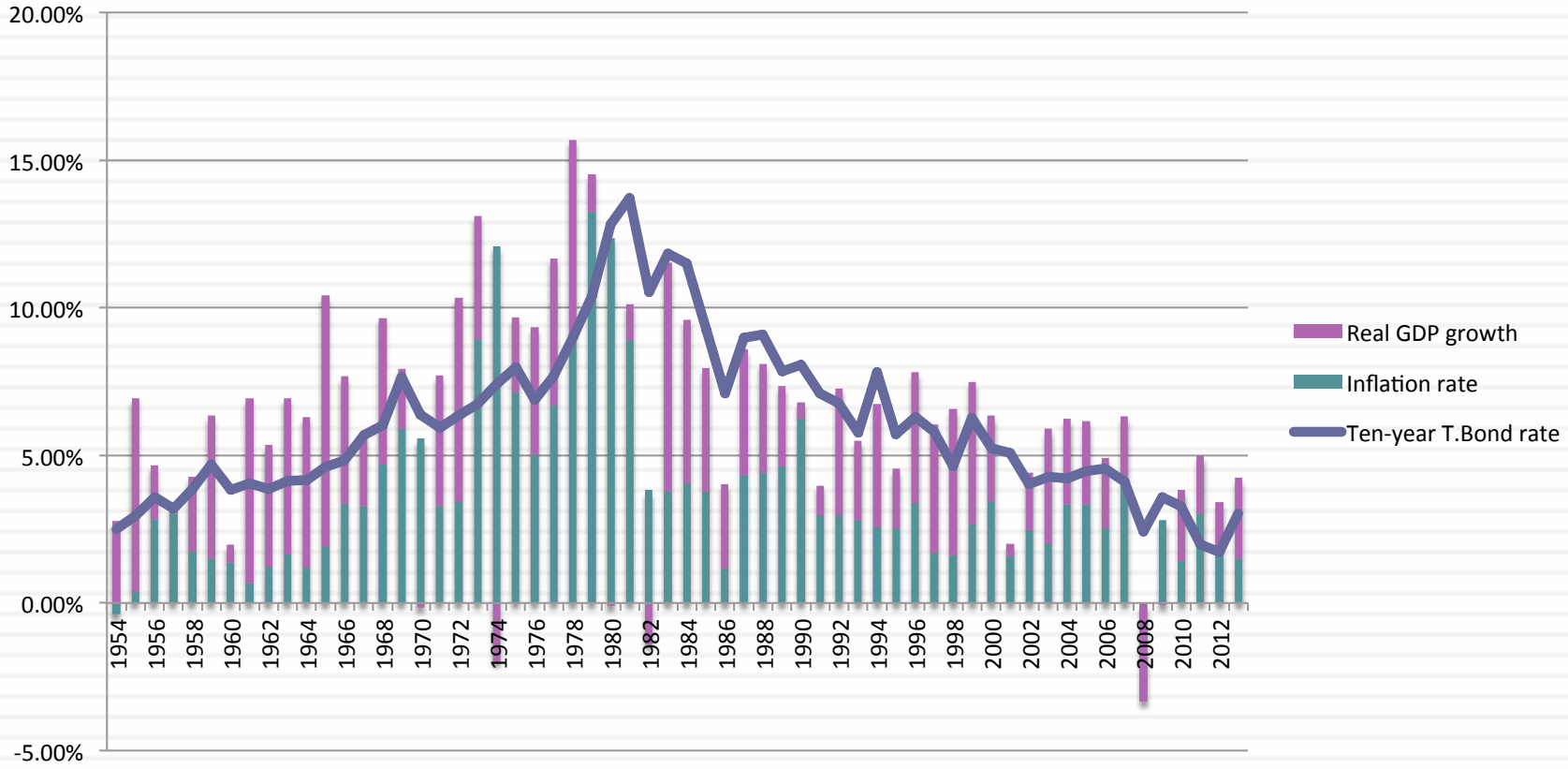
One more test on riskfree rates…

- In January 2015, the 10-year treasury bond rate in the United States was 2.17%, a historic low. Assume that you were valuing a company in US dollars then, but were wary about the risk free rate being too low. Which of the following should you do?
  a. Replace the current 10-year bond rate with a more reasonable normalized riskfree rate (the average 10-year bond rate over the last 30 years has been about 5-6%)
  b. Use the current 10-year bond rate as your riskfree rate but make sure that your other assumptions (about growth and inflation) are consistent with the riskfree rate
  c. Something else…

