Replication Files for "Informed Voting"

Meng Gao and Jiekun Huang

This replication package contains a list of data and code to generate all tables and figures in the paper, including those in the Internet Appendix.

1. Data

Posted Actual Data Files

- Mapping table provided by Chen et al. (2020) to convert the hidden octets in the IP addresses in the Edgar log files to actual octets (`octets.sas7bdat`).
- Mapping table between SIC codes and Fama-French 48 industry categories (`ff48.sas7bdat`).

Posted Pseudo-Data Files

- List of governance proposals included in our analysis (`proposal_list.sas7bdat`).
- Finer grouping of proposal types based on agenda item description provided by ISS (`proposal_types.sas7bdat`).
- Link table between ISS Voting Analytics and CRSP Survivor-Bias-Free US Mutual Fund Database (`iss_crspmf.sas7bdat`). We match mutual funds in the ISS Voting Analytics data with mutual funds in the CRSP database by name.
- Link table between institutions in ISS Voting Analytics and ARIN WHOIS data (`link_arin_iss.sas7bdat`). We match fund companies in the ISS Voting Analytics data with organization name in the ARIN database by name.
- EDGAR filing indices (`Edgar_indices.sas7bdat`).
- EDGAR server logs for downloads of proxy forms filed each year from 2003 through 2017 (`proxy_log_2003.sas7bdat` through `proxy_log_2017.sas7bdat`).

Non-Posted Data Files

- ISS Voting Analytics dataset (`Voteanalysis.sas7bdat`), which covers votes cast during the period from July 2003 to June 2018. We obtained the data from Institutional Shareholder Services in March 2013 and June 2019.
- ISS Vote Outcome dataset (`Vote_Results2003_2018.sas7bdat`), which covers the vote results for the period from July 2003 to June 2018. We obtained the data from Institutional Shareholder Services in June 2019.

- CRSP Survivor-Bias-Free US Mutual Fund Database, which provides fund characteristics and returns. We downloaded the data from WRDS in July 2019.
- Thomson Reuters Institutional (13f) and Mutual Fund Holdings database, downloaded in February 2020.
- CRSP/Compustat Merged Database, downloaded in December 2020.
- I/B/E/S U.S. historical detail estimates database, downloaded in March 2020.
- Fama-French factors, downloaded from WRDS in October 2020.
- ARIN WHOIS database, obtained from ARIN in March 2023.

2. Program Files

SAS programs that combine various datasets to create samples for analysis:

- **00LocalFolders.sas** creates local libraries.
- **01ISS_Votes.sas** retrieves mutual fund voting data.
- **02Holdings.sas** constructs a dataset of mutual fund holdings.
- **03CRSPMF.sas** constructs datasets on mutual fund characteristics.
- **04DGTW.sas** computes DGTW characteristic-adjusted returns.
- **05Meetings_CAR.sas** computes the CAR around shareholder meetings.
- **06CST_CRSP_Meetings.sas** constructs a dataset containing firm characteristics before shareholder meetings.
- **07CST_CRSP_Annual.sas** constructs datasets containing firm characteristics and SUEs for each year.
- **08ISS_Votes_CRSPMF.sas** constructs a dataset containing fund votes on governance proposals and holdings.
- **09Tests_fund_level.sas** generates two datasets for fund-level analysis.
- **10Tests_fund_level_Robustness.sas** generates datasets for robustness checks at the fund level.
- **11EDGAR_Log.sas** constructs a dataset containing vote alpha and EDGAR views at the fund-family level.
- **12Proposal_level.sas** generates a dataset for proposal-level analysis.
- **13Proposal_level_Robustness.sas** generates datasets for robustness checks at the proposal level.
- **14ROA_SUE_Annual.sas** constructs a dataset for the analysis of the relation between informed ownership and operating performance.
- **15Calendar_time_stock_portfolios.sas** constructs calendar-time portfolios of stocks sorted by informed ownership.
- **16Netbuy_Postvote.sas** generates a dataset for the analysis of mutual funds' net buying after contentious votes.
- **17Trade_port_performance.sas** constructs a dataset for the analysis of mutual funds' trade performance.

- **18Fund_performance.sas** performs analysis of calendar-time portfolio returns of mutual funds (Table IA-13 in the Internet Appendix).
- **19SummaryStats.sas** produces the summary statistics in Tables 1 and 2 in the paper and the lists of proposal types and top ranked funds/families in Tables IA-1 and IA-2.
- **Macro.sas** contains macros to extract I/B/E/S forecasts, compute earnings surprises, and apply winsorization to data.

Stata code that takes the data created in SAS and produces tables and figures.

- **RunAllCode.do** calls other Stata programs to generate the tables.
- **Fund_test.do** performs the fund-level tests (Tables 3 and 4, and Figure 1).
- **Proposal_test.do** performs the main tests at the proposal level (Tables 5, 6, and 7).
- **Firm_performance.do** tests the relation between informed ownership and operating/stock performance at the firm level (Tables 8 and 9).
- **Internet_Appendix.do** produces the tables in the internet appendix (Tables IA-3 through IA-12 and Figure IA-1)