Total Risk versus Market Risk

- Adjust the beta to reflect total risk rather than market risk. This adjustment is a relatively simple one, since the R squared of the regression measures the proportion of the risk that is market risk.
  - Total Beta = Market Beta / Correlation of the sector with the market
- In the Bookscape example, where the market beta is 0.8558 and the median R-squared of the comparable publicly traded firms is 26.00%; the correlation with the market is 50.99%.

$$\frac{\text{Market Beta}}{\sqrt{\text{R squared}}} = \frac{0.8558}{.5099} = 1.6783$$

  - Total Cost of Equity = 2.75 + 1.6783 (5.5%) = 11.98%

Application Test: Estimating a Bottom-up Beta

- Based upon the business or businesses that your firm is in right now, and its current financial leverage, estimate the bottom-up unlevered beta for your firm.

- Data Source: You can get a listing of unlevered betas by industry on my web site by going to updated data.

From Cost of Equity to Cost of Capital

- The cost of capital is a composite cost to the firm of raising financing to fund its projects.
- In addition to equity, firms can raise capital from debt

What is debt?

- General Rule: Debt generally has the following characteristics:
  - Commitment to make fixed payments in the future
  - The fixed payments are tax deductible
  - Failure to make the payments can lead to either default or loss of control of the firm to the party to whom payments are due.
- As a consequence, debt should include
  - Any interest-bearing liability, whether short term or long term.
  - Any lease obligation, whether operating or capital.

Estimating the Cost of Debt

- If the firm has bonds outstanding, and the bonds are traded, the yield to maturity on a long-term, straight (no special features) bond can be used as the interest rate.
- If the firm is rated, use the rating and a typical default spread on bonds with that rating to estimate the cost of debt.
- If the firm is not rated,
  - and it has recently borrowed long term from a bank, use the interest rate on the borrowing or
  - estimate a synthetic rating for the company, and use the synthetic rating to arrive at a default spread and a cost of debt
- The cost of debt has to be estimated in the same currency as the cost of equity and the cash flows in the valuation.

The easy route: Outsourcing the measurement of default risk

- For those firms that have bond ratings from global ratings agencies, I used those ratings:

Company	S&P Rating	Risk-Free Rate	Default Spread	Cost of Debt
Disney	A	2.75% (US $)	1.00%	3.75%
Deutsche Bank	A	1.75% (Euros)	1.00%	2.75%
Vale	A-	2.75% (US $)	1.30%	4.05%

- If you want to estimate Vale’s cost of debt in $R terms, we can again use the differential inflation approach we used for the cost of equity:

$$\text{Cost of debt}_{R\$} = (1 + \text{Cost of debt}_{US\ \$}) \frac{(1+\text{Expected Inflation}_{R\$})}{(1+\text{Expected Inflation}_{US\ \$})} - 1$$

$$= (1.0405)\ \frac{(1.09)}{(1.02)} - 1 = 11.19\%\%$$

A more general route: Estimating Synthetic Ratings

- The rating for a firm can be estimated using the financial characteristics of the firm. In its simplest form, we can use just the interest coverage ratio:

  Interest Coverage Ratio = EBIT / Interest Expenses

- For the non-financial service companies, we obtain the following:

Company	Operating income	Interest Expense	Interest coverage ratio
Disney	$10.023	$444	22.57
Vale	$15,667	$1,342	11.67
Tata Motors	Rs 166,605	Rs 36,972	4.51
Baidu	CY 11,193	CY 472	23.72
Bookscape	$2,536	$492	5.16

Interest Coverage Ratios, Ratings and Default Spreads- November 2013

Large cap (>$5 billion)	*Small cap or risky (<$5 billion)*	*Rating is (S&P/ Moody's)*	*Spread (11/13)*
>8.50	>12,5	Aaa/AAA	0.40%
6.5-8.5	9.5-12.5	Aa2/AA	0.70%
5.5-6.5	7.5-9.5	A1/A+	0.85%
4.25-5.5	6-7.5	A2/A	1.00%
3-4.25	4.5-6	A3/A-	1.30%
2.5-3	4-4.5	Baa2/BBB	2.00%
2.25-2.5	3.5-4	Ba1/BB+	3.00%
2-2.25	3-3.5	Ba2/BB	4.00%
1.75-2.25	2.5-3	B1/B+	5.50%
1.5-1.75	2-2.5	B2/B	6.50%
1.25-1.5	1.5-2	B3/B-	7.25%
0.8-1.25	1.25-1.5	Caa/CCC	8.75%
0.65-0.8	0.8-1.25	Ca2/CC	9.50%
0.2-0.65	0.5-0.8	C2/C	10.50%
<0.2	<0.5	D2/D	12.00%

Disney: Large cap, developed	22.57	→	AAA
Vale: Large cap, emerging	11.67	→	AA
Tata Motors: Large cap, Emerging	4.51	→	A-
Baidu: Small cap, Emerging	23.72	→	AAA
Bookscape: Small cap, private	5.16	→	A-

Synthetic versus Actual Ratings: Rated Firms

- Disney's synthetic rating is AAA, whereas its actual rating is A. The difference can be attributed to any of the following:
  - Synthetic ratings reflect only the interest coverage ratio whereas actual ratings incorporate all of the other ratios and qualitative factors
  - Synthetic ratings do not allow for sector-wide biases in ratings
  - Synthetic rating was based on 2013 operating income whereas actual rating reflects normalized earnings
- Vale's synthetic rating is AA, but the actual rating for dollar debt is A-. The biggest factor behind the difference is the presence of country risk, since Vale is probably being rated lower for being a Brazil-based corporation.
- Deutsche Bank had an A rating. We will not try to estimate a synthetic rating for the bank. Defining interest expenses on debt for a bank is difficult…

Estimating Cost of Debt

- For Bookscape, we will use the synthetic rating (A-) to estimate the cost of debt:
  - Default Spread based upon A- rating = 1.30%
  - Pre-tax cost of debt = Riskfree Rate + Default Spread = 2.75% + 1.30% = 4.05%
  - After-tax cost of debt = Pre-tax cost of debt (1- tax rate) = 4.05% (1-.40) = 2.43%
- For the three publicly traded firms that are rated in our sample, we will use the actual bond ratings to estimate the costs of debt.

