

# Entrepreneurial finance

TUM School of Management  
Entrepreneurship Research Institute  
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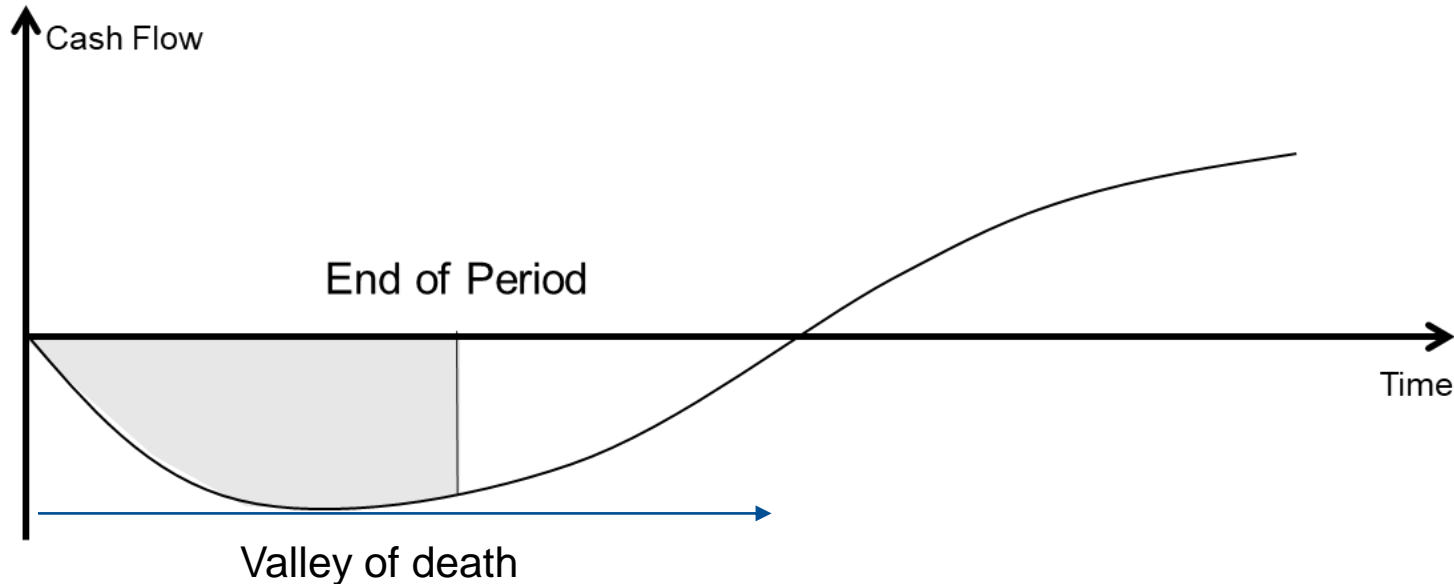
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## In this session you will learn:

