

Tutorial 4: Building a DCF Model in VS Code - Real PE Work!

Personal Note to Mauricio: This is it - the big one! 🚀 DCF valuation is THE foundation of investment banking and private equity. At PE Club Brussels, you'll value companies this way weekly. But here's your advantage: while others build DCFs in Excel (slow, error-prone, not reproducible), you'll build them in Python (fast, scalable, professional). This tutorial will make you the valuation expert on your team! - Dad ❤️

Progress Tracker

Where you are in the course:

- Tutorial 1: VS Code Basics (Complete!)
- Tutorial 2: GitHub & Copilot (Complete!)
- Tutorial 3: Data Analysis (Complete!)
-  **Tutorial 4: Building DCF Models (You are here!)**
- Tutorial 5: Power User Skills

Course completion: 60% → 80% 

What You'll Learn (120 minutes)

Build a professional Discounted Cash Flow (DCF) valuation model from scratch:

DCF Fundamentals

- Understand DCF methodology deeply
- Calculate Free Cash Flows correctly
- Determine WACC (cost of capital)
- Compute terminal value (perpetuity & multiples)
- Bridge from enterprise to equity value

Python Implementation

- Build DCF model programmatically
- Create reusable valuation functions
- Implement sensitivity analysis
- Generate scenario tables
- Automate entire valuation process

Professional Skills

- Use Copilot to accelerate model building
- Create presentation-ready output
- Build valuation dashboards

- Export results to Excel for clients
- Version control your models with Git

Real-World Application

- Value an actual company
- Test different scenarios (base/bull/bear)
- Perform sensitivity analysis
- Generate investment recommendation
- Create executive summary

 **Why This Matters at PE Club Brussels:** DCF is the gold standard for company valuation. Master this, and you'll evaluate any deal confidently. Python DCFs are superior to Excel: they're faster, reproducible, scalable to multiple companies, and impress tech-forward investors. This is the skill that separates good analysts from great ones! 

Prerequisites

Before starting:

- Completed Tutorial 1 (VS Code Basics)
- Completed Tutorial 2 (GitHub & Copilot)
- Completed Tutorial 3 (Data Analysis with Pandas)
- Understanding of corporate finance basics
- Familiarity with DCF concepts (if not, we'll review!)

New Concepts (we'll learn together!):

- Free Cash Flow calculations
- WACC computation
- Terminal value methods
- Sensitivity analysis
- Scenario modeling

 **Estimated Time:** 120 minutes (longest tutorial - worth it!) ☕ **Suggested:** Have coffee/snacks ready. This is intense but incredibly rewarding!

Part 1: DCF Theory Review (15 minutes)

What is DCF?

Core Concept: A company is worth the present value of all its future cash flows.

$$\text{Enterprise Value} = \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{\text{FCF}_t}{(1 + \text{WACC})^t} + \frac{\text{Terminal Value}}{(1 + \text{WACC})^n}$$

Key Components

1. Free Cash Flow (FCF)

$FCF = EBITDA - Taxes - CapEx - \text{Change in NWC} + D&A$

2. Weighted Average Cost of Capital (WACC)

$$WACC = (E/V \times Re) + (D/V \times Rd \times (1 - \text{Tax Rate}))$$

Where:

E = Equity Value

D = Debt Value

V = Total Value ($E + D$)

Re = Cost of Equity (from CAPM)

Rd = Cost of Debt

3. Terminal Value

Method 1 – Perpetuity Growth:

$$TV = FCF(n+1) / (WACC - g)$$

Method 2 – Exit Multiple:

$$TV = EBITDA(\text{final}) \times \text{Exit Multiple}$$

4. Enterprise to Equity Value

Enterprise Value = PV(Cash Flows) + PV(Terminal Value)

Equity Value = Enterprise Value + Cash – Debt

Share Price = Equity Value / Shares Outstanding

When to Use DCF

✓ Good for:

- Mature, stable companies
- Predictable cash flows
- Long-term valuation
- Investment banking / PE

✗ Challenging for:

- Early-stage startups
- Cyclical industries

- Financial institutions
 - Negative FCF companies
-

Part 2: Project Setup (10 minutes)

