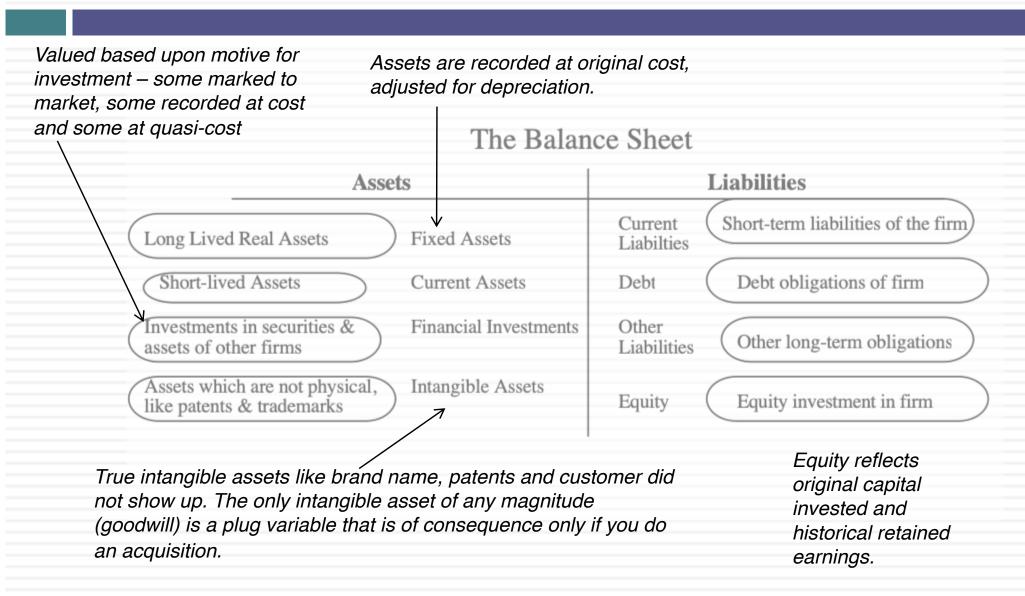
MY VALUATION JOURNEY: HAVE FAITH, YOU MUST!

January 2021 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

original cost		ı	
Asset	ts		Liabilities
Existing Investments Generate cashflows today Includes long lived (fixed) and short-lived(working capital) assets	Assets in Place	Debt	Fixed Claim on cash flows Little or No role in management Fixed Maturity Tax Deductible
Expected Value that will be created by future investments	Growth Assets	Equity	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:
E(CE)
E(CE)

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.

The Key Questions in valuation...

What are the cashflows from existing assets?

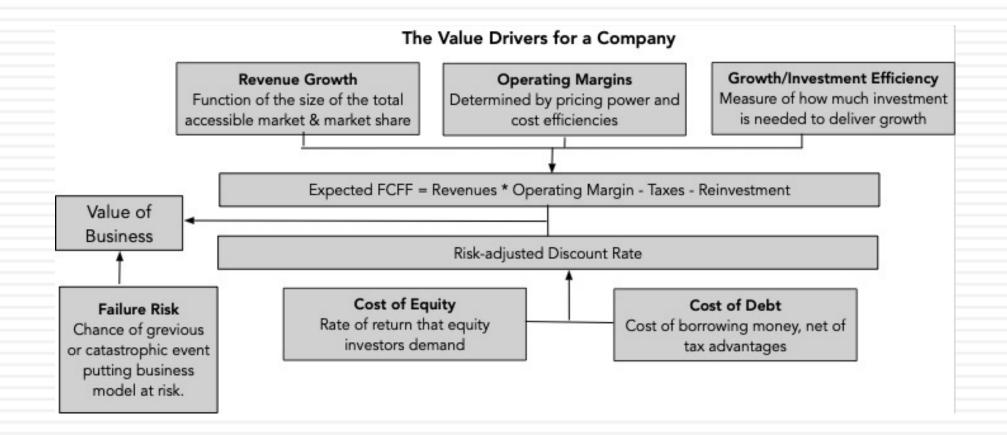
- Equity: Cashflows after debt payments
- Firm: Cashflows before debt payments

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?

And Business Drivers that determine value...



7

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

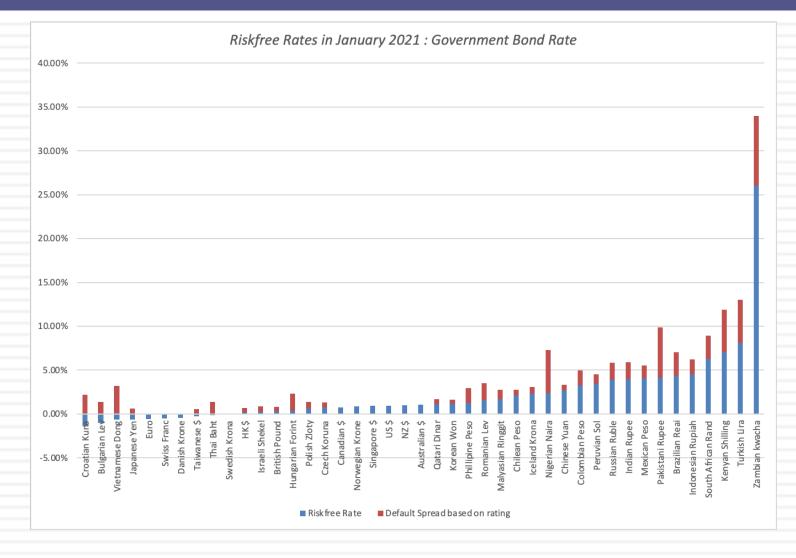
Steady state

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

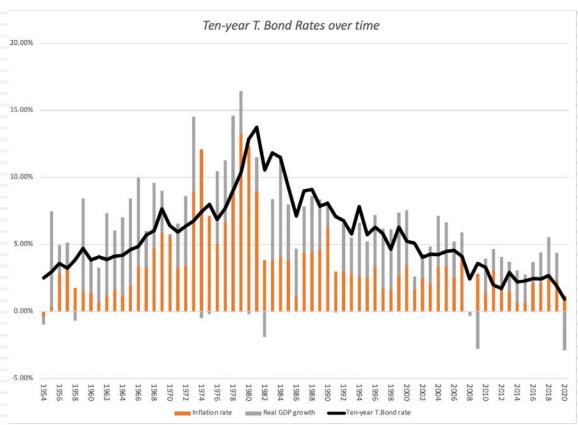
The risk in the investment is captured in the discount rate as a beta in the cost of equity and the default spread in the cost of debt.

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



And the Fed is not the answer to every interest rate question..

9



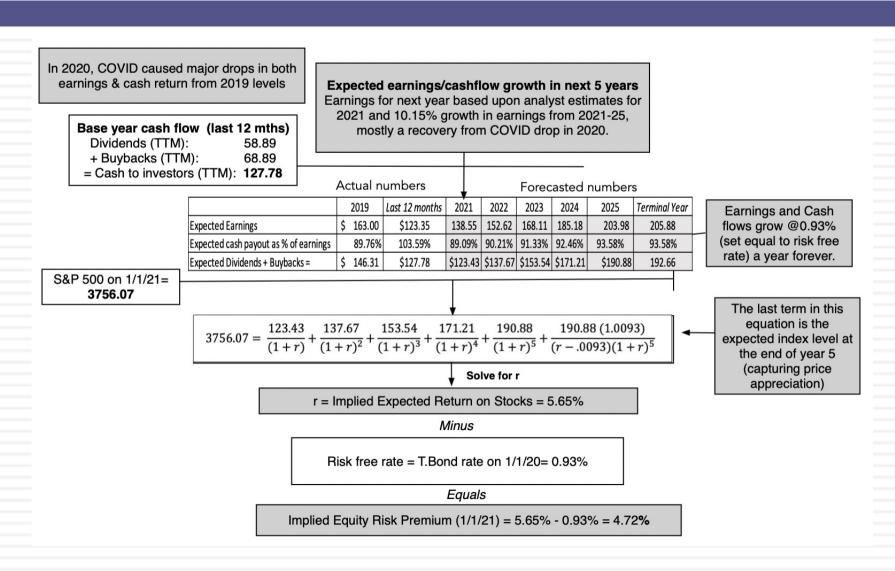
Year end	Ten-year T.Bond rate	Inflation rate	Real GDP growth	Intrinsic riskfree rate	The Fed Effect
1954-2020	5.65%	3.50%	2.92%	6.42%	-0.78%
1954-1980	5.83%	4.49%	3.50%	7.98%	-2.15%
1981-2008	6.88%	3.26%	3.04%	6.30%	0.58%
2010-2020	2.25%	1.76%	1.74%	3.50%	-1.03%

2. Risk is not in the past...

	Arithmet	tic Average	Geometr	ic Average
	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds
1928-2020	8.28%	6.43%	6.47%	4.84%
Std Error	2.06%	2.18%	1974	70
1971-2020	7.67%	4.90%	6.35%	3.91%
Std Error	2.38%	2.70%	9	20
2011-2020	13.83%	9.70%	13.24%	9.35%
Std Error	3.88%	4.87%		

- □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...