Some perspective on risk free rates

Interest rate fundamentals: T. Bond rates, Real growth and inflation



II. Equity Risk Premiums
The ubiquitous historical risk premium

- The historical premium is the premium that stocks have historically earned over riskless securities.
- While the users of historical risk premiums act as if it is a fact (rather than an estimate), it is sensitive to
  - How far back you go in history…
  - Whether you use T.bill rates or T.Bond rates
  - Whether you use geometric or arithmetic averages.
- For instance, looking at the US:

	Arithmetic Average		*Geometric Average*	
	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds	Stocks - T. Bills	Stocks - T. Bonds
1928-2014	8.00%	6.25%	6.11%	4.60%
	2.17%	2.32%		
1965-2014	6.19%	4.12%	4.84%	3.14%
	2.42%	2.74%		
2005-2014	7.94%	4.06%	6.18%	2.73%
	6.05%	8.65%		

The perils of trusting the past…….

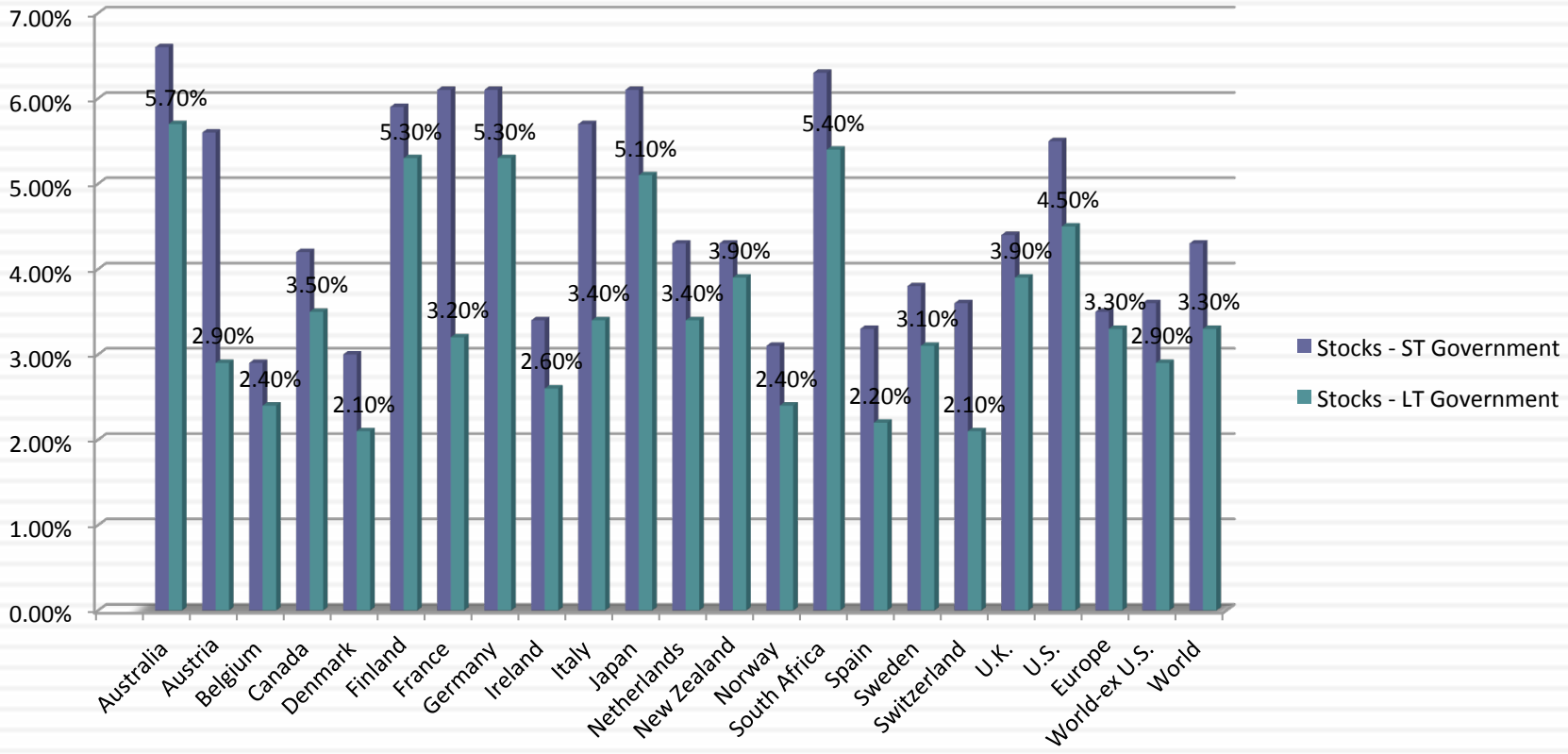
- Noisy estimates: Even with long time periods of history, the risk premium that you derive will have substantial standard error. For instance, if you go back to 1928 (about 80 years of history) and you assume a standard deviation of 20% in annual stock returns, you arrive at a standard error of greater than 2%:

