



# LIVING WITH NOISE: INVESTING IN THE FACE OF UNCERTAINTY

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# Uncertainty is a feature, not a bug.

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# And we deal with uncertainty as humans always have...

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- Divine Intervention: Praying for intervention from a higher power is the oldest and most practiced risk management system of all.
- Paralysis & Denial: When faced with uncertainty, some of us get paralyzed. Accompanying the paralysis is the hope that if you close your eyes to it, the uncertainty will go away
- Mental short cuts (rules of thumb): Behavioral economists note that investors faced with uncertainty adopt mental short cuts that have no basis in reality. And here is the clincher. More intelligent people are more likely to be prone to this.
- Herding: When in doubt, it is safest to go with the crowd.. The herding instinct is deeply engrained and very difficult to fight.
- Outsourcing: Assuming that there are experts out there who have the answers does take a weight off your shoulders, even if those experts have no idea of what they are talking about.

# Forecasting in the face of uncertainty. A test:

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- In which of these two cities would you find it easier to forecast the weather?

## Weather changeability for Honolulu, Hawaii

<b>Temperature</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	1.7°	1.2°
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	1.5°	2.0°

<b>Precipitation</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Chance of dry day after a precip day	67%	81%
Chance of precip day after a dry day	7%	13%

## Weather changeability for Epping, North Dakota

<b>Temperature</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	8.5°	7.7°
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	7.1°	8.6°

<b>Precipitation</b>	<b>Last Month</b>	<b>Last Year</b>
Chance of dry day after a precip day	50%	65%
Chance of precip day after a dry day	38%	20%

# But the payoff is greatest where there is the most uncertainty...

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Weather changeability for Honolulu, Hawaii

Temperature	Last Month	Last Year	Precipitation	Last Month	Last Year
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	1.7°	1.2°	Chance of dry day after a precip day	67%	81%
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	1.5°	2.0°	Chance of precip day after a dry day	7%	13%

[Further changeability analysis »](#)

Weather forecast accuracy for Honolulu, Hawaii

Last Month		Last Year	
MeteoGroup	88.44%	MeteoGroup	88.50%
Persistence	81.80%	CustomWeather	85.87%
CustomWeather	78.23%	AccuWeather	81.82%
The Weather Channel	73.12%	The Weather Channel	81.56%
AccuWeather	69.89%	Persistence	80.44%
Weather Underground	62.10%	Weather Underground	67.07%
National Weather Service	48.39%	National Weather Service	59.90%
Foreca	44.35%	Foreca	57.52%
WeatherBug	32.26%	WeatherBug	37.09%

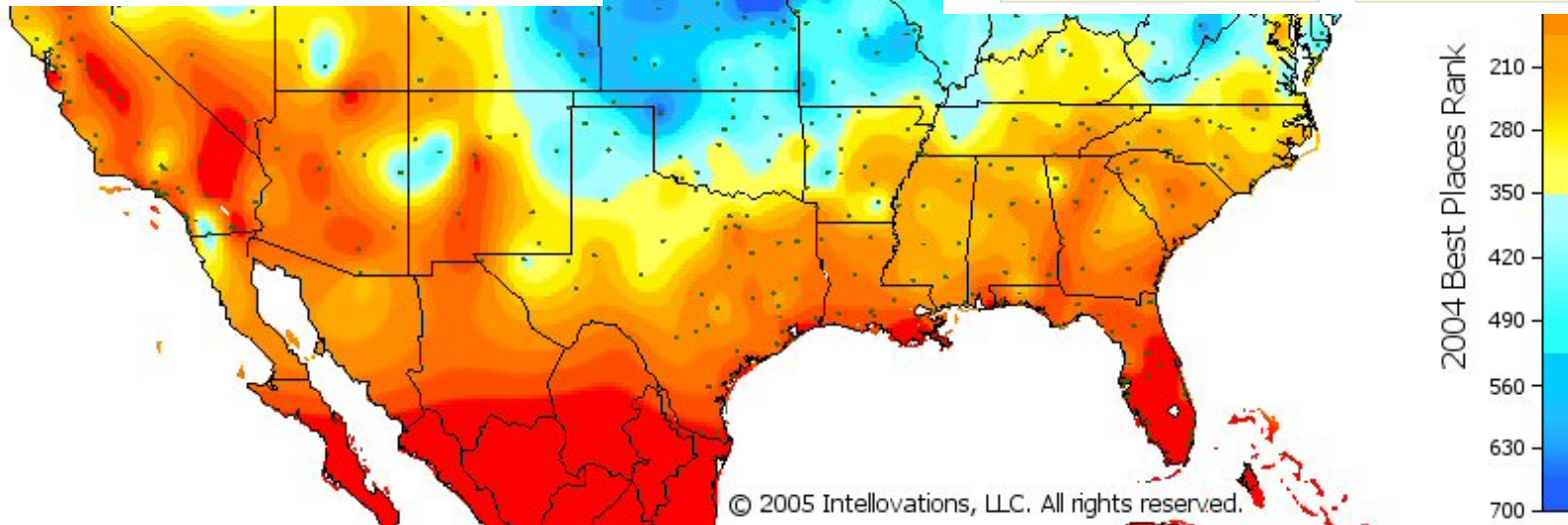
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[Further changeability analysis »](#)

Weather forecast accuracy for Epping, North Dakota

Last Month		Last Year	
MeteoGroup	62.50%	MeteoGroup	66.97%
Foreca	61.61%	The Weather Channel	66.73%
The Weather Channel	61.31%	AccuWeather	64.86%
AccuWeather	60.42%	WeatherBug	64.80%
Weather Underground	56.85%	Foreca	62.75%
WeatherBug	56.17%	CustomWeather	62.70%
National Weather Service	54.76%	National Weather Service	62.64%
CustomWeather	54.46%	Weather Underground	61.38%
Persistence	38.01%	Persistence	44.09%



# Intrinsic Value: Three Basic Propositions

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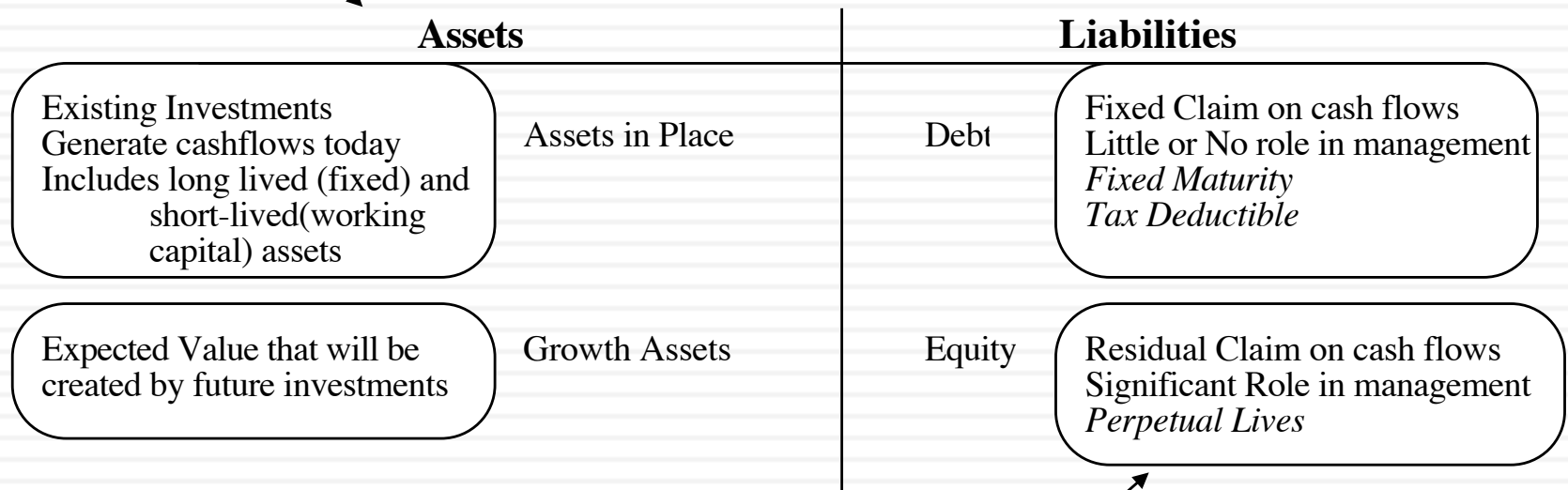
- The value of an asset is the present value of the expected cash flows on that asset, over its expected life:

$$\text{Value of asset} = \frac{E(\text{CF}_1)}{(1+r)} + \frac{E(\text{CF}_2)}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{E(\text{CF}_3)}{(1+r)^3} \dots + \frac{E(\text{CF}_n)}{(1+r)^n}$$

- Proposition 1: If “it” does not affect the cash flows or alter risk (thus changing discount rates), “it” cannot affect value.
- Proposition 2: For an asset to have value, the expected cash flows have to be positive some time over the life of the asset.
- Proposition 3: 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.

