

**EXISTENCE OF THE SEMI-MONTH EFFECT ON STOCK
RETURNS AT THE NAIROBI SECURITIES EXCHANGE**

By

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DECLARATION

This research project is my original work and has not been submitted for examination in any other university.

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This research project has been submitted for examination with my approval as the University supervisor.

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DEDICATION

This project is dedicated to my family for all the support and encouragement they accorded me towards making this research project a success.

ABSTRACT

The semi-month effect purports that stock returns in the first half of the trading month is significantly higher than the second half of the month. The objective of this study was to establish whether there is existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE). This study used a descriptive research design. The population of interest was all the listed companies for equity stocks at the NSE as at December 2013. The sample population was companies listed continuously in the NSE-20 share Index. The data used in this study constituted individual share prices for the period starting from January 2011 to December 2013. The daily return for each firm stock was determined as the change in market price of the stock plus any dividend received, expressed as a fraction of initial stock price. Descriptive statistics used were mean and standard deviation. Regression analysis was used to assess the semi-month effect on stock returns. The mean returns for the first half of the month for the 3 year period is 0.0674% with a standard deviation of 0.7645%. For the second half the mean return was 0.0304% with a standard deviation of 0.6091%. The coefficient β_1 in the regression model was -0.000369 with a p-value of 0.465038. The difference between the returns of the second half and the first half of the month had a negative effect on stock returns. The p-value for the significance of the regression coefficient 0.465038 is greater than 0.05 thus the coefficient is not significant. F-statistic was found to be 0.534291 with a p-value of 0.465038. This p-value is also greater than 0.05 hence the overall fit of the model is poor. From the findings of this study there is no evidence of the semi-month effect on stock returns in the NSE. Therefore investors should not expect returns from one half of the month to be statistically different from returns in the other half.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CDSC	Central Depository and Settlement Corporation
CIP	Capital International Perspective
CMA	Capital Markets Authority
EMH	Efficient Market Hypothesis
ISE	Istanbul Stock Exchange
KSE	Karachi Stock Exchange
NSE	Nairobi Securities exchange

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CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Stock market anomalies have been of great importance to financial scholars and practitioners. Nawaz and Mirza (2012) defined stock market anomaly as an unusual pattern of stock returns that exist within the stock markets. The semi-month effect stems from the notion that the return of the first half of the calendar month is higher than the second half (Lakonishok and Smidt, 1988). Penman (1987) suggests that a reason for this anomaly may be a tendency of firms to announce good news during the first half of the month and bad news during the second half.

Fama (1970) described three forms of market efficiency; in the weak form security prices reflect the historical prices or return sequences, semi-strong form security prices reflect all the publicly available information and strong form market efficiency are concerned with whether individual investors or groups have monopolistic access to any information relevant for price information.

Aly, Mehdian and Perry (2004) noted that the evidence of stock market anomalies contradicts the prediction of the efficient market hypothesis (EMH), at least in its weak form, because the predictable movements in asset prices provide investors with opportunities to generate abnormal returns. They further observed that stock market anomalies may result from an inefficient flow of

information in financial markets, which is a violation of an underlying assumption of EMH.

The Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) has a total of 61 listed companies as at 2013, categorised in 11 different sectors. The NSE is open for trading from Monday to Friday and closed on Saturday and during public holidays (NSE, 2013). The NSE plays an important role in economic development in Kenya, by providing a medium for the transfer of funds from surplus spending units to deficit spending units.

1.1.1 Stock Returns

Stock returns are gains or losses from a market in a particular period and are usually quoted as a percentage. The concept of an efficient market presented by Fama (1970) suggests that stock prices fully reflect all available information so no investor can beat the market by generating abnormal returns. However, sometimes monthly, weekly and daily returns on stocks tend to exhibit a discernable pattern on whose basis stock prices can be predicted (Zafar, Urooj, Chughtai and Amjad, 2012).

Brown and Reilly (2009) noted that the objective of investors is to earn a return from savings due to their deferred consumption. They observed that investors want a rate of return that compensates them for the time, the expected rate of inflation and the uncertainty of the return. Garg, Bodla and Chhabra (2010) indicated that the opportunity to get extra profit by forecasting security

prices on the basis of past and publicly available information has almost disappeared in recent years.

They further observed that increased use of modern information technology and recent reforms in the operating mechanism of financial markets, have resulted in enhancing market efficiency.

Fabozzi and Modigliani (2009) observed that the stock return during a given interval is equal to the change in market price of the stock plus any dividend received, expressed as a fraction of the initial stock price.

1.1.2 The Semi-month Effect

The tendency of common stock returns for the second half-month to be significantly below the first half of a calendar month is labeled as the semi-month effect (Lakonishok and Smidt, 1988).

They described the first half of the month as the first through the fifteenth calendar day of the month, if it is a trading day, or if not, through the next trading day. The last half of the month consists of the remaining days. Ariel (1987) definition of the first part of the month includes the last trading day of the previous month through the first eight trading days of the month, a total of nine trading days, while the last half of the trading month consists of nine trading days before the last trading day of the month.

Fabozzi and Modigliani (2009) indicated that common stock investment strategies can be categorized into two general categories; active and passive strategies. Active investment strategies attempt to outperform the market by one or more of the following: timing of selection of transactions such as in the

case of technical analysis; identifying undervalued or overvalued stocks using fundamental security analysis; or selecting stocks according to market anomalies.

Passive investment strategy does not seek to outperform the market. Knowledge of stock market anomalies is vital to investors.

The study adopted the same pattern used by Zafar et al. (2012) and Bahadur and Joshi (2005). The mean returns for the first half of the trading month is computed and compared against the mean return of second half of the month. To confirm the semi-month effect, significant negative β_1 (the coefficient for difference of the mean returns between second half and first half of the month) is required.

1.1.3 The Semi-month Effect and Stock Returns

Nawaz and Mirza (2012) observed that stock market anomalies are the primary contributors towards the abnormalities in the stock returns. With regard to the semi-month effect on stock returns, Ariel (1987) noted that the cumulative return from the first half is larger than the cumulative return from the last half of a trading month. He further observed that a trading strategy which capitalizes on the semi-month effect is to hold stock during the first half of the trading month and to invest risklessly (or go short) during the second half.

Lakonishok and Smidt (1988) provided mild support of the idea that rates of return are larger in the first half of the month than in the last half. Zafar et al. (2012) concluded that the average

returns in the first half of the month are significantly higher than the second half of the month. Bahadur and Joshi (2005) did not observe evidence of the semi-month effect on stock returns in the Nepalese Stock Market. A weakly semi-month effect was reported by Jaffe and Westerfield (1989). They observed that Australia, United Kingdom and Canada had patterns consistent with Ariel (1987) findings in the United States.

1.1.4 The Nairobi Securities Exchange

The market was started in the 1920's by the British as an informal market for Europeans only. In 1954 the market was formalized through its incorporation into a company. In 1963 Africans were allowed to join and trade in the market. 1988 saw the first privatization through the NSE, which was the successful sale of a 20% government stake in Kenya Commercial Bank. In 1996, the largest share issue in the history of NSE, the privatization of Kenya Airways, came to the market. In September 2006 live trading on the automated trading system of the Nairobi Stock Exchange was implemented. In February 2007 NSE upgraded its website to enhance easy and faster access of accurate, factual and timely trading information (NSE, 2013).

