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Saas METRICS PALOOZA 24

# Rule of X The New SaaS Enterprise Valuation Metric



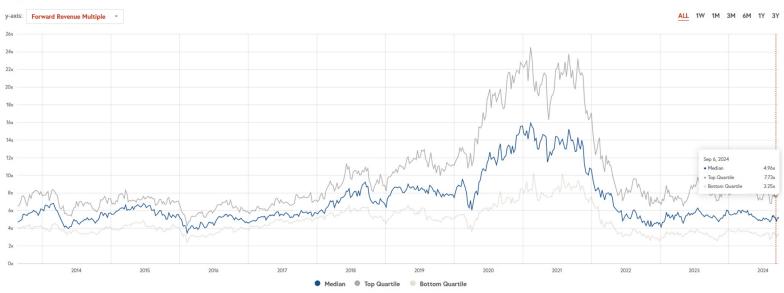
Sam Bondy
Investor
Bessemer Venture Partners





## SaaS Company Valuations

#### **Key Cloud Index Metrics**



Note: Numbers are approximate prior to 2018 and Reflect the BVP Cloud Index.

Beginning in November of 2018, the numbers reflect the BVP NASDAQ Emerging Cloud Index (EMCLOUD).





#### Rule of X

The Rule of 40 = Growth Rate + FCF margin

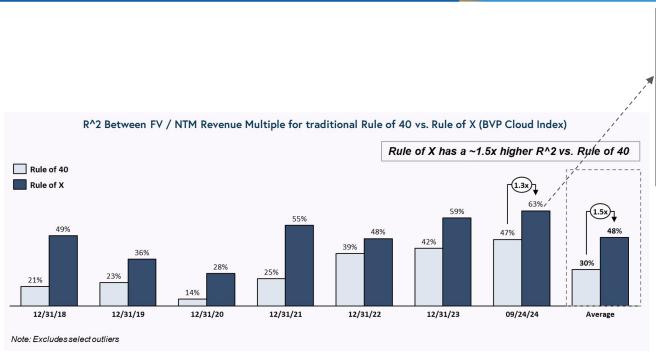
The Rule of X = (Growth Rate x Multiplier\*) + FCF margin

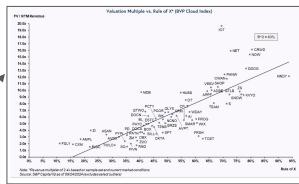
\* = multiplier on growth rate which today is ~2x for private companies and ~2-3x for public companies



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#### Rule of X Data

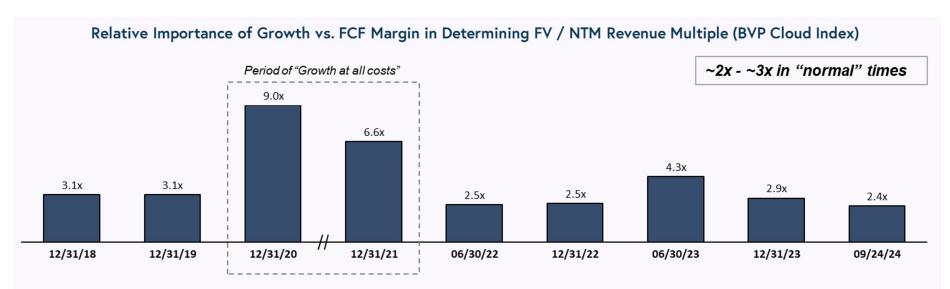








## Real World Implication



Note: Measured as relative importance of NTM revenue growth vs. NTM FCF margin on FV / NTM revenue based on multiple linear regression coefficients; excl. select outliers





#### Good, Better, Best - North Star Metrics

Good, Better, Best: Rule of X = (Growth Rate x Multiplier\*) + FCF margin

Good:  $\sim 12\% * 2 + \sim 16\% = \sim 40\% +$ 

Note: Based on BVP Cloud index; \*Revenue multiplier of 2x for simplicity (guidelines for latestage growth / public FCF+ companies)





## Appendix - Guggenheim Valuation Grid







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#### Appendix - Rule of X

