ENGINEERING ECONOMY ECONOMY

TENTH EDITION

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Engineering Economy

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This book is dedicated to the ones we love.

E. Paul Degarmo William G. Sullivan James A. Bontadelli Elin M. Wicks

Preface

Engineering economy—what is it and why is it important? The initial reaction of many engineering students to these questions is "Money matters will be handled by someone else. It is not something I need to worry about." In reality, any engineering project must be not only physically realizable but also economically feasible. For example, a child's tricycle could be built with an aluminum frame or a composite frame. Some may argue that because the composite frame will be stronger and lighter, it is a better choice. However, there is not much of a market for thousand dollar tricycles. One might suggest that the above argument is ridiculously simplistic and that common sense would dictate choosing aluminum for the framing material. Although the scenario is an exaggeration, it reinforces the idea that the economic factors of a design weigh heavily in the design process, and that engineering economy is an integral part of that process, regardless of the engineering discipline.

In broad terms, for an engineering design to be successful, it must be technically sound and produce some benefits. These benefits must exceed the costs associated with the design in order for the design to enhance net value. The field of engineering economy is concerned with the systematic evaluation of the particular benefits and costs of projects involving engineering design and analysis. In other words, engineering economy quantifies the benefits and costs associated with engineering projects to determine if they make (or save) enough money to warrant their capital investments. Thus, engineering economy requires a coupling of technical analysis and economic feasibility to determine the best course of action for various engineering scenarios. As we shall see, engineering economy is as relevant to the design engineer who considers material selection as it is to the chief executive officer who approves capital expenditures for new ventures.



The original *Introduction to Engineering Economy*, authored by Woods and DeGarmo, appeared in 1942. This text has been in continuous classroom use for over 50 years, and over 400,000 students have learned about engineering economic analysis from its pages. The tenth edition of *Engineering Economy* has built upon the rich and time-tested teaching materials of earlier editions, and its publication makes it the second-oldest book on the market that deals exclusively with engineering economy.

Intended Use of the Book

This book has two primary purposes: (1) to provide students with a sound understanding of the principles, basic concepts, and methodology of engineering economy; and (2) to help them develop proficiency with these methods and with the process for making rational decisions regarding situations they are likely to encounter in professional practice. Consequently, *Engineering Economy* is intended to serve as a text for classroom instruction *and* as a basic reference for use by practicing engineers in all specialty areas (e.g., chemical, civil, electrical, industrial, and mechanical). The book is also useful to persons engaged in the management of technical activities.

As a textbook, the tenth edition is written principally for the first formal course in engineering economy. The contents of the book and the accompanying Instructor's Manual and Electronic Spreadsheets Supplement (both available from Prentice Hall) are organized for effective presentation and teaching of the subject matter. A three-credit-hour semester course should be able to cover the majority of topics in this edition, and there is sufficient depth and breadth to enable an instructor to arrange course content to suit individual needs. Moreover, because several advanced topics are included in this book, it can also be used for a second course in engineering economy.

Every chapter and appendix has been revised and updated to reflect current trends and issues. Also, numerous exercises that involve open-ended problem statements and iterative problem-solving skills are included throughout the book. A large portion of the 500+ end-of-chapter exercises are new, and many solved examples representing realistic problems that arise in various engineering disciplines are presented.

An engineering economy course may be classified, for Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) purposes, as part engineering science and part engineering design. It is generally advisable to develop and teach such a course at the upper division level, where the course incorporates the accumulated knowledge students have acquired in other areas of the curriculum also dealing with iterative problem solving, open-ended exercises/case studies, creativity in formulating and evaluating feasible solutions to problems, and consideration of realistic constraints (economic, esthetic, safety, etc.) in problem solving.

Instructional Features

The *Instructor's Manual* is designed as a comprehensive aid in teaching the text material. Full solutions of all problems at the end of each chapter are presented. Several *comprehensive examples* (*case studies*) have been included in the tenth edition. They provide the instructor with essential material for teaching both the first formal course and a second, more advanced course in engineering economy. These case studies demonstrate the integrated application of the principles, basic concepts, and methodologies that are needed by engineers in typical real-world situations. They also serve as a bridge from the classroom to professional practice.

Spreadsheet Supplement

A second supplement entitled *Electronic Spreadsheets for Engineering Economy Applications* is authored by James A. Alloway, Jr. Electronic spreadsheets are a mainstay in many undergraduate engineering economy courses; the spreadsheet supplement ensures that the tenth edition of *Engineering Economy* will maintain its leadership position by providing basic templates for all major topics in the text. In addition, it provides a concise summary of formulas and key concepts, which students will find invaluable for review and quick reference. To access the supplement, ftp to **ftp.prenhall.com**, log in as "anonymous" using your e-mail address as the password, and change to the directory: pub/ESM/industrial_engineering.s-047/sullivan/engineer.eco/alloway/spread.

The spreadsheet supplement marks the first time that a major engineering economy text has provided spreadsheet material at this level of detail via the Internet, and students and instructors will benefit in several ways. For instance, electronic publishing provides a means to increase the amount of material instructors can cover without increasing printing costs, and they do not have to make additional arrangements to provide access for their students. Enhancements and additions to the supplement will be available immediately. Students can "cut and paste" the chapter, notation, and formula summaries into their own study documents.

The greatest advantage is that it is no longer necessary to enter the spreadsheets by hand. The templates can be downloaded and opened directly in Lotus 1-2-3 Release 5 for Windows. Most other spreadsheet software packages (e.g., Excel) provide conversion utilities to convert these files into their respective native formats. Users can then modify the basic templates for the specific problem at hand. As a bonus, advanced templates have also been developed for such techniques as Monte Carlo simulation, three-factor simultaneous sensitivity analysis, and integer linear programming.

Acknowledgments

Many friends and associates have offered valuable and constructive ideas and concepts that have materialized into numerous improvements to the tenth edition.

To these individuals we express our most sincere appreciation. Also, to our students, who have unknowingly been the proving ground for much of this text, we offer our thanks. They have reacted, without compassion on some occasions, to make us aware of good and bad methods of presentation. It is our hope that they, and those who follow them, will find this book an invaluable guide to the study and practice of engineering economy.

We wish to thank the following individuals for their inputs to the tenth edition: Dr. Hampton R. Liggett of Northern Illinois University did an excellent job in updating Chapter 6; Dr. Dan Babcock, Professor Emeritus at the University of Missouri-Rolla provided invaluable contributions to virtually all chapters of the initial manuscript; Mr. Garry Coleman of Virginia Tech volunteered several end-of-chapter problems; Dr. Richard H. Bernhard of North Carolina State University made many helpful suggestions for improving our discussion of the benefit/cost ratio method in Chapter 6; Mr. James A. Brimson of ABM-I, Inc. was very constructive in his review of activity-based accounting (Appendix A); Ms. Tracy S. Turner, CPA, of Coulter & Justice, carefully examined the accuracy of income tax matter included in Chapter 7; Dr. James A. Alloway created a large number of the spreadsheets presented in this edition; and Dr. Samer Madanat of Purdue University was very encouraging in his review of an early manuscript.

Also for the many suggestions from other colleagues, students, and practicing engineers who have used the previous editions, we express our deep appreciation. We hope they will find this edition to be even more helpful.

E. P. D.

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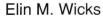
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Engineering Economy

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