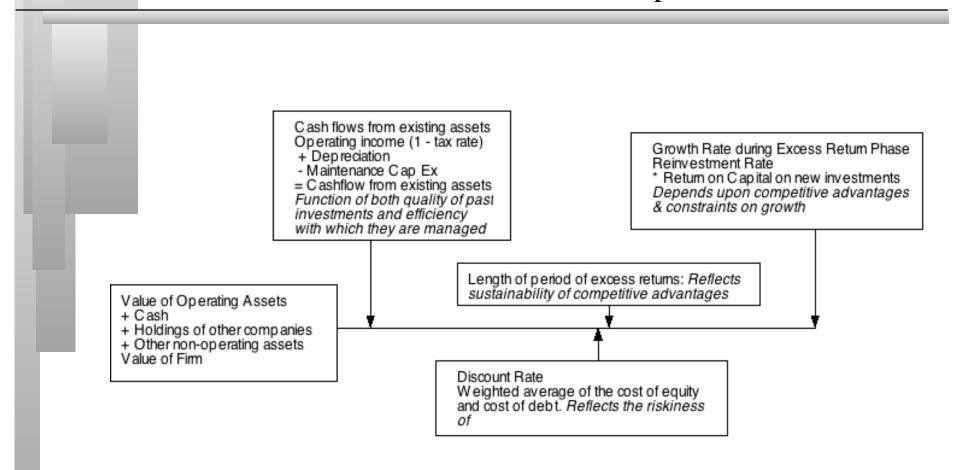
Valuation: Closing Thoughts

Fall 2012
"It ain't over till its over"

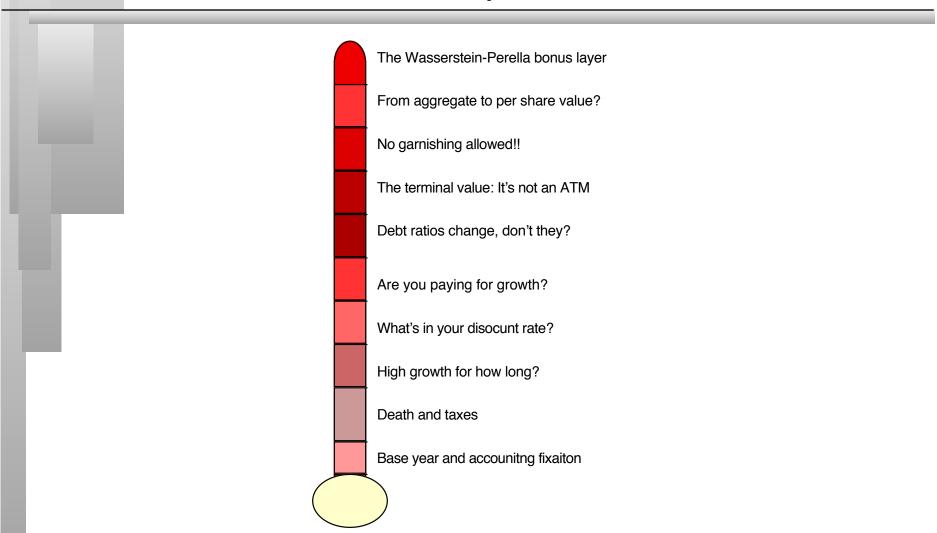
Back to the very beginning: Approaches to Valuation

- **Discounted cashflow valuation,** where we try (sometimes desperately) to estimate the intrinsic value of an asset by using a mix of theory, guesswork and prayer.
- **Relative valuation,** where we pick a group of assets, attach the name "comparable" to them and tell a story.
- Contingent claim valuation, where we take the valuation that we did in the DCF valuation and divvy it up between the potential thieves (equity) and the victims of this crime (lenders)

Intrinsic Valuation: The set up



Dante meets DCF: Nine layers of valuation hell.. And a bonus layer..



Layer 1: Base Year fixation....

The Wasserstein-Perella bonus layer
From aggregate to per share value?
No gamishing allowed!!

Debt ratios change, don't they?
The terminal value: It's not an ATM

Are you paying for growth?

What's in your disocunt rate?

High growth for how long?

Death and taxes

Base year and accounitng fixaitor

You are valuing Exxon Mobil, using the financial statements of the firm from 2008. The following provides the key numbers:

Revenues	\$477 billion
EBIT (1-t)	\$ 58 billion
Net Cap Ex	\$ 3 billion
Chg WC	\$ 1 billion
FCFF	\$ 54 billion

- The cost of capital for the firm is 8% and you use a very conservative stable growth rate of 2% to value the firm. The market cap for the firm is \$373 billion and it has \$10 billion in debt outstanding.
 - a. How under or over valued is the equity in the firm?
 - b. Would you buy the stock based on this valuation? Why or why not?

