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# Portfolio Strategy

MORGAN STANLEY RESEARCH  
North America

## *P/E Premiums & Franchise Structures*

### *The Q-Group*

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# Outline

- **Dividend Discount Model (DDM)**
- **Core Value and Franchise Value**
- **Franchise Structure**
- **Investment-Constrained Franchise**
- **Opportunity-Constrained Franchise**
- **Franchise Value and  $g^*$**
- **Implications**

# Many Have Studied Equity Valuation

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References		
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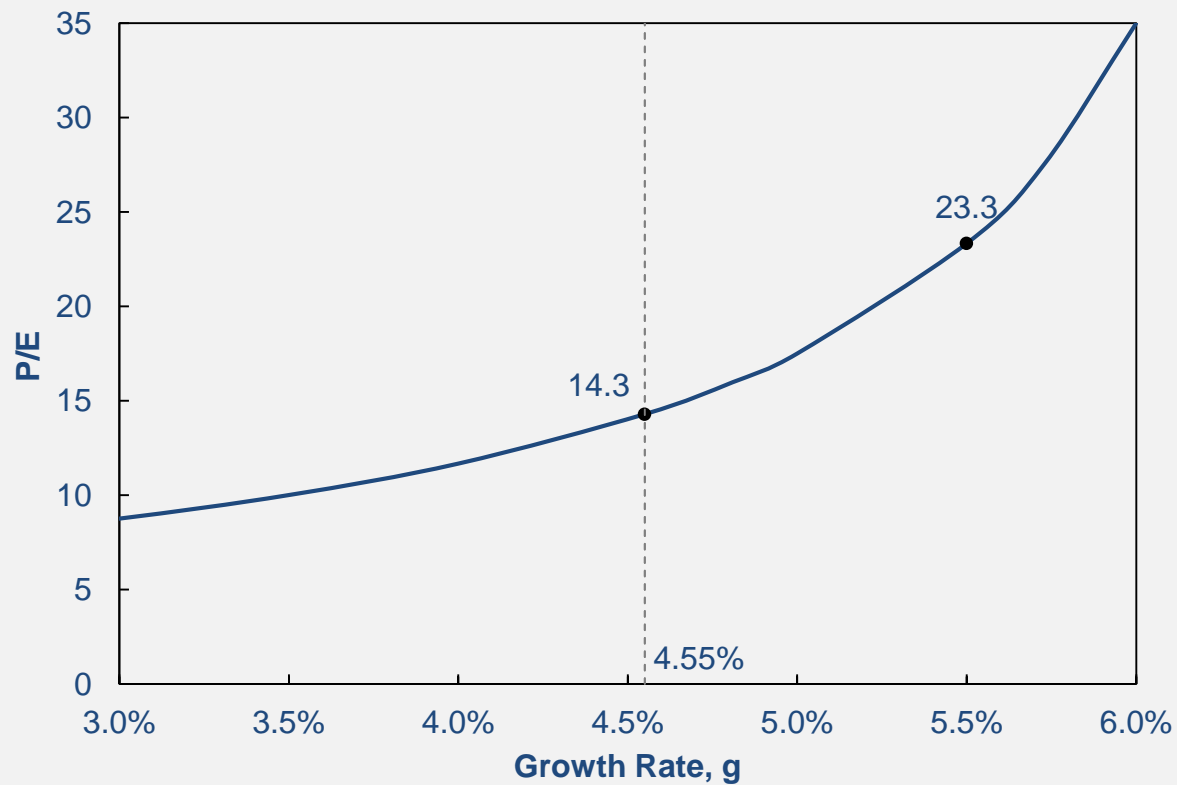
## The “Standard” Dividend Discount Model (DDM)

$$P = \frac{D}{k - g}$$

$$P/E = \frac{1 - b}{k - g}$$

- $b$  = Earnings retention rate
- $r$  = Return on equity (ROE)
- $k$  = Market capitalization rate

## P/E vs Growth with DDM



- $b = 0.65$
  - $k = 7.0\%$
- $g = 4.55\% \Rightarrow P/E = 14.3$   
 $g = 5.50\% \Rightarrow P/E = 23.3$

