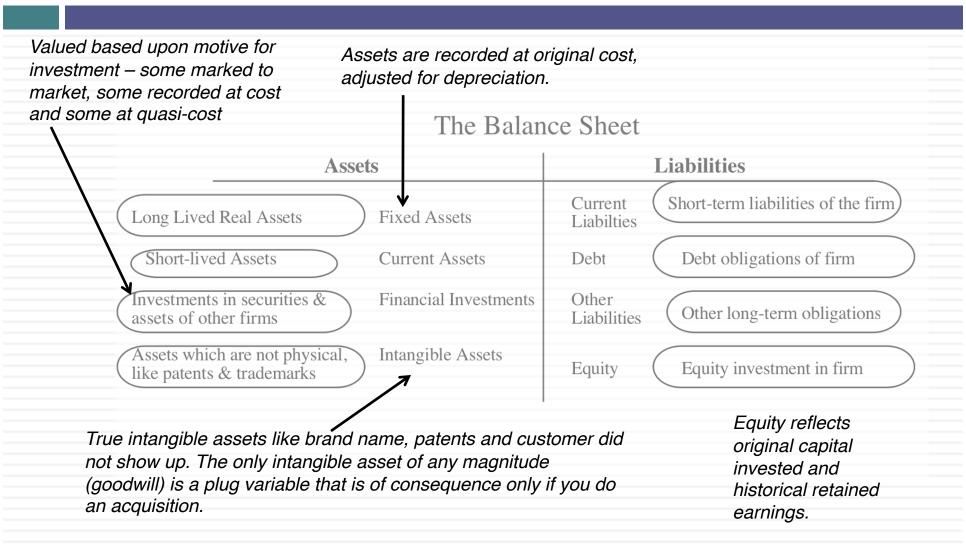
## MY VALUATION JOURNEY: HAVE FAITH, YOU MUST!

January 2016 Aswath Damodaran

## I. Don't mistake accounting for finance



### The financial balance sheet

Recorded at intrinsic value (based upon cash flows and risk), not at original cost

#### **Assets**

Existing Investments
Generate cashflows today
Includes long lived (fixed) and
short-lived(working
capital) assets

Expected Value that will be

created by future investments

Assets in Place

Growth Assets

Liabilities

Fixed Claim on cash flows
Little or No role in management
Fixed Maturity
Tax Deductible

Equity

Debt

Residual Claim on cash flows Significant Role in management Perpetual Lives

Value will depend upon magnitude of growth investments and excess returns on these investments

Intrinsic value of equity, reflecting intrinsic value of assets, net of true value of debt outstanding.

### II. Don't assume that D+CF = DCF

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:

Value of asset =  $\frac{E(CF_1)}{(1+r)} + \frac{E(CF_2)}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{E(CF_3)}{(1+r)^3} + \dots + \frac{E(CF_n)}{(1+r)^n}$ 

- 1. The IT Proposition: If "it" does not affect the cash flows or alter risk (thus changing discount rates), "it" cannot affect value.
- 2. The DUH Proposition: For an asset to have value, the expected cash flows have to be positive some time over the life of the asset.
- 3. The DON'T FREAK OUT Proposition: 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.

## 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?

### DCF as a tool for intrinsic valuation

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#### Value of growth

The future cash flows will reflect expectations of how quickly earnings will grow in the future (as a positive) and how much the company will have to reinvest to generate that growth (as a negative). The net effect will determine the value of growth.

Expected Cash Flow in year t = E(CF) = Expected Earnings in year t - Reinvestment needed for growth

#### Cash flows from existing assets

The base earnings will reflect the earnings power of the existing assets of the firm, net of taxes and any reinvestment needed to sustain the base earnings.

Value of asset = 
$$\frac{E(CF_1)}{(1+r)} + \frac{E(CF_2)}{(1+r)^2} + \frac{E(CF_3)}{(1+r)^3} + \dots + \frac{E(CF_n)}{(1+r)^n}$$

#### Steady state

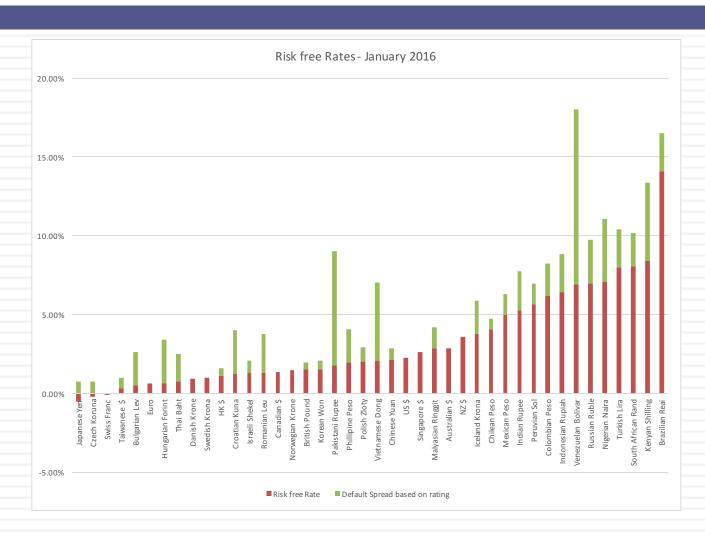
The value of growth comes from the capacity to generate excess returns. The length of your growth period comes from the strength & sustainability of your competitive advantages.

#### Risk in the Cash flows

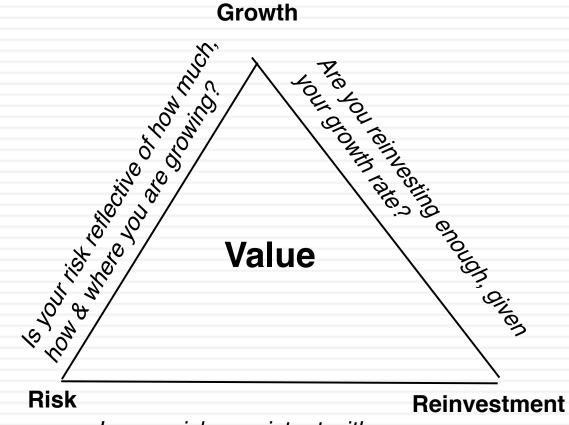
The risk in the investment is captured in the discount rate as a beta in the cost of equity and the default spread in the cost of debt.

## 1. Match your cash flows to your discount rates..

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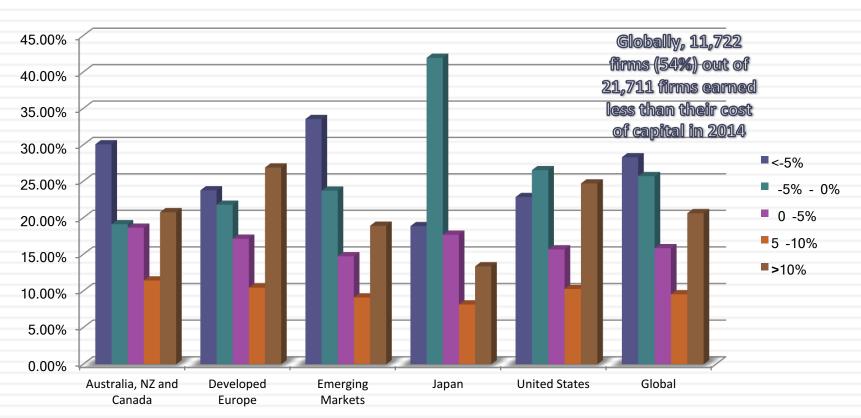
## 2. Don't let your inputs be at war with each other..



Is your risk consistent with your reinvestment strategy?

### And consider the trade offs...

Excess Return (ROC minus Cost of Capital) for firms with market capitalization> \$50 million: Global in 2014



### 3. Globalization is not a buzz word

- As companies get globalized, the valuations that we do have to reflect that globalization. In particular, we need to be wary of
  - Currency mismatches: Multinationals derive their revenues in many currencies but you have to be currency-consistent.
  - Beta gaming: When a company is listed in many markets, you can get very different betas, depending on how you set up and run a beta regression
  - Equity Risk Premiums: The standard practice of estimating equity risk premiums based on your country of incorporation will lead to skewed valuations.