  Standard Error in Premium = 20%/√80 = 2.26%

- Survivorship Bias: Using historical data from the U.S. equity markets over the twentieth century does create a sampling bias. After all, the US economy and equity markets were among the most successful of the global economies that you could have invested in early in the century.

Risk Premium for a Mature Market? Broadening the sample to 1900-2013

Historical Equity Risk Premiums - Global: 1900-2013



The simplest way of estimating an additional country risk premium: The country default spread

- Default spread for country: In this approach, the country equity risk premium is set equal to the default spread for the country, estimated in one of three ways:
  - The default spread on a dollar denominated bond issued by the country. (In January 2015, that spread was 1.55% for the Brazilian $ bond)
  - The sovereign CDS spread for the country. In January 2015, the ten year CDS spread for Brazil was 2.86%.
  - The default spread based on the local currency rating for the country. Brazil's sovereign local currency rating is Baa2 and the default spread for a Baa2 rated sovereign was about 1.90% in January 2015.
- Add the default spread to a "mature" market premium: This default spread is added on to the mature market premium to arrive at the total equity risk premium for Brazil, assuming a mature market premium of 5.75%.
  - Country Risk Premium for Brazil = 1.90%
  - Total ERP for Brazil = 5.75% + 1.90% = 7.65%

An equity volatility based approach to estimating the country total ERP

- This approach draws on the standard deviation of two equity markets, the emerging market in question and a base market (usually the US). The total equity risk premium for the emerging market is then written as:
  - Total equity risk premium = Risk Premium$_{US}$ * $\sigma_{\text{Country Equity}}$ / $\sigma_{\text{US Equity}}$
- The country equity risk premium is based upon the volatility of the market in question relative to U.S market.
  - Assume that the equity risk premium for the US is 5.75%.
  - Assume that the standard deviation in the Bovespa (Brazilian equity) is 21% and that the standard deviation for the S&P 500 (US equity) is 18%.
  - Total Equity Risk Premium for Brazil = 5.75% (21%/18%) = 6.71%
  - Country equity risk premium for Brazil = 6.71% - 5.75% = 0.96%

A melded approach to estimating the additional country risk premium

- Country ratings measure default risk. While default risk premiums and equity risk premiums are highly correlated, one would expect equity spreads to be higher than debt spreads.
- Another is to multiply the bond default spread by the relative volatility of stock and bond prices in that market. Using this approach for Brazil in January 2014, you would get:
  - Country Equity risk premium = Default spread on country bond* $\sigma_{\text{Country Equity}} / \sigma_{\text{Country Bond}}$
    - Standard Deviation in Bovespa (Equity) = 21%
    - Standard Deviation in Brazil government bond = 14%
    - Default spread on C-Bond = 1.90%
  - Brazil Country Risk Premium = 1.90% (21%/14%) = 2.85%
  - Brazil Total ERP = Mature Market Premium + CRP = 5.75% + 2.85% = 8.60%

