

## **The Dilemma of Investment Decision for Small Investors in the Hong Kong Derivatives Markets**

**Tai-Yuen Hon**

Department of Economics and Finance  
Hong Kong Shue Yan University  
Braemar Hill, North Point  
Hong Kong  
China

### **Abstract**

*This paper, using a survey, makes an attempt to investigate the dilemma of investment decision for small investors in the Hong Kong derivatives markets. The observation period for the survey covers the most turbulent period of the economic crisis of January 2011-January 2012, which happened in Hong Kong. The survey was conducted from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012 to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012. A non-probability sampling method was applied to select individuals aged 18 or above from the population of Hong Kong. The objective of this study is to examine the key factors (determinants) and the dilemma of investment decision that affect Hong Kong small investors. This paper addresses the determinants of possible ways to measure the level of investment decision.*

**Keywords:** behavioural finance, small investors, derivatives markets, Hong Kong

### **1. Introduction**

In the new millennium, the financial markets have become increasingly volatile. Even in some advanced economies such as Hong Kong, the derivatives markets have experienced wild fluctuation over the past decade. There are different types of investors who put their money in the derivatives markets. One important type is the large group of small investors. Their investment decision is different from other groups such as fund managers and institutional investors. Financial advisers have traditionally underserved small investors in the money management arena. With the ever increasing ranks of small investors in the participation of derivatives markets, they ignore this tremendous client base at their own peril. Small investors buy what they like and what they know and what they are familiar with. Yet we know little about their investment decision and how well they are handling their investments in the derivatives markets. The objective of this study is to examine the key factors (determinants) and the dilemma of investment decision that affect Hong Kong small investors. For some small investors, they are easy to make investment decision, but for other small investors, they are easy to make no investment decision. The dilemma of investment decision is a problem offering two possibilities neither easy make investment decision nor easy make no investment decision. It means that a problem offers two possibilities neither of which is practically acceptable. Informed by behavioural finance, which is a new approach to study derivatives markets, we create ranking orders of five determinants that are common for all investment decisions and for all small investors. It looks that everybody agrees that some determinants should play some role in the investment decision of the small investors. But how big or small this role should be, and how to measure the level of the investment decision? This paper addresses the determinants of possible ways to measure the level of investment decision. Empirical data have been collected from 524 respondents via a survey questionnaire. This observation period covers Euro Zone Sovereign Debt crisis from January 2011 - January 2012 in Hong Kong. The present study attempts to contribute to the study of behavioural finance in the setting of an Asian financial center, namely Hong Kong.

This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 reviews the related literature, followed by Section 3 that explains the methodology of the present study and the data. Section 4 reports the results, and the last section contains the conclusion.

## 2. Literature Review

Although many personal and situational factors may influence the behaviour of small investors in the derivatives markets, research on this topic is sparse. Previous studies revealed that interpersonal influence (Hoffmann and Broekhuizen, 2009), knowledge (Wang, 2009), and some other personal factors such as gender and personality traits (Durand et al., 2008) were crucial in explaining investor behaviour. However, it is important to explore the psychological processes (such as perception, attitudes, learning, and motivation) that affect an individual's decisions regarding an investment. For example, an investor's gender and educational level (i.e., individual factors) may affect his or her knowledge and orientation in investment, which then influence the risk perception, and finally his or her investment behaviour. Graham *et al.* (2009) noted that male investors, and investors with larger portfolios or literacy levels, are more likely to perceive themselves as competent as are female investors and investors with smaller portfolios or less education. Hoffmann and Post (2012) found that past returns positively impact investors' return expectations and risk tolerance, and negatively impact their risk perception. Moreover, Korniotis and Kumar (2011) suggested that older people make better investment choices as they gain more investment knowledge and experience, and questioned whether deterioration of their investment skills with age was largely due to the adverse effects of cognitive ageing. Williams (2007) found little evidence that demographic factors affect socially responsible investment decision.

