



# MY VALUATION JOURNEY: HAVE FAITH, YOU MUST!

January 2017

Aswath Damodaran

# I. Don't mistake accounting for finance

*Valued based upon motive for investment – some marked to market, some recorded at cost and some at quasi-cost*

*Assets are recorded at original cost, adjusted for depreciation.*

## The Balance Sheet

Assets		Liabilities	
Long Lived Real Assets	Fixed Assets	Current Liabilities	Short-term liabilities of the firm
Short-lived Assets	Current Assets	Debt	Debt obligations of firm
Investments in securities & assets of other firms	Financial Investments	Other Liabilities	Other long-term obligations
Assets which are not physical, like patents & trademarks	Intangible Assets	Equity	Equity investment in firm

*True intangible assets like brand name, patents and customer did not show up. The only intangible asset of any magnitude (goodwill) is a plug variable that is of consequence only if you do an acquisition.*

*Equity reflects original capital invested and historical retained earnings.*

# The financial balance sheet

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



*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

4

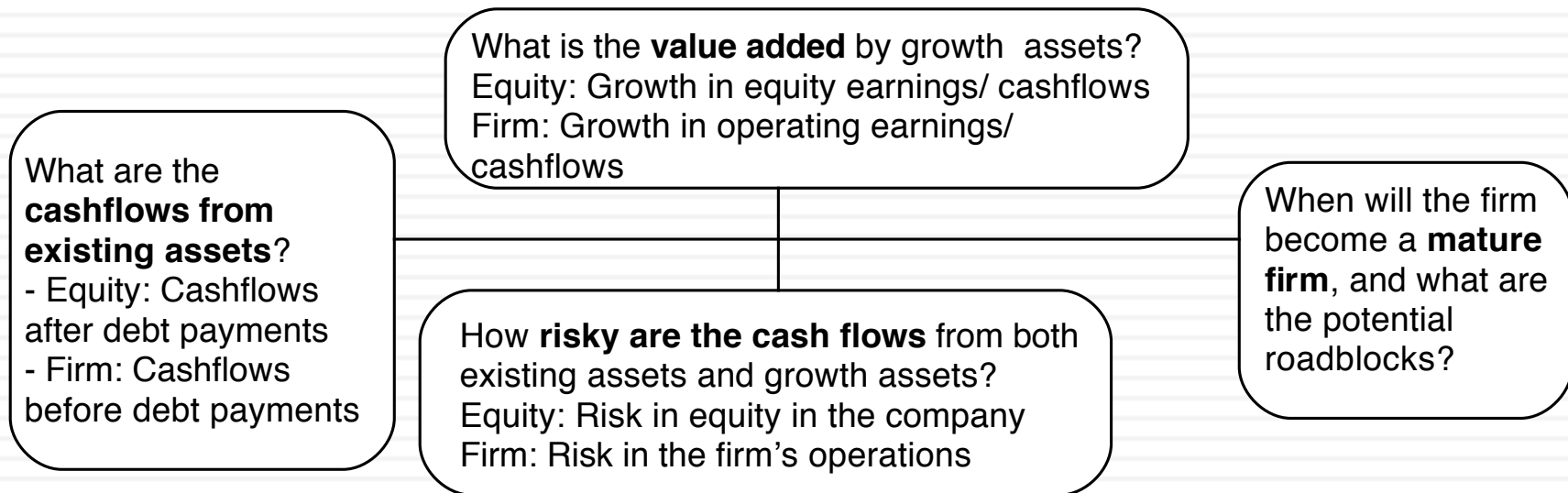
- The value of a risky asset can be estimated by discounting the expected cash flows on the asset over its life at a risk-adjusted discount rate:

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

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.

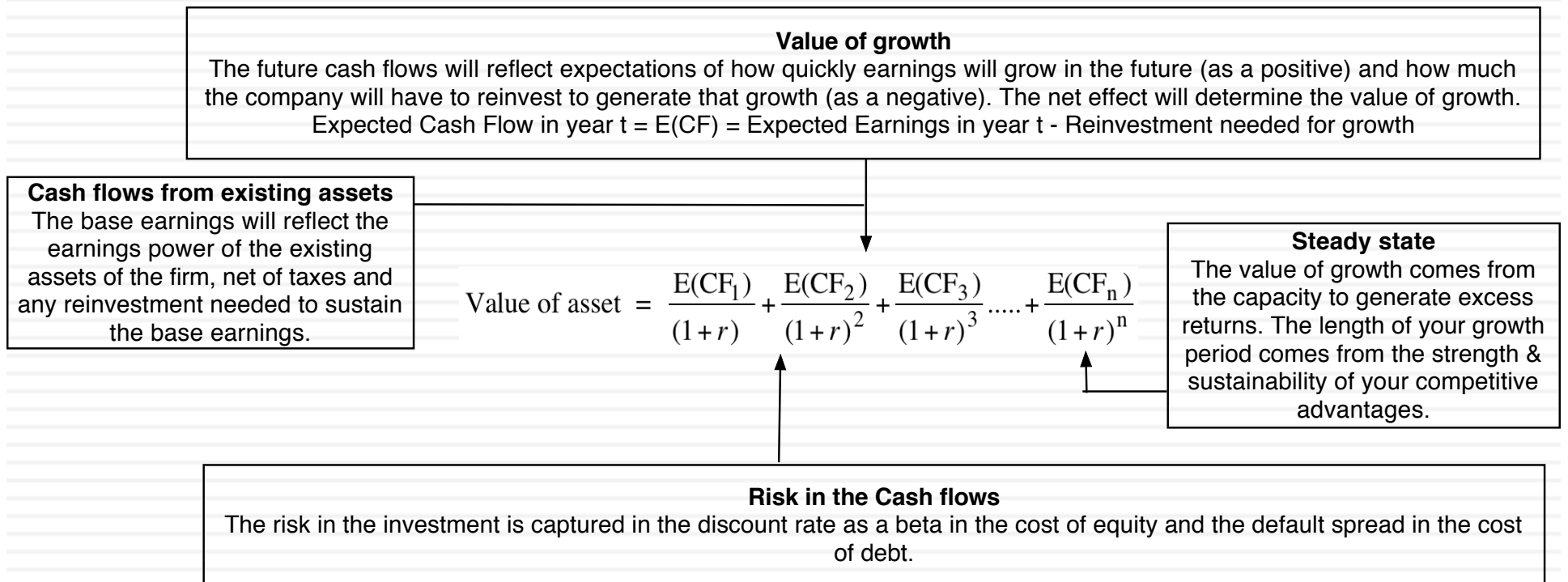
# The drivers of value..

5



# DCF as a tool for intrinsic valuation

6



# 1. Cash Flows

7

To get to cash flow	Here is why
Operating Earnings	This is the earnings before interest & taxes you generate from your existing assets. Operating Earnings = Revenues * Operating Margin Measures the operating efficiency of your assets & can be grown either by growing revenues and/or improving margins.
(minus) Taxes	These are the taxes you would pay on your operating income and are a function of the tax code under which you operate & your fidelity to that code.
(minus) Reinvestment	Reinvestment is designed to generate future growth and can be in long term and short term assets. Higher growth usually requires more reinvestment, and the efficiency of growth is a function of how much growth you can get for your reinvestment.
Free Cash Flow to the Firm	This is a pre-debt cash flow that will be shared by lenders (as interest & principal payments) and by equity investors (as dividends & buybacks).

As

## 2. Discount rates

8

Expected Return on a Risky Investment = Cost of Equity

### **Risk free Rate**

Rate of return on a long term, default free bond.

*Will vary across currencies and across time.*

+

### **Beta**

Relative measure of risk added to a diversified portfolio.

*Determined by the business or businesses that you operate in, with more exposure to macro economic risk translating into a higher beta.*

X

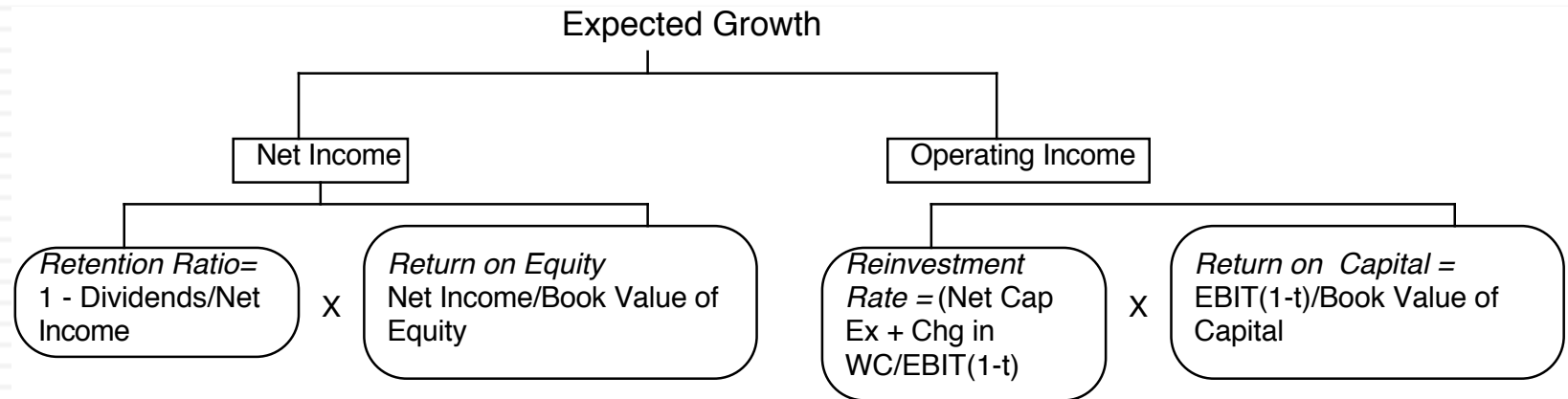
### **Equity Risk Premium**

Premium investors demand over and above the risk free rate for investing in equities as a class.

*Function of the countries that you do business in and how much value you derive from each country.*

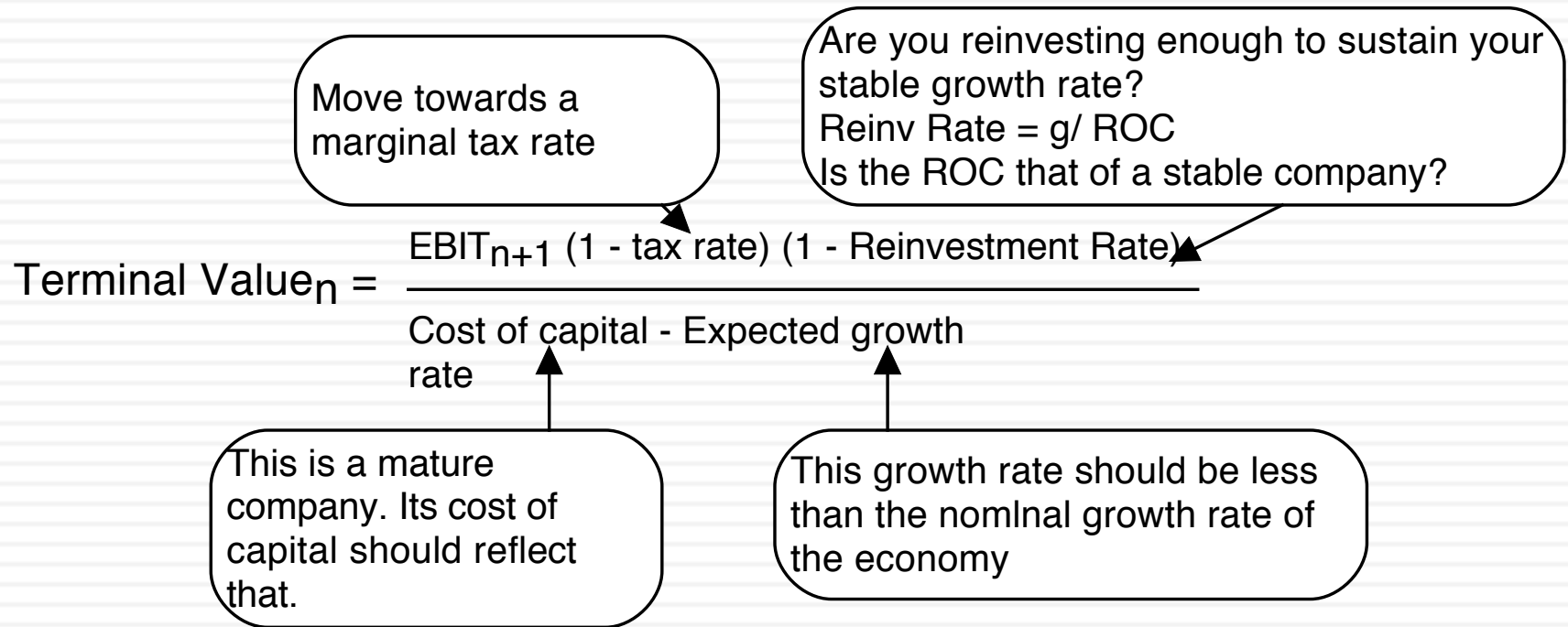


# 3. Expected Growth



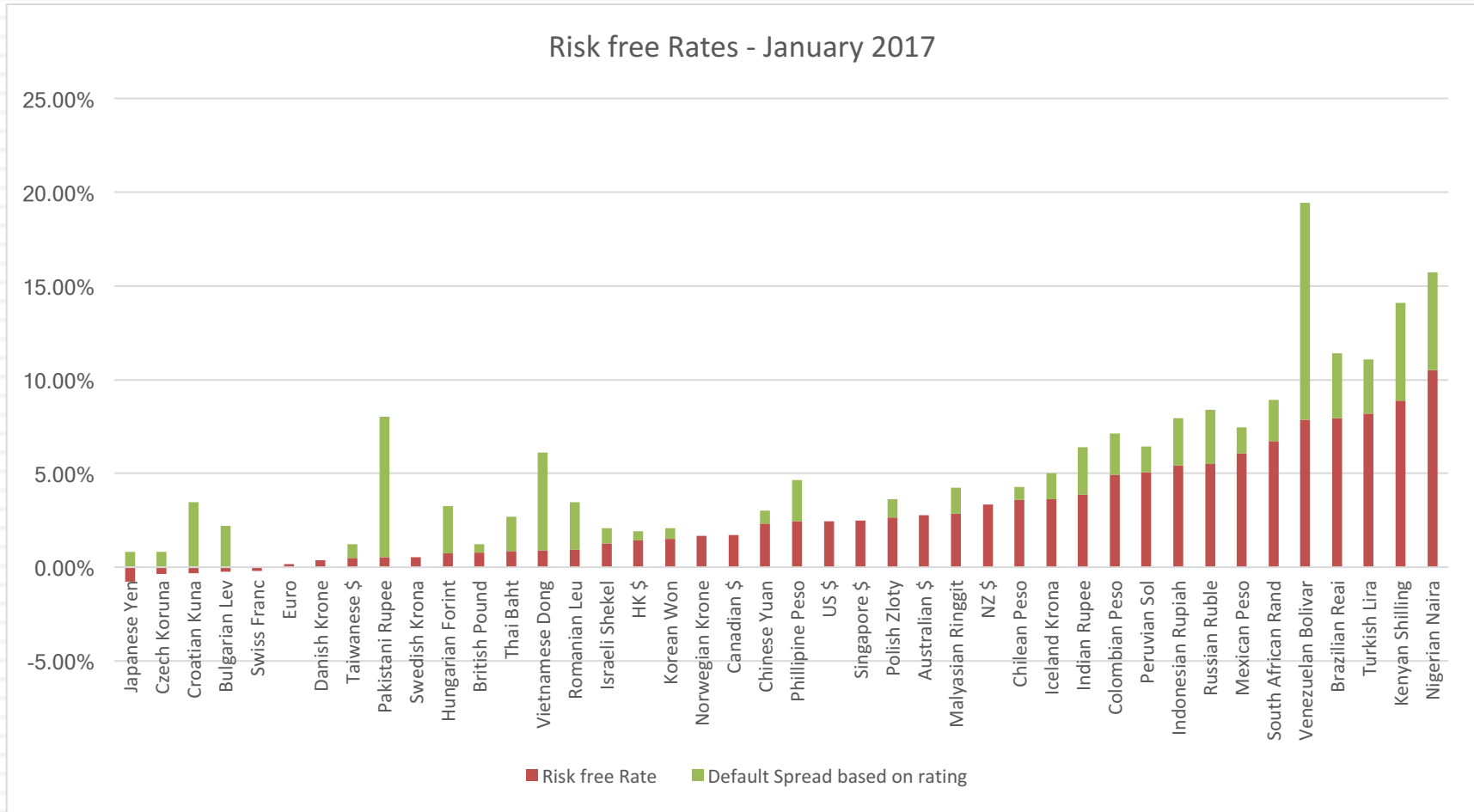
- Quality growth is rare and requires that a firm be able to reinvest a lot and reinvest well (earnings more than your cost of capital) at the same time.
- The larger you get, the more difficult it becomes to maintain quality growth.
- You can grow while destroying value at the same time.

