

# The Marketing of Seasoned Equity Offerings

Xiaohui Gao

University of Florida

Jay R. Ritter

University of Florida

April, 2008

*JLE* classification: G14, G24, G32

Keywords: marketing of securities; follow-on offerings; seasoned equity offerings

\* Gao and Ritter are from the Department of Finance, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32611-7168. Gao can be reached at (352) 392-5058 or [xiaohui.gao@cba.ufl.edu](mailto:xiaohui.gao@cba.ufl.edu), Ritter can be reached at (352) 846-2837 or [jay.ritter@cba.ufl.edu](mailto:jay.ritter@cba.ufl.edu).

We thank Franklin Allen, David Brown, Jonathan H. Hamilton, Jason Karceski, Jason Kliewer, M. Nimalendran, Michael Ryngaert, Donghang Zhang, and seminar participants at the Singapore Management University, University of Florida, and University of Hong Kong for helpful comments and suggestions.

## **Abstract**

Accelerated seasoned equity offerings (SEOs), which include bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, have increased dramatically in the U.S. and globally recently. Accelerated offers are cheaper than traditional fully marketed offers in terms of direct issue costs. To explain why some issuing firms choose a fully marketed offer instead of an accelerated offer, we develop a model in which marketing flattens the issuer's demand curve. Empirical analysis shows that the pre-issue elasticity of the issuing firm's demand curve and the relative offer size are important determinants of the offer method. In our analysis, the elasticity of demand at the time of issuance is endogenous.

## 1. Introduction

Seasoned equity offerings (SEOs), also known as follow-on offerings, can be categorized into three major types by their offer methods: fully marketed offers, accelerated offers, and rights offers.<sup>1</sup> The academic literature on the issue method for SEOs has focused on rights versus underwritten (bookbuilt) offers, although rights offers are virtually nonexistent in the U.S.<sup>2</sup> In contrast, there is no theoretical or empirical treatment of the choice between accelerated offers and traditional bookbuilt offers, also known as fully marketed offers.

Fully marketed SEOs are issued in much the same way as bookbuilt initial public offerings (IPOs). Firms wishing to raise cash issue primary shares and current shareholders wishing to sell existing shares issue secondary shares, and a prospectus is printed. The issuer negotiates with one or more investment banks to market the offer and then set the price. The lead underwriter or underwriters conduct a due diligence investigation and “certify” the quality of the company. As part of the marketing effort to develop interest in the offer, the bookrunner usually conducts a road show. In a typical road show, the issuer’s management meets with selected institutional investors, analysts, and securities sales personnel over a two week period. At the same time, the bookrunner assesses investors’ demand and builds an order book, which is used to help determine the offer price. A syndicate of underwriters, led by the bookrunner, then distributes the

---

<sup>1</sup> Throughout this paper, the following terms: fully marketed, fully underwritten, regular, firm commitment, bookbuilt, and conventional offers, are used interchangeably unless noted otherwise.

<sup>2</sup> Previous studies on rights offers versus bookbuilt offers include Smith (1977), Heinkel and Schwartz (1986), Eckbo and Masulis (1992), Bohen, Eckbo, and Michalsen (1997), and Eckbo and Oyvind (2004).

shares, although for some of the underwriters, their only involvement may be in providing subsequent research coverage, or even less.

Accelerated offers include bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers. They are usually shelf registered offers.<sup>3</sup> These accelerated deals, especially accelerated bookbuilt offers, have become common during the last decade. Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart (2007) provide an excellent review of the history and development of accelerated offers.<sup>4</sup> Bought deals started in the mid-1980s. With a bought deal, the issuing firm announces the amount of stock it wishes to sell and investment banks bid for these shares, usually by submitting bids shortly after the market's close. The bank that offers the highest net price wins the deal. The winning bank then re-sells the shares on the open market or to its investors, usually within 24 hours. Because of this timing, bought deals are also known as overnight deals. Bought deals are essentially auctions to underwriters followed by open market sales.

Accelerated bookbuilt offers emerged in the late 1990s.<sup>5</sup> Unlike bought deals, in accelerated bookbuilt offers, banks do not initially purchase the whole issue from the issuing company. They submit proposals, usually specifying a gross spread but not necessarily an offer price, for the right to underwrite the sale of the shares. The winning bank then usually forms a small underwriting syndicate and begins marketing the shares to institutional investors. The offer price is then negotiated between the issuing firm and

---

<sup>3</sup> Some previous studies exclude shelf registered offers (Altinkilic and Hansen, 2003, 2006) and some pool shelf and non-shelf offers together (Corwin, 2003).

<sup>4</sup> Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart's (2007) terminology of bought deals is slightly different from ours. They refer to bought deals in Canada as bought deals and bought deals in the US as block trades. We define US block trades as bought deals.

<sup>5</sup> Dealogic's ECM Analytics Database identifies the first accelerated bookbuilt offer in 1997, which is consistent with the first usage of the term 'accelerated book-building' in July 1997 (Warn (1997)).

the bank. The bookbuilding procedure is “accelerated” in the sense that no road show is conducted and the underwriting procedure is typically completed within 48 hours.<sup>6</sup>

Before the late 1990s, the US equity market was dominated by fully marketed SEOs. In contrast, many Asian, European, and Australian SEOs used rights offers. In a rights offer, current shareholders are given short-term warrants to purchase newly issued shares on a pro rata basis at a discount relative to the current market price of the stock. During the last decade, accelerated offers have gained market share quickly both in the US and around the world. In 2004, more than a third of issues in the rest of the world were accelerated SEOs, according to Table 2 in Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart (2007).

The major difference between a fully marketed offer and an accelerated offer, aside from the speed of completing the deal, is the extent of the underwriter’s marketing of the issue. We develop a model of the role of marketing in seasoned equity offerings to explain the issuing firm’s choice between a fully marketed offer and an accelerated offer. In the model, marketing flattens the demand curve of the issuer’s stock. The underwriter’s marketing effort, i.e. a road show, can change the issuing firm’s stock demand elasticity.

To the best of our knowledge, this is the first time this marketing paradigm has been used in the finance literature. The bookbuilding literature has focused on the acquisition of information by underwriters about the state of the demand, e.g., Benveniste and Spindt (1989). In contrast, we posit that an important feature of traditional bookbuilding is the marketing of the issue. While many studies have assumed that a

---

<sup>6</sup> This is confirmed in our sample where 96% of accelerated offers, including bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, are completed within two days.

negatively sloped demand curve exists, these papers have assumed that the elasticity of demand is exogenous. This paper not only explicitly adopts a supply and demand framework to analyze SEOs, but posits that the demand curve that an issuing firm faces is affected by the choice of issue methods. In other words, the short-run demand curve that an issuing firm faces is an endogenous choice variable.

The marketing effort can change the elasticity and helps the issuer to achieve a higher post-issue market price. The benefits of marketing are larger if the demand curve is more inelastic or if the relative offer size is higher. Therefore, our model predicts that an issuing firm is more likely to pay the higher fees and choose the fully marketed offer method if it faces an inelastic demand curve prior to the offer. The fully marketed offer method is also preferred if the relative offer size is large.

Our empirical results support the model's predictions. We use two measures to proxy for the demand elasticity. The first measure is an order flow inverse demand elasticity, the ratio of the average daily absolute returns to the average daily turnover. The second measure is the arbitrage risk measure used in Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002), the variance of market model residual returns. We document that the pre-issue elasticity of the issuing firm's demand curve is an important determinant of the offer method. The relative offer size is also an important determinant. For example, of SEOs conducted in 2005, 90% of firms issuing more than 20% of their equity (86 out of 95) use fully marketed offers, whereas only 30% of firms issuing less than 10% (14 out of 48) do so. We also find that a smaller fraction of primary shares and less analyst coverage all increase the probability of using a fully marketed offer, which indicates that firms with high information asymmetry favor fully marketed offers.

Our model is not mutually exclusive from previous studies on information asymmetry and information production. The downward-sloping demand curve can arise from asymmetric information, differences of opinion among investors (Miller 1977), or how many investors are paying attention to the stock. If the issuing firm faces high information asymmetry, it has a relatively inelastic demand curve and it can benefit from fully marketing the offer. During the underwriting process, the book-runner produces information about market demand of the SEO and then sets the offer price. This information production can be viewed as part of the marketing efforts. More syndicate members, including co-managers and non-managing underwriters, can reach out to more investors and provide more information about market interest in the offer, which adds to the marketing efforts.

Corwin and Schultz (2005) examine the role of syndicate members in IPOs and find strong evidence of information production. Huang and Zhang (2008) find that more managing underwriters, including bookrunners and co-managers result in a lower offer price discount, defined as the percentage price change from the previous market price to the offer price. They attribute this to the managing underwriters' pre- and post-issue marketing efforts. Consistent with these two studies, we find that fully marketed offers tend have more co-managers and larger syndicate groups compared to accelerated offers. In our sample, 66% of the accelerated SEOs do not hire a co-manager. In contrast, only 5.4% of the fully marketed offers do not have a co-manager.

Our study supports the argument that demand curve elasticity has a significant impact on corporate financial decisions. Hodrick (1999) studies tender offer choice in share repurchases and finds that firms that choose Dutch auctions instead of the fixed

price tender offers tend to face more elastic demand curves. Baker, Coval, and Stein (2007) argue that for acquiring firms that face downward-sloping demand curves, investor's inertial behavior, i.e. tendency to react passively, mitigates the merger announcement effect and increase the benefit of a stock-for-stock merger.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows: In section 2, we review the related literature on marketing and stock demand elasticities. Section 3 develops a model of the role of marketing in seasoned equity offerings. Section 4 discusses the sample construction and presents univariate patterns. Section 5 estimates two demand elasticity proxies and analyzes the determinants of offer method with a binomial logistic model. Section 6 concludes.

## 2. Related Literature

### 2.1 Marketing

Figure 1 illustrates and compares the SEO process associated with the three offer methods: bought deals, accelerated bookbuilt, and fully marketed SEOs.

Aside from the speed of issue, the major difference between a fully marketed SEO and an accelerated SEO is the marketing effort by the underwriter. In a fully marketed offer, a preliminary prospectus is distributed and lead underwriters together with the issuing firm's executives hold a traditional road show. They visit large institutional investors to create interest and build the demand schedule of the offer. During the road shows, institutional investors acquire more information regarding the issue. The road show process usually lasts for two weeks, so investors have plenty of time to investigate and make their investment decisions.

In a bought deal, in contrast, the winning bank buys all the shares and re-sells them immediately, usually overnight. In an accelerated bookbuilt SEO, the winning bank assembles at most a small underwriting syndicate and usually sells the whole issue within 48 hours. Therefore, there is little marketing effort involved in an accelerated underwriting and investors have little time to evaluate the offer.

Marketing has several effects. Marketing increases the number of investors paying attention to a given stock. Both theoretical and empirical research shows that attention plays an important role in investor's trading behavior and the stock market price. In Merton (1987), investors have a positive demand for only those stocks that they are familiar with. Busse and Green (2002) report that trading volume for Nasdaq-listed stocks increased by an average of 300,000 shares in the four minutes after an analyst mentioned a stock favorably on CNBC's Midday Call segment. Barber and Odean (2008) test and confirm the hypothesis that individual investors are net buyers of attention-grabbing stocks, described as those that in the news, or have high trading volume, have extreme one-day returns. In addition, Yuan (2008) finds that high attention also influences both the aggregate market price level and the trading behavior of institutional investors.

To formalize the impact of marketing on prices, we follow the model in Dixit and Norman (1978). In their model marketing changes consumer tastes and flattens aggregate demand curves. In Shapiro's (1980) model, advertising flattens each

individual's demand curve.<sup>7</sup> But our focus is different from theirs. These economic theories focus on the equilibrium level of advertising while we focus on the decision of whether or not to market the offer in the context of the demand for the shares of a company that is issuing stock. One could interpret our analysis as modeling the discrete decision as to advertise or not advertise.

We also make a distinction between short-run and long-run demand curves. We assume that in the very long run, the price of the stock is determined by its cash flow fundamentals and the discount rate that investors apply, which in turn may be affected by liquidity characteristics. The long-run stock demand curve is essentially perfectly elastic. In the short-run, however, this is not the case. The short-run demand curve is assumed to be negatively sloped. We assume that the short-run demand elasticity is determined by how many investors are paying attention to the stock, and how heterogeneous are their expectations.

The underwriter's marketing effort helps to flatten the short-run demand curve, which is reflected in a higher stock price after the issue. This marketing effort does not come for free, however. The issuing firm needs to balance the gain from a higher stock price with the extra underwriting expenses associated with greater marketing effort.

