HOW TO SPEND MONEY (CAPITAL BUDGETING TOOLS)

Wrinkles with IRR

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WRINKLES WITH IRR

- 1. Loan-type flows
- 2. Scale problems
- 3. Timing problems
- 4. No IRR or multiple IRRs

IRR WITH LOAN-TYPE FLOWS

▶ When the cash flows are reversed

► Money in, then money out

► Any time the signs flip

IRR WITH LOAN-TYPE FLOWS: EXAMPLE

Project	CF ₀	CF ₁	IRR	NPV at 10%
X	(400)	500	25%	54.54
Y	400	(500)	25%	(54.54)

IRR WITH LOAN-TYPE FLOWS

NPV Discount rate

► Hard to compare mutually exclusive projects

► Higher IRR might now imply higher NPV

Project	CF ₀	CF ₁	IRR	NPV at 10%
X	-1	2	100%	0.82
Y	-100	120	20%	9.1

NPV Discount rate

MULTIPLE OR NO IRR

► There could be no rate that sets NPV = 0

► Different rates might set NPV = 0

Project	CF ₀	CF ₁	CF ₃	IRR
X	-100	235	136.5	[5%, 30%]
Y	-100	120	-50	

MULTIPLE OR NO IRR

NPV

Discount rate

WRINKLES WITH IRR: WRAP-UP

- ► Be careful!
- ► Always check for sign changes
- ► Always check for multiples
- ► Always compare with NPV!