# 4. The Terminal Value

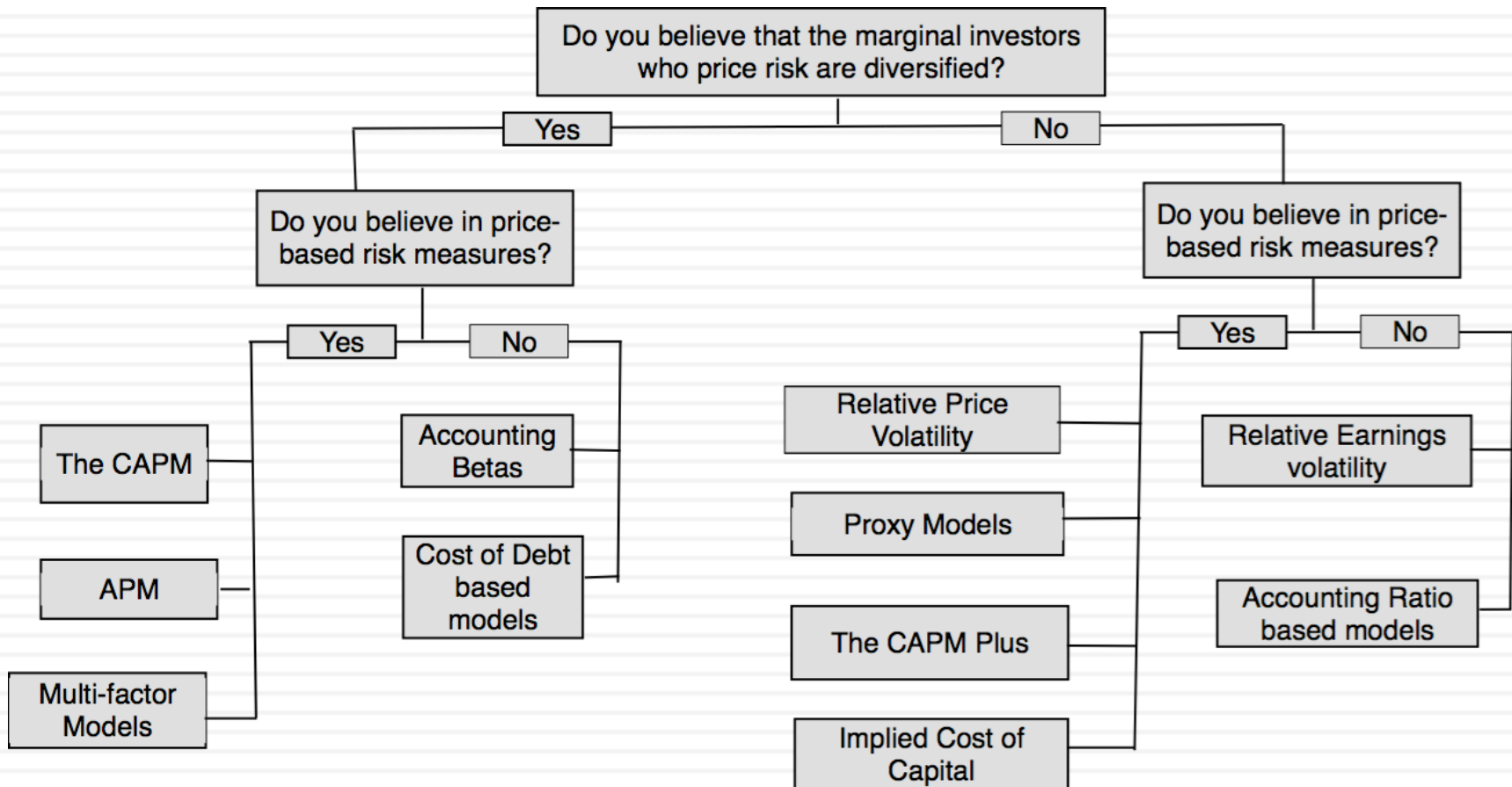


# 1. Match your cash flows to your discount rates..

11



# 2. Don't let your "beta" dislike get in the way of assessing risk



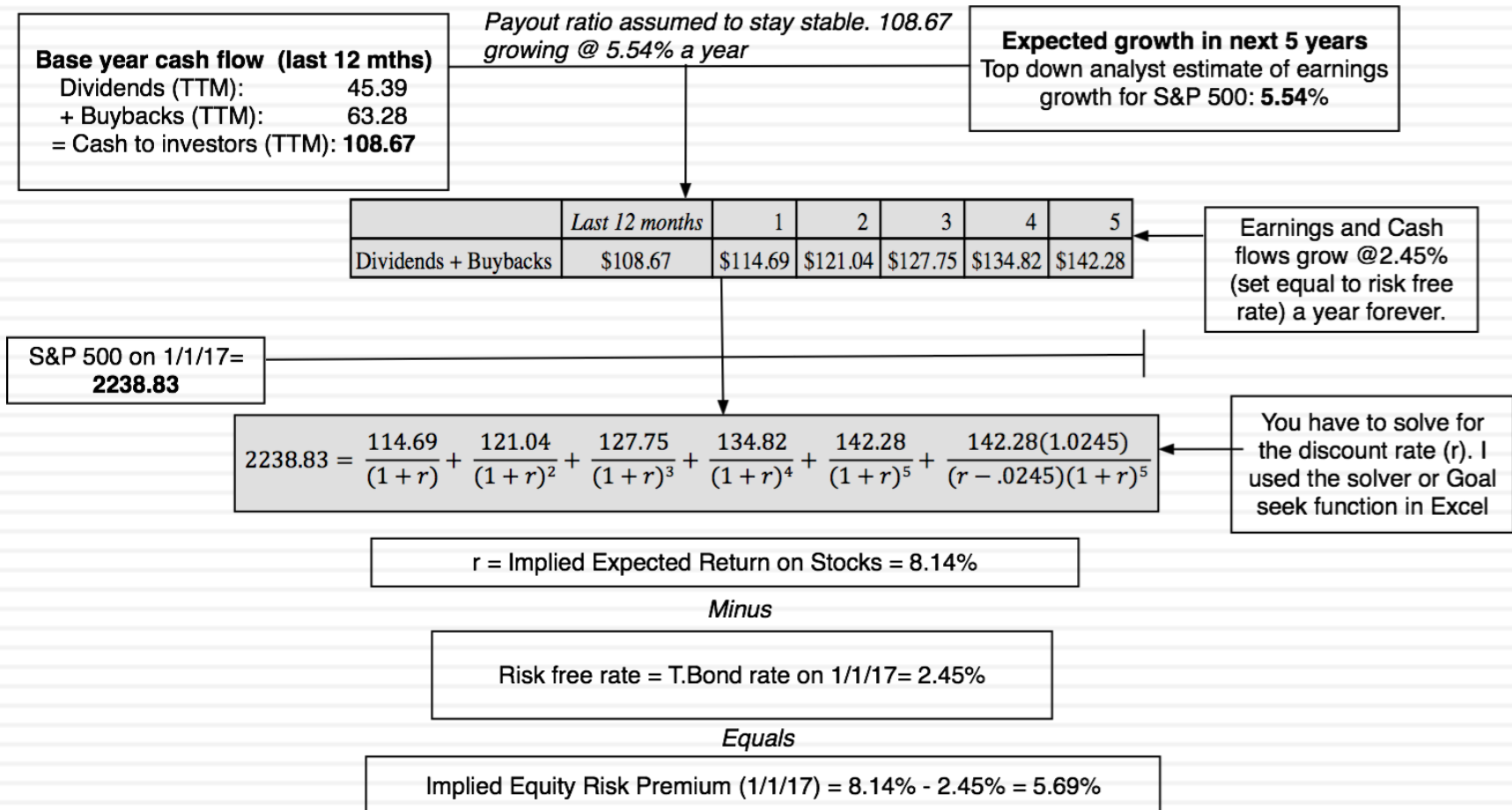
### 3. Risk is not in the past..

	<i>Arithmetic Average</i>		<i>Geometric Average</i>	
	<i>Stocks - T. Bills</i>	<i>Stocks - T. Bonds</i>	<i>Stocks - T. Bills</i>	<i>Stocks - T. Bonds</i>
1928-2016	7.96%	6.24%	6.11%	4.62%
Std Error	2.13%	2.28%		
1967-2016	6.57%	4.37%	5.26%	3.42%
Std Error	2.42%	2.74%		
2007-2016	7.91%	3.62%	6.15%	2.30%
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..

14



## 4. Globalization is not a buzz word

15

- 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.

# ERP : Jan 2017

Andorra	8.81%	3.12%	Jersey	6.26%	0.57%
Austria	6.26%	0.57%	Liechtenstein	5.69%	0.00%
Belgium	6.55%	0.86%	Luxembourg	5.69%	0.00%
Cyprus	12.09%	6.40%	Malta	7.40%	1.71%
Denmark	5.69%	0.00%	Netherlands	5.69%	0.00%
Finland	6.26%	0.57%	Norway	5.69%	0.00%
France	6.39%	0.70%	Portugal	9.24%	3.55%
Germany	5.69%	0.00%	Spain	8.40%	2.71%
Greece	19.89%	14.20%	Sweden	5.69%	0.00%
Guernsey	6.26%	0.57%	Switzerland	5.69%	0.00%
Iceland	7.40%	1.71%	Turkey	9.24%	3.55%
Ireland	7.40%	1.71%	UK	6.26%	0.57%
Isle of Man	6.26%	0.57%	<b>W.Europe</b>	<b>6.81%</b>	<b>1.12%</b>
Italy	8.40%	2.71%			

Canada	5.69%	0.00%
USA	5.69%	0.00%
<b>North America</b>	<b>5.69%</b>	<b>0.00%</b>

<b>Caribbean</b>	<b>13.81%</b>	<b>8.12%</b>
------------------	---------------	--------------

Argentina	14.93%	9.24%
Belize	18.48%	12.79%
Bolivia	10.81%	5.12%
Brazil	9.96%	4.27%
Chile	6.55%	0.86%
Colombia	8.40%	2.71%
Costa Rica	9.24%	3.55%
Ecuador	14.93%	9.24%
El Salvador	14.93%	9.24%
Guatemala	9.24%	3.55%
Honduras	13.51%	7.82%
Mexico	7.40%	1.71%
Nicaragua	13.51%	7.82%
Panama	8.40%	2.71%
Paraguay	9.24%	3.55%
Peru	7.40%	1.71%
Suriname	12.09%	6.40%
Uruguay	8.40%	2.71%
Venezuela	19.89%	14.20%
<b>Latin America</b>	<b>10.11%</b>	<b>4.42%</b>

Angola	12.09%	6.40%
Botswana	6.90%	1.21%
Burkina Faso	14.93%	9.24%
Cameroon	13.51%	7.82%
Cape Verde	13.51%	7.82%
Congo (DR)	14.93%	9.24%
Congo (Rep)	14.93%	9.24%
Côte d'Ivoire	10.81%	5.12%
Egypt	14.93%	9.24%
Ethiopia	12.09%	6.40%
Gabon	12.09%	6.40%
Ghana	14.93%	9.24%
Kenya	12.09%	6.40%
Morocco	9.24%	3.55%
Mozambique	19.89%	14.20%
Namibia	8.81%	3.12%
Nigeria	12.09%	6.40%
Rwanda	13.51%	7.82%
Senegal	12.09%	6.40%
South Africa	8.40%	2.71%
Tunisia	10.81%	5.12%
Uganda	13.51%	7.82%
Zambia	14.93%	9.24%
<b>Africa</b>	<b>11.98%</b>	<b>6.29%</b>

Albania	12.09%	6.40%
Armenia	12.09%	6.40%
Azerbaijan	9.24%	3.55%
Belarus	16.34%	10.65%
Bosnia and Her	14.93%	9.24%
Bulgaria	8.40%	2.71%
Croatia	9.96%	4.27%
Czech Republic	6.69%	1.00%
Estonia	6.69%	1.00%
Georgia	10.81%	5.12%
Hungary	8.81%	3.12%
Kazakhstan	8.81%	3.12%
Kyrgyzstan	13.51%	7.82%
Latvia	7.40%	1.71%
Lithuania	7.40%	1.71%
Macedonia	10.81%	5.12%
Moldova	14.93%	9.24%
Montenegro	12.09%	6.40%
Poland	6.90%	1.21%
Romania	8.81%	3.12%
Russia	9.24%	3.55%
Serbia	12.09%	6.40%
Slovakia	6.90%	1.21%
Slovenia	8.81%	3.12%
Ukraine	19.89%	14.20%
<b>E.Europe</b>	<b>9.09%</b>	<b>3.40%</b>

Bahrain	9.96%	4.27%
Iraq	14.94%	9.25%
Israel	6.69%	1.00%
Jordan	12.09%	6.40%
Kuwait	6.40%	0.71%
Lebanon	13.51%	7.82%
Oman	7.96%	2.27%
Qatar	6.40%	0.71%
Ras Al Khaimah	6.90%	1.21%
Saudi Arabia	6.69%	1.00%
Sharjah	7.40%	1.71%
United Arab Emirates	6.40%	0.71%
<b>Middle East</b>	<b>7.50%</b>	<b>1.81%</b>

Country	ERP	CRP	Country	ERP	CRP
Algeria	13.72%	7.47%	Malawi	17.24%	10.99%
Brunei	9.75%	3.50%	Mali	13.90%	7.65%
Gambia	13.72%	7.47%	Myanmar	13.72%	7.47%
Guinea	20.00%	13.75%	Niger	17.24%	10.99%
Guinea-Bissau	12.48%	6.23%	Sierra Leone	16.61%	10.36%
Guyana	12.48%	6.23%	Somalia	20.00%	13.75%
Haiti	16.61%	10.36%	Sudan	20.00%	13.75%
Iran	11.22%	4.97%	Syria	20.00%	13.75%
Korea, D.P.R.	17.24%	10.99%	Tanzania	13.90%	7.65%
Liberia	17.24%	10.99%	Togo	13.72%	7.47%
Libya	20.00%	13.75%	Yemen, Republic	17.24%	10.99%
Madagascar	12.48%	6.23%	Zimbabwe	17.24%	10.99%

Bangladesh	10.81%	5.12%
Cambodia	13.51%	7.82%
China	6.55%	0.86%
Fiji	12.09%	6.40%
Hong Kong	6.26%	0.57%
India	8.81%	3.12%
Indonesia	8.81%	3.12%
Japan	6.69%	1.00%
Korea	6.39%	0.70%
Macao	6.55%	0.86%
Malaysia	7.40%	1.71%
Mauritius	7.95%	2.26%
Mongolia	16.34%	10.65%
Pakistan	14.93%	9.24%
Papua New Guinea	13.51%	7.82%
Philippines	8.40%	2.71%
Singapore	5.69%	0.00%
Sri Lanka	12.09%	6.40%
Taiwan	6.55%	0.86%
Thailand	7.95%	2.26%
Vietnam	12.09%	6.40%
<b>Asia</b>	<b>7.12%</b>	<b>1.43%</b>

Australia	5.69%	0.00%
Cook Islands	12.09%	6.40%
New Zealand	5.69%	0.00%
<b>Australia &amp; NZ</b>	<b>5.70%</b>	<b>0.01%</b>

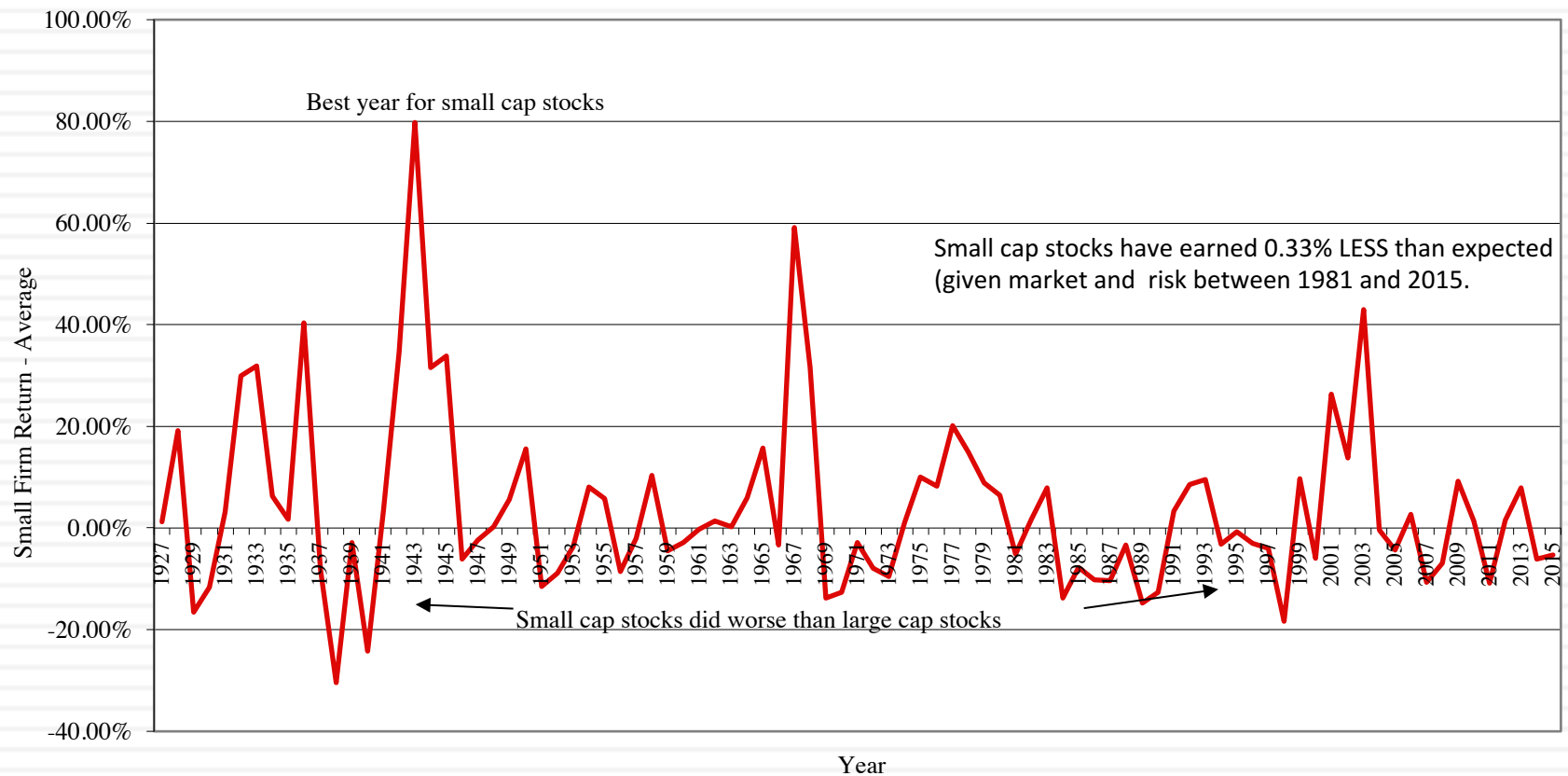
Black #: Total ERP  
 Red #: Country risk premium  
 AVG: GDP weighted average



