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# ”How does Stock Market Affect Corporate Investment?”

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# How does Stock Market Affect Corporate Investment?

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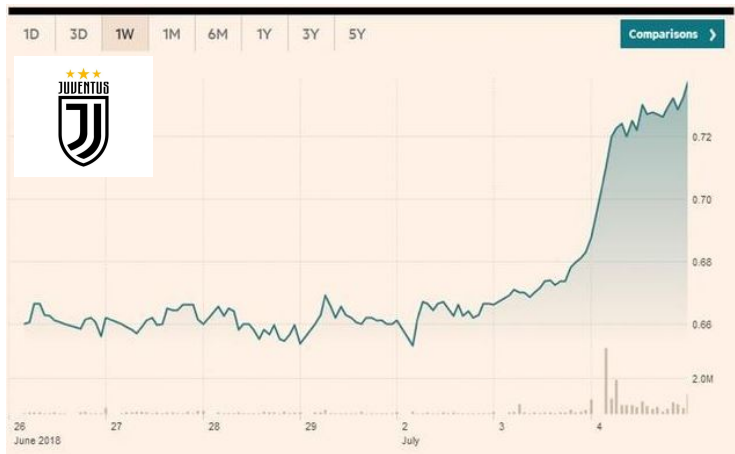
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<sup>2</sup>Paul Merage School, UCI

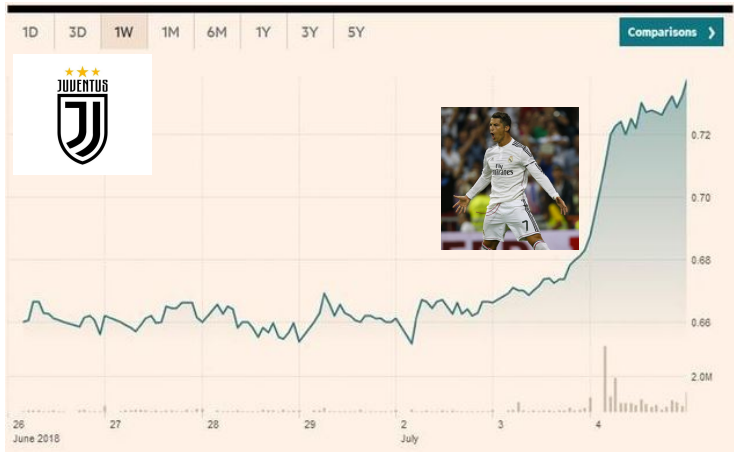
<sup>3</sup>School of Business, HKBU

August 15, 2019

# Investment and Stock Price



# Investment and Stock Price



# Investment Sensitivity to Price

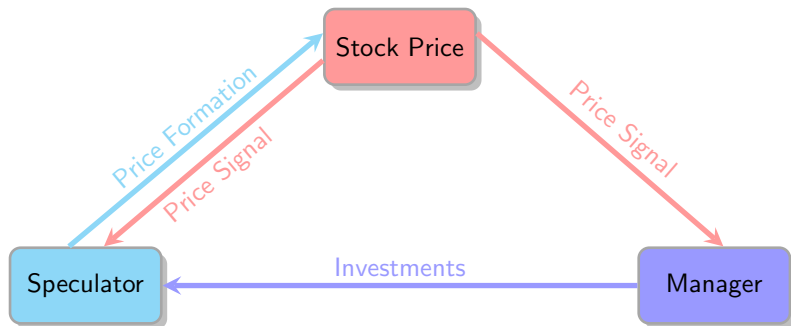
Strong positive correlation between investment and stock price

- Recent empirical evidence in Bond, Edmans, and Goldstein (2012)
- In short, *investment-price sensitivity*

No agreement on the reason

- *Correlated information channel* due to correlation between
  - Managerial information: determining investment
  - Speculator private information: determining price
- *Managerial learning channel*

# Informational Feedback Loop



# A General Model

Managerial learning has been studied theoretically in various specific settings.

- Special payoff functions
- Binary random economic fundamentals
- Binary choices

We know less about general properties of informational feedback.

- 1 Tractable model with general functional form, continuous economic fundamentals, and continuous choices
- 2 How does stock market affect corporate investments?
- 3 New identifications for test of managerial learning hypothesis

Consider an exogenous shock in financial market.

- Shock affects *investment-price sensitivity* through price signal only.

