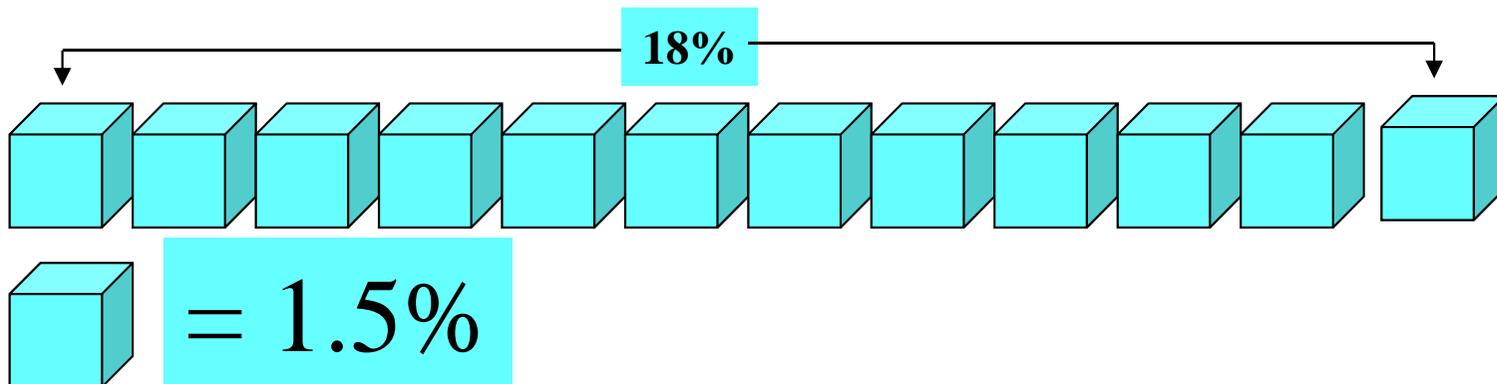
- In other words,

- Bank will charge 1.5% interest each month on your unpaid balance, if you borrowed money
- You will earn 1.5% interest each month on your remaining balance, if you deposited money

# 18% Compounded Monthly

□ **Question:** Suppose that you invest \$1 for 1 year at 18% compounded monthly. How much interest would you earn?

□ **Solution:**  $F = \$1(1 + i)^{12} = \$1(1 + 0.015)^{12}$   
 $= \$1.1956$   
 $i_a = 0.1956$  or 19.56%



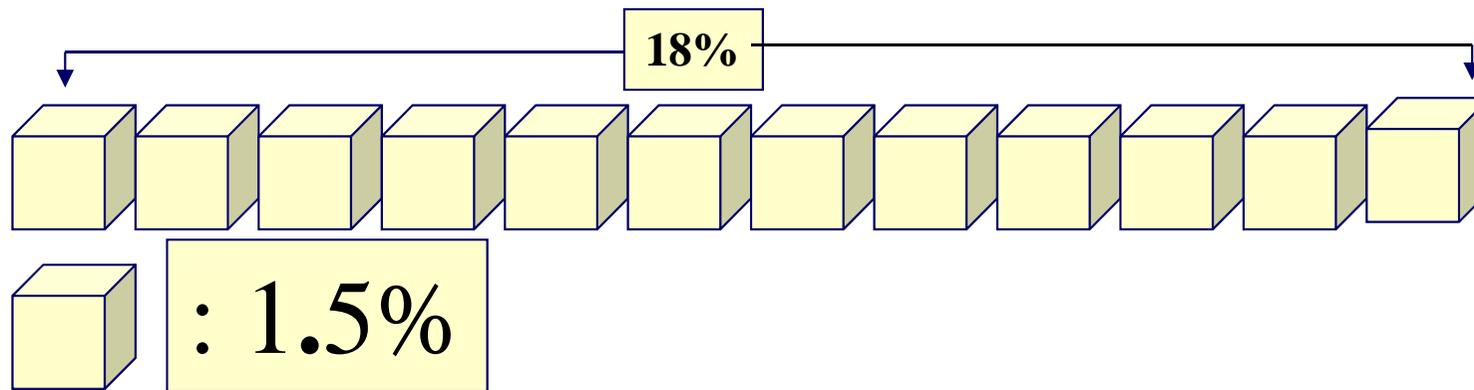
# Effective Annual Interest Rate (Yield)

$$i_a = \left(1 + r / M\right)^M - 1$$

***r*** = nominal interest rate per year

***i<sub>a</sub>*** = effective annual interest rate

***M*** = number of interest periods per year



**18%** compounded **monthly**  
**or**  
**1.5%** per month for **12 months**

=



**19.56 %** compounded **annually**

# Practice Problem (1)



- If your credit card calculates the interest based on 12.5% APR, what is your monthly interest rate and annual effective interest rate, respectively?
- Your current outstanding balance is \$2,000 and skips payments for 2 months. What would be the total balance 2 months from now?

# Solution



Monthly Interest Rate:

$$i = \frac{12.5\%}{12} = 1.0417\%$$

Annual Effective Interest Rate:

$$i_a = (1 + 0.010417)^{12} = 13.24\%$$

Total Outstanding Balance:

$$\begin{aligned} F = B_2 &= \$2,000(F / P, 1.0417\%, 2) \\ &= \$2,041.88 \end{aligned}$$

# Practice Problem (2)

- Suppose your savings account pays 9% interest compounded **quarterly**. If you deposit \$10,000 for one year, how much would you have?

(a) Interest rate per quarter:

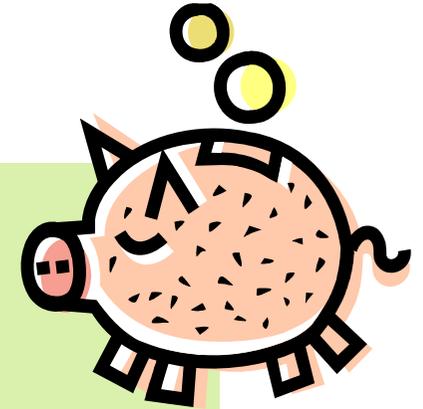
$$i = \frac{9\%}{4} = 2.25\%$$

(b) Annual effective interest rate:

$$i_a = (1 + 0.0225)^4 - 1 = 9.31\%$$

(c) Balance at the end of one year (after 4 quarters)

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \$10,000(F / P, 2.25\%, 4) \\ &= \$10,000(F / P, 9.31\%, 1) \\ &= \$10,931 \end{aligned}$$



# Effective Annual Interest Rates (9% compounded quarterly)

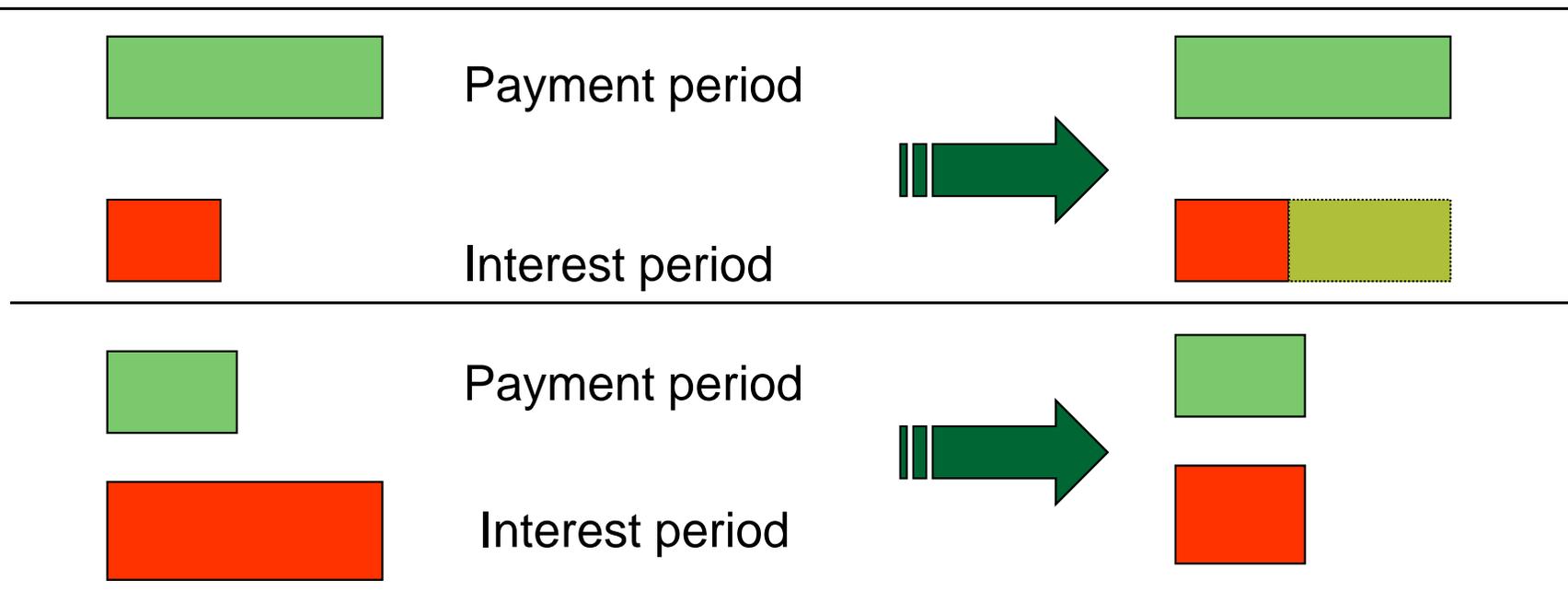
First quarter	Base amount + Interest (2.25%)	\$10,000 + \$225
Second quarter	= New base amount + Interest (2.25%)	= \$10,225 +\$230.06
Third quarter	= New base amount + Interest (2.25%)	= \$10,455.06 +\$235.24
Fourth quarter	= New base amount + Interest (2.25 %) = Value after one year	= \$10,690.30 + \$240.53 = <b>\$10,930.83</b>

# Nominal and Effective Interest Rates with Different Compounding Periods

Effective Rates					
Nominal Rate	Compounding Annually	Compounding Semi-annually	Compounding Quarterly	Compounding Monthly	Compounding Daily
4%	4.00%	4.04%	4.06%	4.07%	4.08%
5	5.00	5.06	5.09	5.12	5.13
6	6.00	6.09	6.14	6.17	6.18
7	7.00	7.12	7.19	7.23	7.25
8	8.00	8.16	8.24	8.30	8.33
9	9.00	9.20	9.31	9.38	9.42
10	10.00	10.25	10.38	10.47	10.52
11	11.00	11.30	11.46	11.57	11.62
12	12.00	12.36	12.55	12.68	12.74

# Nominal and Effective Interest Rates

- Why do we need an effective interest rate per payment period?
  - Whenever payment and compounding periods differ from each other, one or the other must be transformed so that both conform to the same unit of time



## Effective Interest Rate per Payment Period ( $i$ )

$$i = [1 + r / CK]^C - 1$$

$C$  = number of interest periods per payment period

$K$  = number of payment periods per year

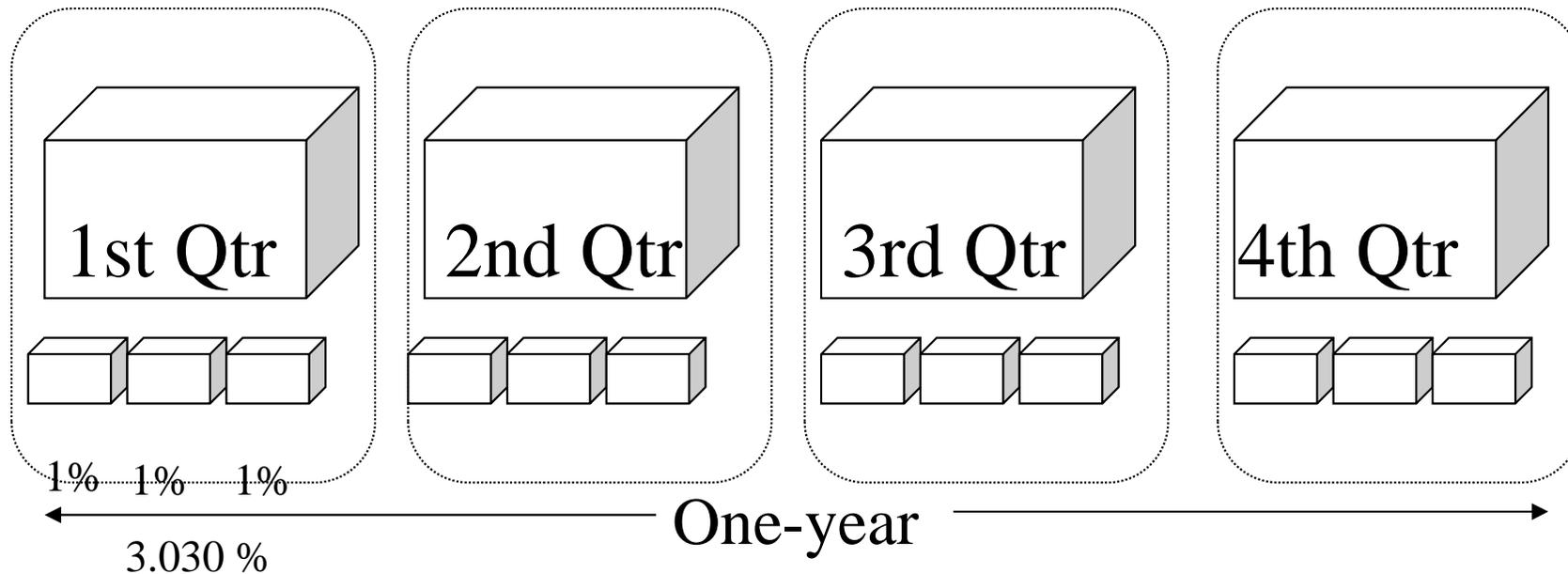
$CK$  = total number of interest periods per year, or  $M$

