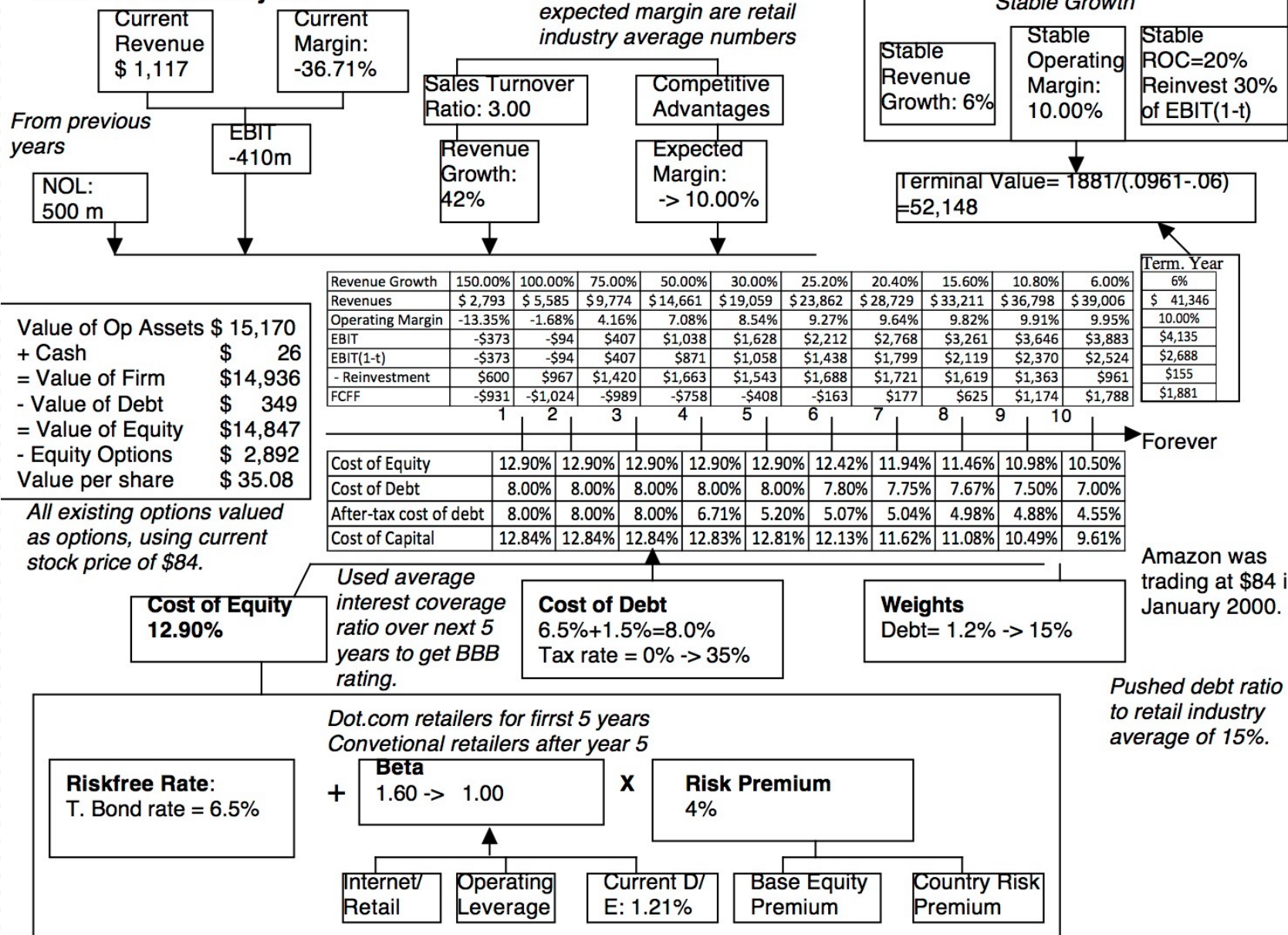


# Upping the ante.. Young companies in young businesses...

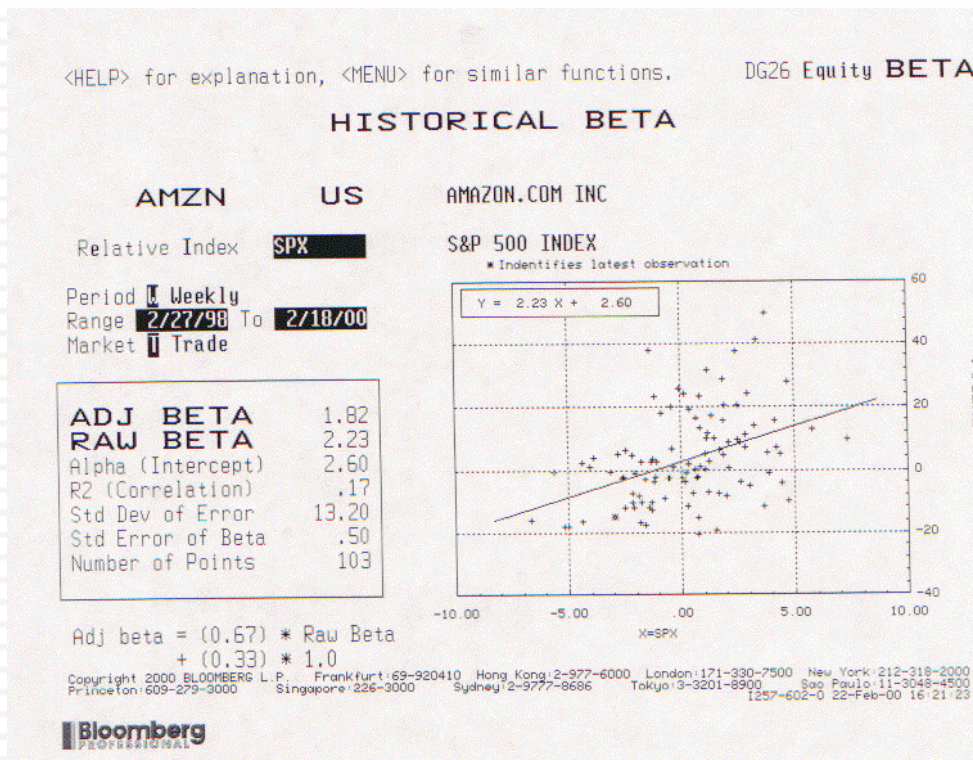
287

- When valuing a business, we generally draw on three sources of information
  - ▣ The firm's current financial statement
    - How much did the firm sell?
    - How much did it earn?
  - ▣ The firm's financial history, usually summarized in its financial statements.
    - How fast have the firm's revenues and earnings grown over time?
    - What can we learn about cost structure and profitability from these trends?
    - Susceptibility to macro-economic factors (recessions and cyclical firms)
  - ▣ The industry and comparable firm data
    - What happens to firms as they mature? (Margins.. Revenue growth... Reinvestment needs... Risk)
- It is when valuing these companies that you find yourself tempted by the dark side, where
  - ▣ "Paradigm shifts" happen...
  - ▣ New metrics are invented ...
