## ONLINE APPENDIX TO

## '‘REVISITING THE CROSS-SECTION OF EXPECTED STOCK RETURNS: EVIDENCE FROM A TEXTUAL ANALYSIS OF INVESTOR BUY RECOMMENDATIONS"

Online Appendix Figure A1
Institutional Investors Survey Questions
This figure displays the questions in the online survey sent to 100 institutional investors to generate the survey-based wordlists as detailed in Section 3.2.

QAge. How old are you?

1. 21-24
2. 25-34
3. 35-44
4. $45-54$
5. 55-64
6. $65+$
7. Prefer not to say

QGender. Please indicate your gender

1. Male
2. Female
3. Prefer not to say

QExperience. Approximately how many years have you worked as a wealth manager / fund manager?
QAmount. What is your company's overall assets under management (AUM)?

1. Under $\$ 10$ million
2. $\$ 10$ million to $\$ 99.9$ million
3. $\$ 100$ million to $\$ 249.9$ million
4. $\$ 250$ million to $\$ 1$ billion
5. $\$ 1$ billion to $\$ 2.49$ billion
6. $\$ 2.5$ billion or more
7. Prefer not to answer

For each of the next three questions, please list up to five nouns, verbs or adjectives (NOT specific tickers, company names, industries or product names/brands) that you would use:

Q1. to describe a stock that, to you, is a "safe-haven asset:" a stock that does relatively well when times are bad. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

Q2. to describe a stock that has been doing well and that you expect will continue to do very well or, in general, a stock that you are very confident will earn above-normal returns. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

Q3. to describe a stock that offers somewhat of a gamble: the stock will most likely not produce above-normal returns, but, if it does, the payoff will be enormous. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

Online Appendix Figure A2
Retail Investors Survey Questions
This figure displays the questions in the online survey sent to 303 retail investors to generate the survey-based wordlists as detailed in Section 3.2.

QAge. How old are you?

1. 21-29
2. $30-44$
3. 45-59
4. $60+$
5. Prefer not to say

QGender. Please indicate your gender

1. Male
2. Female
3. Prefer not to say

QExperience. Which of the following categories best describes your investment experience?

1. Novice investor
2. Investor with intermediate experience
3. Professional investor
4. Prefer not to say

QAmount. What is the approximate value of your household's net investable assets in USD? In calculating your net investable assets, do not include your personal properties such as a car, home, and cottage. Simply add up all your savings and investments and subtract your consumer debt (credit cards and loans).

1. Under $\$ 500$
2. $\$ 500$ to $\$ 2,000$
3. $\$ 2,001$ to $\$ 10,000$
4. $\$ 10,001$ to $\$ 25,000$
5. $\$ 25,001$ to $\$ 100,000$
6. $\$ 100,001$ to $\$ 300,000$
7. $\$ 301,000$ to $\$ 500,000$
8. $\$ 500,001$ to $\$ 1,000,000$
9. More than $\$ 1,000,000$
10. Prefer not to answer

QAttention. How frequently do you check your investment account?

1. About every day (daily)
2. About once a week (weekly)
3. About once a month (monthly)
4. About once every three months (quarterly)
5. About once a year (yearly)
6. Less frequently than once a year
7. Prefer not to answer

QInteractions. How frequently do you discuss stocks (or other investment-related topics) with family members, friends or co-workers?

1. About every day (daily)
2. About once a week (weekly)
3. About once a month (monthly)
4. About once every three months (quarterly)
5. About once a year (yearly)
6. Less frequently than once a year
7. Prefer not to answer

For each of the next three questions, please list up to five nouns, verbs or adjectives (NOT specific tickers, company names, industries or product names/brands) that you would use:

Q1. To describe a stock that, to you, is a "safe-haven asset:" a stock that does relatively well when times are bad. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

Q2. To describe a stock that has been doing well and that you expect will continue to do very well or, in general, a stock that you are very confident will earn above-normal returns. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

Q3. To describe a stock that offers somewhat of a gamble: the stock will most likely not produce above-normal returns, but, if it does, the payoff will be enormous. If you would never invest in such a stock, please leave everything blank and simply move on to the next question.

This figure displays the first page of three sell-side analyst reports. The first report makes disproportionately frequent use of safety words as per the institutional investors survey-based wordlists, while the second and third reports make disproportionately frequent uses of exuberance and lottery words, respectively. The red areas mark the sections of the analyst reports that we parse.

## First report ("safety"):



| RBC Bearings Incorporated: |
| :---: | :---: |
| ROLL:Continue to Favor Defensive Nature \& Balance Sheet Catalyst; Reiterate BUY |

KeyBanc Capital Markets Inc.
Steve Barger: (216) 689-0210 - sbarger@keybanccm.com
Member NYSE/FINRA/SIPC Alexander Walsh: (216) 689-0496 - awalsh@keybanccm.com

| Rating |  |  | BUY |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Price |  |  | \$44.41 |
| 12-Mo. Price Target |  |  | \$51.00 |
| Dividend |  |  | \$0.00 |
| Yield |  |  | NM |
| 52- Wk. Range |  |  | \$29-\$49 |
| Trading Volume (000) |  |  | 84 |
| Market Cap. (mm) |  |  | \$994.8 |
| Shares Out. (mm) |  |  | 22.40 |
| Book Value/Share |  |  | \$17.23 |
| Total Debt (mm) |  |  | \$1.1 |
| Total Debt/Cap |  |  | 0.3\% |
| Cap Ex (mm) |  |  | \$15.0 |
| Cash (mm) |  |  | \$68.6 |
| EPS (Net) Summary |  |  |  |
| FY Mar | 2012A | 2013E | 2014E |
| 1Q | \$0.48 | \$0.58 | -- |
| 2Q | \$0.52 | \$0.63 | -- |
| 3Q | \$0.54 | \$0.61 | -- |
| 4Q | \$0.69 | \$0.85 | -- |
| Prior | \$0.62 | -- | -- |
| YEAR | \$2.23 | \$2.67 | \$3.22 |
| Prior | \$2.17 | \$2.67 | \$3.22 |
| First Call | -- | \$2.65E | \$3.04E |
| P/E | 19.9x | 16.6x | 13.8x |

FOR IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES AND CERTIFICATIONS, PLEASE REFER TO PAGES 8 - 9 OF THIS NOTE.