Create Project Structure

Open VS Code terminal:

```
# Create project folder
mkdir dcf-valuation-model
cd dcf-valuation-model

# Create virtual environment
python -m venv venv
venv\Scripts\activate

# Install packages
pip install pandas numpy matplotlib openpyxl jupyter plotly

# Open in VS Code
code .
```

Create Initial Files

File 1: **README.md**

```
# DCF Valuation Model

Professional discounted cash flow model built in Python.

## Features
- Complete DCF calculation
- WACC computation
- Terminal value (perpetuity & multiple)
- Sensitivity analysis
- Scenario testing

## Usage
```python
from dcf_model import DCFModel

model = DCFModel("Company Name")
... configure and run
```

```

Author

[Your Name]

```
**File 2: `*.gitignore`**
```

```
venv/ *.pyc pycache/ .ipynb_checkpoints/ *.xlsx !template.xlsx
```

```
### Initialize Git

```bash
git init
git add .
git commit -m "Initial commit: DCF project setup"

```

## Part 3: Build DCF Model Class (30 minutes)

### Create Model File

File: **dcf\_model.py**

Let's build this step-by-step using **GitHub Copilot!**

#### Step 1: Basic Structure

Type this comment and let Copilot complete:

```
DCF Valuation Model Class
Calculates enterprise value using discounted cash flow methodology
#
Features:
- Free cash flow projection
- WACC calculation using CAPM
- Terminal value (perpetuity growth method)
- Sensitivity analysis
- Comprehensive valuation output

import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from typing import Dict, List, Tuple
from dataclasses import dataclass
```

Copilot will suggest imports. Press **Tab**.

#### Step 2: Data Classes for Inputs

```
@dataclass
class CompanyAssumptions:
 """Store all company-specific assumptions"""
 # Let Copilot suggest fields
 company_name: str
 # Type more comments, Copilot fills in:
 # - Base year revenue
 # - Revenue growth rates (list)
 # - EBITDA margins (list)
 # - Tax rate
 # - CapEx as % of revenue
 # - NWC as % of revenue
 # - D&A as % of revenue
```

Ask **Copilot Chat** (**Ctrl+Shift+I**):

"Complete the CompanyAssumptions dataclass with all fields needed for DCF model including revenue, margins, capex, nwc, and tax assumptions"

Copy Copilot's response!

### Step 3: DCF Model Class

```
class DCFModel:
 """Complete DCF Valuation Model"""

 def __init__(self, company_name: str):
 """Initialize DCF model"""
 self.company_name = company_name
 self.projection_years = 5
 self.projections = None
 self.dcf_results = {}

 def set_assumptions(self,
 revenue: float,
 revenue_growth: List[float],
 ebitda_margins: List[float],
 tax_rate: float,
 capex_pct_revenue: float,
 nwc_pct_revenue: float,
 da_pct_revenue: float):
 """Set operating assumptions"""
 # Let Copilot complete this method

 def set_wacc_assumptions(self,
 risk_free_rate: float,
 equity_risk_premium: float,
 beta: float,
 debt_cost: float,
```

```

 market_value_equity: float,
 market_value_debt: float,
 tax_rate: float):
 """Set WACC calculation assumptions"""
 # Let Copilot complete

def calculate_wacc(self) -> float:
 """Calculate weighted average cost of capital using CAPM"""
 # Ask Copilot Chat to write this method
 # Formula: WACC = (E/V × Re) + (D/V × Rd × (1-T))
 # where Re = Rf + Beta × (Rm - Rf)

```

### Use Copilot Chat:

"Write the calculate\_wacc method using CAPM formula.  
 Include cost of equity = risk\_free\_rate + beta \* equity\_risk\_premium.  
 Include after-tax cost of debt."

### Step 4: Build Projections

```

def build_projections(self) -> pd.DataFrame:
 """Build 5-year financial projections"""
 # Let Copilot write this - it should create DataFrame with:
 # - Revenue
 # - EBITDA
 # - D&A
 # - EBIT
 # - Taxes
 # - NOPAT
 # - CapEx
 # - Change in NWC
 # - Free Cash Flow

```

### Use Copilot Chat:

"Write build\_projections method that:  
 1. Creates DataFrame with years 1-5  
 2. Calculates Revenue using growth rates  
 3. Calculates EBITDA using margins  
 4. Calculates taxes on EBIT  
 5. Calculates FCF = NOPAT + D&A - CapEx - ΔNWC  
 Return DataFrame with all line items"

### Step 5: Terminal Value