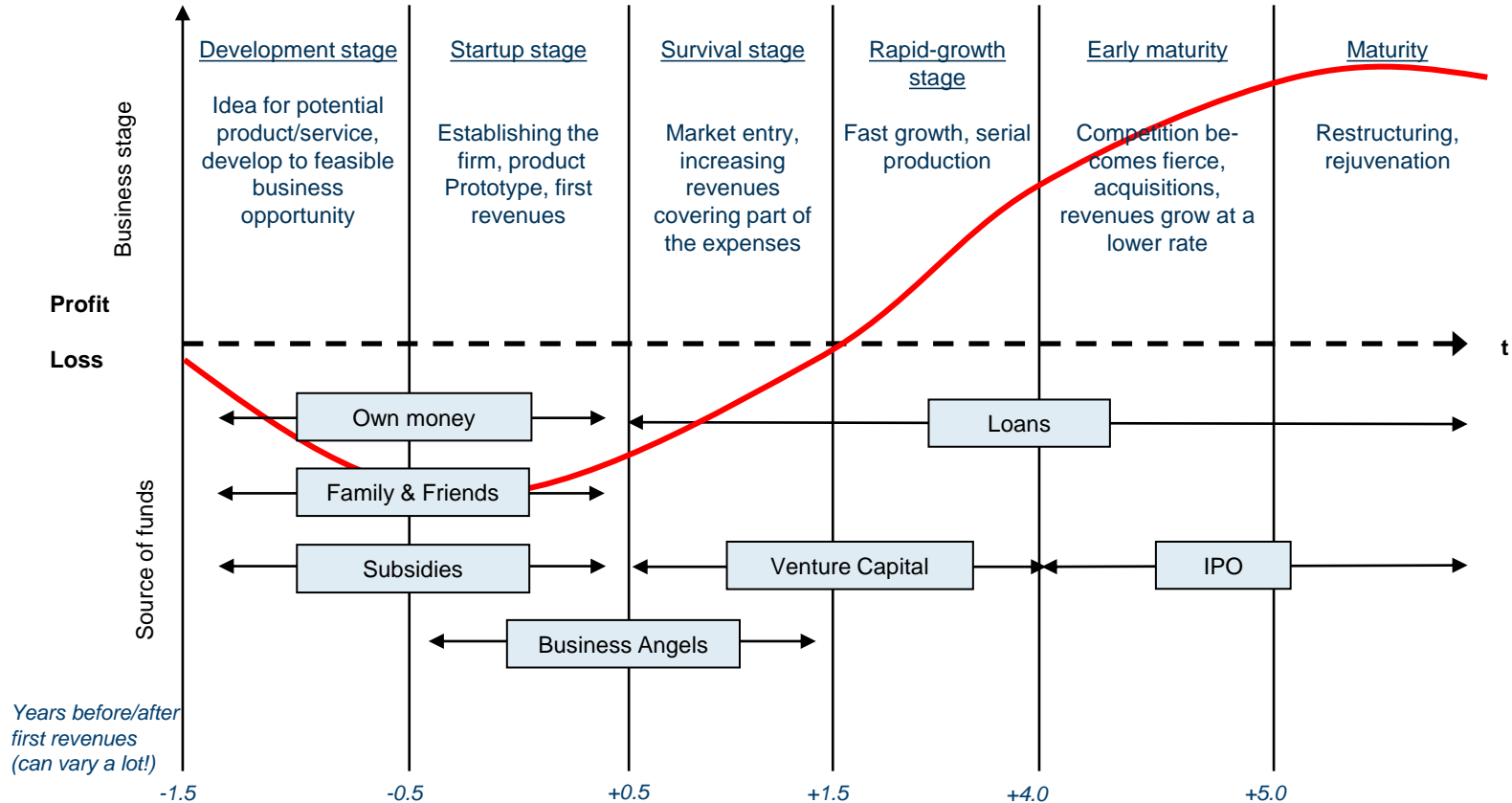
- What is the difference between getting money and earning money
- Why many new ventures go through a valley of death
- Why VC investors fail with 70% of their investments but earn money nevertheless
- Why TUM startup Lilium is taking off