## 2.2 Downward Sloping Demand Curves

---

<sup>7</sup> Comanor and Wilson (1967) argue that the demand curve may become more inelastic with advertising. In their analysis, advertising creates product differentiation and market power, both of which increase entry barriers. Their framework is less relevant to our study, since investors own stocks primarily for the cash flows that are generated (i.e. in the language of bidding theory, stocks are common value goods rather than private value goods.)

In a classical efficient market framework, demand curves for stocks are horizontal. At any point in time, market prices reflect all available information. Therefore, a shock in the demand or supply should not move the stock price if it does not change the expectation of the underlying value. Empirical evidence from many sources, however, suggests that demand curves for common stocks are actually downward sloping.

Previous studies reveal that both short-run and long-run demand curves are not perfectly elastic. Scholes (1972) uses 'price pressure' to describe the downward sloping short-run demand curves that he documents. He studies block sales and secondary offerings (SEOs) and documents a price decline in such distributions of securities. However, Scholes interprets his findings as indicating that information effects are the main cause of the price changes. Current studies most often attribute the short-run effect on price to market liquidity constraints. Keim and Madhavan (1996) document significant temporary price impacts from large block trades.

A number of studies that look at price changes when stocks are added to or deleted from an index distinguish between short-run and long-run demand curves. Index additions and deletions represent a clean test of demand curve slopes because in most cases they are per se informationless. Shleifer (1986), Harris and Gurel (1986), Dhillon and Johnson (1991), Lynch and Mendenhall (1997), and Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) all document positive abnormal returns when stocks are added to the Standard and Poor's 500 Index, with the positive abnormal returns only partly reversed in subsequent trading. Furthermore, these studies show that the magnitude of the announcement effects has increased over time, paralleling the growth in the assets of funds that are indexed to the S&P 500. Lynch and Mendenhall (1997) find evidence of both temporary and permanent

return components, which supports the notion of different short-run and long-run elasticities. Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) document that stocks without close substitutes experience a larger price jump when added to the S&P 500 Index, implying less elastic short-run demand curves for these stocks. Morck and Yang (2002) find that the valuation premium associated with being in the S&P 500 Index has increased substantially over time and grows in step with the growth of indexing. They argue that indexing demand for these stocks results in a higher price because the long-run supply curve is positively sloped. A positively sloped supply curve for buyers is analogous to a negatively sloped demand curve for sellers.

Similar results are reported for the stocks that are added to or deleted from other indices. Madhavan (2003) and Biktimirov, Cowan, and Jordan (2004) report that stocks added to or deleted from the Russell 2000 in its annual reconstitution experience significant returns. Liu (2000) finds positive price changes when stocks are added to the Nikkei 500 Index with no significant post-event reversals. In addition, Kaul, Mehrotra, and Morck (2000) examine stock price changes in response to the re-weighting of the Toronto Stock Exchange 300 Index in 1996, finding strong support for downward sloping demand curves for common stocks.

Greenwood (2005) studies the redefinition of the Nikkei 225 index in April 2000. He finds that not only do additions and deletions experience significant price changes, but securities that are not directly affected by the substitution of securities also experience abnormal returns due to their correlation with securities undergoing changes in demand. Furthermore, he shows that the short-run effects are partly reversed over the following 20 weeks, implying a more elastic long-run demand curve than in the short run.

Although the studies examining index changes universally find price effects, they rarely estimate the elasticity because the change in quantity demanded by index funds and other portfolio managers that are benchmarked to the index is difficult to quantify. When shares are issued by the company, however, it is possible to estimate an elasticity. Kandel, Sarig, and Wohl (1999) analyze the full demand schedules of 27 Israeli IPO auctions and estimate that the average elasticity is  $-37$ , indicating that a 37% increase in shares issued is associated with a 1% fall in price.

Seasoned equity offerings result in an increase in the supply of shares to the public. In the U.S., but not all countries, the announcements are associated with stock price falls. The fall has been interpreted in the literature as due to a combination of information (Myers and Majluf, 1984) and supply effects. Loderer, Cooney, and Van Drunen (1991) study the announcement effect of seasoned offerings by regulated firms. Their event study is a direct test on price elasticity of common stocks because regulated firms are less likely to suffer from information asymmetry. Their results support finite price elasticities.

Share repurchases represent a decrease in the supply of shares to the public. A positively sloped supply curve for buyers is analogous to a negatively sloped demand curve for sellers. Bagwell (1992) documents that firms face upward-sloping supply curves when they repurchase shares in a Dutch auction. Hodrick (1999) confirms the existence of an inelastic demand curve and concludes that the expected stock elasticity is an important determinant of the tender offer choice. She measures the inverse elasticity as the price premium above the market price before the announcement divided by the fraction of shares tendered. She finds an average inverse elasticity of 1.27 for Dutch

auction firms and 0.99 for fixed price tender offer firms. Her study is similar to ours in that she focuses on differences in elasticities determining corporate choices. Unlike our analysis, however, she takes the elasticity as exogenous.

Studies on initial public offerings (IPO) also support downward-sloping demand curves. Braun and Larrain (2008) find that IPOs in emerging markets have negative impacts on the prices of stocks that highly covary with the IPOs, particularly for large IPOs and in less internationally integrated markets. They conclude that the findings are consistent with downward-sloping demand curves so shocks to asset supply have significant impact on asset prices. Field and Hanka (2001) examine returns around IPO lockup expirations. Because the date of the lockup expiration is known well in advance, in an efficient market, there should be no abnormal returns. However, they find a statistically significant three-day abnormal return of -1.5%. They find that the abnormal return is more negative when trading volume is abnormally high, which is consistent with the hypothesis that the abnormal return is caused by downward-sloping demand curves.

Many VC-backed funds distribute shares to limited partners at the lockup expiration date, and many of the limited partners immediately sell their shares. VC backing, therefore, may be a proxy for the magnitude of the increase in the flow supply at the time of the lockup expiration. If this is the case, then VC-backed IPOs should have larger price effects if demand curves are negatively sloped. Consistent with this prediction, Bradley, Jordan, Roten, and Yi (2001) and Brav and Gompers (2003) report negative abnormal returns at lockup expirations, with the effect larger for VC-backed IPOs.

In the market microstructure literature, the depth of the limit order book determines the short-run elasticity of demand. Larger sell orders get executed at progressively lower prices because investors assume that larger sell orders are more likely to be motivated by negative information (O'Hara, 1995). Trades that are not motivated by private information, however, face a larger price impact the larger the trade. In equilibrium, the short-run elasticity reflects the market's expectations of the mix of informed and uninformed trades.

To summarize, there is widespread evidence that both the short-run and long-run demand curves for stocks are negatively sloped and the stock demand elasticity is an important determinant in corporate financial decisions. Bagwell (1992), Loderer, Cooney, and Van Drunen (1991), and Hodrick (1999) find the stock elasticity to be related to the market capitalization, daily trading volume, daily return variance, and inclusion in the S&P 500 Index. Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) further document that there is considerable cross-sectional variation in the elasticities.

### 2.3 SEOs and Marketing

The vast majority of academic studies on the announcement effects associated with SEOs have focused on information releases either explicitly or implicitly. One of the few exceptions is Huang and Zhang (2008), who posit that the use of multiple managing underwriters is motivated by marketing considerations. Huang and Zhang (2008) report that if one more managing underwriters is hired, the offer price discount is reduced by 0.26%. They argue that the smaller price discount results from the additional managing underwriter's marketing efforts, which reduce the price pressure and the

downside price risk. Huang and Zhang (2008) focus on the gross spread and offer price discount to examine the impact of hiring additional managers on direct and indirect issue costs. Our study has a different focus. We examine the issuing firm's pre-issue demand elasticity and analyze the determinants of the offer method.

### 3. A Model of the Marketing of SEOs

#### 3.1 The Model

In this section, we develop a model to study the economics of the underwriter's marketing effort.

Our model starts with a downward-sloping demand curve. A downward-sloping demand curve can arise from asymmetric information, differences of opinions among investors as to the value of the firm, and short-sale constraints. In Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) model, the demand curve's slope is more negative when (i) the stock does not have close substitutes (more arbitrage risk), (ii) the risk aversion of arbitrageurs is high, (iii) the heterogeneity of non-arbitrageurs' beliefs is high, and (iv) the number of arbitrageurs is small. Here, we focus on the issuer's short-term demand curve around the seasoned offering.

Figure 2 illustrates the model. Suppose that there is a group of  $N$  investors with homogeneous beliefs about the issuing firm's fundamental value. Each investor has a downward sloping demand curve  $X(p)$ . Then the aggregate short-run demand curve, the solid line in Figure 2, is  $NX(p)$ . Before the offer, the market equilibrium price is  $P_1$ , which is jointly determined by the aggregate demand curve and the supply of shares.  $P_1$

also represents the price that the stock will converge to in the long-run as the demand curve rotates from the steep short-run relation to the more elastic long-run relation. The offering represents an increase in supply (from  $X_1$  to  $X_2$  in Figure 2). If there is no marketing, the short-run demand curve remains the same throughout the offering and as a result of the movement along the demand curve, the stock price drops from  $P_1$  to  $P_2$ .

If the issuing firm decides to market the offering, the marketing efforts will attract new investors into the issue, as modeled in a product market context by Dixit and Norman (1978) and Shapiro (1980). For simplicity, we assume that  $M$  new investors with the same demand curve become aware of the issue and decide to participate. The new aggregate demand curve is  $(M + N)X(p)$ , represented by the dashed line in Figure 2. The new demand curve is now flatter than the old curve  $NX(p)$ . Therefore, the new post-issue stock price will be higher due to the flatter demand curve. Our model is also similar to the one in Merton (1987). In Merton's model, a larger investor base increases the equilibrium price. But Merton does not explicitly model the demand curve in his study.

The new demand curve results in the issuer facing a different elasticity of demand and a higher offer price  $P^*$ . With the increase in the offer price from  $P_2$  to  $P^*$ , the shaded rectangular area represents the issuer's gross gain from marketing. For a given supply increase, the gain from marketing will be larger the more inelastic is the pre-offer demand curve. If this gain is sufficiently large and exceeds the direct cost saving from switching to an accelerated offer, the issuing firm would prefer the fully marketed offer.

Also, note that the size of the shaded rectangle will be larger when there is a larger supply increase. A larger relative offer size represents a larger move along the short-run demand curve, which implies a larger price drop if the demand curve remains the same. If the issue significantly increases the public float and will suffer from greater price pressure, a fully marketed offer is preferred.

### 3.2 Model Predictions and Testable Hypotheses

Given that the costs of conducting a road show are largely fixed costs, our model predicts that the benefits of a fully marketed offer exceed the costs if

1. The ex ante demand curve of the issuing firm's stock is relatively inelastic, and
2. The issuing firm is offering a large number of shares relative to the shares outstanding prior to the offer

The two predictions yield two testable hypotheses:

1. The issuing firm's ex ante demand elasticity is an important determinant of the offer method.
2. The relative offer size is an important determinant of the offer method.

We want to point out that our empirical study does not attempt to estimate the dollar value of the gain from marketing because it is difficult to find the post-issue price with marketing,  $P^*$ , and the post-issue market price without marketing,  $P_2$ . For a fully marketed offer, the ex ante demand curve is unobservable so it is hard for us to estimate the counterfactual price  $P_2$  had there been no marketing. To find  $P^*$  is also a challenge. On the day of the SEO announcement, market efficiency suggests that investors should

anticipate any price pressure effects associated with the increase in supply and the market price should adjust accordingly at the announcement rather than waiting for the issue day. At the same time, the market price should also incorporate the information released by the announcement. Therefore, the observed closing price on the announcement day is the combination of the information effect and the anticipated price pressure effect. To find  $P^*$  requires isolating the information effect from the price pressure effect, which is hard to implement empirically. Furthermore, the observed announcement day closing price may still deviate from the expected post-issue price due to transaction costs and arbitrage limitations.

### 3.3 Extension of the Model

Two assumptions in this model can be relaxed to make it more general.

First, investors can have heterogeneous beliefs. Even if the new investors are less optimistic than current shareholders, their participation will still flatten the demand curve, as pointed out in Shapiro (1980). In fact, Bagwell (1992) and Kandel, Sarig, and Wohl (1999) have demonstrated that investors have heterogeneous beliefs, or at least heterogeneous reservation prices due to differential tax status.

Second, the announcement of the SEO may convey information to the market. Myers and Majluf (1984) show that under certain conditions, the market interprets the announcement of a seasoned offer as a negative signal that the issuing firm is overvalued. The demand curve is shifted downward in parallel and results in the price drop upon the announcement of the offer. After the announcement, the underwriter's marketing efforts may reduce the information asymmetry so the demand curve will be flattened and shifted

upward in parallel. In our empirical study, we do not attempt to disentangle the information asymmetry and the price pressure. However, we predict that if a firm faces high information asymmetry prior to the issue, it may benefit more from fully market the offer.