# DCF Choices: Equity Valuation versus Firm Valuation

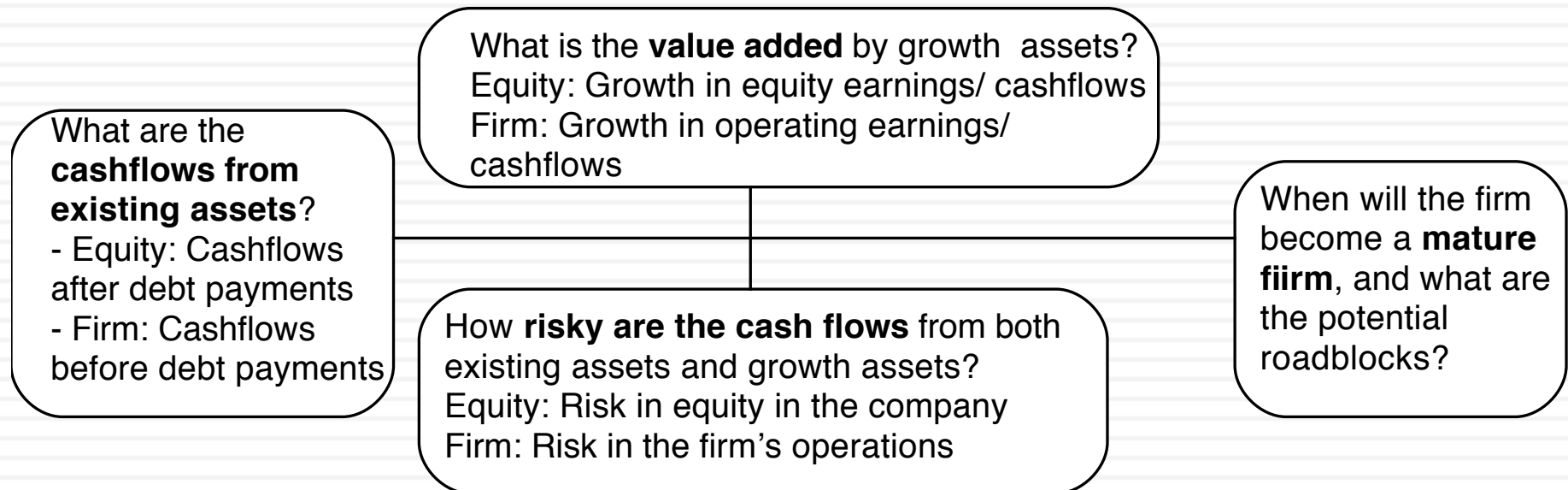
**Firm Valuation:** Value the entire business



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

# The fundamental determinants of value...

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### 3M: A Pre-crisis valuation

**Current Cashflow to Firm**  
 EBIT(1-t)= 5344 (1-.35)= 3474  
 - Nt CpX= 350  
 - Chg WC 691  
 = FCFF 2433  
 Reinvestment Rate = 1041/3474  
 =29.97%  
 Return on capital = 25.19%

Reinvestment Rate  
30%

**Expected Growth in EBIT (1-t)**  
 $.30 \cdot .25 = .075$   
**7.5%**

Return on Capital  
25%

**Stable Growth**  
 g = 3%; Beta = 1.10;  
 Debt Ratio= 20%; Tax rate=35%  
 Cost of capital = 6.76%  
 ROC= 6.76%;  
 Reinvestment Rate=3/6.76=44%

Terminal Value<sub>5</sub> = 2645 / (.0676 - .03) = 70,409

Op. Assets 60607  
 + Cash: 3253  
 - Debt 4920  
 =Equity 58400  
 Value/Share \$ 83.55

Year	1	2	3	4	5	Term Yr
EBIT (1-t)	\$3,734	\$4,014	\$4,279	\$4,485	\$4,619	\$4,758
- Reinvestment	\$1,120	\$1,204	\$1,312	\$1,435	\$1,540	\$2,113
= FCFF	\$2,614	\$2,810	\$2,967	\$3,049	\$3,079	\$2,645

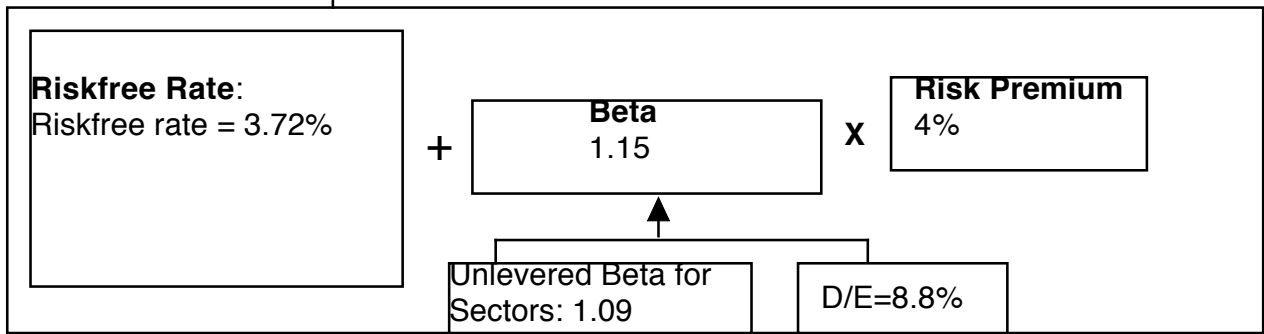
Cost of capital = 8.32% (0.92) + 2.91% (0.08) = 7.88%

**Cost of Equity**  
8.32%

**Cost of Debt**  
 $(3.72\% + .75\%)(1-.35)$   
 = 2.91%

**Weights**  
 E = 92% D = 8%

On September 12, 2008, 3M was trading at \$70/share



# Tata Motors: April 2010

## Current Cashflow to Firm

EBIT(1-t) : Rs 20,116  
 - Nt CpX Rs 31,590  
 - Chg WC Rs 2,732  
 = FCFF - Rs 14,205  
 Reinv Rate =  $(31590+2732)/20116 = 170.61\%$ ; Tax rate = 21.00%  
 Return on capital = 17.16%

Average reinvestment rate  
 from 2005-09: 179.59%;  
 without acquisitions: 70%

Reinvestment Rate  
 70%

Expected Growth  
 from new inv.  
 $.70 \cdot .1716 = 0.1201$

Return on Capital  
 17.16%

Stable Growth  
 $g = 5\%$ ; Beta = 1.00  
 Country Premium = 3%  
 Cost of capital = 10.39%  
 Tax rate = 33.99%  
 ROC = 10.39%;  
 Reinvestment Rate =  $g/ROC = 5/10.39 = 48.11\%$

Terminal Value<sub>5</sub> =  $23493 / (.1039 - .05) = \text{Rs } 435,686$

Op. Assets Rs 210,813  
 + Cash: 11418  
 + Other NO 140576  
 - Debt 109198  
 = Equity 253,628

Value/Share Rs 614

Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
EBIT (1-t)	22533	25240	28272	31668	35472	39236	42848	46192	49150	51607
- Reinvestment	15773	17668	19790	22168	24830	25242	25138	24482	23264	21503
FCFF	6760	7572	8482	9500	10642	13994	17711	21710	25886	30104

45278  
 21785  
 23493

Discount at Cost of Capital (WACC) =  $14.00\% (.747) + 8.09\% (0.253) = 12.50\%$

*Growth declines to 5%  
 and cost of capital  
 moves to stable period  
 level.*

On April 1, 2010  
 Tata Motors price = Rs 781

Cost of Equity  
 14.00%

Cost of Debt  
 $(5\% + 4.25\% + 3\%)(1 - .3399)$   
 = 8.09%

Weights  
 E = 74.7% D = 25.3%

Riskfree Rate:  
 Rs Riskfree Rate = 5%

+ Beta 1.20 X Mature market premium 4.5% + Lambda 0.80 X Country Equity Risk Premium 4.50%

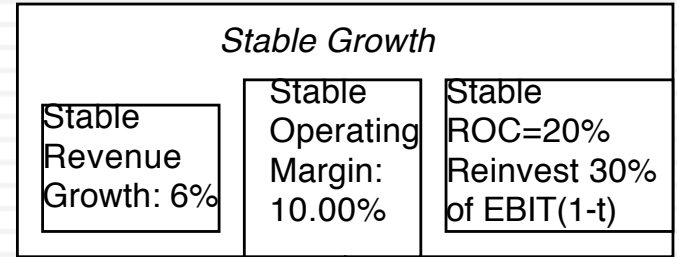
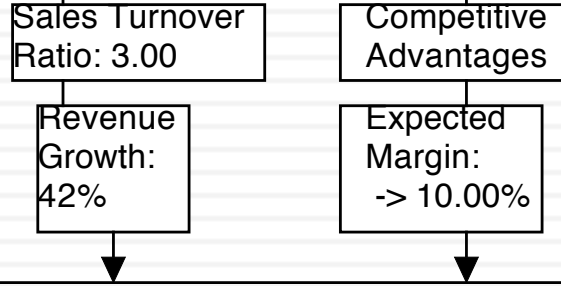
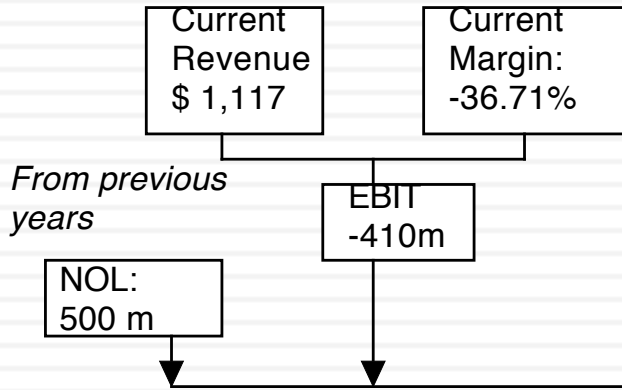
Unlevered Beta for Sectors: 1.04 Firm's D/E Ratio: 33%

Country Default Spread 3% X Rel Equity Mkt Vol 1.50

# 9a. Amazon in January 2000

*Sales to capital ratio and expected margin are retail industry average numbers*

*Stable Growth*



Terminal Value =  $1881 / (.0961 - .06) = 52,148$

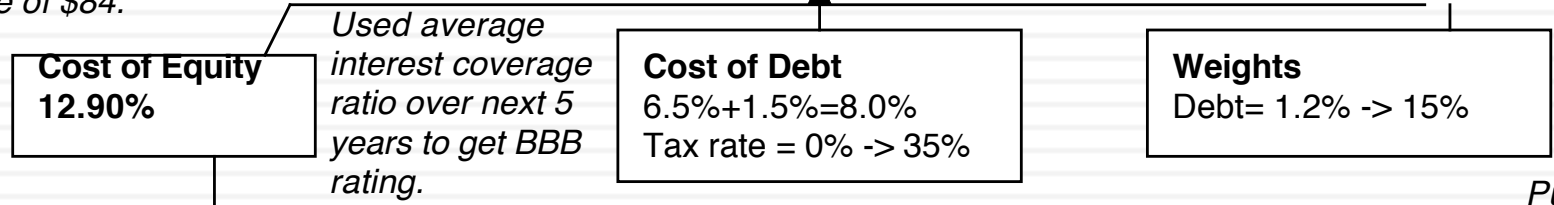
Revenue Growth	150.00%	100.00%	75.00%	50.00%	30.00%	25.20%	20.40%	15.60%	10.80%	6.00%
Revenues	\$ 2,793	\$ 5,585	\$ 9,774	\$ 14,661	\$ 19,059	\$ 23,862	\$ 28,729	\$ 33,211	\$ 36,798	\$ 39,006
Operating Margin	-13.35%	-1.68%	4.16%	7.08%	8.54%	9.27%	9.64%	9.82%	9.91%	9.95%
EBIT	-\$373	-\$94	\$407	\$1,038	\$1,628	\$2,212	\$2,768	\$3,261	\$3,646	\$3,883
EBIT(1-t)	-\$373	-\$94	\$407	\$871	\$1,058	\$1,438	\$1,799	\$2,119	\$2,370	\$2,524
- Reinvestment	\$600	\$967	\$1,420	\$1,663	\$1,543	\$1,688	\$1,721	\$1,619	\$1,363	\$961
FCFF	-\$931	-\$1,024	-\$989	-\$758	-\$408	-\$163	\$177	\$625	\$1,174	\$1,788