## Spread-Driven Earnings Growth & $g^*$

$$g = br = b(k + s)$$

$$P/E = \frac{1 - b}{k - br}$$

$$P/E = \frac{1 - b}{(1 - b)k - bs}$$

$$P/E = \frac{1}{k - bs/(1 - b)}$$

$$P/E = \frac{1}{k - g^*}$$

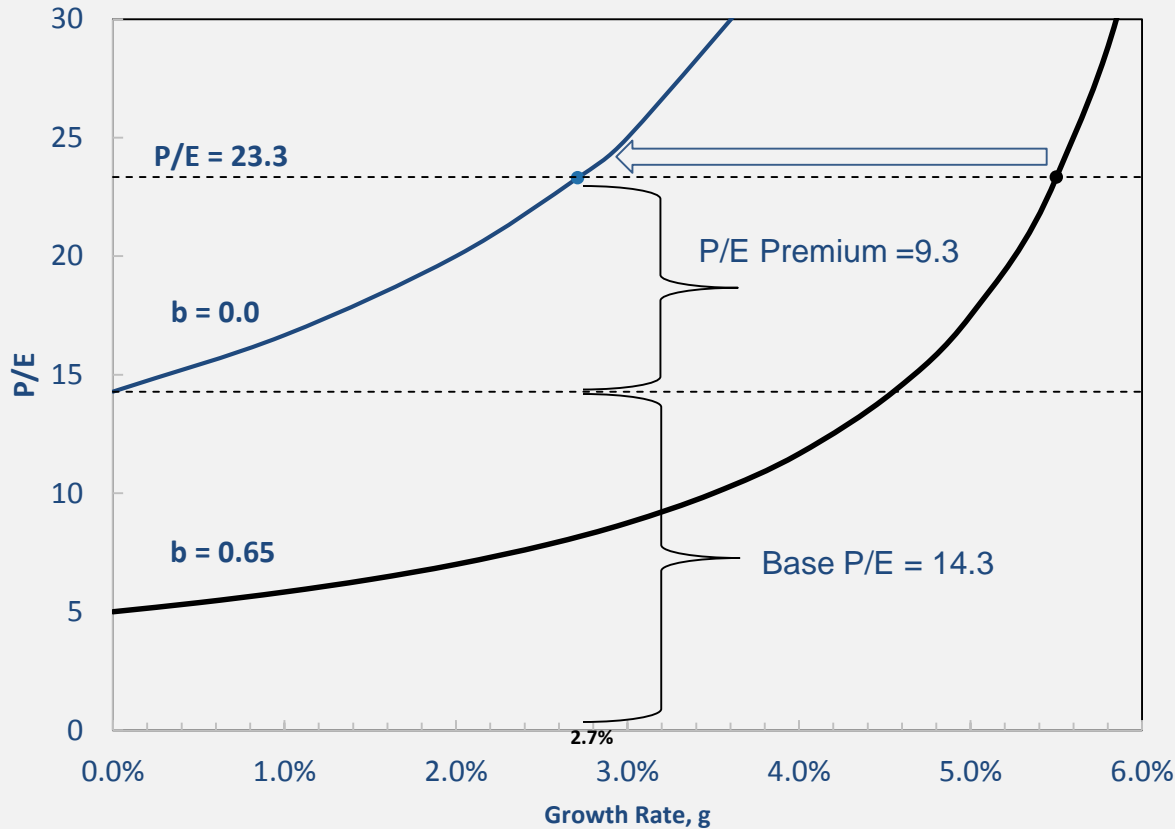
Retained earnings =  $bE$

Incremental earnings =  $r(bE)$

Annual growth rate,  $g = br$

$$g^* = bs/(1 - b)$$

# P/E vs Growth with Retentions of 65% and 0%



- $k = 7.0\%$
- $b = 0.65, g = 5.5\%$   
 $\Rightarrow P/E = 23.3$

## Earnings Yield + $g^*$ = Return

$$P/E = \frac{1 - b}{k - g}$$

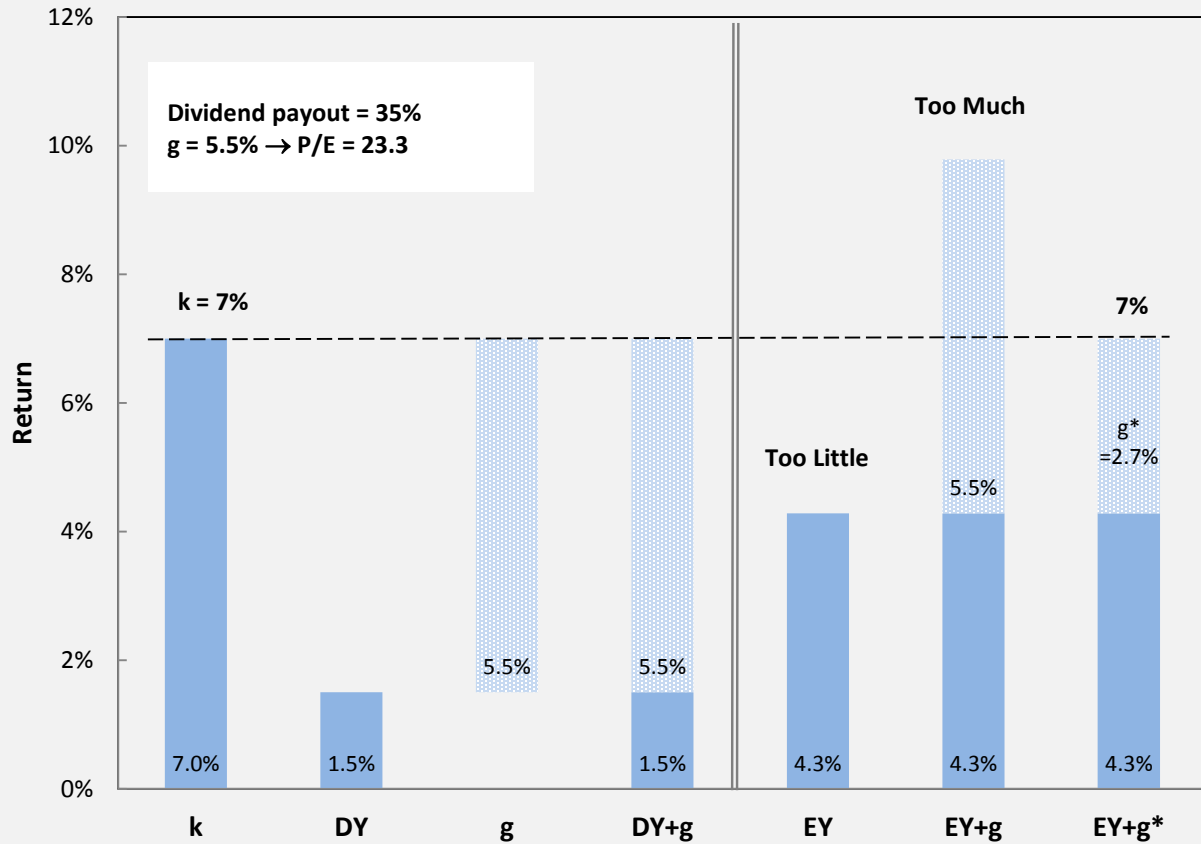
$$k = (1 - b)E/P + g$$

$$= E/P + \{g - b(E/P)\}$$

$$= E/P + g^*$$



# Return = Dividend Yield + Growth = Earnings Yield + $g^*$



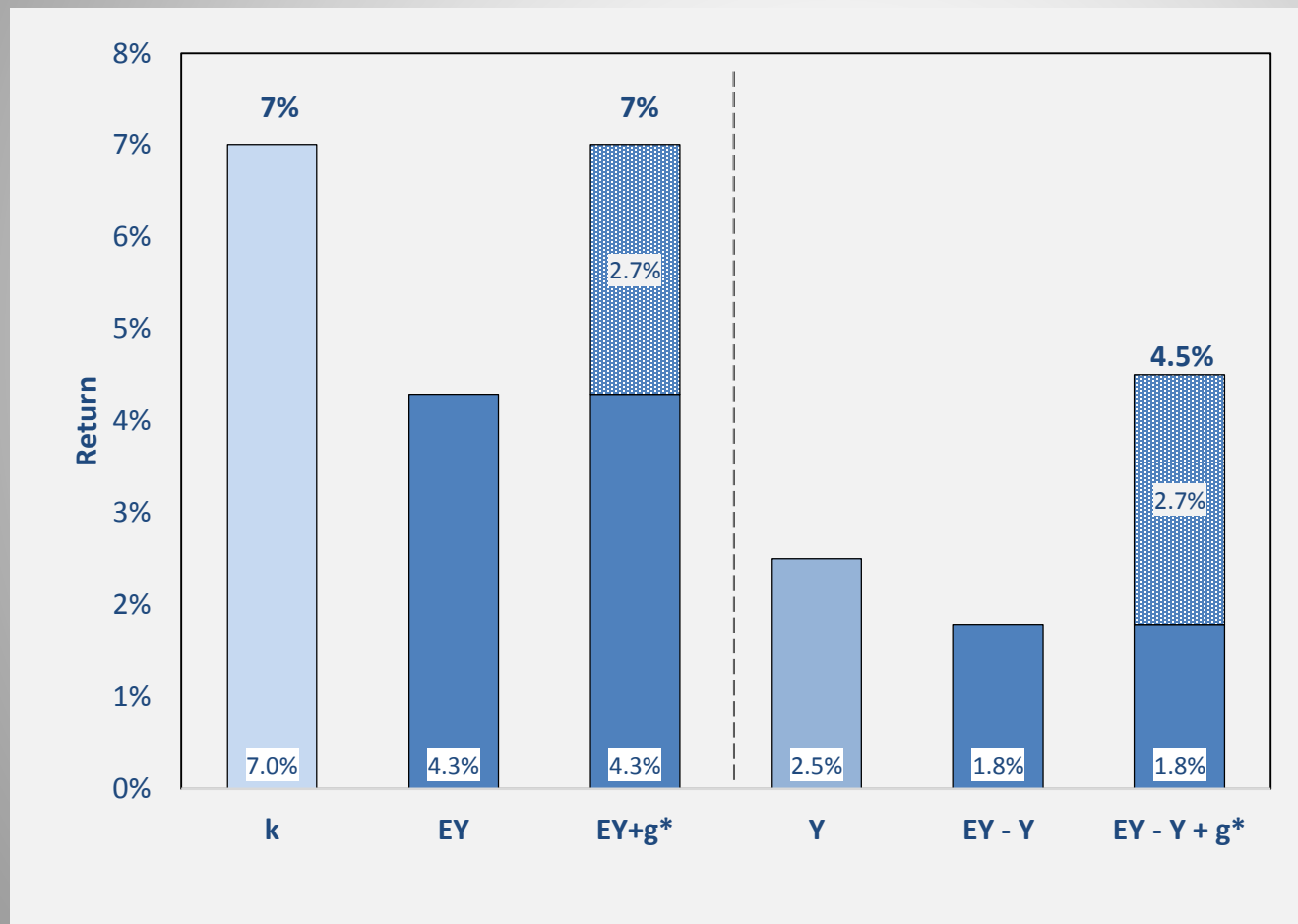
## **$g^*$ Provides An Equity Risk Premium “Correction”**

