

Relation between DOL, DFL and DTL with systematic riskSeyed Habib Musavi¹, Iman Zare²¹. Department of Economic, Arak Branch Islamic Azad University, Arak, Iran²Department of Accounting, khomein Branch, Islamic Azad University, khomein, Iraniman.accounting@yahoo.com

Abstract: Accounting plays an important role in economical system. Precise decision-making is inevitable by individuals, companies, government, etc for proper distribution and efficiency of financial resources. To make such decisions, decision-makers must have reliable information. In fact, the goal of accounting is to help these decision-makers. On the other hand, investment is essential in growth process and economical development of country. In this study, a number of accounting variables such as accounting profit, degree of operating leverage (DOL), degree of financial leverage (DFL) and degree of total leverage (DTL) were selected as symbols of accounting information. Then their relation with systematic risk of those companies accepted in Tehran Stock Exchange was investigated. In this research, a sample including 98 companies accepted in Tehran Stock Exchange were selected during a 6 years period (2005-2011). Regarding to nature and method, this is correlation research. In order to test the assumptions, linear regression was used and in order to test correlation of variables, p-value test was used. The results showed that there is a direct relation between accounting profit and DFL with systematic risk by 90% confident level. Also, there is not a significant relation between DOL and DTL with systematic risk.

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1. Introduction

investment is essential in growth process and economical development of country. [5].

Risk and return are among the effective factors on investment. The role of risk and return in investment is similar to the role of supply and demand in pricing goods. Theoretically, risk means a potential and measurable loss in investment. Up to 1950s, "risk" was a qualitative factor. But, it became quantitative by efforts of Harry Markowitz. Also, deviation of cash flows of investment plans in different economical, social, and political conditions was introduced as "risk measure" [16].

Effect of an investment risk to total investment risk requires calculation of "covariance" and "correlation coefficient", which complicated calculations. Then, William Sharp offered a simple and applicable model to investment world by getting the coefficient as risk criterion [3].

Using current theories and methods and theorizing requires production information in accounting system, which undoubtedly, would be got hardly in the new investment market of our country. For this reason, recognition of relation between market risk and accounting information is very important. Other studies imply relation between accounting ratios and market risk. They propose using accounting ratios to anticipate beta of securities [1].

2. International and local researches

Namazi and Khajavi studied profitability of accounting variables to anticipate systematic risk of companies accepted in Tehran Securities Bourse. The results showed that there is a relation between accounting variables and risk, and these variables are effective for anticipation of systematic risk. The most important application of the results of this study was evaluation of companies out of bourse and new comers. According to the results, this pattern can be used to determine expected return rate (discount rate), so that first systematic risk index of a company is identified by model coefficients and variable value, then this index and other variables are used to obtain expected return rate to find a base for evaluation of stocks price of the company [12].

Investment in order to maximize profit requires anticipation of stocks market and selection of a suitable portfolio. According to the model offered by Sharp, Fisher, one of the important factors that cause changes in stocks return and will not minimize by diversification of portfolio is systematic risk. Therefore, anticipation of systematic risk plays an important role in anticipation of stocks return and maximization of profits of stockholders. Systematic risk stems from a set of economical factors such as money supply, inflation, industry strategy, etc and affects on all active companies in market [11].

Iman zare suggested that DFL and DOL describe a large part of systematic risk changes directly and positively.(zare, 2011) [2]. Also,

Haffman suggested that systematic risk has a direct relation with DFL and a reverse relation with DOL. Thus, in this study, we investigate relation between accounting profit and operational, financial, and DTLs to find a suitable model for decision-making of investors. According to pricing model of investment asset, it is assumed that systematic risk is one of the factors that vibrates return [7]. In a research titled "Study of effect of investment structure on systematic risk", Ghalibaf Asl studied relation between financial leverage and systematic risk. The results showed that financial leverage affect systematic risk directly, namely, by increment of financial leverage (debit), systematic risk increases, too [9].

In a research titled "Effect of operational and financial leverages and company size on systematic risk", Ahmadpour and Namazi studied it in companies accepted in Tehran Securities Bourse. The results showed that financial leverage affects systematic risk directly, namely, by increment of debit of companies, systematic risk increases, too. But, operational leverage does not affect systematic risk. On the other hand, company size affects systematic risk reversely, namely, by increment of assets of a company, systematic risk decreases [7].