#### 4. Sample and Descriptive Statistics

##### 4.1 Sample Selection

We select all US common stock seasoned equity offerings in the Dealogic Equity Capital Markets (ECM) Analytics Database between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996 and December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005. To identify the offer method, we mainly rely on Dealogic's classification, supplemented by the length of time between the filing day and the trade day. In Appendix A, we compare Dealogic's classification with the Thomson Financial Securities Data Company's (SDC) new issues database's classification of the offer method and discuss some details regarding the accuracy of the classification of the offer method. We find that Dealogic's classifications are much more accurate.

We apply the following data restrictions:

- 1) The issuer must be a US-based public company. (ADRs and ADSs are excluded).
- 2) The issuer's stock must be listed on the NYSE, AMEX, or NASDAQ.
- 3) Offers on a best efforts basis are excluded.<sup>8</sup>
- 4) Non SEC registered offers and offers under SEC Rule 144A are excluded.<sup>9</sup>

---

<sup>8</sup> We excluded 636 offers issued on a best efforts basis. The majority of these best efforts are private placements, usually by small firms. Dealogic does not report the final proceeds or fees for these deals and the prospectuses usually only list the maximum proceeds and placement agent fees.

- 5) Private placements, rights offers, and unit offers are excluded.<sup>10</sup>
- 6) SEOs of closed-end funds and REITs are excluded.<sup>11</sup>
- 7) Pure secondary offerings are excluded.<sup>12</sup>
- 8) The issuing firm must be present on the University of Chicago Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP) database on the last trading day prior to the offer and the first trading day after the issue.
- 9) Accelerated offers that are identified as non-shelf offers are excluded.<sup>13</sup>

Pure secondary SEOs are offerings in which all of the shares are being sold by existing shareholders. We exclude pure secondary offerings because they are similar to large sales (block trades) in the open market. Our empirical results are robust to including these pure secondary SEOs, and tables are available upon request.<sup>14</sup>

#### 4.2 Offer methods

Our sample includes 3,048 US SEOs during January 1<sup>st</sup>, 1996 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005. Table I reports the number of offers with each offer method by year. The number

<sup>9</sup> 582 non SEC registered offers and one SEC registered Rule 144A offer are excluded. SEC Rule 144A applies to private sales of securities to qualified institutional investors.

<sup>10</sup> Dealogic-identified private placements include Private Investment in Public Equity (PIPEs), PIPOs and 'registered direct' offers. The best efforts screening catches most PIPEs and after that, 1 PIPO, 1 rights offer and 183 unit offerings are excluded.

<sup>11</sup> 751 closed-end funds and REITs are excluded.

<sup>12</sup> 662 pure secondary offerings, in which all of the shares are being sold by existing shareholders, are excluded. Among the 662 pure secondary offerings, 181 are bought deals, 33 are accelerated bookbuilt offers, and 448 are fully marketed offers.

<sup>13</sup> Generally speaking, only companies that are eligible for shelf registrations are eligible for accelerated SEO offers. There are exceptions and possible data mistakes. For example, the offer by First Republic Bank on August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2005, is exempted from registration under Section 3(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933. MBNA filed a shelf registration on March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1999 and conduct a bought deal on August 14<sup>th</sup>, 2000. But Dealogic reports this as a non-shelf takedown. Most of these deals are small offers with less than \$100 million in proceeds so we exclude all 34 non-shelf accelerated offers.

<sup>14</sup> Our sample is smaller than Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart's (2007) because we exclude ADRs, private placements, and pure secondary offerings.

of SEOs fluctuates over the ten year sample period, although the fluctuation in volume from year to year is much smaller than for IPOs. The number of bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers has increased substantially since 2000. In 1996, there were only 2 bought deals and no accelerated bookbuilt offers. In 2004, there were 35 bought deals and 50 accelerated bookbuilt offers. Bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers also have gained market share in terms of proceeds raised over time.<sup>15</sup> In 2005, these accelerated offers account for thirty percent of the total proceeds raised in seasoned equity offerings. The offer proceeds fluctuate with the overall market valuation. In our sample, an average SEO raises \$94 million in 1996, \$276 million in 2000, and \$156 million in 2005. Therefore, we adjust the nominal proceeds via scaling by the nominal year-end value of Standard & Poor 500 Index level. The normalized proceeds, expressed in terms of 1996 valuations, are given by 
$$\text{Nominal Proceeds} \times \frac{\text{S\&P 500 Index}_{1996}}{\text{S\&P 500 Index}_{\text{SEO Year}}}.$$

In unreported results, using two-digit standard industry classification (SIC) codes, 68 industries are represented, with 73% by industrial firms and 27% by regulated and financial firms.<sup>16</sup> For bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, around 54% are industrial firms. For fully marketed offers, 76% of issuers are industrial firms. Over the sample period, the industry representation in each year exhibits no particular pattern.

A total of 1,432 firms conduct one follow-on offering during our ten-year sample period. This number is 73% of the firms that conduct one or more SEOs. Among the

---

<sup>15</sup> The total proceeds include the exercised overallotment value. Unlike the SDC New Issues Database, Dealogic reliably reports the exercised amount.

<sup>16</sup> Utility and other historically regulated firms, including transportation and telecom, have two-digit SIC codes between 40 and 49. Financial firms have SIC codes between 60 and 69. All other firms are industrial firms.

539 firms that conduct more than one SEO, 47 are financial firms and 492 are non-financial firms. There are 390 firms that conduct 2 offers during the sample period. 325 of those firms choose the same type of offer method for both issues. 58 firms switch from a fully marketed offer to an accelerated offer and 7 firms switch from an accelerated offer to a fully marketed offer. When the firm does its second issue, it usually has a larger market capitalization compared to its previous issue. 149 issuers make more than 2 offers during the sample period, with the most frequent issuers being financial firms.<sup>17</sup> Among all the multiple issuers, the average time between two issues is 25 months.

The mean number of years from the issuing firm's IPO to the SEO is 10 years with a median of 5 years. Firms conducting accelerated SEOs are usually more seasoned than those conducting fully marketed offers, with a median of 10 years and 4 years respectively. More NYSE-listed companies (26%) do accelerated offers compared to NASDAQ-listed companies (10%). This is hardly surprising because large firms are more likely to do an accelerated offer, as we will see in Section 4.4.

### 4.3 Shelf-takedown Offers

The deregulated streamlined shelf registration process allows issuing firms to file a single all-encompassing registration statement once every two years rather than filing individual registration statements for every security offering. Once its shelf registration statement is approved by the SEC, a firm can issue securities without further disclosure requirements or regulatory delays.

---

<sup>17</sup> Two firms, Allied Capital and American Capital Strategies (ACAS), did more than 10 offers. ACAS, which invests in buyouts, had 19 SEOs in 1999-2005 and 4 more in 2006.

Shelf registration eligibility may lead to a potential selection bias in our analysis on the determinants of the offer method. An issuer needs to file a shelf registration prior to conducting an accelerated SEO. This requires the issuer to have at least \$75 million market capitalization.<sup>18</sup> Therefore, some small firms choose a fully marketed offer because they are not eligible for shelf registration and therefore cannot conduct an accelerated offer. These firms also tend to have inelastic demand curves. Including these small firms biases us towards finding a positive relationship between inelastic demand curves and conducting fully marketed offers. To avoid this bias, we restrict our sample to companies with a \$75 million market capitalization prior to the offer. This reduces our sample size from 3,048 SEOs to 2,781 SEOs for our empirical analysis.

Table II compares shelf-takedown and non-shelf takedown offers within each offer method. Over the ten-year sample period, there are 982 shelf-takedown SEOs. 575 of those shelf-takedown SEOs are fully marketed. 216 shelf-takedowns are bought deals and 191 are accelerated bookbuilt offers. All of the 2,066 non-shelf takedown offers are fully marketed.<sup>19</sup>

Shelf-registered issuers do not seem to have any dominating preference between accelerated offers and fully marketed offers. Almost sixty percent of the shelf-takedown SEOs are fully marketed offers. Autore, Hutton, and Kovacs (2008) also conclude that neither method dominates among shelf issuing firms. Therefore, we do not consider the

---

<sup>18</sup> There are other requirements other than the market capitalization requirement. For details, see Bethel and Krigman (2006).

<sup>19</sup> We exclude 34 non-shelf issuers that Dealogic reports as having done an accelerated offering. Even if we included these, however, over 98% of non-shelf offerings are fully marketed.

issuer's endogenous decision on shelf registration as an explanatory variable in our empirical tests.

#### 4.4 Offer Characteristics

Table III compares offer characteristics among the three offer methods. The first column lists results for the entire sample of SEOs, while the second, third, and fourth columns compare among bought deals, accelerated bookbuilt SEOs, and fully marketed SEOs. For each offer characteristic variable, Table III reports mean and median values. The last column reports the p-values from the Kruskal-Wallis (KW) test on the means and the Chi-squared test on the medians to test for a distribution difference among the three subsamples with different offer methods. Our analysis focuses on mean values but results based upon medians are similar.<sup>20</sup>

After normalizing the market capitalization and proceeds by the nominal S&P 500 Index level with 1996 being the base year, the average issuing firm in our sample has a market capitalization of \$1.2 billion before the offer and raises \$115 million in proceeds.<sup>21</sup> On average, the issuer is increasing the shares outstanding by 23.29%, as measured by the relative offer size, which is defined as the ratio of the offered shares to the total shares outstanding prior to the issue. The average percentage increase is much

---

<sup>20</sup> We use the non-parametric t-test (Kruskal-Wallis test) to test for difference in means among the three groups and the non-parametric median Chi-squared test (Brown-Wood test) on medians. The Kruskal-Wallis (KW) test allows more than two groups and does not require the dependent variables to be normally distributed.

<sup>21</sup> The market capitalization is calculated on the last trading day before the announcement of the offer and is adjusted by the annual nominal S&P 500 Index level in the same fashion as the adjustment on the deal proceeds. For firms with dual class shares, the market cap is restricted to the publicly traded shares reported on the CRSP tapes.

larger than the average proceeds as a percentage of pre-issue market capitalization because larger companies typically issue a much smaller fraction of shares than smaller companies do. Primary shares, which are shares offered by the issuing firm, are on average 84.48% of the total number of shares offered, with most SEOs having 100% of the issue coming from the company rather than existing shareholders.

As revealed in columns 2, 3, and 4 in Table III, bought deals, accelerated bookbuilt offers, and fully marketed offers differ substantially from each other. Test statistics indicate that the difference in most of the offer characteristics is statistically significant between the three groups. Furthermore, there is usually a monotonic relation in each mean offer characteristic among the three groups with accelerated bookbuilt offers in between. This indicates that accelerated bookbuilding may be an alternative method for marginal issuers in the bought deals and fully marketed deals groups.

Accelerated bookbuilt SEOs tend to be chosen by larger firms and bought deals are chosen by the largest firms. Compared to an average issuer of a fully marketed offer, the average accelerated bookbuilt issuer is three times larger and the average bought deal issuer is almost four times larger.

The offer proceeds, however, show only modest differences across offer methods. As a result, the relative offer size for fully marketed deals is on average much larger. Figure 3 is a scatter diagram of the relation between the issuing firm's market capitalization prior to the offer and the relative offer size across offer methods for SEOs

in 2005.<sup>22</sup> Among the 244 SEOs in 2005, 90% of firms issuing more than 20% of their equity (86 out of 95) use fully marketed offers, whereas only 30% of firms issuing less than 10% (14 out of 48) do so.

Figure 3 shows that firms choosing fully marketed offers tend to be small firms selling a relatively large amount of shares. The larger relative offer size for fully marketed deals is consistent with our model prediction: Firms that may suffer from a larger price decline due to a larger move along the pre-issue demand curve prefer to fully market the offer because the marketing effort flattens the demand curve and helps to achieve a higher offer price. The smaller market capitalization for fully marketed deals is also consistent with our model's prediction: Small firms tend to have less elastic demand curves because of lower institutional ownership, and thus receive greater benefits from marketing.