```

def calculate_terminal_value(self,
 terminal_growth_rate: float) -> float:
 """Calculate terminal value using perpetuity growth"""
 # FCF(n+1) = FCF(n) × (1 + g)
 # TV = FCF(n+1) / (WACC - g)
 # Let Copilot complete

def calculate_terminal_value_multiple(self,
 exit_multiple: float) -> float:
 """Calculate terminal value using exit multiple method"""
 # TV = Final Year EBITDA × Exit Multiple
 # Let Copilot complete

```

## Step 6: DCF Valuation

```

def calculate_dcf(self,
 terminal_growth_rate: float = 0.025,
 use_multiple: bool = False,
 exit_multiple: float = 10.0) -> Dict:
 """Calculate enterprise value using DCF"""
 # 1. Get projections
 # 2. Calculate WACC
 # 3. Discount FCFs to present value
 # 4. Calculate terminal value
 # 5. Discount terminal value
 # 6. Sum for enterprise value
 # 7. Bridge to equity value
 # Let Copilot write this!

```

## Use Copilot Chat:

"Write calculate\_dcf method that:  
 1. Builds projections DataFrame  
 2. Calculates WACC  
 3. Discounts each year FCF using  $PV = FCF / (1+WACC)^year$   
 4. Calculates terminal value  
 5. Sums PV of FCFs + PV of terminal value = Enterprise Value  
 6. Returns dictionary with all results"

## Step 7: Sensitivity Analysis

```

def sensitivity_analysis(self,
 wacc_range: List[float],
 growth_range: List[float]) -> pd.DataFrame:
 """Create sensitivity table for enterprise value"""

```

```
Create 2-way table varying WACC and terminal growth
Let Copilot complete
```

## Step 8: Summary Output

```
def print_summary(self):
 """Print valuation summary"""
 # Print formatted output of key results
 # Let Copilot complete

def export_to_excel(self, filename: str):
 """Export model to Excel"""
 # Export projections and results to Excel
 # Let Copilot complete
```

---

## Part 4: Test the Model (15 minutes)

### Create Test File

File: **test\_dcf.py**

```
"""
Test DCF Model with Sample Company
"""

from dcf_model import DCFModel

Create model instance
model = DCFModel("TechCorp Inc.")

Set operating assumptions
model.set_assumptions(
 revenue=1000, # $1B base year
 revenue_growth=[0.15, 0.12, 0.10, 0.08, 0.06], # Declining growth
 ebitda_margins=[0.25, 0.26, 0.27, 0.28, 0.28], # Margin expansion
 tax_rate=0.25,
 capex_pct_revenue=0.05,
 nwc_pct_revenue=0.10,
 da_pct_revenue=0.03
)

Set WACC assumptions
model.set_wacc_assumptions(
 risk_free_rate=0.04, # 4% risk-free
 equity_risk_premium=0.06, # 6% market premium
 beta=1.2, # Higher risk tech company
 debt_cost=0.05, # 5% cost of debt
 market_value_equity=5000, # $5B equity
```

```
 market_value_debt=1000, # $1B debt
 tax_rate=0.25
)

Run DCF
results = model.calculate_dcf(
 terminal_growth_rate=0.025, # 2.5% perpetual growth
 use_multiple=False
)

Print results
model.print_summary()

Show projections
print("\n📊 Financial Projections:")
print(model.projections.round(2))

Sensitivity analysis
print("\n📈 Sensitivity Analysis:")
wacc_range = [0.06, 0.07, 0.08, 0.09, 0.10]
growth_range = [0.015, 0.020, 0.025, 0.030, 0.035]
sensitivity = model.sensitivity_analysis(wacc_range, growth_range)
print(sensitivity.round(0))

Export to Excel
model.export_to_excel('techcorp_dcf_valuation.xlsx')
print("\n✅ Model exported to Excel!")
```

## Run the Model

In terminal:

```
python test_dcf.py
```

### Expected output:

```
=====
DCF VALUATION SUMMARY – TechCorp Inc.
=====

WACC Calculation:
Cost of Equity (CAPM): 11.20%
After-tax Cost of Debt: 3.75%
Weighted Average Cost of Capital: 9.83%