## 3. Methods and Data

Before we begin using the survey data set for analysis, we need to ensure the survey results are reliable enough. According to Carmines & Zeller (1979, pp.11-13), reliability focuses on the extent to which the empirical indicator provides consistent results across repeated measurements. It should be noted that the measure used to assess the statistical significance of the item was coefficient of variation (CV), which expresses the ratio of the

standard deviation to the arithmetic mean  $CV = \frac{S}{\bar{X}}$ . So, the higher the CV value, the greater the heterogeneity of

respondents' views. Accordingly, it was considered the consensus had been achieved when the level of item was on the statistically significant (that is  $CV \leq 55.5\%$ ). The CVs for each of questionnaire items have been inserted to the Results of Investment Behaviour of Small Investors in Derivatives Markets in the Hong Kong Survey in the Appendix. Taking a look at these CVs, we can find the maximum and minimum value is 55.5% and 19.7% respectively with mean 38.2%.

Factor analysis is employed to identify the key factors that affect the investment decisions of small investors on derivatives markets in Hong Kong. We agree that the pure investment decision and no investment decision are absolutely opposite to each other in terms of key factors. Let create ranking order of determinants that are common for all investment decisions: cognitive style, risk tolerance, return performance, reference group and personal background. But why they are so different? To examine possible differences in the perceived importance of the five key factors, our analyses indicate that out of four criteria (i.e., rotated principal component loadings, scree test, Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) and Bartlett's test of Sphericity, reliability test) examined. This ranking is different for every small investor. As a result, each small investor has used some key factors from the literature as potential determinants of the investment decision. We can say even more; in the case of pure investment decision and no investment decision these rankings are exactly opposite as we will show here. The dilemma for investment decision is popular for small investors. Therefore, for some small investors, they will make relatively easy investment decision, but for other small investors, they will make relatively easy no investment decision. Can these differences be measured? Let try to do that using the idea of ranking correlation developed by the British mathematician Kendall (1955) to measure these differences as differences between determinants ranking orders. According to Abdi's paper (2007) in the "Encyclopedia of Measurement and Statistics", when we are comparing two ordered sets we should look at the number of different pairs between the two sets which allow us to get something which is called the "symmetric difference distance" between the two sets. The symmetric difference is a set operation which associates to two sets the set of elements that belong to only one set.

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times [d_{\Delta}(P_1, P_2)]}{N(N-1)}$$

Where the symmetric difference distance between two sets of ordered pairs  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  is presented as  $d_{\Delta}(P_1, P_2)$ .  $N$  is number of ranked elements (i.e. determinants), in our case  $N = 5$ . With  $N = 5$  elements we assume arbitrarily that first order is equal to 12345. Therefore, with two rank orders provided on  $N$  determinants, there are  $N!$  (i.e.  $N! = 5! = 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times 2 \times 1 = 120$ ) different possible outcomes (each corresponding to a given possible order) to consider for computing the sampling distribution of  $\tau$ . Kendall coefficient can have values between -1 and +1:  $-1 \leq \tau \leq +1$  where -1 is the largest possible distance (equal to -1, obtained when one order is the exact reverse of the other order) and +1 is the smallest one (equal to +1, obtained when both orders are identical). The Kendall coefficient  $\tau$  can be interpreted as the difference between the probability to have determinants in the same order and the probability that they are in the different order:

$$\tau = P(\text{same}) - P(\text{different}).$$

Let use the Kendal coefficient between two ordered sets for selected five small investors: P, Q, R, S and T.

The data for the present study were collected from small investors in Hong Kong via a questionnaire survey. Its main purpose is to collect the opinions, investment behaviour, and financial decision making of the respondents in the Hong Kong derivatives markets. Since the majority of Hong Kong’s population is Chinese, the questionnaire was written in Chinese. After a pilot survey and refinement for the questionnaire, and then a detailed briefing for the enumerators (our students), the survey was carried out in the period from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012 to 15<sup>th</sup> March 2012 with the questionnaire being completed by 524 respondents.

This questionnaire consists of 11 questions (items): 3 questions for personal background, 2 questions for return performance, 2 questions for risk tolerance, 3 questions for cognitive style, 1 question for reference group. We selected the respondents using non-probability sampling (snowball method). The target population is the small investors in the Hong Kong derivatives markets. The respondents were requested to provide an estimated percentage breakdown of their average return on investment of derivative products during the observation period. Our data set has fulfilled the following conditions: (1) A minimum of five subjects per item is required for factor analysis; (2) A sample of 100 subjects is acceptable but sample sizes of over 200 are preferable.