$$r_p = k - y$$

$$r_p = (E/P + g^*) - y$$

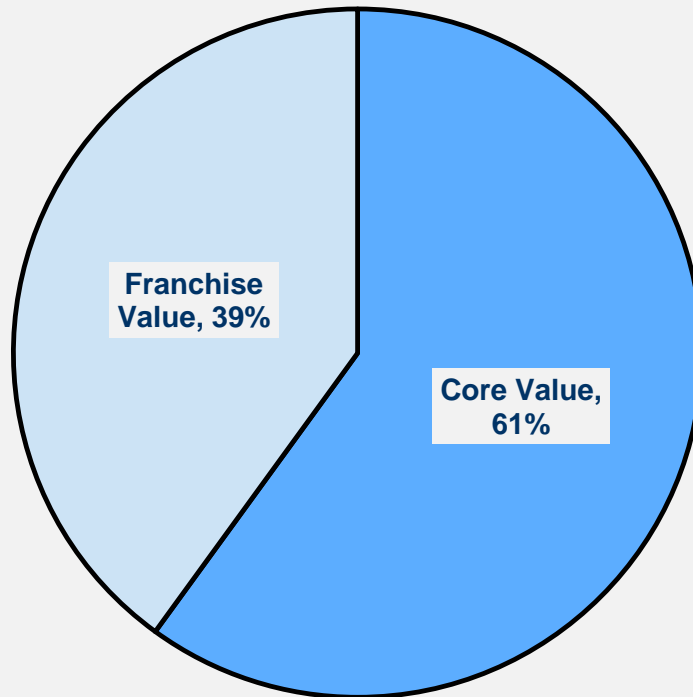
$$r_p = (E/P - y) + g^*$$

## $g^*$ as Risk Premium “Premium”



## Two Components of Theoretical Firm Value

Hypothetical Firm:  
61% Core Value/39% Franchise Value



- “Core Value (CV)” is based on earnings  $E$  from existing businesses & cost of capital  $k$

$$CV = \frac{E}{k}$$

- “Franchise Value (FV)” is based on the present value (PV) of future net earnings from new investments with return  $R > k$

$$FV = \left( \frac{R - k}{k} \right) \times PV(\text{New Inv. } \$)$$

$$\text{Total Value} = CV + FV$$

## Franchise Value, FV

- **FV flows from the firm's patents, licenses, branding, market penetration**
- **These competitive advantages are reflected in a firm's ability to make premium ( $r > k$ ) investments at times  $t > 0$**