Term. Year	6%
	\$ 41,346
	10.00%
	\$4,135
	\$2,688
	\$155
	\$1,881

Value of Op Assets \$ 15,170  
 + Cash \$ 26  
 = Value of Firm \$14,936  
 - Value of Debt \$ 349  
 = Value of Equity \$14,847  
 - Equity Options \$ 2,892  
 Value per share \$ 35.08

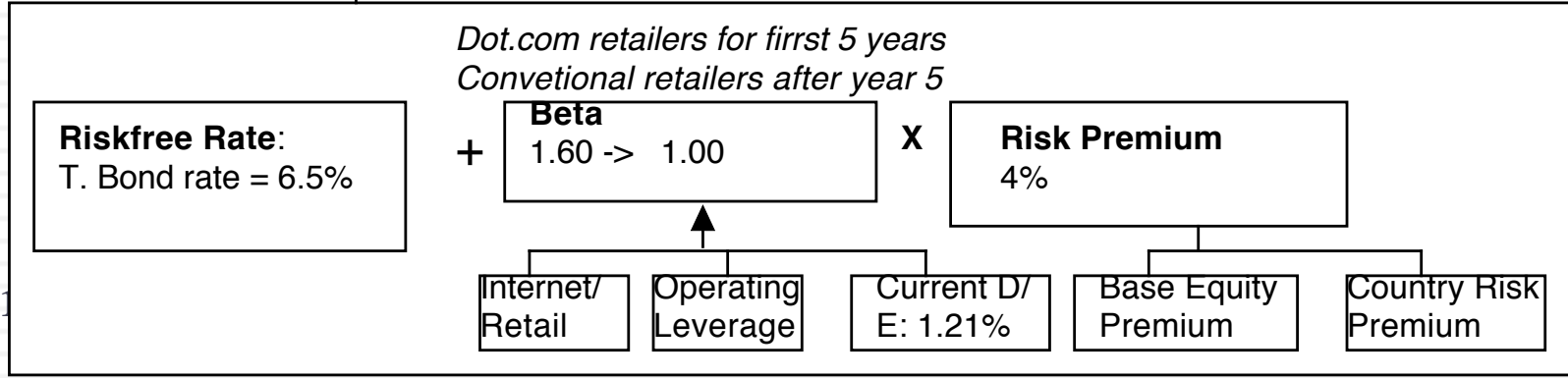
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Forever
Cost of Equity	12.90%	12.90%	12.90%	12.90%	12.90%	12.42%	11.94%	11.46%	10.98%	10.50%	
Cost of Debt	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	7.80%	7.75%	7.67%	7.50%	7.00%	
After-tax cost of debt	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%	6.71%	5.20%	5.07%	5.04%	4.98%	4.88%	4.55%	
Cost of Capital	12.84%	12.84%	12.84%	12.83%	12.81%	12.13%	11.62%	11.08%	10.49%	9.61%	

*All existing options valued as options, using current stock price of \$84.*



Amazon was trading at \$84 in January 2000.

*Pushed debt ratio to retail industry average of 15%.*



Starting numbers

	2012	Trailing 2013
Revenues	\$316.9	\$448.2
Operating Income	-\$77.1	-\$92.9
Adj Op Inc		\$4.3
Invested Capital		\$549.1
Operating Margin		0.96%
Sales/Capital		0.82

Twitter Pre-IPO Valuation: October 5, 2013

Revenue growth of 55% a year for 5 years, tapering down to 2.7% in year 10

Pre-tax operating margin increases to 25% over the next 10 years

Sales to capital ratio of 1.50 for incremental sales

**Stable Growth**  
 $g = 2.7\%$ ;  $\text{Beta} = 1.00$ ;  
 Cost of capital = 8%  
 $\text{ROC} = 12\%$ ;  
 Reinvestment Rate =  $2.7\%/12\% = 22.5\%$

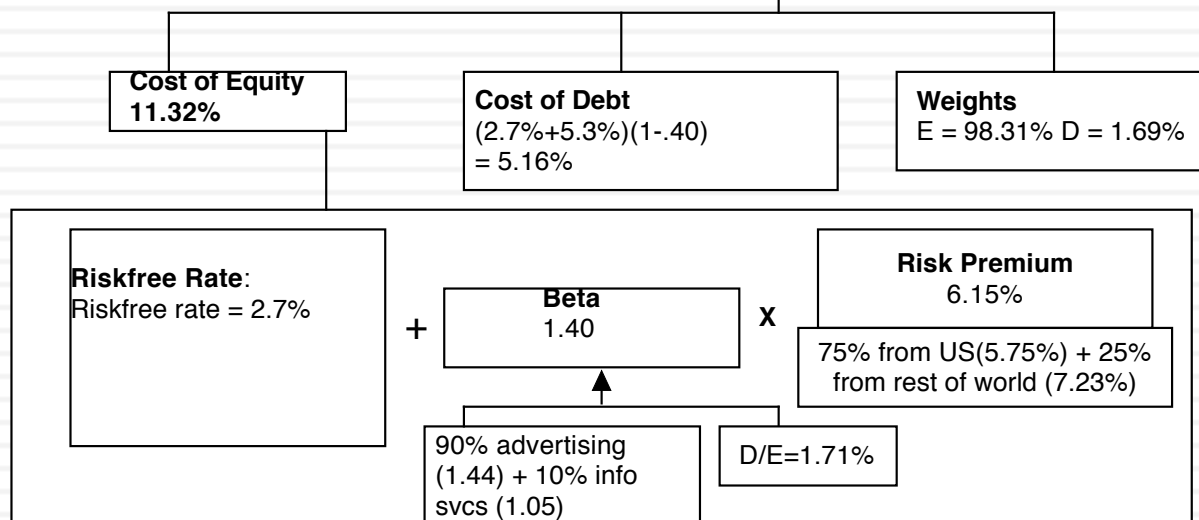
Terminal Value<sub>10</sub> =  $1433 / (.08 - .027) = \$27.036$

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Operating assets	\$9,611										
+ Cash	375										
+ IPO Proceeds	1000										
- Debt	207										
Value of equity	10,779										
- Options	805										
Value in stock	9,974										
/ # of shares	574.44										
Value/share	\$17.36										
Revenues		\$ 694.7	\$ 1,076.8	\$ 1,669.1	\$ 2,587.1	\$ 4,010.0	\$ 5,796.0	\$ 7,771.3	\$ 9,606.8	\$10,871.1	\$11,164.6
Operating Income		\$ 23.3	\$ 62.0	\$ 136.3	\$ 273.5	\$ 520.3	\$ 891.5	\$ 1,382.2	\$ 1,939.7	\$ 2,456.3	\$ 2,791.2
Operating Income after taxes		\$ 23.3	\$ 62.0	\$ 136.3	\$ 265.3	\$ 364.2	\$ 614.2	\$ 937.1	\$ 1,293.8	\$ 1,611.4	\$ 1,800.3
Reinvestment		\$ 164.3	\$ 254.7	\$ 394.8	\$ 612.0	\$ 948.6	\$ 1,190.7	\$ 1,316.8	\$ 1,223.7	\$ 842.8	\$ 195.7
FCFF		\$ (141.0)	\$ (192.7)	\$ (258.5)	\$ (346.6)	\$ (584.4)	\$ (576.5)	\$ (379.7)	\$ 70.0	\$ 768.5	\$ 1,604.6

**Terminal year (11)**  
 EBIT (1-t) \$1,849  
 - Reinvestment \$ 416  
 FCFF \$1,433

Cost of capital =  $11.32\% (.983) + 5.16\% (.017) = 11.22\%$

Cost of capital decreases to 8% from years 6-10



On October 5, 2013, Twitter had not been priced yet, but the company's most recent acquisition suggested a price of about \$20/share.

# The sources of uncertainty

- 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 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.

# Assessing uncertainty...

- Rank the four firms in terms of uncertainty (least to most) in your estimate:

3M in 2007

Tata Motors in 2010

Amazon in 2000

Twitter in 2013

- With each company, specify the type of uncertainty that you face:

Company	Estimation or Economic	Micro or Macro	Discrete or Continuous
3M (2007)			
Tata Motors (2010)			
Amazon (2000)			
Twitter (2013)			

# Ten suggestions for dealing with uncertainty...

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1. Less is more (the rule on detail....) (Revenue & margin forecasts)
2. Build in internal checks on reasonableness... (reinvestment and ROC)
3. Use the offsetting principle (risk free rates & inflation at Tata Motors)
4. Draw on economic first principles (Terminal value at all the companies )
5. Use the “market” as a crutch (equity risk premiums, country risk premiums)
6. Use the law of large numbers (Beta for all companies)
7. Don't let the discount rate become the receptacle for all uncertainties.
8. Confront uncertainty, if you can
9. Don't look for precision
10. You can live with mistakes, but bias will kill you...

# 1. Less is more

- The principle of parsimony: When faced with uncertainty, go for less detail, rather than more. That may sound counterintuitive, but here is why it makes sense:
  - ▣ You have a better shot at estimating an aggregate number, rather than individual numbers (Examples: Forecast the operating margin rather than individual operating expenses, total working capital instead of individual working capital items)
  - ▣ Estimation requires information and trying to estimate individual items, in the absence of information, is not only frustrating but an exercise in futility.
- Auto pilot rules: The uncertainty you face will increase as you go forward in time (it is much more difficult to estimate year 5 than year 1). Thus, it is best to create simple algorithms that estimate year-specific numbers as you go further out in time.