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.

ERP: Jan 2021

				Western Euro	pe	0.84%	5.56%
Isle of Man	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%	UK	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
Ireland	A2	0.82%	5.54%	Turkey	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Iceland	A2	0.82%	5.54%	Switzerland	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Guernsey	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%	Sweden	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Greece	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%	Spain	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Germany	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%	Portugal	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
France	Aa2	0.48%	5.20%	Norway	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Finland	Aal	0.38%	5.10%	Netherlands	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Denmark	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%	Malta	A2	0.82%	5.54%
Cyprus	Ba2	2.91%	7.63%	Luxembourg	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Belgium	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%	Liechtenstein	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Austria	Aal	0.38%	5.10%	Jersey	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Andorra	Caal	7.26%	11.98%	Italy	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%

Canada		0.00%	
United States	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
North America		0.00%	4.72%

Caribbean	5.31%	10.03%
-----------	-------	--------

Venezuela Latin America	С	19.18% 3.99%	23.90% 8.71%
Uruguay	Bl	4.36%	9.08%
Suriname	Caa3	9.68%	14.40%
Peru	A3	1.16%	5.88%
Paraguay	Bal	2.42%	7.14%
Panama	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Nicaragua	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Mexico	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Honduras	Bl	4.36%	9.08%
Guatemala	Bal	2.42%	7.14%
El Salvador	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Ecuador	Caa3	9.68%	14.40%
Costa Rica	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Colombia	Baa2	1.84%	6.56%
Chile	Al	0.68%	5.40%
Brazil	Ba2	2.91%	7.63%
Bolivia	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Belize	Caa3	9.68%	14.40%
Argentina	Ca	11.62%	16.34%

Ì			1	
	Country	Rating	CRP	ERP
	Angola	Caa1	7.26%	11.98%
1	Benin	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Ļ	Botswana	A2	0.82%	5.54%
ī	Burkina Faso	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Cameroon	B2	5.33%	10.05%
1	Cape Verde	B2	5.33%	10.05%
l	Congo (DR)	Caa1	7.26%	11.98%
ŝ	Congo (Rep of)	Caa2	8.72%	13.44%
	Côte d'Ivoire	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
	Egypt	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Ethiopia	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Gabon	Caa1	7.26%	11.98%
	Ghana	B3	6.30%	11.02%
	Kenya	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Mali	Caa1	7.26%	11.98%
	Morocco	Bal	2.42%	7.14%
	Mozambique	Caa2	8.72%	13.44%
	Namibia	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
	Niger	B3	6.30%	11.02%
	Nigeria	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Rwanda	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Senegal	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
	South Africa	Ba2	2.91%	7.63%
	Swaziland	B3	6.30%	11.02%
	Tanzania	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Togo	B3	6.30%	11.02%
	Tunisia	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Uganda	B2	5.33%	10.05%
	Zambia	Ca	11.62%	16.34%
	Africa	8	4.94%	9.66%

E. Europe & Russia		2.08%	6.80%
Uzbekistan	Baa2	1.84%	6.56%
Ukraine	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Tajikistan	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Slovenia	A3	1.16%	5.88%
Slovakia	A2	0.82%	5.54%
Serbia	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
Russia	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
Romania	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
Poland	A2	0.82%	5.54%
Montenegro	Bl	4.36%	9.08%
Moldova	В3	6.30%	11.02%
Macedonia	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
Lithuania	A3	1.16%	5.88%
Latvia	A3	1.16%	5.88%
Kyrgyzstan	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Kazakhstan	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
Hungary	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
Georgia	Ba2	2.91%	7.63%
Estonia	Al	0.68%	5.40%
Czech Republic	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
Croatia	Bal	2.42%	7.14%
Bulgaria	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Bosnia & Herzegovina	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Belarus	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Azerbaijan	Ba2	2.91%	7.63%
Albania Armenia	B1 Ba3	4.36% 3.49%	9.08% 8.21%

1			
Abu Dhabi	Aa2	0.48%	5.20%
Bahrain	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Iraq	Caa1	7.26%	11.98%
Israel	A1	0.68%	5.40%
Jordan	Bl	4.36%	9.08%
Kuwait	A1	0.68%	5.40%
Lebanon	C	19.18%	23.90%
Oman	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
Qatar	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
Ras Al Khaima	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Saudi Arabia	A1	0.68%	5.40%
Sharjah	Baa2	1.84%	6.56%
United Arab Emirates	Aa2	0.48%	5.20%
Middle East	10.	1.53%	6.25%

Country	PRS	CRP	ERP
Country			
Algeria	57.25	8.72%	13.44%
Brunei	80	0.82%	5.54%
Gambia	63.75	6.30%	11.02%
Guinea	53.5	11.62%	16.34%
Guinea-Bissau	62	7.26%	11.98%
Guyana	65.75	5.33%	10.05%
Haiti	52.75	11.62%	16.34%
Iran	59.25	8.72%	13.44%
Korea, D.P.R.	50.75	11.62%	16.34%
Liberia	53.5	11.62%	16.34%
Libya	58.25	8.72%	13.44%
Madagascar	63.25	6.30%	11.02%
Malawi	58.75	8.72%	13.44%
Myanmar	63.75	6.30%	11.02%
Sierra Leone	58.75	8.72%	13.44%
Somalia	50.5	11.62%	16.34%
Sudan	38.25	19.18%	23.90%
Syria	47	19.18%	23.90%
Yemen, Republic	50	19.18%	23.90%
Zimbabwe	52.25	11.62%	16.34%

Bangladesh	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
Cambodia	B2	5.33%	10.05%
China	A1	0.68%	5.40%
Fiji	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%
Hong Kong	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
India	Baa3	2.13%	6.85%
Indonesia	Baa2	1.84%	6.56%
Japan	A1	0.68%	5.40%
Korea	Aa2	0.48%	5.20%
Laos	Caa2	8.72%	13.44%
Macao	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
Malaysia	A3	1.16%	5.88%
Maldives	В3	6.30%	11.02%
Mauritius	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Mongolia	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Pakistan	В3	6.30%	11.02%
Papua New Guinea	B2	5.33%	10.05%
Philippines	Baa2	1.84%	6.56%
Singapore	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%
Solomon Islands	B3	6.30%	11.02%
Sri Lanka	Caal	7.26%	11.98%
Taiwan	Aa3	0.59%	5.31%
Thailand	Baal	1.55%	6.27%
Vietnam	Ba3	3.49%	8.21%

•				
Australia & NZ		0.00%	4.72%	
New Zealand	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%	l
Cook Islands	Bl	4.36%	9.08%	ı
Austrana	Aaa	0.00%	4.72%	

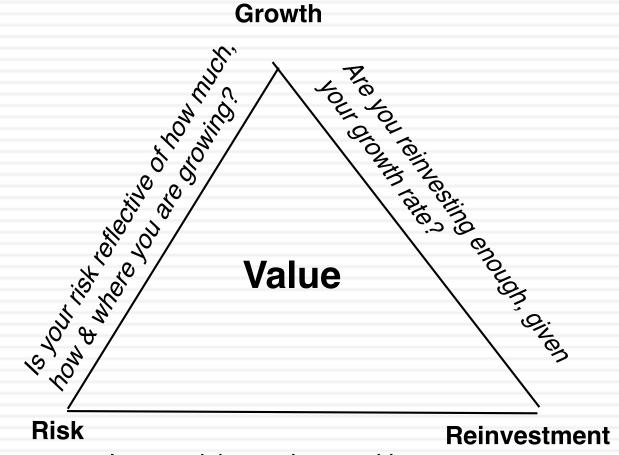
Blue: Moody's Rating Red: Added Country Risk Green #: Total ERP

And your country risk exposure comes from where you operate, not where you incorporate!

Region		Revenues	ERP	Weight	Weighted ERP
North America	₹	42,408	5.08%	62.01%	3.1499%
Europe	₹	15,302	6.01%	22.37%	1.3437%
Rest of the World	₹	8,504	6.21%	12.43%	0.7721%
India	₹	2,180	7.27%	3.19%	0.2317%
Total	₹	68,394		100.00%	5.4974%

- 1. By focusing on revenues, are we misestimating country risk exposure?
- 2. As the company looks to grow in Latin America and Asia, how do you see this premium evolving?

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



Is your risk consistent with your reinvestment strategy?

