

**VALIDATING THE CAPITAL ASSET
PRICING MODEL AT IRISH STOCK
EXCHANGE**

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Submitted to the National College of Ireland, August 2017.

Abstract

The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) is one of the most popular application in finance since its development in the late '60s; it assumes that only one factor, the systematic risk, identified by the Greek letter beta, influences the required return on assets and that the relationship is positive and linear. Nowadays, it is still a discussed area in academic literature, especially for its idealistic assumptions, which are rejected by several empirical tests.

This study investigates the efficiency and the validity of the Capital Asset Pricing Model, at Irish Stock Exchange (ISE), for a sample of 25 companies, selected from the ISE database, during the period 2001-2011, which has been divided into three sub-periods, in order to examine the model pre, during and after the global financial crisis which occurred in 2007-2008.

The companies are then grouped in 110 semi-annually portfolios, of 5 stocks each, in descending order of beta. The methodology pursued, with the aim to clarify the linearity and positivity of the risk-return relationship, consists of a linear regression followed by a t-test of the intercept which showed a rejection of the model in all the three sub-periods, as the intercept was non-zero. However, despite the statistically non-significance of the CAPM, it emerged that during the crisis the co-movement risk-return is more evident and positive than in the other sub-periods (pre and post-crisis). Hence, the results suggest that there is more than one factor which explains the asset returns, and that the Capital Asset Pricing Model, itself is not a valid model in helping to predict the asset prices at Irish Stock Exchange.

The outcome of the study can be seen as a stimulus for further researches in this field, given the poor academic attention at the Capital Asset Pricing Model, in the Irish context and during the global financial crisis.

Keywords: Capital Asset Pricing Model, Irish Stock Exchange, Risk-Return Relationship, Linear-Regression, Global Financial Crisis.

Acknowledgements

At the end of this great experience at National College of Ireland I would like to thank my supervisor, Corina Sheerin, for her support, patience and guidance throughout the year, inspiring me with her extraordinary dedication.

I would also like to thank my family, with all my heart, for giving me this opportunity to study in Ireland and for believing in me, more than I do, every day.

Last but not least I would like to thank Antonio, for his lovely support and for making me face this challenge always with a smile.

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List of Abbreviations

Abbey Plc – **(DOY)**

Allied Irish Banks Plc – **(AIB1)**

Aminex Plc – **(DPO)**

Atlantic Security Market – **(ASM)**

Bank of Ireland Group Plc – **(BIRG)**

Capital Asset Pricing Model – **(CAPM)**

Consumption Capital Asset Pricing Model – **(CCAPM)**

CPL Resources Plc – **(DQ5)**

CRH Plc – **(CRG)**

Datalex Plc – **(DLE)**

Dhaka Stock Exchange – **(DSE)**

Diageo Plc – **(GUI)**

Donegal Investment Plc – **(DQ7)**

Efficient Market Hypothesis – **(EMH)**

Enterprise Security Market – **(ESM)**

FBD Holdings Plc – **(EG7)**

Fully Modified Ordinary Least Squares – **(FMOLS)**

Glanbia Plc – **(GL9)**

IFG Group Plc – **(IJG)**

Independent News & Media Plc – **(IPDC)**

Intertemporal Capital Asset Price – **(ICAPM)**

Irish Continental Group Plc – **(IR5B)**

Irish Stock Exchange – **(ISE)**

Kenmare Resources Plc – **(JEVA)**

Kerry Group Plc – **(KRZ)**

Kingspan Group Plc – **(KRX)**

Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange – **(KLSE)**

Main Security Market – **(MSM)**

New York Stock Exchange – **(NYSE)**

Nigerian Stock Exchange – **(NSE)**

Ordinary Least Squares – **(OLS)**

Ormonde Mining Plc – **(ORQ)**

Ovoca Gold Plc – **(OVXA)**

Paddy Power Betfair Plc – **(PPB)**

Permanent TSB Group Holdings Plc – **(IL0A)**

Providence Resources Plc – **(PZQA)**

Ryanair Holdings Plc – **(RY4C)**

Tesco Plc – **(TCO)**

Introduction

The Capital Asset Pricing Model, developed by Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965) and Mossin (1966), signs the origin of the Asset Pricing Theory, and it is known as one of the “*major contributions of academic research in the post-war era*” (Jagannathan and Wang, 1996, p. 4). After more than 50 years it is still applied in finance for portfolio evaluations and for estimations of the cost of capital (Graham and Harvey, 2001), despite the criticisms arose by several empirical tests.

The CAPM owes its popularity and broad use to the absence of alternatives capable to produce the same outcome to the model, albeit Sharpe (1964) recognised that the Capital Asset Pricing was characterised by highly limitative assumptions.

The model is defined as an equilibrium theory of risk and return on assets and, more specifically, it states that the required return on assets is only explained by the systematic risk, beta. Furthermore, the required return on asset is a premium added to the risk-free rate for compensating the whole risk borne by the potential investors (Srinivasan, 1988).

The criticism around the CAPM is due to its unrealistic assumptions as they simplify the financial world in an “idealistic” framework where investors are risk-averse and price-takers, all the information are available to all investors and there are no market imperfections (taxes, restriction on short-selling, regulations, etc.), risk-free assets permit the borrowing and lending of unlimited amounts, all the assets are divisible and marketable. Moreover, it assumes that the risk has to be assessed in relation to the market portfolio, which is difficult, in real life, to test properly, due to limitation of the proxies chosen (Roll, 1977; Fama and French, 2004); in fact, a market portfolio should comprehend other categories of assets rather than just common stocks (bonds, consumer durables, real estate, human capital, etc.), but the validation of the CAPM is limited to a single and narrow group of asset (stocks).

Numerous attempt have been made by researchers, over the years, as a remedy against the theoretical shortcomings of the model: Jensen, Black and Scholes (1972)

test the CAPM under two factors; Merton (1973) analyses the Intertemporal Capital Asset Price (ICAPM), where investors are interested not only in investing in the market but to consume and reinvest their wealth that changes through time; Fama and French (1992,1996) introduced a multi-factor model, denying the dependence of the returns on the systematic risk only; Jagannathan and Wang (1996) confirm the validity of the CAPM when it is applied a conditional form; Pettengill et al. (1995) introduce a model that considers bullish and bearish market conditions.

Other findings (Basu and Chawla, 2010; Lee, Chang and Chong, 2016; Obrimah, Alabi and Ugo-Harry, 2015) highlight a different performance of the model when it is applied in emerging markets (India, Malaysia, Nigeria), rather than developed countries, albeit there is no homogeneous consensus about its validity.

However, despite the large empirical evidence and efforts over time to improve the Capital Asset Pricing Model, by introducing or relaxing assumptions, little attention has been paid to its efficiency to predict the asset pricing, and in particular, its efficiency within the Irish market.

The study addresses the issue of the risk-return relationship, which, according to the theory of the model, should be positive and linear, as the systematic risk should be the only factor that affects the asset returns; the objective is, thus, to look at the model in a positivistic way and to validate it only if the mentioned relationship is positive and linear and the required return on asset is exhaustively explained by beta, the systematic risk.

The methodology applied follows the studies of Fama and MacBeth (1973); Basu and Chawla (2010); Hwang, Gao and Owen (2012); Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016), who examine the CAPM looking at the single relationship risk-return, rather than expanding it to a multi-factors model.

In particular, the analysis focus on a simple framework of linear regression and t-test of stocks traded at Irish Stock Exchange, during a period of time of 11 years, from 2001 to 2011, which are divided into 3 sub-periods, in order to observe the CAPM pre, during and post-financial crisis which occurred in 2007-2008.

The analysis developed has the purpose to give information about the validity of the CAPM in the Irish context, understanding, at the same time, the influence of the crisis in determining the asset prices.

Chapter 1. Literature Review

The Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) is considered, for more than 50 years, a gauge in modern finance in determining the returns of an asset. The following chapter examines the literature review related to the model, taking into account its evolution and the empirical results which brought many researches to refuse or accept its validity.

CAPM is still today object of studies, however it seems there is little evidence in testing the model in a positivistic way, that is studying the relationship between risk and return, which should be linear and positive and the systematic risk should be only explained by the parameter beta, β . Furthermore, the validation of the model is made by observing three periods of time: pre, during and post-crisis, which occurred in 2007-2008; the purpose of the study is to understand the effect of the recent financial collapse on CAPM, which is an issue that is not broadly discussed in literature.

The chapter has been structured in four sections: section 1.1 will commence with a discussion of the theoretical underpinnings of the CAPM, considering the Mean-Variance Efficient Portfolio Theory (Markowitz, 1952) as the foundation of the model, furthermore, in examining the assumptions underlying the model will be considered the efficient frontier in terms of investment opportunities; section 1.2 will critically analyse the evolution of the CAPM and the several versions of the model which propose a relaxation of the assumptions, judged incompatible within the real world; section 1.3 will discuss about empirical evidences across the world (emerging and developed countries); section 1.4 will introduce the purpose of the study by defining the research question.

1.1 The Capital Asset Pricing Model

In the 1950s the concept of Finance was revolutionized through Markowitz's (1952; 1959) Portfolio Theory, also known as Mean-Variance Efficient Portfolio Theory. Investors, risk averse by nature, according to this theory should look at

diversification of portfolios, rather than selection of investments by predicting the most profitable security. The mitigation of risk in the theory of portfolio choice occurs by diversification: it focuses on the efficient selection of the portfolios by the mean-variance analysis, which consist in maximisation of expected return, measured by the mean, given a certain level of risk, and minimization of risk, measured by variance, given a certain level of expected return.

Over the last 50 years' large attention has been paid to the impact of risk in financial transactions and how it can affect the prediction of capital asset prices in condition of uncertainty, where the investor's rational decision and the capital market behaviour are altered (Lintner, 1965).

During 1960s, Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965), Mossin (1966) derived the Capital Asset Pricing Model (CAPM) affirming that the process of price determination is characterized by a risk premium and that the price itself is adjusted in relation to it. The model states that the relationship between the risk, expressed by β , the systematic risk of any specific asset, and the expected returns is positive and linear. The CAPM is rooted within the Markowitz's (1952) model with the purpose of estimating the relationship between risk and expected return that gives an efficient portfolio if the market of all assets is mirrored by asset prices (Fama and French, 2004). It is based on the following assumptions as set out by: Black (1972); Copeland et al. (2005); Shih et al. (2014); Blitz et al. (2014):

- The market is characterized by no constraints on short-selling and on borrowing.
- The market is frictionless and information are costless and available to all investors.
- The market is perfect: it is characterized by no taxes, no regulations, no restrictions.
- The quantity of assets is fixed, marketable and perfectly divisible.
- Investors are risk averse and rational: their behaviour is focused on maximizing the expected return given a certain level of risk, that is the expected utility of their absolute wealth.
- Investors are "price takers", they cannot influence the asset prices through their decision making.

- Investors can borrow and lend for unlimited amounts at a risk-free rate.
- The model considers only one period of time; however, it does not specify the length of the period. When it is considered an infinitesimal period, the assets follow a lognormal distribution rather than approximating to a normal one (Black, 1972).

Under the above mentioned assumptions, the model can be expressed as:

$$E(R_i) = R_f + \beta_i [E(R_m) - R_f]$$

Where the symbols are defined as follows:

- $E(R_i)$ represents the expected return on the assets given by the change in price of the assets: $(p_1 - p_0) / p_0$;
- R_f represents the risk-free rate;
- β_i is the systematic risk of the related asset, i , and it is the slope of the relation between the return on the assets and the return on the market. The slope coefficient can also be expressed as the quotient of the covariance of return on the assets and return on the market and the variance of the return on the market: $\beta_i = \text{Cov}(R_i, R_m) / \text{Var}(R_m)$;
- $E(R_m)$ represents the expected return on the market Portfolio of all the assets in the market.

The model expands the Portfolio theory through the assumptions that is considered only one period at which individuals can invest and that investment are made by borrowing and lending unlimited amount of money at a risk-free rate. In this scenario, the efficient frontier of all possible investment is given by the curve above the point b in Figure 1 below; all the investment under the point b are inefficient and undesirable as the risk, represented by the x-axis grows given a lower related return, represented by the y-axis.

Investment Opportunities

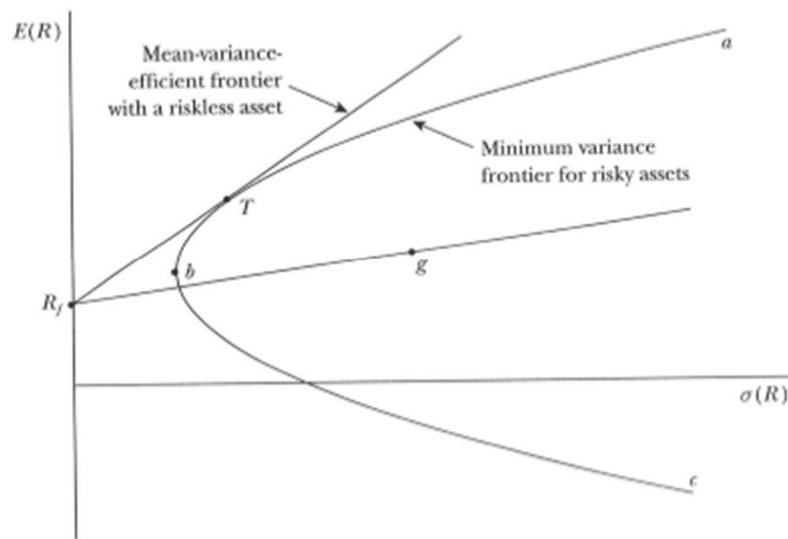


Figure 1: Investment Opportunities. Fama and French (2004).