## Northcoast Research

## PPG Industries Inc (NYSE: PPG)

## PPG: Very Strong 1Q14; Reiterate BUY; Increasing PT to \$220

## Overview

- PPG reported record 1Q14 adjusted EPS of $\$ 1.98$ which topped NCR estimate of $\$ 1.76$ and consensus estimate of $\$ 1.87$. Note that street expectations were in a wide range due to the recently divested Transitions Optical business - and overall, 1Q14 performance more than fully replaced earnings from the divestiture as virtually every business performed above expectations from both a sales and earnings perspective.
- PPG achieved global volume growth of 5\% in 1Q14 - its highest level in 3 years. Growth rates accelerated in each region compared to recent quarters, including Europe where volumes were up $5 \%$ as PPG believes it is in the early stages of an economic recovery.
- Total operating income of $\$ 483$ million increased $22 \%$ vs. 1Q13 and $7 \%$ above NCR estimates, driven by strong volumes and robust margins in Performance Coatings and Industrial Coatings. Excellent earnings leverage stemming from aggressive cost savings coupled with improved demand levels drove margins higher and led to increased profitability as both Performance and Industrial Coatings segment margins grew 100bps above NCR estimates.
- Performance Coatings benefitted from another quarter of strong growth as acquisitions (AkzoNobel, Deft, Hi-Temp) contributed 23\% to sales while legacy architectural coatings contributed the remaining $4 \%$ of the $27 \%$ growth vs. 1Q13. Architectural Coatings EMEA volumes increased mid-single digits while Auto Refinish and Aerospace continued to show solid results, reporting positive volumes across every region.
- Industrial Coatings volumes increased 7\%, largely due to Auto OEM where $10 \%$ volumes outpaced the industry growth rate of $4 \%$. Glass segment volumes grew 3\% due to global fiber glass demand, partially offset by lower flat glass volumes.
- PPG has now delivered 15 straight quarters of record adjusted EPS. Given our belief that PPG will continue to post solid double-digit earnings growth for at least the next few years, we are raising our 2014E EPS to $\$ 9.60$ (was $\$ 9.20$ ) and 2015E EPS to \$11.00 (was \$10.40).


## Conclusion

1Q14 was a great quarter for PPG. The company displayed robust margins stemming from both strong volumes and increased leverage - and its cash position continues to grow, closing the quarter with $\$ 3$ billion in cash even after repurchasing $\$ 200$ million worth of shares ( 1.1 million shares) during the quarter. End markets by region appear to be healthy with Europe turning the corner and providing PPG the next avenue for a recovery. We expect the strong momentum in 1Q14 to carry forward into the balance of the year, and as a result we are reinforcing our BUY rating on shares of PPG and increasing our PT to $\$ 220$ (was $\$ 215$ ) as we have confidence in our estimates going forward.

## Important: Please read disclosures and disclaimers on page 5 of the report.

April 22, 2014
Sales: 1-216-468-6900 Trading: 1-866-962-0898
Kevin Hocevar, CFA - Research Analyst 216.468.6924 kevin.hocevar@ northcoastresearch.com
Company Update BUY

Price Target Increase
Estimate Change

| Materials |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Chemicals-Diversified |  |  |  |
| Price (04/21/2014 |  |  | 196.54 |
| Target Price |  |  | \$220.00 |
| Market Cap (M) |  |  | 27,255.3 |
| 52 Wk Hi - Low |  | 201.5 | 9-140.81 |
| Enterprise Value |  |  | 29,182.3 |
| Average Daily Vol | (3 Months) |  | 911,927 |
| Float Outstanding |  |  | 130.3 |
| Shares Outstandin |  |  | 138.7 |
| Short Interest |  |  | $1.2(\mathrm{M})$ |
| Short Ratio |  |  | 1.5 |
| Total Debt to Tota | sets |  | 21.5\% |
| Total Debt (M) |  |  | 3,406.0 |
| Total Common Eq |  |  | 4,932.0 |
| Preferred Equity ( |  |  | 0.0 |
| Cash \& Equivalen |  |  | 1,745.0 |
| Dividend |  |  | \$2.28 |
| EPS (\$) | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Q1 | 1.58a | 1.98a | -- |
| Prior | -- | 1.76 e | -- |
| Q2 | $2.45 a$ | 2.86 e | -- |
| Prior | -- | 2.77 e | -- |
| Q3 | 2.44a | 2.79 e | -- |
| Prior | -- | 2.71 e | -- |
| Q4 | 1.81a | $1.97 e$ | -- |
| Prior | -- | 1.96 e | -- |
| FY Dec | 8.28a | 9.60 e | 11.00 e |
| Prior | -- | 9.20 e | 10.40 e |
| P/E | 23.7x | 20.5 x | 17.9x |
| EBITDA <br> (\$M) Adjusted | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 |
| Q1 | -- | -- | -- |
| Q2 | -- | -- | -- |
| Q3 | -- | -- | -- |
| Q4 | -- | -- | - |
| FY Dec | 2,274a | 2,406e | 2,595e |
| Prior | -- | 2,355e | 2,513e |
| Enterprise | 12.8 x | 12.1 x | 11.2 x |

Value/EBITDA


Erieview Tower, 1301 E 9th St, Suite 2400 Cleveland, OH 44114
Phone: 216-468-6900 । Fax: 216-468-6901 www.northcoastresearch.com

Online Appendix Figure A3. Continued.


North America Equity Research 18 May 2012

## Overweight

LPR, LPR US
Price: $\$ 3.42$

## $\nabla$ Price Target: $\$ 8.00$

Previous: $\$ 13.00$

Integrated Oils
Katherine Lucas Minyard, CFA ${ }^{\text {AC }}$ (1-212) 622-6402 katherine.I.minyard@jpmorgan.com

## Igor Grinman

(1-212) 622-6596
igor.grinman@jpmorgan.com
J.P. Morgan Securities LLC


| Lone Pine Resources Inc. (LPR;LPR US) |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| FYE Dec | 2011A | 2012E <br> (Prev) | 2012E <br> (Curr) | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 E}$ <br> (Prev) | $\mathbf{2 0 1 3 E}$ <br> (Curr) |
| EPS - Recurring (\$) | - | 0.05 | $(0.07) \mathrm{A}$ | - | - |
| Q1 (Mar) | 0.11 | 0.07 | $(0.01)$ | - | - |
| Q2 (Jun) | 0.12 | 0.18 | 0.03 | - | - |
| Q3 (Sep) | 0.01 | 0.24 | 0.06 | - | - |
| Q4 (Dec) | 0.22 | 0.54 | $(0.03)$ | 1.19 | 0.79 |
| FY | 0.49 | 0.56 | 0.56 | 1.06 | 1.06 |
| Bloomberg EPS FY (\$) |  |  |  |  |  |


| Company Data |  |
| :--- | ---: |
| Price (\$) | 3.42 |
| Date Of Price | $17-\mathrm{May}-12$ |
| 52-week Range (\$) | $13.09-3.38$ |
| Mkt Cap (\$ mn) | 290.79 |
| Fiscal Year End | Dec |
| Shares O/S $(\mathrm{mn})$ | 85 |
| Price Target $(\$)$ | 8.00 |
| Price Target End Date | 31 Dec 12 |

## See page 7 for analyst certification and important disclosures.

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Online Appendix Figure A4
Sample Seeking Alpha Articles
This figure displays the first page of three SA opinion articles. The first article makes disproportionately frequent use of safety words as per the institutional investors survey-based wordlists, while the second and third articles make disproportionately frequent uses of exuberance and lottery words, respectively.

