


Engineering Economic Analysis
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Lecture 13

Methods of Comparison of Alternatives: Present Worth, Annual Equivalent, Future Worth, Internal Rate of Return

Welcome to the lecture on methods of comparison of alternatives. So basically we deal with a number of investment alternatives in engineering economic analysis and we have to compare among the alternatives which of the alternative is good or better. So basically we have to compare them and for comparing their values, there are different basis of comparison.

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INTRODUCTION

- A comparison of alternative investments is required for decision of whether to accept or reject the any investment.
- It is required to know how to compare alternatives on an equal basis for selecting the wisest alternative from an economic standpoint.
- The most common bases of comparison of alternatives are
 - Present worth
 - Annual Equivalent
 - Future Worth
 - IRR

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So comparison of alternative investments is required for decision of whether to accept or reject an investment mea and if you are having an investment, it has certain cash flows. You need to decide whether this cash flow will be beneficial for you for the investor whether he should go ahead or he should reject it. It is required to know how to compare alternatives on an equal basis for selecting the wisest alternative from an economic standpoint.

So basically you should know which one is the best alternative. From economic point of view you need to know about certain terminologies which is basically evaluate the alternatives values. The most common basis for companies of alternatives are present worth method, annual equivalent method, future worth method, internal rate of return. Apart from that we will also discuss about capitalized equivalent and capital recovery with return.

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Present Worth Criterion

- Present worth of an investment is the net equivalent amount at present time. It represents the difference between net receipts and net disbursements made at present time for a specified interest rate.
- It is also known as net present worth and expressed as $PW(i)$.
- If F_t is the net cash flow at time t , (n being the service life of the project)

$$PW(i) = \sum_{t=0}^n F_t (P/F, i, t)$$

Depending upon the value of $PW(i)$, decision on any investment can be to accept it, be indifferent or reject it.

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So coming first to the present worth criterion. Now present worth criterion of an investment is the net equivalent amount at present time. So basically in any cash flow, you have the receipts and disbursements occurring at different times. So basically you have to find the net value of all these receipts - that of the disbursements and basically that is to be evaluated at the present time.

So it represents the difference between net receipts and net disbursements made at present time for a specified interest rate. So given a cash flow diagram if you know the interest rate, in that case it would be the net value of the receipt and the net value of disbursement. The difference between them and its value at the present time t equal to 0 will give the present worth of that particular investment.

It is known as present worth and we express it as PW_i , i shows that at particular rate of interest. So if F_t is the net cash flow at prime t , n being the service life of the project, PW_i that is present worth of the investment can be written as summation t equal to 0, $2n$ F_t multiplied by P by $F I t$. So basically we will see how we can derive this formula. Let us see you have an investment as it is shown that F_t is the net cash flow at time t .

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Present Worth Criterion

$$PW(i) = F_0 \left(\frac{P}{F}, i, 0 \right) + F_1 \left(\frac{P}{F}, i, 1 \right) + \dots + F_t \left(\frac{P}{F}, i, t \right) + \dots + F_n \left(\frac{P}{F}, i, n \right)$$

$$= \sum_{t=0}^n F_t \left(\frac{P}{F}, i, t \right)$$

$PW(i) > 0$ Investment can be accepted

So if you have a cash flow diagram let us discuss about present worth criterion. So you deal with a cash flow diagram at different time. Now this is a cash flow diagram and the transactions are F_t that is here it is F_1 , here it is F_0 , here it may be F_2 , this may be F_3 , so this is F_t , this is $F_t + 1$, this is $F_n - 1$ and this is F_n . So these are the net cash flows at that particular time. So this is net cash flow F_1 at t equal to 1.

