

The importance of patent data for the investor

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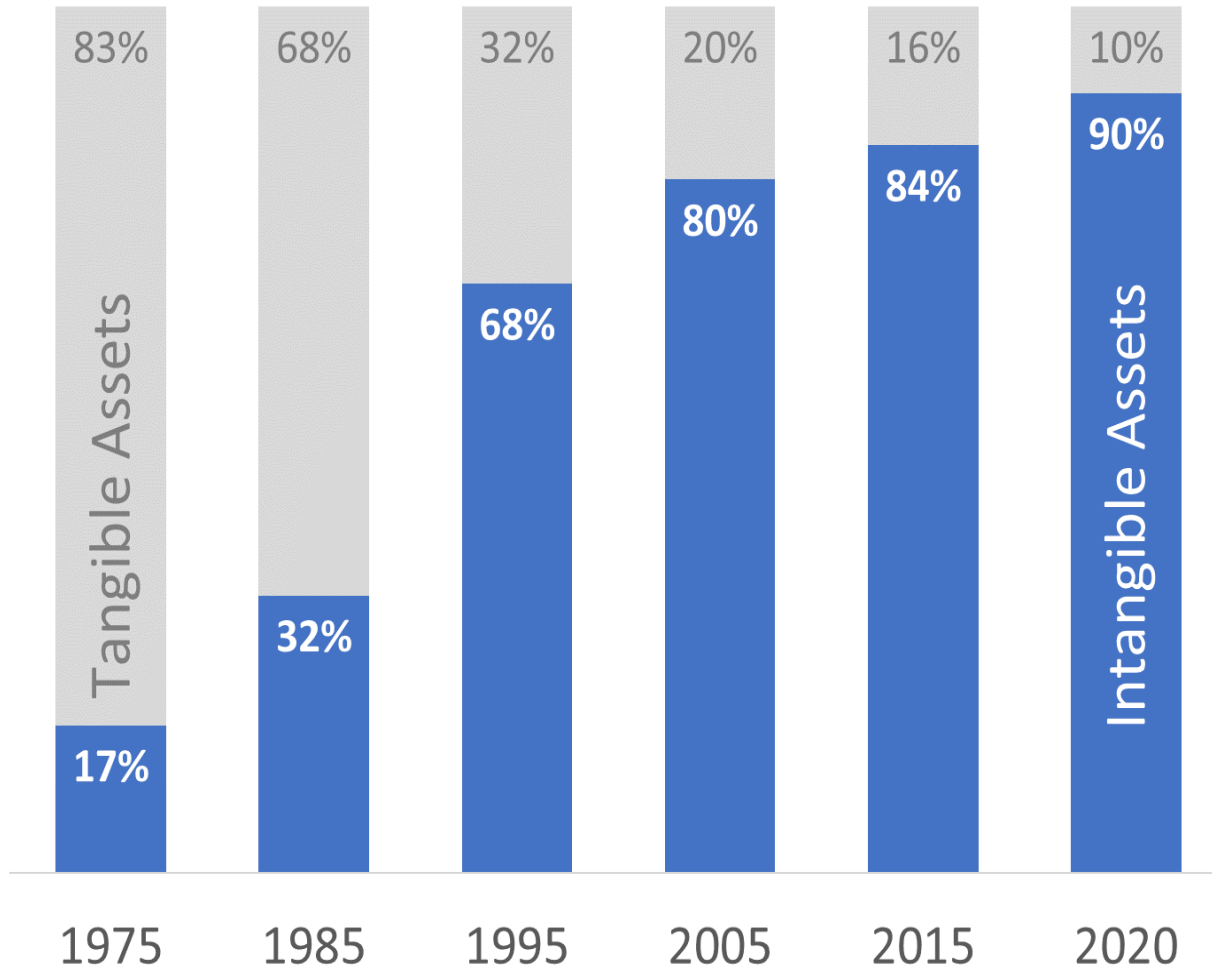
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Founding Member, AMAVI



Economy Is More and More Based on Intangibles



So, in a nutshell, more than 2/3 of Company Values are due to Intangibles

> **Nice statistics, what about real life?**

- Why do you choose one car instead of another?
- Why do you go to one concert instead of another?
- Why do you buy bread at one baker's than another?

