Dijun Liu

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Education

2019-2023 (Expected)	Ph.D. in Economic Analysis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
2017-2019	M.A. in Economic Analysis, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (UAB)
2013-2017	B.A. in Economics, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law (ZUEL)

Fields of Interests

Empirical Asset Pricing, Portfolio Management, Market Anomalies

Research Papers

1. "What drives the short duration premium", 2021

Abstract: Equity duration is the present value weighted cash flow maturity. It measures the sensitivity of the price to the change of interest rate. Using a present value decomposition approach, I calculate the contribution of cash flow news and discount rate news to the unexpected returns for portfolios based on equity duration. Surprisingly, the cash flow news is the main driver across portfolios that are composed of stocks with long duration or short duration. Stocks characterized by a shorter duration earn return premium over stocks with a longer duration. Though the short duration premium embeds value premium, it cannot be a substitute for the intangible adjusted book-to-market ratio. Portfolio analyses indicate that the premium is concentrated on small stocks and stocks that are possibly short-sale constrained.

2. "Intangible Capital and the Value-Growth Anomaly", 2020

Abstract: In this chapter, I study the variation of the book-to-market (B/M) ratio across firms and over time. The B/M ratio, a firm characteristic defined as the book value over the market value of equity, plays an important role in finance theory and practice. In this chapter, I first replicate and extend the Chapter of "Value Premium" in []bali2016empirical. Second, recent work debates on whether the B/M ratio should also account for intangible capital. I estimate three versions of internally generated intangible capital, use it to adjust B/M ratio and confirm that including intangible capital does improve the performance of value strategy. One of the contributions of this paper is to compare methods to estimate intangibles. The long-short value premium and the cumulative return of HML factor favor $bm^{Eisfeldt}$ compared with bm^{Peters} and bm^{Ewens} . Nevertheless, none of them can expand the mean-variance frontier spanned by four other factors, and they all experience persistent drawdowns in recent decades. Third, to delve into the time-series and cross-sectional behavior of B/M ratio and its associated value premium, I conduct two sub-sample analyses: pre- or post-1999 analysis and high tech sector or not analysis. The pre- or post-1999 analysis indicates that the positive relation between all the four versions of B/M and future stock returns is much weaker post-1999. High tech sector or not analysis does not corroborate the argument that the death of value strategy is caused by the conservative accounting biases in book value. The selection of a better estimation method for intangibles is hampered as it changes across contexts. Last, I show that instead of using intangible capital to adjust book value, leveraging the ratio of intangible capital over market value can deliver HML factors which feature much higher cumulative returns and smaller drawdowns in recent decades. The drawdowns of HML factors are closely associated with the change of relative valuation.

3. "Volatility-Managed Portfolio Performance: An Empirical Analysis", 2019

Abstract: "Risk parity" is a widely employed trading strategy in the real world. Similar to its main idea of allocating risk, a variation of this strategy, called volatility scaling or dynamic risk parity has drawn much attention in academia. In a comprehensive study, Moreira and Muir (2017) argue that volatility weighted portfolios perform better than other weighting methods. Liu, Tang and Zhou (2018) suggest that these results have a look-ahead bias and do not survive once this bias is corrected for. I revisit this issue and find, based on a detailed analysis, that Liu, Tang and Zhou (2018)'s conclusions about the results of Moreira and Muir (2017) may not be well-founded. I also add to this debate with further suggestions and results on the question of volatility weighting of risky portfolios and their subsequent performance relative to alternate weighting approaches.

4. "An investigation of the factors that drive exchange rates based on dynamic factor model", 2016

Abstract: The main purpose of this paper is to extract the latent factors that drive the fluctuation of a panel of the exchange rates using dynamic factor model that states a few factors could explain the co-movement of many variables, and then we perform the forecast of the movements of exchange rates. What's more, we try to identify the economic explanation of latent factors and combine latent factors with traditional relevant causes like price level to improve prediction precision and also check whether the stochastic movement is reasonable for the predictions in exchange rates.

Seminars and Conferences

2022	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Applied working group, BSE PhD Jamboree
2021	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Applied working group, ENTER PhD Jamboree (discussant), European Winter Meetings of the Econometric Society (student helper)
2020	Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Applied working group

Research Experience

Spring 2021	Development Economics,	(UAB)	. RA for Prof. And	re Groeger

Teaching Experience

Fall 2021	Microeconomics II, (UAB, Masters), TA for Prof. Ramon Caminal
Fall 2019,2020,2021	Probability and Statistics, (UAB, Masters), TA for Prof. Jordi Caballe
Fall 2016	Macroeconomics, (ZUEL, undergraduate), TA for A/Prof. Yin Chu

Fellowships and Awards

2020-2023	FI-AGAUR Predoctoral Fellowship, Generalitat de Catalunya and European Social Fund
2017-2019	Barcelona GSE-UAB IDEA Ph.D. Track Fellowship, Barcelona Graduate School of Economics
2016	Outstanding Undergraduates, ZUEL
2015-2016	Annual Third-Class Scholarship, ZUEL National Endeavor Fellowship, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China
2014-2015	Annual Third-Class Scholarship, ZUEL National Endeavor Fellowship, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China
2013-2014	The Third-Class Prize in school empirical innovation projects, ZUEL Outstanding Volunteer, ZUEL Annual Second-Class Scholarship, ZUEL National Endeavor Fellowship, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China

Skills

Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent)

Programming: Python, Stata, R, LaTeX

References

Abhay Abhyankar (supervisor)	Michael Creel (tutor)	Jordi Caballé
Professor of Finance	Professor of Economics	Professor of Economics
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Personal Information

Born: March 30, 1995. Citizenship: Chinese.