

PERSONAL DETAILS

School Lee Kong Chian School of Business, Singapore Management University
Address 50 Stamford Rd, Singapore 178899
Phone (+65) 81603067
Mail bo.sang.2017@pbs.smu.edu.sg

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate in Finance

2017 - present

Singapore Management University

Expected to graduate in May 2022

Committee: Prof. Joe Zhang (Chair), Prof. Ekkehart Boehmer, and Prof. Wei Chi Shen

Research areas: *Empirical Asset Pricing, Cryptocurrencies, Market Microstructure, Machine Learning*

M.Sc. in Finance

2016 - 2017

Washington University in St. Louis

Exchange Student in Finance

Jul-Dec 2015

University of Richmond

B.Sc. in Economics

2012 - 2016

Singapore Management University

Second major in Finance

WORKING PAPERS

Can retail investors learn from insiders? (with Ekkehart Boehmer and Joe Zhang)

Job Market Paper

*Presented at: SMU PhD Reading Group 2020; Singapore Scholars Symposium 2020**

Abstract

This paper examines the trading patterns of retail investors following insider trading and the corresponding price impact. Retail investors follow the opportunistic purchases by insiders, but not their routine purchases. The abnormal retail downloads of the Form 4 filings from the EDGAR database also increase for opportunistic insider purchases. Neither investor attention nor common information explains the results. Moreover, for stocks with opportunistic insider purchases, those that retail investors bought yield higher cumulative abnormal returns than those that retail investors sold. The effect is mostly driven by the information component of the retail trades, rather than liquidity provision or temporary price pressure. Also, price efficiency improves for stocks bought by retail investors following opportunistic insider purchases. The evidence is mostly consistent with retail investors learning from opportunistic insider purchases, and their trading helping expedite price discovery.

Aggregating diverse information from institutions and individuals

Presented at: SMU PhD Reading Group 2021; Lee Kong Chian School of Business Webinar 2021

Abstract

In this paper, I aggregate trading signals from hedge funds and retail investors, in order to examine

their information diversity and the combined informational role in the stock market. I show that incorporating signals from both groups is necessary to identify firm-level information. Stocks that reflect consistent trading between two groups exhibit strong return predictability without reversal. When trading in the opposite direction to retail investors, hedge funds cannot yield any significant return, even in a longer horizon. I also document that consistent trading between two groups significantly predicts firm fundamentals, informational events, market reactions, and helps alleviate stock-level mispricing. Overall, the findings suggest combining signals that solely from hedge funds is incomplete, as there remain signals from retail investors who are informed in different aspects of stock fundamentals.

Trust, but verify: Misrepresentations and scams in initial coin offerings (with Kenny Phua, Chishen Wei, and Gloria Yu)

Presented at: Seminars at Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Massey University, Singapore Management University, Nanyang Technological University, and the University of Technology Sydney; Vietnam Symposium in Banking and Finance 2021; 4th UWA Blockchain and Cryptocurrency Conference (expected); Global AI Finance Research Conference (expected)*

Abstract

The cryptocurrency market is rumored to be rife with “frauds, scams, and abuse” (Gensler, 2021). We collect point-in-time data snapshots of 5,935 initial coin offerings (ICOs) to analyze ICO scams and to investigate how malicious ICO issuers target unsophisticated investors. In 34% of our sample ICOs, we find discrepancies in their reported characteristics across listing websites. This puzzling phenomenon can arise if malicious ICO issuers strategically use misrepresentations to screen for unsophisticated investors. We find that misrepresented ICOs are significantly more likely to be scams, but also attract significantly more funds. Additional tests suggest that ICO advisors promote the use of misrepresentation behavior. We estimate that about 40% of ICOs are scams, but most go unreported. Overall, investors can benefit from simple cross-site verification even when regulations and investor protection are currently limited.

Cross-cryptocurrency return predictability (with Li Guo, Jun Tu, and Yu Wang)

Presented at: Seminars at Fudan University and Zhejiang University*

Abstract

Using the minute-frequency data on *Binance*, we find strong evidence of cross-cryptocurrency return predictability. The lagged returns of other cryptocurrencies serve as significant predictors of focal cryptocurrencies up to ten minutes, in line with slow information diffusion. The results are robust across various methods, including the adaptive LASSO and Principle component analysis. Furthermore, a long-short portfolio formed on the past returns of cryptocurrencies can generate a daily return of 2.16% out-of-sample after accounting for transaction costs, indicating sizable economic value of cross-cryptocurrency return predictability.

HONORS & AWARDS

Travel Grant

AFA Annual Meeting

2020

Doctoral Scholarship

Singapore Management University

2017 - 2021

Li Ka Shing Endowed Scholarship

Singapore Management University

2012 - 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor

2019 - 2020

Singapore Management University
PhD Programming and Databases Camp

Teaching Assistant

2018 - 2021

Singapore Management University
Introduction to Finance (Undergraduate), Hedge Funds (MBA), Financial Markets and Investments (Undergraduate), Corporate Finance (Undergraduate)

Volunteer Teacher

Dec 2013

Rural Primary School, Project Wings III

SAT Instructor

Summer 2012

Xi'an International Exchange and Education Center

WORK EXPERIENCE

Business Analyst, *Intern*

Jun-Aug 2015

Volvo Group, Singapore

Research Analyst, *Intern*

Apr-Nov 2014

Guidepoint Global, Singapore

SKILLS

Programming Languages PYTHON, SAS, STATA, R, LATEX

Languages Chinese (native), English (advanced)

REFERENCES

Joe ZHANG (Chair)

Associate Professor of Finance
Lee Kong Chian School of Business
Singapore Management University
Email: joezhang@smu.edu.sg
Phone: +65 68280727

Ekkehart BOEHMER

Professor of Finance
Lee Kong Chian School of Business
Singapore Management University
Email: eboehmer@smu.edu.sg
Phone: +65 68087954

WEI Chi Shen

Assistant Professor of Finance
Lee Kong Chian School of Business
Singapore Management University
Email: cswei@smu.edu.sg
Phone: +65 68289650