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

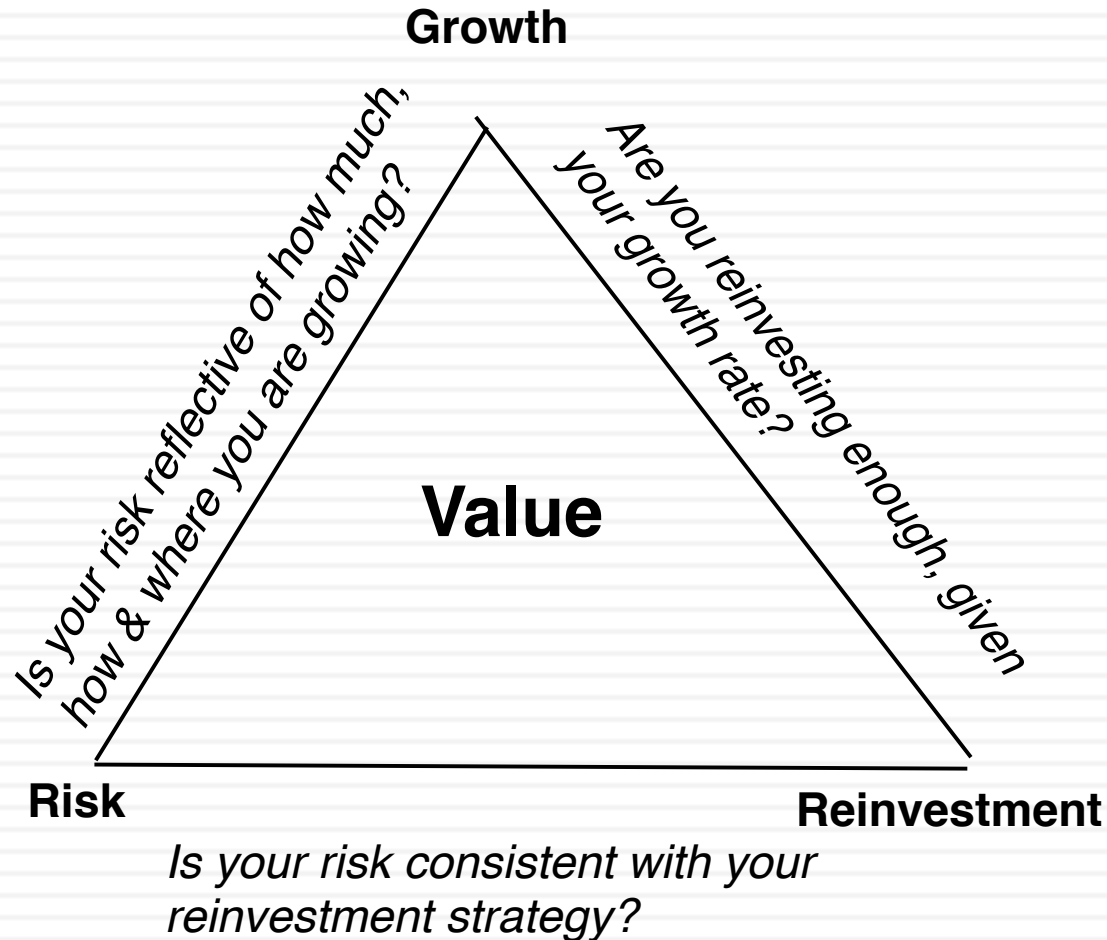
17

Figure 4: Small Firm Premium over time- 1927 -2015



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

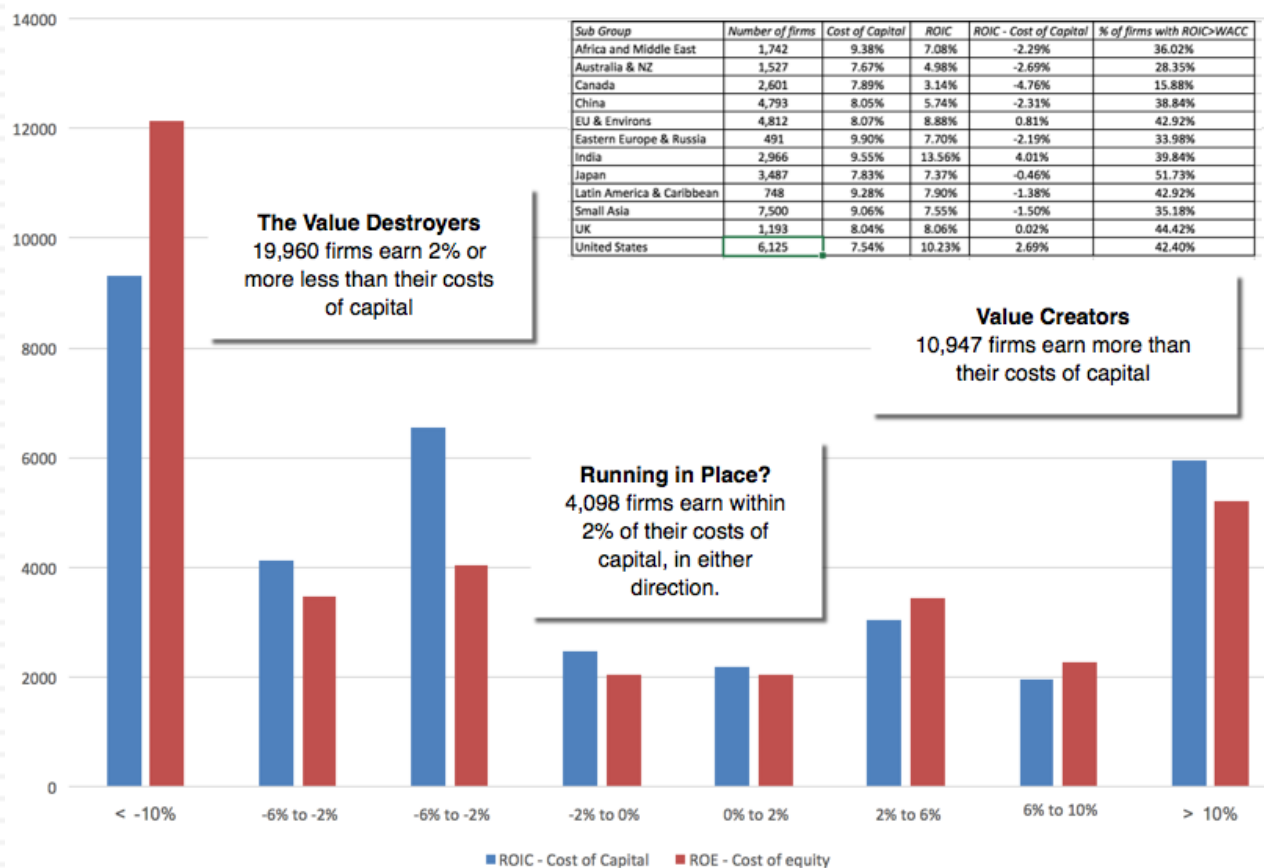
18





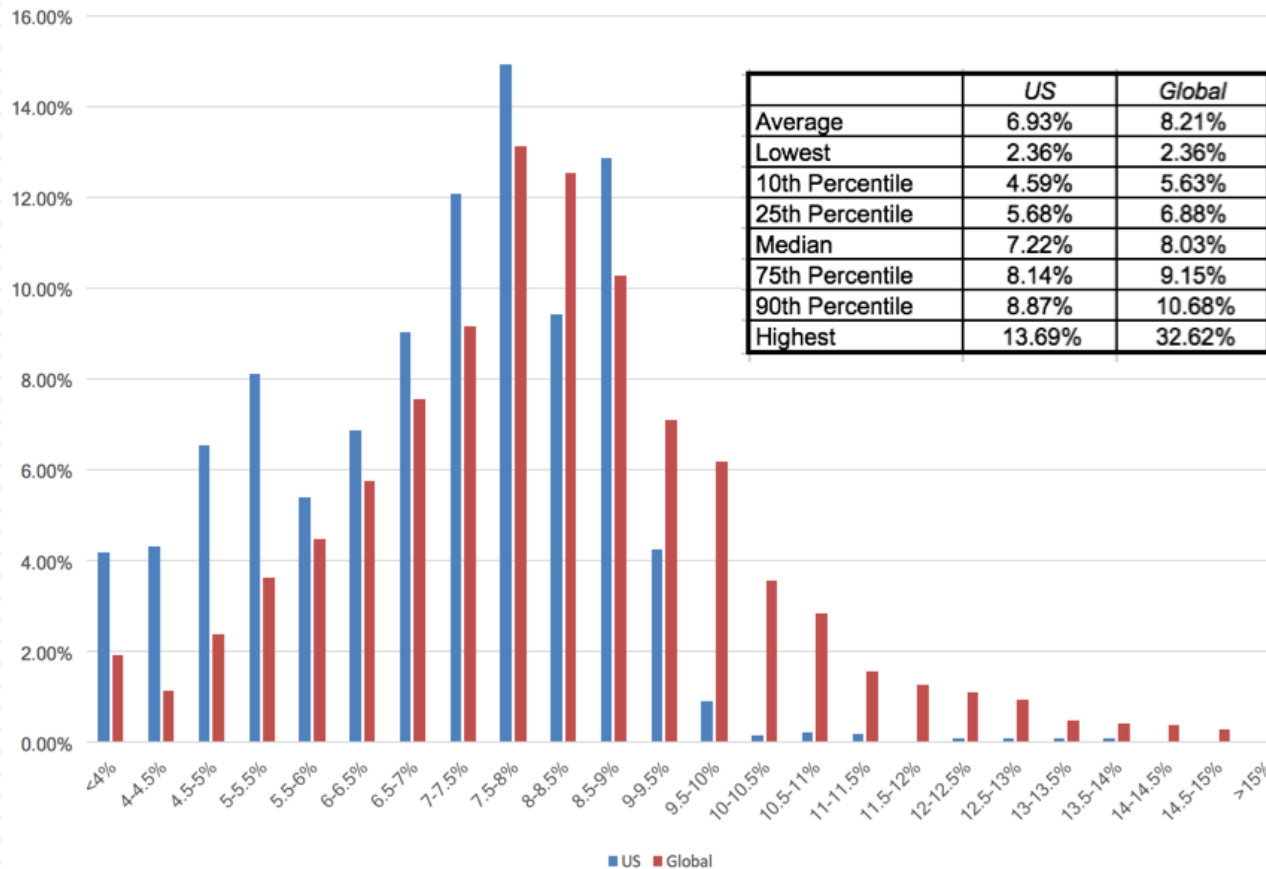
# And consider the trade offs..

Excess Returns - Global in January 2017



# 7. Don't sweat the small stuff

Cost of Capital in US \$: US and Global in January 2017



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

22

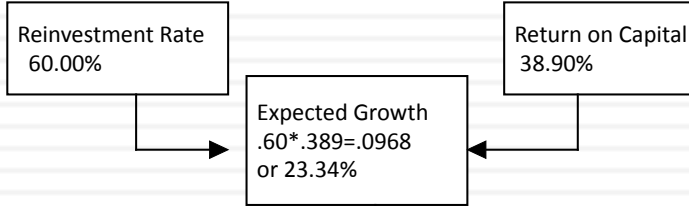
- When you are asked to value a company, you should keep your focus on what drives that value. If you bring in your specific macro views into the valuation, the value that you obtain for a company will be a joint result of what you think about the company and your macro views.
- **Bottom line:** If you 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.

## San Miguel: November 2015 (in ARS)

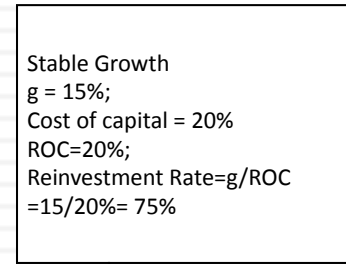
### Cash flows from existing assets

	2015	Last 5 years
Revenues (millions)	\$2,316.41	CAGR of 23.2%
Operating income (millions)	\$845.79	Operating margin = 36.51%
Effective tax rate	33.70%	Average = 36%
Book value of equity (millions)	\$1,057	
Invested Capital (millions)	\$1,442	
Return on invested capital =	38.90%	

### The Payoff from growth



### Maturity and Closure



### ARS Cashflows

Terminal Value =  $1,046 / (.20 - .15) = 20,916$

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Term Year
Revenue growth rate	23.34%	23.34%	23.34%	23.34%	23.34%	21.67%	20.00%	18.34%	16.67%	15.00%	15.00%
Revenues	\$ 2,857	\$ 3,524	\$ 4,346	\$ 5,361	\$ 6,612	\$ 8,044	\$ 9,653	\$ 11,423	\$ 13,327	\$ 15,327	\$ 17,625
EBIT (Operating income)	\$ 1,043	\$ 1,287	\$ 1,587	\$ 1,957	\$ 2,414	\$ 2,937	\$ 3,525	\$ 4,171	\$ 4,866	\$ 5,596	\$ 6,436
EBIT(1-t)	\$ 692	\$ 853	\$ 1,052	\$ 1,298	\$ 1,601	\$ 1,940	\$ 2,319	\$ 2,733	\$ 3,176	\$ 3,638	\$ 4,183
- Reinvestment	\$ 336	\$ 415	\$ 512	\$ 631	\$ 779	\$ 892	\$ 1,001	\$ 1,102	\$ 1,185	\$ 1,244	\$ 3,137
FCFF	\$ 355	\$ 438	\$ 540	\$ 666	\$ 822	\$ 1,048	\$ 1,317	\$ 1,631	\$ 1,991	\$ 2,393	\$ 1,046

PV(Terminal value)	\$ 3,212
PV (CF over next 10 years)	\$ 3,314
Value of operating assets =	\$ 6,526
- Debt	\$ 1,540
+ Cash	\$ 466
Value of equity	\$ 5,452
Number of shares	644.20
Estimated value /share	\$ 8.46

Discount at  $\$$  Cost of Capital (WACC) =  $22.62\% (.837) + 12.07\% (0.163) = 20.87\%$

### The Risk in the Cash flows

Cost of Equity  
22.62%

Cost of Debt  
 $(15.57\% + .3\%)(1 - .25) = 12.07\%$

Weights  
E = 83.7% D = 16.3%

On August 18, 2016, San Miguel was trading at \$10.30 per shares

Riskfree Rate:  
ARS Risk free rate = 15.57%

Beta  
0.83

Firm's D/E  
Ratio: 20.6%

ERP = 8.53%

Country	Revenues	Weight	ERP
Argentina	255	11.08%	17.17%
Rest of the World	2047	88.92%	7.45%
San Miguel	2302	100.00%	8.53%

Business	Revenues	EV/Sales	Estimated Value	Unlevered Beta
Farming/Agriculture	\$ 476	1.3100	\$ 624	0.7600
Food Processing	\$ 1,163	1.6400	\$ 1,907	0.7200
Company	\$ 1,639		\$ 2,531	0.7299



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.

$$D+CF \neq DCF$$



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



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



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

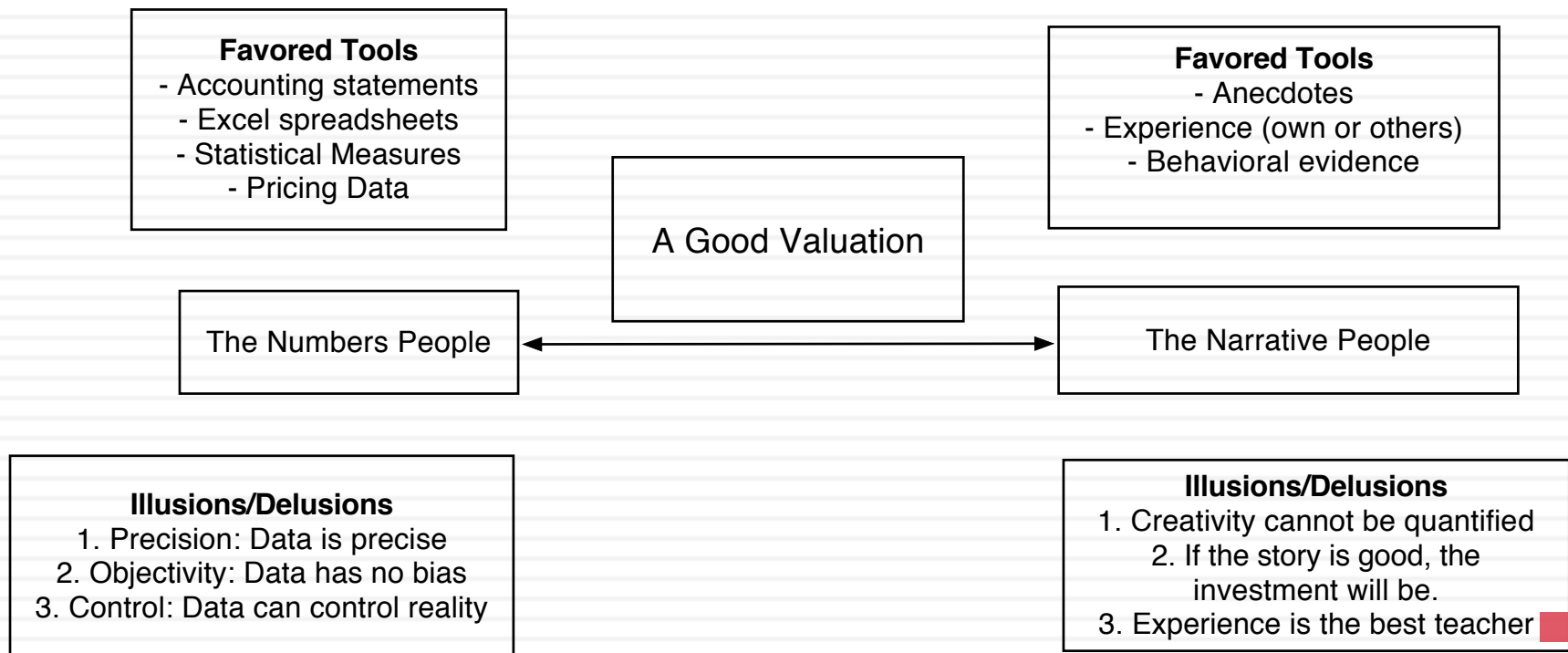


In a **Dissonant DCF**, assumptions about growth, risk and cash flows are not consistent with each other, with little or no explanation given for the mismatch.



