Summarizing 'Business Analysis & Valuation' ... or "Damodaran on Valuation"

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Basic FCF Model

- Value of Firm
 - Use CF of Firm and WACC as discounting rate
- Value of Equity
 - Use CF to Firm's Equity and Cost of Equity as discounting rate
- Modifications for ...
- Firms in trouble
 - Estimate cash flow until they turn positive
- Cyclical Firms
 - FCF are usually smoothened out
- Firms with unutilized assets
 - Get the value of these assets externally and add



FCF Model ... Complications

- Firms with patents and product options
 - Get the value of these externally and add [or] better, real options pricing model
 - Firms in the process of restructuring
 - Adjust CF to reflect business restructuring and discount rate to reflect financial restructuring
- Firms involved in acquisitions
 - (a) incorporate in FCF's; and (b) incorporate in risk
- Private firms:
 - Take riskiness of comparable firms that are publicly traded [or] relate the measure of risk to accounting variables



Why Estimates Usually Go Wrong?

Sources of uncertainty (by Aswath Damodaran)

- Our estimates of value can be wrong for a number of reasons (divided into three groups):
 - 1. <u>Estimation uncertainty</u>: Errors while converting raw information into inputs and use these inputs in models (common in valuing young technology company)
 - 2. <u>Firm-specific uncertainty</u>: The path that we envision for the firm can prove to be hopelessly wrong. (common in situations of information asymmetry for us vis-à-vis market participants)
 - 3. <u>Macroeconomic uncertainty</u>: Macroeconomic environment can change in unpredictable ways (common in mature cyclical or commodity company)

Good Responses to Uncertainty

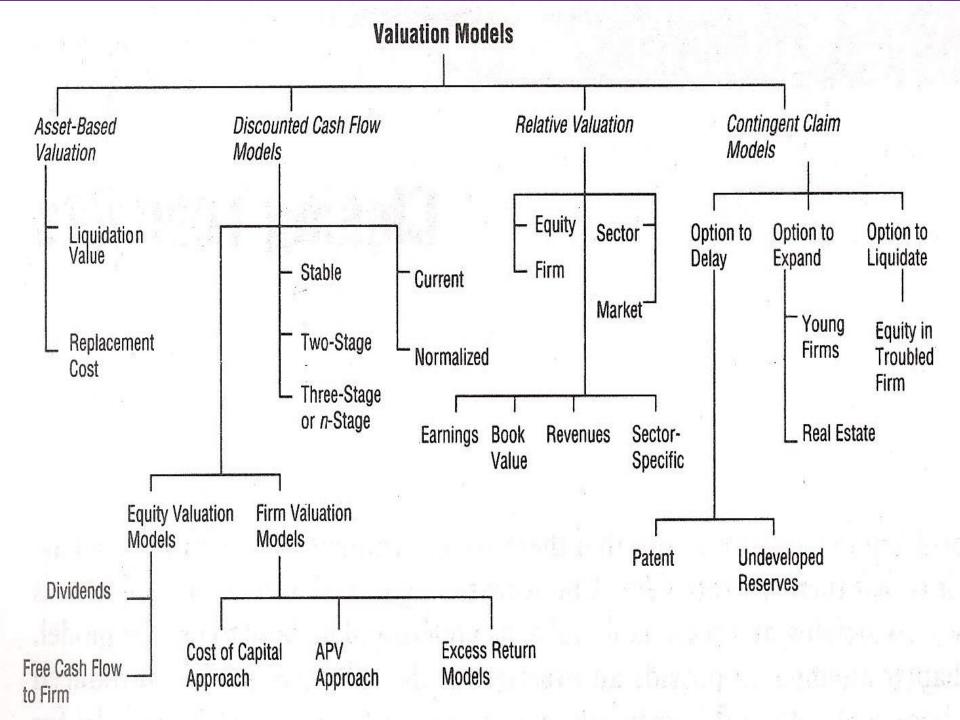
Healthy responses to uncertainty would include:

