Profits and Projections Evaluation

When you are courting a nice girl, an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity.

—Albert Einstein

Is anything wrong in the below illustrated financials?

Balance Sheet	Mar-20
Intercompany receivables	50
Investments	20
Loans & Advances	60
Trade Receivables	50
Cash and Bank Balances	20
Other Current Assets	10
Deferred Tax (net)	10
Less: Trade Payables	(50)
Less: Short Term Provisions	(20)
Less: Long Term Provisions	(40)
Less: Other Current Liabilities	(80)
Book Value	30
Equiy Share Capital	10
Reserves & Surplus	20
Book Value	30

Profit & Loss Account	Mar-20
Income from outsourcing services	500
Total Revenues	500
Cost of Goods Sold	300
Employee Cost	100
Other Expenses	80
Depreciation	60
Interest Expense	40
Total Expenses	580
Profits Before Tax	(80)
Taxes	-
Profits After Tax	(80)

Amounts in INR Millions

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson decide to go on a camping trip. After dinner and a bottle of wine, they lay down for the night, and go to sleep.

Some hours later, Holmes awoke and nudged his faithful friend.

"Watson, look up at the sky and tell me what you see."

Watson replied, "I see millions of stars."

"What does that tell you?"

Watson pondered for a minute.

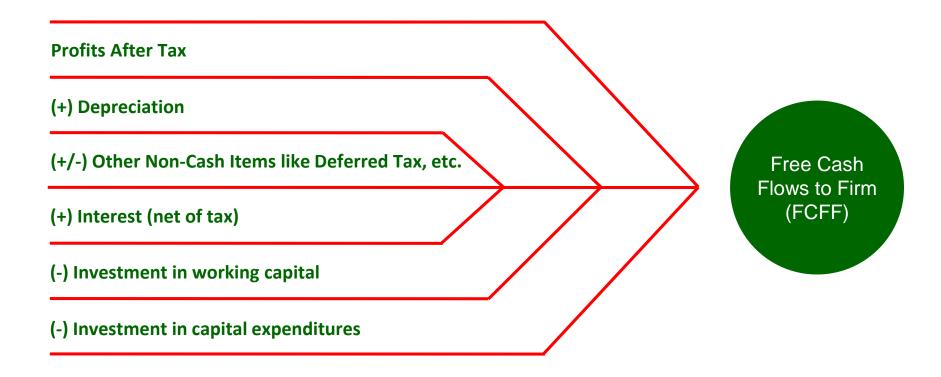
"I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. What does it tell you, Holmes?"

Holmes was silent for a minute, then spoke: "Watson, you idiot. Someone has stolen our tent!"

BEFORE EVALUATING ANY NUMBERS, UNDERSTAND AND EVALUATE THE BUSINESS

Projections

Free Cash Flows



Evaluation – Projections – Capex

Particulars (INR MM)	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	TV
PAT	200	240	288	346	415	435
Add: Dep	20	24	29	35	41	44
Add: Int (net of tax)	-	_	-	-	-	-
Less: WC Movements	(2)	(2)	(3)	(3)	(4)	(4)
Less: Capex	22	(50)	(60)	-	-	(150)
FCF	240	212	254	377	452	325

Evaluation – Projections – Capex

Capex

- Capacity Utilization
 - Manufacturing
 - Service
 - > Toll Projects
 - Cost Plus Markup
- Ratios
 - Compare with past
 - Compare with industry
 - Capex % to Revenues / Gross Block / Capex per tonne / per bed / per room
- What if projected capex is nil?
- Is negative capex correct?
- Capex Cycle

Evaluation – Projections – Working Capital

Particulars	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	TV
PAT	200	240	288	346	415	435
Add: Dep	20	24	29	35	41	44
Add: Int (net of tax)	-	-	-	-	-	-
Less: WC Movements	(375)	42	(30)	(50)	4	28
Less: Capex	(20)	(24)	(29)	(35)	(41)	(44)
FCF	(175)	282	258	296	419	463

Evaluation – Projections – Working Capital

Working Capital

- What is included in working capital?
 - Is long term loans & advances part of working capital?
 - What about short-term debt?
 - Is proposed dividend included?
 - What about current maturities of long term debt?
 - What about margin money deposits?
 - Operating Cash?