  - ▣ The story dominates and the numbers lag...

## Amazon in January 2000



# Lesson 1: Don't sweat the small stuff



- Spotlight the business the company is in & use the beta of that business.
- Don't try to incorporate failure risk into the discount rate.
- Let the cost of capital change over time, as the company changes.
- If you are desperate, use the cross section of costs of capital to get your estimation going (use the 90<sup>th</sup> or 95<sup>th</sup> percentile across all companies).

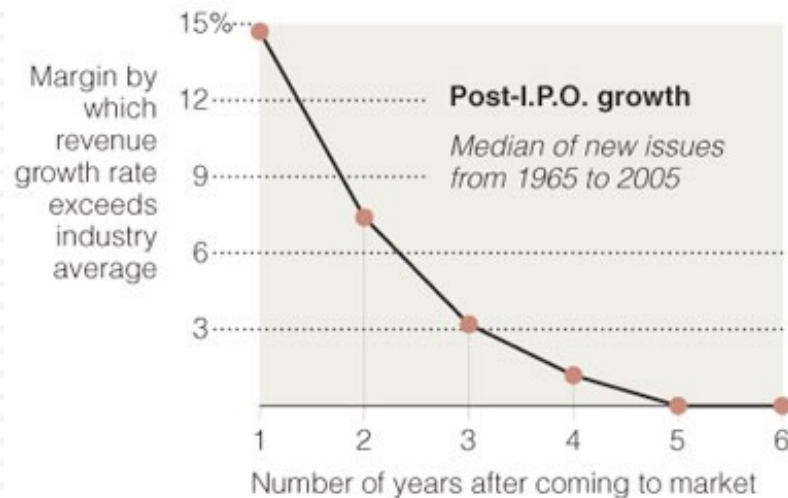
## Lesson 2: Work backwards and keep it simple...

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



# Lesson 3: Scaling up is hard to do & failure is common

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



Source: Andrew Metrick

The New York Times

- Lower revenue growth rates, as revenues scale up.
- Keep track of dollar revenues, as you go through time, measuring against market size.