$$\mathbf{P/E = Base P/E + P/E Premium}$$

**Total Value, P = Core Value + Franchise Value**

**Core Value = PV of perpetual earnings E**

$$= E/k$$

$$\mathbf{P = E/k + FV}$$

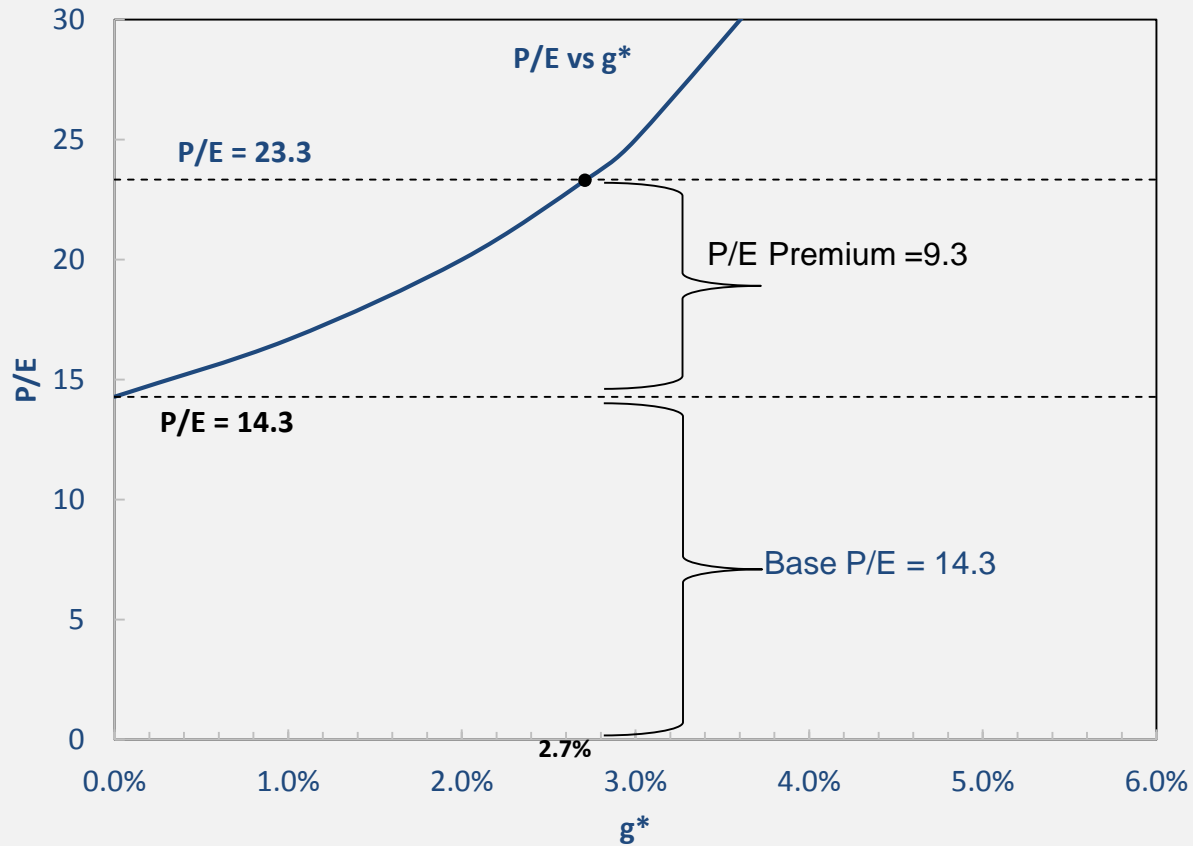
$$\mathbf{P/E = 1/k + FV/E}$$

$$\{\text{Base P/E} = 1/k\}$$

$$\mathbf{P/E Premium = P/E - 1/k}$$

$$\mathbf{P/E Premium = FV/E}$$

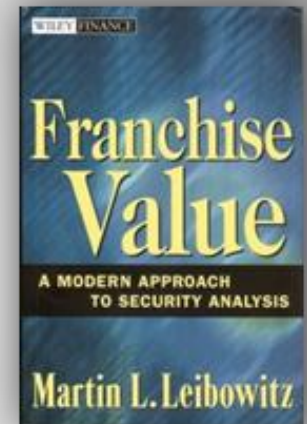
# P/E vs $g^*$ and the P/E Premium



- P/E Premium  
=  $FV/E = 9.3$
- Base P/E  
=  $1/k = 14.3$

## Topics Covered in *FRANCHISE VALUE* (2004)

- Spread-Based Franchises
- The Growth Illusion
- Equity Duration
- Leveraged Firms
- Inflation Effects
- Impact of Q-Type Competition
- Franchise Consumption and Erosion
- Myth of Stable P/Es
- P/E “Orbits”
- Franchise Labor
- Anti-Franchise Situations





## Discounting Franchise Flows

- At time  $T > 0$ , an Investment ,  $I(T, r)$ , provides a “notional” return  $r > k$
- For  $t > T$  and  $r > k$ ,  $I(T, r)$  leads to a flow of payments  $p[t, \sigma | I(T, r)]$
- Payment discount factor is  $d[t | \sigma]$
- Value =  $\sum_{r > k} \sum_{T > 0} \sum_{t > T} p[t, \sigma | I(T, r)] d[t | \sigma]$   
 $- \sum_{r > k} \sum_{T > 0} I(T, r) d(T)$
- This complex formula simplifies to:

$$V(r) = \frac{r-k}{k} \times A(r) \quad \{\text{where } A(r) = I(T, r) d(T)\}$$

## FV and $g^*$

$$P/E = \text{Base P/E} + \text{P/E Premium}$$

$$P/E = 1/k + FV/E$$

$$P = E/k + kFV$$

$$k = E/P + kFV/P$$

*Earlier, we showed that*

$$k = E/P + g^*$$

So,

$$g^* = k \frac{FV}{P}$$

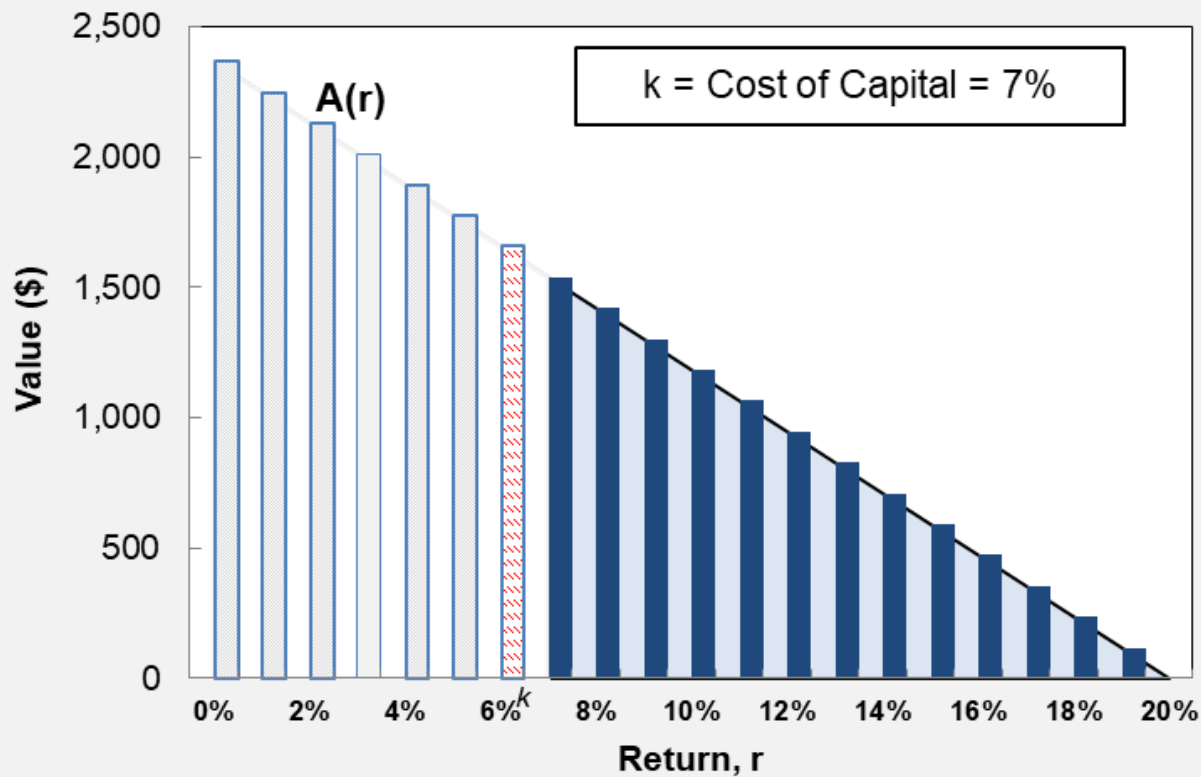
## Generalized Core Value (CV)

- $CV = \sum_{t \geq 0, T=0} p[t, \sigma | N(T)=0, r \neq k] d[t | \sigma]$   
 $\rightarrow E/k$
- $FV \equiv P - CV \rightarrow P - E/k$
- $P/E = 1/k + FV/E$   
 $= 1/k + (g^*/k)P/E$
- $kP = E + g^*P$