**4. Results**

The basic information about the respondents is depicted in Appendix. The majority of the respondents (62.8%) are in the age group of 18-34. More than a half of these respondents (52.1%) have less than 3 years of experience of investing in financial market. About one-third of them have an average return of less than 10% and another one-third of them have an average return of 10-30%. Most of these respondents reported that they have a medium (40.9%) or high (36.4%) level of tolerance for investment risk. A high percentage of them think that the risk level in investing financial derivatives is high (53.7%) or very high (18.5%). The respondents also reported that they obtained the information and opinion that affected their investment decision from various sources such as Internet (37.8%), newspapers, TV, magazines, etc. (25.8%).

**Table 1. Factor Correlation Matrix**

Item	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
2	0.449**									
3	0.595**	0.408**								
4	0.007	0.200	0.109*							
5	-0.087*	-0.169**	-0.101*	-0.607**						
6	-0.028	0.035	0.045	0.101*	0.044					
7	-0.215**	-0.084*	-0.092*	0.265**	-0.022	0.305**				
8	-0.089*	-0.063	-0.080	-0.197**	0.168**	0.039	-0.136**			
9	0.065	0.158**	0.077	0.107*	-0.086*	-0.097*	-0.008	-0.168**		
10	0.094**	0.044	0.126**	0.137**	-0.161**	0.093*	0.151**	0.171**	0.146**	
11	-0.058	0.154**	-0.007	0.129**	-0.120**	-0.006	0.094*	-0.055	0.132**	0.071

\*Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (one-tailed) and \*\* Correlation is significant at 0.01 level (one-tailed). Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) index: 0.612, Bartlett’s test of Sphericity:  $p < 0.000$ .

To identify the underlying dimensions of the items, which are perceived to be important by the respondents, the 11 items were then factor analysed. Initial visual assessment of the correlation matrix indicated a considerable degree of inter-factor correlation (see Table 1). In addition, from the correlation matrix, the Bartlett’s test of Sphericity ( $p < 0.000$ ) and the Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) measure of sampling adequacy index (with a value of 0.612) confirm the appropriateness of the data for exploratory factor analysis.

**Table 2: Principal Components Analysis**

Item	Communality	Factor	Eigenvalue	Per cent of variance	Cumulative per cent
1	0.761	A	2.319	21.077	21.077
2	0.653	B	1.812	16.470	37.547
3	0.702	C	1.267	11.520	49.067
4	0.810	D	1.13	10.030	59.097
5	0.811	E	1.017	9.244	68.342
6	0.717				
7	0.656				
8	0.542				
9	0.583				
10	0.501				
11	0.782				

Given that our aim was to identify the minimum number of factors that would account for the maximum portion of variance of original items, the principal component analysis was selected (Nunnally, 1978) to reduce the number of factors with an eigenvalue greater than 1. Accumulative percentage of variance explained being greater than 50% is the criteria used in determining the number of factors. On the basis of the criteria, five factors were extracted (see Table 2). The five factors, collectively, accounted for a satisfactory 68.342% of the variance. Communality values in between 1.0 and 0 indicate partial overlapping between the items and the factors in what they measure. Furthermore, the communality column, provides further evidence of the overall significance, albeit, moderate, of the solution. The underlying rationale for the Scree test is based on the fact that within a set of items, a limited number of factors are measured more precisely than the others. By graphing the eigenvalues, we found that the smaller factors form a straight line sloping downward. The dominant factors will fall above the line.

