

1. The Value of Cash

219

- The simplest and most direct way of dealing with cash and marketable securities is to keep it out of the valuation - the cash flows should be before interest income from cash and securities, and the discount rate should not be contaminated by the inclusion of cash. (Use betas of the operating assets alone to estimate the cost of equity).
- Once the operating assets have been valued, you should add back the value of cash and marketable securities.
- In many equity valuations, the interest income from cash is included in the cashflows. The discount rate has to be adjusted then for the presence of cash. (The beta used will be weighted down by the cash holdings). Unless cash remains a fixed percentage of overall value over time, these valuations will tend to break down.

An Exercise in Cash Valuation

220

	<i>Company A</i>	<i>Company B</i>	<i>Company C</i>
Enterprise Value	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0	\$1,000.0
Cash	\$100.0	\$100.0	\$100.0
Return on invested capital	10%	5%	22%
Cost of capital	10%	10%	12%
Trades in	US	US	Argentina

In which of these companies is cash most likely to be

- a) A Neutral Asset (worth \$100 million)
- b) A Wasting Asset (worth less than \$100 million)
- c) A Potential Value Creator (worth >\$100 million)

Should you ever discount cash for its low returns?

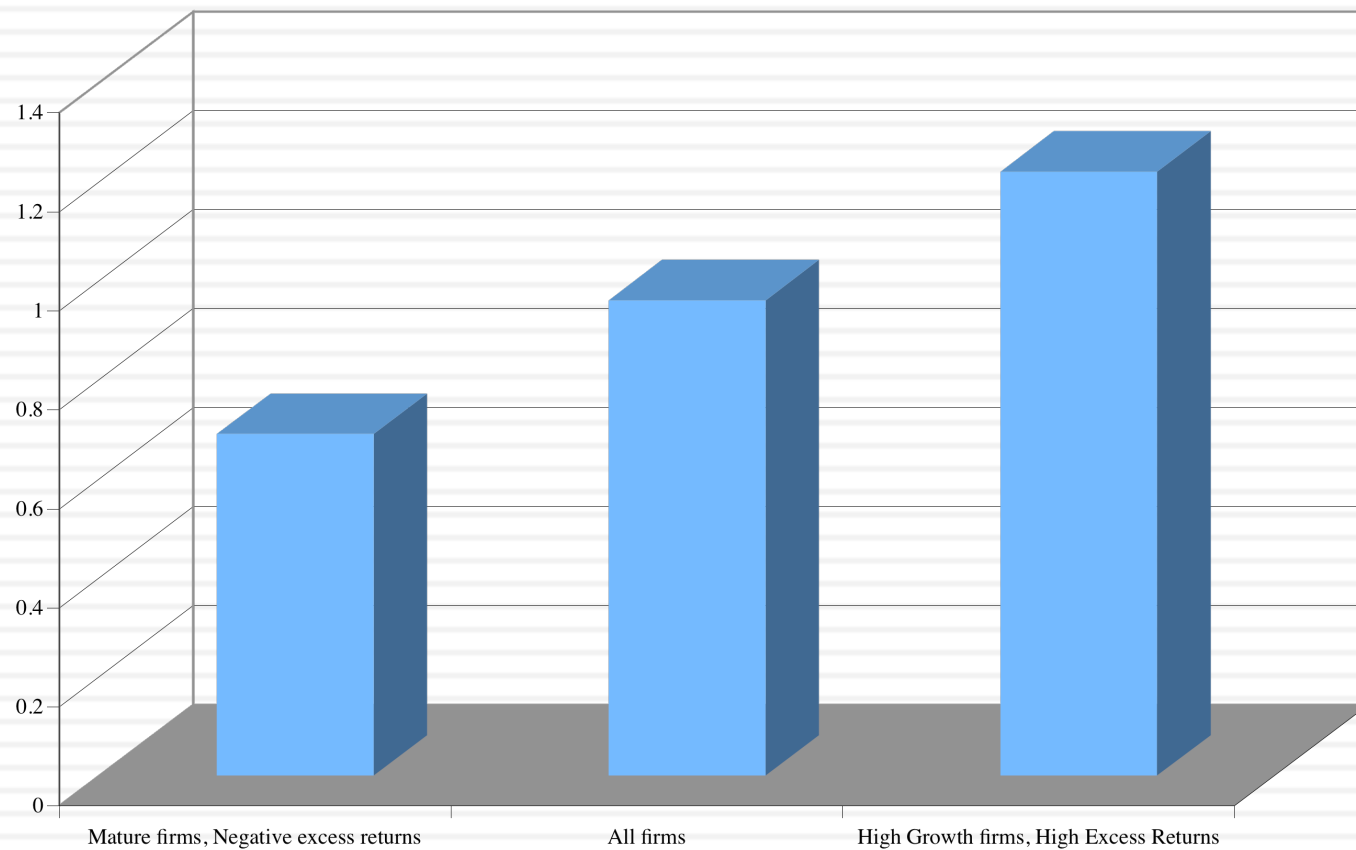
221

- There are some analysts who argue that companies with a lot of cash on their balance sheets should be penalized by having the excess cash discounted to reflect the fact that it earns a low return.
 - Excess cash is usually defined as holding cash that is greater than what the firm needs for operations.
 - A low return is defined as a return lower than what the firm earns on its non-cash investments.
- This is the wrong reason for discounting cash. If the cash is invested in riskless securities, it should earn a low rate of return. As long as the return is high enough, given the riskless nature of the investment, cash does not destroy value.
- There is a right reason, though, that may apply to some companies... Managers can do stupid things with cash (overpriced acquisitions, pie-in-the-sky projects....) and you have to discount for this possibility.

Cash: Discount or Premium?

222

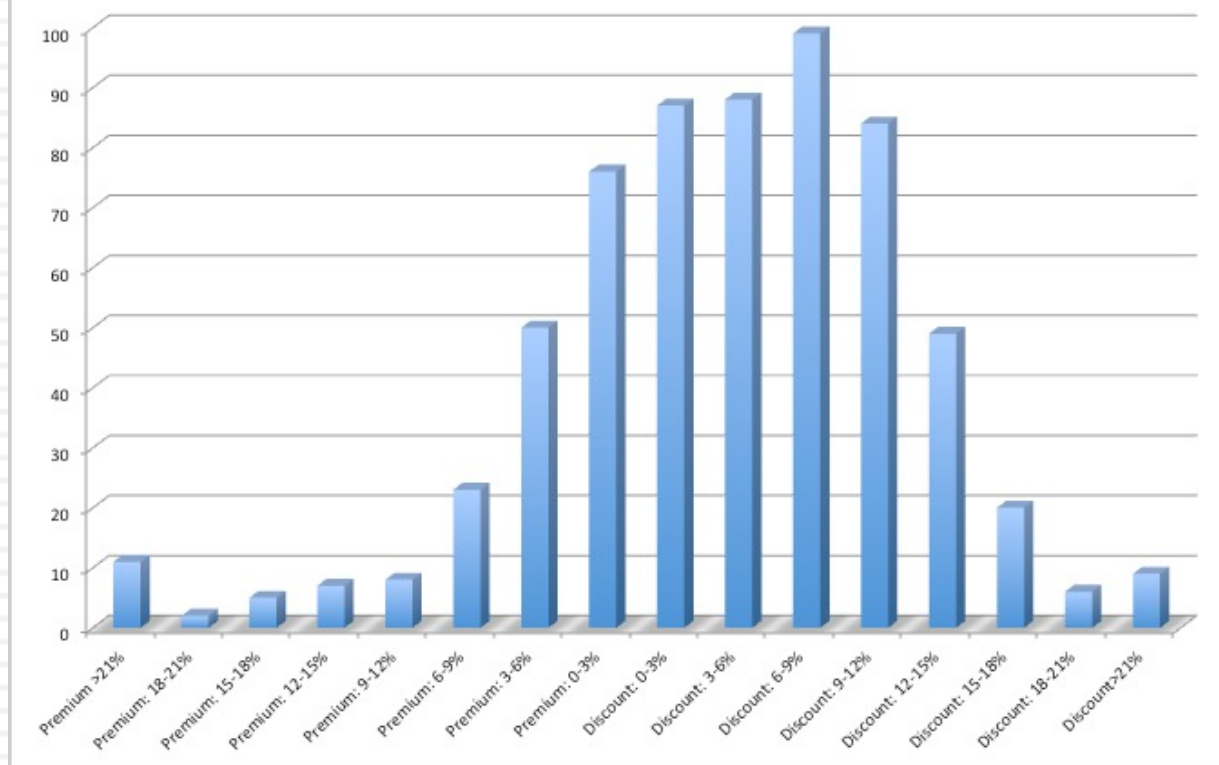
*Market Value of \$ 1 in cash:
Estimates obtained by regressing Enterprise Value against Cash Balances*



