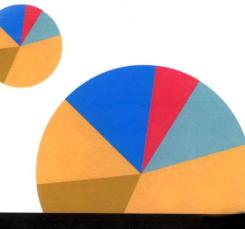
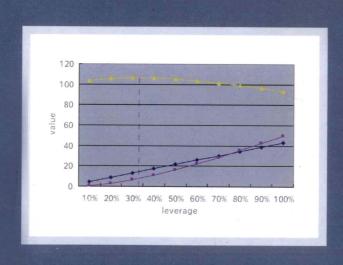
跨世纪的财务/金融理论突破 对财务/金融危机的独到解释



ZZ 财务 / 金融发现 ZZ Financial Discovery

张志强 著





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ZZ Financial Discovery

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没有理论指导的实践是盲目的实践不能指导实践的理论是空洞的理论

面对扑朔迷离、变幻莫测的财务/金融难题, 我愿意为减少"盲目的实践"和"空洞的理论"而尽微薄之力。

张志强

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张志强,比利时鲁汶大学 MBA (侧重财务/金融),中国人民大学管理学博士、商学院副教授。长期从事财务/金融领域的教学、科研工作。关注财务/金融前沿理论,对实物期权理论有独到理解和研究。在国内外专业杂志上发表经济、财务、金融研究论文 30 多篇;在内地和港台出版专著和译著 10 多部。先后于比利时留学两年和美国进修一年。

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前言

本书收录的是我最近一年来完成的 4 篇系列文章。"ZZ"代表我的名字。虽然文章的写作时间大约为一年,但实际上,这是我 10 多年来学习、思考、研究积累的成果,代表了我个人冲击现代财务/金融科学前沿的努力。具体而言,第一篇提出并从多个角度演示了"ZZ 悖论",这可以说是至今为止经济和金融领域发现的最大"悖论"之一。第二篇推翻了主导公司价值/股票评估领域 40 多年的 Gordon 增长模型,并建立了解释和分析功能更为强大、使用更为方便的 ZZ 价值和 P/E 模型。第三篇更正了债券价值评估模型中被忽略 30 多年的重要错误。第四篇提出了 ZZ 杠杆模型,解决了世界范围内经过半个世纪高热度研究而无法解决的"最优资本结构"问题。这些研究使财务和金融领域的众多理论和实践"难题"都迎刃而解。

财务和金融领域有许多未解之谜。诸如"为什么国内和国际股票市场普遍存在 IPO 溢价?""为什么国内和国际上时常出现大大小小的'股灾'以致金融危机?"诸如"如何解释网络公司上千倍的市盈率?"或者"网络和高科技股票的合理市盈率究竟应该为多少?""类似的,中国股市的合理市盈率究竟为多少?或者究竟应该高于美国多少?"或者"在某一时间一只股票市盈率应该高于另一只股票多少?"诸如"公司的最优资本结构究竟如何确定?或者如何计量公司特别是健康公司的破产成本?"诸如

"为什么国内和国外的公司在融资决策上较为普遍地存在'财务 保守'现象(即债务资本比重明显低于理论上的最优标准)?"以 及"究竟如何确定包括杠杆比率在内的各种财务比率(如收益利 息倍率) 理论上的最优标准?"如此等等。这些难解之谜深深吸 引着我,成为我讲行相关思考和研究的持久动力。

