VALUATION: FOUR LESSONS TO TAKE AWAY!

September 2014 Aswath Damodaran

1. Don't mistake accounting for finance



The financial balance sheet



2. Don't mistake modeling for valuation

What are the	What is the value added by growth assets? Equity: Growth in equity earnings/ cashflows Firm: Growth in operating earnings/ cashflows	
cashflows from existing assets? - Equity: Cashflows after debt payments - Firm: Cashflows before debt payments	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?



Dueling Perspectives

- Numbers people believe that valuation should be about numbers and that narratives/stories are distractions that bring in irrationalities into investing.
- Narratives people believe that valuation and investing is really about great stories and that it is the height of hubris to try to estimate numbers, when you face uncertainty.

Left Brain and Right Brain



DCF as a tool for intrinsic valuation

8

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



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.

Aswath Damodaran

Intrinsic value is simple: We choose to make it complex

9

For cash flow generating assets, the intrinsic value will be a function of the magnitude of the expected cash flows on the asset over its lifetime and the uncertainty about receiving those cash flows.

- The IT Proposition: If "it" does not affect the cash flows or alter risk (thus changing discount rates), "it" cannot affect value.
- 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.

If your job is assessing value, here are your challenges...







Correlations across assumptions make bad outcomes more likely to occur together, low revenue growth -> low margin -> high cost of capital



Percentiles:	Forecast values
0%	\$346.90
10%	\$448.34
20%	\$483.99
30%	\$517.91
40%	\$552.20
50%	\$588.45
60%	\$625.46
70%	\$665.16
80%	\$711.47
90%	\$771.57
100%	\$1,182.70
Statistics:	Forecast values
Trials	100,000
Base Case	\$588.25
Mean	\$600.74
Median	\$588.45
Minimum	\$346.90
Maximum	\$1,182.70

So, how about a young start-up company?

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.



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

Company

1. Make small revenues into big revenues

2. Make losses into profits

Operating Margin

	20	11	20	12	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	

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

		Annual growth rate in Global Advertising Spending										
		2.00%	2.00% 2.50% 3.00% 3.50% 4.00%									
Onlina	20%	\$124.78	\$131.03	\$137.56	\$144.39	\$151.52						
advartising	25%	\$155.97	\$163.79	\$171.95	\$180.49	\$189.40						
advertising	30%	\$187.16	\$196.54	\$206.34	\$216.58	\$227.28						
snare oj	35%	\$218.36	\$229.30	\$240.74	\$252.68	\$265.16						
market	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)

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

Aswath Damodaran

Sweating the small stuff: Risk and Required Return





3. Don't mistake price for value!



Test 1: Are you pricing or valuing?

19

5369 La Jolla I La Jolla, CA 92037 Status: Active verview Property Details	Mesa Dr Tour Insights Property Histo	\$995,000 Price3 Beds2.5 BathsBuilt: 1955Lot Size: 3,000 Sq. Ft.ryPublic RecordsActivity	1,440 Sq. Ft. \$691 / Sq. Ft. On Redfin: 12 days Schools	Favorite X-Out Share Neighborhood & Offer Insights Similar Homes
				isa Padilla REDFIN Real Estate Agent ★ ★ ★ ★ 7 client reviews
				Go Tour This Home Ask Lisa a Question or Start an Offer 1 of 4 Redfin Agents in this area
				Map Satellite Ca
of 25		Play V	ideo 🛇	11 V 6

Aswath Damodaran

Test 2: Are you pricing or valuing?

Europe Switzerland

Biotechnology Biotechnology Reuters BION.S

Bloomberg BION SW Exchange Ticker SWX 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.

Aswath Damodaran

Key changes		
Target Price	106.50 to 164.50	î

Source: Deutsche Bank

Price/price relative



54.5%

Test 3: Are you pricing or valuing?

	1	2	3	4	5
EBITDA	\$100.00	\$120.00	\$144.00	\$172.80	\$207.36
- Depreciation	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47
EBIT	\$80.00	\$96.00	\$115.20	\$138.24	\$165.89
- Taxes	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47	\$49.77
EBIT (1-t)	\$56.00	\$67.20	\$80.64	\$96.77	\$116.12
+ Depreciation	\$20.00	\$24.00	\$28.80	\$34.56	\$41.47
- Cap Ex	\$50.00	\$60.00	\$72.00	\$86.40	\$103.68
- Chg in WC	\$10.00	\$12.00	\$14.40	\$17.28	\$20.74
FCFF	\$16.00	\$19.20	\$23.04	\$27.65	\$33.18
Terminal Value					\$1,658.88
Cost of capital	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%	8.25%
Present Value	\$14.78	\$16.38	\$18.16	\$20.14	\$1,138.35
Value of operating assets today	\$1,207.81				
+ Cash	\$125.00				
- Debt	\$200.00				
Value of equity	\$1,132.81				