# The cash flow of new ventures

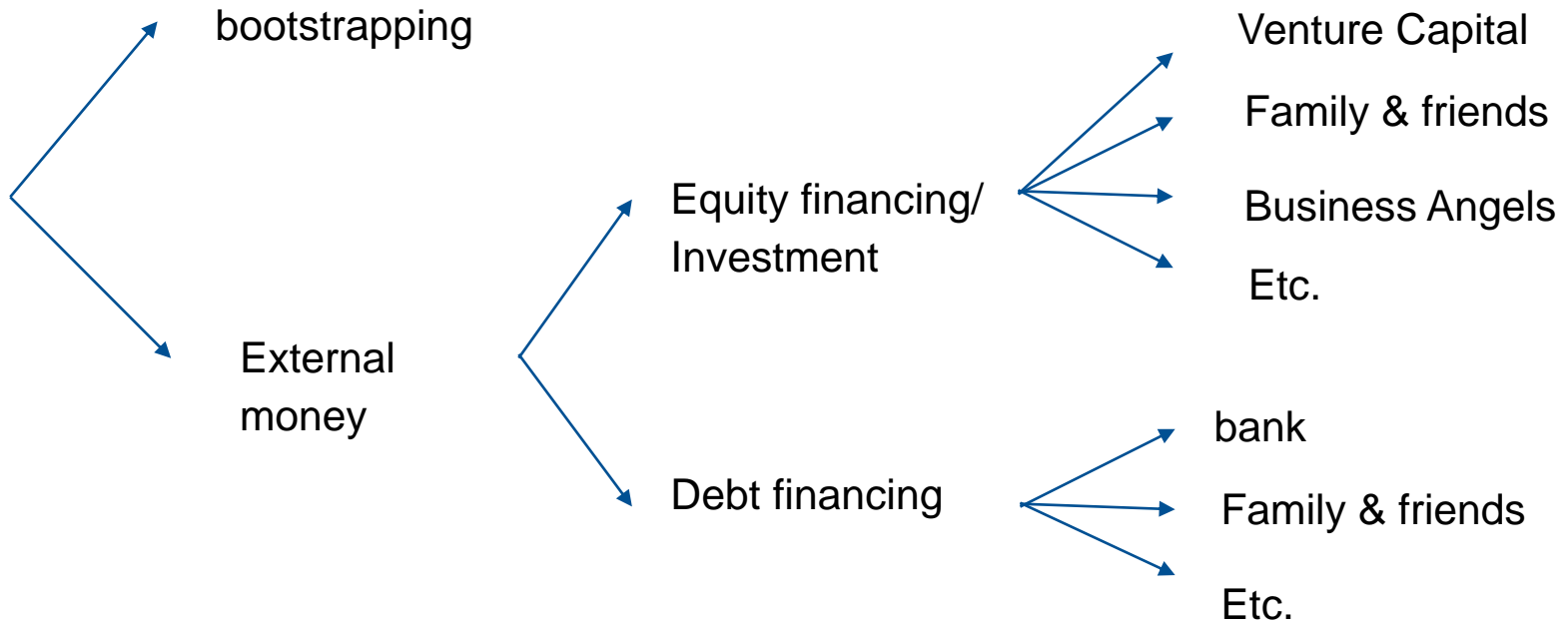


- The rate at which cash is consumed is called the **cash burn rate**
- **Cash burn rate:** If beginning cash is EUR 100'000 and cash at end of year is EUR 40'000, then the cash burn rate is  $60'000/12 = \text{EUR } 5,000 \text{ per month}$
- **Cash runway:** You have now EUR 40'000 left in cash left. With a burn rate of EUR 5,000 per month, it will take **8 months** until you run out of cash

# Sources of new venture finance



# Decisions you have to make



# Bootstrapping

Financing the venture without outside capital, only with own money and the startup's cash flow