Introducing the risk-free borrowing and lending the set of investment opportunities becomes a straight line where the efficient portfolio is the tangency portfolio T (Separation Theorem - Tobin, 1958) and the segment $R_f - g$ is the combination of risk-free lending.

The assumptions on which the CAPM relies belong to a hypothetical and perfect world; Cai, Clacher and Keasey (2013) find that the comprehension of the market is limited by the assumption that humans are rational and so the market itself. Indeed, its limitations have been broadly criticised in literature by many researchers who attempted to develop more realistic models which will be analysed in the following section.

1.2 The Evolution of CAPM

The assumptions of the model, as developed by Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965), Mossin (1966), are related to a hypothetical and perfect market which is not compatible with the real world. Several studies attempted to relax or modify the assumptions of the CAPM, in order to create a more realistic model.

Mullins (1982) criticises the model by identifying some issues related to its real application: the CAPM could be inappropriate for the behaviour of financial

markets, because its assumptions do not match the reality; beta, the systematic risk, the risk-free rate and the expected return on the market represent a source of error when they are estimated through historical data, as they tend to be unstable over time, however it is arguable that, to analyse the behaviour of capital assets, historical data can be used as a prediction of the future, keeping in mind the distortions that arise from the proceedings, that is the methodology pursued in this study and at the same time its limitation. Other issues arise in corporate finance when CAPM deals with real assets in terms of capital budgeting decisions.

The main problem with testing the CAPM is that there is large evidence of the influence of other factors on asset returns, as the only systematic risk, beta, is not sufficient: Fama and French (1992, 1996, 2004) invalidate the CAPM referring to it as a model difficult to test as it mirrors “theoretical failures” that reflect its unrealistic assumptions; furthermore, they develop a three-factor model receiving Sharpe’s (1998) acceptance, during an interview: *“I’d be the last to argue that only one factor drives market correlation. There are not as many factors as some people think, but there’s certainly more than one”*.

The multi-factors model explains the anomalies of CAPM by identifying three factors which explain the expected return on a portfolio in excess of the risk-free rate through (Fama and French, 1996):

- the difference between the return on the market and the risk-free rate (excess return on a broad market portfolio);
- the size effect of the stocks represented by the difference between the return on a portfolio of small stocks and the return on a portfolio of large stocks;
- the difference between the return on a portfolio of high-book-to-market stocks and the return on a portfolio of low-book-to-market stocks.

A multi-factor model could be taken in consideration for further researches, as the following study focus on testing the original CAPM as there is no support, for the Irish market of the validity of the model.

The CAPM, in its original form, seems theoretically incomplete as it does not take into account specific characteristic of the average returns on ordinary stocks and their patterns, simply describing them as anomalies. Many authors identified those

phenomena: De Bondt and Thaler (1985) state that average returns tend to be reverse on the long-term; Banz (1981) and Basu (1983) find that they are related to aspects such as firm's size, price earnings, book-to-market ratio, cash flow-price ratio, etc. Black and Scholes (1974) and Litzenberger and Ramaswamy (1982) focus on dividend yields effect on stock returns and find a non-linear positive relationship between the two variables.

The three-factor model explains the anomalies of returns, which tend to disappear by introducing those characteristics as size and book-to-market ratio capture the alterations that is not taken into account by systematic risk, β (Fama and French, 1992). Almost ten years later, Subrahmanyam (2010) argues that more than 50 variables may be used to predict stock returns.

Brennan (1970) derives a model considering a differential taxation of dividends extending the single period originally assumed. Black (1972) bases its research on the unlimited borrowing and lending at risk-free rate: he proposes a model which assumes unrestricted short-selling on risky assets, instead of risk-free assets. The result is that investors' decision making will be focused on the mean-variance efficient frontier rather than in the straight line, representing the risk-free borrowing and lending, tangent to the efficient frontier.

Jensen, Black and Scholes (1972) test the efficiency of CAPM by analysing the stock prices at NYSE during the period 1926-1966 through the original assumptions and by applying a two-factors model (where the return is also explained by a factor that is independent on the market; therefore, β is zero): the research results show that there is a significant difference between the slope predicted by the model and their findings; the CAPM tends to underestimate the expected returns in portfolios characterized by low β , and overestimate the ones with higher β .

The weak empirical support for the CAPM derives from the unrealistic assumptions on which the model is built and from the methodologies applied to validate the model (Roll, 1977; Roll and Ross, 1994; Levy, 1997). Furthermore, Roll (1977) argues that the failure of the CAPM tests is due to the utilisation of proxies, instead of the real market portfolio, as it is extremely difficult to find a market proxy close enough to the minimum variance frontier.

Most of the studies conducted over the years, since the CAPM has been developed, are focused on creating an alternative model to the original one, by introducing other factors that may explain the required return on asset; however, there is little evidence of attempts to validate it as an efficient a suitable model.

Williams (1977) introduces other variables that may affect the expected returns, such as subjective probabilities, individual wealth and risk aversion; the CAPM is validated under the assumption that the investors, accumulating information, make investment-decisions that converge to their beliefs and, thus, to the market portfolio. Admati (1985) and Levy, Levy and Benita (2006) empirically test the validity of CAPM under the heterogeneous assumption that investors may hold only a small amount of assets in their portfolios or investing in other categories of security, such as funds or other alternative investment instead of common stocks, having, therefore, a unique risk combination; the results show that on these circumstances, the model holds.

Merton (1973) develops an Intertemporal Capital Asset Price (ICAPM), also known as dynamic CAPM, assuming that investors are not only interested in maximising their wealth, but also focused on the opportunities to consume or to reinvest their wealth and how their wealth is changing by the time, considering variables such as labour income, prices of goods, the portfolio opportunities, the expectations, etc. Under these assumptions investors care about shocks to investment opportunities hedging their exposures through financial assets (Shih et al., 2014).

Lee (1976) improves the CAPM by introducing the assumption that all the investors have the same investment horizon, demonstrating how the model is explained by a nonlinear relationship.

Other studies (Lee, 1977; Schweser, 1978) focus on the skewness effect of the Capital Asset Price Model on expected returns; Harvey and Siddique (2000) argue that expected returns should have premium embedded in them for bearing risk, if they are characterised by systematic skewness: considering a conditional skewness the model holds, even with size and book-to-market elements.

Pastor and Stambaugh (2003) introduce a liquidity model analysing 10 portfolios

grouped for beta values, from 1966 to 1999 at NYSE, finding that market liquidity is an important factor in determining the price of assets: expected stock returns are correlated to market liquidity, in fact, the portfolios with high-liquidity betas are more profitable than the other built on low-liquidity betas as they tend to receive a compensation when the market is characterised by illiquidity. Furthermore, reproducing the three-factors CAPM by Fama and French (2004) they found that the model holds.

Despite the large number of models derived from the CAPM in order to improve it by relaxing some of the assumptions made during the 1960s, it is still, in its original form, one of the most popular instruments in Modern Finance.

The next section analyses the empirical evidences, across the world, resulting by testing the CAPM.

1.3 Empirical Evidences of the CAPM Efficiency

This study is concerned with the efficiency of the model. What is evident in the literature is that very little attention has been paid to this issue. In fact, most of the empirical evidences are oriented in expanding the original model, without considering its efficiency in its original form. What is certain is that the theoretical assumptions refer to an idealist world, but little studies have been focus on the relationship between the return and the systematic risk beta.

Yoshino and Santos (2009) examine the stock market in Brazil from 1998 to 2006 through 24 stocks, dividing the analysis in two periods in order to estimate the results in the first phase and to forecast them in the second round examination. The main conclusion of their study is that “*the Brazilian CAPM is dead*”, recalling the expression used by Fama (1996) to indicate the inefficiency of the model and its difficulty in being tested. The reasons of the failure in an emerging market like Brazil find their roots in the existence of other explanatory variables: the market premium, a non-linear CAPM (the square of the market premium), the firm size, etc.; when added these variables, applying a Fully Modified OLS (FMOLS), the CAPM is efficient.

Bornholt (2013) tests the CAPM by analysing the three “inefficiencies” in the U.S.

market through 48 industries, from 1963 to 2009, finding and confirming that:

1. β anomaly, derived from the fact that portfolios composed by low beta stocks have higher average returns than the one predicted by the model, whereas portfolios characterized by high beta stocks show a lower average return, tends to reduce after 1993;
2. The book-to-market equity anomaly, or value anomaly, which observes that firms with high book-to-market equity ratio have higher average return than those which have a lower ratio, can be ignored if it is estimated the industry cost of equity;
3. The momentum anomaly, where the stocks with high average returns in one period (last 6 or 12 months) show higher average returns in the next period (Jegadeesh and Titman, 2001), continues through all the period examined.

The CAPM fails its application to industries, as it is more appropriate for stocks, however, with reference to anomalies “*If they are not permanent, then the CAPM may eventually be resurrected*” (Bornholt, 2013, p. 7).

In an efficient market, the stock prices reflect all the information available and, because market is considered rational, future prices cannot be predicted as they are characterised by the random walk theory (Malkiel, 1973; Fama, 1965). The Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) defined by its weak, semi-strong and strong form, does not explain how the capital market allocates resources efficiently; the CAPM extends this concept by arguing that the information is processed by rational individuals and that it reflects stock prices: in fact, investors, tend to require higher returns for higher risk taken (Dempsey, 2013).

However, in a real world where markets are not perfect and investors behave irrationally, overreacting to unexpected news and determining loser portfolios to outperform the winner ones, (De Bondt and Thaler, 1985), stock prices seem be characterised by predictability (Fama and French, 1986): the past can be a helpful predictor of the future.

Fama and French (1986) observe that the return of stocks listed on the NYSE from 1926 to 1985 tend to be characterised by mean-reversion. From 18 up to 5-year period examined the returns mean revert and then decrease. Poterba and Summers (1988) find that in U.S., and other 17 countries, although the randomness of prices

cannot be statistically rejected, there is a positive autocorrelation in returns over short-term, whereas it is negative over the long-period.

Basu (1977, p.681), analysing the relationship between equity performance and P/E ratios over 14 years (1957-1971), concludes that stock prices are inconsistent with the EMH theory, due to frictionless; furthermore, “[...] *low P/E portfolios did earn superior returns on a risk-adjusted basis, the proposition of the price-ratio hypothesis on the relationship between investment performance of equity securities and their P/E ratios seem to be valid*”.

The failure of CAPM has been empirically demonstrated confirming the non-linear relationship between the systematic risk, β , and the expected return. However, some studies affirm the validity of the model and its importance in modern finance, still recognised after more than 50 years.

Clare, Priestley and Thomas (1998) use one-step estimator, despite the two-steps developed by Black et al. (1972), Fama and MacBeth (1973) and applied by Fama and French (1996; 2004), to analyse the UK stock market from 1980 to 1993. The result of the study shown a stable, positive and linear relationship between beta and the expected return on assets, whereas factors like book-to-market equity, leverage or EPS give a low contribution in explaining them.

Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016) examine the context of the emerging markets, by analysing the Kuala Lumpur Stock Exchange (KLSE) and its 60 stocks from 2010 to 2014, using weekly data: the CAPM seems to be a good indicator of the stock prices. The method applied is the two-phases regression (OLS and cross-sectional regression), followed by Basu and Chawla (2010); beta results positively related to the expected return and it is confirmed a linear relationship: “In summary, investors could use CAPM to estimate the behaviour and the systematic risk of the stocks in Malaysia before investing in stock market. This could be a way to minimize their downside risk as they understand the stock trend of the company and hence invest rationally” (Lee, Cheng ad Chong, 2016).

Hasan et al. (2011) study the relationship risk-return at Dhaka Stock Exchange

(DSE) from 2005 to 2009, a period of time including the financial crisis in 2008-2009, finding that CAPM is able to predict asset price efficiently; whereas Ali and Ali (2009), following the methodology developed by Fama and MacBeth (1973), analysing the DSE from 1998 to 2008, find an extremely weak support of the CAPM suggesting to consider other factors in order to explain the expected returns. Dayaratne (2010) compares the U.S. and Sri Lankan markets, using the Fama and French (1996) three factors model, demonstrating that whereas for the U.S. market the CAPM is validated, for the Sri Lankan market it results inefficient. Bouchaddekh, Bouri and Kefi (2014) test the standard CAPM at Tunisian Stock Market (period 2011-2013) finding a statically significant validity in predicting asset prices, however, the empirical evidences suggested the presence of anomalies: introducing the friction factors to the standard model, such as transaction costs, information costs and illiquidity, it seems efficient in explaining the stock prices; furthermore, the added factors are positively related to expected returns.

Obrimah, Alabi and Ugo-Harry (2015) argue that CAPM is an appropriate model to define the relationship between the systematic risk and the expected returns and it is significant in explaining the semi-strong form of the Efficient Market Hypothesis at Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE). The authors examine, over a period of 10 years, 26 random stocks, applying the methodology of Kraus and Litzenberger (1976), the two-moment CAPM, by adding to the classic version of the model the investors' reaction to positive skewness in returns, and the methodology of Arditti (1967), by adding the element of idiosyncratic risk.

In general, whilst in developed countries the model seems not supported, or scarcely supported, by empirical evidence, in emerging countries, where the legal development is slower and, therefore, the financial development is slower as well, CAPM seems more accepted by evidences: the reason of this is due to the fact that in developed countries, with legal advanced systems, institutions may lead investors to be more willing of market inefficiencies (La Porta et al., 2006; Johnson et al., 2002). However, the empirical evidence in India shows the CAPM failure even in some emerging countries: Basu and Chawla (2010), follow the method applied by

Fama and Macbeth (1973) in analysing 50 stocks at Indian Stock Exchange. After building 10 portfolios of 5 stocks per each they test the model through two phases (OLS and cross-sectional), the study highlights that CAPM is not appropriate for the Indian Stock Market due to the fact that it does not take into account other variables (imperfect market proxy, inflation, tax effects, etc.) that may affect the determination of the asset prices; Basu and Chawla (2010) associate the failure of the model to its assumption and to the restricted sample size adopted. Bilgin and Basti (2014) analyse the Istanbul Stock Exchange (ISE) from 2003 to 2011, dividing the samples in four sub-periods: they test the standard CAPM and the version derived by Pettengill et al. (1995), which consider a conditional model that takes into account the up and down of the market (when it is bearish the trade-off between risk and return is negative, when it is bullish it is positive). The results derived from the study confirm the inappropriateness of the CAPM, in both version, in the prediction of the asset prices at Istanbul Stock Exchange.