Valuation Results:
PV of Projected FCF (5 years): $XXX M
Terminal Value: $XXX M
PV of Terminal Value: $XXX M
```

```
Enterprise Value: $XXX M
```

```
+ Cash: $XX M
```

```
- Debt: $XXX M
```

```
= Equity Value: $XXX M
```

```
Shares Outstanding: XX M
```

```
Implied Share Price: $XX.XX
```

---

## Part 5: Build Interactive Notebook (20 minutes)

Create Jupyter Notebook

File: **dcf\_interactive.ipynb**

**Cell 1: Setup**

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import plotly.graph_objects as go
from dcf_model import DCFModel

print("✅ DCF Model Loaded!")
```

**Cell 2: Company Inputs**

```
Company to value
COMPANY_NAME = "TechCorp Inc."
BASE_REVENUE = 1000 # millions

Create model
model = DCFModel(COMPANY_NAME)

print(f"📊 Building DCF for: {COMPANY_NAME}")
print(f"Base Year Revenue: ${BASE_REVENUE}M")
```

**Cell 3: Operating Assumptions**

```
Set assumptions (you can adjust these!)
model.set_assumptions(
 revenue=BASE_REVENUE,
 revenue_growth=[0.15, 0.12, 0.10, 0.08, 0.06],
 ebitda_margins=[0.25, 0.26, 0.27, 0.28,
```

```

 tax_rate=0.25,
 capex_pct_revenue=0.05,
 nwc_pct_revenue=0.10,
 da_pct_revenue=0.03
)

Show assumption table
assumptions_df = pd.DataFrame({
 'Year': ['1', '2', '3', '4', '5'],
 'Revenue Growth': ['15%', '12%', '10%', '8%', '6%'],
 'EBITDA Margin': ['25%', '26%', '27%', '28%', '28%']
})

assumptions_df

```

#### Cell 4: WACC Inputs

```

model.set_wacc_assumptions(
 risk_free_rate=0.04,
 equity_risk_premium=0.06,
 beta=1.2,
 debt_cost=0.05,
 market_value_equity=5000,
 market_value_debt=1000,
 tax_rate=0.25
)

wacc = model.calculate_wacc()
print(f"➡ Calculated WACC: {wacc*100:.2f}%")

```

#### Cell 5: Build Projections

```

Build model
results = model.calculate_dcf(terminal_growth_rate=0.025)

Show projections
model.projections.round(2)

```

#### Cell 6: Visualize Projections

```

Plot revenue and FCF
fig, (ax1, ax2) = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(14, 5))

Revenue growth
years = model.projections.index
ax1.bar(years, model.projections['Revenue'], color='lightblue', alpha=0.8)
ax1.set_title('Revenue Projection', fontsize=14, fontweight='bold')

```

```

ax1.set_ylabel('Revenue ($M)')
ax1.set_xlabel('Year')
ax1.grid(True, alpha=0.3)

Free Cash Flow
colors = ['green' if x > 0 else 'red' for x in model.projections['FCF']]
ax2.bar(years, model.projections['FCF'], color=colors, alpha=0.8)
ax2.set_title('Free Cash Flow', fontsize=14, fontweight='bold')
ax2.set_ylabel('FCF ($M)')
ax2.set_xlabel('Year')
ax2.grid(True, alpha=0.3)

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

## Cell 7: Valuation Waterfall

```

Create waterfall chart
waterfall_data = [
 ('PV of FCF', results['pv_fcf_total']),
 ('PV of TV', results['pv_terminal_value']),
 ('Enterprise Value', results['enterprise_value']),
 ('+ Cash', results.get('cash', 0)),
 ('- Debt', -results.get('debt', 1000)),
 ('Equity Value', results['equity_value'])
]

labels = [x[0] for x in waterfall_data]
values = [x[1] for x in waterfall_data]

Plot
plt.figure(figsize=(12, 6))
plt.bar(labels, values, color=['blue', 'blue', 'green', 'lightgreen',
 'red', 'darkgreen'])
plt.title('DCF Valuation Waterfall', fontsize=16, fontweight='bold')
plt.ylabel('Value ($M)')
plt.xticks(rotation=45, ha='right')
plt.grid(True, alpha=0.3, axis='y')
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

print(f"\n☞ Implied Equity Value: ${results['equity_value']:.0f}M")

```

## Cell 8: Sensitivity Analysis