## Franchise Structure Model

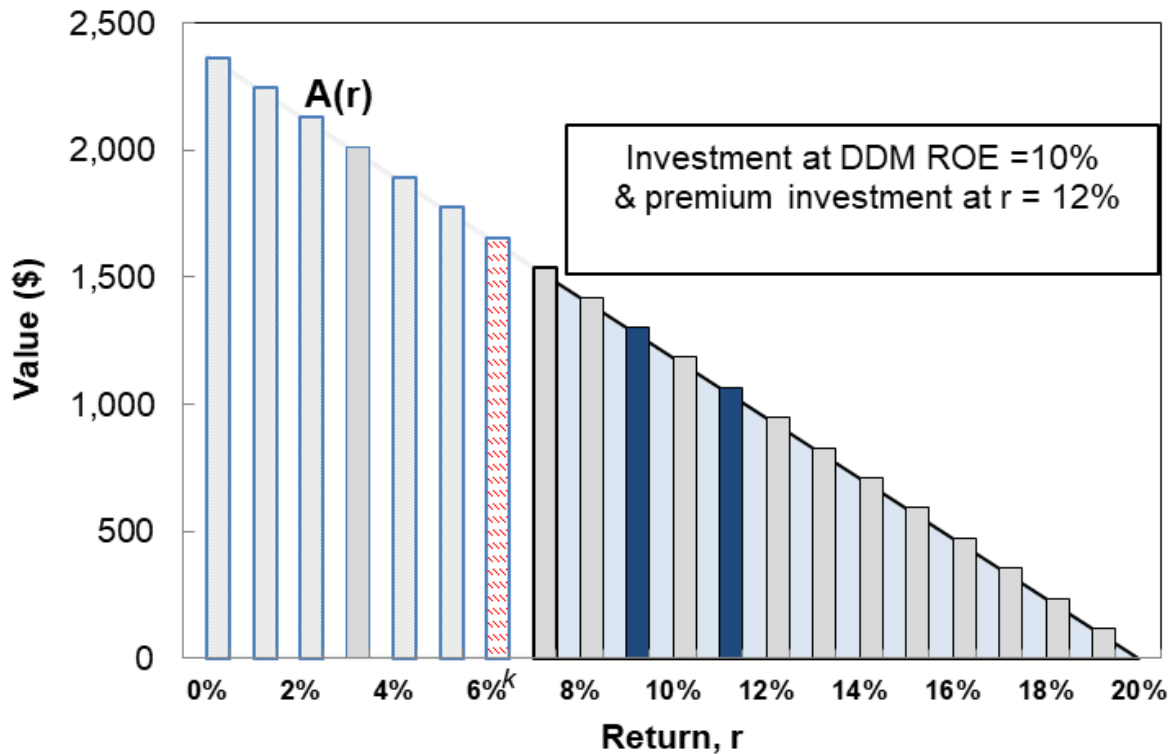
- $FV = \sum_i A(r_i)(r_i - k) / k$

## Only Investments with $r > k$ Add to FV



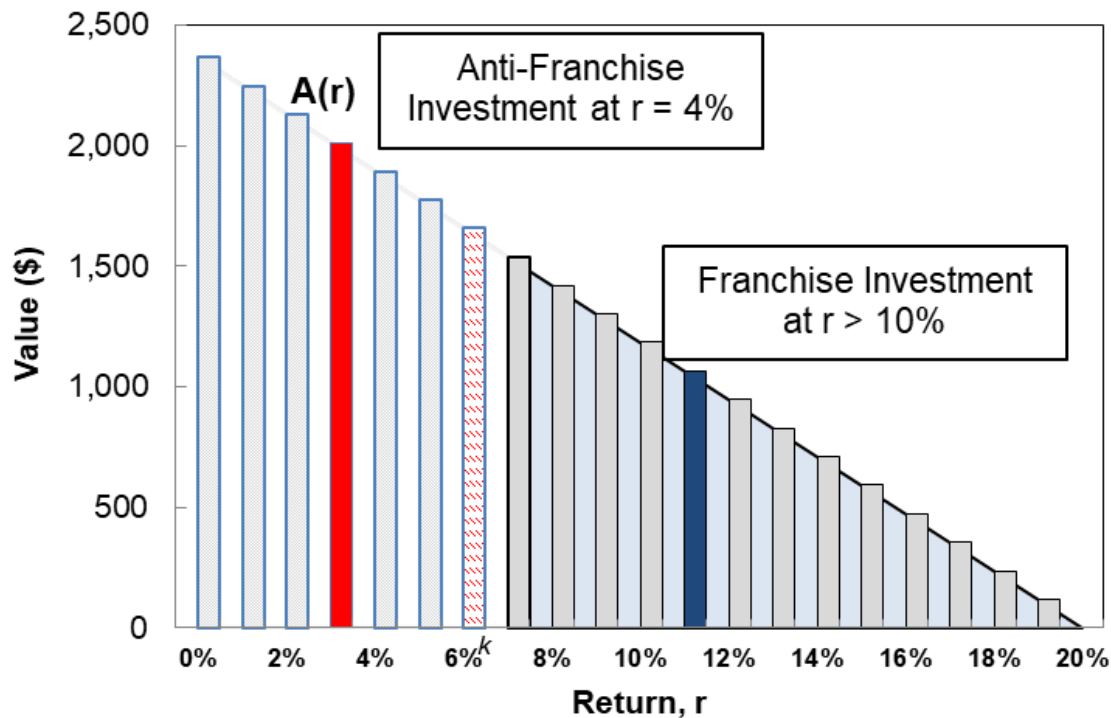
- Total investment is sum of  $A(r_i)\Delta r_i$
- Investments occur at 1% return intervals so  $\Delta r_i = 1\%$
- Investment opportunities at low returns are more plentiful than at high returns

# Investments Implicit in DDM Retention & Franchise Premium



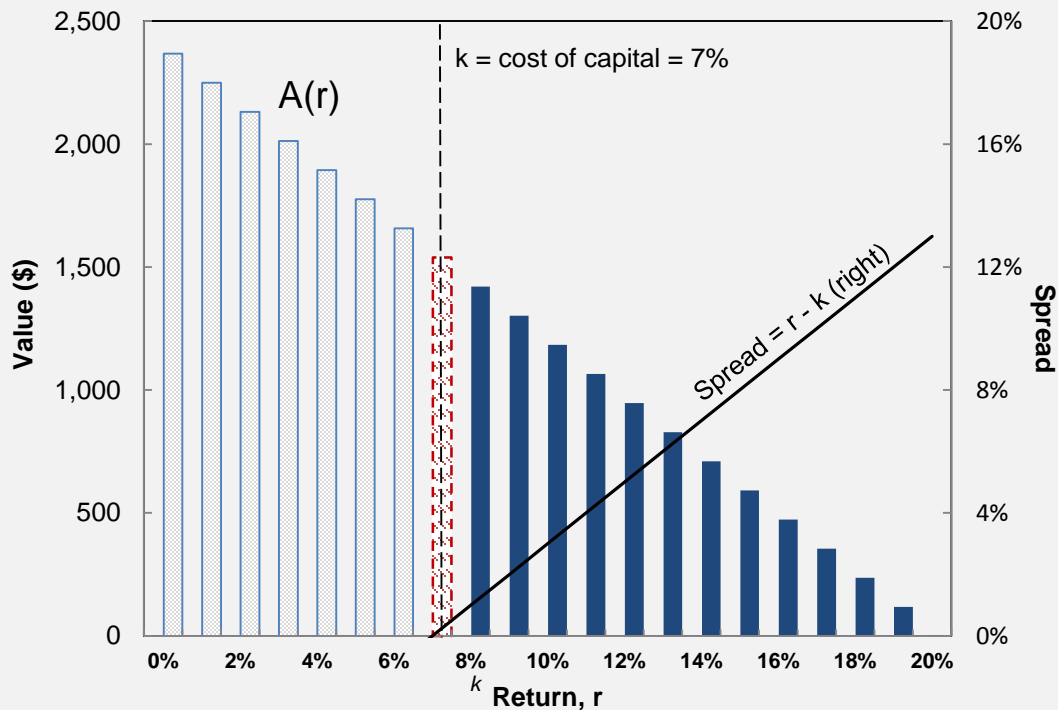
- $k = 7\%$
- $ROE = r = 10\%$
- Premium  $R = 12\% > 10\%$

## The Anti-Franchise: Investments at $r < k$ Reduce Value



- Total investment is sum of  $A(r_i)\Delta r_i$
- Investments occur at 1% return intervals so  $\Delta r_i = 1\%$
- Investment opportunities at low returns are more plentiful than at high returns