财务和金融的实践急需理论来"解答"这些疑惑。遗憾的 是, 写进教科书的"定型"的理论不直接解答这些问题: 而各种 财务或金融类研究杂志上的"前沿"研究则不关心这些"过于基 础或简单"的问题。实际上,在现今财务和金融领域,"实证" 研究成为压倒一切的"时尚"。人们热衷于通过一套样本数据得 出结论或模型,并根据结论符合或不符合已有的理论做一番解 释。研究论文越来越讲究样本数据的规模,统计方法的"花哨", 而不强调是否解答急迫的现实问题, 甚至不强调对"财务/金融" 理论本身的理解,也不管所做的"解释"有多么肤浅和牵强。我 认为、除去样本数据本身的真实可靠性不论(这方面当然问题很 多),实证研究得出的结论或模型难免具有样本敏感的特性,即 只符合特定时间、地点和条件的情况,不一定具有普遍意义,因 而往往不具有超越特定时间、地点和条件的决策支持作用,也不 可能真正解答上述种种未解之谜。事实上,绝大多数实证研究不 过是"统计"实践中的决策结果,这种"整理数据"的"研究" 怎么可能解答实践中的"难题"呢?更糟糕的是,对于同一个题 目,根据不同样本数据得出相反或矛盾结论的研究并不少见。因 此、我认为、金融和经济研究不应该因为"摆事实"就"不讲道 理"。作为学术或理论研究应该强调把握事物的本质联系和规律, 而不是停留在各种"现象"之间的"统计"关系上。能够超越时 空限制的只有基本概念和逻辑,而不是"样本数据"或"统计关 系"。只有基于正确的概念和经过严格逻辑推理得出的结论或模

型才具有普遍的和长久的理论和应用价值。

基于这样的认识和研究"理念",长期以来,我始终"一意 孤行"地推进我的研究。因研究不符合"时尚"而"掌声稀少"、 甚至文章很难发表, 当然与之相关的是研究成果不能得到应有的 承认,难以赢得体面的学术地位。然而,我还是"一意孤行"至 今。其中最重要的原因也许是"本性难移"。我总觉得科学研究 应该追求研究进展和理论贡献,而不是"发表文章";财务和金 融领域的研究应该责无旁贷地解答上述种种未解之谜, 而不是仅 仅通过"整理数据"完成几篇"漂亮文章"。另一方面, 我坚信 科学研究一定是在淡薄个人名利的前提下才会真正有所发现。正 如古人所谓的"宁静致远"、"穷而后功"。实际上, 我经常为自 己思考和研究中各种大大小小的发现而兴奋得夜不能寐。我曾经 将有关实物期权的研究心得编著成书, 出版后受到全国包括各大 商学院的硕士生、博士生和相关任课老师以及财务管理和证券投 资实践领域的专家在内的各类读者的充分肯定和好评,许多读者 认为这是理解"高级财务/金融"的必须读物。我认为这就是科 学研究所得到的最重要的回报。由此更坚定了我的研究态度:何 苦为个人多得几两银子而浪费时间去揣摩和追逐研究时尚呢!

承蒙对外经济贸易大学出版社不弃,愿意将我的"最新发现"编纂成书,从而可以听候读者的批评指正。书中的几篇文章涉及我个人对上述"未解之谜"的思考和解答以及相应的决策支持模型。虽然我不能保证各篇文章的研究都是对相关问题"最终"的"最优"解决或解答,但绝对可以保证各种角度的解答和模型都是基于全新的思路。除了第三篇文章外,其他都属于我个人的原创研究。在研究思路和方法以及研究结论和模型方面,这些文章可能都不同于到目前为止国内外各种流行教科书、著作和研究杂志上的相关理论和研究。除了紧紧围绕现实中急需解答或

解决的理论和实践问题,相关推理和模型都有如下特征:

- 基于更为正确或符合国际惯例(在国际惯例正确的情况 下)的基本概念。多数人会认为基本概念正确是研究和写作的前 提,但其实真正做到基本概念完全正确并不容易。看完本书的几 篇文章你一定会对此有更深刻的认识。实际上, 包括最优资本结 构在内的财务和金融"难题"之所以至今没有解决、原因恰恰在 于以往的研究普遍和长久地存在严重的基本概念错误。我在本书 中纠正了若干流行的错误概念,但也不敢说本书中基本概念完全 正确。所以只"斗胆"表述为"更为正确"(与以往研究论文或 著作相比)。另一方面,由于西方经济和金融研究有更为深厚的 积累和更为完善的体系框架,这已经成为人们认识和探讨经济和 金融问题的基础,在国际惯例正确的情况下,我将尽可能运用这 些"现成"的基本概念。同时,为方便读者阅读和知识积累,只 在必要的情况下才"制造"新概念。
- 依赖严格并最大限度简化的数学或逻辑推理。逻辑思维是 我们认识世界的必备工具; 而数学在很大程度上也属于逻辑的范 畴。科学研究要解决常规逻辑思维所不能解决的问题、或得出比 常识更高明一点的结论,就要运用更复杂的数学或逻辑推理。然 而,数学或逻辑推理越复杂,就越不容易为大众所理解和掌握, 从而其应用就越受到限制。因此,我认为,财务和金融的研究应 以解决问题为目的。在能够解决问题的前提下,应该尽可能简化 数学和逻辑推理, 让更多的人理解和应用研究成果。本书中的文 章都是基于这样的原则完成的。为此,我总是最大限度和不遗余 力地追求概念和研究思路上的创新, 因为概念和研究思路上的创 新可以大大简化推理过程,减少对复杂数学工具的依赖。
- 模型方便相关决策分析和应用。这包括模型形式简单、只 包含最重要的影响变量,各自变量的基础数据容易获得或估计。

同时,在可能的情况下,还应该尽可能使模型符合常识和大众直觉。现实中还有一种"时尚",即似乎模型越复杂,考虑的变量越多,就说明作者水平越高或研究工作量越大,因而越值得发表和奖赏。实际上,在没有遗漏重要变量的前提下,模型中包含的变量越少,则调整余地越大,从而适应性越强,应用范围也越广。将相对不重要的变量纳入模型只会损害模型的解释能力和应用潜力。本书中各篇文章都是基于应用需要的考虑而做的研究。模型形式经过最大限度的简化,自变量经过严格的精选,在推导得出相关模型的基础上,都通过最简单清楚的方式,演示出相关模型在各种具体情况下如何应用于解决实际问题。

为方便国际读者阅读,各篇文章都用英文写作。同时,考虑到国内感兴趣的读者可能阅读上有困难,在每篇文章开头都用中文对核心内容加以说明和导读。经过测试表明,基本上有普通大学本科英语和财务/金融基础知识以及中学数学水平的读者在首先阅读"导读"之后,都可以轻而易举地理解、掌握和应用各篇文章的内容和模型。当然,以英语的形式发行,也有这样的想法,即鼓励国内财务/金融领域的学生和学者用英语阅读和写作,这样我们的研究才能走向国际,并有希望在国际财务/金融理论上占有一席之地。

其实这几篇文章是有内在逻辑关系的,这也是本书安排这些 文章次序的依据,即:

- Does a Positive Perpetual Growth Rate Exist?
 (确实存在正的永续增长率吗?)
- Growth, Risk and the Fair P/E (增长、风险与公允市盈率)
- 3. Bond Valuation: How Does Coupon Frequency Matter? (债券价值评估:如何考虑付息频率的影响?)

4. A Simple Way to Determine Optimal Capital Structure (确定最优资本结构的简单方法)

巧合的是,这个顺序基本也是理解上从易到难的顺序。当 然,这并不妨碍读者可以不按次序随便阅读书中的任何一篇文 章。

第一篇文章对"正的永续增长率"提出疑问,这是一个在目 前财务和金融分析中人们习以为常的假设。然而、如果考虑到无 论目前看起来多么健康的公司最终都将破产倒闭, 所谓"永续增 长率"就只能是负的而不是正的。由于这个理所当然的结论与人 们所习惯的"常规"背道而驰、文中将其称为"悖论"(即 ZZ Paradox)。ZZ 悖论蕴涵着丰富的财务/金融理论意义。第二和第 四篇文章就是受 ZZ 悖论启发而找到破解"理论市盈率"之谜和 "最优资本结构"之谜的思路而完成的。第三篇文章与其他文章 之间关联相对不大, 但因为涉及目前债券评估中的一个重要错 误,从重要性考虑,也将其收入本书。