## First article ("safety"):




Written by


## General Expert

Creator of the Core Value Portfolio. The goal is simple but not easy. By shooting for an extraordinary goal. more

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9.75K Followers

Send message

All Portfolios
Symbol Price \% Chg
HDSN 11.29 6.71\%

| VIST | $13.89 \quad 4.67 \%$ |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |

BA $\quad 178.36 \quad 2.01 \%$
UAL $\quad 44.42 \quad 1.67 \%$

MS $\quad 90.91 \quad 1.09 \%$
FLT $191.68 \quad 0.97 \%$

Expand Portfolio

Long Ideas Utilities

## NorthWestern Corporation - A Year After The Near \$1 Billion Transaction

Dec. 09, 2015 12:03 PM ET NorthWestern Corporation (NWE) 1 Comment

## Summary

- Cash flow generation outpaced dilution from the acquisition.
- The debt level is acceptable.
- The stock isn't cheap, but you are paying a fair price in exchange for stability.

NorthWestern

## Energy

NorthWestern Corporation (NYSE: NASDAQ:NWE) is a utility company that operates in Montana, South Dakota, and Nebraska. The company is both a generator and a distributor of electricity and a distributor of natural gas. In November 2014, the company completed a significant transaction, buying up hydroelectric generating facilities for $\$ 904$ million. The idea is that this will decrease the company's overall risk profile, since this transaction would decrease the company's reliance on purchasing agreements. This is similar to how Questar Corporation sources natural gas from its own subsidiary instead of just being a typical distributor. Thus far, investors have been indifferent, as the stock hasn't gone anywhere in a year.




Written by


## Bridger Research

We are investment research professionals covering a broad range of equities, REITs and other asset classes... more

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| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 892 Followers |  |  |
| Send message |  |  |
| All Portfolios V |  |  |
| Symbol | Price | \% Chg - |
| HDSN | 11.29 | 6.71\% |
| VIST | 13.89 | 4.67\% |
| BA | 178.36 | 2.01\% |
| UAL | 44.42 | 1.67\% |
| MS | 90.91 | 1.09\% |
| FLT | 191.68 | 0.97\% |

Expand Portfolio

Long Ideas Tech

## Ansys: Stock Is Ready For A Rally

Dec. 11, 2018 1:47 PM ET ANSYS, Inc. (ANSS) 2 Comments 1 Like

## Summary

- ANSYS is a market leader with a broad portfolio of engineering simulation software solutions that help customers to improve their operational efficiency and profitability.
- The company offers a strong business model with double-digit organic revenue growth rate, best-in-class operating margins and strong cash generation.
- Significant growth opportunities in the automotive and autonomous vehicle industries with the latest release of ANSYS 19.2.


## Investment Thesis

ANSYS, Inc. (NASDAQ:ANSS) is a leader in engineering simulation software \& services and offers a great business model with diversified recurring revenue, strong cash generation and a significant growth opportunity driven by the digital revolution. There is an increased market demand for engineering simulation solutions, as companies face intensified pressures like increased product complexity, reduced time to market and lower sales cycles. ANSYS's engineering simulation products offer a strong competitive advantage based on technology leadership and reputation for simulating products across multiple physics with the highest accuracy. The company is a best-in-class leader in its niche industry and consistently maintains a double-digit revenue growth rate combined with industry-leading operating margin. I expect from the company to scale its business with the go-to-market strategy across large enterprises, important partnerships, and acquisitions of best-in-class technologies. That can drive further shareholder value-creation by achieving Target 2020 double-digit organic revenue growth rate, together with maintaining best-in-class operating margins and returning excess capital through share buybacks over the next 3-5 years.

PRO My Portfolio My Authors Top Stocks Latest News Markets Stock Ideas Dividends ETFs Education


Written by


Elephant Analytics
Marketplace
Author of Distressed Value Investing. Unique insight into distressed opportunities to target outsized returns.


Current

| +Add |  | P |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Symbol | Price | $\%$ Chg |
| DQ | 49.61 | $6.09 \%$ |
| HIMX | 7.13 | $2.74 \%$ |
| EDU | 33.14 | $1.47 \%$ |
| BRK.B | 306.39 | $0.13 \%$ |
| NCNA | 0.80 | $-0.03 \%$ |

Expand Portfolio

## Magnum Hunter: The Waiting Game Continues

Sep. 17, 2015 8:40 AM ET Magnum Hunter Resources Corp. (MHRCQ) 49 Comments

## Summary

- Magnum Hunter's CEO Gary Evans previously mentioned that he was hopeful of a Eureka Hunter sale announcement by the end of August.
- It is now mid-September and it appears that investors are becoming impatient for some news, which is reflected in its share price decline.
- However, Magnum Hunter still has a net asset value estimated at multiple times its current price.
- With its short interest, a Eureka Hunter sale for a reasonable price or any another asset sale that ensures Magnum Hunter's survival for a prolonged period could trigger a squeeze.
- Magnum Hunter's fundamentals remain quite messy due to its large debts and high fixed payment costs. I think it may be worth a minor speculative play at $\$ 0.50$ though.

Magnum Hunter Resources (MHR) continues to fall amidst a continued oil and natural gas slump as investors get tired of waiting for an announcement on the Eureka Hunter pipeline sale as well as other potential moves. As well, Magnum Hunter has received notice that it is no longer in compliance with the NYSE's listing standards due to its stock price dropping below $\$ 1.00$ during a preceding 30 trading day period.