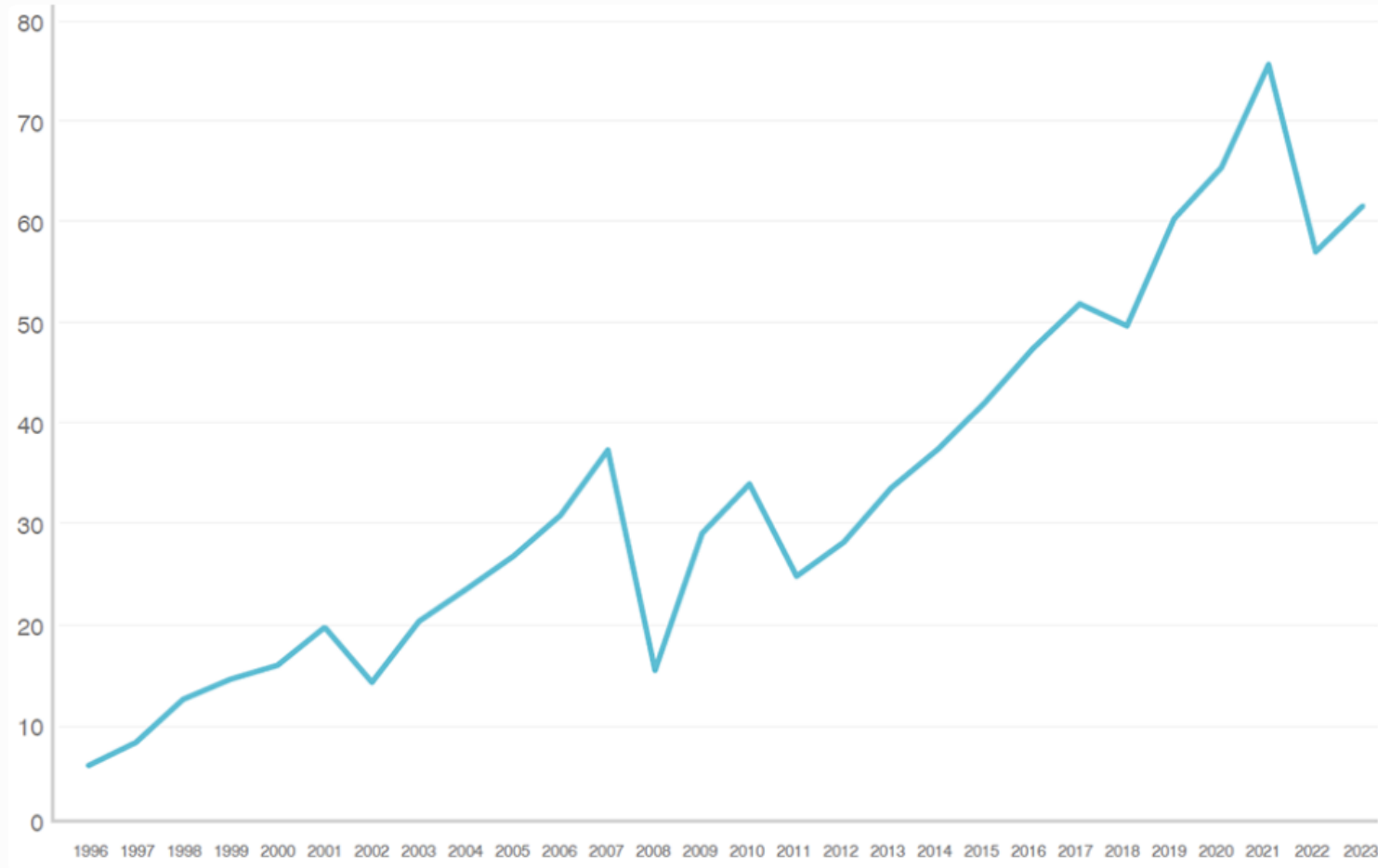
• **How do you compare two companies?**

- Because of numbers, EBIT, EBITDA, Free Cash Flow, Structure of the Balance Sheet, ...)?
- Or because you trust the organization (management, commitments, ..)?
- And/or simply because you believe the (long term) payback of your investment in it is good?
- Trust is intangible

Sources: Ocean Tomo Intangible Asset Market Value Study, 2017; IP Closeup, 2021.
<https://www.oceantomo.com/intangible-asset-market-value-study/>
<https://ipcloseup.com/2021/01/19/latest-data-show-that-intangible-assets-comprise-90-of-the-value-of-the-sp-500-companies/>

WW Intangible Value

Figure 1: Global Corporate Intangible Value (USD trillion)

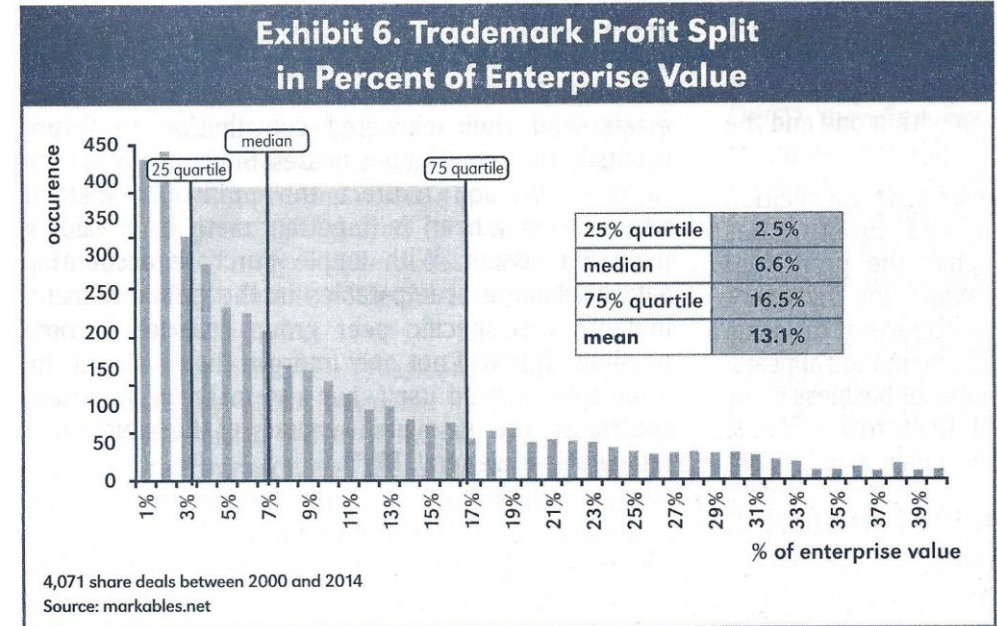
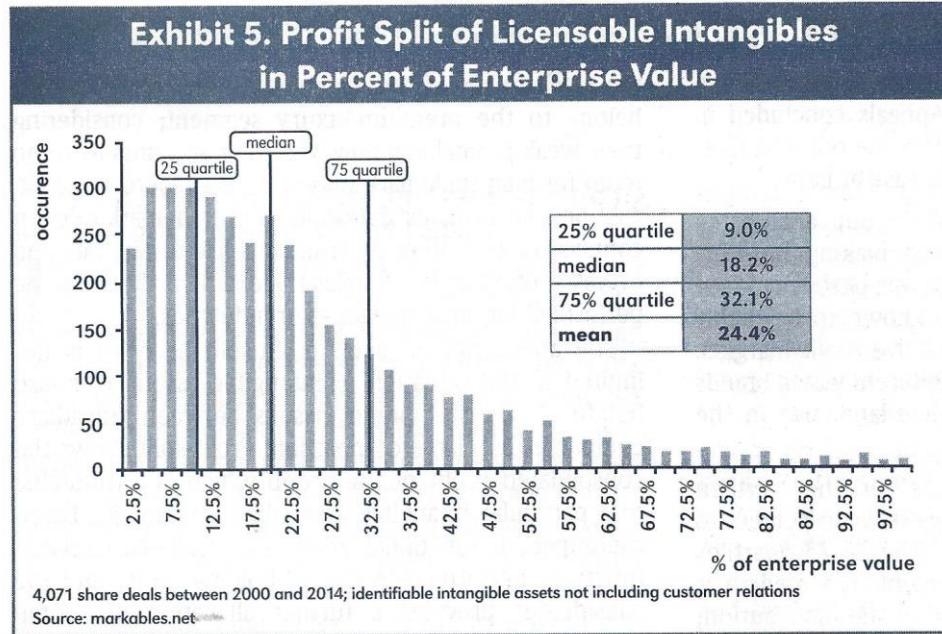


Source: Brand Finance Global Intangible Finance Tracker (GIFT) 2023

https://www.wipo.int/global_innovation_index/en/gii-insights-blog/2024/corporate-intangible-assets.html

IP Constitutes a Relevant Part of Intangibles

Source : Les Nouvelles, December 2015, Vol L N°4, Binder et al., pp 203-212



The median share of IP assets is around 25% of company values, in a range 10% - 45%

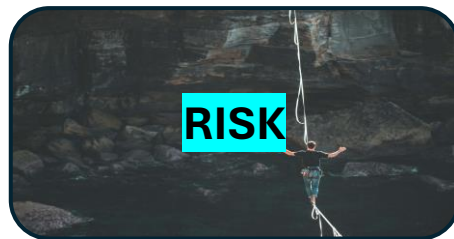
Investors Hurdles – What about IP?

- Several types of investors (see Prof. Zagors presentation) with different points of view
 - Venture Capitalists
 - Banks
 - Asset Managers
- Company reporting does not adequately report IP values in Balance Sheets, e.g.
 - Capitalization of costs incurred
 - Cost of acquisition in M&A operations (“Purchase Price Allocation”)
- On the contrary of fixed assets, value of IP is forward-looking:
 - Fixed assets : initial immobilization minus depreciation (**past-based**)
 - IP assets: their value depends on their **future usage**

What Does A Typical Investor Look at?



- Factors influencing value
- How to measure value?
- How to assess sustainability?



- Factors influencing risk?
- Strength of the IP?
- Is there a plan B?