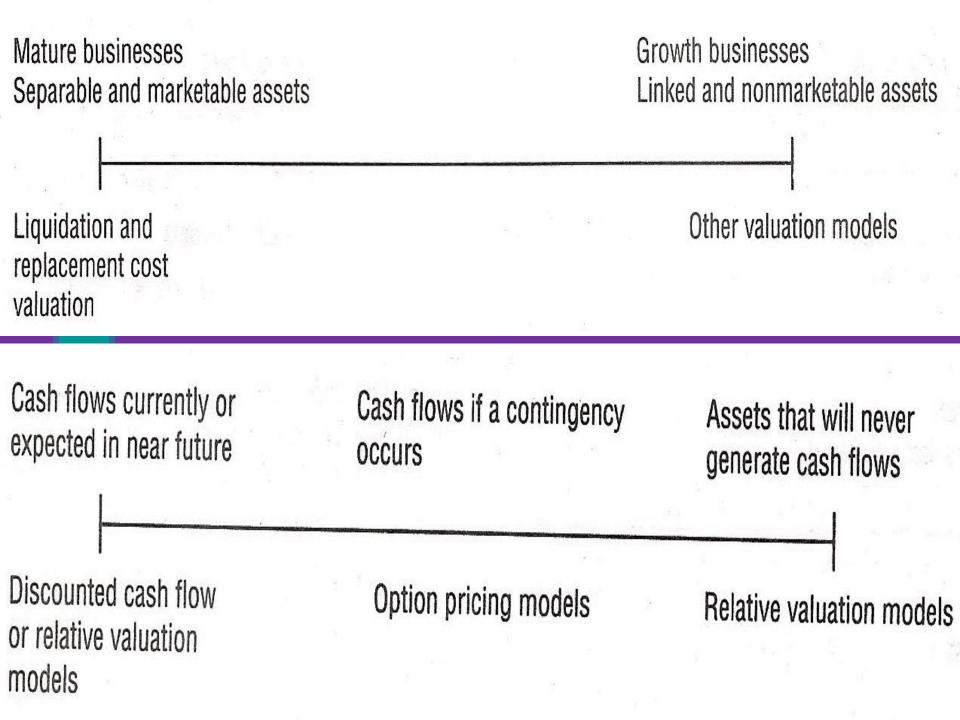
- Better valuation models
- Valuation ranges
- Probabilistic statements
- The principle of parsimony helps

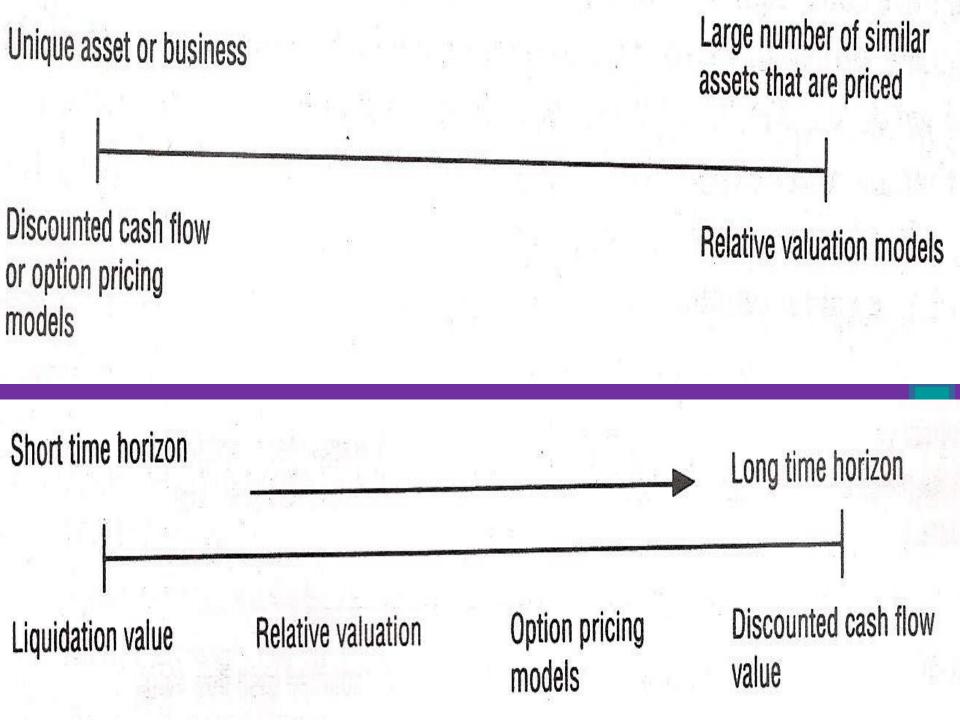
Unhealthy responses to uncertainty would include:

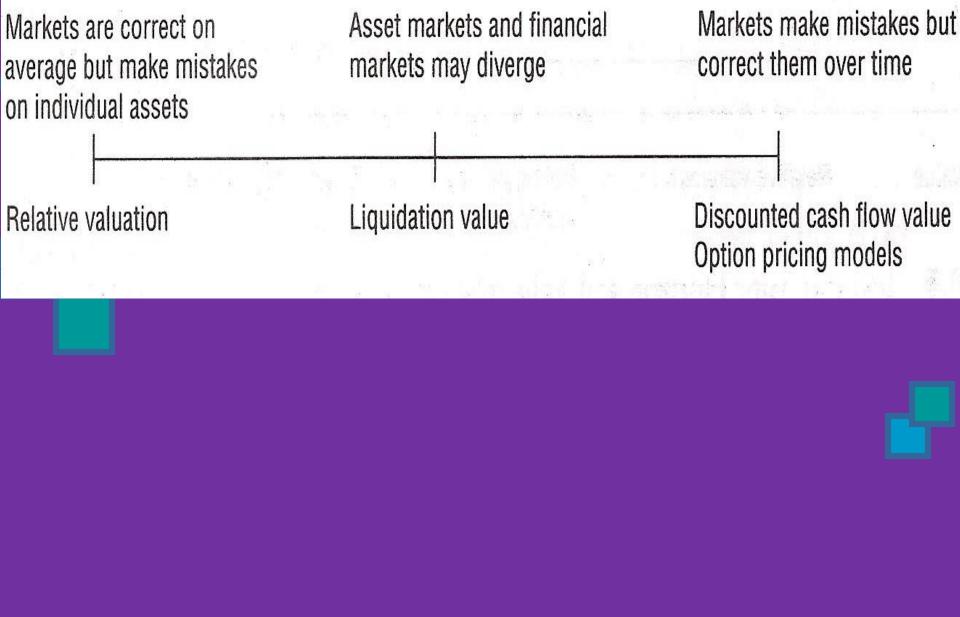
- Passing the buck
- Giving up on fundamentals (and going for day dreaming or technical analysis)