Accelerated bookbuilt offers tend to hire slightly more bookrunners. In our sample, however, almost 90% of all SEOs have a single bookrunner and the higher incidence of multiple bookrunners for accelerated bookbuilt SEOs may partly reflect the higher frequency of these deals in the later half of our sample period, when multiple bookrunners were more common. We rank bookrunners' reputation using the Carter-Manaster ranking obtained from Jay Ritter's website. The highest Carter-Manaster ranking is 9 and the lower ranking is, the less prestigious the bookrunner is. If there are multiple bookrunners, we use the maximum ranking among the bookrunners. The mean bookrunner ranking is 8.3 and the median is 9, so most SEOs are underwritten by high

---

<sup>22</sup> Other years show the same pattern. Only one year's data is used to avoid obscuring the pattern by plotting too many points.

reputation banks. Bought deals have slightly more prestigious bookrunners but the difference is not significant.

Bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, as suggested by the offer method, have a very short underwriting process.<sup>23</sup> Not surprisingly, Table III shows that accelerated offers have a significantly shorter underwriting period. On average, bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt SEOs are offered within one day of the filing. In contrast, fully marketed offers spend 32 days on average to complete after the filing.<sup>24</sup> A longer underwriting process requires more resources and input from both the issuer and the lead manager, which also explains why fully marketed offers are the most expensive.

Fully marketed offers pay the highest gross spreads, 5.10% on average. Bought deals pay 2.28% and accelerated bookbuilt offers pay 4.14% on average. These results are comparable to those reported in previous studies, including Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart (2007).

The difference in gross spread among the three offer methods is significant and important. In a bought deal, the underwriter commits to purchase all of the shares for resale to the secondary market. There is no book-building nor road show involved. The underwriter, however, faces greater uncertainty about the price at which the shares can be resold because in general the market has not had a prior opportunity to react to the offer

---

<sup>23</sup> We dropped 10 accelerated SEOs that spend more than 3 days from the filing to the offer. Inclusion of these 10 deals has little impact on our analysis results. Five bought deals spend more than 100 days from the filing to the offer. For example, Rowan Companies filed the registration on Oct 13<sup>th</sup>, 1999 and completed the offer on Feb 16<sup>th</sup>, 2000 so there are 126 days between the filing and the offer. This bought deal has one underwriter, Lehman Brothers.

<sup>24</sup> Note that the average is affected by several extreme cases. 14 fully marketed offers spend more than 180 days. The longest case is the offer by Carmike Cinemas Inc in 2004. This offer is announced on Jun 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002 with an expected pricing date of August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2002, revised on July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2002, revised on Nov 18<sup>th</sup>, 2003, revised on Dec 16<sup>th</sup>, 2003, and revised on Jan 14<sup>th</sup>, 2004, and eventually took place on Jan 29<sup>th</sup>, 2004. So there are 601 days between the announcement and the offer.

announcement. In an accelerated bookbuilt offer, the lead manager collects price/quantity pairs from institutional investors and underwriters, and then sets the price of the shares in agreement with the issuer using the order book. In fully marketed offers, the lead manager conducts a road show while building the order book so the bookbuilding process is longer. In accelerated bookbuilt offers and fully marketed offers, the offer price is not set until after the market knows about the issue and has reset the stock price, so the underwriter does not assume as much price risk as in bought deals. The risk is smaller in fully marketed offers because the market has more time to value the deal and the underwriter has more time to build the order book.

The evidence in Table III suggests that a higher gross spread is associated with bookbuilding and expensive marketing efforts, even though the underwriter is exposed to more resale price risk on bought deals. Unreported multivariate analysis confirms that after controlling for various offer and firm characteristics, fully marketed offers pay an average 3% higher gross spread than accelerated SEOs.

In Table III, we also report the announcement effect, price discount, and underpricing. The announcement effect is the cumulative market-adjusted return (CMAR) estimated over the two-day window  $[-1, 0]$ ,  $\sum_{t=-1}^0 (r_{i,t} - r_{m,t})$ , ending with the announcement date (day 0).<sup>25</sup> On average, our sample offers experience -1.64 percent cumulative return around the announcement of the offer. If we expand the CMAR to a three-day window,[-

---

<sup>25</sup> Dealogic reports the number of days from the announcement to the offer. We checked several offers and find that if the announcement is made after the market closes and the offer takes place on the next day, Dealogic reports 0 between the announcement date and the offer date. So the announcement day should be the actual day that the market reacts to the announcement. Therefore, unlike some previous studies on the announcement effect, we exclude the return on the day after the announcement.

1,1], the average return is -2.01 percent, which is comparable to the numbers presented in previous studies.<sup>26</sup> Our results remain qualitatively the same if we use the three-day window.

The announcement effects vary among the three groups. Bought deals suffer the least amount of negative market reaction, an average of -1.22 percent. Fully marketed offers experience an average of -1.58 percent and accelerated bookbuilt offers experience an average of -2.92 percent. But note that bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers are often announced and underwritten on the same day. So the CMAR includes both the announcement effect and price pressure caused by an inelastic demand curve.

Denoting the closing price on the previous trading day of the offer by  $MP_{t-1}$ , the offer price by  $OP$ , and the closing price on the offer day by  $MP_t$ , the discount is the percentage price decrease from the closing price on the previous trading day of the offer to the offer price,  $\left(\frac{OP - MP_{t-1}}{MP_{t-1}}\right) \times 100\%$ . Underpricing is the percentage price increase from the offer price to the closing price on the offer day,  $\left(\frac{MP_t - OP}{OP}\right) \times 100\%$ . The discount and underpricing are similar in magnitude. The average SEO in our sample is sold at a 2.85% price discount and experiences a 3.26% price increase on the offer day. This is generally consistent with numbers reported in Altinkilic and Hansen (2003), Corwin (2003), and Mola and Loughran (2004). Both the discount and underpricing levels remain stable during the sample period.

---

<sup>26</sup> Interested readers can also refer to Table 5 in Ritter (2003) and Table 13 in Eckbo, Masulis, and Norli (2007), which summarize the announcement effects from different studies.

These averages, however, hide important differences across offer methods. On average, bought deals have the largest price discount of -4.15% and the smallest underpricing of 1.42%. Accelerated bookbuilt offers experience an average discount of -2.33% and underpricing of 2.01%. If an accelerated offer is priced and offered within 24 hours after the announcement of the offer, the two-day announcement effect, [-1,0], can be decomposed into the return on the last trading day before the offer, the discount, and the underpricing.<sup>27</sup> Fully marketed offers experience an average discount of -2.78% and the largest underpricing of 3.52%.

As we explained in Section 3.3, we do not attempt to empirically estimate the gain from marketing. Neither the price discount nor the underpricing is a good measure of the gain from marketing. Bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers may be unknown to the market in advance. So the observed price discount may incorporate both the discount and an announcement effect.<sup>28</sup>

The last two rows in Table III examine the number of analysts who are following the issuer's stock and the stock's average bid-ask spread. An analyst is included if he or she posts at least one recommendation within 12 months prior to the offer. The analyst recommendations are obtained from the Institutional Brokers' Estimate System (IBES) database. During the year before each SEO, the average number of analysts that follow

---

<sup>27</sup> 191 of the 206 bought deals and 95 of the 190 accelerated offers are offered within 24 hours after the announcement. It is interesting to notice that on average, bought deals experience a positive return of 1.6% on the previous day while accelerated offers experience a negative return of -2.6%. One potential explanation is that issuers may wait for a 'good' day, i.e. with positive stock return, to conduct a bought deal. For accelerated bookbuilt offers, there may be some information leakage prior to the announcement of the offer.

<sup>28</sup> In unreported results, we first estimate the announcement effect with offer and firm characteristics for accelerated offer if the accelerated offer is announced and offered within 24 hours. Then we subtract the predicted announcement effect from realized price discount. After this adjustment, bought deals still have the largest discount of -3.93%. The R-squared is around 0.04.

an SEO is 5, which is comparable to that reported in Huang and Zhang (2008).<sup>29</sup>

Accelerated issuers, who tend to be larger companies, receive significantly more analyst coverage, with an average of 8 to 9 analysts following the stock while fully marketed issuers only have 4 analysts on average. If an issuing firm receives little analyst coverage prior to the offer, it may decide to do a road show to reach more investors and promote the stock.

The bid-ask spread is the average daily bid-ask spread, scaled by the closing stock price on that day, over the 250 trading days prior to the announcement of the SEO.

Accelerated issuers tend to have a smaller proportional bid-ask spread, an average of 0.81%, compared to fully marketed offers with an average of 1.69%. However, the bid-ask spread exhibits a sharp declining trend in the sample period, from an average of 2.69% in 1996 to an average of 0.43% in 2005. This coincides with the increase in accelerated SEOs during our sample period and may lead to spurious results between the bid-ask spread and the SEO method selection. Therefore, we detrend the bid-ask spread in our multivariate regression in Section 5.

The univariate results show that accelerated SEOs tend to be large firms and the relative offer sizes are smaller than fully marketed offers. Next, we proxy for the issuer's pre-offer demand elasticity and examine the offer method choice in a multivariate setting in Section 5.

## 5. Price Elasticity Proxies and Determinants of Offer Method

<sup>29</sup> Huang and Zhang (2008) look at the number of recommendations issued prior to an SEO. We find comparable numbers for SEOs in our sample, e.g. on average, there are 7 recommendations issued within 12 months prior to an SEO.

## 5.1 Price Elasticity Proxy Estimation

The definition of elasticity of demand is the percentage change in quantity demanded corresponding to a percentage change in price, formally,  $\frac{\left(\frac{\Delta q}{q}\right)}{\left(\frac{\Delta p}{p}\right)}$ . In general,

we cannot precisely construct the demand and supply schedules for individual stocks and directly measure the price elasticity. Due to data limitations that prevent us from identifying supply shifts along a given demand curve or vice versa, we adopt two measures to proxy for the elasticity of demand curves for the issuing firm's stock before the offer.

The first measure of price elasticity is an average daily order flow inverse price elasticity measure,  $A_1$ . The daily order flow inverse price elasticity on day T is defined as the ratio between the absolute value of the stock's raw return and its turnover, with turnover defined as the trading volume divided by the number of shares outstanding. This is called an inverse elasticity because for an elasticity, quantity is in the numerator rather than the denominator. If the stock is listed on NASDAQ, we divide the trading volume in half to control for the double counting on NASDAQ relative to the AMEX and NYSE.  $A_1$  is the average daily inverse elasticity over the 250 trading day window, [-250,-1], prior to the announcement date:<sup>30</sup>

---

<sup>30</sup> If the company went public within 250 trading days prior to the SEO, we start with the first date available on CRSP.

$$A_1 = \frac{1}{250} \sum_{t=1}^{250} \left( \frac{|\text{Stock Raw Return}_t|}{\frac{\text{Number of Shares Traded}_t}{\text{Number of Shares Outstanding}_t}} \right)$$

If a stock has a -2% return on a day when 0.5% of its shares outstanding are traded, it would have an inverse elasticity of 4 on that day.  $A_1$  is the average daily inverse elasticity over the 250 trading days before the announcement.<sup>31</sup>

$A_1$  is not a precise measure of an individual stock's demand elasticity because the trading volume includes both buyer-initiated and seller-initiated trades. However, Kalay, Sade, and Wohl (2004)'s study on all orders that are placed at the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (TASE) empirically documents a positive relationship between the flow demand for the stock and its daily turnover. Therefore, using the total volume instead of just buyer-initiated volume in the denominator of  $A_1$  still produces a proxy for the demand elasticity. Our estimated  $A_1$  is negatively correlated with the demand elasticity since the price change is in the numerator, which is why it is termed an inverse price elasticity. A large  $A_1$  reflects a large change in price if there is a big demand or supply shock, which implies an inelastic demand curve.

The second measure of price elasticity is an arbitrage risk measure,  $A_2$ , as used in Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002).<sup>32</sup>  $A_2$  is the residual variance of a market model OLS regression over the 250 trading days prior to the announcement date:

---

<sup>31</sup> For the 14 fully marketed offers where there are more than 180 calendar days from the announcement to the offer, we estimate  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  over the 250 trading days ending 180 calendar days prior to the offer so that the estimation window is not too distant from the offer date. This treatment has no impact on our results.

$$(R_{i,t} - R_{ft}) = \alpha + \beta \times (R_{M,t} - R_{ft}) + \varepsilon_t \quad t = 1, 2, \dots, 250$$

In Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002)'s model, the demand elasticity for a stock is determined by the arbitrage risk. Arbitrageurs keep the demand curves flat if the asset has perfect substitutes and the arbitrage risk is zero. On the other hand, if the asset does not have perfect substitutes, the demand curve is downward sloping because the arbitrage risk is nonzero and arbitrageurs are risk averse. The larger the arbitrage risk,  $A_2$ , the more inelastic the demand curve is. Their empirical analysis documents a positive relation between arbitrage risk and returns on the announcement day of S&P 500 additions, which suggests that stocks with greater arbitrage risk have less elastic demand.