## Benefits

Ownership and control remain with founder(s) for a long time

Higher financial reward in a potential later exit/ IPO

## Downsides

Need to generate cash flow soon

Hard to develop the best possible (complex) product

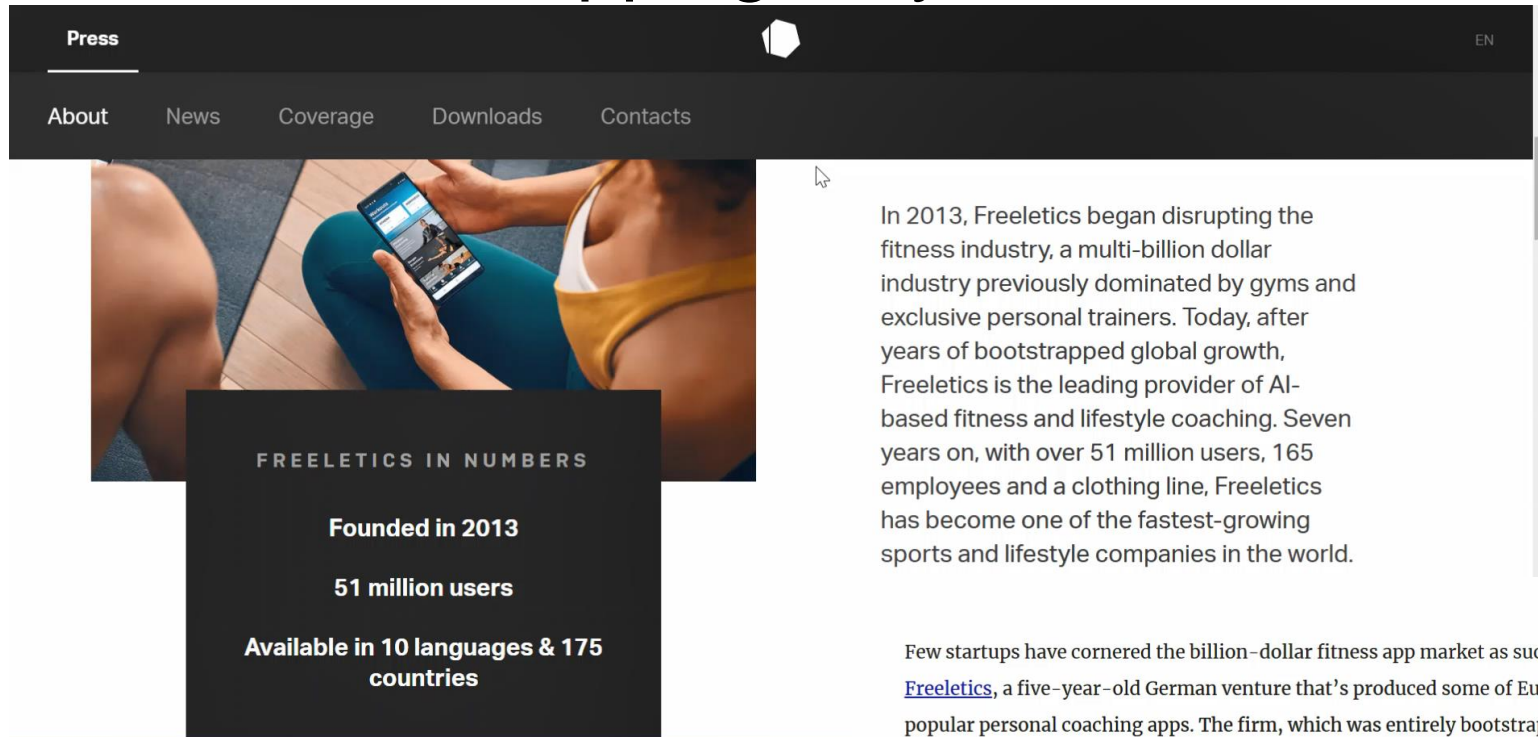
Growth can be slower

More difficult to pay an own salary

Investors often add value

**Some very successful ventures bootstrapped at the start**

# Freeletics: Bootstrapping for years



The screenshot shows the Freeletics website. At the top is a dark navigation bar with the word "Press" on the left, a logo in the center, and "EN" on the right. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with links: "About", "News", "Coverage", "Downloads", and "Contacts". The main content area features a large image of a person in athletic wear using a smartphone. Overlaid on this image is a dark box with the following text:

**FREELETICS IN NUMBERS**

- Founded in 2013**
- 51 million users**
- Available in 10 languages & 175 countries**

To the right of the image, there is a text block starting with "In 2013, Freeletics began disrupting the fitness industry..."

In 2013, Freeletics began disrupting the fitness industry, a multi-billion dollar industry previously dominated by gyms and exclusive personal trainers. Today, after years of bootstrapped global growth, Freeletics is the leading provider of AI-based fitness and lifestyle coaching. Seven years on, with over 51 million users, 165 employees and a clothing line, Freeletics has become one of the fastest-growing sports and lifestyle companies in the world.

Few startups have cornered the billion-dollar fitness app market as successfully as [Freeletics](https://venturebeat.com/2018/12/04/fitness-app-developer-freeletics-raises-45-million-to-expand-internationally/), a five-year-old German venture that's produced some of Europe's most popular personal coaching apps. The firm, which was entirely bootstrapped until August 2018, has more than 31 million users worldwide in over 160 countries. And now, with 120 employees, a suite of four apps, and a clothing line, it's gearing up for further expansion.

Freeletics today announced that it has raised \$45 million in a series A funding round led by FitLab, Causeway Media Partners, and Jazz Venture Partners, with participation from Courtside Ventures, Elysian Park Ventures, Ward Ventures, and business mogul Tony Robbins. As part of the round, Causeway's Mark Wan and Jazz's John Spinale will join the board, and FitLab, which bought a controlling majority of shares from

<https://venturebeat.com/2018/12/04/fitness-app-developer-freeletics-raises-45-million-to-expand-internationally/>

[www.freeletics.com](http://www.freeletics.com)

# External money



## Equity financing

An investor provides capital to the new venture and receives an ownership share in return

Examples: family and friends, venture capitalists, angel investors

## Debt financing

The new venture gets a loan that has to be repaid (including the corresponding interest)

Examples: bank loans, loans from friends, family members, colleagues, or other lenders



# Equity financing

## Benefits

No forcible repayments, therefore no bankruptcy risks from equity financing.

More equity financing can increase the creditworthiness for future debt financing.