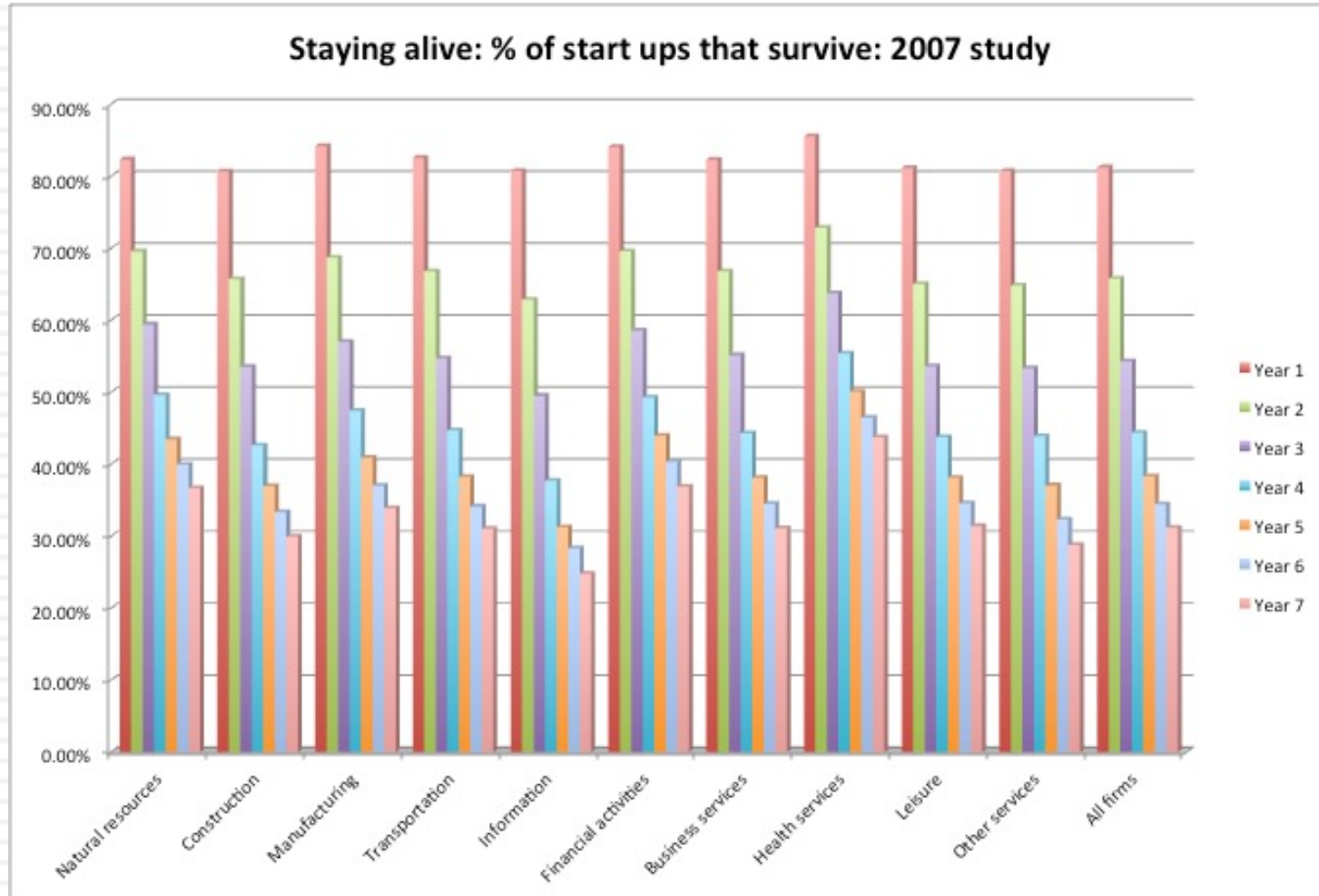
# Lesson 4: Don't forget to pay for growth...

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

# Lesson 5: The dilution is taken care off..

- With young growth companies, it is almost a given that the number of shares outstanding will increase over time for two reasons:
  - ▣ To grow, the company will have to issue new shares either to raise cash to take projects or to offer to target company stockholders in acquisitions
  - ▣ Many young, growth companies also offer options to managers as compensation and these options will get exercised, if the company is successful.
- Both effects are already incorporated into the value per share, even though we use the current number of shares in estimating value per share
  - ▣ The need for new equity issues is captured in negative cash flows in the earlier years. The present value of these negative cash flows will drag down the current value of equity and this is the effect of future dilution. In the Amazon valuation, the value of equity is reduced by \$3.09 billion (the present value of negative FCFF in the first 6 years), about a 16% reduction. That takes care of new issues in the future.
  - ▣ The existing options are valued and netted out against the current value, taking care of the option overhang. The future earnings are after stock based compensation expenses (don't fall for the "its not a cash expense" ploy) to take care of future option grants.

# Lesson 6: If you are worried about failure, incorporate into value



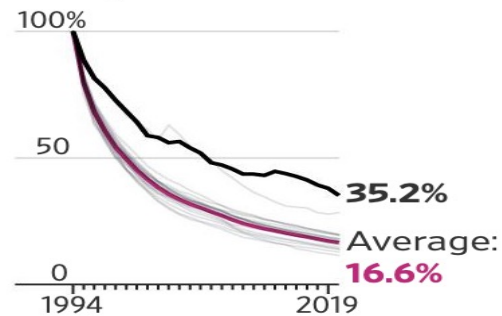


# A 2019 Update: Sector Comparison

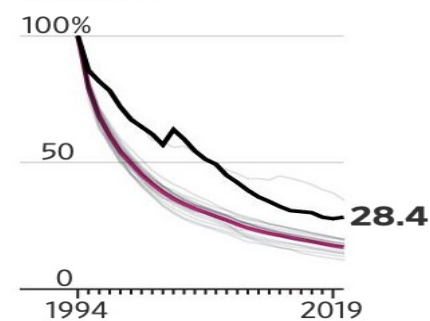
295

## Sectors with highest and lowest annual survival rate, compared to all sectors

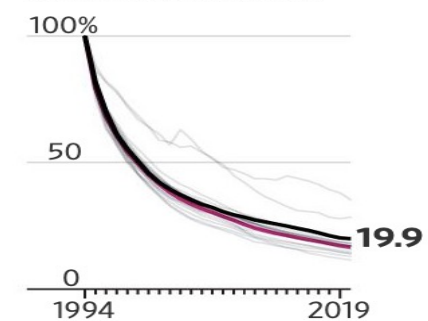
### Management of companies and enterprises