In 2008, the NSE All Share Index (NASI) was introduced as an alternative index. Its measure is an overall indicator of market performance. The Index incorporates all the traded shares of the day. The Complaints Handling Unit (CHU) was launched in August 2009 to bridge the confidence gap with NSE retail investors. Investors, both local and in the diaspora can forward their issues via email, telephone, fax, or SMS and have the ability to track progress online. In

July 2011, the Nairobi Stock Exchange Limited changed its name to the Nairobi Securities Exchange Limited. The change of name reflected the strategic plan of the Nairobi Securities Exchange to evolve into a full service securities exchange which supports trading, clearing and settlement of equities, debt, derivatives and other associated instruments. In November 2011 the NSE Kenya 15 and NSE Kenya 25 Indices were relaunched (NSE, 2013). There are 21 licensed member firms or stock brokers in the market. The NSE consists of both the primary and secondary market. It is divided into five segments; the Main Investments Segment (MIMS), the Alternative Investments Segment (AIMS), the Fixed Income Securities Segment (FIMS), the Futures and Options Market Segment (FOMS) and finally the Growth Enterprise Market Segment (GEMS). The GEMS was launched on 22nd January 2013 to pave way for the listing of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) which is a major driver of country's economy (NSE, 2013). There are 61 listed companies categorised in 11 different sectors as at 31 December 2013 as shown by appendix 1.

Several studies have been done on seasonal anomalies at the NSE including Kuria and Riro (2013), Gathoni (2012) and Mwikali (2012) among others. These studies have established the existence of stock market anomalies such as; the week effect, weekend effect, monthly effect, turn of the month effect and January effect. Little has been explored in the case of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the NSE, however a general perception is that, in first half of

the

month, trading activity is higher as compared to second half of the month and so is the return.

1.2 Research Problem

The presence of seasonal effects violates the basic of efficient market hypothesis (Zafar et al., 2012). Sometimes monthly, weekly or daily returns on stock tend to exhibit discernible patterns on whole basis stock prices can be predicted. This facilitates market participants to devise trading strategies which could fetch abnormal returns based on past patterns (Kuria and Riro, 2013). Emanating from these seasonal anomalies is the semi-month effect whereby the cumulative return from the first half is larger than the cumulative return from the last half of a trading month (Ariel, 1987).

The NSE is currently considered one of the biggest stock markets in Africa. It is the most developed in the East African region (Wachira, 2013). Kenya being a developing country needs huge amounts of capital for infrastructural development therefore there is need to improve the level of efficiency of the stock market in order to enhance the confidence of both local and international investors. Kenya as an emerging market, the formal expectation would be that the market is inefficient. This study seeks to establish the existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the NSE. The findings of this study are useful to the Capital Market Authority (CMA) for policy formulation with regard to improving the efficiency of the stock market.

Several studies have been done on the semi-month effect on stock

returns; Ariel (1987) analyzed a dataset from 1963 to 1981 and found that the average rate of return was positive in the first half of the month and negative in the second half of the month. Lakonishok and Smidt (1988) provided mild support of the idea that rates of return are larger in the first half of the month than in the last half. Jaffe and Westerfield (1989) and Floros (2008) studies also confirmed the presence of semi-month effect in developed stock markets. Zafar et al. (2012) studied calendar anomalies of the Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE) and their finding was that the average returns in the first half of the month are significantly higher than the other half of the month. Nageswari, Selvam and Gayathri (2011) did not find the semi-month effect in the Indian stock market.

Kuria and Riro (2013) examined the presence of day of the week effect, weekend effect and monthly effect on stock returns at the NSE. The study revealed the existence of significant day of the week effect, weekend effect and monthly effect. Gathoni (2012) investigated the existence of the turn of the month effect at the NSE. The results showed that the average market return for the turn of the month was always higher than the returns for the rest of the month. Mwikali (2012) established the existence of January effect on stock returns at the NSE. The identification of such calendar effects on stock returns at the NSE served as a motivation for this study to explore the semi-month effect on stock returns in which no study was found to have been previously done on the anomaly. The key question that this study sought to answer was; are the average returns of the first half of the month different from those of the second half?

1.3 Research Objective

The objective of this study was to establish the existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns in the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE).

1.4 Value of the Study

This study contributes to the scant literature on the semi-month effect on stock returns at the NSE. No study was found to have been previously done on the semi-month effect at the NSE, thus it is aimed at filling the existing knowledge gap and expanding literature on stock market anomalies.

The study is useful for policy formulation to various stakeholders who attach importance to the stock market. Such stakeholders include: the government, investors, fund managers, financial analysts and academicians. The government as a regulator of the stock market through the capital market authority (CMA) is able to monitor the performance of the stock market as a sign of economic stability of the country. To improve the confidence of both local and international investors, the efficiency of the NSE is paramount. It shall also provide policymakers with vital information that helps in decision making and formulation of sound investment strategies.

Fund managers are recharged with the responsibility of identifying and investing in viable projects therefore this study is important in assisting them to gauge the performance of the stock market.

et

and hence know the right time to commit funds. Financial analysts offer advice to investors and this study would provide sound information for investors to make informed decisions. Knowledge of such critical information on stock variation may assist the financial analyst to plan well; when to trade and get an abnormal return and when to hold in order to maximise return. Academicians want to contribute to the body of knowledge; in this dynamic and complex world where variables are bound to change, research is the only way to study the same phenomenon over time. This study can be used as a basis for further research on this subject.

CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This chapter focuses on a review of literature on the semi-month effect. Theories that form the basis for the study, determinant of stock returns, empirical studies on the area and a summary of the literature are discussed.

2.2 Theoretical Review

Theories which are relevant for the study and which are discussed in this chapter are; the theory of Random Walk, the Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) and finally Behavioral Finance Theory.

2.2.1 The Theory of Random Walk

Yalsin (2010) observed that the concept of market efficiency was first seen from Bachelier's work in 1900. He noted the random characteristics of the stock prices and the difficulty to

outguess the market. Later study by Cowles (1933) concluded that professional agencies have no obvious skill to beat the market. Samuelson (1965) proved that properly anticipated prices fluctuate randomly. He argued that randomness is achieved through the active participation of many investors seeking greater wealth. Fama (1995) observed that the theory implies that a series of stock price changes has no memory; the past history of the series cannot be used to predict the future in a meaningful way. He further noted the future path of the price level of a security is no more predictable than the path of a series of cumulative random numbers.

Under the theory, investors cannot outguess the market to earn an abnormal return. Fama (1995) argues that the theory of random walk in stock market prices presents important challenges to both the chartist and the proponent of fundamental analysis. He observed that there is no real value in market analysis for the chartist and for the fundamental analysis; if the random walk theory is valid then stock prices at any point in time will represent good estimates of intrinsic or fundamental values. The fact that empirical studies confirmed the presence of financial market anomalies such as the semi-month effects contradicts the theory of random walk.