Despite the lack of positive news, I think Magnum Hunter may now be worth looking at as a risky speculative play though. It has a high short interest and any major asset sale would put off bankruptcy concerns for a while, likely leading to a bit of a short squeeze. As well, Magnum Hunter's net asset value is theoretically multiple times its current share price, although concern remains over its ability/willingness to monetize these assets in a timely manner.

This figure reports the results from Panel A in Table 2 separately for each of the 181 firm characteristics. For each of 181 firm characteristics, we sort stocks based on the firm characteristic and consider the stocks that earn low average returns based on prior literature ("short-leg securities"). We compute the average Safety [\%], Exuberance [\%], and Lottery [\%] across the buy recommendations of short-leg securities; we also compute the average fractions across the buy recommendations written on all other stocks. We then compute the difference between the former and the latter (on a relative basis) and test whether the difference is positive and statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level. We plot the firm characteristics for which the difference is positive and statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level based on Safety [\%], Exuberance [\%], and Lottery [\%], respectively.


Online Appendix Figure A5. Continued.

SA Articles:


## Online Appendix Figure A6

Which Framework Best Explains the Cross-Section of Expected Stock Returns? - Sensitivity Analyses
This figure reports the fractions of times a particular framework best explains the cross-section of expected stock returns. The analyses are identical to those in Panel A of Table 2, except that we vary our wordlists. Specifically, we examine for each of the five most frequently used safety words, each of the five most frequently exuberance words and each of the five most frequently used lottery words whether its removal changes our conclusion. We plot the results for the 15 variations of our wordlists.

Analyst Reports


Fraction of Times Investors' Rationale for Buying
Short-Leg Securities Consistent With


Online Appendix Table A1
Descriptive Statistics Regarding Institutional Investors Survey Participants
This table reports the responses to the institutional investors background questions displayed in Online Appendix Figure A1.

|  | Number [Fraction] of Institutional Investors |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| QAge |  |  |
| $25-34$ | 2 | $[2 \%]$ |
| $35-44$ | 20 | $[20 \%]$ |
| $45-54$ | 29 | $[29 \%]$ |
| $55-64$ | 35 | $[35 \%]$ |
| $65+$ | 13 | $[13 \%]$ |
| Prefer not to say | 1 | $[1 \%]$ |
| QGender |  |  |
| Female | 10 | $[10 \%]$ |
| Male | 87 | $[87 \%]$ |
| I prefer not to say | 3 | $[3 \%]$ |
| QExperience |  |  |
| < 10 years | 3 | $[3 \%]$ |
| $10-19$ years | 28 | $[28 \%]$ |
| $20-29$ years | 50 | $[50 \%]$ |
| 30 years + | 19 | $[19 \%]$ |
| QAmount |  |  |
| $\$ 10$ million to $\$ 99.9$ million | 19 | $[19 \%]$ |
| $\$ 100$ million to $\$ 249.9$ million | 25 | $[25 \%]$ |
| $\$ 250$ million to $\$ 999.9$ million | 15 | $[15 \%]$ |
| $\$ 1$ billion to $\$ 2.49$ billion | 7 | $[7 \%]$ |
| $\$ 2.5$ billion | 34 | $[34 \%]$ |

Descriptive Statistics Regarding Retail Investors Survey Participants
This table reports the responses to the retail investors background questions displayed in Online Appendix Figure A2.

|  | Number [Fraction] of Retail Investors |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| QAge |  |  |
| 21-29 | 68 | [22.4\%] |
| 30-44 | 139 | [45.9\%] |
| 45-59 | 63 | [20.8\%] |
| 60 or more | 32 | [10.6\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 1 | [0.3\%] |
| Qgender |  |  |
| Female | 93 | [30.7\%] |
| Male | 210 | [69.3\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 0 | [0\%] |
| Qexperience |  |  |
| Novice investor | 118 | [38.9\%] |
| Investor with intermediate experience | 178 | [58.7\%] |
| Professional investor | 7 | [2.3\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 0 | [0\%] |
| Qamount |  |  |
| Less than \$500 | 24 | [7.9\%] |
| \$500 to \$2,000 | 18 | [5.9\%] |
| \$2,001 to \$10,000 | 33 | [10.9\%] |
| \$10,001 to \$25,000 | 45 | [14.9\%] |
| \$25,001 to \$100,000 | 66 | [21.8\%] |
| \$100,001 to \$300,000 | 55 | [18.2\%] |
| \$300,001 to \$500,000 | 20 | [6.6\%] |
| \$500,001 to \$1,000,000 | 18 | [5.9\%] |
| More than \$1,000,000 | 14 | [4.6\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 10 | [3.3\%] |
| Qattention |  |  |
| About every day | 79 | [26.1\%] |
| About once a week | 109 | [36.0\%] |
| About once a month | 78 | [25.7\%] |
| About once every three months | 25 | [8.3\%] |
| About once a year | 3 | [1.0\%] |
| Less frequently than once a year | 5 | [1.7\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 4 | [1.3\%] |
| Qinteractions |  |  |
| About every day | 20 | [6.6\%] |
| About once a week | 87 | [28.7\%] |
| About once a month | 97 | [32.0\%] |
| About once every three months | 43 | [14.2\%] |
| About once a year | 18 | [5.9\%] |
| Less frequently than once a year | 24 | [7.9\%] |
| Never | 13 | [4.3\%] |
| I prefer not to say | 1 | [0.3\%] |