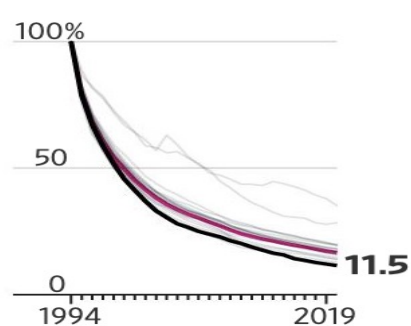
### Utilities



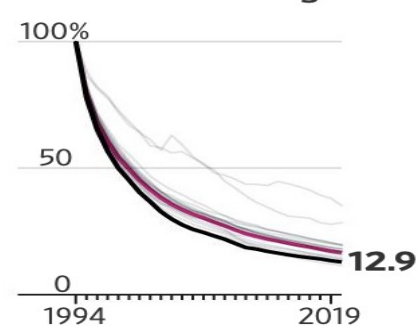
### Health care and social assistance



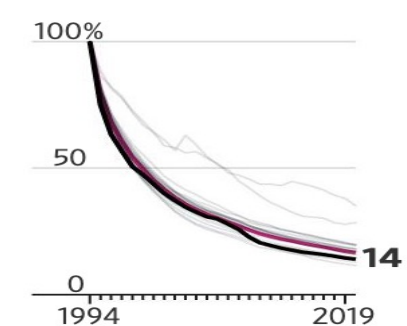
### Information



### Transportation and warehousing



### Wholesale trade



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, Business Employment Dynamics data

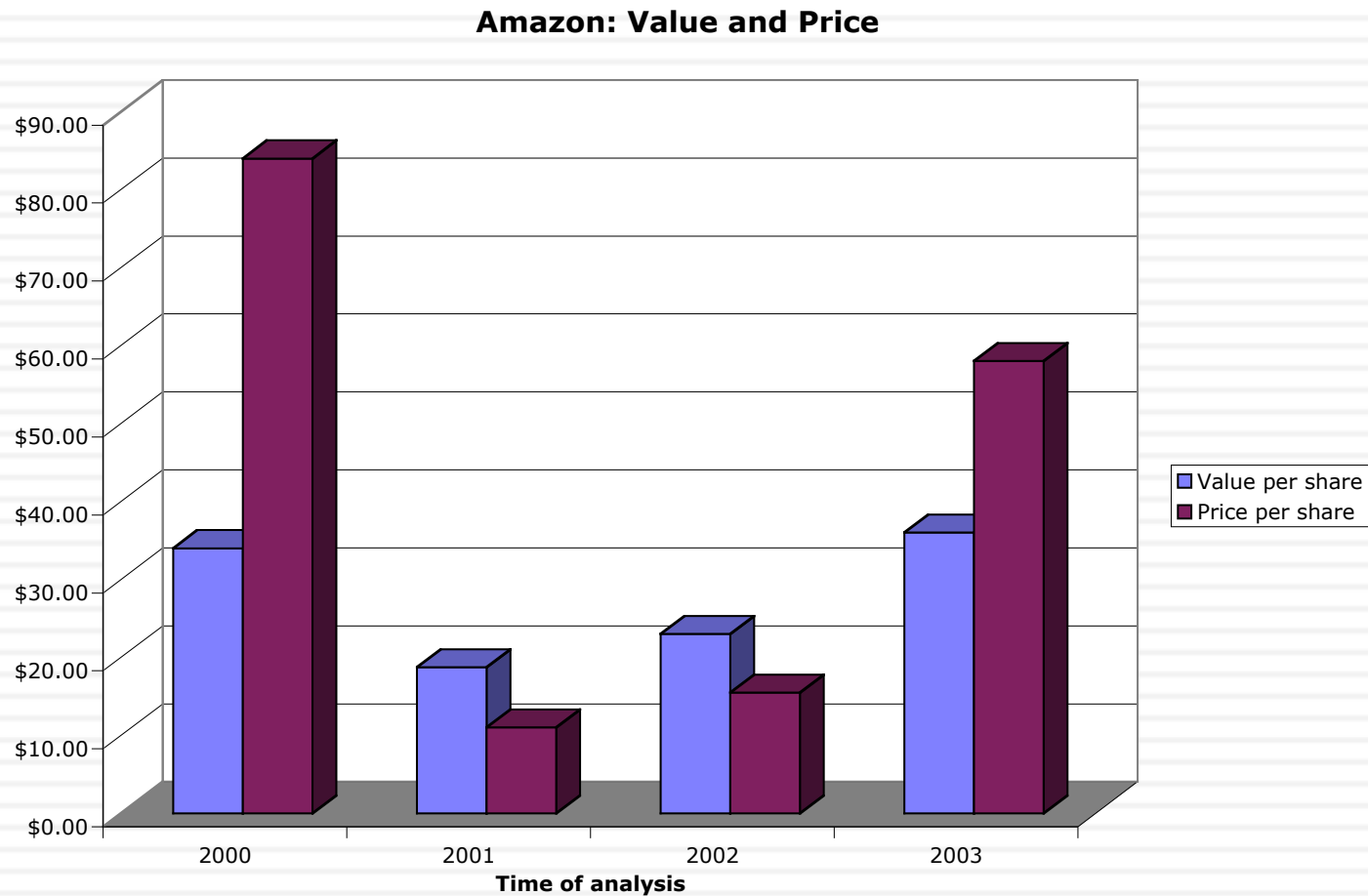
# Lesson 7: There are always scenarios where the market price can be justified...