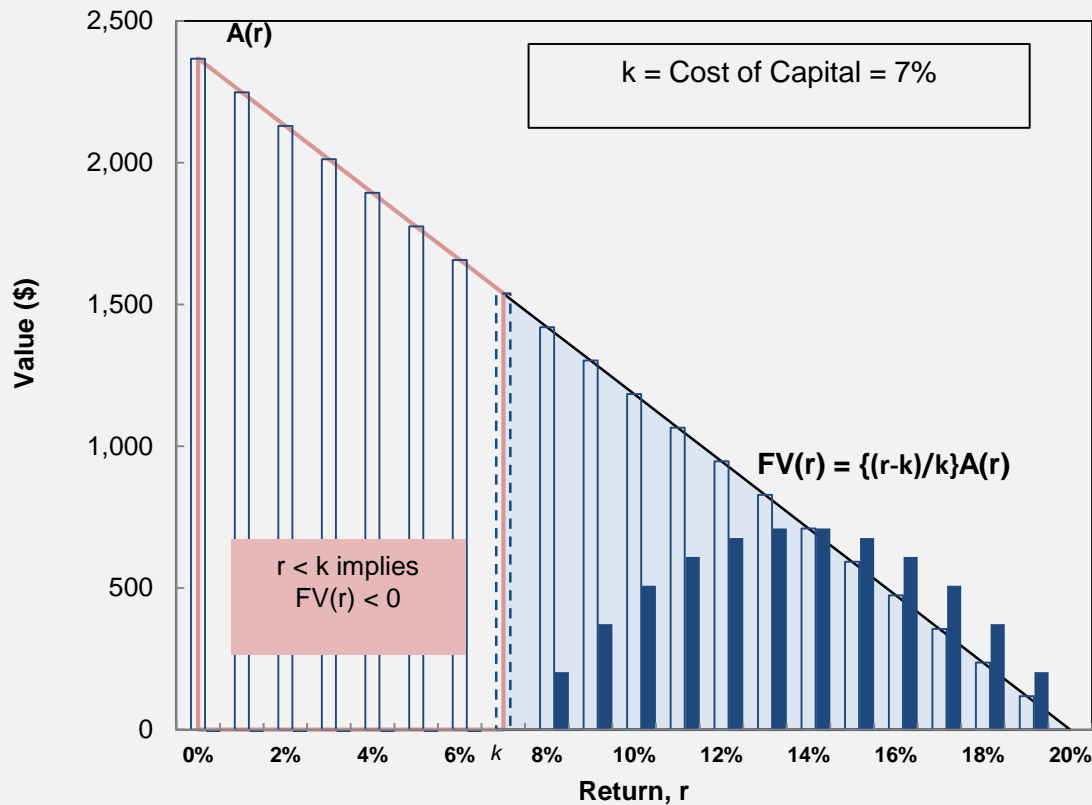
# A(r) and Spread vs Return



- All returns are assumed risk-equivalent
- For each return  $r$ , the investment opportunity represents the PV of all future investments that are expected to return  $r$  in perpetuity
- Investment opportunities at low returns are more plentiful than at high returns



# Franchise Value Structure, $FV(r)$

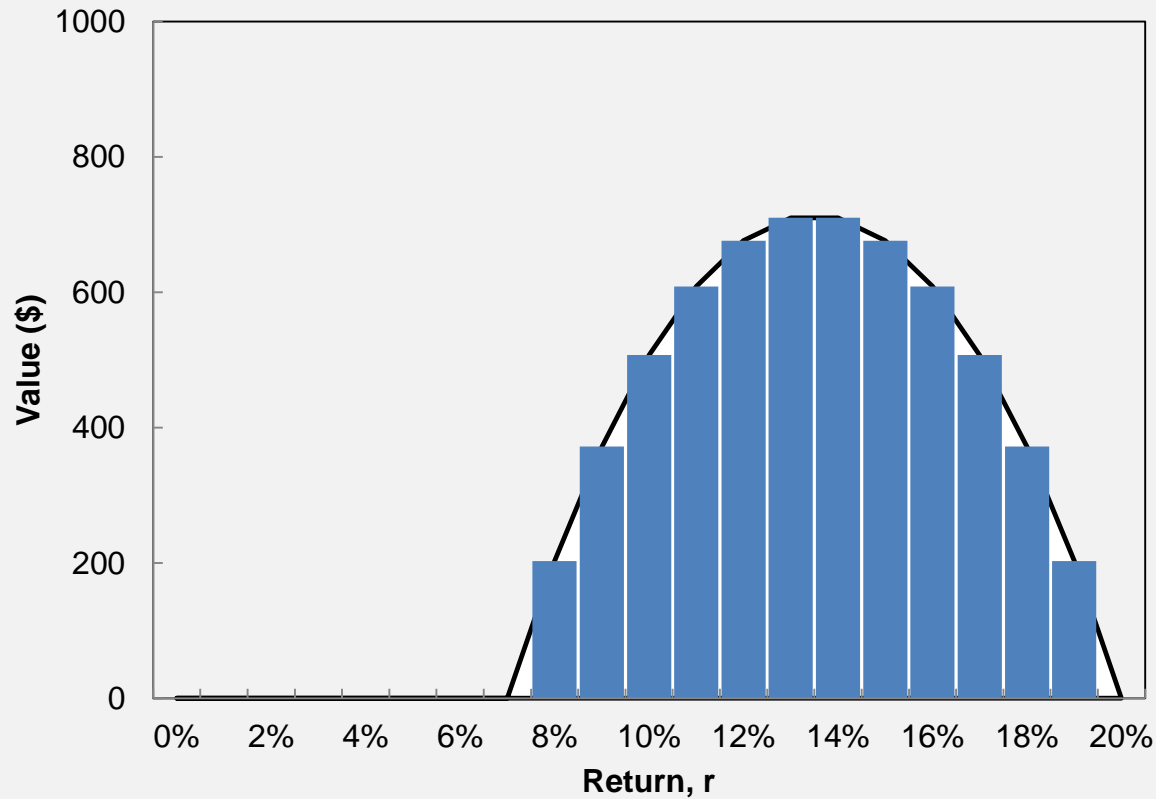


- $FV = 0$  if spread  $(r - k) = \text{zero}$  or  $A(r) = 0$
- If spread  $< 0$ , investments decrease value
- If only one or two investments can be made, choose opportunities with highest (i.e., peak)  $FV$ .