## Downsides

The investor takes a stake in the company (dilution of control).

The entrepreneur has less freedom in decision-making.

Buying out their stake at a later stage will cost more in comparison with what was originally invested.

**Particular important for R&D-intensive, high growth ventures**

# Debt financing

## Benefits

Creditor has no control over the business

Debt can be cheaper than equity (the interest is tax deductible, lower required return due to different risk pattern, etc.)

Financial planning is easier due to fixed and finite payment structures

Return on equity may be positively influenced by financial leverage ('leverage effect')

## Downsides

It's difficult to get a bank loan without having assets to pledge, a good credit history, and/or a track record

Obligation to pay amount back at fixed schedule

**Particular important for ventures that can offer securities**

# 3 Fs: Family, Friends, & Fools

The typical sources for initial new venture funding are:



## Advantages of family as a source of financing:

Altruistic ties between borrower and lender, leading to:

- Easier access
- Longer time frame
- More flexibility in terms of contract form
- Lower cost
- Renegotiation opportunity

## The downsides:

- Limited amount of funds
- Reciprocity
- Increased risk aversion to keep family assets safe
- Intervening family members
- Potential relational conflicts

# Government subsidies (grants)

- Targeted toward very early stage ventures
- Often linked to technology transfer
- Regional development
- Industry-specific programs
- Typically „free money“ – no ownership or interest loans



# Business angels

- Wealthy individuals often with expertise to add value to the new venture
- Usually invest in products related to personal interest
- Early stage, typical investment 50,000 to 500,000 €
- More flexible to invest in ventures that may grow at a slower rate or have a lower rate of return than demanded by VCs
- Individual or collaborative investors (Business Angel Network - BAN)



# Venture capital (VC)

- Equity capital for young ventures, typically combined with management support
- Seed, early stage, or expansion financing (often specialized)
- Risk reduction strategies:
  - Portfolio of investees
  - Specialization (phases, industry)
  - Staged financing in several rounds (Seed, A, B, C ...)
  - Lead investor or co-investor in VC investment syndicates
- Explicit goal to sell the business within a certain timeframe (through an IPO, trade sale, etc.)
- Venture capitalists typically invest in exchange for at least 20-30% share of equity
- Investment horizon 3 to 5 years
- Targeted investors' expected return (internal rate of return, IRR) > 20% p.a.
- Out of 10 investments: 1 star, 2-3 moderate, rest write-offs
- VCs are compensated by fund management fee and profit share