按照目前财务和金融领域对各个问题的关注程度,可能第四 篇文章是本书中最重要的一篇。但我个人认为,这四篇文章无论 在理论上还是在实践上都是同等的重要,因为它们涉及的问题都 非常重要并且具有基础和普遍的意义,同时它们都是通过全新的 思路解决了相关的问题。理论市盈率模型与最优资本结构模型一 样,都代表财务和金融理论的重大进展和突破,同时都是各种实 务决策的标准和依据,包括投资决策、融资决策、贷款决策、风 险管理以及政府监管等。只不过是第一和第二篇文章提出了别人 所没有发现的问题,并给出了我的一个解答;第三篇文章提出了 一个曾经被提到过但又长期被人遗忘的问题, 并更正了目前流行 的错误。而第四篇文章解决了一个早就被提出但长期得不到解决 的问题。当然, 从复杂程度而言, 第四篇文章要解决的问题最为

复杂。同时,在复杂的推理分析过程中,也相对有更多的研究发现,包括更正了更多财务和金融基本概念上的长期误解。

衷心感谢在我的研究和各篇文章写作过程中提供各种支持、帮助和评论、建议的各位专家、学者以及银行、证券和实业领域的专业人士。其中包括: K. Thomas Liaw, Ronnie Qi, Michael Breen, Angela Wilkes, Campbell R. Harvey, Jason Draho, Lin Chen and Gerry John、刘建生、王如起、尹亚平、段葵、肖淑芳、伊志宏、支小强、宋继文、宋常等。同时,特别感谢对外经济贸易大学出版社经管图书事业部的姜勇主任、王宁编辑,她们对本书的顺利出版也付出了很多努力。本书中所有专业和文字上的疏漏、错误都应该归咎于我一人,请各位读者不吝赐教。

张志强 2008 年 8 月 29 日

Preface

There are so many puzzles in finance, such as why stock market crisis occurs time and time again in all over the world, what is the fair or theoretical P/E of a market rather than that of the historical or empirical one, how to calculate the bankruptcy cost of a healthy company, how to determine the optimal capital structure, why does the financial conservatism so widely spread among eastern and western companies, how does the coupon frequency really matter in bond valuation, etc. The empirical research, which is the overwhelming fashion in nowadays academic financial research, seems really helpless for solving these puzzles. Although it seems plausible to derive conclusions from sample data, an obvious fact is that the conflicted conclusions under a topic are often seen from different sample data sets.

Empirical researches are actually suitable for testing existing conclusions or models rather than deriving the new ones. Empirical models are inevitably sample-sensitive, thus the conclusions allow very limited space for application. Theoretical studies, supposed to offer new and decision-supported conclusions or models, however, are now fond of applying "sophisticated mathematics". As a result, there has been rare breakthrough in financial research concerning

above puzzles except that the empirical and analytical models become more and more complicated. Complicated models, even those superior to the simple ones, are actually not welcomed in practice. To make things worse, stressing on sample data and advanced mathematics, some conceptual errors in finance are widely spread without correction or even doubt for too long.

Practice is calling for the solutions to the above puzzles. It is really urgent to deal with the above puzzles with simple method or reasoning. I believe that is the only way to ensure the validity of financial discoveries. The four articles collected in this book are all completed within the recent one year. They actually record my struggling with the above financial puzzles in the past decade. These puzzles as well as the relevant financial concepts, such as P/E ratio, Gordon model, tax shield, bankruptcy cost, etc., actually absorb me day and night. That is why I can find the ZZ paradox, correct some basic errors in prevail financial concepts and build the fair P/E model and optimal capital structure model. Although they may be not the perfect answers and solutions to the relevant financial puzzles, they really make a new world to think about these puzzles and hopefully can help the practitioners step out of the troubles in relevant investment and financing decisions.

