VINCENT GRÉGOIRE

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EMPLOYMENT

University of Melbourne, Department of Finance
Senior Lecturer of Finance (Assistant Professor), 2013 - present

EDUCATION

University of British Columbia, Sauder School of Business
Ph.D. in Finance, 2013

Université Laval
M.Sc. in Financial Engineering, 2007
M.Sc. in Electrical Engineering, 2006
B.Ing. in Computer Engineering (*specialization in intelligent systems*), 2003

RESEARCH INTEREST

Research interests include asset pricing, mutual funds, market microstructure, big data, financial technologies and cryptocurrencies.

WORKING PAPERS

How is Earnings News Transmitted to Stock Prices? with Charles Martineau

We study price formation around earnings announcements for S&P 1500 stocks from 2011 to 2015 using high-frequency, order-level data. We find that price discovery takes place in the after-hours market and is complete before the opening auction, or by 10 a.m. for stocks that have no after-hours trades. Initial price reactions occur upon the arrival of the first trades and are explained by earnings surprises, not by liquidity-taking order flow, consistent with the theoretical view that news can incorporate prices instantly. Moreover, sophisticated liquidity providers are active and profitable at that time. Despite fast price discovery, we find significant price drifts following big surprises in the after-hours market, which we relate to theoretical work on information processing.

Inverted Fee Venues and Market Quality with Carole Comerton-Forde and Zhuo Zhong

Stock exchanges incentivize the demand and supply of liquidity through their fee models. A traditional model pays a rebate to the liquidity supplier and an inverted model pays a rebate to liquidity demanders. We examine the impact of inverted fee models on market quality using an exogenous shock to inverted venue market share created by a regulatory intervention – the 2016 Tick Size Pilot. We show higher inverted venue share improves pricing efficiency, increases liquidity and decreases volatility. Our findings suggest that the finer pricing grid provided by inverted venues encourages competition between liquidity providers and improves market quality.

Shaping Expectations and Coordinating Attention: The Unintended Consequences of FOMC Press Conferences with Oliver Boguth and Charles Martineau

In an effort to increase transparency, the Chair of the Federal Reserve now holds a press conference following some, but not all, Federal Open Market Committee announcements. Press conferences are scheduled independently of economic conditions and communicate little information. Evidence from financial markets demonstrates that investors lower their expectations of important decisions on days without press conferences and that these announcements convey less price-relevant information. Therefore, the addition of press conference probably decreased transparency. Moreover, we show that investors concentrate their attention on announcements with press conferences, which, in recent models of the social value of public information, can reduce welfare.

Double Bonus? Implicit Incentives for Money Managers with Explicit Incentives with Juan Sotes-Paladino

Using a unique dataset of performance-fee mutual funds, we examine the interaction between direct and indirect incentives in the asset management industry. A comparison of the flow-performance relationships of performance-fee and non-performance-fee funds reveals that funds with direct incentives can face substantially steeper indirect incentives. Among performance-fee funds, the flow relationship depends on the performance fee level and tends to attenuate the asymmetry in total pay for good vs. poor performance. Altogether, our findings suggest that the market favors steep but symmetric ("linear") compensation schedules for asset managers. Our results shed new light on the contracting relation between delegating investors and their portfolio managers.

Do Mutual Fund Managers Adjust NAV for Stale Prices?

Mutual fund returns are predictable when the Net Asset Value is computed from prices that do not reflect all available information. This problem was brought to the public eye with the late trading and market timing scandal of 2003, which led to SEC intervention in 2004. Since these events, mutual fund managers have been more active in adjusting NAV, reducing predictability by about half. The simple trading strategy I present yields annual returns of 33% from 2001 to 2004 and 16% from 2005 to 2010. Even after accounting for trading restrictions in mutual funds, an arbitrager could earn annual returns of 2.73% from 2005 to 2010, suggesting the problem is not fully resolved. The main methodological contribution of this paper is to develop a filtering approach based on a state-space model that embeds the fund manager problem, thus accounting for unobserved actions of fund managers. I also show that predictability increases significantly when information sources suggested by prior literature, such as index and futures returns, are supplemented by premiums on related exchange traded funds.

Indexers and Comovement

I introduce a general equilibrium model with active investors and indexers. Indexing causes market segmentation, and the degree of segmentation is a func- tion of the relative wealth of indexers in the economy. Shocks to this relative wealth induce correlated shocks to discount rates of index stocks. The wealthier indexers are, the greater the resulting comovement is. I confirm empirically that S&P 500 stocks comove more with other index stocks and less with non-index stocks, and that changes in passive holdings of S&P 500 stocks predict changes in comovement of index stocks.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Price Formation around FOMC Announcements with Oliver Boguth and Charles Martineau

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

2018: American Finance Association*, Midwest Finance Association* (scheduled)

2017: Queensland University of Technology, Western Finance Association*, SHOF FinTech Conference*, Monash University*, McGill University, HEC Montréal , Northern Finance Association, Queen's University, University of Toronto, York University, University of Sydney*, FIRN: The Art of Finance Conference, SIRCA Young Researchers Workshop, SFS Cavalcade Asia*