Layer 2: Taxes and Value

The Wasserstein-Perella bonus layer
From aggregate to per share value?
No garnishing allowed!!
Debt ratios change, don't they?
The terminal value: It's not an ATM
Are you paying for growth?
What's in your disocunt rate?
High growth for how long?
Death and taxes
Base year and accouniting fixaiton

Assume that you have been asked to value a company and have been provided with the most recent year's financial statements:

EBITDA - DA EBIT	140 40 100	Free Cash flow to firm EBIT (1- tax rate) -(Cap Ex – Depreciation)
- Interest exp	20	- Change in non-cash WC
Taxable income	80	=FCFF
Taxes	32	
Net Income	48	

Assume also that cash flows will be constant and that there is <u>no growth in perpetuity</u>. What is the free cash flow to the firm?

- a) 88 million (Net income + Depreciation)
- b) 108 million (EBIT taxes + Depreciation)
- c) 100 million (EBIT (1-tax rate)+ Depreciation)
- d) 60 million (EBIT (1- tax rate))
- e) 48 million (Net Income)
- f) 68 million (EBIT Taxes)

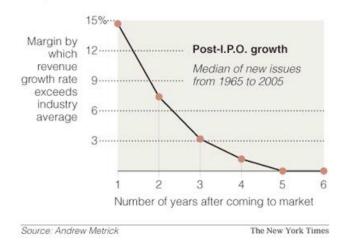
Layer 3: High Growth for how long...

The Wasserstein-Perella bonus layer
From aggregate to per share value?
No garnishing allowed!!
Debt ratios change, don't they?
The terminal value: It's not an ATM
Are you paying for growth?
What's in your disocunt rate?
High growth for how long?
Death and taxes
Base year and accounting fixaiton

Assume that you are valuing a young, high growth firm with great potential, just after its initial public offering. How long would you set your high growth period?

- □ < 5 years
- 5 years
- □ 10 years
- \Box >10 years

Typically, the revenue growth rate of a newly public company outpaces its industry average for only about five years.





Layer 4: The Cost of Capital

The cost of capital for Chippewa Technologies, a US technology firm with 20% of its revenues from Brazil, has been computed using the following inputs:

Cost of equity

```
= 5%

Replaced current
T.Bond rate of 3%
```

= Riskfree Rate

```
+ Beta
+ 1.20
```

= 14%

Replaced current T.Bond rate of 3% with normalized rate of 5% "Adjusted" Beta from Bloomberg Both from Ibbotson data base, derived from 1926-2008 data ERP: Stocks - T.Bonds (Arithmetic average)
Small firm: Smal stocks - Overall market

Cost of capital

```
= Cost of equity (Equity/ (Debt + Equity)) +
= 14% (1000/2000) +
```

Cost of debt 3%

(1- tax rate) (Debt/ (Debt + Equity) (1-.30) (1000/2000) = **8.05%**

From above

Used market value of equity

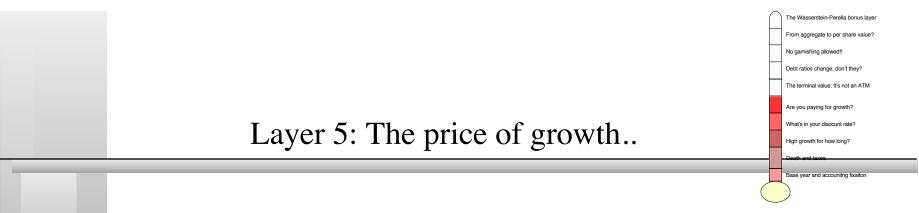
Company is not rated and has no bonds. Used book interest rate = Int exp/ BV of debt

Used
effective tax
rate of 30%

To be conservative, counted all liabilities, other than equity, as debt and used book value.

The Correct Cost of Capital for Chippewa

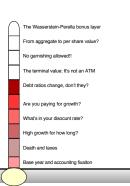
T .	7477	7477 . 7 . 7 . 7 . 7
Input	What was used	What should have been used
Riskfree Rate	Corrected treasury bond rate = 5%	Actual treasury bond rate = 3%
Beta	Bloomberg adjusted beta = 1.20	Sector average adjusted beta = 1.60
		(Based on small cap companies in sector)
Equity Risk Premium	Ibbotson premium =5%	Updated implied ERP = 6.5%
Other adjustments to	Small cap premium = 3%	No small cap premium
cost of equity		Country risk adjustment = Lambda _{Brazil} *
		Brazil CRP = 0.26*6.77% = 2.28%
Cost of equity	5%+ 1.2 (5%) + 3% = 14%	3% + 1.6 (6.5%) + 2.28% = 15.68%
Cost of debt (pre-tax)	3%	3%+6% (based on synthetic rating)=9%
Tax rate	Effective tax rate =30%	Marginal tax rate = 40%
Cost of debt (after-	3% (13) = 2.1%	9% (14) = 5.4%
tax)		
Debt ratio	Book ratio: Liabilities=50%	Market ratio: Interest bearing debt = 30%;
	Equity=50%	Equity= 70%
Cost of capital	14% (.5) + 2.1% (.5) = 8.05%	15.68% (.7) + 5.4% (.3) = 12.60%



You are looking at the projected cash flows provided by the management of the firm, for use in valuation

Year	Current	1	2	3	4
Growth rate		10%	10%	10%	10%
Revenues	\$100.00	\$110.00	\$121.00	\$133.10	\$146.41
EBIT (1-t)	\$30.00	\$33.00	\$36.30	\$39.93	\$43.92
+ Depreciation	\$15.00	\$16.50	\$18.15	\$19.97	\$21.96
- Cap Ex	\$18.00	\$19.80	\$21.78	\$23.96	\$26.35
- Chg in WC	\$3.00	\$3.30	\$3.63	\$3.99	\$4.39
FCFF	\$24.00	\$26.40	\$29.04	\$31.94	\$35.14

What questions would you raise about the forecasts?