2.2.2 The Efficient Market Hypothesis (EMH) Theory

Fama (1970) described the three forms of efficiencies exhibited by the market as; weak form which states that share prices fully reflect information in historic share price movement and that past rates of return and other market data have no relationship with future security prices. Semi-strong form efficiency posits that as soon as information becomes public knowledge or becomes available to the public it is incorporated almost immediately into the security prices. He argued that even if its adjustment is not immediately incorporated, it will in a short while be analyzed by the market and therefore analysts would not make supernormal profits by carrying out fundamental analysis. Strong form efficiency argues that if markets were efficient in their strong form, prices would fully reflect all information even though this information is

only available to corporate insiders.

The EMH proposes that it is not possible to outperform the market through market timing or stock selection; however, in the context of financial markets, seasonal components have been recorded. The presence of seasonality in stock returns violates the weak form of market efficiency because equity prices are not long random and can be predicted based on past patterns (Kuria and Riro, 2013). This could facilitate investors to devise trading strategies to earn abnormal returns.

2.2.3 Behavioural Finance Theory

Shefrin (2002) defined behavioural finance as an application of psychology to financial behaviour.

He further posits that there are three psychological phenomena that pervade the entire landscape of finance which are:

behavioural finance recognizes that financial practitioners use a rule of thumb called heuristics to process data; for example, past performance is the best predictor of future performance, in addition to

objective considerations, practitioners' perception of risk and return are influenced by how decision problems are framed and that heuristic-driven biases and framing effects cause market prices to

deviate from fundamental values. Shiller (2003) noted that the collaboration between finance and other social sciences has become known

as behavioural finance has led to a profound deepening of our knowledge of financial markets

When selecting a portfolio, investors not only consider statistical measures such as risk and return, but also psychological factors such as sentiment, overconfidence and overreaction

(Aguila, 2009). Fama (1998) in his review of the literature on behavioural finance observed that at the markets anomalies tended to be as often underreaction by investors as overreaction. He also noted anomalies tended to disappear, either as time passed or as the methodology of study improved.

Shiller (2003) in response to Fama (1998) critique on behavioural finance observes that there is no fundamental psychological principle that shows people tend always to overreact or underreact.

2.3 Determinants of Stock Returns

Identifying the factors that influence stock returns is a

major concern for practice and academic

research. Olowoniyi and Ojenike (2012) while studying determinants of

stock return of Nigerian-

listed firms observed that expected growth and efforts at increasing assets of the firms would significantly improve stock return level. They further noted that low net profit after tax and leverage are expected to reduce level of stock returns of listed firms. They concluded

that attention needs to be paid to improving growth and size of the firms in order to benefit the advantages that would arise from substantial stock return. Chen, Roll and Ross (1986) noted that stock returns are influenced by macroeconomic announcements and the intensity of influence corresponds with the total exposure to them. Macroeconomic news announcements are recurrent economic and financial indicators which give information about the state of economy.

Fama and French (1992) indicated that two easily measured variables, size and book-to-market equity combine to capture cross-sectional variation in average stock. They observed that firms with high book-to-market equity (a low stock price relative to book value) tend to have low earnings; conversely low book-to-market equity (high stock price relative to book value) is associated with persistently high earnings.

Size is also related to profitability controlling for book-to-market equity; small firms tend to have lower earnings on assets than big firms.

Eraslan (2013) tested the validity of Fama and French three-factor model on the Istanbul Stock Exchange (ISE). He realized portfolios containing large firms have higher average excess returns than portfolios containing small sized firms. He also realized portfolios containing low book-to-market ratio firms perform better than those containing high book-to-market ratio firms. He concluded that Fama and French three-factor model has power on explaining variations on excess portfolio returns.

2.4 Empirical Review

The empirical evidence regarding the semi-month effect has been documented by many studies which support the anomaly as a stand-alone phenomenon. There is, however, a dearth of local studies on the semi-month effect on stock returns.

Zafar et al. (2012) studied calendar anomalies of the Karachi Stock Exchange (KSE) to find out the semi-month effect in KSE. Data for the study was obtained from KSE 100 index which is a capital weighted index and consists of 100 companies and represents about 86% of the total market capitalization of the exchange. An index of all listed shares was gathered for the period from November 1991 to December 2007. Daily logarithmic market returns were then calculated for testing calendar effects. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics such as mean and standard deviation. To determine the overall probability of the relationship between the variables occurring by chance, the F-test and t-test were used. The finding of the study was that the average returns in the first half of the month are significantly higher than the other half of the month.

Floros (2008) studied on the monthly and trading month effects in Greek stock market returns. The objective of the study was to investigate the monthly and trading month effects in the stock market returns using data before and after the crisis of 1999-2001. Secondary data was collected from the stock market from November 1996 to July

2002. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics. The finding of the study was that there is no January effect, however trading month show higher returns over the first fortnight of the month.

Arsad and Coutts (1997) studied the trading month anomaly in the financial times industrial ordinary shares index. The objective of the study was to investigate the existence of trading month effect in the FT30 index by employing daily logarithmic returns from July 1993 to December 1994. Descriptive statistics was used to analyze the data. The finding of the study was the trading month effect is present in the index, but this effect exists for the last two days of the month and first five days of the month.

Boudreaux (1995) conducted a study on the monthly effect in international markets. The objective of the study was to investigate the existence of monthly patterns in investment returns for seven different countries' stock market indexes. The countries studied were: Denmark, France, Germany, Norway, Singapore/Malaysia, Spain and Switzerland. Stock market returns were computed from the indexes reported by Capital International Perspective (CIP) from March 1978 to December 1992. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and regression model.

The finding of the study was that three of these seven countries markets had the monthly effect while an inverted monthly effect was found in Singapore/Malaysia.

Lakonishok and Smidt (1988) used 90 years of daily data on the Dow Jones industrial average to test for the existence of persistent seasonal patterns in the rates of return. They used descriptive statistics to analyse the data. They observed evidence of persistent anomalous returns around the turn of the week, around the turn of the month, around the turn of the year and around holidays but only mild support for the idea that the rate of returns are larger in the first half of the month.

Ariel (1987) studied the monthly effect on stock returns. The objective of the study was to establish whether the cumulative return from the first half of a trading month will exceed the cumulative return from the second half of the same month. The study was based on US stock markets and covered a period extending from 1963 to 1981. Data was analysed using descriptive statistics and regression model. The finding of the study was that the cumulative return for the first half was clearly greater than the cumulative return for the last half of the month.

Kuria and Riro (2013) examined the presence of day of the week effect, weekend effect and monthly effect on stock returns in the NSE. Data used in the study included daily closing prices of the NSE indices such as the NSE all share prices index (NSI), the NSE general index (NGEN) and the NSE 20 share index (NSE20) for a period of 12 years. The study used secondary data from the stock market. The significance of the difference between average returns was verified with the help of t-test and F-test. Simple descriptive analysis was conducted using simple regression model analysis of the

respective variables and result captured in mean returns, co-efficient of variation and standard deviation. The study used the ANOVA model where the dependent variable is quantitative in nature and all independent variables are categorical in nature. The study established the existence of day of the week effect; weekend effect and monthly effect in the NSE.