Our estimated order flow inverse demand elasticity and arbitrage risk measures are qualitative proxies for the individual stock's demand elasticity. Both measures are negatively related to the issuing firm's stock demand elasticity prior to the offer with a high value indicating inelastic demand. We are interested in the cross-sectional difference in  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  among the issuing firms.

Panel A and B in Table IV reports means, medians, and standard deviations of the two measures in the two panels. Our estimates of  $A_2$  are comparable to what Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) report. Comparing columns 2, 3, and 4 in Panel A and Panel B, we find the same pattern for both measures. On average, fully marketed SEOs have inverse elasticity and arbitrage risk at least twice as high as for bought deals and accelerated

---

<sup>32</sup> Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002) use two arbitrage risk measures. The other arbitrage risk measure is the residual variance of a zero-net-investment portfolio with three substitute stocks. The three stocks are matched on industry and as closely as possible on market capitalization and book-to-market ratio. The two measures are highly correlated (.97) and all our results remain qualitatively unchanged with the other arbitrage risk measure.

bookbuilt offers. This shows that fully marketed offers are dominated by issuers with relatively inelastic pre-announcement demand curves. The univariate results are consistent with our model's prediction: if the demand curve is more inelastic, the issuing firm is more likely to choose a fully marketed offer because the benefits of marketing are larger. Marketing can flatten the demand curve and achieve a higher post-issue price.

The inverse demand elasticity,  $A_1$ , has a highly skewed distribution, ranging from 0.03 to 1000. For  $A_1$ , roughly 1% of the sample takes an extreme value because the annualized turnover of the stock is less than 5%. For example, Centennial Communications Corp's average daily turnover is 0.02%, corresponding to an annual turnover of 5%, before its SEO on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2003. This small turnover rate generates an  $A_1$  of 840, almost 100 times the unconditional median of 9.02..

Consequently, we use a natural log transformation of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  in our empirical work. The last three rows in Panel A and B report the log transformed values of  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ ,  $Ln(A_1)$  and  $Ln(A_2)$ . As expected, the log transformation significantly reduces the skewness in  $A_1$ . The log transformation has a smaller impact on the level of  $A_2$ .

As a robustness check, we substitute the stock's raw return in  $A_1$  by its market adjusted return using the CRSP value-weighted market index. The results remain the same. Our results are also robust to the specification of the time window. We estimate  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  over one-month, three-month, and six-month windows prior to the announcement date and all estimates are qualitatively similar across the different windows.

## 5.2 Determinants of Offer Method

Next, we examine the determinants of the choice of offer method in a multivariate framework.

Our univariate analysis shows that the choice of offer method is affected by firm and offer characteristics. In the multivariate analysis, we include six firm and offer characteristic variables as the explanatory variables. The three firm characteristics are: one of our two proxies for the elasticity of the short-run demand curve (the estimated inverse elasticity or the estimated arbitrage risk), the average bid-ask spread, scaled by the stock price, over the 250 trading days prior to the announcement, and the number of analyst recommendations within 12 months before the offer, obtained from the I/B/E/S database. We apply a natural log transformation on all of these variables, which have skewed distributions.<sup>33</sup> To control for the strong declining trend in bid-ask spread, we detrend the log transformed bid-ask spread by subtracting the mean value of this variable from SEOs in the same calendar year. Offer characteristics variables include the logarithm of total proceeds, the relative offer size, and fraction of the offer that is primary shares.

Table V reports the pair wise Pearson correlation coefficients among the two demand elasticity proxies, the issuing firm's Ln(market capitalization) prior to the announcement, Ln(total proceeds), the relative offer size, the fraction of primary shares,

---

<sup>33</sup> If we use the raw values of  $A_1$ , the regression coefficient is still negative but becomes insignificant. In unreported results, we winsorized  $A_1$  at the 1% and 99% level or at the 2% and 98% level, and our empirical results remain qualitatively the same as with the log transformation. If we use the raw values of  $A_2$ , or the raw values of the number of analyst recommendations, the results remain qualitatively the same.

the detrended  $\text{Ln}(\text{bid-ask spread})$ , and  $\text{Ln}(1+\text{the number of analysts who cover the stock prior to the SEO})$ . The two elasticity proxies are moderately correlated (0.17) with each other. Both proxies are strongly correlated with the issuing firm's market capitalization, the bid-ask spread, and the number of analysts, indicating that small firms and firms with relatively high information asymmetry have relatively inelastic demand curves. The relative offer size is highly correlated (-0.48) with firm size mainly because the relative offer size is approximately the ratio between the offer proceeds and the firm size. We drop the issuing firm's market capitalization in our regression because it is highly correlated with the proceeds, the relative offer size, and the number of analysts.

We use a binomial logistic model to investigate the determinants of the SEO offer method. The dependent variable, offer method, is a dichotomous variable for which accelerated offers, including bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, equal 1, and fully marketed offers equal 0. The reference group is fully marketed offers. The binomial logistic model is estimated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Pr}(\text{Method}=\text{Accelerated Deal}) = & \gamma_0 + \gamma_1 \times \text{Elasticity Proxy} + \gamma_2 \times \text{Ln}(\text{Proceeds}) \\ & + \gamma_3 \times \text{Relative Size} + \gamma_4 \times \text{Primary Fraction} \\ & + \gamma_5 \times \text{Ln}(1+\text{Number of Analysts}) \\ & + \gamma_6 \times \text{Ln}(\text{Bid-ask Spread}) + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Table VI presents the binomial logistic regression results. The results are similar using either  $\text{Ln}(A_1)$ , order flow inverse demand elasticity, or  $\text{Ln}(A_2)$ , residual variance. As predicted, the coefficients on the two demand elasticity measures are negative, and they are statistically significant at the 1% level. Larger order flow inverse elasticity or arbitrage risk indicates a more inelastic demand

curve, and this inelasticity encourages issuers to choose a fully marketed offer instead of an accelerated offer.

The relative offer size has a significantly negative impact on the probability of an accelerated offer. As our model predicts, *ceteris paribus*, a large relative offer size increases the gain from marketing so the issuing firm is more likely to choose a fully marketed offer. The likelihood-based pseudo R-squares are 32% and 31% for the two models respectively, which indicate that both models fit well and can explain at least 31% of the total variance. Both models correctly predict 90% of the sample offer method. It should be noted, however, that 86% of the offers are fully marketed.

The binomial logistic model calculates the log ratio between probabilities from the reference group to the alternative group, so the coefficients are hard to interpret. In Table VI, we report the marginal probabilities associated with each independent variable. The marginal probability is the average change in the probability given a one unit change in the independent variable. For example, a one unit increase in  $Ln(A_1)$  and  $Ln(A_2)$  decrease the probability of an accelerated offer by 1.3% and 0.6% respectively.

The following analysis compares the impact on the offer method decision across the pre-offer demand elasticity proxies and the relative offer size. An average firm in the sample has a value of  $Ln(A_1)$  equal to 2.36. If we hold everything else constant and only increase  $Ln(A_1)$  by one standard deviation (1.24), the probability of an accelerated offer decreases from 2% to 0.9%, or by 55%. Similarly, a one standard deviation increase in  $Ln(A_2)$  (1.04) decreases the probability of an accelerated offer from 2.5% to 1.3%. The relative offer size has a larger impact on the offer method choice. A one

standard deviation increase (19.85%) in relative offer size decreases the probability of an accelerated offer from 2% to 0.2%.

The multivariate regression results support our first and second hypotheses. Both the pre-issue demand elasticity and the relative offer size are important determinants of the offer method. Firms facing a more inelastic demand curve are more likely to fully market the offer. A larger relative offer size increases the probability of a fully marketed offer.

The results in Table VI reveal other important determinants of the offer method. A smaller fraction of primary shares and fewer analysts covering the stock lower the probability of an accelerated offer. The analyst coverage can be viewed as a proxy for information asymmetry and the elasticity of demand. The smaller fraction of primary shares is associated with a highly probability of overvalued stock, e.g. Lee (1997), which is also related to the information asymmetry. Therefore, an issuing firm with high information asymmetry is more likely to choose a fully marketed offer. The detrended log bid-ask spread is not significant in the second model and is marginally positively correlated with the likelihood of an accelerated offer in the first model. This is a surprising result, since we would expect that stocks with a high bid-ask spread would be more likely to use a fully marketed offer.

One issue is whether the relative offer size is determined jointly with the choice of the offer method, or whether this fraction is predetermined. For a fully marketed offer, if the stock price drops too much after the announcement, or there is little demand for the issue, the issuing firm may reduce the offer size or cancel the offer. On the other hand, it sometimes increases the offer size if the demand is strong. For an accelerated offer, the

underwriter has little time to assess investors' demand but may still increase or decrease the offer size according to the demand information collected in a very short time period. Around 73% of the bought deals (150 out of 206) and 41% of the accelerated bookbuilt offers (78 out of 190) reduce the relative offer size and 36% of the fully marketed offers (859 out of 2,375) reduce the relative offer size.

For our empirical analysis, the question is whether this endogeneity problem biases our results. To examine this, we also try another measure of the relative offer size. It is defined as the ratio between the initial deal size, announced at the filing, and the issuing firm's market capitalization prior to the announcement. Our results remain virtually identical, so this potential endogeneity problem does not affect our conclusions.

Before 2000, there are very few accelerated SEOs. So for issuing firms during 1996 to 1999, they may not have the option to do an accelerated SEO because they cannot find an investment bank that is willing to underwrite an accelerated offer. We rerun the binomial regression for the subsample period 2000 to 2005 and find that the results are similar although stronger in the later sample period.

## 6. Conclusion

The recent rise in accelerated SEOs in the U.S. offers us a chance to study the determinants and economics associated with alternative offer methods. We study three major SEO offer methods: bought deals, accelerated bookbuilt offers, and fully marketed offers.

The main difference between an accelerated offer, including bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, and a fully marketed offer is that there is no marketing for an accelerated offer. Therefore, we focus on the role of marketing in SEOs.

We first develop a model of the issuing firm's stock demand and supply curves. The issuance represents an increase in the supply. With a downward sloping demand curve, the stock price decreases due to this increase in supply. Marketing flattens the demand curve and helps to achieve a higher price after the offer. Therefore, the elasticity of demand curve is endogenous and is affected by the chosen offer method. The model predicts that a fully marketed SEO has greater benefits to the issuing firm when it ex ante faces a highly inelastic demand curve and when the relative issue size is large.

Our empirical analysis supports the model predictions. We use two measures, the order flow inverse demand elasticity  $A_1$  and the arbitrage risk measure  $A_2$ , to proxy for the demand elasticity. Regression results show that the ex ante elasticity of the issuing firm's demand curve and the relative offer size are important determinants of the offer method. For an issuing firm that is average in other ways, if it has an above average relative issue size of 30% of the pre-issue shares outstanding and ex ante has a relatively inelastic demand curve, with an  $\ln(A_1)$  value of 4.83 (the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of the order flow inverse demand elasticity), the probability of using an accelerated offer is 0.2%. If the issuer has a relative offer size of 10% and is in the 10<sup>th</sup> percentile of the order flow inverse demand elasticity (with an  $\ln(A_1)$  value of 0.49), the probability of using an accelerated offer is 26.2%. The fraction of primary shares and the amount of analyst

coverage also have significant impacts on the choice of the SEO offer method, suggesting that firms with high information asymmetry tend to choose fully marketed offers.

## Appendix A

### Classification of SEO offer method

Our main database is the Dealogic Equity Capital Markets (ECM) database. Dealogic identifies three major SEO offer methods: accelerated bookbuilt, bought deal, and fully marketed offers. The Thomson Financial Securities Data Company's (SDC) new issues database is more commonly used in academic studies. As pointed out in Bortolotti, Megginson, and Smart (2007), SDC's method of classifying offering technique is sometimes confusing because it gives multiple designations to the same offer. For example, some offers are classified as "block trade/negotiated sale", "accelerated bookbuilt/firm commitment", "firm commitment/auction". Dealogic gives a single designation to each offer, so we think its classification is less ambiguous.