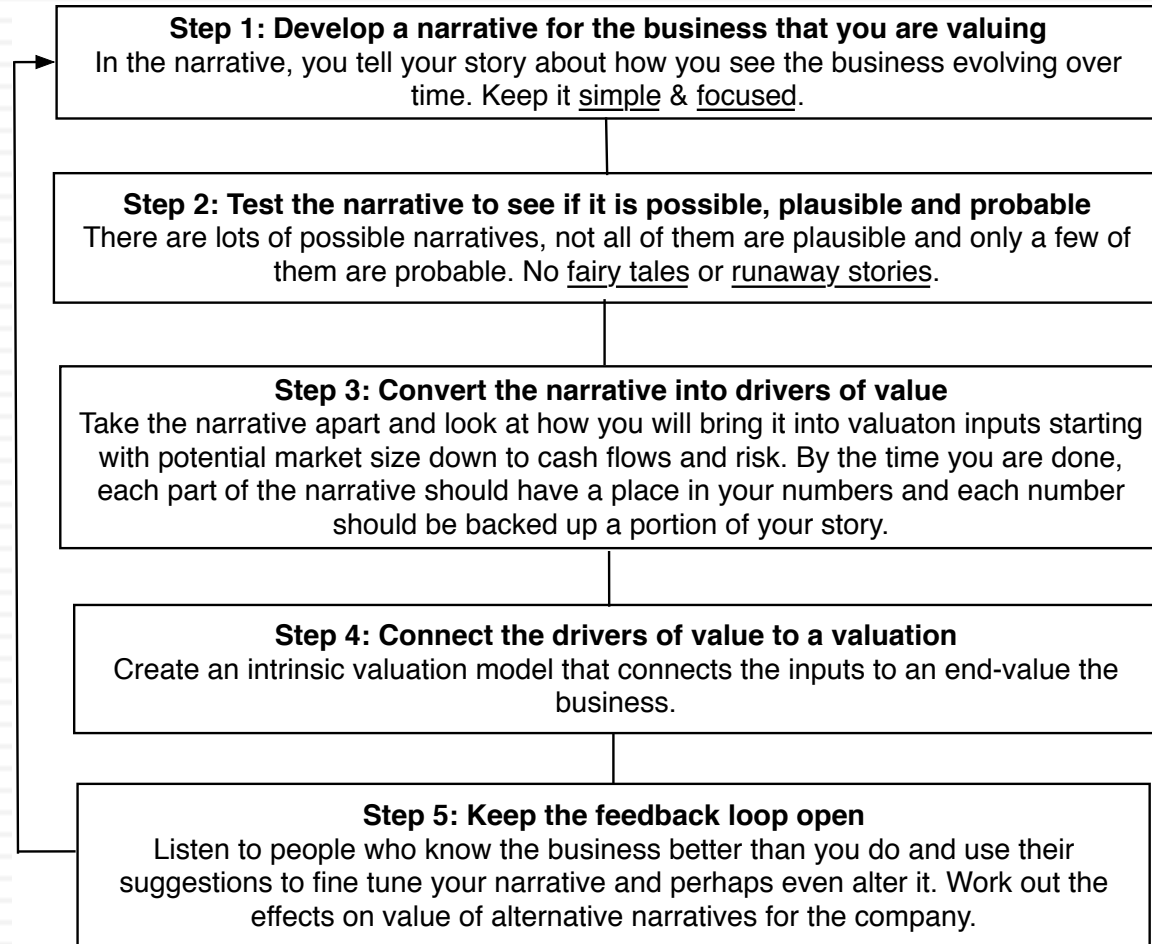


# III. Don't mistake modeling for valuation

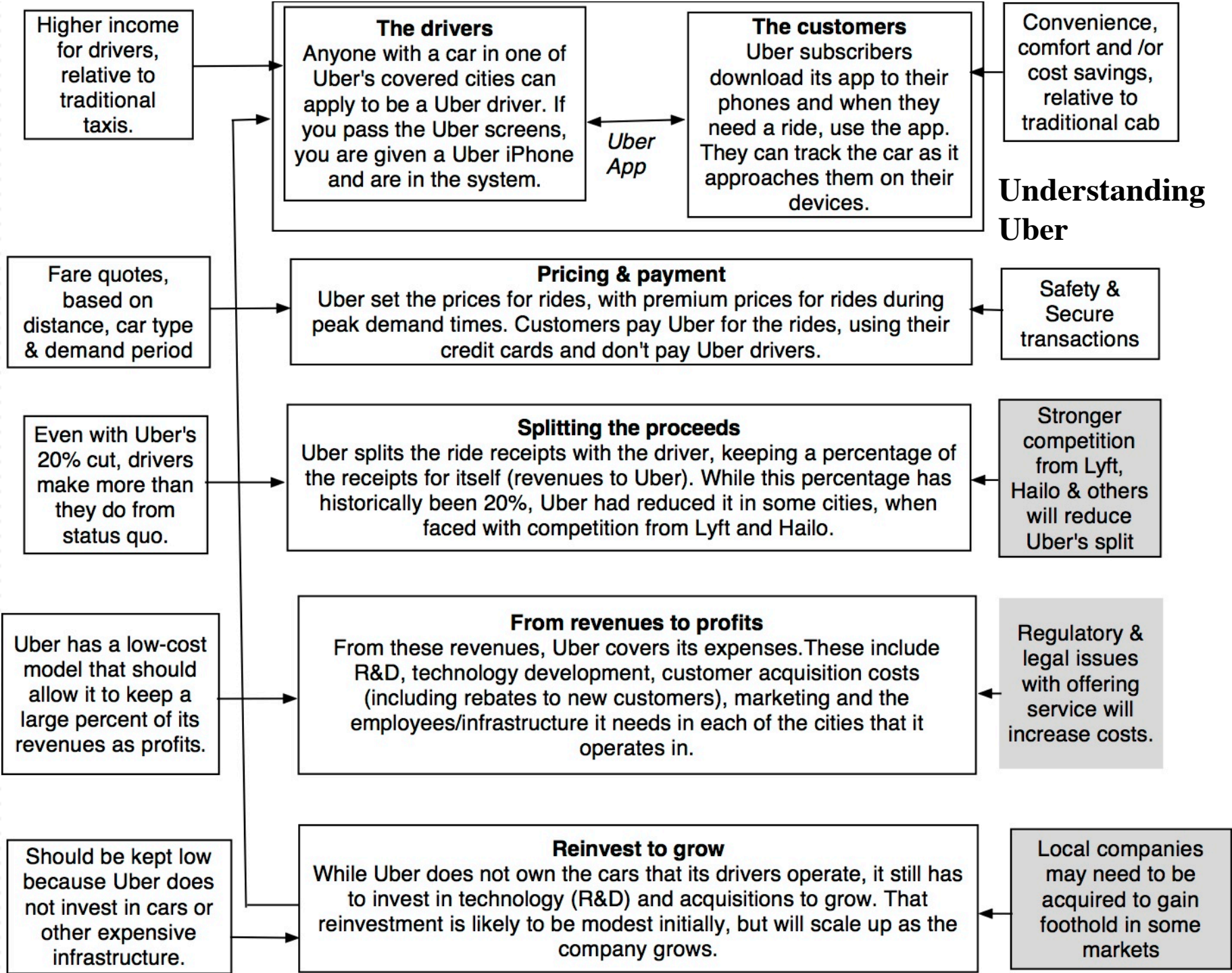


# From story to numbers and beyond..

26



# Understanding Uber



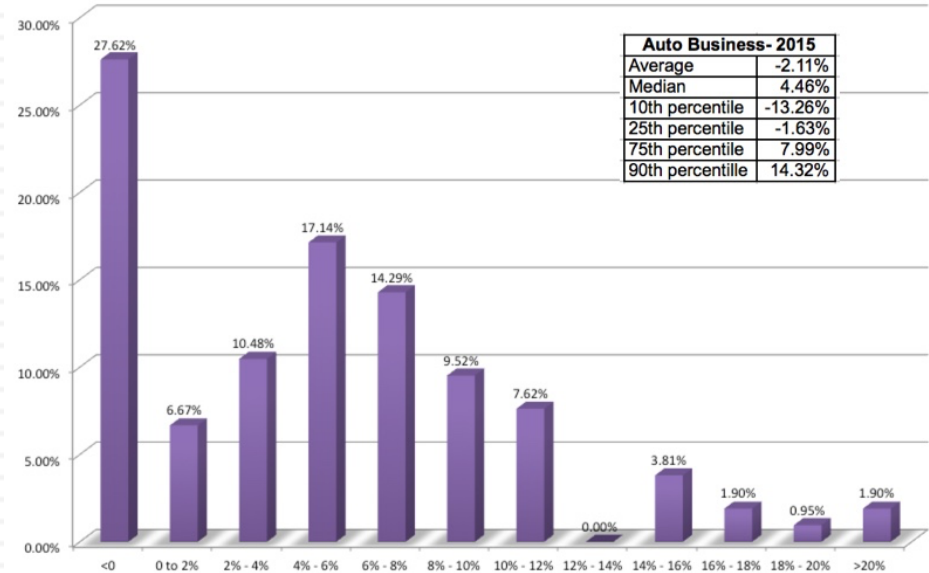
## Low Growth

Year	Revenues (\$)	% Growth Rate
2005	1,274,716.60	
2006	1,421,804.20	11.54%
2007	1,854,576.40	30.44%
2008	1,818,533.00	-1.94%
2009	1,572,890.10	-13.51%
2010	1,816,269.40	15.47%
2011	1,962,630.40	8.06%
2012	2,110,572.20	7.54%
2013	2,158,603.00	2.28%
2014	2,086,124.80	-3.36%
<b>ounded Average =</b>		<b>5.63%</b>

## The Auto Business

## Low Margins

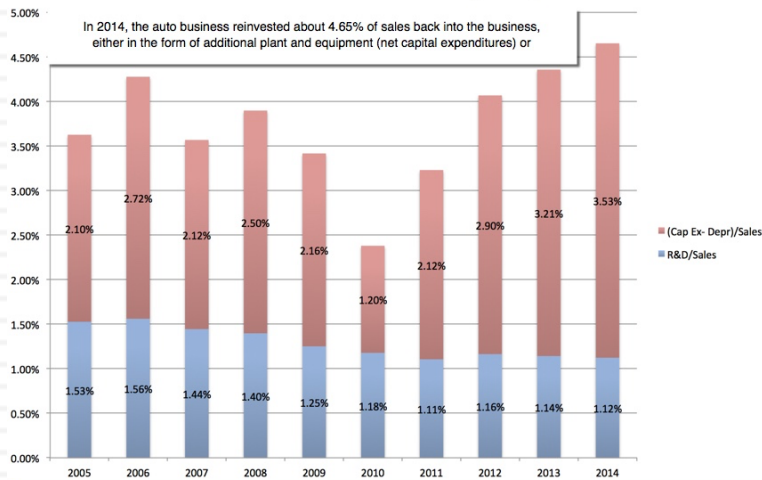
The Automobile Business: Pre-tax Operating Margins in 2015



+

## High & Increasing Reinvestment

The Reinvestment Burden: Investment as % of Sales for Auto Business



## Bad Business

	ROIC	Cost of capital	ROIC - Cost of capital
2004	6.82%	7.93%	-1.11%
2005	10.47%	7.02%	3.45%
2006	4.60%	7.97%	-3.37%
2007	7.62%	8.50%	-0.88%
2008	3.48%	8.03%	-4.55%
2009	-4.97%	8.58%	-13.55%
2010	5.16%	8.03%	-2.87%
2011	7.55%	8.15%	-0.60%
2012	7.80%	8.55%	-0.75%
2013	7.83%	8.47%	-0.64%
2014	6.47%	7.53%	-1.06%

=

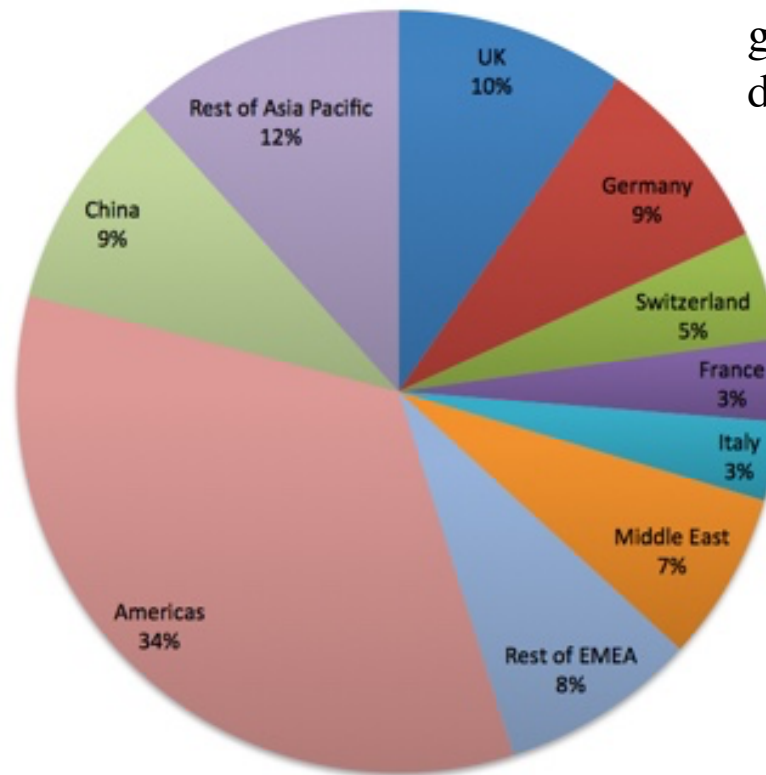
Only once in the last 10 years have auto companies collectively earned more than their cost of capital

# What makes Ferrari different?

Ferrari sold only 7,255 cars in all of 2014

Ferrari had a profit margin of 18.2%, in the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile, partly because of its high prices and partly because it spends little on advertising.

*Ferrari: Geographical Sales (2014)*



Ferrari sales (in units) have grown very little in the last decade & have been stable

Ferrari has not invested in new plants.

# Step 1: The Uber Narrative

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

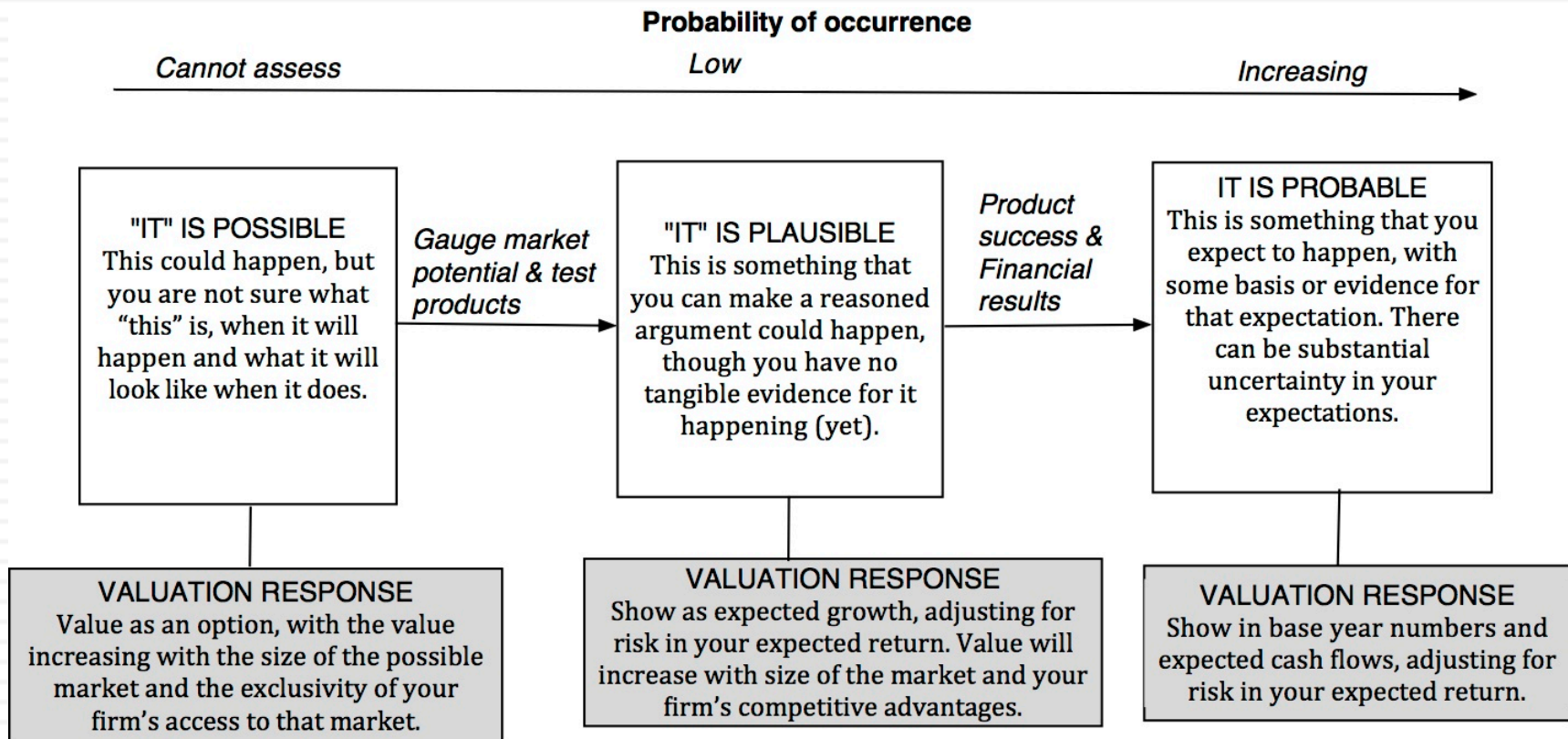
1. An urban car service business: I saw Uber primarily as a force in urban areas and only in the car service business.
2. Which would expand the business moderately (about 40% over ten years) by bringing in new users.
3. With local networking benefits: If Uber becomes large enough in any city, it will quickly become larger, but that will be of little help when it enters a new city.
4. 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.