Layer 6: The "fixed debt ratio" assumption

You have been asked to value Hormel Foods, a firm which currently has the following cost of capital:

Cost of capital = 7.31% (.9) + 2.36% (.1) = 6.8%

- a. You believe that the target debt ratio for this firm should be 30%. What will the cost of capital be at the target debt ratio?
- b. Which debt ratio (and cost of capital) should you use in valuing this company?



Layer 7: The Terminal Value

- The best way to compute terminal value is to
- Use a stable growth model and assume cash flows grow at a fixed rate forever
- ☐ Use a multiple of EBITDA or revenues in the terminal year
- Use the estimated liquidation value of the assets

You have been asked to value a business. The business expects to \$ 120 million in after-tax earnings (and cash flow) next year and to continue generating these earnings in perpetuity. The firm is all equity funded and the cost of equity is 10%; the riskfree rate is 3% and the ERP is 7%. What is the value of the business?

Assume now that you were told that the firm can grow <u>earnings</u> at 2% a year forever. Estimate the value of the business.

Layer 8. From firm value to equity value: The Garnishing Effect...

The Wasserstein-Perella bonus layer
From aggregate to per share value?
No garnishing allowed!!
The terminal value: It's not an ATM
Debt ratios change, don't they?
Are you paying for growth?
What's in your disocunt rate?
High growth for how long?

- For a firm with consolidated financial statements, you have discounted free cashflows to the firm at the cost of capital to arrive at a firm value of \$ 100 million. The firm has
 - A cash balance of \$ 15 million
 - Debt outstanding of \$ 20 million
 - A 5% holding in another company: the book value of this holding is \$ 5 million. (Market value of equity in this company is \$ 200 million)
 - Minority interests of \$ 10 million on the balance sheet
- What is the value of equity in this firm?
- How would your answer change if you knew that the firm was the target of a lawsuit it is likely to win but where the potential payout could be \$ 100 million if it loses?



Layer 9. From equity value to equity value per share

You have valued the equity in a firm at \$ 200 million. Estimate the value of equity per share if there are 10 million shares outstanding..

How would your answer change if you were told that there are 2 million employee options outstanding, with a strike price of \$ 20 a share and 5 years left to expiration?

Layer 10. The final circle of hell...

Exhibit 8

The Wasserstein-Perella bonus layer
From aggregate to per share value?
No gamishing allowed!!
The terminal value: It's not an ATM
Debt ratios change, don't they?
Are you paying for growth?
What's in your discount rate?
High growth for how long?

Death and taxes

Base year and accouniting fixaitor

KENNECOTT COPPER CORPORATION PROJECTED CARBORUNDUM COMPANY FINANCIAL DATA ADJUSTED TO REFLECT THE ACQUISITION OF CARBORUNDUM BY KENNNECOTT AT A PRICE OF \$66 PER SHARE, 1977–1987 (\$ millions except for per share and ratio data) 1977 1977 1977 Unadjusted Adjustments Adjusted 1978 1979 1980 1981 1982 1983 1984 1985 1986 1987 \$790.1 \$885.9 \$1,005.2 \$1,129.9 \$1,265.5 \$1,392.1 \$1,531.3 \$1,684.4 \$1,852.8 \$2,038.1 \$790.1 \$885.9 \$1,005.2 \$1,129.9 \$1,205.3 \$1,392.1 \$1,31.5 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 \$1,004.3 Sales
Net income (before adjustments)
Interest adjustment²
Goodwill adjustment³ Plant write-up adjustment Net income (after adjustments) \$38.4 Balance sheet Capital sources
Profit retentions
Capital contributed by Kennecott
Debt financing (net) \$ 0.1 \$33.4 \$26.2 \$25.7 \$24.8 \$32.8 \$36.6 \$40.7 \$45.4 \$50.3
 34.7
 17.9
 14.1
 13.9
 13.3
 17.6
 19.8
 21.9
 24.5
 27.1

 \$34.8
 \$51.3
 \$40.3
 \$39.6
 \$38.1
 \$50.4
 \$56.4
 \$62.6
 \$69.9
 \$77.4
 Key financial ratios Cey financial ratios
Growth rate in sales (%)
Sales/assets
Profit/sales
Assets/net worth
Profit/net worth Cash flow to Kennecott Acquisition of Carborundum

Dividends to Kennecott

Utilization of Kennecott tax loss \$(550.0) 140.0 \$31.7 \$ 4.7 \$20.6 \$30.9 \$45.3 \$44.9 \$49.4 \$54.4 \$59.8 \$ 65.9 carryforwards* Tax shelter from plant write-up adj.