The Improbable: Willy Wonkitis

Tesla: Summary 15-year DCF Analysis (DCF valuation as of mid-year 2013)

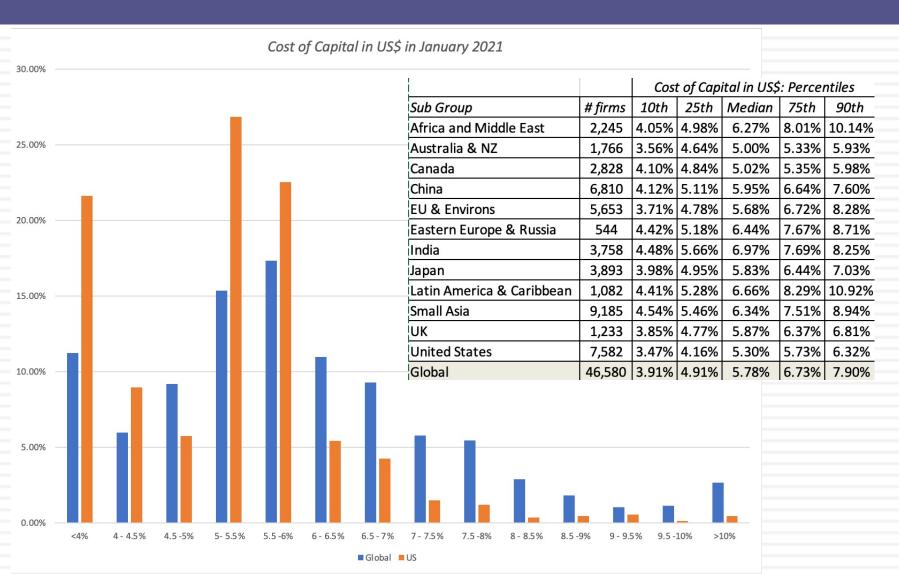
	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Unit Volume	24,298	36,883	64,684	86,713	149,869	214,841	291,861	384,747	466,559	550,398	643,850	726,655	820,645	922,481	1,034,215	1,137,780
% Growth		52%	75%	34%	73%	43%	36%	32%	21%	18%	17%	13%	13%	12%	12%	10%
Automotive Revenue Per Unit (\$)	93,403	85,342	83,432	78,932	65,465	58,258	56,407	55,553	55,991	56,586	56,969	57,540	58,138	58,603	59,002	59,554
% Growth		-9%	-2%	-5%	-17%	-11%	-3%	-2%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%	1%
Automotive Sales	2,462	3,321	5,613	7,051	10,025	12,720	16,685	21,595	26,347	31,357	36,897	42,022	47,949	54,283	61,221	67,980
Development Service Sales	16	40	42	44	46	49	51	54	56	59	62	65	68	72	75	79
Total Sales	2,478	3,361	5,655	7,095	10,072	12,768	16,736	21,648	26,403	31,416	36,959	42,087	48,017	54,355	61,296	68,059
% Growth		36%	68%	25%	42%	27%	31%	29%	22%	19%	18%	14%	14%	13%	13%	11%
EBITDA	148	417	920	1,042	1,586	2,150	3,138	4,066	4,857	5,723	6,328	7,182	8,144	9,688	10,874	12,099
% Margin	6.0%	12.4%	16.3%	14.7%	15.7%	16.8%	18.7%	18.8%	18.4%	18.2%	17.1%	17.1%	17.0%	17.8%	17.7%	17.8%
D&A	103	158	172	203	301	353	389	537	606	696	811	938	1,088	1,260	1,451	1,661
% of Capex	41%	79%	55%	65%	62%	69%	78%	86%	79%	77%	75%	76%	76%	76%	76%	77%
EBIT	45	259	748	839	1,285	1,796	2,749	3,529	4,252	5,027	5,517	6,244	7,056	8,429	9,423	10,439
% Margin	1.8%	7.7%	13.2%	11.8%	12.8%	14.1%	16.4%	16.3%	16.1%	16.0%	14.9%	14.8%	14.7%	15.5%	15.4%	15.3%
Net Interest Income (Expense)	(27)	(1)	9	33	47	90	108	155	199	278	358	445	542	651	784	934
Other Income	28	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pretax Income	46	258	758	872	1,332	1,886	2,857	3,684	4,451	5,305	5,875	6,688	7,598	9,080	10,207	11,373
Income Taxes	3	2	14	34	86	262	462	641	807	1,003	1,134	1,317	1,470	1,761	2,028	2,323
% Effective Rate	6%	1%	2%	4%	656	14%	16%	17%	18%	19%	19%	20%	19%	1996	20%	20%
Net Income	44	256	744	839	1,246	1,624	2,395	3,043	3,644	4,303	4,741	5,372	6,128	7,319	8,179	9,050
Plus																
After-tax Interest Expense (Income)	27	1	(9)	(33)	(47)	(90)	(108)	(154)	(199)	(278)	(357)	(444)	(541)	(650)	(782)	(932)
Depreciation of PP&E	103	158	172	203	301	353	389	537	606	696	811	938	1,088	1,260	1,451	1,661
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Less																
Change in Working Capital	(155)	(14)	(157)	(167)	(172)	(325)	(163)	(81)	(28)	(299)	(356)	(328)	(219)	(329)	(365)	(376)
% of Change in Sales		-2%	-7%	-12%	-6%	-12%	-4%	-2%	-1%	-6%	-6%	-6%	-4%	-5%	-5%	-6%
Capital Expenditures	250	200	312	312	486	510	497	623	765	906	1,078	1,236	1,437	1,660	1,898	2,149
% of Sales	10%	6%	6%	4%	5%	4%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%	3%
Other	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Unlevered Free Cash Flow	78	229	750	863	1,186	1,702	2,343	2,884	3,314	4,113	4,472	4,959	5.456	6,597	7,315	8,005

EBITDA	12,099
Sales	68,059
Net Debt (Cash)	(260)
Testa Diluted Shares	142

Exit EBITDA High	12.0 x	Exit PPG High	5.0%	Exit P/Sales High	180%
Exit EBITDA Low	8.0 x	Exit PPG Low	3.0%	Exit P/Sales Low	130%

Discount Rate High 13.0% FY Month of Valuation 1.0 (Beginning of this Month)
Discount Rage Low 9.0% Month of FY End 12.0 (End of this Month)

5. Don't sweat the small stuff



Infosys: March 2018 (in Rupees) **Maturty and Closure** Cash flows from existing assets The Payoff from growth LTM 2011-2017 Industry (US data) Revenues will Operating margin Stable Growth grow 10% a year Sales/Invested 3.28% 14.22% 15.31% Revenue growth = (per-tax) will g = 5.38%; for next 5 years, Capital will stay continue to Cost of capital = 9.88% Pre-tax operating margin = 24.29% 26.16% 8.35% tapering down to at ten-year decline from ROC= 15%; 5.38% growth in average of 1.81 24.29% to 23% 3.69 Reinvestment Rate=g/ROC 1.81 2.50 Sales to capital ratio = year 10 = 5.83%/15.00%= 35.87% Return on invested capital = 31.57% 47.80% 27.96% Terminal Value = 169,632/(.0988-..0538) = 3,769,597 Rupee Cashflows Base year 4 5 6 7 10 Terminal year PV(Terminal value) 1,366,411 10.00% 10.00% 10.00% 10.00% 10.00% 9.08% 8.15% 7.23% 6.30% 5.38% 5.38% Revenue growth rate PV (CF over next 10 years) 790,711 ₹ 683,119 Revenues ₹ 751,431 ₹ 826,574 ₹ 909,231 ₹ 1,000,155 ₹ 1,100,170 ₹ 1,200,021 ₹ 1,297,847 ₹ 1,391,656 ₹ 1,479,386 ₹ 1,558,976 1,642,849 Value of operating assets = 2,157,122 EBIT (Operating) margin 24.29% 24.16% 24.03% 23.90% 23.78% 23.65% 23.52% 23.39% 23.26% 23.13% 23.00% 23.00% - Debt ₹ ₹ 198,657 ₹ 165,945 ₹ 181,568 ₹ 217,348 ₹ 237,790 260,148 ₹ 282,208 323,678 EBIT (Operating income) ₹ 303,536 342,170 358,565 377,855 Minority interests ₹ Tax rate 28.00% 28.00% 28.00% 28.00% 28.00% 28.00% 28.40% 28.80% 29.20% 29.60% 30.00% 30.00% 230,727 EBIT(1-t) ₹ 119,480 ₹ 130,729 ₹ 143,033 ₹ 156,491 ₹ 171,209 187,306 ₹ 202,061 216,118 229,164 240,888 250,995 264,499 + Cash 51,966 - Reinvestment ₹ 37,842 ₹ 41,626 ₹ 45,789 50,368 55,404 55,313 54,191 48,599 44,090 94,867 + Non-operating assets 61,081 FCFF ₹ 92,887 ₹ 101,407 ₹ 110.702 120,841 131,902 146,747 161,927 177,198 192,289 206,905 169,632 ₹ 2,448,930 Value of equity Cost of capital 11.02% 11.02% 11.02% 11.02% 11.02% 10.80% 10.57% 10.34% 10.11% 9.88% Value of options 945 Cumulated discount factor 0.9007 0.8113 0.7307 0.6581 0.5928 0.5350 0.4839 0.4386 0.3983 0.3625 Value of equity in common stock 2,447,985 ₹ 82,268 ₹ 80,890 ₹ PV(FCFF) ₹ 83,664 79,531 ₹ 78,190 | ₹ 78,514 ₹ 78,356 ₹ 77,712 76.588 74,999 Number of shares 2,283 Estimated value /share 1.072.22 The Risk in the Cash flows Discount at Rs Cost of Capital (WACC) = 11.02% (.100) = 11.02% On March 27, 2018, Infosvs Cost of Equity was trading at Rs 1150/ Weights 11.02% Cost of Debt share E = 100% D = 0% NO DEBT Riskfree Rate: ERP = 5.50%Rupee Risk free Rate = X Beta = 1.03 ERP Region Revenues Weight Weighted ERP 7.33% - 1.95% = 5.38% 5.08% 42,408 62.01% 3.1499% North America 15,302 6.01% 22.37% 1.3437% Firm's D/E Rest of the World 8,504 6.21% 12.43% 0.7721% Ratio: 0% 2.180 7.27% 3.19% India 0.2317% EV/Sales | Estimated Value Value Weight Unlevered Beta **Business** Revenues Total 68,394 100.00% 5,4974% Computer Software ₹ 2,101 6.3640 ₹ 13,371 13.51% 1.1114 Computer Services 66,383 1.2899 ₹ 85,630 86,49% 1.0136 ₹ 68,484 ₹ 99,001 1.0268 Company