# The Amazon Forecasts

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Year	Revenue Growth	Sales	Operating Margin	EBIT	EBIT (1-t)
Tr 12 mths		\$1,117	-36.71%	-\$410	-\$410
1	150.00%	\$2,793	-13.35%	-\$373	-\$373
2	100.00%	\$5,585	-1.68%	-\$94	-\$94
3	75.00%	\$9,774	4.16%	\$407	\$407
4	50.00%	\$14,661	7.08%	\$1,038	\$871
5	30.00%	\$19,059	8.54%	\$1,628	\$1,058
6	25.20%	\$23,862	9.27%	\$2,212	\$1,438
7	20.40%	\$28,729	9.64%	\$2,768	\$1,799
8	15.60%	\$33,211	9.82%	\$3,261	\$2,119
9	10.80%	\$36,798	9.91%	\$3,646	\$2,370
10	6.00%	\$39,006	9.95%	\$3,883	\$2,524
TY	6.00%	\$41,346	10.00%	\$4,135	\$2,688

Principle of parsimony: Estimate fewer inputs when faced with uncertainty.

Use “auto pilot” approaches to estimate future years

# A tougher task at Twitter

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	2011		2012		2013	
	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$
Google	32.09%	\$27.74	31.46%	\$32.73	33.24%	\$38.83
Facebook	3.65%	\$3.15	4.11%	\$4.28	5.04%	\$5.89
Yahoo!	3.95%	\$3.41	3.37%	\$3.51	3.10%	\$3.62
Microsoft	1.27%	\$1.10	1.63%	\$1.70	1.78%	\$2.08
IAC	1.15%	\$0.99	1.39%	\$1.45	1.47%	\$1.72
AOL	1.17%	\$1.01	1.02%	\$1.06	0.95%	\$1.11
Amazon	0.48%	\$0.41	0.59%	\$0.61	0.71%	\$0.83
Pandora	0.28%	\$0.24	0.36%	\$0.37	0.50%	\$0.58
Twitter	0.16%	\$0.14	0.28%	\$0.29	0.50%	\$0.58
Linkedin	0.18%	\$0.16	0.25%	\$0.26	0.32%	\$0.37
Millennial Media	0.05%	\$0.04	0.07%	\$0.07	0.10%	\$0.12
Other	55.59%	\$48.05	55.47%	\$57.71	52.29%	\$61.09
Total Market	100%	\$86.43	100.00%	\$104.04	100.00%	\$116.82

My estimate for 2023: Overall market will be close to \$200 billion and Twitter will about 5.7% (\$11.5 billion)

## 2. Build in “internal” checks for reasonableness...

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Year	Revenues	Δ Revenue	Sales/Cap	Δ Investment	Invested Capital	EBIT (1-t)	Imputed ROC
Tr 12 mths	\$1,117				\$ 487	-\$410	
1	\$2,793	\$1,676	3.00	\$559	\$ 1,045	-\$373	-76.62%
2	\$5,585	\$2,793	3.00	\$931	\$ 1,976	-\$94	-8.96%
3	\$9,774	\$4,189	3.00	\$1,396	\$ 3,372	\$407	20.59%
4	\$14,661	\$4,887	3.00	\$1,629	\$ 5,001	\$871	25.82%
5	\$19,059	\$4,398	3.00	\$1,466	\$ 6,467	\$1,058	21.16%
6	\$23,862	\$4,803	3.00	\$1,601	\$ 8,068	\$1,438	22.23%
7	\$28,729	\$4,868	3.00	\$1,623	\$ 9,691	\$1,799	22.30%
8	\$33,211	\$4,482	3.00	\$1,494	\$ 11,185	\$2,119	21.87%
9	\$36,798	\$3,587	3.00	\$1,196	\$ 12,380	\$2,370	21.19%
10	\$39,006	\$2,208	3.00	\$736	\$ 13,116	\$2,524	20.39%
TY	\$41,346	\$2,340	NA		Assumed to be =		20.00%

Check total revenues, relative to the market that it serves...  
Your market share obviously cannot exceed 100% but there may be tighter constraints.

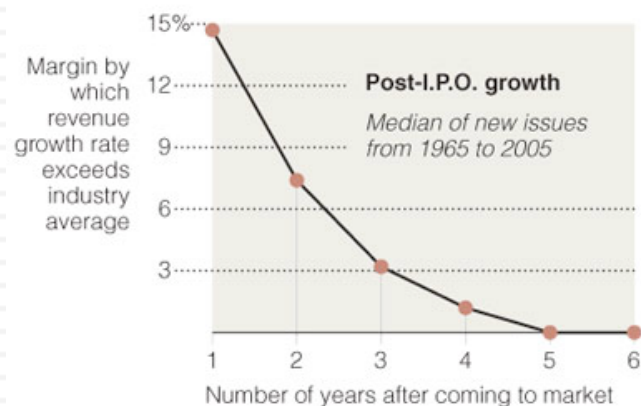
Are the margins and imputed returns on capital ‘reasonable’ in the outer years?

# Follow up propositions on growth...

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- If you accept the proposition that growth has to come from either increased efficiency (improving return on capital on existing assets) and new investments (reinvestment rate & return on capital):
  - ▣ High growth is easy to deliver, high quality growth is more difficult.
  - ▣ Scaling up is hard to do, i.e., growth is more difficult to sustain as companies get larger.

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



Source: Andrew Metrick

The New York Times

### 3. Use consistency tests...

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- While you can not grade a valuation on “correctness” (since different analysts can make different assumptions about growth and risk), you can grade it on consistency.
- For a valuation to be consistent, your estimates of cash flows have to be consistent with your discount rate definition.
  - ▣ 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

# Tata Motors: In Rupees and US dollars

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$$(1.125) * (1.01/1.04) - 1 = .0925$$

	In Indian Rupees	In US \$
Risk free Rate	5.00%	2.00%
Expected inflation rate	4.00%	1.00%
Cost of capital		
- High Growth	12.50%	9.25%
- Stable Growth	10.39%	7.21%
Expected growth rate		
- High Growth	12.01%	8.78%
- Stable Growth	5.00%	2.00%
Return on Capital		
- High Growth	17.16%	13.78%
- Stable Growth	10.39%	7.21%
Value per share	Rs 614	\$12.79/share (roughly Rs 614 at current exchange rate)

## 4. Draw on economic first principles and mathematical limits...

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- When doing valuation, you are free to make assumptions about how your company will evolve over time in the market that it operates, but you are not free to violate first principles in economics and mathematics.
- Put differently, there are assumptions in valuation that are either mathematically impossible or violate first laws of economics and cannot be ever justified.

# And the “excess return” effect...

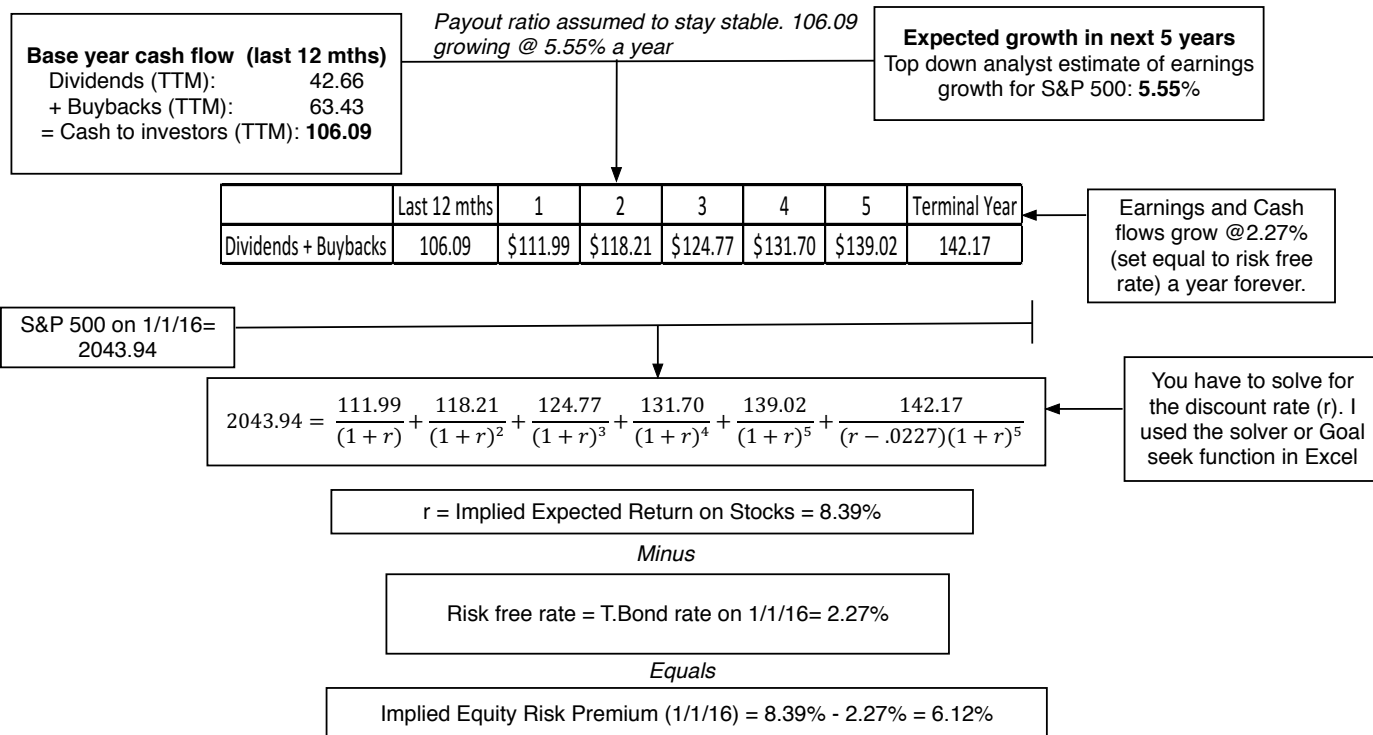
24

<i>Stable growth rate</i>	<i>3M</i>	<i>Tata Motors</i>	<i>Amazon</i>	<i>Twitter</i>
0%	\$70,409	435,686₹	\$26,390	\$23,111
1%	\$70,409	435,686₹	\$28,263	\$24,212
2%	\$70,409	435,686₹	\$30,595	\$25,679
3%	\$70,409	435,686₹	\$33,594	
4%		435,686₹	\$37,618	
5%		435,686₹	\$43,334	
			\$52,148	
Riskfree rate	3.72%	5%	6.60%	2.70%
ROIC	6.76%	10.39%	20%	12.00%
Cost of capital	6.76%	10.39%	9.61%	8.00%



