

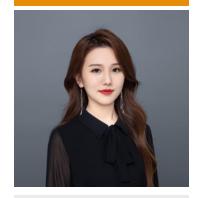
TEAM INTRODUCTION

Ford Danielsen



Project Manager

Evelyn Zhang



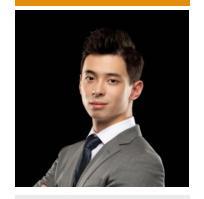
Data Manager

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Model Specialist

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Data Viz Specialist

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



• Do the short-term stock returns of healthy companies and unhealthy companies react to negative ESG news in the same way?

NO! THEY REACT IN THE OPPOSITE WAY

Should all companies have the same ESG risks management goals? NO!



- Alpha & Beta
 - Linear Regression Model
- Cumulative Abnormal Return
 - Fama-French Three Factor Model

AGENDA

- Introduction
- <u>Data Overview</u>
- Exploratory Data Analysis
- Model and Analysis
- Recommendation



Introduction

- What is ESG
- Study Methodology
- Company Health Definition

ESG

Environmental

- Climate Change
- Energy and Fuel
- Environmental Compliance
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Pollution Control
- Resource Scarcity
- Waste and Recycling
- Water Use

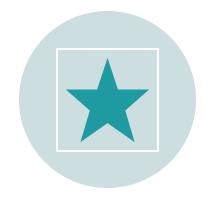
Social

- Diversity and Equality
- Employee Relations
- Environmental Justice
- Health and Safety
- Human Rights
- Non-Discrimination
- Security
- Training and Education

Governance

- Board Diversity
- Bribery and Corruption
- Ethics
- Executive Compensation
- Political Lobbying
- Procurement Practices
- Resilience
- Risk Management

METHODOLOGY







SCOPE: S&P500 INDEX PERIOD:

JAN 2016 – DEC 2020

(5 YEARS)

EVENT DEFINITION:

10-POINT INCREASE IN

REPRISK INDEX

COMPANY HEALTH DEFINITION



Times Interest Earned

- Fails to adequately companies who reinvest heavily to avoid claiming income
- Bad measure for Financials



Credit Rating

- Multiple Rating agencies
- Even across Industries



Revenue Ratio

Over values high revenue companies with slim profit margins



Altman Z-Score

- Primarily used in the manufacturing space
- Fails to adequately service all industries

Data

- Database Overview
- Data Collection & Cleaning



RepRisk

- Provides ESG ratings and assesses global ESG risks
- RepRisk Index (RRI), a score for current ESG risk exposure

DATABASE OVERVIEW



CRSP & Yahoo Finance

- Stock prices, stock returns
- SPY prices and returns



Bloomberg

- S&P 500 Global credit ratings
- Other rating systems, e.g. Moody's as backups

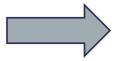
HOW REPRISK INDEX IS CALCULATED

The RepRisk Index (RRI), ranges from 0 to 100, is an algorithm developed by RepRisk that dynamically captures and quantifies a company's reputational risk exposure to ESG issues.

The RRI is purely performance-based:

- The RRI of company A depends only on A's risk incidents.
- The RRI reflects a company's actual risk management performance as opposed to its communicated goals and policies.

Initial assessment of the ESG risks



Tracks ESG-related news over time and issues score updates

A company's RRI gets updated by the end of each month. It represents the combined effect of risk incidents throughout the month (or decaying effect if no significant risk incidents).

CREATION OF "MASTER TABLE"

Links the data together for each date and ticker symbol

RepRisk

- Date
- Ticker
- Current RRI
- RRI trend (the change from last score)
- Peak RRI (in past 2 years)

Stock Returns:

- Date
- Ticker
- Price
- Volume
- Daily returns
- 5/10/30-day returns

Credit Ratings:

- Ticker
- Year
- Rating

SPY Returns:

- Date
- Price
- Daily returns
- 5/10/30-day returns

* Click to see the appendix for a sample Master Table

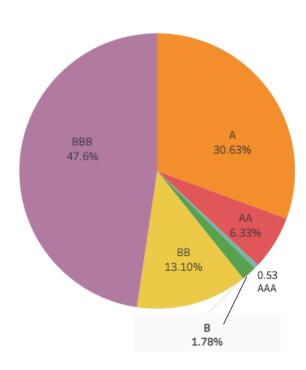
Exploratory Data Analysis

- General EDA
- ESG Risk Analysis
- ESG Risk and Return Analysis

GENERAL ANALYSIS

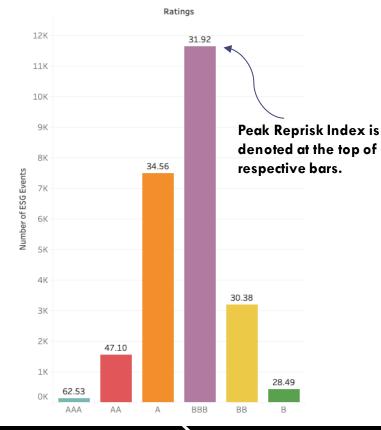
Objective: To understand the data with reference to credit ratings and ESG

Rating Distribution



- Most of the companies in our data fall in the 'good' credit rating zone (A, BBB and BB)
- Companies in the 'good' credit rating zone have highest number of ESG events
- Peak reprisk index decreases as the health of a company decreases

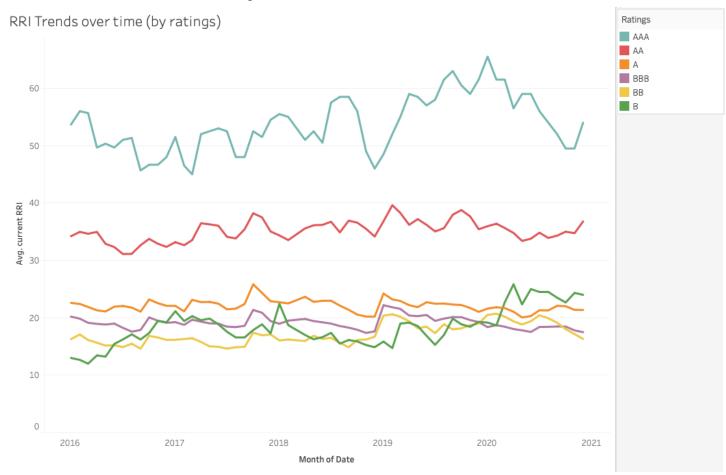
ESG Distribution by rating (year wise)



RRI TRENDS BY RATINGS

Objective: To understand the ESG risk exposure based on the health of an organization

- The RRI for each rating can be seen to fluctuate within their respective ranges, with overlapping at only few points.
- Historically, companies with better health (ratings) are shown to have higher exposure to ESG risk and vice versa



LONG/SHORT TERM RETURNS BY ESG RISK

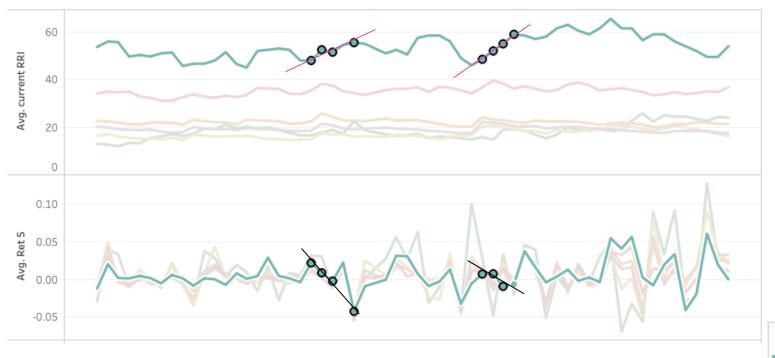
Objective: To understand the impact of ESG risk exposure in different ratings on short and long term returns



- We try to observe a general trend linkage between increase in the reprisk index and change in return
- These trends are observed over different ratings to establish if health of a company controls the return changes when there is negative ESG news.

