

## SECTION 9.3: COMPOUND INTEREST

### Objectives

1. Use the compound interest formulas.
2. Calculate present value.
3. Understand and compute effective annual yield.

### ■ Compound Interest

Compound interest is interest computed on the accumulated interest as well as on the principle. To calculate a total amount accumulated with compound interest paid ~~once~~ annually per year we use:

$A$  = total amount (future value)

$P$  = principal: starting \$  
(amount borrowed or invested)

$$A = P(1 + r)^t$$

$r$  = rate

$t$  = time (in years)

**Example 1:** You deposit \$2000 in a savings account at Hometown Bank, which has a rate of 6%.  $\Rightarrow r = .06$

- a. Find the amount,  $A$ , of money in the account after 3 years subject to compound interest, compounded annually.

$P = 2000$

$$A = 2000(1 + .06)^3$$

$$A = 2000(1.06)^3$$

$$A = \$2382.03$$

Nice! Your \$ has grown!

- b. Find the interest.

How much did it grow? SUBTRACT

$$2382.03 - 2000 = \$382.03$$

**Example 2:** Review of using natural logarithms to solve exponential equations. Solve each equation for  $t$ .

a)  $50 = 4^t$

$\hookrightarrow$  LN

$$\ln(50) = \ln(4^t) \quad \leftarrow \text{take LN of both sides}$$

$$\frac{\ln(50)}{\ln(4)} = \frac{t \cdot \ln(4)}{\ln(4)} \quad \leftarrow \text{log property: exponent moves in front of LN (multiplier)}$$

$$2.82 = t \quad \leftarrow \text{Divide to solve}$$

b)  $9 = 3(8.2)^t$  First: isolate (base)<sup>exp</sup>

$$\ln 3 = \ln(8.2)^t \quad \leftarrow \text{take LN of each side}$$

$$\frac{\ln(3)}{\ln(8.2)} = \frac{t \cdot \ln(8.2)}{\ln(8.2)} \quad \leftarrow \text{move exp. in front of LN}$$

$$0.52 = t \quad \leftarrow \text{Divide to solve}$$

**Example 3:** How many years would it take to have a total of \$15,000, if \$5000 deposited into an account with an interest rate of 7%, compounded annually?

$r = .07$

$A = 15,000$

$P = 5000$

Find  $t = ?$

$$A = P(1 + r)^t$$

$$\frac{15000}{5000} = \frac{5000(1 + .07)^t}{5000}$$

$$3 = (1.07)^t$$

$$\ln(3) = \ln(1.07)^t$$

$$\ln(3) = t \cdot \ln(1.07)$$

$$\frac{\ln(3)}{\ln(1.07)} = \frac{t \cdot \ln(1.07)}{\ln(1.07)}$$

$$16.24 = t$$

Over 16 years

$\ln$   
or  
 $\ln$

■ **Compound Interest:** To calculate the compound interest paid more than once a year we use

$$A = P \left( 1 + \frac{r}{n} \right)^{nt}$$

→  $n = \# \text{ of times per year}$

Note: We will assume 360 days per year and round answers to the nearest cent ( 2 decimal places.)

↓ Ex.  
compounded monthly:  
 $n = 12$

→ compounded daily:  $n = 360$

$r = .06$

**Example 4:** You deposit \$7500 in a savings account that has a rate of 6%. The interest is compounded monthly.

a. How much money will you have after five years?  $t = 5$

→ Find A (future value)

$$A = 7500 \left( 1 + \frac{.06}{12} \right)^{12 \cdot 5}$$

$$A = \$10,116.38$$

b. Find the interest after five years.

How much has it grown?

$$10116.38 - 7500 = 2616.38$$

**Example 5:** Find the number of years it would take for an initial investment of \$3000 to grow to \$30,000, if it is in an account earning 4.2% interest, compounded quarterly.

