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**THE EMPIRICAL STUDY ON  
MARKET LIQUIDITY AND DETERMINANTS  
OF SUKUK IN MALAYSIA**



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**MASTER OF SCIENCE (FINANCE)  
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**THE EMPIRICAL STUDY ON MARKET LIQUIDITY AND  
DETERMINANTS OF SUKUK IN MALAYSIA**



**Thesis Submitted to  
Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business,  
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## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this study is to examine the relationship between market liquidity and the determinants of sukuk in Malaysia's perspective. In this paper, sukuk's determinants are represented by variables; maturity, coupon rate, age, credit rating, number of trades and amount of trading. A sample of 933 issued sukuk in Malaysia is collected from secondary data of Bond Pricing of Agency Malaysia (BPAM) and Bond Info hub of Bank Negara Malaysia from period of 2005 to 2015. The sample of issued sukuk is based on Malaysian Ringgit denominated currency and these sukuk are actively traded in the secondary market of Malaysia. The sample is comprises five (5) sectors inclusive government, quasi-government, finance, Asset Backed Securities (ABS) and corporates. There are two (2) measurements of market liquidity used in this study which are the bid-ask spread and the amihud (2002) measure. The empirical results of this study show that age and maturity have positive relationship with sukuk market liquidity and they are significantly correlated. From the analysis, researcher concludes that investors prefer to hold their securities until meet its maturity rather than traded it in the secondary market as it makes the market to be illiquid.

*Keywords : Sukuk, market liquidity, Malaysian Islamic capital market, types of sukuk structures*

## ABSTRAK

Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji perkaitan di antara kecairan pasaran dengan penentu-penentu sukuk dari perspektif Malaysia. Untuk kajian ini, penentu-penentu sukuk diwakili oleh beberapa pembolehubah; kematangan, kadar kupon, tempoh hayat, penarafan kredit, bilangan dagangan serta jumlah dagangan. Sampel adalah terdiri daripada 933 terbitan sukuk di Malaysia yang diperolehi daripada data sekunder melalui Agensi Harga Bon Malaysia (BPAM) serta hub maklumat tentang bon menerusi Bank Negara Malaysia dari tempoh 2005 hingga 2015. Sampel terbitan sukuk yang berkenaan adalah berdasarkan matawang berdenominasikan Ringgit Malaysia dan sukuk-sukuk ini diniagakan secara aktif dalam pasaran kedua di Malaysia. Sampel tersebut terdiri daripada lima (5) sektor termasuklah sektor kerajaan, sektor kuasi-kerajaan, sektor kewangan, Sekuriti Bersandarkan Aset (ABS) dan korporat. Terdapat dua jenis pengukuran yang digunakan untuk mengukur pasaran kecairan bagi kajian ini iaitu tawaran-perminataan spread dan pengukuran amihud (2002). Hasil keputusan kajian empirikal ini menunjukkan bahawa tempoh hayat dan kematangan mempunyai perkaitan yang positif dengan kecairan pasaran sukuk serta dikorelasikan secara signifikan. Dari analisis yang dijalankan, penyelidik mendapati bahawa para pelabur lebih cenderung memegang sekuriti mereka sehingga mencapai tempoh kematangan daripada meniagakannya ke dalam pasaran sekunder yang membuatkan pasaran tak cair.

*Katakunci : Sukuk, kecairan pasaran, pasaran modal Islamik Malaysia, jenis struktur sukuk*

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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
<b>TITLE PAGE</b>	
<b>CERTIFICATION OF RESEARCH PAPER</b>	
<b>PERMISSION TO USE.....</b>	ii
<b>ABSTRACT.....</b>	iii
<b>ABSTRAK.....</b>	iv
<b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENT.....</b>	v
<b>TABLE OF CONTENTS.....</b>	vi
<b>LIST OF TABLES.....</b>	ix
<b>LIST OF FIGURES.....</b>	x
<b>LIST OF APPENDICES.....</b>	xi
 <b>CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION</b>	
1.1 Background of the study .....	1
1.2 Introduction to Malaysian Capital Market.....	5
1.3 The Introduction of the Malaysian Islamic Capital Market.....	14
1.3.1 Sha'riah Compliant Securities .....	16
1.3.2 Sha'riah Based Unit Trust Fund .....	17
1.3.3 Islamic Exchanged Traded Funds .....	17
1.3.4 Islamic Real Estate Investment Trusts .....	17
1.3.5 Sukuk (Islamic Bond) .....	17
1.4 An overview of Sukuk .....	18
1.5 Problem Statement .....	24
1.6 Research Questions .....	28
1.7 Research Objectives .....	28
1.8 Significance of Study .....	29
1.9 Scope and Limitation of the Study .....	30
1.10 Organization of the Study.....	32

## CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1	Introduction.....	33
2.2	Types and Structure of Sukuk.....	33
2.2.1	Sukuk Al- Bai-Bithaman Ajil (BBA).....	37
2.2.2	Sukuk Murabahah.....	38
2.2.3	Sukuk Al-Salam.....	39
2.2.4	Sukuk Istisna' .....	41
2.2.5	Sukuk Al-Ijarah.....	43
2.2.6	Sukuk Al-Musarakah.....	45
2.2.7	Sukuk Al-Mudarabah.....	45
2.2.8	Sukuk Al-Wakalah.....	47
2.3	Variables .....	48
2.3.1	Dependent value.....	48
2.3.2	Independent value.....	51
2.3.2.1	Maturity.....	51
2.3.2.2	Age.....	52
2.3.2.3	Coupon rate.....	53
2.3.2.4	Credit Ratings.....	53
2.3.2.5	Number of Trades.....	54
2.3.2.6	Amount of Trading.....	54
2.4	Theory Underpinning.....	55
2.4.1	Market Microstructure Theory.....	55
2.4.2	Market Segmentation Theory.....	57
2.5	Chapter Summary .....	59

## CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1	Introduction.....	60
3.2	Theoretical Framework.....	60
3.2.1	Hypotheses Development.....	62
3.3	Research Design .....	64

3.3.1 Data Collection and Sample selection.....	64
3.3.2 Measurement of Variables and Instrument.....	68
3.3.2.1 Market liquidity.....	68
3.3.2.2 Independent variables.....	71
3.3.3 Data analysis.....	72
3.3.3.1 Descriptive Statistics.....	72
3.3.3.2 Correlation.....	72
3.3.3.3 Multiple Regression Analysis.....	73
3.3.3.4 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).....	74
3.4 Chapter Summary.....	74

#### **CHAPTER 4: ANALYSIS OF FINDINGS**

4.1 Introduction .....	75
4.2 Results of the Study .....	75
4.2.1 Descriptive Statistics.....	76
4.2.2 Collinearity Diagnostics.....	77
4.2.3 Correlation Matrices.....	81
4.2.4 Multiple Regression Analysis.....	84
4.2.5 Analysis of Variance (ANOVA).....	86
4.3 Chapter Summary .....	88

#### **CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSION**

5.1 Introduction .....	89
5.2 Summary of the Study.....	89
5.3 Implications of the Study .....	93
5.4 Limitations .....	93
5.5 Recommendations for future research .....	94
5.6 Conclusion .....	95

<b>REFERENCES.....</b>	<b>96 - 101</b>
------------------------	-----------------

<b>APPENDICES.....</b>	<b>102 -115</b>
------------------------	-----------------



## LIST OF TABLES

	Page
Table 1.1      Summarize of the Sukuk issuance in Malaysia	22
Table 3.1      Krejcie and Morgan's sample size determination table	66
Table 4.1      Descriptive Statistics	76
Table 4.2      Collinearity test	78
Table 4.3      Guidelines for interpreting Collinearity based on Eigenvalues	79
Table 4.4      Guidelines for interpreting Collinearity based on Conditon Indexes	80
Table 4.5      Results from Collinearity Diagnostics	80
Table 4.6      Spearman's Correlation between Bid Ask Spread measure and determinants of Sukuk	81
Table 4.7      Spearman's Correlation between Amihud (2002) measure and determinants of Sukuk	83
Table 4.8      Model Summary (Bid ask spread)	84
Table 4.9      Model Summary (Amihud measure)	85
Table 4.10      ANOVA (Bid ask spread)	87
Table 4.11      ANOVA (Amihud measure)	88

