

JONATHAN KHOO

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EDUCATION

Singapore Management University Ph.D. Business (Finance)	Expected 2017
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) M.Sc.Eng in Industrial and Operations Engineering	2001
University of Michigan (Ann Arbor) B.Sc. Highest Honors in Economics	2000
B.Sc. Summa Cum Laude in Electrical Engineering	2000

HONORS AND AWARDS

University Honors, James B. Angell Scholar, Senior Scholar	2000
Eta Kappa Nu, Phi Kappa Phi	1999
Tau Beta Pi, Golden Key National Honor Society, Branstrom Freshman Prize	1998
Class Honors	All Undergrad Years
Dean's List	All Undergrad Semesters

WORK IN PROGRESS

Board Centrality and Firm Performance

Building on top of recent research findings that firms with central boards significantly outperform firms with boards that are not central, and using a bipartite analysis of interlocking board of directors, we ascertain this fact within the context of the publicly listed firms in Singapore. We show that firms with more central boards earn higher future return-on-assets growth, as well as higher Tobin's Q. Results for risk-adjusted stock returns are less conclusive, which is consistent with the view that social network benefits arising out of the boardrooms may not be immediately incorporated into stock prices, at least within the context of the Singapore market, but nonetheless is being accrued to firm value in other ways.

Ownership Centrality and Firm Performance

Public firms often have diverse and abstruse ownership structures, often involving multiple personal, corporate and governmental owners, some with complicated pyramidal and cross-ownerships structures, such that it is difficult to measure the true cash flow and control rights of the ultimate shareholders. We apply a novel solution, the concept of ownership centrality with ownerships rolled back to ultimate owners, to demonstrate that the ownership centrality scores of the largest shareholders positively influence various measures of firm performance. Through these investigations, we show that the social networks of shareholders affect firm performance in the same way the social networks of the boardroom do.

Centrality and Corporate Governance

Corporate Governance is an umbrella term capturing structure, processes and mechanisms of companies that act in alleviation and mitigation of conflicts of interests arising from the separation of ownership and control. Using the Singapore Corporate Governance index, we show that the concepts of board and ownership centralities have a direct impact on firm performance, and these measures capture information on top of what can be explained by the traditional Corporate Governance scorecard factors.

PUBLICATIONS AND PAPERS

Refereed Journal Article

“What Makes a Problem GP-Hard? Analysis of a Tunably Difficult Problem in Genetic Programming”, *Journal of Genetic Programming and Evolvable Machines*. June 2001, 2, pp.165 - 191.

Refereed Conference Paper

“Characterizing a Tunably Difficult Problem in Genetic Programming”, in *GECCO-00: Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference*, July 9-12, 2000, Las Vegas, Nevada USA. pp. 395-402.

Refereed Conference Paper

“What Makes a Problem GP-Hard? Analysis of a Tunably Difficult Problem in Genetic Programming”, in *GECCO-99: Proceedings of the Genetic and Evolutionary Computation Conference*, July 13-17, 1999, Orlando, Florida, USA. pp. 982-989.

Book Chapter

“Trade in Services”, in *A Guide to Free Trade in ASEAN*, 2007, CCH Asia, Singapore

Book Chief Contributor

“The 3 Dimensions of Successful Investing”, published by Securities Investors Association (Singapore), in collaboration with the Sim Kee Boon Institute of Financial Economics, Singapore Management University, Aug 2012, Singapore

Book Sole Contributor

“Module 1 - Foundations in Financial Planning”, published by the Financial Planning Association of Singapore, 2012, Singapore

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

Director

Rock & Sand Industries

2009-2011

Business Development Manager

Sparco Paints (S) Pte Ltd

2007-2011

Financial Consultant
finexis advisory Pte Ltd 2007-2011

Policy Planner
A*STAR 2005-2007

Assistant Director, Trade
Ministry of Trade and Industry 2003-2005

MEMBERSHIPS / ORGANISATIONS

Board Member
National Arthritis Foundation 2009-2015

Certification Board Member
Financial Planning Association of Singapore Since 2010

LANGUAGES

English - native language

Mandarin - speak fluently and read/write with high proficiency

Japanese - speak, read, and write with basic competence