The essence of intrinsic value

- In intrinsic valuation, you value an asset based upon its intrinsic characteristics.
- For cash flow generating assets, the intrinsic value will be a function of the magnitude of the expected cash flows on the asset over its lifetime and the uncertainty about receiving those cash flows.
- Discounted cash flow valuation is a tool for estimating intrinsic value, where the expected value of an asset is written as the present value of the expected cash flows on the asset, with either the cash flows or the discount rate adjusted to reflect the risk.
The two faces of discounted cash flow valuation

- The value of a risky asset can be estimated by discounting the expected cash flows on the asset over its life at a risk-adjusted discount rate:

  \[
  \text{Value of asset} = \frac{E(CF_1)}{(1+r)} + \frac{E(CF_2)}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{E(CF_3)}{(1+r)^3} \ldots + \frac{E(CF_n)}{(1+r)^n}
  \]

  where the asset has a n-year life, \(E(CF_t)\) is the expected cash flow in period \(t\) and \(r\) is a discount rate that reflects the risk of the cash flows.

- Alternatively, we can replace the expected cash flows with the guaranteed cash flows we would have accepted as an alternative (certainty equivalents) and discount these at the riskfree rate:

  \[
  \text{Value of asset} = \frac{CE(CF_1)}{(1+r_f)} + \frac{CE(CF_2)}{(1+r_f)^2} + \frac{CE(CF_3)}{(1+r_f)^3} \ldots + \frac{CE(CF_n)}{(1+r_f)^n}
  \]

  where \(CE(CF_t)\) is the certainty equivalent of \(E(CF_t)\) and \(r_f\) is the riskfree rate.

Aswath Damodaran

Risk Adjusted Value: Two Basic Propositions

- If the value of an asset is the risk-adjusted present value of the cash flows:

  \[
  \text{Value of asset} = \frac{E(CF_1)}{(1+r)} + \frac{E(CF_2)}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{E(CF_3)}{(1+r)^3} \ldots + \frac{E(CF_n)}{(1+r)^n}
  \]

  \[
  \text{Value of asset} = \frac{CE(CF_1)}{(1+r_f)} + \frac{CE(CF_2)}{(1+r_f)^2} + \frac{CE(CF_3)}{(1+r_f)^3} \ldots + \frac{CE(CF_n)}{(1+r_f)^n}
  \]

- **Proposition 1**: For an asset to have value, the expected cash flows have to be positive some time over the life of the asset.

- **Proposition 2**: Assets that generate cash flows early in their life will be worth more than assets that generate cash flows later; the latter may however have greater growth and higher cash flows to compensate.

Aswath Damodaran
DCF Choices: Equity Valuation versus Firm Valuation

**Firm Valuation**: Value the entire business

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Existing Investments</td>
<td>Debt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Generate cashflows today</td>
<td>Fixed Claim on cash flows</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Includes long lived (fixed) and short-lived (working capital) assets</td>
<td>Little or No role in management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assets in Place</td>
<td>Fixed Maturity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Residual Claim on cash flows</td>
<td>Tax Deductible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity</td>
<td>Significant Role in management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Value that will be created by future investments</td>
<td>Perpetual Lives</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Equity Valuation**: Value just the equity claim in the business

**Equity Valuation**

**Figure 5.5: Equity Valuation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets in Place</td>
<td>Debt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash flows considered are cashflows from assets, after debt payments and after making reinvestments needed for future growth</td>
<td>Discount rate reflects only the cost of raising equity financing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth Assets</td>
<td>Equity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Present value is value of just the equity claims on the firm
Firm Valuation

Figure 5.6: Firm Valuation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>Liabilities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Assets in Place</td>
<td>Debt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Growth Assets</td>
<td>Equity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cash flows considered are cashflows from assets, prior to any debt payments but after firm has reinvested to create growth assets.

Discount rate reflects the cost of raising both debt and equity financing, in proportion to their use.

Present value is value of the entire firm, and reflects the value of all claims on the firm.

---

Firm Value and Equity Value

To get from firm value to equity value, which of the following would you need to do?

- Subtract out the value of long term debt
- Subtract out the value of all debt
- Subtract the value of any debt that was included in the cost of capital calculation
- Subtract out the value of all liabilities in the firm

Doing so, will give you a value for the equity which is

- greater than the value you would have got in an equity valuation
- lesser than the value you would have got in an equity valuation
- equal to the value you would have got in an equity valuation
Cash Flows and Discount Rates

- Assume that you are analyzing a company with the following cashflows for the next five years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>CF to Equity</th>
<th>Interest Exp (1-tax rate)</th>
<th>CF to Firm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$50</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$60</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$68</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$76.2</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$116.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$83.49</td>
<td>$40</td>
<td>$123.49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Terminal Value</td>
<td>$1603.0</td>
<td>$2363.008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Assume also that the cost of equity is 13.625% and the firm can borrow long term at 10%. (The tax rate for the firm is 50%).

- The current market value of equity is $1,073 and the value of debt outstanding is $800.

Aswath Damodaran

Equity versus Firm Valuation

- Method 1: Discount CF to Equity at Cost of Equity to get value of equity
  - Cost of Equity = 13.625%
  - Value of Equity = \(\frac{50}{1.13625} + \frac{60}{1.13625^2} + \frac{68}{1.13625^3} + \frac{76.2}{1.13625^4} + \frac{(83.49 + 1603)}{1.13625^5} = 1073\)

- Method 2: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Capital to get value of firm
  - Cost of Debt = Pre-tax rate (1-tax rate) = 10% (1-.5) = 5%
  - \(WACC = 13.625 \% (1073/1873) + 5\% (800/1873) = 9.94\%\)
  - \(PV of\ Firm = \frac{90}{1.0994} + \frac{100}{1.0994^2} + \frac{108}{1.0994^3} + \frac{116.2}{1.0994^4} + \frac{(123.49 + 2363)}{1.0994^5} = 1873\)
  - \(Value\ of\ Equity = Value\ of\ Firm - Market\ Value\ of\ Debt\ = \$ 1873 - \$ 800 = 1073\)

Aswath Damodaran
First Principle of Valuation

- **Discounting Consistency Principle**: Never mix and match cash flows and discount rates.
- **Mismatching cash flows to discount rates is deadly.**
  - Discounting cashflows after debt cash flows (equity cash flows) at the weighted average cost of capital will lead to an upwardly biased estimate of the value of equity.
  - Discounting pre-debt cashflows (cash flows to the firm) at the cost of equity will yield a downward biased estimate of the value of the firm.

---

The Effects of Mismatching Cash Flows and Discount Rates

- **Error 1**: Discount CF to Equity at Cost of Capital to get equity value
  - PV of Equity = $50/1.0994 + $60/1.0994^2 + $68/1.0994^3 + $76.2/1.0994^4 + $(83.49+1603)/1.0994^5 = $1248
  - Value of equity is overstated by $175.

- **Error 2**: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Equity to get firm value
  - PV of Firm = $90/1.13625 + $100/1.13625^2 + $108/1.13625^3 + $116.2/1.13625^4 + $(123.49+2363)/1.13625^5 = $1613
  - PV of Equity = $1612.86 - $800 = $813
  - Value of Equity is understated by $260.

- **Error 3**: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Equity, forget to subtract out debt, and get too high a value for equity
  - Value of Equity = $1613
  - Value of Equity is overstated by $540
Discounted Cash Flow Valuation: The Steps

- Estimate the discount rate or rates to use in the valuation
  - Discount rate can be either a cost of equity (if doing equity valuation) or a cost of capital (if valuing the firm)
  - Discount rate can be in nominal terms or real terms, depending upon whether the cash flows are nominal or real
  - Discount rate can vary across time.

- Estimate the current earnings and cash flows on the asset, to either equity investors (CF to Equity) or to all claimholders (CF to Firm)

- Estimate the future earnings and cash flows on the firm being valued, generally by estimating an expected growth rate in earnings.

- Estimate when the firm will reach “stable growth” and what characteristics (risk & cash flow) it will have when it does.

- Choose the right DCF model for this asset and value it.

---

Generic DCF Valuation Model

DISCOUNTED CASHFLOW VALUATION

Cash flows
Firm: Pre-debt cash flow
Equity: After debt cash flows

Expected Growth
Firm: Growth in Operating Earnings
Equity: Growth in Net Income/EPS

Value
Firm: Value of Firm
Equity: Value of Equity

Discount Rate
Firm: Cost of Capital
Equity: Cost of Equity

Terminal Value
Firm is in stable growth: Grows at constant rate forever

Length of Period of High Growth

Value of Firm: CF₁, CF₂, CF₃, CF₄, CF₅, ... CFₙ

Aswath Damodaran
Same ingredients, different approaches...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Input</th>
<th>Dividend Discount Model</th>
<th>FCFE (Potential dividend) discount model</th>
<th>FCFF (firm) valuation model</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash flow</td>
<td>Dividend</td>
<td>Potential dividends = FCFE = Cash flows after taxes, reinvestment needs and debt cash flows</td>
<td>FCFF = Cash flows before debt payments but after reinvestment needs and taxes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected growth</td>
<td>In equity income and dividends</td>
<td>In equity income and FCFE</td>
<td>In operating income and FCFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discount rate</td>
<td>Cost of equity</td>
<td>Cost of equity</td>
<td>Cost of capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steady state</td>
<td>When dividends grow at constant rate forever</td>
<td>When FCFE grow at constant rate forever</td>
<td>When FCFF grow at constant rate forever</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Start easy: The Dividend Discount Model

Expected growth in net income
Retention rate needed to sustain growth
Net income * Payout ratio = Dividends
Expected dividends = Expected net income * (1 - Retention ratio)

Value of equity
Length of high growth period: PV of dividends during high growth
Stable Growth
When net income and dividends grow at constant rate forever

Cost of Equity
Rate of return demanded by equity investors

Aswath Damodaran
Moving on up: The “potential dividends” or FCFE model

Free Cashflow to Equity
- Non-cash Net Income
- (Cap Ex - Depreciation)
- Change in non-cash WC
- (Debt repaid - Debt issued)
= Free Cashflow to equity

Expected growth in net income
Expected FCFF = Expected net income * (1 - Equity Reinvestment rate)

Value of Equity in non-cash Assets
- Cash
= Value of equity

To valuing the entire business: The FCFF model

Free Cashflow to Firm
- Non-cash Net Income
- (Cap Ex - Depreciation)
- Change in non-cash WC
= Free Cashflow to firm

Expected growth in operating income
Expected FCFF = Expected operating income * (1 - Reinvestment rate)

Value of Operating Assets
- Cash & non-operating assets
- Debt
= Value of equity

Cost of capital
Weighted average of costs of equity and debt

Length of high growth period: PV of FCFE during high growth

Stable Growth
When net income and FCFE grow at constant rate forever.

Aswath Damodaran
I. ESTIMATING DISCOUNT RATES

Discount rates matter, but not as much as you think they do!
Estimating Inputs: Discount Rates

- While discount rates obviously matter in DCF valuation, they don’t matter as much as most analysts think they do.
- At an intuitive level, the discount rate used should be consistent with both the riskiness and the type of cashflow being discounted.
  - Equity versus Firm: If the cash flows being discounted are cash flows to equity, the appropriate discount rate is a cost of equity. If the cash flows are cash flows to the firm, the appropriate discount rate is the cost of capital.
  - Currency: The currency in which the cash flows are estimated should also be the currency in which the discount rate is estimated.
  - Nominal versus Real: If the cash flows being discounted are nominal cash flows (i.e., reflect expected inflation), the discount rate should be nominal.

Risk in the DCF Model

**Expected Cash Flows**

**Risk Adjusted Discount Rate**

*Discount rate should reflect the risk perceived by the marginal investor in the company*

\[
\text{Risk Adjusted Cost of equity} = \text{Risk free rate in the currency of analysis} + \text{Relative risk of company/equity in question} \times \text{Equity Risk Premium required for average risk equity}
\]

Aswath Damodaran
Not all risk is created equal...

- **Estimation versus Economic uncertainty**
  - Estimation uncertainty reflects the possibility that you could have the “wrong model” or estimated inputs incorrectly within this model.
  - Economic uncertainty comes from the fact that markets and economies can change over time and that even the best models will fail to capture these unexpected changes.

- **Micro uncertainty versus Macro uncertainty**
  - Micro uncertainty refers to uncertainty about the potential market for a firm’s products, the competition it will face and the quality of its management team.
  - Macro uncertainty reflects the reality that your firm’s fortunes can be affected by changes in the macro economic environment.

- **Discrete versus continuous uncertainty**
  - Discrete risk: Risks that lie dormant for periods but show up at points in time. (Examples: A drug working its way through the FDA pipeline may fail at some stage of the approval process or a company in Venezuela may be nationalized)
  - Continuous risk: Risks changes in interest rates or economic growth occur continuously and affect value as they happen.

---

Risk and Cost of Equity: The role of the marginal investor

- While the notion that the cost of equity should be higher for riskier investments and lower for safer investments is intuitive, what risk should be built into the cost of equity is the question.
- While risk is usually defined in terms of the variance of actual returns around an expected return, risk and return models in finance assume that the risk that should be rewarded (and thus built into the discount rate) in valuation should be the risk perceived by the marginal investor in the investment.
- Most risk and return models in finance also assume that the marginal investor is well diversified, and that the only risk that he or she perceives in an investment is risk that cannot be diversified away (i.e., market or non-diversifiable risk). In effect, it is primarily economic, macro, continuous risk that should be incorporated into the cost of equity.
## The Cost of Equity: Competing “Market Risk” Models

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model</th>
<th>Expected Return</th>
<th>Inputs Needed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CAPM</td>
<td>( E(R) = R_f + \beta (R_m - R_f) )</td>
<td>Riskfree Rate, Beta relative to market portfolio, Market Risk Premium</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APM</td>
<td>( E(R) = R_f + \sum \beta_j (R_j - R_f) )</td>
<td>Riskfree Rate, # of Factors, Betas relative to each factor, Factor risk premiums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multi factor</td>
<td>( E(R) = R_f + \sum \beta_j (R_j - R_f) )</td>
<td>Riskfree Rate, Macro factors, Betas relative to macro factors, Macro economic risk premiums</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proxy</td>
<td>( E(R) = a + \sum b_j Y_j )</td>
<td>Proxies, Regression coefficients</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran

---

## The CAPM: Cost of Equity

- Consider the standard approach to estimating cost of equity:
  
  \[ \text{Cost of Equity} = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \text{Equity Beta} \times (\text{Equity Risk Premium}) \]

- In practice,
  - Government security rates are used as risk free rates
  - Historical risk premiums are used for the risk premium
  - Betas are estimated by regressing stock returns against market returns

Aswath Damodaran
I. A Riskfree Rate

- On a riskfree asset, the actual return is equal to the expected return. Therefore, there is no variance around the expected return.
- For an investment to be riskfree, then, it has to have
  - No default risk
  - No reinvestment risk
1. **Time horizon matters:** Thus, the riskfree rates in valuation will depend upon when the cash flow is expected to occur and will vary across time.
2. **Not all government securities are riskfree:** Some governments face default risk and the rates on bonds issued by them will not be riskfree.

Test 1: A riskfree rate in US dollars!

- In valuation, we estimate cash flows forever (or at least for very long time periods). The right risk free rate to use in valuing a company in US dollars would be
  a. A three-month Treasury bill rate (0.1%)
  b. A ten-year Treasury bond rate (2%)
  c. A thirty-year Treasury bond rate (3%)
  d. A TIPS (inflation-indexed treasury) rate (1%)
  e. None of the above
Test 2: A Riskfree Rate in Euros

- The riskfree rate in Euros.

Test 3: A Riskfree Rate in Indian Rupees

- The Indian government had 10-year Rupee bonds outstanding, with a yield to maturity of about 8.5% on January 1, 2012.
- In January 2012, the Indian government had a local currency sovereign rating of Baa3. The typical default spread (over a default free rate) for Baa3 rated country bonds in early 2012 was 2%.
  a. The riskfree rate in Indian Rupees is
  b. The yield to maturity on the 10-year bond (8.5%)
  c. The yield to maturity on the 10-year bond + Default spread (10.5%)
  d. The yield to maturity on the 10-year bond – Default spread (6.5%)
  e. None of the above
Sovereign Default Spread: Three paths to the same destination...

- **Sovereign dollar or euro denominated bonds**: Find sovereign bonds denominated in US dollars, issued by emerging markets. The difference between the interest rate on the bond and the US treasury bond rate should be the default spread. For instance, in January 2012, the US dollar denominated 10-year bond issued by the Brazilian government (with a Baa2 rating) had an interest rate of 3.5%, resulting in a default spread of 1.6% over the US treasury rate of 1.9% at the same point in time. (On the same day, the ten-year Brazilian BR denominated bond had an interest rate of 12%)

- **CDS spreads**: Obtain the default spreads for sovereigns in the CDS market. In January 2012, the CDS spread for Brazil in that market was 1.43%.

- **Average spread**: For countries which don’t issue dollar denominated bonds or have a CDS spread, you have to use the average spread for other countries in the same rating class.

Local Currency Government Bond Rates – January 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Jan-13</th>
<th>Jan-12</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>13.50%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>3.62%</td>
<td>5.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigeria</td>
<td>12.01%</td>
<td>15.27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>3.60%</td>
<td>3.44%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>11.50%</td>
<td>13.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>3.54%</td>
<td>3.81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>11.47%</td>
<td>37.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>3.54%</td>
<td>3.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>10.05%</td>
<td>12.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>3.50%</td>
<td>3.69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>9.84%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria</td>
<td>3.43%</td>
<td>5.22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>9.18%</td>
<td>11.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latvia</td>
<td>3.39%</td>
<td>6.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>8.00%</td>
<td>8.36%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>3.28%</td>
<td>3.93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>6.98%</td>
<td>13.46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>3.15%</td>
<td>3.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>6.88%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Qatar</td>
<td>2.68%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russia</td>
<td>6.85%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>2.12%</td>
<td>2.29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>6.80%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>2.05%</td>
<td>4.37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>6.76%</td>
<td>6.76%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>1.99%</td>
<td>3.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>6.55%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czech Republic</td>
<td>1.87%</td>
<td>3.61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>6.39%</td>
<td>8.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>1.82%</td>
<td>2.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>6.23%</td>
<td>10.73%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>1.81%</td>
<td>2.01%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>5.55%</td>
<td>7.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>1.76%</td>
<td>1.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>5.51%</td>
<td>5.58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>1.74%</td>
<td>3.24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>5.29%</td>
<td>6.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>1.54%</td>
<td>1.71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>5.26%</td>
<td>5.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>1.51%</td>
<td>2.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>5.17%</td>
<td>6.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
<td>2.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovenia</td>
<td>5.03%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>1.38%</td>
<td>1.72%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croatia</td>
<td>4.95%</td>
<td>7.41%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>1.31%</td>
<td>1.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>4.53%</td>
<td>8.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>1.30%</td>
<td>1.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>4.50%</td>
<td>6.92%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euro Area</td>
<td>1.26%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Philippines</td>
<td>4.40%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taiwan</td>
<td>1.17%</td>
<td>NA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slovakia</td>
<td>4.31%</td>
<td>4.31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>0.79%</td>
<td>0.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>4.09%</td>
<td>6.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>0.65%</td>
<td>1.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>3.91%</td>
<td>4.54%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>0.46%</td>
<td>0.71%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran
Approach 1: Default spread from Government Bonds – January 2013

Approach 2: CDS Spreads
Approach 3: Typical Default Spreads: January 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Typical Default Spread</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aaa/AAA</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa1/AA+</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa2/AA</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa3/AA-</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1/A+</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2/A</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3A-</td>
<td>1.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa1/BBB</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa2/BBB</td>
<td>1.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa3/BBB</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba1/BB+</td>
<td>2.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba2/BB</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba3/BB-</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1/B+</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2/B</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3/B-</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca1/CCC+</td>
<td>7.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca2/CCC</td>
<td>8.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ca3/CCC-</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Getting to a risk free rate in a currency: Example

- The Brazilian government bond rate in nominal reais in January 2013 was 9.18%. To get to a riskfree rate in nominal reais, we can use one of three approaches.
  - Approach 1: Government Bond spread
    - The 2020 Brazil bond, denominated in US dollars, has a spread of 0.74% over the US treasury bond rate.
    - Riskfree rate in $R = 9.18% - 0.74% = 8.44% 
  - Approach 2: The CDS Spread
    - The CDS spread for Brazil on January 1, 2013 was 1.42%.
    - Riskfree rate in $R = 9.18% - 1.42% = 7.76%
  - Approach 3: The Rating based spread
    - Brazil has a Baa2 local currency rating from Moody’s. The default spread for that rating is 1.75% 
    - Riskfree rate in $R = 9.18% - 1.75% = 7.43%
Test 4: A Real Riskfree Rate

- In some cases, you may want a riskfree rate in real terms (in real terms) rather than nominal terms.
- To get a real riskfree rate, you would like a security with no default risk and a guaranteed real return. Treasury indexed securities offer this combination.
- In January 2012, the yield on a 10-year indexed treasury bond was 1.00%. Which of the following statements would you subscribe to?
  a. This (1.00%) is the real riskfree rate to use, if you are valuing US companies in real terms.
  b. This (1.00%) is the real riskfree rate to use, anywhere in the world
  Explain.

Aswath Damodaran

No default free entity: Choices with riskfree rates....

- Estimate a range for the riskfree rate in local terms:
  - Approach 1: Subtract default spread from local government bond rate:
    Government bond rate in local currency terms - Default spread for Government in local currency
  - Approach 2: Use forward rates and the riskless rate in an index currency (say Euros or dollars) to estimate the riskless rate in the local currency.
- Do the analysis in real terms (rather than nominal terms) using a real riskfree rate, which can be obtained in one of two ways –
  - from an inflation-indexed government bond, if one exists
  - set equal, approximately, to the long term real growth rate of the economy in which the valuation is being done.
- Do the analysis in a currency where you can get a riskfree rate, say US dollars or Euros.