A Detour: Closed End Mutual Funds

223

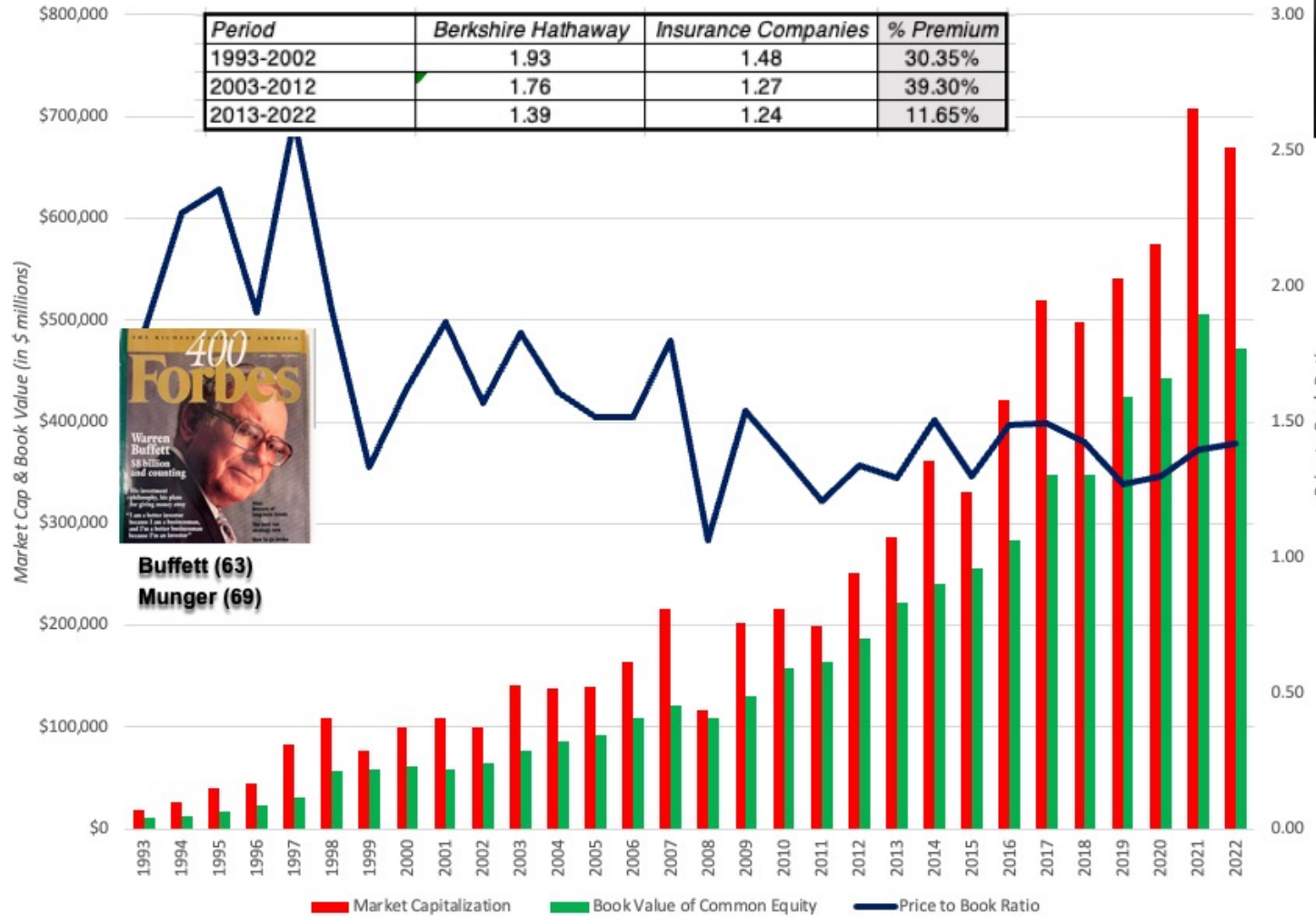
Figure 11.7: Premiums/Discounts on Closed End Funds- November 2011