	6%	8%	10%	12%	14%
30%	\$ (1.94)	\$ 2.95	\$ 7.84	\$ 12.71	\$ 17.57
35%	\$ 1.41	\$ 8.37	\$ 15.33	\$ 22.27	\$ 29.21
40%	\$ 6.10	\$ 15.93	\$ 25.74	\$ 35.54	\$ 45.34
45%	\$ 12.59	\$ 26.34	\$ 40.05	\$ 53.77	\$ 67.48
50%	\$ 21.47	\$ 40.50	\$ 59.52	\$ 78.53	\$ 97.54
55%	\$ 33.47	\$ 59.60	\$ 85.72	\$ 111.84	\$ 137.95
60%	\$ 49.53	\$ 85.10	\$ 120.66	\$ 156.22	\$ 191.77

## Lesson 8: You will be wrong 100% of the time and it really is not your fault...

- 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.
- A test: If your valuations are unbiased, you should find yourself increasing estimated values as often as you are decreasing values. In other words, there should be equal doses of good and bad news affecting valuations (at least over time).

# And the market is often “more wrong” ....



# Assessing my 2000 forecasts, in 2014

299

	<i>Revenues</i>		<i>Operating Income</i>		<i>Operating Margin</i>	
<i>Year</i>	<i>My forecast (2000)</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>My forecast (2000)</i>	<i>Actual</i>	<i>My forecast (2000)</i>	<i>Actual</i>
2000	\$2,793	\$2,762	-\$ 373	-\$ 664.00	-13.35%	-24.04%
2001	\$5,585	\$3,122	-\$ 94	-\$ 231.00	-1.68%	-7.40%
2002	\$9,774	\$3,932	\$ 407	\$ 106.00	4.16%	2.70%
2003	\$14,661	\$5,264	\$ 1,038	\$ 271.00	7.08%	5.15%
2004	\$19,059	\$6,921	\$ 1,628	\$ 440.00	8.54%	6.36%
2005	\$23,862	\$8,490	\$ 2,212	\$ 432.00	9.27%	5.09%
2006	\$28,729	\$10,711	\$ 2,768	\$ 389.00	9.63%	3.63%
2007	\$33,211	\$14,835	\$ 3,261	\$ 655.00	9.82%	4.42%
2008	\$36,798	\$19,166	\$ 3,646	\$ 842.00	9.91%	4.39%
2009	\$39,006	\$24,509	\$ 3,883	\$ 1,129.00	9.95%	4.61%
2010	\$41,346	\$34,204	\$ 4,135	\$ 1,406.00	10.00%	4.11%
2011	\$43,827	\$48,077	\$ 4,383	\$ 862.00	10.00%	1.79%
2012	\$46,457	\$61,093	\$ 4,646	\$ 676.00	10.00%	1.11%
2013	\$49,244	\$74,452	\$ 4,925	\$ 745.00	10.00%	1.00%
2014 (LTM)	\$51,460	\$85,247	\$ 5,146.35	\$ 97.00	10.00%	0.11%



## Amazon

### *The Greatest (and most Feared) Disruptive Platform in History*

Amazon will complete its metaphorsis from being a retail company to one that can take its competitive advantages - access to capital & willingness to lose money for long periods, while disrupting and changing the status quo - to any business that it targets, giving it the potential for high revenue growth on top of already-large revenues. It will be able to use the pricing power it accumulates in each business it is in, to increase profit margins, partly through economies of scale and partly through higher prices. Its low debt ratio and divergent business mix give it a low cost of capital.

### The Assumptions

	Base year	Years 1-5	Years 6-10		After year 10	Link to story
Revenues (a)	\$ 208,125	15.00%	→ 3.00%		3.00%	Expanding into new businesses
Operating margin (b)	7.71%	7.71%	→ 12.50%		12.50%	Economies of scale and pricing power increase margins
Tax rate	20.20%	20.20%	→ 24.00%		24.00%	Converging on a global tax rate of 25%
Reinvestment (c)		Sales to capital ratio 5.95		RIR =	30.00%	Big payoffs from investing in technology and content
Return on capital	15.24%	Marginal ROIC =	89.16%		10.00%	The last man standing...
Cost of capital (d)		7.97%	→ 7.50%		7.50%	Low debt & diverse business mix

### The Cash Flows

	Revenues	Operating Margin	EBIT	EBIT (1-t)	Reinvestment	FCFF
1	\$ 239,344	8.67%	\$ 20,753	\$ 16,560	\$ 5,249	\$ 11,311
2	\$ 275,245	9.63%	\$ 26,501	\$ 21,147	\$ 6,037	\$ 15,110
3	\$ 316,532	10.59%	\$ 33,506	\$ 26,736	\$ 6,942	\$ 19,794
4	\$ 364,012	11.54%	\$ 42,017	\$ 33,527	\$ 7,983	\$ 25,544
5	\$ 418,614	12.50%	\$ 52,327	\$ 41,754	\$ 9,181	\$ 32,573
6	\$ 471,359	12.50%	\$ 58,920	\$ 46,568	\$ 8,869	\$ 37,699
7	\$ 519,438	12.50%	\$ 64,930	\$ 50,825	\$ 8,084	\$ 42,741
8	\$ 559,954	12.50%	\$ 69,994	\$ 54,258	\$ 6,813	\$ 47,446
9	\$ 590,191	12.50%	\$ 73,774	\$ 56,628	\$ 5,084	\$ 51,544
10	\$ 607,897	12.50%	\$ 75,987	\$ 57,750	\$ 2,977	\$ 54,773
Terminal year	\$ 626,134	12.50%	\$ 78,267	\$ 59,483	\$ 17,845	\$ 41,638

