Valuation: Lecture Note Packet 1 Intrinsic Valuation

Aswath Damodaran

Updated: January 2023

The essence of intrinsic value

- In <u>intrinsic valuation,</u> you value an asset based upon its fundamentals (or intrinsic characteristics.

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

  - Discounted cash flow (DCF) valuation is a tool for estimating intrinsic value, where the expected value of an asset is written as the present value of the expected cash flows on the asset, with either the cash flows or the discount rate adjusted to reflect the risk.

  - Intrinsic valuation models predate the modern DCF model, since investors through the ages have found ways to weight in expected cash flows into value.

Aswath Damodaran

The two faces of discounted cash flow valuation

- 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:

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

where the asset has an n-year life, $E(CF_t)$ is the expected cash flow in period t and r is a discount rate that reflects the risk of the cash flows.

- Alternatively, we can replace the expected cash flows with the guaranteed cash flows we would have accepted as an alternative (certainty equivalents) and discount these at the riskfree rate:

$$\text{Value of asset} = \frac{CE(CF_1)}{(1+r_f)} + \frac{CE(CF_2)}{(1+r_f)^2} + \frac{CE(CF_3)}{(1+r_f)^3} \cdots + \frac{CE(CF_n)}{(1+r_f)^n}$$

where CE(CFt) is the certainty equivalent of $E(CF_t)$ and r_f is the riskfree rate.

Aswath Damodaran

Risk Adjusted Value: Two Basic Propositions

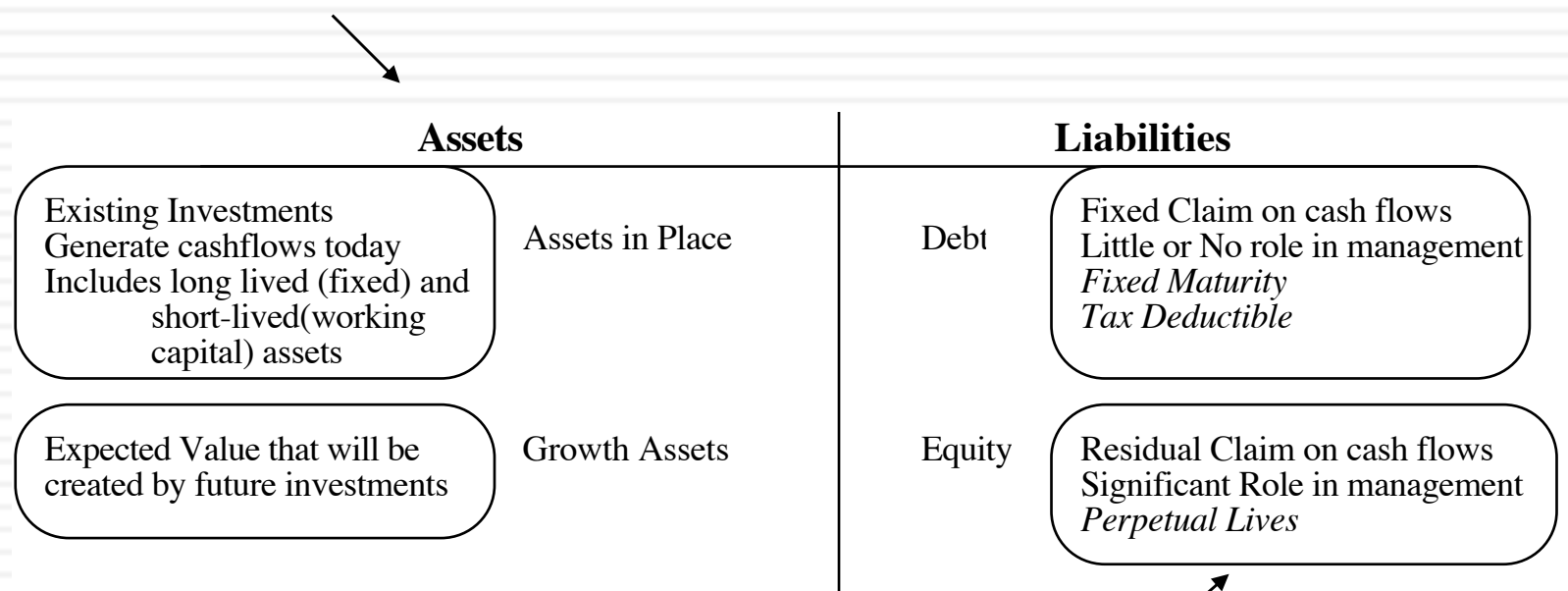☐ The value of an asset is the risk-adjusted present value of the cash flows:

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

1. The "IT" proposition: If IT does not affect the expected cash flows or the riskiness of the cash flows, IT cannot affect value.