- $$\text{Investment-price sensitivity} = \frac{\text{Shock effect on investment}}{\text{Shock effect on price}}.$$

- Shock effect on investment represents managerial learning.
- Shock effect on price arises from speculator learning.
  - Belief updating
  - Anticipating managerial learning

Race between managerial learning and speculator learning

- Determines how price informativeness affects corporate investments and *investment-price sensitivity*



# Preview of Results

- 1 Price informativeness is the product of
  - Precision of speculator private signal
  - Precision of random supply shock
- 2 Different precisions have heterogeneous effects on investment-price sensitivity.

	investment-price sensitivity	
	global monotonicity	asymptotic
speculator signal	decreasing	significant
supply shock	increasing then decreasing	trivial

- 3 Direct effects of price informativeness on investment
  - Not through affecting investment-price sensitivity

Two new identifications for managerial learning hypothesis.

- 1 Different noise precisions affect investment-price sensitivity differently.
- 2 Noise precisions have direct effects on corporate investments.

# A Feedback Model: Manager

Manager optimization

$$\max_{I \in [I_L, I_H]} \mathbb{E} [\pi(v, I) - \Delta(I) | P]$$

- $\pi(v, I)$ : firm value depends on fundamental  $v$  and investment  $I$
- $\Delta(I)$ : manager's private cost
- The manager can observe stock price  $P$ 
  - Shutting down correlated information channel

# A Feedback Model: Financial Market

A continuum of risk-neutral speculators with measure 1. Each speculator  $i$

$$\max_{d_i \in [-1, 1]} \mathbb{E} [(\pi(v, I) - P) d_i | s_i, P]$$

- $s_i = v + \epsilon_i$  is speculator  $i$ 's private signal
- **Private signal noise:**  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \gamma^{-1})$
- Submit a demand scheme

Random supply  $S(\xi) = 1 - 2\Phi(\xi)$

- **Random supply noise:**  $\xi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \beta^{-1})$

# Equilibrium Behavior

Manager's investment decision

- Belief updating:  $v|P \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{v|P}, \sigma_{v|P}^2)$
- Maximization:  $\mathbb{E}[\pi(v, I) - \Delta(I)|P] \equiv \Pi(I, \mu_{v|P}, \sigma_{v|P}) - \Delta(I)$
- Equilibrium investment:  $I^*(\mu_{v|P}, \sigma_{v|P})$

Each speculator  $i$

$$d(s_i, P) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } s_i > g(P) \\ \in [-1, 1], & \text{if } s_i = g(P) \\ -1, & \text{if } s_i < g(P) \end{cases}$$

Market clearing implies  $g(P) = v + \xi / \sqrt{\gamma}$ .

- Define  $z = g(P)$  as the price signal
- $z|v \sim \mathcal{N}(v, (\gamma\beta)^{-1})$
- $g(P)$  **is not linear**

Marginal speculator

- Private signal realization = price signal realization
- $v|s_i = z, z \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{v|s_i=z, z}, \sigma_{v|s_i=z, z}^2)$ ,
- Indifference:

$$P = \mathbb{E}[\pi(v, l^*)|s_i = z, z] = \Pi(l^*, \mu_{v|s_i=z, z}, \sigma_{v|s_i=z, z})$$

# Decomposing Investment-price Sensitivity

Consider a change of random supply shock  $\Delta\zeta$ .

- Affects investment and speculator payoff through price signal only ( $\Delta z$ )

Decomposition of *investment-price sensitivity*

$$\text{Investment-price sensitivity} = \frac{\Delta I}{\Delta P} = \frac{\Delta I / \Delta z}{\Delta P / \Delta z}$$

- $\Delta I / \Delta z$ : managerial learning
- $\Delta P / \Delta z$ : (marginal) speculator learning

Importantly,

- $P$  is not linear in  $z$ , so speculator learning is not constant.

Manager and speculators observe same signal realization but learn differently.

- *Managerial learning*  $\Delta I^* / \Delta z$ :

$$\frac{\Delta I^*}{\Delta z} = \frac{\partial I^*}{\partial \mu_{v|z}} \frac{\partial \mu_{v|z}}{\partial z},$$

where  $\mu_{v|z} = \frac{\eta v_0 + \gamma \beta z}{\eta + \gamma \beta}$ ;

- *Marginal speculator learning*  $\Delta P / \Delta z$ :

- *Belief updating*

$$\frac{\partial \Pi(I^*, \mu, \sigma)}{\partial \mu} \frac{\partial \mu_{v|s_i=z, z}}{\partial z},$$

where  $\mu_{v|s_i=z, z} = \frac{\eta v_0 + \gamma z + \gamma \beta z}{\eta + \gamma + \gamma \beta}$ .