Ferreira and Monte (2015), analyse the context of Eurozone, in particular Portugal, finding that the traditional CAPM cannot be rejected for the Lisbon Stock Exchange and that the systematic risk is an important factor in explaining the expected return of assets. However, the research may be affected by the size of the Stock Exchange (18 stocks for a period of 14 years).

Sauer and Murphy (1992) examine the total returns of 140 stocks (109 of 249 have been excluded because not continuously traded) at Frankfurt Stock Exchange, for the period of time 1968-1988, finding a positive trade-off between risk and return; furthermore, the comparison between the traditional model with the CCAPM (Consumption CAPM, which considers a multi-period) results in an outperformance of CAPM.

Hwang, Gao and Owen (2012, p. 101) study the validity of CAPM in UK, extrapolating a sample of 70 stocks from FTSE 100, from 1996 to 2007, finding that the model is rejected due to the presence of idiosyncratic risk, concluding: *“The traditional CAPM can be used in practice if idiosyncratic risk and the nonlinear relationship between beta and return are considered”*.

This study's purpose is to validate the CAPM and to understand its efficiency pre, during and post the financial crisis in order to establish a trend and examine the relationship between beta and return in different period of time with different market behaviour; Bilić, Dimitrić and Škalamera-Aliović (2016) affirm that the influence of the crisis should validate the CAPM when there is a higher difference, in terms of time, from the crisis. Pettengill et al. (1995) examine the model in bearish and bullish market, finding that in bearish market the risk-return relationship tends to be negative (and positive in bullish market). As there is an evidence of the impact of shocks in the market on the CAPM, the aim of the analysis is to investigate this effect at Irish Stock Exchange, where the crisis, which occurred in 2007-2008 had a big impact, financially, economically and fiscally, in Ireland.

The Capital Asset Pricing Model, despite the criticism and the lack of consensus about its validity, represents the most common methodology in corporate finance for the determination of the cost of equity capital: in a survey conducted by Graham and Harvey (2001) of 392 CFOs, of Fortune 500 corporations, about 73.5% of them apply the CAPM, followed by the methodology of the average stock returns and the multi-beta CAPM by adding extra risk factors, such as: business cycle risk, interest rate risk, exchange rate risk, inflation risk and other macroeconomic factors (Chen, Roll and Ross, 1986); fundamentals (Fama and French, 1992); momentum (Jegadeesh and Titman, 1993). Furthermore, large size firms with low leverage, high foreign sales and publicly traded, are more inclined to use the CAPM rather than private and small size firms. Bruner et al. (1998) demonstrate that 85% of companies surveyed use the CAPM or an extension of the model.

The following study, is focused on testing the validity of the Capital Asset Pricing Model at Irish Stock Exchange (ISE) in order to establish if the relationship between return and systematic risk is linear and positive as predicted by the model. Moreover, the analysis is conducted over three sub-periods which comprehend pre, during and post-crisis in order to understand the crisis effect on the model.

With reference to the Irish market, it seems there is little empirical evidence related to testing the validity of Capital Asset Pricing Model.

The motivation behind the following research is given by the little empirical evidence which characterises the Irish context, Lorenz and Trück (2008) study the risk-return relationship, through the CAPM, of several assets, focusing on the property market in the Eurozone; with reference to Ireland the explanatory power of the systemic risk is very low and the relationship is negative, thus the CAPM, for property market, is not validated. However, the focus of this study is on the stock market, which presents different characteristic as it is more liquid than the property market. Therefore, due to the large application of the model in finance and the little evidence of its validity during the crisis, the study aims to investigate the efficiency of the CAPM at Irish Stock Exchange, answering the research question formulated in the next section and following a statistical approach, that will be discussed in the next chapter.

1.4 The Research Question

The Capital Asset Pricing Model, after more than five decades is still applied in modern finance, despite the criticism about its theoretical limits.

The model states that the required return on assets and the systematic risk, beta, are related by a positive and linear relationship, thus, the returns are only explained by one factor: the risk.

The study will explore the validity of the model in its original form, as developed by Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965) and Mossin (1966), analysing the relationship risk-returns through a system of linear regressions and t-tests over the period of time 2001-2011, divided in three sub-period (2001-2006, pre-crisis; 2007-2008, during the crisis; 2009-2011, post-crisis).

Due to little empirical evidence within the Irish market and the impact of the global financial crisis on the Capital Asset Pricing Model, the research question that the study is attempting to answer is the following:

“Is the Capital Asset Pricing Model valid at Irish Stock Exchange over the period 2001-2011? Is the relationship risk-return positive and linear?”.

Furthermore, the study will analyse the pre, during and post-crisis occurred in 2007-2008, finding out the influence of the global financial collapse on the CAPM.

While analysing the risk-return relationship, the thesis could support further research in order to develop a more sophisticated model that best “suits” the Irish context and to focus on the influences of the global financial crisis as a momentum for changes in market behaviour.

Chapter 2. Methodology

The following chapter introduces the methodology adopted to answer the purpose of the study, which involves in verifying the validity of the Capital Asset Pricing Model at Irish Stock Exchange (ISE), observing the relationship between the asset returns and the systematic risk, identified by β .

According to Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965) and Mossin (1966), the relationship between the two variables should be linear and positive, as the returns on the assets should be only explained by the factor β .

The method pursued to validating the CAPM consists in a quantitative analysis technique which allows to establish the statistical relationship between the variables above-mentioned and follows the Fama and Macbeth (1973) methodology, replicated by several authors: Hwang, Gao and Owen (2012), who examine the UK market; Basu and Chawla (2010), in the Indian Stock Exchange and Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016), who's the empirical study is based on the Malaysian Stock Market.

The research philosophy is to investigate the efficiency of the CAPM, by observing the relationship between risk and return, which should be positive and linear, according to its theory. The study follows the framework of positivism, which is defined as the measurement, observation and data collection through an objective and quantitative approach which involves in a statistical analysis. According to Crowther and Lancaster (2008), positivism leads to a deductive approach, rather than an inductive approach, as the research is stemmed from a specific theory (in this case CAPM and its theoretical assumptions). The deductive approach follows the nature of an experiment, as the data are collected, elaborated and the resulting outcomes are, then, observed through a mono-method, which consists in a linear regression and its statistical t-test. The time horizon is cross-sectional, as it is

defined a priori: the data collection is within a period of time which goes from January 2001 to December 2011.

The chapter is organised in four paragraphs: section 2.1 will consider the data sample collection; section 2.2 will describe the methodology applied for the construction of portfolios; section 2.3 will introduce the linear regression and the hypothesis test which will permit to conclude the analysis on the Capital Asset Pricing Model; section 2.4 will focus on the limitation of the methodology adopted.

2.1 Data Collection

The data collection consists of historical closing prices of 25 companies from different sectors of the Irish economy, extrapolated through the database of the Irish Stock Exchange and elaborated through the instrument Microsoft Excel.

The ISEQ is in existence since 1793, and counts 55 companies trading more than 35.000 securities in 85 countries. In 2014 it changed its corporate structure in a public limited company (Plc); the companies can be listed in three markets: the ESM (Enterprise Securities Market), for high-growth companies at the earlier stages; the MSM (Main Security Market), for companies with necessity of funds; and, eventually, the ASM (Atlantic Security Market) for multinational companies. According to Black, Jensen and Scholes (1972), the stockholder invests in equal measure to all the stocks traded at the index for the period considered, however the final list of the primary data selected comprises 25 companies (instead of 55), due to the unavailability of the 30 companies left over the period of time examined: from January 2001 to December 2011. Furthermore, the companies belong to different industries and are mostly traded at the Enterprise Security Market (ESM). The period of time examined is subdivided in three period of time: from 2001 to 2006, in order to observe the validity of the CAPM before the global financial crisis, avoiding destabilising effects; from 2007 to 2008, the period on which the crisis spread; and, eventually, 2009-2011, the interval of time after the crisis. The results will be, then, compared and contrasted.

The primary data, constituted by 569 observations, collected from the ISE database

(www.ise.ie), are the weekly closing prices of every company for the period of time considered; the day of the week selected is Wednesday, in order to avoid the day of the week and the weekend effects (Barone, 1990).

The reason of the weekly observations is owed to the fact that daily data are characterised by noise and volatility, whereas monthly data can alter the risk-return relationship, due to the longer period of time (Basu and Chawla, 2010), and, furthermore, the sample would have been too small for the purpose of the study.

Consequently, the primary data present the following characteristics: they are numerical data, ratio data (as it is possible to calculate the relative differences between two data values) and continuous data, as they can take any value (within a range).

Once collected the primary data, the asset returns are calculated through the relative change of closing prices:

$$(p_1 - p_0 / p_0)$$

Where p_1 represents the closing price at time 1 and p_0 represents the closing price at time 0.

The secondary data, composed by 568 observations, and so calculated, are analysed through the descriptive statistics, in order to describe and compare the variables numerically; they represent the base for the construction of the portfolios, which will be described in the next section.

2.2 The Construction of Portfolios

In order to build the portfolios, the first step is to estimate beta, β , for any of the 25 companies selected from the Irish Stock Exchange.

As defined in the previous sections, the systematic risk beta represents the slope of the relation between the return on the assets and the return on the market. Therefore, its estimation can be made by dividing the covariance of the asset returns and the return on the market per the variance of the return on the market, through the following formula:

$$\beta_i = \text{Cov} (R_i, R_m) / \text{Var} (R_m)$$

Where:

- β_i is the systematic risk of the stock considered;
- $\text{Cov}(\mathbf{R}_i, \mathbf{R}_m)$ is the covariance of asset returns and return on the market;
- $\text{Var}(\mathbf{R}_m)$ is the variance of the return on the market.

The proxy for the real market portfolio, that gives the return on the market, is the ISE index, calculated as the relative changes of the weekly closing prices from January 2001 to December 2011 and extrapolated from the ISE database; this should avoid the proxy problems argued by Roll (1977): the author states that one of the fallacies of the CAPM depends on the proxy choices, as it is difficult, in the real world, to find a market proxy close enough to the real market; however the representative of the Irish market is effectively its index, for this reason it is denoted the real market portfolio for Ireland.

This approach is in line with Fama and MacBeth (1973); Hwang, Gao and Owen (2012); Basu and Chawla (2010); Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016), who built portfolios using beta and assuming equal weights in each stock.

The estimation of beta is done with a semi-annual periodicity in order to increase the number of observations: for the 25 companies selected, the number of betas' observations is 550.

Once estimated β it is built the portfolios by descending order of the systematic risk: 110 portfolios of 5 stocks each are built semi-annually; portfolio 1 is the highest beta, whereas the portfolio 110 the lowest one. The choice of building the portfolios with 5 stocks is for the purpose of diversification, in order to eliminate the idiosyncratic risk, specific for each stock (Markowitz, 1953; Sharpe, 1964; Lintner, 1965). However, the choice of the number of stocks in a portfolio is arguable: empirical evidences from studies conducted by Statman (1987), who supports the theory that a portfolio can be defined as diversified if it contains at least 30 stocks; conversely Domien et al. (2007) argues that 100 stocks are not enough for diversification purposes. Anghel (2013) affirms that 7 stocks may be sufficient for efficient portfolios and Amanulla et al. (1998) support the evidence of a minimum of 5 stocks per portfolio.

Due to the companies available for the period of time selected, the portfolios are composed by the minimum amount of stocks: 5 per portfolio, furthermore, the creation of the sets of stocks by descending order of β allows to achieve a certain

diversification, as the portfolios are composed by stocks which belong to different industries.

For any of the 110 portfolios it has been calculated the beta of the entire portfolio, through the sum of the betas of each stock in the portfolio equally weighted (20%), the return and the risk (represented by the standard deviation), by using a system of matrices, considering as input the excess returns (the asset returns are subtracted from the average return of the asset):

1. Expected Return in the Portfolio

$$\mathbb{E}[r_p] = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} w_1 & w_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{E}[r_1] \\ \mathbb{E}[r_2] \end{pmatrix} = w_1 \mathbb{E}[r_1] + w_2 \mathbb{E}[r_2]$$

Where: $\mathbf{E}r_p$ represents the expected return in the portfolio, \mathbf{w}^T is the transpose weight of each stock and $\boldsymbol{\mu}$ is the average of returns.

2. Risk

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_p^2 = \mathbf{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Omega} \mathbf{w} &= \begin{pmatrix} w_1 & w_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \sigma_1^2 + w_2 \sigma_{21} & w_1 \sigma_{12} + w_2 \sigma_2^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \end{pmatrix} \\ &= w_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + w_2 w_1 \sigma_{21} + w_1 w_2 \sigma_{12} + w_2^2 \sigma_2^2 \\ &= w_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + w_2^2 \sigma_2^2 + 2 w_1 w_2 \sigma_{12} \\ &= w_1^2 \sigma_1^2 + w_2^2 \sigma_2^2 + 2 w_1 w_2 \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \rho_{12} \end{aligned}$$

Where: σ_p^2 is the variance of the portfolio, \mathbf{w}^T is transpose weight of each stock, $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ is the variance-covariance matrix, \mathbf{w} is the weight of each stock and $\boldsymbol{\rho}$ is the correlation (built through matrix by dividing the variance-covariance matrix per the standard deviation matrix).