# The Ferrari Narrative

- Ferrari will stay an exclusive auto club, deriving its allure from its scarcity and the fact that only a few own Ferraris.
- By staying exclusive, the company gets three benefits:
  - It can continue to charge nose bleed prices for its cars and sell them with little or no advertising.
  - It does not need to invest in new assembly plants, since it does not plan to ramp up production.
  - It sells only to the super rich, who are unaffected by overall economic conditions or market crises.

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

32





# The Impossible, The Implausible and the Improbable

## The Impossible

**Bigger than the economy**

Assuming Growth rate for company in perpetuity > Growth rate for economy

**Bigger than the total market**

Allowing a company's revenues to grow so much that it has more than a 100% market share of whatever business it is in.

**Profit margin > 100%**

Assuming earnings growth will exceed revenue growth for a long enough period, and pushing margins above 100%

**Depreciation without cap ex**

Assuming that depreciation will exceed cap ex in perpetuity.

## The Implausible

**Growth without reinvestment**

Assuming growth forever without reinvestment.

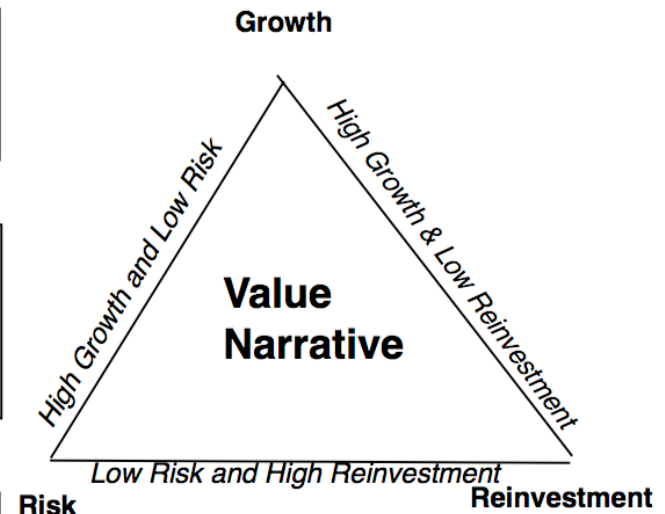
**Profits without competition**

Assuming that your company will grow and earn higher profits, with no competition.

**Returns without risk**

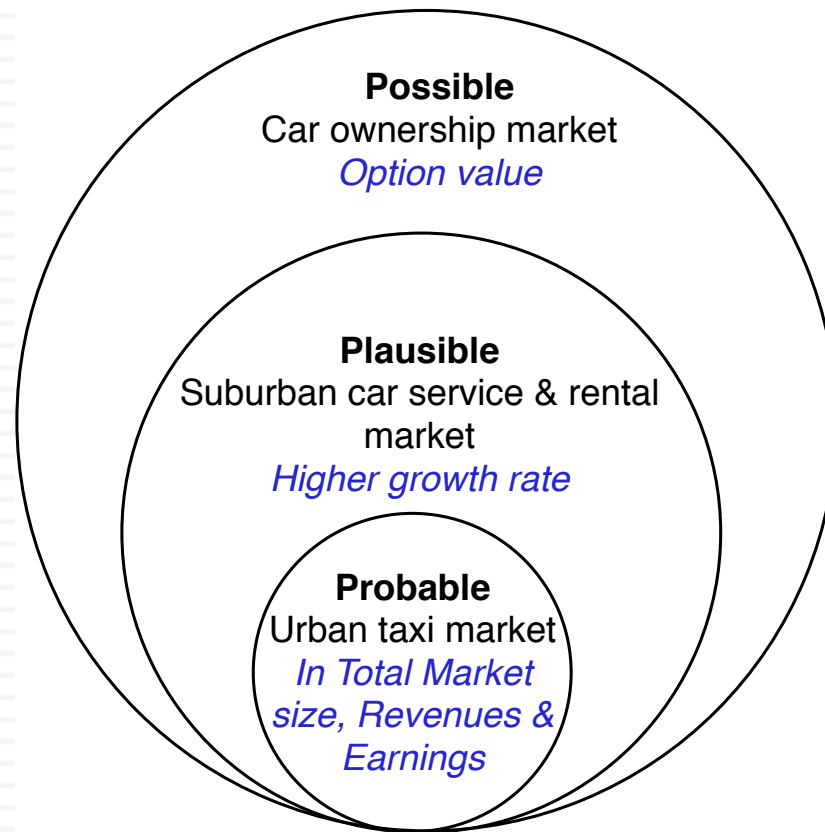
Assuming that you can generate high returns in a business with no risk.

## The Improbable



# Uber: Possible, Plausible and Probable

## Uber (My narrative))



# The Impossible: The Runaway Story

The Story

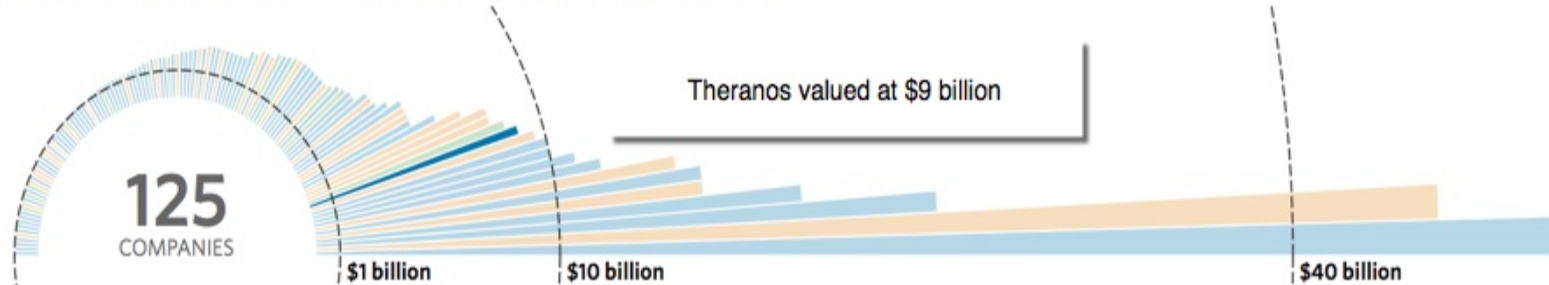


The Checks (?)

Board Member	Designation	Age
Henry Kissinger	Former Secretary of State	92
Bill Perry	Former Secretary of Defense	88
George Schultz	Former Secretary of State	94
Bill Frist	Former Senate Majority Leader	63
Sam Nunn	Former Senator	77
Gary Roughead	Former Navy Admiral	64
James Mattis	Former Marine Corps General	65
Dick Kovocovich	Former CEO of Wells Fargo	72
Riley Bechtel	Former CEO of Bechtel	63
William Foege	Epidemiologist	79
Elizabeth Holmes	Founder & CEO, Theranos	31
Sunny Balwani	President & COO, Theranos	NA

+ Money

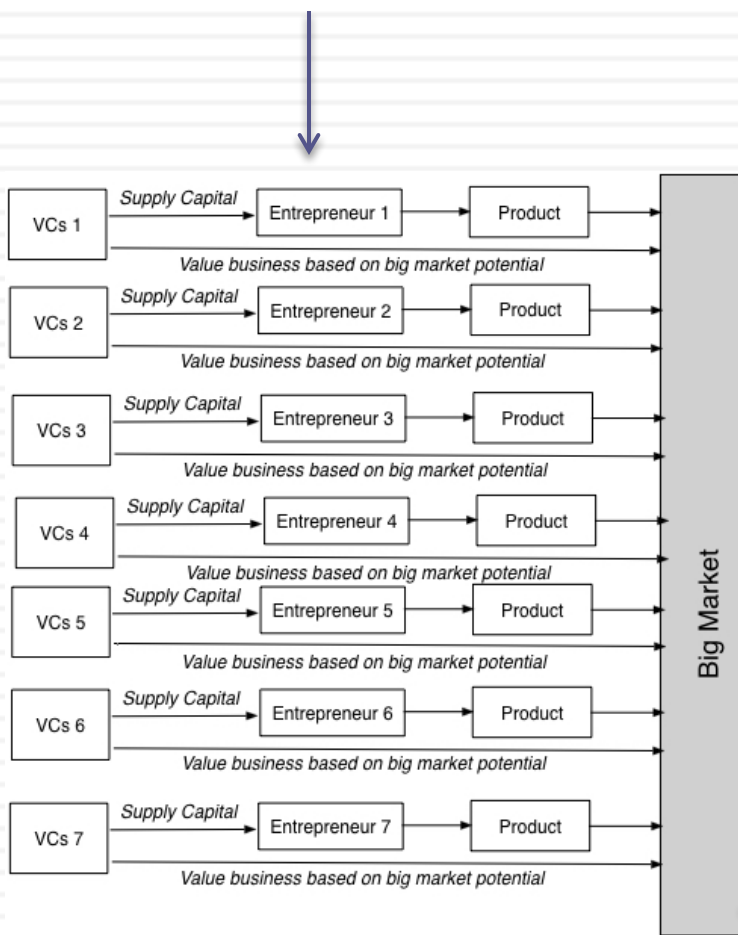
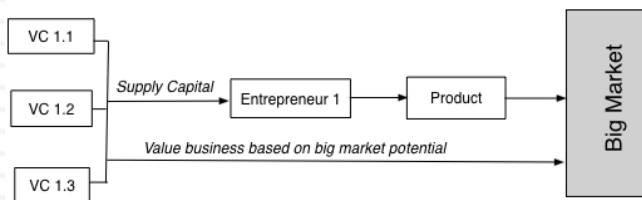
Companies valued at \$1 billion or more by venture-capital firms



Valuations as of October 2015

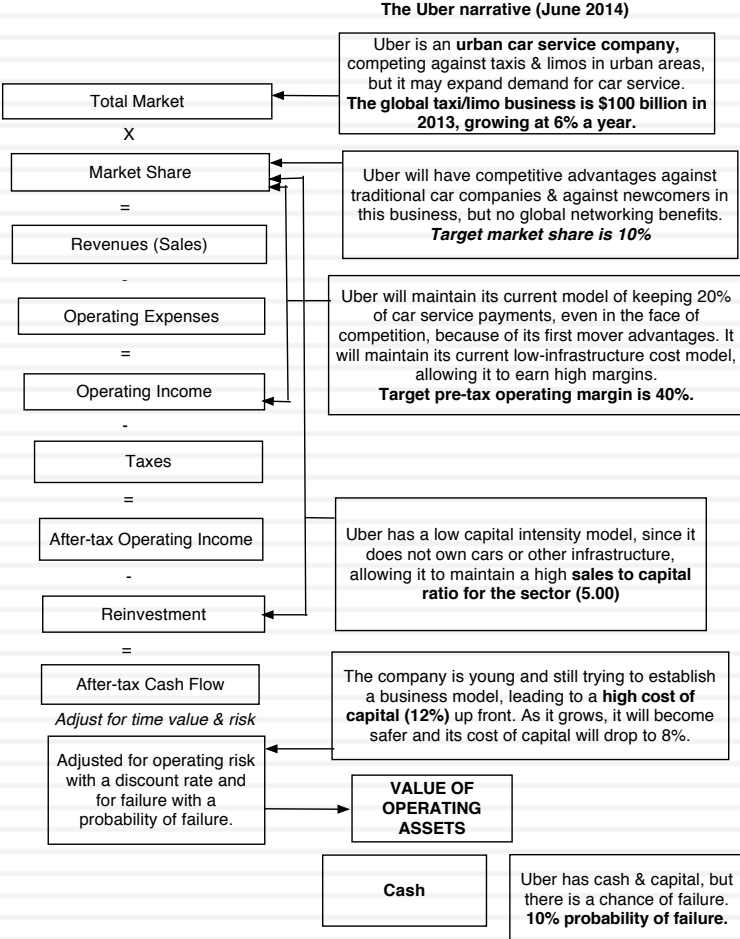
Select companies from the chart or table for more detail.

# The Implausible: The Big Market Delusion



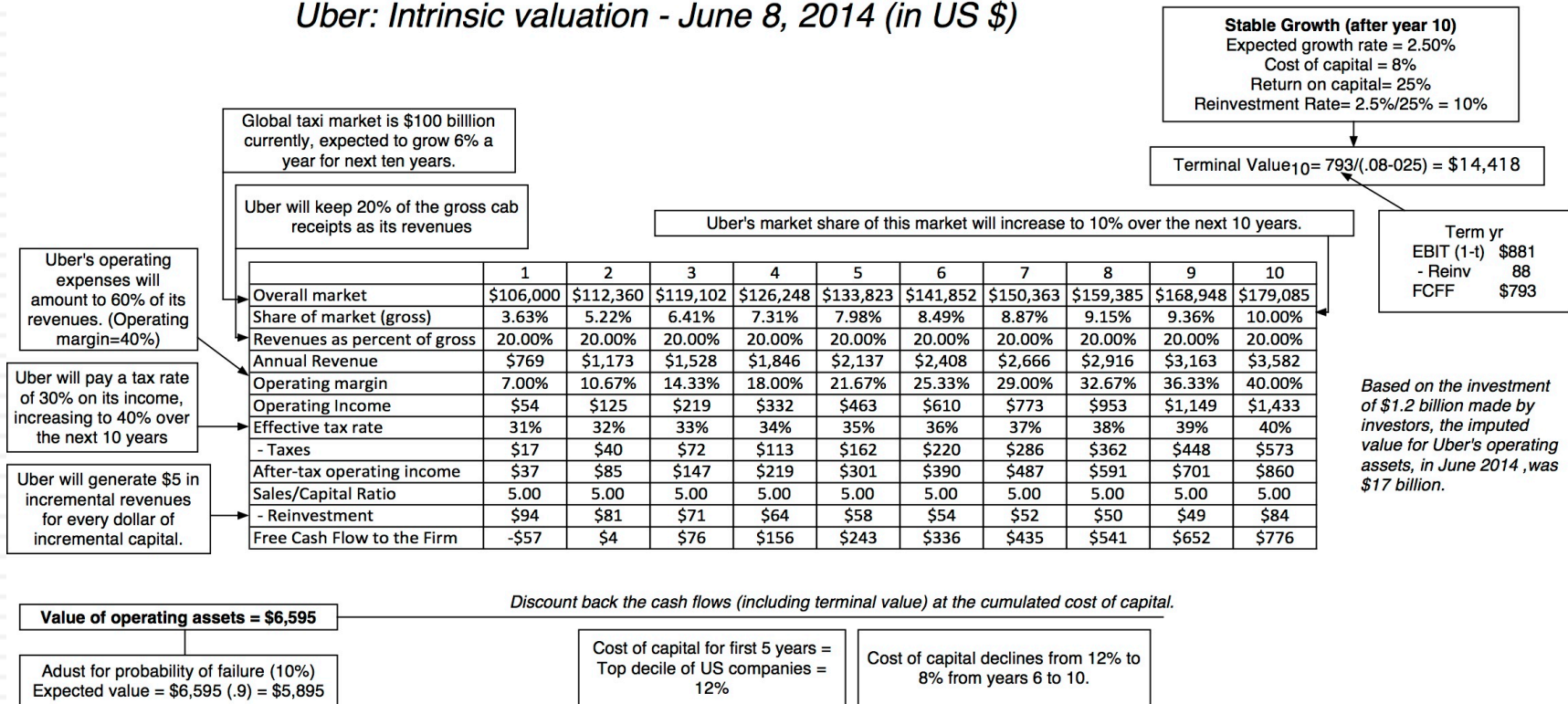
Company	Market Cap	Enterprise Value	Current Revenues	Breakeven Revenues (2025)	% from Online Advertising	Imputed Online Ad Revenue (2025)
Google	\$441,572.00	\$386,954.00	\$69,611.00	\$224,923.20	89.50%	\$201,306.26
Facebook	\$245,662.00	\$234,696.00	\$14,640.00	\$129,375.54	92.20%	\$119,284.25
Yahoo!	\$30,614.00	\$23,836.10	\$4,871.00	\$25,413.13	100.00%	\$25,413.13
LinkedIn	\$23,265.00	\$20,904.00	\$2,561.00	\$22,371.44	80.30%	\$17,964.26
Twitter	\$16,927.90	\$14,912.90	\$1,779.00	\$23,128.68	89.50%	\$20,700.17
Pandora	\$3,643.00	\$3,271.00	\$1,024.00	\$2,915.67	79.50%	\$2,317.96
Yelp	\$1,765.00	\$0.00	\$465.00	\$1,144.26	93.60%	\$1,071.02
Zillow	\$4,496.00	\$4,101.00	\$480.00	\$4,156.21	18.00%	\$748.12
Zynga	\$2,241.00	\$1,142.00	\$752.00	\$757.86	22.10%	\$167.49
<b>Total US</b>	<b>\$770,185.90</b>	<b>\$689,817.00</b>	<b>\$96,183.00</b>	<b>\$434,185.98</b>		<b>\$388,972.66</b>
Alibaba	\$184,362.00	\$173,871.00	\$12,598.00	\$111,414.06	60.00%	\$66,848.43
Tencent	\$154,366.00	\$151,554.00	\$13,969.00	\$63,730.36	10.50%	\$6,691.69
Baidu	\$49,991.00	\$44,864.00	\$9,172.00	\$30,999.49	98.90%	\$30,658.50
Sohu.com	\$18,240.00	\$17,411.00	\$1,857.00	\$16,973.01	53.70%	\$9,114.51
Naver	\$13,699.00	\$12,686.00	\$2,755.00	\$12,139.34	76.60%	\$9,298.74
Yandex	\$3,454.00	\$3,449.00	\$972.00	\$2,082.52	98.80%	\$2,057.52
Yahoo! Japan	\$23,188.00	\$18,988.00	\$3,591.00	\$5,707.61	69.40%	\$3,961.08
Sina	\$2,113.00	\$746.00	\$808.00	\$505.09	48.90%	\$246.99
Netease	\$14,566.00	\$11,257.00	\$2,388.00	\$840.00	11.90%	\$3,013.71
Mail.ru	\$3,492.00	\$3,768.00	\$636.00	\$1,676.47	35.00%	\$586.76
Mixi	\$3,095.00	\$2,661.00	\$1,229.00	\$777.02	96.00%	\$745.94
Kakaku	\$3,565.00	\$3,358.00	\$404.00	\$1,650.49	11.60%	\$191.46
<b>Total non-US</b>	<b>\$474,131.00</b>	<b>\$444,613.00</b>	<b>\$50,379.00</b>	<b>\$248,495.46</b>		<b>\$133,415.32</b>
<b>Global Total</b>	<b>\$1,244,316.90</b>	<b>\$1,134,430.00</b>	<b>\$146,562.00</b>	<b>\$682,681.44</b>		<b>\$522,387.98</b>