High-Tech Gründerfonds

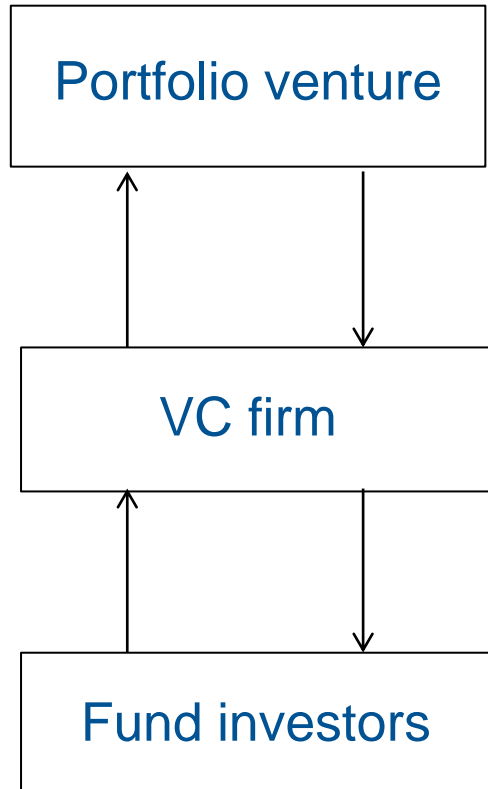


wellingtonpartners  
VENTURE CAPITAL

TVM|Capital EARLYBIRD  
VENTURE CAPITAL

UVC UNTERNEHMERTUM  
VENTURE CAPITAL

# The venture capital cycle



UVC UNTERNEHMERTUM  
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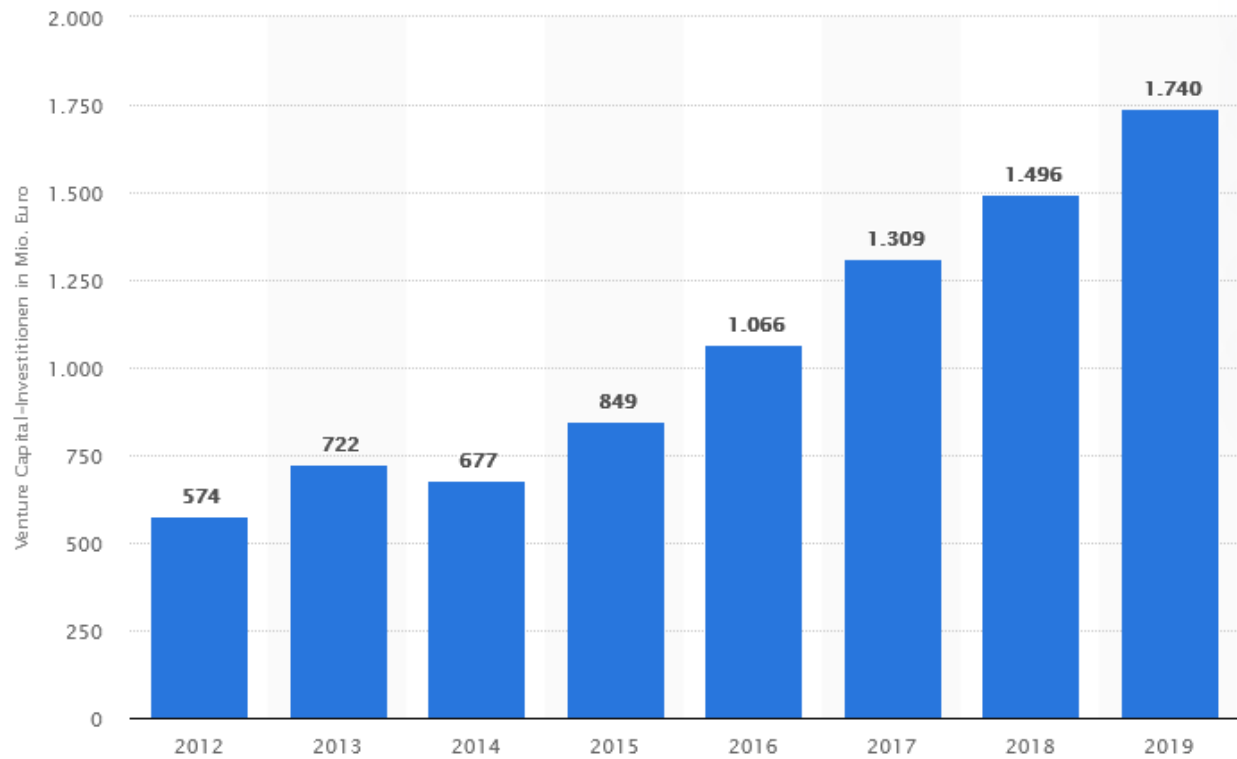
We Support Founders



**UVC Partners launches new €150 million fund**

OCTOBER 20, 2020

# VC investment in Germany





# Venture capital investment criteria

1. Entrepreneurial team
2. Entrepreneurial team
3. Entrepreneurial team
4. Market size, market growth, competition, risk, product/technology, partners, strategy,  
...

# New ways of venture finance

## **Business incubators/accelerators**

- Public or private organization that provides new ventures with offices, networks, advice for up to 3-6 month
- Entrepreneurs provide an equity share (1-10%) in return

## **Microfinance**

- Provides uncollateralized loans to people living in poverty without access to finance (especially women)
- Loan is provided to an individual or a group (a group decreases the risk of loss and increases probability of repayment)
- Entrepreneurs need to repay the loan and the interest

## **Peer-to-peer lending**

- Uncollateralized loans from other individuals (equity or other ownership relations are generally not included)
- Screening process involves credit history of the borrower and other criteria
- Risk that entrepreneurs use money to finance consumption

## **Crowd-funding**

- Collection of (small amounts) of capital from a large a number of people through online platform/social media
- Entrepreneurs present their projects on platform
- Investors get a compensation in form of “tokens of appreciation” (e.g., personalized products) or equity stake

# Examples crowdfunding



Kuchentratsch ist eine Anlaufstelle in Form einer Backstube für alle SeniorInnen die Freude am Backen haben. Unsere SeniorInnen backen bei uns gemeinsam Kuchen, tratschen, lernen neue Leute kennen und haben die Möglichkeit ihre Rente aufzubessern. Die leckeren Kuchen werden an Privatpersonen, Unternehmen, Stiftungen oder Cafés verkauft - so hat jeder etwas von den mit Liebe gemachten Kuchen. Begleitet uns bei unserem nächsten Schritt - eine eigene, seniorengerechte Backstube in München.



