Does One Size Fit All?

The Consequences of Switching Markets with Different Regulatory
Standards

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The paper An interesting event study

The paper

Presumption The two major determinants of an exchange are technology and regulation

Event Creation of AIM within London Stock Exchange

Effect Change in regulation with no change in technology

Observation Firms shifting from one market to the other

Hypothesis Firms moving down would be punished and up movers would be rewarded

*Stock exchanges with SEBI in India

Interesting Results There is a reward

Results for shifting

- In the short run prices fall, but in the long run there is a positive effect
- Earnings are lower in the years -2 to 0 of the shift
- Earnings increase after shifting

As expected, institutional holding went up slightly

For shifting up

There was not much change in long term earnings

Criticisms What if?

Criticisms

- Differences in regulatory treatment
- Need to compare firms before and after
- Investors are a major determinant of markets
- The up-shifters are small

Controlling

- Self selected for treatment
- Wider factors which affected the firm
- No control group

A matching methodology which observes firms with similar propensity scores could enrich the paper

Discussion Why is this important? Does one size fit all?

Laws are discrete, Reality a Continuum

No Market **Organised Market** Caveat Emptor Legal & Legal Institutional Proprietorship Private Company **Public Company** Public Listed Company Sole ownership Total separation of ownership & control No disclosure and Highest level of disclosure and governance governance

Markets

- Markets in economics are a continuum
- Markets in law are discrete

The regulatory spacee where exchanges are created is arbitrary standard defined by law

Implications

- Role of regulation v. monitoring
- Regulatory burden differentiation
- Corporate law

Suggestions This is a very interesting event

Looking forward

- Which companies shifted?
- What happened after 2007
- British corporate law, benefits to AIM