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%	ľ
Greece	20.90%	14.90%	Sweden	6.00%	0.00%	
Guernsey	6.59%	0.59%	Switzerland	6.00%	0.00%	0
Iceland	8.84%	2.84%	Turkey	9.28%	3.28%	1
Ireland	8.38%	2.38%	United Kingdom	6.59%	0.59%	
Isle of Man	6.59%	0.59%	Western Europe	7.16%	1.16%	
Italy	8.84%	2.84%				

Canada	6.00%	0.00%
US	6.00%	0.00%
North America	6.00%	0.00%

Caribbean	14.61	8.619
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%
Latin America	10.42%	4.42%

IN			
Country	ERP	CRP	
Angola	10.48%	4.48%	
Botswana	7.26%	1.26%	,
Burkina Faso	15.70%	9.70%	ï
Cameroon	14.20%	8.20%	
Cape Verde	14.20%	8.20%	4
Congo (DR	15.70%	9.70%	4
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%	
Africa	11.76%	5.76%	

Eastern Europe & Russia	9.65%	3.65%	
Ukraine	20.90%	14.90%	
Slovenia	9.28%	3.28%	
Slovakia	7.26%	1.26%	1
Serbia	12.71%	6.71%	
Russia	9.72%	3.72%	
Romania	9.28%	3.28%	
Poland	7.26%	1.26%	
Montenegro	11.37%	5.37%	
Moldova	15.70%	9.70%	
Macedonia	11.37%	5.37%	
Lithuania	7.79%	1.79%	
Latvia	7.79%	1.79%	
Kazakhstan	8.84%	2.84%	
Hungary	9.72%	3.72%	
Georgia	11.37%	5.37%	4
Estonia	7.05%	1.05%	Ĩ
Czech Republic	7.05%	1.05%	Ú
Croatia	9.72%	3.72%	
Bulgaria	8.84%	2.84%	
Bosnia	15.70%	9.70%	
Belarus	17.17%	11.17%	
Azerbaijan	9.28%	3.28%	
Armenia	11.37%	5.37%	
Albania	12.71%	6.71%	

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%
Middle East	7.11%	1.11%

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

	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%
3	Iran	67.8	10.48%	4.48%	Syria	35.8	25.00%	19.00%
Ü	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%
1	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%				

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 Guine	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%
Asia	7.49%	1.49%

6.00% 0.00%

12.71% 6.71%

6.00% 0.00%

0.00%

6.00%

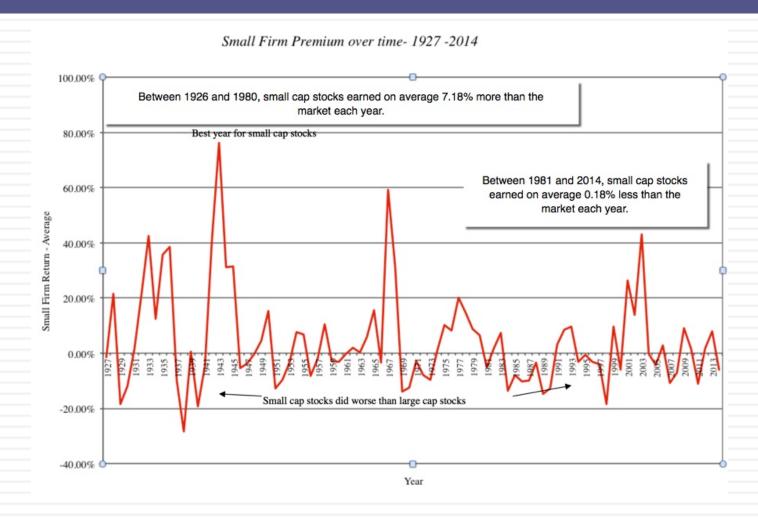
Australia

Cook Islands

New Zealand

Australia & NZ

# 4. Everyone may do it, but that does not make it right.. The small cap premium



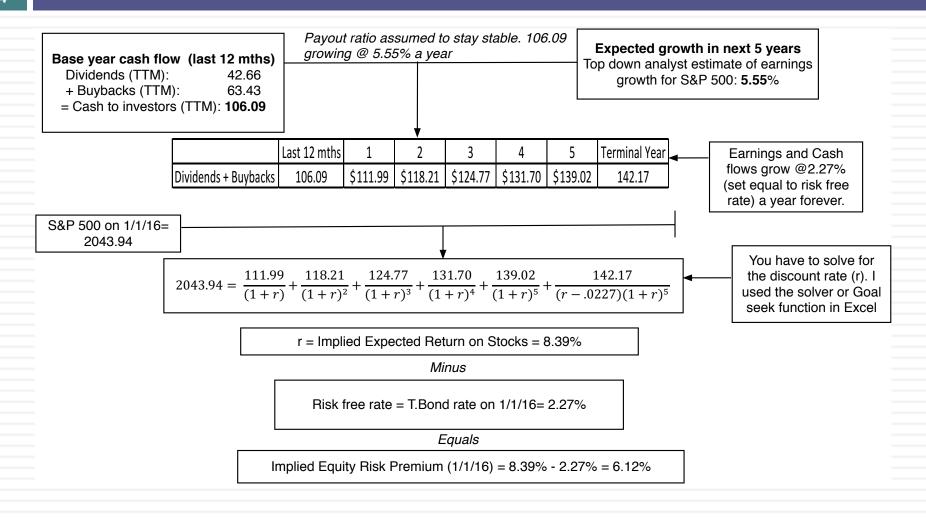
## 5. Value is not about the past...

	Arithmet	ric 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%		

- □If you are going to use a historical risk premium, make it
  - Long term (because of the standard error)
  - Consistent with your risk free rate
  - A "compounded" average
- □No matter which estimate you use, recognize that it is backward looking, is noisy and may reflect selection bias.

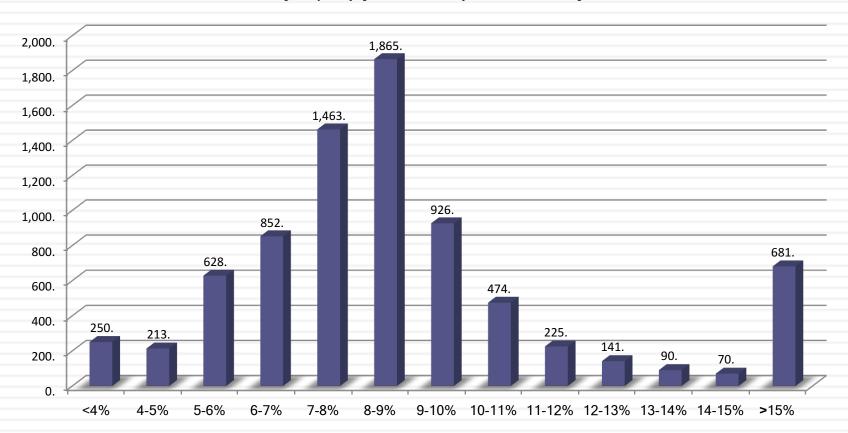
### But in the future...

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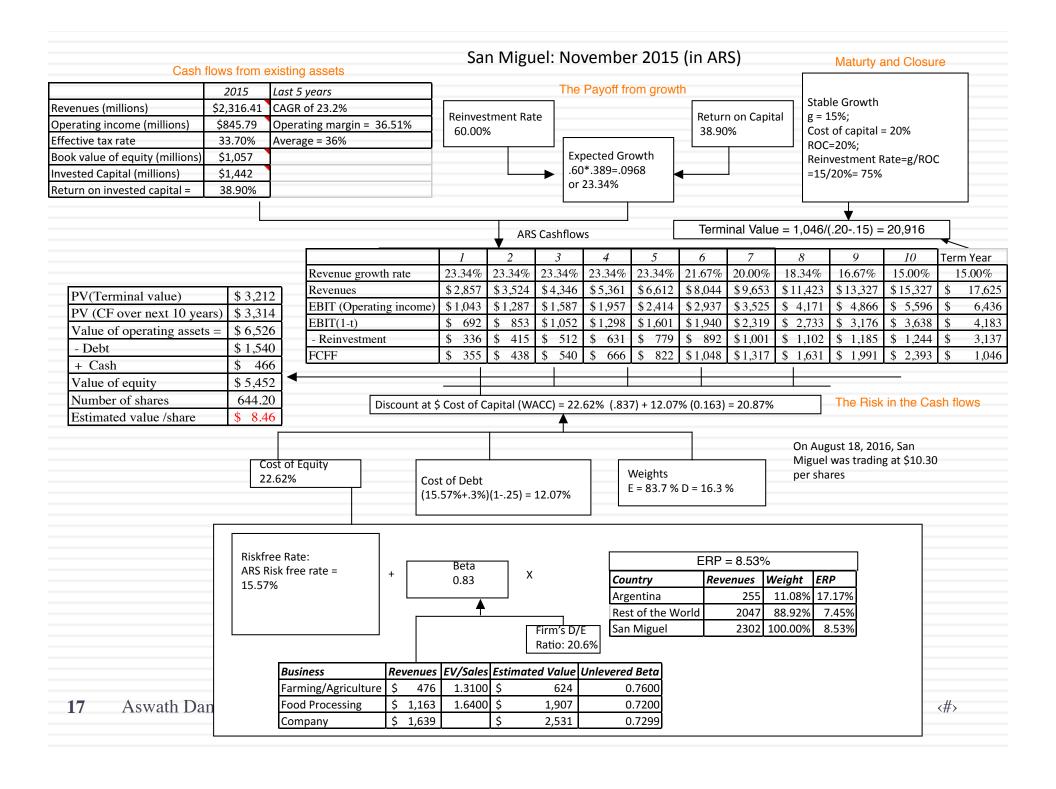
### 6. Don't sweat the small stuff

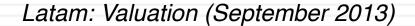
#### Cost of equity for Publicly traded US firms



## 7. Don't let your macro views drown out your micro views..

- When you are asked to value a company, you should keep your focus on what drives that value. If you bring in your specific macro views into the valuation, the value that you obtain for a company will be a joint result of what you think about the company and your macro views.
- Bottom line: If you have macro views, provide them separately. You should be as macro-neutral as you can be, in your company valuations.
- Follow up: If you find macro risk dominating your thoughts, deal with it frontally.