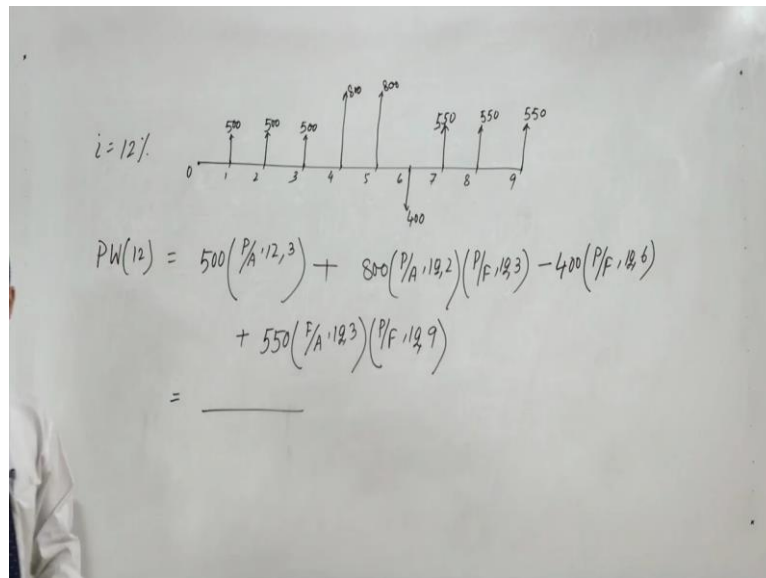
So that is why we see that F_t is the net cash flow at time t . Now present worth means, each of these components equivalent value at this time is to be found out. So present worth will be equal to that the interest rate is i . So contribution of the F_0 is F_0 itself and you can write this as P by F I 0 + F_1 the cash flow at time t equal to 1, this will be nothing but its equivalent value at 0 time. For that you have to multiply it with the interest factor P by F I 1 .

So it will be P by F I 1 . Similarly it we go for P by F I t multiplied by F_t and further it will go for F_n multiplied by P by F I n . So basically it is the algebraic sum of the equivalent values of all these net cash flows at the respective times and their value is found at time t equal to 0 that is present time. So that is why it is written as summation t equal to 0 to n F_t P by F I t . So this way you can find the present worth values.

Now the present worth value should be basically greater than or equal to 0 for the investment to be acceptable or thefor the investment to run. So that is why it is written that if PW_i is greater than 0 then the investment can be accepted. If PW_i equal to 20 it does not meaning mean any difference because the investor is not losing neither he is gaining, so it does not make any difference.

And if PW_i is less than 0 in that case the investor cannot go ahead because he is at loss, so investor won't go ahead with the project. So this criterion give us the freedom to calculate the present worth value for any cash flow diagram and based on that we will see that after we calculate the present worth criterion we can even calculate the annual equivalent or future worth. So basically they are all interlinked and we will see their implication.

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Let us see a small problem which we can solve and see how we calculate the present worth value for any particular investment. So for example if we have any cash flow diagram, so suppose this is a cash flow diagram where you see certain cash flows, so suppose this is 500, this is 800, this is 400, this is 550.

Now suppose you are given such a cash flow diagrams you need to find the present worth of such investment and for that we have already studied about the equivalence theorem. So what we can do for this and if i is given as suppose 12%, in that case what we will do is, we have to find the present worth of these 3 then this one, then this one and then this one. So this will be basically subtracted and all these in the positive side will be added.

So we can see PW_{12} we can write as we have so far been acquainted with the equivalence principles so directly we can see this 500 we can get the P by A theorem. So 500 multiplied by P by A 12 3, so basically these 3 will be getting the value here. Then further the two 800s, so 800 P by A 10 2, this will be defined at t equal to 3, so its value is further to be calculated at this point. So this will be further multiplied P by F 10 3.

Then this being on the negative side we will subtract it- 400 P by F 10 6 then finally we have three 550 transactions. So we can directly get its equivalent value at this point, so this 550 will be multiplied with F by A 10 3. This will its equivalent value we can get at this point and this will be multiply because the final value has to be brought in at this point. So we will further multiply with the factor P by F 10 9.

So if we refer to the table, pardon me these all these interest rates are 12%, so this all will be 12. So basically all these interest factor values we can calculate it from the interest tables and once we put all these values we can get the final P values. So all these things will be known and we can get a value. So this is how we get the present worth of any investment.