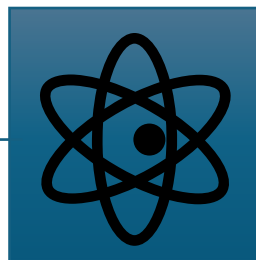
- What is a typical return?
- How does it compare to fixed assets?

Patent Values – How are they determined

Patent Value

- Forward looking
 - The future net income it will generate
 - With which probability?
- Valuation : a difficult exercise
 - Cost-based method
 - Market-based method
 - Revenue-based method
- In what follows: focus on market-based methods
 - Fast, can be automated (e.g. IntraComGroup)
 - Allows comparisons
 - Generally sufficient for decision-making before detailed Due Diligence (Revenue-based method)

Example of a patent concerning a wonderful new green, cheap, efficient ... source of energy



Cooking



€ to €€

Domestic Heating / Cooling



€€ to €€€€

Industrial Usage



€€€€€€ to €€€...€

<https://www.edf.fr/groupe-edf/espaces-dedies/l-energie-de-a-a-z/tout-sur-l-energie/produire-de-l-electricite/les-differents-types-de-centrales-thermiques>

Value creation depends on many factors

Usage	Cooking	Domestic	Industrial
Technical abilities	**	****	*****
Financial resources	*	**	*****
Marketing abilities			*****
Human Resources	*	***	*****

Market Approach : a Common Analogy



- A priori, all flats of the same category/floor look comparable
- Anyway, their rental value will depend on
 - Exposure
 - Lightning
 - Maintenance state
 - Neighborhood
 - ...

Direct Valuation



- Qualitative features could allow to compare flats in different locations
 - Floor / center or angle / exposure
 - Maintenance state
 - Neighborhood
 - ...

Indicator-Based Comparison Valuation

Market approach/ Market analogy

- Compares an object with similar object in the market
- Determines the price of the similar object(s), that were traded in the past
- Determines the value based on the references that were found, i.e as an average value
- Is used in real estate valuation

Monetarisation:The reference price(es) is the value

PROBLEM:

- Key idea of patents is uniqueness - finding corresponding patents may be difficult
- Data availability: prices are rarely published
- Alternatives may lead to complete different values e.g. when a standard is involved

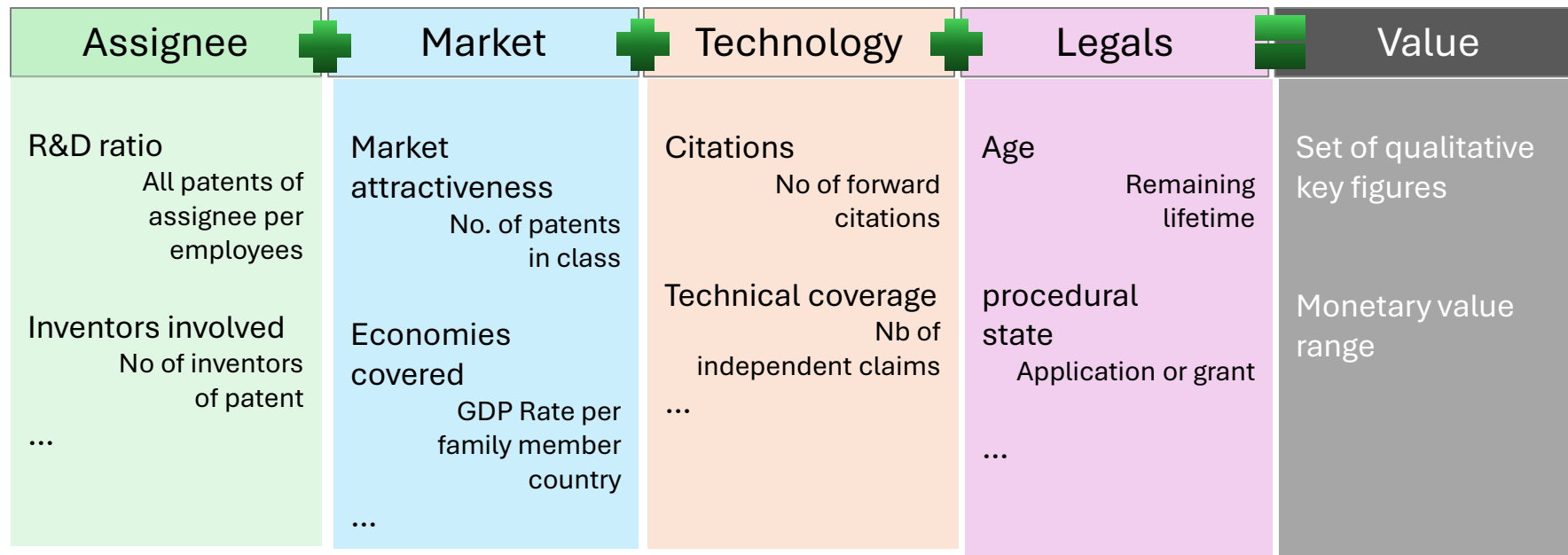
Indicators determine certain „patent-features“

- Each patent is reduced to a set of indicators, examples:
 - A big patent family size indicates a high family value (Lanjouw et al, 1998)
 - The number of citations that a patent receives indicates technological importance (Trajtenberg, 1990; Hall, et al., 2005; Harhoff et al., 2003).
- Result: qualitative image of a patent, it can indicate a high or low quality of a patent.
- Good for comparison of patents, e.g. own vs. competitor patents.

Monetarisaton:

- **Assigning a monetary value is possible by applying the market analogy to indicator models...**