### The Value

Terminal value	\$ 925,287		
PV(Terminal value)	\$ 435,438		
PV (CF over next 10 years)	\$ 206,707		
Value of operating assets =	\$ 642,144		
Adjustment for distress	\$ -	Probability of failure =	0.00%
- Debt & Mnority Interests	\$ 45,435		
+ Cash & Other Non-operating assets	\$ 27,050		
Value of equity	\$ 623,759		
- Value of equity options	\$ -		
Number of shares	497.00		
Value per share	\$ 1,255.05	Stock was trading at =	\$1,970.19

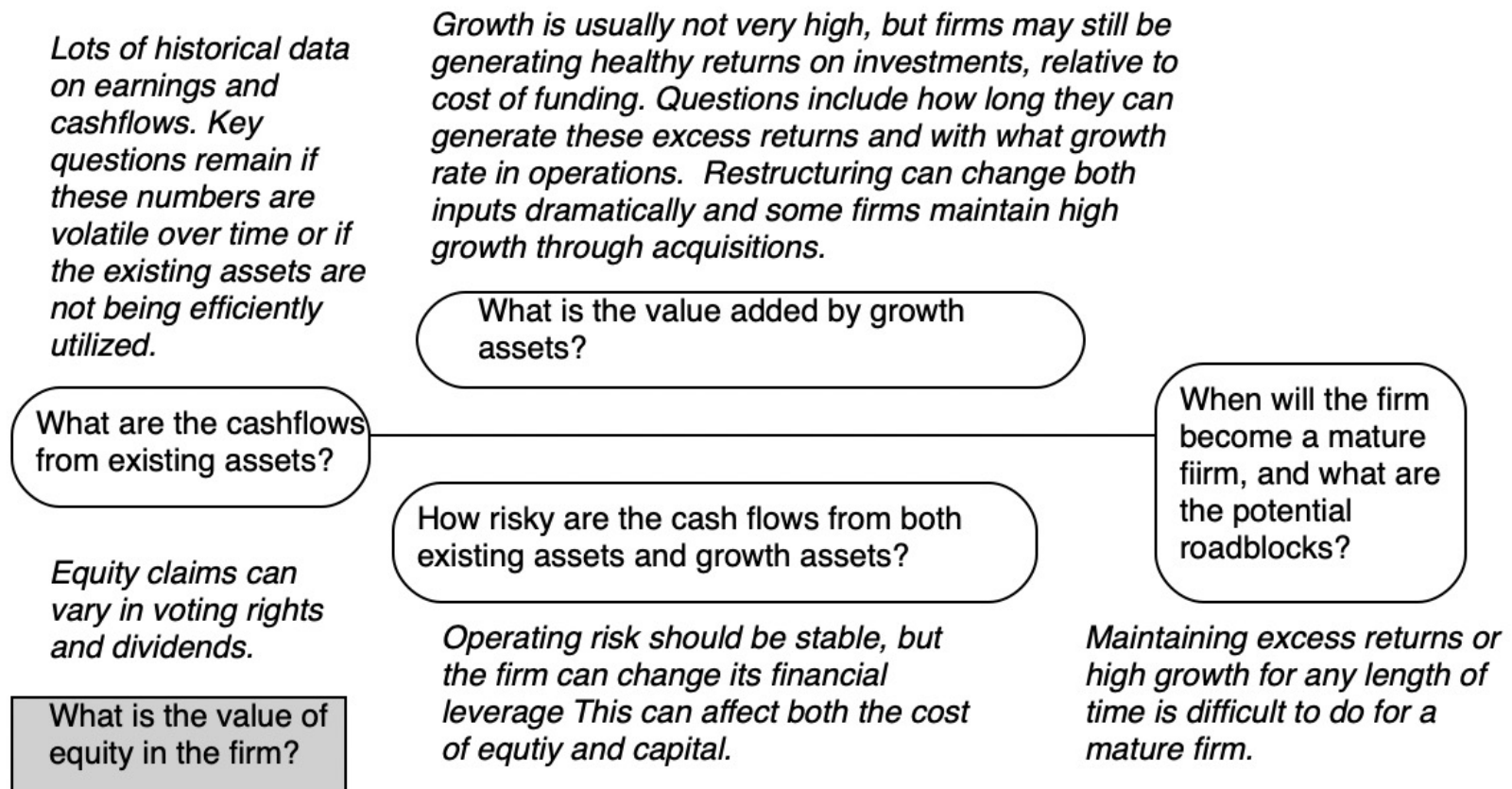
## II. Mature Companies in transition..

301

- Mature companies are generally the easiest group to value. They have long, established histories that can be mined for inputs. They have investment policies that are set and capital structures that are stable, thus making valuation more grounded in past data.
- However, this stability in the numbers can mask real problems at the company. The company may be set in a process, where it invests more or less than it should and does not have the right financing mix. In effect, the policies are consistent, stable and bad.
- If you expect these companies to change or as is more often the case to have change thrust upon them,

# The perils of valuing mature companies...

302



## Hormel Foods: The Value of Control Changing

Hormel Foods sells packaged meat and other food products and has been in existence as a publicly traded company for almost 80 years. In 2008, the firm reported after-tax operating income of \$315 million, reflecting a compounded growth of 5% over the previous 5 years.