Aswath L



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).



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



D+CF ≠ DCF



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.



19

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.



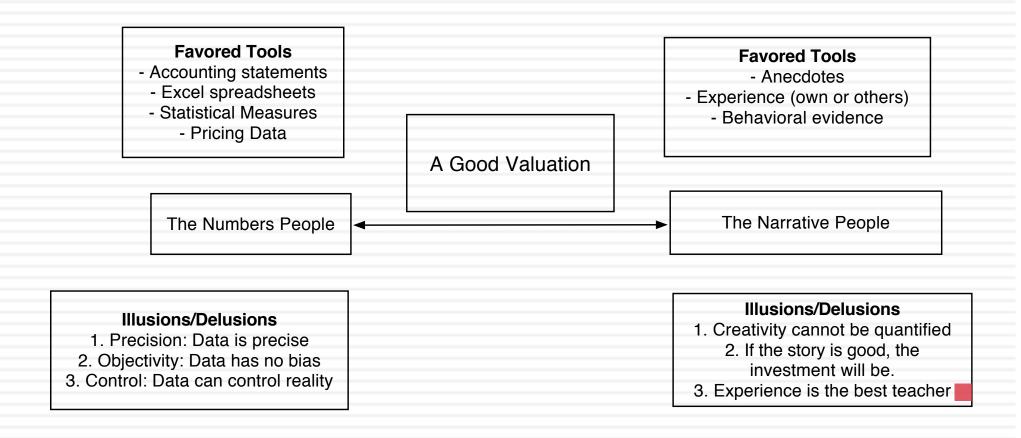
In a Robo DCF, the analyst builds a valuation almost entirely from the most recent financial statements and automated forecasts.



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



III. Don't mistake modeling for valuation



From story to numbers and beyond...

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 <u>simple</u> & <u>focused</u>.

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

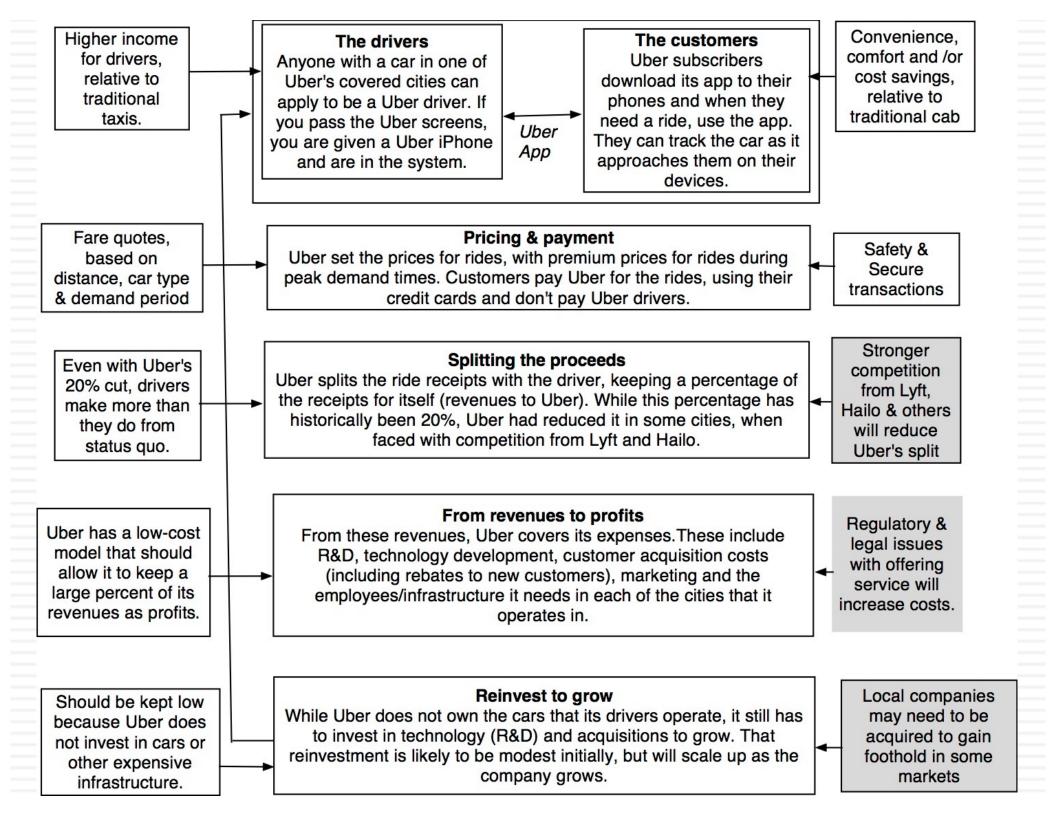
Create an intrinsic valuation model that connects the inputs to an end-value the business.

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: Survey the landscape

- 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 and its history.
 - The market or markets that you see it growing in.
 - The competition it faces and will face.
 - The macro environment in which it operates.



Step 2: Create a narrative for the future

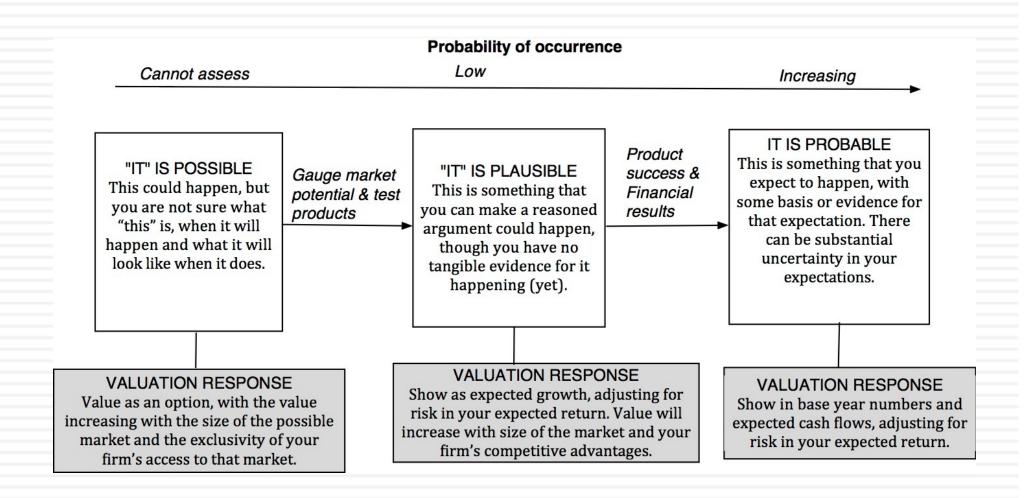
- Every valuation starts with a narrative, a story that you see unfolding for your company in the future.
- In developing this narrative, you will be making assessments of your company (its products, its management), the market or markets that you see it growing in, the competition it faces and will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

The Uber Narrative

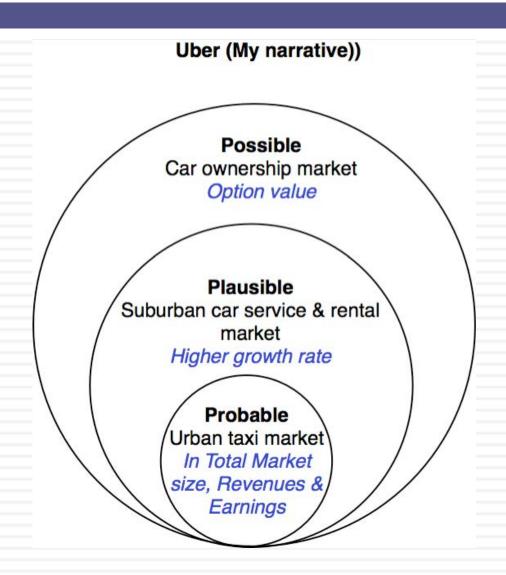
In June 2014, my initial narrative for Uber was that it would be

- 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.
- 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.