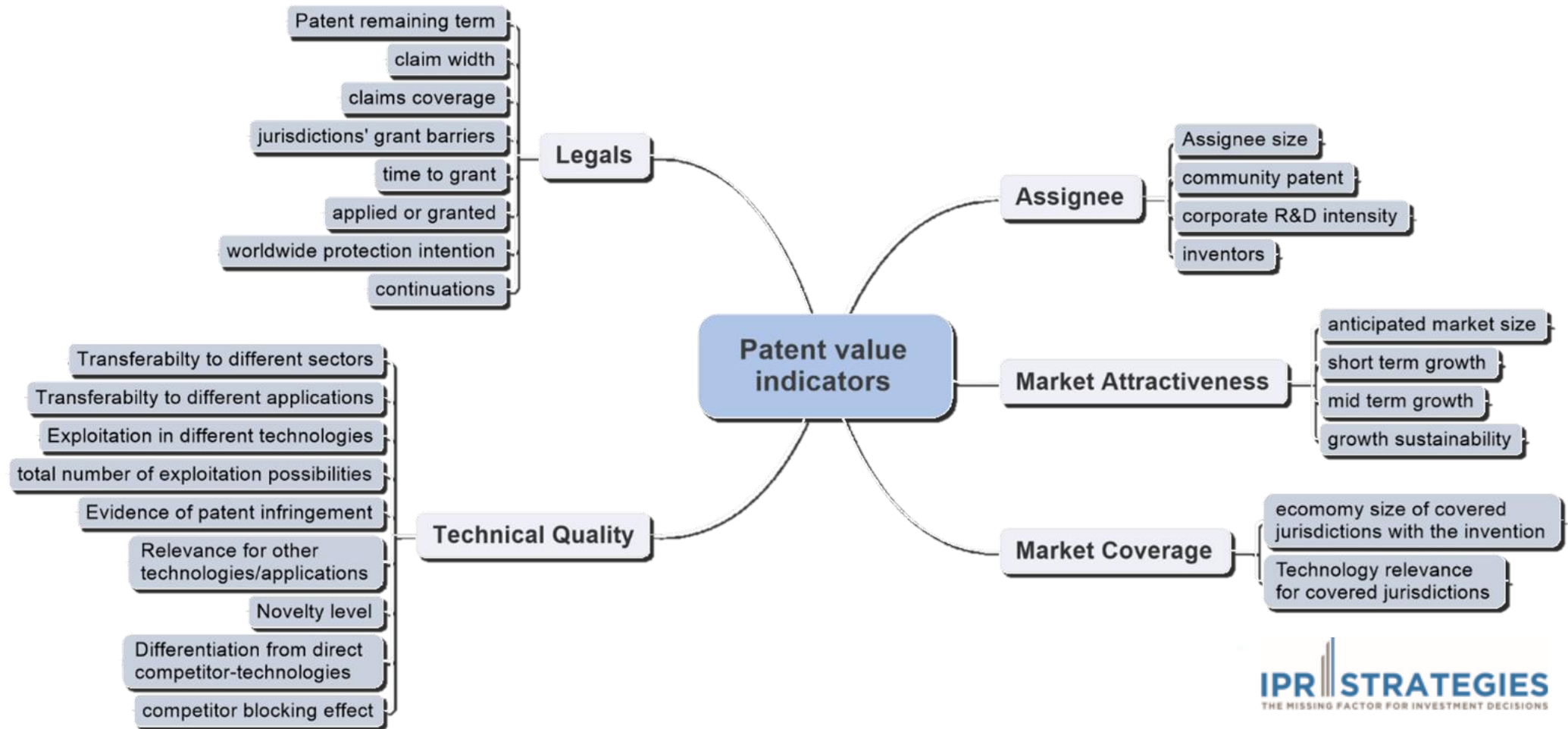
Patent Valuation based on Market Method: A Combination of Many Dimensions



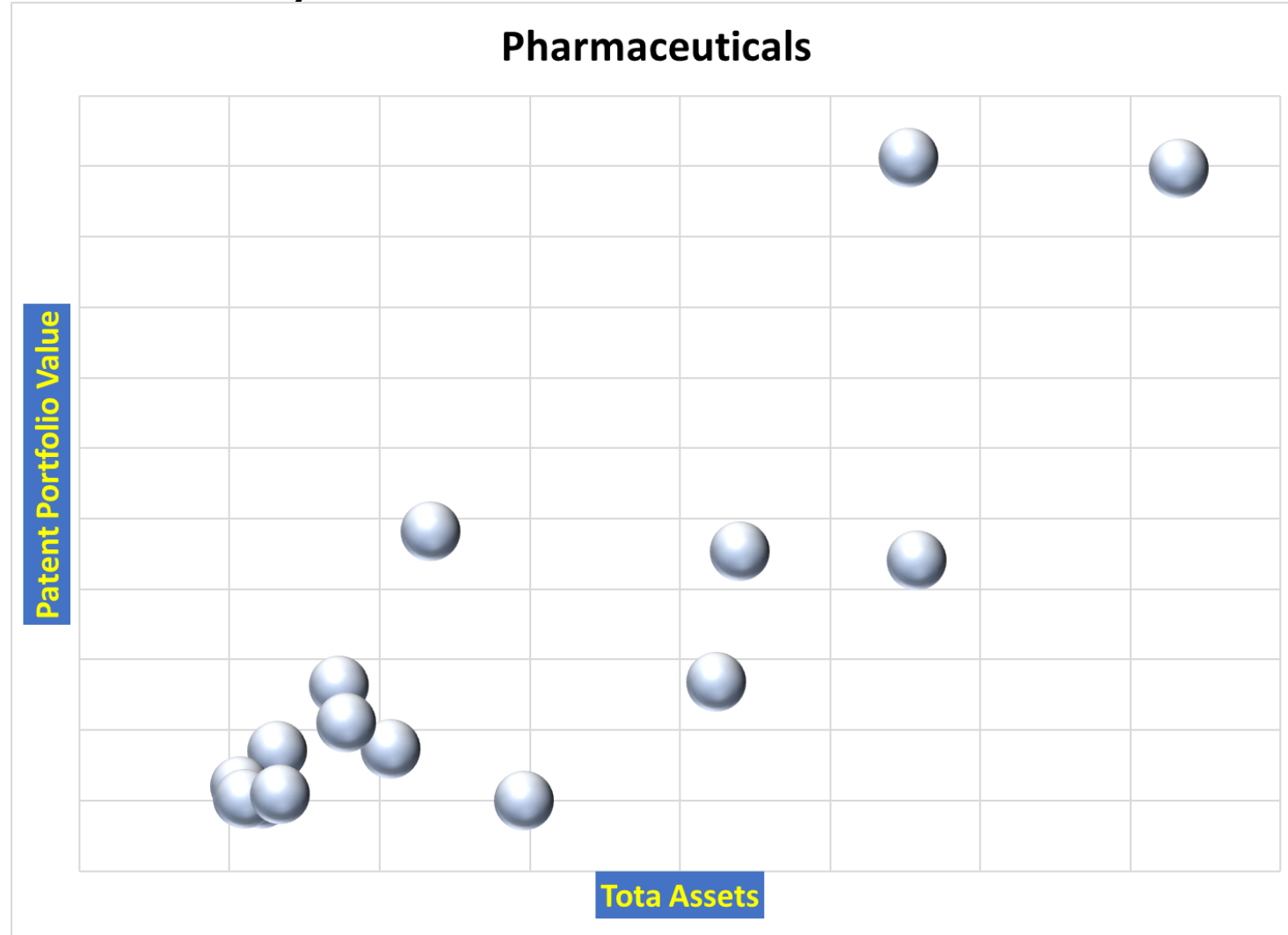
©IntraComGroup 2021

Indicators can be sourced automatically - as long as they are available - or manually. Investors should at least understand this macro-level – Long way to go!