```

2-way sensitivity table
wacc_range = np.arange(0.07, 0.13, 0.01)
growth_range = np.arange(0.015, 0.036, 0.005)

```

```
sensitivity = model.sensitivity_analysis(
 wacc_range.tolist(),
 growth_range.tolist()
)

print("📊 Enterprise Value Sensitivity ($M)")
print("Rows = Terminal Growth Rate | Columns = WACC")
sensitivity.round(0)
```

### Cell 9: Interactive Sensitivity Heatmap

```
Create interactive heatmap
fig = go.Figure(data=go.Heatmap(
 z=sensitivity.values,
 x=[f"{x*100:.1f}%" for x in sensitivity.columns],
 y=[f"{y*100:.1f}%" for y in sensitivity.index],
 colorscale='RdYlGn',
 text=sensitivity.round(0).values,
 texttemplate='%{text}',
 textfont={"size": 10},
 colorbar=dict(title="EV ($M)")
))

fig.update_layout(
 title='Enterprise Value Sensitivity Analysis',
 xaxis_title='WACC',
 yaxis_title='Terminal Growth Rate',
 height=500
)

fig.show()
```

### Cell 10: Scenario Analysis

```
Test different scenarios
scenarios = {
 'Base Case': {'growth': 0.025, 'wacc_adjust': 0.00},
 'Bull Case': {'growth': 0.035, 'wacc_adjust': -0.01},
 'Bear Case': {'growth': 0.015, 'wacc_adjust': 0.01}
}

scenario_results = []

for scenario_name, params in scenarios.items():
 # Recalculate with adjusted parameters
 temp_results = model.calculate_dcf(
 terminal_growth_rate=params['growth']
)
```

```

scenario_results.append({
 'Scenario': scenario_name,
 'Terminal Growth': f'{params["growth"]*100:.1f}%',
 'Enterprise Value': temp_results['enterprise_value'],
 'Equity Value': temp_results['equity_value']
})

scenario_df = pd.DataFrame(scenario_results)
scenario_df

```

### Cell 11: Export Results

```

Export comprehensive report
model.export_to_excel(f'{COMPANY_NAME.replace(" ", "_")}_DCF_Model.xlsx')
print(f"✅ Complete model exported to Excel!")

```

## Part 6: Real Company Example - Apple Inc. (15 minutes)

### Get Real Financial Data

New notebook: [apple\\_dcf.ipynb](#)

#### Cell 1:

```

import yfinance as yf
import pandas as pd
from dcf_model import DCFModel

Get Apple data
aapl = yf.Ticker("AAPL")
info = aapl.info
financials = aapl.financials
balance_sheet = aapl.balance_sheet

print("📱 Apple Inc. - DCF Valuation")
print(f"Market Cap: ${info.get('marketCap')/1e9:.1f}B")
print(f"Current Price: ${info.get('currentPrice'):.2f}")

```

#### Cell 2:

```

Extract key metrics
latest_revenue = financials.loc['Total Revenue'].iloc[0] / 1e9 # billions
latest_ebitda = financials.loc['EBITDA'].iloc[0] / 1e9 if 'EBITDA' in
financials.index else None
total_debt = balance_sheet.loc['Total Debt'].iloc[0] / 1e9 if 'Total Debt' in
balance_sheet.index else 0

```

```

cash = balance_sheet.loc['Cash'].iloc[0] / 1e9 if 'Cash' in
balance_sheet.index else 0
shares = info.get('sharesOutstanding', 0) / 1e9

print(f"Latest Revenue: ${latest_revenue:.1f}B")
print(f"Total Debt: ${total_debt:.1f}B")
print(f"Cash: ${cash:.1f}B")
print(f"Shares Outstanding: {shares:.2f}B")

```

**Cell 3:**

```

Build DCF for Apple
apple_model = DCFModel("Apple Inc.")

