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Ph.D. Candidate
Supervisors
Professor George Ian Bulkley
Professor James Davidson

Contact Information

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Business School
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Education
M.Sc. Economics and Econometrics, University of Exeter, 2008 (distinction)
Thesis: 'Predictability of Returns in the presence of Learning'
Advisor: Professor George Bulkley, Professor James Davidson

B.Sc. Economics and Finance, University of Mauritius, 2005 (distinction)
Thesis: 'Evidence of Political Business Cycles in Mauritius'
Advisor: Professor Sanjeev Sobhee

Research Fields
Applied Times Series Econometrics, Financial Econometrics, Asset Pricing, Forecast Combinations, Fractional integration, Nonlinear and state space models.

Teaching Experience

Fall 2011	Introduction to Econometrics, University of Exeter (Bachelor)
Spring 2011	Quantitative Methods for Finance, University of Exeter (Masters)
Fall 2010	Quantitative Methods for Finance, University of Exeter (Masters)
Spring 2010	Introduction to Econometrics, University of Exeter (Bachelor)
Fall 2009	Quantitative Methods for Finance, University of Exeter (Masters)
Spring 2009	Introduction to Econometrics, University of Exeter (Bachelor)
	Statistics and Econometrics, University of Exeter (Bachelor)
Fall 2008	Quantitative Methods for Finance, University of Exeter (Masters)
	Statistics and Econometrics, University of Exeter (Bachelor)

Other Employment

2008-Now	Teaching Assistant
2006	Research Assistant, University of Mauritius
2006	Lecturer, University Technology of Mauritius in Financial Accounting
2001	Trainee Auditor (Deloitte and Touche Mauritius)

Membership of Professional Bodies

2009 to present	African Econometric Society
2011 to present	European Financial Management
2011 to present	Euro Area Business Cycle Network

Scholarships and Awards

- Doctoral Paper Selection, European Financial Management, June 2011
- Full financial assistance, International Doctoral Students Phd Conference, Izmir, April 2011
- Graduate Teaching Assistant Scholarship, University of Exeter, 2008-2011
- Full Masters Scholarship, University of Exeter 2007-2008
- UK Commonwealth Scholarship , Government of Mauritius 2007-2008
- Parsuramen and Petchaye Gold Medal, University of Mauritius
- University of Mauritius Scholarship, University of Mauritius, 2002-2005

Courses Attended (during Phd)

- Behavioural Econometrics, Apr 2011, University of Exeter
- ESRC training in Advanced Asset Pricing, Sep 2010, University of Exeter
- 3rd Annual Granger Centre Conference on 'Recent Advances on Time Series Econometrics', 2009, University of Nottingham

Conferences and Seminars Accepted

- African Econometric Society, Nairobi, “A Real Time Trading Rule” September 2011
- European Financial Management, Braga, “ Modelling Persistence in Expected Returns” June 2011
- Augustin Cournot Doctoral Conference, Strasbourg, “A Real Time Trading Rule” April 2011
- Workshop on Financial Markets and Risk, Obergurgl “A Real Time Trading Rule” April 2011
- 7th International Students Phd Conference, Izmir “A Real-time trading rule” April 2011)

- Department of Economics Phd Seminar, University of Exeter, "A Real Time Trading Strategy" June 2010
- Department of Finance Phd Seminar, University of Exeter, "Implementation of a trading rule through the forecasting of dividends" June 2009
- Department of Economics Phd Seminar, University of Exeter, "Implementation of a trading rule through the forecasting of dividends" May 2009,
- 'Implementation of a trading rule through the forecasting of dividends' June 2009, University of Bath Phd conference.

Packages and Programming consoles

Ox, PcGive, TSM, Eviews, Winrats, MATLAB, Scientific Workplace

Language Skills

Creole (Fluent), English (Fluent), French (Fluent), Hindi (Basic)

Referees

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Selected Working Papers and Abstracts

A Real time Trading Rule

This paper tests the profitability of a trading strategy which consists in identifying whether equity indices are under or overvalued in real-time. The model rests on the assumptions that the equity index is dynamically efficient and that mean reversion to the fundamental price may offer profitable opportunities. The fundamental price is constructed in real time using the net present value approach which requires the series for expected dividends, expected returns and expected dividend growth rate. These series, typically unobservable, are derived from a structural state space model. A battery of tests comparing the rule to the passive Buy and Hold Strategy illustrates that the rule is marginally better for shorter horizons.

Exploiting price Misalignments

Significant cumulative above the market returns can be made by properly diversifying wealth between equity and bond assets. The main premise of the model we posit is to identify when should assets be held in the bond markets and when it should be held in equity markets. This is easily done by comparing the net present value of the equity index with the actual price. Recursive and Rolling forecasts of dividends from three regression schemes are used to proxy the expected returns. The returns are sensitive to the forecasting model and the discount factor adopted in the net present value relation.

Filtering Expected Returns from a fractional Net Present Value

The major contribution of this paper is to explicitly model the persistence in the time series of expected returns. An earlier study by Koijen and Van Binsbergen (2010) shows the expected returns series is very persistent, having close to unit root properties over time. I develop an infinite state space representation of the net present value relationship between the dividend price ratio, dividend growth and expected returns while assuming that the latter is a long memory process. The time series properties of the variables are found to be stronger when the latent variable of returns is assumed to exhibit hyperbolic decay in the first moments. Our results show that by including the persistence factor, the fitof expected returns is improved

Publications

A fractional model of Net Present Value, European Financial Management doctoral papers, forthcoming 2011

Long memory, return predictability and unconditional risk: Evidence from African frontier markets, African Review of Economics and Finance, Volume 1, Number 2, June 2010

Work in progress

Modeling the persistence in expected returns (joint with Adam Golinski and Joao Madeira)

A test of pure against spurious memory based on self similarity of variances (joint with James Davidson and David Peel)

Comparing and optimally combining direct and iterated forecasts for fractionally integrated models.

Consumption shocks and discount rate variation.

The net present value revisited: A fractional cointegration perspective.