#### Cash flows from existing assets

				Global
			US Industry	industry
	2012	2008-2012	average	average
Revenues	\$9,722	\$5,213		
Operating income	\$276	\$468		
Operating margin	2.84%	8.98%	8.38%	0.05
ROIC	6.07%	15.97%	17.97%	6.94%
Sales/Capital	2.14	1.78	2.74	1.67

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Aswat

Revenue growth of **15%** a year for 5 years, tapering down to 2.5% in year 10 Pre-tax operating margin increases to 8.98% over time. Sales to capital ratio of 10.0 for first 5 years, 2.74 thereafter

Central and South America

Total

7.30%

100 100.00%

9.69%

8.92%

**<#>** 

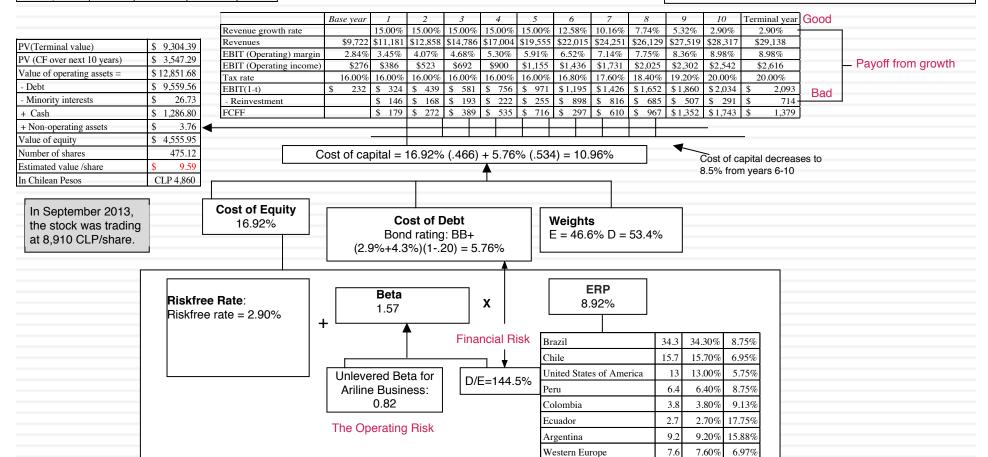
#### Maturity & Closure

#### Stable Growth

g = 2.9%; Beta = 1.00; Cost of capital = 8.5% ROC= 8.5%;

Reinvestment Rate=2.9%/8.5% = 34.1%

Terminal Value<sub>10</sub>= 1379/(.085-.025) = \$24,621





The **Chimera DCF** mixes dollar cash flows with peso discount rates, nominal cash flows with real costs of capital and cash flows before debt payments with costs of equity, violating basic consistency rules



In a **Trojan Horse DCF**, Just as the Greeks used a wooden horse to smuggle soldiers into Troy, analysts use the Trojan Horse of cash flows to smuggle in a pricing (in the form of a terminal value, estimated by using a multiple).

A Kabuki DCF is a work of art, where analyst and rule maker (or court) go through the motions of valuation,

with the intent of developing models

that are legally or accounting-rule

defensible rather than yielding

reasonable values.



In a **Dreamstate DCF**, you build amazing companies on spreadsheets, making outlandish assumptions about growth and operating margins over time.



D+CF ≠ DCF



In a **Robo DCF**, the analyst builds a valuation almost entirely from the most recent financial statements and automated forecasts.



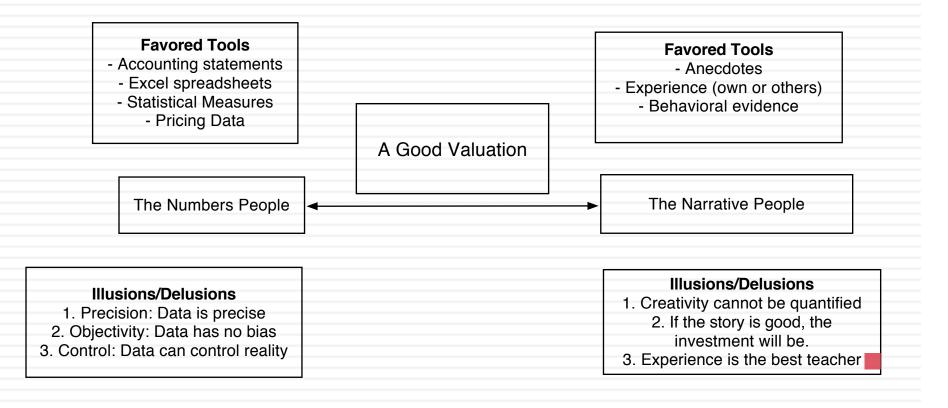
In a **Dissonant DCF**, assumptions about growth, risk and cash flows are not consistent with each other, with little or no explanation given for the mismatch.



A Mutant DCF is a collection of numbers where items have familiar names (free cash flow, cost of capital) but the analyst putting it together has neither a narrative nor a sense of the basic principles of



## III. Don't mistake modeling for valuation



#### Step 1: Develop a narrative for the business that you are valuing

In the narrative, you tell your story about how you see the business evolving over time. Keep it simple & focused.

#### Step 2: Test the narrative to see if it is possible, plausible and probable

There are lots of possible narratives, not all of them are plausible and only a few of them are probable. No <u>fairy tales</u> or <u>runaway stories</u>.

#### Step 3: Convert the narrative into drivers of value

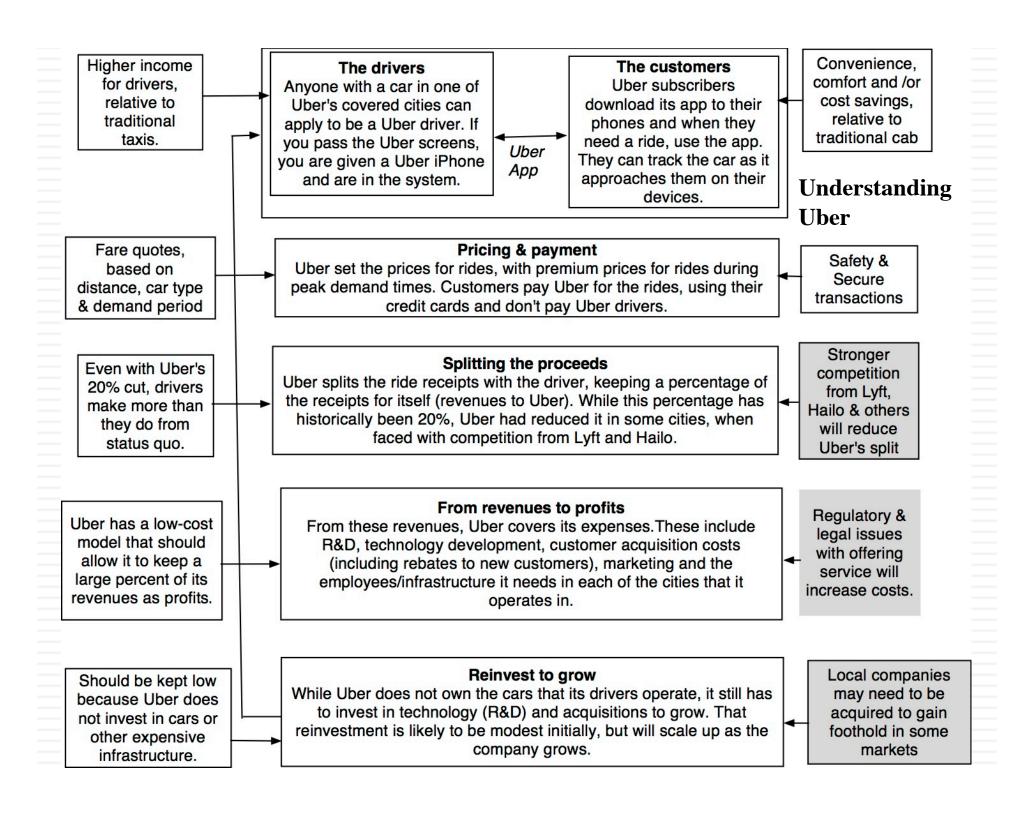
Take the narrative apart and look at how you will bring it into valuaton inputs starting with potential market size down to cash flows and risk. By the time you are done, each part of the narrative should have a place in your numbers and each number should be backed up a portion of your story.

#### Step 4: Connect the drivers of value to a valuation

Create an intrinsic valuation model that connects the inputs to an end-value the business.

#### Step 5: Keep the feedback loop open

Listen to people who know the business better than you do and use their suggestions to fine tune your narrative and perhaps even alter it. Work out the effects on value of alternative narratives for the company.