Aswath Damodaran
Why do risk free rates vary across currencies?
January 2013 Risk free rates

In January 2013, the 10-year treasury bond rate in the United States was 1.76%, a historic low. Assume that you were valuing a company in US dollars then, but were wary about the riskfree rate being too low. Which of the following should you do?

- a. Replace the current 10-year bond rate with a more reasonable normalized riskfree rate (the average 10-year bond rate over the last 30 years has been about 4%)
- b. Use the current 10-year bond rate as your riskfree rate but make sure that your other assumptions (about growth and inflation) are consistent with the riskfree rate
- c. Something else...
II. Equity Risk Premiums

The ubiquitous historical risk premium

- The historical premium is the premium that stocks have historically earned over riskless securities.
- While the users of historical risk premiums act as if it is a fact (rather than an estimate), it is sensitive to:
  - How far back you go in history...
  - Whether you use T.bill rates or T.Bond rates
  - Whether you use geometric or arithmetic averages.
- For instance, looking at the US:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Arithmetic Average</th>
<th>Geometric Average</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Stocks - T. Bills</td>
<td>Stocks - T. Bonds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928-2012</td>
<td>7.65%</td>
<td>5.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962-2012</td>
<td>5.93%</td>
<td>3.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002-2012</td>
<td>7.06%</td>
<td>3.08%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Noisy estimates: Even with long time periods of history, the risk premium that you derive will have substantial standard error. For instance, if you go back to 1928 (about 80 years of history) and you assume a standard deviation of 20% in annual stock returns, you arrive at a standard error of greater than 2%:
  \[
  \text{Standard Error in Premium} = \frac{20\%}{\sqrt{80}} = 2.26\%
  \]
- Survivorship Bias: Using historical data from the U.S. equity markets over the twentieth century does create a sampling bias. After all, the US economy and equity markets were among the most successful of the global economies that you could have invested in early in the century.
Risk Premium for a Mature Market? Broadening the sample

The simplest way of estimating an additional country risk premium: The country default spread

- **Default spread for country:** In this approach, the country equity risk premium is set equal to the default spread for the country, estimated in one of three ways:
  - The default spread on a dollar denominated bond issued by the country. Brazil’s 10 year $ denominated bond at the start of 2013 was trading at an interest rate of 2.60%, a default spread of 0.84% over the US treasury bond rate of 1.76%.
  - The ten year CDS spread for Brazil of 1.42%
  - Brazil’s sovereign local currency rating is Baa2. The default spread for a Baa2 rated sovereign is about 1.75%.
- This default spread is added on to the mature market premium to arrive at the total equity risk premium for Brazil, assuming a mature market premium of 5.80%.
  - Country Risk Premium for Brazil = 1.75%
  - Total ERP for Brazil = 5.80% + 1.75% = 7.55%
An equity volatility based approach to estimating the country total ERP

- This approach draws on the standard deviation of two equity markets, the emerging market in question and a base market (usually the US). The total equity risk premium for the emerging market is then written as:
  - Total equity risk premium = Risk Premium_{US} \times \frac{\sigma_{Country\ Equity}}{\sigma_{US\ Equity}}

- The country equity risk premium is based upon the volatility of the market in question relative to U.S market.
  - Assume that the equity risk premium for the US is 5.80%.
  - Assume that the standard deviation in the Bovespa (Brazilian equity) is 21% and that the standard deviation for the S&P 500 (US equity) is 18%.
  - Total Equity Risk Premium for Brazil = 5.80% (21%/18%) = 6.77%
  - Country equity risk premium for Brazil = 6.77% - 5.80% = 0.97%

Aswath Damodaran

A melded approach to estimating the additional country risk premium

- Country ratings measure default risk. While default risk premiums and equity risk premiums are highly correlated, one would expect equity spreads to be higher than debt spreads.

- Another is to multiply the bond default spread by the relative volatility of stock and bond prices in that market. Using this approach for Brazil in January 2013, you would get:
  - Country Equity risk premium = Default spread on country bond \times \frac{\sigma_{Country\ Equity}}{\sigma_{Country\ Bond}}
    - Standard Deviation in Bovespa (Equity) = 21%
    - Standard Deviation in Brazil government bond = 14%
    - Default spread on C-Bond = 1.75%
  - Brazil Country Risk Premium = 1.75% (21%/14%) = 2.63%
  - Brazil Total ERP = Mature Market Premium + CRP = 5.80% + 2.63% = 8.43%

Aswath Damodaran
### Country Risk Premiums

#### January 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>CRP (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>8.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>10.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>8.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>6.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece</td>
<td>16.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iceland</td>
<td>8.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liechtenstein</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. America</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>9.18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>13.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>10.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>3.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiji Islands</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>0.38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>6.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>1.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>6.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laos</td>
<td>3.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>7.53%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mongolia</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>1.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka</td>
<td>11.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Korea</td>
<td>7.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>8.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>5.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>1.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>6.55%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>10.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East</td>
<td>1.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AVG: GDP weighted average</td>
<td>8.48%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Approach 1: Assume that every company in the country is equally exposed to country risk. In this case,
- \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \text{CRP} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) \)
- Implicitly, this is what you are assuming when you use the local Government’s dollar borrowing rate as your riskfree rate.

#### Approach 2: Assume that a company’s exposure to country risk is similar to its exposure to other market risk.
- \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) \)

#### Approach 3: Treat country risk as a separate risk factor and allow firms to have different exposures to country risk (perhaps based upon the proportion of their revenues come from non-domestic sales)
- \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) + \lambda \cdot (\text{CRP}) \)

**Mature ERP** = Mature market Equity Risk Premium

**CRP** = Additional country risk premium

---

From Country Equity Risk Premiums to Corporate Equity Risk premiums

- **Approach 1:** Assume that every company in the country is equally exposed to country risk. In this case,
  - \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \text{CRP} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) \)
  - Implicitly, this is what you are assuming when you use the local Government’s dollar borrowing rate as your riskfree rate.

- **Approach 2:** Assume that a company’s exposure to country risk is similar to its exposure to other market risk.
  - \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) \)

- **Approach 3:** Treat country risk as a separate risk factor and allow firms to have different exposures to country risk (perhaps based upon the proportion of their revenues come from non-domestic sales)
  - \( E(\text{Return}) = \text{Riskfree Rate} + \beta \cdot (\text{Mature ERP}) + \lambda \cdot (\text{CRP}) \)

**Mature ERP** = Mature market Equity Risk Premium

**CRP** = Additional country risk premium

Aswath Damodaran
Approaches 1 & 2: Estimating country risk premium exposure

- **Location based CRP**: The standard approach in valuation is to attach a country risk premium to a company based upon its country of incorporation. Thus, if you are an Indian company, you are assumed to be exposed to the Indian country risk premium. A developed market company is assumed to be unexposed to emerging market risk.

- **Operation-based CRP**: There is a more reasonable modified version. The country risk premium for a company can be computed as a weighted average of the country risk premiums of the countries that it does business in, with the weights based upon revenues or operating income. If a company is exposed to risk in dozens of countries, you can take a weighted average of the risk premiums by region.

Operation based CRP: Single versus Multiple Emerging Markets

- **Single emerging market**: Embraer, in 2004, reported that it derived 3% of its revenues in Brazil and the balance from mature markets. The mature market ERP in 2004 was 5% and Brazil’s CRP was 7.89%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Revenues %</th>
<th>Total ERP</th>
<th>CRP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>9%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US and other</td>
<td>97%</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mature markets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Multiple emerging markets**: Ambev, the Brazilian-based beverage company, reported revenues from the following countries during 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Revenues %</th>
<th>Total ERP</th>
<th>CRP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>19.31%</td>
<td>15.00%</td>
<td>9.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>4.96%</td>
<td>10.88%</td>
<td>4.88%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>63.73%</td>
<td>8.63%</td>
<td>2.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>11.27%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>3.43%</td>
<td>7.05%</td>
<td>1.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>6.94%</td>
<td>12.75%</td>
<td>6.75%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>3.47%</td>
<td>12.00%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>5.86%</td>
<td>9.00%</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ambev</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>9.11%</td>
<td>3.11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Extending to a multinational: Regional breakdown
Coca Cola’s revenue breakdown and ERP in 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Total ERP</th>
<th>CRP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6.67%</td>
<td>0.67%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Europe &amp; Russia</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>8.60%</td>
<td>2.60%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>7.63%</td>
<td>1.63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>9.42%</td>
<td>3.42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>9.82%</td>
<td>3.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coca Cola</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>7.14%</td>
<td>1.14%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Things to watch out for
1. Aggregation across regions. For instance, the Pacific region often includes Australia & NZ with Asia
2. Obscure aggregations including Eurasia and Oceania

Two problems with these approaches..

- **Focus just on revenues**: To the extent that revenues are the only variable that you consider, when weighting risk exposure across markets, you may be missing other exposures to country risk. For instance, an emerging market company that gets the bulk of its revenues outside the country (in a developed market) may still have all of its production facilities in the emerging market.

- **Exposure not adjusted or based upon beta**: To the extent that the country risk premium is multiplied by a beta, we are assuming that beta in addition to measuring exposure to all other macro economic risk also measures exposure to country risk.

Aswath Damodaran
Approach 3: Estimate a lambda for country risk

- **Source of revenues:** Other things remaining equal, a company should be more exposed to risk in a country if it generates more of its revenues from that country.

- **Manufacturing facilities:** Other things remaining equal, a firm that has all of its production facilities in a “risky country” should be more exposed to country risk than one which has production facilities spread over multiple countries. The problem will be accentuated for companies that cannot move their production facilities (mining and petroleum companies, for instance).

- **Use of risk management products:** Companies can use both options/futures markets and insurance to hedge some or a significant portion of country risk.

Estimating Lambdas: The Revenue Approach

- The easiest and most accessible data is on revenues. Most companies break their revenues down by region.
  \[ \lambda = \frac{\% \text{ of revenues domestically}_{\text{firm}}}{\% \text{ of revenues domestically}_{\text{average firm}}} \]

- Consider, for instance, Embraer and Embratel, both of which are incorporated and traded in Brazil. Embraer gets 3% of its revenues from Brazil whereas Embratel gets almost all of its revenues in Brazil. The average Brazilian company gets about 77% of its revenues in Brazil:
  - \( \lambda_{\text{Embraer}} = \frac{3\%}{77\%} = .04 \)
  - \( \lambda_{\text{Embratel}} = \frac{100\%}{77\%} = 1.30 \)

- Note that if the proportion of revenues of the average company gets in the market is assumed to be 100%, this approach collapses into the first one,

- There are two implications
  - A company’s risk exposure is determined by where it does business and not by where it is located
  - Firms might be able to actively manage their country risk exposure
A richer lambda estimate: Use stock returns and country bond “returns”: Estimating a “lambda” for Embraer in 2004

\[
\text{Return}_{\text{Embraer}} = 0.0195 + 0.2681 \ \text{Return}_{\text{C Bond}} \\
\text{Return}_{\text{Embraer}} = -0.0308 + 2.0030 \ \text{Return}_{\text{C Bond}}
\]

Aswath Damodaran

Estimating a US Dollar Cost of Equity for Embraer - September 2004

- Assume that the beta for Embraer is 1.07, and that the US $ riskfree rate used is 4%. Also assume that the risk premium for the US is 5% and the country risk premium for Brazil is 7.89%. Finally, assume that Embraer gets 3% of its revenues in Brazil & the rest in the US.
- There are five estimates of $ cost of equity for Embraer:
  - Approach 1: Constant exposure to CRP, Location CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + 7.89% = 17.24%
  - Approach 2: Constant exposure to CRP, Operation CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + (0.03*7.89% +0.97*0%)= 9.59%
  - Approach 3: Beta exposure to CRP, Location CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5% + 7.89%)= 17.79%
  - Approach 4: Beta exposure to CRP, Operation CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5% *(0.03*7.89%+0.97*0%)) = 9.60%
  - Approach 5: Lambda exposure to CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + 0.27(7.89%) = 11.48%

Aswath Damodaran
Valuing Emerging Market Companies with significant exposure in developed markets

- The conventional practice in investment banking is to add the country equity risk premium on to the cost of equity for every emerging market company, notwithstanding its exposure to emerging market risk. Thus, in 2004, Embraer would have been valued with a cost of equity of 17-18% even though it gets only 3% of its revenues in Brazil. As an investor, which of the following consequences do you see from this approach?
  a. Emerging market companies with substantial exposure in developed markets will be significantly over valued by equity research analysts.
  b. Emerging market companies with substantial exposure in developed markets will be significantly under valued by equity research analysts.
  c. Can you construct an investment strategy to take advantage of the misvaluation?
  d. What would need to happen for you to make money of this strategy?

Aswath Damodaran

Implied Equity Premiums

- If we assume that stocks are correctly priced in the aggregate and we can estimate the expected cashflows from buying stocks, we can estimate the expected rate of return on stocks by computing an internal rate of return. Subtracting out the riskfree rate should yield an implied equity risk premium.

- This implied equity premium is a forward looking number and can be updated as often as you want (every minute of every day, if you are so inclined).

Aswath Damodaran
Implied Equity Premiums: January 2008

- We can use the information in stock prices to back out how risk averse the market is and how much of a risk premium it is demanding.

Between 2001 and 2007 dividends and stock buybacks averaged 4.02% of the index each year. Analysts expect earnings to grow 5% a year for the next 5 years. We will assume that dividends & buybacks will keep pace. Last year’s cashflow (59.03) growing at 5% a year.

- If you pay the current level of the index, you can expect to make a return of 8.39% on stocks (which is obtained by solving for r in the following equation)

\[
1468.36 = \frac{61.98}{(1+r)} + \frac{65.08}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{68.33}{(1+r)^3} + \frac{71.75}{(1+r)^4} + \frac{75.34}{(1+r)^5} + \frac{75.35(1.0402)}{(r-.0402)(1+r)^5}
\]

- Implied Equity risk premium = Expected return on stocks - Treasury bond rate = 8.39% - 4.02% = 4.37%

Aswath Damodaran

Implied Risk Premium Dynamics

- Assume that the index jumps 10% on January 2 and that nothing else changes. What will happen to the implied equity risk premium?
  - a. Implied equity risk premium will increase
  - b. Implied equity risk premium will decrease

- Assume that the earnings jump 10% on January 2 and that nothing else changes. What will happen to the implied equity risk premium?
  - a. Implied equity risk premium will increase
  - b. Implied equity risk premium will decrease

- Assume that the riskfree rate increases to 5% on January 2 and that nothing else changes. What will happen to the implied equity risk premium?
  - a. Implied equity risk premium will increase
  - b. Implied equity risk premium will decrease

Aswath Damodaran
A year that made a difference. The implied premium in January 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Market value of index</th>
<th>Dividends</th>
<th>Buybacks</th>
<th>Cash to equity</th>
<th>Dividend yield</th>
<th>Buyback yield</th>
<th>Total yield</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>1148.09</td>
<td>15.74</td>
<td>14.34</td>
<td>30.08</td>
<td>1.37%</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
<td>2.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>879.82</td>
<td>15.96</td>
<td>13.87</td>
<td>29.83</td>
<td>1.81%</td>
<td>1.59%</td>
<td>3.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>1111.91</td>
<td>17.88</td>
<td>13.70</td>
<td>31.58</td>
<td>1.61%</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
<td>2.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>1211.92</td>
<td>19.01</td>
<td>21.59</td>
<td>40.60</td>
<td>1.57%</td>
<td>1.78%</td>
<td>3.35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>1248.29</td>
<td>22.34</td>
<td>38.82</td>
<td>61.17</td>
<td>1.79%</td>
<td>3.11%</td>
<td>4.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>1418.10</td>
<td>25.04</td>
<td>48.12</td>
<td>75.16</td>
<td>1.77%</td>
<td>3.39%</td>
<td>5.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>1468.16</td>
<td>28.14</td>
<td>67.22</td>
<td>95.36</td>
<td>1.92%</td>
<td>4.58%</td>
<td>6.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>903.25</td>
<td>28.47</td>
<td>40.25</td>
<td>68.72</td>
<td>3.15%</td>
<td>4.61%</td>
<td>7.77%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normalized</td>
<td>903.25</td>
<td>28.47</td>
<td>24.11</td>
<td>52.58</td>
<td>3.15%</td>
<td>2.67%</td>
<td>5.82%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2008, the actual cash returned to stockholders was 68.72. However, there was a 41% dropoff in buybacks in Q4. We reduced the total buybacks for the year by that amount.

Analysts expect earnings to grow 4% a year for the next 5 years. We will assume that dividends & buybacks will keep pace. Last year’s cashflow (52.58) growing at 4% a year

After year 5, we will assume that earnings on the index will grow at 2.21%, the same rate as the entire economy (= riskfree rate).

\[
\text{54.69} = \frac{54.69}{(1 + r)^1} + \frac{56.87}{(1 + r)^2} + \frac{59.15}{(1 + r)^3} + \frac{61.52}{(1 + r)^4} + \frac{63.98}{(1 + r)^5} + \frac{63.98(1.0221)}{(r - 0.0221)(1 + r)}
\]

Aswath Damodaran

The Anatomy of a Crisis: Implied ERP from September 12, 2008 to January 1, 2009

Aswath Damodaran
An Updated Equity Risk Premium:

- On January 1, 2013, the S&P 500 was at 1426.19, essentially unchanged for the year. And it was a year of macro shocks – political upheaval in the Middle East and sovereign debt problems in Europe. The treasury bond rate dropped below 2% and buybacks/dividends surged.

In 2012, the actual cash returned to stockholders was 72.25. Using the average total yield for the last decade yields 69.46. Analysts expect earnings to grow 7.67% in 2013, 7.28% in 2014, scaling down to 1.76% in 2017, resulting in a compounded annual growth rate of 5.27% over the next 5 years. We will assume that dividends & buybacks will grow 5.27% a year for the next 5 years. After year 5, we will assume that earnings on the index will grow at 1.76%, the same rate as the entire economy (= riskfree rate).

Data Sources:
Dividends and Buybacks last year: S&P
Expected growth rate: S&P, Media reports, Factset, Thomson-Reuters

Expected Return on Stocks (1/1/13) = 7.54%
T.Bond rate on 1/1/13 = 1.76%
Equity Risk Premium = 7.54% - 1.76% = 5.78%

Implied Premiums in the US: 1960-2012

Implied Premium for US Equity Market
Implied Premium versus Risk Free Rate

Aswath Damodaran

Equity Risk Premiums and Bond Default Spreads

Aswath Damodaran
Equity Risk Premiums and Cap Rates (Real Estate)

Why implied premiums matter?

- In many investment banks, it is common practice (especially in corporate finance departments) to use historical risk premiums (and arithmetic averages at that) as risk premiums to compute cost of equity. If all analysts in the department used the geometric average premium for 1928-2012 of 4.2% to value stocks in January 2013, given the implied premium of 5.78%, what were they likely to find?
  a. The values they obtain will be too low (most stocks will look overvalued)
  b. The values they obtain will be too high (most stocks will look under valued)
  c. There should be no systematic bias as long as they use the same premium to value all stocks.
Which equity risk premium should you use?

If you assume this

Prests revert back to historical norms and your time period yields these norms

Market is correct in the aggregate or that your valuation should be market neutral

Marker makes mistakes even in the aggregate but is correct over time

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Predictor</th>
<th>Correlation with implied premium next year</th>
<th>Correlation with actual risk premium – next 10 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current implied premium</td>
<td>0.712</td>
<td>0.424</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average implied premium:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last 5 years</td>
<td>0.646</td>
<td>0.360</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Historical Premium</td>
<td>-0.394</td>
<td>-0.486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Default spread based premium</td>
<td>0.059</td>
<td>0.174</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And the approach can be extended to emerging markets

Implied premium for the Sensex (September 2007)

- **Inputs for the computation**
  - Sensex on 9/5/07 = 15446
  - Dividend yield on index = 3.05%
  - Expected growth rate - next 5 years = 14%
  - Growth rate beyond year 5 = 6.76% (set equal to riskfree rate)

- **Solving for the expected return**:

  \[
  15446 = \frac{537.06}{(1 + r)} + \frac{612.25}{(1 + r)^2} + \frac{697.86}{(1 + r)^3} + \frac{795.67}{(1 + r)^4} + \frac{907.07}{(1 + r)^5} + \frac{907.07(1.0676)}{(r - 0.0676)(1 + r)^5} 
  \]

- Expected return on stocks = 11.18%
- Implied equity risk premium for India = 11.18% - 6.76% = 4.42%
Can country risk premiums change? Brazil CRP & Total ERP from 2000 to 2012

Implied Equity Risk Premium comparison: January 2008 versus January 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>ERP (1/1/08)</th>
<th>ERP (1/1/09)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>United States</td>
<td>4.37%</td>
<td>6.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>4.20%</td>
<td>6.51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>4.22%</td>
<td>6.49%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>3.91%</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

India | 4.88% | 9.21% |

China | 3.98% | 7.86% |

Brazil | 5.45% | 9.06% |

Aswath Damodaran
The CAPM Beta

- The standard procedure for estimating betas is to regress stock returns (Rj) against market returns (Rm) - 
  \[ R_j = a + b \times R_m \]
  where \( a \) is the intercept and \( b \) is the slope of the regression.
- The slope of the regression corresponds to the beta of the stock, and measures the riskiness of the stock.
- This beta has three problems:
  - It has high standard error
  - It reflects the firm’s business mix over the period of the regression, not the current mix
  - It reflects the firm’s average financial leverage over the period rather than the current leverage.

