MULTI FACTOR EXPLANATION TO IPO LONG RUN UNDERPERFORMANCE ANOMALY: SRI LANKAN EVIDENCE

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Abstract:

This paper focuses on IPO long run underperformance anomaly and the application of calendar time techniques to dissect anomalous behavior of IPO stocks. More specifically this paper will provide fresh evidence on how multi factor models work on a specific type of security (IPO stocks in this scenario) in an emerging market like Sri Lanka. It is analyzed IPOs over a period from 2000 to 2012 on Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE). Main finding of the study is that traditional market beta still remains strong despite the employment of latest multi factor models.

Keywords: CSE, Initial public offerings, long run underperformance, Sri Lanka

1. INTRODUCTION

Capital market plays an important role in the modern economy of any country, hence the economic development of the country. Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) which was founded in 1896 as Colombo Share Brokers Association under the British rule significantly contributes to the development of Sri Lanka's capital market. Given the context that country's bond market was not much active, equity market through CSE acted as the principal platform for public and private firms to participate in capital market activities over past few decades. However performance of the equity market became highly volatile due to number of macroeconomic factors and most noteworthy one out of them was three decade long ethnic conflict. Even though Government of Sri Lanka (GOSL) defeated Liberation Tigers of Tamil Ealam (LTTE) in 2009, more sustainable peace is yet to be achieved in the island. Initial Public Offerings (IPOs) emerged as fastest and easiest mechanism for both foreign and local investors to participate in the growing Sri Lankan capital market. However IPO related anomalies, mainly initial under-pricing and long run underperformance appeared in big time to frustrate ordinary investors in such scenarios as anywhere in the world. Even though watch dogs of the Sri Lankan capital market, Securities and Exchange Commission of Sri Lanka (SECSL) and Colombo Stock Exchange (CSE) issued timely directives, it is difficult to control these anomalies 100% to pass the benefit to ordinary investors. This study focuses on long run underperformance anomaly. Peter (2007) analysed this situation in Sri Lankan context with event study approach and identified the requirement of better measures to control this long run anomaly. So this paper intends to search the application of calendar time techniques to sample of Sri Lankan IPOs from year 2000 to 2012. This study will cover only calendar time techniques and intends to find out what is the best factor model for IPO stocks in an emerging market like Sri Lanka. Study findings indicate that market beta is still powerful for IPO stocks in CSE. Section 2 of the paper describes the prior literature related to the study and sections 3 and 4 discuss data and methodology used in the paper respectively. Finally section 5 discusses the results before the conclusion.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Past studies on IPO anomalies

As mentioned in the introduction, it can be identified that there are two main anomalies regarding IPOs in recent finance literature namely initial under-pricing and long run underperformance of IPO stock price.

IPO long run underperformance is known as subsequent step of under-pricing anomaly. Ritter (1991) documented this first time using US data. Then many supporting studies emerged from various markets including developed and emerging economies. Brown (1999) for UK and Bossin and Sentis (2012) for France are few examples for IPO underperformance in developed markets. Peter (2007) found similar evidence on CSE where negative performance in IPO share price is reported in third year from the listing. However first two years' IPO share price performance is positive in Sri Lankan context according to Peter (2007).

There are two broad approaches in measuring long run IPO returns which are event study approach and calendar time approach. Main methods under event study approach are Cumulative Abnormal Return (CAR) method and Buy and Hold Abnormal Return (BHAR) method. Most of the studies have followed event study approach and few can be mentioned here as evidence. Leleux (1993) and Levis (1993) are good examples for CAR approach and Stehle, Ehrhardt and Przyborowsky (1999); Brau, Couch and Sutton (2012) have followed BHAR method. Calendar time approach uses mainly single factor and multi factor models to assess the IPO long run performance. However there is less number of studies reported under this paradigm compared to event study approach. Further there is a third approach called mixed approach which uses both event study and calendar time techniques. In this approach widely used technique was Fama and French three factor model (FF3) which will be discussed in detail later. However now there are more advanced multifactor models augmented other factors such as momentum, liquidity, profitability and investment capability. Some of the calendar time and mixed approach IPO studies are mentioned in table 1.

Author(s)		Period	Country / Countries	Long ru assessment method ¹	ın
Gompers Lerner (2003)	and	1935-1972	USA	BHR, CAL CAPM & FF3	

Table 1: Mixed and Calendar time studies conducted to assess long run IPO anomaly

¹ Mixed approach includes both event study and calendar time techniques both. Event study techniques include BHR (Buy and Hold returns), CAR (Cumulative Abnormal returns) and WR (Wealth Relatives). Calendar time techniques include CAPM (Capital Asset Pricing Model) and FF3 (Fama and French three factor model).

