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CONTEMPORARY ENGINEERING ECONOMICS

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For Sophie and Alexander

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PREFACE

What is "Contemporary" About Engineering Economics?

Decisions made during the engineering design phase of product development determine the majority of the costs associated with the manufacturing of that product (some say that this value may be as high as 85%). As design and manufacturing processes become more complex, engineers are making decisions that involve money more than ever before. Thus, the competent and successful engineer in the twenty-first century must have an improved understanding of the principles of science, engineering, and economics, coupled with relevant design experience. Increasingly, in the new world economy, successful businesses will rely on engineers with such expertise.

Economic and design issues are inextricably linked in the product/service life cycle. Therefore, one of my strongest motivations for writing this text was to bring the realities of economics and engineering design into the classroom and to help students integrate these issues when contemplating many engineering decisions. Of course, my underlying motivation for writing this book was not simply to address contemporary needs, but to address as well the ageless goal of all educators: to help students to learn. Thus, thoroughness, clarity, and accuracy of presentation of essential engineering economics were my aim at every stage in the development of the text.

New to the Sixth Edition

Much of the content has been streamlined to provide materials in depth and to reflect the challenges in contemporary engineering economics. Some of the highlighted changes are as follows:

- All the chapter opening vignettes—a trademark of *Contemporary Engineering Economics*—have been updated or completely replaced with more current and thought-provoking issues. Selection of vignettes reflects the important segment of global economy in terms of variety and scope of business as well. With more than 80% of the total GDP (Gross Domestic Product) in the United States provided by the service sector, engineers work on various economic decision problems in the service sector as well. For this reason, many engineering economic decision problems from the service sector are presented in this sixth edition.
- Excel spreadsheet modeling techniques are incorporated into various economic decision problems to provide many "what-if" solutions to key decision problems.
- About 20% of end-of-chapter problems are either new or revised. There are a total of 618 end-of-chapter problems and 65 short case-study questions. There are also 196 fully worked-out examples and 40 carefully selected and fully worked out Fundamentals of Engineering Exam Review Questions in Appendix A.

Chapter Opening Vignettes					
Chapters	Vignettes	Company	Sector	Industry	
1	• Electric vehicles	Tesla	Consumer Goods	Auto Manufacturers	
2	Communication chips	Broadcom	Technology	Semiconductor—Integrated Circuits	
3	Powerball—Lottery winning	Cindy and Mark Hill	Services	Lottery	
4	Financing home mortgage	Personal Finance	Financial	Banking/Housing	
5	Football stadium expansion	University of Colorado	Services	Sports	
6	 Industrial robots 	Delta	Industrial	Manufacturing	
7	• Investment in antique car	Personal	Personal	Automobile	
8	• iPhone manufacturing	Apple	Consumer Goods	Electronic Equipment	
9	Airline baggage handling	Delta Airlines	Services	Airlines	
10	• Aircraft manufacturing	Eclipse	Industrial Goods	Aerospace	
11	• Big Mac index	Personal	Services	Restaurants	
12	• Aluminum auto body	Alcoa	Basic Materials	Aluminum	
13	• Insurance	Personal	Services	Travel	
14	Replacing absorption chiller	UCSF Medical Center	Healthcare	Hospitals	
15	Capital budgeting	Laredo Petroleum	Energy	Oil drilling	
16	• Auto inspection program	State of Pennsylvania	Public	Government	

• Some other specific changes in each chapter are summarized as follows:

Chapters	
1	• Revised Section 1.3 by providing one of contemporary issues—electric vehicle and battery manufacturing.
2	 Replaced all financial analyses (including financial ratios) based on the financial statements by Broadcom Corporation. Provided two chapter examples and solutions to improve the understanding of financial analysis.
3	• Redesigned all Excel worksheets to take advantage of its financial functions in solving various economic equivalence problems.