Key Indicators



Patent Value and Total Assets - Stoxx 600, 2022)



The Share of Patent Value in Total Assets is Strongly Dependent on the Sector

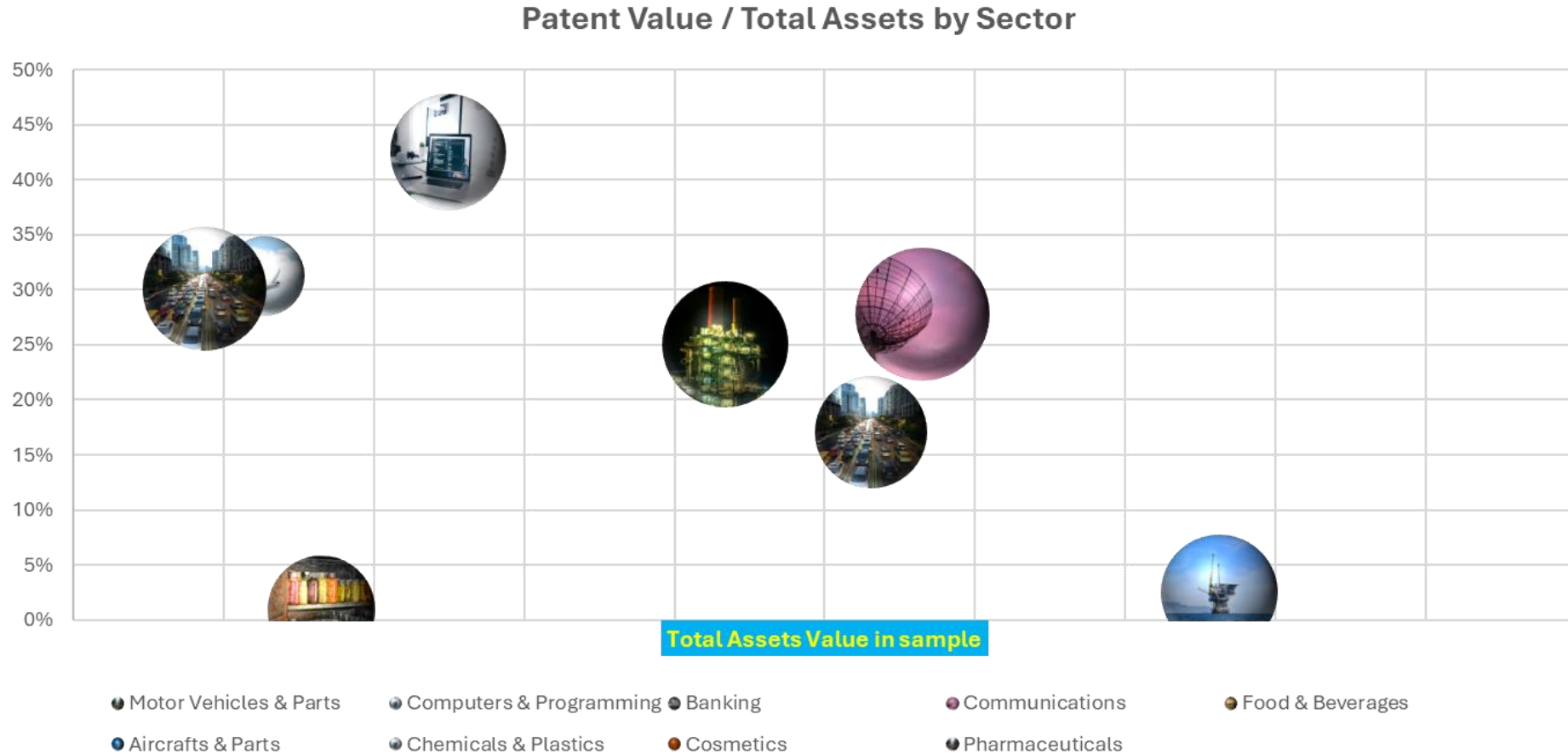
Some Data

Patent Value /
Total Assets
2022 Stoxx 600

• Computers & Programming	42,47%
• Aircrafts & Parts	31,26%
• Cosmetics	30,24%
• Pharmaceuticals	30,11%
• Communications	27,78%
• Chemicals & Plastics	25,03%
• Motor Vehicles & Parts	17,01%
• Oil & Gas	2,51%
• Food & Beverages	0,90%
• Banking	0,30%

Distribution of Patent Value / Total Assets

Bubble size proportional to number of companies in sample



Patents and SDG

- Patents can have impacts on one, several or none of the 17 SDGs
- Assessing impact can be done automatically (based on classifications) *and refined manually if needed*



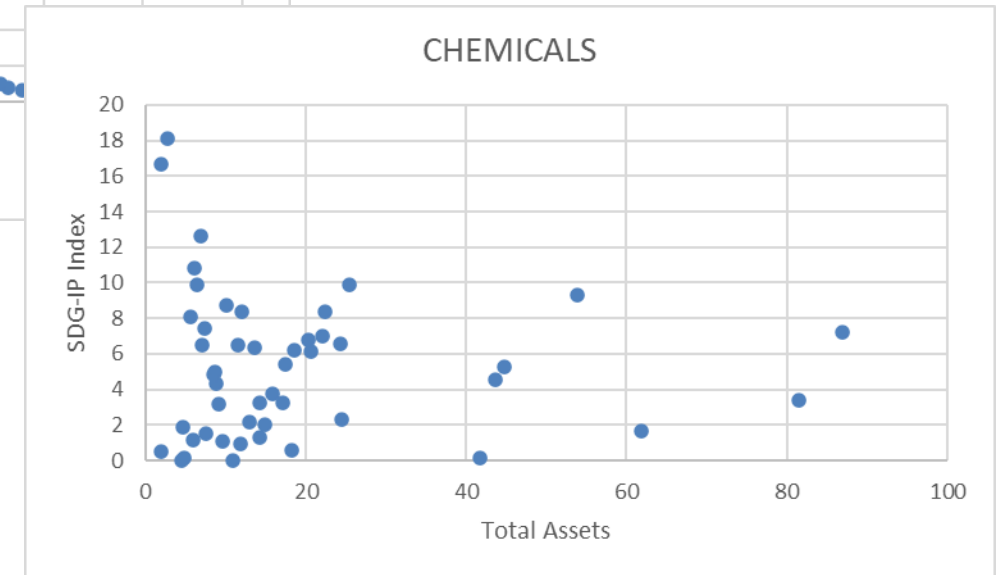
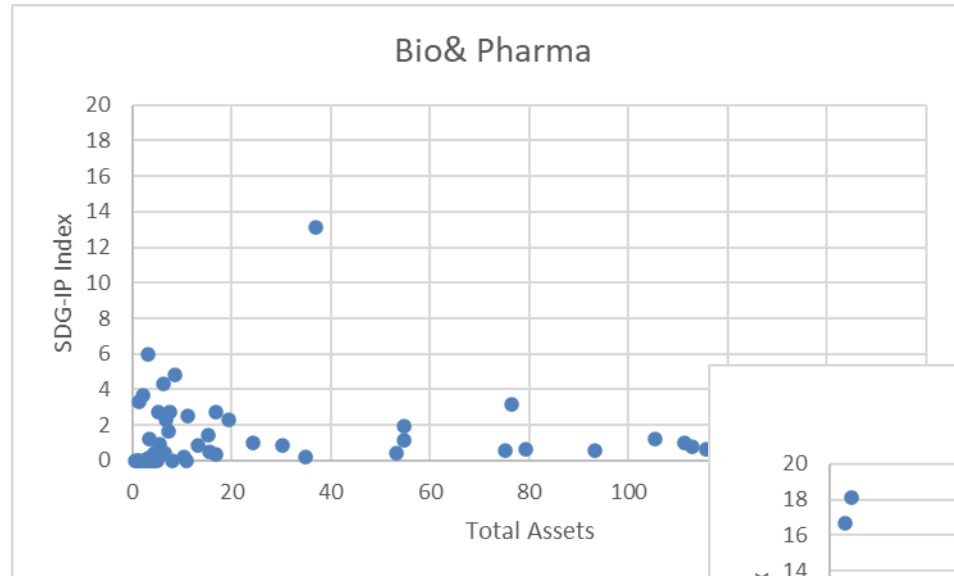
SDG – IP Index – Allows comparisons between companies AND sectors

