

Lecture: Basic Elements

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Discounted Cash Flow, Section 1.1



Outline

Introduction

DCF

The predecessors

1.1 Fundamental terms

1.1.1 Cash flows

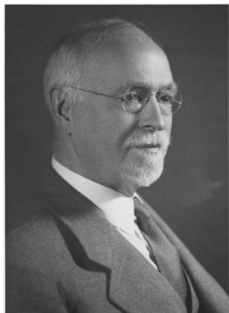
1.1.2 Taxes

1.1.3 Cost of capital

1.1.4 Time

Summary





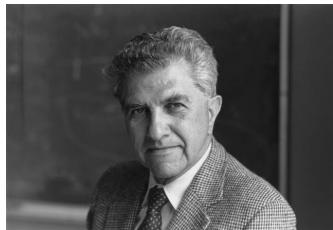
Fisher is one of the earliest American Neoclassicals. He studied Mathematics, Social Science and Philosophy. 1892 Professor at Yale.





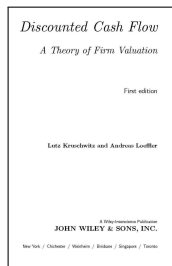
Modigliani was born in Italy, moved to USA in 1939. 1962 Professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. 1985 Nobel Laureate in Economics.





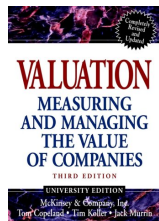
1961 Professor at University of Chicago. 1990 Nobel Laureate in Economics.





1. To put **taxes and uncertainty together** into one model and
2. To give **precise formal definitions** of several concepts such as
 - ▶ cash flows (gross, net, free, ...?)
 - ▶ taxes (firm income, personal income or both, ...?)
 - ▶ cost of capital (discount rates, returns, ...?)
3. While **maintaining** the following **principles**:
 - ▶ no free lunch (goes back to Modigliani–Miller!)
 - ▶ no revelation of stochastic structure of future cash flows.



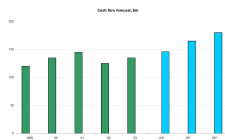


Copeland/Koller/Murrin

Valuation based on discounted cash flow (DCF) involves discounting

- ▶ of future payment surpluses
- ▶ after consideration of taxes
- ▶ using appropriate cost of capital.





CF forecast

What matters are **future** cash flows.

But, the question of **how to forecast cash flows** will not be considered here,

nor the question of how to derive **cash flows from balance sheets**.

Furthermore, the investment policy (expansion and replacement investments) will be given.





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$$\begin{array}{rcl} & & \text{EBIT} \\ + & & \text{Accruals} \\ \hline = & & \text{Gross cash flows before taxes} \\ - & & \text{Corporate income taxes} \\ - & & \text{Investment expenses} \\ \hline = & & \text{Free cash flow} \\ - & & \text{Interest, debt service} \\ - & & \text{dividends, capital reduction} \\ \hline = & & \text{Zero} \end{array}$$





US Tax

Authority

We consider two different types of income tax:

- Corporate income tax (Chapter 2).
- Personal income tax (Chapter 3).

Value-based and sales taxes are ignored.



The image shows a portion of a German tax return form for the year 2003. The form is titled 'Umsatzsteuererklärung' (Sales Tax Declaration). It contains several fields and checkboxes. At the top right, the year '2003' is printed. Below the title, there are fields for 'Steueridentifikationsnummer' (Tax Identification Number) with the value '11', 'Steuerart' (Tax Type) with the value '50', 'Steuerklasse' (Tax Class) with the value '03', 'Steuerbefreiung' (Tax Exemption) with the value '1', and 'Steuerbefreiungsnummer' (Tax Exemption Number) with the value '99'. Below these fields, there are two boxes for tax amounts: 'Steuerbetrag' (Tax Amount) with the value '121' and 'Steuerbetrag' (Tax Amount) with the value '110'. At the bottom, there are checkboxes for 'Steuerpflichtig' (Taxable) and 'Steuerbefreit' (Tax Exempt).

German tax file

Characteristics are

- the tax subject (who?)
- the tax object (why?)
- the tax due (how much?), which is a product of the tax base and a linear tax scale.

Notice that in our model the **tax rate is deterministic.**





The screenshot shows a Reuters Market Monitor window with a table of financial data. The table has columns for company names, various financial metrics, and values. The data is organized into sections for different companies, with some rows highlighted in blue. The table includes columns for 'Market', 'Sector', 'Company', 'Market Cap', 'P/E Ratio', 'Dividend Yield', and 'EPS'. The data is presented in a grid format with alternating row colors.

Reuters monitor

It is obvious what the cost of capital is in a one-period context. In a multi-period context there are at least **three different notions** of this concept: cost of capital can be

- ▶ returns,
- ▶ discount rates, or
- ▶ yields.

How now?



First, let us ignore uncertainty.

Notation:

FCF firm's free cash flow
 V value of the firm

Idea:

Cost of capital is used for **discounting** (we are very loose here), hence

$$V_0 = \frac{FCF_1}{1 + k_0} + \frac{FCF_2}{(1 + k_0)(1 + k_1)} + \dots$$



This idea shall also be applied in the future: at $t = 1$ we want to have

$$V_1 = \frac{FCF_2}{1 + k_1} + \frac{FCF_3}{(1 + k_1)(1 + k_2)} + \dots$$

where k_1 is the **same cost of capital from the last slide!**



Then the definition of cost of capital should run

$$k_t \stackrel{\text{Def}}{=} \frac{FCF_{t+1} + V_{t+1}}{V_t} - 1$$

Implication: Costs of capital are inevitably (expected) returns.



A different approach could be

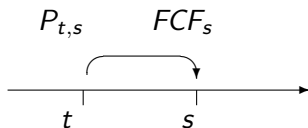
$$V_0 = \frac{FCF_1}{1 + k_0} + \frac{FCF_2}{(1 + k_1)^2} + \dots$$

$$\text{but then } \implies V_1 \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{FCF_2}{1 + k_1} + \frac{FCF_3}{(1 + k_2)^2} + \dots$$

Here the costs of capital are **yields**. We do not think much along this course (this is a different concept), because it is difficult to observe yields empirically.



You pay at time t a price $P_{t,s}$ for cash flow FCF_s due at s :



We would then define a discount rate as

$$P_{t,s} \stackrel{\text{Def}}{=} \frac{FCF_s}{(1 + \kappa_{t,s})^{s-t}}$$

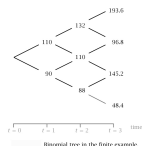
What relation exists between these discount rates and (expected) returns (=cost of capital)?

Will be understood later. . .

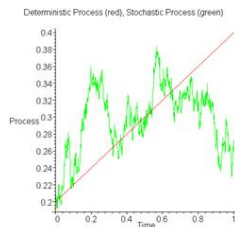


Different notions of time

discrete (easy to handle)



continuous (elegant, but laborious)



Time horizon

- ▶ finite
- ▶ infinite: Here we assume transversality, which is equivalent to saying 'nothing strange happens when $T \rightarrow \infty$ '.



Valuation requires knowledge of

- free cash flows,
- taxes,
- cost of capital.

Costs of capital are returns, not yields.