**Figure 1: A Scree Plot**

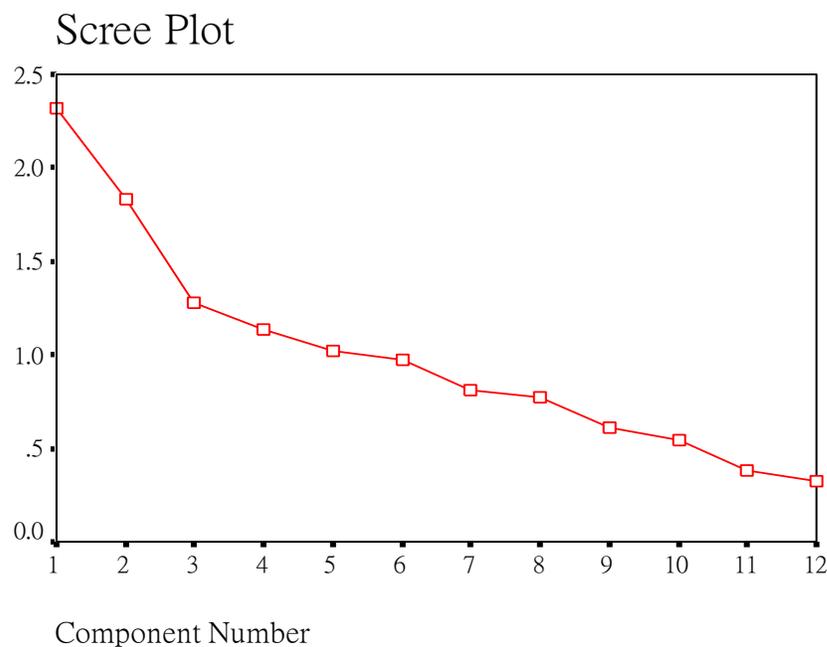


Figure 1 demonstrates a five-factor solution is obtained. Having established that the analysis has provided a stable solution, examination of the varimax-rotated factor loading was performed (see Table 3).

**Table 3. Varimax-Rotated Principal Component Loadings**

Item	Factors					Item name	Factor
	A	B	C	D	E		
1	0.851					Age	A
2	0.713					Personal Income	A
3	0.826					Investment Experience	A
4		0.864				Average Return	B
5		-0.885				Satisfaction	B
6			0.833			Risk Tolerance	C
7			0.718			Investment Portfolio	C
8				-0.707		Risk Level	D
9				0.540		Sell/Close out Position	D
10				0.655		Investor Education	D
11					0.873	Information/Opinion	E

The cumulative factors revealed that the first factor accounts for 21.077% of the variance. The second factor accounts for 37.547% of the variance. The third factor accounts for 49.067% of the variance. The fourth factor accounts for 59.097% of the variance. Finally, the fifth factor accounts for 68.342% of the variance. After the rotation, there are no negative loadings on any consequence on either factor A, factor C, or factor E. The rotated factors that represent the meaningful constructs ordinarily should not exhibit these large negative loadings. Thus, we eliminated item 5 in factor B and item 8 in factor D. Finally, we found five factors affecting the behavior of small investors in the derivatives markets in Hong Kong as follows: factor A might be interpreted as personal background which include age, personal income, and investment experience; factor B as return performance which include average income on investment of derivative products; factor C as risk tolerance which includes personal level of tolerance for investment risk and the total amount in small investor's portfolio of derivative products; factor D as cognitive style which includes cognitive of small investors sell or close their position of time length in derivative products and the cognitive of investor education provided by the government; and factor E as reference group, which includes commentators' recommendations from newspapers/TV/magazines, relatives/friends, Internet, investment consultants, and companies' annual reports. The specific name given to each factor is designed to reflect an item or notion that conceptually relates to the rest of the items under a particular factor. The reliability test is reported in Table 4. At this point only initial of internal reliability of the expected factors was performed in the form of Cronbach's coefficient  $\alpha$ . For the purposes of this study, the cut-off value adopted was 0.5 (Nunnally, 1978) and the acceptable benchmark level of corrected item-total correlation was set above 0.3.

**Table 4. Internal Consistency and Related Decisions of First Structure**

Factors and items	Corrected item-total correlation	$\alpha$ value	Decision
Factor A (Personal Background)			
Age	0.5060	0.6662	Retained
Personal Income	0.4744		
Investment Experience	0.5123		
Factor C (Risk Tolerance)			
Risk Tolerance	0.3036	0.4634	Eliminated
Investment Portfolio	0.3036		
Factor D (Cognitive Style)			
Sell/Close out Position	0.1458	0.2527	Eliminated
Investor Education	0.1458		

**Table 5. Internal Consistency of Final Revised Structure**

Items	Number of item	Corrected item-total correlation	$\alpha$ value
Factor A (Personal Background)			
Age	3	0.5060	0.6662
Personal Income		0.4744	
Investment Experience		0.5123	
Factor B (Return Performance)			
Average Return	1		
Factor E (Reference Group)			
Information/Opinion	1		