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



# Step 4: Value the company (Uber)

## Uber: Intrinsic valuation - June 8, 2014 (in US \$)



# Ferrari: The “Exclusive Club” Value

Stay Super Exclusive: Revenue growth is low

	Base year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Terminal year
Revenue growth rate		4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	4.00%	3.34%	2.68%	2.02%	1.36%	0.70%	0.70%
Revenues	€ 2,763	€ 2,874	€ 2,988	€ 3,108	€ 3,232	€ 3,362	€ 3,474	€ 3,567	€ 3,639	€ 3,689	€ 3,714	€ 3,740
EBIT (Operating) margin	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%	18.20%
EBIT (Operating income)	€ 503	€ 523	€ 544	€ 566	€ 588	€ 612	€ 632	€ 649	€ 662	€ 671	€ 676	€ 681
Tax rate	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%	33.54%
EBIT(1-t)	€ 334	€ 348	€ 361	€ 376	€ 391	€ 407	€ 420	€ 431	€ 440	€ 446	€ 449	€ 452
- Reinvestment		€ 78	€ 81	€ 84	€ 87	€ 91	€ 79	€ 66	€ 51	€ 35	€ 18	€ 22
FCFF		€ 270	€ 281	€ 292	€ 303	€ 316	€ 341	€ 366	€ 389	€ 411	€ 431	€ 431
Cost of capital		6.96%	6.96%	6.96%	6.96%	6.96%	6.96%	6.97%	6.98%	6.99%	7.00%	7.00%
PV(FCFF)		€ 252	€ 245	€ 238	€ 232	€ 225	€ 228	€ 228	€ 227	€ 224	€ 220	
Terminal value	€ 6,835											
PV(Terminal value)	€ 3,485											
PV (CF over next 10 years)	€ 2,321											
Value of operating assets =	€ 5,806											
- Debt	€ 623											
- Minority interests	€ 13											
+ Cash	€ 1,141											
Value of equity	€ 6,311											

High Prices  
+ No selling  
cost =  
Preserve  
current  
operating  
margin

Minimal  
Reinvestment  
due to low  
growth

The super  
rich are not  
sensitive to  
economic  
downturns

## Step 5: Keep the feedback loop open

- When you tell a story about a company (either explicitly or implicitly), it is natural to feel attached to that story and to defend it against all attacks. Nothing can destroy an investor more than hubris.
- Being open to other views about a company is not easy, but here are some suggestions that may help:
  - Face up to the uncertainty in your own estimates of value.
  - Present the valuation to people who don't think like you do.
  - Create a process where people who disagree with you the most have a say.
  - Provide a structure where the criticisms can be specific and pointed, rather than general.



# The Gurley Pushback

41

1. 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.
2. Not just urban: Uber can create new demands for car service in parts of the country where taxis are not used (suburbia, small towns).
3. Global networking benefits: By linking with technology and credit card companies, Uber can have global networking benefits.

# Valuing Bill Gurley's Uber narrative

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

# Different narratives, Different Numbers

<i>Total Market</i>	<i>Growth Effect</i>	<i>Network Effect</i>	<i>Competitive Advantages</i>	<i>Value of Uber</i>
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

44

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.

45

Better accurate  
than precise



High Accuracy  
High Precision



Low Accuracy  
High Precision

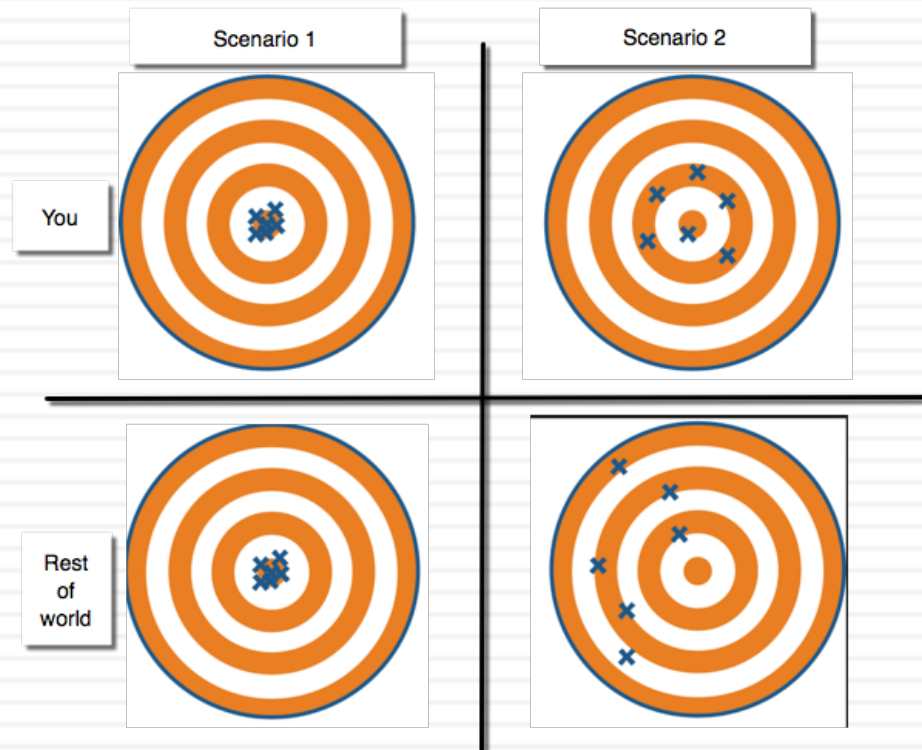


High Accuracy  
Low Precision

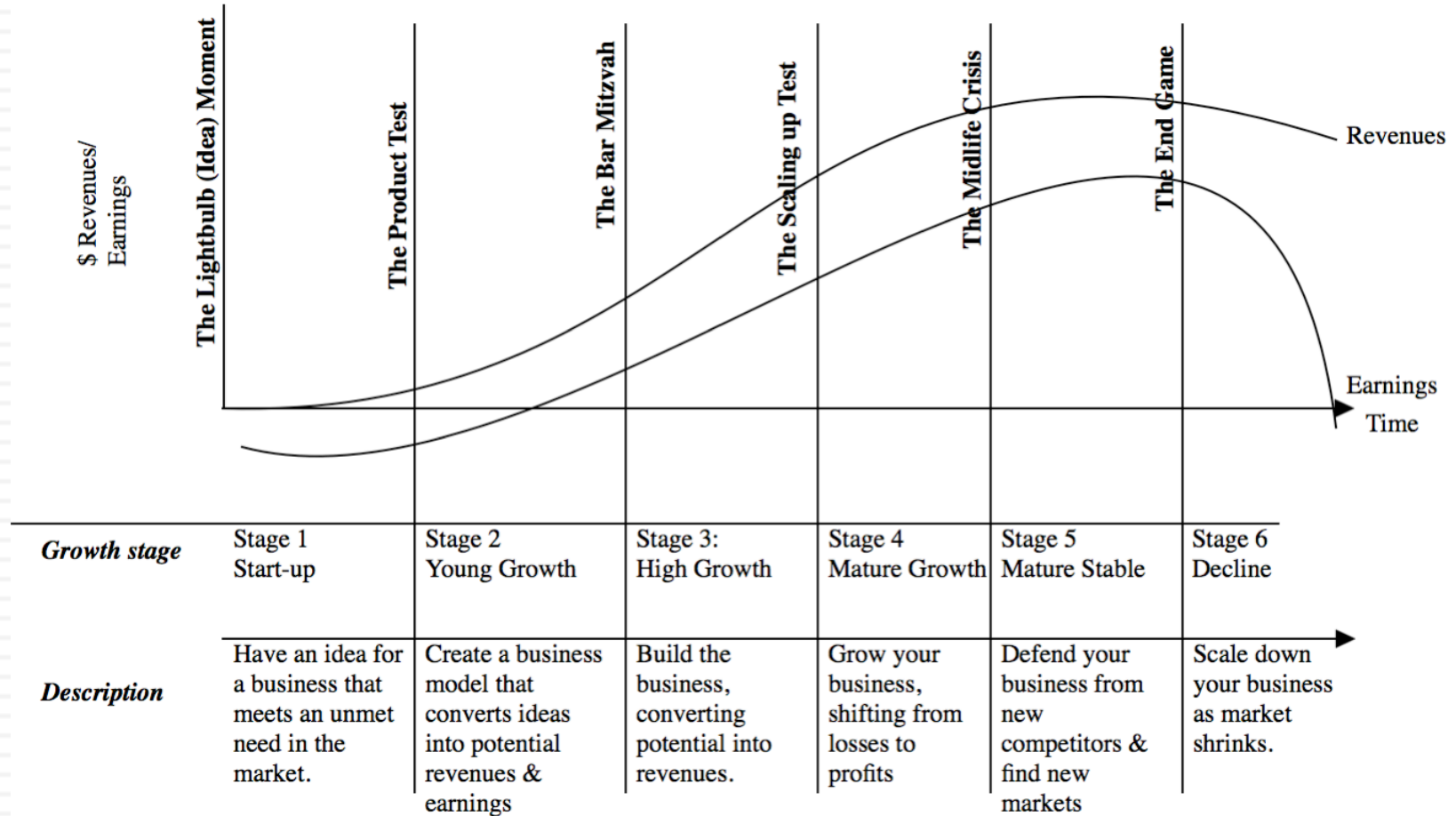


Low Accuracy  
Low Precision

It's all relative



# Introducing the corporate life cycle



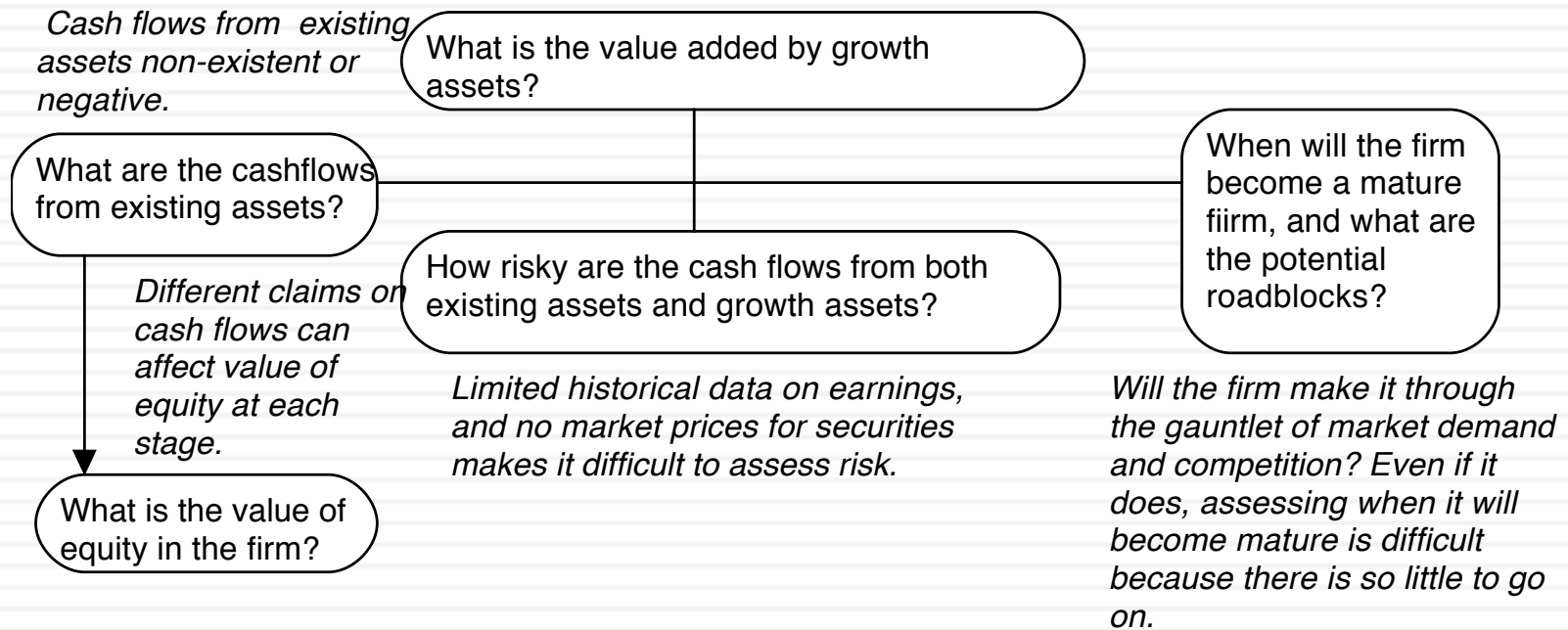
# The Investor Challenge

<i>Growth stage</i>	<i>Stage 1 Start-up</i>	<i>Stage 2 Young Growth</i>	<i>Stage 3: High Growth</i>	<i>Stage 4 &amp; 5 Mature Stable</i>	<i>Stage 6 Decline</i>
<i>Key Questions</i>	Is there a market for the product or service? How big is that market? Will you survive?	Do people use your product or service? How much do they like it?	Will people pay for the product or service? Can you scale up, i.e., grow as you get bigger?	Can you make money of the product and service and sustain profitability in the face of competition?	What will you get if you sell your assets? How do you plan to return cash flows to your investors?
<i>Pricing Metrics &amp; Measures</i>	Market size, Cash on hand, Access to capital	Number of users, User intensity (EV/User)	User engagement with model, Revenues (EV/Sales)	Earnings levels and growth (PE, EV/EBIT)	Cash flows, Payout & Debt servicing (PBV, EV/EBITDA)
<i>Narrative vs Numbers</i>	Mostly or all narrative	More narrative than numbers	Mix of narrative & numbers	More numbers than narrative	Mostly or all numbers
<i>Value Drivers</i>	Total market size, Market Share & Target Margin	Revenue Growth (and its drivers)	Revenue Growth & Reinvestment	Operating margins and Return on capital	Dividends/Cash Returns & Debt ratios
<i>Dangers</i>	<i>Macro delusions</i> , where companies are collectively overpriced, given market size.	<i>Value distractions</i> , with focus on wrong revenue drivers.	<i>Growth illusions</i> , with failure to factor in the cost of growth.	<i>Disruption Denial</i> , with failure to see threats to sustainable profits.	<i>Liquidation leakage</i> , with unrealistic assumptions about what others will pay for liquidated assets.
<i>Transitions</i>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; align-items: center;"> <span>Potential to Product</span> <span>Product to Revenues</span> <span>Revenues to Profits</span> <span>Profits to Cash flows</span> </div>				

# 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.*





# And the dark side will beckon..

49

- 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		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

## 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%
Netflix	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%

		Annual growth rate in Global Advertising Spending				
		2.00%	2.50%	3.00%	3.50%	4.00%
Online advertising share of market	20%	\$124.78	\$131.03	\$137.56	\$144.39	\$151.52
	25%	\$155.97	\$163.79	\$171.95	\$180.49	\$189.40
	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)