- *Anticipation effect*:

$$\frac{\partial \Pi(I^*, \mu, \sigma)}{\partial I^*} \frac{\Delta I^*}{\Delta z}$$



# Almost Uninformative Stock Price

Price signal  $z$

$$z|v \sim \mathcal{N}(v, (\gamma\beta)^{-1})$$

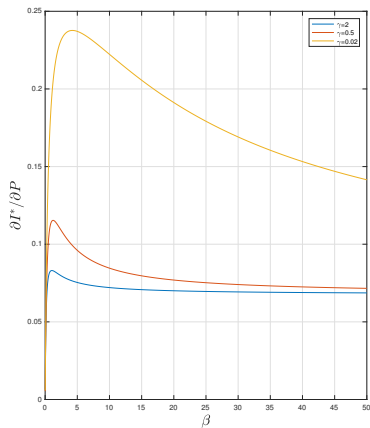
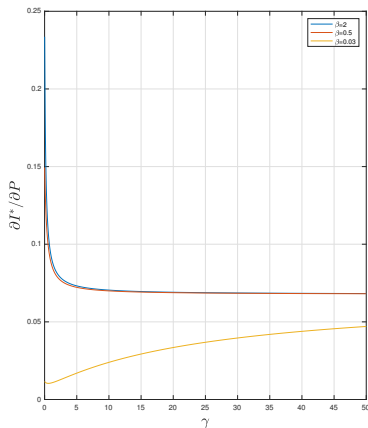
Price is almost uninformative if either  $\gamma \rightarrow 0$  or  $\beta \rightarrow 0$ .

	$\gamma \rightarrow 0$	$\beta \rightarrow 0$
Price signal $z$	noise	noise
Private signal $s_i = z$	noise	informative
Manager Learning	trivial: $\frac{\gamma\beta}{\eta+\gamma\beta} \rightarrow 0$	trivial: $\frac{\gamma\beta}{\eta+\gamma\beta} \rightarrow 0$
Speculator Learning	trivial: $\frac{\gamma+\gamma\beta}{\eta+\gamma+\gamma\beta} \rightarrow 0$	non-trivial: $\frac{\gamma+\gamma\beta}{\eta+\gamma+\gamma\beta} \rightarrow \frac{\gamma}{\eta+\gamma}$
Investment-price sensitivity	$\frac{\Delta I}{\Delta P} \rightarrow c > 0$	$\frac{\Delta I}{\Delta P} \rightarrow 0$

# Heterogeneous Global Monotonicity

*Investment-price sensitivity* may not be strictly increasing in either  $\gamma$  or  $\beta$ .

- The effects of  $\gamma$  and  $\beta$  differ.



# An increase in $\gamma$

When speculator private signals are more precise

- Managerial learning is stronger.
  - Price signal is more informative.
- Speculator learning is even stronger.
  - More informative private signal  $\Rightarrow$  Stronger belief updating
  - Anticipation effect is at least as strong as managerial learning.

$$\textit{Investment-price sensitivity} = \frac{\textit{Managerial learning}}{\textit{Anticipation} + \textit{Belief updating}}$$

- Denominator grows faster  $\Rightarrow$  *Investment-price sensitivity* decreases.

# An increase in $\beta$

When random supply shock is less noise

- Managerial learning is stronger.
  - Price signal is more informative.
- Speculator learning becomes stronger.
  - For small  $\beta$ , belief updating is mainly based on private signal.
  - For large  $\beta$ , belief updating is mainly based on price signal.
  - Anticipation effect is as strong as managerial learning.

$$\text{Investment-price sensitivity} = \frac{\text{Managerial learning}}{\text{Anticipation} + \text{Belief updating}}$$

- First increases then decreases

Price informativeness affects investments directly (not through affecting investment-price sensitivity).

$$\frac{\partial \Pi \left( I, \mu_{v|P}, \sigma_{v|P} \right)}{\partial I} - \frac{\partial \Delta(I)}{\partial I} = 0.$$

- Increase in price informativeness weakens the role of prior.
- Price informativeness affects  $\sigma_{v|P}$ .

From theoretical aspect

- A tractable general equilibrium model about informational feedback
- Characterize generally how price informativeness affects investments and investment-price sensitivity

From empirical aspect: two new identifications for managerial learning hypothesis

- Different noise precisions affect investment-price sensitivity differently.
- Price informativeness affects investments directly.