

Section 4.6 Compound Interest

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

n = # of compoundings per year

t = # of years

r = rate

P = present value (or principal)

A = future value

$$A = Pe^{rt}$$

Continuous
Compounding

ex: Amount in account after 18 years if interest is 8% compounded quarterly for a \$13000 investment.

annually $n=1$
semiannually $n=2$
quarterly $n=4$
monthly $n=12$
daily $n=365$

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

$$P = 13000$$

$$r = .08$$

$$t = 18$$

$$n = 4$$

$$A = 13000 \left(1 + \frac{.08}{4}\right)^{(4 \cdot 18)}$$

on calculator $13000 \left(1 + .08/4\right)^{(4 \cdot 18)}$ enter
= \$54,094.82

ex: How long will it take for a \$400 investment to be worth \$500 if interest is

a) compounded continuously at 6%.

$$A = Pe^{rt} \quad \frac{500}{400} = \frac{400e^{.06t}}{400}$$

$$A = 500$$

$$P = 400$$

$$r = .06$$

$$1.25 = e^{.06t}$$

$$\ln 1.25 = \ln e^{.06t}$$

$$\frac{\ln 1.25}{.06} = \frac{.06t}{.06}$$

$$t = 3.72 \text{ yrs}$$

b) compounded monthly at 6%

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

$$500 = 400 \left(1 + \frac{.06}{12}\right)^{12t}$$

$$1.25 = \underbrace{\left(1.005\right)}_{\text{calc}}^{12t}$$

$$\ln 1.25 = \ln \left(1.005\right)^{12t}$$

$$\frac{\ln 1.25}{(12 \ln 1.005)} = \frac{\cancel{12t} \ln 1.005}{\cancel{12} \ln 1.005}$$

$$3.73 \text{ yrs} = t$$

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Show formula with numbers plugged in

5, 16, 29, 37