Online Appendix Table A3
Which Framework Best Explains the Cross-Section of Expected Stock Returns? - Evidence by Firm Characteristic
This table reports the results from Panel A in Table 2 separately for each of the 181 firm characteristics. For each of 181 firm characteristics, we compute the average Safety [\%], Exuberance [\%], and Lottery [\%] across the buy recommendations of short-leg securities; we also compute the average fractions across the buy recommendations written on all other stocks. We then compute the difference between the former and the latter (on a relative basis) and test whether the difference is positive and statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level. We report the relative difference and the corresponding $t$-statistic in parentheses if the difference is positive and statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level. We bold the difference that is the largest economically speaking. An empty cell implies that the difference is not positive and statistically significant at the $5 \%$ level.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety Words? | Exub W | rance ds? |  | ry <br> ds? |
| 5-Yr. Growth in Number of Shares |  | 2\% | (5.16) | 3\% | (7.22) |  |  |  |  |  |
| 52-Week High |  |  |  | 13\% | (20.71) |  |  |  | 18\% | (10.43) |
| $\Delta$ Asset Turnover |  | 8\% | (16.21) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\Delta$ Current Op. Assets |  | 13\% | (30.17) | 6\% | (11.41) |  | 6\% | (4.45) |  |  |
| $\Delta$ Current Op. Liabilities |  | 13\% | (32.38) | 7\% | (15.50) |  |  |  | 4\% | (2.53) |
| $\Delta$ Deferred Revenue to Assets |  |  |  | 17\% | (17.62) |  |  |  | 24\% | (7.75) |
| $\Delta$ Equity to Assets |  |  |  | 18\% | (38.88) |  |  |  | 12\% | (8.33) |
| $\Delta$ Financial Liabilities |  |  |  | 9\% | (18.91) |  |  |  | 4\% | (2.60) |
| $\Delta$ Long-term Investment | 9\% (10 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\Delta$ Net Financial Assets |  |  |  | 14\% | (28.28) |  |  |  | 10\% | (5.94) |
| $\Delta$ Net Noncurrent Op. Assets |  | 4\% | (9.38) | 8\% | (15.02) |  |  |  | 8\% | (4.80) |
| $\Delta$ Net Op. Assets |  | 2\% | (4.66) | 8\% | (16.42) |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\Delta$ Net Working Capital |  |  |  |  | (15.36) |  |  |  | 13\% | (7.11) |
| $\triangle$ PPE \& Inventory to Total Assets |  |  |  | 7\% | (12.26) |  |  |  |  |  |
| $\Delta$ Tax to Total Assets |  |  |  | 4\% | (8.68) |  |  |  | 3\% | (2.28) |
| Abnormal Accruals |  |  |  | 10\% | (14.08) |  |  |  | 13\% | (6.59) |
| Accruals |  |  |  | 7\% | (10.79) |  |  |  | 12\% | (6.16) |
| Active Shareholders |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety <br> Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery <br> Words? |  | Safety <br> Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery <br> Words? |  |
| Advertising Expense |  |  | 16\% | (28.61) | 13\% | (17.45) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (4.17) |
| Advertising Expense to Brand Capital |  |  |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (4.11) |  |  |  |  |
| Analyst Consensus Forecast |  |  |  |  | 40\% | (67.83) |  |  |  |  | 33\% | (16.51) |
| Analyst EPS Forecast Dispersion |  |  |  |  | 12\% | (16.49) |  |  |  |  | 17\% | (7.16) |
| Analyst EPS Forecast Revision |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (3.38) |
| Analyst Forcast on EPS |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Analyst Optimism |  |  | 6\% | (12.95) | 6\% | (10.31) |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (2.90) |
| Analysts Consensus Ratings of the Mkt. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Annual Sales to Mkt. Value |  |  |  |  | 42\% | (81.25) |  |  |  |  | 41\% | (22.09) |
| Asset Growth |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (32.72) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (6.65) |
| Asset Tangibility | $3 \%$ | (3.05) | 8\% | (14.85) |  |  | 7\% | (2.02) |  |  |  |  |
| Average Earn. Growth |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Average Earn. Growth |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (8.44) |  |  |  |  | 19\% | (5.93) |
| Average Earn. Surprise of Big Firms |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bid-Ask Spread |  |  | 6\% | (3.73) |  |  | 34\% | (2.29) |  |  |  |  |
| Book Leverage | 36\% | (32.59) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Book-to-Mkt. Ratio |  |  | 5\% | (14.36) | 14\% | (31.65) |  |  |  |  | 7\% | (5.51) |
| Book-to-Mkt. Ratio (most recent Mkt.) |  |  | 17\% | (50.50) | 17\% | (41.65) |  |  | 6\% | (5.26) | 3\% | (2.63) |
| CAPM Beta |  | (5.06) |  |  |  |  | 40\% | (6.54) |  |  | 9\% | (2.99) |
| CAPX to Revenue |  |  |  |  | 2\% | (2.87) |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (4.80) |
| Cash Flow to Price Variance |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (9.33) |  |  |  |  | 11\% | (5.10) |
| Cash to Assets |  |  |  |  | 1\% | (2.48) | 13\% | (3.60) |  |  |  |  |
| Cash-based Op. Profitability |  |  |  |  | 25\% | (32.80) |  |  |  |  | 36\% | (15.00) |
| Convertible Debt Indicator |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (19.61) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Coskewness Using Daily Ret. |  |  |  |  | 3\% | (4.36) |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (3.57) |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Coskewness Using Monthly Ret. |  |  |  | 6\% | (10.50) |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (5.30) |
| Credit Rating Downgrade |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Customer/Supplier Momentum |  | 3\% | (2.51) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Earn. Forcast to Stock Price |  |  |  | 7\% | (4.32) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (2.06) |
| Earn.-to-Price Ratio |  | 13\% | (27.48) | 10\% | (16.32) |  |  | 6\% | (3.38) | 10\% | (4.81) |
| Economic Link Momentum |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Efficient Frontier Index |  | 15\% | (36.05) | 7\% | (13.95) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enterprise Component of Book-to-Mkt. | 4\% (5.13) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Enterprise Multiple |  | 20\% | (45.41) | 11\% | (20.72) |  |  | 7\% | (5.05) | 8\% | (4.70) |
| Equity Duration |  |  |  | 31\% | (43.80) |  |  |  |  | 31\% | (15.28) |
| Exchange Switch |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Excluded Expenses |  |  |  | 4\% | (7.86) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Firm Age |  |  |  | 6\% | (10.28) | 10\% | (3.41) |  |  |  |  |
| First Month When Consistent Div. Payers Fail to Pay Div. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Frazzini-Pedersen Beta |  |  |  |  |  | 51\% | (4.59) |  |  | 17\% | (2.94) |
| Fundamental Value-to-Mkt. Value |  |  |  | 34\% | (43.74) |  |  |  |  | 32\% | (12.02) |
| GIM Governance Index |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gross Profits to Total Assets |  |  |  | 43\% | (68.73) |  |  |  |  | 49\% | (23.03) |
| Gross Profits with R\&D Adjusted |  |  |  | 29\% | (33.98) |  |  |  |  | 31\% | (12.55) |
| Growth CAPEX Over Ind. CAPEX Growth |  |  |  | 3\% | (5.30) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (5.05) |
| Growth CAPEX Over Past Three Yrs. |  |  |  | 8\% | (14.65) |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (4.94) |
| Growth CAPEX Over Past Two Yrs. |  |  |  | 13\% | (21.98) |  |  |  |  | 17\% | (8.80) |
| Growth in Advertising Expenses |  | 8\% | (12.54) | 7\% | (8.66) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (3.89) |
| Growth in Book Equity |  |  |  | 13\% | (27.94) |  |  |  |  | 7\% | (4.97) |
| Growth in Long-term Op. Assets |  |  |  | 12\% | (21.26) |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (8.00) |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Growth in Number of Employees |  | 2\% | (4.40) | 9\% | (21.21) |  |  |  | 6\% | (4.68) |
| Growth in Number of Shares |  |  |  | 11\% | (23.05) |  |  |  | 19\% | (10.66) |
| Growth in Order Backlog to Total Assets |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (2.04) |
| Growth of Liabilities |  | 5\% | (11.29) | 10\% | (17.05) |  |  |  | 6\% | (3.09) |
| Growth of Mkt. Value Over Stock Ret. |  |  |  | 17\% | (26.88) |  |  |  | 25\% | (11.53) |
| IPO Age |  |  |  | 8\% | (2.50) |  |  |  |  |  |
| IPO and No R\&D Expenses |  | 19\% | (11.46) |  |  |  | 41\% | (6.18) |  |  |
| Idio. Risk Based on CAPM |  |  |  | 19\% | (35.68) |  |  |  | 26\% | (16.44) |
| Idio. Risk Based on CAPM Past Daily Data |  |  |  | 32\% | (46.51) |  |  |  | 37\% | (19.18) |
| Idio. Risk Based on FF3 |  |  |  | 20\% | (36.98) |  |  |  | 28\% | (17.42) |
| Idio. Skewness Based on FF3 |  | 12\% | (36.80) | 6\% | (14.51) |  |  |  | 5\% | (3.83) |
| Illiquidity | 6\% (12.51) | 4\% | (15.24) |  |  |  | 3\% | (3.95) |  |  |