The semi-annual portfolios are then grouped in the three period blocks: pre-crisis, 2001-2006, crisis, 2007-2008, and post crisis, 2009-2011, following the study conducted by Bilgin and Basti (2014) who analyse the Istanbul market in 4 periods of time (2003-2011), based on the beliefs that there is a positive or negative

relationship between risks and returns during bullish or bearish market periods. The three stages analysis will give an understanding of the influence of the market on the Capital Asset Pricing Model which will be validated through a linear regression per stage the statistical t-test, as described in the next section.

2.3 The Linear Regression and the Hypothesis Test

The Capital Asset Pricing Model in its original version, as developed by Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965) and Mossin (1966), states that the required rate of return depends on the systematic risk beta:

$$(R_i - R_f) = \beta (R_m - R_f)$$

Where:

- $(R_i - R_f)$ is the required rate of return, in particular, the return of the asset reduced by the risk-free rate (R_f is extrapolated from the ISE database and it is the 10 years' government bond, the Irish Treasury Bill, as it is considered a risk-free investment);
- β represents the systematic risk;
- $(R_m - R_f)$ is the market risk premium and R_m represents the expected return on the market.

To address the research question at the centre of this study, the validation of the Capital Asset Pricing Model is tested through a linear regression: the aim is to observe if the systematic risk beta can explain positively the asset return and their relationship is linear.

The linear regression is defined as following (Fama and Macbeth, 1973):

$$(R_i - R_f) = \alpha_i + \beta_i (R_m - R_f) + \epsilon_i$$

Where:

- $(R_i - R_f)$ is the required rate of return, in particular, the return of the asset minus the risk-free rate;
- β_i represents the systematic risk of the portfolio;
- α_i is the intercept of the portfolio
- $(R_m - R_f)$ is the market risk premium and R_m represents the expected return on the market.
- ϵ_i is a random error term, identified as idiosyncratic or unsystematic risk and it is

related to specific and unique characteristics of the assets in a portfolio: it can be mitigated through diversification, unlike the systematic risk which is undiversifiable as it impacts all the portfolio and depends on fluctuation in the market, in interest rates, etc.

The analysis on the CAPM is extended over 11 years' time, from January 2001 to December 2011, and the observation is made grouping the periods in three stages: pre-crisis (2001-2006), crisis (2007-2008) and post-crisis (2009-2011).

The linear regression is defined for all the three stages and, through a comparison of the results, it is possible to have a better understanding of the model before, during and after the crisis, as the systematic risk can result affected by the different events occurred in that period of time.

Recalling the purpose of the study, the CAPM is validated only if the relationship between risk and return is positive and linear; therefore, the following step is to test, through a t-test (Basu and Chawla, 2010; Hwang, Gao and Owen, 2012; Lee, Cheng and Chong, 2016), at 95% level of confidence, the intercept of the linear regression by defining the following hypothesis:

$$\text{Null Hypothesis} \rightarrow \mathbf{H_0: \alpha_i = 0}$$

$$\text{Alternative Hypothesis} \rightarrow \mathbf{H_1: \alpha_i \neq 0}$$

The Capital Asset Pricing Model is satisfied in its assumptions if the intercept is equal to zero: in this case the null hypothesis $\mathbf{H_0}$ is accepted and the relationship is linear and positive; in fact, according to the CAPM's theory, the return is a linear function of the risk-free rate and the market risk premium related to the systematic risk born. However, if it is rejected the CAPM is not validated. It could mean that the portfolio returns are depending not only by beta, the systematic risk, but on other factors, non-contemplated in the model and it can result in a stimulus for further researches in the future. Furthermore, it is necessary to consider the limitation of this study, which are to be discussed in the next section.

2.4 Limitations

Empirical evidences (Roll, 1977; Banz, 1981; Fama and French, 1992) argue the failure of the Capital Asset Pricing Model because of its assumptions, which are

unrealistic and tend to make difficult to test its validity.

The following study, aware of its limitation in the CAPM theory itself, has the purpose to investigate the positive and linear relationship, predicted by the model, between risk and return at Irish Stock Exchange during three sub-periods: 2001-2006, pre-financial crisis; 2007-2008, during the financial crisis; 2009-2011, after the financial crisis.

To address the analysis, it is applied a linear regression and a t-test of the intercept, to assess whether only one factor in influencing the required return on assets or there are other dependencies.

The model so defined brings some limitations, which may lead to distortions in the outcome:

- The assumptions in the model are per se a limitation as they idealise a world under perfect conditions (Fama and French, 2004);
- The period of time analysed (2001-2011), 11 years, may be restricting; the data collection for this period is limited at 25 companies' stock returns rather than the whole list of firms listed at ISE (55), thus the sampling may be too small, indicating that the period of time may be enlarged to include more data;
- The estimation of beta, due to unavailability of real data, which highlights anomalies due to events occurred over the years;
- Empirical evidences highlight that there is more than one factor that influence the stock returns (Jensen, Black and Scholes, 1976; Fama and French, 1992), however it is arguable that, in general, there is no consensus about the validity.

Aware of the limitations the methodology applied to investigate the validity and efficiency of the Capital Asset Pricing Model is then analysed in the next paragraph, by observing the outcomes of the quantitative approach described.

Chapter 3. Analysis/Findings

In this chapter the findings from analysis of the Capital Asset Pricing Model in the

Irish context in order to observe the practicability of the model and to answer the purpose of the study.

It is divided in three sections: section 3.1 will discuss about the descriptive statistics on the stock returns of the 25 companies traded at Irish Stock Exchange; section 3.2 will analyse the portfolios and their characteristics; section 3.3 will argue the results obtained from the linear regression and the statistical t-test, drawing the conclusion of the whole analysis.

3.1 The Descriptive Statistics of the Stock Returns

The analysis of the study conducted in order to validate the Capital Asset Pricing Model, and to understand its efficiency at Irish Stock Exchange, starts with the descriptive statistics of the 25 companies selected from the ISE database for the period January 2001 – December 2011.

The trend of the closing prices shows a significant downfall over the period of the global financial crisis, by more than 50% the value during 2001 for most of the companies examined; an interesting observation is that the price is not recovered after the crisis, but increases slowly till 2011.

The primary data collected are then utilized for calculating the stock returns, which are the secondary data and which are the object of the descriptive statistics. As a consequence of the financial collapse in 2008, the returns are characterized by negative or small values, with a high level of risk associated.

The descriptive statistics allows to observe and describe the data focussing on two aspects: the central tendency and the dispersion. The central tendency is useful for understanding values which are common, average or middling; whereas the dispersion indicates how the variables are dispersed around the central tendency.

The stock returns for the 25 companies, as given in Table 1, summarily, differ each other, as they belong to different industries and, thus, they present diverse characteristics. The sectors which the companies belong are:

- Banking (Allied Irish Banks Plc, Bank of Ireland Group Plc, Permanent TSB Group Holdings);

- Building Materials and Construction (Abbey Plc, CRH Plc, Kinspan Group Plc);
- Recruitment (CPL Resources Plc);
- Betting (Paddy Power Betfair Plc);
- Airline (Ryanair);
- Retail and Food and Beverage (Diageo Plc, Glanbia Plc, Kerry Group Plc, Tesco Plc)
- News and media (Independent News & Media Plc)
- Oil and gas (Aminex Plc, Tullow Oil Plc, Providence Resources Plc)
- Mineral resources (Ovoca Gold Plc, Ormonde Mining Plc, Kenmare Resources Plc);
- Shipping and Transport (Irish Continental Group Plc)
- Financial Services and Insurance (IFG Group Plc, FBD Holdings Plc, Donegal Investment Group Plc)
- IT Services (Datalex Plc).

The central tendency, of the 568 observations, represented by the mean, mode and median, results extremely various: the mean goes from a range of -0.009 to a maximum of 0.1644; the mode, that is the value which occurs more frequently, is interestingly zero for all the 25 companies, it means that the volatility of closing prices is mitigated through a weekly periodicity, rather than a monthly or daily observations (Basu and Chawla, 2010); the median is comprised within a range from -0.002 to 0.0049 and, unlike the mean, it is not affected by skewed values, as they are ranked in ascending order and it is found the mid-point in the distribution (50th percentile).

The dispersion, represented by the standard deviation, shows higher values for companies which belong to different industries, rather than the ones which are in the banking sector; this aspect gives information about the riskiness of the assets.

Kurtosis and Skewness are important measures for describing the distribution of the variables: kurtosis indicates the shape of the distribution and its peak, which designates normality if its value is 3; skewness is related to the symmetry, which for a normal distribution should be 0. The variables seem to be characterized by a more peaked shape than the Gaussian distribution as the value are much greater

than 3; only 4 companies out of 25 are negatively skewed and the distribution is asymmetric.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics of stock returns of the 25 companies traded at Irish Stock Exchange.

<i>Descriptive Statistics</i>																									
Company Codes	DOY	AIB1	DOP	BIRG	DQ5	CRG	DLE	GUI	DQ7	EG7	GL9	IIG	IPDC	IR5B	JEVA	KRZ	KRX	ORQ	OVXA	PPB	ILOA	PZQA	RY4C	TCO	TQW
Mean	0.0173	-0.0015	0.0014	-0.0020	0.0053	0.0007	-0.0009	0.0004	0.0020	0.0017	0.0048	0.0014	-0.0838	0.0024	0.1644	0.0017	0.0031	0.0063	0.0148	0.0058	-0.0042	0.1466	0.0006	0.0003	0.0065
Standard Error	0.0174	0.0057	0.0045	0.0050	0.0035	0.0020	0.0038	0.0004	0.0020	0.0020	0.0021	0.0029	0.0619	0.0017	0.0298	0.0014	0.0028	0.0048	0.0097	0.0019	0.0046	0.1403	0.0028	0.0003	0.0024
Median	0.0000	-0.0022	0.0000	-0.0027	0.0000	0.0009	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	-0.0034	0.0000	0.0000	0.0010	0.0043	0.0000	0.0000	0.0049	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0049
Mode	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000	0.0000
Standard Deviation	0.4145	0.1366	0.1073	0.1193	0.0835	0.0486	0.0904	0.0099	0.0468	0.0466	0.0510	0.0701	1.4754	0.0401	0.7114	0.0322	0.0656	0.1135	0.2321	0.0454	0.1097	3.3442	0.0665	0.0077	0.0560
Sample Variance	0.1718	0.0187	0.0115	0.0142	0.0070	0.0024	0.0082	0.0001	0.0022	0.0022	0.0026	0.0049	2.1767	0.0016	0.5061	0.0010	0.0043	0.0129	0.0539	0.0021	0.0120	11.1840	0.0044	0.0001	0.0031
Kurtosis	548.1682	72.2927	10.1213	24.3254	11.7148	2.5445	3.5244	225.5938	5.4237	6.0039	3.2427	4.8957	266.3758	7.6434	5.5148	1.7546	4.1250	14.8507	216.7732	2.2953	10.6905	566.1719	14.6924	568.0000	4.8585
Skewness	23.1871	5.2426	1.5497	2.6326	1.2419	0.0115	0.4757	6.3030	0.3669	0.0084	0.4557	0.3944	-15.8665	0.0996	2.0781	0.0828	0.0346	0.6460	11.8151	-0.0779	-0.1641	23.7754	-1.6978	23.8328	0.7131
Range	10.7036	2.6301	1.1685	1.7029	1.0000	0.4347	0.7782	0.3035	0.5247	0.5263	0.4474	0.7126	32.1770	0.4901	4.6000	0.2558	0.6379	1.6800	5.1071	0.3788	1.3339	80.5375	0.8031	0.1829	0.5734
Minimum	-0.9111	-0.7178	-0.3485	-0.5678	-0.4000	-0.2033	-0.3448	-0.1292	-0.2593	-0.2654	-0.2167	-0.3333	-26.0000	-0.2786	-0.8000	-0.1253	-0.2986	-0.9022	-0.7500	-0.1788	-0.7037	-0.8923	-0.5336	0.0000	-0.2450
Maximum	9.7925	1.9123	0.8200	1.1351	0.6000	0.2314	0.4333	0.1743	0.2654	0.2609	0.2308	0.3793	6.1770	0.2115	3.8000	0.1305	0.3393	0.7778	4.3571	0.2000	0.6302	79.6452	0.2695	0.1829	0.3285
Sum	9.8486	-0.8630	0.8220	-1.1279	3.0161	0.3945	-0.5109	0.2171	1.1351	0.9455	2.7310	0.7757	-47.6093	1.3721	93.3914	0.9891	1.7417	3.5891	8.4186	3.2924	-2.3612	83.2740	0.3194	0.1829	3.6692
Count	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568	568
Confidence Level(95.0%)	0.0342	0.0113	0.0088	0.0098	0.0069	0.0040	0.0075	0.0008	0.0039	0.0038	0.0042	0.0058	0.1216	0.0033	0.0586	0.0027	0.0054	0.0094	0.0191	0.0037	0.0090	0.2756	0.0055	0.0006	0.0046

3.2 The Portfolios

The Capital Asset Pricing Model is utilized as a representative of the estimation of the asset returns and the diversification in portfolio construction, in order to mitigate the risk and to eliminate the idiosyncratic risk embedded in stocks.

The calculation for portfolio formation and beta estimation are equal-weighted (Black, Jensen and Scholes, 1972; Fama and MacBeth, 1973; Basu and Chawla, 2010; Hwang, Gao and Owen, 2012; Lee, Cheng and Chong, 2016): the output is characterised by 110 portfolios composed by 5 stocks each.