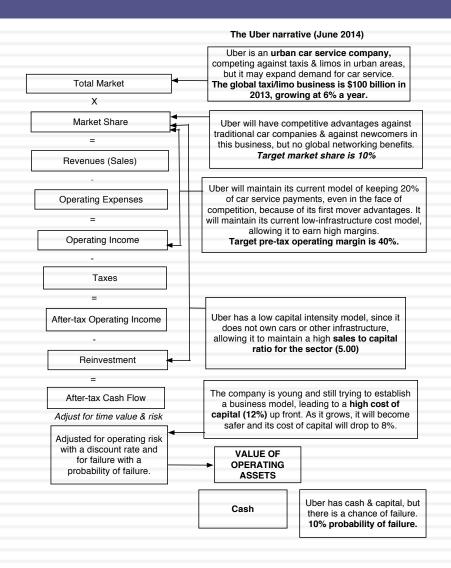
Step 3: Check the narrative against history, economic first principles & common sense



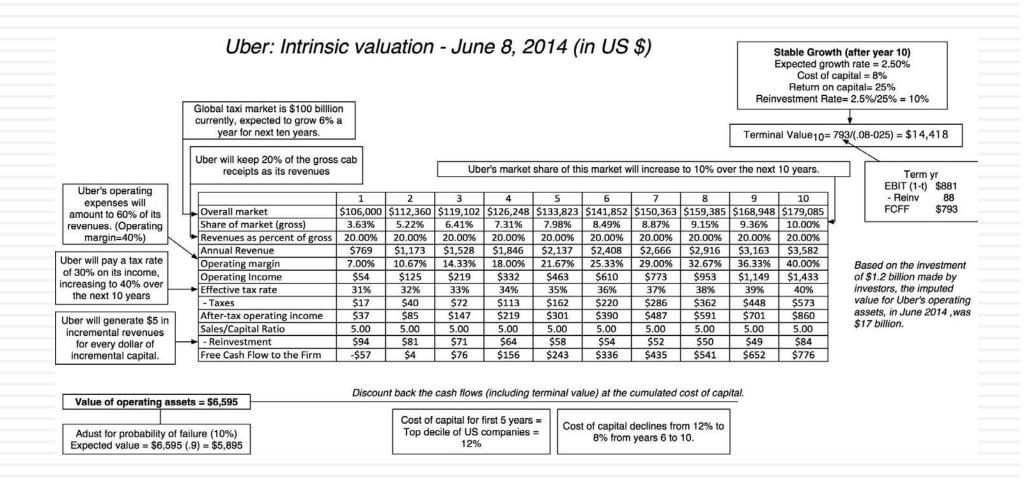
Uber: Possible, Plausible and Probable



Step 4: Connect your narrative to key drivers of value



Step 4: Value the company (Uber)



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 Uber Feedback Loop: Bill Gurley

- 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.

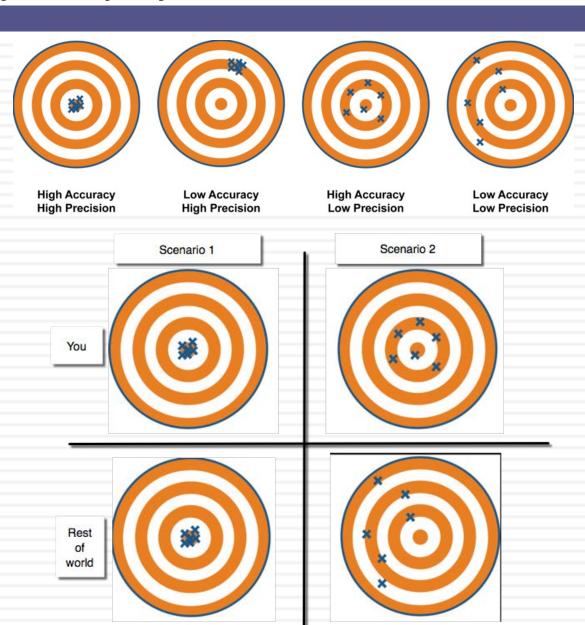
Valuing Bill Gurley's Uber narrative

	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 networking advantage 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)

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

33

Better accurate than precise



It's all relative

Aswath Damodaran

Valuing a start up or a young company 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?

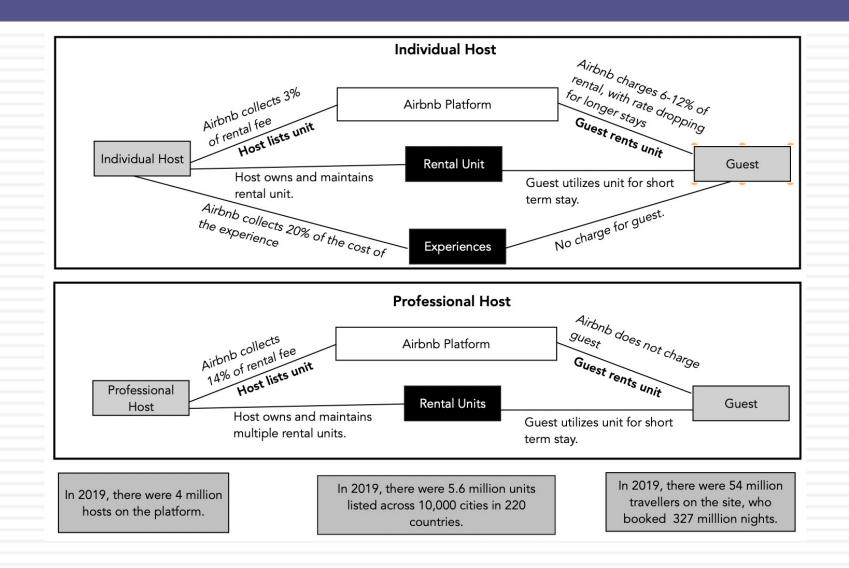
Limited historical data on earnings, and no market prices for securities makes it difficult to assess risk. When will the firm become a mature fiirm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

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.

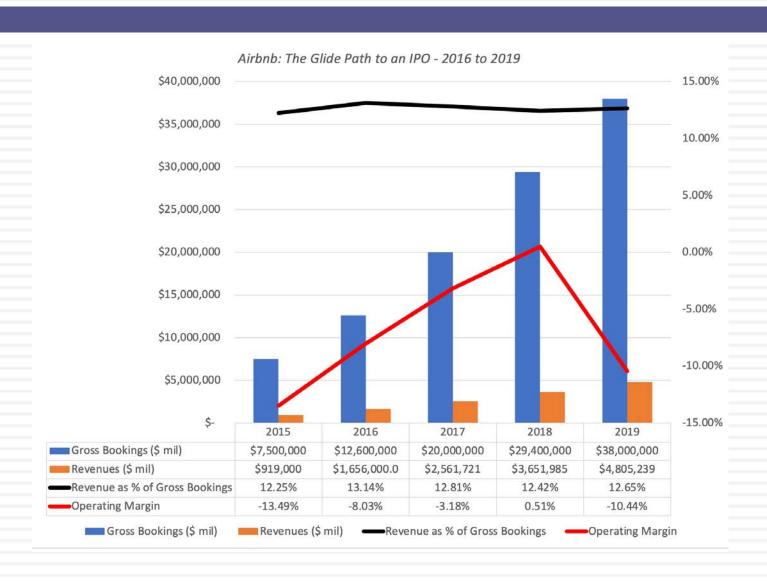
And the dark side will beckon...

- 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.

Airbnb's IPO: The Business Model



The Financial Payoffs...



The COVID Effect.. In nights booked



And in financials...