| Implied Volatility Smirk |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 18\% | (5.44) |
| Inc. Taxes to Tax Share of Net Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ind. Concentration Based on Assets |  |  | (19.66) |  |  |  | 9\% | (5.92) |  |  |
| Ind. Concentration Based on Book Value |  | 10\% | (21.70) |  |  |  | 5\% | (3.41) |  |  |
| Ind. Concentration Based on Revenues |  |  | (21.59) |  |  |  | 8\% | (5.81) |  |  |
| Ind. Momentum |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ind. Ret. of Big Firms |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicator of Initial Public Offerings |  | 9\% | (21.80) | 13\% | (26.27) |  | 9\% | (5.85) | 18\% | (9.25) |
| Inst. Ownership Among Highly Shorted Stocks |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inst. Ownership and Forecast Dispersion |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inst. Ownership and Idio. Volatility |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inst. Ownership and Mkt. to Book |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inst. Ownership and Turnover |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety <br> Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Intangible Ret. Using Book-to-Mkt. |  |  | 19\% | (46.88) | 17\% | (34.07) |  | 11\% | (8.52) | 4\% | (2.51) |
| Intangible Ret. Using Earn. to Mkt. Value |  |  | 18\% | (40.41) | 14\% | (26.30) |  |  |  | 5\% | (2.98) |
| Intangible Ret. Using Net Inc. to Mkt. Value |  |  | 19\% | (42.27) | 13\% | (23.89) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Intangible Ret. Using Sales to Mkt. Value |  |  | 24\% | (60.3) | 12\% | (25.30) |  | 14\% | (11.05) |  |  |
| Intermediate Momentum |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (20.13) |  |  |  | 24\% | (11.45) |
| Inventory Growth |  |  | 5\% | (16.67) | 6\% | (17.29) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Inverse Stock Price | 3\% | (4.81) | 16\% | (56.34) | 4\% | (11.71) |  | 9\% | (10.01) |  |  |
| Junk Stock Momentum |  |  |  |  | 2\% | (2.19) |  |  |  | 11\% | (4.13) |
| Lagged 2-month Trading Volume | 3\% | (6.86) | 3\% | (13.96) |  |  |  | 3\% | (3.83) |  |  |
| Leverage Component of Book-to-Mkt. | 5\% | (4.88) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Long-run Reversal |  |  | 10\% | (27.98) | 9\% | (19.61) |  | 4\% | (3.48) |  |  |
| Long-term EPS Forecast |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (13.91) |  |  |  | 10\% | (4.88) |
| Maximum Ret. over Previous Month |  |  |  |  | 18\% | (37.66) |  |  |  | 25\% | (15.93) |
| Median EPS Forcast to Stock Price |  |  |  |  | 49\% | (37.05) |  |  |  | 28\% | (7.55) |
| Medium-run Reversal |  |  | 4\% | (9.37) | 12\% | (23.60) |  |  |  | 8\% | (5.11) |
| Mkt. Leverage |  |  | 12\% | (32.30) | 21\% | (45.87) |  |  |  | 18\% | (12.03) |
| Mkt. Value to Liquid Assets |  |  | 23\% | (66.37) | 8\% | (21.25) |  | 16\% | (13.16) |  |  |
| Mohanram G-score |  |  |  |  | 3\% | (3.13) |  | 16\% | (5.09) | 11\% | (2.95) |
| Momentum (12-Month) |  |  |  |  | 12\% | (14.95) |  |  |  | 16\% | (8.11) |
| Momentum (6-Month) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (13.64) |  |  |  | 13\% | (7.17) |
| Momentum Based on FF3 Residuals |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Momentum Filtered by Firm Age |  |  |  |  | 5\% | (3.43) |  |  |  |  |  |
| Momentum in High Volume Stocks |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (6.90) |  |  |  | 11\% | (4.91) |
| Monthly Trading Volume Trend |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (17.43) |  |  |  | 23\% | (11.70) |
| Net Debt Financing |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (15.17) |  | 4\% | (2.62) | 3\% | (1.98) |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Net Debt to Mkt. Value |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Equity Financing |  |  |  | 32\% | (56.76) |  |  |  |  | 32\% | (17.22) |
| Net External Financing |  |  |  | 32\% | (60.38) |  |  |  |  | 39\% | (20.29) |
| Net Inc. to Book Equity |  |  |  | 29\% | (48.98) |  |  |  |  | 30\% | (16.10) |
| Net Mkt. Cash Inflow |  |  |  | 27\% | (30.79) |  |  |  |  | 30\% | (12.15) |
| Net Op. Assets |  |  |  | 7\% | (12.76) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Net Payout Yield |  |  |  | 26\% | (36.22) |  |  |  |  | 41\% | (15.48) |
| Normalized $\Delta$ Revenue Per Share |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Number of No Trade Days (Monthly) |  |  |  | 7\% | (28.55) |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (10.92) |
| Numer of Inst. Owners |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| O Score |  |  |  | 35\% | (39.17) |  |  |  |  | 59\% | (19.71) |
| Off-season Momentum |  |  |  | 7\% | (10.48) |  |  |  |  | 12\% | (6.69) |
| Off-season Reversal Yrs. 11-15 |  | 5\% | (10.60) | 8\% | (13.29) |  |  |  |  | 4\% | (2.06) |
| Off-season Reversal Yrs. 16-20 |  | 9\% | (14.33) | 8\% | (11.95) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Off-season Reversal Yrs. 2-5 |  | 4\% | (10.67) | 15\% | (33.37) |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (6.66) |
| Off-season Reversal Yrs. 6-10 |  |  |  | 14\% | (25.87) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Op. Accruals to \|Inc. Before Extraord. Items| |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Op. Cash Flow to Mkt. Value |  |  |  | 27\% | (33.38) |  |  |  |  | 33\% | (13.74) |
| Op. Leverage | 53\% (39.76) |  |  |  |  | 27\% | (5.90) |  |  |  |  |
| Op. Profits to Book Equity |  |  |  | 18\% | (29.63) |  |  |  |  | 21\% | (9.36) |
| Option Volume to Average |  | 3\% | (5.44) |  |  | 12\% | (2.88) | 5\% | (2.33) | 11\% | (4.58) |
| Option Volume to Stock Trading Volume |  | 2\% | (5.31) | 2\% | (6.29) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Order Backlog to Average Total Assets |  |  |  | 7\% | (6.30) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Organizational Capital |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (4.15) |  |  |
| Pastor-Stambaugh Liquidity Beta |  |  |  | 11\% | (20.36) |  |  |  |  | 19\% | (11.23) |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety <br> Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Payout Yield |  |  |  |  | 11\% | (16.14) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (4.08) |
| Pension Funding Status |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Piotroski F-score |  |  |  |  | 11\% | (3.39) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Predicted Analyst Earn.' Forecast Errors |  |  | 11\% | (16.71) | 13\% | (15.23) |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (5.07) |
| Price delay Coefficient |  |  | 4\% | (9.92) | 4\% | (8.23) |  |  | 5\% | (3.42) | 5\% | (3.15) |
| Price delay R-Square | 11\% | (12.89) | $2 \%$ | (5.89) |  |  | 16\% | (4.51) | 7\% | (4.32) |  |  |
| Price delay with Standard Error Adjusted |  |  |  |  | 3\% | (6.12) |  |  | 3\% | (2.41) | 4\% | (2.52) |
| Put Volatility Minus Call Volatility |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (7.94) |  |  |  |  | 21\% | (9.37) |
| R\&D Ability | 37\% | (11.51) | 25\% | (15.53) |  |  |  |  | 17\% | (3.33) |  |  |
| R\&D Expense to Mkt. Value | 3\% | (3.13) | 5\% | (11.74) |  |  |  |  | 17\% | (11.73) |  |  |
| Real Dirty Surplus | 2\% | (2.53) | 2\% | (7.39) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Real Estate Holdings |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (10.53) |  |  |  |  | 20\% | (7.27) |
| Ret. On Assets |  |  |  |  | 42\% | (66.17) |  |  |  |  | 51\% | (24.04) |
| Ret. Over Earn. Announcement Period |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 7\% | (4.64) |
| Ret. Seasonality Over Last Yr. |  |  |  |  | 16\% | (24.50) |  |  |  |  | 19\% | (9.47) |
| Ret. Seasonality Over Past 11-15 Yrs. |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (14.30) |  |  |  |  | 12\% | (5.55) |
| Ret. Seasonality Over Past 16-20 Yrs. |  |  | 4\% | (5.95) | 11\% | (13.79) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (3.88) |
| Ret. Seasonality Over Past 2-5 Yrs. |  |  |  |  | 14\% | (21.04) |  |  |  |  | 22\% | (10.29) |
| Ret. Seasonality Over Past 6-10 Yrs. |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (11.86) |  |  |  |  | 14\% | (6.32) |
| Ret. Skewness |  |  | 10\% | (29.64) | 8\% | (19.04) |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (5.84) |
| Ret. of Non-Conglomerates to Total Assets of Conglomerates |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Revenue Growth Rank |  |  | 6\% | (15.24) | 11\% | (21.45) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rolling Std. Dev. of Trading Volume |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sales Growth Over Inventory Growth |  |  |  |  | 3\% | (5.02) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sales Growth Over Overhead Growth |  |  |  |  | 16\% | (21.43) |  |  |  |  | 12\% | (5.79) |