Aswath Damodaran
Beta Estimation: The Noise Problem

Beta Estimation: The Index Effect
Stock-priced based solutions to the Regression Beta Problem

- Modify the regression beta by
  - changing the index used to estimate the beta
  - adjusting the regression beta estimate, by bringing in information about the fundamentals of the company

- Estimate the beta for the firm using
  - the standard deviation in stock prices instead of a regression against an index
  - Relative risk = Standard deviation in stock prices for investment / Average standard deviation across all stocks

- Estimate the beta for the firm from the bottom up without employing the regression technique. This will require
  - understanding the business mix of the firm
  - estimating the financial leverage of the firm

- Imputed or implied beta (cost of equity) for the sector.

---

Alternative measures of relative risk for equity

- **Accounting risk measures**: To the extent that you don’t trust market-priced based measures of risk, you could compute relative risk measures based on
  - Accounting earnings volatility: Compute an accounting beta or relative volatility
  - Balance sheet ratios: You could compute a risk score based upon accounting ratios like debt ratios or cash holdings (akin to default risk scores like the Z score)

- **Proxies**: In a simpler version of proxy models, you can categorize firms into risk classes based upon size, sectors or other characteristics.

- **Qualitative Risk Models**: In these models, risk assessments are based at least partially on qualitative factors (quality of management).

- **Debt based measures**: You can estimate a cost of equity, based upon an observable costs of debt for the company.
  - Cost of equity = Cost of debt * Scaling factor
Determinants of Betas & Relative Risk

Beta of Firm (Unlevered Beta)

Nature of product or service offered by company:
- Other things remaining equal, the more discretionary the product or service, the higher the beta.

Implications:
1. Cyclical companies should have higher betas than non-cyclical companies.
2. Luxury goods firms should have higher betas than basic goods.
3. High-priced goods/service firms should have higher betas than low-priced goods/service firms.
4. Growth firms should have higher betas.

Operating Leverage (Fixed Costs as percent of total costs):
- Other things remaining equal, the greater the proportion of the costs that are fixed, the higher the beta of the company.

Implications:
1. Firms with high infrastructure needs and rigid cost structures should have higher betas than firms with flexible cost structures.
2. Smaller firms should have higher betas than larger firms.
3. Young firms should have higher betas than more mature firms.

Financial Leverage:
- Other things remaining equal, the greater the proportion of capital that a firm raises from debt, the higher its equity beta will be.

Implications:
- Highly levered firms should have higher betas than firms with less debt.

Equity Beta (Levered Beta) = Unlever Beta (1 + (1- tax rate) (Debt/Equity Ratio))

In a perfect world... we would estimate the beta of a firm by doing the following

Start with the beta of the business that the firm is in

Adjust the business beta for the operating leverage of the firm to arrive at the unlevered beta for the firm.

Use the financial leverage of the firm to estimate the equity beta for the firm

Levered Beta = Unlevered Beta (1 + (1- tax rate) (Debt/Equity))
Adjusting for operating leverage...

- Within any business, firms with lower fixed costs (as a percentage of total costs) should have lower unlevered betas. If you can compute fixed and variable costs for each firm in a sector, you can break down the unlevered beta into business and operating leverage components.
  - Unlevered beta = Pure business beta * \((1 + \frac{\text{Fixed costs}}{\text{Variable costs}})\)
- The biggest problem with doing this is informational. It is difficult to get information on fixed and variable costs for individual firms.
- In practice, we tend to assume that the operating leverage of firms within a business are similar and use the same unlevered beta for every firm.

Aswath Damodaran

---

Adjusting for financial leverage...

- **Conventional approach**: If we assume that debt carries no market risk (has a beta of zero), the beta of equity alone can be written as a function of the unlevered beta and the debt-equity ratio
  \[ \beta_L = \beta_u (1+ ((1-t)D/E)) \]
  In some versions, the tax effect is ignored and there is no \((1-t)\) in the equation.
- **Debt Adjusted Approach**: If beta carries market risk and you can estimate the beta of debt, you can estimate the levered beta as follows:
  \[ \beta_L = \beta_u (1+ ((1-t)D/E)) - \beta_{\text{debt}} (1-t) (D/E) \]
  While the latter is more realistic, estimating betas for debt can be difficult to do.

Aswath Damodaran
Bottom-up Betas

Step 1: Find the business or businesses that your firm operates in.

Step 2: Find publicly traded firms in each of these businesses and obtain their regression betas. Compute the simple average across these regression betas to arrive at an average beta for these publicly traded firms. Unlever this average beta using the average debt to equity ratio across the publicly traded firms in the sample.

Unlevered beta for business = Average beta across publicly traded firms/ (1 + (1- t) (Average D/E ratio across firms))

Possible Refinements

If you can, adjust this beta for differences between your firm and the comparable firms on operating leverage and product characteristics.

While revenues or operating income are often used as weights, it is better to try to estimate the value of each business.

If you expect the business mix of your firm to change over time, you can change the weights on a year-to-year basis.

If you expect your debt to equity ratio to change over time, the levered beta will change over time.

Step 3: Estimate how much value your firm derives from each of the different businesses it is in.

Step 4: Compute a weighted average of the unlevered betas of the different businesses (from step 2) using the weights from step 3. Bottom-up Unlevered beta for your firm = Weighted average of the unlevered betas of the individual business

Step 5: Compute a levered beta (equity beta) for your firm, using the market debt to equity ratio for your firm. Levered bottom-up beta = Unlevered beta (1 + (1- t) (Debt/Equity))

Why bottom-up betas?

- The standard error in a bottom-up beta will be significantly lower than the standard error in a single regression beta. Roughly speaking, the standard error of a bottom-up beta estimate can be written as follows:

\[
\text{Std error of bottom-up beta} = \frac{\text{Average Std Error across Betas}}{\sqrt{\text{Number of firms in sample}}}
\]

- The bottom-up beta can be adjusted to reflect changes in the firm’s business mix and financial leverage. Regression betas reflect the past.

- You can estimate bottom-up betas even when you do not have historical stock prices. This is the case with initial public offerings, private businesses or divisions of companies.
Bottom-up Beta: Firm in Multiple Businesses
SAP in 2004

- **Approach 1: Based on business mix**
  - SAP is in three business: software, consulting and training. We will aggregate the consulting and training businesses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>EV/Sales Value</th>
<th>Weights</th>
<th>Beta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Software</td>
<td>$ 5.3</td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>1.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consulting</td>
<td>$ 2.2</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SAP</td>
<td>$ 7.5</td>
<td>21.63</td>
<td></td>
<td>1.25</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Approach 2: Customer Base**

Embraer’s Bottom-up Beta

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business</th>
<th>Unlevered Beta</th>
<th>D/E Ratio</th>
<th>Levered beta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aerospace</td>
<td>0.95</td>
<td>18.95%</td>
<td>1.07</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Levered Beta = Unlevered Beta \((1 + (1- \text{tax rate}) \cdot \text{D/E Ratio})\)
  
  \[= 0.95 \cdot (1 + (1-0.34) \cdot 0.1895) = 1.07\]

- Can an unlevered beta estimated using U.S. and European aerospace companies be used to estimate the beta for a Brazilian aerospace company?
  
  a. Yes
  
  b. No
  
  What concerns would you have in making this assumption?
Gross Debt versus Net Debt Approaches

- Analysts in Europe and Latin America often take the difference between debt and cash (net debt) when computing debt ratios and arrive at very different values.
- For Embraer, using the gross debt ratio
  - Gross D/E Ratio for Embraer = 1953/11,042 = 18.95%
  - Levered Beta using Gross Debt ratio = 1.07
- Using the net debt ratio, we get
  - Net Debt Ratio for Embraer = (Debt - Cash)/ Market value of Equity
    = (1953-2320)/ 11,042 = -3.32%
  - Levered Beta using Net Debt Ratio = 0.95 (1 + (1-.34) (-.0332)) = 0.93
- The cost of Equity using net debt levered beta for Embraer will be much lower than with the gross debt approach. The cost of capital for Embraer will even out since the debt ratio used in the cost of capital equation will now be a net debt ratio rather than a gross debt ratio.

Aswath Damodaran

The Cost of Equity: A Recap

Cost of Equity = Riskfree Rate + Beta * (Risk Premium)

- Preferably, a bottom-up beta, based upon other firms in the business, and firm’s own financial leverage
- Has to be in the same currency as cash flows, and defined in same terms (real or nominal) as the cash flows
- Historical Premium
  1. Mature Equity Market Premium: Average premium earned by stocks over T.Bonds in U.S.
  2. Country risk premium = Country Default Spread* (σ_Equity/σ_Country bond)
- Implied Premium Based on how equity market is priced today and a simple valuation model

Aswath Damodaran
Estimating the Cost of Debt

- The cost of debt is the rate at which you can borrow at currently, it will reflect not only your default risk but also the level of interest rates in the market.
- The two most widely used approaches to estimating cost of debt are:
  - Looking up the yield to maturity on a straight bond outstanding from the firm. The limitation of this approach is that very few firms have long term straight bonds that are liquid and widely traded
  - Looking up the rating for the firm and estimating a default spread based upon the rating. While this approach is more robust, different bonds from the same firm can have different ratings. You have to use a median rating for the firm
- When in trouble (either because you have no ratings or multiple ratings for a firm), estimate a synthetic rating for your firm and the cost of debt based upon that rating.

Estimating Synthetic Ratings

- The rating for a firm can be estimated using the financial characteristics of the firm. In its simplest form, the rating can be estimated from the interest coverage ratio
  \[ \text{Interest Coverage Ratio} = \frac{\text{EBIT}}{\text{Interest Expenses}} \]
- For Embraer’s interest coverage ratio, we used the interest expenses from 2003 and the average EBIT from 2001 to 2003. (The aircraft business was badly affected by 9/11 and its aftermath. In 2002 and 2003, Embraer reported significant drops in operating income)
  \[ \text{Interest Coverage Ratio} = \frac{462.1}{129.70} = 3.56 \]
Interest Coverage Ratios, Ratings and Default Spreads: 2003 & 2004

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&gt; 8.50 - 8.50 (8.5-12.5)</td>
<td>AAA</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.50 - 6.50 (7.5-9.5)</td>
<td>A+</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
<td>0.70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.25 - 5.50 (6-7.5)</td>
<td>A</td>
<td>1.80%</td>
<td>0.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.00 - 4.25 (4.5-6)</td>
<td>A-</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
<td>1.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.50 - 3.00 (4-4.5)</td>
<td>BBB</td>
<td>2.25%</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.25 - 2.50 (3.5-4)</td>
<td>BB+</td>
<td>2.75%</td>
<td>2.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.00 - 2.25 (3-3.5)</td>
<td>BB</td>
<td>3.50%</td>
<td>2.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.75 - 2.00 (2.5-3)</td>
<td>B+</td>
<td>4.75%</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.50 - 1.75 (2-2.5)</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>6.50%</td>
<td>4.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25 - 1.50 (1.5-2)</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>8.00%</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.80 - 1.25 (1.25-1.5)</td>
<td>CCC</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>8.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.65 - 0.80 (0.8-1.25)</td>
<td>CC</td>
<td>11.50%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.20 - 0.65 (0.5-0.8)</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>12.70%</td>
<td>12.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt; 0.20 (&lt;0.5)</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>15.00%</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The first number under interest coverage ratios is for larger market cap companies and the second in brackets is for smaller market cap companies. For Embraer, I used the interest coverage ratio table for smaller/riskier firms (the numbers in brackets) which yields a lower rating for the same interest coverage ratio.

Aswath Damodaran

Cost of Debt computations

- Companies in countries with low bond ratings and high default risk might bear the burden of country default risk, especially if they are smaller or have all of their revenues within the country.

- Larger companies that derive a significant portion of their revenues in global markets may be less exposed to country default risk. In other words, they may be able to borrow at a rate lower than the government.

- The synthetic rating for Embraer is A-. Using the 2004 default spread of 1.00%, we estimate a cost of debt of 9.29% (using a riskfree rate of 4.29% and adding in two thirds of the country default spread of 6.01%):

  \[
  \text{Cost of debt} = \text{Riskfree rate} + \frac{2}{3}(\text{Brazil country default spread}) + \text{Company default spread} = 4.29\% + 4.00\% \times 1.00\% = 9.29\%
  \]

Aswath Damodaran
Synthetic Ratings: Some Caveats

- The relationship between interest coverage ratios and ratings, developed using US companies, tends to travel well, as long as we are analyzing large manufacturing firms in markets with interest rates close to the US interest rate.
- They are more problematic when looking at smaller companies in markets with higher interest rates than the US. One way to adjust for this difference is modify the interest coverage ratio table to reflect interest rate differences. (For instance, if interest rates in an emerging market are twice as high as rates in the US, halve the interest coverage ratio.)

Aswath Damodaran

Default Spreads: The effect of the crisis of 2008.. And the aftermath

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>Default spread over treasury</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>1-Jan-08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aaa/AAA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.99%</td>
<td>1.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA1/AA+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.15%</td>
<td>1.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA2/AA</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.25%</td>
<td>1.50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA3/AA-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.30%</td>
<td>1.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1/A+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.35%</td>
<td>1.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2/A</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.42%</td>
<td>1.95%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3/A-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.48%</td>
<td>2.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa1/BBB+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.73%</td>
<td>2.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa2/BBB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.02%</td>
<td>2.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa3/BBB-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.60%</td>
<td>3.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba1/BB+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.20%</td>
<td>4.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba2/BB</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.65%</td>
<td>5.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba3/BB-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.00%</td>
<td>5.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1/B+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.55%</td>
<td>5.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2/B</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.65%</td>
<td>6.10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3/B-</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.45%</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caa/CCC+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.15%</td>
<td>9.80%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERP</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.37%</td>
<td>4.52%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Updated Default Spreads - January 2012**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rating</th>
<th>1 year</th>
<th>5 year</th>
<th>10 year</th>
<th>30 year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aaa/AAA</td>
<td>0.04%</td>
<td>0.16%</td>
<td>0.41%</td>
<td>0.65%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa1/AA+</td>
<td>0.07%</td>
<td>0.35%</td>
<td>0.57%</td>
<td>0.84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa2/AA</td>
<td>0.09%</td>
<td>0.53%</td>
<td>0.73%</td>
<td>1.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aa3/AA-</td>
<td>0.12%</td>
<td>0.58%</td>
<td>0.78%</td>
<td>1.09%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A1/A+</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>0.62%</td>
<td>0.82%</td>
<td>1.15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2/A</td>
<td>0.36%</td>
<td>0.77%</td>
<td>0.95%</td>
<td>1.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A3/A-</td>
<td>0.41%</td>
<td>1.04%</td>
<td>1.31%</td>
<td>1.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa1/BBB+</td>
<td>0.63%</td>
<td>1.28%</td>
<td>1.55%</td>
<td>1.99%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa2/BBB</td>
<td>0.81%</td>
<td>1.53%</td>
<td>1.84%</td>
<td>2.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baa3/BBB-</td>
<td>1.29%</td>
<td>1.98%</td>
<td>2.28%</td>
<td>2.74%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba1/BB+</td>
<td>2.07%</td>
<td>2.78%</td>
<td>3.12%</td>
<td>3.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba2/BB</td>
<td>2.85%</td>
<td>3.58%</td>
<td>3.97%</td>
<td>4.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ba3/BB-</td>
<td>3.63%</td>
<td>4.38%</td>
<td>4.81%</td>
<td>5.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1/B+</td>
<td>4.41%</td>
<td>5.18%</td>
<td>5.65%</td>
<td>6.03%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2/B</td>
<td>5.19%</td>
<td>5.98%</td>
<td>6.49%</td>
<td>6.85%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3/B-</td>
<td>5.97%</td>
<td>6.78%</td>
<td>7.34%</td>
<td>7.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caa/CCC+</td>
<td>6.75%</td>
<td>7.57%</td>
<td>8.18%</td>
<td>8.50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Subsidized Debt: What should we do?**

- Assume that the Brazilian government lends money to Embraer at a subsidized interest rate (say 6% in dollar terms). In computing the cost of capital to value Embraer, should be we use the cost of debt based upon default risk or the subsidized cost of debt?
  - The subsidized cost of debt (6%). That is what the company is paying.
  - The fair cost of debt (9.25%). That is what the company should require its projects to cover.
  - A number in the middle.
Weights for the Cost of Capital Computation

In computing the cost of capital for a publicly traded firm, the general rule for computing weights for debt and equity is that you use market value weights (and not book value weights). Why?

a. Because the market is usually right
b. Because market values are easy to obtain
c. Because book values of debt and equity are meaningless
d. None of the above

Estimating Cost of Capital: Embraer in 2004

Equity
- Cost of Equity = 4.29% + 1.07 (4%) + 0.27 (7.89%) = 10.70%
- Market Value of Equity = 11,042 million BR ($3,781 million)

Debt
- Cost of debt = 4.29% + 4.00% +1.00% = 9.29%
- Market Value of Debt = 2,083 million BR ($713 million)

Cost of Capital
- Cost of Capital = 10.70% (.84) + 9.29% (1-.34) (0.16)) = 9.97%
  - The book value of equity at Embraer is 3,350 million BR.
  - The book value of debt at Embraer is 1,953 million BR; Interest expense is 222 mil BR; Average maturity of debt = 4 years
  - Estimated market value of debt = 222 million (PV of annuity, 4 years, 9.29%) + $1,953 million/1.0929^4 = 2,083 million BR
If you had to do it....Converting a Dollar Cost of Capital to a Nominal Real Cost of Capital

**Approach 1:** Use a BR riskfree rate in all of the calculations above. For instance, if the BR riskfree rate was 12%, the cost of capital would be computed as follows:
- Cost of Equity = 12% + 1.07(4%) + 0.27 (7.89%) = 18.41%
- Cost of Debt = 12% + 1% = 13%
- (This assumes the riskfree rate has no country risk premium embedded in it.)

**Approach 2:** Use the differential inflation rate to estimate the cost of capital. For instance, if the inflation rate in BR is 8% and the inflation rate in the U.S. is 2%

\[
\text{Cost of capital} = \left(1 + \text{Cost of Capital}_3\right) \left(\frac{1 + \text{Inflation}_{BR}}{1 + \text{Inflation}_3}\right)
\]

\[
= 1.0997 \left(\frac{1.08}{1.02}\right) - 1 = 0.1644 \text{ or } 16.44\%
\]

Dealing with Hybrids and Preferred Stock

- When dealing with hybrids (convertible bonds, for instance), break the security down into debt and equity and allocate the amounts accordingly. Thus, if a firm has $125 million in convertible debt outstanding, break the $125 million into straight debt and conversion option components. The conversion option is equity.

- When dealing with preferred stock, it is better to keep it as a separate component. The cost of preferred stock is the preferred dividend yield. (As a rule of thumb, if the preferred stock is less than 5% of the outstanding market value of the firm, lumping it in with debt will make no significant impact on your valuation).
Decomposing a convertible bond...

- Assume that the firm that you are analyzing has $125 million in face value of convertible debt with a stated interest rate of 4%, a 10 year maturity and a market value of $140 million. If the firm has a bond rating of A and the interest rate on A-rated straight bond is 8%, you can break down the value of the convertible bond into straight debt and equity portions.
  - Straight debt = (4% of $125 million) (PV of annuity, 10 years, 8%) + 125 million/1.08^10 = $91.45 million
  - Equity portion = $140 million - $91.45 million = $48.55 million

Recapping the Cost of Capital

Cost of Capital = Cost of Equity (Equity/(Debt + Equity)) + Cost of Borrowing (1-t) (Debt/(Debt + Equity))

Cost of borrowing should be based upon
(1) synthetic or actual bond rating
(2) default spread
Cost of Borrowing = Riskfree rate + Default spread

Marginal tax rate, reflecting tax benefits of debt

Weights should be market value weights

Cost of equity based upon bottom-up beta
II. ESTIMATING CASH FLOWS

Cash is king...

Steps in Cash Flow Estimation

- Estimate the current earnings of the firm
  - If looking at cash flows to equity, look at earnings after interest expenses - i.e. net income
  - If looking at cash flows to the firm, look at operating earnings after taxes
- Consider how much the firm invested to create future growth
  - If the investment is not expensed, it will be categorized as capital expenditures. To the extent that depreciation provides a cash flow, it will cover some of these expenditures.
  - Increasing working capital needs are also investments for future growth
- If looking at cash flows to equity, consider the cash flows from net debt issues (debt issued - debt repaid)
Measuring Cash Flows

Cash flows can be measured to:

- All claimholders in the firm:
  - EBIT (1 - tax rate)
  - (Capital Expenditures - Depreciation)
  - Change in non-cash working capital
  - Free Cash Flow to Firm (FCFF)

- Just Equity to investors:
  - Net Income
  - (Capital Expenditures - Depreciation)
  - Change in non-cash Working Capital
  - (Principal Repaid - New Debt Issues)
  - Preferred Dividend

Where are the tax savings from interest payments in this cash flow?

Measuring Cash Flow to the Firm

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBIT (1 - tax rate)</th>
<th>(Capital Expenditures - Depreciation)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Change in Working Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>= Cash flow to the firm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Dividends + Stock Buybacks
From Reported to Actual Earnings

I. Update Earnings

- When valuing companies, we often depend upon financial statements for inputs on earnings and assets. Annual reports are often outdated and can be updated by using:
  - Trailing 12-month data, constructed from quarterly earnings reports.
  - Informal and unofficial news reports, if quarterly reports are unavailable.
- Updating makes the most difference for smaller and more volatile firms, as well as for firms that have undergone significant restructuring.
- Time saver: To get a trailing 12-month number, all you need is one 10K and one 10Q (example third quarter). Use the Year to date numbers from the 10Q:
  - Trailing 12-month Revenue = Revenues (in last 10K) - Revenues from first 3 quarters of last year + Revenues from first 3 quarters of this year.
II. Correcting Accounting Earnings

- Make sure that there are no financial expenses mixed in with operating expenses
  - Financial expense: Any commitment that is tax deductible that you have to meet no matter what your operating results: Failure to meet it leads to loss of control of the business.
  - Example: Operating Leases: While accounting convention treats operating leases as operating expenses, they are really financial expenses and need to be reclassified as such. This has no effect on equity earnings but does change the operating earnings

- Make sure that there are no capital expenses mixed in with the operating expenses
  - Capital expense: Any expense that is expected to generate benefits over multiple periods.
  - R & D Adjustment: Since R&D is a capital expenditure (rather than an operating expense), the operating income has to be adjusted to reflect its treatment.

