

Summary of *Persuading Investors: A Video-Based Study*

Allen Hu, Song Ma(Working paper, 2021)

2024.04.23 ShiWanqing

1. What are the research questions?

- Can and how persuade deliveries(in pitch) impact investor decision?

2. Why are the research questions interesting?

- Many economic decisions are made after interpersonal persuasive communications
- Delivery in persuasive communications matters for the final outcome beyond content.
- Empirical scarcely.challenge: capture real-world deliveries; observe decisions post-persuasion.
- pitch videos to capture deliveries, observe investor decisions and startup performance+ML

3. What is the paper's contribution?

- conceptual contribution: focus on the delivery features in interpersonal persuasions.
 - Recent paper:
 - * not well-studied in an economic setting.
 - * Persuasion models view content as signals, deliveries just additional dimension
 - Extend: allow deliveries change investor beliefs, allow beliefs formed inaccurately
- provides a ML-based method to explore unstructured video data in economic research.
 - Recent paper:
 - * unstructured data and ML in economics: text, voice, static images(Boxell,2018)...
 - Extend: allow dynamic feature aggregation of all channels using complete video
- contribute to literature on persuasion.
 - Recent paper:
 - * focuses on marketing(persuade consumer) and political(persuade voters).
 - * Persuade investors: focus on earnings announcement or stock recommendation.
 - Extend: a unique important setting: pitch videos

4. What hypotheses are tested in the paper?

- H1: Positivity Pitch Features increase likelihood of obtaining funding.
- H2: Positivity Pitch Features help investors reach better decisions.

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

- Yes, show delivery work, through form inaccurate beliefs.

b) Do these hypotheses follow from theory? Explain logic of the hypotheses.

- higher quality startups lead to more positive and energetic entrepreneurs. Good communication skills during pitches benefit ventures.
- better pitch is a valuable signal, attracting more funding.

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

- election bias: 1139/6000+ firm have been accelerate

6. Comment on the appropriateness of variable definition and measurement.

- Will the inclusion of text also include content?
- Why is it necessary to categorize into pos and neg?

7. Comment on the appropriateness of the regress/predict model specification.

- Is it necessary to control appearance, skin color and clothing when analyzing expressions

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

- Due to the lower require of value for enthusiastic firms, can firm value be controlled?

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

- Video source: Securities firm live streaming (TongHuaShun), IPO video
- Conducting feature analysis in reverse
- Environmental news conference video