Compared to SDC, Dealogic is more accurate with the filing date and is more consistent with its classification of the offer method. We investigate 519 US seasoned equity offerings during Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 to Dec 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005 listed by both Dealogic and SDC. We first hand-checked 35 random offers' filing dates in Dealogic with Factiva and all of them are correct. Dealogic's classification of the offer method is mostly consistent with the time length from filing to offering. Accelerated bookbuilt offers and bought deals are almost always completed within 3 calendar days from filing with the SEC. Fully marketed offers take a longer time, ranging from 3 calendar days to more than 150 calendar days. All 68 accelerated bookbuilt offers are completed within 3 calendar days from filing with the SEC. Among the 119 bought deals, only 2 offers have a time span longer than 3 calendar days. One is the offer by Trinity Industries Inc, filed on Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004, which began trading on Dec 9<sup>th</sup>, 2004. The Dealogic filing date is consistent with

what we find in Factiva. This is a pure secondary offer so it is not included in our study. The other is by Monster Worldwide Inc, offered on Jan 5<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Monster Worldwide filed several S-3/As during the three months prior to the offer and the last one is filed on Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004. Among the 331 fully marketed deals, four offers have a time span exceeding 150 calendar days. Two of these four offers' filing dates are consistent with Factiva. Dealogic is apparently wrong with one offer's filing date and it is reclassified as a bought deal. Another offer has an amended file date 10 days before the offer so it is still classified as a fully marketed deal. Therefore, we feel comfortable to rely mainly on the length of time from filing to the offering, supplemented by Dealogic's classification of the offer method.

Next, we focus on discrepancies between SDC's classification and Dealogic's classification of the offer method. Among the 519 offers, 416 issues' offer methods are classified consistently and 103 are inconsistent. Among the 103 inconsistent offers, 86 offers have consistent offering dates and 17 offers have inconsistent offering dates. If the offering date is consistent, we find that Dealogic's offer method classification is more accurate because all accelerated offers are completed within 3 days and all fully marketed offers take more than 3 days to complete. For the 17 offers for which the offering dates are inconsistent, Dealogic's offering dates are correct for 14 out of the 17, where SDC is correct for only 3 of these cases.

Overall, we conclude that Dealogic is a more reliable database for our study.

## Reference

Altinkilic, Oya, and Robert S. Hansen, 2003, "Discounting and Underpricing in Seasoned Equity Offers," *Journal of Financial Economics* 69, 285-324.

Altinkilic, Oya, and Robert S. Hansen, 2006, "The Puzzling Wealth Loss around Equity Offerings: Is it Merely Price Pressure or Is There More Information?" Working paper, University of Pittsburgh.

Asquith, Paul, and David W. Mullins, 1986, "Equity Issues and Offering Dilution", *Journal of Financial Economics* 15, 61 – 89.

Autore, Don, Raman Kumar, and Kilip Shome, 2008, "The Revival of Shelf-registered Corporate Equity Offerings," Forthcoming, *Journal of Corporate Finance*.

Bagwell, Laurie S., 1992, "Dutch Auction Repurchases: An Analysis of Shareholder Heterogeneity", *Journal of Finance* 47, 71 – 105.

Baker, Malcolm, Joshua Coval, and Jeremy C. Stein, 2007, "Corporate Financing Decisions When Investors Take the Path of Least Resistance," *Journal of Financial Economics* 84, 266 – 298.

Barber, Brad M., and Terrance Odean, 2008, "All that Glitters: The Effect of Attention and News on the Buying Behavior of Individual and Institutional Investors," *Review of Financial Studies* 21, 785 - 818.

Benveniste, Lawrence M., and Paul A. Spindt, 1989, "How Investment Bankers Determine Offer Price and Allocation of New Issues", *Journal of Financial Economics* 24, 343 – 361.

Bethel, Jennifer, and Laurie Krigman, 2006, "Managing the Costs of Issuing Common Equity: The Role of Registration Choice", Babson College working paper.

Biktimirov, N. Ernest, Arnold R. Cowan, and Bradford D. Jordan, 2004, "Do Demand Curves for Small Stocks Slope Down?" *Journal of Financial Research* 27, 161 – 178.

Bohren, Oyvind, B. Espen Eckbo, and Dag Michalsen, 1997, "Why Underwrite Rights Offerings? Some New Evidence," *Journal of Financial Economics* 46, 223-261.

Bortolotti, Bernardo, William L. Megginson, and Scott B. Smart, 2007, "The Rise of Accelerated Seasoned Equity Underwritings". University of Oklahoma working paper.

Bradley, Daniel J., Bradford D. Jordan, Ivan C. Roten , and Ha-Chin Yi, 2001, "Venture Capital and IPO Lockup Expiration: An Empirical Analysis," *Journal of Financial Research* 24, 465-492.

- Braun, Matias, and Borja Larrain, 2008, "Do IPOs Affect the Prices of Other Stocks? Evidence from Emerging Markets," *Review of Financial Studies*, forthcoming.
- Brav, Alon, and Paul A. Gompers, 2003, "The Role of Lock-ups in Initial Public Offerings," *Review of Financial Studies* 15, 1-29.
- Busse, Jeffrey A., and T. Clinton Green, 2002, "Market Efficiency in Real Time", *Journal of Financial Economics* 65, 413 – 437.
- Chen, Hsuan-Chi, and Jay R. Ritter, 2000, "The Seven Percent Solution," *Journal of Finance* 55, 1105-1131.
- Comanor, William S., and Tomas A. Wilson, 1967, "Advertising Market Structure and Performance," *Review of Economics and Statistics* 49, 423–440.
- Corwin, Shane A., 2003, "The Determinants of Underpricing for Seasoned Equity Offers," *Journal of Finance* 58, 2249-2279.
- Corwin, Shane A., and Paul Schultz, 2005, "The Role of IPO Underwriting Syndicates: Pricing, Information Production, and Underwriter Competition," *Journal of Finance* 60, 443-486.
- Dhillon, Upinder, and Herb Johnson, 1991, "Changes in the Standard and Poor's 500 List," *Journal of Business* 64, 75-85.
- Dixit, Avinash, and Victor Norman, 1978, "Advertising and Welfare," *The Bell Journal of Economics* 9, 1-17.
- Eckbo, B. Espen, and Ronald W. Masulis, 1992, "Adverse Selection and the Rights Offer Paradox," *Journal of Financial Economics* 32, 293-332.
- Eckbo, B. Espen, Masulis, Ronald W. and Norli, Oyvind, 2007, "Security Offerings", *Handbook of Corporate Finance: Empirical Corporate Finance* (North-Holland: Amsterdam), Ch13.
- Eckbo, B. Espen and Norli, Oyvind, "The Choice of Seasoned-equity Selling Mechanism: Theory and Evidence" (November 2004). Tuck School of Business Working Paper.
- Field, Laura Casares, and Gordon Hanka, 2001, "The Expiration of IPO Shares Lockups," *Journal of Finance* 56, 471-500.
- Greenwood, Robin, 2005, "Short- and long-term Demand Curves for Stocks: Theory and Evidence on the Dynamics of Arbitrage," *Journal of Financial Economics* 75, 607 – 649.

Hansen, Robert S., and John M. Pinkerton, 1982, "Direct Equity Financing: A Resolution of a Paradox." *Journal of Finance* 37, 651-665.

Harris, Lawrence, and Eitan Gurel, 1986, "Price and Volume Effects Associated with Changes in the S&P List: New Evidence for the Existence of Price Pressures," *Journal of Finance* 41, 815-829.

Heinkel, Robert, and Eduardo S. Schwartz, 1986, "Rights versus Underwritten offerings: An Asymmetric Information Approach," *Journal of Finance* 41, 1-18.

Heron, Randall A., and Erik Lie, 2004, "A Comparison of the Motivations for and the Information Content of Different Types of Equity Offerings," *Journal of Business* 77, 605-632.

Hodrick, Laurie S., 1999, "Does Stock Price Elasticity Affect Corporate Financial Decisions?" *Journal of Financial Economics* 52, 225-256.

Huang, Rongbing, and Donghang, Zhang, 2008, "Managing Underwriters and the Marketing of Seasoned Equity Offerings," University of South Carolina working paper.

Kalay, Avner, Orly Sade, and Avi Wohl, 2004, "Measuring Stock Illiquidity: An Investigation of the Demand and Supply Schedules at the TASE," *Journal of Financial Economics* 74, 461 – 486.

Kandel, Shmuel, Oded Sarig, and Avi Wohl, 1999, "The Demand for Stocks: An Analysis of IPO Auctions," *Review of Financial Studies* 12, 227-247.

Kaul, Aditya, Vikas Mehrotra, and Randall Morck, 2000, "Demand Curves for Stocks Do Slope Down: New Evidence from an Index Weights Adjustment," *Journal of Finance* 55, 893-912.

Keim, Donald, and Ananth Madhavan, 1996, "The Upstairs Market for Large-Block Transactions: Analysis and Measurement of Price Effects," *Review of Financial Studies* 9, 1-36.

Korajczyk, Robert A., Deborah J. Lucas, and Robert L. McDonald, 1991, "The Effect of Information Releases on the Pricing and Timing of Equity Issues," *Review of Financial Studies* 4, 685-708.

Lee, Inmoo, 1997, "Do Firms Knowingly Sell Overvalued Equity?" *Journal of Finance* 52, 1439-1466.

Liu, Shinhua, 2000, "Changes in the Nikkei 500: New Evidence for Downward Sloping Demand Curves for Stocks," *International Review of Finance* 1:4, 2000, 245-267.

- Lucas, Deborah J., and Robert L. McDonald, 1990, "Equity Issues and Stock Price Dynamics," *Journal of Finance* 45, 1019-1043.
- Loderer, Claudio F., John W. Cooney, and Leonard D. Van Drunen, 1991, "The Price Elasticity of Demand for Common Stock," *Journal of Finance* 46, 621-651.
- Lynch, Anthony, and Richard Mendenhall, 1997, "New Evidence On Stock Price Effects Associated with Changes in the S&P 500 Index," *Journal of Business* 70, 351-383.
- Madhavan, Ananth, 2003, "The Russell Reconstitution Effect," *Financial Analyst Journal* 59, 51-64.
- Masulis, Ronald W., and Ashok N. Korwar, 1986, "Seasoned Equity Offerings: An Empirical Investigation," *Journal of Financial Economics* 15, 91-118.
- Meidan, Danny, 2004, "A Re-examination of Price Pressure around Seasoned Equity Offerings," Northwestern University working paper.
- Merton, Robert C., 1987, "A Simple Model of Capital Market Equilibrium with Incomplete Information," *Journal of Finance* 42, 483-510.
- Mola, Simona, and Tim Loughran, 2004, "Discounting and Clustering in Seasoned Equity Offering Prices," *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis* 39, 1-23
- Morck, Randall, and Fan Yang, 2002, "The Mysterious Growing Value of S&P 500 Membership", University of Alberta working paper.
- Myers, Stewart C., and Nicholas S. Majluf, 1984, "Corporate Financing and Investment Decisions When Firms Have Information that Investors Do Not Have," *Journal of Financial Economics* 13, 187-221.
- O'Hara, Maureen, *Market Microstructure Theory*, 1995, Basil Blackwell, Cambridge, MA.
- Richard Carter and Steven Manaster, 1990, "Initial Public Offerings and Underwriter Reputation," *Journal of Finance* 45, 1045 – 1067.
- Ritter, Jay R., 2003, "Investment Banking and Securities Issuance," *Handbook of the Economics of Finance* (North-Holland: Amsterdam), Ch 5.
- Scholes, Myron S., 1972, "The Market for Securities: Substitution versus Price Pressure and the Effects of Information on Share prices," *Journal of Business* 45, 179-211.
- Schultz, Paul H., 2008, "Downward Sloping Demand Curves, the Supply of Shares, and the Collapse of Internet Stock Prices," *Journal of Finance* 63, 351-378.

Shapiro, Carl, 1980, "Advertising and Welfare: Comment," *The Bell Journal of Economics* 11, 749-752.

Shleifer, Andrei, 1986, "Do Demand Curves Slope Down?" *Journal of Finance* 41, 579-590.

Smith, Clifford W. Jr., 1977, "Alternative Methods for Raising Capital: Rights vs. Underwritten Offers," *Journal of Financial Economics* 5, 273-307.