$P =$

$A =$

$r = .042$

$n = 4$

Find  $t$

$$A = P \left( 1 + \frac{r}{n} \right)^{nt}$$

$$\frac{30,000}{3000} = \frac{3000}{3000} \left( 1 + \frac{.042}{4} \right)^{4t}$$

$$\ln 10 = \ln \left( 1 + \frac{.042}{4} \right)^{4t}$$

$$\ln(10) = 4t \cdot \ln(1.0105)$$

$$\frac{\ln(10)}{4 \cdot \ln(1.0105)} = \frac{4t \cdot \ln(1.0105)}{4 \cdot \ln(1.0105)} \Rightarrow t = 55.1$$

Note: need to use ( ) to divide by whole expression  $(4 \cdot \ln(1.0105))$

⇒ over 55 years

**Example 6:** An investment is made into a fund that earns 4.2%, compounded daily. If \$8,000 is initially invested, how much money will be in the account after 5 years? How much interest will have accrued?

Find A

→  $r = .042$

$t = 5$

→  $n = 360$

→  $P = 8000$

$$A = P \left( 1 + \frac{r}{n} \right)^{nt}$$

$$A = 8000 \left( 1 + \frac{.042}{360} \right)^{360 \cdot 5}$$

$$A = 9869.30$$

Future value  
accumulated value

How much interest?  
SUBTRACT!

$$9869.30$$

$$- 8000.00$$

$$\$1869.30 \text{ interest}$$



## ■ Compound Interest: Continuous Compounding

- Some banks use *continuous compounding*, where the compounding periods increase infinitely. After  $t$  years, the balance,  $A$ , in an account with principal  $P$  and annual interest rate  $r$  (in decimal form) is given by the following formulas:

1. For  $n$  compounding periods per year:  $A = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$

2. For continuous compounding:  $A = Pe^{rt}$

where  $e \approx 2.718...$

Big idea!

- $n=4$  (quarterly) grows more than  $n=1$  (annually)
- $n=12$  (monthly) also grows some more
- $n=52$  (weekly) grows a bit more
- $n=360$  (daily) grows a little more
- $n \rightarrow \infty$  starts to plateau  $\rightarrow$  use  $e$

**Example 7:** You decide to invest \$8000 for 6 years and you have a choice between two accounts. The first pays 7% per year, compounded monthly. The second pays 6.85% per year, compounded continuously. Which is the better investment?

$r = .07$   
 $n = 12$

First option  
 $A = P \left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$

$A = 8000 \left(1 + \frac{.07}{12}\right)^{12 \cdot 6}$

$A = \$12160.84$

Better option

$P = 8000$   
 $t = 6$

Second option

$r = .0685$

$A = P \cdot e^{rt}$

$A = 8000 \cdot e^{.0685 \times 6}$

$A = 12066.60$

Use  $\boxed{x}$  key, not  $( )$  to multiply in calculator!

**Example 8:** Charlie invests \$3000 in an account that earns 5% interest, compounded continuously. Around how many years would it take for this amount to grow to \$12,000?

Find  $t$

$P = 3000, r = .05, A = 12,000$

Use  $A = Pe^{rt}$

$A = P \cdot e^{rt}$

$\frac{12,000}{3,000} = \frac{3,000}{3,000} \cdot e^{.05t}$

$\ln 4 = \ln e^{.05t}$

$\ln(4) = .05t \cdot \ln(e)$

$\frac{\ln(4)}{.05} = \frac{.05t \cdot 1}{.05}$

$27.7 = t$

$\Rightarrow$  Almost 28 years

$\ln(e) = 1$

Recall:  $A$  = future value

$P$  = present value (\$ invested)

### ■ Calculating Present Value

If  $A$  dollars are to be accumulated in  $t$  years in an account that pays rate  $r$  compounded  $n$  times per year, then the present value  $P$  that needs to be invested now is given by

$$P = \frac{A}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}}$$

Example 7: How much money should be deposited in an account today that earns 8% compounded monthly so that it will accumulate to \$20,000 in five years?

$$A = 20,000$$

$$t = 5$$

$$r = .08$$

$$n = 12$$

$$P = \frac{20,000}{\left(1 + \frac{.08}{12}\right)^{12 \cdot 5}}$$

$$P = \$13,424.21$$

↑ ↑  
Could you use  $A = P\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$  and solve for  $P$ ?

Yes, but it loses accuracy if you round off  $\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}$  to divide by it.

$$\frac{A}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}} = \frac{P\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}}$$

Instead, divide both sides of the formula

$$\frac{A}{\left(1 + \frac{r}{n}\right)^{nt}} = P$$

Then plug in the values in this new version of it 😊