Following the decision relating to the internal reliability, the factors were re-specified. This was undertaken to further reduce the number of factors. The internal reliability of the first structure was tested and the decision results provide evidence as to the weakness of the structure since one factor (factor A) exceeded the adopted criteria. It is found that factor A contains three items and relates to “personal background”. Factor C is made up of two items and refers to “risk tolerance”. Finally, factor D comprises two items and deal with “cognitive style”. The derived scales appear to possess moderate to weak internal consistency. So, we eliminated both factors C and D (see Table 5). To examine possible differences in the perceived importance of the five factors, our analyses indicate that out of four criteria (i.e., rotated principal component loadings, scree test, KMO and Bartlett’s test, reliability test) examined, only three factors (personal background, reference group, return performance) are significant. Based on these results, we can derive the following ascending order of importance:

1. Factor D: Cognitive Style (Style)
2. Factor C: Risk Tolerance (Tolerance)
3. Factor B: Return Performance (Performance)
4. Factor E: Reference Group (Group)
5. Factor A: Personal Background (Background)

Let create ranking orders of the five determinants that are common for all investment decision and respectively for all small investors. To get the determinants ranking orders for each small investor, we should follow ascending order of importance.

The determinants order the pure investment decision: [Style, Tolerance, Performance, Group, Background] with the following ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_1 = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]$ .

This ranking is different for every small investor. As a result, each small investor has different level of investment decision. Let find the Kendall rank correlation coefficients for small investor using initially the pure investment decision ranking order as the standard, and later we will do the same using the no investment decision ranking order as the standard.

Choice of small investors: P, Q, R, S and T.

Small investor P: [Tolerance, Performance, Style, Background, Group]

with the ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_2 = [2, 3, 1, 5, 4]$ .

We are comparing two ordered sets. We should look at the number of different pairs between two sets which allow us to get something which is called the “symmetric difference distance” between these two sets.

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times [d_{\Delta}(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_2)]}{N(N-1)}$$

Where the symmetric difference distance between two sets of ordered pairs  $\mathbf{P}_1$  and  $\mathbf{P}_2$  is presented as  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_2)$ .  $\mathbf{N}$  is number of ranked determinants, in our case  $\mathbf{N} = 5$ . Kendall coefficient can have values between -1 and +1:  $-1 \leq \tau \leq +1$  where -1 is the largest possible distance and +1 is the smallest one.

The Kendall coefficient of correlation of determinants ranking for the small investor P and the pure investment decision is 0.4:

$\mathbf{P}_1 = \{[1, 2], [1, 3], [1, 4], [1, 5], [2, 3], [2, 4], [2, 5], [3, 4], [3, 5], [4, 5]\}$ .

$\mathbf{P}_2 = \{[2, 3], [2, 1], [2, 5], [2, 4], [3, 1], [3, 5], [3, 4], [1, 5], [1, 4], [5, 4]\}$ .

The set of pairs which are in only one set of ordered pairs is  $\{[1, 2], [2, 1], [1, 3], [3, 1], [4, 5], [5, 4]\}$ . So, the value of  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_2) = 6$ . That means that the value of the Kendall rank correlation coefficient between two orders of investment decision is:

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times 6}{5 \times 4} = 0.4$$

Small investor Q: [Background, Group, Performance, Tolerance, Style]  
with the ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_3 = [5, 4, 3, 2, 1]$ .

$\mathbf{P}_1 = \{[1, 2], [1, 3], [1, 4], [1, 5], [2, 3], [2, 4], [2, 5], [3, 4], [3, 5], [4, 5]\}$ .

$\mathbf{P}_3 = \{[5, 4], [5, 3], [5, 2], [5, 1], [4, 3], [4, 2], [4, 1], [3, 2], [3, 1], [2, 1]\}$ .

The set of pairs which are in only one set of ordered pairs is  $\{[1, 2], [2, 1], [1, 3], [3, 1], [1, 4], [4, 1], [1, 5], [5, 1], [2, 3], [3, 2], [2, 5], [5, 2], [3, 4], [4, 3], [3, 5], [5, 3], [4, 5], [5, 4]\}$ . So, the value of  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_3) = 18$ . That means that the value of the Kendall rank correlation coefficient between two orders of determinants is:

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times 18}{5 \times 4} = -0.8$$

Small investor R: [Performance, Background, Style, Tolerance, Group]  
with the ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_4 = [3, 5, 1, 2, 4]$ .