The estimation of the semi-annual beta, for any of the 25 companies selected, for the period of time January 2001 – December 2011, highlights anomalies in beta values as they are not comprised in the range [-1; +1], but exceed it in an evident manner (Appendix, Table 1). The company Independent News & Media Plc, an organisation specialised in the media sector, with a market capitalisation of €180.798m (www.bloomberg.com), shows an estimated beta value of -22.73 during the second semester of 2009 caused by a decrease in share prices due to reported losses, during the financial collapse, of €161.4m; in 2001 the share price was, on the average, €3.10, whereas in 2009 about €0.19 (The Guardian, 2009).

A similar case is represented by Providence Resources Plc, a company in the oil and gas sector with a market capitalisation of €107.579m (www.bloomberg.com): in 2010 the value of the estimated beta is enormous: 139.35. Observing the share price trend over the years it is evident a large increase from €0.03 to €2.5 in one week (from 25/05/2010 to 02/06/2010): the company operated a reverse stock split, in the measure of 6-1, grouping 6 shares in 1 (www.providenceresources.com).

Despite the above-mentioned anomalies, the estimation of beta, for the 25 companies traded at Irish Stock Exchange, ranges in a broadly manner, highlighting a variegated systematic risk due to the different businesses which the companies belong.

According to the CAPM theory (Treynor, 1962), the higher the beta, the higher the asset return, however some portfolios register a negative return (Appendix, Table 2 - 12): i.e. Portfolio 1 has a beta of 1.38 and a return of -0.2%, whereas Portfolio 92

has a beta of 1.02 and a return of 2%. The evidence of the beta estimations supports the study of Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016) about the Malaysian market and contradicts, in part, the CAPM theory, as the results are not homogeneous in terms of systematic risk-return relationship. It also supports the study of Hasan et al. (2011) who analyse the CAPM at Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE), finding no significance of the model as indicator for Bangladesh, but linearity between risk and return; however, they find that for higher betas the assets returns are higher, but similarly to this study they tend to vary arbitrarily.

The 110 returns on the portfolios are then pooled together in three period's blocks: pre-crisis, 2001-2006; crisis, 2007-2008 and post-crisis 2009-2011. This subdivision of time will give a better understanding of the validity of the CAPM over time, and, in particular, if there it is affected by the global financial crisis in some way.

The next section will illustrate the findings of the analysis, consisting in a set of linear regression for the contemplated periods of time, followed by the hypothesis testing of the intercept, in order to examine the efficiency of the Capital Asset Pricing Model and to exclude the existence of other dependencies for the stock returns, except the systematic risk beta.

3.3 Validation of the CAPM

The validation of the Capital Asset Pricing Model requires the positive and relationship between the return on the stocks and the systematic risk, β ; doing so, the model confirms that β is the only factor that influences excess portfolio returns (the returns reduced by the risk-free rate).

The test of the CAPM starts with gathering the returns on the 110 portfolios for the period of time 2001-2011 (semi-annually) in three period's time and calculating the excess returns, reducing them by the risk-free rate and building the linear regression model:

$$(\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_f) = \alpha_i + \beta_i (\mathbf{R}_m - \mathbf{R}_f) + \varepsilon_i$$

Where: $(\mathbf{R}_i - \mathbf{R}_f)$ is the excess return of every portfolio and represents the dependent variable; α_i is the intercept that has to be tested and should be equal to zero, in order

to exclude other dependencies; $\beta_i (\mathbf{R}_m - \mathbf{R}_f)$ is the independent variable represented by the systematic risk β_i and the risk premium (the premium an investor is expected to receive for the burden of risk borne).

The linear regression indicates that the excess returns are function of systematic risk.

The period of time analysed has been divided in three blocks (Bilgin and Basti, 2014) and its descriptive statistics is given in Table 2, below:

- pre-global financial crisis (2001-2006): the observation collected for this period of time are 60, the central tendency shows a mean of -0.015, a mode of -0.002 and a median of -0.006; the dispersion (standard deviation) is 0.018; the kurtosis is -0.52 which gives information about the distribution and its peak, in this case has light tails and it does not follow normality, as its value is different from 3; the skewness, -1.07, indicates asymmetry as the normal distribution has skewness of zero, and the left-tail is longer than the right-tail.
- crisis (2007-2008): the observation collected are 30, the central tendency shows a mean of -0.017, a mode of -0.006 and a median of -0.018; the standard deviation is 0.008; the kurtosis is -0.89 which results in a light tail distribution; the skewness, 0.39, indicates a light right-tail asymmetry.
- post-global financial crisis (2009-2011): the observation collected are 20, with mean -0.005, a mode -0.002 and a median of -0.005; the standard deviation is 0.003; the kurtosis is -0.80 which results, like the other two periods of time, in a light tail distribution; the skewness, -0.31, indicates a light left-tail asymmetry.

Table 2: Descriptive Statistics of Independent Variable Rm-Rf for the stages 2001-2006, 2007-2008, 2009-2011.

<i>Independent Variable (Rm - Rf)</i>	<i>2001-2006</i>	<i>2007-2008</i>	<i>2009-2011</i>
Mean	-0.014855598	-0.017513	-0.004928
Standard Error	0.002375725	0.0017419	0.0005546
Median	-0.00568385	-0.018436	-0.005134
Mode	-0.001986105	-0.005932	-0.00181
Standard Deviation	0.018402288	0.0077898	0.0030375
Sample Variance	0.000338644	6.068E-05	9.226E-06
Kurtosis	-0.517967239	-0.893743	-0.804198
Skewness	-1.070660796	0.3891644	-0.314776
Range	0.054573771	0.0213156	0.0090174
Minimum	-0.051990195	-0.027247	-0.010045
Maximum	0.002583576	-0.005932	-0.001028
Sum	-0.891335882	-0.350253	-0.14783
Count	60	20	30
Confidence Level(95.0%)	0.004753815	0.0036458	0.0011342

The independent variables during the three stages examined shows a change in dispersion during the crisis and the post-crisis: in pre-crisis its value is approximately 1.8%, whereas in the period 2007-2008 it decreases to 0.8% and 0.3% in the post-crisis phase. This changes indicate that the market was characterized by more risk aversion than before, due to the collapse of the financial system, which impacted Ireland with severity; in fact, is it possible to notice a fall in stock prices and returns, which tend to be negative during and in the first couple of years after the crisis.

With regard to the distribution and its symmetry, kurtosis and skewness demonstrate, respectively, light-tails and high peaks and asymmetry in all the three stages, however the pre and post-crisis highlight left-tails asymmetry, whereas during the crisis the asymmetry tends to be on the right side of the distribution.

The relationship between the risk and returns of the stocks in the portfolios is examined via a linear regression for each of the three periods.

During the pre-crisis period, from 2001 to 2006, there is a weak positive correlation between the variables (Multiple R = 15%) and the independent variable accounts for $R^2 = 2.26\%$ of the variation in the dependent variable: the systematic risk, β ,

does not have a strong explanatory power for the excess returns; it means that the remaining 97.74% is accounted for missing variables.

Fama and French's (1992, 1996) three-factors model, for example, can be an approach to identify the missing variables, taking into account the stock market returns, the book-to-market value and the size, identified with the market capitalization. Furthermore, there is in literature a broad attempt to develop multi-factor models, as the evidences suggest that there is more than one factor that could explain the excess returns on a stock (Sharpe, 1998; Banz, 1981; Basu, 1983; Litzenberger and Ramaswamy, 1982; Subrahmanyam, 2010).

To validate the CAPM it is tested the intercept of the linear regression:

Null Hypothesis $\rightarrow \mathbf{H_0: \alpha_i = 0}$

Alternative Hypothesis $\rightarrow \mathbf{H_1: \alpha_i \neq 0}$

If the null hypothesis is satisfied, therefore the model is explained only by the systematic risk, and the relationship is positive and linear. However, the model is not significant as $F > 0.05$ ($F = 0.25$). Though, looking at the intercept, the value is not so far from zero ($\alpha_i = 0.009$) and, even if it is still not significant (p-value = 0.08), there is a quasi-relationship between the dependent variable, represented by excess returns, and the independent variable, the systematic risk beta.

What emerges from the first period of time analysed is that the CAPM is not valid from 2001 to 2006, as it is not able to explain the relationship between risk and returns, in fact, despite the linearity and positivity, the t-test is not significant. It is arguable that during this period of time, the Irish market had a little influence on explaining the stock returns.

The second linear regression, which analyses the period of time 2007-2008, shows a strength of correlation that suggests some co-movement between returns and risk ($R = 48\%$) and the explanatory power is significantly higher than the pre-crisis period ($R^2 = 23\%$) even if it is still low for validating the model.

However, the significance of the modelled relationship is confirmed ($F = 0.03$, $F < 0.05$), and the coefficient shows significance as well (p-value = 0.03), but the null hypothesis of the intercept is rejected, even if $\alpha_i = 0.008$, as its p-value exceeds 0.05 (p-value = 0.3).

It seems the influence of the crisis is noteworthy: even if the model is not validated,

it is noticeable that the behaviour of the market in times of crisis affects the trend of the returns.

The third linear regression analyses the relationship risk-returns in the post-crisis periods (2009-2011) and it shows a similar result sought in the pre-crisis phase: the correlation coefficient is weak and positive ($R = 40\%$) and the explanatory power of the independent variable is lower than during the crisis ($R^2 = 16\%$) but greater than the first regression observed. The regression is significant ($F = 0.03$) but the model is rejected due to the insignificance of the intercept ($\alpha_i = - 0.007$; $p\text{-value} = 0.11$).

Furthermore, the coefficient highlights the existence of a negative, but linear relationship risk-return, whereas in the two precedent phases (pre-crisis and crisis) the relationship is positive.

Several empirical attempts have tried to validate the CAPM, even if poor attention has been paid with reference to the Irish market and the global financial crisis. The next chapter will discuss about the literature related to the findings of this study.

Chapter 4. Discussion

The study finds that the CAPM is not a good indicator for asset returns at ISE as the model is non-statistically significant for all the three period of time considered. However, what emerges is a greater, but still not significant, explanatory power of the systematic risk on the required return on assets during the global financial crisis, whereas pre and post-crisis the R^2 is lower (2001-2006: $R^2 = 23\%$; 2009-2011: $R^2 = 16\%$).

The analysis of the three linear regressions does not support the Capital Asset Pricing Model's theory developed by Sharpe (1964), Lintner (1965) and Mossin (1966) where the relationship between the excess returns and the systemic risk should be linear and positive, as the returns on the assets should be only explained by the factor β . Thus, the above results express support to the Basu and Chawla (2010) study based on the Indian market: the CAPM is invalidated as it fails to explain excess returns, due to R-coefficient extremely low and the absence of

significance of the intercept, and to the UK study of Hwang, Gao and Howen (2012), who reject the model because the systematic risk is not enough in explaining the returns; other factors have to be comprise to validate the CAPM.

The model developed does not support the findings of Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016) based at Malaysian Stock Exchange, where the CAPM is validated by applying the same methodology.

Bearing in mind the limitations of the methodology pursued and data utilised in the analysis, as discussed in the previous section (2.4), the results indicate other factors may be at play at Irish Stock Exchange as beta does not seems an appropriate explanatory measure.

Though, the analysis shows that there is a different pattern for the period pre, during and post the financial crisis: it is possible to think of those three stages as the periods where, respectively, there was no strict policy, a rigorous policy and a return in a less cautious behaviour. When the market is experiencing a downturn the CAPM seems more efficient in capturing the co-movement between risk and returns, albeit the model is still statistically non-significant.

According to Pettengill et al. (1995) and Bilić, Dimitrić and Škalamera-Aliović (2016) the crisis' influence should validate the Capital Asset Pricing Model the more the distance from the crisis is longer in terms of time; however, it is arguable that in the Irish context, the opposite occurs: during the pre-crisis period, the market was characterized by a less rigour in policies and discipline and investors were more willing to take risks, the CAPM, even if is still statistically non-significant highlights a positive relationship between the variables observed and an intercept that is almost zero and almost significant ($\alpha_i = 0.009$; p-value = 0.08); during the crisis, and the immediate intervention of EU and the rigorous policy developed to establish stability in the financial system, the model seems acquiring more validity as the explanatory power of the systemic risk on the excess returns is greater than the other two stages; whereas, in the sub-period of the post-crisis, the relationship between risk and returns becomes negative and non-significant, with a lower explanatory power ($R^2 = 16\%$).

In those circumstances, the CAPM gives an understanding of market behaviour, however, according to Cai, Clacher and Keasey (2013) the model limits the

comprehension of the market itself with its idealistic assumption based on a perfect behaviour rather than the reality of the facts. Indeed, it is assumed rationality in human being and, consequently, in the market.

During the global financial crisis individuals, governments and institutions behaved non-rationally taking too much risk, believing that the market was efficient and would have restored the stability (auto-correction); this behaviour led to a systemic collapse fostered by the weaknesses of the regulations.

The study suggests to examine market behaviours and expand the CAPM model to other factors, considering a relaxation of its assumptions, which, as evident, are a limitation of the model itself.

Furthermore, when considering the valuation of a business the systemic risk has not to be the only element observed. In the aftermath of the 2008 it is essential to assess the systemic importance in the whole financial system, taking in consideration the effect of its downturn, as it causes risk spill over and externalities that are borne by the whole economy.

Chapter 5. Conclusion

This study set out to test the validity of the Capital Asset Pricing Model within the Irish Stock Exchange. Specifically, the research investigated the risk-return linear and positive relationship predicted by the theory. The findings from this study indicate that the model fails in explaining the co-movement of the two variables, suggesting that more than one factor may be necessary to explain the asset pricing. To test the traditional CAPM, which states that only one factor, the systematic risk beta, influences the required return on asset and their relationship is positive and linear, the stocks traded at ISE for the period of time 2001-2011 were used. The data was divided into three sub-periods, in order to assess the performance of the CAPM before, during and after the global financial crisis; 25 listed companies out of 55 (due to unavailability of data for the period specified), have been allocated in 110 portfolios (semi-annually constructed) in descending order of beta, which has been estimated, due to the unavailability of the real data. Three linear regressions and t-test of the intercepts have been carried out in relation to the sub-periods.