$r/K$  = nominal interest rate per payment period

# 12% compounded monthly

Payment Period = Quarter

Compounding Period = Month



- **Effective interest rate per quarter**

$$i = (1 + 0.01)^3 - 1 = 3.030 \%$$

- **Effective annual interest rate**

$$i_a = (1 + 0.01)^{12} - 1 = 12.68 \%$$

$$i_a = (1 + 0.03030)^4 - 1 = 12.68 \%$$

# Effective Interest Rate per Payment Period with Continuous Compounding

$$i = [1 + r / CK]^C - 1$$

where  $CK$  = number of compounding periods  
per year

continuous compounding  $\Rightarrow C \rightarrow \infty$

$$\begin{aligned} i &= \lim [(1 + r / CK)^C - 1] \\ &= (e^r)^{1/K} - 1 \end{aligned}$$

# Example:

## 12% compounded continuously

(a) Effective interest rate per quarter

$$\begin{aligned}i &= e^{0.12/4} - 1 \\ &= 3.045\% \text{ per quarter}\end{aligned}$$

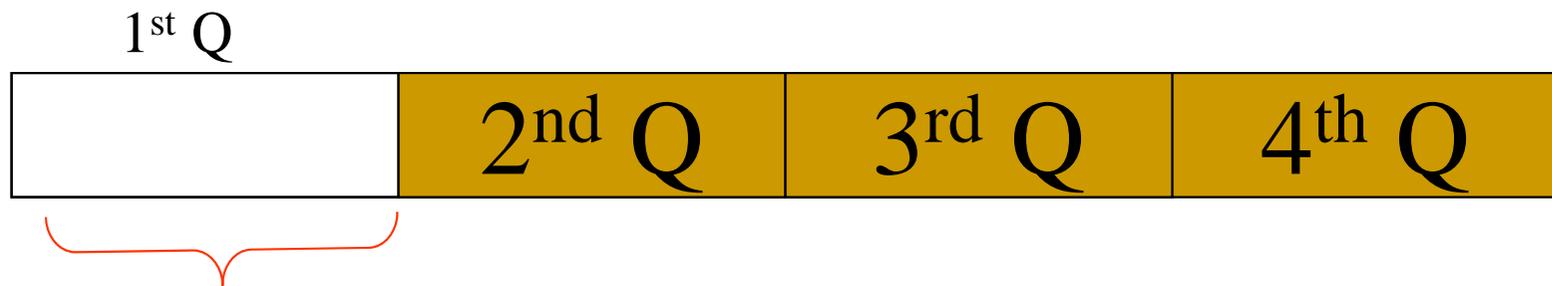
(b) Effective annual interest rate

$$\begin{aligned}i_a &= e^{0.12/1} - 1 \\ &= 12.75\% \text{ per year}\end{aligned}$$

# Case 0: 8% compounded quarterly

Payment Period = Quarter

Interest Period = Quarterly



1 interest period

Given  $r = 8\%$ ,

$K = 4$  payments per year

$C = 1$  interest period per quarter

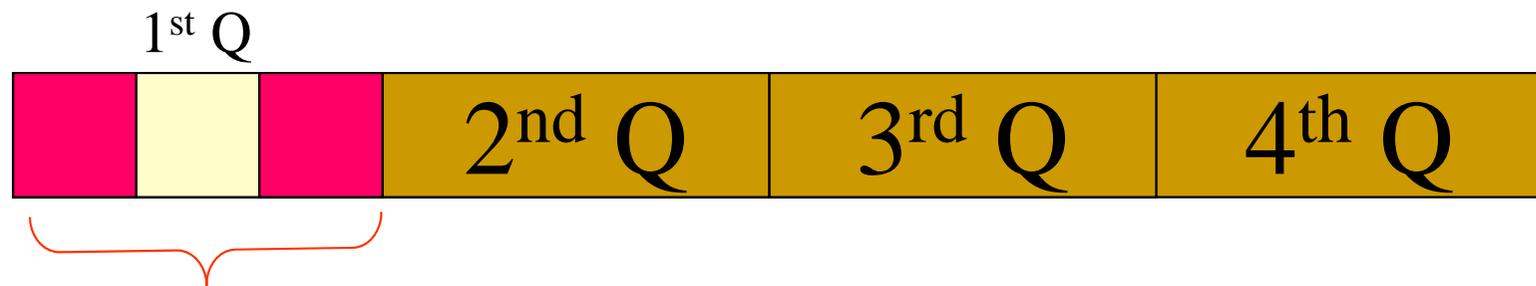
$M = 4$  interest periods per year

$$\begin{aligned} i &= [1 + r / C K]^C - 1 \\ &= [1 + 0.08 / (1)(4)]^1 - 1 \\ &= 2.000\% \text{ per quarter} \end{aligned}$$

# Case 1: 8% compounded monthly

Payment Period = Quarter

Interest Period = Monthly



3 interest periods Given  $r = 8\%$ ,

$K = 4$  payments per year

$C = 3$  interest periods per quarter

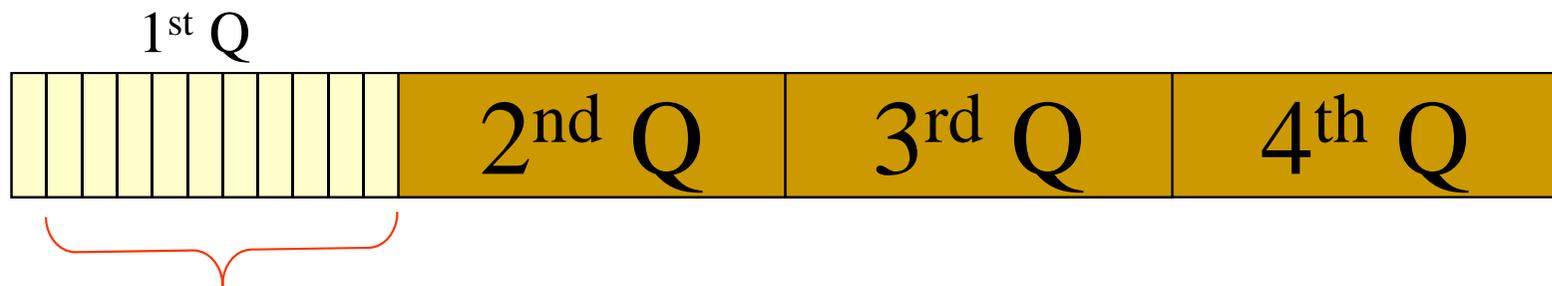
$M = 12$  interest periods per year

$$\begin{aligned} i &= [1 + r / C K]^C - 1 \\ &= [1 + 0.08 / (3)(4)]^3 - 1 \\ &= 2.013\% \text{ per quarter} \end{aligned}$$

## Case 2: 8% compounded weekly

Payment Period = Quarter

Interest Period = Weekly



13 interest periods

Given  $r = 8\%$ ,

$K = 4$  payments per year

$C = 13$  interest periods per quarter

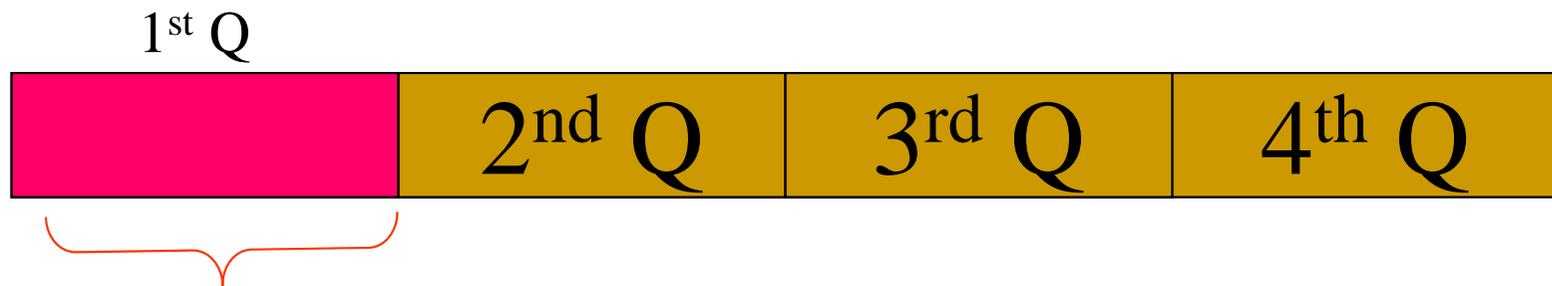
$M = 52$  interest periods per year

$$\begin{aligned} i &= [1 + r / CK]^C - 1 \\ &= [1 + 0.08 / (13)(4)]^{13} - 1 \\ &= 2.0186\% \text{ per quarter} \end{aligned}$$

# Case 3: 8% compounded continuously

Payment Period = Quarter

Interest Period = Continuously



$\infty$  interest periods

Given  $r = 8\%$ ,

$K = 4$  payments per year

$$\begin{aligned}i &= e^{r/K} - 1 \\ &= e^{0.02} - 1 \\ &= 2.0201 \% \text{ per quarter}\end{aligned}$$

## Summary: Effective interest rate per quarter at Varying Compounding Frequencies

Case 0	Case 1	Case 2	Case 3
8% compounded quarterly	8% compounded monthly	8% compounded weekly	8% compounded continuously
Payments occur quarterly	Payments occur quarterly	Payments occur quarterly	Payments occur quarterly
2.000% per quarter	2.013% per quarter	2.0186% per quarter	2.0201% per quarter

# Equivalence Calculations using Effective Interest Rates

- Step 1: Identify the **payment period** (e.g., annual, quarter, month, week, etc)
- Step 2: Identify the **interest period** (e.g., annually, quarterly, monthly, etc)
- Step 3: Find the **effective interest rate** that covers the **payment period**.