### The Status Quo

Run by existing management, with conservative reinvestment policies (reinvestment rate = 14.34% and debt ratio = 10.4%.

Anemic growth rate and short growth period, due to reinvestment policy

Low debt ratio affects cost of capital

Year	Operating income after taxes	Expected growth rate	ROC	Reinvestment Rate	Reinvestment	FCFF	Cost of capital	Present Value
Trailing 12 months	\$315							
1	\$324	2.75%	14.34%	19.14%	\$62	\$262	6.79%	\$245
2	\$333	2.75%	14.34%	19.14%	\$64	\$269	6.79%	\$236
3	\$342	2.75%	14.34%	19.14%	\$65	\$276	6.79%	\$227
Beyond	\$350	2.35%	7.23%	32.52%	\$114	\$4,840	7.23%	\$3,974
Value of operating assets								\$4,682
(Add) Cash								\$155
(Subtract) Debt								\$491
(Subtract) Management Options								\$53
Value of equity in common stock								\$4,293
Value per share								\$31.91

### New and better management

More aggressive reinvestment which increases the reinvestment rate (to 40%) and tlength of growth (to 5 years), and higher debt ratio (20%).

#### Operating Restructuring ①

Expected growth rate =  $ROC \times \text{Reinvestment Rate}$   
 Expected growth rate (status quo) =  $14.34\% \times 19.14\% = 2.75\%$   
 Expected growth rate (optimal) =  $14.00\% \times 40\% = 5.60\%$   
 ROC drops, reinvestment rises and growth goes up.

#### Financial restructuring ②

Cost of capital = Cost of equity (1-Debt ratio) + Cost of debt (Debt ratio)  
 Status quo =  $7.33\% (1-.104) + 3.60\% (.104) = 6.79\%$   
 Optimal =  $7.75\% (1-.20) + 3.60\% (.20) = 6.63\%$   
 Cost of equity rises but cost of capital drops.

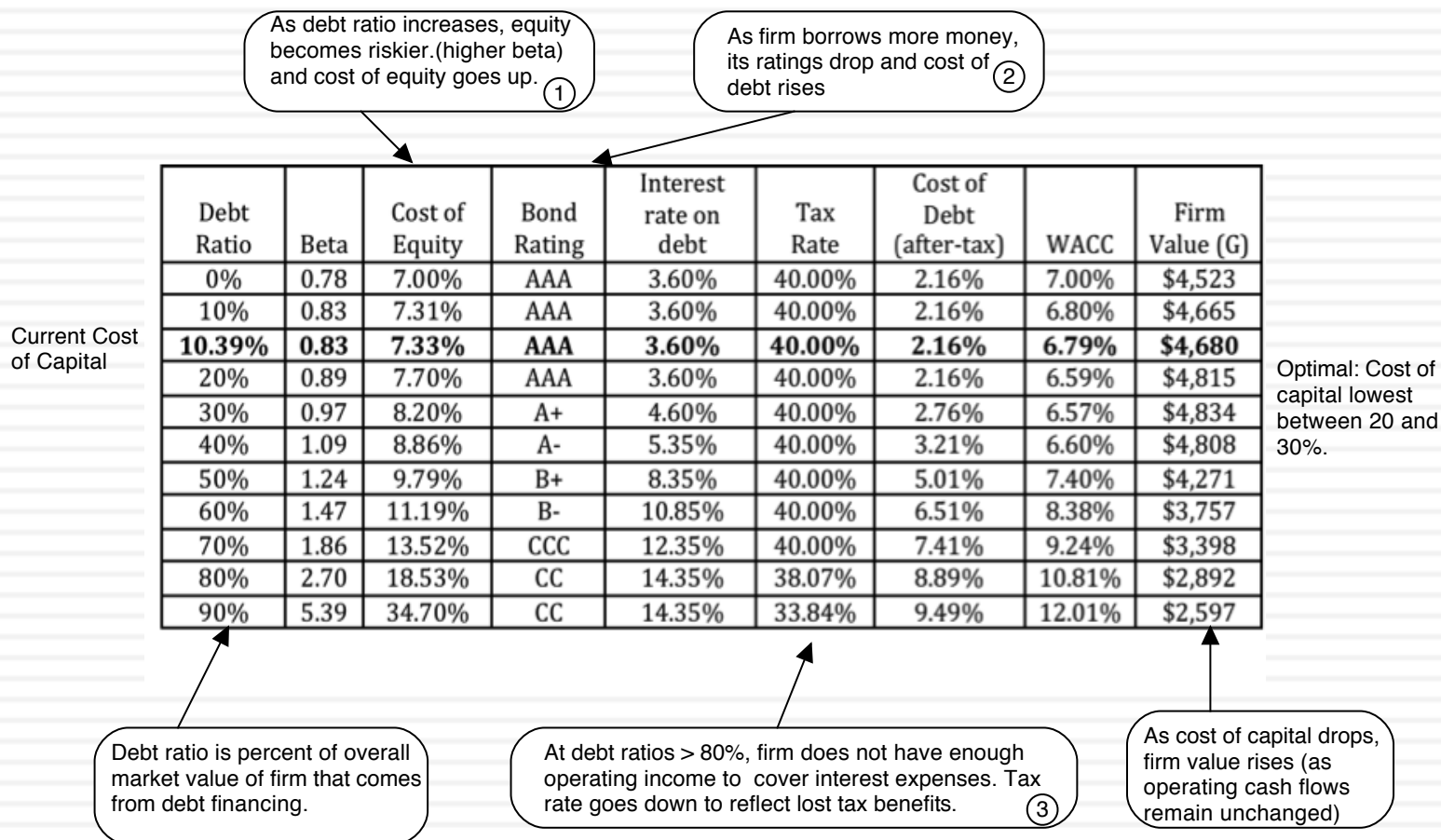
Year	Operating income after taxes	Expected growth rate	ROC	Reinvestment Rate	Reinvestment	FCFF	Cost of capital	Present Value
Trailing 12 months	\$315							
1	\$333	5.60%	14.00%	40.00%	\$133	\$200	6.63%	\$187
2	\$351	5.60%	14.00%	40.00%	\$141	\$211	6.63%	\$185
3	\$371	5.60%	14.00%	40.00%	\$148	\$223	6.63%	\$184
4	\$392	5.60%	14.00%	40.00%	\$260	\$235	6.63%	\$182
5	\$414	5.60%	14.00%	40.00%	\$223	\$248	6.63%	\$180
Beyond	\$423	2.35%	6.74%	34.87%	\$148	\$6,282	6.74%	\$4,557
Value of operating assets								\$5,475
(Add) Cash								\$155
(Subtract) Debt								\$491
(Subtract) Management Options								\$53
Value of equity in common stock								\$5,085
Value per share								\$37.80