Terminal value at 10 times earnings. \$(410.0) \$54.5 \$27.5 \$23.4 \$33.7 \$48.1 \$47.7 \$52.2 \$57.2 \$62.6 \$1,113.6 Nex cash flow.

Assumption of Section 954.5 \$27.5 \$23.4 \$33.7 \$48.1 \$47.7 \$52.2 \$57.2 \$57.2 \$6.6 \$51.13.6

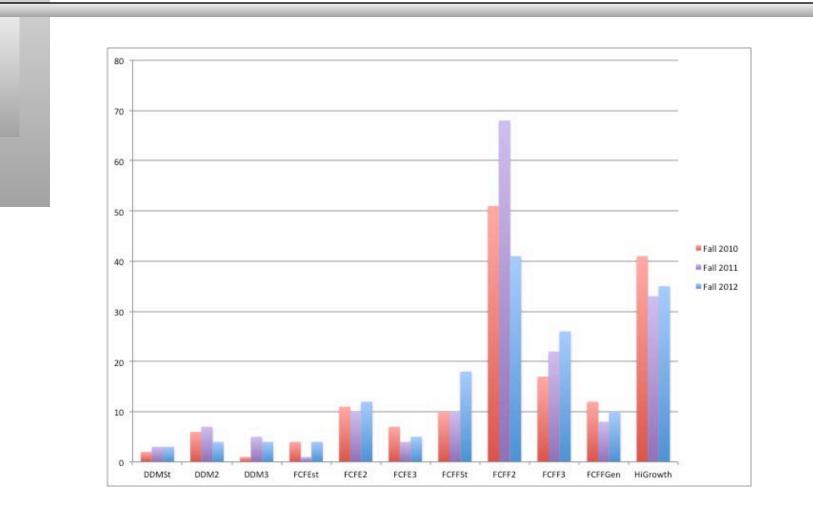
Assumption of Section 95.5 \$1.13.6

Assumption 95.6

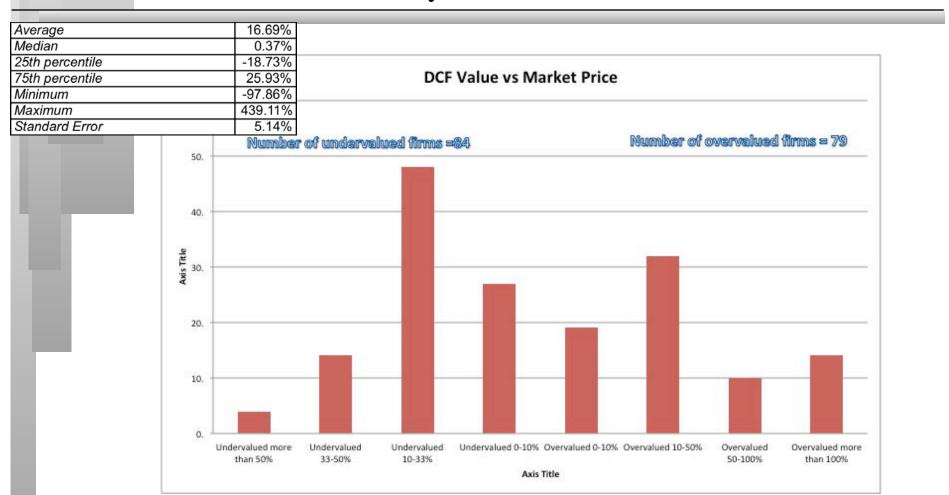
Assumpti

	Cost of Equity	Cost of Capital
Kennecott Corp (Acquirer)	13.0%	10.5%
Carborandum (Target)	16.5%	12.5%

The Models You Used in DCF Valuation



What you found...



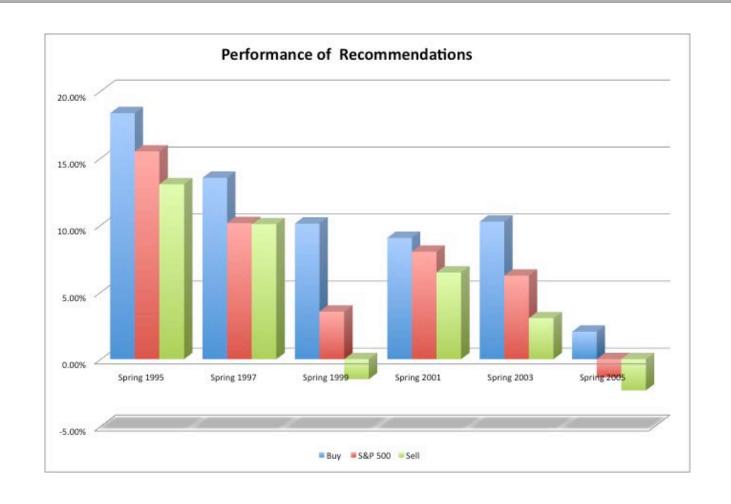
The most undervalued stocks...