Aswath Damodaran
Dealing with Operating Lease Expenses

- Operating Lease Expenses are treated as operating expenses in computing operating income. In reality, operating lease expenses should be treated as financing expenses, with the following adjustments to earnings and capital:
- Debt Value of Operating Leases = Present value of Operating Lease Commitments at the pre-tax cost of debt
- When you convert operating leases into debt, you also create an asset to counter it of exactly the same value.
- Adjusted Operating Earnings
  - Adjusted Operating Earnings = Operating Earnings + Operating Lease Expenses - Depreciation on Leased Asset
  As an approximation, this works:
  - Adjusted Operating Earnings = Operating Earnings + Pre-tax cost of Debt * PV of Operating Leases.

Operating Leases at The Gap in 2003

- The Gap has conventional debt of about $1.97 billion on its balance sheet and its pre-tax cost of debt is about 6%. Its operating lease payments in the 2003 were $978 million and its commitments for the future are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Commitment (millions)</th>
<th>Present Value (at 6%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$899.00</td>
<td>$848.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$846.00</td>
<td>$752.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$738.00</td>
<td>$619.64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$598.00</td>
<td>$473.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$477.00</td>
<td>$356.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6&amp;7</td>
<td>$982.50 each year</td>
<td>$1,346.04</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Debt Value of leases = $4,396.85 (Also value of leased asset)
- Debt outstanding at The Gap = $1,970 m + $4,397 m = $6,367 m
- Adjusted Operating Income = Stated OI + OL exp this year - Deprec’n
  = $1,012 m + 978 m - 4397 m /7 = $1,362 million (7 year life for assets)
- Approximate OI = $1,012 m + $ 4397 m (.06) = $1,276 m
The Collateral Effects of Treating Operating Leases as Debt

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conventional Accounting</th>
<th>Operating Leases Treated as Debt</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income Statement</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT &amp; Leases = 1,990</td>
<td>EBIT &amp; Leases = 1,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Op Leases = 978</td>
<td>- Deprecn: OL= 628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT = 1,012</td>
<td>EBIT = 1,362</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interest expense will rise to reflect the conversion of operating leases as debt. Net income should not change.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Balance Sheet</th>
<th>Balance Sheet</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Off balance sheet (Not shown as debt or as an asset). Only the conventional debt of $1,970 million shows up on balance sheet</td>
<td>Asset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>OL Asset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4397</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total debt = 4397 + 1970 = $6,367 million</td>
<td>Total debt = 4397 + 1970 = $6,367 million</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Cost of capital = 8.20%(7350/9320) + 4% (1970/9320) = 7.31%
Cost of equity for The Gap = 8.20%
After-tax cost of debt = 4%
Market value of equity = 7350

Return on capital = 1012 (1-.35)/(3130+1970) = 12.90%

The Magnitude of R&D Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R&amp;D as % of Operating Income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran
R&D Expenses: Operating or Capital Expenses

- Accounting standards require us to consider R&D as an operating expense even though it is designed to generate future growth. It is more logical to treat it as capital expenditure.

- To capitalize R&D,
  - Specify an amortizable life for R&D (2 - 10 years)
  - Collect past R&D expenses for as long as the amortizable life
  - Sum up the unamortized R&D over the period. (Thus, if the amortizable life is 5 years, the research asset can be obtained by adding up 1/5th of the R&D expense from five years ago, 2/5th of the R&D expense from four years ago,...)

---

Capitalizing R&D Expenses: SAP

- R & D was assumed to have a 5-year life.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>R&amp;D Expense</th>
<th>Unamortized</th>
<th>Amortization this year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>1020.02</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1020.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-1</td>
<td>993.99</td>
<td>0.80</td>
<td>795.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-2</td>
<td>909.39</td>
<td>0.60</td>
<td>545.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-3</td>
<td>898.25</td>
<td>0.40</td>
<td>359.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-4</td>
<td>969.38</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>193.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-5</td>
<td>744.67</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>0.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value of research asset = €2,914 million
Amortization of research asset in 2004 = €903 million
Increase in Operating Income = 1020 - 903 = €117 million
The Effect of Capitalizing R&D at SAP

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Conventional Accounting</th>
<th>R&amp;D treated as capital expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income Statement</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT &amp; R&amp;D = 3065</td>
<td>EBIT &amp; R&amp;D = 3045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- R&amp;D = 1020</td>
<td>- Amort: R&amp;D = 903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT = 2025</td>
<td>EBIT = 2142 (Increase of 117 m)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT (1-t) = 1285 m</td>
<td>EBIT (1-t) = 1359 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ignored tax benefit = (1020-903)(.3654) = 43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adjusted EBIT (1-t) = 1359+43 = 1402 m</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(Increase of 117 million)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Net income will also increase by 117 million</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance Sheet</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Off balance sheet asset</td>
<td>Balance Sheet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R&amp;D Asset 2914</td>
<td>Asset</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book Equity +2914</td>
<td>Liabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Book Equity = 3768+2914= 6782 mil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Capital Expenditures</strong></td>
<td>Capital Expenditures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conventional net cap ex = 2 million Euros</td>
<td>Net Cap Ex = 2+1020 - 903 = 119 mil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Cash Flows</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EBIT (1-t) = 1285</td>
<td>EBIT (1-t) = 1402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Net Cap Ex = 2</td>
<td>- Net Cap Ex = 119</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCFF = 1283</td>
<td>FCFF = 1283</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return on capital = 1285/(3768+530)</td>
<td>Return on capital = 1402/(6782+530)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. One-Time and Non-recurring Charges

- Assume that you are valuing a firm that is reporting a loss of $500 million, due to a one-time charge of $1 billion. What is the earnings you would use in your valuation?
  - a. A loss of $500 million
  - b. A profit of $500 million

- Would your answer be any different if the firm had reported one-time losses like these once every five years?
  - a. Yes
  - b. No
IV. Accounting Malfeasance....

- Though all firms may be governed by the same accounting standards, the fidelity that they show to these standards can vary. More aggressive firms will show higher earnings than more conservative firms.
- While you will not be able to catch outright fraud, you should look for warning signals in financial statements and correct for them:
  - Income from unspecified sources: holdings in other businesses that are not revealed or from special purpose entities.
  - Income from asset sales or financial transactions (for a non-financial firm)
  - Sudden changes in standard expense items: a big drop in S,G &A or R&D expenses as a percent of revenues, for instance.
  - Frequent accounting restatements
  - Accrual earnings that run ahead of cash earnings consistently
  - Big differences between tax income and reported income

Aswath Damodaran

V. Dealing with Negative or Abnormally Low Earnings

A Framework for Analyzing Companies with Negative or Abnormally Low Earnings

Why are the earnings negative or abnormally low?

Temporary Problems

- Cyclically: Eg. Auto firm in recession

Life Cycle related reasons: Young firms and firms with infrastructure problems

Leverage Problems: Eg. An otherwise healthy firm with too much debt.

Long-term Operating Problems: Eg. A firm with significant production or cost problems.

Normalize Earnings

A firm's size has not changed significantly over time

- Average Dollar Earnings (Net Income if Equity and EBIT if firm made by the firm over time

A firm's size has changed over time

- Average ROE (if valuing equity) or average ROC (if valuing firm on current BV of equity or capital (if ROC)

Value the firm by doing detailed cash flow forecasts starting with revenues and reduce or eliminate the problem over time:

(a) If problem is structural: Target for operating margins of stable firms in the sector.
(b) If problem is leverage: Target for a debt ratio that the firm will be comfortable with by end of period, which could be its own optimal or the industry average.
(c) If problem is operating: Target for an industry-average operating margin.

Aswath Damodaran
What tax rate?

- The tax rate that you should use in computing the after-tax operating income should be
  a. The effective tax rate in the financial statements (taxes paid/ Taxable income)
  b. The tax rate based upon taxes paid and EBIT (taxes paid/EBIT)
  c. The marginal tax rate for the country in which the company operates
  d. The weighted average marginal tax rate across the countries in which the company operates
  e. None of the above
  f. Any of the above, as long as you compute your after-tax cost of debt using the same tax rate

The Right Tax Rate to Use

- The choice really is between the effective and the marginal tax rate. In doing projections, it is far safer to use the marginal tax rate since the effective tax rate is really a reflection of the difference between the accounting and the tax books.

- By using the marginal tax rate, we tend to understate the after-tax operating income in the earlier years, but the after-tax tax operating income is more accurate in later years

- If you choose to use the effective tax rate, adjust the tax rate towards the marginal tax rate over time.
  - While an argument can be made for using a weighted average marginal tax rate, it is safest to use the marginal tax rate of the country
A Tax Rate for a Money Losing Firm

Assume that you are trying to estimate the after-tax operating income for a firm with $1 billion in net operating losses carried forward. This firm is expected to have operating income of $500 million each year for the next 3 years, and the marginal tax rate on income for all firms that make money is 40%. Estimate the after-tax operating income each year for the next 3 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>EBIT</th>
<th>Taxes</th>
<th>EBIT (1-t)</th>
<th>Tax rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>500</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Net Capital Expenditures

Net capital expenditures represent the difference between capital expenditures and depreciation. Depreciation is a cash inflow that pays for some or a lot (or sometimes all of) the capital expenditures.

In general, the net capital expenditures will be a function of how fast a firm is growing or expecting to grow. High growth firms will have much higher net capital expenditures than low growth firms.

Assumptions about net capital expenditures can therefore never be made independently of assumptions about growth in the future.
Capital expenditures should include

- Research and development expenses, once they have been re-categorized as capital expenses. The adjusted net cap ex will be
  - Adjusted Net Capital Expenditures = Net Capital Expenditures + Current year’s R&D expenses - Amortization of Research Asset
- Acquisitions of other firms, since these are like capital expenditures. The adjusted net cap ex will be
  - Adjusted Net Cap Ex = Net Capital Expenditures + Acquisitions of other firms - Amortization of such acquisitions
- Two caveats:
  1. Most firms do not do acquisitions every year. Hence, a normalized measure of acquisitions (looking at an average over time) should be used
  2. The best place to find acquisitions is in the statement of cash flows, usually categorized under other investment activities

Cisco’s Acquisitions: 1999

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acquired</th>
<th>Method of Acquisition</th>
<th>Price Paid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GeoTel</td>
<td>Pooling</td>
<td>$1,344</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fibex</td>
<td>Pooling</td>
<td>$318</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sentient</td>
<td>Pooling</td>
<td>$103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Internet</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summa Four</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clarity Wireless</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selsius Systems</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PipeLinks</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amteva Tech</td>
<td>Purchase</td>
<td>$159</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$2,516
Cisco’s Net Capital Expenditures in 1999

Cap Expenditures (from statement of CF) = $584 mil
- Depreciation (from statement of CF) = $486 mil
Net Cap Ex (from statement of CF) = $98 mil
+ R & D expense = $1,594 mil
- Amortization of R&D = $485 mil
+ Acquisitions = $2,516 mil
Adjusted Net Capital Expenditures = $3,723 mil

☐ (Amortization was included in the depreciation number)

Aswath Damodaran

Working Capital Investments

☐ In accounting terms, the working capital is the difference between current assets (inventory, cash and accounts receivable) and current liabilities (accounts payables, short term debt and debt due within the next year)

☐ A cleaner definition of working capital from a cash flow perspective is the difference between non-cash current assets (inventory and accounts receivable) and non-debt current liabilities (accounts payable)

☐ Any investment in this measure of working capital ties up cash. Therefore, any increases (decreases) in working capital will reduce (increase) cash flows in that period.

☐ When forecasting future growth, it is important to forecast the effects of such growth on working capital needs, and building these effects into the cash flows.

Aswath Damodaran
Working Capital: General Propositions

- Changes in non-cash working capital from year to year tend to be volatile. A far better estimate of non-cash working capital needs, looking forward, can be estimated by looking at non-cash working capital as a proportion of revenues.

- Some firms have negative non-cash working capital. Assuming that this will continue into the future will generate positive cash flows for the firm. While this is indeed feasible for a period of time, it is not forever. Thus, it is better that non-cash working capital needs be set to zero, when it is negative.

Volatile Working Capital?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amazon</th>
<th>Cisco</th>
<th>Motorola</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>$1,640</td>
<td>$12,154</td>
<td>$30,931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-cash WC</td>
<td>-$419</td>
<td>-$404</td>
<td>$2,547</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of Revenues</td>
<td>-25.53%</td>
<td>-3.32%</td>
<td>8.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change from last year</td>
<td>($309)</td>
<td>($700)</td>
<td>($829)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average: last 3 years</td>
<td>-15.16%</td>
<td>-3.16%</td>
<td>8.91%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average: industry</td>
<td>8.71%</td>
<td>-2.71%</td>
<td>7.04%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WC as % of Revenue</td>
<td>3.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>8.23%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dividends and Cash Flows to Equity

- In the strictest sense, the only cash flow that an investor will receive from an equity investment in a publicly traded firm is the dividend that will be paid on the stock.
- Actual dividends, however, are set by the managers of the firm and may be much lower than the potential dividends (that could have been paid out)
  - managers are conservative and try to smooth out dividends
  - managers like to hold on to cash to meet unforeseen future contingencies and investment opportunities
- When actual dividends are less than potential dividends, using a model that focuses only on dividends will understate the true value of the equity in a firm.

Measuring Potential Dividends

- Some analysts assume that the earnings of a firm represent its potential dividends. This cannot be true for several reasons:
  - Earnings are not cash flows, since there are both non-cash revenues and expenses in the earnings calculation
  - Even if earnings were cash flows, a firm that paid its earnings out as dividends would not be investing in new assets and thus could not grow
  - Valuation models, where earnings are discounted back to the present, will overestimate the value of the equity in the firm
- The potential dividends of a firm are the cash flows left over after the firm has made any “investments” it needs to make to create future growth and net debt repayments (debt repayments - new debt issues)
  - The common categorization of capital expenditures into discretionary and non-discretionary loses its basis when there is future growth built into the valuation.
Estimating Cash Flows: FCFE

- Cash flows to Equity for a Levered Firm
  - Net Income
  - (Capital Expenditures - Depreciation)
  - Changes in non-cash Working Capital
  - (Principal Repayments - New Debt Issues)
  = Free Cash flow to Equity

- I have ignored preferred dividends. If preferred stock exist, preferred dividends will also need to be netted out

Estimating FCFE when Leverage is Stable

- Net Income
  - (1 - δ) (Capital Expenditures - Depreciation)
  - (1 - δ) Working Capital Needs
  = Free Cash flow to Equity

- δ = Debt/Capital Ratio
  - For this firm,
    - Proceeds from new debt issues = Principal Repayments + δ (Capital Expenditures - Depreciation + Working Capital Needs)
  - In computing FCFE, the book value debt to capital ratio should be used when looking back in time but can be replaced with the market value debt to capital ratio, looking forward.
Estimating FCFE: Disney

- Net Income = $1,533 Million
- Capital spending = $1,746 Million
- Depreciation per Share = $1,134 Million
- Increase in non-cash working capital = $477 Million
- Debt to Capital Ratio = 23.83%


\[
\text{Net Income} - (\text{Cap. Exp} - \text{Depr}) \times (1 - \text{DR}) = 1,533 \text{ Mil} - 465.90 \times [1746 - 1134] \times (1 - .2383) = 704 \text{ Mil}
\]

Dividends Paid = $345 Million

Aswath Damodaran

FCFE and Leverage: Is this a free lunch?

Debt Ratio and FCFE: Disney

Aswath Damodaran
In a discounted cash flow model, increasing the debt/equity ratio will generally increase the expected free cash flows to equity investors over future time periods and also the cost of equity applied in discounting these cash flows. Which of the following statements relating leverage to value would you subscribe to?

a. Increasing leverage will increase value because the cash flow effects will dominate the discount rate effects

b. Increasing leverage will decrease value because the risk effect will be greater than the cash flow effects

c. Increasing leverage will not affect value because the risk effect will exactly offset the cash flow effect

d. Any of the above, depending upon what company you are looking at and where it is in terms of current leverage
III. ESTIMATING GROWTH

Growth can be good, bad or neutral...

Ways of Estimating Growth in Earnings

- **Look at the past**
  - The historical growth in earnings per share is usually a good starting point for growth estimation

- **Look at what others are estimating**
  - Analysts estimate growth in earnings per share for many firms. It is useful to know what their estimates are.

- **Look at fundamentals**
  - Ultimately, all growth in earnings can be traced to two fundamentals - how much the firm is investing in new projects, and what returns these projects are making for the firm.
I. Historical Growth in EPS

- Historical growth rates can be estimated in a number of different ways
  - Arithmetic versus Geometric Averages
  - Simple versus Regression Models
- Historical growth rates can be sensitive to
  - the period used in the estimation
- In using historical growth rates, the following factors have to be considered
  - how to deal with negative earnings
  - the effect of changing size

Motorola: Arithmetic versus Geometric Growth Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>EBITDA</th>
<th>% Change</th>
<th>EBIT</th>
<th>% Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>$ 22,245</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 4,151</td>
<td></td>
<td>$ 2,604</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>$ 27,037</td>
<td>21.54%</td>
<td>$ 4,850</td>
<td>16.84%</td>
<td>$ 2,931</td>
<td>12.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>$ 27,973</td>
<td>3.46%</td>
<td>$ 4,268</td>
<td>-12.00%</td>
<td>$ 1,960</td>
<td>-33.13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>$ 29,794</td>
<td>6.51%</td>
<td>$ 4,276</td>
<td>0.19%</td>
<td>$ 1,947</td>
<td>-0.66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>$ 29,398</td>
<td>-1.33%</td>
<td>$ 3,019</td>
<td>-29.40%</td>
<td>$ 822</td>
<td>-57.78%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>$ 30,931</td>
<td>5.21%</td>
<td>$ 5,398</td>
<td>78.80%</td>
<td>$ 3,216</td>
<td>291.24%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Arithmetic Average: 7.08% 10.89% 42.45%
Geometric Average: 6.62% 5.39% 4.31%
Standard deviation: 8.61% 41.56% 141.78%
A Test

- You are trying to estimate the growth rate in earnings per share at Time Warner from 1996 to 1997. In 1996, the earnings per share was a deficit of $0.05. In 1997, the expected earnings per share is $0.25. What is the growth rate?
  
  a. -600%
  b. +600%
  c. +120%
  d. Cannot be estimated

Dealing with Negative Earnings

- When the earnings in the starting period are negative, the growth rate cannot be estimated. \((0.30/-0.05 = -600\%\)

- There are three solutions:
  - Use the higher of the two numbers as the denominator \((0.30/0.25 = 120\%)\)
  - Use the absolute value of earnings in the starting period as the denominator \((0.30/0.05=600\%)\)
  - Use a linear regression model and divide the coefficient by the average earnings.

- When earnings are negative, the growth rate is meaningless. Thus, while the growth rate can be estimated, it does not tell you much about the future.
### The Effect of Size on Growth: Callaway Golf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Profit</th>
<th>Growth Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>1.80</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>6.40</td>
<td>255.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>19.30</td>
<td>201.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>41.20</td>
<td>113.47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>78.00</td>
<td>89.32%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>97.70</td>
<td>25.26%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>122.30</td>
<td>25.18%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Geometric Average Growth Rate = 102%

---

### Extrapolation and its Dangers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Net Profit</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>$122.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>$247.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>$499.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>$1,008.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>$2,036.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>$4,113.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If net profit continues to grow at the same rate as it has in the past 6 years, the expected net income in 5 years will be $4.113 billion.
II. Analyst Forecasts of Growth

- While the job of an analyst is to find under and over valued stocks in the sectors that they follow, a significant proportion of an analyst’s time (outside of selling) is spent forecasting earnings per share.
  - Most of this time, in turn, is spent forecasting earnings per share in the next earnings report.
  - While many analysts forecast expected growth in earnings per share over the next 5 years, the analysis and information (generally) that goes into this estimate is far more limited.
- Analyst forecasts of earnings per share and expected growth are widely disseminated by services such as Zacks and IBES, at least for U.S companies.

---

How good are analysts at forecasting growth?

- Analysts forecasts of EPS tend to be closer to the actual EPS than simple time series models, but the differences tend to be small.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Study</th>
<th>Group tested</th>
<th>Analyst Error</th>
<th>Time Series Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collins &amp; Hopwood Value Line</td>
<td>Forecasts</td>
<td>31.7%</td>
<td>34.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown &amp; Rozeff Value Line</td>
<td>Forecasts</td>
<td>28.4%</td>
<td>32.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fried &amp; Givoly Earnings</td>
<td>Forecaster</td>
<td>16.4%</td>
<td>19.8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The advantage that analysts have over time series models tends to decrease with the forecast period (next quarter versus 5 years).
- The advantage tends to be greater for larger firms than for smaller firms.
- The advantage tends to be greater at the industry level than at the company level.
- Forecasts of growth (and revisions thereof) tend to be highly correlated across analysts.
Are some analysts more equal than others?

- A study of All-America Analysts (chosen by Institutional Investor) found that
  - There is no evidence that analysts who are chosen for the All-America Analyst team were chosen because they were better forecasters of earnings. (Their median forecast error in the quarter prior to being chosen was 30%; the median forecast error of other analysts was 28%)
  - However, in the calendar year following being chosen as All-America analysts, these analysts become slightly better forecasters than their less fortunate brethren. (The median forecast error for All-America analysts is 2% lower than the median forecast error for other analysts)
  - Earnings revisions made by All-America analysts tend to have a much greater impact on the stock price than revisions from other analysts
  - The recommendations made by the All America analysts have a greater impact on stock prices (3% on buys; 4.7% on sells). For these recommendations the price changes are sustained, and they continue to rise in the following period (2.4% for buys; 13.8% for the sells).