LONG/SHORT TERM RETURNS BY ESG RISK

Objective: To understand the impact of ESG risk exposure in different ratings on short and long term returns



There are multiple factors that influence the return of a stock but with the intention of understanding changes in stock return with ESG risk, we observe a divergence movement in high rated stocks



Models & Analysis

- Excess Returns
- Alpha & Beta
- Cumulative Abnormal Return (CAR)

GENERAL ASSUMPTIONS:



Base case: 5/10/30-day returns after >10 risk increases; later extended to >5 and >20 risk increases



Used excess returns over SPY in order to minimize fluctuation of the market



Healthy companies: companies with higher credit ratings (AAA, AA, A) Unhealthy companies: those with lower credit ratings (BBB, BB, B)

Exploratory Data Analysis

AVERAGE 5/10/30-DAY EXCESS RETURNS (ACROSS CREDIT RATINGS) FOR > 10 ESG RISK INCREASES

Excess Return Table

	5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return
AAA	-0.529	-0.296	0.059
AA	-0.220	-0.072	0.001
Α	-0.036	0.072	-0.032
BBB	-0.020	0.023	0.004
ВВ	0.162	0.141	0.135
В	0.206	1.310	1.184

*All returns annualized

Exploratory Data Analysis

After > 10 risk increases:

- Healthier companies tend to see decreased stock returns in 5/10-day periods
- Unhealthy companies would have relatively higher returns in a 30-day period

Introduction

T STATISTICS: AVERAGE 5/10/30-DAY EXCESS RETURNS

Null hypothesis: excess return = 0

Introduction

Alternative hypothesis: excess return != 0

T-statistics Table

	5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return
AAA	-2.123	-1.851	0.230
AA	-2.290	-0.727	0.016
Α	-0.403	0.999	-0.742
BBB	-0.208	0.343	0.088
ВВ	0.791	1.021	1.456
В	0.184	0.963	1.557

If we just focus on the top-left and bottom-right corners:

- Both have relatively high t-values, which suggest that there's significant evidence to reject the null hypothesis (excess return = 0)
- Supports our findings from the previous slide

^{*} Click to see the appendix for more cases

Alpha & Beta

Introduction

Definition

• Alpha (α)

- Used in investing to describe an investment strategy's ability to beat the market, or its "edge"
- Also referred to as "excess return" or "abnormal rate of return," which refers to the idea that markets are efficient, and so there is no way to systematically earn returns that exceed the broad market as a whole

• Beta (β)

- A measure of the volatility—or <u>systematic risk</u>—of a security or portfolio compared to the market as a whole
- Used in the <u>capital asset pricing model</u> (CAPM), which describes the relationship between systematic risk and expected return for assets (usually stocks)

Alpha & Beta

Introduction

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Model

Linear Regression Model

- Essential to the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM)
- Determines the relationship between an asset's expected return and the associated market risk premium
- The general equation of this type of line is

$$r - R_f = \alpha + \beta * (K_m - R_f) + \varepsilon$$

- where:
 - β is the slope of this line
 - α is the vertical intercept, tells you how much better the fund did than CAPM predicted (or more typically, a negative alpha tells you how much worse it did, e.g. due to high management fees)

ALPHAS AND BETAS

Introduction

- Alpha and Beta is calculated considering SPY returns as the Benchmark
- Base case: 5/10/30-day returns after >10 risk increases; later extended to >5 and >20 risk increases (Appendix)
- Used the "Im" function on R to do the regression
- The results for all companies are as follows;