Company	S&P Rating	Risk-Free Rate	Default Spread	Cost of Debt	Tax Rate	After-Tax Cost of Debt
Disney	A	2.75% (US $)	1.00%	3.75%	36.1%	2.40%
Deutsche Bank	A	1.75% (Euros)	1.00%	2.75%	29.48%	1.94%
Vale	A-	2.75% (US $)	1.30%	4.05%	34%	2.67%

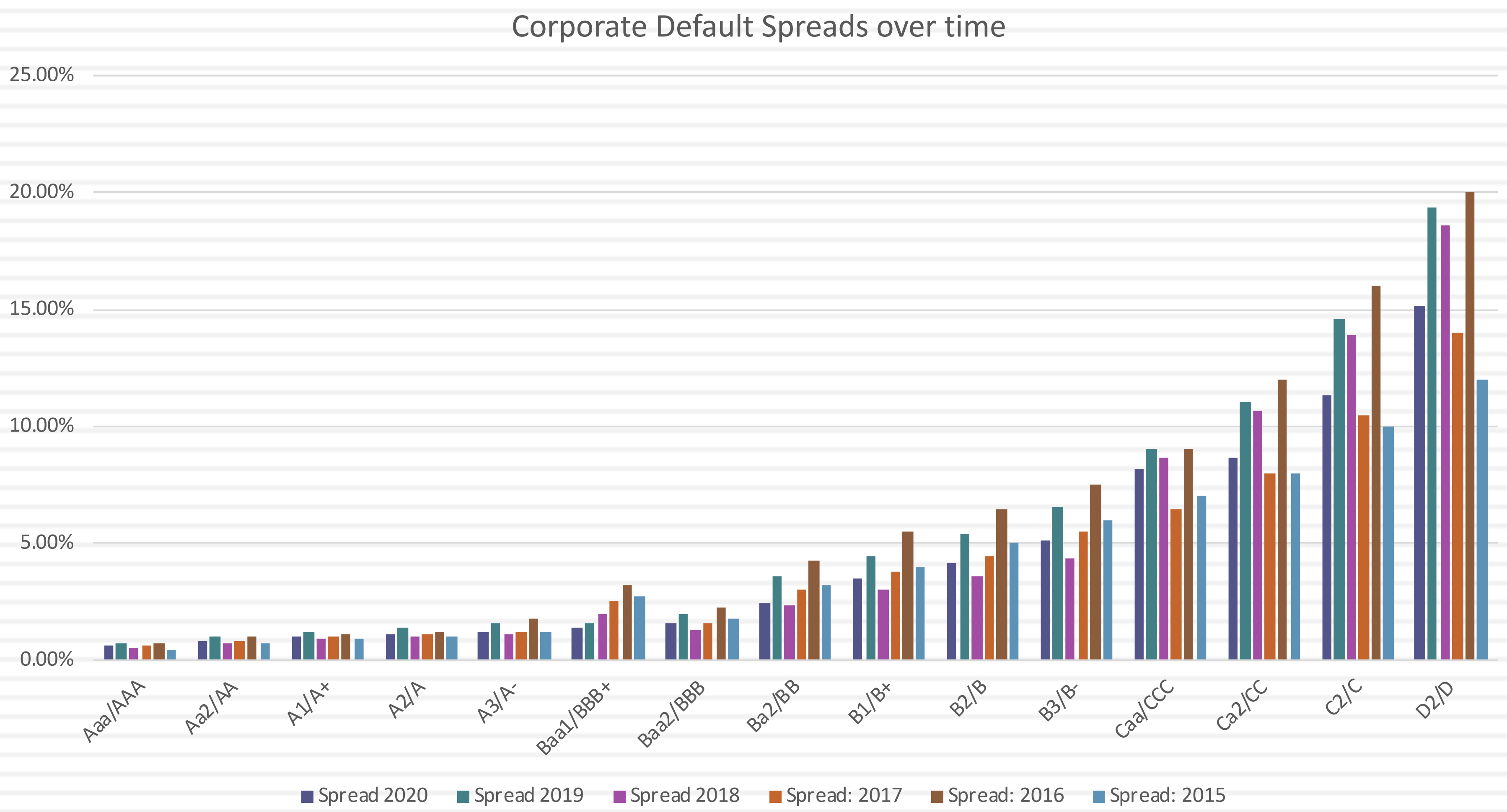
- For Tata Motors, we have a rating of AA- from CRISIL, an Indian bond-rating firm, that measures only company risk. Using that rating:

Cost of debt_{TMT} = Risk free rate_{Rupees} + Default spread_{India} + Default spread_{TMT}

= 6.57% + 2.25% + 0.70% = 9.62%

After-tax cost of debt = 9.62% (1-.3245) = 6.50%

Default Spreads – January 2020



Application Test: Estimating a Cost of Debt

- Based upon your firm's current earnings before interest and taxes, its interest expenses, estimate
  - An interest coverage ratio for your firm
  - A synthetic rating for your firm (use the tables from prior pages)
  - A pre-tax cost of debt for your firm
  - An after-tax cost of debt for your firm