# 5. Use the market as a crutch... ERP as an illustration

	Arithmetic Average		Geometric Average	
	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds
1928-2015	7.92%	6.18%	6.05%	4.54%
Std Error	2.15%	2.29%		
1966-2015	6.05%	3.89%	4.69%	2.90%
Std Error	2.42%	2.74%		
2006-2015	7.87%	3.88%	6.11%	2.53%
Std Error	6.06%	8.66%		



# Extending to country risk premium...

- Assume that the equity risk premium for the US and other mature equity markets is 5.8%.
- To estimate the additional risk premium for an emerging market, you can start with a country default spread, using one of two approaches:
  - ▣ Default spread, given the country's bond rating (estimated either by looking at a US\$ or Euro government bond issued by that country)
  - ▣ CDS spread for the country, from the market
- Adjusted for equity risk: The country equity risk premium is based upon the volatility of the market in question relative to U.S market.
  - ▣ Total equity risk premium = Default SpreadCountry\* (  $\frac{?_{\text{Country Equity}}}{?_{\text{Country Bond}}}$  )
  - ▣ Standard Deviation in Bovespa = 30%
  - ▣ Standard Deviation in Brazilian government bond= 20%
  - ▣ Default spread for Brazil= 1.75%
  - ▣ Additional risk premium for Brazil = 1.75% (30/20) = 2.63%

# ERP : Jan 2016

Andorra	9.28%	3.28%	Jersey (States of)	6.59%	0.59%
Austria	6.00%	0.00%	Liechtenstein	6.00%	0.00%
Belgium	6.90%	0.90%	Luxembourg	6.00%	0.00%
Cyprus	12.71%	6.71%	Malta	7.79%	1.79%
Denmark	6.00%	0.00%	Netherlands	6.00%	0.00%
Finland	6.00%	0.00%	Norway	6.00%	0.00%
France	6.74%	0.74%	Portugal	9.72%	3.72%
Germany	6.00%	0.00%	Spain	8.84%	2.84%
Greece	20.90%	14.90%	Sweden	6.00%	0.00%
Guernsey	6.59%	0.59%	Switzerland	6.00%	0.00%
Iceland	8.84%	2.84%	Turkey	9.28%	3.28%
Ireland	8.38%	2.38%	United Kingdom	6.59%	0.59%
Isle of Man	6.59%	0.59%	<b>Western Europe</b>	<b>7.16%</b>	<b>1.16%</b>
Italy	8.84%	2.84%			

Albania	12.71%	6.71%
Armenia	11.37%	5.37%
Azerbaijan	9.28%	3.28%
Belarus	17.17%	11.17%
Bosnia	15.70%	9.70%
Bulgaria	8.84%	2.84%
Croatia	9.72%	3.72%
Czech Republic	7.05%	1.05%
Estonia	7.05%	1.05%
Georgia	11.37%	5.37%
Hungary	9.72%	3.72%
Kazakhstan	8.84%	2.84%
Latvia	7.79%	1.79%
Lithuania	7.79%	1.79%
Macedonia	11.37%	5.37%
Moldova	15.70%	9.70%
Montenegro	11.37%	5.37%
Poland	7.26%	1.26%
Romania	9.28%	3.28%
Russia	9.72%	3.72%
Serbia	12.71%	6.71%
Slovakia	7.26%	1.26%
Slovenia	9.28%	3.28%
Ukraine	20.90%	14.90%
<b>Eastern Europe &amp; Russia</b>	<b>9.65%</b>	<b>3.65%</b>

Frontier Markets (not rated)							
Algeria	63.0	12.71%	6.71%	Malawi	57.0	17.17%	11.17%
Brunei	72.8	8.84%	2.84%	Mali	62.5	12.71%	6.71%
Gambia	62.0	14.20%	8.20%	Myanmar	63.3	12.71%	6.71%
Guinea	53.8	17.17%	11.17%	Niger	51.0	17.17%	11.17%
Guinea-Bissau	62.3	12.71%	6.71%	Sierra Leone	56.5	17.17%	11.17%
Guyana	63.5	12.71%	6.71%	Somalia	42.5	20.90%	14.90%
Haiti	57.0	17.17%	11.17%	Sudan	48.3	20.90%	14.90%
Iran	67.8	10.48%	4.48%	Syria	35.8	25.00%	19.00%
Iraq	56.0	17.17%	11.17%	Tanzania	63.0	12.71%	6.71%
Korea, D.P.R.	56.0	17.17%	11.17%	Togo	63.8	12.71%	6.71%
Liberia	50.5	17.17%	11.17%	Yemen, Republic	50.3	17.17%	11.17%
Libya	52.8	17.17%	11.17%	Zimbabwe	54.5	17.17%	11.17%
Madagascar	61.3	14.20%	8.20%				

Canada	6.00%	0.00%
US	6.00%	0.00%
<b>North America</b>	<b>6.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>14.61%</b>	<b>8.61%</b>
------------------	---------------	--------------

Argentina	17.17%	11.17%
Belize	19.42%	13.42%
Bolivia	11.37%	5.37%
Brazil	9.28%	3.28%
Chile	6.90%	0.90%
Colombia	8.84%	2.84%
Costa Rica	9.72%	3.72%
Ecuador	15.70%	9.70%
El Salvador	11.37%	5.37%
Guatemala	9.72%	3.72%
Honduras	15.70%	9.70%
Mexico	7.79%	1.79%
Nicaragua	14.20%	8.20%
Panama	8.84%	2.84%
Paraguay	9.72%	3.72%
Peru	7.79%	1.79%
Suriname	11.37%	5.37%
Uruguay	8.84%	2.84%
Venezuela	20.90%	14.90%
<b>Latin America</b>	<b>10.42%</b>	<b>4.42%</b>

Country	ERP	CRP
Angola	10.48%	4.48%
Botswana	7.26%	1.26%
Burkina Faso	15.70%	9.70%
Cameroon	14.20%	8.20%
Cape Verde	14.20%	8.20%
Congo (DR)	15.70%	9.70%
Congo (Republic)	11.37%	5.37%
Côte d'Ivoire	11.37%	5.37%
Egypt	15.70%	9.70%
Ethiopia	12.71%	6.71%
Gabon	11.37%	5.37%
Ghana	15.70%	9.70%
Kenya	12.71%	6.71%
Morocco	9.72%	3.72%
Mozambique	14.20%	8.20%
Namibia	9.28%	3.28%
Nigeria	11.37%	5.37%
Rwanda	12.71%	6.71%
Senegal	12.71%	6.71%
South Africa	8.84%	2.84%
Tunisia	11.37%	5.37%
Uganda	12.71%	6.71%
Zambia	14.20%	8.20%
<b>Africa</b>	<b>11.76%</b>	<b>5.76%</b>

Abu Dhabi	6.74%	0.74%
Bahrain	9.28%	3.28%
Israel	7.05%	1.05%
Jordan	12.71%	6.71%
Kuwait	6.74%	0.74%
Lebanon	14.20%	8.20%
Oman	7.05%	1.05%
Qatar	6.74%	0.74%
Ras Al Khaimah	7.26%	1.26%
Saudi Arabia	6.90%	0.90%
Sharjah	7.79%	1.79%
United Arab Emirates	6.74%	0.74%
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>7.11%</b>	<b>1.11%</b>

Bangladesh	11.37%	5.37%
Cambodia	14.20%	8.20%
China	6.90%	0.90%
Fiji	12.71%	6.71%
Hong Kong	6.59%	0.59%
India	9.28%	3.28%
Indonesia	9.28%	3.28%
Japan	7.05%	1.05%
Korea	6.74%	0.74%
Macao	6.74%	0.74%
Malaysia	7.79%	1.79%
Mauritius	8.38%	2.38%
Mongolia	14.20%	8.20%
Pakistan	15.70%	9.70%
Papua New Guinea	12.71%	6.71%
Philippines	8.84%	2.84%
Singapore	6.00%	0.00%
Sri Lanka	12.71%	6.71%
Taiwan	6.90%	0.90%
Thailand	8.38%	2.38%
Vietnam	12.71%	6.71%
<b>Asia</b>	<b>7.49%</b>	<b>1.49%</b>

Australia	6.00%	0.00%
Cook Islands	12.71%	6.71%
New Zealand	6.00%	0.00%
<b>Australia &amp; NZ</b>	<b>6.00%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

Black #: Total ERP  
 Red #: Country risk premium  
 AVG: GDP weighted average

# 6. Draw on the law of large numbers...

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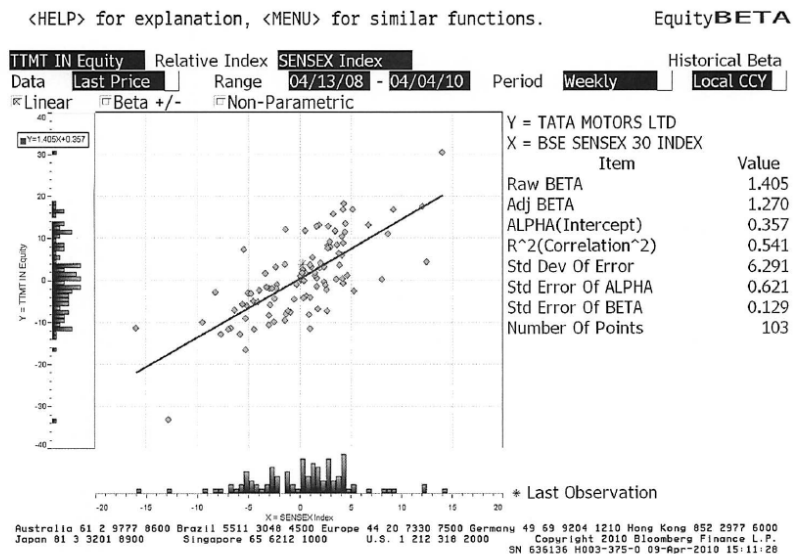
□ To estimate the beta for Tata Motors