Prospectus Revelations: On Costs

Airbnb: Cost and Profit Patterns

	2017	2018	2019	LTM
Gross Bookings	\$20,000,000	\$29,400,000	\$38,000,000	\$26,491,803
Revenues	\$ 2,561,721	\$ 3,651,985	\$ 4,805,239	\$ 3,625,731
COGS	\$ 1,043,429	\$ 1,473,234	\$ 2,011,387	\$ 1,722,568
Gross Profit	\$ 1,518,292	\$ 2,178,751	\$ 2,793,852	\$ 1,903,163
Product Development	\$ 400,749	\$ 579,193	\$ 976,695	\$ 973,576
Sales & Marketing	\$ 871,749	\$ 1,101,327	\$ 1,621,519	\$ 982,523
G&A	\$ 327,156	\$ 479,487	\$ 697,181	\$ 628,001
Restructuring Charges				\$ 136,969
Operating Profit	\$ (81,362)	\$ 18,744	\$ (501,543)	\$ (817,906)
Revenues/ Gross Bookings	12.81%	12.42%	12.65%	13.69%
Gross Margin	59.27%	59.66%	58.14%	52.49%
Operating Margin	-3.18%	0.51%	-10.44%	-22.56%
COGS/Revenues	40.73%	40.34%	41.86%	47.51%
Product Development/Revenues	15.64%	15.86%	20.33%	26.85%
Sales & Marketing/Revenues	34.03%	30.16%	33.74%	27.10%
G&A/ Revenues	12.77%	13.13%	14.51%	17.32%

Revenues as a % of gross billings has been relatively stable between 2017-19. In 2020, it did increase, perhaps because of the new host model.

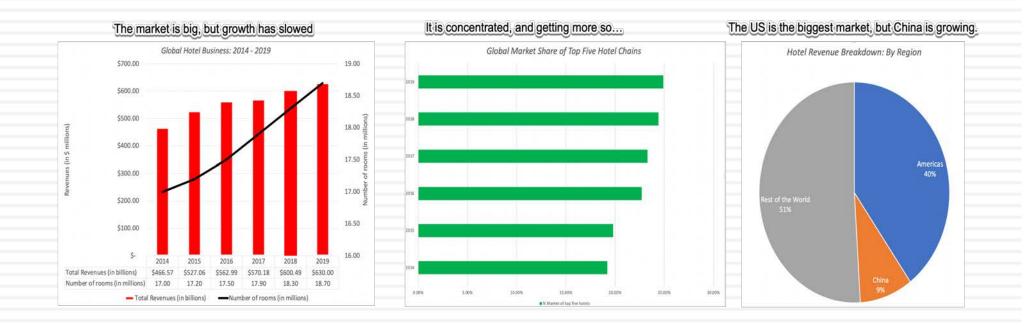
Barring 2020, the direct operating expenses have been fairly stable at 40-42% of revenues. There is little evidence that scaling up is lowering this number.

Non-direct operating expenses (G&A, Selling and Product development) are all increasing as revenues grow, suggesting that growth demands are drowning out economies of scale, at least for the moment.

Prospectus Revelations: On Proceeds & Control

- Use of Proceeds: While the details are still being worked out, it is rumored that Airbnb is looking to raise about \$3 billion in proceeds on the offering date, and that while some of the proceeds will be used to retire existing debt, most of it will be held by the company to cover future investment needs.
- Share classes: In keeping with the practices of tech companies that have gone public in recent years, Airbnb has shares with different voting rights: class A shares with one voting right per share, class B shares with 20 voting rights per share, and class C & class H shares with no voting rights per share. Not surprisingly, the class B shares will be held by founders and other insiders, allowing them control of the company, even if they own well below 50% of all shares outstanding.

The Hospitality Business



Airbnb's TAM in 2020

- In its prospectus, Airbnb has expanded its estimate of market potential to \$3.4 trillion, as evidenced in this excerpt from the prospectus:
 - We have a substantial market opportunity in the growing travel market and experience economy. We estimate our serviceable addressable market ("SAM") today to be \$1.5 trillion, including \$1.2 trillion for short-term stays and \$239 billion for experiences. We estimate our total addressable market ("TAM") to be \$3.4 trillion, including \$1.8 trillion for short-term stays, \$210 billion for long-term stays, and \$1.4 trillion for experiences.
- In my view, Airbnb's targetable market falls somewhere in the middle, clearly higher than just the hotel business of \$600 billion, but below Airbnb's upper end estimate of \$2 trillion for this business.
- Given how much trouble Airbnb has had in the experiences business, I think Airbnb's estimate of \$1.4 trillion for that business is more fictional than even aspirational.

The Players: Booking Companies

		Exped	la	Booking.com				
	2019	LTM	% Change (Annualized)	2019	LTM	% Change (Annualized)		
Gross Bookings	\$107,870.00	\$52,470.00	-61.75%	\$96,400.00	\$48,752.00	-59.71%		
Revenues	\$ 12,067.00	\$ 7,026.00	-51.38%	\$15,066.00	\$ 8,897.00	-50.46%		
Operating Income	\$ 961.00	5 (892.00)	NA.	\$ 5,345.00	\$ 1,831.00	-76.03%		
Revenues/Gross Bookings	11.19%	13.39%		15.63%	18.25%			
Operating Margin	7.96%	-12.70%		35.48%	20.58%			

Business Mix

Airbnb derives almost of its revenues from acting as a booking intermediary. Expedia & Booking.com derive some of their revenues from bookings (agency services), but also have a merchant business (where they buy hotel rooms at discounted rates & sell them at higher prices) and an advertising revenue stream.

Expedia: Merchant (40%), Agency (47%), Ads (13%) Booking.com: Merchant (25%), Agency (68%), Ads (8%) Status Quo vs Disruption
Expedia & Booking.com derive
most of their revenues from
traditional hotel companies,
whereas Airbnb plays a more
disruptive role, allowing home
owners to list their housing units for
rent.

The COVID effect
With the COVID shutdown,
both Expedia & Booking.com
saw a sharp drop in revenues
in 2020, with the second
quarter of 2020 being the
worst hit.

The Airbnb Story

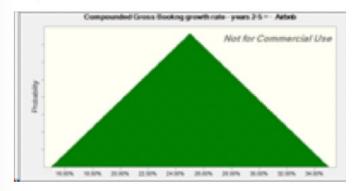
- Continued Growth: Airbnb will continue to grow, while finding a pathway to profitability. Airbnb's growth in gross bookings will come not only from disrupting and taking market share from the hotel business, bad news for conventional hotel companies and travel providers who serves them, but also from continued expansion of non-conventional hospitality providers (home and apartment owners).
- Revenue share stable + Improving margins: As it grows, Airbnb's share of those gross bookings is likely to plateau at close to current levels, but its operating margins will continue to improve towards travel booking industry levels, as product development, marketing and G&A costs decrease, not in dollar terms, but as a percent of revenues.
- Experiences business is tangential: While Airbnb is enthusiastic about the experiences business, it is likely to remain a tangential business, contributing only marginally to revenues and profitability.
- Low Risk, for a young company: Since Airbnb has a light debt load and is closer to profitability than most of the sharing-economy companies that have gone public in recent years

The Story

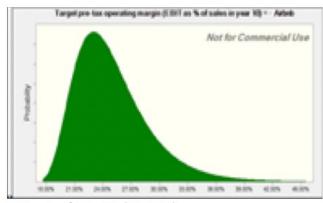
Airbnb has brought the sharing economy to housing, connecting home owners (hosts) who own units or houses that they want to rent with renters (guests) online, collecting a percentage of the transaction revenues from both sides of the transaction. Its low capital intensity model and extended reach has allowed it to expand not only to expand to almost every part of the world (220 countries) but also provide an unmatched range of offerings. The growth in gross bookings has started to slow down, as the company gets bigger, and the COVID shut downs made 2020 a regressive year. That said, as its competitors in the hotel business have been damaged far more by the crisis, Airbnb will be able to recover quickly from the crisis, and continue on its growth path. Economies of scale will allow for only mild improvements in revenues as a % of gross billings, but the brokerage-based business will generate high margins, in steady state, and require relatively little reinvestment.