## LIST OF FIGURES

		Page
Figure 1.1	Malaysian Capital Market in RM trillion	7
Figure 1.2	Total Funds Raised in Capital Market of Malaysia	8
Figure 1.3	New Issues of Corporate bonds and Sukuk by sectors excluding the Cagamas bonds	12
Figure 1.4	New Issues of Corporate Bonds & Sukuk as % of total Capital market (by Sectors)	13
Figure 1.5	The Growth of Malaysian Islamic Capital Market	15
Figure 1.6	Malaysian Islamic Capital Market Products	16
Figure 1.7	Global Sukuk Issuances Country Wise Breakdown (Jan 2001 – Dec 2015, USD Million)	19
Figure 1.8	Sukuk Issuances from 2005 to end Oct 2015 (Malaysian Versus Global)	21
Figure 2.1	Size of Sukuk approved in 2015 by Shari'ah Principle	36
Figure 2.2	Structure of Al-Bai Bithamam Ajil (BBA)	37
Figure 2.3	Structure of Sukuk Murabahah	38
Figure 2.4	Structure of Sukuk Al-Salam	40
Figure 2.5	Structure of Sukuk Istisna'	41
Figure 2.6	Structure of Sukuk Al-Ijarah	43
Figure 2.7	Structure of Sukuk Musyarakah	45
Figure 2.8	Structure of Sukuk Al-Mudarabah	46
Figure 2.9	Transaction Structure of the Sukuk Wakalah Issuance	47
Figure 3.1	Theoretical Framework	61
Figure 3.2	The distribution of issued sukuk according to sector (From 2005 – 2015)	65

## LIST OF APPENDICES

	Page
Appendix A: Summary of Issued Sukuk actively traded in Secondary Market : by sector (Excluding the BNM sector)	102
Appendix B: Summary of Issued Sukuk actively traded in Secondary Market (by Instruments)	103
Appendix C: Summary of Issued Sukuk (by Age group)	104
Appendix D: Average value of market liquidity between bid ask spread measure And Amihud measure	105
Appendix E: Rating Definition by Rating Agency Malaysia (RAM) on Debt-Based Sukuk	106
Appendix F: SPSS Output	108



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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Background of Study

Many market participants in an advanced and emerging market economies have shown their worried on market liquidity especially after the global financial crisis. This can be well understood because market liquidity affects the price and frequency of trading. When the market is liquid, the frequency of trading will increase as the result of active market. This market liquidity plays an important role for an effective market functioning. It facilitates in the effectiveness of monetary policy and financial stability. It enables efficient allocation of economic resources through productive allocation of capital and risk. In general, liquidity is when the asset can be easily converted into cash.

A market is known as liquid when the security or an asset can easily be bought or sold in a market without affecting the asset's price. In general, liquidity is the market's ability to perform a large amount of trades without having drastic price movements. For an asset's market liquidity (or asset's liquidity), it reflects the ability of an asset to be sold quickly without having to reduce its price level at a significant degree. In a liquid market, the trade-off is mild where the buyers and sellers are always ready and willing to perform the operations. Thus, selling quickly in liquid market will not affect the price as much as in the illiquid market.

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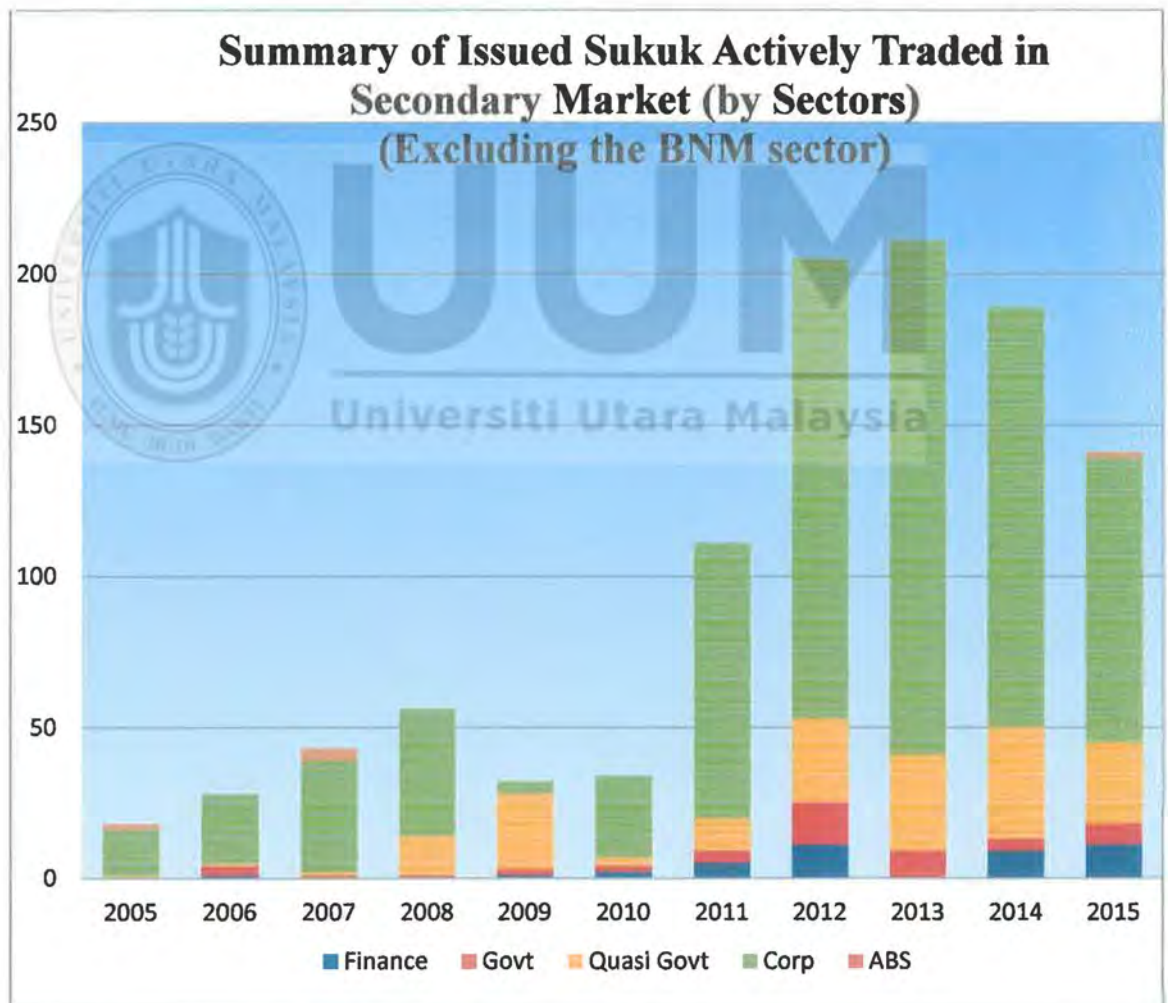
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## APPENDIX A