# Case I: When Payment Period is Equal to Compounding Period

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- ❑ Step 1: Identify the number of **compounding periods** ( $M$ ) per year
- ❑ Step 2: Compute the **effective interest rate per payment period** ( $i$ )  
$$i = r / M$$
- ❑ Step 3: Determine the total **number of payment periods** ( $N$ )  
$$N = M (\text{number of years})$$
- ❑ Step 4: Use the appropriate interest formula using  $i$  and  $N$  above

# Example: Calculating Auto Loan Payments

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## Given:

- ❑ Invoice Price = \$21,599
- ❑ Sales tax at 4% =  $\$21,599 (0.04) = \$863.96$
- ❑ Dealer's freight =  $\$21,599 (0.01) = \$215.99$
- ❑ Total purchase price = \$22,678.95
- ❑ Down payment = \$2,678.95
- ❑ Loan payment =  $\$22,678.95 - \$2,678.95 = \$20K$
- ❑ Dealer's interest rate = 8.5% APR
- ❑ Length of financing = 48 months

❑ Find: the monthly payment ( $A$ )



## Solution: Payment Period = Interest Period

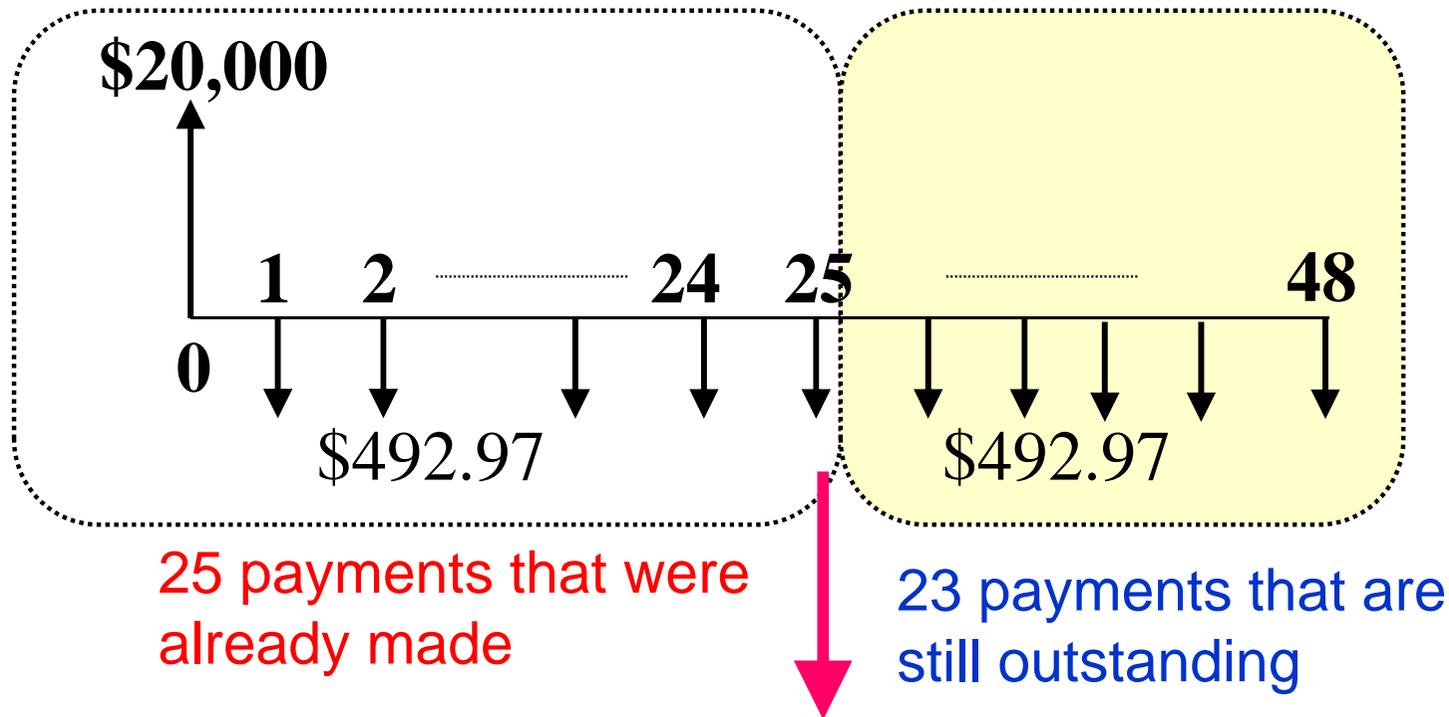


**Given:**  $P = \$20,000$ ,  $r = 8.5\%$  per year  
 $K = 12$  payments per year  
 $N = 48$  payment periods

**Find  $A$**

- Step 1:  $M = 12$
- Step 2:  $i = r / M = 8.5\% / 12 = 0.7083\%$  per month
- Step 3:  $N = (12)(4) = 48$  months
- Step 4:  $A = \$20,000(A/P, 0.7083\%, 48) = \$492.97$

Suppose you want to pay off the remaining loan in lump sum right after making the 25th payment.  
How much would this lump be?



$$P = \$492.97 (P/A, 0.7083\%, 23) \\ = \$10,428.96$$

# Practice Problem

- You have a habit of drinking a cup of Starbucks coffee (US\$2.00 a cup) on the way to work every morning for 30 years. If you put the money in the bank for the same period, how much would you have, assuming your accounts earns 5% interest compounded daily.
- NOTE: Assume you drink a cup of coffee every day including weekends.



# Solution

- Payment period: Daily
- Compounding period: Daily

$$i = \frac{5\%}{365} = 0.0137\% \text{ per day}$$

$$N = 30 \times 365 = 10,950 \text{ days}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F &= \$2(F / A, 0.0137\%, 10950) \\ &= \$50,831 \end{aligned}$$

# Case II: When Payment Periods Differ from Compounding Periods

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□ **Step 1:** Identify the following parameters

□  $M$  = No. of compounding periods

□  $K$  = No. of payment periods

□  $C$  = No. of interest periods per payment period

□ **Step 2:** Compute the effective interest rate per payment period

□ For discrete compounding  $i = [1 + r / CK]^C - 1$

□ For continuous compounding  $i = e^{r / K} - 1$

□ **Step 3:** Find the total no. of payment periods

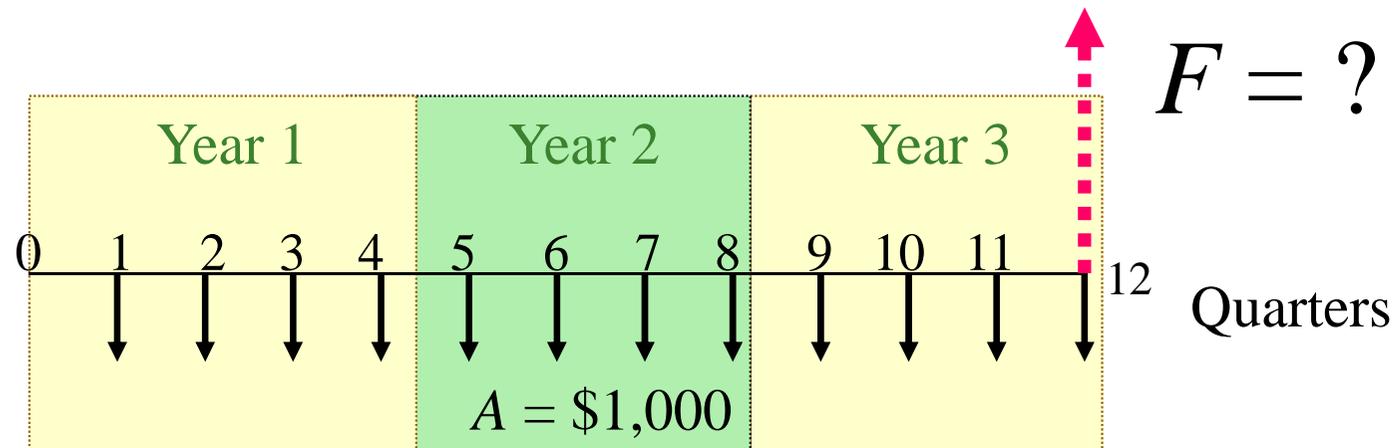
□  $N = K$  (no. of years)

□ **Step 4:** Use  $i$  and  $N$  in the appropriate equivalence formula

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# Example (1): Discrete Case: Quarterly deposits with Monthly compounding

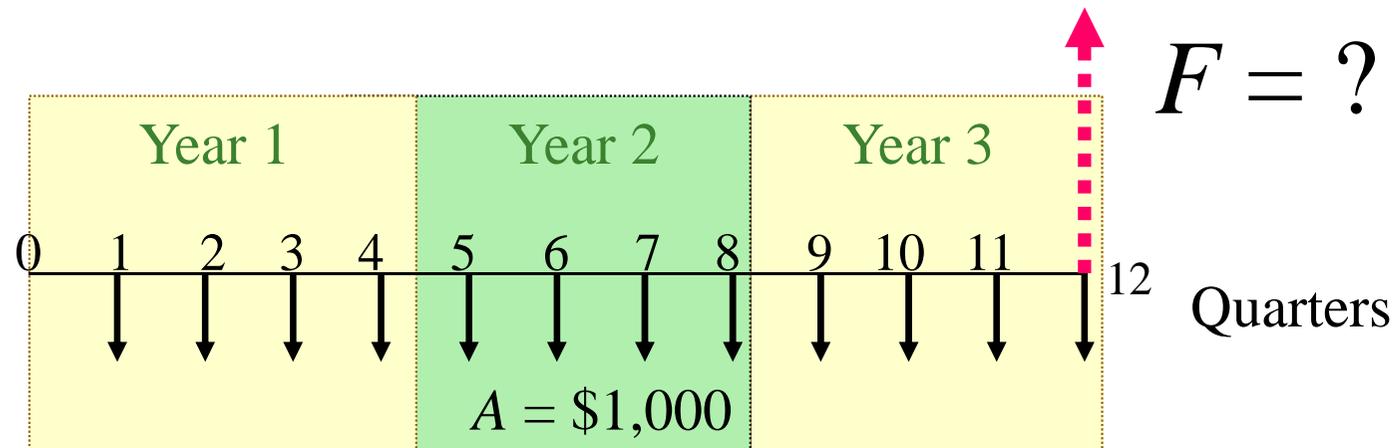
Given:  $A = \$1,000$  per quarter,  $r = 12\%$  per year,  $M = 12$  compounding periods per year, and  $N = 3$  years



- Step 1:  $M = 12$  compounding periods/year  
 $K = 4$  payment periods/year  
 $C = 3$  interest periods per quarter
- Step 2:  $i = [1 + 0.12 / (3)(4)]^3 - 1$   
 $= 3.030\%$
- Step 3:  $N = 4(3) = 12$
- Step 4:  $F = \$1,000$  ( $F/A, 3.030\%, 12$ )  
 $= \$14,216.24$

## Example (2): Continuous Case: Quarterly deposits with Continuous compounding

Given:  $A = \$1,000$  per quarter,  $r = 12\%$  per year,  $M = 12$  compounding periods per year, and  $N = 3$  years



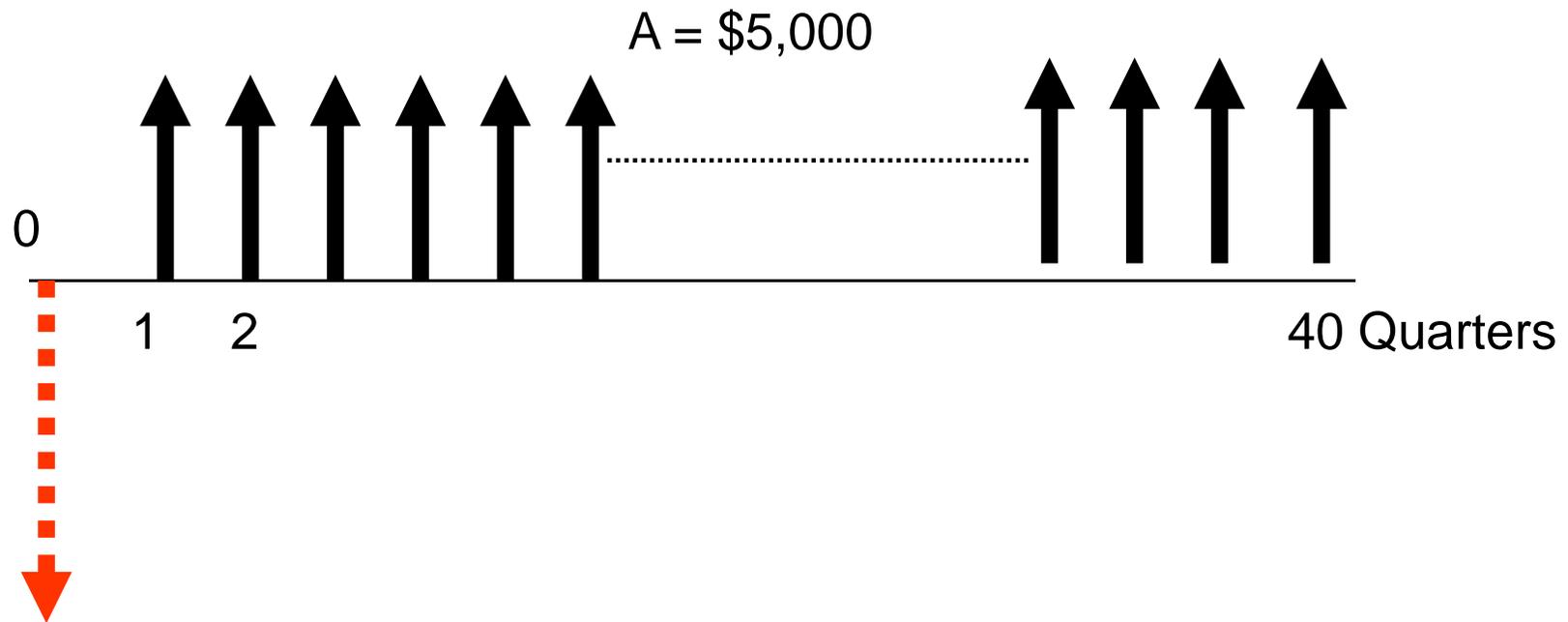
- Step 1:  $K = 4$  payment periods/year  
 $C = \infty$  interest periods per quarter
- Step 2:  $i = e^{0.12/4} - 1$   
 $= 3.045\%$  per quarter
- Step 3:  $N = 4(3) = 12$
- Step 4:  $F = \$1,000$  ( $F/A, 3.045\%, 12$ )  
 $= \$14,228.37$