Aswath Damodaran

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

## 3. Reinvest for growth

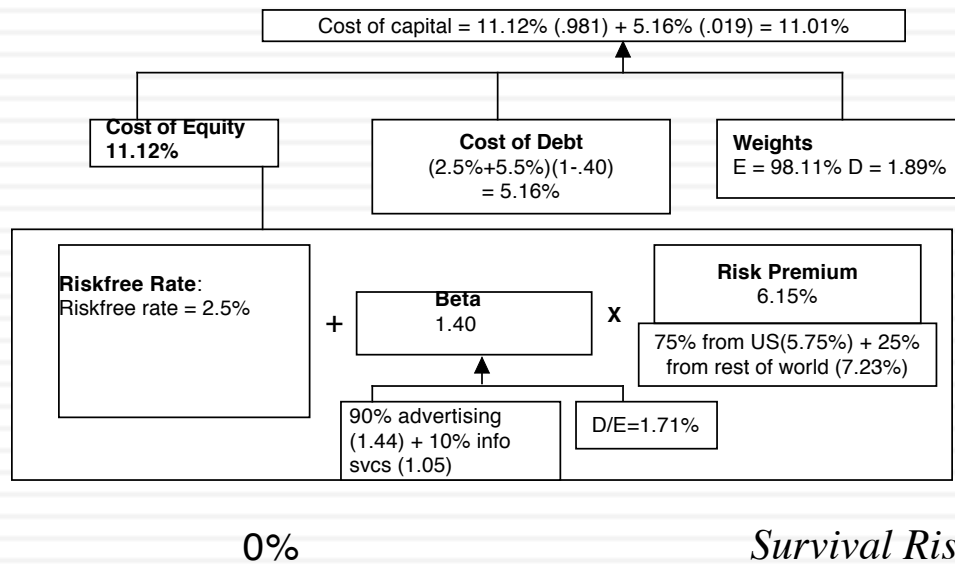
	Sales/ Invested Capital
Twitter (2013)	1.10
Advertising Companies	1.40
Social Media Companies	1.05

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

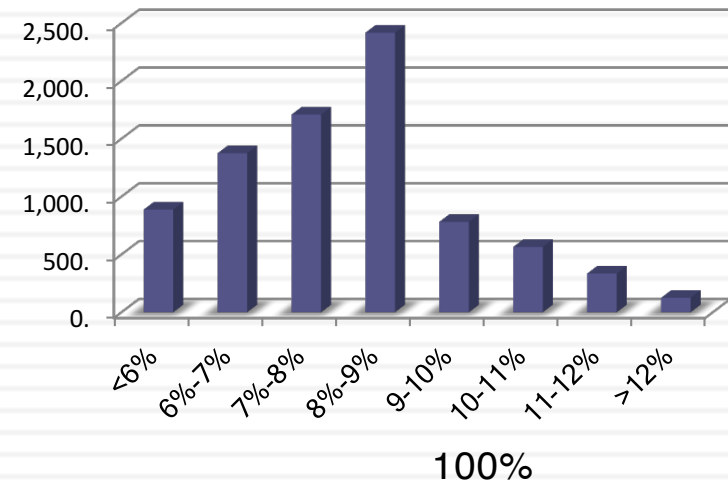
# The Cost of Capital for Twitter

## Risk in the discount rate

### My estimate for Twitter



### Cost of Capital: US - Nov '13



Probability that the firm will not make it as a going concern

Certain to make it as going concern

Certain to fail

My assumption for Twitter

Starting numbers

	Last 10K	Trailing 12 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

Twitter Pre-IPO Valuation: October 27, 2013

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

	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

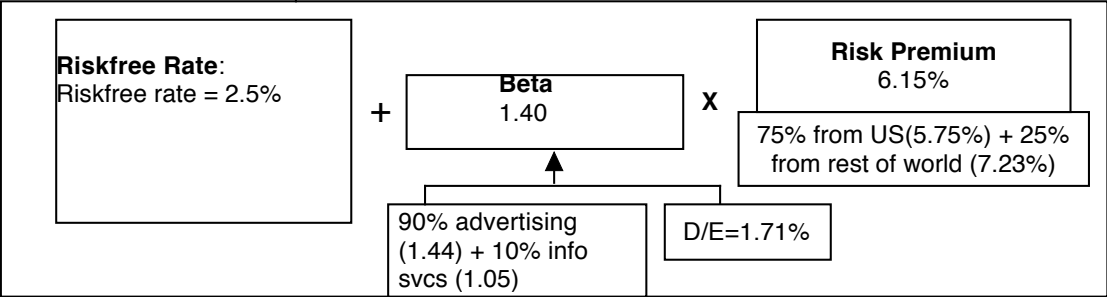
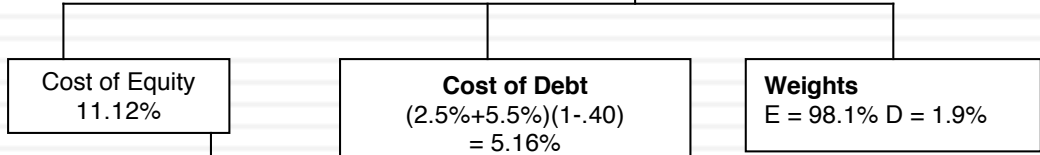
*Terminal year (11)*

EBIT (1-t)	\$ 1,852
- Reinvestment	\$ 386
FCFF	\$ 1,466

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

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

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


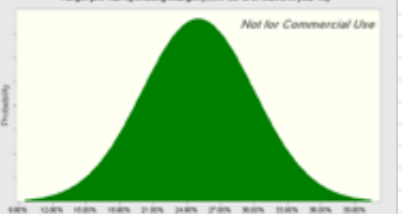
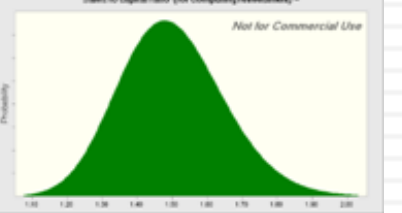



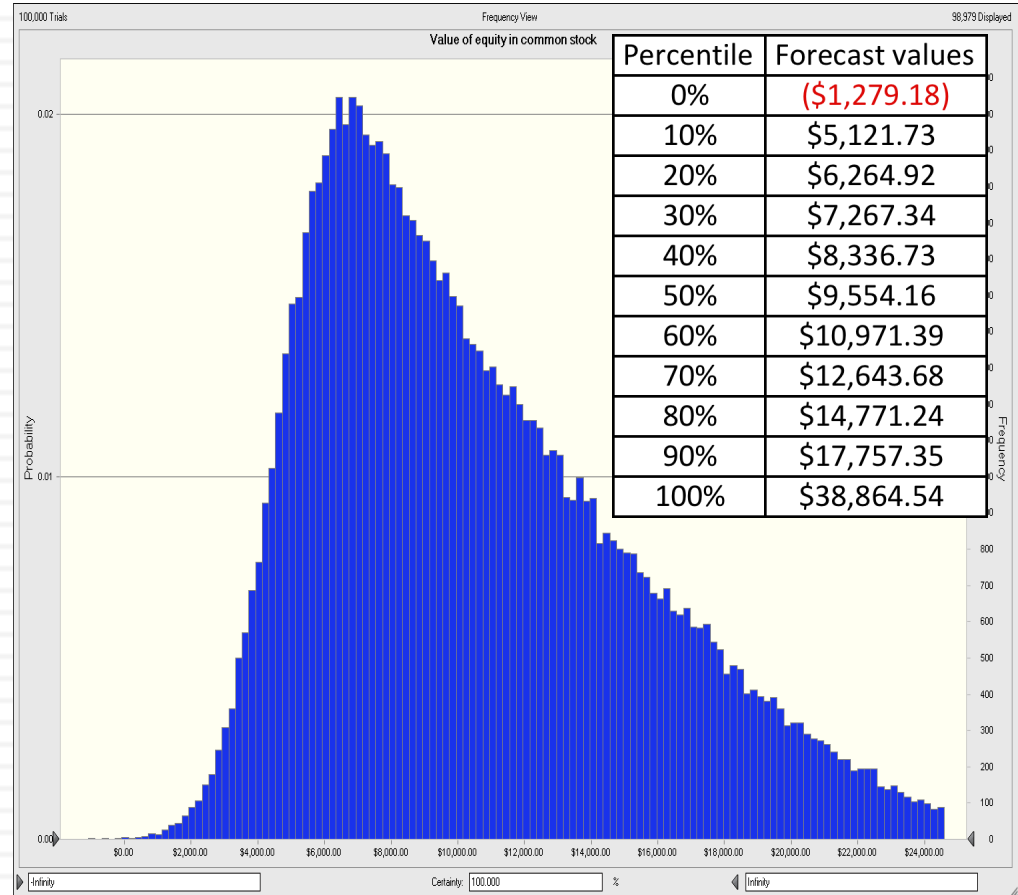
# A sobering reminder: You will be “wrong” and it is okay

54

- 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..

<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 3 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 (EBIT 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>



# Forecasting in the face of uncertainty. A test:

56

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

## Weather changeability for Honolulu, Hawaii

Temperature	Last Month	Last Year
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	Last Year
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...

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	
<b>MeteoGroup</b>	<b>88.44%</b>	<b>MeteoGroup</b>	<b>88.50%</b>
<b>Persistence</b>	<b>81.80%</b>	<b>CustomWeather</b>	<b>85.87%</b>
<b>CustomWeather</b>	<b>78.23%</b>	<b>AccuWeather</b>	<b>81.82%</b>
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%

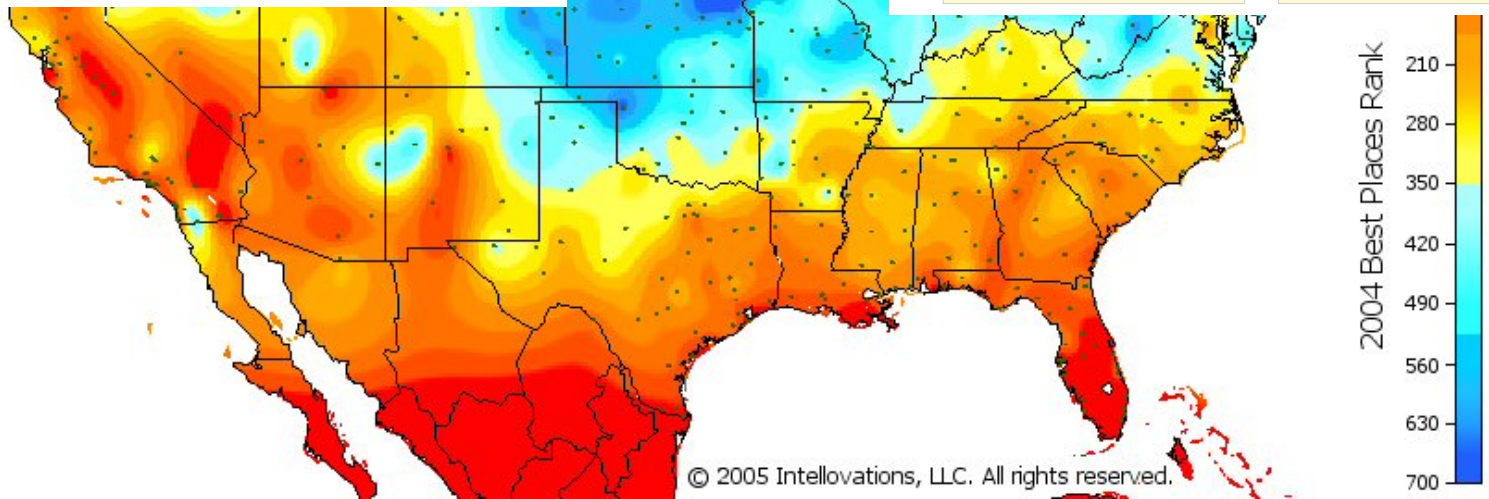
Weather changeability for Epping, North Dakota

Temperature	Last Month	Last Year	Precipitation	Last Month	Last Year
Average change in high temperature day-to-day	8.5°	7.7°	Chance of dry day after a precip day	50%	65%
Average change in low temperature day-to-day	7.1°	8.6°	Chance of precip day after a dry day	38%	20%

[Further changeability analysis >](#)

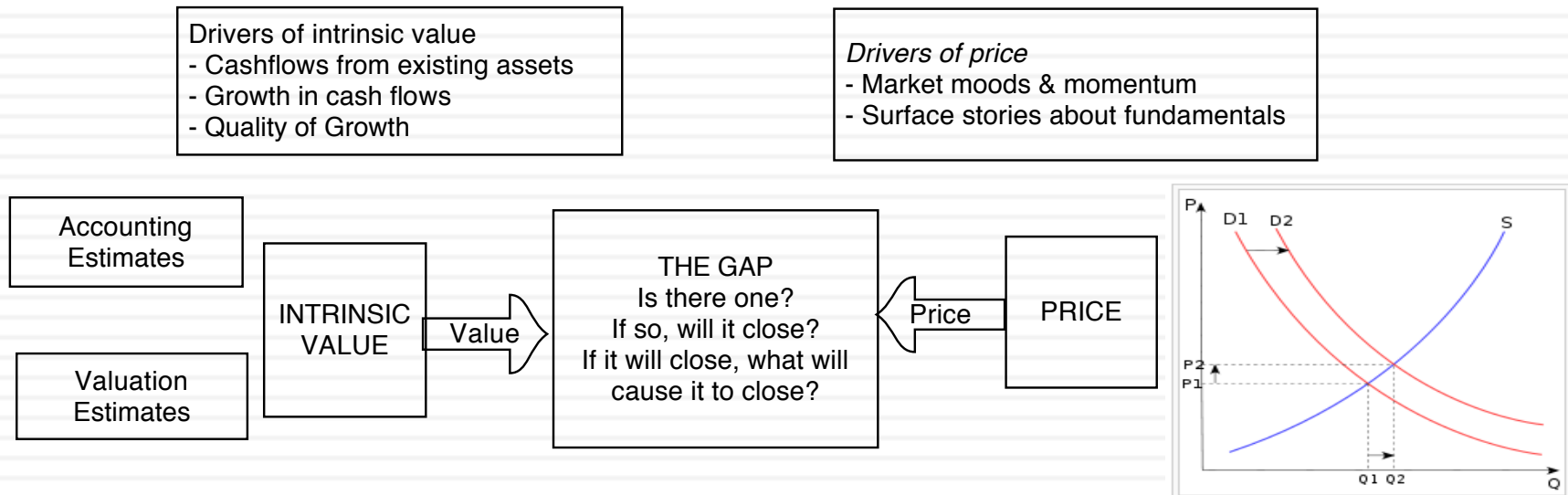
Weather forecast accuracy for Epping, North Dakota

Last Month		Last Year	
<b>MeteoGroup</b>	<b>62.50%</b>	<b>MeteoGroup</b>	<b>66.97%</b>
<b>Foreca</b>	<b>61.61%</b>	<b>The Weather Channel</b>	<b>66.73%</b>
<b>The Weather Channel</b>	<b>61.31%</b>	<b>AccuWeather</b>	<b>64.86%</b>
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%




# V. Don't mistake price for value!

58



# Test 1: Are you pricing or valuing?

 **5369 La Jolla Mesa Dr**  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
Status: Active

**\$995,000**  
Price

**3**  
Beds


**2.5**  
Baths

**1,440** Sq. Ft.  
\$691 / Sq. Ft.

**Built:** 1955   **Lot Size:** 3,000 Sq. Ft.   **On Redfin:** 12 days

[Favorite](#)   [X-Out](#)   [Share...](#)   [Tour Home](#)

[Overview](#)   [Property Details](#)   [Tour Insights](#)   [Property History](#)   [Public Records](#)   [Activity](#)   [Schools](#)   [Neighborhood & Offer Insights](#)   [Similar Homes](#)



**Lisa Padilla**  
REDFIN Real Estate Agent

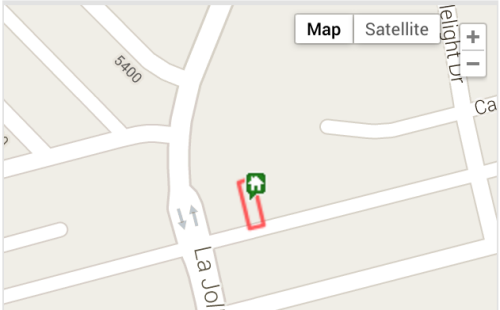
★★★★★  
47 client reviews

**\$8,726 commission refund**

[Go Tour This Home](#)

[Ask Lisa a Question](#) or [Start an Offer](#)

1 of 4 Redfin Agents in this area



# Test 2: Are you pricing or valuing?

60

Europe  
Switzerland  
  
Biotechnology  
Biotechnology

Reuters BION.S    Bloomberg BION SW    Exchange SWX    Ticker BION

Price at 12 Aug 2013 (CHF)	124.00
Price Target (CHF)	164.50
52-week range (CHF)	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

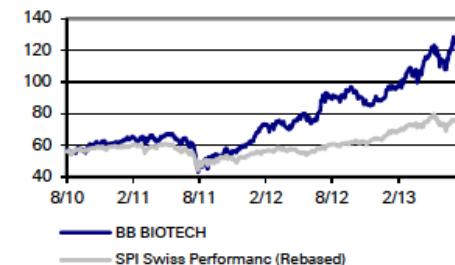
With the re-rating of the pharma sector, investors have also showed increased interest in biotech stocks. Established biotech stocks have delivered encouraging financial results and approvals, while there has also been substantial industry consolidation, which is not surprising in times of "cheap" money 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. Hence, we reiterate our Buy on BB Biotech shares.