Working Capital Ratios

- % to revenues, turnover ratios (debtor days / creditor days / inventory)
- Compare to past as well as to the industry
- Intercompany receivables / payables
- > Can a business have negative working capital throughout its life?
- How should the same be treated in terminal value calculation?

Evaluation – Projections – Borrowings

- Borrowings / Cost of Borrowings / Interest
 - > Repayment Schedule
 - Affects Debt Equity Ratio / WACC
 - Industry Debt Equity Ratio
 - Current v Projected Debt Equity Ratio
 - Inter-company / related party borrowings
 - Whether interest bearing
 - > Substance over form of the instrument viz. whether debt or equity
 - > Idle Cash v Borrowings
 - Treatment of Bank Overdraft Current Liability or Debt?
 - > Treatment of Preference Share Capital
 - Rate of Interest

Evaluation – Projections – Revenues

Revenues

- > Growth
 - Past v Future (IRCTC)
 - Industry Comparison (Zomato / Uber Eats, Airlines, Telecom)
 - Market Share (Dream11 / Reliance Jio Infratel tower business)
 - Geography (Alcohol / Poker / Uber-Didi)
 - Outside Factors (FDI Regulations / Mining Leases)
 - Start-ups v existing set-ups
- Capacity Utilization
- Seasonality (Hospitality / Travel / Mining)
- Composition (Old v New, Manufacturing v Trading, Outside v Captive)
- Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR)

Evaluation – Projections – Operating Margins

Operating Margins

- > Trend
 - Past v Future (Cost plus model)
 - Industry Comparison (Cement / Life insurance companies / QSR)
 - Cost Analysis Variable v Fixed
 - Operating Costing
- Raw Material Price (imported v Indigenous)
- Employee Cost
- > Royalty Payments
- Ad Spends and Business Development
- Foreign Exchange Fluctuations

Evaluation – Projections – Depreciation

- Depreciation
 - Owned v Rented
 - Relation with Capex and Gross Block
 - **EBITDA / EBITDAR**

Profitability

Evaluation – Profitability

- > Erstwhile CCI Guidelines
- PECV Method
- Capitalization Rate
- Inverse of Multiple
- Non-Recurring Items of Income / Expenditure
- Non-Operating Items of Income / Expenditure
- Prior-Period Items

Evaluation – Profitability

- Foreign Exchange Gain / Loss
- Interest Income
- Income Tax Refund
- Bad Debts
- Gain / Loss on Sale of Fixed Assets
- Income Tax Expense
- Other Operating Income
- Other Income
- Interest Expense

Evaluation – Profitability – Find maintainable profits

Amo	ounts in INR Million	Mar-18	Mar-19	Mar-20
Example 1	Profits After Tax	300	350	400
Example 2	Profits After Tax	400	350	300
Example 3	Profits After Tax	300	350	400
	Non-recurring incomes	20	120	120
	Non-recurring expenses	120	120	20
	Maintainable	400	350	300

What about tax on non-recurring items adjusted?

Facts to remember while evaluating

- Accounting Income is less relevant as compared to cash flows
 - Long Term Debt v Short Term Debt
 - Current Cash v Long Term Cash
 - Current Liabilities v Long Term Liabilities
 - Dividend / Appropriation
- > So are accounting standards
- Projected Cash and Projected Surplus Assets
- Deferred Tax
- Interest Expense
- Projected Increase in Equity Capital

Basic Errors – The Dark Side of Evaluation

- Projected Balance Sheet does not tally
- Projected Cash is negative
- Projected Gross Block less Accumulated Depreciation does not tie up with Net Block
- Projected Annual Profit / Loss number does not tie up with movement in Reserves & Surplus
- Absolute Numbers of Revenues or Costs are declining
- Implied Tax Rates are either too low or too high
- Disregarding actuals till date in building up projections

Get your facts first, and then you can distort them as much as you please

—Mark Twain