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	r	1		
De silva Rosa,	1991-1999	Australia	BHR, WR &	
Velayuthen &			FF3	
Walter (2003)				
Boabang (2005)	1990-2000	Canada	CAR & FF3	
Ahmad-Zaluki,	1990-2000	Malaysia	CAR, BHR &	
Campbell &			FF3	
Goodacre (2007)				
Pukthuanthong-Le	1993-2002	USA	BHR & FF3	
& Varaiya				
Chi, Wang &	1996-2002	China	CAR, BHR &	
Yong (2010)			FF3	
Moshirian, Ng &	1991-2004	China, Hong	BHR & FF3	
Wu (2010)		Kong, Japan,		
		Korea, Malaysia		
		and Singapore		
How, Ngo &	1992-2004	Australia	BHR, CAR &	
Verhoeven (2011)			FF3	
Liu, Uchida & Gao	2000-2007	China	BHR, WR &	
(2012)			FF3	
Thomadakis,	1994-2002	Greece	BHR, CAR &	
Nounis &			CAPM	
Gounopoulos				
(2012)				
Brau, Couch &	1985-2003	USA	BHR & FF3	
Sutton (2012)				

Source: Perera and Kulendran (2013)

2.2 MULTIFACTOR MODELS AND IPO ANOMALY

Even though discipline of finance got the distinction from mother subject, Economics with the classical work of Markowitz (1952) and single factor models laid its foundation with the studies of Sharpe (1964) and Lintner (1965). Their model assumed stock returns are linearly related to volatility in market index. But their assumptions were criticized by subsequent scholar claiming they are very rigid. As examples, assumptions like no tax, no transaction cost, all agree on return distributions, investors worry only about mean and variance are bit too beyond on the reality. However Sharpe and Lintner capital asset pricing model (CAPM) became the key benchmark model in all performance evaluation studies and studies on financial market anomalies including IPO studies. However Fama and French (1992, 1993, 1996) came up with their famous three factor model

and it got the crown from CAPM in the world of calendar time techniques. Later many scholars added different factors and tested it with different securities in different markets. This paper focus on how multi factor models work with IPO stocks in an emerging market like Sri Lanka. However still there is no universally accepted model in empirical asset pricing.

First it should be asked whether Sri Lankan market is an emerging capital market or not. Li and Toll (2011) generally defines emerging market is an economy that in the process of growth and industrialization. They further elaborate that emerging economies are not countries troubled by non-functioning capital markets but at the same time they are not fully efficient developed markets. So Sri Lanka roughly can be defined as an emerging market according to the GDP growth rate (7.3% in 2013) published by Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL). Then why is it IPO stocks? IPO stocks are generally new businesses to the market with higher growth as well as higher risk as per Ritter (1991). So it is interesting to see how IPO stocks in emerging Sri Lankan market respond to the multi factor models. As per the best of knowledge of authors, it provides fresh insights to the Sri Lankan capital market where no one have explored earlier. This study is different from Randeniya and Wijerathna (2012), since this study tests IPO stocks specifically unlike the earlier.

As summarized above, multifactor models have evolved from 1960's to the present and it is difficult to test each and every model. So purpose of this study it is selected below versions of single factor and multifactor models in the context of Sri Lankan IPOs.

Model	Original Authors and Year		
Sharpe-Lintner CAPM (Basic	Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965)		
CAPM)			
Zero Beta CAPM (ZCAPM)	Black, Jensen and Scholes (1972)		
Fama & French 3 factor model	Fama & French (1992, 1993,		
(FF3 model)	1996)		
Carhart's 4 Factor model (C4F	Jagadeesh & Titman (1993),		
model)	Carhart (1997)		
3 Factor model augmented by	Acharya & Pederson (2005)		
liquidity (3FL model)	Marcelo, Quiros & Oliveira (2011)		

Table2: Six models used for the assessment

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Fama & French 5 factor model	Fama & French (2014)
(FF5 model)	
Source: Authors' construction	

3. DATA

The data used in this study consist of 51 initial public offerings issued in CSE between 2000 and 2012. The data are collected from variety of sources. The issue dates and offering prices of IPOs are taken from CSE web site and listing prospectuses. Monthly stock prices are taken from CSE and adjusted by authors to dividends and other corporate actions. All Share Price Index (ASPI) data are taken as market index and obtained from CSE.