$\mathbf{P}_1 = \{[1, 2], [1, 3], [1, 4], [1, 5], [2, 3], [2, 4], [2, 5], [3, 4], [3, 5], [4, 5]\}$ .

$\mathbf{P}_4 = \{[3, 5], [3, 1], [3, 2], [3, 4], [5, 1], [5, 2], [5, 4], [1, 2], [1, 4], [2, 4]\}$ .

The set of pairs which are in only one set of ordered pairs is  $\{[1, 3], [3, 1], [1, 5], [5, 1], [2, 3], [3, 2], [2, 5], [5, 2], [4, 5], [5, 4]\}$ . So, the value of  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_4) = 10$ . That means that the value of the Kendall rank correlation coefficient between two orders of determinants is:

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times 10}{5 \times 4} = 0$$

Small investor S: [Tolerance, Style, Performance, Background, Group]  
with the ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_5 = [2, 1, 3, 5, 4]$ .

$\mathbf{P}_1 = \{[1, 2], [1, 3], [1, 4], [1, 5], [2, 3], [2, 4], [2, 5], [3, 4], [3, 5], [4, 5]\}$ .

$\mathbf{P}_5 = \{[2, 1], [2, 3], [2, 5], [2, 4], [1, 3], [1, 5], [1, 4], [3, 5], [3, 4], [5, 4]\}$ .

The set of pairs which are in only one set of ordered pairs is  $\{[1, 2], [2, 1], [4, 5], [5, 4]\}$ . So, the value of  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_1, \mathbf{P}_5) = 4$ . That means that the value of the Kendall rank correlation coefficient between two orders of determinants is:

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times 4}{5 \times 4} = 0.6$$

Small investor T: [Performance, Style, Tolerance, Background, Group]  
with the ranking:  $\mathbf{R}_6 = [3, 1, 2, 5, 4]$ .

$\mathbf{P}_I = \{[1, 2], [1, 3], [1, 4], [1, 5], [2, 3], [2, 4], [2, 5], [3, 4], [3, 5], [4, 5]\}$ .

$\mathbf{P}_\sigma = \{[3, 1], [3, 2], [3, 5], [3, 4], [1, 2], [1, 5], [1, 4], [2, 5], [2, 4], [5, 4]\}$ .

The set of pairs which are in only one set of ordered pairs is  $\{[1, 3], [3, 1], [2, 3], [3, 2], [4, 5], [5, 4]\}$ . So, the value of  $\mathbf{d}_\Delta(\mathbf{P}_I, \mathbf{P}_\sigma) = 6$ . That means that the value of the Kendall rank correlation coefficient between two orders of determinants is:

$$\tau = 1 - \frac{2 \times 6}{5 \times 4} = 0.4$$

Because the determinants ranking order of the no investment decision is extremely opposite to the determinants ranking order of the pure investment decision. The Kendall rank correlation coefficient between them is  $\tau = -1$ . Respectively for the above discussed small investors, the Kendall rank correlation coefficients with the no investment decision order would be: -0.4 for small investor P and small investor T; -0.6 for small investor S; 0.8 for small investor Q and 0 for small investor R.

We can conclude that small investor S is the closest to the pure investment decision setting priority and small investor Q is the farthest from the pure investment decision among them. Small investor R is a classic case of dilemma for investment decisions.

### 5. Conclusion

Using factor analysis, we identify five factors (determinants) that capture the investment decision of small investors in the Hong Kong derivatives markets. Their investment decision has uniform views as to the ascending order of importance of cognitive style, risk tolerance, return performance, reference group, and personal background. To get the determinants ranking orders for small investor in the pure investment decision, we should follow ascending order of importance. This ranking is different for every small investor. As a result, each small investor has different levels of investment decision. We have reported evidence from five small investors (P, Q, R, S, T) that the determinants ranking order of the no investment decision is extremely opposite to the determinants ranking order of the pure investment decision. The Kendall rank correlation coefficient between them is  $\tau = -1$ . Respectively for the above discussed small investors, the Kendall rank correlation coefficients with the no investment decision order would be: -0.4 for small investor P and small investor T; -0.6 for small investor S; 0.8 for small investor Q and 0 for small investor R. We can conclude that small investor S is the closest to the pure investment decision setting priority and small investor Q is the farthest from the pure investment decision among them. Small investor R is a classic case of dilemma for investment decision. This implies that financial advisors can approach the customers (small investors) with Kendall rank correlation coefficients greater than zero. These customers will make relatively easy investment decision in the Hong Kong derivatives markets.

