

Hang ZHOU

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Education

Sep 2013 – Sep 2017 (expected) University of Edinburgh **PhD in Finance**

Sep 2012 – Aug 2013 University of Edinburgh MSc in Finance and Investment (with distinction)

Sep 2008 – Jun 2012 University of Nottingham, China Campus BA (Hons) Finance Accounting and Management (with First Class)

Areas of interest

Empirical Asset Pricing, Capital Market Anomalies, Textual Analysis, Machine Learning Application

Working Paper

Net Equity Issuance Effect in the UK

(with Maria Michou and Seth Armitage)

Net Equity Issuance refers to the change of firm's shares outstanding due to events such as SEOs, share repurchases and stock mergers. It has been found to have predicting power of cross-sectional stock returns in the US and other international markets. However, its existence in the UK remains unclear due to distinctive characteristics of the UK stock market. The paper employs a Fama-Macbeth methodology and portfolio formation analysis to test the existence of the Net Equity Issuance effect in the UK. The results from both set of methodologies confirm the existence and pervasiveness of the Net Equity Issuance effect in the UK stock market. However, profitable exploitation of the effect may not be possible when transactions costs are taken into account.

Work in Progress

1. On the information content of new asset pricing factors in the UK

New factor models with different factor specification have been proposed to provide better asset pricing performance in the US market. However, it remains unclear which new factor model best explains the cross-section of stock returns in the UK. This paper employs factor spanning tests and GRS tests to compare performance of new factor models with different factor specification in the UK. We find that value factor and size factor is subsumed by profitability factor and investment factor in the UK. Furthermore, our results indicate that certain specifications of profitability factors outperform the others. Therefore we suggest UK researchers to apply new three factor models in the UK.

2. Global? Regional? Or Local?

Conference

"Net Equity Issuance effect in the UK"

2015 British Accounting & Finance Association (BAFA) Doctoral Conference, Manchester

"On the information content of new asset pricing factors in the UK"

2016 British Accounting & Finance Association (BAFA) Doctoral Conference, Bath

<u>Workshop</u>

2015 2nd Young Finance Scholars' Conference & Corporate Governance Workshop, Brighton

Teaching experience

University of Edinburgh – Business School

Teaching assistant

2015

- Introduction to Financial Markets (Undergraduate, Student evaluation 4.3/5.0)
- Statistics for Finance (MSc, Student evaluation 4.3/5.0)

Scholarship Awards

- PhD Scholarship in Accounting & Finance (University of Edinburgh)
- CFA Scholarship for June 2013 Level 1 exam (University of Edinburgh)
- Dean's Scholarship 2008-2011 (University of Nottingham)

References

1. Dr Maria Michou

Senior Lecturer in Finance University of Edinburgh – Business School (<u>Maria.Michou@ed.ac.uk</u>)

2. Professor Seth Armitage

University of Edinburgh – Business School (Seth.Armitage@ed.ac.uk)