### Summary of Issued Sukuk actively traded in Secondary Market (by sectors) (Excluding the BNM sector)

Sector	Year										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Finance	0	1	0	0	1	2	5	11	0	9	11
Govt	0	3	1	1	2	2	4	14	9	4	7
Quasi Govt	1	1	1	13	25	3	11	28	32	37	27
Corp	15	23	37	42	4	27	91	152	170	139	94
ABS	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>141</b>

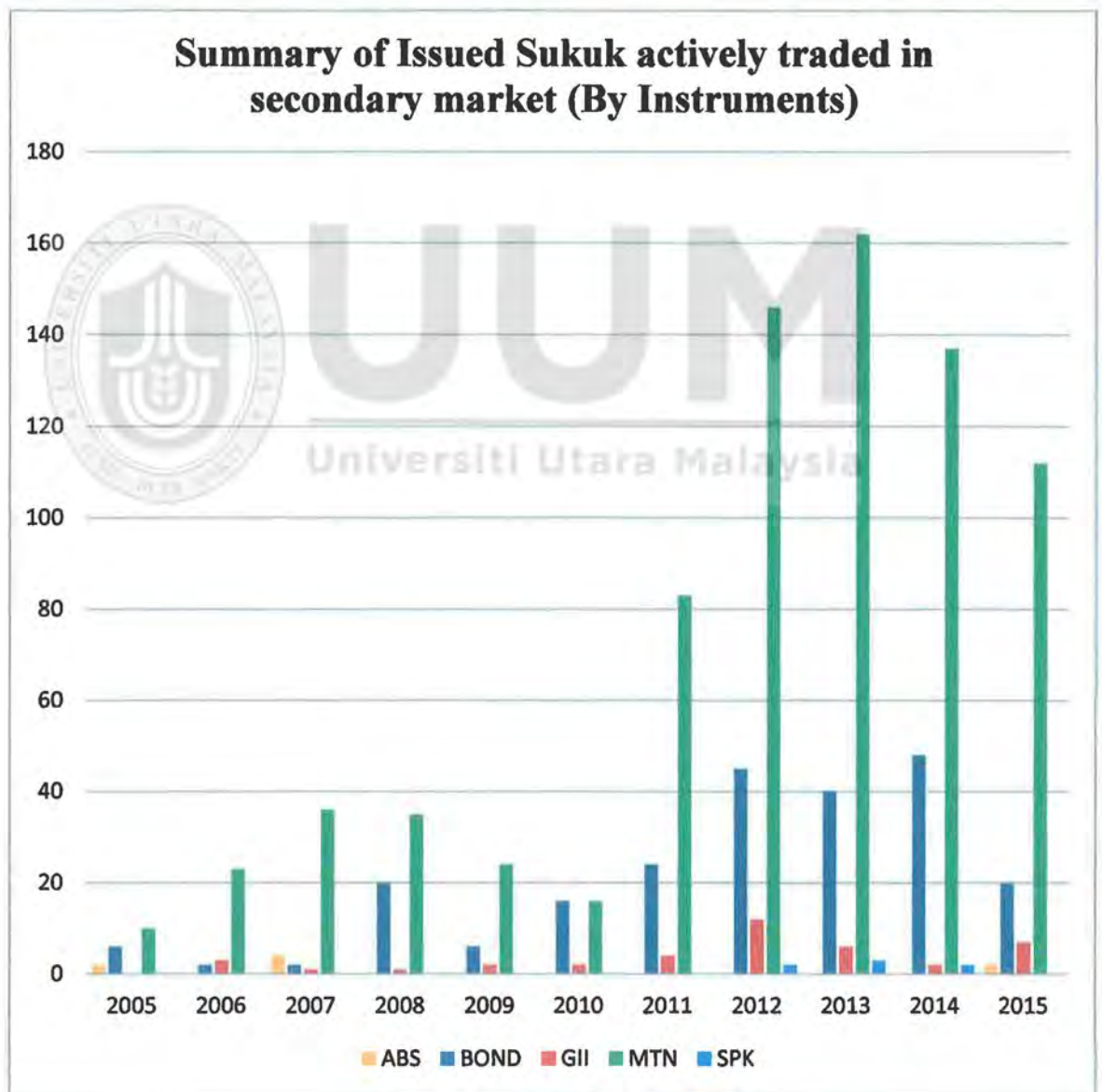