**Appendix**Results of Investment Behaviour of Small Investors in Derivatives Markets in the Hong Kong Survey  
Survey Period: 31<sup>st</sup>January 2012 to 15<sup>th</sup>March 2012

Item		
1.	Age group: (CV = 55.4%)	
	a 18 – 24 years old	33.0%
	b 25 – 34 years old	29.8%
	c 35 – 44 years old	14.5%
	d 45 – 54 years old	15.3%
	e 55 – 64 years old	6.5%
	f over 65 years old	1.0%
	Total	100%
2.	Average monthly income: (CV = 55.5%)	
	a Below HK\$5,000	21.1%
	b HK\$5,000 -HK\$9,999	13.6%
	c HK\$10,000 - HK\$14,999	16.9%
	d HK\$15,000 - HK\$19,999	18.0%
	e HK\$20,000 - HK\$24,999	14.8%
	f HK\$25,000 - HK\$29,999	6.1%
	g HK\$30,000 - HK\$49,999	7.3%
	h HK\$50,000 or above	2.3%
	Total	100%
3.	How long have you invested in financial market? (CV = 40.7%)	
	a Nil	8.2%
	b Less than 1 year	18.1%
	c 1 year to under 3 years	34.0%
	d 3 year to under 5 years	17.6%
	e 5 year to under 10 years	13.5%
	f 10 years or above	8.6%
	Total	100%
4.	What is your average return on investment of derivative products? (CV = 41.8%)	
	a Loss	18.2%
	b Average Return less than 10%	34.2%
	c Average Return 10% to under 30%	32.8%
	d Average Return 30% to under 50%	11.5%
	e Average Return 50% to under 100%	2.9%
	f Average Return 100% or above	0.5%
	Total	100%
5.	During January 2011 to January 2012, do you satisfy with average returns of your financial derivatives investment? (CV = 32%)	
	a Very satisfied	2.2%
	b Satisfied	30.4%
	c Normal	37.6%
	d Dissatisfied	21.3%
	e Very dissatisfied	8.6%
	Total	100%

6.	What is your personal level of tolerance for investment risk? (CV = 26.3%)	
a	Very Low	2.2%
b	Low	14.8%
c	Medium	40.9%
d	High	36.4%
e	Very High	5.7%
	Total	100%
7.	Comparing to the total amount in your investment portfolio, how much do you invest in derivative products? (CV = 43.5%)	
a	Less than 10%	22.0%
b	10% to under 30 %	45.9%
c	30% to under 50 %	21.8%
d	50% to under 100%	7.4%
e	100%	2.9%
	Total	100%
8.	What do you think the risk level in investing financial derivatives? (CV = 19.7%)	
a	Very Low Risk	0.4%
b	Low Risk	3.4%
c	Medium Risk	23.9%
d	High Risk	53.7%
e	Very High Risk	18.5%
	Total	100%
9.	When did you mostly sell or close out your position when you invested in financial derivatives during January 2011 to January 2012? (CV = 32.6%)	
a	Within one day	3.4%
b	Within one week	28.6%
c	Within one month	40.8%
d	Within three months	19.7%
e	Within one year	6.7%
f	More than one year	0.7%
	Total	100%
10.	Do you think the small investor education provided by the related government department is adequate? (CV = 36.3%)	
a	Very Inadequate	13.8%
b	Inadequate	44.6%
c	No Opinion	31.5%
e	Adequate	9.2%
f	Very Adequate	1.0%
	Total	100%
11.	Which type of information and opinion will affect your decision in investing financial derivative mostly? (CV = 36.3%)	
a	Nil	2.9%
b	Newspapers, TV, magazines, etc.	25.8%
c	Relatives and friends	10.3%
d	Internet	37.8%
e	Investment Consultants	17.2%
f	Companies' Annual Reports	4.8%
g	Others	1.2%
	Total	100%

Note: percentage not always adding up to 100 due to rounding-up.

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