Company Name	Price	DCF value	Recommendation	% Under or over
FTI Consulting	\$32.60	\$98.12	Buy	-66.78%
Busan City Gas Co., LTD	22,000	54,923	Buy	-59.94%
Genworth (GNW)	\$ 7.07	\$ 15.72	Buy	-55.03%
Strayer Education	\$56.83	\$113.53	Buy	-49.94%
Con-way Inc.	27.6	52.69	Buy	-47.62%
BMW	69.04 €	125.23 €	Buy	-44.87%
FTI Consulting	\$33.44	\$ 60.41	Buy	-44.64%
Rediff.com India Limited	2.82	4.98	Buy	-43.37%
Nintendo	8910.00	15715.00	Buy	-43.30%
Kimberly Clark of Mexico	\$32.49	\$55.98	Buy	-41.96%
Coinstar	\$50.34	\$ 84.38	Buy	-40.34%
Weight Watchers International (WTW)	\$52.25	\$ 86.84	Buy	-39.83%
Endurance	\$39.78	\$63.80	Buy	-37.65%
Sotheby's	\$31.10	\$ 48.46	Buy	-35.82%

The Most Overvalued stocks are...

Company Name	Price	DCF value	Recommendation	% Under or over
YRC Worldwide	\$ 6.92	\$ (94.37)	Sell	100.00%
Doosan Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd.	\$2.34	(\$5.04)	Sell	100.00%
Cheniere Energy, Inc.	17.59	(10.84)	Sell	100.00%
Caesar's Entertainment Corporation	8	(\$117.82)	Sell	100.00%
Amaya Gaming	4.99	\$2.44	Sell	104.51%
Pfizer Inc.	\$ 25.41	\$ 11.92	Buy	113.17%
Bharti Airtel	322.50₹	150.70₹	Sell	114.00%
The Madison Square Garden Company	\$43.65	\$19.63	Sell	122.36%
American Apparel	\$ 0.98	\$ 0.44	Hold	122.73%
Mulberry Group	£11.75	£5.19	Sell	126.40%
Netflix	\$86.65	\$36.81	Sell	135.40%
Chipotle	268.61	108.00	Sell	148.71%
Whole Foods	91.17	35.20	Sell	159.01%
Under Armour	\$50.13	\$17.52	Sell	186.13%
LinkedIn	\$109.70	37.56	Sell	192.07%
Blacksands Petroleum	\$1.02	\$0.27	Sell	277.78%
Yahoo!	19.2	4.62	Hold	315.58%
Yelp	\$19.30	3.58	Sell	439.11%

The ultimate test... Did undervalued stocks make money?

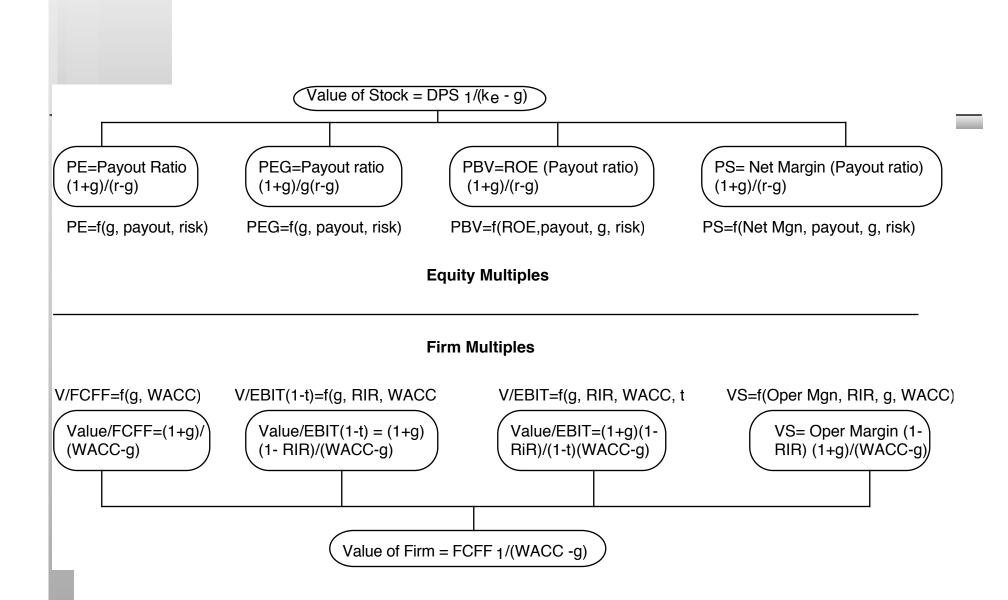


More on the winners...