Mwikali (2012) investigated the existence of January effects on stock returns in the NSE. The target population for the study included 50 companies listed in the NSE as at December 2011. The study was carried out focusing on a period of 10 years up to 2011. Data on market share prices was obtained from the share prices as reported by the NSE. Data collected was analysed using simple linear regression and correlation analysis. The findings of the study was that there is no significant relationship between the mean monthly January effect on stock returns and the mean monthly stock returns from February through December.

Kai (2012) sought to test the market efficiency of the NSE by investigating if turn of the month effect exists at the exchange. The NSE 20 share index was used as the sampling frame and daily indices were used to compute the daily returns. Secondary data was obtained from the NSE data base. Descriptive statistics were computed from the returns and a regression model was run. The result of the study could not confirm the existence of turn of the month effects at the NSE.

Gathoni (2012) investigated the existence of the turn of the month effect at the NSE during the

period between 1st January 2003 and 31st Dec 2007 using daily observations of the NSE 20 share index. A log formula was used to compute daily returns on the NSE Index and thereafter mean and standard deviations of both the return of the month and the rest of the month periods were calculated and compared while applying the student's t-test. The results showed that the average market return for the return of the month was always higher than the returns for the rest of the month for all years except for the year 2004. The study concluded that a return of the month effect exists at the NSE.

2.5 Summary of Literature Review

Typically markets are believed to be efficient and therefore prices reflect all available information. This means that investors cannot outperform the market to earn an abnormal return through their market timings or trading strategies. Investors' perception of risk and return are influenced by how decision problems are framed and that heuristic driven biases and framing effects cause market prices to deviate from the fundamental values.

Though markets are supposed to be efficient, studies done by many scholars indicated in the literature review do point out to the existence of the semi-month effect anomaly and by extension market inefficiency. Empirical evidence shows the presence of the anomaly in both developed as well as emerging stock markets. However the bulk of these studies were conducted in developed markets therefore there is need to carry out more research on the area in the emerging markets.

All the empirical studies on the semi-month effect covered in the literature review were done in other countries. No study was found to have been previously done on the anomaly in the NSE; thus this study sought to fill this gap by examining the existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the NSE.

CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter highlights the research design, population, sample design, data collection methods and data analysis techniques.

3.2 Research Design

The study used a descriptive research design. Kothari (2004) defined descriptive research as

ign

asthosestudieswhichareconcernedwithdescribingthecharacteristicsofaparticularindividual orgroup.The descriptiveresearchdesigninvolvesthedescriptionofthestateofaffairsasit existsatpresent.The designwasappropriatebecause the study soughttoestablishwhetherthereturnsofthefirsthalfoftradingmontharegreaterthanthesecondhalf.

3.3 Population of the Study

The population of interest in this study comprises 61 companies that are listed in the NSE between 2011 and 2013 see appendix 1.

3.4 Sample Design and Sample Technique

The sample included companies in the NSE 20 share that are continuously listed for two years from 1st January 2011 to 31st December 2013. 18 companies satisfied the sampling criteria see appendix 2.

3.5 Data Collection

For the purpose of this study secondary data was used. The daily closing prices of companies in the NSE 20 share that are continuously listed were obtained from the NSE database for the period 1st January 2011 to 31st December 2013.

3.6 Data Analysis

Both descriptive and inferential statistics were employed to analyse the data. The mean return of the first half of the trading month was compared with the mean of the second half. Ordinary least squares (OLS) regression analysis was used to test the equality of mean returns across halves of calendar months. To test for significance of the difference between the two means, a t-test at 95% confidence level ($p=0.05$) was conducted.

3.6.1 Measurement of Returns

The whole month was divided into two parts. First half of the month is from 1st day of month to 15th day of the month. If the 15th day is not a working day, then the next day was considered. All the remaining days of the month are included in second half of the month. This is the same pattern followed by Lakonishok and Smidt (1988). Daily stock returns were calculated using the formula shown below:

$$R_t = \frac{P_t + D_t - P_{t-1}}{P_{t-1}} \times 100\%$$

Where:

R_t =Daily stock return; P_t =market price at time t ; D_t =dividend at time t ; P_{t-1} =market price at time $t-1$.

Mean of the series was computed. It is the average value of the series, obtained by adding up the series and dividing by the number of observations. Mean is the most common measure of central tendency.

3.6.2 Regression Model

The study used the ordinary least squares (OLS) regression model to test the equality of mean returns across halves of calendar months. The study adopted the same approach followed by Zafar et al. (2012), Bahadur and Joshi (2005) and Lakonishok and Smidt (1988). Regression equation for testing semi-month effect was:

$$R_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 d_{2t} + \varepsilon$$

Where R_t =daily return of the market; β_0 is the coefficient for mean returns in first half of the month (taken as a benchmark for analysis) and β_1 is the coefficient representing the difference between the mean returns of the first and second half of trading month. In the model d_{2t} is assigned a value of one if the returns occur in the second half of the month and zero if returns occur in first half of the month, and finally ε =error term. A significant negative coefficient β_1 confirms the existence of the semi-month effect.

The hypothesis tested was:

H_0 : The mean returns for first half of the trading month and second half of the month is not statistically different.

H_A : The mean returns for first half of the trading month and second half of the month is statistically different.

CHAPTER FOUR: DATA ANALYSIS, RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Introduction

This chapter highlights the descriptive analysis for the stock returns during the first half and second half of the trading month, the regression model results, statistical significance for the overall regression model and discussion.