Set assumptions (analyst estimates)
apple_model.set_assumptions(
 revenue=latest_revenue,
 revenue_growth=[0.08, 0.07, 0.06, 0.05, 0.04], # Mature growth
 ebitda_margins=[0.30, 0.30, 0.31, 0.31, 0.32], # Strong margins
 tax_rate=0.15, # Apple's effective tax rate
 capex_pct_revenue=0.03,
 nwc_pct_revenue=0.05,
 da_pct_revenue=0.025
)

WACC assumptions
apple_model.set_wacc_assumptions(
 risk_free_rate=0.045,
 equity_risk_premium=0.055,
 beta=1.25,
 debt_cost=0.03,
 market_value_equity=info.get('marketCap') / 1e9,
 market_value_debt=total_debt,
 tax_rate=0.15
)

Calculate
apple_results = apple_model.calculate_dcf(
 terminal_growth_rate=0.025
)

apple_model.print_summary()

```

**Cell 4:**

```

Compare to market
implied_price = apple_results['equity_value'] * 1000 / shares # Convert B
to M, then per share
current_price = info.get('currentPrice')

```

```

print(f"\n⌚ VALUATION COMPARISON")
print(f"{'='*50}")
print(f"DCF Implied Price: ${implied_price:.2f}")
print(f"Current Market Price: ${current_price:.2f}")
print(f"Upside/(Downside): {((implied_price/current_price - 1) * 100):.1f}%")

if implied_price > current_price:
 print(f"\n✅ Stock appears UNDERVALUED by {((implied_price/current_price - 1) * 100):.1f}%")
else:
 print(f"\n⚠️ Stock appears OVERVALUED by {((1 - implied_price/current_price) * 100):.1f}%")

```

## Part 7: Best Practices & Tips (10 minutes)

### Code Organization

```

Good: Modular structure
dcf-valuation-model/
├── dcf_model.py # Core model class
├── utils.py # Helper functions
├── data_loader.py # Data import functions
├── test_dcf.py # Unit tests
└── examples/
 ├── tech_company.ipynb
 ├── apple_dcf.ipynb
 └── custom_valuation.ipynb
└── outputs/ # Excel exports

```

### Error Handling

```

def calculate_wacc(self) -> float:
 """Calculate WACC with validation"""
 try:
 # Validation
 if self.market_value_equity <= 0:
 raise ValueError("Equity value must be positive")

 if not 0 <= self.tax_rate <= 1:
 raise ValueError("Tax rate must be between 0 and 1")

 # Calculation
 total_value = self.market_value_equity + self.market_value_debt
 # ...

 except Exception as e:

```

```
print(f"X Error calculating WACC: {e}")
return None
```

## Documentation

```
def calculate_dcf(self, terminal_growth_rate: float = 0.025) -> Dict:
 """
 Calculate enterprise value using DCF methodology.

 Parameters:

 terminal_growth_rate : float, default=0.025
 Perpetual growth rate for terminal value (e.g., 0.025 = 2.5%)
 Should be <= long-term GDP growth rate

 Returns:

 Dict containing:
 - enterprise_value : float
 - equity_value : float
 - pv_fcf_total : float
 - pv_terminal_value : float
 - wacc : float

 Example:

 >>> model = DCFModel("Company")
 >>> results = model.calculate_dcf(terminal_growth_rate=0.03)
 >>> print(f"EV: ${results['enterprise_value']:.0f}M")
 """
```

## Version Control

```
Commit after each major milestone
git add dcf_model.py
git commit -m "Add terminal value calculation methods"

git add test_dcf.py
git commit -m "Create test case for DCF model"

git add apple_dcf.ipynb
git commit -m "Add Apple valuation example"

Push to GitHub
git push origin main
```

## Part 8: Enhancements & Extensions (10 minutes)

## 1. Add Multiple Valuation Methods

```
class EnhancedDCFModel(DCFModel):
 """Extended DCF with additional methods"""

 def comparable_companies_check(self, comps_multiples: List[float]):
 """Compare DCF result to comps"""
 # Calculate implied EV/EBITDA from DCF
 # Compare to comparable companies
 pass

 def precedent_transactions_check(self, transaction_multiples:
List[float]):
 """Compare to precedent transactions"""
 pass

 def football_field(self):
 """Create football field chart with all methods"""
 pass
```

## 2. Monte Carlo Simulation

```
def monte_carlo_valuation(self, iterations: int = 10000):
 """Run Monte Carlo simulation on key assumptions"""
 # Randomly vary: growth rates, margins, WACC
 # Run DCF 10,000 times
 # Show distribution of outcomes
 # Return probability of positive return
 pass
```

## 3. Historical Analysis