ERP : Jan 2015

Andorra	8.15%	2.40%
Austria	5.75%	0.00%
Belgium	6.65%	0.90%
Cyprus	15.50%	9.75%
Denmark	5.75%	0.00%
Finland	5.75%	0.00%
France	6.35%	0.60%
Germany	5.75%	0.00%
Greece	17.00%	11.25%
Guernsey	6.35%	0.60%
Iceland	9.05%	3.30%
Ireland	8.15%	2.40%
Isle of Man	6.35%	0.60%
Italy	8.60%	2.85%
Jersey	6.35%	0.60%
Liechtenstein	5.75%	0.00%
Luxembourg	5.75%	0.00%
Malta	7.55%	1.80%
Netherlands	5.75%	0.00%
Norway	5.75%	0.00%
Portugal	9.50%	3.75%
Spain	8.60%	2.85%
Sweden	5.75%	0.00%
Switzerland	5.75%	0.00%
Turkey	9.05%	3.30%
UK	6.35%	0.60%
W. Europe	**6.88%**	**1.13%**

Albania	12.50%	6.75%
Armenia	10.25%	4.50%
Azerbaijan	9.05%	3.30%
Belarus	15.50%	9.75%
Bosnia	15.50%	.75%
Bulgaria	8.60%	2.85%
Croatia	9.50%	3.75%
Czech Repub	6.80%	1.05%
Estonia	6.80%	1.05%
Georgia	11.15%	5.40%
Hungary	9.50%	3.75%
Kazakhstan	8.60%	2.85%
Latvia	8.15%	2.40%
Lithuania	8.15%	2.40%
Macedonia	11.15%	5.40%
Moldova	15.50%	9.75%
Montenegro	11.15%	5.40%
Poland	7.03%	1.28%
Romania	9.05%	3.30%
Russia	8.60%	2.85%
Serbia	12.50%	6.75%
Slovakia	7.03%	1.28%
Slovenia	9.50%	3.75%
Ukraine	20.75%	15.00%
E. Europe	**9.08%**	**3.33%**

Canada	5.75%	0.00%
US	5.75%	0.00%
North America	**5.75%**	**0.00%**

Argentina	17.00%	11.25%
Belize	19.25%	13.50%
Bolivia	11.15%	5.40%
Brazil	8.60%	2.85%
Chile	6.65%	0.90%
Colombia	8.60%	2.85%
Costa Rica	9.50%	3.75%
Ecuador	15.50%	9.75%
El Salvador	11.15%	5.40%
Guatemala	9.50%	3.75%
Honduras	15.50%	9.75%
Mexico	7.55%	1.80%
Nicaragua	15.50%	9.75%
Panama	8.60%	2.85%
Paraguay	10.25%	4.50%
Peru	7.55%	1.80%
Suriname	11.15%	5.40%
Uruguay	8.60%	2.85%
Venezuela	17.00%	11.25%
Latin America	**9.95%**	**4.20%**

Angola	10.25%	4.50%
Botswana	7.03%	1.28%
Burkina Faso	15.50%	9.75%
Cameroon	14.00%	8.25%
Cape Verde	14.00%	8.25%
Congo (DR)	15.50%	9.75%
Congo (Republic)	11.15%	5.40%
Côte d'Ivoire	12.50%	6.75%
Egypt	17.00%	11.25%
Ethiopia	12.50%	6.75%
Gabon	11.15%	5.40%
Ghana	14.00%	8.25%
Kenya	12.50%	6.75%
Morocco	9.50%	3.75%
Mozambique	12.50%	6.75%
Namibia	9.05%	3.30%
Nigeria	11.15%	5.40%
Rwanda	14.00%	8.25%
Senegal	12.50%	6.75%
South Africa	8.60%	2.85%
Tunisia	11.15%	5.40%
Uganda	12.50%	6.75%
Zambia	12.50%	6.75%
Africa	**11.73%**	**5.98%**