# Practice Problem

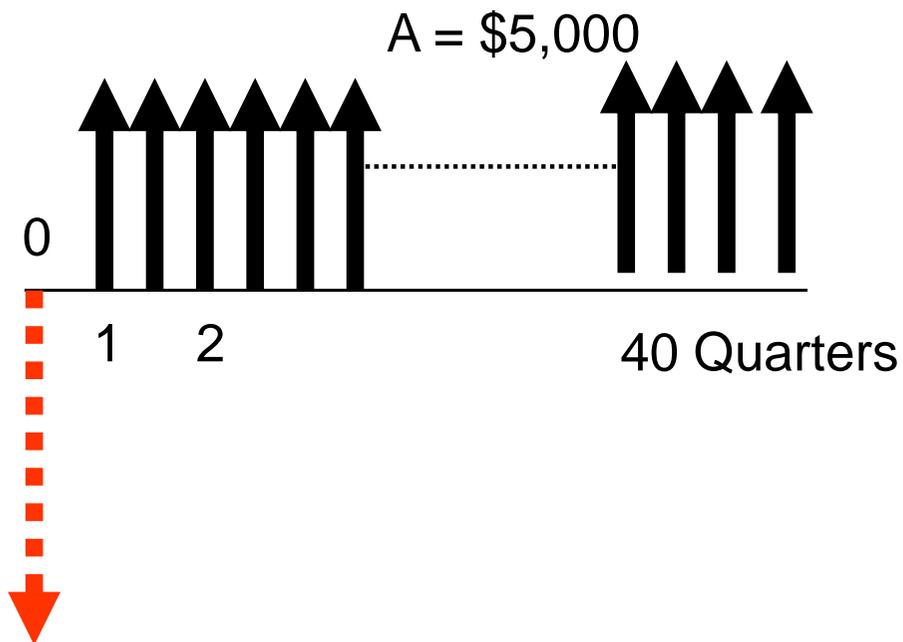
- A series of equal quarterly payments of \$5,000 for 10 years is equivalent to what present amount at an interest rate of 9% compounded
  - (a) quarterly
  - (b) monthly
  - (c) continuously



# Solution



# (a) Quarterly



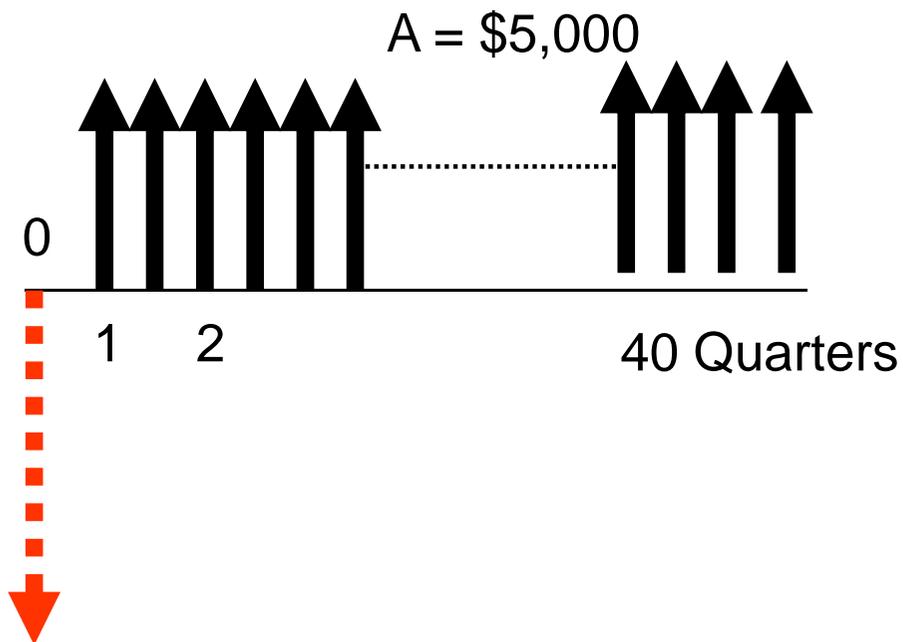
- Payment period :  
**Quarterly**
- Interest Period:  
**Quarterly**

$$i = \frac{9\%}{4} = 2.25\% \text{ per quarter}$$

$$N = 40 \text{ quarters}$$

$$P = \$5,000(P / A, 2.25\%, 40) \\ = \$130,968$$

## (b) Monthly



- Payment period : **Quarterly**
- Interest Period: **Monthly**

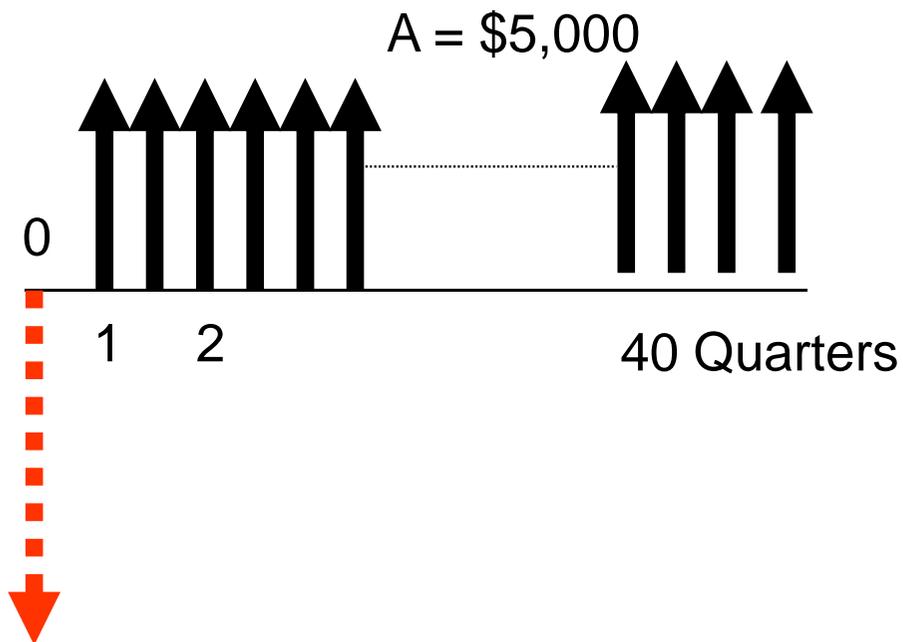
$$i = \frac{9\%}{12} = 0.75\% \text{ per month}$$

$$i_p = (1 + 0.0075)^3 = 2.267\% \text{ per quarter}$$

$$N = 40 \text{ quarters}$$

$$P = \$5,000(P / A, 2.267\%, 40)$$
$$= \$130,586$$

## (c) Continuously



- Payment period :  
**Quarterly**
- Interest Period:  
**Continuously**

$$i = e^{0.09/4} - 1 = 2.276\% \text{ per quarter}$$

$$N = 40 \text{ quarters}$$

$$P = \$5,000(P / A, 2.276\%, 40)$$
$$= \$130,384$$

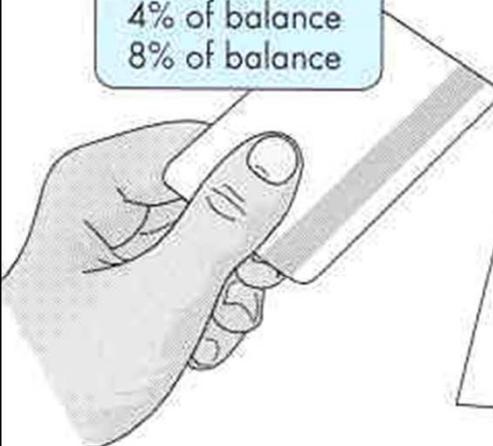
# Debt Management

Credit card debt and commercial loans are among the most significant financial transactions involving interest.

## Pay the minimum, pay for years

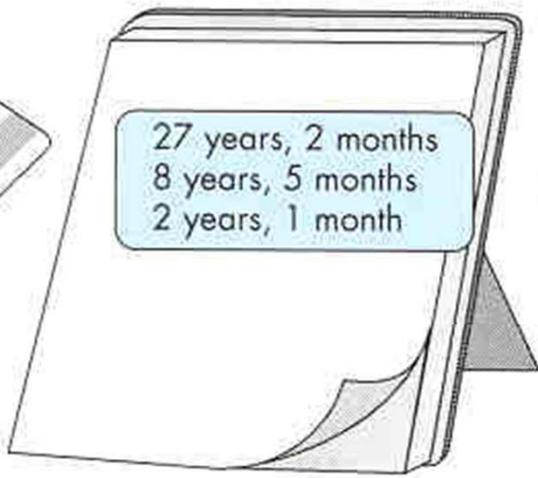
Making minimum payments on your credit cards can cost you a bundle over a lot of years. Here's what would happen if you paid the minimum—or more—every month on a \$2,705 card balance, with a 18.38% interest rate.

### Payment rate



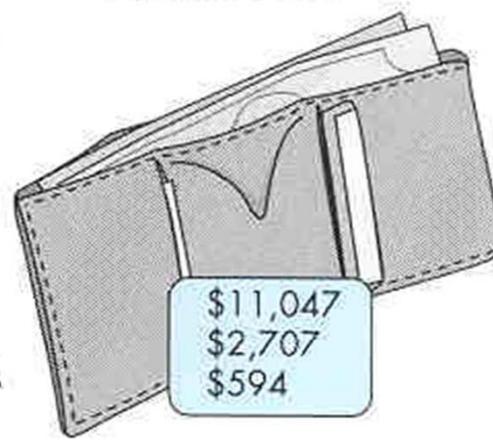
2% of balance  
4% of balance  
8% of balance

### How long to pay off debt



27 years, 2 months  
8 years, 5 months  
2 years, 1 month

### Interest paid



\$11,047  
\$2,707  
\$594

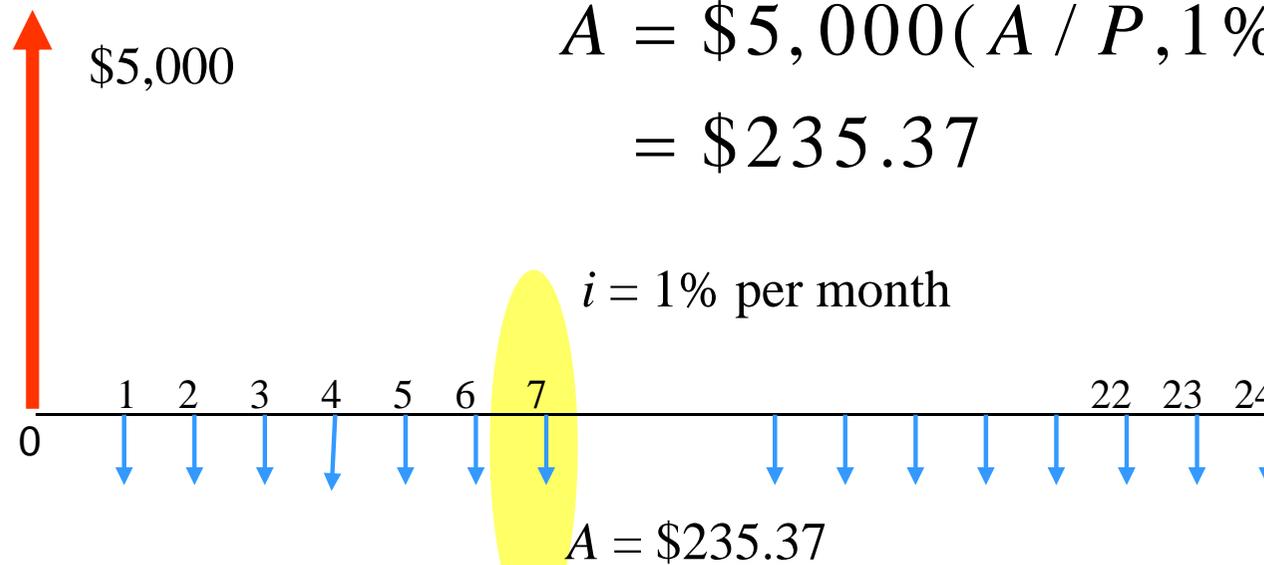
(Source: *USA Today*, April 21, 1998, © *USA Today*, used with permission)



# Practice Problem

- Consider the 7<sup>th</sup> payment (\$235.37)
- (a) How much is the interest payment?
- (b) What is the amount of principal payment?

# Solution



$$A = \$5,000(A/P, 1\%, 24)$$
$$= \$235.37$$

$i = 1\%$  per month

$A = \$235.37$

Interest payment = ?