## APPENDIX B

### Summary of Issued Sukuk actively traded in secondary market (by Instruments)

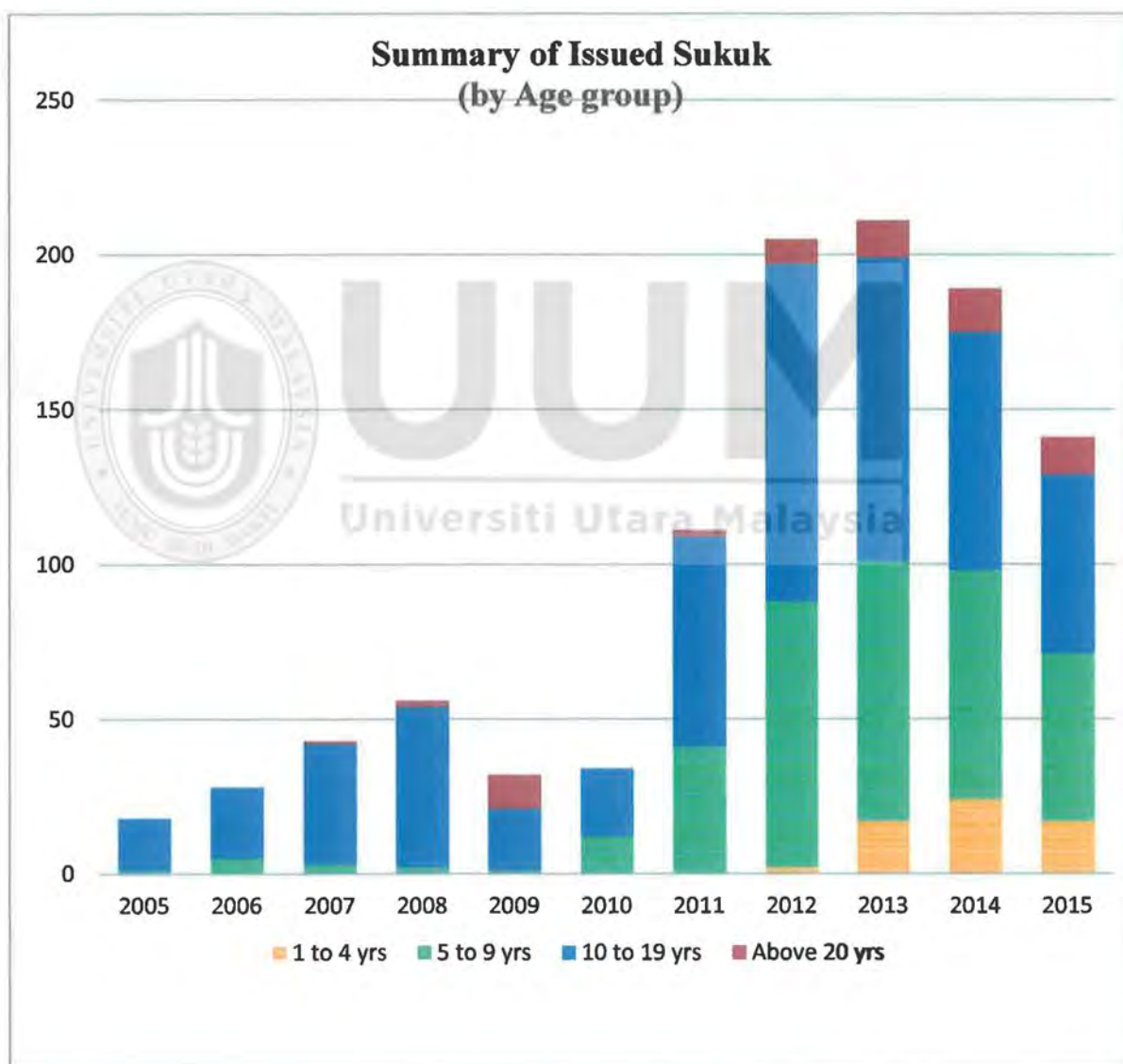
Instrument	Year										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
ABS	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
BOND	6	2	2	20	6	16	24	45	40	48	20
GII	0	3	1	1	2	2	4	12	6	2	7
MTN	10	23	36	35	24	16	83	146	162	137	112
SPK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3	2	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>141</b>