4.2 Descriptive Analysis

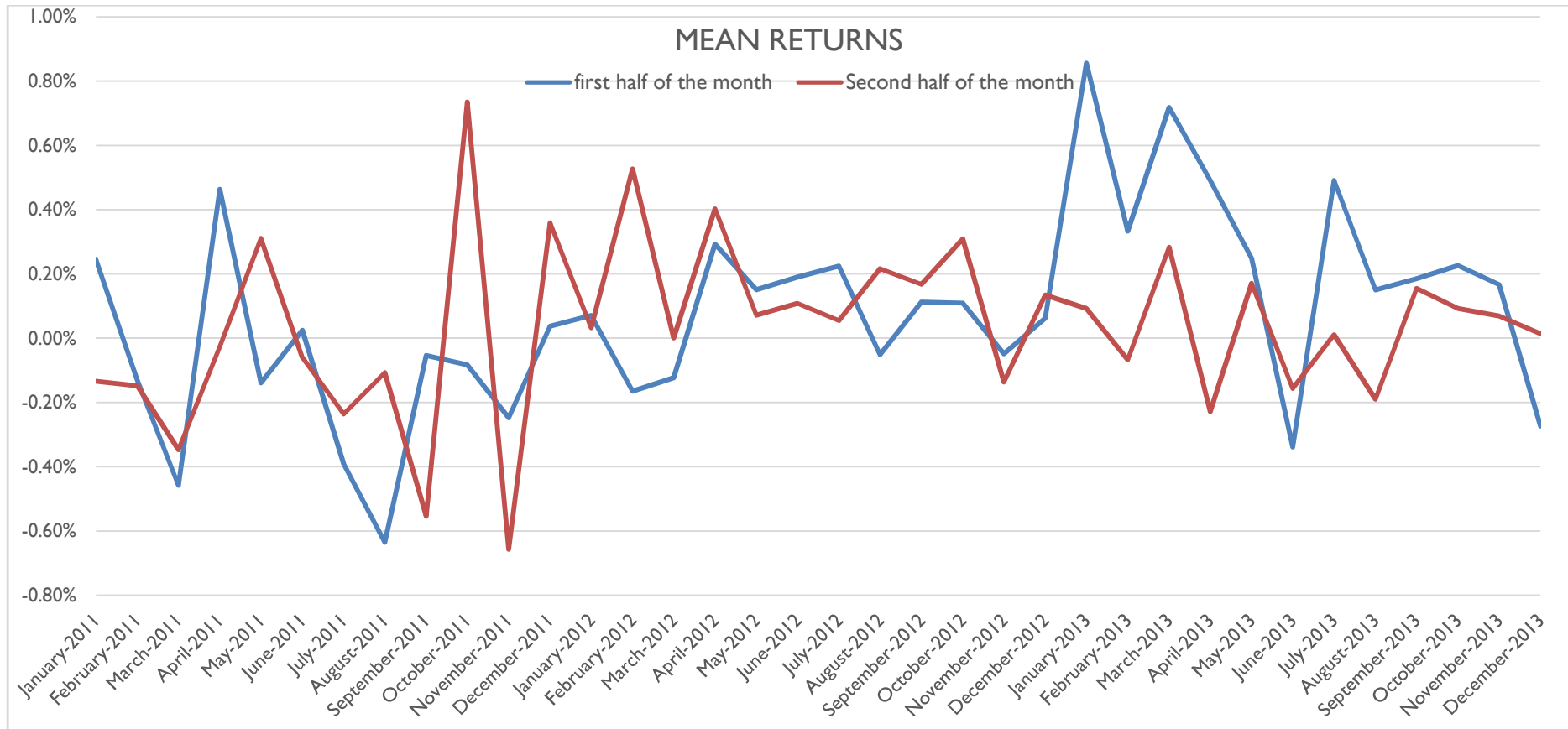
Table 4.1 shows the descriptive statistics for the stock returns during the first half of the month and second half of the month at the NSE.

Table 4.1 Descriptive Statistics for the Semi-month Effect in the NSE

Period	Number of Observation	Mean	Std. Deviation	Standard Error
2011-2013				
First half of the month	375	.0674%	.7645%	.0395%
Second half of the month	372	.0304%	.6091%	.0316%

The results indicate that the mean returns for the first half of the month for the 3 year period is 0.0674% with a standard deviation of 0.7645%. The mean returns for the second half of the same period is 0.0304% with a standard deviation of 0.6091%. The mean returns for the first half of the month is two times greater than the mean returns for the second half of the month.

Graph 4.1: Returns for the first half and second half of the month.



4.3 Regression Results

The regression result have been categorised into the following; model summary, regression model and statistical significance of the overall regression model.

4.3.1 Model Summary (Measure of Fitness)

Table 4.2 provides statistical measures for the model. The measures include coefficient of correlation-R, coefficient of determination-Rsquare and adjusted Rsquare and the standard error of the estimate, which can be used to explain how the regression model fits the data.

Table 4.2 Model Summary

Model	R	RSquare	AdjustedRSquare	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.0267704	.0007166	-.0006246	.00691523

The model statistics show that when the independent variable (the returns in the second half of the month) and dependent variable (daily return of the market) interact, the model has a Pearson's correlation coefficient (R) of 0.026 and coefficient of determination (RSquare) of 0.0007. There is a very weak correlation between returns in the first and second half of the month. In addition the model explanatory power as measured by the coefficient of determination is very low.

4.3.2 Regression Model Result

The general form of regression equation run for testing the semi-month effect for the entire period is shown as follows:

$$R_t = 0.000674 - 0.000369d_{2t}$$

This is obtained from the coefficient table below:

Table 4.3 Regression Coefficient for the Semi-month Effect on the NSE Returns

Variable	Coefficients	t-statistic	P-value	Standard error
β_0	.000674	1.887732	.05945	.000357
β_1	-.000369	-.73095	.465038	.000506

Predictor: Dummy variable (0 for first half, 1 for second half of the month)

Dependent variable: Daily return of the market.

Table 4.3 shows the regression results for the semi-month effect on the NSE returns. The coefficient β_0 represents mean returns in first half of the month (taken as benchmark for analysis). β_1 is the coefficient representing the difference between the mean returns of the first and second half of trading months. The coefficient for β_0 is 0.000674 with a p-value of 0.05945 while β_1 is -0.000369 with a p-value of 0.465038. These p-values are greater than 0.05 thus the coefficients are not significant.

4.3.3 Statistical Significance for the overall Regression Model

The F-ratio in the Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) table as shown below tests whether the overall regression is a good fit for data.

Table 4.4 ANOVA Analysis for the Semi-month Effect

Model	Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	F critical value
Regression	.00002555	1	.00002555	.534291	.465038
Residual	.03562627	745	.00004782		
Total	.03565182	746			

From above $p > 0.05$ that is 0.465038 (p) is greater than 0.05 thus the overall fit of the model is poor and hence the semi-month effect is insignificant in the NSE returns.

4.4 Discussion

Daily returns were analysed for the first half and second half of the trading month to establish the existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the NSE. To confirm the semi-month effect on stock returns a significant negative β_1 coefficient is required. The analysis shows that the mean returns for the first half of the month for the 3 year period is 0.0674% compared to 0.0304% occurring in the second half of the month.

The coefficient β_1 representing the difference between mean return of

the first and second half of trading months is -0.000369 with a p-value of 0.46503 which is greater than 0.05 indicating that the coefficient is not significant. The coefficient of determination R^2 is 0.0007 which is very low and as shown by table 4.3 F-statistic indicates the overall fit of the model is poor and hence the mean returns for first half of the trading month and second half of the month is not statistically different.

Lakonishok and Smidt (1988) obtained an average difference of 0.00237 between first half of month and second half of month, similarly Bahadur and Joshi (2005) reported an average difference 0.000309. However findings of this study show only a small magnitude of 0.000369 for this, with a p-value of 0.465038 which is not statistically significant at 5% level. There is no statistical difference between stock returns at first half of month and second half of month at the NSE. The result is consistent to that observed in international markets: Lakonishok and Smidt (1988) for the USA market, Nageswari et al. (2011) for the India stock market and Bahadur and Joshi (2005) for the Nepalese stock market and is inconsistent with the findings of Zafaret al. (2012) and Ariel (1987) for USA and Pakistan stock markets respectively.

CHAPTER FIVE: SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

5.1 Introduction

This chapter provides the summary of the entire study, conclusion, recommendation, suggestion for further studies and limitations of the study.

5.2 Summary

The objective of this study was to establish whether there is existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns at the Nairobi Securities Exchange. To achieve this objective, daily returns of individual share prices were calculated for companies listed in NSE-20 index. From these returns, differences between mean returns occurring the first half of trading month and second half of the month were calculated. The daily returns were regressed against a dummy variable representing return in the second half of month. The dummy variable is assigned a value of one for returns in the second half of the month and zero if the returns occur in the first half of the month. The coefficient β_1 represents the difference between the mean returns of the first and second half of trading months. A significant negative coefficient β_1 would confirm the existence of the semi-month effect.