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Annual Equivalent Criterion

- Annual equivalent worth criterion provides a basis of measuring worth of an investment by finding equal payments on annual basis.
- Annual equivalent is the net sum of annual receipts (+ve) and annual disbursements (-ve).

$$AE(i) = PW(i) (A/P, i, n)$$

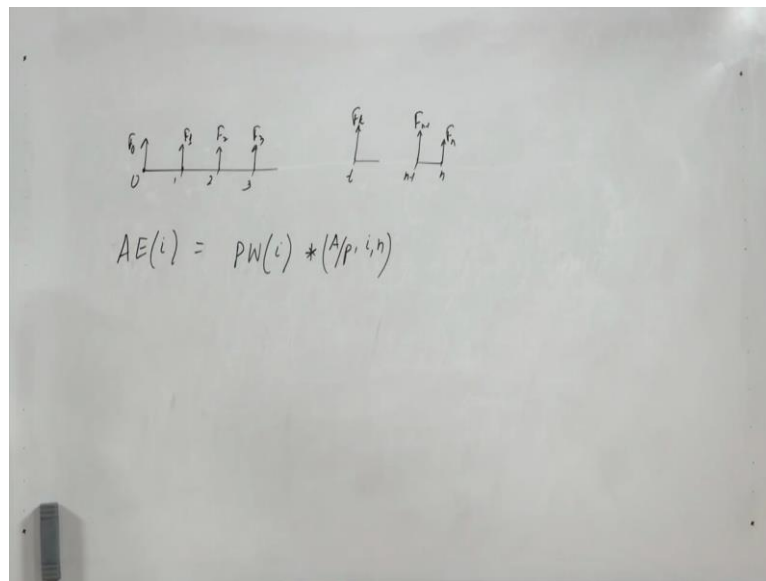
- Depending upon the value of $AE(i)$, decision on any investment can be to accept it, be indifferent or reject it.
- Annual equivalent basis of comparison is preferred in case of repeating type of cash flows.

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Further there is annual equivalent criteria. Annual equivalent worth criterion provides a basis of measuring worth of an investment by finding equal payments on annual basis. So basically it is giving you a basis in which any cash flow will be equivalent to certain equal payment type of series or type of cash flows. So it is the net sum of annual receipts and annual disbursements.

So basically you have receipts as well as disbursements, you find the annual equivalent value of all the receipts and annual equivalent value of the all the disbursements and then you can then find algebraic sum of it one being positive and another being negative. So what we see is, once you find the present worth value you can find the value of A by P I n and this can be multiplied, that will give us the annual equivalent value.

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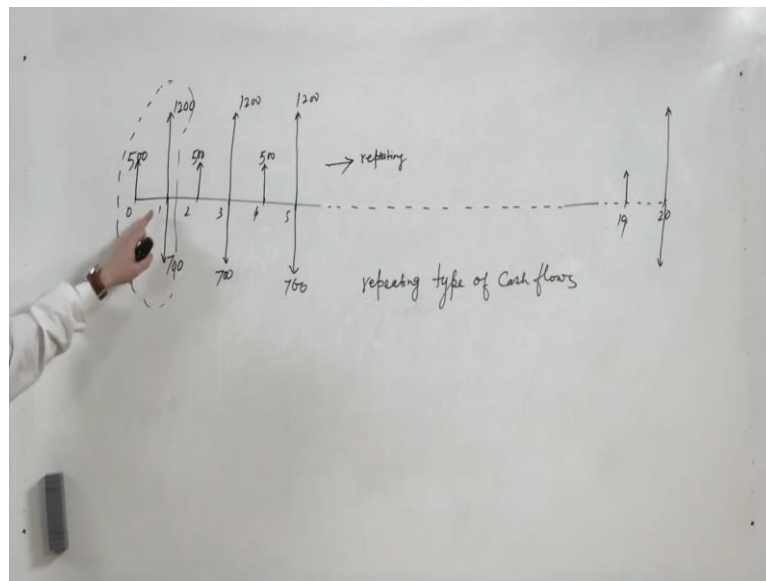
So basically if you have any cash flow diagram and once you have calculated the present worth value, so if F_t is the cash flow at time t , so in that case what you have to do is you have to find you can basically convert all these values individually and find its annual equivalent amount and then you can algebraically add them.

Otherwise basically we are getting the present worth component here itself and then that component can be multiplied with the factor A by $P I n$. So that is why you can see that this annual equivalent is nothing but once you get the present worth component, present worth component is defined as 0 time, so once this is multiplied with A by $P I n$, this factor, this factor once we multiply this will give us basically the annual equivalent value.