A. Gorius, A. Zagos, 2022

- Compute Company SDG-IP Index

$$I_c = \frac{\text{Company SDG Patent Value}}{\text{Total Company Assets}}$$
- Compute Sector's SDG-IP Index

$$I_s = \frac{\text{Sector SDG Patent Value}}{\text{Total Sector Assets}}$$
- Compute SDG-IP Index :
SDG-IP Index = I_c / I_s
 - If Index < 1, company performs lower than average
 - If Index > 1, company performs better than average
- Rank companies according to SDG-IP Index



Investor's Assessment : Value

Patent Value Determinants

- Intrinsic characteristics of the owner / operator (e.g; the team)
- Intrinsic characteristics of the patent (family)
- The match between technology and market
- The sustainability (ESG, SDG)
- The market dynamics

In a nutshell, a 360° view is needed

Investment Risk

- All investments are risky
- IP Value is intrinsically non-deterministic
 - It is an Expert's opinion
 - At a given point of time
 - In given circumstances
- Nevertheless, risk can be
 - Assessed
 - Managed
 - Quantified (almost)
- The key: Risk Analysis

Typical Risk Analysis : List Potential Risks

Technology – related (TRL,)

- Objectives attainment (Product/Service features, time to market, ...)

Plant startup

- Engineering
- Competencies
- Startup team

Manufacturing

- Raw Materials
- Supply Chain
- License to operate

IT-related

- Security
- Software performance

Financial

- > Liquidity
- > Market
- > Foreign Exchange

Team

- > Technical / scientific skills
- > Entrepreneurship
- > Business orientation

Market

- > Competition
- > Market acceptance
- > Margins

Communities

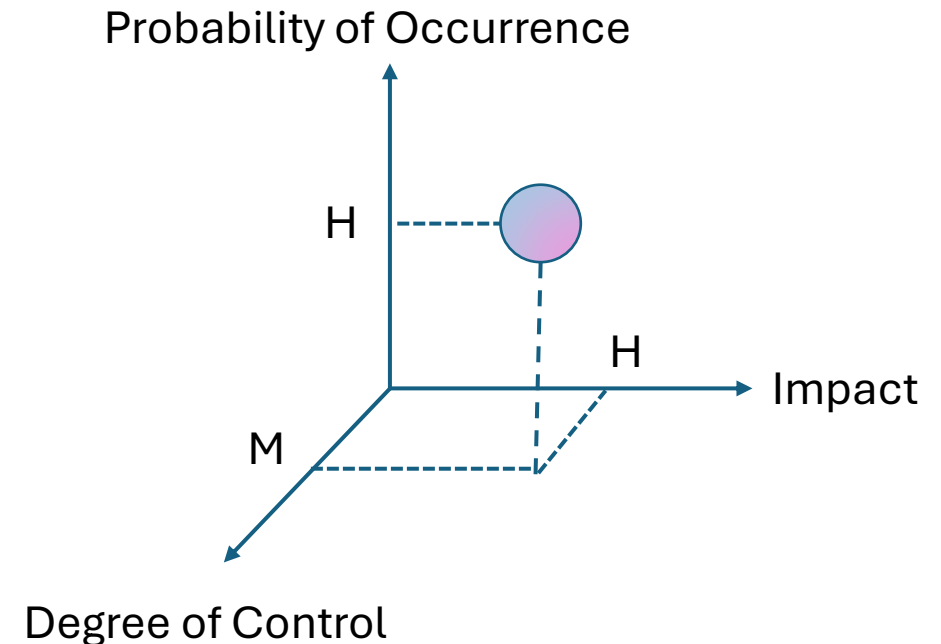
- > Social/local resistance
- > Environment
- > Politics

Reputation

Natural/climatic

Etc.

- Generally, 3 levels each (L,M,H)
- Probability of occurrence - Example
 - H: in the next year
 - M: in the next 3 years
 - L: in the next 5 years
- Impact – Example
 - H: loss > 10M€
 - L: Loss < 1M€
- Degree of Control
 - H: decision-based
 - L: extragenous
- Classification and choice of 3-5 most important risks
- **Check existing or need-to-be mitigation action plans**



Mitigating Risk: the plan B Approach –the more potential reapplications, the lower the risk

Plan B – Reapplication of Inventions

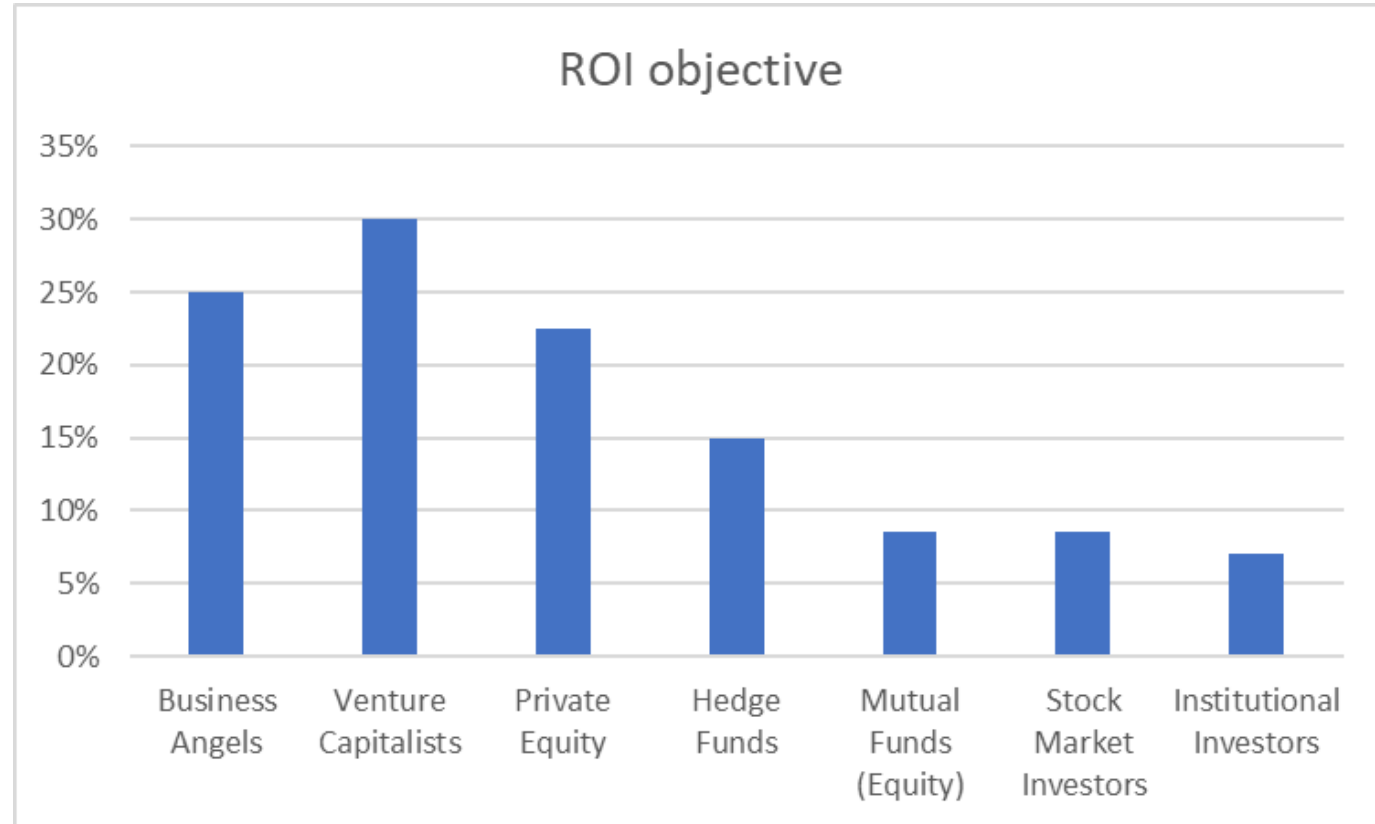
- Microwave Oven (1945)
 - Initially developed for cooking food
 - Reapplied in surgery (ablation of tumors)
- Duct Tape (1943)
 - Initially developed for military applications
 - Reapplied in medical field
- Super Glue (1949)
 - Initially developed for materials
 - Reapplied for suture alternatives