The methodology pursued to address the research question follows the statistical

approach of Fama and MacBeth (1973); Basu and Chawla (2010); Hwang, Gao and Owen (2012); Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016) who tested the model through a linear regression and a t-test of the intercept, paying attention to the systematic risk beta as the only factor which affects the required return on assets in a portfolio.

Within this study, non-significance emerges in all the three sub-periods analysed: non-zero intercepts and weak relationships between risk and returns determine the fallacy of the CAPM in explaining the asset prices at ISE. The methodology applied and the findings are in line with the study of Basu and Chawla (2010) who examined the CAPM at Indian Stock Exchange, and the study of Hwang, Gao and Howen (2012), who rejected the model within the UK market. Though, the model does not support the findings of Lee, Cheng and Chong (2016), at Malaysian Stock Exchange, where the CAPM is significant. Furthermore, the relationship appears to be negative in the period immediately after the global financial crisis (2009-2011), contrasting partially the work of Pettengill et al. (1995) who found that in bearish market the relationship risk-return is negative and in bullish is positive and Bilić, Dimitrić and Škalamera-Aliović (2016) research that affirmed the validation of CAPM when the distance from the crisis is longer in terms of time. The irrelevance of the model indicates that other variables should be included as other empirical evidences suggest (Fama and French, 1992).

Despite the non-significance of the CAPM, the sub-period 2007-2008, which analyses the performance of the model during the financial crisis, shows a greater co-movement risk-return and more powerful explanatory power of the risk in clarifying the returns ($R = 48\%$; $R^2 = 23\%$), compared to the other two sub-periods (2001-2006: $R = 15\%$, $R^2 = 2.26\%$; 2009-2011: $R = 40$, $R^2 = 16\%$).

What emerged from the study is that there is a difference in behaviour pre, during and post-crisis: the CAPM seems more “efficient” in periods of downturn, where market policies are stricter. In fact, whilst in pre-crisis the correlation and R^2 coefficient are extremely low, during the financial crisis they tend to be higher, and then falling again post-crisis, in a more moderate way, showing a downward trend. This behaviour contrasts the findings of Pettengill et al. (1995) who tested the model in up and down market periods, finding that the risk-return relationship is positive in bearish market and negative in bullish market: in this circumstances a bearish

market, characterised by the global financial crisis established a positive and stronger relationship, but non-significant, between the systematic risk and the required return on assets for efficient portfolios. Also, the crisis should have a greater influence in the validation of the model as the distance in terms of time increases (Bilić, Dimitrić and Škalamera-Aliović, 2016) but in the case of the Irish market, the more the distance from the crisis the less “effective” the CAPM appears, in fact the relationship risk-returns is negative and weaker.

The study has been performed keeping in mind the limitations of the procedures adopted: the estimations of beta produced anomalies in the outcomes due to events occurred in those years (reverse stock splits, losses, falling in stock prices as consequences of the crisis) which lead to disproportionate values; the theoretical assumptions of the CAPM do not match with real world; the period of time analysed did not allow to gather the stock returns for all the 55 companies listed at ISE; the empirical suggestions of the multi-factors’ influence in explaining asset returns. Additionally, according to Basu and Chawla (2010), the failure of the CAPM can be attributed to other factors and limitations of the methodology pursued: tax effects, imperfect market proxy, borrowing and lending at different tax rates, dividends, etc. In fact, in absence of borrowing and lending at risk free rate the returns on asset will be explained by two factors: beta and the market factor (Black, 1970), whereas empirical evidences (Black and Scholes, 1970) reject the influence of dividends.

The Capital Asset Pricing Model fails at ISE for the reason that the systematic risk is not sufficient, as unique factor, in explaining the asset returns; though, despite the non-significance of the model the beta factor has a noteworthy role, especially during the crisis (2007-2008), where the explanatory power is greater, but still non-significant.

It is concluded that the CAPM is not an adequate measure for the Irish Stock Exchange and that its validity is rejected for all three sub-periods examined: non-zero intercepts (even if very close to zero during the pre-crisis, $\alpha_i = 0.009$; p-value = 0.08) and statistically non-significance characterised the analysis. It is possible to observe a trend in the explanatory power of the systematic risk on the asset returns during the crisis, which declines immediately after, meaning that in periods of

stricter policies and downturn, the systematic risk acquires more efficiency in influencing the asset returns.

Even though the above-mentioned results indicate the failure of the CAPM at Irish Stock Exchange, further researches could be attempted to validate the model at the Irish market by introducing multi-factors to explain the missing elements in determining the asset returns; other asset pricing models could be applied in order to perform a comparative study which cover the shortcomings of the CAPM's theory. Also, an extended period of time and a more exhaustive and sophisticated market proxy could be contemplated in the analysis.

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Appendix A

Table 1: Semi-annual Beta Estimations.

COMPANY	BETA 1-2001	BETA 2-2001	BETA 1-2002	BETA 2-2002	BETA 1-2003	BETA 2-2003	BETA 1-2004	BETA 2-2004	BETA 1-2005	BETA 2-2005	BETA 1-2006	BETA 2-2006	BETA 1-2007	BETA 2-2007	BETA 1-2008	BETA 2-2008	BETA 1-2009	BETA 2-2009	BETA 1-2010	BETA 2-2010	BETA 1-2011	BETA 2-2011
ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.830277787	0.634815224	0.051385719	-0.17428476	0.013569101	-0.0296697	0.882818361	0.402133571	0.525534985	0.887537974	1.099078533	1.376362411	1.02101116	1.367038789	1.073090379	1.585156866	4.828825613	2.108370405	2.710195283	1.416900285	3.675224622	2.500548361
CRH	0.56378546	0.728590691	-0.01253927	0.722034298	-0.00883602	-0.02594216	0.877361667	0.927674958	0.830922211	1.671139386	1.545455698	1.436606293	1.089564248	1.131356784	0.763009997	0.961421369	0.917752494	0.991932438	1.023214526	1.865363543	1.337391499	1.444605039
BANK OF IRELAND	1.339230648	0.568644624	0.021463271	-0.31410461	0.004294465	-0.02190122	0.939912675	1.12227091	0.319505757	0.939290006	0.672975796	0.812757112	1.131936985	1.315731774	1.260025469	1.975901287	4.763236159	2.67607551	2.803298038	2.414794986	1.109574307	1.306114062
TULLOW OIL	0.737534934	0.013568946	0.014172236	0.07022452	0.002907572	-0.0343558	0.753615196	0.423963497	0.00337417	0.738484856	1.666087033	0.569336751	1.211422154	0.444840847	0.36764858	0.642593488	0.75109099	0.366652842	1.249396835	0.774204477	0.524847095	1.115619558
PERMANENT TSB	0.848546405	0.790689793	0.003924534	1.146653276	-0.01077723	-0.02604187	0.7508447	0.522712514	0.63180354	1.090736489	1.001139322	1.188384695	1.11576433	1.490740825	1.163359476	1.812771821	2.629772929	1.214923662	1.597498346	1.457573353	-0.92716821	1.08730563
ORMONDE MINING	-0.260471743	-0.09536036	0.012837773	-0.04303065	0.058580679	0.041987637	1.177128298	1.143523868	7.65552E-05	1.196212795	1.396582006	0.901310693	-0.44593261	0.712316166	0.020123	0.310603108	0.309893382	0.035396924	0.830537718	-0.33834583	0.912037203	0.909745541
KINGSPAN GROUP	1.12272775	0.472832219	-0.06103811	1.057863678	-0.15318278	0.023724163	0.398841906	0.851031236	0.407170632	1.062910808	1.201833147	0.941800943	1.007796936	1.42320117	0.853855558	1.276900392	1.191997147	0.988086296	0.654289664	1.372716758	0.62738054	0.885115117
KENMARE RESOURCES	0.494156155	0.319722535	0.003486631	0.532523694	0.005389517	0.01382958	0.757417385	1.455482004	6.670664158	3.164907889	7.853359633	-6.03798626	1.243857348	5.402127222	-1.45749325	-0.69523297	-0.88938322	-1.86330949	1.106854777	-0.34302329	-0.55696549	0.869649331
RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.648764373	1.623630375	-0.07555758	1.817193483	0.01129598	0.01787228	3.004528009	2.802326883	1.013074633	0.805012015	0.079721756	0.519909015	2.603307338	0.738193264	1.448140023	1.038566035	0.654788531	0.917249059	0.875564993	0.256531825	1.056214135	0.850306751
KERRY GROUP	0.269566903	0.265487264	-0.02430506	0.260034949	-0.02349291	-0.03534523	0.172710659	0.26785349	0.306757397	0.541523034	0.989952376	0.492870778	0.260824255	0.431248173	0.640019441	0.135877194	0.48009816	0.120184145	0.569675302	0.180840851	0.568377844	0.760502765
PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.344683614	0.638559568	-0.04416546	0.458848819	-0.01539607	0.010286715	0.372531472	0.257000807	-0.11455545	-0.15936579	1.910374668	1.263409563	1.045007638	0.578746053	0.114201194	0.74299738	0.625164644	0.476398379	0.520727188	0.753629366	0.383738212	0.742823216
OVOCA GOLD	-0.150971807	0.092835835	0.060360967	-1.81527809	0.003516384	0.217700098	1.057707155	1.020886644	0.077807391	-1.26280936	0.156824211	0.813905024	-0.27618854	-0.02242092	1.020855954	0.412695316	-0.33222191	-0.35025046	-7.66496845	0.395680411	0.729420084	0.718595139
AMINEX	1.062148665	0.177646739	-0.01583723	-0.05009923	0.029315833	-0.0060485	-1.07690966	-0.15709895	1.10536051	-1.05343014	1.551648347	0.806902784	1.230196158	0.490475589	-0.08565319	0.430563477	0.896893973	-0.16910334	0.66456309	-0.60393551	-0.08351108	0.703563189
PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	1.485665546	-0.22884345	-0.41183508	0.167062479	-0.17617344	0.00883658	1.698749216	-0.97441994	0.769334315	1.267967225	1.170856305	-0.2598543	0.235291422	0.241828766	0.459232633	0.346757424	-0.16199401	139.3489157	0.123983747	-0.95050151	0.592011639	
DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.20367472	-0.07988064	-0.02527501	0.123783813	0.05781679	0.002748954	0.534175862	0.209810088	0.20641371	-0.14399527	0.33874542	-0.69166127	-0.08701613	-0.11775067	-0.01658291	0.106945566	0.227309485	0.286438899	-0.22285167	-0.41617841	-0.08684526	0.540880116
GLANBIA	0.864116486	0.497133695	-0.0328239	0.313331831	-0.00091926	0.028446222	0.87148745	0.444740496	0.948069763	1.248690816	0.783443537	0.70613953	0.252956591	0.251872235	-0.10338754	0.443949642	0.722540684	0.409058403	0.671036098	0.181894954	0.564108145	0.481760836
FBD HOLDINGS	-0.108409935	0.471409141	0.027191169	-0.13244385	-0.00439253	0.007031802	0.024055655	-0.10929321	0.350370071	0.36096778	0.479862304	0.638623821	0.833064041	0.967946381	0.06051433	0.817232941	0.604526762	0.588294919	0.966542484	0.17825244	0.098393293	0.3775373
DATALEX	0.843500707	0.724173413	-0.12537741	0.964311057	0.00267883	-0.10451122	-1.29774157	-0.75143894	0.742044562	-0.09270508	0.415335875	-0.13233702	0.373779857	0.511116855	-0.02273003	0.259198018	0.358459537	0.901745716	1.131393604	1.44854945	-0.76689782	0.257342458
IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.170084452	0.885223096	0.006075067	0.563638061	-0.0091904	-0.04138397	0.503040352	0.998927294	0.507993441	0.761543351	0.271977175	1.046204617	0.396158763	0.249249082	0.436030395	-0.0212696	0.260652291	-0.0004672	0.381938905	0.168114346	0.15719984	0.193169888
IFG GROUP	0.483637141	0.259734099	-0.06101074	0.453545307	0.200016697	0.08160544	1.893321227	0.870662208	0.461536181	0.835564376	1.513062553	0.100073696	0.758391149	0.456411854	0.240668567	0.515380619	1.043916022	0.400312376	0.339018798	0.102789491	-0.10365676	0.139384563
INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.235759336	1.05104699	-0.03841533	0.262733097	-0.09523061	0.055586499	0.714146643	0.367892541	0.482180432	0.61639016	0.730765281	0.800157447	0.735118326	0.603879199	1.085328073	1.38087934	2.350094297	-22.7297741	-0.38884174	6.109793894	-0.23196138	0.043449231
DIAGEO	-0.189640113	0.069645148	0.008875709	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TESCO PLC	0.538018763	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
ABBAY	-0.068584646	0.127756114	0.012472446	-0.01883288	-0.05219611	0.013338653	1.324439958	0.082240435	0.482684896	0.222720375	0.543324496	0.725370829	0.116949595	0.456828861	0.720735505	0.239202646	0.183414008	0.239792579	-9.91000987	0.487164477	0.144497055	-0.05458582
CPL RESOURCES	1.350033648	-0.95109986	-0.00942594	-0.21511288	0.005509929	-0.07587478	2.813831057	0.898207052	0.538420067	0.530593932	0.573585254	0.1970803	0.676189824	0.745115725	0.292787777	0.365724514	0.373428618	0.539989488	0.27561819	0.106096482	-0.01560885	-0.12859403

Table 2: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2001.