It is employed six models described in table 2 to adjust long run IPO returns for the level of systematic risk as well as the factors such as size, book to market, momentum, liquidity, profitability and investments. Factor data mainly obtained from individual company annual reports and CSE web site. Annual average gold prices are required to estimate uncorrelated portfolio to the market portfolio in zero beta CAPM and it is obtained from <u>www.kitco.com</u>. Risk free rate is taken as 3 month Treasury bill rate published by Central Bank of Sri Lanka (CBSL).

4. METHODOLOGY

4.1 Sharpe-Lintner CAPM (Basic CAPM)

A CAPM describes the relationship between risk and expected return and that is used in the pricing of risky securities. Gompers and Lerner (2003) used CAPM to evaluate IPO long run performance. This is calculated by taking a risk measure (beta) that compares the returns of the asset to the market over a period of time and to the market premium (Rm-Rf). CAPM is calculated as follows.

 $R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha + \beta \left(R_{mt} - R_{ft} \right) + \dot{\varepsilon} \quad (1)$

Where R_{pt} denotes the monthly return of IPO portfolio at time *t*, R_{ft} is the risk free return at time *t* and R_{mt} is the monthly return of ASPI at time *t*. $\dot{\epsilon}$ denotes random error term.

4.2 Zero Beta CAPM (ZCAPM)

Black, Jensen and Scholes (1972) introduced a major change to basic CAPM. Change was the replacement of risk free rate by return of a portfolio called Z which is uncorrelated with the market index. There are many options for Z where some are exchange rates, gold prices, corporate

debentures rates etc... Authors preferred to use gold prices as the uncorrelated portfolio for this study.

 $R_{pt} - R_{zt} = \alpha + \beta \left(R_{mt} - R_{zt} \right) + \dot{\varepsilon} \qquad (2)$

Where R_{zt} denotes the rate of change of gold prices for period t and others are same as equation (1).

4.3 Fama and French three factor model (FF3 model)

The Fama and French three factor model (FF3) is an extension of the original CAPM style approach. Gompers and Lerner (2003) is one of the early studies which used FF3 to assess IPO long run performance. FF3 model can be written as:

 $R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha + \beta (R_{mt} - R_{ft}) + s SMB_t + h HML_t + \dot{\epsilon}$ Where SMB_t denotes the return difference between small and big stocks for period *t*, HML_t denotes the return difference between high book to market firms and low book to market firms for period *t*. Others remain the same as in equation 1.

SMB_t (small minus big) is the average return on the three small portfolios minus the average return on three big portfolios for period t.

SMB_t = 1/3 (small value + small neutral + small growth) – 1/3 (big value + big neutral + Big growth) ----- (4) HML_t (high minus low) is the average return on two value portfolios minus the average return on the two growth portfolios for period t. HML_t = 1/2 (small value + big value) – 1/2 (small growth + big growth) (5)

4.4 Carhart Four factor model (C4F model)

Carhart (1997) developed a further extension to FF3 model by adding the momentum factor (winners minus losers – WML) and it is known as four factor model. Eckbo and Norli (2005) added momentum to their study of IPO long run price performance. Four factor model is stated below.

 $R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha + \beta (R_{mt} - R_{ft}) + \text{s SMB}_{t} + \text{h HML}_{t} + \text{w WML}_{t} + \dot{\epsilon} \dots (6)$ Where WML_t is the return difference between winner and loser stock portfolios for period t. WML_t is estimated as follows.

WML_t = 1/2 (small winners + big winners) - 1/2 (small losers + big losers) \longrightarrow (7)

4.5. Three factor model augmented by liquidity factor (3FL model)

Another factor to be added to FF3 is liquidity. But here it becomes more complex since stock market liquidity has many facets. Some of them are monthly trading volume, turnover rate, average ratio of daily absolute return and monthly proportion of zero returns. Authors of this study selected only turnover rate as liquidity measure and it is calculated as follows.

Turnover rate = Monthly trading volume / number of shares outstanding (8)

Acharya and Pederson (2005) as well as Chan and Faff (2005) pioneered this model as a multi factor model with a liquidity premium and it is shown below. In simply liquidity premium, LMH (low liquidity minus high liquidity) substituted as the fourth factor. Ramlee and Ali (2012) used three factor model augmented by liquidity to analyze long run returns of IPO stocks in Malaysian context. LMH, is calculated as follows.

 $R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha + \beta (R_{mt} - R_{ft}) + \text{s SMB}_{t} + \text{h HML}_{t} + 1 \text{ LMH}_{t} + \hat{\varepsilon} \longrightarrow (9)$

Where, LMH_t is the return difference between low liquid portfolios and high liquid portfolios for period *t*.