Online Appendix Table A3. Continued.

| Firm Characteristic | Do Sell-Side Analyst Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  | Do Seeking Alpha Buy Recommendations of ShortLeg Securities Disproportionately Frequently Use |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  | Safety Words? |  | Exuberance Words? |  | Lottery Words? |  |
| Share Turnover Volatility |  |  |  |  | 28\% | (18.54) |  |  |  |  | 13\% | (3.78) |
| Short Interest to Shares Outstanding |  |  |  |  | 11\% | (24.10) |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (7.51) |
| Short-Term Reversal |  |  |  |  | 14\% | (29.32) |  |  |  |  | 13\% | (8.95) |
| Size | 7\% | (14.65) | 5\% | (19.34) |  |  |  |  | 3\% | (3.97) |  |  |
| Streaks in Earn. Surprise |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (11.29) |  |  |  |  | 24\% | (8.72) |
| Suppliers Momentum |  |  |  |  | 4\% | (3.21) |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Systematic Risk Volatility |  |  |  |  | 7\% | (15.61) |  |  |  |  | 10\% | (6.88) |
| Tail Risk Beta |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (10.09) | 29\% | (8.37) |  |  |  |  |
| Takeover Vulnerability | 28\% | (2.61) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Total Accruals |  |  |  |  | 15\% | (31.00) |  |  |  |  | 8\% | (5.38) |
| Total Accruals to Absolute Net Inc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | 6\% | (3.12) |
| Total Assets to Mkt. Value |  |  | 17\% | (52.72) | 20\% | (49.78) |  |  | 7\% | (6.19) | 11\% | (8.72) |
| Volume to Mkt. Equity |  |  |  |  |  | (8.97) |  |  |  |  | 9\% | (6.40) |

Online Appendix Table A4
Which Framework Best Explains the Cross-Section of Expected Stock Returns?

- Non-Traditional Preferences or Exuberance?