1st SEMESTER 2001

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
1	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.648764
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	1.485666
	CPL RESOURCES	1.350034
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.339231
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.122728
	BETA PORTFOLIO 1	1.389284
	RETURN	-0.00199
	STD.DEV	0.052706

2	AMINEX	1.062149
	GLANBIA	0.864116
	PERMANENT TSB	0.848546
	DATALEX	0.843501
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.830278
	BETA PORTFOLIO 2	0.889718
	RETURN	-0.00112
	STD.DEV	0.042336

3	TULLOW OIL	0.737535
	CRH	0.563785
	TESCO PLC	0.538019
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.494156
	IFG GROUP	0.483637
	BETA PORTFOLIO 3	0.563426
	RETURN	0.012654
	STD.DEV	0.028501

4	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.344684
	KERRY GROUP	0.269567
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.235759
	ABBAY	-0.06858
	FBD HOLDINGS	-0.10841
	BETA PORTFOLIO 4	0.134603
	RETURN	0.001034
	STD.DEV	0.01968

5	OVOCA GOLD	-0.15097
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.17008
	DIAGEO	-0.18964
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.20367
	ORMONDE MINING	-0.26047
	BETA PORTFOLIO 5	-0.19497
	RETURN	0.008964
	STD.DEV	0.042745

2nd SEMESTER 2001

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
6	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.62363
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	1.051047
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.885223
	PERMANENT TSB	0.79069
	CRH	0.728591
	BETA PORTFOLIO 6	1.015836
	RETURN	-0.00253
	STD.DEV	0.040015

7	DATALEX	0.724173
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.63856
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.634815
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.568645
	GLANBIA	0.497134
	BETA PORTFOLIO 7	0.612665
	RETURN	-0.00858
	STD.DEV	0.038721

8	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.472832
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.471409
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.319723
	KERRY GROUP	0.265487
	IFG GROUP	0.259734
	BETA PORTFOLIO 8	0.357837
	RETURN	-0.00181
	STD.DEV	0.025708

9	AMINEX	0.177647
	ABBAY	0.127756
	OVOCA GOLD	0.092836
	DIAGEO	0.069645
	TULLOW OIL	0.013569
	BETA PORTFOLIO 9	0.096291
	RETURN	-0.00532
	STD.DEV	0.036507

10	TESCO PLC	0
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.07988
	ORMONDE MINING	-0.09536
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.22884
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.9511
	BETA PORTFOLIO 10	-0.27104
	RETURN	-0.00524
	STD.DEV	0.028718

Table 3: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2002.

1st SEMESTER 2002

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
11	OVOCA GOLD	0.060361
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.051386
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.027191
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.021463
	TULLOW OIL	0.014172
	BETA PORTFOLIO 11	0.034915
	RETURN	0.013319
STD.DEV	0.052944	

12	ORMONDE MINING	0.012838
	ABBAY	0.012472
	DIAGEO	0.008876
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.006075
	PERMANENT TSB	0.003925
	BETA PORTFOLIO 12	0.008837
	RETURN	0.009414
STD.DEV	0.025379	

13	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.003487
	TESCO PLC	0
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.00943
	CRH	-0.01254
	AMINEX	-0.01584
	BETA PORTFOLIO 13	-0.00686
	RETURN	0.002112
STD.DEV	0.037281	

14	KERRY GROUP	-0.02431
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.02528
	GLANBIA	-0.03282
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	-0.03842
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	-0.04417
	BETA PORTFOLIO 14	-0.033
	RETURN	0.005175
STD.DEV	0.019929	

15	IFG GROUP	-0.06101
	KINGSPAN GROUP	-0.06104
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	-0.07556
	DATALEX	-0.12538
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.41184
	BETA PORTFOLIO 15	-0.14696
	RETURN	-0.00334
STD.DEV	0.044888	

2nd SEMESTER 2002

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
16	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.817193
	PERMANENT TSB	1.146653
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.057864
	DATALEX	0.964311
	CRH	0.722034
	BETA PORTFOLIO 16	1.141611
	RETURN	-0.00316
STD.DEV	0.059484	

17	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.563638
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.532524
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.458849
	IFG GROUP	0.453545
	GLANBIA	0.313332
	BETA PORTFOLIO 17	0.464378
	RETURN	-0.01805
STD.DEV	0.03686	

18	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.262733
	KERRY GROUP	0.260035
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.167062
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.123784
	TULLOW OIL	0.070225
	BETA PORTFOLIO 18	0.176768
	RETURN	-0.00111
STD.DEV	0.040003	

19	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	ABBAY	-0.01883
	ORMONDE MINING	-0.04303
	AMINEX	-0.0501
	BETA PORTFOLIO 19	-0.02239
	RETURN	-0.00577
STD.DEV	0.017356	

20	FBD HOLDINGS	-0.13244
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	-0.17428
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.21511
	BANK OF IRELAND	-0.3141
	OVOCA GOLD	-1.81528
	BETA PORTFOLIO 20	-0.53024
	RETURN	0.00427
STD.DEV	0.050329	

Table 4: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2003.

1st SEMESTER 2003

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
21	IFG GROUP	0.200017
	ORMONDE MINING	0.058581
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.057817
	AMINEX	0.029316
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.013569
	BETA PORTFOLIO 21	0.07186
	RETURN	0.009506
	STD.DEV	0.037225

22	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.011296
	CPL RESOURCES	0.00551
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.00539
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.004294
	OVOCA GOLD	0.003516
	BETA PORTFOLIO 22	0.006001
	RETURN	0.002167
	STD.DEV	0.041658

23	TULLOW OIL	0.002908
	DATALEX	0.002679
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	GLANBIA	-0.00092
	BETA PORTFOLIO 23	0.000933
	RETURN	0.00099
	STD.DEV	0.027087

24	FBD HOLDINGS	-0.00439
	CRH	-0.00884
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.00919
	PERMANENT TSB	-0.01078
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	-0.0154
	BETA PORTFOLIO 24	-0.00972
	RETURN	0.003453
	STD.DEV	0.018649

25	KERRY GROUP	-0.02349
	ABBAY	-0.0522
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	-0.09523
	KINGSPAN GROUP	-0.15318
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.17617
	BETA PORTFOLIO 25	-0.10006
	RETURN	0.012343
	STD.DEV	0.047733

2nd SEMESTER 2003

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
26	OVOCA GOLD	0.2177
	IFG GROUP	0.081605
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.055586
	ORMONDE MINING	0.041988
	GLANBIA	0.028446
	BETA PORTFOLIO 26	0.085065
	RETURN	0.012902
	STD.DEV	0.053124

27	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.023724
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.017872
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.01383
	ABBAY	0.013339
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.010287
	BETA PORTFOLIO 27	0.01581
	RETURN	0.009951
	STD.DEV	0.021568

28	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.008837
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.007032
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.002749
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 28	0.003723
	RETURN	0.016802
	STD.DEV	0.056996

29	AMINEX	-0.00605
	BANK OF IRELAND	-0.0219
	CRH	-0.02594
	PERMANENT TSB	-0.02604
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	-0.02967
	BETA PORTFOLIO 29	-0.02192
	RETURN	0.00381
	STD.DEV	0.023849

30	TULLOW OIL	-0.03436
	KERRY GROUP	-0.03535
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.04138
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.07587
	DATALEX	-0.10451
	BETA PORTFOLIO 30	-0.05829
	RETURN	0.012175
	STD.DEV	0.035704

Table 5: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2004.

<u>1st SEMESTER 2004</u>			<u>2nd SEMESTER 2004</u>		
PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA	PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
31	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	3.004528	36	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	2.802327
	CPL RESOURCES	2.813831		KENMARE RESOURCES	1.455482
	IFG GROUP	1.893321		BANK OF IRELAND	1.122271
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	1.698749		OVOCA GOLD	1.020887
	ABBAY	1.32444		IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.998927
	BETA PORTFOLIO 31	2.146974		BETA PORTFOLIO 36	1.479979
	RETURN	0.010677		RETURN	0.13108
STD.DEV	0.054408	STD.DEV	0.300411		
32	ORMONDE MINING	1.177128	37	CRH	0.927675
	OVOCA GOLD	1.057707		CPL RESOURCES	0.898207
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.939913		IFG GROUP	0.870662
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.882818		KINGSPAN GROUP	0.851031
	CRH	0.877362		PERMANENT TSB	0.522713
	BETA PORTFOLIO 32	0.986986		BETA PORTFOLIO 37	0.814058
	RETURN	0.010151		RETURN	0.004426
STD.DEV	0.036018	STD.DEV	0.01859		
33	GLANBIA	0.871487	38	GLANBIA	0.44474
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.757417		TULLOW OIL	0.423963
	TULLOW OIL	0.753615		ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.402134
	PERMANENT TSB	0.750845		INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.367893
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.714147		KERRY GROUP	0.267853
	BETA PORTFOLIO 33	0.769502		BETA PORTFOLIO 38	0.381317
	RETURN	0.007055		RETURN	0.004811
STD.DEV	0.024045	STD.DEV	0.01275		
34	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.534176	39	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.257001
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.50304		DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.20981
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.398842		ORMONDE MINING	0.143524
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.372531		ABBAY	0.08224
	KERRY GROUP	0.172711		DIAGEO	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 34	0.39626		BETA PORTFOLIO 39	0.138515
	RETURN	0.007099		RETURN	0.002729
STD.DEV	0.015599	STD.DEV	0.014504		
35	FBD HOLDINGS	0.024056	40	TESCO PLC	0
	DIAGEO	0		FBD HOLDINGS	-0.10929
	TESCO PLC	0		AMINEX	-0.1571
	AMINEX	-1.07691		DATALEX	-0.75144
	DATALEX	-1.29774		PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.97442
	BETA PORTFOLIO 35	-0.47012		BETA PORTFOLIO 40	-0.39845
	RETURN	-0.00597		RETURN	-0.00028
STD.DEV	0.025404	STD.DEV	0.044267		

Table 6: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2005.

1st SEMESTER 2005

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
41	KENMARE RESOURCES	6.670664
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	2.054989
	AMINEX	1.105361
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.013075
	GLANBIA	0.94807
	BETA PORTFOLIO 41	2.358432
	RETURN	0.127586
	STD.DEV	0.282962

42	CRH	0.830922
	DATALEX	0.742045
	PERMANENT TSB	0.631804
	CPL RESOURCES	0.53842
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.525535
	BETA PORTFOLIO 42	0.653745
	RETURN	0.006663
	STD.DEV	0.020261

43	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.507993
	ABBAY	0.482685
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.48218
	IFG GROUP	0.461536
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.407171
	BETA PORTFOLIO 43	0.468313
	RETURN	0.005763
	STD.DEV	0.015903

44	FBD HOLDINGS	0.35037
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.319506
	KERRY GROUP	0.306757
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.206414
	OVOCA GOLD	0.077807
	BETA PORTFOLIO 44	0.252171
	RETURN	0.008901
	STD.DEV	0.028805

45	TULLOW OIL	0.003374
	ORMONDE MINING	7.66E-05
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	-0.11456
	BETA PORTFOLIO 45	-0.02222
	RETURN	0.003492
	STD.DEV	0.018637

2nd SEMESTER 2005

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
46	KENMARE RESOURCES	3.164907889
	CRH	1.671139386
	GLANBIA	1.248690816
	ORMONDE MINING	1.196212795
	PERMANENT TSB	1.090736489
	BETA PORTFOLIO 46	1.674337475
	RETURN	0.164744005
	STD.DEV	0.302959676

47	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.062910808
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.939290006
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	0.887537974
	IFG GROUP	0.835564376
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.805012015
	BETA PORTFOLIO 47	0.906063036
	RETURN	0.00601223
	STD.DEV	0.016719224

48	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.769334315
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.761543351
	TULLOW OIL	0.738484856
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.61639016
	KERRY GROUP	0.541523034
	BETA PORTFOLIO 48	0.685455143
	RETURN	0.003126698
	STD.DEV	0.025456006

49	CPL RESOURCES	0.530593932
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.36096778
	ABBAY	0.222720375
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 49	0.222856417
	RETURN	0.005574558
	STD.DEV	0.012904863

50	DATALEX	-0.092705081
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.143995271
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	-0.159365786
	AMINEX	-1.053430145
	OVOCA GOLD	-1.262809359
	BETA PORTFOLIO 50	-0.542461128
	RETURN	0.016849168
	STD.DEV	0.04345459

Table 7: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2006.

1st SEMESTER 2006

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
51	KENMARE RESOURCES	7.85336
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	1.910375
	TULLOW OIL	1.666087
	AMINEX	1.551648
	CRH	1.545456
	BETA PORTFOLIO 51	2.905385
	RETURN	0.056583
	STD.DEV	0.174235

52	IFG GROUP	1.513063
	ORMONDE MINING	1.396582
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	1.267967
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.201833
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.099079
	BETA PORTFOLIO 52	1.295705
	RETURN	0.009139
	STD.DEV	0.038071

53	PERMANENT TSB	1.001139
	KERRY GROUP	0.989952
	GLANBIA	0.783444
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.730765
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.672976
	BETA PORTFOLIO 53	0.835655
	RETURN	-0.00085
	STD.DEV	0.021151

54	CPL RESOURCES	0.573585
	ABBAY	0.543324
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.479862
	DATALEX	0.415336
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.338745
	BETA PORTFOLIO 54	0.470171
	RETURN	0.000925
	STD.DEV	0.020351

55	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.271977
	OVOCA GOLD	0.156824
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.079722
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 55	0.101705
	RETURN	-0.00331
	STD.DEV	0.016843

2nd SEMESTER 2006

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
56	CRH	1.436606
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.376362
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	1.26341
	PERMANENT TSB	1.188385
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	1.170856
	BETA PORTFOLIO 56	1.287124
	RETURN	0.006304
	STD.DEV	0.023258

57	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	1.046205
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.941801
	ORMONDE MINING	0.901311
	OVOCA GOLD	0.813905
	BANK OF IRELAND	0.812757
	BETA PORTFOLIO 57	0.903196
	RETURN	0.01219
	STD.DEV	0.025533

58	AMINEX	0.806903
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.800157
	ABBAY	0.725371
	GLANBIA	0.70614
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.638624
	BETA PORTFOLIO 58	0.735439
	RETURN	0.006547
	STD.DEV	0.018285

59	TULLOW OIL	0.569337
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.519909
	KERRY GROUP	0.492871
	CPL RESOURCES	0.19708
	IFG GROUP	0.100074
	BETA PORTFOLIO 59	0.375854
	RETURN	0.010843
	STD.DEV	0.014787

60	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	DATALEX	-0.13234
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.69166
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-6.03799
	BETA PORTFOLIO 60	-1.3724
	RETURN	0.039175
	STD.DEV	0.129219

Table 8: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2007.