## Franchise Value with Exponential Investment Model

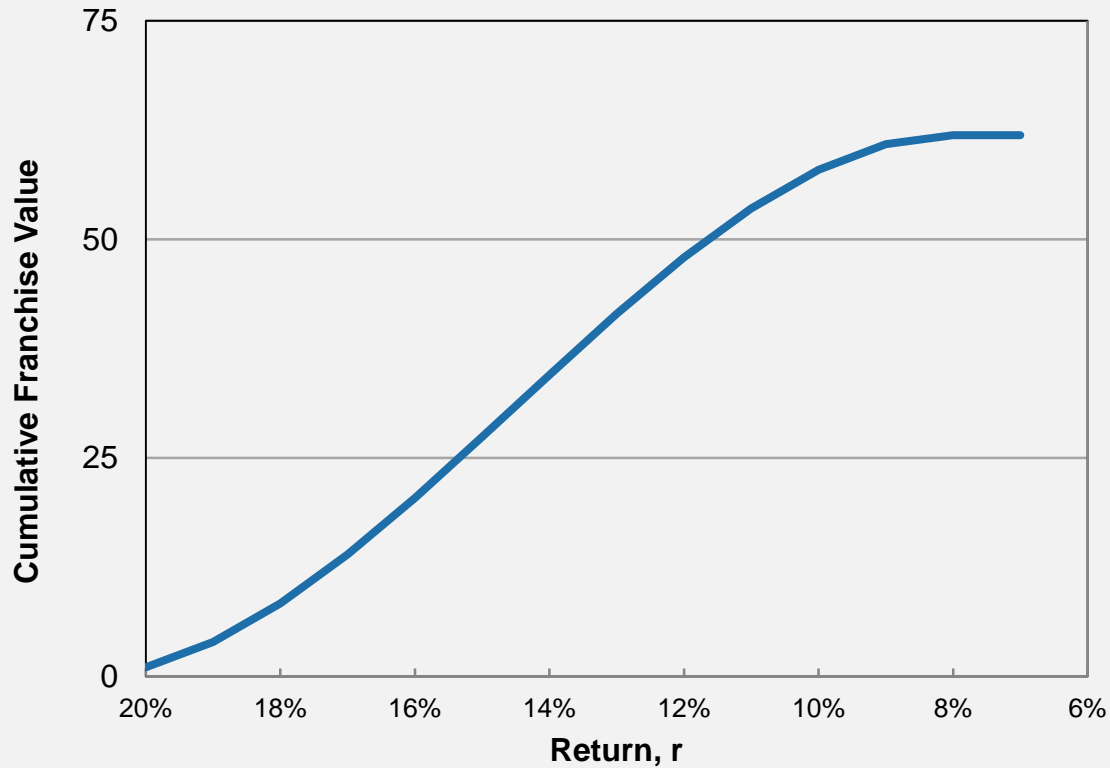
- $$A(R) = \frac{\lambda}{1 - e^{-\alpha R_M}} (e^{-\alpha R} - e^{-\alpha R_M})$$
- $$FV(R_M) = \frac{1}{k} \left( \frac{\lambda}{1 - e^{-\alpha R_M}} \right) \int_k^{R_M} (R - k) (e^{-\alpha R} - e^{-\alpha R_M}) dR$$
- $$FV(R) = \frac{1}{k\alpha^2} \left( \frac{\lambda}{1 - e^{-\alpha R_M}} \right) \left\{ (e^{-\alpha k} - [1 + \alpha(R_M - k)])e^{-\alpha R_M} - \frac{1}{2} \alpha^2 e^{-\alpha R_M} (R_M - k)^2 \right\}$$

## Franchise Value With Full Funding (“Goldilocks”)



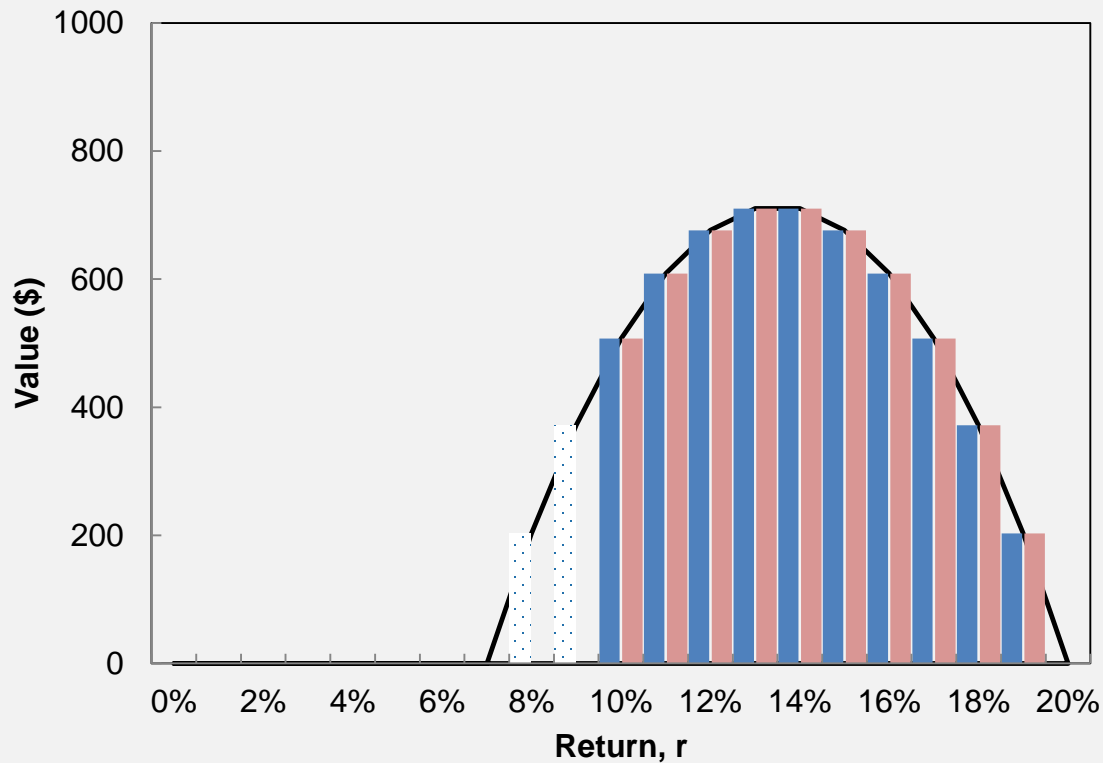
- **Total Franchise Value**  
= Area Under FV Curve  
=  $\frac{1}{k} \int_k^{R_M} A(r)(r - k)dr$

## Balanced Funding of Opportunities (“Goldilocks”)



- **Cumulative FV builds fastest for High Return-Spread Opportunities**
- **Investments below a 10% return add little to total FV**