This table reports the fractions of times the non-traditional preferences framework best explains the cross-section of expected stock returns. The analyses are identical to those in Panel A of Table 2, except that we now remove stocks whose past one-month returns are in the top $10 \%$, top $20 \%$, or top $50 \%$ of their respective distributions.

Fraction of Times Investors' Rationale for Buying ShortLeg Securities Consistent With [Most Consistent With] The Non-Traditional Preferences Framework

| Excluding stocks whose past one-month returns are $\ldots$ | Sell-Side Analyst Reports | Seeking Alpha Articles |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| in the top $10 \%$ | $68 \%$ | $56 \%$ |
|  | $[58 \%]$ | $[55 \%]$ |
| in the top $20 \%$ | $68 \%$ | $56 \%$ |
|  | $[58 \%]$ | $[54 \%]$ |
| in the top $50 \%$ | $67 \%$ | $55 \%$ |
|  | $[57 \%]$ | $[52 \%]$ |

Online Appendix Table A5
Which Framework Best Explains the Cross-Section of Expected Stock Returns?

- Bearish Recommendations for Long-Leg Securities

This table reports the fractions of times a particular framework best explains the cross-section of expected stock returns. The analyses are identical to those in Panel A of Table 2, except that we now compute the fractions of negated safety words, negated exuberance words and negated lottery words and test whether these negated words appear unusually often in the sell or hold recommendations for long-leg securities compared with the sell or hold recommendations for non-long-leg securities.

|  | Fraction of Times Investors' Rationale for NOT Buying <br> Long-Leg Securities Consistent With <br> [Most Consistent With] |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Irrational |  |  | Non-Traditional |
|  | Risk | Beliefs | Preferences | Inconclusive |
|  | Framework | Framework | Framework |  |
| Sell-Side Analyst Reports | $3 \%$ | $7 \%$ | $10 \%$ | $88 \%$ |
| Seeking Alpha Articles | $[3 \%]$ | $[7 \%]$ | $[9 \%]$ |  |
|  | $1 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $0 \%$ | $99 \%$ |
|  | $[1 \%]$ | $[0 \%]$ | $[0 \%]$ |  |

## Online Appendix Table A6

Do Analyst and SA Views Reflect Views of the General Investor Population?
This table reports results from regressions of buy-sell order imbalances and DGTW-adjusted stock returns on the tones of sell-side analyst reports and articles published on Seeking Alpha. The buy-sell order imbalances metric captures the net difference between the number of buy orders and sell orders executed for a particular stock within a single trading day. The DGTW-adjusted stock returns are calculated as the deviation between a given stock's raw return on a specific day and the return on a value-weighted portfolio of firms of similar size, book-to-market ratios, and past returns (Daniel, Grinblatt, Titman, and Wermers, 1997). Our sample encompasses $11,693,615$ stock/day observations for the buy-sell order imbalances and 12,044,943 stock/day observations for the DGTW-adjusted stock returns. These observations span the time period from January 2006 through October 2021. To construct Tone Sell-Side Analysts, we compute for each stock, at the end of each day, the average tone across all sell-side analyst reports published on the corresponding stock on the corresponding day. Tone is the number of positive words in the report minus the number of negative words divided by the total number of words in the report. We account for negation. To construct Tone Seeking Alpha, we compute for each stock, at the end of each day, the average tone across all Seeking Alpha articles published on the corresponding stock on the corresponding day. Sentiment Dow Jones Newswires is the average composite sentiment score ("CSS") in RavenPack across Dow Jones Newswires on the corresponding stock on the corresponding day. We also construct $I_{\text {Sell-side Analysts, }}, I_{\text {Seeking Alpha, }}$ and $I_{\text {Dow Jones Newswires }}$, which equal one if there are sell-side analyst reports, Seeking Alpha articles and Dow Jones Newswires published on the corresponding stock on the corresponding day, respectively. Tone Sell-Side Analysts, Tone Seeking Alpha, and Sentiment Dow Jones Newswires are set to zero when there are no sell-side analyst reports, no Seeking Alpha articles, and no Dow Jones Newswire published on the corresponding stock on the corresponding day, respectively. $T$-statistics are reported in parentheses and are based on standard errors adjusted for heteroscedasticity and clustered by day. ${ }^{*},{ }^{* *}$, and ${ }^{* * *}$ denote statistical significance at the $10 \%, 5 \%$ and $1 \%$ levels, respectively.

|  | Buy-Sell Order Imbalances |  |  | DGTW-Adjusted Stock Returns |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | (1) | (2) | (3) | (4) | (5) | (6) |
| Tone Sell-Side Analysts | $\begin{gathered} \hline 0.211^{* * *} \\ (7.88) \end{gathered}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 0.210^{* * *} \\ & (7.86) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 0.443 * * * \\ & (57.63) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & \hline 0.441^{* * *} \\ & (57.49) \end{aligned}$ |
| Tone Seeking Alpha |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.217 * * * \\ & (4.53) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.216 * * * \\ & (4.51) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.234 * * * \\ & (16.86) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.212 * * * \\ & (15.35) \end{aligned}$ |
| Sentiment Dow Jones Newswires | $\begin{aligned} & 0.059 * * * \\ & (13.08) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.060 * * * \\ & (13.21) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.059 * * * \\ & (13.08) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.043 * * * \\ & (55.65) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.044 * * * \\ & (55.95) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.043 * * * \\ & (55.63) \end{aligned}$ |
| $I_{\text {Sell-Side Analysts }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.020 * * * \\ & (30.96) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.020 * * * \\ & (30.91) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.001^{* * *} \\ & (6.71) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.001^{* * *} \\ & (6.76) \end{aligned}$ |
| $I_{\text {Seeking Alpha }}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.014 * * * \\ & (15.59) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.011 * * * \\ & (12.99) \end{aligned}$ |  | $\begin{aligned} & 0.000 \\ & (1.13) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.000 \\ & (0.84) \end{aligned}$ |
| $I_{\text {Dow Jones Newswires }}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.023 * * * \\ & (20.71) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.024 * * * \\ & (22.08) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.023 * * * \\ & (20.61) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.001^{* * *} \\ & (14.48) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.001 * * * \\ & (15.01) \end{aligned}$ | $\begin{aligned} & 0.001 * * * \\ & (14.51) \end{aligned}$ |
| \# Obs. | 11,693,615 | 11,693,615 | 11,693,615 | 12,044,943 | 12,044,943 | 12,044,943 |
| Adj. $R^{2}$ | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.001 | 0.002 | 0.001 | 0.002 |