Abu Dhabi	6.50%	0.75%
Bahrain	8.60%	2.85%
Israel	6.80%	1.05%
Jordan	12.50%	6.75%
Kuwait	6.50%	0.75%
Lebanon	14.00%	8.25%
Oman	6.80%	1.05%
Qatar	6.50%	0.75%
Ras Al Khaimah	7.03%	1.28%
Saudi Arabia	6.65%	0.90%
Sharjah	7.55%	1.80%
UAE	6.50%	0.75%
Middle East	**6.85%**	**1.10%**

Bangladesh	11.15%	5.40%
Cambodia	14.00%	8.25%
China	6.65%	0.90%
Fiji	12.50%	6.75%
Hong Kong	6.35%	0.60%
India	9.05%	3.30%
Indonesia	9.05%	3.30%
Japan	6.80%	1.05%
Korea	6.65%	0.90%
Macao	6.50%	0.75%
Malaysia	7.55%	1.80%
Mauritius	8.15%	2.40%
Mongolia	14.00%	8.25%
Pakistan	17.00%	11.25%
Papua New Guinea	12.50%	6.75%
Philippines	8.60%	2.85%
Singapore	5.75%	0.00%
Sri Lanka	12.50%	6.75%
Taiwan	6.65%	0.90%
Thailand	8.15%	2.40%
Vietnam	12.50%	6.75%
Asia	**7.26%**	**1.51%**

Australia	5.75%	0.00%
Cook Islands	12.50%	6.75%
New Zealand	5.75%	0.00%
Australia & NZ	**5.75%**	**0.00%**

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

From Country Equity Risk Premiums to Corporate Equity Risk premiums

- Approach 1: Assume that every company in the country is equally exposed to country risk. In this case,
  - E(Return) = Riskfree Rate + CRP + Beta (Mature ERP)
  - Implicitly, this is what you are assuming when you use the local Government's dollar borrowing rate as your riskfree rate.
- Approach 2: Assume that a company's exposure to country risk is similar to its exposure to other market risk.
  - E(Return) = Riskfree Rate + Beta (Mature ERP+ CRP)
- Approach 3: Treat country risk as a separate risk factor and allow firms to have different exposures to country risk (perhaps based upon the proportion of their revenues come from non-domestic sales)
  - E(Return)=Riskfree Rate+ β (Mature ERP) + λ (CRP)

Mature ERP = Mature market Equity Risk Premium

CRP = Additional country risk premium

Approaches 1 & 2: Estimating country risk premium exposure

- Location based CRP: The standard approach in valuation is to attach a country risk premium to a company based upon its country of incorporation. Thus, if you are an Indian company, you are assumed to be exposed to the Indian country risk premium. A developed market company is assumed to be unexposed to emerging market risk.
- Operation-based CRP: There is a more reasonable modified version. The country risk premium for a company can be computed as a weighted average of the country risk premiums of the countries that it does business in, with the weights based upon revenues or operating income. If a company is exposed to risk in dozens of countries, you can take a weighted average of the risk premiums by region.

Operation based CRP: Single versus Multiple Emerging Markets

- Single emerging market: Embraer, in 2004, reported that it derived 3% of its revenues in Brazil and the balance from mature markets. The mature market ERP in 2004 was 5% and Brazil's CRP was 7.89%.

	Revenues	Total ERP	CRP
US and other mature markets	97%	5.00%	0.00%
Brazil	3%	12.89%	8%
Embraer		**5.24%**	**0.24%**

- Multiple emerging markets: Ambev, the Brazilian-based beverage company, reported revenues from the following countries during 2011.