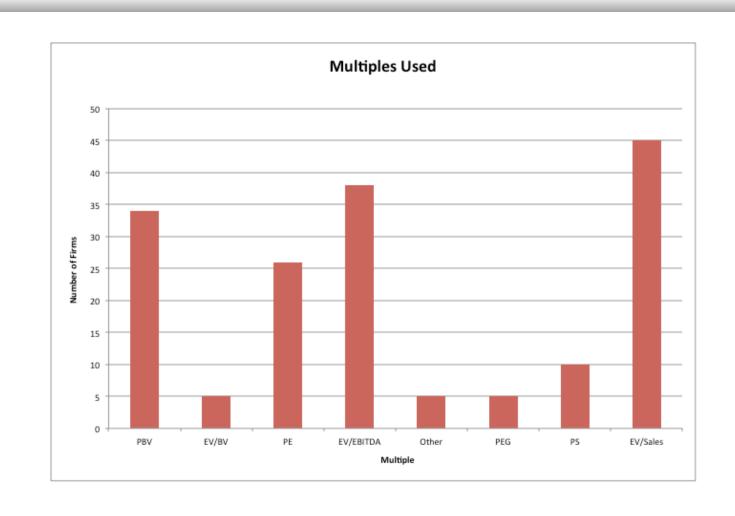
- About 60% of all buy recommendations make money; about 45% of sell recommendations beat the market.
- There are two or three big winners in each period, but the payoff was not immediate. Buying Apple in 1999 would have led to negative returns for a year or more, before the turnaround occurred.
- Stocks on which there is disagreement among different people tend to do worse than stocks on which there is no disagreement
- Stocks that are under valued on both a DCF and relative valuation basis do better than stocks that are under valued on only one approach.

Relative Valuation: The Four Steps to Understanding Multiples

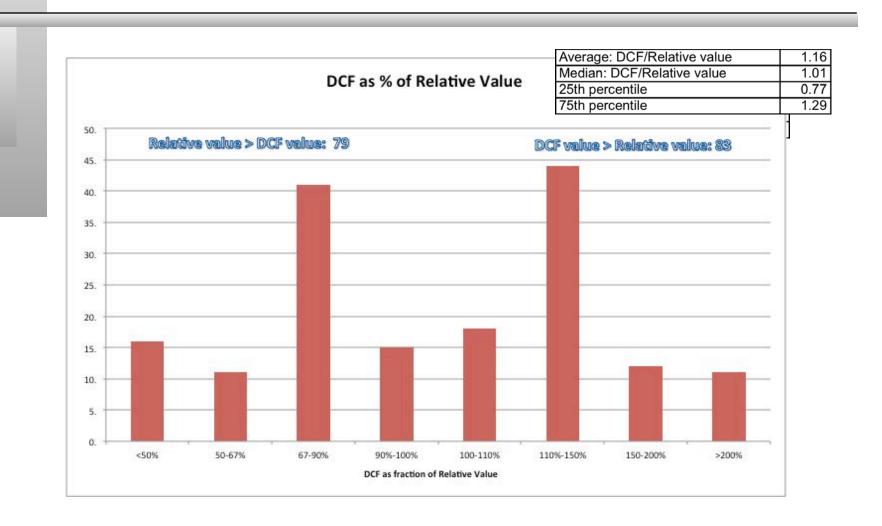
- Anna Kournikova knows PE.... Or does she?
 - In use, the same multiple can be defined in <u>different ways</u> by different users. When comparing and using multiples, estimated by someone else, it is critical that we <u>understand how the multiples have been estimated</u>
- 8 times EBITDA is not always cheap...
 - Too many people who use a multiple have <u>no idea what its cross sectional</u> <u>distribution</u> is. If you do not know what the cross sectional distribution of a multiple is, it is difficult to look at a number and pass judgment on whether it is too high or low.
- You cannot get away without making assumptions
 - It is critical that we <u>understand the fundamentals</u> that drive each multiple, and the <u>nature of the relationship</u> between the multiple and each variable.
- There are no perfect comparables
 - Defining the <u>comparable universe</u> and <u>controlling for differences</u> is far more difficult in practice than it is in theory.



The Multiples you used were ...



DCF vs Relative Valuation



Most undervalued on a relative basis...

Company Name	Price	Multiple used	Relative Value	Recommendation	% Under or Over: Relative
Cemex	\$11.59	EV/Sales	\$ 57.03	Sell	-79.68%
Zynga	\$ 2.55	EV/Sale	\$ 8.43	Buy	-69.75%
Skechers USA Inc.	\$19.36	EV/Capital	\$ 55.37	Sell	-65.03%
Busan City Gas Co., LTD	22,000	VEBITDA	54,452	Buy	-59.60%
Tuesday Morning Corp	\$6.05	PBV	\$13.72	Buy	-55.90%
Sotheby's	\$31.10	PBV	\$ 64.71	Buy	-51.94%
Yahoo!	19.2	PE	38.58	Hold	-50.23%
Tesoro Corporation	\$38.62	PE	\$ 76.61	Buy	-49.59%
American Apparel	\$ 0.98	EV/Sales	\$ 1.92	Hold	-48.96%
Sands China	31.95	P/E	61.71	Sell	-48.23%
BetFair	7.55	EV/EBITDA	14.03	Buy	-46.19%
Pfizer Inc.	\$25.41	P/B	\$ 45.22	Buy	-43.81%
Pacific Sunwear	\$ 1.55	EVS	\$ 2.75	Buy	-43.64%
Zynga	2.55	VS	4.45	Buy	-42.70%
Barnes & Noble (BKS)	\$14.71	PBV	25.49	Sell	-42.29%