			The Ace			
	Pasa year	In 2021	Years 2-5	Years 6-10	After year 10	Link to story
Gross Bookings &	Base year	111 2021	reuis 2-3	7EU/3 0-10	Ajter yeur 10	Growth continues, as hotels scale back
Growth Rate	\$ 26,491,803.00	40.00%	25.00% —		2.00%	growth plans after COVID shock.
Revenues as % of Gross Bookings	13.69%	12.65%			14.00%	Mild economies of scale allow slight increase in percent over time
Operating margin (b)	-13.69%	-10.0%			25.00%	Higher margins than the hotel business, but lower than ad driven businesses.
Tax rate	25.00%	0.00% —			25.00%	Global/US marginal tax rate, after NOLs are used up.
Reinvestment (c)	23.00%	Sales to Capital =		2.00	20.00%	Low capital intensity business
Return on capital	-25.61%	Marginal ROIC =	6.500	65.81%	10.00%	Networking benefits allow for high value growth
Cost of capital (d)			6.50% ——	7.12%	7.12%	Cost of capital moves up over time.
	T =	1_		sh Flows	la r	T
	Gross Bookings	Revenues	Operating Margin		Reinvestment	FCFF
1	\$ 37,088,524.20	\$ 4,691,698	-10.00%	\$ (469,170)		\$ (1,002,153
2	\$ 46,360,655.25		-3.00%	\$ (179,694)	Plane and the second se	\$ (828,743)
3 4	\$ 57,950,819.06		0.50%	\$ 37,827 \$ 382,186	\$ 787,841 \$ 994,581	\$ (750,014) \$ (612,395)
5	\$ 72,438,523.83 \$ 90,548,154.79	\$ 9,554,641 \$ 12.065.542	4.00% 7.50%	\$ 382,186 \$ 777,799	,	
6	\$ 109,019,978.36	\$ 12,065,542 \$ 14,674,089	9.52%	\$ 1,047,952	\$ 1,255,450 \$ 1,304,274	\$ (477,651 \$ (256,322
7	\$ 126,245,134.94		13.39%	\$ 1,047,932	\$ 1,304,274	\$ 479,323
8	\$ 140,384,590.06	\$ 19,274,804	17.26%	\$ 2,495,269	\$ 1,055,889	\$ 1,439,380
9	\$ 149,649,973.00		21.13%	\$ 3,288,271	\$ 737,082	\$ 2,551,189
10	\$ 152,642,972.46		25.00%	\$ 4,006,878	\$ 310,524	\$ 3,696,354
Terminal year	\$ 155,695,831.91	\$ 21,797,416	25.00%	\$ 4,087,016	\$ 817,403	\$ 3,269,612
ĺ	• • • •			Value		
Terminal value			\$ 63,859,619			
PV(Terminal value)			\$ 33,434,589			
PV (CF over next 10 year	ars)		\$ 1,244,447			
Value of operating asse	ets =		\$ 34,679,036			
Adjustment for distress			\$ 1,733,952		Probability of failure =	10.00%
- Debt & Minority Inter	rests		\$ 2,192,381			
+ IPO Proceeds			\$ 3,000,000	Based up	on early news stories. May ch	ange as final offering details are set.
+ Cash & Other Non-or	perating assets		\$ 4,495,211			
Value of equity			\$ 38,247,914			
- Value of equity option	ns		\$ 1,736,757			
Number of shares			671,064.00	Fille	er for the moment. Will updat	e when final prospectus is filed
Value per share			\$ 54.41		Stock was trading at =	Not yet listed

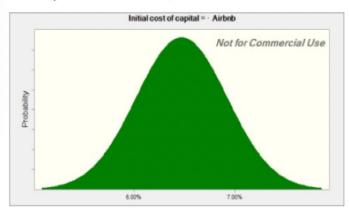
Growth rate in Gross Bookings: 2022-2025 Expected = 25%, Max = 35%, Min = 15%



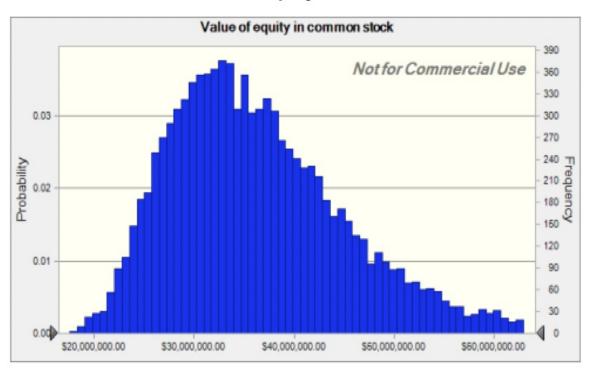
Target Operating Margin in year 10 Expected = 25%, Std Dev = 4%



Cost of Capital (initial) Expected = 6.50%, Std Dev = 0.45%



Airbnb IPO: Simulation of Equity Value in November 2020

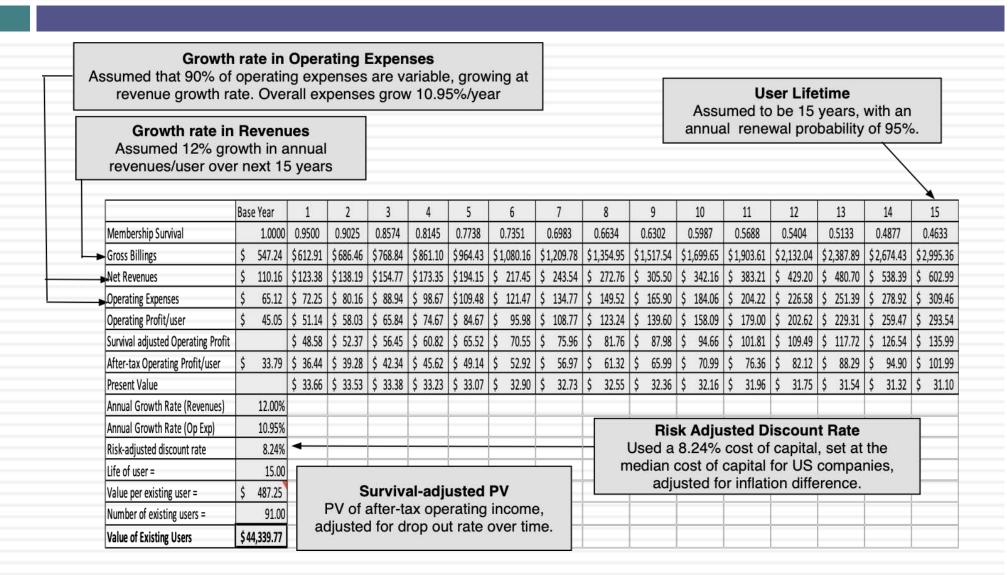


Percentile	Forecast values
0%	\$17,591,165
10%	\$26,150,864
20%	\$28,790,133
30%	\$30,952,251
40%	\$32,981,840
50%	\$35,114,898
60%	\$37,463,932
70%	\$40,181,915
80%	\$43,595,272
90%	\$49,120,328
100%	\$100,382,037

V. Valuation is a craft, and you should never stop learning

- In a science, if you get the inputs right, you should get the output right. The laws of physics and mathematics are universal and there are no exceptions. Valuation is not a science.
- In an art, there are elements that can be taught but there is also a magic that you either have or you do not. The essence of an art is that you are either a great artist or you are not. Valuation is not an art.
- A craft is a skill that you learn <u>by doing</u>. The more you do it, the better you get at it. Valuation is a craft.

Uber's Existing User Value



Uber's New User Value

Value Added by New Users at Uber

Base year Value/ New User

Value of User = \$487.25

Cost of adding New User = \$113.71

Value added by new user = \$373.54

User Growth rates

Years 1-5: 12% Years 6-10: 6%

Cost of capital

Used 9.97%, the 75th percentile of US companies

		Base Year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Total Users	91.00	101.92	114.15	127.85	143.19	160.37	170.00	180.20	191.01	202.47	214.62
•	New Users	800	15.47	17.33	19.41	21.73	24.34	17.64	18.70	19.82	21.01	22.27
	Value per new user	\$373.54	\$379.14	\$384.83	\$390.60	\$396.46	\$402.40	\$408.44	\$414.57	\$420.78	\$427.10	\$433.50
	Value added by new users		\$5,865.27	\$6,667.64	\$7,579.77	\$8,616.68	\$9,795.45	\$7,205.30	\$7,752.18	\$8,340.57	\$8,973.62	\$9,654.72
	Terminal Value (new users)											\$31,603.73
>	Present Value		\$ 5,333.52	\$ 5,513.45	\$ 5,699.46	\$ 5,891.74	\$ 6,090.50	\$ 4,073.87	\$ 3,985.70	\$ 3,899.44	\$ 3,815.05	\$ 15,950.37
	Value Added by New Users	\$ 60.253.08									\neg	

Beyond year 10 User growth continues at 2.5% a year

Existing Users	i		New Users			Corporate Expenses						
Inputs	9		Inputs	20		Inputs						
Net Revenue/User =	\$ 110.16		Cost of acquiring user =	\$ 113.71		Corporate Expenses	\$ 2,812.72					
Operating Expense/User=	\$ 65.12		Value of new user =	\$ 373.54		CAGR - Next 10 years	7.00%					
Operating Profit/User =	\$ 45.05		Growth rate in net users (1-5)	12.00%		Discount Rate =	8.24%					
CAGR in Revenue/User	12.00%		Growth rate in net users (6-10)	6.00%		7 (PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR PAIR						
Annual Renewal Rate =	95.00%		Discount Rate	9.97%								
User Life =	15			31								
Discount Rate =	8.24%											
Output	174. 1.07074		Output			Output						
Value/User =	\$ 487.25		# Users in year 10 =	214.62								
# Existing Users =	91.00		# Net New Users (10 years)	123.62								
Value of Existing Users =	\$44,339.77	+	Value of New Users =	\$60,253.08	-	PV of Corporate Expenses	\$ (63,216.48)	=	Value of Operating /	\$41,376.37		
	99								+ Cash	\$15,407.00		
Existing users will stick with	h Uber and		Uber will continue to add new use	ers, but at a		Uber's corporate expenses will	continue to		+ Cross Holdings	\$ 8,700.00		
increase how much they sp	end on its		decreasing pace, with a cost of a	cquiring a		grow, notwithstanding econon	nies of scale, as		- Debt	\$ 6,869.00		
services, the longer they st	ey stay.		, the longer they stay.		new user staying stable (with the	new user staying stable (with the current cost		the company increases spending moderately			Value of equity	\$58,614.37
Operating expneses are mo	stly fixed,		incrteasing at the inflation rate). The new user			on autonomous cars.			# Shares	1158.30		
but there will be mild econ scale.	mies of		spending profile will mirror existi	ng users.					Value/Share	\$ 50.60		