# Capital-Constrained Franchise Investment

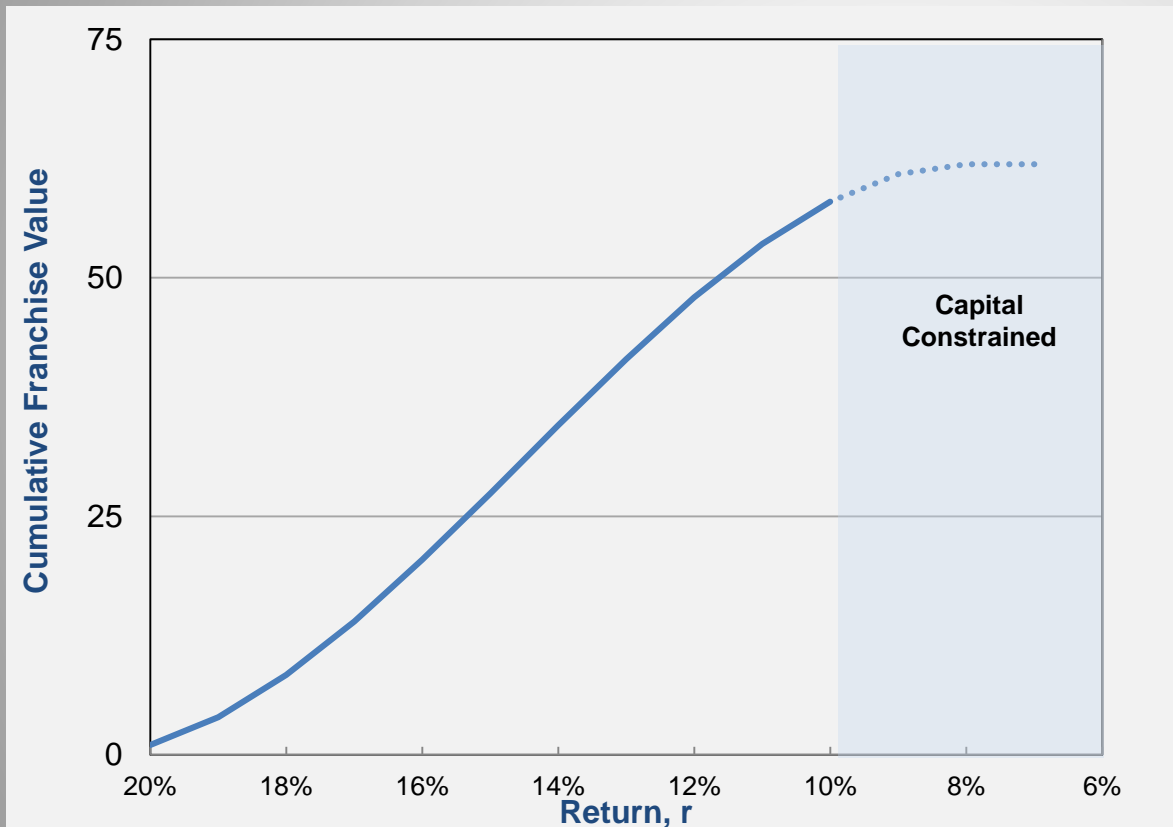


- **Capital deployment extends from highest to lowest return**

- **Total Investment = Area Under FV Curve**

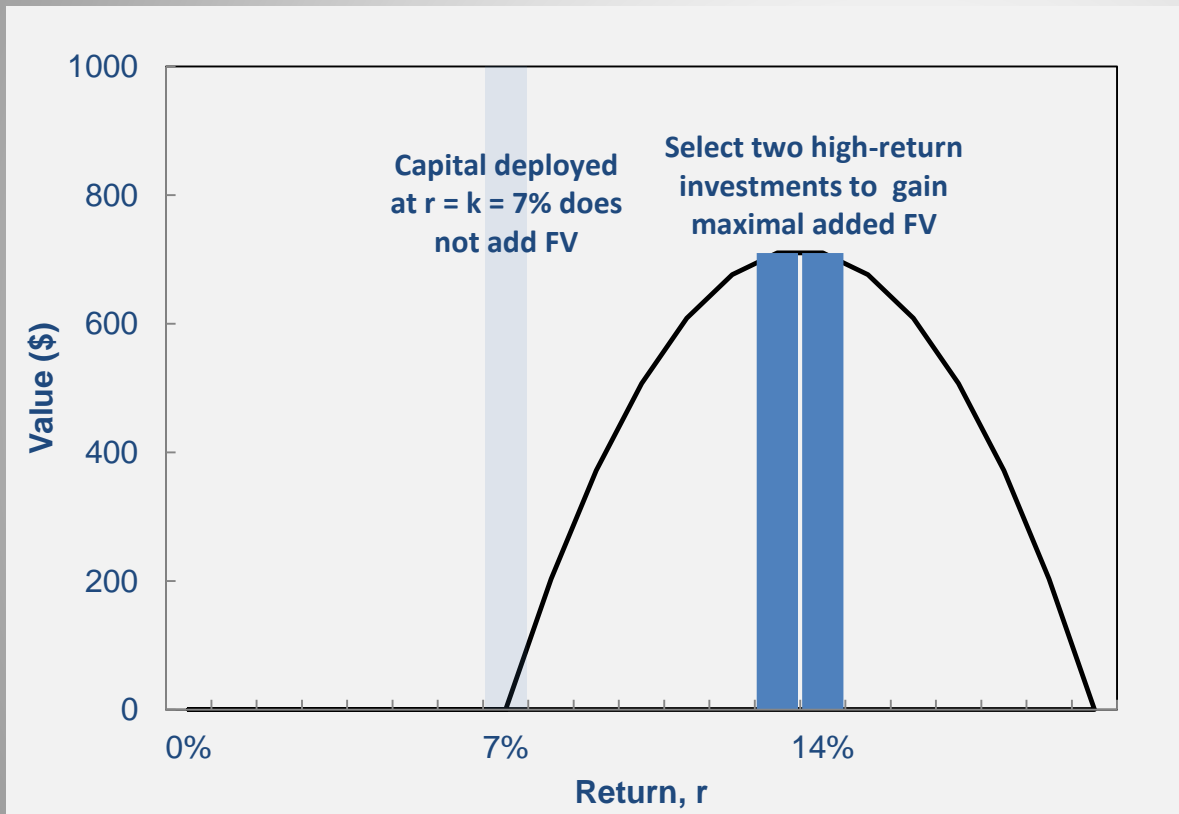
$$= \frac{1}{k} \int_{10\%}^{20\%} A(r)(r - k) dr$$

## Capital-Constrained: Pursue High Return Investments First



- **Low-Spread investments make a modest contribution to Total FV**
- **Reasonable capital constraints do not significantly reduce FV**

## Pursuit-Limited: Only Pursue “Best” Two Investments



- Choose investments offering the greatest FV, i.e. the highest product of investible \$ and spread ( $r - k$ )
- Excess capital invested at market return  $k$ , does not add to FV

## Capital-Light, Sales-Driven Firm

$$P = \frac{mS - cS}{k - g}$$

$$= \frac{E(1 - \frac{c}{m})}{k - g}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{E}{k - g} \quad \text{if } c \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow g^* = g \quad \text{for such firms}$$

- **S** – Sales
- **m** – Margin
- **c** – Capital received



## Investment & Opportunity-Driven $g^*$

$$g^* = \frac{k}{P} \times FV \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Funding – Constrained} \\ \text{Opportunity – Constrained} \\ \text{Pursuit – Limited} \end{array} \right.$$

## Multiple Interpretations of $g^*$

- Earnings Yield “Plug”  $k = EY + g^*$
- Risk Premium “Premium”  $r_P = (EY - y) + g^*$
- Premium Fraction  $g^* = \frac{1}{k} \times \frac{\text{Premium } P/E}{P/E}$
- Organic (Retention-Free) Earnings Growth  $P = \frac{E}{k - g^*}$
- Net Yield  $g^* = g_E - bEY$
- Annualized flow of FV  $g^* = k FV/P$

## Summary and Conclusions

- **EY misleading as estimate of equity risk premium**
- **“Adjustment” needed for value from future investments**
- **Excess “franchise” based on competitive advantages**
- **FV approach separates current from future investments**
- **FV structure allows for limits on funding, pursuits, etc**
- **FV framework helpful in analyzing issues like equity duration, inflation, fixed vs spread-based returns**
- **The annualized FV flow  $g^*$  is the needed adjustment to the EY for estimating the theoretical equity risk premium**

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