DOL is degree of operating leverage, DFL is degree of financial leverage and DTL is degree of total leverage [8].

In a paper, Ahmad Ahmadpour and Reza Gholami Jamkarani studied relation between accounting information and market risk in companies accepted in Tehran Securities Bourse. The results show that some of independent variables including ratio of debit to stockholders' rights, ratio of current assets to current debits, and sum of index assets for evaluation of risk of companies have no relation to market risk of companies. In other words, history accounting information does not include price and risk of securities. Therefore, the previous results about market efficiency can be confirmed [6].

In an study titled "Relation between accounting profit and cash flow with systematic risk in Tehran Securities Bourse", Mollayi investigated the relation between accounting profit and operational cash flow with systematic risk. They concluded that accounting variables including accounting profit and operational cash flow have a positive relation with systematic risk. Also, accounting profit is more powerful in anticipation of systematic risk than operational cash flow [11].

Gholamali Ghorbani in his thesis studied the relation of DFL with systematic risk. He finally concluded that systematic risk increases by increment of financial leverage and there is a direct relation between them [10].

In a paper, Bowman studied the theoretical relation between systematic risk and financial variables. Financial variables used by Bowman were company leverage, accounting beta, profit changes, growth, company size, and profit-sharing policies. He showed that there was a systematic relation between company's leverage and accounting beta, and profit changes, growth, company size, and profit sharing cannot relate with systematic risk. He defined growth variable in two cases:

First, growth as investment in projects in which expected return is more than company's current return. Second, he suggested growth as opportunities for investment in projects that conclude additional return. Then he used these definitions to imply no relation between growth variable and systematic risk [13].

In a study, Brimble studied role of accounting information to estimate systematic risk. These accounting variables included accounting beta, profit changes, growth, size, profit payment ratio, current ratio, financial leverage, interest coverage ratio, and operational leverage. He used information of 123 companies during 1991-2000. His results showed that the above accounting variables clarify more than 57% of systematic risk changes [14].

Also, Robert K. Su and Chi-Chang Chiou, in a paper titled "Relation between systematic risk and accounting variables" suggested that the determinative factors of systematic risk are accounting profit, sale growth, book value, stocks profit, DOL, DFL, market return, and free risk. He offered 3 general results about systematic risk and accounting variables. First, for an economical unit with positive previous year income and current year sale rate, if compound effect of current book value, stocks profit, and its incomes are positive on stocks price, then DFL and DOL resulted from DTL have a positive effect on systematic risk. Second, when book value and incomes of stocks price are positive, and when stocks profit has a reverse effect on stocks price, then profit has a positive (reverse) effect on systematic risk. Third, for an economic unit, DOL related to DFL positively (reversely) by positive (reverse) sale growth [15].

Iman zare tried to use accounting information to anticipate payment disability, sale capability, purchase capability, and interest rate. Then they ranked debentures upon them. (zare, 2012) [4].

3. Hypothesis of research

main Hypothesis: There is a relation between degree of operating leverage (DOL), degree of financial leverage (DFL), or degree of total leverage (DTL) with systematic risk.

Sub-main assumption 1: There is a relation between DOL and systematic risk.

Sub-main assumption 2: There is a relation between DFL and systematic risk.

Sub-main assumption 3: There is a relation between DTL and systematic risk.

4. Method of research

Regarding to the goal of this research, this is an application research due to it is going to solve a problem. The goal of this research is identification a relation between operational, financial, and DTLs with systematic risk. Regarding to nature and method, this is correlation research, which studies the above relation by field study and experimental data.

Regarding to scientific scope and subject, this research is in management area and investment market area. It is especially in information area for DOL, DFL, DTL, and systematic risk. By location, the subject of research is in area of public joint-stock companies.

This research is for the early of 2006 to the end of 2011.

In this research, data was gathered from libraries including books, papers, and internal and external journals. Also, field study and experimental methods were used to test the assumptions.