2. The "DON'T BE A WUSS" proposition: Valuation requires that you make estimates of expected cash flows in the future, not that you be right about those cashflows. So, uncertainty is not an excuse for not making estimates.

3. 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.

4. 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.

Aswath Damodaran

DCF Choices: Equity Valuation versus Firm Valuation

Firm Valuation: Value the entire business

	Assets		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*	

Equity valuation: Value just the equity claim in the business

Aswath Damodaran

1. Equity Valuation

Figure 5.5: Equity Valuation

Assets	Liabilities
Assets in Place	Debt
Growth Assets	Equity

Cash flows considered are cashflows from assets, after debt payments and after making reinvestments needed for future growth

Discount rate reflects only the cost of raising equity financing

Present value is value of just the equity claims on the firm

Aswath Damodaran
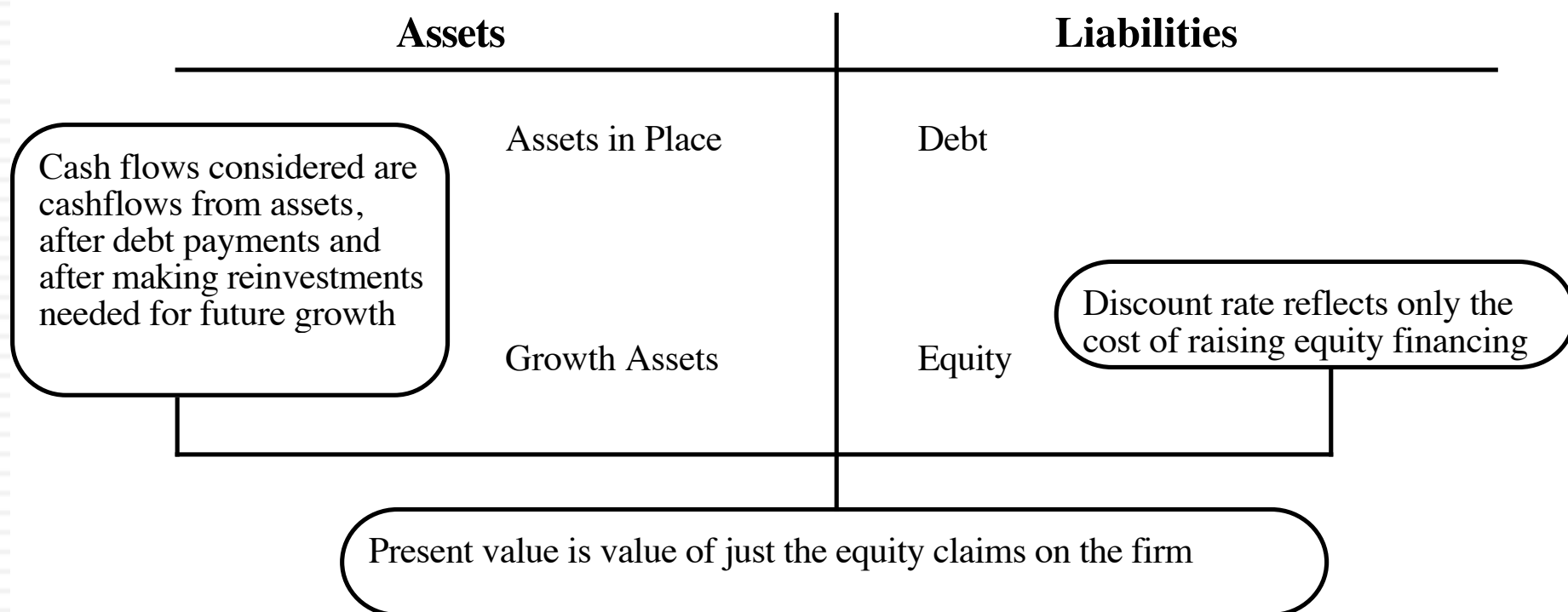
2. Firm or Business Valuation