The Five Deadly Sins of an Analyst

- **Tunnel Vision**: Becoming so focused on the sector and valuations within the sector that you lose sight of the bigger picture.
- **Lemmingitis**: Strong urge felt to change recommendations & revise earnings estimates when other analysts do the same.
- **Stockholm Syndrome**: Refers to analysts who start identifying with the managers of the firms that they are supposed to follow.
- **Factophobia** (generally is coupled with delusions of being a famous story teller): Tendency to base a recommendation on a “story” coupled with a refusal to face the facts.
- **Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde**: Analyst who thinks his primary job is to bring in investment banking business to the firm.
Propositions about Analyst Growth Rates

- **Proposition 1:** There is far less private information and far more public information in most analyst forecasts than is generally claimed.

- **Proposition 2:** The biggest source of private information for analysts remains the company itself which might explain:
  - why there are more buy recommendations than sell recommendations (information bias and the need to preserve sources)
  - why there is such a high correlation across analysts forecasts and revisions
  - why All-America analysts become better forecasters than other analysts after they are chosen to be part of the team.

- **Proposition 3:** There is value to knowing what analysts are forecasting as earnings growth for a firm. There is, however, danger when they agree too much (lemmingitis) and when they agree to little (in which case the information that they have is so noisy as to be useless).

Aswath Damodaran

---

III. Fundamental Growth Rates

\[
\text{Investment in Existing Projects} \times \frac{\text{Current Return on Investment on Projects}}{12\%} = \text{Current Earnings} \times \frac{\text{$120}}{12\%} = \text{$120}
\]

\[
\text{Investment in Existing Projects} \times \frac{\text{Next Period's Return on Investment on Projects}}{12\%} + \text{Investment in New Projects} \times \frac{\text{Return on Investment on New Projects}}{12\%} = \text{Next Period's Earnings} \times \frac{\text{$132}}{12\%} = \text{$132}
\]

\[
\text{Investment in Existing Projects} \times \frac{\text{Change in ROI from current to next period: 0}}{12\%} + \text{Investment in New Projects} \times \frac{\text{Return on Investment on New Projects}}{12\%} = \text{Change in Earnings} \times \frac{\text{$12}}{12\%} = \text{$12}
\]

Aswath Damodaran
**Growth Rate Derivations**

In the special case where ROI on existing projects remains unchanged and is equal to the ROI on new projects:

\[
\text{Investment in New Projects} \times \text{Return on Investment} = \text{Change in Earnings} \\
100 \times 12\% = $12 \\
120 \times 12\% = \text{Growth Rate in Earnings}
\]

In the more general case where ROI can change from period to period, this can be expanded as follows:

\[
\frac{\text{Investment in Existing Projects} \times (\text{Change in ROI}) + \text{New Projects} \times \text{ROI}}{\text{Investment in Existing Projects} \times \text{Current ROI}} = \frac{\text{Change in Earnings}}{\text{Current Earnings}}
\]

For instance, if the ROI increases from 12% to 13%, the expected growth rate can be written as follows:

\[
\frac{1000 \times (.13 - .12) + 100 (.13\%)}{1000 \times .12} = \frac{$23}{$120} = 19.17\%
\]

**Estimating Fundamental Growth from new investments: Three variations**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Earnings Measure</th>
<th>Reinvestment Measure</th>
<th>Return Measure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Earnings per share</td>
<td>Retention Ratio = % of net income retained by the company = 1 – Payout ratio</td>
<td>Return on Equity = Net Income/ Book Value of Equity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income from non-cash assets</td>
<td>Equity reinvestment Rate = (Net Cap Ex + Change in non-cash WC – Change in Debt)/ (Net Income)</td>
<td>Non-cash ROE = Net Income from non-cash assets/ (Book value of equity – Cash)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operating Income</td>
<td>Reinvestment Rate = (Net Cap Ex + Change in non-cash WC)/ After-tax Operating Income</td>
<td>Return on Capital or ROIC = After-tax Operating Income/ (Book value of equity + Book value of debt – Cash)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran
I. Expected Long Term Growth in EPS

- When looking at growth in earnings per share, these inputs can be cast as follows:
  - Reinvestment Rate = Retained Earnings / Current Earnings = Retention Ratio
  - Return on Investment = ROE = Net Income / Book Value of Equity
- In the special case where the current ROE is expected to remain unchanged
  \[ g_{\text{EPS}} = \frac{\text{Retained Earnings}_{t-1}}{\text{NI}_{t-1}} \times \text{ROE} \]
  \[ = \text{Retention Ratio} \times \text{ROE} \]
  \[ = b \times \text{ROE} \]
- Proposition 1: The expected growth rate in earnings for a company cannot exceed its return on equity in the long term.


- Return on equity (based on 2008 earnings) = 17.56%
- Retention Ratio (based on 2008 earnings and dividends) = 45.37%
- Expected growth rate in earnings per share for Wells Fargo, if it can maintain these numbers.
  \[ \text{Expected Growth Rate} = 0.4537 (17.56\%) = 7.97\% \]
Regulatory Effects on Expected EPS growth

- Assume now that the banking crisis of 2008 will have an impact on the capital ratios and profitability of banks. In particular, you can expect that the book capital (equity) needed by banks to do business will increase 30%, starting now.
- Assuming that Wells continues with its existing businesses, estimate the expected growth rate in earnings per share for the future.
  
  New Return on Equity =
  
  Expected growth rate =

One way to pump up ROE: Use more debt

$$\text{ROE} = \text{ROC} + \frac{D}{E} (\text{ROC} - i(1-t))$$

where,

$$\text{ROC} = \frac{\text{EBIT}_t (1 - \text{tax rate})}{\text{Book value of Capital}_{t-1}}$$

$$\frac{D}{E} = \frac{\text{BV of Debt}}{\text{BV of Equity}}$$

$$i = \text{Interest Expense on Debt / BV of Debt}$$

$$t = \text{Tax rate on ordinary income}$$

- Note that Book value of capital = Book Value of Debt + Book value of Equity - Cash.
Decomposing ROE: Brahma in 1998

- Brahma (now Ambev) had an extremely high return on equity, partly because it borrowed money at a rate well below its return on capital
  - Return on Capital = 19.91%
  - Debt/Equity Ratio = 77%
  - After-tax Cost of Debt = 5.61%
  - Return on Equity = ROC + D/E (ROC - i(1-t))
    \[ = 19.91% + 0.77 \times (19.91% - 5.61%) = 30.92\%
  
- This seems like an easy way to deliver higher growth in earnings per share. What (if any) is the downside?

Aswath Damodaran

Decomposing ROE: Titan Watches (India)

- Return on Capital = 9.54%
- Debt/Equity Ratio = 191% (book value terms)
- After-tax Cost of Debt = 10.125%
- Return on Equity = ROC + D/E (ROC - i(1-t))
  \[ = 9.54% + 1.91 \times (9.54% - 10.125%) = 8.42\%

Aswath Damodaran
II. Expected Growth in Net Income from non-cash assets

- The limitation of the EPS fundamental growth equation is that it focuses on per share earnings and assumes that reinvested earnings are invested in projects earning the return on equity. To the extent that companies retain money in cash balances, the effect on net income can be muted.
- A more general version of expected growth in earnings can be obtained by substituting in the equity reinvestment into real investments (net capital expenditures and working capital) and modifying the return on equity definition to exclude cash:
  - Net Income from non-cash assets = Net income – Interest income from cash (1- t)
  - Equity Reinvestment Rate = (Net Capital Expenditures + Change in Working Capital) (1 - Debt Ratio)/ Net Income from non-cash assets
  - Non-cash ROE = Net Income from non-cash assets/ (BV of Equity – Cash)
  - Expected Growth^Net Income = Equity Reinvestment Rate * Non-cash ROE

Aswath Damodaran

---

Estimating expected growth in net income from non-cash assets: Coca Cola in 2010

- In 2010, Coca Cola reported net income of $11,809 million. It had a total book value of equity of $25,346 million at the end of 2009.
- Coca Cola had a cash balance of $7,021 million at the end of 2009, on which it earned income of $105 million in 2010.
- Coca Cola had capital expenditures of $2,215 million, depreciation of $1,443 million and reported an increase in working capital of $335 million. Coca Cola’s total debt increased by $150 million during 2010.
  - Equity Reinvestment = 2215- 1443 + 335-150 = $957 million
  - Non-cash Net Income = $11,809 - $105 = $ 11,704 million
  - Non-cash book equity = $25,346 - $7021 = $18,325 million
  - Reinvestment Rate = $957 million/ $11,704 million= 8.18%
  - Non-cash ROE = $11,704 million/ $18,325 million = 63.87%
  - Expected growth rate = 8.18% * 63.87% = 5.22%

Aswath Damodaran
III. Expected Growth in EBIT And Fundamentals: Stable ROC and Reinvestment Rate

- When looking at growth in operating income, the definitions are:
  - Reinvestment Rate = (Net Capital Expenditures + Change in WC)/EBIT(1-t)
  - Return on Investment = ROC = EBIT(1-t)/(BV of Debt + BV of Equity-Cash)

- Reinvestment Rate and Return on Capital
  Expected Growth rate in Operating Income
  = (Net Capital Expenditures + Change in WC)/EBIT(1-t) * ROC
  = Reinvestment Rate * ROC

- Proposition: The net capital expenditure needs of a firm, for a given growth rate, should be inversely proportional to the quality of its investments.

Estimating Growth in Operating Income

- Cisco’s Fundamentals
  - Reinvestment Rate = 106.81%
  - Return on Capital = 34.07%
  - Expected Growth in EBIT = (1.0681)(0.3407) = 36.39%

- Motorola’s Fundamentals
  - Reinvestment Rate = 52.99%
  - Return on Capital = 12.18%
  - Expected Growth in EBIT = (0.5299)(0.1218) = 6.45%
IV. Operating Income Growth when Return on Capital is Changing

- When the return on capital is changing, there will be a second component to growth, positive if the return on capital is increasing and negative if the return on capital is decreasing.

- If ROC\textsubscript{t} is the return on capital in period t and ROC\textsubscript{t+1} is the return on capital in period t+1, the expected growth rate in operating income will be:

  \[ \text{Expected Growth Rate} = \text{ROC}_{t+1} \times \text{Reinvestment rate} + \left(\text{ROC}_{t+1} - \text{ROC}_{t}\right) / \text{ROC}_{t} \]

- If the change is over multiple periods, the second component should be spread out over each period.

Motorola’s Growth Rate

- Motorola’s current return on capital is 12.18% and its reinvestment rate is 52.99%.

- We expect Motorola’s return on capital to rise to 17.22% over the next 5 years (which is half way towards the industry average)

  Expected Growth Rate
  \[ = \text{ROC}_{\text{New Investments}} \times \text{Reinvestment Rate}_{\text{Current}} + \left(1 + \left(\text{ROC}_{\text{In 5 years}} - \text{ROC}_{\text{Current}}\right) / \text{ROC}_{\text{Current}}\right) \]
  \[ = .1722 \times .5299 + \left(1 + (.1722 - .1218)/.1218\right) / 5\]
  \[ = .1629 \text{ or } 16.29\% \]

- One way to think about this is to decompose Motorola’s expected growth into
  - Growth from new investments: \[.1722 \times .5299 = 9.12\% \]
  - Growth from more efficiently using existing investments: \[16.29\% - 9.12\% = 7.17\% \]

Note that I am assuming that the new investments start making 17.22% immediately, while allowing for existing assets to improve returns gradually.
The Value of Growth

Expected growth = Growth from new investments + Efficiency growth
= Reinv Rate * ROC + (ROC<sub>t</sub> - ROC<sub>t-1</sub>) / ROC<sub>t-1</sub>

Assume that your cost of capital is 10%. As an investor, rank these firms in the order of most value growth to least value growth.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Firm 1</th>
<th>Firm 2</th>
<th>Firm 3</th>
<th>Firm 4</th>
<th>Firm 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reinv Rate</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROIC on new investment</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROIC on existing investments before</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROIC on existing investments after</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.80%</td>
<td>11.00%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expected growth rate | 10.00% | 10.00% | 10.00% | 10.00% | 10.00% |

V. Estimating Growth when Operating Income is Negative or Margins are changing

- All of the fundamental growth equations assume that the firm has a return on equity or return on capital it can sustain in the long term.
- When operating income is negative or margins are expected to change over time, we use a three step process to estimate growth:
  - Estimate growth rates in revenues over time
    - Use historical revenue growth to get estimates of revenue growth in the near future
    - Decrease the growth rate as the firm becomes larger
    - Keep track of absolute revenues to make sure that the growth is feasible
  - Estimate expected operating margins each year
    - Set a target margin that the firm will move towards
    - Adjust the current margin towards the target margin
  - Estimate the capital that needs to be invested to generate revenue growth and expected margins
    - Estimate a sales to capital ratio that you will use to generate reinvestment needs each year.
## Sirius Radio: Revenues and Revenue Growth - June 2006

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenue Growth</th>
<th>Operating Margin</th>
<th>Operating Income</th>
<th>Imputed ROC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>$187</td>
<td>-419.92%</td>
<td>-$787</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>200.00%</td>
<td>$562</td>
<td>-199.96%</td>
<td>-$1,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>$1,125</td>
<td>-89.98%</td>
<td>-$1,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>80.00%</td>
<td>$2,025</td>
<td>-34.99%</td>
<td>-$708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>60.00%</td>
<td>$3,239</td>
<td>-7.50%</td>
<td>-$243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>40.00%</td>
<td>$4,535</td>
<td>6.25%</td>
<td>$284</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>25.00%</td>
<td>$5,669</td>
<td>13.13%</td>
<td>$744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>20.00%</td>
<td>$6,803</td>
<td>16.56%</td>
<td>$1,127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>15.00%</td>
<td>$7,823</td>
<td>18.28%</td>
<td>$1,430</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>$8,605</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>$1,647</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>5.00%</td>
<td>$9,035</td>
<td>19.57%</td>
<td>$1,768</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Target margin based upon Clear Channel

---

## Sirius: Reinvestment Needs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Change in revenue</th>
<th>Sales/Cap Ratio</th>
<th>Reinvestment</th>
<th>Capital Invested</th>
<th>Operating Income (Loss)</th>
<th>Imputed ROC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Current</td>
<td>$187</td>
<td>$1,657</td>
<td>$1,844</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>-$1,125</td>
<td>-67.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$562</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>$375</td>
<td>-$1,125</td>
<td>-53.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$1,125</td>
<td>$562</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$562</td>
<td>$562</td>
<td>-$1,012</td>
<td>-53.08%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$2,025</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>$900</td>
<td>-$708</td>
<td>-31.05%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$3,239</td>
<td>$1,215</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$1,215</td>
<td>$1,215</td>
<td>-$243</td>
<td>-8.43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$4,535</td>
<td>$1,296</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$1,296</td>
<td>$1,296</td>
<td>$284</td>
<td>7.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$5,669</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>$744</td>
<td>16.33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$6,803</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>$1,134</td>
<td>$1,127</td>
<td>21.21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$7,823</td>
<td>$1,020</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$1,020</td>
<td>$1,020</td>
<td>$1,430</td>
<td>23.57%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>$8,605</td>
<td>$782</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$782</td>
<td>$782</td>
<td>$1,647</td>
<td>17.56%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$9,035</td>
<td>$430</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>$430</td>
<td>$430</td>
<td>$1,768</td>
<td>15.81%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Industry average Sales/Cap Ratio

Capital invested in year t+1 = Capital invested in year t + Reinvestment in year t+1

---

Aswath Damodaran
Expected Growth Rate

- Equity Earnings
- Operating Income

Analysts
- Fundamentals
- Historical

Historical Fundamentals

Analysts
- Fundamentals
- Historical

Stable ROC
- Changing ROC
- Negative Earnings

ROE = Retention Ratio

ROCt+1 = Reinvestment Rate

ROCt+1 = Reinvestment Rate

ROCt+1 = Reinvestment Rate

Earnings per share

Net Income

IV. CLOSURE IN VALUATION

The Big Enchilada
Getting Closure in Valuation

- A publicly traded firm potentially has an infinite life. The value is therefore the present value of cash flows forever.

\[
\text{Value} = \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \frac{CF_t}{(1+r)^t}
\]

- Since we cannot estimate cash flows forever, we estimate cash flows for a “growth period” and then estimate a terminal value, to capture the value at the end of the period:

\[
\text{Value} = \sum_{t=1}^{N} \frac{CF_t}{(1+r)^t} + \frac{\text{Terminal Value}}{(1+r)^N}
\]

Ways of Estimating Terminal Value

- Liquidation Value
  - Most useful when assets are separable and marketable

- Multiple Approach
  - Easiest approach but makes the valuation a relative valuation

- Stable Growth Model
  - Technically soundest, but requires that you make judgments about when the firm will grow at a stable rate which it can sustain forever, and the excess returns (if any) that it will earn during the period.
Getting Terminal Value Right

1. Obey the growth cap

- When a firm’s cash flows grow at a “constant” rate forever, the present value of those cash flows can be written as:
  
  \[ \text{Value} = \frac{\text{Expected Cash Flow Next Period}}{r - g} \]

  where,

  \[ r = \text{Discount rate (Cost of Equity or Cost of Capital)} \]
  
  \[ g = \text{Expected growth rate} \]

- The stable growth rate cannot exceed the growth rate of the economy but it can be set lower.
  - If you assume that the economy is composed of high growth and stable growth firms, the growth rate of the latter will probably be lower than the growth rate of the economy.
  - The stable growth rate can be negative. The terminal value will be lower and you are assuming that your firm will disappear over time.
  - If you use nominal cashflows and discount rates, the growth rate should be nominal in the currency in which the valuation is denominated.

- One simple proxy for the nominal growth rate of the economy is the riskfree rate.

Aswath Damodaran

---

Getting Terminal Value Right

2. Don’t wait too long...

- 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?
  
  a. < 5 years
  b. 5 years
  c. 10 years
  d. >10 years

- While analysts routinely assume very long high growth periods (with substantial excess returns during the periods), the evidence suggests that they are much too optimistic. Most growth firms have difficulty sustaining their growth for long periods, especially while earning excess returns.

Aswath Damodaran
And the key determinant of growth periods is the company’s competitive advantage...

- Recapping a key lesson about growth, it is not growth per se that creates value but growth with excess returns. For growth firms to continue to generate value creating growth, they have to be able to keep the competition at bay.
- **Proposition 1**: The stronger and more sustainable the competitive advantages, the longer a growth company can sustain “value creating” growth.
- **Proposition 2**: Growth companies with strong and sustainable competitive advantages are rare.

---

Don’t forget that growth has to be earned..

3. Think about what your firm will earn as returns forever..

- In the section on expected growth, we laid out the fundamental equation for growth:
  \[
  \text{Growth rate} = \text{Reinvestment Rate} \times \text{Return on invested capital} + \text{Growth rate from improved efficiency}
  \]
- In stable growth, you cannot count on efficiency delivering growth (why?) and you have to reinvest to deliver the growth rate that you have forecast. Consequently, your reinvestment rate in stable growth will be a function of your stable growth rate and what you believe the firm will earn as a return on capital in perpetuity:
  - Reinvestment Rate = \(\frac{\text{Stable growth rate}}{\text{Stable period Return on capital}}\)
- A key issue in valuation is whether it okay to assume that firms can earn more than their cost of capital in perpetuity. There are some (McKinsey, for instance) who argue that the return on capital = cost of capital in stable growth...
There are some firms that earn excess returns.

- While growth rates seem to fade quickly as firms become larger, well-managed firms seem to do much better at sustaining excess returns for longer periods.

And don’t fall for sleight of hand...

- A typical assumption in many DCF valuations, when it comes to stable growth, is that capital expenditures offset depreciation and there are no working capital needs. Stable growth firms, we are told, just have to make maintenance cap ex (replacing existing assets) to deliver growth. If you make this assumption, what expected growth rate can you use in your terminal value computation?

- What if the stable growth rate = inflation rate? Is it okay to make this assumption then?
Getting Terminal Value Right
4. Be internally consistent..

- Risk and costs of equity and capital: Stable growth firms tend to
  - Have betas closer to one
  - Have debt ratios closer to industry averages (or mature company averages)
  - Country risk premiums (especially in emerging markets should evolve over time)
- The excess returns at stable growth firms should approach (or become) zero. ROC -> Cost of capital and ROE -> Cost of equity
- The reinvestment needs and dividend payout ratios should reflect the lower growth and excess returns:
  - Stable period payout ratio = 1 - g/ROE
  - Stable period reinvestment rate = g/ROC

Aswath Damodaran
Summarizing the Inputs

- In summary, at this stage in the process, we should have an estimate of the
  - the current cash flows on the investment, either to equity investors (dividends or free cash flows to equity) or to the firm (cash flow to the firm)
  - the current cost of equity and/or capital on the investment
  - the expected growth rate in earnings, based upon historical growth, analysts forecasts and/or fundamentals

- The next step in the process is deciding
  - which cash flow to discount, which should indicate
  - which discount rate needs to be estimated and
  - what pattern we will assume growth to follow

Which cash flow should I discount?

- Use Equity Valuation
  - (a) for firms which have stable leverage, whether high or not, and
  - (b) if equity (stock) is being valued

- Use Firm Valuation
  - (a) for firms which have leverage which is too high or too low, and expect to change the leverage over time, because debt payments and issues do not have to be factored in the cash flows and the discount rate (cost of capital) does not change dramatically over time.
  - (b) for firms for which you have partial information on leverage (eg: interest expenses are missing..)
  - (c) in all other cases, where you are more interested in valuing the firm than the equity. (Value Consulting?)
Given cash flows to equity, should I discount dividends or FCFE?

