

Continuous Growth & Future Value

If \$1 is compounded n times in a year at a rate of 100%, the value would be

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n$$

Continuously: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = 2.718281828\dots$

called e
this is the natural base

For continuous growth: $A = A_0 e^{rt}$

A ← Amount
 A_0 ← initial amount
 e ← growth rate
 t ← time

Example:

A population of 2.3 million is growing continuously at a rate of 8% per year. What will the population be in 5 years?

Approximate using yearly growth:

$$A = 2.3(1.08)^5 \\ = 3.38 \text{ million}$$

Exact value using continuous growth:

$$A = 2.3e^{(0.08(5))} \\ = 3.43 \text{ million}$$

How long will it take to reach 5 million?

$$5 = \cancel{2.3}e^{0.08t} \\ \cancel{2.3} \quad \cancel{2.3}$$

log or ln
"lawn"

$$\ln\left(\frac{5}{\cancel{2.3}}\right) = \ln e^{\cancel{0.08t}}$$

is the natural logarithm

$$\ln\left(\frac{5}{2.3}\right) = \cancel{0.08t}$$

$$\frac{0.08}{0.08} = \frac{0.08t}{0.08}$$

$$\log_2 2^5 = 5$$

$$\log_e e^{0.08t} = 0.08t$$

$$t = 9.7 \text{ years}$$

Bacteria doubling every 15 minutes

Approximate:

$$1(2)^{4 \times 24} = 7.9 \times 10^{28}$$

Exact (continuous)

$$1e^{1 \times 96} = 4.9 \times 10^{41}$$

Future Value:

$$FV = \frac{R[(1+i)^n - 1]}{i}$$

n = # of monthly investments

R = amount of regular investment

i = interest rate

If you invest your \$400/month at 8% compounded monthly, how much would you have in 40 years?

$$FV = \frac{400 \left[\left(1 + \frac{0.08}{12} \right)^{480} - 1 \right]}{\left(\frac{0.08}{12} \right)}$$
$$= \$1,396,403.13$$

How much interest is this?

Money invested: $\$400 \times 12 \times 40 = \$192,000$

$\$1,396,403.13 - \$192,000$

$= \$1,204,403.13$

$\approx \$1.2$ million in interest