	30 Day Returns	10 Day Returns	5 Day Returns
Alpha	-0.419%	0.1154%	-0.0744%
Beta	1.3295	1.2110	1.0871

Exploratory Data Analysis

OUTPUT & T-STATISTIC TABLE

Credit Rating		alpha (%)	p -value	t-statistic	beta	p -value	t-statistic
	5-day	-1.9472%	0.0403	-2.9920	2.45	0.0441	2.9010
AAA	10-day	-1.3610%	0.0770	-2.3680	1.47	0.0027	6.6230
	30-day	3.4960%	0.8050	0.2640	0.24	0.9470	0.0710
	5-day	-0.6453%	0.0052	-2.9090	1.27	1.46E-13	9.6320
AA	-	-0.5039%	0.0032	-1.1930		1.40E-13	
AA	10-day				1.23		8.3800
	30-day	-0.4240%	0.6800	-0.4140	1.17	2.04E-05	4.6540
	5-day	0.0983%	0.6080	0.5130	0.79	7.47E-16	8.6510
A	10-day	0.4253%	0.1420	1.4740	0.88	<2e-16	11.8240
	30-day	-0.2665%	0.6600	-0.4410	0.95	< 2.2e-16	8.9770
	5-day	-0.0901%	0.6540	-0.4480	1.07	<2e-16	10.5670
BBB	10-day	-0.0811%	0.7620	-0.3040	1.21	<2e-16	17.4450
	30-day	-0.4562%	0.4480	-0.7600	1.16	<2e-16	9.8670
	5-day	0.1062%	0.8010	0.2530	1.22	7.13E-08	5.7570
DD							1
BB	10-day	0.2108%	0.6700	0.4270	1.42	2.00E-16	12.8690
	30-day	-0.1674%	0.8680	-0.1670	1.93	2.00E-16	10.7580
	5-day	0.4328%	0.8193	0.2320	2.97	0.0067	3.0880
В	10-day	1.8030%	0.6243	0.4990	2.36	0.0298	2.3710
	30-day	5.8150%	0.2530	0.7100	0.06	0.2190	1.2760

Introduction

KEY TAKEAWAYS ON ALPHA AND BETA

- Overall, we observed negative alpha (excess returns) for healthy companies and positive alpha for unhealthy ones
 - Significant evidence that healthy companies underperform in 5/10-day
 - All positive alphas are not statistically significant (t-stats < 1.96)

Exploratory Data Analysis

- Systematic risk (β) is high for AAA and B companies
 - All statistically significant except for two
- Limitation of the model:

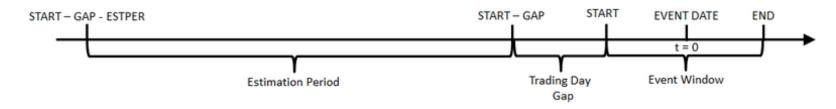
Introduction

Neglects the impacts of firm size and value

Cumulative Abnormal Return

Methodology

- Cumulative Abnormal Return = \sum Abnormal Return
 - Abnormal Return = Actual Return Expected Return
 - Sometimes triggered by "events"
 - Expected Return = $\alpha + \beta(R_m)$
- Tool: Event Study WRDS Analytics



- Estimation Period: 100
- Trading Day Gap: 50
- Event Window: t = 0 to t = 30

Cumulative Abnormal Return

Model

Fama-French Three Factor Model

- An asset pricing model that expands on CAPM by adding size risk and value risk factors to the market risk factor
- The formula:

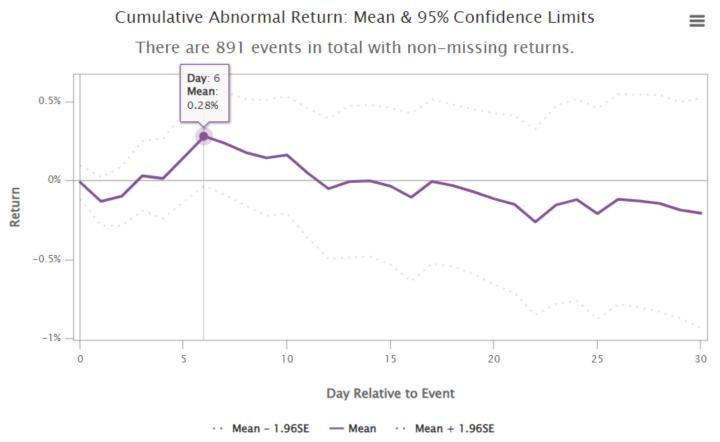
$$R_{RiskModel} = R_f + \alpha + \beta_1 * (R_m - R_f) + \beta_2 * SMB + \beta_3 * HML$$