- **Use the Dividend Discount Model**
  - (a) For firms which pay dividends (and repurchase stock) which are close to the Free Cash Flow to Equity (over a extended period)
  - (b) For firms where FCFE are difficult to estimate (Example: Banks and Financial Service companies)

- **Use the FCFE Model**
  - (a) For firms which pay dividends which are significantly higher or lower than the Free Cash Flow to Equity. (What is significant? ... As a rule of thumb, if dividends are less than 80% of FCFE or dividends are greater than 110% of FCFE over a 5-year period, use the FCFE model)
  - (b) For firms where dividends are not available (Example: Private Companies, IPOs)

Aswath Damodaran

---

What discount rate should I use?

- **Cost of Equity versus Cost of Capital**
  - If discounting cash flows to equity -> Cost of Equity
  - If discounting cash flows to the firm -> Cost of Capital

- **What currency should the discount rate (risk free rate) be in?**
  - Match the currency in which you estimate the risk free rate to the currency of your cash flows

- **Should I use real or nominal cash flows?**
  - If discounting real cash flows -> real cost of capital
  - If nominal cash flows -> nominal cost of capital
  - If inflation is low (<10%), stick with nominal cash flows since taxes are based upon nominal income
  - If inflation is high (>10%) switch to real cash flows

Aswath Damodaran
Which Growth Pattern Should I use?

- If your firm is
  - large and growing at a rate close to or less than growth rate of the economy, or
  - constrained by regulation from growing at rate faster than the economy
  - has the characteristics of a stable firm (average risk & reinvestment rates)
    Use a Stable Growth Model

- If your firm
  - is large & growing at a moderate rate (≤ Overall growth rate + 10%) or
  - has a single product & barriers to entry with a finite life (e.g. patents)
    Use a 2-Stage Growth Model

- If your firm
  - is small and growing at a very high rate (> Overall growth rate + 10%) or
  - has significant barriers to entry into the business
    - has firm characteristics that are very different from the norm
    Use a 3-Stage or n-stage Model

Aswath Damodaran

The Building Blocks of Valuation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash Flow</th>
<th>Investment</th>
<th>Cash Flows to Equity</th>
<th>Cash Flows to Firm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Expected Dividends to Stockholders</td>
<td></td>
<td>Net Income (1-δ)(Capital Exp. - Depreciation)</td>
<td>EBIT (1-tax rate)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(1-δ) Change in Work. Capital</td>
<td>(Capital Exp. - Depreciation)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>= Free Cash flow to Equity (FCFE)</td>
<td>- Change in Work. Capital</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>[δ = Debt Ratio]</td>
<td>= Free Cash flow to Firm (FCFF)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- A Discount Rate
  - **Cost of Equity**
    - Basic: The riskier the investment, the greater is the cost of equity.
    - Models:
      - CAPM: Riskfree Rate + Beta (Risk Premium)
      - APM: Riskfree Rate + Σ Betaj (Risk Premiumj): n factors

- A growth pattern
  - Stable Growth
  - Two-Stage Growth
  - Three-Stage Growth
  - High Growth Transition Stable

Aswath Damodaran
6. TYING UP LOOSE ENDS

The trouble starts after you tell me you are done..

But what comes next?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value of Operating Assets</th>
<th>Since this is a discounted cashflow valuation, should there be a real option premium?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and Marketable Securities</td>
<td>Operating versus non-operating cash Should cash be discounted for earning a low return?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Cross Holdings</td>
<td>How do you value cross holdings in other companies? What if the cross holdings are in private businesses?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Other Assets</td>
<td>What about other valuable assets? How do you consider under utilized assets?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Prem</td>
<td>Should you discount the value for quality or complexity? How about a premium for synergy? What about a premium for intangibles (brand names)?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Debt</td>
<td>What should be included in debt? Should you subtract book or market value of debt? What about other obligations (pension fund and health care)? What about contingent assets? What about minority interests?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Equity</td>
<td>Should there be a premium/discount for control? Should there be a discount for distressed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Equity Options</td>
<td>What equity options should be valued here (vested versus non-vested)? How do you value equity options?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of Common Stock</td>
<td>Should you divide by primary or diluted shares?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of shares</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value per share</td>
<td>Should there be a discount for illiquidity/marketability? Should there be a discount for minority interests?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. The Value of Cash

- The simplest and most direct way of dealing with cash and marketable securities is to keep it out of the valuation - the cash flows should be before interest income from cash and securities, and the discount rate should not be contaminated by the inclusion of cash. (Use betas of the operating assets alone to estimate the cost of equity).
- Once the operating assets have been valued, you should add back the value of cash and marketable securities.
- In many equity valuations, the interest income from cash is included in the cashflows. The discount rate has to be adjusted then for the presence of cash. (The beta used will be weighted down by the cash holdings). Unless cash remains a fixed percentage of overall value over time, these valuations will tend to break down.

An Exercise in Cash Valuation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Company A</th>
<th>Company B</th>
<th>Company C</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise Value</td>
<td>$1 billion</td>
<td>$1 billion</td>
<td>$1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>$100 mil</td>
<td>$100 mil</td>
<td>$100 mil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Return on Capital</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of Capital</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trades in</td>
<td>US</td>
<td>US</td>
<td>Argentina</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Should you ever discount cash for its low returns?

- There are some analysts who argue that companies with a lot of cash on their balance sheets should be penalized by having the excess cash discounted to reflect the fact that it earns a low return.
  - Excess cash is usually defined as holding cash that is greater than what the firm needs for operations.
  - A low return is defined as a return lower than what the firm earns on its non-cash investments.
- This is the wrong reason for discounting cash. If the cash is invested in riskless securities, it should earn a low rate of return. As long as the return is high enough, given the riskless nature of the investment, cash does not destroy value.
- There is a right reason, though, that may apply to some companies... Managers can do stupid things with cash (overpriced acquisitions, pie-in-the-sky projects....) and you have to discount for this possibility.

Aswath Damodaran

Cash: Discount or Premium?

Market Value of $1 in cash:
Estimates obtained by regressing Enterprise Value against Cash Balances

Aswath Damodaran
The Case of Closed End Funds: Price and NAV

A Simple Explanation for the Closed End Discount

- Assume that you have a closed-end fund that invests in ‘average risk’ stocks. Assume also that you expect the market (average risk investments) to make 11.5% annually over the long term. If the closed end fund underperforms the market by 0.50%, estimate the discount on the fund.
A Premium for Marketable Securities: Berkshire Hathaway

2. Dealing with Holdings in Other firms

- Holdings in other firms can be categorized into
  - Minority passive holdings, in which case only the dividend from the holdings is shown in the balance sheet
  - Minority active holdings, in which case the share of equity income is shown in the income statements
  - Majority active holdings, in which case the financial statements are consolidated.
An Exercise in Valuing Cross Holdings

- Assume that you have valued Company A using consolidated financials for $1 billion (using FCFF and cost of capital) and that the firm has $200 million in debt. How much is the equity in Company A worth?

- Now assume that you are told that Company A owns 10% of Company B and that the holdings are accounted for as passive holdings. If the market cap of company B is $500 million, how much is the equity in Company A worth?

- Now add on the assumption that Company A owns 60% of Company C and that the holdings are fully consolidated. The minority interest in company C is recorded at $40 million in Company A’s balance sheet. How much is the equity in Company A worth?

Aswath Damodaran

More on Cross Holding Valuation

- Building on the previous example, assume that
  - You have valued equity in company B at $250 million (which is half the market’s estimate of value currently)
  - Company A is a steel company and that company C is a chemical company. Furthermore, assume that you have valued the equity in company C at $250 million.
  - Estimate the value of equity in company A.

Aswath Damodaran
If you really want to value cross holdings right....

- **Step 1**: Value the parent company without any cross holdings. This will require using unconsolidated financial statements rather than consolidated ones.

- **Step 2**: Value each of the cross holdings individually. (If you use the market values of the cross holdings, you will build in errors the market makes in valuing them into your valuation.

- **Step 3**: The final value of the equity in the parent company with N cross holdings will be:
  - Value of un-consolidated parent company
  - – Debt of un-consolidated parent company
  - + ∑ for j=1 to N, % owned of Company j * (Value of Company j - Debt of Company j)

If you have to settle for an approximation, try this...

- **For majority holdings**, with full consolidation, convert the minority interest from book value to market value by applying a price to book ratio (based upon the sector average for the subsidiary) to the minority interest.
  - Estimated market value of minority interest = Minority interest on balance sheet * Price to Book ratio for sector (of subsidiary)
  - Subtract this from the estimated value of the consolidated firm to get to value of the equity in the parent company.

- **For minority holdings** in other companies, convert the book value of these holdings (which are reported on the balance sheet) into market value by multiplying by the price to book ratio of the sector(s). Add this value on to the value of the operating assets to arrive at total firm value.
3. Other Assets that have not been counted yet..

- Assets that you should not be counting (or adding on to DCF values)
  - If an asset is contributing to your cashflows, you cannot count the market value of the asset in your value. Thus, you should not be counting the real estate on which your offices stand, the PP&E representing your factories and other productive assets, any values attached to brand names or customer lists and definitely no non-assets (such as goodwill).

- Assets that you can count (or add on to your DCF valuation)
  - Overfunded pension plans: If you have a defined benefit plan and your assets exceed your expected liabilities, you could consider the over funding with two caveats:
    - Collective bargaining agreements may prevent you from laying claim to these excess assets.
    - There are tax consequences. Often, withdrawals from pension plans get taxed at much higher rates.
  - Unutilized assets: If you have assets or property that are not being utilized to generate cash flows (vacant land, for example), you have not valued it yet. You can assess a market value for these assets and add them on to the value of the firm.

Aswath Damodaran

4. A Discount for Complexity:
   An Experiment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Company A</th>
<th>Company B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Income</td>
<td>$ 1 billion</td>
<td>$ 1 billion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tax rate</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>40%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROIC</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Growth</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of capital</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business Mix</td>
<td>Single</td>
<td>Multiple</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holdings</td>
<td>Simple</td>
<td>Complex</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting</td>
<td>Transparent</td>
<td>Opaque</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Which firm would you value more highly?

Aswath Damodaran
### Measuring Complexity: Volume of Data in Financial Statements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Company</th>
<th>Number of pages in last 10Q</th>
<th>Number of pages in last 10K</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General Electric</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Microsoft</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wal-mart</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exxon Mobil</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pfizer</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citigroup</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>1026</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intel</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AIG</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>720</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johnson &amp; Johnson</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBM</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>353</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran

### Measuring Complexity: A Complexity Score

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Factors</th>
<th>Follow-up Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Weighting Factor</th>
<th>Bryant/Heavy Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Operating Income</td>
<td>1. Multiple Businesses, annual income and expenses</td>
<td>Number of businesses with more than 10% of revenues</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Income from multiple branches</td>
<td>Percent of operating income</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Income from unimportant sources</td>
<td>Percent of operating income</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>10.00</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Income statement that is simple</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pay Rate</td>
<td>1. Differences in tax bases</td>
<td>Percent of revenues from intra-country sales</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>2.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Differences in tax bases</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Taxes</td>
<td></td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital Expenditures</td>
<td>1. Total capital expenditure</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Frequent and large acquisitions</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Stock payment for acquisitions and investments</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working capital</td>
<td>1. Un担保 of current assets and current liabilities</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Volatility of capital assets</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expected Growth rate</td>
<td>1. Off-balance sheet assets and liabilities</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Expected growth rate</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Changing returns on capital over time</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Variable capital component</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cost of capital</td>
<td>1. Multiple business sectors</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Expenses in emerging markets</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Is the debt market traded</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Does the company have a rating?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5. Does the company have off-balance sheet debt?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-operating assets</td>
<td>Minority holdings as percent of book assets</td>
<td>Minority holdings as percent of book assets</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm liquidity</td>
<td>Consoliation of subsidiaries</td>
<td>Minority interest as percent of book value of equity</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-share value</td>
<td>Shares with different voting rights</td>
<td>Does the firm have shares with different voting rights</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity options</td>
<td>Outstanding as percent of shares</td>
<td>Options outstanding as percent of shares</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complexity Score = 42.75

Aswath Damodaran
Dealing with Complexity

- **In Discounted Cashflow Valuation**
  - The Aggressive Analyst: Trust the firm to tell the truth and value the firm based upon the firm’s statements about their value.
  - The Conservative Analyst: Don’t value what you cannot see.
  - The Compromise: Adjust the value for complexity
    - Adjust cash flows for complexity
    - Adjust the discount rate for complexity
    - Adjust the expected growth rate/ length of growth period
    - Value the firm and then discount value for complexity

- **In relative valuation**
  - In a relative valuation, you may be able to assess the price that the market is charging for complexity:
  - With the hundred largest market cap firms, for instance:
    \[
    PBV = 0.65 + 15.31 \text{ ROE} – 0.55 \text{ Beta} + 3.04 \text{ Expected growth rate} – 0.003 \# Pages in 10K
    \]

5. Be circumspect about defining debt for cost of capital purposes...

- **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.

- **Defined as such, debt should include**
  - All interest bearing liabilities, short term as well as long term
  - All leases, operating as well as capital

- **Debt should not include**
  - Accounts payable or supplier credit

- Be wary of your conservative impulses which will tell you to count everything as debt. That will push up the debt ratio and lead you to understate your cost of capital.
Book Value or Market Value

- You are valuing a distressed telecom company and have arrived at an estimate of $1 billion for the enterprise value (using a discounted cash flow valuation). The company has $1 billion in face value of debt outstanding but the debt is trading at 50% of face value (because of the distress). What is the value of the equity to you as an investor?
  a. The equity is worth nothing (EV minus Face Value of Debt)
  b. The equity is worth $500 million (EV minus Market Value of Debt)

- Would your answer be different if you were told that the liquidation value of the assets of the firm today is $1.2 billion and that you were planning to liquidate the firm today?

But you should consider other potential liabilities when getting to equity value

- If you have underfunded pension fund or health care plans, you should consider the under funding at this stage in getting to the value of equity.
  - If you do so, you should not double count by also including a cash flow line item reflecting cash you would need to set aside to meet the unfunded obligation.
  - You should not be counting these items as debt in your cost of capital calculations....

- If you have contingent liabilities - for example, a potential liability from a lawsuit that has not been decided - you should consider the expected value of these contingent liabilities
  - Value of contingent liability = Probability that the liability will occur * Expected value of liability
6. Equity Options issued by the firm:

- Any options issued by a firm, whether to management or employees or to investors (convertibles and warrants) create claims on the equity of the firm.
- By creating claims on the equity, they can affect the value of equity per share.
- Failing to fully take into account this claim on the equity in valuation will result in an overstatement of the value of equity per share.

Aswath Damodaran

Why do options affect equity value per share?

- It is true that options can increase the number of shares outstanding but dilution per se is not the problem.
- Options affect equity value at exercise because
  - Shares are issued at below the prevailing market price. Options get exercised only when they are in the money.
  - Alternatively, the company can use cashflows that would have been available to equity investors to buy back shares which are then used to meet option exercise. The lower cashflows reduce equity value.
- Options affect equity value before exercise because we have to build in the expectation that there is a probability and a cost to exercise.

Aswath Damodaran
A simple example...

- XYZ company has $100 million in free cashflows to the firm, growing 3% a year in perpetuity and a cost of capital of 8%. It has 100 million shares outstanding and $1 billion in debt. Its value can be written as follows:
  - Value of firm = \( \frac{100}{.08-.03} \) = 2000
  - Debt = 1000
  - = Equity = 1000
  - Value per share = \( \frac{1000}{100} \) = $10

Now come the options...

- XYZ decides to give 10 million options at the money (with a strike price of $10) to its CEO. What effect will this have on the value of equity per share?
  a. None. The options are not in-the-money.
  b. Decrease by 10%, since the number of shares could increase by 10 million
  c. Decrease by less than 10%. The options will bring in cash into the firm but they have time value.
Dealing with Employee Options: The Bludgeon Approach

- The simplest way of dealing with options is to try to adjust the denominator for shares that will become outstanding if the options get exercised.
- In the example cited, this would imply the following:
  - Value of firm = \( \frac{100}{0.08 - 0.03} \) = 2000
  - Debt = 1000
  - Equity = 1000
  - Number of diluted shares = 110
  - Value per share = \( \frac{1000}{110} \) = $9.09

Problem with the diluted approach

- The diluted approach fails to consider that exercising options will bring in cash into the firm. Consequently, they will overestimate the impact of options and understate the value of equity per share.
- The degree to which the approach will understate value will depend upon how high the exercise price is relative to the market price.
- In cases where the exercise price is a fraction of the prevailing market price, the diluted approach will give you a reasonable estimate of value per share.
The Treasury Stock Approach

- The treasury stock approach adds the proceeds from the exercise of options to the value of the equity before dividing by the diluted number of shares outstanding.

- In the example cited, this would imply the following:
  
  - Value of firm = $100 / (.08-.03) = 2000$
  - Debt $= 1000$
  - Equity $= 1000$
  - Number of diluted shares $= 110$
  - Proceeds from option exercise $= 10 * 10 = 100$
  - Value per share $= (1000+100)/110 = $10$

Aswath Damodaran

Problems with the treasury stock approach

- The treasury stock approach fails to consider the time premium on the options. In the example used, we are assuming that an at-the-money option is essentially worth nothing.

- The treasury stock approach also has problems with out-of-the-money options. If considered, they can increase the value of equity per share. If ignored, they are treated as non-existent.
Dealing with options the right way...

- Step 1: Value the firm, using discounted cash flow or other valuation models.
- Step 2: Subtract out the value of the outstanding debt to arrive at the value of equity. Alternatively, skip step 1 and estimate the value of equity directly.
- Step 3: Subtract out the market value (or estimated market value) of other equity claims:
  - Value of Warrants = Market Price per Warrant * Number of Warrants
  - Alternatively estimate the value using option pricing model
  - Value of Conversion Option = Market Value of Convertible Bonds - Value of Straight Debt Portion of Convertible Bonds
  - Value of employee Options: Value using the average exercise price and maturity.
- Step 4: Divide the remaining value of equity by the number of shares outstanding to get value per share.

Valuing Equity Options issued by firms... The Dilution Problem

- Option pricing models can be used to value employee options with four caveats –
  - Employee options are long term, making the assumptions about constant variance and constant dividend yields much shakier,
  - Employee options result in stock dilution, and
  - Employee options are often exercised before expiration, making it dangerous to use European option pricing models.
  - Employee options cannot be exercised until the employee is vested.
- These problems can be partially alleviated by using an option pricing model, allowing for shifts in variance and early exercise, and factoring in the dilution effect. The resulting value can be adjusted for the probability that the employee will not be vested.
Back to the numbers... Inputs for Option valuation

- Stock Price = $10
- Strike Price = $10
- Maturity = 10 years
- Standard deviation in stock price = 40%
- Riskless Rate = 4%

Valuing the Options

- Using a dilution-adjusted Black Scholes model, we arrive at the following inputs:
  - \( N(d_1) = 0.8199 \)
  - \( N(d_2) = 0.3624 \)
  - Value per call = \( 9.58 \times 0.8199 - 10 \exp(-0.04 \times 10) \times 0.3624 = 5.42 \)

Dilution adjusted Stock price
Value of Equity to Value of Equity per share

- Using the value per call of $5.42, we can now estimate the value of equity per share after the option grant:
  - Value of firm = $100 / (.08-.03) = 2000
  - Debt = 1000
  - Equity = 1000
  - Value of options granted = $54.2
  - Value of Equity in stock = $945.8
  - / Number of shares outstanding / 100
  - = Value per share = $9.46

To tax adjust or not to tax adjust...

- In the example above, we have assumed that the options do not provide any tax advantages. To the extent that the exercise of the options creates tax advantages, the actual cost of the options will be lower by the tax savings.
- One simple adjustment is to multiply the value of the options by (1 - tax rate) to get an after-tax option cost.
Option grants in the future...

- Assume now that this firm intends to continue granting options each year to its top management as part of compensation. These expected option grants will also affect value.
- The simplest mechanism for bringing in future option grants into the analysis is to do the following:
  - Estimate the value of options granted each year over the last few years as a percent of revenues.
  - Forecast out the value of option grants as a percent of revenues into future years, allowing for the fact that as revenues get larger, option grants as a percent of revenues will become smaller.
  - Consider this line item as part of operating expenses each year. This will reduce the operating margin and cashflow each year.

When options affect equity value per share the most...

- Option grants affect value more
  - The lower the strike price is set relative to the stock price
  - The longer the term to maturity of the option
  - The more volatile the stock price
- The effect on value will be magnified if companies are allowed to revisit option grants and reset the exercise price if the stock price moves down.
LET THE GAMES BEGIN... TIME TO VALUE COMPANIES..

Let's have some fun!

Equity Risk Premiums in Valuation

- The equity risk premiums that I have used in the valuations that follow reflect my thinking (and how it has evolved) on the issue.
  - Pre-1998 valuations: In the valuations prior to 1998, I use a risk premium of 5.5% for mature markets (close to both the historical and the implied premiums then)
  - Between 1998 and Sept 2008: In the valuations between 1998 and September 2008, I used a risk premium of 4% for mature markets, reflecting my belief that risk premiums in mature markets do not change much and revert back to historical norms (at least for implied premiums).
  - Valuations done in 2009: After the 2008 crisis and the jump in equity risk premiums to 6.43% in January 2008, I have used a higher equity risk premium (5-6%) for the next 5 years and will assume a reversion back to historical norms (4%) only after year 5.
  - In 2010, 2011 & 2012: In 2010, I reverted back to a mature market premium of 4.5%, reflecting the drop in equity risk premiums during 2009. In 2011, I used 5%, reflecting the change in implied premium over the year. In 2012 and 2013, I will stay with 6%.
Training Wheels valuation: Con Ed in August 2008

Growth rate forever = 2.1%

Value per share today = Expected Dividends per share next year / (Cost of equity - Growth rate)
= 2.32 (1.021) / (.077 - .021) = $42.30

On August 12, 2008 Con Ed was trading at $40.76.

