Pingle Wang

Simon Business School
University of Rochester
4-343 Carol Simon Hall
Rochester, NY 14627

Phone: (505) 273-1067
Email: pingle.wang@simon.rochester.edu
SSRN Page: https://ssrn.com
Homepage: http://www.simon.rochester.edu

Education

Ph.D. Finance, Simon Business School, University of Rochester, 2020 (expected).

M.S. Finance, Olin Business School, Washington University in St. Louis, 2014.

B.S. Applied Mathematics, University of New Mexico, 2012.

Research Interests

Asset Pricing, Mutual Funds, Information Frictions, Agency Conflicts

Working Papers

1. Demand for Information and Stock Returns: Evidence from EDGAR.

   This paper studies the information acquisition process by investors using a novel dataset that tracks filing downloads on the SEC's EDGAR. Demand for 10-K filings predicts short-term positive return spread, and demand for 8-K filings predicts long-term negative return spread. The striking difference in 10-K and 8-K attention on stock prices can be contributed to the different viewing patterns. Demand for 10-K filings represents a general demand for assets, where 10-K visitors are typically infrequent visitors who never download any filings of the firm in past quarters. The effects are higher conditional on attention-grabbing stocks. 8-K visitors are typically frequent and local visitors with a potential information advantage. The demand for 8-K filings reduces information asymmetry of the firm, which decreases the cost of capital and explains the persistent underperformance of high 8-K attention stocks.

2. Portfolio Pumping in Mutual Fund Families.

   Abstract: I document portfolio pumping at the fund family level, a strategy that non-star fund managers buy stocks held by star funds in the family to inflate their performance at the quarter end. Families that heavily employ the strategy show strong evidence of inflated performance after 2002, when the SEC increased regulation on portfolio pumping at the fund level. Non-star fund managers pumping for star funds in the family receive 1.8% ($24 million) more inflows per quarter, conditional on the performance. Furthermore, pumping is concentrated in stocks that are buried deep down in the holdings of star funds.

   Presented at Fifth Annual Conference on Financial Market Regulation, American Finance Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), Financial Management Association Annual Meeting (Boston), Northern Finance Association Annual Conference (Halifax).

3. Distress and Momentum.

Abstract: This paper links momentum anomaly and distress anomaly. Momentum profitability exists not only among high distressed firms as documented by Avramov, Chordia, Jostova, and Philipov (2007), but also among low distressed firms. Even though momentum can not be completely subsumed by distress, the variation of momentum strategy return can be explained by distress. In particular, the price continuation of past losers can be explained by returns of high distress stocks. One explanation is that distressed stocks are relatively illiquid and difficult to short. Even though the market anticipates distressed stocks being overpriced, it takes a longer time to drive their prices down. This paper also finds an empirical fact that firms with large bargaining power earn much higher return during recessions when the market rebounds. As a result, the recovery or debt restructure of high distressed firms with large shareholder advantage is a possible cause of momentum crash.

4. with Giulio Trigilia, Momentum, echo and predictability: Evidence from the London Stock Exchange (1820-1930).

Abstract: We study momentum and its predictability within equities listed at the London Stock Exchange (1820-1930). At the time, this was the largest and most liquid stock market and it was thinly regulated, making for a good laboratory to perform out-of-sample tests. Cross-sectionally, we find that the size and market factors are highly profitable, while long-term reversals are not. Momentum is the most profitable and volatile factor. Its returns resemble an echo: they are high in long- term formation portfolios, and vanish in short-term ones. We uncover momentum in dividends as well. When controlling for dividend momentum, price momentum loses significance and profitability. In the time-series, despite the presence of a few momentum crashes, dynamically hedged portfolios do not improve the performance of static momentum. We conclude that momentum returns are not predictable in our sample, which casts some doubt on the success of dynamic hedging strategies.

Work in Progress

1. Are managers walking the talk? Textual analysis on mutual fund research articles
2. Investor preference to mutual fund performance: evidence from 11-K Filings (with Anh Tran)

Conference Presentations

Annual Conference on Financial Market Regulation (Washington DC, 2018)

American Finance Association Annual Meeting (Philadelphia, 2018)

Financial Management Association Annual Meeting (Boston, 2017)

Northern Finance Association Annual Conference (Halifax, 2017)

Research Workshops

NBER's Summer Institute Asset Pricing workshop (2017, Boston)

MIT Capital Markets Research Workshop (2017, Boston)

Honors & Awards

AFA Doctoral Student Travel Grant, American Finance Association, 2017

Simon Business School Doctoral Fellowship, 2014-2019

Outstanding Finance Student Award, Quantitative Finance, Olin Business School, 2014.

Phi Kappa Phi, 2012.

Teaching Experience

2016-2017, Instructor, Optimization (PhD), Simon Business School

2017-2018, Lab Instructor, Capital Budgeting and Corporate Objectives (MBA), Simon Business School

Miscellaneous

Programming Languages: Python, R, Matlab, Stata, SAS, SQL.