□ Unlevered beta for automobile company = 0.98

□ D/E ratio for Tata Motors = 33.87%

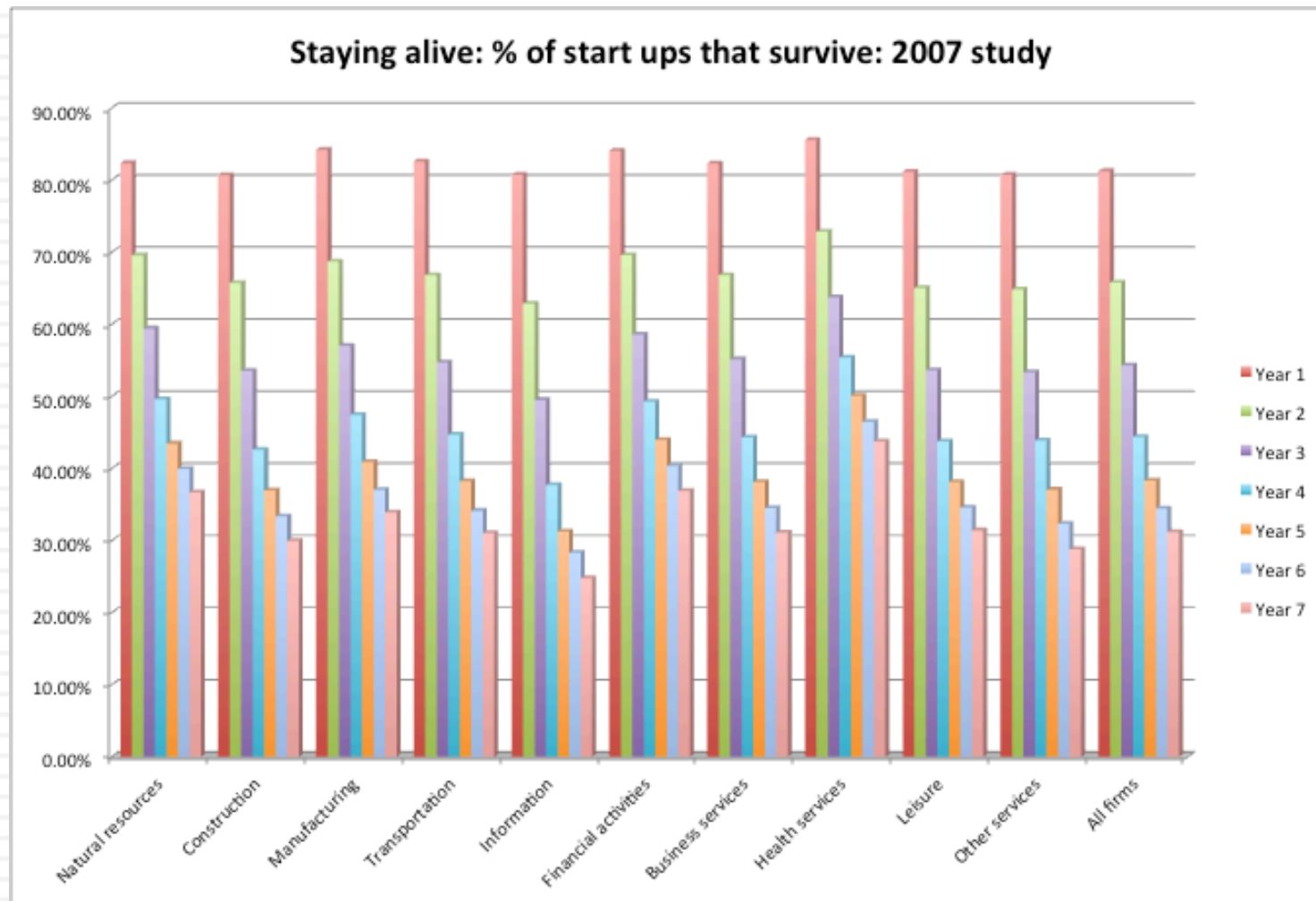
□ Marginal tax rate in India = 33.99%

□ Levered beta =  $0.98 (1 + (1 - 0.3399)(0.3387)) = 1.20$



# 7. Don't let the discount rate become the receptacle for all your uncertainty...

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# Contrasting ways of dealing with survival risk...

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- The Venture Capital approach: In the venture capital approach, you hike the “discount rate” well above what would be appropriate for a going concern and then use this “target” rate to discount your “exit value” (which is estimated using a multiple and forward earnings).
  - $\text{Value} = (\text{Forward Earnings in year } n * \text{Exit multiple}) / (1 + \text{target rate})^n$
- The decision tree approach:
  - Value the business as a “going concern”, with a rate of return appropriate for a “going concern”.
  - Estimate the probability of survival (and failure) and the value of the business in the event of failure.
  - $\text{Value} = \text{Going concern value (Probability of survival)} + \text{Liquidation value (Probability of failure)}$

### Exhibit 8.2: Valuing a Distressed firm: Las Vegas Sands in early 2009

Las Vegas Sands owns and operates the Venetian Casino and Sands Convention Center in Las Vegas and the Sands Macau Casino in Macau, China. While the revenues increased from \$1.75 billion in 2005 to \$4.39 billion in 2008 and it had two other casinos in development - it ran into significant financial trouble in the last quarter of 2008. Fears about whether the firm would be able to meet its debt obligations pushed down both stock prices (almost 90%) and bond prices (about 40%) in 2008.

**Limited revenue growth ①**

Distress makes it difficult to build new casinos. So growth has to come from existing casinos.

**Tax rate ③**

As tax benefits from investments fade and profits come back, tax rate rises to marginal tax rate.

**Curtailed reinvestment ④**

Difficulty in raising new capital and debt repayment needs reduce cash available for reinvestment, at least for near term.

**Return to financial health ⑤**

High debt ratio pushed up cost of equity and capital. As debt is repaid, debt ratio decreases and cost of capital drops.

Year	Revenue growth	Revenues	Operating Margin	Operating Income	Tax rate	After-tax Operating Income	Reinvestment Rate	Reinvestment	FCFF	Debt Ratio	Cost of capital	Present Value
Current		\$4,390	4.76%	\$209	26.00%	\$155				73.50%		
1	1%	\$4,434	5.81%	\$258	26.00%	\$191	-10.00%	-\$19	\$210	73.50%	9.88%	\$191
2	2%	\$4,523	6.86%	\$310	26.00%	\$229	-5.00%	-\$11	\$241	73.50%	9.88%	\$200
3	20%	\$5,427	7.90%	\$429	26.00%	\$317	0.00%	\$0	\$317	73.50%	9.88%	\$239
4	20%	\$6,513	8.95%	\$583	26.00%	\$431	5.00%	\$22	\$410	73.50%	9.88%	\$281
5	20%	\$7,815	10.00%	\$782	26.00%	\$578	10.00%	\$58	\$520	73.50%	9.88%	\$325
6	5%	\$8,206	11.40%	\$935	28.40%	\$670	10.00%	\$67	\$603	68.80%	9.79%	\$343
7	5%	\$8,616	12.80%	\$1,103	30.80%	\$763	20.00%	\$153	\$611	64.10%	9.50%	\$317
8	5%	\$9,047	14.20%	\$1,285	33.20%	\$858	25.00%	\$215	\$644	59.40%	9.01%	\$307
9	5%	\$9,499	15.60%	\$1,482	35.60%	\$954	30.00%	\$286	\$668	54.70%	8.32%	\$294
10	5%	\$9,974	17.00%	\$1,696	38.00%	\$1,051	33.30%	\$350	\$701	50.00%	7.43%	\$7,298
Beyond	3%	\$10,273	17%	\$1,746	38.00%	1082.81468	33.30%	\$325	\$17,129	50.00%	7.43%	\$9,793
Value of operating assets												\$19,587
(Add) Cash												\$3,040
(Subtract) Debt												\$7,565
Value of equity												\$5,268.01
Value per share (going concern)												\$8.21
Probability of going concern												71.75%
Value per share (distress)												\$0.00
Probability of distress												28.25%
Distress adjusted Value per share												\$5.89

**Terminal value ⑥**

With return to health, back to growth  $\frac{1051 (1.03)(1 - .30)}{(.0743 - .03)} = \$17,129$

**Return to operating health ②**

Current margins are low. Operating margins improve as distress wanes and firm returns to health. The margin in year 11 is based on industry averages and the company's historical margins.

**Distress sale value ⑧**

If the firm is unable to make debt payments, there will be no value to equity.


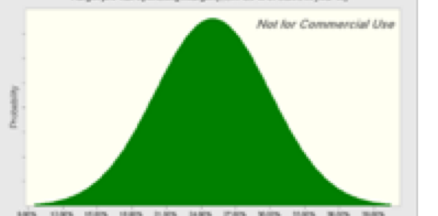

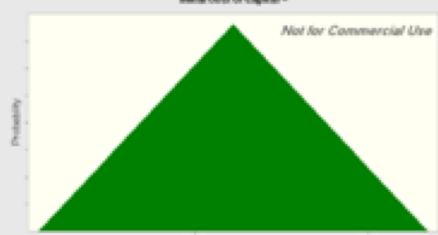
**Risk of default ⑦**

The high debt ratio makes default a very real probability. Given the company's rating (BB), history suggests a 28.25% probability of default within 10 years.