LMH₁ = 1/2 (Small high liquid stocks + big high liquid stocks) - 1/2 (Small low liquid stocks + big low liquid stocks) -----(10)

4.6 Fama and French five factor model (FF5 model)

Fama and French (2014) added two more factors to their FF3 model and expect it provides better explanation to average long run returns. Two new factors represent profitability and investment capability. The new five factor model can be explained by below equation.

 $R_{pt} - R_{ft} = \alpha + \beta (R_{mt} - R_{ft}) + \text{s SMB}_{t} + \text{h HML}_{t} + \text{r RMW}_{t} + \text{c CMA}_{t} + \dot{\epsilon} \rightarrow (11)$

The method of calculating SMB in FF5 is different than method of calculating SMB in FF3. It is as follows.

 $SMB_{t} = \frac{1}{3} (SMB B/M + SMB OP + SMB INV)$ (12)

RMW, (Robust minus Weak) is the factor to represent profitability and it is calculated as follows. It is the return difference between robust profitability stock portfolios and weak profitability stock portfolios for period t.

RMW_t = 1/2 (Small Robust + Big Robust) - 1/2 (Small Weak + Big Weak)......(13)s

 CMA_t (Conservative minus Aggressive) is the factor to represent investment capability and method of calculating is given below. It is the return difference between low investment and high investment portfolios for period *t*.

 $CMA_t = 1/2$ (Small Conservative + Big Conservative) - 1/2 (Small Aggressive + Big Aggressive) ----- (14)

However it should be noted that five factor model has not tested for IPO stocks in any market yet up to the best of knowledge by authors. Ordinary least square (OLS) regressions will be conducted for all six models on both value weighted and equal weighted basis.

5. RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

5.1 Descriptive statistics

Descriptive statistics of the variables of discussed models are given below.

Variable	Mean	Median	Maximum	Minimum	Standard Deviation
R_p (Value weighted)	- 0.000	0.006	0.037	-0.049	0.026
R_p (Equal weighted)	0.003	0.001	0.066	-0.057	0.036
R_m (Value weighted)	0.018	0.019	0.055	-0.025	0.023
R_m (Equal weighted)	0.042	0.028	0.259	-0.027	0.074
R_{f}	0.116	0.100	0.213	0.072	0.046
R_z	0.157	0.143	0.357	0.001	0.106
SMB (FF3)	0.001	-0.001	0.045	-0.067	0.030
SMB (FF5)	0.025	0.007	0.287	-0.025	0.081
HML	0.001	0.006	0.048	-0.066	0.031
WML	0.085	0.057	0.414	-0.004	0.104
LMH	0.020	0.017	0.106	-0.024	0.033
RMW	0.014	0.007	0.129	-0.043	0.039
CMA	0.003	0.006	0.046	-0.055	0.026

Table 3: Descriptive statistics

Source: Authors' construction using E-views 6.0 software

5.1 Results on value weighted basis

OLS regression results of all six models are given in below table 4. It is computed on value weighted basis.

	CAPM	ZCAPM	FF3	C4F	3FL	FF5
			model	model	model	model
a	-0.019	-0.019*	-0.014	-0.014	-0.014	-0.011
α	(-1.652)	(-1.953)	(-1.183)	(-0.835)	(-0.975)	(-0.727)
	0.990**		1.036**	1.037**	1.036**	1.074**
R -	0.990 ⁺⁺ *		*	*	*	*
R_m -			(9.789)	(8.967)	(9.167)	7.663
R_{f}	(9.655)		``´´	``´´	``´´	
R_m -		0.994***				
		17.892				
R_z			0.100	0.100	0.110	0.004
SMB			-0.122	-0.132	-0.119	0.084
DIVID			(-0.588)	(-0.458)	(-0.452)	(0.867)
HML			-0.301	-0.306	-0.297	-0.326
IIIVIL			(-1.451)	(-1.270)	(-1.009)	(-1.332)
WM				-0.004		
L				(-0.051)		
тллт					-0.006	
LMH					(-0.019)	
RM						-0.084
W						(-0.295)
CMA						-0.186
CMA						(-0.428)
Adj.	0.885	0.963	0.888	0.874	0.874	0.870
\mathbf{R}^2						
F-	93.21**	320.13**	32.62**	21.75**	21.75**	17.06**
stat.	*	*	*	*	*	*
stat.						

Table 4: Value weighted calendar time portfolio regressions

Source: Authors' construction using E-views 6.0 software

Note 1: Comments marked with *, ** and *** indicate significance at 10%, 5% and 1% level. Note 2: t statistics are reported in parentheses.