The mean returns of the three year period during the first half of the month was 0.0674% as compared to 0.0304% occurring in the second half of the month. The mean returns for the first half of the month is two times greater than the mean returns for the second half of the month. The standard deviation during the first half of the month was 0.7645% and 0.6091% for the second half of the month. The regression analysis result for the three year period indicates the coefficient β_1 is -0.000369 with a p-value of 0.465038. This p-value is greater than 0.05 thus the

coefficient is not significant. The result of the study indicates that the mean returns for the first half of the month is not statistically different from that of the second half of the month.

5.3 Conclusion

The previous studies conducted on various stock markets have found that seasonal anomalies have impacted stock returns. Among the anomalies that have been reported is the semi-month effect which causes the mean returns of first half of the month to be higher than that realised in second half of the month.

The objective of this study was to establish whether there is existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns in the NSE. Daily stock returns were calculated for the period from January 2011 through December 2013 for the companies in the NSE20 share index.

The mean returns of first half of the month was compared against the mean returns of second half of the month. β_1 is the coefficient representing the difference between the mean returns of the first and second half of trading months. A significant negative β_1 coefficient would confirm the existence of the semi-month effect on stock returns.

The results indicate that the mean returns for the first half of the month for the 3 year period is 0.0674% and the second half of the same period is 0.0304%. The coefficient β_1 is -0.000369 with a p-value of 0.465038. This p-value is greater than 0.05 thus the coefficient is not significant. F-statistic is 0.534291 with a p-value of 0.465038. This p-value is also greater than 0.05 hence the overall fit of the model is poor. From the findings of this study there is no evidence of the semi-month effect on stock returns in the NSE. The findings of the study also indicate the NSE is weak

k form efficient with respect to the semi-month effect. That means past movements in stock prices cannot be used to predict future movements in prices.

5.4 Recommendation

The semi-month effect purports that stock returns for the second half of the month are

significantly below that of the first half of the trading month. Based on the result of this study, the Nairobi Securities Exchange does not depict this anomaly. There is no indication that investors can formulate their investment strategies and timing on the basis of this study and earn some abnormal return by predicting future prices. The study recommends to investors to consider investing in either halves of the trading months since stock returns are not statistically different.

The empirical results did not indicate visible pattern on stock returns hence the study

recommends to both local and international investors to invest in the NSE since securities are traded at fair prices.

5.5 Suggestion for further Study

This study covered a period of three years from 1st January 2011 to 31 December 2013. It is possible that a

shorter period could have an impact on the findings of this study. It is important to conduct a similar study that covers a longer period of time.

The study used the Individual stock price to calculate the daily stock returns, similar study can be conducted using the NSE indices such as the NSE all share index and the NSE 25 index (NSE25) to establish the existence of the semi-month effect in the stock market.

The study covered companies listed in the NSE 20 share, further study need to consider all companies listed in the NSE. There are 61 listed companies as at 31 December 2013 as shown by appendix 1.

The study involved the Nairobi Securities Exchange only, future studies may check the existence of the semi-month effect in other stock markets in the regions such as the Dares Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and the Uganda Securities Exchange (USE).

The semi-month effect can be extended to the bond market in the Nairobi Securities Exchange or other stock markets in the regions such as the Dares Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) and Uganda Securities Exchange (USE) to ascertain if the semi-month effect exists.

5.6 Limitation of the study

The study covered a period of three years from 1st January 2011 to 31 December 2013. The shorter duration might have an impact on the findings of the study. Future studies may consider a longer period of time.

The sample for the study comprised of companies in the NSE 20 share index. This is a proportion of all companies listed in

theNSE. Therefore, consideration of all listed companies might have revealed different findings.

The study also used individual stock prices rather than the market index, therefore investment strategy based on the findings in this study applied to the market index may not provide expected results.

Time constraint was a limiting factor because the study had to be conducted within a short time.

Given ample time it would have been insightful to investigate the presence of the semi-month effect on various NSE indices and to compare their results for consistency.

This study was conducted following a Kenyan perspective and is only applicable to its culture and way of life of her citizens. Therefore it may not be applicable to other countries due to cultural differences and background.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1: COMPANIES LISTED AT THE NSE AS AT DECEMBER 2013	
MANUFACTURING AND ALLIED	COMMERCIAL AND SERVICES
B.O.C Kenya Ltd	Express Ltd
British American Tobacco Kenya Ltd	Kenya Airways Ltd
Carbacid Investment Ltd	Nation Media Group
East Africa Breweries Ltd	Standard Group Ltd
Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd	TPS Eastern Africa (Serena) Ltd
Unga Group Ltd	Scangroup Ltd
Eveready East Africa Company Ltd	Uchumi Supermarket Ltd
Kenya Orchards Ltd	Hutchings Biemer Ltd
A.Baumann Co. Ltd	Longhorn Kenya Ltd
CONSTRUCTION AND ALLIED	TELECOMMUNICATION AND TECHNOLOGY
Athi River Mining	Safaricom Ltd

Bamburi Cement Ltd	AccessKenya Group Ltd
Crown Berger Ltd	BANKING
E.A.Cables Ltd	Barclays Kenya Ltd
E.A.Portland Cement Ltd	CFC Stanbic Holdings Ltd
ENERGY AND PETROLEUM	I & M Holdings Ltd
KenolKobil Ltd	Diamond Trust Bank Kenya Ltd
Total Kenya Ltd	Housing Finance Co. Ltd
KenGEN Ltd	Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd
Kenya Power and Lighting Co. Ltd	National Bank of Kenya Ltd
Umeme Ltd	NIC Bank Ltd
GROWTH ENTERPRISE MARKET SEGMENT	Standard Chartered Bank Ltd
Home Africa Ltd	Equity Bank Ltd
AGRICULTURAL	The Co-operative Bank of Kenya Ltd
Eaagads Ltd	INVESTMENT
Kapchorua Tea Co. Ltd	Olympia Capital Holdings Ltd
Kakuzi	Centum Investment Co. Ltd
Limuru Tea Co. Ltd	Trans-Century Ltd
Rea Vipingo Plantations Ltd	AUTOMOBILES AND ACCESSORIES
Sasini Ltd	Car and General (K) Ltd
Williamson Tea Kenya Ltd	CMC Holdings Ltd
INSURANCE	Sameer Africa Ltd

Jubilee Holdings Ltd	Marshalls (E.A.) Ltd
Liberty Kenya Holdings Ltd	
British-American Investments Ltd	
Kenya Re-insurance Corporation Ltd	
Pan African Insurance Holdings Ltd	
CIC Insurance Group Ltd	

APPENDIX 2: COMPANIES LISTED AT THE NSE 20 SHARE INDEX AS AT DECEMBER 2013	
Mumias Sugar Co. Ltd	Kenya Commercial Bank Ltd
Express Ltd	Standard Chartered Bank Ltd
Athi River Mining	Bamburi Cement Ltd
Sasini Ltd	British American Tobacco Kenya Ltd
E.A.Cables Ltd	KenGEN Ltd
Kenya Airways Ltd	Kenya Power and Lighting Co. Ltd
Safaricom Ltd	East Africa Breweries Ltd
Nation Media Group	Centum Investment Co. Ltd
Barclays Kenya Ltd	
Equity Bank Ltd	