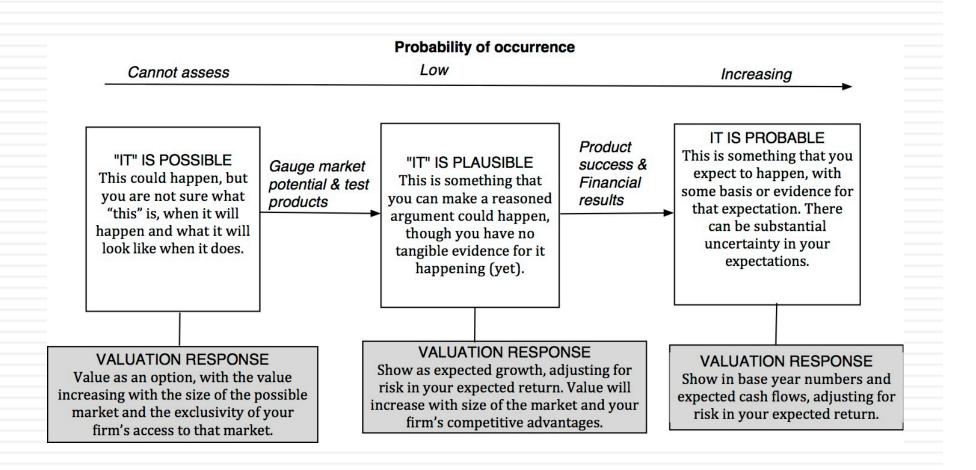


## Step 1: The Uber Narrative

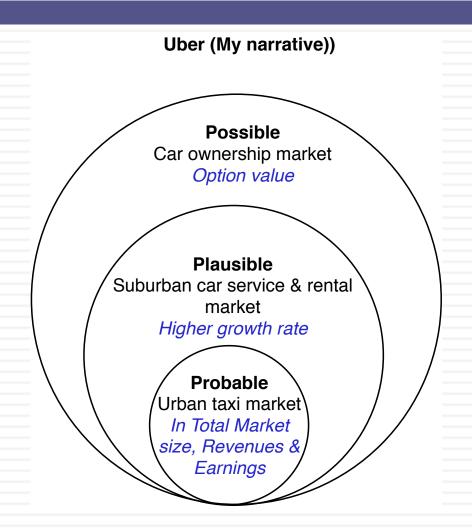
In June 2014, my initial narrative for Uber was that it would be

- An urban car service business: I saw Uber primarily as a force in urban areas and only in the car service business.
- 2. Which would expand the business moderately (about 40% over ten years) by bringing in new users.
- With local networking benefits: If Uber becomes large enough in any city, it will quickly become larger, but that will be of little help when it enters a new city.
- Maintain its revenue sharing (20%) system due to strong competitive advantages (from being a first mover).
- 5. And its existing low-capital business model, with drivers as contractors and very little investment in infrastructure.

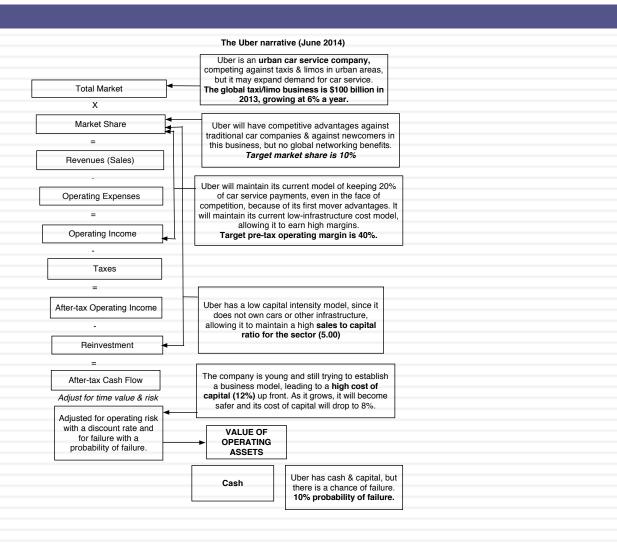
## Step 2: Check the narrative against history, economic first principles & common sense

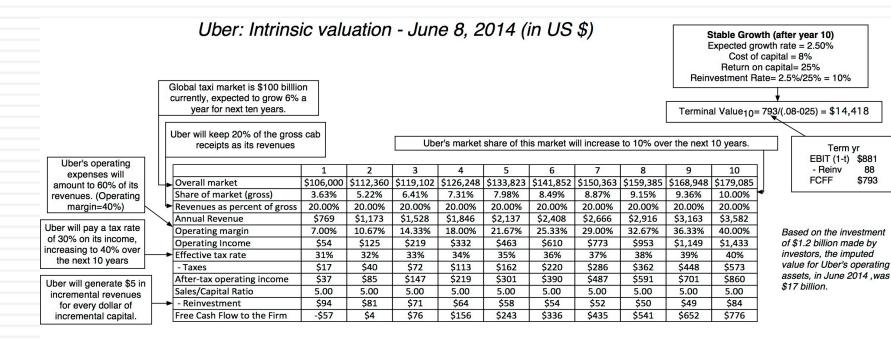


## Uber: Possible, Plausible and Probable



## Step 3: Connect your narrative to key drivers of value





Value of operating assets = \$6,595

Adust for probability of failure (10%) Expected value = \$6,595 (.9) = \$5,895 Cost of capital for first 5 years = Top decile of US companies =

Cost of capital declines from 12% to 8% from years 6 to 10.

Discount back the cash flows (including terminal value) at the cumulated cost of capital.

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## Step 5: Keep the feedback loop

- Not just car service company.: Uber is a car company, not just a car service company, and there may be a day when consumers will subscribe to a Uber service, rather than own their own cars. It could also expand into logistics, i.e., moving and transportation businesses.
- Not just urban: Uber can create new demands for car service in parts of the country where taxis are not used (suburbia, small towns).
- Global networking benefits: By linking with technology and credit card companies, Uber can have global networking benefits.

## Valuing Bill Gurley's Uber narrative

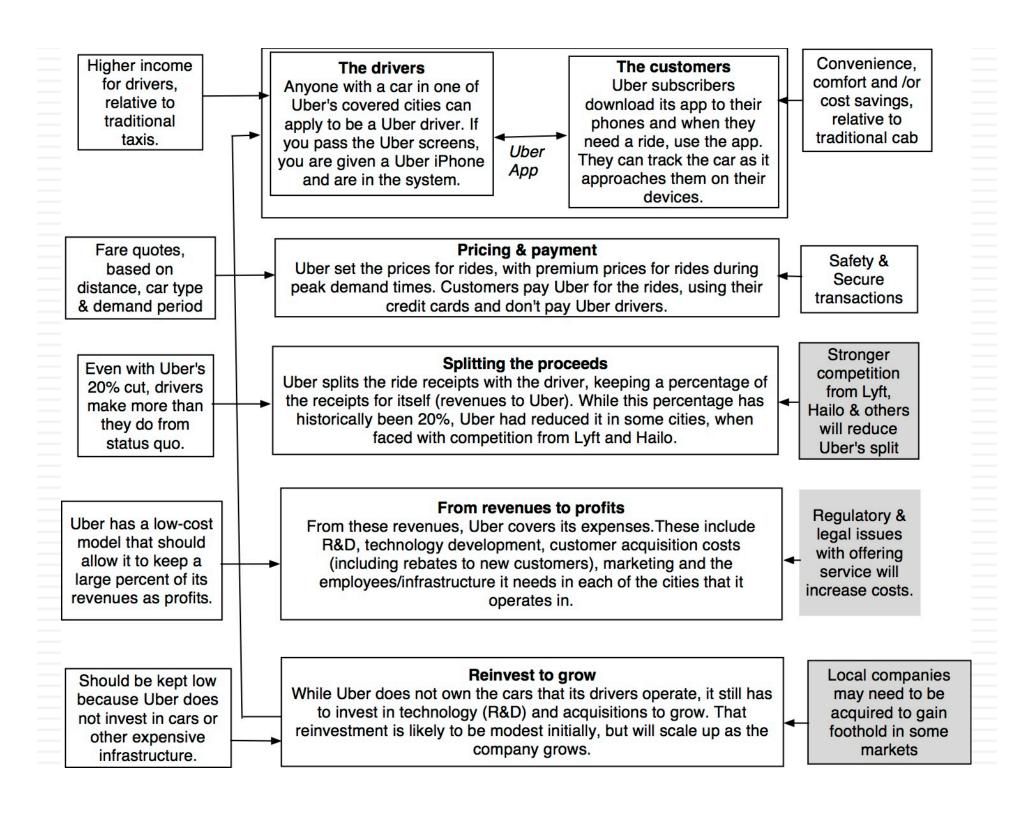
	Uber (Gurley)	Uber (Gurley Mod)	Uber (Damodaran)
Narrative	Uber will expand the car service	Uber will expand the car service	Uber will expand the car service
	market substantially, bringing in	market substantially, bringing in	market moderately, primarily in
	mass transit users & non-users	mass transit users & non-users from	urban environments, and use its
	from the suburbs into the market,	the suburbs into the market, and use	competitive advantages to get a
	and use its <u>networking</u> advantage	its <u>networking advantage</u> to gain a	significant but not dominant
	to gain a dominant market share,	dominant market share, while	market share and maintain its
	while maintaining its revenue slice	cutting prices and margins (to 10%).	revenue slice at 20%.
	at 20%.		
Total	\$300 billion, growing at 3% a year	\$300 billion, growing at 3% a year	\$100 billion, growing at 6% a year
Market			
Market	40%	40%	10%
Share			
Uber's	20%	10%	20%
revenue			
slice			
Value for	\$53.4 billion + Option value of	\$28.7 billion + Option value of	\$5.9 billion + Option value of
Uber	entering car ownership market	entering car ownership market (\$6	entering car ownership market (\$2-
	(\$10 billion+)	billion+)	3 billion)