2016: McGill University, Université Laval, Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand, China International Finance Conference*, European Finance Association, Financial Management Association Asia/Pacific, Financial Institutions, Regulation & Corporate Governance Conference, Conference on Financial Markets and Corporate Governance

2014: European Finance Association

2013: FIRN: The Art of Finance Conference, Northern Finance Association, University of Melbourne

2012: Midwest Finance Association

2011: Northern Finance Association

∗ indicates presentations by co-author.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Discussions

2017 FIRN: The Art of Finance Conference, "Net Buying Pressure and Informed Trading in the Options Market: Evidence from Earnings Announcements", by Ihsan Badshah, Hardjo Koerniadi, and James Kolari

2017 International Workshop on Financial System Architecture & Stability, "Stock Loan Lotteries and Individual Investor Performance", by Jordan Moore

2017 Financial Institutions, Regulation & Corporate Governance Conference, "Why do we tenure? Analysis of a long standing risk-based explanation", by Jonathan Brogaard, Joseph Engelberg and Edward Van Wesep

2016 Northern Finance Association, "Mutual fund flight-to-liquidity", by Aleksandra Rzeźnik

2016 Melbourne Money & Finance Conference, "Blockchain and the financial sector: The Good, The Bad & The Ugly", by Sophie Gilder

2016 Financial Management Association Asia/Pacific Conference, "Volatility and Directional Informed Trading and Option Market Microstructure", by Nick DeRobertis, Yong Jin, Mahendrarajah Nimalendran and Sugata Ray

2016 Accounting and Finance Association of Australia and New Zealand Conference, "Debt structure, tax and leverage: Evidence from China", by Kebin Deng and Yushu (Elizabeth) Zhu

2016 Financial Institutions, Regulation & Corporate Governance Conference, "Dividend Initiations, Information Content and Informed Trading in the Options Market", by Balasingham Balachandran, Huu Nhan Duong , Michael Theobald and Yun (Tracy) Zhou

2015 University of British Columbia Summer Finance Conference, "Governance under the Gun: Spillover Effects of Hedge Fund Activism", by Nickolay Gantchev, Oleg Gredil and Chotibhak Jotikasthira

2015 University of Melbourne Finance Down Under Conference, "Asset Pricing with Index Investing", by Georgy Chabakauri and Oleg Rytchkov

2013 Northern Finance Association, "Optimal Hedging when the Underlying Asset Follows a Regime-Switching Markov Process", by Pascal François, Geneviève Gauthier and Frédéric Godin

2012 Midwest Finance Association, "Exposing Management Characteristics in Mutual Fund Performance", by Qiang Bu

2011 Northern Finance Association, "Alpha and Performance Measurement: The Effect of Investor Heterogeneity", by Wayne E. Ferson and Jerchern Lin

Conferences

University of Melbourne Finance Down Under Conference (organizing committee, 2015-2017)

FIRN Asset Pricing Meeting (organizing committee, 2015)

European Finance Association (program committee, 2013-2016)

Northern Finance Association (program committee, since 2012)

Journals

International Review of Finance (ad-hoc referee)

Journal of Economic Dynamics and Controls (ad-hoc referee)

Media

2016: Interview with *SBS World News*
2015: Live interview with *Sky Business News*, for "Shaping Expectations and Coordinating Attention: The Unintended Consequences of FOMC Press Conferences"
2015: Mention in *LA Times*, for "Shaping Expectations and Coordinating Attention: The Unintended Consequences of FOMC Press Conferences"

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Melbourne, "Introduction to Python for financial research" (bootcamp for honours and PhD students), 2017

University of Melbourne, FNCE20001, "Business Finance", 2014–2016

University of Melbourne, FNCE30003, "International Finance", 2015–2016

University of British Columbia, COMM 370, "Corporate Finance", 2009–2010, 2012

Université Laval, GSF-1000, "Finance" (in French), 2007

Université Laval, GSF-3101, "Produits dérivés" (*Derivatives*, in French), 2007

RESEARCH SUPERVISION

Xinyi Shi, honours thesis supervisor, 2016

Yukun (Daniel) Luo, honours thesis supervisor, 2015

Hamish Cruden, honours thesis supervisor, 2014

ACADEMIC AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Best Paper on Market Microstructure Award, NFA 2017, for "Inverted Fee Venues and Market Quality"

Best Paper Award, 2016 Conference on Financial Markets and Corporate Governance, for "Shaping Expectations and Coordinating Attention: The Unintended Consequences of FOMC Press Conference"

Canadian Securities Institute Research Foundation PhD Scholarship, 2012–2013

FQRSC Scholarship (Government of Quebec), 2009–2012

Dean Earle D MacPhee Memorial Fellowship, 2007–2011

Ph.D. Tuition Fee Award, UBC, 2007–2011

Graduate Entrance Scholarship, UBC, 2007

CERTIFICATIONS

Completed successfully the CFA Level 3 examination in June 2008

COMPUTER SKILLS

Extensive knowledge of Python, SAS, Matlab and C++; highly experienced working with Thomson Reuters Tick History, Nasdaq ITCH, CRSP, Compustat and other databases

PERSONAL

Canadian citizen and Australian permanent resident; fluent in French and English

Current as of January 31, 2018.