Katharina und Katrin



**24.630 €**

23.000 € Fundingziel



**381**

Unterstützer\*innen



**Projekt**

erfolgreich



Gefördert von yooweedoo - dein ökologisches und sozial nachhaltiges Projekt

<https://www.startnext.com/kuchentratsch>

# Examples crowdfunding

Kampagne

FAQ <sup>17</sup>

Updates <sup>62</sup>

Kommentare <sup>18.410</sup>

Community

Andere über dieses Projekt informieren

Speichern

## Headphones



The Dash – Wireless Smart In Ear Headphones

📍 Munich, Germany 🛠 Produktdesign

**3.390.551 \$**

finanziert von 260.000 \$ Zielbetrag

**15.998**

Unterstützer

### Support

Mindestbeitrag: 2 US\$

THANK YOU! Every contribution brings us closer to our goal. We will keep you updated on the progress, and you will receive a \$5 discount on a purchase from Bragi's online store.

VORAUSSICHTLICHE  
LIEFERUNG:  
Okt 2014

400 Unterstützer

Mindestbeitrag: 15 US\$

Our CEO will send you a personal

STORY

Story

[https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/hellobragi/the-dash-wireless-smart-in-ear-headphones?ref=discovery\\_location\\_most\\_funded](https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/hellobragi/the-dash-wireless-smart-in-ear-headphones?ref=discovery_location_most_funded)

# Exit

= exit of investors or the founders from the company with the highest possible profit.

## What do you need for an successful exit?

- fast growth & multiplication of start-up value
- high valuation of the start-up



## What happens during an exit?

Investors or founders sell their shares in the company and leave the company as shareholders

## Why should one do this?

Investors: generally they don't plan to invest their capital in the long term. After an exit they can reinvest the capital in new start-ups (and earn even more money)

Founders: an exit means financial and legal independence

# Exit Strategies

**Trade Sale** = selling the start-up to a corporation or private equity investor

**Leveraged Buyout** = selling the start-up to an investor that already invested in the company before

**IPO** = Initial Public Offering, probably ideal way of an exit, only possible for very successful start-ups

**Merger** = merging the start-up with a competitor

# Example successful exit

adidas **RUNTASTIC** HOME BLOG CAREER HELP CENTER

EINLOGGEN

## SEI DIE VERÄNDERUNG.

Starte einen Trainingsplan, fordere dich selbst heraus und werde mit jedem Workout stärker. Ob du dich für deinen ersten Lauf bereit machst oder dir dein Bike für eine Fahrradtour schnappst – jede Aktivität zählt. Wie nah auch immer du deinem Fitnessziel schon gekommen bist: Erreiche neue Bestleistungen mit den adidas Runtastic Apps.



## Runtastic Acquired By Adidas For \$240M



Natasha Lomas @riptari / 7:25 PM GMT+2 • August 5, 2015

 Comment

## Your task (15 min):



- Read the press release and additional information provided on the financing of TUM venture Lilium by following the two links provided on Moodle.
- Try to answer the following questions based on the press releases, our session, and your own additional research:
  - When is the product launch planned?
  - Why do investors provide so much money to a venture without a product?
  - What type of investors have invested into Lilium in this round?
  - Would debt financing be a option for Lilium?
  - Who was the lead investor?
  - What is an “inside round”?
  - Which investment stages/ rounds are in focus of Freigeist?
  - What’s Lilium’s (supposed) valuation in the last financing round?