Principal payment = ?

# Solution

□ Outstanding balance at the end of period 6:

(Note: 18 outstanding payments)

$$B_6 = \$235.37(P / A, 1\%, 18) = \$3,859.66$$

□ Interest payment for period 7:

$$IP_7 = \$3,859.66(0.01) = \$38.60$$

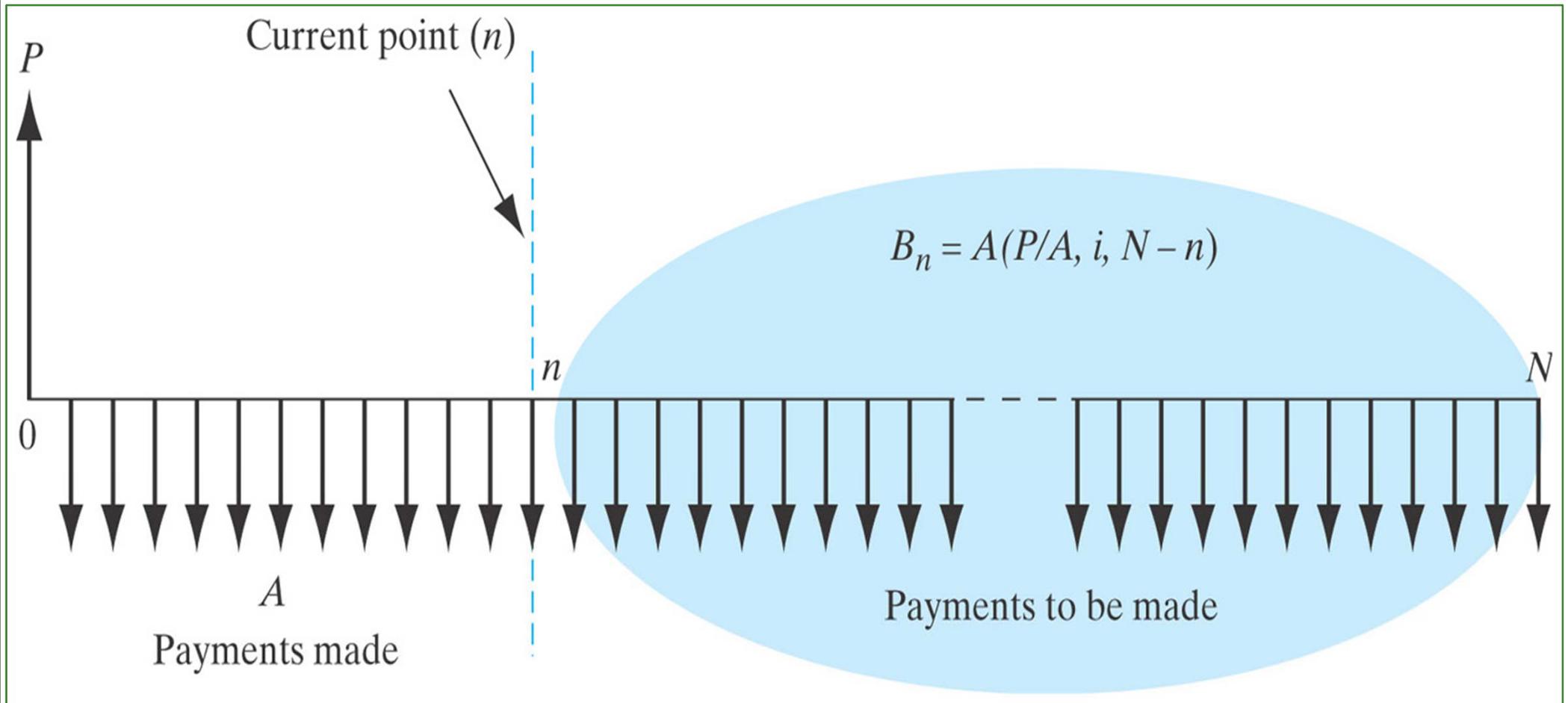
□ Principal payment for period 7:

$$PP_7 = \$235.37 - \$38.60 = \$196.77$$

$$\text{Note: } IP_7 + PP_7 = \$235.37$$

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1							
2							
3	<b>Example 3.7 Loan Repayment Schedule</b>						
4							
5	Contract amount	\$ 5,000.00		Total payment		\$ 5,648.82	
6	Contract period	24		Total interest		\$648.82	
7	APR (%)	12					
8	Monthly Payment	(\$235.37)					
9							
10		Payment No.	Payment Size	Principal Payment	Interest payment	Loan Balance	
11		1	(\$235.37)	(\$185.37)	(\$50.00)	\$4,814.63	
12		2	(\$235.37)	(\$187.22)	(\$48.15)	\$4,627.41	
13		3	(\$235.37)	(\$189.09)	(\$46.27)	\$4,438.32	
14		4	(\$235.37)	(\$190.98)	(\$44.38)	\$4,247.33	
15		5	(\$235.37)	(\$192.89)	(\$42.47)	\$4,054.44	
16		6	(\$235.37)	(\$194.82)	(\$40.54)	\$3,859.62	
17		7	(\$235.37)	(\$196.77)	(\$38.60)	\$3,662.85	
18		8	(\$235.37)	(\$198.74)	(\$36.63)	\$3,464.11	
19		9	(\$235.37)	(\$200.73)	(\$34.64)	\$3,263.38	
20		10	(\$235.37)	(\$202.73)	(\$32.63)	\$3,060.65	
21		11	(\$235.37)	(\$204.76)	(\$30.61)	\$2,855.89	
22		12	(\$235.37)	(\$206.81)	(\$28.56)	\$2,649.08	
23		13	(\$235.37)	(\$208.88)	(\$26.49)	\$2,440.20	
24		14	(\$235.37)	(\$210.97)	(\$24.40)	\$2,229.24	
25		15	(\$235.37)	(\$213.08)	(\$22.29)	\$2,016.16	
26		16	(\$235.37)	(\$215.21)	(\$20.16)	\$1,800.96	
27		17	(\$235.37)	(\$217.36)	(\$18.01)	\$1,583.60	
28		18	(\$235.37)	(\$219.53)	(\$15.84)	\$1,364.07	
29		19	(\$235.37)	(\$221.73)	(\$13.64)	\$1,142.34	
30		20	(\$235.37)	(\$223.94)	(\$11.42)	\$918.40	
31		21	(\$235.37)	(\$226.18)	(\$9.18)	\$692.21	
32		22	(\$235.37)	(\$228.45)	(\$6.92)	\$463.77	
33		23	(\$235.37)	(\$230.73)	(\$4.64)	\$233.04	
34		24	(\$235.37)	(\$233.04)	(\$2.33)	\$0.00	
35							

# Calculating the Remaining Loan Balance after Making the $n$ th Payment

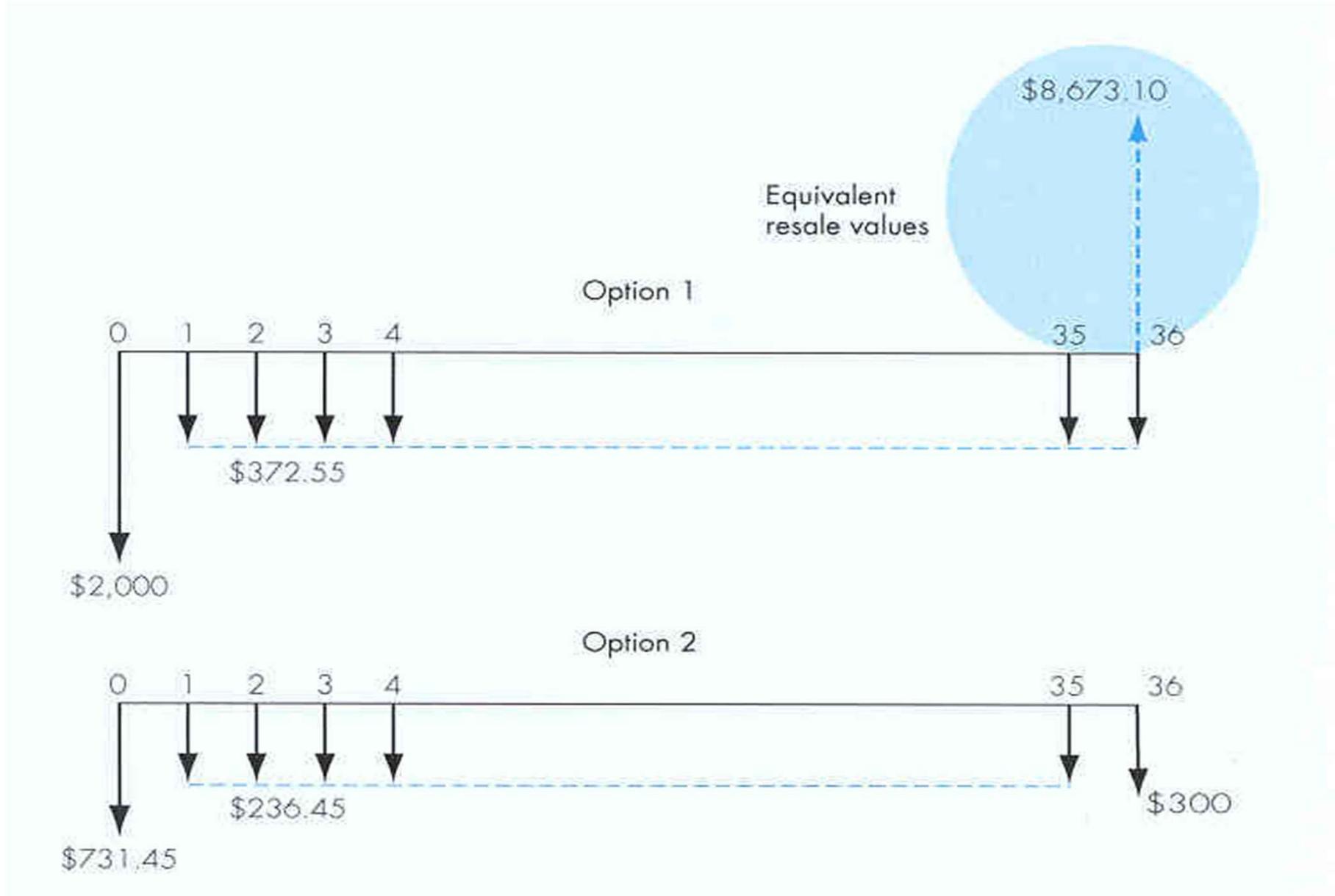


The interest payment in period  $n$  is,  $I_n = i \times B_{n-1} = A \times (P/A, i, N-n+1) \times i$

## Example (2): Buying versus Lease Decision

	Option 1 Debt Financing	Option 2 Lease Financing
Price	\$14,695	\$14,695
Down payment	\$2,000	0
APR (%)	3.6%	
Monthly payment	\$372.55	\$236.45
Length	36 months	36 months
Fees		\$495
Cash due at lease end		\$300
Purchase option at lease end		\$8,673.10
Cash due at signing	\$2,000	\$731.45

# Which Interest Rate to Use to Compare These Options?



# Your Earning Interest Rate = 6%

- Debt Financing:

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{debt}} &= \$2,000 + \$372.55(P/A, 0.5\%, 36) \\ &\quad - \$8,673.10(P/F, 0.5\%, 36) \\ &= \$6,998.47 \end{aligned}$$

- Lease Financing:

$$\begin{aligned} P_{\text{lease}} &= \$495 + \$236.45 + \$236.45(P/A, 0.5\%, 35) \\ &\quad + \$300(P/F, 0.5\%, 36) \\ &= \$8,556.90 \end{aligned}$$

# Inflation and Economic Analysis

- What is **inflation**?
- How do we **measure inflation**?
- How do we incorporate the **effect of inflation** in equivalence calculation?



# What is Inflation?

Inflation is the rate at which the general level of prices and goods and services is rising, and subsequently, purchasing power is falling.