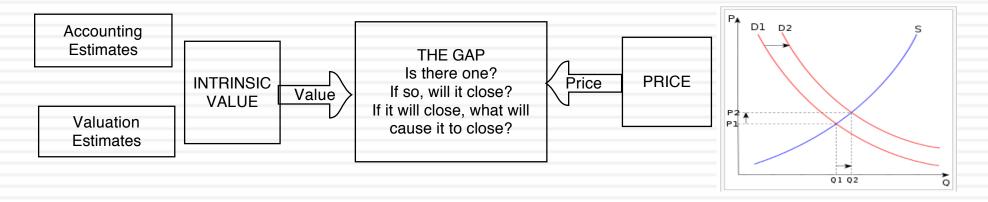
VI. Don't mistake price for value!

Drivers of intrinsic value

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

Drivers of price

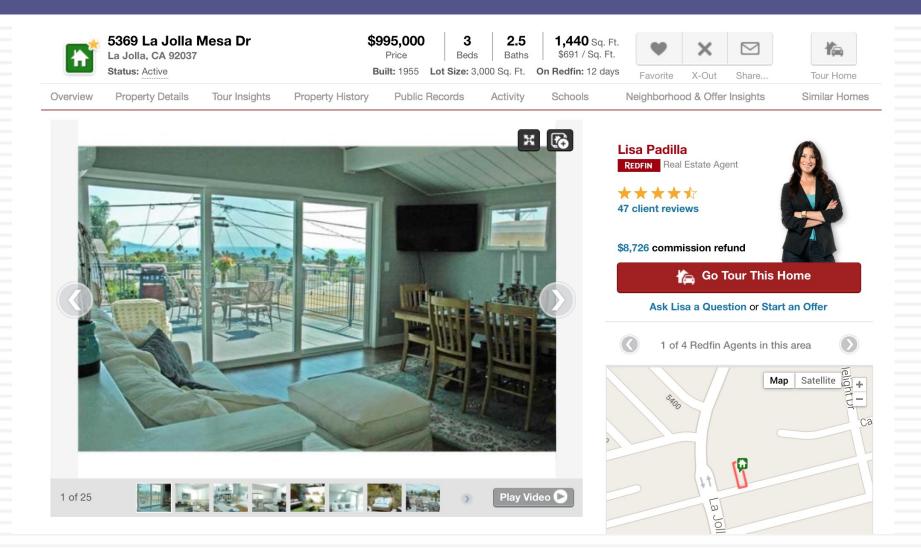
- Market moods & momentum
- Surface stories about fundamentals



Aswath Damodaran

Are you pricing or valuing?

53



Value versus Price

	To value	To price
Assets	Can be valued based upon expected cashflows, with higher cashflows & lower risk = higher value.	Can be priced against similar assets, after controlling for cash flows and risk.
Commodity	Can be valued, based upon utilitarian demand and supply, but with long lags in both.	Can be priced against its own history (normalized price over time)
Currency	Cannot be valued	Can be priced against other currencies, with greater acceptance & more stable purchasing power = higher price.
Collectible	Cannot be valued	Can be priced based upon scarcity and desirability.

The determinants of price

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".

The Four Steps to Deconstructing Multiples

Define the multiple

■ 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

Describe the multiple

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.

Analyze the multiple

■ It is critical that we understand the fundamentals that drive each multiple, and the nature of the relationship between the multiple and each variable.

Apply the multiple

Defining the comparable universe and controlling for differences is far more difficult in practice than it is in theory.

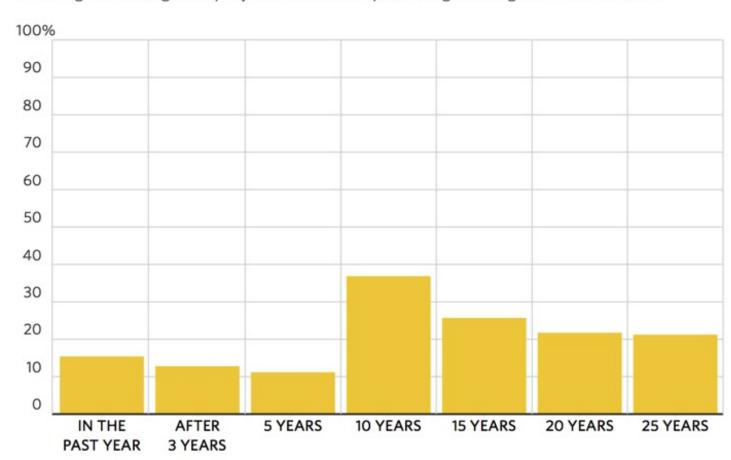
VII. Investing is an act of faith...

- 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.
- 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...

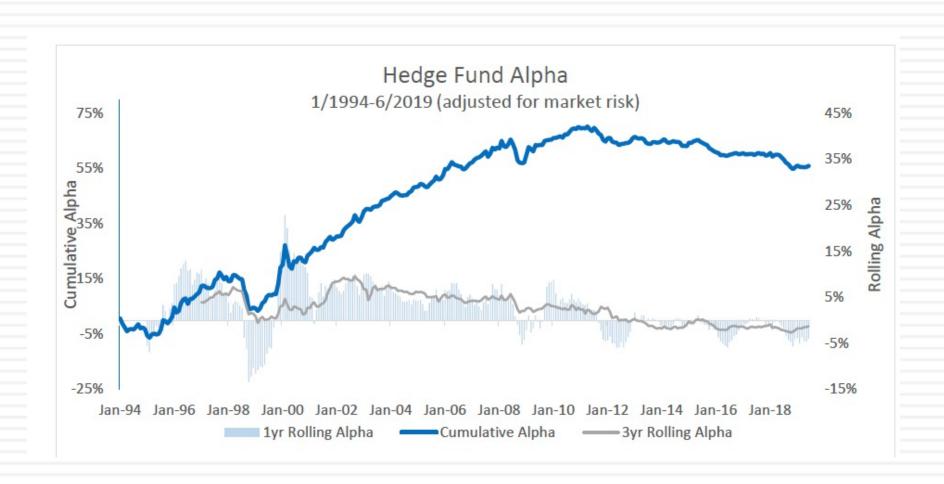
	% of US Mutual Funds that beat their respective indices										
	Value	Growth	Core	All							
Large	82.17%	86.54%	88.26%	84.15%							
Mid-cap	70.27%	81.48%	76.51%	76.69%							
Small	92.31%	91.89%	91.44%	90.13%							
All Equity				88.43%							
Real Estate				82.64%							

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%.

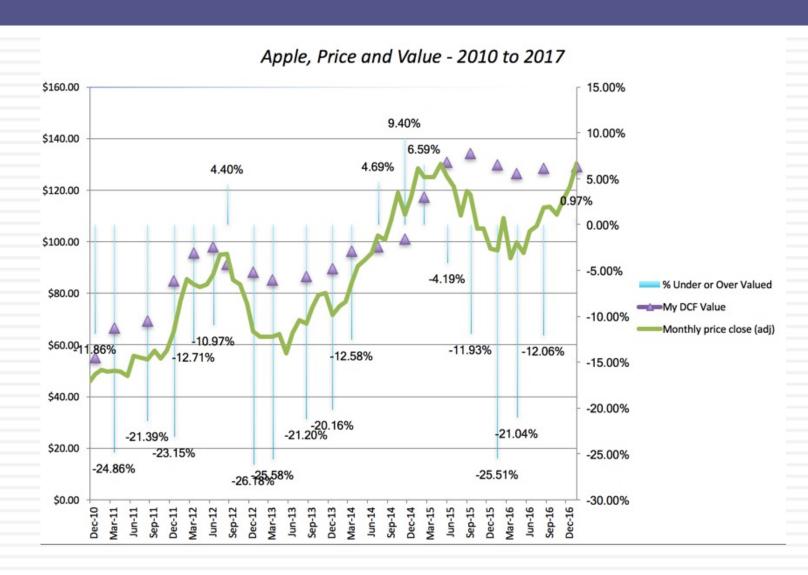
The secret is now out in the open...



The "smart" money does not stay smart for very long..



Investment Heaven is a promise, not a guarantee..



Follow the yellow brick road..