**Default adjusted value**

Weighted average of going concern value and distress sale value:  $\$8.25(.7175) + \$0(.2825)$

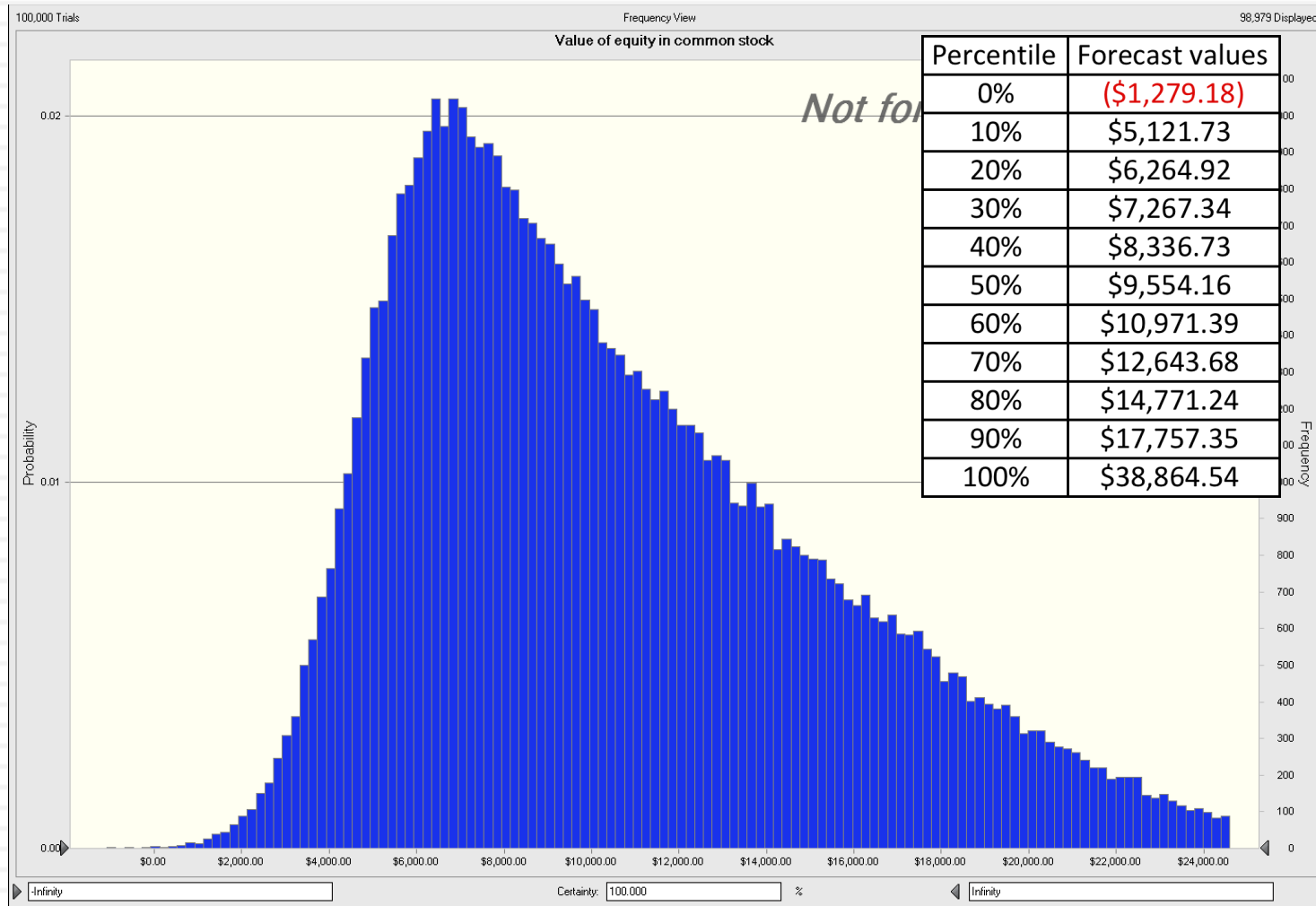
# 8. Confront uncertainty, if you can...

<p><b>Revenue Growth Rate</b>          Distribution: Uniform          Expected Value = 55%          Minimum Value: 40%          Maximum Value: 70%</p>	<p>Compounded annual revenue growth rate over next 5 years =  <i>Not for Commercial Use</i></p> 
<p><b>Target Operating Margin</b>          Distribution: Normal          Expected Value = 25%          Standard Deviation = 5%</p>	<p>Target pre-tax operating margin (2000 as % of sales in year 10) =  <i>Not for Commercial Use</i></p> 
<p><b>Sales to Capital Ratio</b>          Distribution: Lognormal          Expected value: 1.50          Standard deviation: 0.15</p>	<p>Sales to capital ratio (for computing reinvestment) =  <i>Not for Commercial Use</i></p> 
<p><b>Cost of Capital</b>          Distribution: Triangular          Expected value: 11.22%          Minimum value: 10.02%          Maximum value: 12.22%</p>	<p>Initial cost of capital =  <i>Not for Commercial Use</i></p> 



# With the consequences for equity value...

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## 9. Don't look for precision..

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- 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.

# 9b. Amazon in January 2001

**Reinvestment:**  
Cap ex includes acquisitions  
Working capital is 3% of revenues

**Stable Growth**

Stable Revenue Growth: 5%	Stable Operating Margin: 9.32%	Stable ROC=16.94% Reinvest 29.5% of EBIT(1-t)
---------------------------	--------------------------------	--

Current Revenue \$ 2,465  
Current Margin: -34.60%

EBIT -853m

NOL: 1,289 m

Sales Turnover Ratio: 3.02

Revenue Growth: 25.41%

Competitive

Expected Margin: -> 9.32%

Terminal Value =  $1064 / (.0876 - .05)$   
= \$ 28,310

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Revenues	\$4,314	\$6,471	\$9,059	\$11,777	\$14,132	\$16,534	\$18,849	\$20,922	\$22,596	\$23,726
EBIT	-\$545	-\$107	\$347	\$774	\$1,123	\$1,428	\$1,692	\$1,914	\$2,087	\$2,201
EBIT(1-t)	-\$545	-\$107	\$347	\$774	\$1,017	\$928	\$1,100	\$1,244	\$1,356	\$1,431
- Reinvestment	\$612	\$714	\$857	\$900	\$780	\$796	\$766	\$687	\$554	\$374
FCFF	-\$1,157	-\$822	-\$510	-\$126	\$237	\$132	\$333	\$558	\$802	\$1,057

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Debt Ratio	27.27%	27.27%	27.27%	27.27%	27.27%	24.81%	24.20%	23.18%	21.13%	15.00%
Beta	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	2.18	1.96	1.75	1.53	1.32	1.10
Cost of Equity	13.81%	13.81%	13.81%	13.81%	13.81%	12.95%	12.09%	11.22%	10.36%	9.50%
AT cost of debt	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	10.00%	9.06%	6.11%	6.01%	5.85%	5.53%	4.55%
Cost of Capital	12.77%	12.77%	12.77%	12.77%	12.52%	11.25%	10.62%	9.98%	9.34%	8.76%