- Assume that you have a closed-end fund that invests in ‘average risk’ stocks. Assume also that you expect the market (average risk investments) to make 11.5% annually over the long term. If the closed end fund underperforms the market by 0.50%, estimate the discount on the fund.

The Most Famous Closed End Fund in History?

Berkshire Hathaway: Price to Book - 1993 to 2022



Buffett (93)
Munger (RIP)



Buffett (63)
Munger (69)

2. Dealing with Holdings in Other firms

225

- Holdings in other firms can be categorized into
 - ▣ Minority passive holdings, in which case only the dividend from the holdings is shown in the balance sheet
 - ▣ Minority active holdings, in which case the share of equity income is shown in the income statements
 - ▣ Majority active holdings, in which case the financial statements are consolidated.
- In an intrinsic valuation, you would like to estimate the intrinsic value of these holdings and including them in your overall intrinsic valuation of the company.

If you really want to value cross holdings right....

226

- Step 1: Value the parent company without any cross holdings. This will require using unconsolidated financial statements rather than consolidated ones.
- Step 2: Value each of the cross holdings individually. (If you use the market values of the cross holdings, you will build in errors the market makes in valuing them into your valuation).
- Step 3: The final value of the equity in the parent company with N cross holdings will be:

Value of unconsolidated parent company
– Debt of unconsolidated parent company

$$+ \sum_{j=1}^{j=N} \% \text{ owned of Company } j * (\text{Value of Company } j - \text{Debt of Company } j)$$

Valuing Yahoo as the sum of its intrinsic pieces

227

100% of Yahoo! US Equity

Operating assets = \$4383	
+ Cash =	\$4,571
- Debt =	\$1,591
=Parent Equity = \$7,363	

+ 35% of Yahoo! Japan Equity

Operating assets = \$17,884	
+ Cash =	\$3,113
- Debt =	\$0
Equity = \$20,997 35% of value = \$7,349	

+ 22.1% of Alibaba Equity

Operating assets = \$127,484	
+ Cash =	\$27963
- Debt =	\$6,670
Equity = \$145,587 22.1% of value = \$32,175	

- Loose Ends =

- Taxes due = \$5,017
- Yahoo options = \$298

**Equity value= \$41,571
Per share = \$41.19**

If you have to settle for an approximation, try this...

228

- For majority holdings, with full consolidation, convert the minority interest from book value to market value by applying a price to book ratio (based upon the sector average for the subsidiary) to the minority interest.
 - ▣ Estimated market value of minority interest = Minority interest on balance sheet * Price to Book ratio for sector (of subsidiary)
 - ▣ Subtract this from the estimated value of the consolidated firm to get to value of the equity in the parent company.
- For minority holdings in other companies, convert the book value of these holdings (which are reported on the balance sheet) into market value by multiplying by the price to book ratio of the sector(s). Add this value on to the value of the operating assets to arrive at total firm value.

Yahoo: A pricing game?