1st SEMESTER 2007

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
61	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	2.603307
	KENMARE RESOURCES	1.243857
	AMINEX	1.230196
	TULLOW OIL	1.211422
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.131937
	BETA PORTFOLIO 61	1.484144
	RETURN	0.015246
	STD.DEV	0.107283

62	PERMANENT TSB	1.115764
	CRH	1.089564
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	1.045008
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.021011
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.007797
	BETA PORTFOLIO 62	1.055829
	RETURN	0.002827
	STD.DEV	0.02915

63	FBD HOLDINGS	0.833064
	IFG GROUP	0.758391
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.735118
	CPL RESOURCES	0.67619
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.396159
	BETA PORTFOLIO 63	0.679784
	RETURN	0.00562
	STD.DEV	0.02221

64	DATALEX	0.37378
	KERRY GROUP	0.260824
	GLANBIA	0.252957
	ABBAY	0.11695
	DIAGEO	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 64	0.200902
	RETURN	0.002965
	STD.DEV	0.013212

65	TESCO PLC	0
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.08702
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.25985
	OVOCA GOLD	-0.27619
	ORMONDE MINING	-0.44593
	BETA PORTFOLIO 65	-0.2138
	RETURN	0.002196
	STD.DEV	0.03137

2nd SEMESTER 2007

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
66	KENMARE RESOURCES	5.402127
	PERMANENT TSB	1.490741
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.423201
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.367039
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.315732
	BETA PORTFOLIO 66	2.199768
	RETURN	0.018695
	STD.DEV	0.135418

67	CRH	1.131357
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.967946
	CPL RESOURCES	0.745116
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.738193
	ORMONDE MINING	0.712316
	BETA PORTFOLIO 67	0.858986
	RETURN	-0.00786
	STD.DEV	0.046629

68	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.603879
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.578746
	DATALEX	0.511117
	AMINEX	0.490476
	ABBAY	0.456829
	BETA PORTFOLIO 68	0.528209
	RETURN	-0.00706
	STD.DEV	0.036382

69	IFG GROUP	0.456412
	TULLOW OIL	0.444841
	KERRY GROUP	0.431248
	GLANBIA	0.251872
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.249249
	BETA PORTFOLIO 69	0.366724
	RETURN	0.001669
	STD.DEV	0.02918

70	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.235291
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	OVOCA GOLD	-0.02242
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.11775
	BETA PORTFOLIO 70	0.019024
	RETURN	0.002621
	STD.DEV	0.025886

Table 9: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2008.

1st SEMESTER 2008

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
71	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.44814
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.260025
	PERMANENT TSB	1.163359
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	1.085328
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.07309
	BETA PORTFOLIO 71	1.205989
	RETURN	-0.01211
	STD.DEV	0.047407

72	OVOCA GOLD	1.020856
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.853856
	CRH	0.76301
	ABBAY	0.720736
	KERRY GROUP	0.640019
	BETA PORTFOLIO 72	0.799695
	RETURN	-0.01179
	STD.DEV	0.036241

73	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.43603
	TULLOW OIL	0.367649
	CPL RESOURCES	0.292788
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.241829
	IFG GROUP	0.240669
	BETA PORTFOLIO 73	0.315793
	RETURN	0.000876
	STD.DEV	0.031456

74	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.114201
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.060514
	ORMONDE MINING	0.020123
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 74	0.038968
	RETURN	-0.00092
	STD.DEV	0.025014

75	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.01658
	DATALEX	-0.02273
	AMINEX	-0.08565
	GLANBIA	-0.10339
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-1.45749
	BETA PORTFOLIO 75	-0.33717
	RETURN	0.023483
	STD.DEV	0.112502

2nd SEMESTER 2008

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
76	BANK OF IRELAND	1.975901
	PERMANENT TSB	1.812772
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.585157
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	1.380879
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.2769
	BETA PORTFOLIO 76	1.606322
	RETURN	-0.03969
	STD.DEV	0.132912

77	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.038566
	CRH	0.961421
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.817233
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.742997
	TULLOW OIL	0.642593
	BETA PORTFOLIO 77	0.840562
	RETURN	-0.01148
	STD.DEV	0.069955

78	IFG GROUP	0.515381
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.459233
	GLANBIA	0.44395
	AMINEX	0.430563
	OVOCA GOLD	0.412695
	BETA PORTFOLIO 78	0.452364
	RETURN	-0.03391
	STD.DEV	0.067692

79	CPL RESOURCES	0.365725
	ORMONDE MINING	0.310603
	DATALEX	0.259198
	ABBAY	0.239203
	KERRY GROUP	0.135877
	BETA PORTFOLIO 79	0.262121
	RETURN	-0.02133
	STD.DEV	0.048796

80	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.106946
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.02127
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-0.69523
	BETA PORTFOLIO 80	-0.12191
	RETURN	0.019
	STD.DEV	0.107952

Table 10: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2009.

1st SEMESTER 2009

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
81	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	4.828826
	BANK OF IRELAND	4.763236
	PERMANENT TSB	2.629773
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	2.350094
	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.191997
	BETA PORTFOLIO 81	3.152785
	RETURN	0.057661
	STD.DEV	0.254176

82	IFG GROUP	1.043916
	CRH	0.917752
	AMINEX	0.896894
	TULLOW OIL	0.751091
	GLANBIA	0.722541
	BETA PORTFOLIO 82	0.866439
	RETURN	0.019261
	STD.DEV	0.075643

83	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.654789
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.625165
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.604527
	KERRY GROUP	0.480098
	CPL RESOURCES	0.373429
	BETA PORTFOLIO 83	0.547601
	RETURN	0.008931
	STD.DEV	0.046163

84	DATALEX	0.35846
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.346757
	ORMONDE MINING	0.309893
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.260652
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.227309
	BETA PORTFOLIO 84	0.300614
	RETURN	0.009284
	STD.DEV	0.07403

85	ABBAY	0.183414
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-0.33222
	OVOCA GOLD	-0.88938
	BETA PORTFOLIO 85	-0.20764
	RETURN	0.045502
	STD.DEV	0.119263

2nd SEMESTER 2009

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
86	BANK OF IRELAND	2.676076
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	2.10837
	PERMANENT TSB	1.214924
	CRH	0.991932
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.988086
	BETA PORTFOLIO 86	1.595878
	RETURN	0.003329
	STD.DEV	0.073382

87	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.917249
	DATALEX	0.901746
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.588295
	CPL RESOURCES	0.539989
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.476398
	BETA PORTFOLIO 87	0.684736
	RETURN	0.004397
	STD.DEV	0.035239

88	GLANBIA	0.409058
	IFG GROUP	0.400312
	TULLOW OIL	0.366653
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.286439
	ABBAY	0.239793
	BETA PORTFOLIO 88	0.340451
	RETURN	0.007831
	STD.DEV	0.022991

89	KERRY GROUP	0.120184
	ORMONDE MINING	0.035397
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	-0.00047
	BETA PORTFOLIO 89	0.031023
	RETURN	0.005795
	STD.DEV	0.022663

90	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.16199
	AMINEX	-0.1691
	OVOCA GOLD	-0.35025
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-1.86331
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	-22.7298
	BETA PORTFOLIO 90	-5.05489
	RETURN	-0.34882
	STD.DEV	1.247165

Table 11: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2010.

1st SEMESTER 2010

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
91	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	139.3489
	BANK OF IRELAND	2.803298
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	2.710195
	PERMANENT TSB	1.597498
	TULLOW OIL	1.249397
	BETA PORTFOLIO 91	29.54186
	RETURN	0.598678
	STD.DEV	0.613254

92	DATALEX	1.131394
	KENMARE RESOURCES	1.106855
	CRH	1.023215
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.966542
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.875565
	BETA PORTFOLIO 92	1.020714
	RETURN	0.016972
	STD.DEV	0.098972

93	ORMONDE MINING	0.830538
	GLANBIA	0.671036
	AMINEX	0.664563
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.65429
	KERRY GROUP	0.569675
	BETA PORTFOLIO 93	0.67802
	RETURN	0.00038
	STD.DEV	0.05931

94	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.520727
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.381939
	IFG GROUP	0.339019
	CPL RESOURCES	0.275618
	DIAGEO	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 94	0.303461
	RETURN	0.001945
	STD.DEV	0.025812

95	TESCO PLC	0
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.22285
	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	-0.38884
	OVOCA GOLD	-7.66497
	ABBAY	-9.91001
	BETA PORTFOLIO 95	-3.63733
	RETURN	0.101613
	STD.DEV	0.420682

2nd SEMESTER 2010

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
96	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	6.109793894
	BANK OF IRELAND	2.414794986
	CRH	1.865363543
	PERMANENT TSB	1.457573353
	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	1.416900285
	BETA PORTFOLIO 96	2.652885212
	RETURN	0.034081209
	STD.DEV	0.08720793

97	KINGSPAN GROUP	1.372716758
	TULLOW OIL	0.774204477
	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.753629366
	ABBAY	0.48716477
	OVOCA GOLD	0.395680411
	BETA PORTFOLIO 97	0.756679157
	RETURN	0.010233657
	STD.DEV	0.032612482

98	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.256531825
	GLANBIA	0.181894954
	KERRY GROUP	0.180840851
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.17825244
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.168114346
	BETA PORTFOLIO 98	0.193126883
	RETURN	0.002706816
	STD.DEV	0.013706071

99	DATALEX	0.144854945
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.123983747
	CPL RESOURCES	0.106096482
	IFG GROUP	0.102789491
	DIAGEO	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 99	0.095544933
	RETURN	0.01347751
	STD.DEV	0.039809158

100	TESCO PLC	0
	ORMONDE MINING	-0.338345831
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-0.343023295
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.416178406
	AMINEX	-0.603935511
	BETA PORTFOLIO 100	-0.340296609
	RETURN	0.022071129
	STD.DEV	0.152520095

Table 12: Semi-annual Portfolios construction 2011.

1st SEMESTER 2011

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
101	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	3.675225
	CRH	1.337391
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.109574
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	1.056214
	ORMONDE MINING	0.912037
	BETA PORTFOLIO 101	1.618088
	RETURN	-0.00636
STD.DEV	0.061879	

102	OVOCA GOLD	0.72942
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.627381
	KERRY GROUP	0.568378
	GLANBIA	0.564108
	TULLOW OIL	0.524847
	BETA PORTFOLIO 102	0.602827
	RETURN	0.001318
STD.DEV	0.023236	

103	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.383738
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.1572
	ABBAY	0.144497
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.098393
	DIAGEO	0
	BETA PORTFOLIO 103	0.156766
	RETURN	0.002584
STD.DEV	0.009974	

104	TESCO PLC	0
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.01561
	AMINEX	-0.08351
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	-0.08685
	IFG GROUP	-0.10366
	BETA PORTFOLIO 104	-0.05792
	RETURN	0.002335
STD.DEV	0.04155	

105	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	-0.23196
	KENMARE RESOURCES	-0.55697
	DATALEX	-0.7669
	PERMANENT TSB	-0.92717
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	-0.9505
	BETA PORTFOLIO 105	-0.6867
	RETURN	-0.00036
STD.DEV	0.091893	

2nd SEMESTER 2011

PORTFOLIO	COMPANY	BETA
106	ALLIED IRISH BANKS	2.500548
	CRH	1.444605
	BANK OF IRELAND	1.306114
	TULLOW OIL	1.11562
	PERMANENT TSB	1.087306
	BETA PORTFOLIO 106	1.490839
	RETURN	-0.00012
STD.DEV	0.073453	

107	ORMONDE MINING	0.909746
	KINGSPAN GROUP	0.885115
	KENMARE RESOURCES	0.869649
	RYANAIR HOLDINGS	0.850307
	KERRY GROUP	0.760503
	BETA PORTFOLIO 107	0.855064
	RETURN	0.017019
STD.DEV	0.180148	

108	PADDY POWER BETFAIR	0.742823
	OVOCA GOLD	0.718595
	AMINEX	0.703563
	PROVIDENCE RESOURCES	0.592012
	DONEGAL INVESTMENT GROUP	0.54088
	BETA PORTFOLIO 108	0.659575
	RETURN	-0.00453
STD.DEV	0.060034	

109	GLANBIA	0.481761
	FBD HOLDINGS	0.377537
	DATALEX	0.257342
	IRISH CONTINENTAL GROUP	0.19317
	IFG GROUP	0.139385
	BETA PORTFOLIO 109	0.289839
	RETURN	-0.00364
STD.DEV	0.025987	

110	INDEPENT NEWS&MEDIA	0.043449
	DIAGEO	0
	TESCO PLC	0
	ABBAY	-0.05459
	CPL RESOURCES	-0.12859
	BETA PORTFOLIO 110	-0.02795
	RETURN	-0.00648
STD.DEV	0.010212	