So it is nothing but PW_i is written as t equal to 0 to n $F_t / (1 + I)^t$ and then you can multiply it with this factor A by $P I n$. So A by $P I n$ is nothing but, so if this factor is calculated, this is to be multiplied with this factor and you get the annual equivalent value.

Same as the present worth criterion, this condition holds good also here where it can be said that if it is positive, the investment can be considered as acceptable, if it is zero it is indifferent and if it is negative you cannot go ahead with the investment. Also such basis is preferred in case of repeating type of cash flows. Now let us see a particular type of cash flow which is repeating.

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So if a cash flow is there, now let us see you have a cash flow which is repeating like if there is like this and this is repeating. So at this point also, so suppose this is 500, this is 1200 and this is 700, so basically we can think of keeping it as a continuation. So such laws are known as repeating type of cash flows where we see that this particular cash flow, this is repeating every time.

So in this time step has repeated further it has repeated here, further it has repeated here and it goes. So in such cash flows we can well use the present worth criterion but it makes cumbersome because it involves a large number of computation. In that case such annual equivalent value is basically worth because the annual equal in value for this will remain same as this one, same as this one.

So basically wide this cumbersome and to avoid large amount of calculations, for such repeating cash flows, annual equivalent basis of comparison is having more meaning. Next is future worth criterion, so future worth criterion means in this basically you find the net amount of receipts and disbursements and any future time.



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Future Worth Criterion

- Future worth of an investment is the difference between equivalent receipts and disbursements at some point of time in future.
- It can be found by converting the present worth of the investment at some future time.
- If F_t is the net cash flow at time t , (n being the service life of the project)

$$FW(i) = \sum_{t=0}^n F_t (1+i)^{n-t}$$

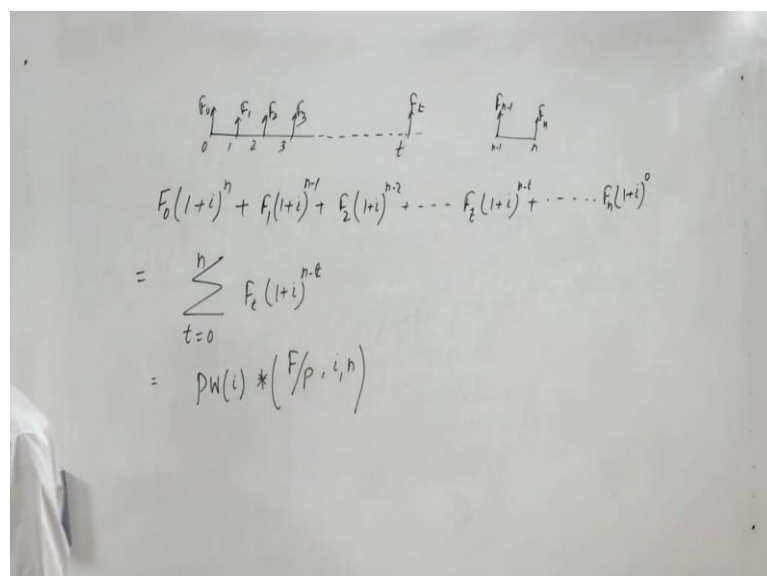
- Also, $FW(i)$ can be expressed as $FW(i) = PW(i) (F/P, i, n)$



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So of an investment is the difference between equivalent receipts and disbursements at some point of time future. So basically in the first case we have got the equivalent amount at present time t equal to 0. In the second case we have got the equivalent amount as the annual payment but we can also represent them in terms of an equivalent amount at the common point time in future that is t equal to n .

So it can be found by converting present worth of the investment at some future time. So basically once you have converted any cash flow and found its present worth then you can directly convert it to the future time by multiplying with F by $P I n$. So basically you can get the present worth value and then you can find this F by $P I n$.