## APPENDIX C

### Summary of Issued Sukuk (by age group)

Age (yr)	Year										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
1 to 4 yrs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	17	24	17
5 to 9 yrs	1	5	3	2	1	12	41	86	84	74	54
10 to 19 yrs	17	23	39	52	20	22	68	109	98	77	58
Above 20 yrs	0	0	1	2	11	0	2	8	12	14	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>141</b>

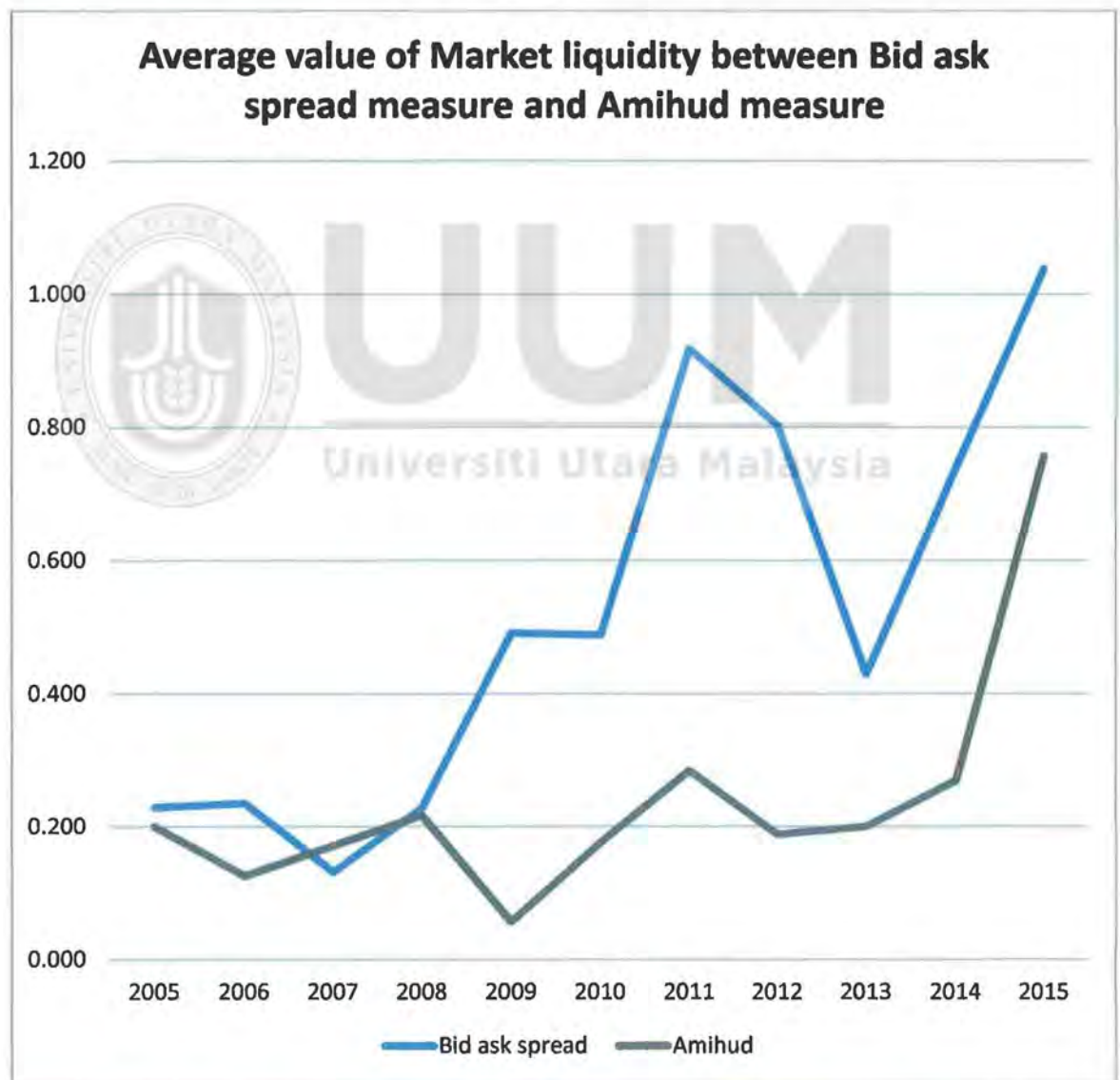




## APPENDIX D

Average value of market liquidity between bid ask spread measure and amihud measure

Liquidity Measure (bp)	Year										
	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Bid ask spread	0.229	0.235	0.132	0.228	0.491	0.488	0.918	0.803	0.429	0.739	1.038
Amihud	0.200	0.126	0.171	0.217	0.057	0.176	0.284	0.188	0.200	0.270	0.757



## APPENDIX E

### Rating Definition by Rating Agency Malaysia (RAM) on Debt-Based Sukuk

Type	Rating	Definition
Long Term	AAA	A sukuk rated AAA has superior safety for payment of financial obligations. This is the highest long-term Issue Rating assigned by RAM Ratings to a debt-based sukuk.
Long Term	AA	A sukuk rated AA has high safety for payment of financial obligations. The issuer is resilient against adverse changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments.
Long Term	A	A sukuk rated A has adequate safety for payment of financial obligations. The issuer is more susceptible to adverse changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments than those in higher-rated categories.
Long Term	BBB	A sukuk rated BBB has moderate safety for payment of financial obligations. The issuer is more likely to be weakened by adverse changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments than those in higher-rated categories. This is the lowest investment-grade category.
Long Term	BB	A sukuk rated BB has low safety for payment of financial obligations. The issuer is highly vulnerable to adverse changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments.