## Different narratives, Different Numbers

Total Market	Growth Effect	Network Effect	Competitive Advantages	Value of Uber
A4. Mobility Services	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$90,457
A3. Logistics	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$65,158
A4. Mobility Services	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$52,346
A2. All car service	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$47,764
A1. Urban car service	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$31,952
A3. Logistics	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$14,321
A1. Urban car service	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$7,127
A2. All car service	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$4,764
A4. Mobility Services	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,888
A3. Logistics	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,417
A2. All car service	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,094
A1. Urban car service	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$799

## The Real World Intrudes: Be ready to modify narrative as events unfold

Narrative Break/End	Narrative Shift	Narrative Change (Expansion or Contraction)
Events, external (legal, political or economic) or internal (management, competitive, default), that can cause the narrative to break or end.	Improvement or deterioration in initial business model, changing market size, market share and/or profitability.	Unexpected entry/success in a new market or unexpected exit/failure in an existing market.
Your valuation estimates (cash flows, risk, growth & value) are no longer operative	Your valuation estimates will have to be modified to reflect the new data about the company.	Valuation estimates have to be redone with new overall market potential and characteristics.
Estimate a probability that it will occur & consequences	Monte Carlo simulations or scenario analysis	Real Options



## Step 2: Create a narrative for the future

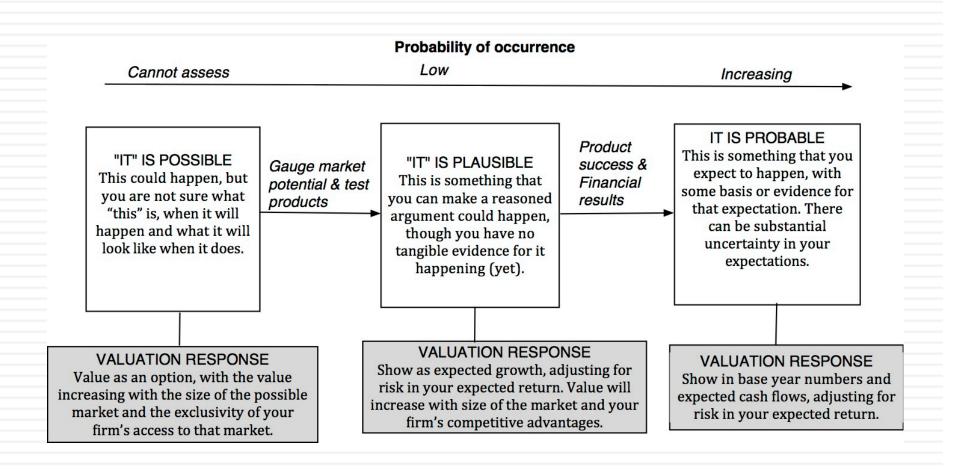
- Every valuation starts with a narrative, a story that you see unfolding for your company in the future.
- In developing this narrative, you will be making assessments of your company (its products, its management), the market or markets that you see it growing in, the competition it faces and will face and the macro environment in which it operates.
  - Rule 1: Keep it simple.
  - Rule 2: Keep it focused.

### The Uber Narrative

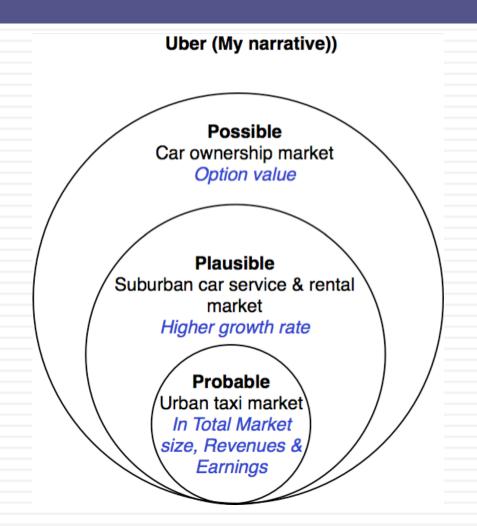
In June 2014, my initial narrative for Uber was that it would be

- An urban car service business: I saw Uber primarily as a force in urban areas and only in the car service business.
- 2. Which would expand the business moderately (about 40% over ten years) by bringing in new users.
- With local networking benefits: If Uber becomes large enough in any city, it will quickly become larger, but that will be of little help when it enters a new city.
- Maintain its revenue sharing (20%) system due to strong competitive advantages (from being a first mover).
- 5. And its existing low-capital business model, with drivers as contractors and very little investment in infrastructure.

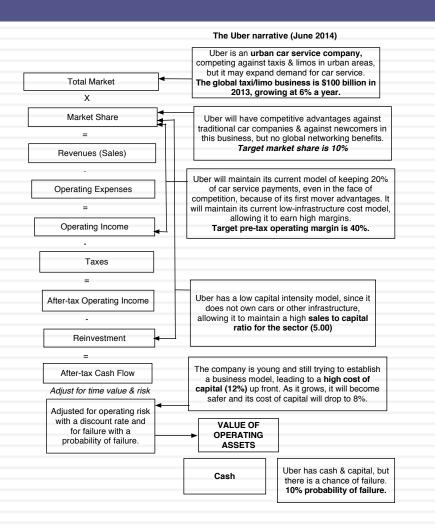
## Step 3: Check the narrative against history, economic first principles & common sense

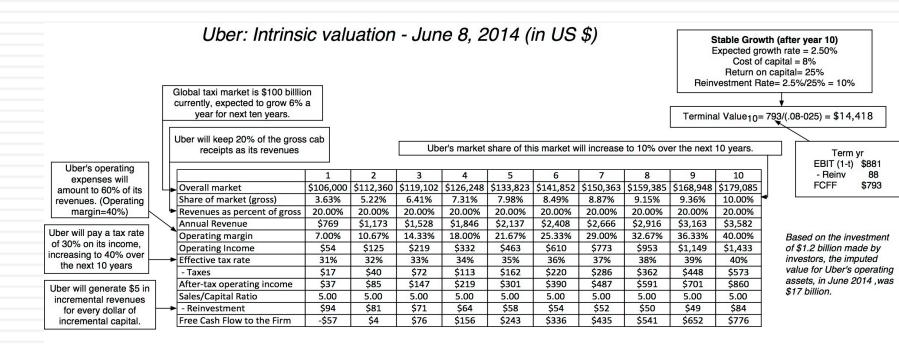


## Uber: Possible, Plausible and Probable



## Step 4: Connect your narrative to key drivers of value





Cost of capital for first 5 years =

Top decile of US companies =

Discount back the cash flows (including terminal value) at the cumulated cost of capital.

Cost of capital declines from 12% to

8% from years 6 to 10.

Value of operating assets = \$6,595

Adust for probability of failure (10%)

Expected value = \$6,595 (.9) = \$5,895

### Step 6: Keep the feedback loop

- Not just car service company.: Uber is a car company, not just a car service company, and there may be a day when consumers will subscribe to a Uber service, rather than own their own cars. It could also expand into logistics, i.e., moving and transportation businesses.
- Not just urban: Uber can create new demands for car service in parts of the country where taxis are not used (suburbia, small towns).
- Global networking benefits: By linking with technology and credit card companies, Uber can have global networking benefits.

## Valuing Bill Gurley's Uber narrative

	Uber (Gurley)	Uber (Gurley Mod)	Uber (Damodaran)
Narrative	Uber will expand the car service	Uber will expand the car service	Uber will expand the car service
	market substantially, bringing in	market substantially, bringing in	market moderately, primarily in
	mass transit users & non-users	mass transit users & non-users from	urban environments, and use its
	from the suburbs into the market,	the suburbs into the market, and use	competitive advantages to get a
	and use its <u>networking</u> advantage	its <u>networking advantage</u> to gain a	significant but not dominant
	to gain a dominant market share,	dominant market share, while	market share and maintain its
	while maintaining its revenue slice	cutting prices and margins (to 10%).	revenue slice at 20%.
	at 20%.		
Total	\$300 billion, growing at 3% a year	\$300 billion, growing at 3% a year	\$100 billion, growing at 6% a year
Market			
Market	40%	40%	10%
Share			
Uber's	20%	10%	20%
revenue			
slice			
Value for	\$53.4 billion + Option value of	\$28.7 billion + Option value of	\$5.9 billion + Option value of
Uber	entering car ownership market	entering car ownership market (\$6	entering car ownership market (\$2-
	(\$10 billion+)	billion+)	3 billion)