Data was gathered from documents, databases, and observations. Data include return, accounting profits, interest costs, stocks numbers, and stocks prices of sample companies existing in financial information of audited financial statements. This data was extracted from records of Rahavard Novin Software, electronic archives, and internet. Also, Excel and SPSS were used to analyze and conclude from data.

5. Society and the statistical sample

Statistical society of this research includes all companies accepted in Tehran Securities Bourse (iran). The reason to select these companies is simplicity of access to their audited financial statements and their stocks returns in different times. Regarding to a five years period of this research (the early of 2006 to the end of 2011), those companies were selected that were members of Tehran Securities Bourse at least at early of 2000 and their financial year ended to March 20 (29 Esfand).

A sample of companies of the whole society based on statistics were selected under criteria:

1. At least at the beginning of the membership 2000 Tehran stock exchange.

2. The financial companies, leading to the history every year on March 29.

3. The shares of dealing with a maximum during six months have not been interrupted.

With regard to the above-mentioned cases about the election as an example and with regard to the samples available number of members of samples under study include 98 companies that their information for the year 2006 to 2011 and collect the test.

6. Data analysis and test of assumptions

In this research, Excel software was used to calculate dependent and independent variables. Linear regression was used to test assumptions. P-value (sig) by SPSS was used to test significance of correlation between variables. To better identification of research society and familiarity with research variables, data interpretation was done before data analysis. Also, data interpretation is a step to identify their pattern and a base to clarify relations between variables. This image includes indices to interpret the research variables. The indices include central index, dispersion index, and distribution form index.

Regarding to the above table, all variables can be examined by indices. For example, table 1 shows that variance of accounting return variable is 0.00418. It also shows the lowest and highest data and their distance. Regarding to output of SPSS software (the following table) and regarding to sig less or more than 10%, correlation of variables is confirmed or rejected. Also, the calculated correlation coefficient is effective and powerful for determination of correlation between variables and ranking. Table 2 shows the results of test of assumptions regarding to output of SPSS.(2010)

7. Conclusion

This research concluded that there is a direct relation between accounting variables including DOL, DFL, and DTL with systematic risk. Other variables have little correlation with systematic risk with confidence level of 90%.

Sum-main assumption 1: Regarding to rejection of sub-main assumption 1, there is no relation between DOL and systematic risk.

Sum-main assumption 2: Regarding to acceptance of sub-main assumption 2, there is a positive relation between DFL and systematic risk.

Sum-main assumption 3: Regarding to rejection of sub-main assumption 3, there is no relation between DTL and systematic risk. This research showed that between accounting variables including degree of operating leverage (DOL), degree of financial leverage (DFL) and degree of total leverage (DTL), Only DFL has, direct relationship with systematic risk.

Table 1: Variable indices: central index, dispersion index, and distribution form index

Variable Index	Risk (β)	DOL	DFL	DTL
Number	98	98	98	98
Average	0.3545290	3.5926480	0.6241404	6.6860055
Deviation error	0.00445	1.4131116	0.8195969	5.6262683
Median	0.1964953	0.9605778	1.0980765	1.0941366
Mode	-7.33773	0	1	0
Deviation	1.31317	41.68080	24.17463	165.9511
Variance	1.7244137	1737.289	584.4130	27539.76
Skewness	0.425	15.855	-29.134	17.707
Standard error of skewness coefficient	0.083	0.083	0.083	0.083
extension	4.595	293.458	855.955	473.033
Standard error of extension coefficient	0.166	0.166	0.166	0.166
Changes domain	14.17364	1017.7018	738.92577	5526374
Lowest	-7.33773	-132.042	-708.722	-1346.95
Highest	6.83591	885.65980	30.20377	4179.424
Total	308.44026	3125.604	543.00214	5816.825

Table 2: Results of test of assumptions

Statistical component assumption	Pierson corr.	Determina tion coeff.	Adjusted deter. coeff.	F	t	Error level	Significance level	Test result
Relation between DOL and sys. Risk	0.028	0.001	-0.002	0.312	0.558	0.577	10%	Rejected
Relation between DFL and sys. Risk	0.083	0.007	0.005	3.758	-1.930	0.053	10%	Confirmed
Relation between DTL and sys. Risk	0.031	0.001	-0.001	0.391	-0.625	0.532	10%	Rejected

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