APPENDIX 3: DAILY AVERAGE RETURN (%) - 2011

	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
1	-	-0.76	-0.97	1.06	-	-	-0.25	0.41	-1.65
2	-	-0.83	-0.45	-	-	-	-	0.08	-0.44
3	1.15	-0.24	-0.27	-	0.35	0.40	-	-0.35	-
4	0.03	0.23	-0.31	1.06	0.26	-0.20	0.25	0.16	-
5	0.98	-	-	1.32	0.07	-	-0.69	-1.05	-1.59
6	1.45	-	-	0.29	0.05	0.03	-0.43	-	-0.39
7	0.73	0.05	-0.72	-0.51	-	0.43	-0.44	-	0.12
8	-	-0.28	-1.02	0.69	-	0.07	-0.63	-1.88	1.43
9	-	0.88	-1.57	-	-0.36	-0.30	-	-3.78	0.04
10	-0.39	-0.43	-2.65	-	-0.84	-0.35	-	-0.44	-
11	-0.76	0.37	0.28	0.17	-0.28	-	-0.53	0.21	-
12	-0.52	-	-	-0.08	-0.07	-	-1.05	-0.03	0.00
13	0.25	-	-	-0.53	-0.12	-0.67	-1.42	-	0.82

14	-0.09	-0.01	1.49	0.70	-	1.44	-0.21	-	0.46
15	-0.14	-0.41	1.16	0.91	-0.45	-0.59	1.09	-0.32	0.59
16	-	-0.42	0.00	-	-	-0.06	-	0.23	1.03
17	-	-0.04	-0.46	-	0.39	0.36	-	0.32	-
18	0.10	-0.42	-0.32	-0.05	-0.30	-	-1.06	0.57	-
19	0.21	-	-	0.05	0.65	-	0.84	0.35	-0.65
20	-0.24	-	-	-0.29	-0.21	-0.28	-0.04	-	-0.12
21	-0.48	-0.39	-2.67	-0.16	-	0.66	-0.50	-	-0.67
22	-	0.39	-0.95	-	-	-1.51	0.64	-0.55	-0.39
23	-	-0.12	-0.52	-	0.37	0.23	-	0.08	-0.75
24	-0.25	0.08	-0.21	-	1.12	0.11	-	-1.40	-
25	-0.07	0.15	0.38	-	0.50	-	-0.62	-0.90	-
26	0.34	-	-	-0.21	-0.58	-	-0.71	0.13	-0.95
27	0.39	-	-	0.18	1.32	-0.24	-0.02	-	-0.64
28	-0.74	-0.58	0.42	-0.41	-	-0.40	-1.11	-	-1.44
29	-	-	-0.14	0.68	-	0.40	0.21	-0.64	-0.78
30	-	-	-0.04	-	-0.14	0.07	-	0.64	-0.72
31	-0.61	-	0.35	-	0.31	-	-	-	-

	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	-	0.47	-0.78
2	-	0.83	-0.47

3	-0.02	-1.32	-
4	0.25	0.14	-
5	-0.01	-	-1.11
6	-0.15	-	0.17
7	-0.29	-0.92	0.34
8	-	-0.28	1.67
9	-	0.24	-0.36
10	0.39	-0.01	-
11	-0.28	-0.75	-
12	-0.11	-	-
13	-0.63	-	0.23
14	-0.55	-0.88	0.56
15	0.48	-0.25	0.12
16	-	-0.20	-0.14
17	-	0.15	-
18	-0.26	-0.60	-
19	0.17	-	-0.29
20	-	-	0.27
21	-0.04	-0.38	0.86
22	-	-0.61	0.53
23	-	-0.21	0.32
24	0.10	-0.97	-
25	0.03	-1.04	-

26	0.80	-	-
27	1.66	-	0.99
28	1.83	-0.32	0.77
29	-	-1.73	-0.12
30	-	-1.34	0.40
31	1.81	-	-

APPENDIX 4: DAILY AVERAGE RETURN (%) - 2012

	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
1	-	-0.65	0.71	-	-	-	-	-0.04	-
2	-	0.31	0.39	0.18	-0.27	-	1.40	-0.14	-
3	0.33	-0.25	-	0.69	1.40	-	0.36	0.57	-0.51
4	0.13	-	-	0.54	0.40	-0.04	0.30	-	0.92
5	0.04	-	0.11	-0.09	-	-0.80	0.23	-	0.09
6	0.35	-0.82	-0.14	-	-	0.45	0.02	-0.32	-0.29
7	-	-0.37	0.52	-	-0.52	0.58	-	-0.42	0.46
8	-	0.07	0.27	-	-0.08	-0.16	-	0.32	-
9	-0.23	-0.15	0.01	-	-0.15	-	0.19	0.38	-
10	-0.06	0.25	-	0.17	-0.29	-	-0.27	0.23	-0.81
11	1.23	-	-	0.65	0.35	0.42	0.19	-	1.24
12	-0.14	-	-0.18	0.51	-	0.47	0.07	-	0.51

13	-0.63	0.07	-1.52	0.12	-	0.08	-0.07	-1.29	0.04
14	-	-1.26	-1.19	-	0.51	0.35	-	0.25	-0.31
15	0.22	0.97	-0.32	-	0.16	0.54	-	-0.11	-
16	-	0.13	0.42	-0.14	0.44	-	0.04	0.46	-
17	-0.19	0.43	-	0.60	0.66	-	-0.56	0.07	-0.11
18	-0.67	-	-	0.40	0.31	1.06	-0.04	-	0.29
19	-0.23	-	-0.50	1.51	-	-0.30	1.14	-	0.15
20	-0.73	0.10	-0.98	1.09	-	0.83	0.27	-	-0.74
21	-	0.32	0.23	-	-0.05	-0.46	-	-0.07	-0.13
22	-	0.56	-0.11	-	-1.47	0.28	-	0.21	-
23	0.04	0.26	0.42	0.78	0.45	-	0.26	0.20	-
24	0.35	1.45	-	0.59	-0.38	-	0.15	0.26	0.35
25	0.19	-	-	-0.25	-0.46	0.10	1.09	-	0.53
26	0.28	-	-0.21	-0.44	-	0.19	-0.03	-	0.20
27	0.14	0.24	0.27	-0.41	-	0.01	-1.14	0.47	0.87
28	-	0.74	0.59	-	0.12	-0.50	-	-0.12	-0.01
29	-	1.05	-0.33	-	-0.15	-0.13	-	0.93	-
30	0.55	-	0.22	0.14	-0.03	-	-0.53	-0.06	-
31	0.60	-	-	-	1.39	-	-1.02	0.05	-

	Oct	Nov	Dec
1	0.03	-0.28	-
2	-0.72	-0.21	-

3	0.49	-	-0.45
4	-0.09	-	-0.05
5	0.64	-0.35	0.01
6	-	-	-0.66
7	-	-0.17	0.28
8	0.16	0.40	-
9	0.04	0.62	-
10	-0.19	-	-0.21
11	-	-	0.65
12	0.74	0.16	0.63
13	-	-0.47	0.34
14	-	0.13	-
15	-0.02	-0.32	-
16	0.03	0.22	-
17	0.16	-	0.09
18	0.17	-	0.29
19	0.35	-0.30	0.75
20	-	0.27	0.16
21	-	0.37	0.07
22	0.61	-0.21	-
23	0.31	0.01	-
24	0.41	-	0.12
25	0.45	-	-