## □ Time Value of Money

- **Earning Power** How much you currently make at your place of employment plays a major part in your earning power
- **Purchasing Power** The value of a currency expressed in terms of the amount of goods or services that one unit of money can buy

## □ Earning Power

- Investment opportunities

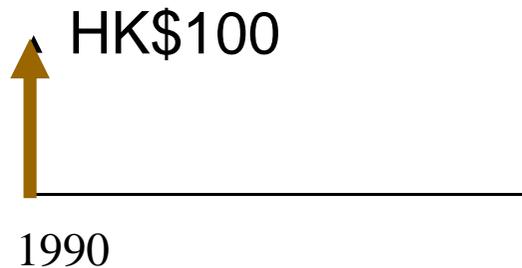
## □ Purchasing Power

- Decrease in purchasing power (**inflation**) 通貨膨脹
- Increase in purchasing power (**deflation**) 通貨緊縮

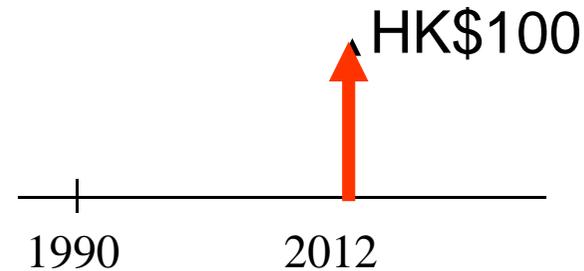
# Earning Power

- **True Earning Power** = (Monthly Income - Monthly Taxes and Necessity Expenses) / Time
- **For example:** John makes \$15,000 a month. His taxes and living expenses total \$12,000 a month. He usually wake up at 6:30 AM to get ready for work, and return home around 6:30 PM each day; totaling about 12 hours per day, 60 hours per week, or approximately 260 hours per month. Using the equation above, John's **true earning power is only \$11.54 per hour!**

# Inflation - Decrease in Purchasing Power



You could buy 11.6 Big Macs in year 1990.



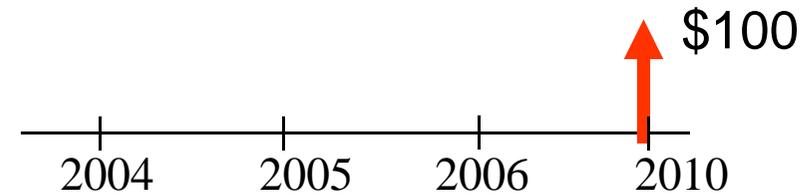
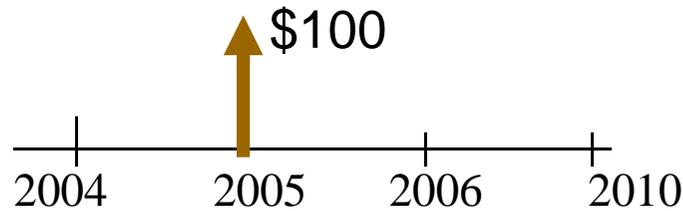
You can only buy 6.1 Big Macs in year 2012.

HK\$8.60 / unit  $\xrightarrow{+92\%}$  HK\$16.50 / unit  
Price change due to inflation



The \$100 in year 2012 has only \$52 worth purchasing power of 1990

# Deflation - Increase in Purchasing Power



You could purchase 63.69 gallons of purified drink water 5 years ago.

You can now purchase 80 gallons of purified drink water.

$\$1.57$  / gallon  $\xrightarrow{-20.38\%}$   $\$1.25$  / gallon

Price change due to  
**deflation**



# Inflation Terminology - I

- **Producer Price Index (PPI)**: a statistical measure of industrial price change, compiled monthly by the Statistics Bureau of the government department
- **Consumer Price Index (CPI)**: a statistical measure of change, over time, of the prices of goods and services in major expenditure groups-such as food, housing, apparel, transportation, and medical care - typically purchased by city consumers
- **Average Inflation Rate (  $f$  )**: a single rate that accounts for the effect of varying yearly inflation rates over a period of several years
- **General Inflation Rate (  $\bar{f}$  )**: the average inflation rate calculated based on the CPI for all items in the market basket

# Inflation Rate in Hong Kong



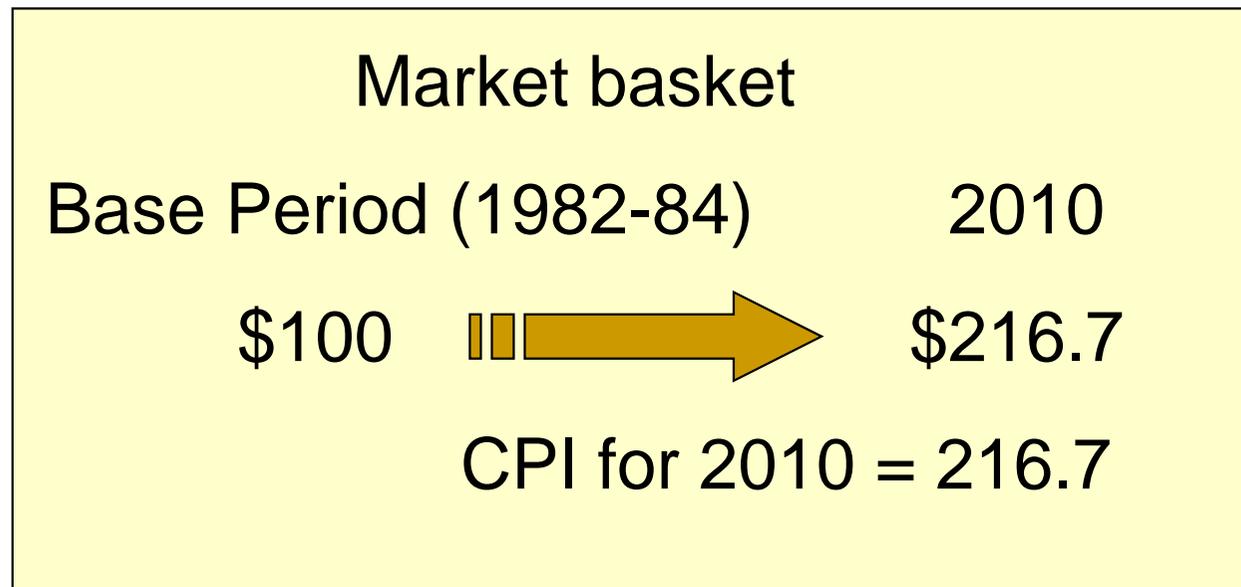
SOURCE: WWW.TRADINGECONOMICS.COM | CENSUS & STATISTICS DEPARTMENT

# Inflation Rate in Mainland China



# Measuring Inflation

**Consumer Price Index (CPI):** the CPI compares the cost of a sample “market basket” of goods and services in a specific period relative to the cost of the same “market basket” in an earlier reference period. This reference period is designated as the **base period**.



# Average Inflation Rate ( $f$ )

**Fact:** Base Price = \$100 (year 0)

Inflation rate (year 1) = 4%

Inflation rate (year 2) = 8%

Average inflation rate over 2 years?

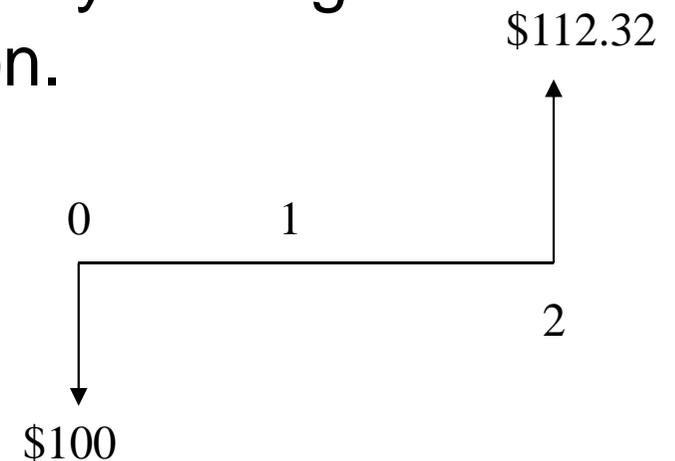
**Step 1:** Find the actual inflated price at the end of year 2.

$$\$100 (1 + 0.04) (1 + 0.08) = \$112.32$$

**Step 2:** Find the average inflation rate by solving the following equivalence equation.

$$\$100 (1 + f)^2 = \$112.32$$

$$f = 5.98\%$$



# General Inflation Rate ( $\bar{f}$ )

Average inflation rate based on the CPI

$$CPI_n = CPI_0(1 + \bar{f})^n,$$

$$\bar{f} = \left[ \frac{CPI_n}{CPI_0} \right]^{1/n} - 1$$

where  $\bar{f}$  = The general inflation rate,

$CPI_n$  = The consumer price index at the end period  $n$ ,

$CPI_0$  = The consumer price index for the base period.

Calculation:

Given: CPI for 2009 = 213.2,

CPI for 2000 = 172.2,

Find:  $\bar{f}$

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{f} &= \left[ \frac{213.2}{172.2} \right]^{1/9} - 1 \\ &= 2.40\% \end{aligned}$$

## Example: Yearly and Average Inflation Rates

Year	Cost
0	\$504,000
1	538,000
2	577,000
3	629,500

What are the annual inflation rates and the average inflation rate over 3 years?

### Solution

Inflation rate during year 1 ( $f_1$ ):

$$(\$538,400 - \$504,000) / \$504,000 = \underline{6.83\%}.$$

Inflation rate during year 2 ( $f_2$ ):

$$(\$577,000 - \$538,400) / \$538,400 = \underline{7.17\%}.$$

Inflation rate during year 3 ( $f_3$ ):

$$(\$629,500 - \$577,000) / \$577,000 = \underline{9.10\%}.$$

The average inflation rate over 3 years is

$$f = \left( \frac{\$629,500}{\$504,000} \right)^{1/3} - 1 = 0.0769 = \boxed{7.69\%}$$

# Inflation Terminology – II

The effect of inflation into economic analysis

- **Actual Dollars ( $A_n$ ):**

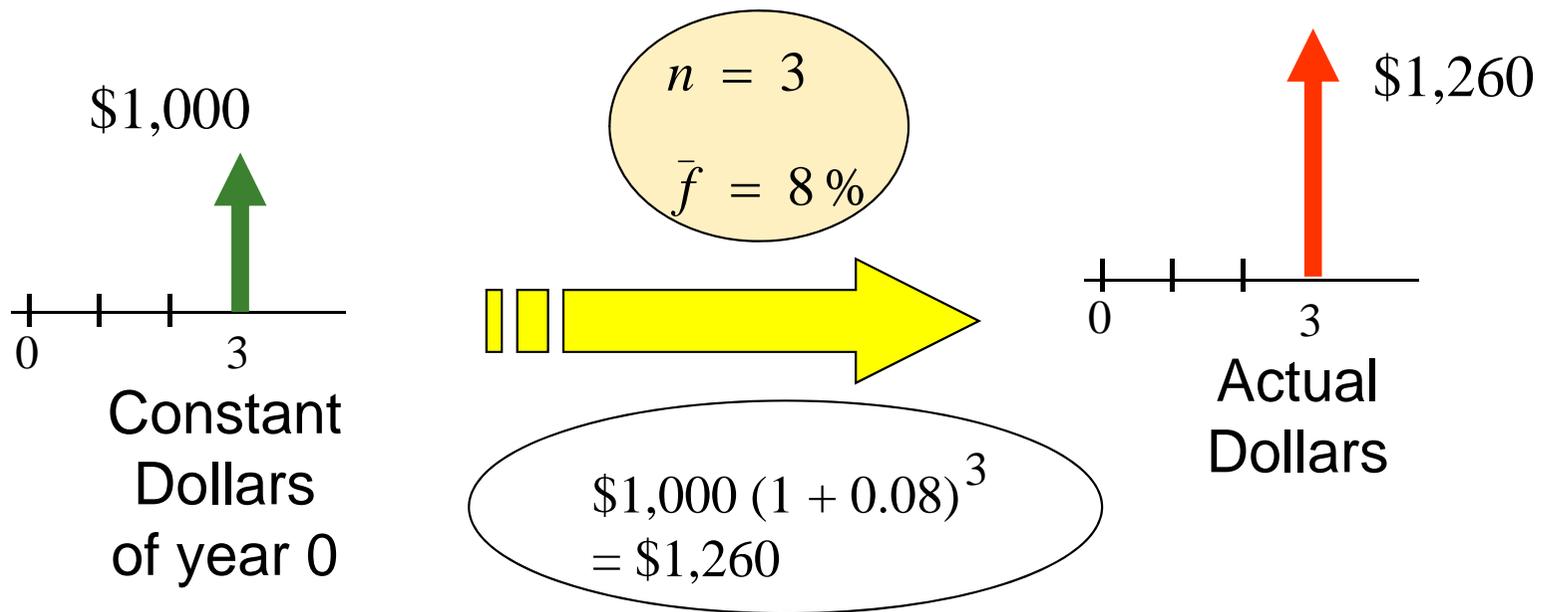
Estimates of future cash flows for year  $n$  that take into account any anticipated changes in amount caused by inflationary or deflationary effects. Usually, these amounts are determined by applying an inflation rate to base-year dollar estimates.

- **Constant (real) Dollars ( $A'_n$ ):**

Represents constant purchasing power independent of the passage of time. We will assume that the base year is always time zero unless we specify otherwise.