```
def backtest_model(self, historical_data: pd.DataFrame):
 """Test model accuracy using historical data"""
 # Use past financials
 # Calculate what DCF would have predicted
 # Compare to actual stock performance
 pass
```

## 4. API Integration

```
def auto_populate_from_api(self, ticker: str):
 """Automatically populate assumptions from financial APIs"""
 import yfinance as yf
```

```
stock = yf.Ticker(ticker)
Extract all needed data
Populate model automatically
Return ready-to-run model
pass
```

## ✓ Skills Checklist

After this tutorial, you can:

- Understand DCF methodology and theory
- Build complete DCF model from scratch
- Use GitHub Copilot for financial modeling
- Calculate WACC using CAPM
- Project free cash flows
- Calculate terminal value
- Create sensitivity analysis
- Value real companies
- Export models to Excel
- Build interactive valuation notebooks

## 🎯 DCF Formula Quick Reference

```
Free Cash Flow
FCF = NOPAT + D&A - CapEx - Δ NWC

NOPAT
NOPAT = EBIT × (1 - Tax Rate)

WACC
WACC = (E/V × Re) + (D/V × Rd × (1 - Tax Rate))

Cost of Equity (CAPM)
Re = Rf + β × (Rm - Rf)

Terminal Value (Perpetuity)
TV = FCF(n+1) / (WACC - g)

Terminal Value (Multiple)
TV = EBITDA(n) × Exit Multiple

Present Value
PV = FV / (1 + r)^n

Enterprise Value
EV = Σ PV(FCF) + PV(TV)

Equity Value
```

```
Equity Value = EV + Cash - Debt
Share Price
Share Price = Equity Value / Shares Outstanding
```

---

## 💡 Pro Tips

### 1. Sanity Check Your Results

- WACC typically 7-12% for mature companies
- Terminal growth ≤ GDP growth (2-3%)
- FCF margins should be realistic
- Compare implied multiple to peers

### 2. Sensitivity is Critical

- Always show sensitivity tables
- Test multiple scenarios
- Document key assumptions
- Show range of outcomes

### 3. Use Real Data

- Start with yfinance for actuals
- Use analyst estimates for projections
- Research industry benchmarks
- Validate assumptions

### 4. Keep Learning

- Read equity research reports
- Study investment banking models
- Practice with different industries
- Build template library

---

## 🚀 What's Next?

You now have:

- Complete DCF model built in VS Code
- Professional valuation framework
- Interactive analysis capabilities
- Real company valuation skills

**Next steps:**

1.  Value 5 companies to practice
2.  Build industry-specific templates

3.  Continue to: [Tutorials/05\\_VS\\_Code\\_Power\\_User.md](#)
  4.  Start Module 4: DCF Modeling
- 

## Bonus: Export to Investment Memo

```
def create_investment_memo(model, output_file='memo.md'):
 """Generate investment recommendation memo"""

 memo = f"""\n # Investment Recommendation: {model.company_name}\n
 ## Executive Summary\n Based on our DCF analysis, {model.company_name} has an implied equity value of ${model.dcf_results['equity_value']:.0f}M, suggesting the stock is [OVERVALUED/UNDERRATED] by XX%.\n
 ## Valuation Methodology\n - Discounted Cash Flow (DCF)\n - 5-year projection period\n - WACC: {model.wacc*100:.2f}%\n - Terminal growth: 2.5%\n
 ## Key Assumptions\n - Revenue CAGR: X%\n - EBITDA margins expanding to X%\n - Modest CapEx requirements\n
 ## Investment Thesis\n [Your thesis here]\n
 ## Risks\n - [Risk 1]\n - [Risk 2]\n
 ## Recommendation\n [BUY/HOLD/SELL]\n
 ## Price Target\n $XX.XX per share\n
---\n*Analysis Date: {datetime.now().strftime('%Y-%m-%d')}*\n """\n
 with open(output_file, 'w') as f:\n f.write(memo)
```



**Next:** [Tutorials/05\\_VS\\_Code\\_Power\\_User.md](#) - Advanced VS Code techniques

---

*Estimated completion time: 120 minutes Difficulty: Intermediate-Advanced Next: Power User Techniques*