

Interest Rates & NPEPN Quiz Solutions

Q1: Calculate the nominal rate of interest, compounded quarterly, that's equivalent to 2% per quarterly compounding period.

SOLUTION

We know that the quarterly periodic rate $i_4 = 2\%$.

Therefore, $j_4 = i_4 \times 4 = 8\%$.

Answer:
8%

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Q2: Calculate the monthly periodic rate of interest that's equivalent to the nominal rate of 12% with monthly compounding.

SOLUTION

We know that the nominal rate $j_{12} = 12\%$.

Therefore, periodic monthly rate $i_{12} = \frac{j_{12}}{12} = \frac{12\%}{12} = 1\%$.

Answer:
1%

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Q3: Adam Levine, a mortgage investor, would prefer to earn which of these yields?

- 1) $j_2 = 8\%$ 2) $j_1 = 8.25\%$ 3) $j_{365} = 7.9\%$ 4) Adam would be indifferent among these yields

SOLUTION

Let's convert all these rates to effective to see which one is the highest
(we want the highest one because Adam is an investor).

We are converting to j_1 so we don't need the full NPEPN. We can stop at the NPE.

N 8
P 2
E

 $j_1 = 8.16\%$

No conversion
needed –
already j_1 .

 $j_1 = 8.25\%$

N 7.9
P 365
E

 $j_1 = 8.219507\%$

**Answer:
 $j_1 = 8.25\%$**

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Q4: The effective annual rate for 7% per annum, compounded semi-annually, is:

- 1) greater than the effective annual rate for 6% per annum, compounded semi-annually
Yes, because 7% is more than 6% and we can compare these rates directly because they both have the same semi-annual compounding
- 2) more than the effective annual rate for 7% per annum, compounded annually
Yes, because $j_2 = 7\%$ is more than $j_1 = 7\%$ (same %, more frequent compounding).
- 3) less than the effective annual rate for 7% per annum, compounded monthly
Yes, because $j_2 = 7\%$ is less than $j_{12} = 7\%$ (same %, less frequent compounding).
- 4) all of the above

**Answer:
4) all of the above**

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Q5: Calculate the semi-annual periodic interest rate that's equivalent to 16% per annum, compounded semi-annually.

SOLUTION

We know that the nominal rate $j_2 = 16\%$.

Therefore, semi - annual periodic rate $i_2 = \frac{j_2}{2} = 8\%$.

Answer:
8%

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Q6: Bernie, a first-time home buyer, would prefer which of these rates for his mortgage?

- 1) $j_2 = 13.75\%$ 2) $j_1 = 13.75\%$ 3) $j_4 = 13\%$ 4) Bernie would be indifferent among these rates

SOLUTION

Let's convert all these rates to effective to see which one is the lowest
(we want the lowest one because Bernie is a borrower).

We are converting to j_1 so we don't need the full NPEPN. We can stop at the NPE.

N 13.75
P 2
E

No conversion
needed –
already j_1 .

N 13
P 4
E

$j_1 = 14.222656\%$

$j_1 = 13.75\%$

$j_1 = 13.647593\%$

**Answer:
3) $j_4 = 13\%$**