# Conversion from Constant to Actual Dollars

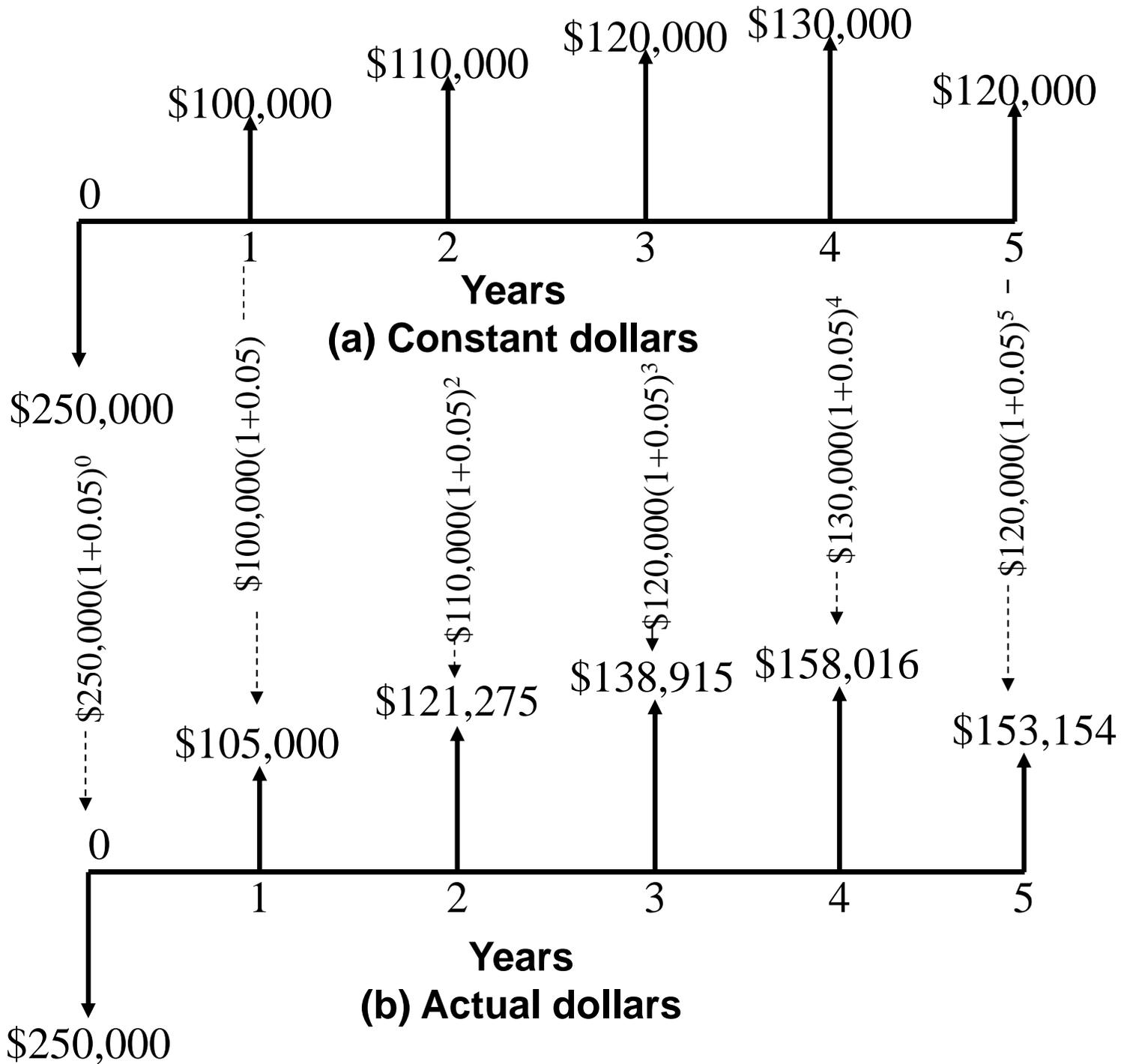
$$A_n = A'_n (1 + \bar{f})^n \leftrightarrow A'_n (F/P, \bar{f}, n)$$



# Example: Conversion from Constant to Actual Dollars

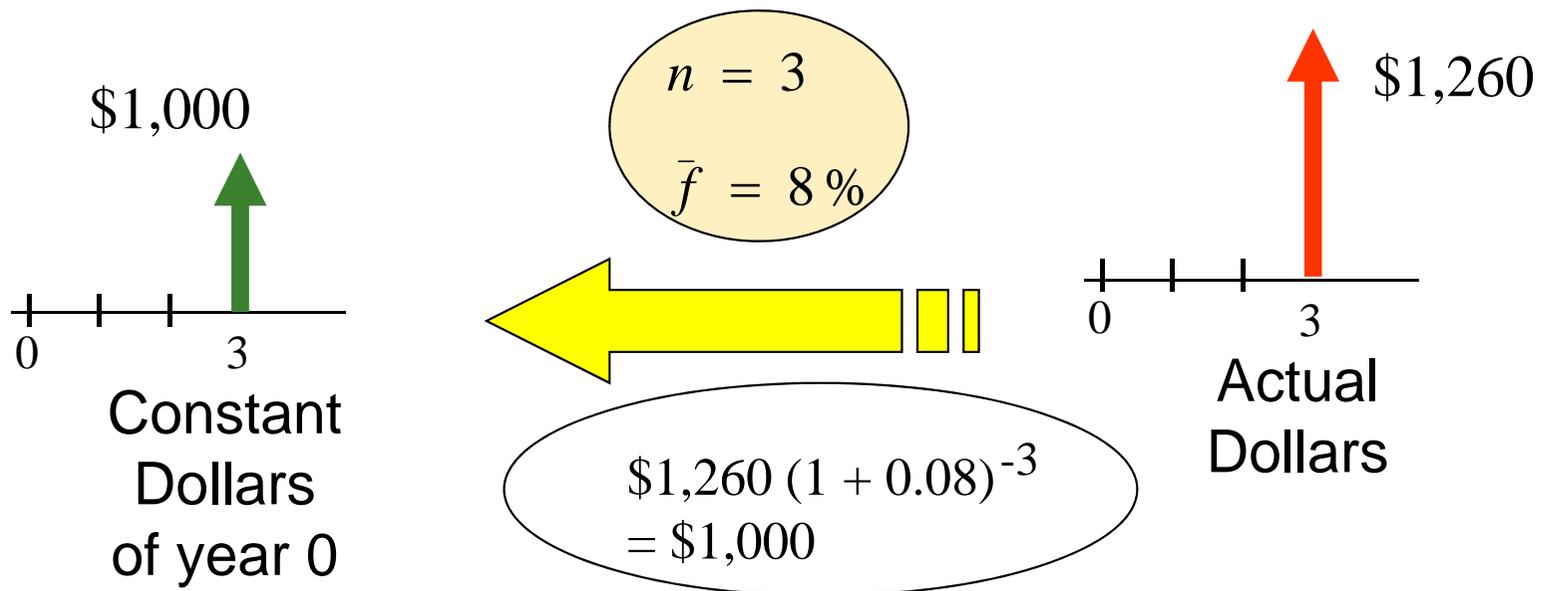
General inflation rate = 5%

Period	Net Cash Flow in Constant \$	Conversion Factor	Cash Flow in Actual \$
0	-\$250,000	$(1+0.05)^0$	-\$250,000
1	100,000	$(1+0.05)^1$	105,000
2	110,000	$(1+0.05)^2$	121,275
3	120,000	$(1+0.05)^3$	138,915
4	130,000	$(1+0.05)^4$	158,016
5	120,000	$(1+0.05)^5$	153,154



# Conversion from Actual to Constant Dollars

$$A'_n = A_n (1 + \bar{f})^{-n} \leftrightarrow A_n (P / F, \bar{f}, n)$$

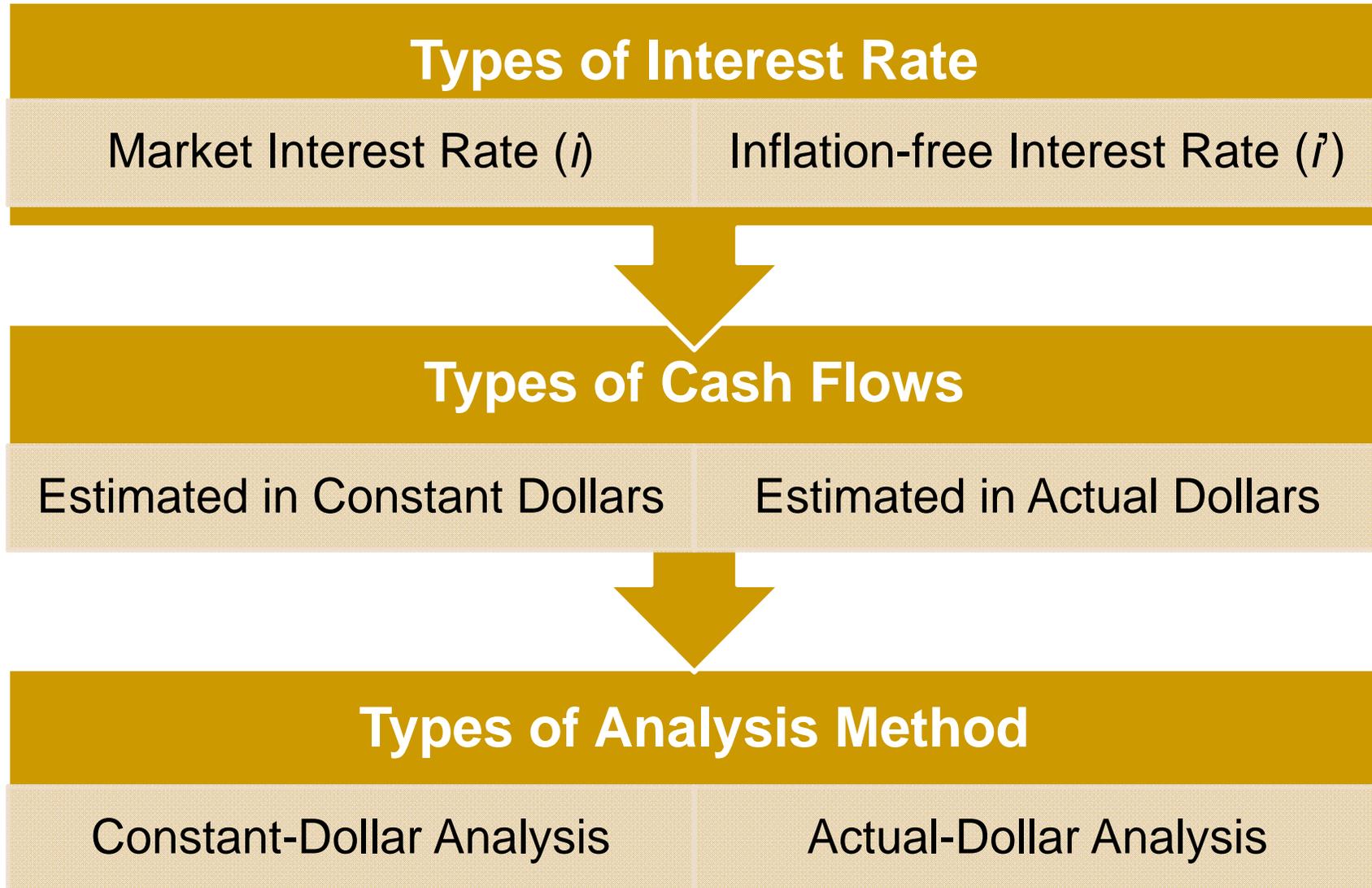


# Example: Conversion from Actual to Constant Dollars

General inflation rate = 5%

End of period	Cash Flow in Actual \$	Conversion at $\bar{f} = 5\%$	Cash Flow in Constant \$	Loss in Purchasing Power
0	-\$20,000	$(1+0.05)^0$	-\$20,000	0%
1	20,000	$(1+0.05)^{-1}$	-19,048	4.76
2	20,000	$(1+0.05)^{-2}$	-18,141	9.30
3	20,000	$(1+0.05)^{-3}$	-17,277	13.62
4	20,000	$(1+0.05)^{-4}$	-16,454	17.73

# Equivalence Calculations Under Inflation



# Inflation Terminology - III

- **Inflation-free Interest Rate (  $i'$  )**: an estimate of the true earning power of money when the inflation effects have been removed (also known as **real interest rate**).
- **Market interest rate (  $i$  )**: commonly known as the **nominal interest rate**, which takes into account the combined effects of the earning value of capital (earning power) and any anticipated changes in purchasing power (also known as **inflation-adjusted interest rate**).