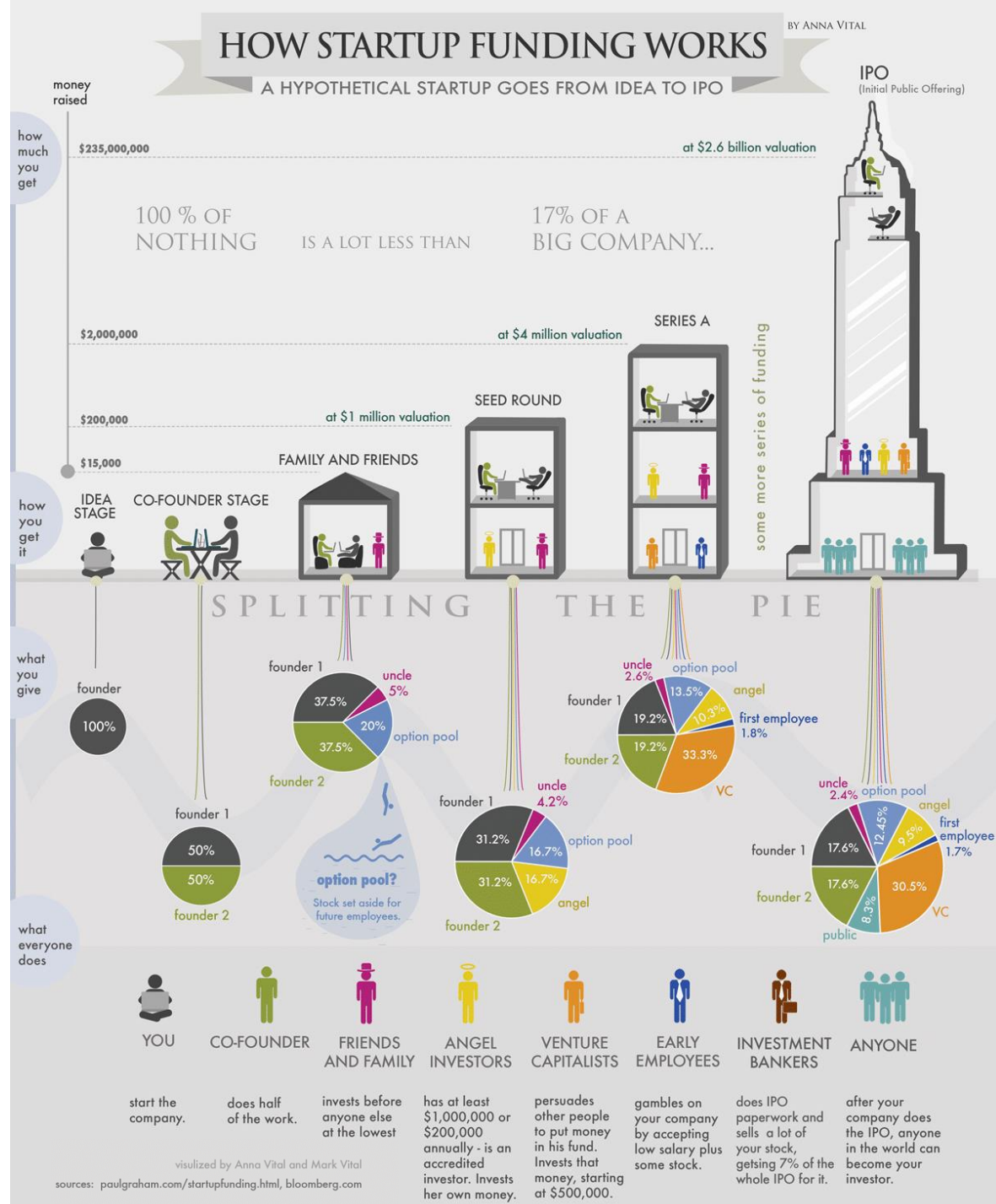


# Lilium's financing

- Product launch scheduled for 2025
- High risk-high return project, no (or little) collateral
- Financing by a syndicate of previous VC investors led by Tencent, including seed-/early stage-investor Freigeist
- Lilium is one of currently two TUM unicorns



# Session summary



# Further readings

- Giese, M., Nielsen, N. (2020), Startup Finanzierung: Dein Insider-Guide: Praxis-Tipps von Investoren für Gründerinnen und Gründer. 1. Aufl., Martin Giese, Unterföhring 2020
- Gompers, P., Lerner, J. (2006), The Venture Capital Cycle. 2. Edition, MIT Press (August 11<sup>th</sup> 2006)
- Kuper, S. (2019), Secrets of Sand Hill Road: Venture Capital—and How to Get It., Virgin Digital (June 6<sup>th</sup> 2019)
- Feld, B. (2019), Venture Deals: Be Smarter Than Your Lawyer and Venture Capitalist, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition, Wiley (August 27<sup>th</sup> 2019)