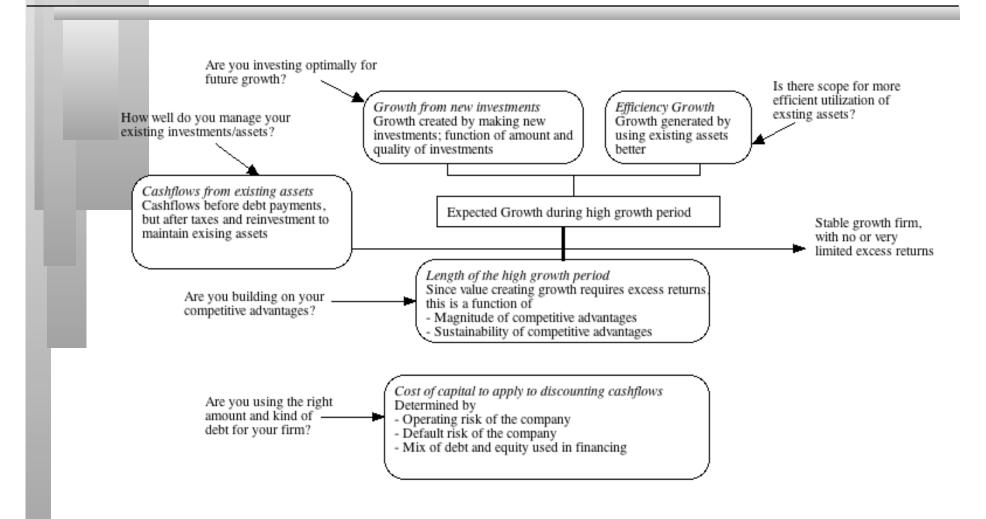
Most overvalued on a relative basis...

Company Name	Price	Multiple used	Relative Value	Recommendation	% Under or Over: Relative
LKQ Corp (LKQ)	\$ 21.47	EV/EBITDA	\$ 9.67	Sell	122.03%
Zillow	\$ 27.74	PE	\$ 12.42	Buy	123.35%
Amaya Gaming	4.99	EV/Sales	2.22	Sell	124.77%
Blacksands Petroleum	\$1.02	VB	\$0.45	Sell	126.67%
Mulberry Group	£11.75	EV/Sales	£5.07	Sell	131.76%
Doosan Engineering & Construction Co., Ltd.	\$2.34	PE	\$0.93	Sell	151.61%
Zillow	\$ 27.69	PE	\$ 10.68	Hold	159.27%
Yelp	19.05		6.38	Hold	198.59%
Lions Gate	15.52	P/BV	5.11	Sell	203.72%
Yelp Inc.	\$ 19.05	EV/Sales	\$ 6.10	Sell	212.30%
Lululemon	72.53	EV/Sales	21.87	Sell	231.64%
Advanced Micro Devices (AMD)	2.36	VB	0.69	Sell	242.03%
Under Armour	\$50.13	PE	\$14.29	Sell	250.80%
LinkedIn	\$111.74	VS	\$ 27.23	Sell	310.36%
Alexion Pharmaceutical	\$ 95.23	Other (EV/Sales)	\$ 4.39	Sell	2069.25%

Contingent Claim (Option) Valuation

- Options have several features
 - They derive their value from an underlying asset, which has value
 - The payoff on a call (put) option occurs only if the value of the underlying asset is greater (lesser) than an exercise price that is specified at the time the option is created. If this contingency does not occur, the option is worthless.
 - They have a fixed life
- Any security that shares these features can be valued as an option.
- \blacksquare Number of firms valued using option models = 15
- \blacksquare Number of firms with negative DCF value with option value = 5
- Median Percent increase in value over DCF value= 80%

Value Enhancement... You too can do it!



29

Alternative Approaches to Value Enhancement

- Maximize a variable that is correlated with the value of the firm. There are several choices for such a variable. It could be
 - an accounting variable, such as earnings or return on investment
 - a marketing variable, such as market share
 - a cash flow variable, such as cash flow return on investment (CFROI)
 - a risk-adjusted cash flow variable, such as Economic Value Added (EVA)
- The advantages of using these variables are that they
 - Are often simpler and easier to use than DCF value.
- **■** The disadvantage is that the
 - Simplicity comes at a cost; these variables are not perfectly correlated with DCF value.