- where:
 - $R_f = \text{risk free rate of return}$
 - R_m = total market portfolio return
 - $R_m R_f =$ excess return on the market portfolio (index)
 - SMB = size premium (small minus big)
 - HML = value premium (high minus low)
 - $\beta_{1,2,3}$ = factor coefficients

OUTPUT & T-STATISTIC

		Cumulative Al	bnormal Return	Abnorm	al Return
Credit Rating		CAR (%)	t-statistic	AR (%)	t-statistic
	5-day	0.1462%	1.0223	0.1336%	2.2694
All	10-day	0.1620%	0.8545	0.0178%	0.3189
	30-day	-0.2075%	-0.5589	-0.0202%	-0.2784
	5-day	-2.0600%	-2.8973	-0.5486%	-1.8228
AAA	10-day	-2.2947%	-3.1793	-0.3021%	-1.3697
	30-day	-0.9347%	-0.2572	0.0365%	0.1671
	5-day	-0.3411%	-1.4454	-0.0484%	-0.4186
AA	10-day	-0.2623%	-0.6197	-0.1317%	-0.8129
	30-day	0.2823%	0.3406	0.2768%	1.9221
	5-day	0.9980%	2.2393	0.3872%	1.9940
BB	10-day	0.8158%	1.3053	0.0322%	0.1347
	30-day	0.0343%	0.0263	-0.3616%	-0.9634
	5-day	1.3374%	0.8801	1.3699%	2.5629
В	10-day	2.0157%	1.1339	-0.2686%	-0.3477
	30-day	6.4025%	1.4986	1.1371%	2.1311

ALL RATINGS



5-day CAR: 0.15%

10-day CAR: 0.16%

30-day CAR: -0.21%

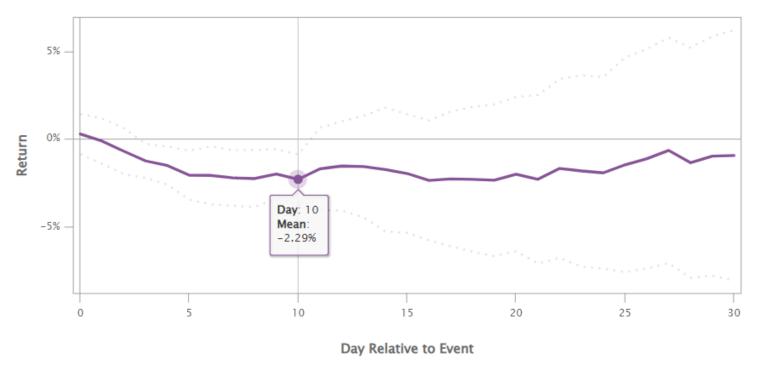
Overall Trend:

- Increase during 6-day window
- Decrease during 6 to 30day window

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CREDIT RATING AAA

Cumulative Abnormal Return: Mean & 95% Confidence Limits There are 6 events in total with non-missing returns.



5-day CAR: -2.06%

10-day CAR: -2.29%

30-day CAR: -0.94%

Major risk includes:

- Human rights abuses and corporate complicity
- Violation of legislation
- Local pollution

Highcharts.com

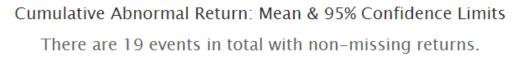
— Mean

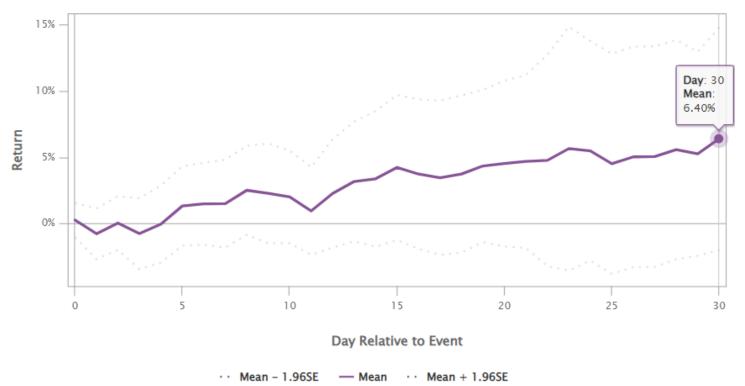
Mean + 1.96SE

· · Mean – 1.96SE

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CREDIT RATING B





5-day CAR: 1.34%

10-day CAR: 2.02%

30-day CAR: 6.40%

Major risk includes:

- Fraud
- Controversial products and services
- Occupational health and safety issues

Highcharts.com

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CREDIT RATING AA



CREDIT RATING BB



CAR 5-day: -0.34%; 10-day: -0.26%; 30-day: 0.28%

CAR 5-day: 1.00%; 10-day: 0.82%; 30-day: 0.03%

KEY TAKEAWAYS

Cumulative Abnormal Return

- The overall results aligned with our pervious finding
 - Healthy companies underperform in the short-term
 - Unhealthy companies outperform, especially over 5-day period
- Limitations

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- Small sample size might lead to biased results
- More events of unhealthy companies (B category) in our sample
- Event study also includes factors such as earnings announcements, M&As, and unemployment

How does significant exposure to ESG risks affect short-term stock returns for companies of different health levels?

Healthy Companies:



Major exposures to ESG risks will decrease returns on stocks in the short term. ESG issues matter for healthy companies in terms of the market returns.



Unhealthy Companies:

Major exposures to ESG risks will increase returns on stocks in the short term. Investors care less about how these companies are coping with ESG-related issues.

RECOMMENDATION



If you are the management of a healthy company, investors will react strongly to ESG issues, and it is reasonable to take actions to prevent exposure to those risks.



For unhealthy companies, investors care less about how these companies are coping with ESG-related issues compared to healthy companies.

FURTHER RESEARCH

- 1. Expand the S&P 500 to Russell 2000 and beyond
- 2. Further Dissect Credit Ratings
 - Rating type
 - Annual to monthly or daily
- 3. Expand Date Pool
- 4. Segment Events
 - ESG sections individually
 - Further Dissect E, S, and G

THANK YOU



APPENDIX

SAMPLE MASTER TABLE, SECTION 1

ticker	date_mut	permno	RepRisk_ID	name	date	current_RRI	RRI_trend	peak_RRI	peak_RRI_d	RepRisk_rat	country_sect sectors	headquarter	environment so	ocial_perce go	vernance_ V	/1
1 A	1/29/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	1/31/16	15	-2	20	20140131	AA	24 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72706
2 A	2/29/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	2/29/16	14	-1	20	20151005	AA	24 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72708
3 A	3/31/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	3/31/16	13	-1	20	20151005	AA	24 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72711
4 A	4/29/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	4/30/16	11	-2	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72713
5 A	5/31/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	5/31/16	10	-1	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72715
6 A	6/30/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	6/30/16	8	-2	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7271
7 A	7/29/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	7/31/16	7	-1	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7271
8 A	8/31/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	8/31/16	6	-1	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7272
9 A	9/30/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	9/30/16	4	-2	20	20151005	AA	22 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7272
10 A	10/31/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	10/31/16	3	-1	20	20151005	AA	22 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7272
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17 A	5/31/17	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	5/31/17	0	0	20	20151005	AA	22 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7274
18 A	6/30/17	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	6/30/17	0	0	20	20151005	AA	22 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7274
19 A	7/31/17	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	7/31/17	0	0	20	20151005	AA	22 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7274
20 A	8/31/17	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	8/31/17	0	0	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7274

SAMPLE MASTER TABLE, SECTION 2

ticker	date_mut	permno	RepRisk_ID	name	date	current_RRI	RRI_trend	peak_RRI	peak_RRI_d	RepRisk_rat	country_sect sectors	headquarter	environment so	ocial_perce go	vernance_ V	/1
1 A	1/29/16	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	1/31/16	15	-2	20	20140131	AA	24 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	72706
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20 A	8/31/17	87432	1795	Agilent Tech	8/31/17	0	0	20	20151005	AA	23 Electronic an	US	0%	0%	0%	7274