	Revenues	%	Total ERP	CRP
Argentina	19	9.31%	15.00%	9.00%
Bolivia	4	1.96%	10.88%	4.88%
Brazil	130	63.73%	8.63%	2.63%
Canada	23	11.27%	6.00%	0.00%
Chile	7	3.43%	7.05%	1.05%
Ecuador	6	2.94%	12.75%	6.75%
Paraguay	3	1.47%	12.00%	6.00%
Peru	12	5.88%	9.00%	3.00%
Ambev	**204**		**9.11%**	**3.11%**

Extending to a multinational: Regional breakdown Coca Cola's revenue breakdown and ERP in 2012

Region	*Revenues*	*Total ERP*	*CRP*
Western Europe	19%	6.67%	0.67%
Eastern Europe & Russia	5%	8.60%	2.60%
Asia	15%	7.63%	1.63%
Latin America	15%	9.42%	3.42%
Australia	4%	6.00%	0.00%
Africa	4%	9.82%	3.82%
North America	40%	6.00%	0.00%
Coca Cola	100%	7.14%	1.14%

Things to watch out for

1. Aggregation across regions. For instance, the Pacific region often includes Australia & NZ with Asia
2. Obscure aggregations including Eurasia and Oceania

Two problems with these approaches..

- Focus just on revenues: To the extent that revenues are the only variable that you consider, when weighting risk exposure across markets, you may be missing other exposures to country risk. For instance, an emerging market company that gets the bulk of its revenues outside the country (in a developed market) may still have all of its production facilities in the emerging market.
- Exposure not adjusted or based upon beta: To the extent that the country risk premium is multiplied by a beta, we are assuming that beta in addition to measuring exposure to all other macro economic risk also measures exposure to country risk.

Approach 3: Estimate a lambda for country risk

- Source of revenues: Other things remaining equal, a company should be more exposed to risk in a country if it generates more of its revenues from that country.
- Manufacturing facilities: Other things remaining equal, a firm that has all of its production facilities in a "risky country" should be more exposed to country risk than one which has production facilities spread over multiple countries. The problem will be accented for companies that cannot move their production facilities (mining and petroleum companies, for instance).
- Use of risk management products: Companies can use both options/ futures markets and insurance to hedge some or a significant portion of country risk.
- Government "national" interests: There are sectors that are viewed as vital to the national interests, and governments often play a key role in these companies, either officially or unofficially. These sectors are more exposed to country risk.

Estimating Company Exposure to Country Risk

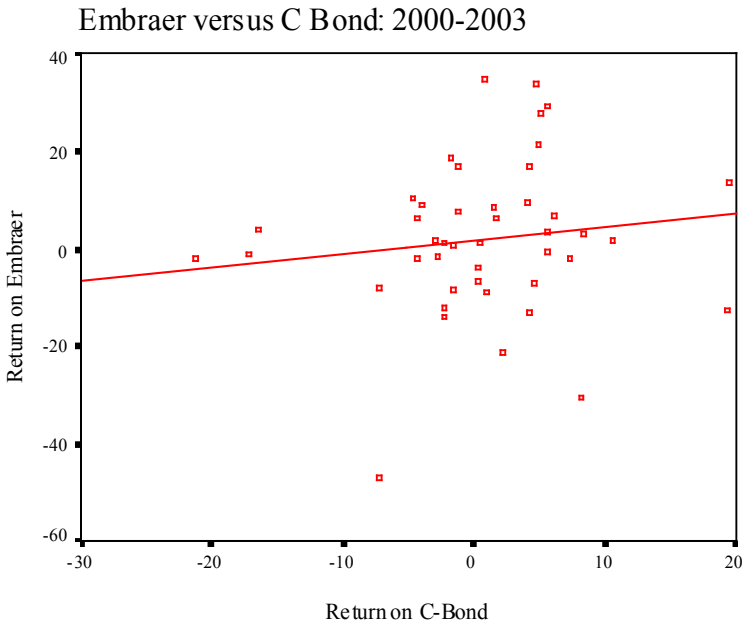
- The factor "λ" measures the relative exposure of a firm to country risk. One simplistic solution would be to do the following:

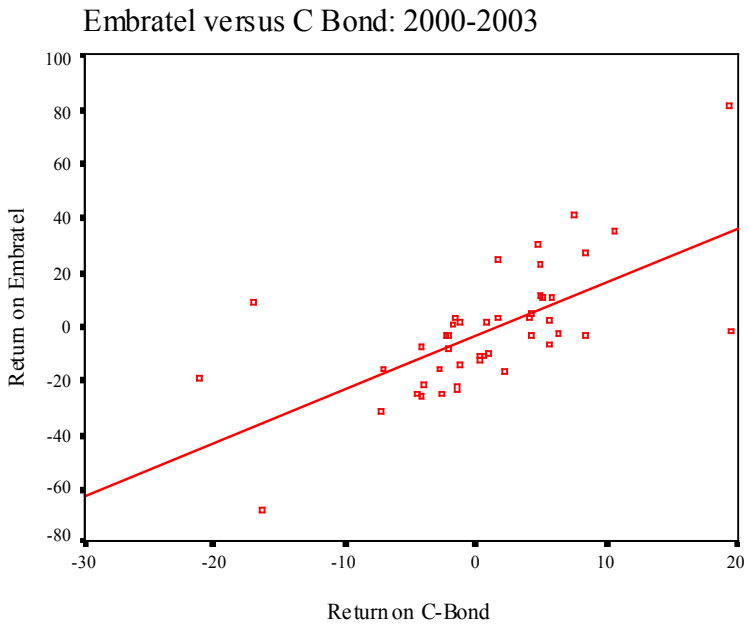
λ = % of revenues domestically$_{firm}$/ % of revenues domestically$_{average\ firm}$

- Consider two firms – Tata Motors and Tata Consulting Services, both Indian companies. In 2008-09, Tata Motors got about 91.37% of its revenues in India and TCS got 7.62%. The average Indian firm gets about 80% of its revenues in India:
  - $\lambda_{Tata\ Motors}$= 91%/80% = 1.14
  - λ_{TCS}= 7.62%/80% = 0.09
- There are two implications
  - A company's risk exposure is determined by where it does business and not by where it is incorporated.
  - Firms might be able to actively manage their country risk exposures

A richer lambda estimate: Use stock returns and country bond "returns": Estimating a "lambda" for Embraer in 2004

$$\text{Return}_{\text{Embraer}} = 0.0195 + \mathbf{0.2681}\ \text{Return}_{\text{C Bond}}$$
$$\text{Return}_{\text{Embratel}} = -0.0308 + \mathbf{2.0030}\ \text{Return}_{\text{C Bond}}$$





Estimating a US Dollar Cost of Equity for Embraer - September 2004

- Assume that the beta for Embraer is 1.07, and that the US $ riskfree rate used is 4%. Also assume that the risk premium for the US is 5% and the country risk premium for Brazil is 7.89%. Finally, assume that Embraer gets 3% of its revenues in Brazil & the rest in the US.
- There are five estimates of $ cost of equity for Embraer:
  - Approach 1: Constant exposure to CRP, Location CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + 7.89% = 17.24%
  - Approach 2: Constant exposure to CRP, Operation CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + (0.03*7.89% +0.97*0%)= 9.59%
  - Approach 3: Beta exposure to CRP, Location CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5% + 7.89%)= 17.79%
  - Approach 4: Beta exposure to CRP, Operation CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5% +(0.03*7.89%+0.97*0%)) = 9.60%
  - Approach 5: Lambda exposure to CRP
    - E(Return) = 4% + 1.07 (5%) + 0.27(7.89%) = 11.48%%

Valuing Emerging Market Companies with significant exposure in developed markets

- The conventional practice in investment banking is to add the country equity risk premium on to the cost of equity for every emerging market company, notwithstanding its exposure to emerging market risk. Thus, in 2004, Embraer would have been valued with a cost of equity of 17-18% even though it gets only 3% of its revenues in Brazil. As an investor, which of the following consequences do you see from this approach?

a. Emerging market companies with substantial exposure in developed markets will be significantly over valued by equity research analysts.

b. Emerging market companies with substantial exposure in developed markets will be significantly under valued by equity research analysts.

Can you construct an investment strategy to take advantage of the misvaluation? What would need to happen for you to make money of this strategy?