Figure 5.6: Firm Valuation

Assets	Liabilities
Assets in Place	Debt
Growth Assets	Equity

Cash flows considered are cashflows from assets, prior to any debt payments but after firm has reinvested to create growth assets

Discount rate reflects the cost of raising both debt and equity financing, in proportion to their use

Present value is value of the entire firm, and reflects the value of all claims on the firm.

Aswath Damodaran

Firm Value and Equity Value

- To get from firm value to equity value, which of the following would you need to do?
    a. Subtract out the value of long-term debt
    b. Subtract out the value of all debt
    c. Subtract the value of any debt that was included in the cost of capital calculation
    d. Subtract out the value of all liabilities in the firm
- Doing so, will give you a value for the equity which is
    a. greater than the value you would have got in an equity valuation
    b. lesser than the value you would have got in an equity valuation
    c. equal to the value you would have got in an equity valuation

Aswath Damodaran

Cash Flows and Discount Rates

- Assume that you are analyzing a company with the following cashflows for the next five years.

Year	CF to Equity	Interest Expense (1-t)	CF to Firm
1	$ 50	$ 40	$ 90
2	$ 60	$ 40	$ 100
3	$ 68	$ 40	$ 108
4	$ 76.2	$ 40	$ 116.2
5	$ 83.49	$ 40	$ 123.49
Terminal Value	$ 1603.0		$ 2363.008

- Assume also that the cost of equity is 13.625% and the firm can borrow long term at 10%. (The tax rate for the firm is 50%.)

- The current market value of equity is $1,073 and the value of debt outstanding is $800.

Aswath Damodaran

Equity versus Firm Valuation

- Method 1: Discount CF to Equity at Cost of Equity to get value of equity
  - Cost of Equity = 13.625%
  - Value of Equity = $50/1.13625 + 60/1.13625^2 + 68/1.13625^3 + 76.2/1.13625^4 + (83.49+1603)/1.13625^5$ = **$1073**
- Method 2: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Capital to get value of firm
  - Cost of Debt = Pre-tax rate (1- tax rate) = 10% (1-.5) = 5%

  Cost of Capital = 13.625% (1073/1873) + 5% (800/1873) = 9.94%
  - PV of Firm = $90/1.0994 + 100/1.0994^2 + 108/1.0994^3 + 116.2/1.0994^4 + (123.49+2363)/1.0994^5$ = $1873
  - Value of Equity = Value of Firm - Market Value of Debt

    = $ 1873 - $ 800 = **$1073**

First Principle of Valuation

□ <u>Discounting Consistency Principle</u>: Never mix and match cash flows and discount rates.

□ <u>The Mismatch Effect</u>: Mismatching cash flows to discount rates is deadly.

◻ Discounting cashflows after debt cash flows (equity cash flows) at the weighted average cost of capital will lead to an upwardly biased estimate of the value of equity

◻ Discounting pre-debt cashflows (cash flows to the firm) at the cost of equity will yield a downward biased estimate of the value of the firm.

The Effects of Mismatching Cash Flows and Discount Rates

- Error 1: Discount CF to Equity at Cost of Capital to get equity value
  - PV of Equity = $50/1.0994 + 60/1.0994^2 + 68/1.09943 + 76.2/1.0994^4 + (83.49+1603)/1.0994^5 = \$1248$
  - Value of equity is **overstated by $175**.
- Error 2: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Equity to get firm value
  - PV of Firm = $90/1.13625 + 100/1.13625^2 + 108/1.13625^3 + 116.2/1.13625^4 + (123.49+2363)/1.13625^5 = \$1613$
  - PV of Equity = $1612.86 - $800 = $813
  - Value of Equity is **understated by $ 260**.
- Error 3: Discount CF to Firm at Cost of Equity, forget to subtract out debt, and get too high a value for equity
  - Value of Equity = $ 1613
  - Value of Equity is **overstated by $ 540**