

Summary of "*CHATGPT AND CORPORATE POLICIES*"

2024.09.18 Zhao Lvyujia

1. What are the research questions?

- Can ChatGPT effectively extract managerial expectations from company conference call transcripts to predict future investment activities and stock returns?

2. Why are the research questions interesting?

- They explore how advanced AI techniques (such as ChatGPT) can extract valuable financial information from unstructured text data.
- Provide new methods and supplementary tools for traditional financial analysis.

3. What is the paper's contribution?

- **Novel Application**
 - ◆ First application of ChatGPT to extract and validate managerial expectations
- **New Real-Time Measure of Investment Expectations**
 - ◆ Provides a new real-time measure of investment expectations, complementing classical q-theory.
- **Supplement and Extend Executive Surveys**
 - ◆ Supplements and extends executive surveys, especially useful given declining response rates
- **Interpretable AI Application**
 - ◆ Offers an interpretable AI application, enhancing transparency
- **Application to Other Corporate Policies:**
 - ◆ Demonstrates potential for analyzing other corporate policies (e.g., dividends, employment) .

4. What hypotheses are tested in the paper?

- Hypothesis 1: The ChatGPT-generated investment score can effectively predict a company's future capital expenditures and other investment activities.
- Hypothesis 2: The ChatGPT investment score has predictive power for future stock returns, with higher investment scores associated with lower future returns.
- Hypothesis 3: The predictive power of the ChatGPT investment score varies across different information environments .

a) Do these hypotheses follow from and answer the research questions?

- Yes

b) Do these hypotheses follow from theory?

- These hypotheses are grounded in investment decision and asset pricing theories (such as the Fama-French model and the investment-q theory)

5. Sample: comment on the appropriateness of the sample selection procedures.

- The study uses 74,586 conference call transcripts from 3,878 publicly traded U.S. companies between 2006 and 2020, covering multiple industries and economic cycles.

6. Dependent and independent variables: comment on the appropriateness of variable definition and measurement.

- **Dependent variables:** Future capital expenditures, intangible investments, R&D

investments, and stock returns.

- **Independent variables:** ChatGPT investment score, total q, cash flow, company size, etc.

7. Regression/prediction model specification: comment on the appropriateness of the regression/prediction model specification.

- The model specification is reasonable and effectively tests the incremental predictive power of the ChatGPT investment score.。

8. What difficulties arise in drawing inferences from the empirical work?

- Difficulties may include the potential reliance of the AI model on information outside the publicly available data; occasional misleading results from the model; and the time required for the market to fully absorb the information extracted from company conference calls, which could affect the accuracy of short-term and long-term predictions.

9. Describe at least one publishable and feasible extension of this research.

- Apply to other corporate disclosures: Analyze other types of communications, such as press releases, annual reports, or analyst calls, to validate the effectiveness of AI in financial analysis.
- Compare with other AI models: Compare ChatGPT's performance with other large language models (e.g., BERT, RoBERTa) in extracting and predicting managerial expectations.
- Extend to international firms: Apply the method to non-U.S. companies to evaluate its effectiveness across different regulatory environments and corporate cultures.
- Analyze sentiment beyond investment: Use ChatGPT to predict other corporate actions (e.g., mergers and acquisitions, cost-cutting strategies) and their market impact.
- Real-time decision support systems: Develop tools that integrate AI-based analyses like ChatGPT scores into real-time investment decision-making frameworks for institutional investors.
- Longitudinal studies: Conduct studies over longer periods to assess the stability and changes in the predictive power of AI-generated scores over different economic cycles.