Test 1: Is the firm paying dividends like a stable growth firm?
Dividend payout ratio is 73%
In trailing 12 months, through June 2008
Earnings per share = $3.17
Dividends per share = $2.32

Test 2: Is the stable growth rate consistent with fundamentals?
Retention Ratio = 27%
ROE = Cost of equity = 7.7%
Expected growth = 2.1%

Test 3: Is the firm’s risk and cost of equity consistent with a stable growth firm?
Beta of 0.80 is at lower end of the range of stable company betas: 0.8 - 1.2

A break even growth rate to get to market price...

Con Ed: Value versus Growth Rate

Break even point: Value = Price

Aswath Damodaran
From DCF value to target price and returns...

- Assume that you believe that your valuation of Con Ed ($42.30) is a fair estimate of the value, 7.70% is a reasonable estimate of Con Ed’s cost of equity and that your expected dividends for next year (2.32*1.021) is a fair estimate, what is the expected stock price a year from now (assuming that the market corrects its mistake?)

- If you bought the stock today at $40.76, what return can you expect to make over the next year (assuming again that the market corrects its mistake)?

Aswath Damodaran
Current Cashflow to Firm

\[ \text{EBIT} (1-t) = 4810 (1-0.35) = 3180 \]

\[- \text{NCX} = 350 \]

\[- \text{Chg WC} = 691 \]

\[= \text{FCFF} = 2139 \]

Reinvestment Rate = \( \frac{1041}{3180} \times 100 \% = 33\% \)

Return on capital = \( 23.06\% \)

Expected Growth in EBIT (1-t)

\[ 0.25 \times 0.20 = 0.05 \]

5%

Stable Growth

\[ g = 3\%; \beta = 1.00; \text{ERP} = 4\% \]

Cost of capital = \( 7.55\% \)

ROC = 7.55%

Reinvestment Rate = \( \frac{3}{7.55} \times 100\% = 40\% \)

Terminal Value = \( \frac{2434}{0.0755 - 0.03} = 53,481 \)

Cost of Equity = 10.86%

Cost of Debt = \( (3.96\% + 1.5\%) \times (1-0.35) = 3.55\% \)

Weights

\[ \text{E} = 92\%; \text{D} = 8\% \]

Op. Assets = 43,975

Cash = 3,253

Debt = 49,200

Equity = 42,308

Value/Share = $60.53

Rationale for model

Why dividends? Because it is the only tangible cash flow, right?

Why 2-stage? Because the expected growth rate in near term is higher than stable growth rate.

Dividends

$ Dividends in trailing 12 months = 30.44

Discount at Cost of Equity

Cost of Equity = \( 6.76\% \)

Riskfree Rate

Riskfree rate = 3.96%

Beta

\[ \beta = 1.15 \]

Risk Premium = 6%

Default Spread = 8%

Unlevered Beta for Sectors

\[ \beta = 1.09 \]

\[ \text{D/E} = 8.8\% \]

Cost of Capital = 10.86% (0.92) + 3.55% (0.08) = 10.27%

Year 1 2 3 4 5

EBIT (1-t) $3,339 $3,506 $3,667 $3,807 $3,921

Reinvestment $835 $877 $1,025 $1,288 $1,558

FCFF $2,504 $2,630 $2,642 $2,519 $2,363

Terminal Value = $4,038 + $1,604 + $2,434 + $2,363 = $10,349

On January 1, 2013, the S&P 500 index was trading at 1426.19

Dividends

32.04 33.73 35.51 37.38 39.35

Value of Equity per share = PV of Dividends & Terminal value at 6.76% = 723.42

S&P 500 is a good reflection of overall market

233

234
From a Company to the Market: Valuing the S&P 500: Augmented Dividend Discount Model in January 2013

Rationale for model
Why dividends & buybacks? Because more and more companies are choosing to return cash in the form of buybacks
Why 2-stage? Because the expected growth rate in near term is higher than stable growth rate.

Dividends
$ Dividends + Buybacks in trailing 12 months = 69.46

Value of Equity per share = PV of Augmented Dividends & Terminal value at 6.76% = 1650.74

Discount at Cost of Equity

Cost of Equity = 1.76% + 0.5% = 6.76%

Dividends
73.12 76.97 81.03 85.50 89.80

Forever

Terminal Value = DPS in year 6/ (r-g)
= (89.80*1.0176)/(0.0676-0.0176) = 1827.53

Risk Premium
5%
Set at the average ERP over the last decade

Beta
1.00

S&P 500 is a good reflection of overall market

On January 1, 2013, the S&P 500 index was trading at 1426.19

S&P 500 is a good reflection of overall market

Valuing the S&P 500: Augmented Dividends & Fundamental Growth Model in January 2013

Rationale for model
Why dividends & buybacks? Because more and more companies are choosing to return cash in the form of buybacks
Why 2-stage? Because the expected growth rate in near term is higher than stable growth rate.

Dividends
$ Dividends + Buybacks in trailing 12 months = 69.46
(Earnings for index = 102.47)

Value of Equity per share = PV of Augmented Dividends & Terminal value at 6.76% = 1658.95

Discount at Cost of Equity

Cost of Equity = 1.76% + 0.5% = 6.76%

Dividends
73.20 77.14 81.29 85.67 90.28

Forever

Terminal Value = DPS in year 6/ (r-g)
= (90.28*1.0176)/(0.0676-0.0176) = 1837.43

Risk Premium
5%
Set at the average ERP over the last decade

S&P 500 is a good reflection of overall market

On January 1, 2013, the S&P 500 index was trading at 1426.19

S&P 500 is a good reflection of overall market
THE DARK SIDE OF VALUATION: VALUING DIFFICULT-TO-VALUE COMPANIES

Anyone can value a money-making stable company..

The fundamental determinants of value...

- What are the cashflows from existing assets?
  - Equity: Cashflows after debt payments
  - Firm: Cashflows before debt payments

- What is the value added by growth assets?
  - Equity: Growth in equity earnings/cashflows
  - Firm: Growth in operating earnings/cashflows

- How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?
  - Equity: Risk in equity in the company
  - Firm: Risk in the firm’s operations

- When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?
The Dark Side of Valuation...

- Valuing stable, money making companies with consistent and clear accounting statements, a long and stable history and lots of comparable firms is easy to do.

- The true test of your valuation skills is when you have to value “difficult” companies. In particular, the challenges are greatest when valuing:
  - Young companies, early in the life cycle, in young businesses
  - Companies that don’t fit the accounting mold
  - Companies that face substantial truncation risk (default or nationalization risk)

Difficult to value companies...

- Across the life cycle:
  - Young, growth firms: Limited history, small revenues in conjunction with big operating losses and a propensity for failure make these companies tough to value.
  - Mature companies in transition: When mature companies change or are forced to change, history may have to be abandoned and parameters have to be reestimated.
  - Declining and Distressed firms: A long but irrelevant history, declining markets, high debt loads and the likelihood of distress make them troublesome.

- Across markets
  - Emerging market companies are often difficult to value because of the way they are structured, their exposure to country risk and poor corporate governance.

- Across sectors
  - Financial service firms: Opacity of financial statements and difficulties in estimating basic inputs leave us trusting managers to tell us what’s going on.
  - Commodity and cyclical firms: Dependence of the underlying commodity prices or overall economic growth make these valuations susceptible to macro factors.
  - Firms with intangible assets: Accounting principles are left to the wayside on these firms.
I. The challenge with young companies...

Making judgments on revenues/ profits difficult because you cannot draw on history. If you have no product/ service, it is difficult to gauge market potential or profitability. The company’s entire value lies in future growth but you have little to base your estimate on.

Cash flows from existing assets non-existent or negative.
What are the cashflows from existing assets?

What is the value added by growth assets?

How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?

Limited historical data on earnings, and no market prices for securities makes it difficult to assess risk.

When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

Will the firm make it through the gauntlet of market demand and competition. Even if it does, assessing when it will become mature is difficult because there is so little to go on.

Upping the ante.. Young companies in young businesses...

- When valuing a business, we generally draw on three sources of information
  - The firm’s current financial statement
    - How much did the firm sell?
    - How much did it earn?
  - The firm’s financial history, usually summarized in its financial statements.
    - How fast have the firm’s revenues and earnings grown over time?
    - What can we learn about cost structure and profitability from these trends?
    - Susceptibility to macro-economic factors (recessions and cyclical firms)
  - The industry and comparable firm data
    - What happens to firms as they mature? (Margins... Revenue growth... Reinvestment needs... Risk)

- It is when valuing these companies that you find yourself tempted by the dark side, where
  - “Paradigm shifts” happen...
  - New metrics are invented ...
  - The story dominates and the numbers lag...
Lesson 1: Don’t trust regression betas....
### Lesson 2: Work backwards and keep it simple...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Revenues (Tr12m)</th>
<th>Operating Margin</th>
<th>EBIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$1,117</td>
<td>-36.71%</td>
<td>-$410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$2,793</td>
<td>-13.35%</td>
<td>-$373</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$5,585</td>
<td>-1.68%</td>
<td>-$94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$9,774</td>
<td>4.16%</td>
<td>$407</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$14,661</td>
<td>7.08%</td>
<td>$1,038</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>$19,059</td>
<td>8.54%</td>
<td>$1,628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>$23,862</td>
<td>9.27%</td>
<td>$2,212</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>$28,729</td>
<td>9.64%</td>
<td>$2,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>$33,211</td>
<td>9.82%</td>
<td>$3,261</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>$36,798</td>
<td>9.91%</td>
<td>$3,646</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TY(11)</td>
<td>$39,006</td>
<td>9.95%</td>
<td>$3,883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$41,346</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>$4,135</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran

### Lesson 3: Scaling up is hard to do...

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

![Graph showing Post-IPO growth vs. Number of years after coming to market](image)

Source: Andrew Metrick The New York Times

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 4: Don’t forget to pay for growth... and check your reinvestment...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Rev growth</th>
<th>Chg in Rev</th>
<th>Reinv</th>
<th>S/Cap</th>
<th>ROC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>150.00%</td>
<td>$1,676</td>
<td>$559</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>-76.62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>100.00%</td>
<td>$2,793</td>
<td>$931</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>-8.96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>75.00%</td>
<td>$4,189</td>
<td>$1,396</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>20.59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>50.00%</td>
<td>$4,887</td>
<td>$1,629</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>25.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>30.00%</td>
<td>$4,398</td>
<td>$1,466</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>21.16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>25.20%</td>
<td>$4,803</td>
<td>$1,601</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>22.23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>20.40%</td>
<td>$4,868</td>
<td>$1,623</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>22.30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>15.60%</td>
<td>$4,482</td>
<td>$1,494</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>21.87%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10.80%</td>
<td>$3,587</td>
<td>$1,196</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>21.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>6.00%</td>
<td>$2,208</td>
<td>$736</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>20.39%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran

Lesson 5: And don’t worry about dilution... It is already factored in

- With young growth companies, it is almost a given that the number of shares outstanding will increase over time for two reasons:
  - To grow, the company will have to issue new shares either to raise cash to take projects or to offer to target company stockholders in acquisitions
  - Many young, growth companies also offer options to managers as compensation and these options will get exercised, if the company is successful.

- In DCF valuation, both effects are already incorporated into the value per share, even though we use the current number of shares in estimating value per share
  - The need for new equity issues is captured in negative cash flows in the earlier years. The present value of these negative cash flows will drag down the current value of equity and this is the effect of future dilution.
  - The options are valued and netted out against the current value. Using an option pricing model allows you to incorporate the expected likelihood that they will be exercised and the price at which they will be exercised.

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 6: There are always scenarios where the market price can be justified...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>6%</th>
<th>8%</th>
<th>10%</th>
<th>12%</th>
<th>14%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30%</td>
<td>$ (1.94)</td>
<td>$ 2.95</td>
<td>$ 7.84</td>
<td>$ 12.71</td>
<td>$ 17.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35%</td>
<td>$ 1.41</td>
<td>$ 8.37</td>
<td>$ 15.33</td>
<td>$ 22.27</td>
<td>$ 29.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40%</td>
<td>$ 6.10</td>
<td>$ 15.93</td>
<td>$ 25.74</td>
<td>$ 35.54</td>
<td>$ 45.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45%</td>
<td>$ 12.59</td>
<td>$ 26.34</td>
<td>$ 40.05</td>
<td>$ 53.77</td>
<td>$ 67.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50%</td>
<td>$ 21.47</td>
<td>$ 40.50</td>
<td>$ 59.52</td>
<td>$ 78.53</td>
<td>$ 97.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55%</td>
<td>$ 33.47</td>
<td>$ 59.60</td>
<td>$ 85.72</td>
<td>$ 111.84</td>
<td>$ 137.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60%</td>
<td>$ 49.53</td>
<td>$ 85.10</td>
<td>$ 120.66</td>
<td>$ 156.22</td>
<td>$ 191.77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Lesson 7: You will be wrong 100% of the time... and it really is not (always) your fault...

- No matter how careful you are in getting your inputs and how well structured your model is, your estimate of value will change both as new information comes out about the company, the business and the economy.
- As information comes out, you will have to adjust and adapt your model to reflect the information. Rather than be defensive about the resulting changes in value, recognize that this is the essence of risk.
- A test: If your valuations are unbiased, you should find yourself increasing estimated values as often as you are decreasing values. In other words, there should be equal doses of good and bad news affecting valuations (at least over time).
9b. Amazon in January 2001

Reinvestment:
Gap = Revenues - Capital expenditures
Working capital is 3% of revenues

Value of Op Assets $8,789 + Cash & Non-op $1,263 = Value of Firm $10,052 - Value of Debt $1,879 = Value of Equity $8,173 - Equity Options $845
Value per share $20.83

Amazon.com
January 2001
Stock price = $1

And the market is often “more wrong”....
II. Mature Companies in transition..

- Mature companies are generally the easiest group to value. They have long, established histories that can be mined for inputs. They have investment policies that are set and capital structures that are stable, thus making valuation more grounded in past data.
- However, this stability in the numbers can mask real problems at the company. The company may be set in a process, where it invests more or less than it should and does not have the right financing mix. In effect, the policies are consistent, stable and bad.
- If you expect these companies to change or as is more often the case to have change thrust upon them,

The perils of valuing mature companies...

- Lots of historical data on earnings and cashflows. Key questions remain if these numbers are volatile over time or if the existing assets are not being efficiently utilized.
- Growth is usually not very high, but firms may still be generating healthy returns on investments, relative to cost of funding. Questions include how long they can generate these excess returns and with what growth rate in operations. Restructuring can change both inputs dramatically and some firms maintain high growth through acquisitions.
- What is the value added by growth assets?
- Equity claims can vary in voting rights and dividends.
- How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?
- Operating risk should be stable, but the firm can change its financial leverage This can affect both the cost of equity and capital.
- What is the value of equity in the firm? Maintaining excess returns or high growth for any length of time is difficult to do for a mature firm.
- When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?
Hormel Foods: The Value of Control Changing

Hormel Foods sells packaged meat and other food products and has been in existence as a publicly traded company for almost 80 years. In 2008, the firm reported after-tax operating income of $315 million, reflecting a compounded growth of 5% over the previous 5 years.

The Status Quo

Run by existing management, with conservative reinvestment policies (reinvestment rate = 14.34% and debt ratio = 10.4%).

New and better management

More aggressive reinvestment which increases the reinvestment rate to (40%) and length of growth to (5 years), and higher debt ratio (20%).

Operating Restructuring

Expected growth rate = \( \text{ROIC} \times \text{Reinvestment Rate} \)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Operating income after taxes</th>
<th>Expected growth rate ( \text{ROIC} \times \text{Reinvestment Rate} )</th>
<th>Reinvestment Rate</th>
<th>Cost of Capital</th>
<th>Present Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$315</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$357</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$390</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$423</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$457</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond</td>
<td>$490</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>13.54%</td>
<td>9.2%</td>
<td>$295</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value of operating assets: $582

Debt Cash: $491

Equity: Management options: $73

Value of equity in common stock: $478

Value per share: $7.91

Financial restructuring

Cost of capital = Cost of equity (1-Debt ratio) + Cost of debt (Debt ratio)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Operating income after taxes</th>
<th>Expected growth rate ( \text{ROIC} \times \text{Reinvestment Rate} )</th>
<th>Reinvestment Rate</th>
<th>Cost of Capital</th>
<th>Present Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>$315</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>$357</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>$390</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>$423</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>$457</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beyond</td>
<td>$490</td>
<td>3.8%</td>
<td>19.14%</td>
<td>6.83%</td>
<td>$382</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value of operating assets: $469

Debt Cash: $491

Equity: Management options: $73

Value of equity in common stock: $478

Value per share: $7.91

Anemic growth rate and short growth period, due to reinvestment policy

Low debt rate affects cost of capital

Lesson 1: Cost cutting and increased efficiency are easier accomplished on paper than in practice… and require commitment

Aswath Damodaran

Exhibit 4: Top factors for meeting targets

- Top management support: 44
- Clear targets: 39
- Clear, well-planned approach: 31
- Necessary talent and capabilities in place: 22
- Sufficient accountability: 19
- Fact base necessary to make decisions: 15

% of respondents whose companies have met their cost reduction strategies, \( n = 178 \)

\(^*\) Respondents who answered “don’t know” are not shown.
Lesson 2: Increasing growth is not always a value creating option. And it may destroy value at times.

Aswath Damodaran

Lesson 3: Financial leverage is a double-edged sword.

Aswath Damodaran
III. Dealing with decline and distress...

- What are the cashflows from existing assets?
- What is the value added by growth assets?
- How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?
- When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

Historical data often reflects flat or declining revenues and falling margins. Investments often earn less than the cost of capital. Growth can be negative, as firm sheds assets and shrinks. As less profitable assets are shed, the firm’s remaining assets may improve in quality.

What is the value of equity in the firm?

Underfunded pension obligations and litigation claims can lower value of equity. Liquidation preferences can affect value of equity.

Depending upon the risk of the assets being divested and the use of the proceeds from the divesture (to pay dividends or retire debt), the risk in both the firm and its equity can change.

There is a real chance, especially with high financial leverage, that the firm will not make it. If it is expected to survive as a going concern, it will be as a much smaller entity.

Aswath Damodaran

a. Dealing with Decline

- In decline, firms often see declining revenues and lower margins, translating in negative expected growth over time.
- If these firms are run by good managers, they will not fight decline. Instead, they will adapt to it and shut down or sell investments that do not generate the cost of capital. This can translate into negative net capital expenditures (depreciation exceeds cap ex), declining working capital and an overall negative reinvestment rate. The best case scenario is that the firm can shed its bad assets, make itself a much smaller and healthier firm and then settle into long-term stable growth.
- As an investor, your worst case scenario is that these firms are run by managers in denial who continue to expand the firm by making bad investments (that generate lower returns than the cost of capital). These firms may be able to grow revenues and operating income but will destroy value along the way.

Aswath Damodaran
b. Dealing with the “downside” of Distress

- A DCF valuation values a firm as a going concern. If there is a significant likelihood of the firm failing before it reaches stable growth and if the assets will then be sold for a value less than the present value of the expected cashflows (a distress sale value), DCF valuations will underestimate the value of the firm.
- Value of Equity= DCF value of equity (1 - Probability of distress) + Distress sale value of equity (Probability of distress)
- There are three ways in which we can estimate the probability of distress:
  - Use the bond rating to estimate the cumulative probability of distress over 10 years
  - Estimate the probability of distress with a probit
  - Estimate the probability of distress by looking at market value of bonds.
- The distress sale value of equity is usually best estimated as a percent of book value (and this value will be lower if the economy is doing badly and there are other firms in the same business also in distress).
In February 2009, LVS was rated B+ by S&P. Historically, 28.25% of B+ rated bonds default within 10 years. LVS has a 6.375% bond, maturing in February 2015 (7 years), trading at $529. If we discount the expected cash flows on the bond at the riskfree rate, we can back out the probability of distress from the bond price:

\[ S29 = \sum_{t=1}^{10} \frac{\Pi_{\text{annual}}(1 - \Pi_{\text{distress}})^t}{(1.03)^t} \]

Solving for the probability of bankruptcy, we get:

\[ \Pi_{\text{distress}} = \text{Annual probability of default} = 13.54\% \]

Cumulative probability of surviving 10 years = (1 - 0.1354)10 = 23.34%

Cumulative probability of distress over 10 years = 1 - 0.2334 = 76.66%

If LVS is becomes distressed:

- Expected distress sale proceeds = $2,769 million < Face value of debt
- Expected equity value/share = $0.00
- Expected value per share = $8.12 (1 - 0.7666) + $0.00 (0.7666) = $1.92

Aswath Damodaran
IV. Emerging Market Companies

Estimation Issues - Emerging Market Companies

- Big shifts in economic environment (inflation, interest rates) can affect operating earnings history.
- Poor corporate governance and weak accounting standards can lead to lack of transparency on earnings.
- What is the value of equity in the firm?
- Cross holdings can affect value of equity.
- What are the cashflows from existing assets?
- How risky are the cashflows from both existing assets and growth assets?
- What is the value added by growth assets?
- Even if the company’s risk is stable, there can be significant changes in country risk over time.
- Economic crises can put many companies at risk. Government actions (nationalization) can affect long term value.
- Growth rates for a company will be affected heavily by growth rate and political developments in the country in which it operates.