There are some relations among the four papers though they are easy to read separately. The first paper questions the currently prevailing assumption of "positive perpetual growth rate" in financial and economic research, which I refer to as "ZZ paradox". The rest papers solve the relevant important problems based on the implications of the "ZZ paradox". One paper deals with a basic problem in stock/

equity valuation, and derives a fair P/E model incorporating growth and risk. The third paper corrects the widespread errors in prevailing bond valuation accounting for the coupon frequency. The fourth paper solves the problem of optimal capital structure, which has been remained unsolved since 1950s, and has been regarded as one of the most toughest issues in finance after half century's intensive study. All my studies are decision-oriented and based on easy-understanding concepts and reasoning, rather than those sample-sensitive empirical studies or those based on advanced mathematics.

By definition, a paradox can be an apparently true statement that leads to a contradiction. The first paper "Does a Positive Perpetual Growth Rate Exist?" illustrates such a paradox — the "ZZ paradox". I believe it is one of the biggest paradoxes in finance and economics so far. The paper starts from a neglected but very important question: does a positive perpetual growth rate exist? Contrary to the conventional practice and theoretical assumption, in infinite time horizon, taking the limited life or bankruptcy expectancy of a firm into account, the perpetual or long-run growth rate should be negative rather than positive. However, the negative growth of "every" individual firms seems not in line with the positive growth in a long run of our economy as a whole and also contrary to the conventional economic and financial wisdom. That is why I refer to it as "paradox". The "ZZ paradox" has many implications to finance and economics. For example, as the future of a "typical" firm is much different from that of the whole economy or the whole market, the aggregate data (such as growth rate) are no longer suitable for valuing an individual stock. Another example of its implications is that the assumption of "positive perpetual growth rate" is too optimism for an individual firm, so the current "market" valuation is too high for "every" stock. This explains why stock market crisis occurs from time to time.

Historical facts and data as well as theoretical physics findings strongly support the "negative growth rate" assumption. I exam various aspects of the "negative growth rate" and reveal many implications of the "ZZ paradox" based on Moody's data of company ratings and default rates. Understandingly, the valuation result accounting for the firm's life and bankruptcy is much lower than the conventional one or current valuation level. The discussion finally reveals that the Gordon growth model actually does not work for valuing most typical stocks within most normal situations. The best way to apply the Gordon growth model may be by using multi-stage frame with the Gordon model only applied to the last stage and based on a "negative" perpetual growth rate. This is much different from now prevailing practice.

To some extent, the negative growth rate vs. the conventional perpetual positive growth rate is similar with Copernicus's heliocentrism vs. geocentrism. Sounds hard to accept? Do not worry, I do not intend to persuade you to accept such a "strange" argument, though it is easy to understand and with support of sound logic and enough historical facts and data. The logics in the rest papers come from the implications of the ZZ paradox rather than directly from the negative growth rate. However, to some extent, they are also fundamentally challenging the widespread financial conventions and wisdom. So just ask yourself a question: do you really like or accept the creative or innovative ideas? A "yes" answer is a must for me to solve the relevant financial puzzles as well as for you to read the papers in this book, such as the theoretical or fair P/E, the optimal capital structure, etc.

The second paper "Growth, Risk and the Fair P/E" starts from the findings in the first paper: the currently prevailing Gordon growth model actually cannot solve a basic valuation problem, and cannot answer some long-lasting basic debates either, such as what is a fair P/E of an individual stock, and what is the bubble-free P/E of a market. For a numerical example of three stocks with same current dividend and risk but different perpetual growth rate of 6%, 7%, 8% respectively, based on Gordon model, the ratio of the value (per share) of the three stocks is 1:1.33:2. The value differences (33% to 200%) among them are obviously too large.

To find a solution to such a typical and widespread valuation puzzle, based on the "ZZ paradox", I believe the "perpetual growth assumption" is neither correct nor necessary, since no investor based his/her investment decision on infinite time horizon and no one can forecast cash flows of a stock in a period extending into infinite future. As indicated in the first paper, stock value of a firm will be definite zero in infinite future. Therefore, I try to seek model accounting for only cash flows in near future and assuming the cash flows beyond that period are in normal growth (thus, they need not be accounted for based on the incremental decision rule, no matter they grow positive or negative). Finally, according to the basic valuation principle, I develop a valuation model and fair P/E model by using required payback period as a decision criterion instead of the