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The image shows a handwritten derivation of the Future Worth Criterion formula. It starts with a cash flow diagram showing a timeline from $t=0$ to $t=n$. Cash flows $F_0, F_1, F_2, \dots, F_t, \dots, F_n$ are indicated at each time step. Below the diagram, the formula for Future Worth is written as:

$$F_0(1+i)^n + F_1(1+i)^{n-1} + F_2(1+i)^{n-2} + \dots + F_t(1+i)^{n-t} + \dots + F_n(1+i)^0$$

This is then simplified to a summation:

$$= \sum_{t=0}^n F_t (1+i)^{n-t}$$

Finally, it is expressed as the Present Worth multiplied by the Future Worth factor:

$$= PW(i) * (F/P, i, n)$$

Also it can be found by this formula where FW_i is t equal to 0 to n summation F_t multiplied by $1 + I$ raised to the power $n - t$. So basically this you can find like this, you have an investment, so you have $F_0, F_1, F_2, F_3, F_t, F_{n-1}$ and F_n . So basically once you get the equivalent amount net equivalent amount at the future time at t equal to n basically this is the future worth of this particular cash flow or the investment.

So what we see is if we see the value of this particular investment basically you have to see that this F not its contribution towards the n th time that is here, it is F_0 multiplied by $1 + I$ raised to the power n . Then F_1 can be written as, its contribution at the n th time will be multiplied with so F_1 has to be multiplied with $1 + I$ raised to the power $n - 1$. So basically it is earning interest for $n - 1$ interest periods.

So F_2 in that case will be getting F_2 into $1 + I^{n-2}$, so F_t $1 + I^{1-t}$ and this F_n will have nothing raised to power m F_n $1 + I$ raised to the power $n - n$ so 0 so it will be only F_n , that is why it is written as F_t into $1 + I$ raised to the power. So it has been written as t equal to 0 to n F_t $1 + I$ raised to the power $n - t$.

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• $FW(i)$ and $AW(i)$ are seen to be $PW(i)$ times some constant values when i and n are fixed.

• Future worth, annual equivalent and present worth are the consistent bases of comparison as long as i and n are fixed for any two alternatives A and B.

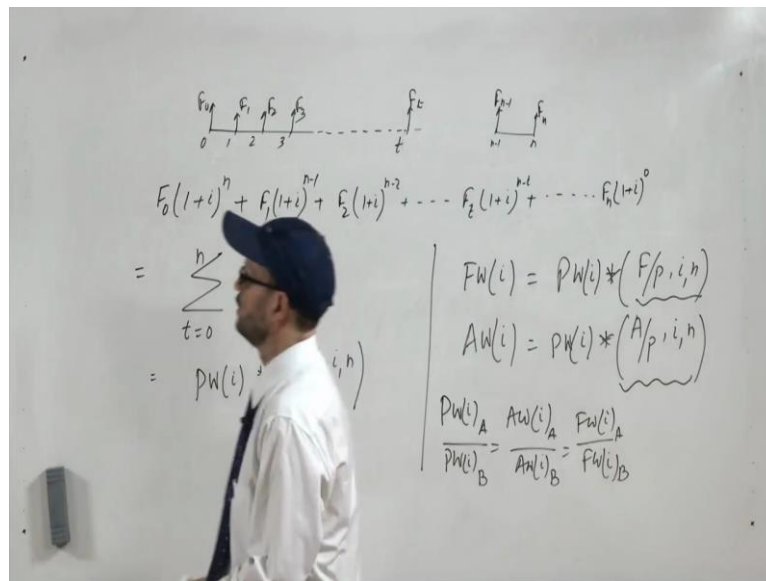
• The following relationship is true while comparing the two alternatives A & B:

$$PW(i)_A / PW(i)_B = AW(i)_A / AW(i)_B = FW(i)_A / FW(i)_B$$

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We have already discussed once we get the present worth we can directly conc multiply this with this factor F by $P I^n$ and we can get the required value of future worth. So it is also equal to PW_i multiplied by F by $P I^n$. So this is how you calculate the different criterion. They are basically seen as FW_i n to AW_i they are basically the product of PW_i times certain factors.

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So what we see is FWi is PWi times F by P I n and AWi we have already discussed as PWi times A by P I n. So basically they are nothing but these are the factors which are the numbers, so basically their ratios are coming to be equal for two alternatives A and B and that is why for two alternatives A and B if you find PWi A upon PWi B it will be same as AWi A upon AWi B and that is FWi upon FWi A and B.

Next is internal rate of return, this is a rate of return which basically gives you the zero present worth value. This we will discuss in our next slide and we will see how for a certain cash flow diagram this internal rate of return basically can be generated because they are to be found by trial and error methods. Thank you.