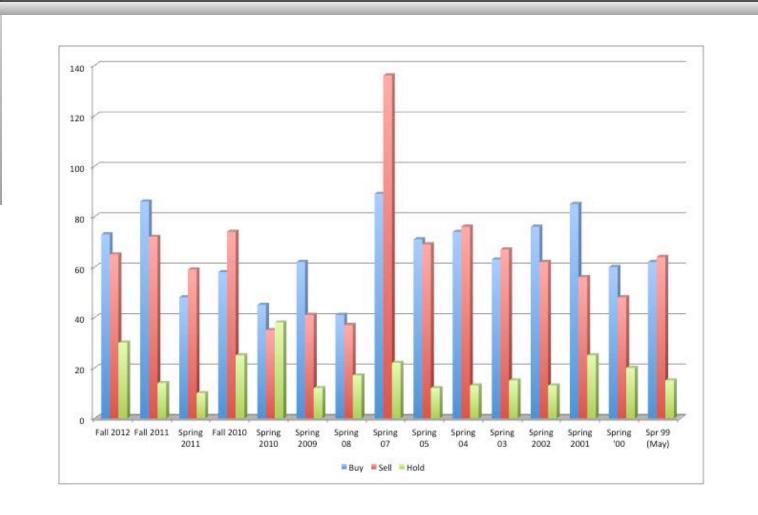
The bottom line

- Old wine in a new bottle: All discounted cash flow models (cost of capital, APV, EVA, Excess return models) are all variants of the same model and, done right, should yield the same value.
- No magic bullets: Value enhancement is hard work. There are no "short cuts" and adopting EVA, CFROI or any other measure will not increase value.
- Tying compensation systems to a measure is a recipe for game playing: If you tie management compensation to EVA, for instance, can lead to:
 - The Growth trade off game: Managers may give up valuable growth opportunities in the future to deliver higher EVA in the current year.
 - <u>The Risk game</u>: Managers may be able to deliver a higher dollar EVA but in riskier businesses. The value of the business is the present value of EVA over time and the risk effect may dominate the increased EVA.
 - The capital invested game: The key to delivering positive EVA is to make investments that do not show up as part of capital invested. That way, your operating income will increase while capital invested will decrease.

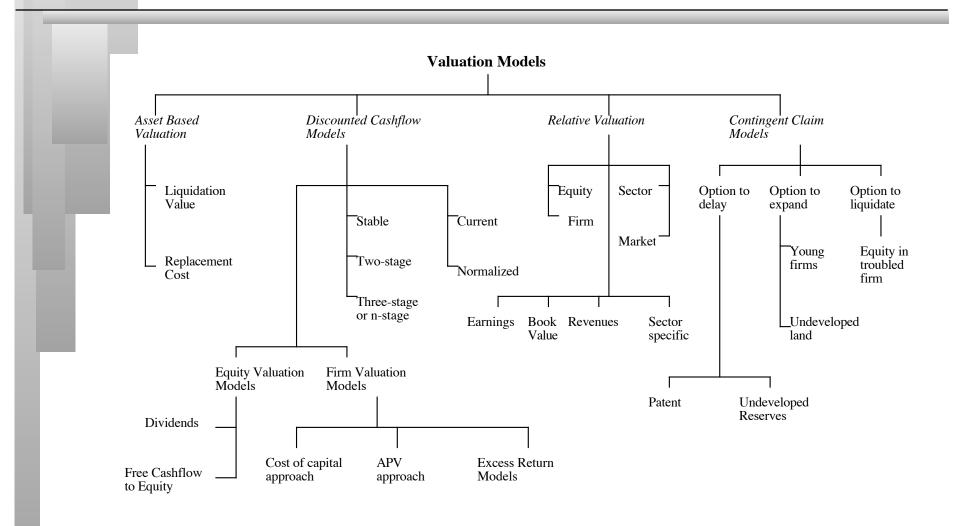
Acting on valuation: It is not just an academic exercise

- I am not sure yet: Uncertainty is not a shield against action: If you wait until you feel "certain" about your valuation, you will never act.
- All believers now? Ultimately, you have to believe in some modicum of market efficiency. Markets have to correct their mistakes for your valuations to pay off.
- *The law of large numbers*: Assuming your valuations carry heft, you are far more likely to be right across many companies than on any individual one.

Your recommendations were to..



Choices...Choices...



Picking your approach

- Asset characteristics
 - Marketability
 - Cash flow generating capacity
 - Uniqueness
- Your characteristics
 - Time horizon
 - Reasons for doing the valuation
 - Beliefs about markets

What approach would work for you?

- As an investor, given your investment philosophy, time horizon and beliefs about markets (that you will be investing in), which of the approaches to valuation would you choose?
- □ Discounted Cash Flow Valuation
- Relative Valuation
- □ Neither. I believe that markets are efficient.

Some Not Very Profound Advice

- Its all in the fundamentals. The more things change, the more they stay the same....
- Focus on the big picture. Don't let the details trip you up.
- Experience does not equal knowledge...
- Keep your perspective. It is only a valuation.
- In investing, luck dominates skill and knowledge.

A parting message...