### Key changes

Target Price 106.50 to 164.50 ↑ 54.5%

Source: Deutsche Bank

### Price/price relative



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

# The determinants of price

61

## **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

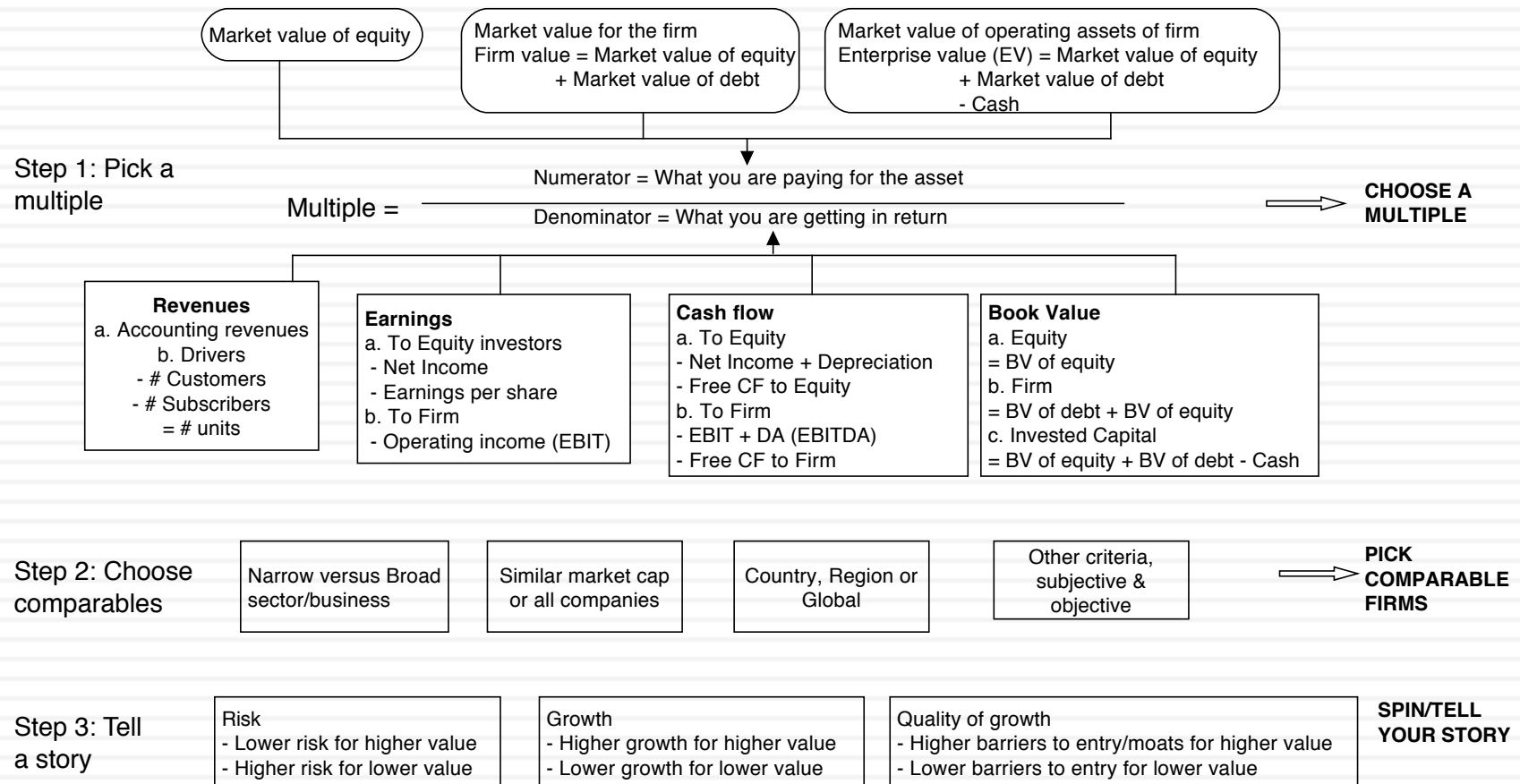
## **Incremental information**

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.

# 1. Check the Multiple

- Is the multiple consistently defined?
  - The consistency principle: Both the value (the numerator) and the standardizing variable (the denominator) should be to the same claimholders in the firm. In other words, the value of equity should be divided by equity earnings or equity book value, and firm value should be divided by firm earnings or book value.
  - The cost of mismatching: Assets that are not cheap(expensive) will look cheap (expensive), because your mismatch will skew the numbers.
- Is the multiple uniformly estimated?
  - The uniformity rule: The variables used in defining the multiple should be estimated uniformly across assets in the “comparable firm” list.
  - The cost of ignoring this rule: You will be comparing non-comparable numbers and drawing all the wrong conclusions.



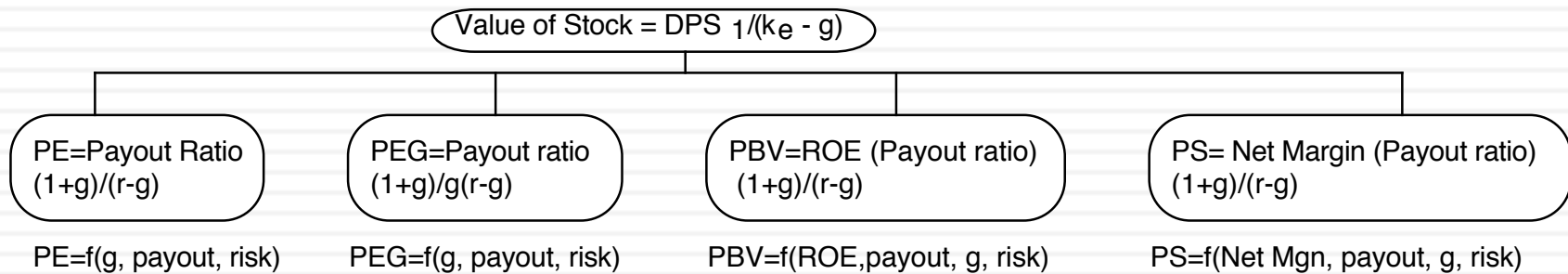
## 2. Play Moneyball: Let the numbers talk (not the analysts)

- What is the average and standard deviation for this multiple, across the universe (market)?
- What is the median for this multiple?
  - The median for this multiple is often a more reliable comparison point.
- How large are the outliers to the distribution, and how do we deal with the outliers?
  - Throwing out the outliers may seem like an obvious solution, but if the outliers all lie on one side of the distribution (they usually are large positive numbers), this can lead to a biased estimate.
- Are there cases where the multiple cannot be estimated? Will ignoring these cases lead to a biased estimate of the multiple?
- How has this multiple changed over time?

### 3. Understand your “implicit” assumptions

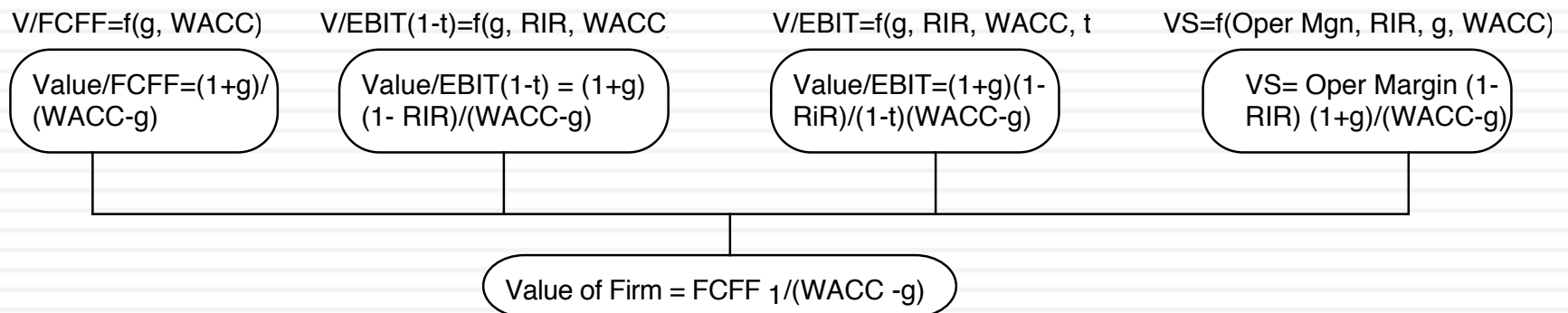
- What are the fundamentals that determine and drive these multiples?
  - Proposition 1: Embedded in every multiple are all of the variables that drive every discounted cash flow valuation - growth, risk and cash flow patterns.
  - In fact, using a simple discounted cash flow model and basic algebra should yield the fundamentals that drive a multiple
- How do changes in these fundamentals change the multiple?
  - The relationship between a fundamental (like growth) and a multiple (such as PE) is seldom linear. For example, if firm A has twice the growth rate of firm B, it will generally not trade at twice its PE ratio
  - Proposition 2: It is impossible to properly compare firms on a multiple, if we do not know the nature of the relationship between fundamentals and the multiple.

# The Determinants of Multiples...



## Equity Multiples

## Firm Multiples



## 4. Define “comparable” broadly & control for differences

- Given the firm that we are valuing, what is a “comparable” firm?
  - ▣ While traditional analysis is built on the premise that firms in the same sector are comparable firms, valuation theory would suggest that a comparable firm is one which is similar to the one being analyzed in terms of fundamentals.
  - ▣ Proposition 4: There is no reason why a firm cannot be compared with another firm in a very different business, if the two firms have the same risk, growth and cash flow characteristics.
- Given the comparable firms, how do we adjust for differences across firms on the fundamentals?
  - ▣ Proposition 5: It is impossible to find an exactly identical firm to the one you are valuing.

# Pricing Twitter: Start with the “comparables”

69

Company	Market Cap	Enterprise value	Revenues	EBITDA	Net Income	Number of users (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
						<b>Average</b>	\$130.01	11.32	350.80	267.44
						<b>Median</b>	\$97.41	10.92	44.20	116.47

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

	<i>Market Cap</i>	<i>Enterprise value</i>	<i>Revenues</i>	<i>EBITDA</i>	<i>Net Income</i>	<i>Number of users (millions)</i>
<i>Market Cap</i>	1.					
<i>Enterprise value</i>	0.9998	1.				
<i>Revenues</i>	0.8933	0.8966	1.			
<i>EBITDA</i>	0.9709	0.9701	0.8869	1.		
<i>Net Income</i>	0.8978	0.8971	0.8466	0.9716	1.	
<i>Number of users (millions)</i>	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”

71

- 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..

72

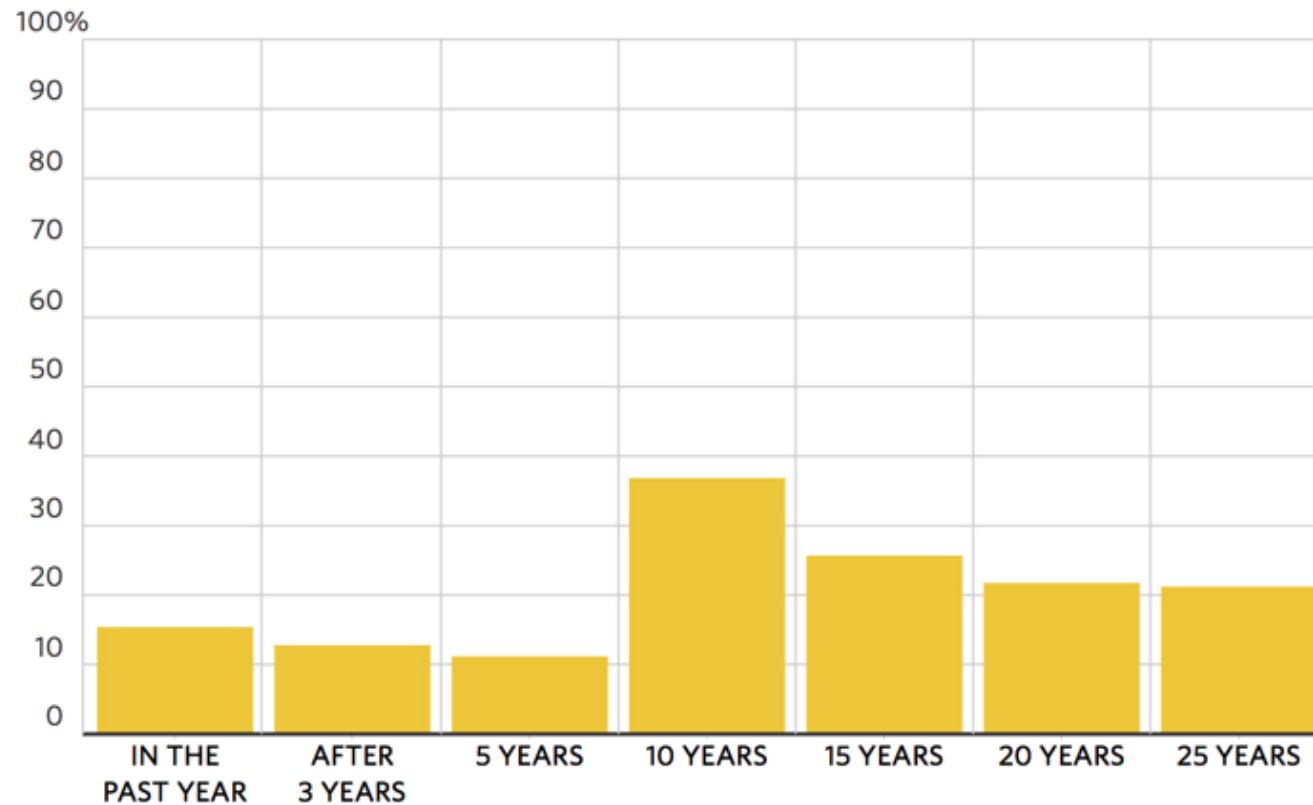
- When investing, we are often told that if you are virtuous (careful in your research, good at valuation, have a long time horizon), you will be rewarded (with high returns).
- That pitch is amplified by anecdotal evidence of righteous ones, i.e., those who have followed the path to success.
- Those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



# Active Investing is a loser's game

## Tough to Beat

Percentage of U.S. large-company mutual funds outperforming the Vanguard 500 Index Fund



# And it stays that way across styles..

	<i>% of US Mutual Funds that beat their respective indices</i>			
	Value	Growth	Core	All
Large	82.17%	86.54%	88.26%	84.15%
Mid-cap	70.27%	81.48%	76.51%	76.69%
Small	92.31%	91.89%	91.44%	90.13%
All Equity				88.43%
Real Estate				82.64%

S&P computes these percentages for the last year, the last 3 years & the last 10 years. There is not a single period or a single fund grouping where the number is <50%.

# And the "smart" money does not stay smart for very long

## Funds' Flop

Three-year rolling relative performance of stock hedge funds



\*Compared to a 50/50 MSCI World Net Return Local Currency/LIBOR 3 Month USD index

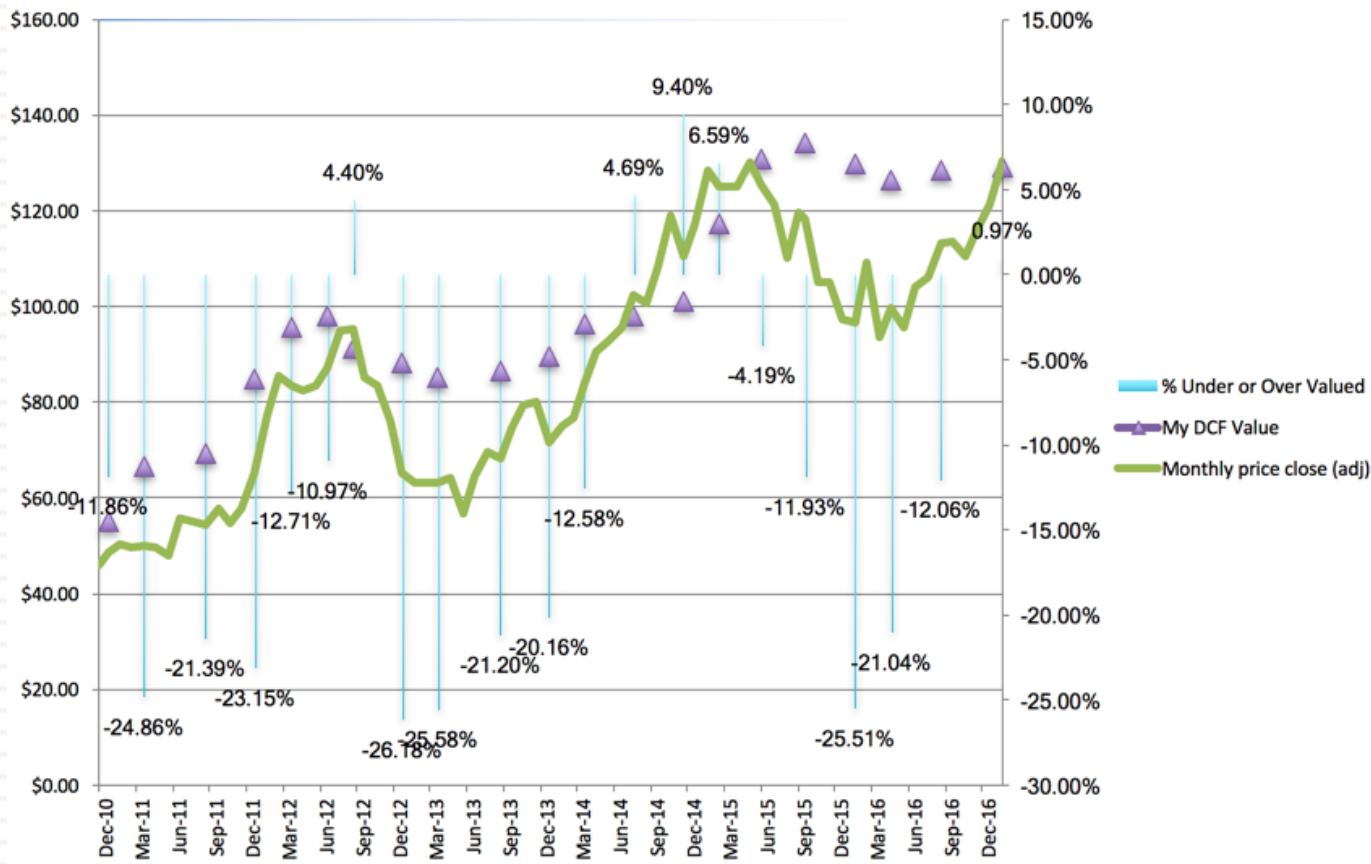
Source: Partners Capital Investment Group analysis of data from HFR, MSCI and WSJ Market Data Group

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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

76

Apple, Price and Value - 2010 to 2017



Follow the yellow brick road..