Aswath Damodaran

Pricing Twitter: Start with the "comparables"

		Fatorarico				Number of				
Company	Market Cap	value	Revenues	EBITDA	Net Income	(millions)	EV/User	EV/Revenue	EV/EBITDA	PE
Facebook	\$173,540.00	\$160,090.00	\$7,870.00	\$3,930.00	\$1,490.00	1230.00	\$130.15	20.34	40.74	116.47
Linkedin	\$23,530.00	\$19,980.00	\$1,530.00	\$182.00	\$27.00	277.00	\$72.13	13.06	109.78	871.48
Pandora	\$7,320.00	\$7,150.00	\$655.00	-\$18.00	-\$29.00	73.40	\$97.41	10.92	NA	NA
Groupon	\$6,690.00	\$5,880.00	\$2,440.00	\$125.00	-\$95.00	43.00	\$136.74	2.41	47.04	NA
Netflix	\$25,900.00	\$25,380.00	\$4,370.00	\$277.00	\$112.00	44.00	\$576.82	5.81	91.62	231.25
Yelp	\$6,200.00	\$5,790.00	\$233.00	\$2.40	-\$10.00	120.00	\$48.25	24.85	2412.50	NA
Open Table	\$1,720.00	\$1,500.00	\$190.00	\$63.00	\$33.00	14.00	\$107.14	7.89	23.81	52.12
Zynga	\$4,200.00	\$2,930.00	\$873.00	\$74.00	-\$37.00	27.00	\$108.52	3.36	39.59	NA
Zillow	\$3,070.00	\$2,860.00	\$197.00	-\$13.00	-\$12.45	34.50	\$82.90	14.52	NA	NA
Trulia	\$1,140.00	\$1,120.00	\$144.00	-\$6.00	-\$18.00	54.40	\$20.59	7.78	NA	NA
Tripadvisor	\$13,510.00	\$12,860.00	\$945.00	\$311.00	\$205.00	260.00	\$49.46	13.61	41.35	65.90
						Average	\$130.01	11.32	350.80	267.4
						Median	\$97.41	10.92	44.20	116.4

Read the tea leaves: See what the market cares about

	Market Cap	Enterprise value	Revenues	EBITDA	Net Income	Number of users (millions)
Market Cap	1.					
Enterprise value	0.9998	1.				
Revenues	0.8933	0.8966	1.			
EBITDA	0.9709	0.9701	0.8869	1.		
Net Income	0.8978	0.8971	0.8466	0.9716	1.	
Number of users						
(millions)	0.9812	0.9789	0.8053	0.9354	0.8453	1.

4. Don't mistake luck for skill!



TOP-PERFORMING

LARGE HEDGE FUNDS

	Fund, Manager(s)	Management Firm, Location	Strategy	ASSETS, IN BILLIONS	YTD TOTAL Return*	2012 RETURN
1	Glenview Capital Opportunity, Larry Robbins	Glenview Capital Management, U.S.	Long/short	\$1.8	84.2%	54.3%
2	Matrix Capital Management, David Goel	Matrix Capital Management, U.S.	Long/short	1.6	56.0	20.0
3	Paulson Recovery, John Paulson	Paulson & Co., U.S.	Long equity	2.4	45.0	4.9
4	Lansdowne Developed Markets SIF Stuart Roden, Peter Dovies, Jonathan Regis	Lansdowne Partners, U.K.	Long biased	1.5	44.5	34.5
5	The Children's Investment, Christopher Hohn	The Children's Investment Fund Mgmt., U.K.	Activist	7.3	39.7	30.0
6	Owl Creek Overseas, Jeffrey Altman, Daniel Krueger, Jeffrey Lee	Owl Creek Asset Management, U.S.	Event driven/multistrategy	3.2	38.1	11.1
7	Glenview Capital Partners, Larry Robbins	Glenview Capital Management, U.S.	Long/short	3.2	37.4	24.2
8	Trian Partners, Nelson Peltz, Peter May, Ed Gorden	Trian Fund Management, U.S.	Activist	7.8	34.9	0.9
9	Palomino, David Tepper	Appaloosa Management, U.S.	Opportunistic	7.3	31.5	29.3
10	Pelham Long/Short, Ross Turner	Pelham Capital Management, U.K.	Long/short	3.2	30.3	18.4

Aswath Damodaran

But here is the big picture



5. And the final lesson..



Aswath Damodaran