229

100% of Yahoo! US Equity	+ 35% of Yahoo! Japan Equity	+ 22.1% of Alibaba Equity	- Loose Ends =	
EV/Sales* Sales = 0.63* \$4672 = \$2,948	EV/Sales* Sales = 7.91* \$3929 = \$31,075	EV/Sales* Sales = 12.18* \$7911 = \$96,331	Taxes due = \$4,011	Equity value= \$39,580 Per share = \$39.19
+ Cash = \$4,571	+ Cash = \$3,113	+ Cash = \$27963	Yahoo options \$298	
- Debt = \$1,591	- Debt = \$0	- Debt = \$6,670		
=Parent Equity = \$5,929	Equity = \$34,188 35% of value = \$11,966	Equity = \$117,623 22.1% of value = \$25,995		

3. Other Assets that have not been counted yet..

230

- Assets that you should not be counting (or adding on to DCF values)
 - If an asset is contributing to your cashflows, you cannot count the market value of the asset in your value.
- Assets that you can count (or add on to your DCF valuation)
 - Overfunded pension plans: If you have a defined benefit plan and your assets exceed your expected liabilities, you could consider the over funding with two caveats:
 - Collective bargaining agreements may prevent you from laying claim to these excess assets.
 - There are tax consequences. Often, withdrawals from pension plans get taxed at much higher rates.
 - Unutilized assets: If you have assets or property that are not being utilized to generate cash flows (vacant land, for example), you have not valued them yet. You can assess a market value for these assets and add them on to the value of the firm.

An Uncounted Asset?

231

Price tag: \$200 million



The longtime home of Playboy magazine founder Hugh Hefner is to be sold to Daren Metropoulos, a principal at private-equity firm Metropoulos & Co. PHOTO: GETTY IMAGES

4. A Discount for Complexity: An Experiment

232

	Company A	Company B
Operating Income	\$ 1 billion	\$ 1 billion
Tax rate	40%	40%
ROIC	10%	10%
Expected Growth	5%	5%
Cost of capital	8%	8%
Business Mix	Single	Multiple
Holdings	Simple	Complex
Accounting	Transparent	Opaque

Which firm would you value more highly?

Measuring Complexity: Volume of Data in Financial Statements

233

<i>Company</i>	<i>Number of pages in last 10Q</i>	<i>Number of pages in last 10K</i>
General Electric	65	410
Microsoft	63	218
Wal-mart	38	244
Exxon Mobil	86	332
Pfizer	171	460
Citigroup	252	1026
Intel	69	215
AIG	164	720
Johnson & Johnson	63	218
IBM	85	353

Measuring Complexity: A Complexity Score

234

Item	Factors	Follow-up Question	Answer	Weighting factor	Hyundai Heavy Score
Operating Income	1. Multiple Businesses	Number of businesses (with more than 10% of revenues) =	3	2.00	6
	2. One-time income and expenses	Percent of operating income =	5%	10.00	0.5
	3. Income from unspecified sources	Percent of operating income =	15%	10.00	1.5
	4. Items in income statement that are volatile	Percent of operating income =	20%	5.00	1
Tax Rate	1. Income from multiple locales	Percent of revenues from non-domestic locales =	75%	3.00	2.25
	2. Different tax and reporting books	Yes or No	No	Yes=3	0
	3. Headquarters in tax havens	Yes or No	No	Yes=3	0
	4. Volatile effective tax rate	Yes or No	Yes	Yes=2	2
Capital Expenditures	1. Volatile capital expenditures	Yes or No	Yes	Yes=2	2
	2. Frequent and large acquisitions	Yes or No	No	Yes=4	0
	3. Stock payment for acquisitions and investments	Yes or No	No	Yes=4	0
Working capital	1. Unspecified current assets and current liabilities	Yes or No	Yes	Yes=3	3
	2. Volatile working capital items	Yes or No	Yes	Yes=2	2
Expected Growth rate	1. Off-balance sheet assets and liabilities (operating leases and R&D)	Yes or No	No	Yes=3	0
	2. Substantial stock buybacks	Yes or No	No	Yes=3	0
	3. Changing return on capital over time	Is your return on capital volatile?	Yes	Yes=5	5
	4. Unsustainably high return	Is your firm's ROC much higher than industry average?	Yes	Yes=5	5
Cost of capital	1. Multiple businesses	Number of businesses (more than 10% of revenues) =	3	1.00	3
	2. Operations in emerging markets	Percent of revenues=	50%	5.00	2.5
	3. Is the debt market traded?	Yes or No	No	No=2	2
	4. Does the company have a rating?	Yes or No	No	No=2	2
	5. Does the company have off-balance sheet debt?	Yes or No	No	Yes=5	0
No-operating assets	Minority holdings as percent of book assets	Minority holdings as percent of book assets	30%	20.00	6
Firm to Equity value	Consolidation of subsidiaries	Minority interest as percent of book value of equity	20%	20.00	4
Per share value	Shares with different voting rights	Does the firm have shares with different voting rights?	No	Yes = 10	0
	Equity options outstanding	Options outstanding as percent of shares	0%	10.00	0
Complexity Score =					49.75