## Different narratives, Different Numbers

Total Market	Growth Effect	Network Effect	Competitive Advantages	Value of Uber
A4. Mobility Services	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$90,457
A3. Logistics	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$65,158
A4. Mobility Services	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$52,346
A2. All car service	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$47,764
A1. Urban car service	B4. Double market size	C5. Strong global network effects	D4. Strong & Sustainable	\$31,952
A3. Logistics	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$14,321
A1. Urban car service	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$7,127
A2. All car service	B3. Increase market by 50%	C3. Strong local network effects	D3. Semi-strong	\$4,764
A4. Mobility Services	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,888
A3. Logistics	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,417
A2. All car service	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$1,094
A1. Urban car service	B1. None	C1. No network effects	D1. None	\$799

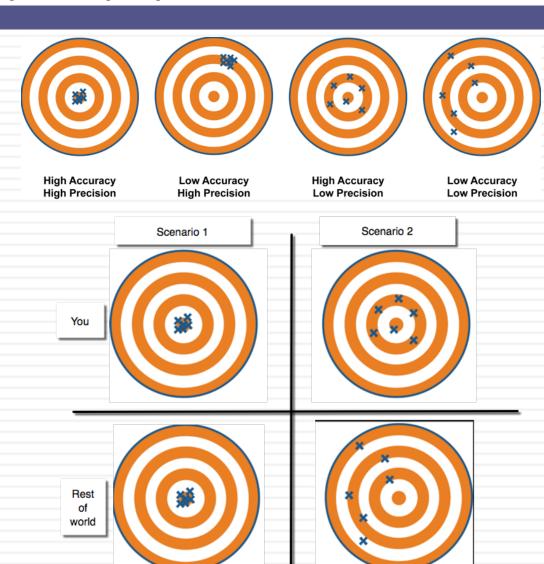
## Step 6: Be ready to modify narrative as events unfold

Narrative Break/End	Narrative Shift	Narrative Change (Expansion or Contraction)
Events, external (legal, political or economic) or internal (management, competitive, default), that can cause the narrative to break or end.	Improvement or deterioration in initial business model, changing market size, market share and/or profitability.	Unexpected entry/success in a new market or unexpected exit/failure in an existing market.
Your valuation estimates (cash flows, risk, growth & value) are no longer operative	Your valuation estimates will have to be modified to reflect the new data about the company.	Valuation estimates have to be redone with new overall market potential and characteristics.
Estimate a probability that it will occur & consequences	Monte Carlo simulations or scenario analysis	Real Options

## IV. Don't mistake precision for accuracy.. And accuracy for payoff..

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Better accurate than precise



It's all relative

Aswath Damodaran

### Valuing a start up is hard to do...

Figure 3: Estimation Issues - Young and Start-up 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 is the value added by growth assets?

What are the cashflows from existing assets?

Different claims or cash flows can affect value of equity at each stage.

What is the value of equity in the firm?

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 fiirm, 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.

### And the dark side will beckon..

- With young start up companies, you will be told that it is "too difficult" or even "impossible" to value these companies, because there is so little history and so much uncertainty in the future.
- Instead, you will be asked to come over to the "dark side", where
  - You will see value metrics that you have never seen before
  - You will hear "macro" stories, justifying value
  - You will be asked to play the momentum game
- While all of this behavior is understandable, none of it makes the uncertainty go away. You have a choice. You can either hide from uncertainty or face up to it.

## Twitter: Setting the table in October 2013

	Last 10K	Trailing 12 month
Revenues	\$316.93	\$534.46
Operating Income	(\$77.06)	(\$134.91)
Adjusted Operating Income		\$7.66
Invested Capital		\$955.00
Adjusted Operating Margin		1.44%
Sales/ Invested Capital		\$0.56

#### Twitter: Priming the Pump for Valuation

#### 1. Make small revenues into big revenues

	2011		2012		20	13
	%	\$	%	\$	%	\$
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

		Annual growth rate in Global Advertising Spending								
		2.00%	2.00% 2.50% 3.00% 3.50% 4.00%							
Online	20%	\$124.78	\$131.03	\$137.56	\$144.39	\$151.52				
advertising	25%	\$155.97	\$163.79	\$171.95	\$180.49	\$189.40				
share of market	30%	\$187.16	\$196.54	\$206.34	\$216.58	\$227.28				
	35%	\$218.36	\$229.30	\$240.74	\$252.68	\$265.16				
	40%	\$249.55	\$262.06	\$275.13	\$288.78	\$303.04				

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

#### 2. Make losses into profits

Company	Operating Margin
Google Inc. (NasdaqGS:GOOG)	22.82%
Facebook, Inc. (NasdaqGS:FB)	29.99%
Yahoo! Inc. (NasdaqGS:YHOO)	13.79%
Netlfix	3.16%
Groupon	2.53%
LinkedIn Corporation (NYSE:LNKD)	5.18%
Pandora Media, Inc. (NYSE:P)	-9.13%
Yelp, Inc. (NYSE:YELP)	-6.19%
OpenTable, Inc. (NasdaqGS:OPEN)	24.90%
RetailMeNot	45.40%
Travelzoo Inc. (NasdaqGS:TZOO)	15.66%
Zillow, Inc. (NasdaqGS:Z)	-66.60%
Trulia, Inc. (NYSE:TRLA)	-6.79%
Aggregate	20.40%

My estimate for Twitter: Operating margin of 25% in year 10

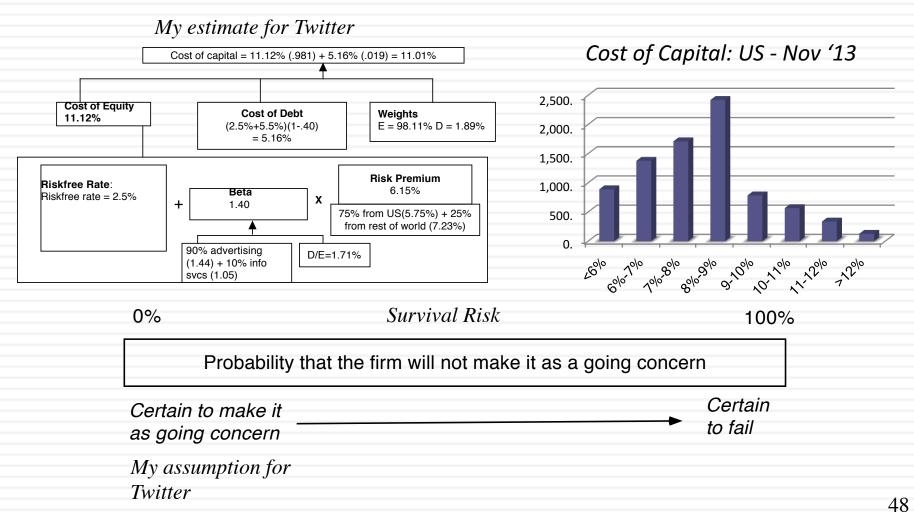
#### 3. Reinvest for growth

	Sales/ Invested Capital
Twitter (2013)	1.10
Advertising Companies	1.40
Social Media Companies	1.05

My estimate for Twitter: Sales/Capital will be 1.50 for next 10 years

### The Cost of Capital for Twitter





#### Starting numbers

#### Twitter Pre-IPO Valuation: October 27, 2013

		Trailing 12
	Last 10K	month
Revenues	\$316.93	\$534.46
Operating income	-\$77.06	-\$134.91
Adjusted Operating Income		\$7.67
Invested Capital		\$955.00
Adjusted Operatng Margin		1.44%
Sales/ Invested Capital		0.56
Interest expenses	\$2.49	\$5.30

Revenue growth of 51.5% a year for 5 years, tapering down to 2.5% 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 = 2.5%; Beta = 1.00; Cost of capital = 8% ROC= **12**%; Reinvestment Rate=2.5%/12% = 20.83%

Terminal Value<sub>10</sub>= 1466/(.08-.025) = \$26,657

Operating assets \$9,705 + Cash 321 + IPO Proceeds 1295 - Debt 214 Value of equity 11,106 713 - Options 10,394 Value in stock / # of shares 582.46 Value/share \$17.84

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Revenues	\$ 810	\$1,227	\$1,858	\$2,816	\$4,266	\$6,044	\$7,973	\$9,734	\$10,932	\$11,205
Operating Income	\$ 31	\$ 75	\$ 158	\$ 306	\$ 564	\$ 941	\$1,430	\$1,975	\$ 2,475	\$ 2,801
Operating Income after tax	\$ 31	\$ 75	\$ 158	\$ 294	\$ 395	\$ 649	\$ 969	\$1,317	\$ 1,624	\$ 1,807
- Reinvestment	\$ 183	\$ 278	\$ 421	\$ 638	\$ 967	\$1,186	\$1,285	\$1,175	\$ 798	\$ 182
FCFF	\$(153)	\$ (203)	\$ (263)	\$ (344)	\$ (572)	\$ (537)	\$ (316)	\$ 143	\$ 826	\$ 1,625

 Terminal year (11)

