

Manual for SOA Exam FM/CAS Exam 2.

Chapter 2. Cashflows.

Section 2.6. Continuous payments.

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Continuous payments

Suppose that the payments are made very often. Then by approximation, instead of a sum, we have an integral. It is like the payments are made continuously. Let $V(t)$ be the outstanding fund balance at time t of the cashflow. Assume that contributions are made continuously at an instantaneous rate $C(t)$, then the equation of value is

$$V(t) = V(0)(1+i)^t + \int_0^t C(s)(1+i)^{t-s} ds. \quad (1)$$

(1) appears as the limit of the equation of value for the cashflow:

Inflow	$V(0)$	$C(t_1)(t_1 - 0)$	$C(t_2)(t_2 - t_1)$	\dots	$C(t_n)(t_n - t_{n-1})$
Time	0	t_1	t_2	\dots	t_n

as $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (t_j - t_{j-1}) \rightarrow 0$, where

$0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_m = t$. The equation of value at time t for this cashflow is

$$V(t) = V(0)(1+i)^t + \sum_{j=1}^n C(t_j)(t_j - t_{j-1})(1+i)^{t-t_j},$$

which tends to

$$V(t) = V(0)(1+i)^t + \int_0^t C(s)(1+i)^{t-s} ds$$

as $\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (t_j - t_{j-1}) \rightarrow 0$.

Recall that the Riemann integral of a function f is defined as

$$\int_0^t f(s) ds = \lim_{\max_{1 \leq j \leq n} (t_j - t_{j-1}) \rightarrow 0} \sum_{j=1}^n f(t_j)(t_j - t_{j-1}).$$

Example 1

A continuous-year annuity pays a constant rate 1 at time t where $0 \leq t \leq n$. Interest is compounded with an annual rate of interest of i .

(i) Find the present value of the annuity at time 0.

(ii) Find the future value of the annuity at time n .

Solution: (i) The present value of this continuous annuity is

$$\begin{aligned}
 PV &= \int_0^n (1+i)^{-t} dt = \int_0^n e^{-t \ln(1+i)} dt = \left. \frac{-e^{-t \ln(1+i)}}{\ln(1+i)} \right|_0^n \\
 &= \frac{1}{\ln(1+i)} - \frac{e^{-n \ln(1+i)}}{\ln(1+i)} = \frac{1 - (1+i)^{-n}}{\ln(1+i)}.
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(ii) The future value of the continuous annuity at time n is

$$FV = \int_0^n (1+i)^{n-t} dt = (1+i)^n PV = \frac{(1+i)^n - 1}{\ln(1+i)}.$$

If instead of compound interest, the time value of money follows the accumulation function $a(t)$, then the future value at time t of an initial outstanding balance $V(0)$ and **continuous payments** $C(s)$, in the interval $0 \leq s \leq t$ is

$$V(t) = V(0)a(t) + \int_0^t C(s) \frac{a(t)}{a(s)} ds.$$

Example 2

The force of interest at time t is $\delta_t = \frac{t^3}{10}$. Find the present value of a four-year continuous annuity which has a rate of payments at time t of $5t^3$.

Solution: The accumulation function is

$$a(t) = \exp\left(\int_0^t \delta_s ds\right)$$

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The present value of the four-year continuous annuity is

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^4 \frac{C(s)}{a(s)} ds &= \int_0^4 5s^3 e^{-\frac{s^4}{40}} ds = -50e^{-\frac{s^4}{40}} \Big|_0^4 = 50 - 50e^{-6.4} \\ &= 49.91692. \end{aligned}$$