# Inflation and Cash Flow Analysis

## Constant Dollar analysis (inflation free interest rate $i'$ )

- Estimate all future cash flows in constant dollars.
- Use  $i'$  as an interest rate to find equivalent worth.

## Actual Dollar Analysis (market interest rate $i$ )

- Estimate all future cash flows in actual dollars.
- Use  $i$  as an interest rate to find equivalent worth.

# Constant Dollar ( $A'_n$ ) Analysis

## When do we prefer Constant Dollar Analysis?

- In the absence of inflation, all economic analyses up to this point is, in fact, constant dollar analysis.
- Constant dollar analysis is common in the evaluation of many long-term public projects, because government do not pay income taxes.
- For private sector, income taxes are charged based on taxable income in actual dollars, so the actual dollar analysis is more common.

# Actual Dollars ( $A_n$ ) Analysis

## □ Method 1: Deflation Method

Step 1: Bring all cash flows to have common purchasing power.

Step 2: Consider the earning power.

## □ Method 2: Adjusted-discount Method

Combine Steps 1 and 2 into one step.

# Example (1): Step 1: Convert actual dollars to Constant dollars

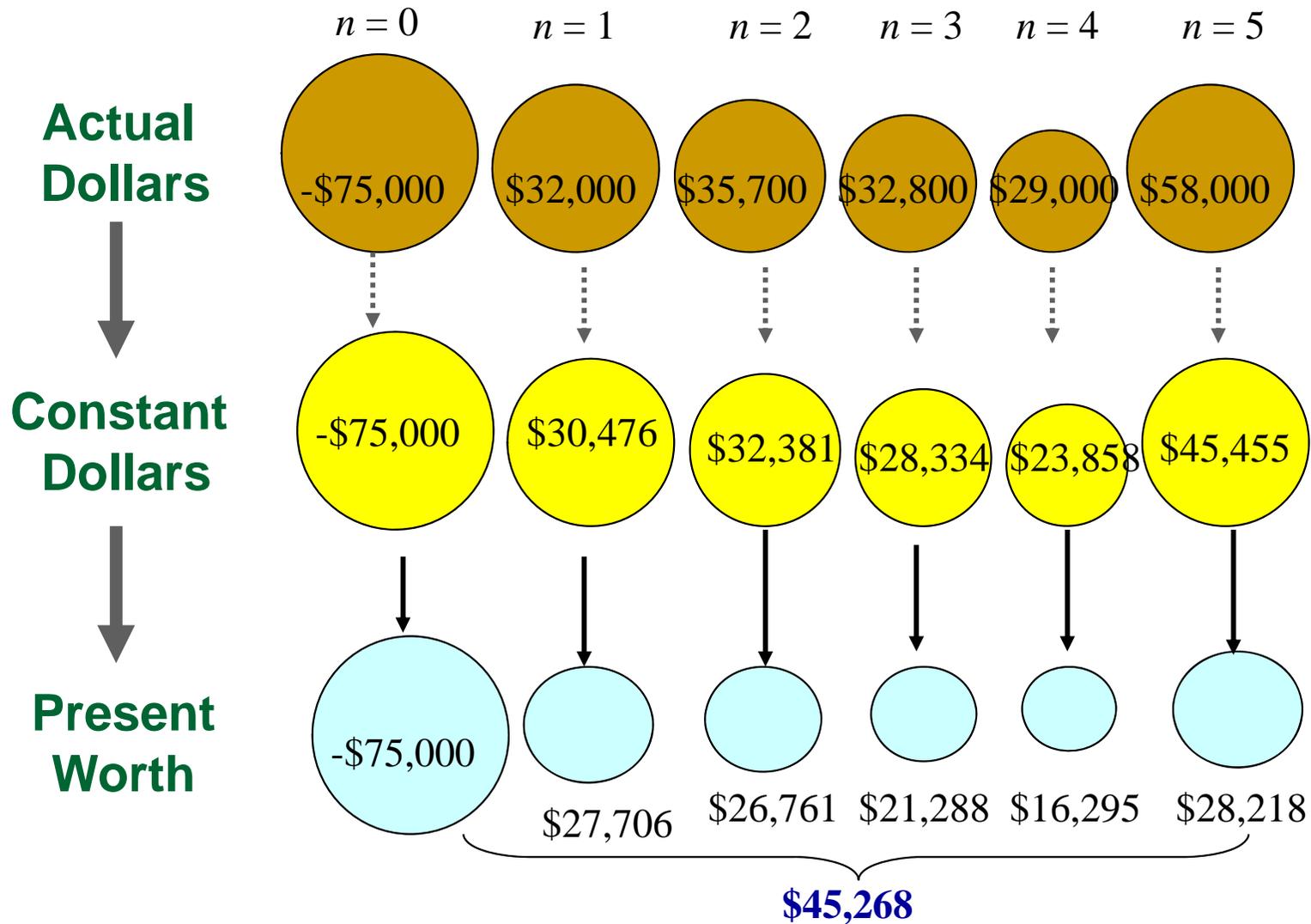
$n$	Cash Flows in Actual Dollars	Multiplied by Deflation Factor	Cash Flows in Constant Dollars
0	-\$75,000	1	-\$75,000
1	32,000	$(1+0.05)^{-1}$	30,476
2	35,700	$(1+0.05)^{-2}$	32,381
3	32,800	$(1+0.05)^{-3}$	28,334
4	29,000	$(1+0.05)^{-4}$	23,858
5	58,000	$(1+0.05)^{-5}$	45,445

## Example (1): Step 2: Convert Constant dollars to Equivalent Present Worth

$n$	Cash Flows in Constant Dollars	Multiplied by Discounting Factor	Equivalent Present Worth
0	-\$75,000	1	-\$75,000
1	30,476	$(1+0.10)^{-1}$	27,706
2	32,381	$(1+0.10)^{-2}$	26,761
3	28,334	$(1+0.10)^{-3}$	21,288
4	23,858	$(1+0.10)^{-4}$	16,295
5	45,445	$(1+0.10)^{-5}$	28,218
			<b>\$45,268</b>

# Deflation Method Example (1):

Converting actual dollars to constant dollars and then to equivalent present worth



# Adjusted-Discount Method

Perform Deflation and Discounting in One Step

Step 1

$$P_n = \frac{\frac{A_n}{(1+f)^n}}{(1+i')^n}$$

Step 2

$$= \frac{A_n}{(1+\bar{f})(1+i')^n}$$

$$= \frac{A^n}{[(1+\bar{f})(1+i')]^n}$$

- Discrete Compounding

$$P_n = \frac{A_n}{(1+i)^n}$$

$$\frac{A_n}{(1+i)^n} = \frac{A_n}{[(1+\bar{f})(1+i')]^n}$$

$$(1+i) = (1+\bar{i})(1+i')$$

$$= 1+i'+\bar{f}+i'\bar{f}$$

$$i = i' + \bar{f} + i'\bar{f}$$

- Continuous Compounding

$$i = i' + \bar{f}$$

# Example (2): Adjusted-Discounted Method

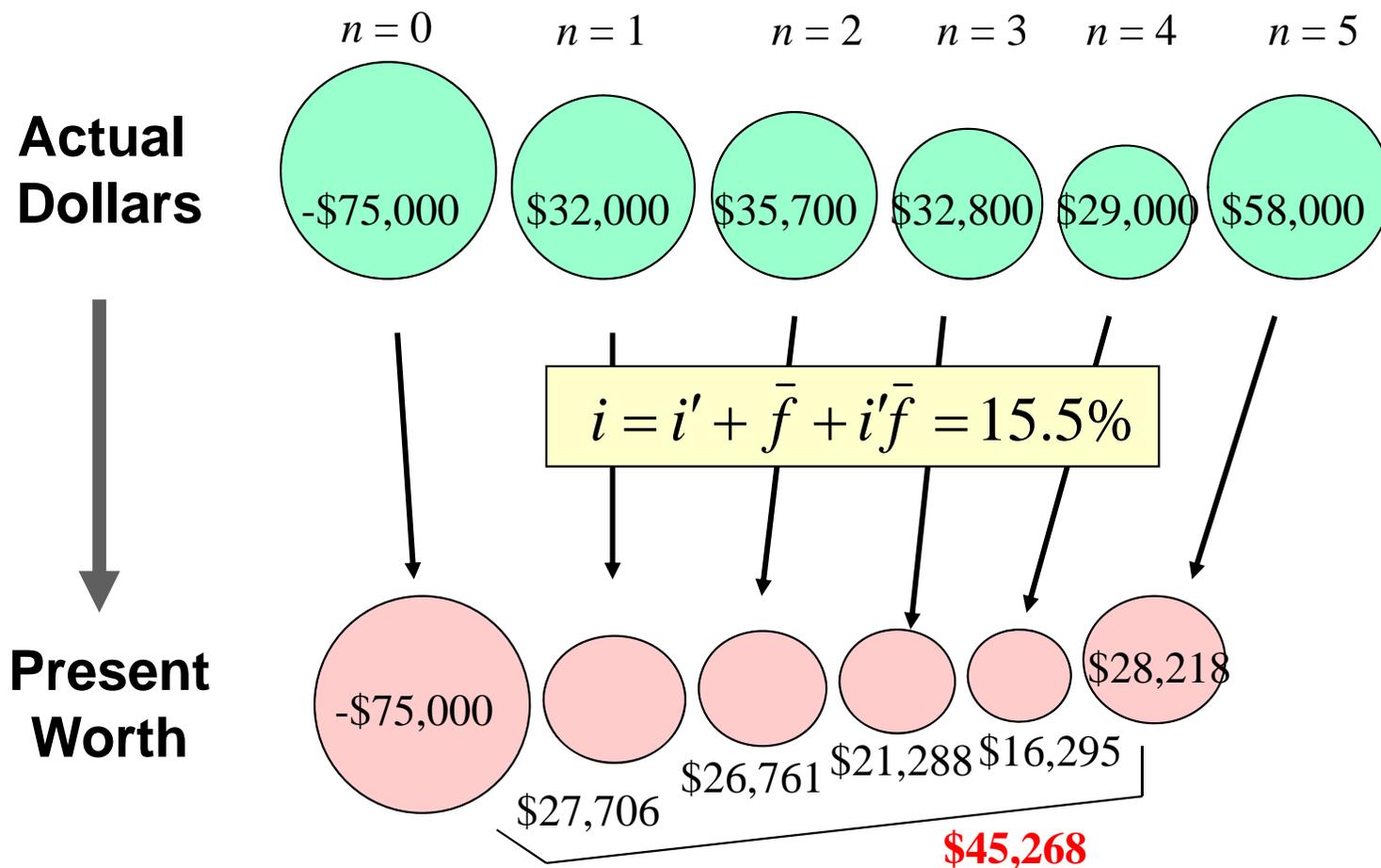
Given: inflation-free interest rate = 0.10, general inflation rate = 5%, and cash flows in actual dollars

$$\begin{aligned}
 i &= i' + \bar{f} + i' \bar{f} \\
 &= 0.10 + 0.05 + (0.10)(0.05) \\
 &= 15.5\%
 \end{aligned}$$

Find:  $i$  and NPW

$n$	Cash Flows in Actual Dollars	Multiplied by	Equivalent Present Worth
0	-\$75,000	1	-\$75,000
1	32,000	$(1+0.155)^{-1}$	27,706
2	35,700	$(1+0.155)^{-2}$	26,761
3	32,800	$(1+0.155)^{-3}$	21,288
4	29,000	$(1+0.155)^{-4}$	16,296
5	58,000	$(1+0.155)^{-5}$	28,217
			<b>\$45,268</b>

# Adjusted Discount Method Example (2): Converting actual dollars to present worth dollars by applying the market interest rate



# Example (3): College Savings Plan

## Equivalence Calculation with Composite Cash Flow Elements

### Approach:

Convert any cash flow elements in constant dollars into actual dollars. Then use the market interest rate to find the equivalent present value. Assume  $f = 6\%$  and  $i = 8\%$  compounded quarterly.

Age (Current Age = 5 Years Old)	Estimated college expenses in today's dollars	College expenses converted into equivalent <b>actual dollars</b>
18 (Freshman)	\$30,000	$\$30,000(F/P, 6\%, 13) = \$63,988$
19 (Sophomore)	30,000	$30,000(F/P, 6\%, 14) = 67,827$
20 (Junior)	30,000	$30,000(F/P, 6\%, 15) = 71,897$
21 (senior)	30,000	$30,000(F/P, 6\%, 16) = 76,211$

# Solution: Required Quarterly Contributions to College Funds

$$V_1 = C(F/A, 2\%, 48)$$

$$V_2 = \$229,211$$

Let  $V_1 = V_2$  and solve for  $C$ :

$$C = \$2,888.48$$