Reapplication – What does it take?

- Understanding of the features of the invention:
 - The functions the object performs (e.g. sealing materials)
 - The functions the object could perform (e.g. impermeability to water)
 - There are methods to do this (TRIZ, AI, ...)
- Understanding the potential applications – being open minded
 - Hertz when he demonstrated waves transmission (1888): ***“It is of no use whatsoever [...] this is just an experiment that proves Maestro Maxwell was right”***
- Combining technologies for new applications
 - Einstein could not imagine that when he discovered relativity (Special and General!) he would help me locate a good restaurant with an accuracy of 1m with my phone’s GPS
- Reapplication is often a team’s work

Investors' Graal: Return on Investment

ROI Objectives –
orders of
Magnitude



ROI measured by Relief of Royalty – A simplistic example

IP Valuation to determine ROI

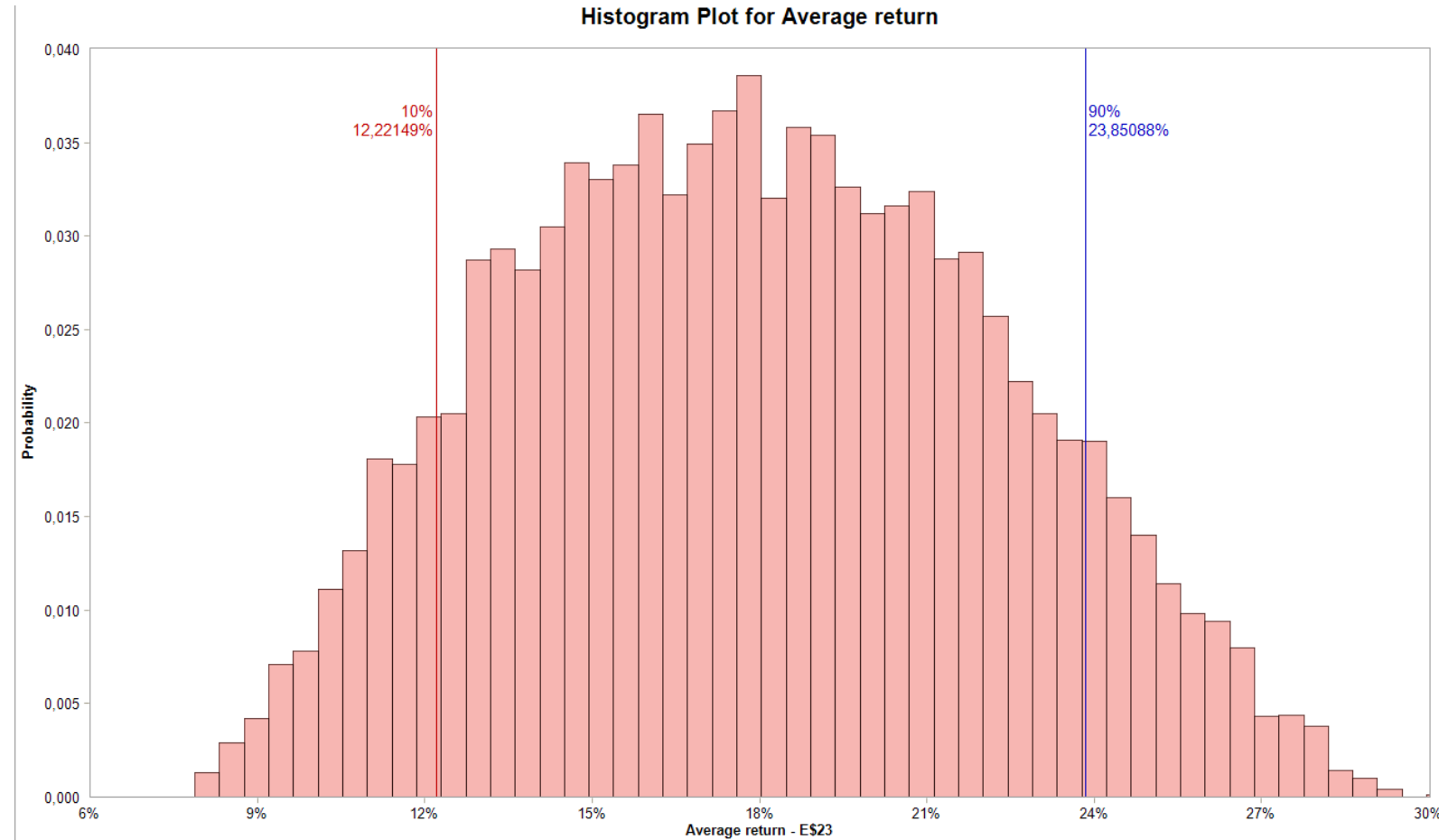
- Sales are 10 M€ the first year, and grow at a fixed rate over the next 9 years
- The IP can be licensed for a 5% median royalty rate
- The median discount rate used is 15% (Return on Equity of the Sector + Risk Premium)

Expected Return on Investment (2,6M€)

		Discount Rate			
		10%	15%	20%	25%
Sales growth Rate	2%	13,2%	16,4%	19,8%	23,3%
	3%	13,3%	16,6%	20,1%	23,7%
	4%	13,4%	16,8%	20,4%	24,1%
	5%	13,5%	17,0%	20,7%	24,5%
	6%	13,6%	17,2%	21,0%	25,0%

What ROI on IP Assets – Relief or Royalty – Monte-Carlo Simulation

- Median return is around 18%
- About 80% of chances that ROI is between 12% and 24%
- Not astonishingly, Discount Rate (i.e; Risk) is the most influencing parameter