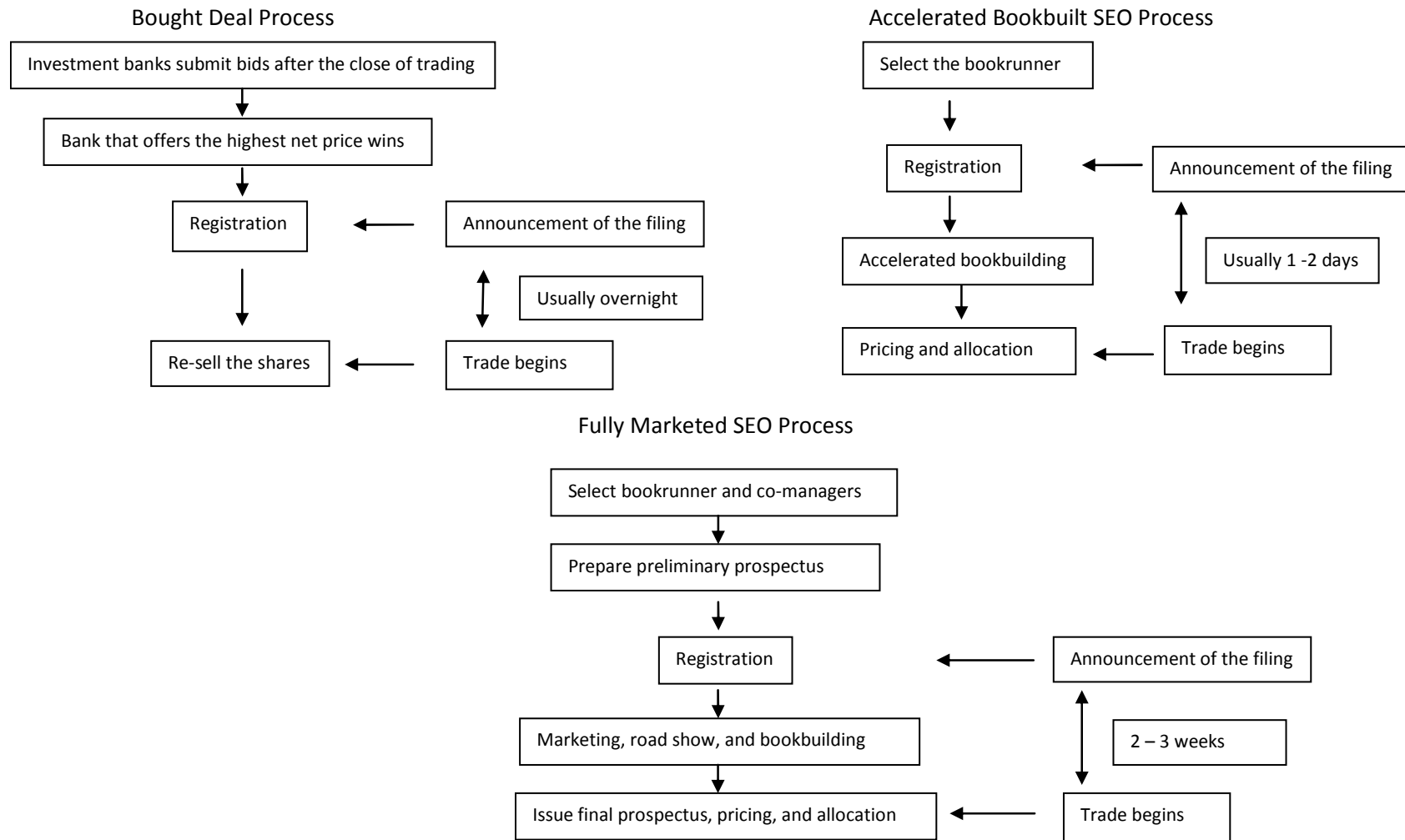
Securities and Exchange Commission release 2005-99, "SEC Votes To Adopt Securities Act Rule Reform and Shell Company Regulations; Considers Matters Remanded by Court of Appeals", <http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2005-99.htm>, July 1st 2005.

Warn, Ken, "Salomon Places \$1bn YPF Shares with Institutions," *Financial Times* (July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1997), downloaded from Factiva.

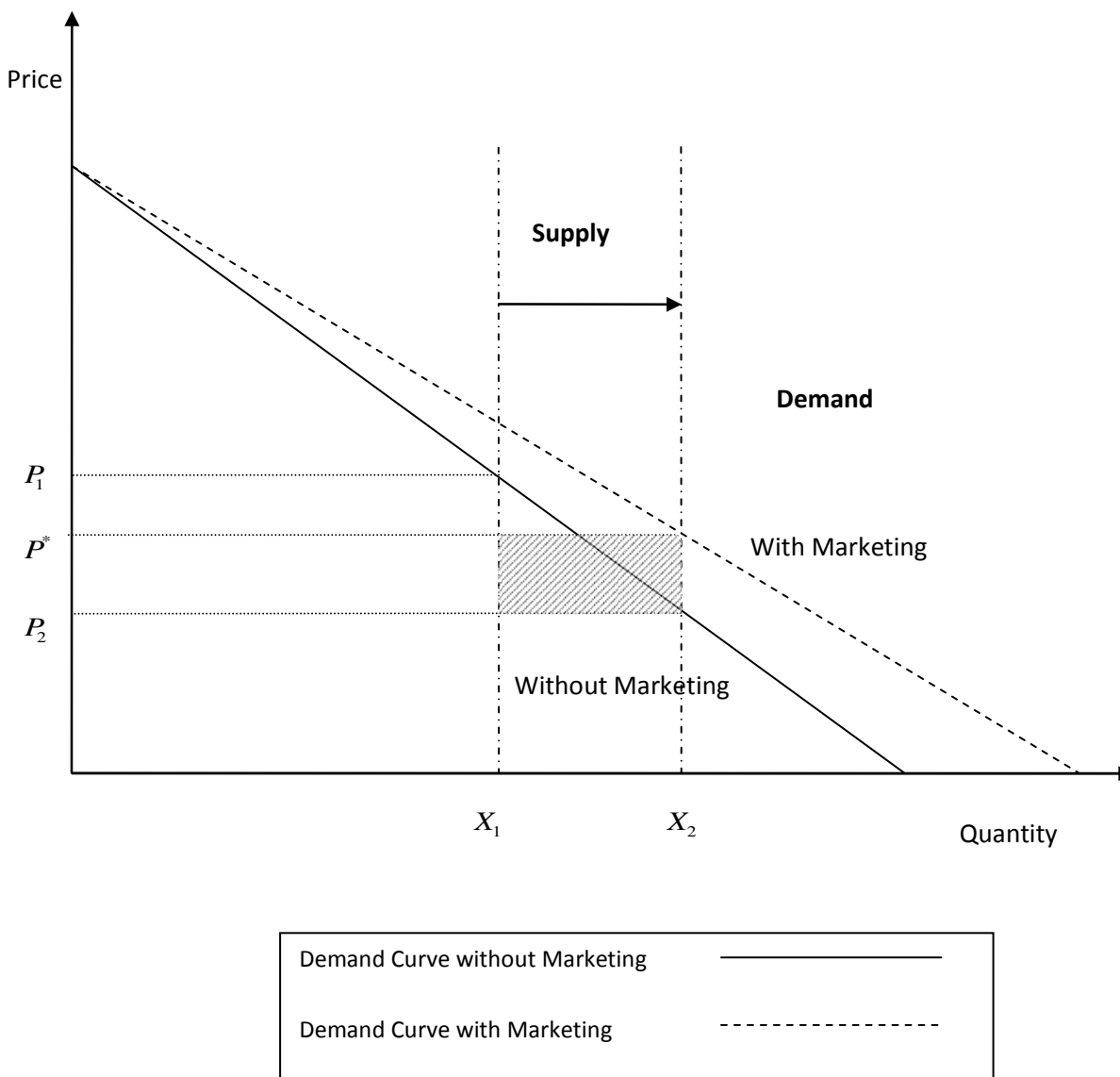
Wurgler, Jeffrey, and Ekaterina Zhuravskaya, 2002, "Does Arbitrage Flatten Demand Curves for Stocks?" *Journal of Business* 75, 582-608.

Yuan, Yu, 2008, "Attention and Trading," University of Pennsylvania Working Paper.

Zhang, Donghang, 2004, "Why Do IPO Underwriters Allocate Extra Shares When They Expect to Buy Them Back?" *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis* 39, 571-594.

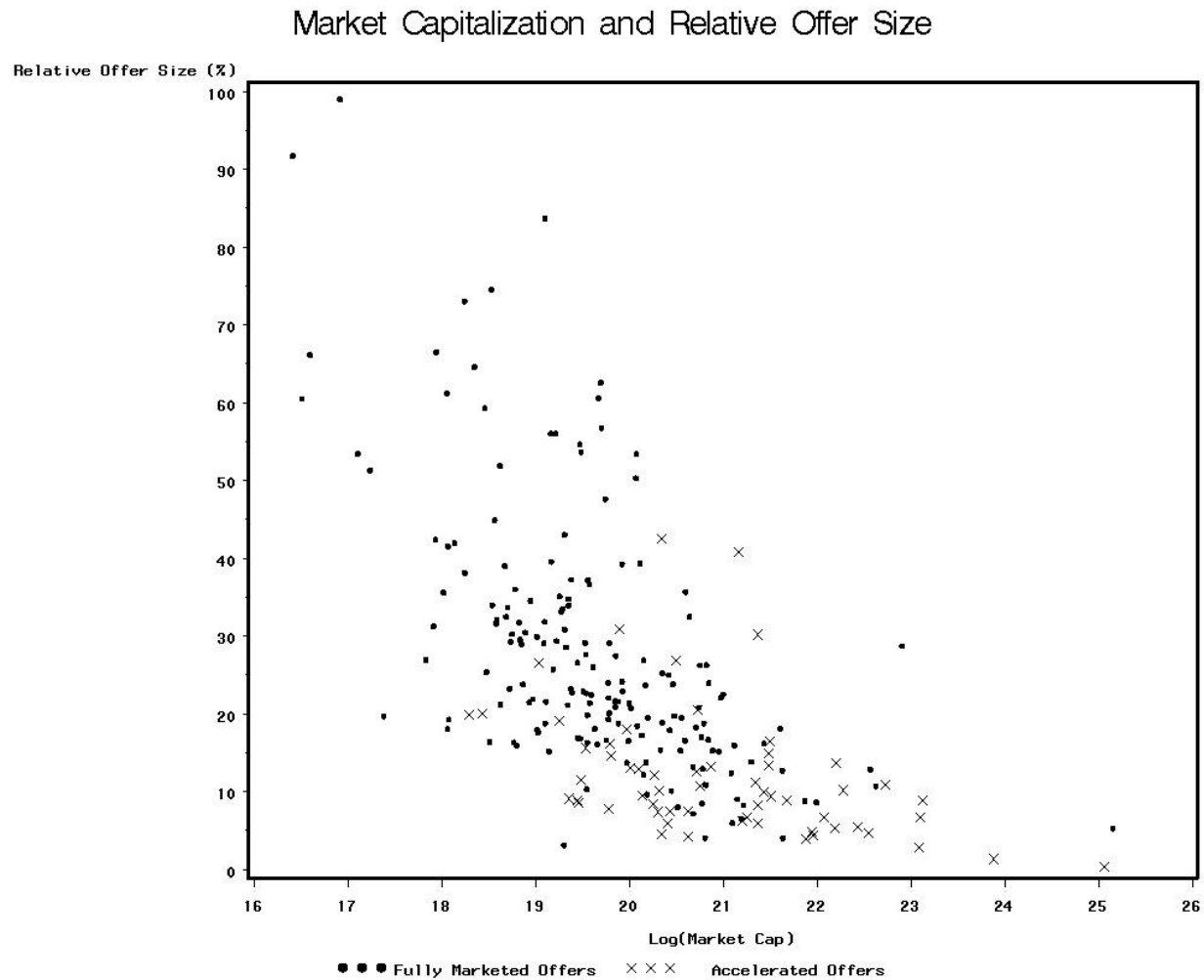


**Figure 1. Description of the SEO process associated with the three offering method**



**Figure 2. Comparison of demand curves with and without marketing.**

The solid line is the issuing firm's demand curve before the offer. The dashed line represents the issuing firm's demand curve if the offer is fully marketed. It becomes more elastic than the ex ante demand curve because marketing flattens the demand curve. Therefore, the post-issue price is higher at  $P^*$  instead of  $P_2$  if there is no marketing. The shaded rectangular area represents the issuer's gross gain from marketing the offer.



**Figure 3. Scatter diagram relating relative offer size to log(market capitalization).** The sample consists of 224 SEOs in 2005. The market capitalization ranges from \$9 million,  $e^{16}$ , to \$85 billion,  $e^{25.16}$ . The relative offer size is the number of shares offered divided by the number of shares outstanding prior to the offer and is measured in percentages. The farthest lower right dot represents Google's fully marketed SEO in September, 2005. It had a market cap of \$85 billion and a relative offer size of 5.3%

**Table I****Number of Seasoned Equity Offerings (SEOs) and Aggregate Real Proceeds by Year and Offering Method**

The sample includes 3,048 seasoned equity offerings in Dealogic's ECM Analytics Database during 1996 to 2005. The issuer must be a US-based company listed on NASDAQ, the American Stock Exchange (AMEX), or the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). ADRs and ADSs, private placements, rights offers, best efforts, non SEC registered offers, Rule 144A offers, units, closed-end funds, REITs, and pure secondary offerings are excluded. Non-shelf registered bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers are also excluded. The issuing firm must be present on the University of Chicago Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP) database on the first trading day after the issue. Total proceeds is the total amount of dollars (in billions) raised globally including exercised overallocation shares in all tranches. Total proceeds are adjusted by the annual nominal S&P 500 Index level, normalized by the ratio between the 1996 S&P 500 index level and the SEO year's S&P 500 index level.