Term. Year

\$24,912  
\$2,302  
\$1,509  
\$ 445  
\$1,064

Forever

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

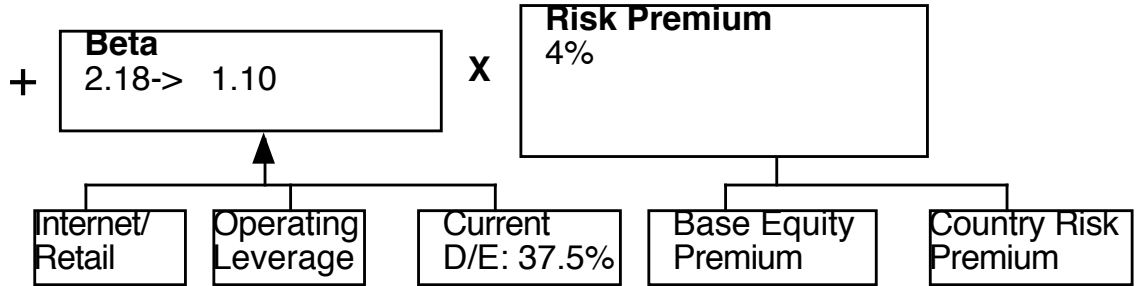
**Cost of Equity 13.81%**

**Cost of Debt 6.5%+3.5%=10.0%**  
Tax rate = 0% -> 35%

**Weights**  
Debt= 27.3% -> 15%

**Riskfree Rate:**  
T. Bond rate = 5.1%

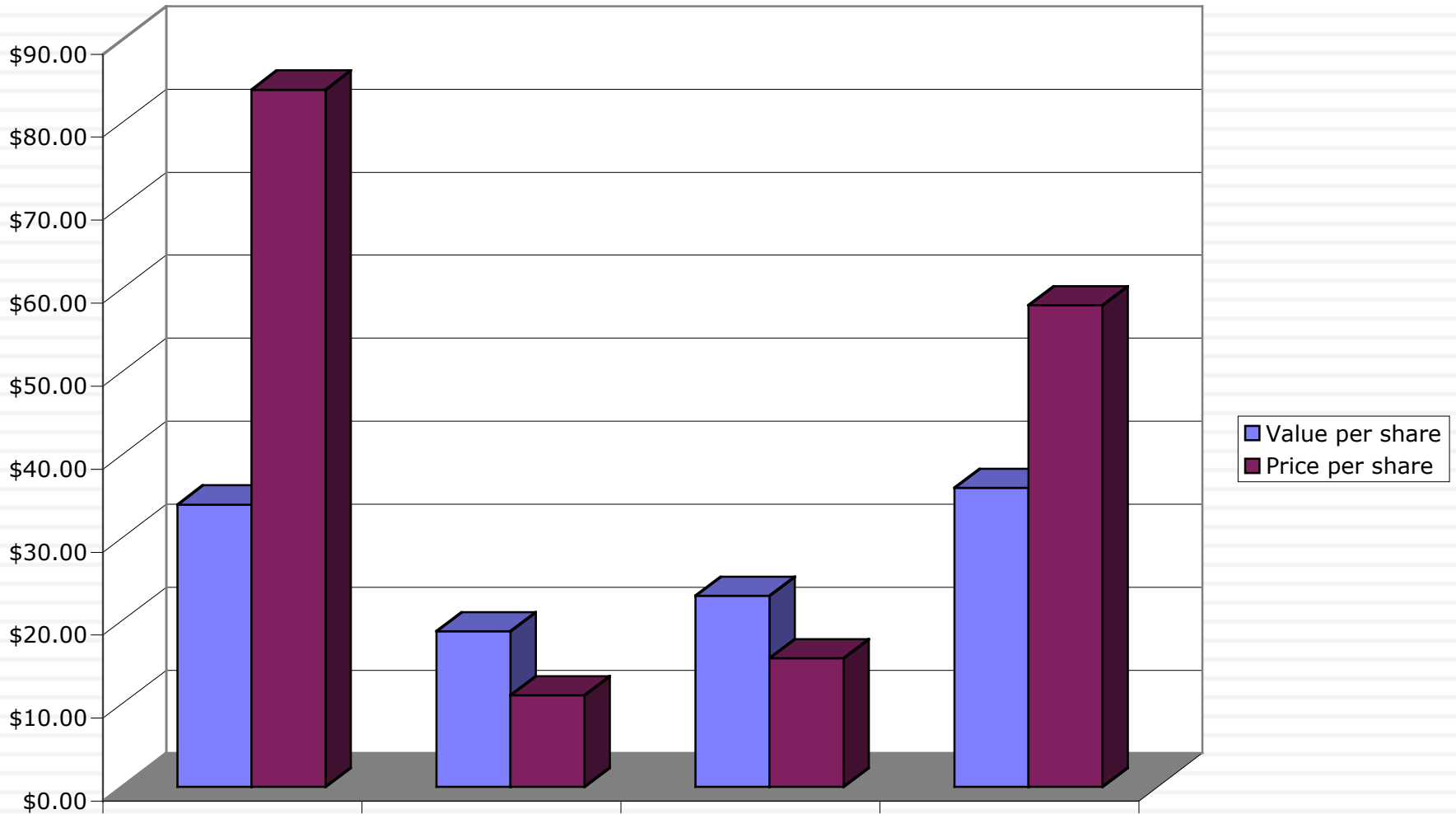
Aswath Damodaran



**Amazon.com**  
**January 2001**  
**Stock price = \$14**

# To illustrate: Your mistakes versus market mistakes..

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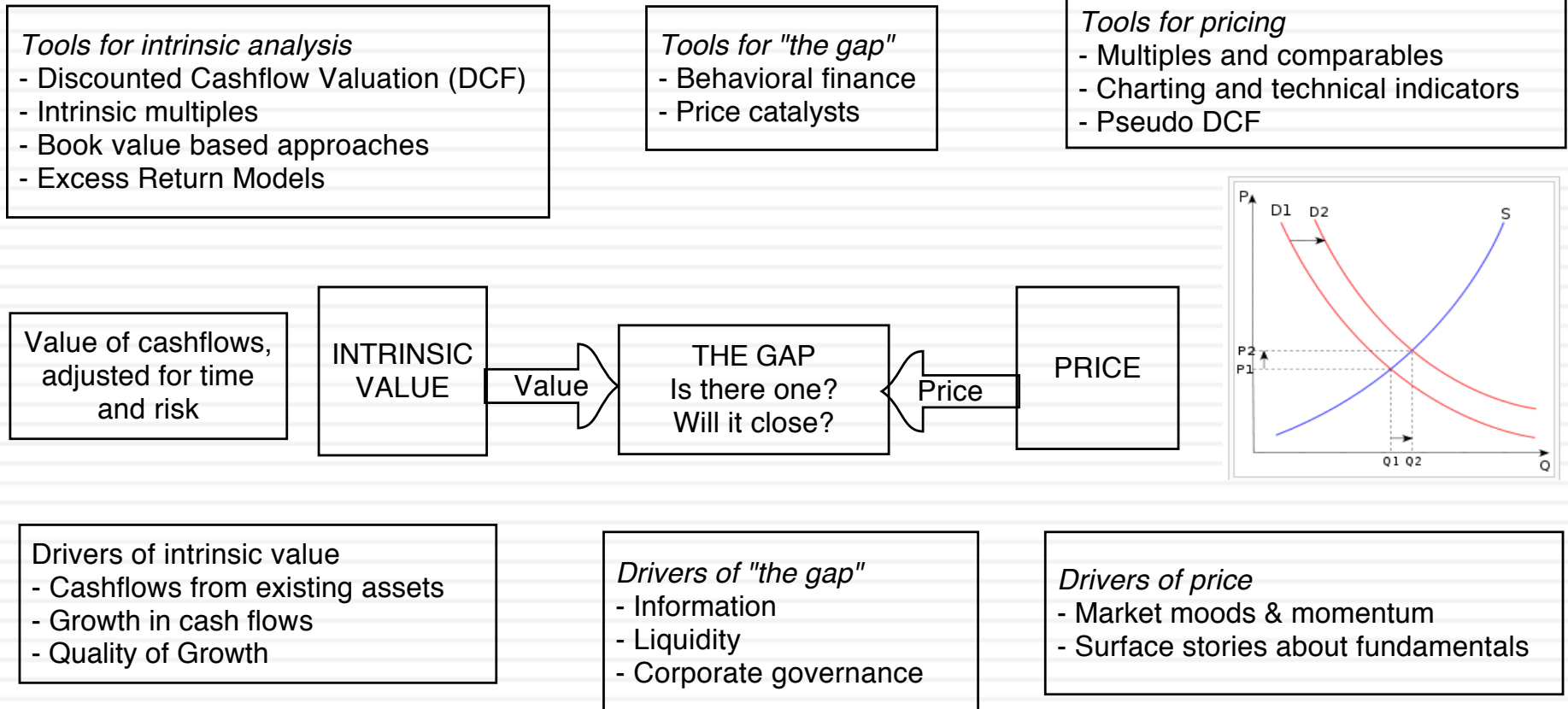
# 10. You can make mistakes, but try to keep bias out..

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- When you are wrong on individual company valuations, as you inevitably will be, recognize that while those mistakes may cause the value to be very different from the price for an individual company, the mistakes should average out across companies.
  - Put differently, if you are an investor, you have can make the “law of large numbers” work for you by diversifying across companies, with the degree of diversification increasing as uncertainty increases.
- If you are “biased” on individual company valuations, your mistakes will not average out, no matter how diversified you get.
- Bottom line: You are better off making large mistakes and being unbiased than making smaller mistakes, with bias.

# And don't forget: It is not just the value that you are uncertain about...

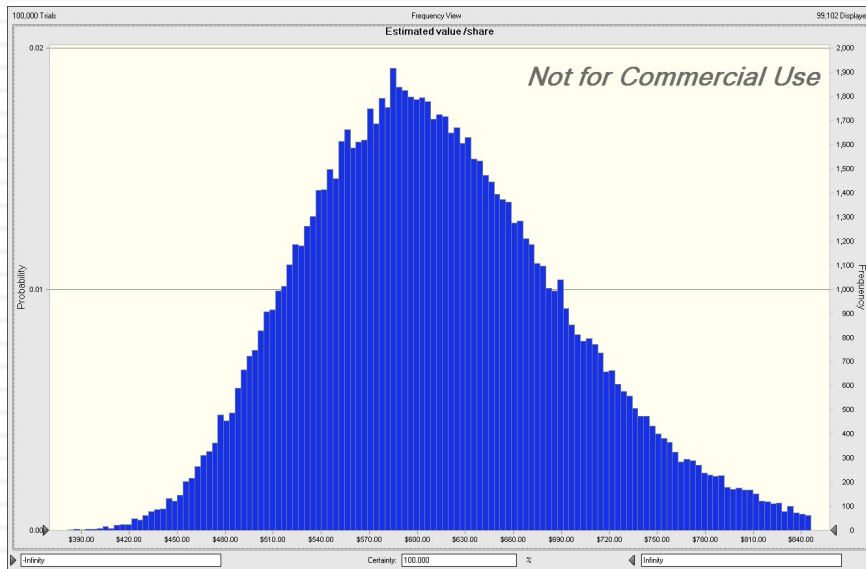
38



# And here is how it plays out...

## The value process

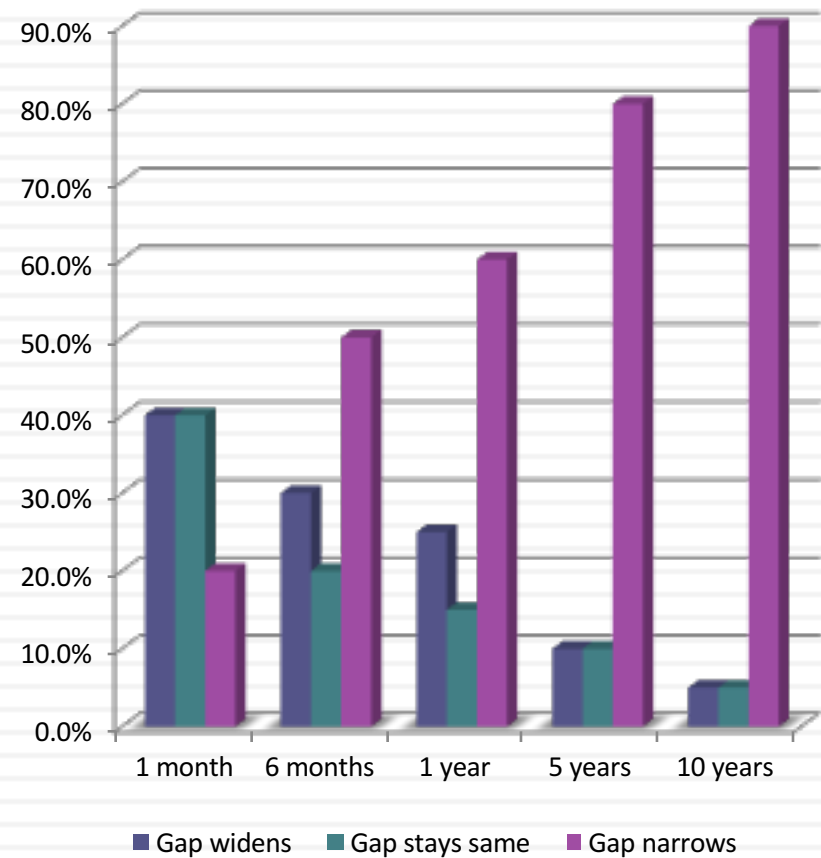
My valuation of Apple in January 2013



My valuation of Apple with revenue growth of 6% (Normal,  $\sigma=3\%$ ), target pre-tax margin of 30% (Uniform, 25%-35%) and cost of capital of 12.5% (Triangle, 11-14%). There is a 90% chance that Apple is undervalued at \$440/share.

Aswath Damodaran

## The Pricing Process: Apple



# Strategies for managing the risk in the “closing” of the gap

40

- 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.