Lesson 1: Country risk has to be incorporated... but with a scalpel, not a bludgeon

- Emerging market companies are undoubtedly exposed to additional country risk because they are incorporated in countries that are more exposed to political and economic risk.
- Not all emerging market companies are equally exposed to country risk and many developed markets have emerging market risk exposure because of their operations.
- You can use either the “weighted country risk premium”, with the weights reflecting the countries you get your revenues from or the lambda approach (which may incorporate more than revenues) to capture country risk exposure.
Lesson 2: Currency should not matter

- You can value any company in any currency. Thus, you can value a Brazilian company in nominal reais, US dollars or Swiss Francs.
- For your valuation to stay invariant and consistent, your cash flows and discount rates have to be in the same currency. Thus, if you are using a high inflation currency, both your growth rates and discount rates will be much higher.
- For your cash flows to be consistent, you have to use expected exchange rates that reflect purchasing power parity (the higher inflation currency has to depreciate by the inflation differential each year).
Stockholders in Asian, Latin American and many European companies have little or no power over the managers of the firm. In many cases, insiders own voting shares and control the firm and the potential for conflict of interests is huge.

This weak corporate governance is often a reason for given for using higher discount rates or discounting the estimated value for these companies.

Would you discount the value that you estimate for an emerging market company to allow for this absence of stockholder power?

a. Yes
b. No.

Aswath Damodaran
### 6b. Tube Investments: Higher Marginal Return (in Rs)

**Current Cashflow to Firm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBIT(1-t)</th>
<th>Chg WC</th>
<th>FCFF</th>
<th>Reinvestment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,425</td>
<td>4,150</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>112.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nt CpX</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>= FCFF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>568</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expected Growth in EBIT (1-t)**

| 60%*1.122 | 0.32% |
| 7.32%     |      |

**Return on Capital**

| 12.20% |

**Expected Growth**

| 60%*1.0581 | 0.3131 |
| 6.13%     |      |

**Stable Growth**

| 5%; Beta = 1.00; Debt ratio = 44.2%; Country Premium = 3% ROC = 12.2%; Reinvestment Rate = 40.98% |

**Terminal Value**

\[
\frac{5081}{0.1478 - 0.05} = 51,956
\]

**Cost of Equity**

| 22.80% |

**Cost of Debt**

\[
\frac{12\% + 1.50\% (1 - 0.30)}{1} = 9.45\%
\]

**Weights**

| E = 55.8%; D = 44.2% |

**Discount at Cost of Capital (WACC)**

\[
22.8\% \times 0.558 + 9.45\% \times 0.442 = 16.90\%
\]

**Firm Value**

| 31,829 |

**Value/Share**

| 111.3 |

---

### 6c. Tube Investments: Higher Average Return

**Current Cashflow to Firm**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>EBIT(1-t)</th>
<th>Chg WC</th>
<th>FCFF</th>
<th>Reinvestment Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4,425</td>
<td>4,150</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>112.82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Nt CpX</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>443</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>= FCFF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>568</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expected Growth**

\[
0.60 \times 1.122 = 0.681 \times 1.313 = 5.81%
\]

**Return on Capital**

| 12.20% |

**Improvement on existing assets**

\[
\left(1 + \frac{0.122 - 0.092}{0.092}\right)^{1/5} - 1 = 5.81\%
\]

**Terminal Value**

\[
\frac{5081}{0.1478 - 0.05} = 51,956
\]

**Cost of Equity**

| 22.80% |

**Cost of Debt**

\[
\frac{12\% + 1.50\% (1 - 0.30)}{1} = 9.45\%
\]

**Weights**

| E = 55.8%; D = 44.2% |

**Discount at Cost of Capital (WACC)**

\[
22.8\% \times 0.558 + 9.45\% \times 0.442 = 16.90\%
\]

**Firm Value**

| 31,829 |

**Value/Share**

| 111.3 |

---

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 4: Watch out for cross holdings...

- Emerging market companies are more prone to having cross holdings that companies in developed markets. This is partially the result of history (since many of the larger public companies used to be family owned businesses until a few decades ago) and partly because those who run these companies value control (and use cross holdings to preserve this control).
- In many emerging market companies, the real process of valuation begins when you have finished your DCF valuation, since the cross holdings (which can be numerous) have to be valued, often with minimal information.

Aswath Damodaran
Tata Companies: Value Breakdown

Lesson 5: Truncation risk can come in many forms...

- Natural disasters: Small companies in some economies are much exposed to natural disasters (hurricanes, earthquakes), without the means to hedge against that risk (with insurance or derivative products).
- Terrorism risk: Companies in some countries that are unstable or in the grips of civil war are exposed to damage or destruction.
- Nationalization risk: While less common than it used to be, there are countries where businesses may be nationalized, with owners receiving less than fair value as compensation.

Aswath Damodaran
Dealing with truncation risk..

- Assume that you are valuing Gazprom, the Russian oil company and have estimated a value of US $180 billion for the operating assets. The firm has $30 billion in debt outstanding. What is the value of equity in the firm?

- Now assume that the firm has 15 billion shares outstanding. Estimate the value of equity per share.

- The Russian government owns 42% of the outstanding shares. Would that change your estimate of value of equity per share?

V. Valuing Financial Service Companies

Defining capital expenditures and working capital is a challenge. Growth can be strongly influenced by regulatory limits and constraints. Both the amount of new investments and the returns on these investments can change with regulatory changes.

What is the value added by growth assets?

What are the cashflows from existing assets?

Preferred stock is a significant source of capital.

How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?

For financial service firms, debt is raw material rather than a source of capital. It is not only tough to define but if defined broadly can result in high financial leverage, magnifying the impact of small operating risk changes on equity risk.

When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

In addition to all the normal constraints, financial service firms also have to worry about maintaining capital ratios that are acceptable to regulators. If they do not, they can be taken over and shut down.
2a. ABN AMRO - December 2003

Rationale for model:

Why dividends? Because FCFE cannot be estimated

Why 2-stage? Because the expected growth rate in near term is higher than stable growth rate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dividends</th>
<th>Expected Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPS = 1.35 Eur</td>
<td>ROE = 16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payout Ratio 48.65%</td>
<td>g = 4%: ROE = 8.35% (Cost of equity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPS = 0.90 Eur</td>
<td>Beta = 1.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payout = (1 - 0.4865) = 0.521</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

EPS = 2.00 Eur
Payout Ratio = 51.35%
DPS = 1.05 Eur
Payout = 48.65%
DPS = 1.14 Eur
Payout Ratio = 48.65%
DPS = 1.23 Eur
Payout Ratio = 48.65%
DPS = 1.34 Eur
Payout Ratio = 48.65%

Value of Equity per share = PV of Dividends & Terminal value at 8.15% = 27.62 Euros

Discount at Cost of Equity
Cost of equity 4.95% + 0.95 (4%) = 8.15%

2b. Goldman Sachs: August 2008

Rationale for model:

Why dividends? Because FCFE cannot be estimated

Why 3-stage? Because the firm is behaving (reinvesting, growing) like a firm with potential.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dividends</th>
<th>Expected Growth</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EPS = $16.77</td>
<td>ROE = 13.19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payout Ratio 8.35%</td>
<td>g = 4%: ROE = 10% (Cost of equity)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPS = $1.40</td>
<td>Beta = 1.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10</td>
<td>Terminal Value = EPS10 * Payout/(r-g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPS $18.80 $21.07 $23.62 $26.47 $29.67 $32.78 $35.68 $38.26 $40.41 $42.03</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Payout ratio 8.35% 8.35% 8.35% 8.35% 8.35% 18.68% 29.03% 39.34% 49.67% 60.00%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPS $2.21 $2.47 $2.67 $2.93 $3.16 $6.12 $10.35 $13.65 $20.07 $25.22</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Between years 6-10, as growth drops to 4%, payout ratio increases and cost of equity decreases.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Value of Equity per share = PV of Dividends & Terminal value = $222.49

Discount at Cost of Equity
Cost of equity 4.10% + 1.40 (4.5%) = 10.4%

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 1: Financial service companies are opaque...

- With financial service firms, we enter into a Faustian bargain. They tell us very little about the quality of their assets (loans, for a bank, for instance are not broken down by default risk status) but we accept that in return for assets being marked to market (by accountants who presumably have access to the information that we don’t have).
- In addition, estimating cash flows for a financial service firm is difficult to do. So, we trust financial service firms to pay out their cash flows as dividends. Hence, the use of the dividend discount model.
- During times of crises or when you don’t trust banks to pay out what they can afford to in dividends, using the dividend discount model may not give you a “reliable” value.

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 2: For financial service companies, book value matters...

- The book value of assets and equity is mostly irrelevant when valuing non-financial service companies. After all, the book value of equity is a historical figure and can be nonsensical. (The book value of equity can be negative and is so for more than a 1000 publicly traded US companies)
- With financial service firms, book value of equity is relevant for two reasons:
  - Since financial service firms mark to market, the book value is more likely to reflect what the firms own right now (rather than a historical value)
  - The regulatory capital ratios are based on book equity. Thus, a bank with negative or even low book equity will be shut down by the regulators.
- From a valuation perspective, it therefore makes sense to pay heed to book value. In fact, you can argue that reinvestment for a bank is the amount that it needs to add to book equity to sustain its growth ambitions and safety requirements:
  - FCFE = Net Income – Reinvestment in regulatory capital (book equity)

Aswath Damodaran

FCFE for a bank...

- To estimate the FCFE for a bank, we redefine reinvestment as investment in regulatory capital. Since any dividends paid deplete equity capital and retained earnings increase that capital, the FCFE is:

  \[ \text{FCFE}_{\text{Bank}} = \text{Net Income} – \text{Increase in Regulatory Capital (Book Equity)} \]

### Deutsche Bank: FCFE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>Steady state</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asset Base</td>
<td>€312,982</td>
<td>€325,398</td>
<td>€338,414</td>
<td>€351,950</td>
<td>€366,028</td>
<td>€380,669</td>
<td>€392,089</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital ratio</td>
<td>10.20%</td>
<td>10.16%</td>
<td>10.12%</td>
<td>10.08%</td>
<td>10.04%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
<td>10.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regulatory Capital</td>
<td>€31,914</td>
<td>€33,080</td>
<td>€34,247</td>
<td>€35,477</td>
<td>€36,749</td>
<td>€38,067</td>
<td>€39,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Change in regulatory capital</td>
<td>€1,146</td>
<td>€1,187</td>
<td>€1,229</td>
<td>€1,273</td>
<td>€1,318</td>
<td>€1,177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROE</td>
<td>9.40%</td>
<td>9.56%</td>
<td>9.72%</td>
<td>9.88%</td>
<td>10.04%</td>
<td>10.20%</td>
<td>10.20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Income</td>
<td>€3,000</td>
<td>€3,161</td>
<td>€3,329</td>
<td>€3,505</td>
<td>€3,690</td>
<td>€3,883</td>
<td>€4,003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Investment in Regulatory Capital</td>
<td>€1,146</td>
<td>€1,187</td>
<td>€1,229</td>
<td>€1,273</td>
<td>€1,318</td>
<td>€1,177</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCFE</td>
<td>€2,014</td>
<td>€2,142</td>
<td>€2,276</td>
<td>€2,417</td>
<td>€2,565</td>
<td>€2,826</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran
VI. Valuing Companies with “intangible” assets

If capital expenditures are miscategorized as operating expenses, it becomes very difficult to assess how much a firm is reinvesting for future growth and how well its investments are doing.

What is the value added by growth assets?

How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?

It can be more difficult to borrow against intangible assets than it is against tangible assets. The risk in operations can change depending upon how stable the intangible asset is.

Intangible assets such as brand name and customer loyalty can last for very long periods or dissipate overnight.

When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 1: Accounting rules are cluttered with inconsistencies...

- If we start with accounting first principles, capital expenditures are expenditures designed to create benefits over many periods. They should not be used to reduce operating income in the period that they are made, but should be depreciated/amortized over their life. They should show up as assets on the balance sheet.

- Accounting is consistent in its treatment of cap ex with manufacturing firms, but is inconsistent with firms that do not fit the mold.
  - With pharmaceutical and technology firms, R&D is the ultimate cap ex but is treated as an operating expense.
  - With consulting firms and other firms dependent on human capital, recruiting and training expenses are your long term investments that are treated as operating expenses.
  - With brand name consumer product companies, a portion of the advertising expense is to build up brand name and is the real capital expenditure. It is treated as an operating expense.

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 2: And fixing those inconsistencies can alter your view of a company and affect its value

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No R&amp;D adjustment</th>
<th>R&amp;D adjustment</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EBIT</td>
<td>$5,071</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Invested Capital</td>
<td>$25,277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ROIC</td>
<td>14.58%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinvestment Rate</td>
<td>115.68%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of firm</td>
<td>$58,617</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value of equity</td>
<td>$50,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Value/share</td>
<td>$42.73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Aswath Damodaran
VII. Valuing cyclical and commodity companies

Company growth often comes from movements in the economic cycle, for cyclical firms, or commodity price changes, for commodity companies.

What is the value added by growth assets?

What are the cashflows from existing assets?

How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?

When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

Historical revenue and earnings data are volatile, as the economic cycle and commodity prices change.

Primary risk is from the economy for cyclical firms and from commodity price movements for commodity companies. These risks can stay dormant for long periods of apparent prosperity.

For commodity companies, the fact that there are only finite amounts of the commodity may put a limit on growth forever. For cyclical firms, there is the peril that the next recession may put an end to the firm.

Valuing a Cyclical Company - Toyota in Early 2009

As a cyclical company, Toyota's earnings have been volatile and 2009 earnings reflect the troubled global economy. We will assume that when economic growth returns, the operating margin for Toyota will revert back to the historical average.

Normalized Earnings

As a cyclical company, Toyota's earnings have been volatile and 2009 earnings reflect the troubled global economy. We will assume that when economic growth returns, the operating margin for Toyota will revert back to the historical average.

Normalized Operating Income = Revenues in 2009 * Average Operating Margin (98–09) = 22,661 * .0733 = 1,660.7 billion yen

Operating Assets = 19,840

Cash = 2,288

Non-operating assets = 6,845

Debt = 11,862

Minority Interests = 583

Value of Equity = / No of shares = 5,448

Value per share = ¥735

Operating Margins

Aswath Damodaran

292
Valuing a commodity company - Exxon in Early 2009

Historical data: Exxon Operating Income vs Oil Price

Regressing Exxon’s operating income against the oil price per barrel from 1985-2008:

\[
\text{Operating Income} = -6,395 + 911.32 \times \text{Average Oil Price} \quad R^2 = 90.2\%
\]

(2.95)     (14.59)

Exxon Mobil’s operating income increases about $9.11 billion for every $10 increase in the price per barrel of oil and 90% of the variation in Exxon’s earnings over time comes from movements in oil prices.

Estimate normalized income based on current oil price

At the time of the valuation, the oil price was $45 a barrel. Exxon’s operating income based on this price is

\[
\text{Normalized Operating Income} = -6,395 + 911.32 \times 45 = $34,614\text{ billion}
\]

Estimate return on capital and reinvestment rate based on normalized income

This operating income translates into a return on capital of approximately 21% and a reinvestment rate of 9.52%, based upon a 2% growth rate.

\[
\text{Reinvestment Rate} = \frac{g}{\text{ROC}} = \frac{2}{21\%} = 9.52\%
\]

Expected growth in operating income

Since Exxon Mobile is the largest oil company in the world, we will assume an expected growth of only 2% in perpetuity.

Exxon’s cost of capital

Exxon has been a predominantly equity funded company, and is expected to remain so, with a debt ratio of only 2.85%. It’s cost of equity is 8.35% (based on a beta of 0.90) and its pre-tax cost of debt is 3.75% (given AAA rating). The marginal tax rate is 38%.

\[
\text{Cost of capital} = 0.9715 \times 8.35\% + 0.0285 \times 3.75\% (1-0.38) = 8.18\%
\]

Lesson 1: With “macro” companies, it is easy to get lost in “macro” assumptions...

- With cyclical and commodity companies, it is undeniable that the value you arrive at will be affected by your views on the economy or the price of the commodity.
- Consequently, you will feel the urge to take a stand on these macro variables and build them into your valuation. Doing so, though, will create valuations that are jointly impacted by your views on macro variables and your views on the company, and it is difficult to separate the two.
- The best (though not easiest) thing to do is to separate your macro views from your micro views. Use current market based numbers for your valuation, but then provide a separate assessment of what you think about those market numbers.

Aswath Damodaran
Lesson 2: Use probabilistic tools to assess value as a function of macro variables...

- If there is a key macro variable affecting the value of your company that you are uncertain about (and who is not), why not quantify the uncertainty in a distribution (rather than a single price) and use that distribution in your valuation.
- That is exactly what you do in a Monte Carlo simulation, where you allow one or more variables to be distributions and compute a distribution of values for the company.
- With a simulation, you get not only everything you would get in a standard valuation (an estimated value for your company) but you will get additional output (on the variation in that value and the likelihood that your firm is under or over valued)

Aswath Damodaran

---

Exxon Mobil Valuation: Simulation

Aswath Damodaran
VALUE, PRICE AND INFORMATION: CLOSING THE DEAL

Value versus Price

Are you valuing or pricing?

Tools for intrinsic analysis
- Discounted Cashflow Valuation (DCF)
- Intrinsic multiples
- Book value based approaches
- Excess Return Models

Intrinsic Value

Drivers of intrinsic value
- Cashflows from existing assets
- Growth in cash flows
- Quality of Growth

Drivers of "the gap"
- Information
- Liquidity
- Corporate governance

The Gap

Drivers of price
- Market moods & momentum
- Surface stories about fundamentals

Tools for pricing
- Multiples and comparables
- Charting and technical indicators
- Pseudo DCF

Price

Tools for "the gap"
- Behavioral finance
- Price catalysts

Value of cashflows, adjusted for time and risk
Three views of “the gap”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>View of the gap</th>
<th>Investment Strategies</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Efficient Marketer</td>
<td>The gaps between price and value, if they do occur, are random.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The “value” extremist</td>
<td>You view pricers as dilettantes who will move on to fad and fad. Eventually, the price will converge on value.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The pricing extremist</td>
<td>Value is only in the heads of the “eggheads”. Even if it exists (and it is questionable), price may never converge on value.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The “pricers” dilemma..

- No anchor: If you do not believe in intrinsic value and make no attempt to estimate it, you have no moorings when you invest. You will therefore be pushed back and forth as the price moves from high to low. In other words, everything becomes relative and you can lose perspective.
- Reactive: Without a core measure of value, your investment strategy will often be reactive rather than proactive.
- Crowds are fickle and tough to get a read on: The key to being successful as a pricer is to be able to read the crowd mood and to detect shifts in that mood early in the process. By their nature, crowds are tough to read and almost impossible to model systematically.
The valuer’s dilemma and ways of dealing with it...

- Uncertainty about the magnitude of the gap:
  - Margin of safety: Many value investors swear by the notion of the “margin of safety” as protection against risk/uncertainty.
  - Collect more information: Collecting more information about the company is viewed as one way to make your investment less risky.
  - Ask what if questions: Doing scenario analysis or what if analysis gives you a sense of whether you should invest.
  - Confront uncertainty: Face up to the uncertainty, bring it into the analysis and deal with the consequences.

- Uncertainty about gap closing: This is tougher and you can reduce your exposure to it by
  - Lengthening your time horizon
  - Providing or looking for a catalyst that will cause the gap to close.

Option 1: Margin of Safety

- The margin of safety (MOS) is a buffer that you build into your investment decisions to protect yourself from investment mistakes. Thus, if your margin of safety is 30%, you will buy a stock only if the price is more than 30% below its “intrinsic” value.

- While value investors use the “margin of safety” as a shield against risk, keep in mind that:
  - MOS comes into play at the end of the investment process, not at the beginning.
  - MOS does not substitute for risk assessment and intrinsic valuation, but augments them.
  - The MOS cannot and should not be a fixed number, but should be reflective of the uncertainty in the assessment of intrinsic value.
  - Being too conservative can be damaging to your long term investment prospects. Too high a MOS can hurt you as an investor.
Option 2: Collect more information/ Do your homework

☐ There is a widely held view among value investors that they are not as exposed to risk as the rest of the market, because they do their homework, poring over financial statements or using ratios to screen for risky stocks. Put simply, they are assuming that the more they know about an investment, the less risky it becomes.

☐ That may be true from some peripheral risks and a few firm specific risks, but it definitely is not for the macro risks. You cannot make a cyclical company less cyclical by studying it more or take the nationalization risk out of a Venezuelan company by doing more research.

Implication 1: The need for diversification does not decrease just because you are a value investor who picks stocks with much research and care.

Implication 2: There is a law of diminishing returns to information. At a point, additional information will only serve to distract you.

Option 3: Build What-if analyses

☐ A valuation is a function of the inputs you feed into the valuation. To the degree that you are pessimistic or optimistic on any of the inputs, your valuation will reflect it.

☐ There are three ways in which you can do what-if analyses
  ▪ Best-case, Worst-case analyses, where you set all the inputs at their most optimistic and most pessimistic levels
  ▪ Plausible scenarios: Here, you define what you feel are the most plausible scenarios (allowing for the interaction across variables) and value the company under these scenarios
  ▪ Sensitivity to specific inputs: Change specific and key inputs to see the effect on value, or look at the impact of a large event (FDA approval for a drug company, loss in a lawsuit for a tobacco company) on value.

☐ Proposition 1: As a general rule, what-if analyses will yield large ranges for value, with the actual price somewhere within the range.
**Option 4: Confront uncertainty**

Simulations – The Amgen valuation

---

**The Simulated Values of Amgen: What do I do with this output?**

---

Aswath Damodaran
Strategies for managing the risk in the “closing” of the gap

- The “karmic” approach: In this one, you buy (sell short) under (over) valued companies and sit back and wait for the gap to close. You are implicitly assuming that given time, the market will see the error of its ways and fix that error.

- The catalyst approach: For the gap to close, the price has to converge on value. For that convergence to occur, there usually has to be a catalyst.
  - If you are an activist investor, you may be the catalyst yourself. In fact, your act of buying the stock may be a sufficient signal for the market to reassess the price.
  - If you are not, you have to look for other catalysts. Here are some to watch for: a new CEO or management team, a “blockbuster” new product or an acquisition bid where the firm is targeted.

A closing thought…