

## E: Levelized cost

a040

### Formula 6: levelized cost

Sequence of **hypothetical identical annual costs** having the same PV as a stream of **actual costs**

#### Example: annualized cost of an infrastructure project

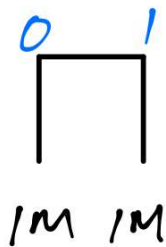
Bridge with 20 lifespan

Construction cost = \$1M in years 0 and 1

Useful life = years 1-20

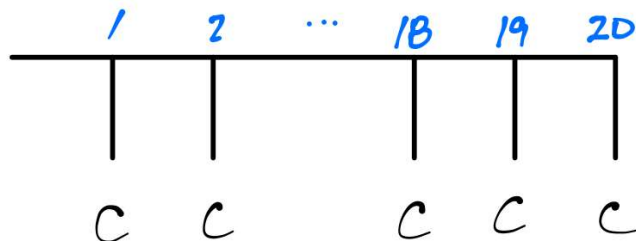
$r = 10\%$

PV of actual cost:



$$PV_{actual} = \$1M + \frac{\$1M}{1.1} = \$1.909M$$

PV of levelized cost:



*level*

$$PV_{level} = \frac{C}{r} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+r)^T} \right) = \frac{C}{0.1} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1.1)^{20}} \right)$$

Solve for  $C$  that makes  $PV_{level} = PV_{actual}$

$$\frac{C}{0.1} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1.1)^{20}} \right) = 1.909M$$

$$\frac{C}{0.1} * 0.851 = 1.909M$$

$$C = \$224k$$

Typical use:

- Annual tolls needed to pay for building the bridge
- Annual benefits that would be needed for breakeven NPV

General formula for levelized cost of PV:

$$C = \frac{r * PV}{\left( 1 - \frac{1}{(1+r)^T} \right)}$$

Exercise on GC