Long Term	B	A sukuk rated B has very low safety for payment of financial obligations. The issuer has a limited ability to withstand adverse changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments.
Long Term	C	A sukuk rated C has a high likelihood of default. The issuer is highly dependent on favourable changes in circumstances, economic conditions and/or operating environments, the lack of which would likely result in it defaulting on a particular sukuk.

Type	Rating	Definition
Long Term	D	A sukuk rated D is either currently in default or faces imminent default on its financial obligations, whether or not formally declared. The D rating may also reflect a distressed exchange, the filing of bankruptcy and/or other actions pertaining to the issuer that could jeopardise the payment of a particular sukuk.
Short Term	P1	A sukuk rated P1 has high safety for payment of financial obligations in the short term. This is the highest short-term Issue Rating assigned by RAM Ratings to a debt-based sukuk.
Short Term	P2	A sukuk rated P2 has adequate safety for payment of financial obligations in the short term. The issuer is more susceptible to the effects of deteriorating circumstances than those in the highest-rated category.
Short Term	P3	A sukuk rated P3 has moderate safety for payment of financial obligations in the short term. The issuer is more likely to be weakened by the effects of deteriorating circumstances than those in higher-rated categories. This is the lowest investment-grade category.
Short Term	NP	A sukuk rated NP has doubtful safety for payment of financial obligations in the short term. The issuer faces major uncertainties that could compromise its capacity for payment of a particular sukuk.
Short Term	D	A sukuk rated D is either currently in default or faces imminent default on its financial obligations, whether or not formally declared. The D rating may also reflect a distressed exchange, the filing of bankruptcy and/or other actions pertaining to the issuer that could jeopardise the payment of a particular sukuk.