# Financial leverage is a double-edged sword..

304

Exhibit 7.1: Optimal Financing Mix: Hormel Foods in January 2009





# III. Dealing with decline and distress...

305

*Historical data often reflects flat or declining revenues and falling margins. Investments often earn less than the cost of capital.*

*Growth can be negative, as firm sheds assets and shrinks. As less profitable assets are shed, the firm's remaining assets may improve in quality.*

What is the value added by growth assets?

What are the cashflows from existing assets?

*Underfunded pension obligations and litigation claims can lower value of equity. Liquidation preferences can affect value of equity*

What is the value of equity in the firm?

How risky are the cash flows from both existing assets and growth assets?

*Depending upon the risk of the assets being divested and the use of the proceeds from the divestiture (to pay dividends or retire debt), the risk in both the firm and its equity can change.*

When will the firm become a mature firm, and what are the potential roadblocks?

*There is a real chance, especially with high financial leverage, that the firm will not make it. If it is expected to survive as a going concern, it will be as a much smaller entity.*

## a. Dealing with Decline

306

- In decline, firms often see declining revenues and lower margins, translating in negative expected growth over time.
- If these firms are run by good managers, they will not fight decline. Instead, they will adapt to it and shut down or sell investments that do not generate the cost of capital. This can translate into negative net capital expenditures (depreciation exceeds cap ex), declining working capital and an overall negative reinvestment rate. The best case scenario is that the firm can shed its bad assets, make itself a much smaller and healthier firm and then settle into long-term stable growth.
- As an investor, your worst case scenario is that these firms are run by managers in denial who continue to expand the firm by making bad investments (that generate lower returns than the cost of capital). These firms may be able to grow revenues and operating income but will destroy value along the way.

Figure 14.5: A Valuation of JC Penney

Declining business: Revenues expected to drop by 3% a year for next 5 years

	Base year	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Revenue growth rate		-3.00%	-3.00%	-3.00%	-3.00%	-3.00%	-2.00%	-1.00%	0.00%	1.00%	2.00%
Revenues	\$ 12,522	\$12,146	\$11,782	\$11,428	\$11,086	\$10,753	\$10,538	\$10,433	\$10,433	\$10,537	\$10,748
EBIT (Operating) margin	1.32%	1.82%	2.31%	2.80%	3.29%	3.79%	4.28%	4.77%	5.26%	5.76%	6.25%
EBIT (Operating income)	\$ 166	\$ 221	\$ 272	\$ 320	\$ 365	\$ 407	\$ 451	\$ 498	\$ 549	\$ 607	\$ 672
Tax rate	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%	35.00%	36.00%	37.00%	38.00%	39.00%	40.00%
EBIT(1-t)	\$ 108	\$ 143	\$ 177	\$ 208	\$ 237	\$ 265	\$ 289	\$ 314	\$ 341	\$ 370	\$ 403
- Reinvestment		\$ (188)	\$ (182)	\$ (177)	\$ (171)	\$ (166)	\$ (108)	\$ (53)	\$ -	\$ 52	\$ 105
FCFF		\$ 331	\$ 359	\$ 385	\$ 409	\$ 431	\$ 396	\$ 366	\$ 341	\$ 318	\$ 298
Cost of capital		9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	8.80%	8.60%	8.40%	8.20%	8.00%
PV(FCFF)		\$ 304	\$ 302	\$ 297	\$ 290	\$ 280	\$ 237	\$ 201	\$ 173	\$ 149	\$ 129
Terminal value	\$ 5,710										
PV(Terminal value)	\$ 2,479										
PV (CF over next 10 years)	\$ 2,362										
Sum of PV	\$ 4,841										
Probability of failure =	20.00%	High debt load and poor earnings put survival at risk. Based on bond rating, 20% chance of failure and liquidation will bring in 50% of book value									
Proceeds if firm fails =	\$2,421										
Value of operating assets =	\$4,357										

Margins improve gradually to median for US retail sector (6.25%)

As stores shut down, cash released from real estate.

The cost of capital is at 9%, higher because of high cost of debt.