

Summary of Fearing the Fed: How wall street reads main street

Feng Lixuan

20240521

1) What are the research questions ?

- What mechanism underlying the time variation in stock price sensitivity to MNAs?

2) Why are the research questions interesting?

- The response of stock prices to MNAs is time-varying.
 - Overreact, under-react, or even inversely react.
- Explanation lack evidence.
 - Time variation is revisions to policy expectations embedded in the news.
 - Channels and drivers of time variation are unclear.

3) What is the paper's contribution?

- Establishes facts about the time variation in stock market's reaction to MNAs.
 - Prior studies: contrasted responses in expansions versus recessions.
 - Extend: periods of peak stock return sensitivity do not coincide with more volatile or negative growth periods.
- Time variation is consistent with monetary policy expectations responses to MNAs.
 - Prior studies: evidence of this explanation is lacking.
 - Extend: estimate the MNA responses of stocks and bonds of varying maturities.

4) What hypotheses are tested in the paper?

- Hypotheses
 - Time variation in the stock market's reaction to major MNAs.
 - Monetary policy expectations is a key driver of time-varying return sensitivities.
- The logic of hypotheses
 - When cash flow news component of stock responses is least offset by discount rate news, leading to high sensitivity.

5) Sample

- Bloomberg forecasts could reflect all available information until MNAs release.

6) Dependent and independent variables

- The measurement and characterization of stock market response using a broader set of MNAs and high-frequency returns.

7) Regression/prediction model specification

- Reduces the small sample problem by including more data.

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

- Post-Covid-19, the relationship between inflation, monetary policy expectations, and stock market sensitivity has become more complex. Difficult to say that inflation as a key macroeconomic announcement for stock markets.(P7)

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

- How forward guidance from central banks influence the time-varying sensitivity of asset prices?