26	0.70	0.16	-
27	-	-0.76	0.07
28	-	-0.15	-0.10
29	0.29	-0.53	-
30	0.45	-0.57	-
31	-0.23	-	-0.28

APPENDIX 5: DAILY AVERAGE RETURN (%) - 2013

	Jan	Feb	March	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep
1	-	0.03	0.22	-	-	-	-0.86	0.22	-
2	0.54	-	-	4.14	0.92	-	-0.42	0.20	0.30
3	0.38	-	-	-0.69	-0.16	0.00	0.24	-	-0.27
4	1.57	0.26	-	-1.35	-	-0.34	0.02	-	0.25
5	-	0.62	0.61	0.46	-	0.12	0.57	0.10	0.66
6	-	0.95	1.16	-	0.24	0.06	-	-0.31	0.48
7	0.18	0.90	1.17	-	0.33	-0.42	-	1.05	-
8	0.68	0.88	1.24	0.67	0.64	-	0.25	0.11	-
9	1.08	-	-	-	0.40	-	-	-	0.41
10	-0.07	-	-	1.09	-0.43	-0.10	1.29	-	0.29

11	0.70	0.48	3.46	0.94	-	-1.38	0.24	-	-0.07
12	-	0.16	3.99	-0.25	-	-0.51	-	-0.22	0.41
13	-	0.21	-1.15	-	-0.53	-0.09	-	-0.46	0.16
14	1.68	-0.40	-2.11	-	0.06	-0.52	-	-0.39	-
15	1.83	-0.42	-1.41	-0.59	1.03	-	3.09	1.19	-
16	2.55	-	-	-0.97	0.27	-	0.75	0.88	-0.58
17	-	-	-	-0.25	0.34	-0.55	-0.11	-	-0.13
18	0.31	-0.57	-0.29	-0.58	-	-1.21	-0.18	-	0.52
19	-	-0.36	0.67	-0.37	-	0.11	0.26	-0.09	0.26
20	-	-1.44	-0.20	-	-0.14	0.49	-	-0.30	0.86
21	-0.96	-0.14	-0.32	-	0.38	0.00	-	-0.23	-
22	-0.05	-0.62	0.24	-0.27	0.36	-	0.30	-0.27	-
23	-1.18	-	-	-0.42	-0.24	-	-0.56	0.12	-0.51
24	-0.47	-	-	-0.34	0.22	-0.14	0.15	-	-0.20
25	-0.02	0.25	0.75	-0.69	-	-0.92	0.65	-	0.47
26	-	0.13	0.59	0.01	-	-0.08	-0.28	-0.11	0.22
27	-	1.55	1.92	-	-0.12	-1.23	-	-1.29	0.30
28	0.57	0.26	0.59	-	0.20	0.47	-	-0.86	-
29	-0.03	-	-	-0.52	0.75	-	-0.28	-0.72	-
30	-0.26	-	-	0.74	0.27	-	-0.19	-0.17	0.70
31	0.55	-	-	-	0.44	-	-0.35	-	-

	Oct	Nov	Dec
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1	0.15	0.37	-
2	0.56	-	-0.23
3	0.19	-	0.13
4	0.26	0.18	-0.26
5	-	0.02	-0.69
6	-	0.26	-0.18
7	0.47	0.66	-
8	0.70	-0.64	-
9	0.40	-	-0.49
10	0.13	-	-0.34
11	0.04	0.20	-0.58
12	-	0.54	-
13	-	-0.24	-
14	-0.03	0.58	-
15	-0.37	-0.10	-
16	0.14	-	0.18
17	-0.03	-	-1.13
18	0.45	-0.31	-0.54
19	-	0.08	-0.03
20	-	-0.15	0.06
21	-	0.85	-
22	-0.62	-0.05	-
23	0.14	-	0.13

24	0.58	-	0.82
25	-0.50	0.10	-
26	-	0.90	-
27	-	0.70	0.10
28	0.06	0.08	-
29	-	-1.10	-
30	0.70	-	0.16
31	0.54	-	0.65

APPENDIX 6: MEAN MONTHLY RETURNS 2011-2013.

	2011		2012		2013	
Month	First half	Second half	First half	Second half	First half	Second half
January	0.24539%	-0.1346%	0.07045%	0.03168%	0.85607%	0.09191%
February	-0.13049%	-0.1482%	-0.1653%	0.52702%	0.33290%	-0.0671%
March	-0.45896%	-0.3473%	-0.1230%	0.00044%	0.71789%	0.28242
April	0.46290%	-0.0267%	0.29249%	0.40259%	0.49068%	-0.2289%
May	-0.13971%	0.31065%	0.15027%	0.07102%	0.24806%	0.17033%
June	0.02446%	-0.0599%	0.18994%	0.10811%	-0.3389%	-0.1573%
July	-0.39208%	-0.2363%	0.22388%	0.05438%	0.49110%	0.00996%
August	-0.63580%	-0.1076%	-0.0513%	0.21619%	0.15018%	-0.1900%

September	-0.05425%	-0.5547%	0.11196%	0.16738%	0.18517%	0.15520%
October	-0.08307%	0.73488%	0.10850%	0.30886%	0.22566%	0.09188%
November	-0.24765%	-0.6575%	-0.0490%	-0.13664%	0.16663%	0.06846%
December	0.03740%	0.35879%	0.06181%	0.13391%	-0.2736%	0.01374%

Appendix 7

Descriptive Statistics summary 2011-2013

<i>FH</i>		<i>SH</i>	
Mean	0.00067411	Mean	0.00030422
Standard Error	0.0003948	Standard Error	0.00031582
Median	0.00062492	Median	0.00068357
Standard Deviation	0.00764529	Standard Deviation	0.00609135
Sample Variance	0.0000584	Sample Variance	0.0000371
Kurtosis	6.58534711	Kurtosis	1.92692436
Skewness	0.59537653	Skewness	-0.0304957
Range	0.07920696	Range	0.05218744
Minimum	-0.03779843	Minimum	-0.0266914
Maximum	0.04140853	Maximum	0.02549604
Sum	0.25279188	Sum	0.11317154
Count	375	Count	372
Confidence Level(95.0%)	0.00077631	Confidence Level(95.0%)	0.00062103

Regression Analysis summary 2011-2013

<i>Regression Statistics</i>					
Multiple R	0.026770415				
R Square	0.000716655				
Adjusted R Square	-0.000624665				
Standard Error	0.006915237				
Observations	747				

<i>ANOVA</i>					
	<i>df</i>	<i>SS</i>	<i>MS</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>Significance F</i>
Regression	1	0.00002555	0.00002555	0.53429098	0.465038226
Residual	745	0.035626276	0.0000478		
Total	746	0.035651826			

	<i>Coefficients</i>	<i>Standard Error</i>	<i>t Stat</i>	<i>P-value</i>
β_0	0.00067411	0.000357101	1.887732275	0.0594503
β_1	-0.00036989	0.000506035	-0.730952108	0.46503823