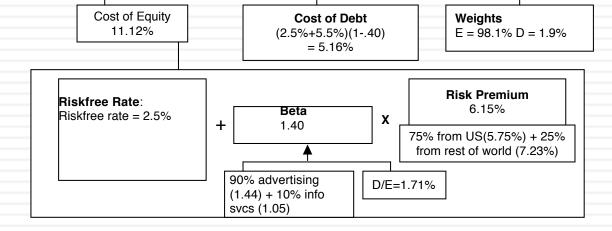
 EBIT (1-t)
 \$ 1,852

 - Reinvestment
 \$ 386

 FCFF
 \$ 1,466

Cost of capital = 11.12% (.981) + 5.16% (.019) = 11.01%

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

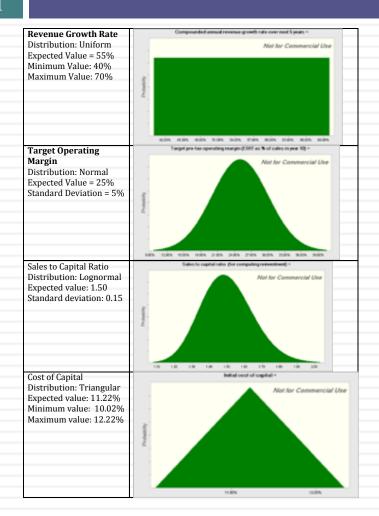


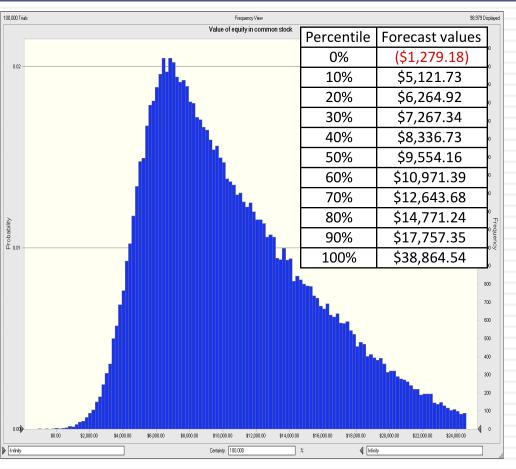
# A sobering reminder: You will be "wrong" and it is okay

- 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.
- Remember that it is not just your value that is changing, but so is the price, and the price will change a great deal more than the value.

## And your value is not a fact, but an estimate..

5





## Forecasting in the face of uncertainty. A test:

52

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

#### Weather changeability for Honolulu, Hawaii

Temperature	Last Month	
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	1.7°	1.2°
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	1.5°	2.0°

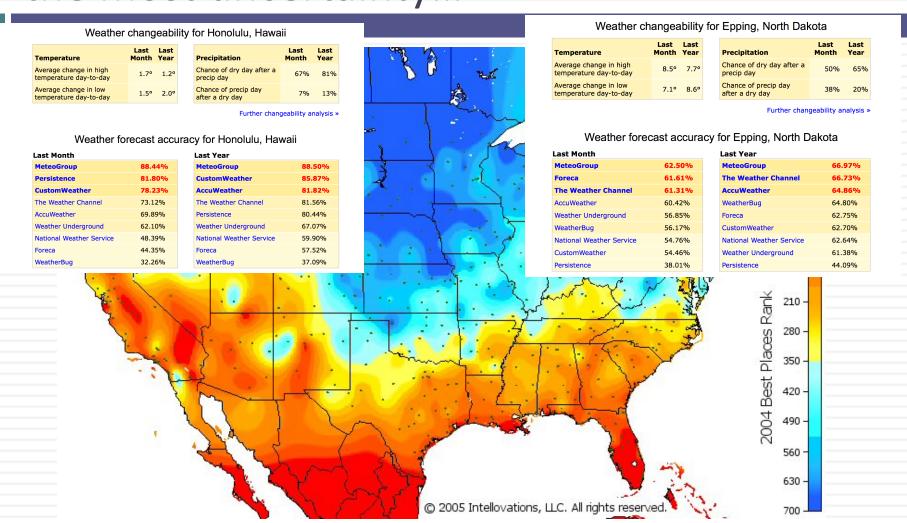
Precipitation	Last Month	Last Year
Chance of dry day after a precip day	67%	81%
Chance of precip day after a dry day	7%	13%

#### Weather changeability for Epping, North Dakota

Temperature	Last Month	
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	8.5°	7.7°
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	7.1°	8.6°

Precipitation	Last Month	Last Year
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...



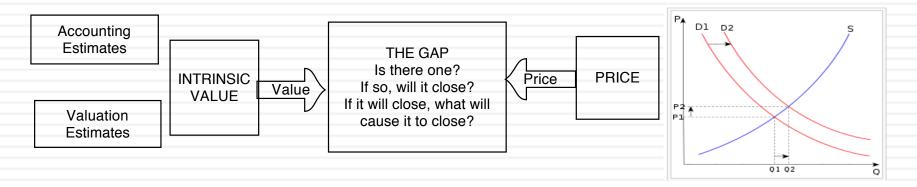
## V. Don't mistake price for value!

Drivers of intrinsic value

- Cashflows from existing assets
- Growth in cash flows
- Quality of Growth

#### Drivers of price

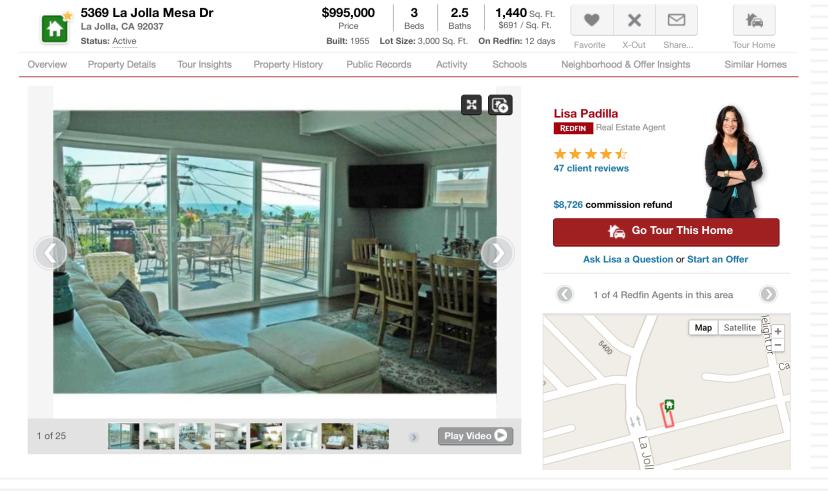
- Market moods & momentum
- Surface stories about fundamentals



Aswath Damodaran

## Test 1: Are you pricing or valuing?

55



## Test 2: Are you pricing or valuing?

50

#### Europe

Switzerland

Biotechnology

Biotechnology

Reuters Bloomberg Exchange Ticker BION.S BION SW SWX BION

124.00
164.50
128.40 - 84.90

## Strong sector and stock-picking continue

#### Impressive performance

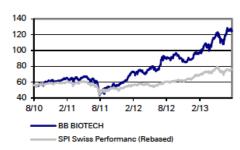
Over the past two years, BB Biotech shares have roughly tripled, which could tempt investors to take profits. However, this performance has been well backed by a deserved revival of the biotech industry, encouraging fundamental news, M&A, and increased money flow into health care stocks. In addition, BBB returned to index outperformance by modifying its stock-picking approach. Hence, despite excellent performance, the shares still trade at a 23% discount to the net asset value of the portfolio. Hence, the shares are an attractive value vehicle to capture growth opportunities in an attractive sector.

#### Biotech industry remains attractive

With the re-rating of the pharma sector, investors have also showed increased interest in biotech stocks. Established biotech stocks have delivered encouraging financial results and approvals, while there has also been substantial industry consolidation, which is not surprising in times of "cheap" money and high liquidity. BB Biotech remains an attractive vehicle to capture the future potential of the biotech sector. In addition, investors benefit from a 23% discount to NAV and attractive cash distribution policy of 5% yield p.a.



#### Price/price relative



Performance (%)	1m	3m	12m
Absolute	-1.4	5.4	37.4

\$1,132.81

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•

	1	2	3	4	5
EBITDA	\$100.00	\$120.00	\$144.00	\$172.80	\$207.36
- Depreciation	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47
EBIT	\$80.00	\$96.00	\$115.20	\$138.24	\$165.89
- Taxes	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47	\$49.77
EBIT (1-t)	\$56.00	\$67.20	\$80.64	\$96.77	\$116.12
+ Depreciation	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47
- Cap Ex	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$72.00	\$86.40	\$103.68
- Chg in WC	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$14.40	\$17.28	\$20.74
FCFF	\$16.00	\$19.20	\$23.04	\$27.65	\$33.18
Terminal Value					\$1,658.88
Cost of capital	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%
Present Value	\$14.78	\$16.38	\$18.16	\$20.14	\$1,138.35
Value of operating assets today	\$1,207.81				
+ Cash	\$125.00				
- Debt	\$200.00				

Aswath Damodaran

Value of equity

#### **Mood and Momentum**

Price is determined in large part by mood and momentum, which, in turn, are driven by behavioral factors (panic, fear, greed).

#### **Liquidity & Trading Ease**

While the value of an asset may not change much from period to period, liquidity and ease of trading can, and as it does, so will the price.