Value weighted IPO portfolios are underperforming compared to relevant benchmarks in all 6 models in period of 2000 to 2012. However those are statistically insignificant and only ZCAPM intercept is significant at 10% level. Traditional market beta fluctuates around 1 which is the general finding for equity only portfolios and remains statistically

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significant at 1% level in all 6 value weighted models. None of the additional factors are statistically significant. However F statistic remains significant at 1% level in all cases indicating all factors are jointly explaining the variation of IPO stock returns. Adjusted R² is above 87% for all six value weighted models indicating that it is an adequate estimation of IPO stock return variation in studied period.

5.2 Results on equal weighted basis

OLS regression results on equal weighted basis are given in table 5.

	CAPM	ZCAPM	FF3	C4F	3FL	FF5
			model	model	model	model
	-	-0.071**	-	-	-	-
a	0.085**	(-2.561)	0.084**	0.087**	0.092**	0.052*
α	*		*	*	*	(-
	(-4.761)		(-5.314)	(-3.525)	(-4.907)	2.231)
			0.411**	0.407**	0.429**	0.474*
R_m -	0.378**		(3.170)	(2.904)	(3.212)	*
	(2.610)					(2.958)
R_{f}						
R_m -		0.722***				
R_z		(4.508)				
			0.908	0.958	0.660	-0.071
SMB			(2.043)	(1.605)	(1.223)	(-
			, , ,	. ,	. ,	0.380)
HML			0.470	0.494	0.119	0.352
INIL			(1.109)	(1.026)	(0.198)	(0.760)
WM				0.025		
L				(0.137)		
LMH					0.517	
					(0.841)	
RM						-1.366
W						(-
vv						2.111)
						-1.532
CMA						(-
						1.708)
Adj.	0.326	0.617	0.471	0.406	0.453	0.404

Table 5: Equal weighted calendar time portfolio regressions

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\mathbf{R}^2						
F-	6.81**	20.326**	4.56**	3.05*	3.49*	2.63
stat.		*				

Source: Authors' construction using E-views 6.0 software Note 1: Comments marked with *, ** and *** indicate significance at 10%, 5% and 1% level. Note 2: t statistics are reported in parentheses.

Equal weighted IPO portfolios in all 6 models are underperforming in the period of 2000 to 2012. However unlike value weighted scenario, there is a varying degree of statistical significance among 6 models. 4 models are statistically significant at 1% level (CAPM, FF3, C4F and 3FL) and ZCAPM and FF5 are statistically significant at 5% and 10% respectively. Similar to value weighted scenario, traditional market beta remain statistically significant in all equal weighted cases. However it is different from value weighted scenario, factor loadings are below 0.5 in 5 equal weighted models out of 6. Further other factors are not statistically significant. F statistic is also significant at varying degrees. For an example ZCAPM is significant at 1% level, CAPM and FF3 are at 5% level and C4F and 3FL are at 10% level. F statistic of FF5 is insignificant. Adjusted R² is below 50% except ZCAPM and it indicates that equal weighted models are poor approximations of IPO return variation unlike value weighted models.

6. CONCLUSION

This paper analyses long run IPO underperformance anomaly with calendar time techniques from year 2000 to 2012. More specific purpose of this study is to find out which factor models explain the return variation of IPO stocks in an emerging market like Sri Lanka. As a summary, market beta remains significant in all 6 models and IPO stock portfolio underperforms in all value weighted scenarios. Even though additional factors remain insignificant, F statistic is significant in all value weighted models. So it can be said that these factors are jointly explaining the variation of IPO stock returns in value weighted models. However equal weighted scenarios are more suitable for performance evaluation purposes in consistent with the Fama (1998).

This result, more specifically the results of value weighted scenarios are different from Randeniya and Wijerathna (2012) where they found FF3 is better than basic CAPM in explaining the behaviour of general equity market in Sri Lanka. However this study found out that market beta is the most important factor in all 6 models while newly added

factors remain insignificant. This may be due to the characteristics of the sample IPO stocks which are risky in nature and usually new and small firms compared to well established companies. Griffin (2002) commented that practical applications of multi factor models (specially FF3) are successful on conditions of the market and type of the security. Even though FF3 is successful in US context, situation of the Asian markets can be different. For an example, Daniel, Titman and Wei (2001) rejected FF3 in Tokyo Stock Exchange. So it should be concluded that success of multi factor models depended on the type of the security and the country and this conclusion is similar to the Griffin (2002).

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