Dealing with Complexity

235

□ In Discounted Cashflow Valuation

- The Aggressive Analyst: Trust the firm to tell the truth and value the firm based upon the firm's statements about their value.
- The Conservative Analyst: Don't value what you cannot see.
- The Compromise: Adjust the value for complexity
 - Adjust cash flows for complexity
 - Adjust the discount rate for complexity
 - Adjust the expected growth rate/ length of growth period
 - Value the firm and then discount value for complexity

□ In relative valuation

- In a relative valuation, you may be able to assess the price that the market is charging for complexity:

- With the hundred largest market cap firms, for instance:

$$\text{PBV} = 0.65 + 15.31 \text{ ROE} - 0.55 \text{ Beta} + 3.04 \text{ Expected growth rate} - 0.003 \#$$

Pages in 10K

5. Be circumspect about defining debt for cost of capital purposes...

236

- General Rule: Debt generally has the following characteristics:
 - Commitment to make fixed payments in the future
 - The fixed payments are tax deductible
 - Failure to make the payments can lead to either default or loss of control of the firm to the party to whom payments are due.
- Defined as such, debt should include
 - All interest bearing liabilities, short term as well as long term
 - All leases, operating as well as capital
- Debt should not include
 - Accounts payable or supplier credit
- Be wary of your conservative impulses which will tell you to count everything as debt. That will push up the debt ratio and lead you to understate your cost of capital.

Book Value or Market Value

237

- You are valuing a distressed telecom company and have arrived at an estimate of \$ 1 billion for the enterprise value (using a discounted cash flow valuation). The company has \$ 1 billion in face value of debt outstanding but the debt is trading at 50% of face value (because of the distress). What is the value of the equity to you as an investor?
 - a. The equity is worth nothing (EV minus Face Value of Debt)
 - b. The equity is worth \$ 500 million (EV minus Market Value of Debt)

- Would your answer be different if you were told that the liquidation value of the assets of the firm today is \$1.2 billion and that you were planning to liquidate the firm today?

But you should consider other potential liabilities when getting to equity value

238

- If you have under funded pension fund or health care plans, you should consider the under funding at this stage in getting to the value of equity.
 - ▣ If you do so, you should not double count by also including a cash flow line item reflecting cash you would need to set aside to meet the unfunded obligation.
 - ▣ You should not be counting these items as debt in your cost of capital calculations....
- If you have contingent liabilities - for example, a potential liability from a lawsuit that has not been decided - you should consider the expected value of these contingent liabilities
 - ▣ Value of contingent liability = Probability that the liability will occur * Expected value of liability

6. Equity to Employees: Effect on Value

- In recent years, firms have turned to giving employees (and especially top managers) equity option or restricted stock packages as part of compensation. If they are options, they usually are long term and on volatile stocks. If restricted stock, the restrictions are usually on trading.
- These equity compensation packages are clearly valuable and the question becomes how best to deal with them in valuation.
- Two key issues with employee options:
 - ▣ How do options or restricted stock granted in the past affect equity value per share today?
 - ▣ How do expected grants of either, in the future, affect equity value today?