SAMPLE MASTER TABLE, SECTION 3 & 4

symbol	adjusted	5_day_spy_r	10_day_spy_	30_day_ret
SPY	173.034439	-0.0109436	-0.05606	0.0466655
SPY	172.891602	0.03549231	0.04753022	0.05947616
SPY	184.521286	0.00437897	0.01206678	0.00476821
SPY	185.24852	-0.0065916	0.0011147	0.01812627
SPY	188.399902	0.00719569	-0.0066242	0.02967869
SPY	189.054718	0.00023875	0.03169754	0.04377529
SPY	195.949814	-0.0032703	0.00704685	-0.017686
SPY	196.184464	0.00749809	-0.0194593	-0.0119168
SPY	196.195847	-0.0024042	-0.0152104	0.00286641
SPY	192.794388	-0.0188191	0.01820748	0.06445562
SPY	199.896591	0.00598966	0.0334877	0.03396501
SPY	203.948883	0.0164632	0.01574743	0.04133692
SPY	207.598495	0.00615303	0.02303006	0.04118124
SPY	215.755341	0.00524387	0.00566672	-0.0004489
SPY	216.02504	-0.0012726	-0.0137017	0.01374396
SPY	218.169342	0.00285629	0.0054603	0.02238741
SPY	221.248337	0.00733089	0.0128812	0.01557312
SPY	222.658768	0.00128212	0.01555019	0.00959467
SPY	227.235321	0.00259373	-0.0107387	0.00988793
SPY	227.898361	-0.0025052	0.01050541	0.03399621

m2016	m2017	m2018	m2019	m2020	ratings
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB
BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB	BBB

AVG. 5/10/30-DAY EXCESS RETURNS FOR >5 & >20 ESG RISK INCREASES

For >5 Risk Increases

For >20 Risk Increases

	5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return		5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return
AAA	-0.509	-0.396	0.054	AAA	NA	NA	NA
AA	-0.075	-0.066	-0.046	AA	-0.338	-0.298	0.264
Α	-0.006	0.009	-0.038	Α	-0.321	-0.133	-0.074
BBB	-0.055	-0.021	-0.024	BBB	0.250	0.190	0.132
ВВ	0.022	0.011	0.019	ВВ	0.053	0.039	0.130
В	0.229	0.511	0.611	В	-0.460	-0.123	-0.326

^{*} All returns are annualized

Similar findings in the >5 case:

• Healthier companies have below-market returns in 5/10-day periods; unhealthy companies have higher returns in 30-day periods

For >20 risk increases:

- Negative impact for companies that sit at two extremes of the spectrum (but relatively low t-scores for 5/10-day periods)
- Not so much impact for companies in the middle

AVG. 5/10/30-DAY EXCESS RETURNS FOR >5 & >20 ESG RISK INCREASES T STATISTICS

For >5 Risk Increases

For	>20	Risk	Increases
1 01	<i>-</i> 20	1/121/	

	5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return		5-day Excess Return	10-day Excess Return	30-day Excess Return
AAA	-3.560	-3.483	0.416	AAA	NA	NA	NA
AA	-0.803	-0.866	-1.067	AA	-1.179	-0.891	1.062
Α	-0.099	0.200	-1.500	Α	-2.532	-1.165	-0.983
BBB	-0.856	-0.435	-0.841	BBB	1.123	1.160	1.346
ВВ	0.164	0.104	0.341	BB	0.219	0.219	1.039
В	0.365	0.849	1.484	В	-0.346	-0.115	-2.040

ALPHAS AND BETAS

• Extended case : 5/10/30-day returns after > 5 risk increases

	30 Day Returns	10 Day Returns	5 Day Returns
Alpha	-0.007725	-0.0007927	-0.0008952
Beta	1.2421 <i>57</i>	1.1237408	1.0604646

• Extended case : 5/10/30-day returns after > 20 risk increases

	30 Day Returns	10 Day Returns	5 Day Returns
Alpha	0.002924	0.0002404	-0.0005842
Beta	1.183780	1.1648104	1.0482205