The Market Price

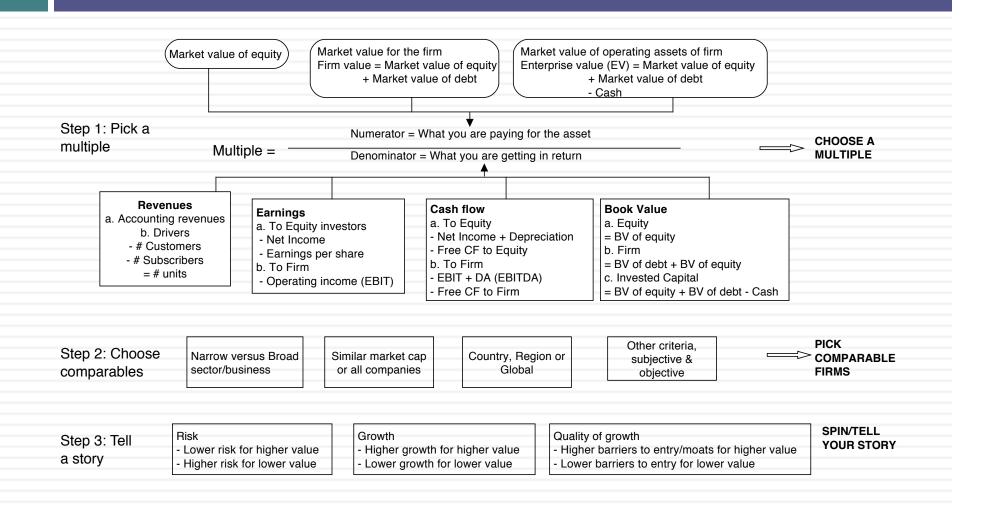
#### **Incremental information**

Since you make money on price changes, not price levels, the focus is on incremental information (news stories, rumors, gossip) and how it measures up, relative to expectations

#### **Group Think**

To the extent that pricing is about gauging what other investors will do, the price can be determined by the "herd".

## Multiples and Comparable Transactions



### To be a better pricer, here are four suggestions

- Check your multiple or consistency/uniformity
  - In use, the same multiple can be defined in different ways by different users. When comparing and using multiples, estimated by someone else, it is critical that we understand how the multiples have been estimated
- Look at all the data, not just the key statistics
  - Too many people who use a multiple have no idea what its cross sectional distribution is. If you do not know what the cross sectional distribution of a multiple is, it is difficult to look at a number and pass judgment on whether it is too high or low.
- Don't forget the fundamentals ultimately matter
  - It is critical that we understand the fundamentals that drive each multiple, and the nature of the relationship between the multiple and each variable.
- Don't define comparables based only on sector
  - Defining the comparable universe and controlling for differences is far more difficult in practice than it is in theory.

### Pricing Twitter: Start with the "comparables"

						Number of				
		Enterprise				users				
Company	Market Cap	value	Revenues	EBITDA	Net Income	(millions)	EV/User	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	PE
Facebook	\$173,540.00	\$160,090.00	\$7,870.00	\$3,930.00	\$1,490.00	1230.00	\$130.15	20.34	40.74	116.47
Linkedin	\$23,530.00	\$19,980.00	\$1,530.00	\$182.00	\$27.00	277.00	\$72.13	13.06	109.78	871.48
Pandora	\$7,320.00	\$7,150.00	\$655.00	-\$18.00	-\$29.00	73.40	\$97.41	10.92	NA	NA
Groupon	\$6,690.00	\$5,880.00	\$2,440.00	\$125.00	-\$95.00	43.00	\$136.74	2.41	47.04	NA
Netflix	\$25,900.00	\$25,380.00	\$4,370.00	\$277.00	\$112.00	44.00	\$576.82	5.81	91.62	231.25
Yelp	\$6,200.00	\$5,790.00	\$233.00	\$2.40	-\$10.00	120.00	\$48.25	24.85	2412.50	NA
Open Table	\$1,720.00	\$1,500.00	\$190.00	\$63.00	\$33.00	14.00	\$107.14	7.89	23.81	52.12
Zynga	\$4,200.00	\$2,930.00	\$873.00	\$74.00	-\$37.00	27.00	\$108.52	3.36	39.59	NA
Zillow	\$3,070.00	\$2,860.00	\$197.00	-\$13.00	-\$12.45	34.50	\$82.90	14.52	NA	NA
Trulia	\$1,140.00	\$1,120.00	\$144.00	-\$6.00	-\$18.00	54.40	\$20.59	7.78	NA	NA
Tripadvisor	\$13,510.00	\$12,860.00	\$945.00	\$311.00	\$205.00	260.00	\$49.46	13.61	41.35	65.90
						Average	\$130.01	11.32	350.80	267.44
						Median	\$97.41	10.92	44.20	116.47

## Read the tea leaves: See what the market cares about

	Market Cap	Enterprise value	Revenues	EBITDA	Net Income	Number of users (millions)
Market Cap	1.					
Enterprise value	0.9998	1.				
Revenues	0.8933	0.8966	1.			
EBITDA	0.9709	0.9701	0.8869	1.		
Net Income	0.8978	0.8971	0.8466	0.9716	1.	
No see la sur a fina a un						
Number of users (millions)	0.9812	0.9789	0.8053	0.9354	0.8453	1.

Twitter had 240 million users at the time of its IPO. What price would you attach to the company?

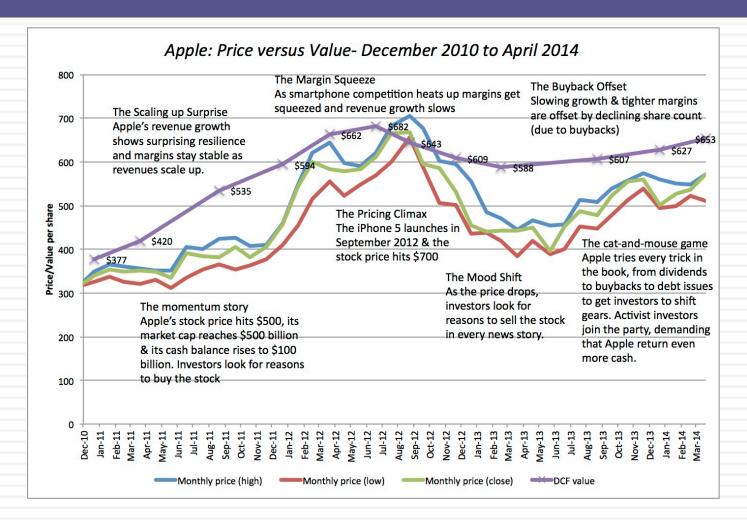
### Use the "market metric" and "market price"

- The most important variable, in late 2013, in determining market value and price in this sector (social media, ill defined as that is) is the number of users that a company has.
- Looking at comparable firms, it looks like the market is paying about \$100/user in valuing social media companies, with a premium for "predictable" revenues (subscriptions) and user intensity.
- Twitter has about 240 million users and can be valued based on the \$100/user:
- □ Enterprise value = 240 \* 100 = \$24 billion

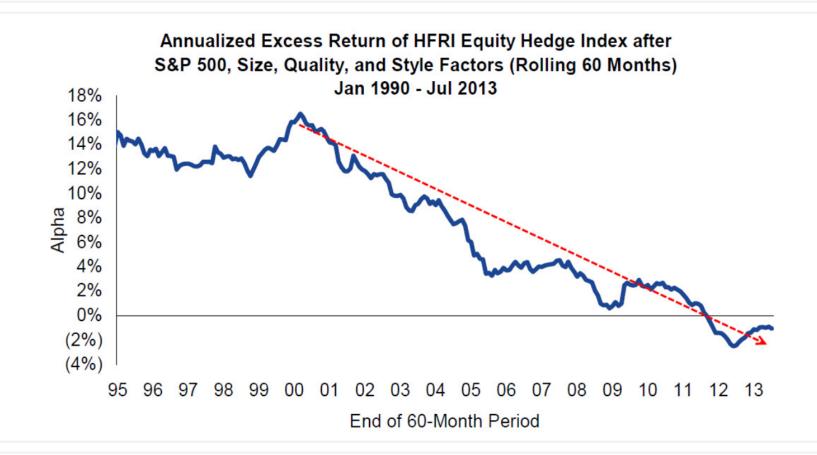
### VI. Investing is an act of faith...

- When investing, we are often told that if you are virtuous (careful in your research, good at valuation, have a long time horizon), you will be rewarded (with high returns).
- That pitch is amplified by anecdotal evidence of righteous ones, i.e., those who have followed the path to success.
- Those who chose not to be virtuous are labeled as "speculators", viewed as shallow and deserving of the fate that awaits them.

## 1. Investment Heaven is a promise, not a guarantee..



## 2. There is no "smart" money



## 3. There is nothing more tiresome than a value investing scold

- Rigid: The strategies that have come to characterize a great deal of value investing reveal an astonishing faith in accounting numbers and an equally stunning lack of faith in markets getting anything right.
- Righteous: Value investors have convinced themselves that they are better people than other investors. Index fund investors are viewed as "academic stooges", growth investors are considered to be "dilettantes" and momentum investors are "lemmings". Value investors consider themselves to be the grown ups in the investing game.
- Ritualistic: Modern day value investing has a whole menu of rituals that investors have to perform to meet be "value investors". The rituals range from the benign (reading Security Analysis by Graham) to the not-so-benign..

## Follow the yellow brick road..