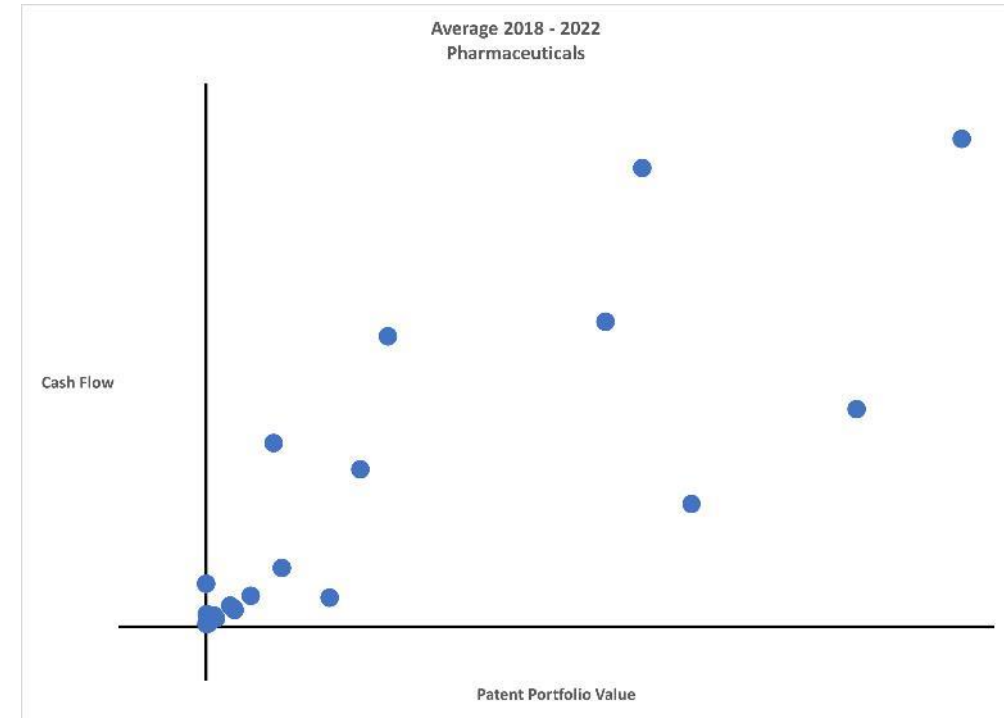
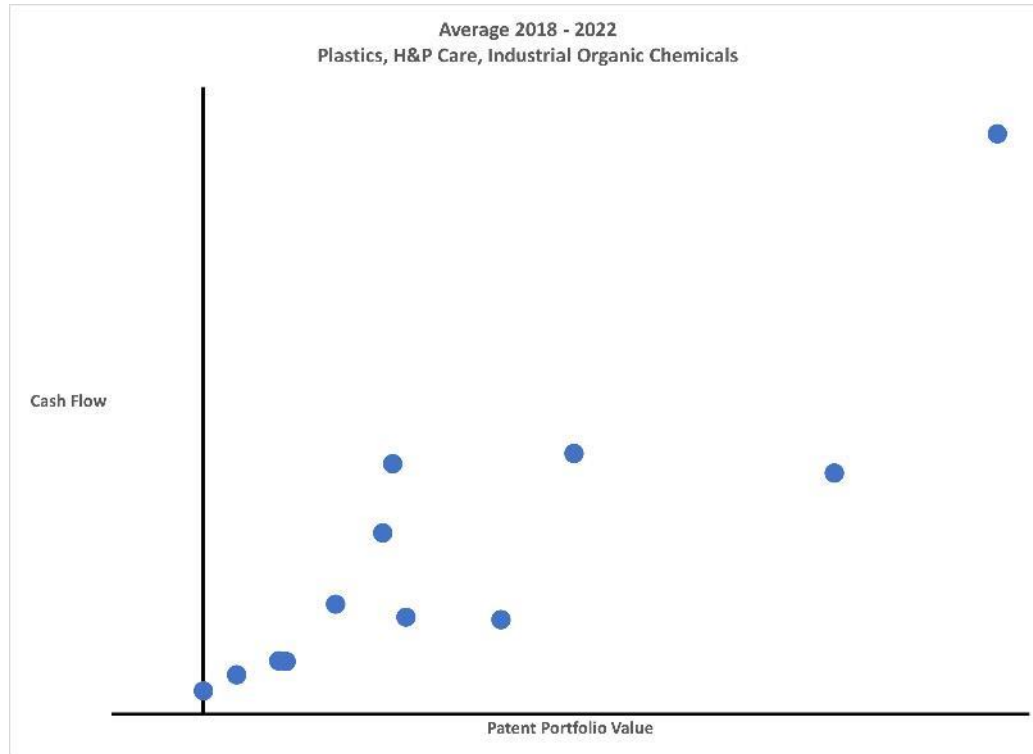
IP Assets: only as collateral?

IP Asset – based investment strategies

- IP as a collateral: “I have an IP asset worth 10M€, invest for 1M€”
- Maybe a better way:
 - I have an IP Asset worth 10M€
 - This implies (statistically) that my business model and the company are sane
 - Default rate is strongly diminished when valuable assets are present) – See Prof. Zagors presentation, June 14th 2024.
 - Valuable patent portfolios positively affect free cash flow (*)

(*): Building An IP Economy: The Role Of Patent Value, Les Nouvelles June 2024, A. Gorius and A. Zagors

Impact of Patent Portfolio Value on Free Cash Flow – Stoxx 600 2018 - 2022



Building An IP Economy: The Role Of Patent Value, Les Nouvelles June 2024, A. Gorius and A. Zagors

Investors and IP / Patents

- Focus on Sustainable Value, Risks and ROI
- Value:
 - Determined by Patent Data (legal, technical & geographical coverage, ...), but also
 - Intrinsic characteristics of user (Team, ...)
 - Market (existence, dynamics, ..)
- Risk:
 - Same dimensions
 - Measured by Risk Analysis
 - Mitigation:
 - Risk Analysis mitigation plan
 - Plan B
- ROI:
 - Can be estimated by IP Valuation
 - Strongly dependent on distance to the market launch
 - General ranges compatible with Investor's expectations

Strategy and Due Diligence

- IP Assets can be used as collaterals – Generally not easy
- IP Assets can also be considered as forward-looking proof of company sanity – Seems easier
- Due Diligence must include all dimensions, in addition to Financial Due Diligence
 - Assessment of Company's competencies
 - Patent Expert(s)
 - Market Expert(s)
 - IP Valuation Expert(s)

Association for Management and Valuation of Intangibles

For IP Valuation, [AMAVI](#)
Has a cross-disciplinary vocation



Block 1

Fundamentals of IP Valuation

- 1. Why Value IP**
- 2. Understanding the key features of different forms of IP**
- 3. Financial concepts and theories required for IP Valuation**

Block 2

Financial Valuation of IP

- 2.1 Deterministic valuation approaches**
- 2.3 Probabilistic valuation approaches**
- 2.4 Context and Purpose of Valuation**

Block 3

Valuation Process and Report

- 3.1 Establish overall context and purpose of valuation**
- 3.2 Collect information, do analysis and due diligence, make decisions**
- 3.3 Perform valuation**
- 3.4 Risk analysis, sensitivity analysis, further due diligence**
- 3.6 Conclusion of value**

Thank you for your attention

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