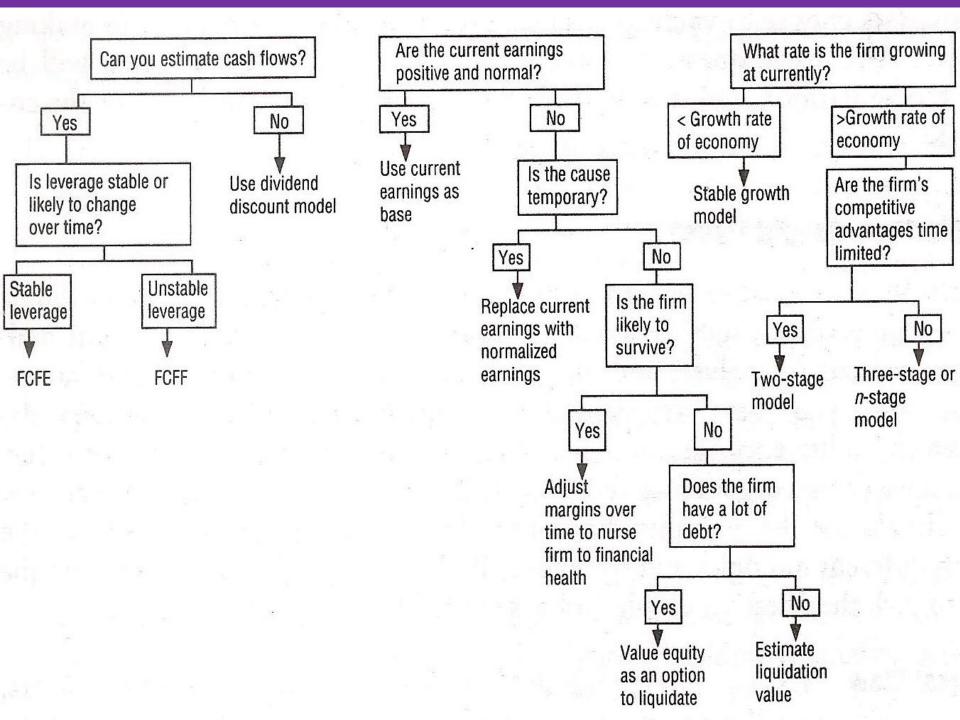












Multiple Used	Rationale/Comments
P/E, relative P/E	Often with normalized earnings.
P/E to growth (PEG)	Big differences in growth across firms make it difficult to compare P/E ratios.
Price to sales, enterprise value to sales	Assume future margins will be positive.
EV/EBITDA	Firms in sector have losses in early years, and reported earnings can vary depending on depreciation method.
Price to cash flow	Restrictions on investment policy and large depreciation charges make cash flows a better measure than equity earnings.
Price to book value	Book value often marked to market.
Price to sales Enterprise value to sales	If leverage is similar across firms. If leverage is different.
	P/E, relative P/E P/E to growth (PEG) Price to sales, enterprise value to sales EV/EBITDA Price to cash flow Price to book value Price to sales

Limitations of Valuation

- Valuing alternate assets
- Valuing control
- While one can always state that ... in the long run market always prices assets based on their intrinsic value
 - ... finally, it is also a question of Demand and Supply
- And hence there can be temporary asset mis-pricing due to liquidity issues
- Also slightly longer time frame mis-pricing is created by a few market participants (using information asymmetry and large complexity) → typically you make things opaque) → RIL
- Finally, Business Valuation is very successful over the longrun

Corporate Valuation

- How much of Corporate Valuation did we cover?
- Our focus was on connecting theoretical knowledge to practical aspects through ... Project, Illustrations, Examples, and Mini Cases.
- Many things are left ... such as, treating DTL, Infant Inds., etc.
- However, (within time and other constraints) we covered quite a range ... in terms of 'firm size', 'industry type', 'valuation model', 'risk-return' profiles, ...