Chapters	
4	• Revised Section 4.3.2 to enhance the understanding of continuous-funds flow with continuous compounding.
	• Revised Section 4.6.3 to reflect the current bond market.
5	• Revised all Excel worksheets.
	• Streamlined the presentation.
6	• Revised Section 6.3.3 with a new make-buy example.
	• Introduced a new example of HVAC retrofit life-cycle-costing analysis.
7	• Created a new section (7.3.5) on modified internal rate of return.
8	• Streamlined the presentation.
	• Updated all data related to cost of owning and operating a vehicle.
9	• Updated tax information.
	Updated all Excel worksheets of generating depreciation schedules.
10	• Revised all cash flow statement tables by using Excel.
11	• Updated all data related to consumer price index as well as other cost data to reflect the current trend in inflation as well as deflation in various economic sectors.
	Revised all cash flow statements by using Excel.
12	Revised Excel worksheet related to sensitivity analysis.
13	• Revised all financial options examples by providing many graphical illustrations to explain complex conceptual financial as well as real option problems.
	• Extended Example 13.14 on how to estimate project volatility.
14	• Created a new graphical chart (Figure 14.8) to facilitate the understanding of overall replacement strategies under infinite planning horizon.
15	• Created a new figure (Figure 15.1) to illustrate the capital structure of a typical firm.
	• Extended Section 15.4.3 to include an example on how to find the optimal capital budget if projects cannot be accepted in part (Example 15.12).
16	• Streamlined the presentation.
	• Provide a new detailed vehicle inspection program on cost-benefit analysis.
	• Added a new section (16.5.3) on cost-utility analysis to improve the pedagogical aspect of healthcare decisions.

Overview of the Text

Although it contains little advanced math and few truly difficult concepts, the introductory engineering economics course is often curiously challenging for the sophomores, juniors, and seniors. There are several likely explanations for this difficulty.

• The course is the student's first analytical consideration of money (a resource with which he or she may have had little direct control beyond paying for tuition, housing, food, and textbooks).

- The emphasis on theory may obscure the fact that the course aims, among other things, to develop a very practical set of analytical tools for measuring project worth. This is unfortunate since, at one time or another, virtually every engineer—not to mention every individual—is responsible for the wise allocation of limited financial resources.
- The mixture of industrial, civil, mechanical, electrical, and manufacturing engineering students, as well as other undergraduates who take the course, often fail to "see themselves" using in the skills the course and text are intended to foster. This is perhaps less true for industrial engineering students for whom many texts take as their primary audience. But other disciplines are often motivationally shortchanged by a text's lack of applications that appeal directly to their students.

Goal of the Text

This text aims not only to provide sound and comprehensive coverage of the concepts of engineering economic but also aims to address the difficulties of students as outlined previously, all of which have their basis in inattentiveness to the practical concerns of engineering economics. More specifically, this text has the following chief goals:

- To build a thorough understanding of the theoretical and conceptual basis upon which the practice of financial project analysis is built.
- To satisfy the very practical needs of the engineer toward making informed financial decisions when acting as a team member or project manager for an engineering project.
- To incorporate all critical decision-making tools—including the most contemporary, computer-oriented ones that engineers bring to the task of making informed financial decisions.
- To appeal to the full range of engineering disciplines for which this course is often required: industrial, civil, mechanical, electrical, computer, aerospace, chemical, and manufacturing engineering, as well as engineering technology.

Prerequisites

The text is intended for undergraduate engineering students at the sophomore level or above. The only mathematical background required is elementary calculus. For Chapters 12 and 13, a first course in probability or statistics is helpful but not necessary, since the treatment of basic topics there is essentially self-contained.

Taking Advantage of the Internet

The integration of computer use is another important feature of *Contemporary Engineering Economics*. Students have greater access to and familiarity with the various spreadsheet tools and instructors have greater inclination either to treat these topics explicitly in the course or to encourage students to experiment independently.

A remaining concern is that the use of computers will undermine true understanding of course concepts. This text does not promote the use of trivial spreadsheet applications as a replacement for genuine understanding of and skill in applying traditional solution methods. Rather, it focuses on the computer's productivity-enhancing benefits for complex project cash flow development and analysis. For spreadsheet coverage, the emphasis is on demonstrating a chapter concept that embodies some complexity that can be much more efficiently resolved on a computer than by traditional long-hand solutions.

MyEngineeringLab[™]

- MyEngineeringLab is now available with *Contemporary Engineering Economics*, Sixth Edition and provides a powerful homework and test manager which lets instructors create, import, and manage online homework assignments, quizzes, and tests that are automatically graded. You can choose from a wide range of assignment options, including time limits, proctoring, and maximum number of attempts allowed. The bottom line: MyEngineeringLab means less time grading and more time teaching.
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- Automatic grading that tracks students' results.
- Learning Objectives mapped to ABET outcomes provide comprehensive reporting tools. If adopted, access to MyEngineeringLab can be bundled with the book or purchased separately.

Resources for Instructors and Students

- MyEngineeringLab, myengineeringlab.com, which is also available as MyEngineeringLab with Pearson eText, a complete online version of the book. It allows highlighting, note taking, and search capabilities.
- Excel files of selected example problems from the text as well as end-of-chapter problems.
- Instructor's Solutions Manual in both WORD and PDF versions.
- PowerPoint lecture notes.

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