論文の要旨

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論文題目 Sentiment-return relationship and moderating effect of country-specific factors 「市場心理と株式収益率との関係および国固有要因の緩和効果に関する研究」

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During the past decades, the role of Asian stock markets globally has become more and more crucial. According to the Equity Market Review of OECD (2019), the share of capital raised in these markets has grown steadily over the past 20 years, from representing 19% of the global volume of public equity raised between 2000 and 2002 to 42% the last three years. Additionally, 11 of the top 20 markets globally in terms of non-financial IPOs during the past ten years are in Asia. These figures proved the rising attractiveness of Asian markets to investors, both local and international ones. Investors' extensive participation in Asian markets led to the fact that it is remarkably vital to understand how investor behaviors affect Asia's stock market activities. This dissertation, thus, was carried out to tackle one of those matters.

Besides the introduction and conclusion, my research, using data of Asian and European markets, encompasses three main chapters that investigate the relationship between investor sentiment and stock returns and determine which and how the local characteristics affect this inference. Below are the individual summary for each chapter:

Chapter 2: Effect of investors' confidence and fear on stock returns: The case of Asia-Pacific developed markets

Employing data from Australia, Hong Kong, and Japan over the period between January 2004 and December 2017, this chapter focused on the relationship between investor sentiment and stock returns. I analyzed two reversed sentiment indicators: consumer confidence index (*CCI*) and volatility index (*VIX*), in two conversing situations: low and high sentiment. The results implied that sentiment has a significant link with concurrent returns, but its influence seems to wipe out quickly as the little to no return predictability is detected. More

importantly, I found that "investor fear gauge" (*VIX*) generates a more significant contemporaneous effect on market returns than investor confidence. The impact on future returns, on the contrary, is inconclusive since low *CCI* and *VIX* dominated the opposite ones most of the time.

Chapter 3: Impact of financial development on sentiment-return relationship: Insight from Asia-Pacific markets

Using investor sentiment created from the first principal component of consumer confidence index, advance/decline ratio, and volatility premium, I examined the potential return predictability of investor sentiment in six Asia-Pacific markets from January 2004 to December 2016. The empirical evidence proved that market sentiment could be a valid forecaster of stock returns in short-term horizons. Additionally, by decomposing total sentiment in each market into regional and local indices, I discovered that the market-level outcomes are driven mostly by local sentiment. More importantly, this study detected that financial development differences across markets significantly influence the sentiment-return relationship.

Chapter 4: Moderating effect of market-specific factors in the return predictability of investor sentiment

Chapter 4 explored the relationship between investor sentiment and future returns using data from twelve Asian and European markets from 2004 to 2016. The results suggested that sentiment could be a contrarian predictor of market returns across different horizons. Moreover, this study primarily revealed an essential role of local factors in the sentiment-return diversifications among individual and regional markets. I found that the moderating effect of market-specific characteristics is time-varying and different between Asian and European areas. As a result, sentiment has a more immediate impact in Europe but a more long-lasting one in Asia.

To sum up, this dissertation provided a more transparent and detailed picture of sentiment-return inference and the moderating impact of local factors on this relationship. The findings from my studies are useful for investors interested in investing in the Asian stock markets. It is also crucial to intra-day traders and practitioners that use technical skills to measure and earn profit from the short-term price changes often inspired by investors' prevailing sentiment toward security. Contrarian investors who like to trade in the opposite direction of this sentiment might get essential information from this dissertation, too.