Year	Sample SEOs		Bought Deals		Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs		Fully Marketed SEOs	
	Number	Total Proceeds (\$ billion)	Number	Total Proceeds (\$ billion)	Number	Total Proceeds (\$ billion)	Number	Total Proceeds (\$ billion)
1996	478	44.90	2	0.19	0	0.00	476	44.71
1997	399	31.08	1	0.06	8	1.40	390	29.61
1998	261	22.33	7	1.77	1	0.03	253	20.52
1999	312	31.33	16	1.56	2	0.32	294	29.44
2000	320	49.53	28	3.15	2	0.07	290	46.30
2001	242	32.21	35	6.14	18	1.47	189	24.60
2002	228	37.81	24	5.39	41	10.36	163	22.07
2003	265	28.34	36	6.09	40	5.15	189	17.10
2004	299	28.42	35	4.51	50	6.58	214	17.33
2005	244	22.62	32	3.91	29	3.17	183	15.55

**Table II**  
**Shelf Takedown SEOs versus Non-shelf Takedown SEOs, 1996 to 2005**

The sample includes 3,048 seasoned equity offerings in Dealogic's ECM Analytics Database during 1996 to 2005. Table II lists the number of shelf takedown and non-shelf takedown offers that are bought deals, accelerated offers, and fully marketed offers. We exclude 34 non-shelf takedown offers that are identified by Dealogic as bought deals or accelerated bookbuilt offers.

	All SEOs	Bought Deals	Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs	Fully Marketed SEOs
Shelf-takedowns	982	216	191	575
Non-shelf Offers	2,066	0	0	2,066

**Table III**  
**Mean and Median Offer Characteristics of SEOs, 1996 to 2005**

The sample is restricted to 2,771 issuing firms that have more than \$75 million market capitalization before the offer. Table III lists means (medians in brackets) of offer characteristics. Market capitalization is the total market capitalization of equity on the last day prior to the announcement of the offer. Proceeds is the total amount of dollars (in millions) raised globally including exercised over-allotment shares in all tranches. Normalized market capitalization and proceeds are adjusted by the annual nominal S&P 500 Index level, normalized by the ratio between the 1996 S&P 500 index level and the SEO year's S&P 500 index level. Relative offer size equals offered shares divided by total shares outstanding prior to the issue. Fraction of primary shares equals primary (new) shares divided by total number of shares offered. Number of bookrunners is the number of bookrunners on the issue. Bookrunner reputation is the bookrunner's Carter-Manaster ranking obtained from Jay Ritter's webpage. If there are multiple bookrunners, we use the maximum ranking among all the bookrunners. Number of days from filing to offer is the number of days between the filing date and the offer date. Gross spread is the disclosed gross fee paid as percentage of the offer price. Announcement effect is the cumulative market-adjusted return during the two-day window, [-1,0], ending with the announcement date (trading day 0). Discount is the percentage decrease from the closing price day before the offer to the offer price. Underpricing is the percentage increase from the offer price to the closing price on the offer day. The number of analysts following the issuer's stock is obtained from the I/B/E/S database. We include analysts who post a recommendation within 12 months before the offer. Bid-ask spread (%) is the average daily bid ask spread, scaled by the stock price, over 250 trading days prior to the announcement date. The test for the difference in means among the three groups is the non-parametric t-test (Kruskal-Wallis test), which allows more than two groups and does not require the dependent variables to be normally distributed. The test for the medians is the non-parametric median Chi-squared test (Brown-Mood test). P-values from the KW and the median Chi-squared statistics are reported in the last column.

	All SEOs	Bought Deals	Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs	Fully Marketed SEOs	P-values from KW/Median Statistics
Number	2,771	206	190	2,375	
Nominal Market Capitalization (\$M)	1,854 [ 535 ]	4,991 [ 1,975 ]	4,750 [ 1,188 ]	1,350 [ 456 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Normalized Market Capitalization (\$M)	1,195 [ 361 ]	3,146 [ 1,278 ]	3,184 [ 792 ]	866 [ 319 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Nominal Proceeds (\$M)	174 [ 95 ]	228 [ 151 ]	216 [ 88 ]	166 [ 93 ]	0.00 [ 0.01 ]
Normalized Proceeds (\$M)	115 [ 66 ]	148 [ 92 ]	150 [ 64 ]	110 [ 65 ]	0.00 [ 0.15 ]
Relative Offer Size (%)	23.29 [ 19.23 ]	9.07 [ 7.81 ]	10.61 [ 9.31 ]	25.53 [ 21.40 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Fraction of Primary Shares (%)	84.48 [ 100 ]	99.06 [ 100 ]	99.16 [ 100 ]	82.04 [ 100 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]

**Table III (Continued)**  
**Offer Characteristics of SEOs, 1996 to 2005**

	All SEOs	Bought Deals	Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs	Fully Marketed SEOs	P-values from KW/Median Statistics
Number of Bookrunners	1.14 [ 1 ]	1.05 [ 1 ]	1.44 [ 1 ]	1.13 [ 1 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Bookrunner Reputation	8.29 [ 9 ]	8.49 [ 9 ]	8.14 [ 9 ]	8.28 [ 9 ]	0.08 [ 0.23 ]
Number of Days from Filing to Offer	28 [ 22 ]	0 [ 0 ]	1 [ 1 ]	32 [ 26 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Gross Spread (%)	4.85 [ 5.00 ]	2.28 [ 1.67 ]	4.14 [ 4.00 ]	5.10 [ 5.20 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Announcement Effect (%)	-1.64 [ -1.50 ]	-1.22 [ -1.49 ]	-2.92 [ -2.05 ]	-1.58 [ -1.46 ]	0.05 [ 0.59 ]
Discount (%)	-2.85 [ -1.94 ]	-4.15 [ -3.56 ]	-2.33 [ -0.88 ]	-2.78 [ -1.90 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Underpricing (%)	3.26 [ 1.67 ]	1.42 [ 0.38 ]	2.01 [ 0.96 ]	3.52 [ 1.96 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Number of Analysts	5 [ 4 ]	9 [ 8 ]	8 [ 6 ]	4 [ 4 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]
Bid-ask Spread (%)	1.56 [ 1.25 ]	0.81 [ 0.52 ]	0.71 [ 0.48 ]	1.69 [ 1.41 ]	0.00 [ 0.00 ]

**Table IV**  
**Summary Statistics for Demand Elasticity Proxies**

The sample includes 2,769 seasoned equity offerings during 1996 to 2005. Three offers are dropped because their stock price information is unavailable on the University of Chicago Center for Research in Security Prices (CRSP) database over the 250 trading day window [-250, -1] before the announcement date. The average daily order flow inverse demand elasticity, A1, is defined as the daily raw return divided by the daily turnover, averaged over 250 trading days before the announcement date. The turnover is the trading volume divided by the number of shares outstanding. Nasdaq-listed stocks' trading volumes are divided by two to eliminate double counting. The arbitrage risk measure, A2, is constructed similar to that in Wurgler and Zhuravskaya (2002). A2 is the residual variance, expressed as a squared percentage of a market model OLS regression estimated over 250 trading days before the announcement date. We report means, medians, and standard deviations of the raw values and natural log transformed values of A1 and A2. In the last column, the KW test and median test p-values for the means and the medians are the same as in Table III.

Panel A: Order Flow Inverse Demand Elasticity A1					
	All SEOs	Bought Deals	Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs	Fully Marketed SEOs	P-values from KW/Median Statistics
Number	2,769	206	190	2,373	
Raw Value Mean	26.92	11.78	9.62	29.62	0.00
Raw Value Median	9.04	4.02	4.12	10.54	0.00
Raw Value STD	65.38	67.05	28.03	66.97	
Ln Value Mean	2.36	1.45	1.59	2.50	0.00
Ln Value Median	2.20	1.39	1.41	2.35	0.00
Ln Value STD	1.24	0.87	0.94	1.23	

Panel B: Arbitrage Risk Measure A2 (% <sup>2</sup> )					
	All SEOs	Bought Deals	Accelerated Bookbuilt SEOs	Fully Marketed SEOs	P-values from KW/Median Statistics
Number	2,769	206	190	2,373	
Raw Value Mean	18.31	13.16	11.80	19.28	0.00
Raw Value Median	11.75	7.90	4.61	12.71	0.00
Raw Value STD	21.09	15.69	17.21	21.62	
Ln Value Mean	2.41	1.99	1.76	2.49	0.00
Ln Value Median	2.46	2.07	1.53	2.54	0.00
Ln Value STD	1.04	1.13	1.19	0.99	

**Table V**  
**Correlation Among Demand Elasticity Proxies and Firm and Offer Characteristics**

Table V reports pairwise Pearson correlation coefficients (p-values in parentheses) among the two demand elasticity measures, Ln(A1) and Ln(A2), and other firm and offer characteristics. We apply log transformation on the market cap, proceeds, bid-ask spread, and number of analysts to control for extreme values in these variables. We detrend the log bid-ask spreads by subtracting the sample average log bid-ask spread within the same calendar year.

	Ln(A1)	Ln(A2)	Ln(MV)	Ln(Proceeds)	Relative Size	Primary Fraction	Detrended Ln(Bid-ask Spread)	Ln(1 + Number of Analysts)
Ln(A1)	1.00	0.17 ( 0.00 )	-0.52 ( 0.00 )	-0.38 ( 0.00 )	0.32 ( 0.00 )	-0.14 ( 0.00 )	0.57 ( 0.00 )	0.57 ( 0.00 )
Ln(A2)		1.00	-0.22 ( 0.00 )	-0.15 ( 0.00 )	0.06 ( 0.00 )	-0.16 ( 0.00 )	0.24 ( 0.00 )	-0.14 ( 0.00 )
Ln(MV)			1.00	0.76 ( 0.00 )	-0.48 ( 0.00 )	0.06 ( 0.00 )	-0.60 ( 0.00 )	0.59 ( 0.00 )
Ln(Proceeds)				1.00	-0.04 ( 0.03 )	-0.11 ( 0.00 )	-0.45 ( 0.00 )	0.47 ( 0.00 )
Relative Size					1.00	-0.20 ( 0.00 )	0.31 ( 0.00 )	-0.30 ( 0.00 )
Primary Fraction						1.00	-0.03 ( 0.09 )	0.07 ( 0.00 )
Detrended Ln(Bid-ask Spread)							1.00	-0.43 ( 0.00 )

**Table VI**  
**Determinants of Offering Method for SEOs, 1996 to 2005**

Table VI presents the results from the binomial logistic regressions. The dependent variable, offering method, is a dichotomous variable for which accelerated deals, including bought deals and accelerated bookbuilt offers, equal 1, and fully marketed offers equal 0. In model 1, the order flow inverse demand elasticity measure,  $\ln(A1)$ , is included as an independent variable. In model 2, the arbitrage risk measure,  $\ln(A2)$ , is included. The rest of the variables are defined the same as in Tables III and V. The marginal effects are reported to the right of the estimates and the chi-squared statistics are reported in parentheses below. \*, \*\*, and \*\*\* indicate significance at the 1, 5 and 10 percent levels, respectively. The R-square is the likelihood-based pseudo r-square measure.

	Model 1		Model 2	
	Dependent Variable		Dependent Variable	
	$\Pr(\text{Accelerated Deal} = 1)$		$\Pr(\text{Accelerated Deal} = 1)$	
	Estimate	Marginal Effect	Estimate	Marginal Effect
$\ln(A1)$	-0.66 *** ( 53.64 )	-0.013	-	
$\ln(A2)$	-		-0.23 *** ( 14.14 )	-0.006
$\ln(\text{Proceeds})$	-0.41 *** ( 25.66 )	-0.008	-0.34 *** ( 19.24 )	-0.008
Relative size (%)	-0.12 *** ( 139.22 )	-0.002	-0.12 *** ( 143.47 )	-0.003
Fraction of Primary Shares (%)	0.07 *** ( 37.45 )	0.001	0.07 *** ( 35.86 )	0.002
$\ln(1 + \text{Analysts})$	0.67 *** ( 29.27 )	0.013	0.84 *** ( 47.18 )	0.021
Detrended $\ln(\text{Bid-ask Spread})$	0.26 ** ( 5.18 )	0.005	0.02 ( 0.04 )	0.001
Number of SEOs		2,763		2,763
R-square		0.25		0.24