Source : Bondinfo.bnm.gov.my

## APPENDIX F

### SPSS OUTPUT

#### Frequency Table

		Sector			
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	Finance	37	4.0	4.0	4.0
	Government	47	5.0	5.0	9.0
	Quasi Govt	145	15.5	15.5	24.5
	Corporate	698	74.8	74.8	99.4
	ABS	6	.6	.6	100.0
	Total	933	100.0	100.0	

#### Instrument

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	ABS	6	.6	.6	.6
	BONDS	196	21.0	21.0	21.7
	GII	40	4.3	4.3	25.9
	MTN	684	73.3	73.3	99.2
	SPK	7	.8	.8	100.0
	Total	933	100.0	100.0	

#### Cr Rating

		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	AAA	283	30.3	30.3	30.3
	AA1- AA3	435	46.6	46.6	77.0
	A1 - A3	30	3.2	3.2	80.2
	BBB1 - BBB3	15	1.6	1.6	81.8
	BB1 - BB3	11	1.2	1.2	83.0
	B1 - B3	1	.1	.1	83.1
	NR(LT)	158	16.9	16.9	100.0
	Total	933	100.0	100.0	

#### Descriptive Statistics

	N Statistic	Minimum Statistic	Maximum Statistic	Mean Statistic	Std. Deviation Statistic	Skewness Statistic
Maturity	933	.8740	99.0548	7.492566	7.1304567	7.176
Age	933	2.0	100.0	11.047	6.9593	7.006
Coupon	933	2.500	100.100	5.31870	3.700769	18.912
Bid ask spread	933	.0000	2.0002	.648021	.8972800	.833
Amihud	933	.0001	6.5687	.263998	.6692886	5.055
Cr Rating	933	1	9	2.99	2.803	1.556
In_Voltrg	933	.00	11.41	5.0991	1.65228	.622
In_notrdg	933	.69	8.71	3.1620	1.37251	.552
Valid N (listwise)	933					

## Correlations

			Sect or	Instrume nt	year	maturity	age	coupon	Cr Rating
Spearman's rho	year	Correlation Coefficient	- .105**	.014	1.000	.290**	-.248**	-.254**	.041
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.001	.665	.	.000	.000	.000	.212
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	maturity	Correlation Coefficient	- .032	-.085**	.290**	1.000	.791**	.245**	-.048
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.324	.009	.000	.	.000	.000	.140
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	age	Correlation Coefficient	.045	-.103**	-.248**	.791**	1.000	.493**	-.024
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.165	.002	.000	.000	.	.000	.456
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	coupon	Correlation Coefficient	.322**	.046	-.254**	.245**	.493**	1.000	-.003
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.159	.000	.000	.000	.	.938
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	Cr Rating	Correlation Coefficient	- .477**	.125**	.041	-.048	-.024	-.003	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.212	.140	.456	.938	.
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	yield	Correlation Coefficient	.333**	.009	.104**	.522**	.516**	.622**	.037
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.789	.002	.000	.000	.000	.260
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	Bid ask spread	Correlation Coefficient	- .132**	.097**	-.160**	.138	.243	.005	.103**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.003	.000	.000	.000	.876	.002
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	amihud	Correlation Coefficient	.186**	.045	-.077*	.182**	.260**	.225**	-.102**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.173	.018	.000	.000	.000	.002
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	In_Voltrg	Correlation Coefficient	- .366**	.209**	-.168**	-.048	.014	-.240**	.243**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.139	.661	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	In_notrdg	Correlation Coefficient	- .244**	.187**	-.211**	-.066*	.027	-.164**	.218**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.044	.408	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933
	Inamt_oss	Correlation Coefficient	- .512**	.216**	.139**	.105**	-.003	-.358**	.290**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.001	.926	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933	933

## Correlations

Spearman's rho			yield	Bid ask	amihud	ln_Voltrg	ln_notrdg	lnamt_os
	maturity	Correlation Coefficient	.522**	.138**	.182**	-.048	-.066	.105**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.139	.044	.001
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	age	Correlation Coefficient	.516**	.243**	.260**	.014	.027	-.003
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.661	.408	.926
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	coupon	Correlation Coefficient	.622**	.005	.225**	-.240**	-.164**	-.358**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.876	.000	.000	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	Cr Rating	Correlation Coefficient	.037	.103**	-.102**	.243**	.218**	.290**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.260	.002	.002	.000	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	yield	Correlation Coefficient	1.000	-.007	.220**	-.255**	-.174**	-.218**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.	.829	.000	.000	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	Bid ask	Correlation Coefficient	-.007	1.000	.717**	.468**	.502**	.355**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.829	.	.000	.000	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	amihud	Correlation Coefficient	.220**	.717**	1.000	-.175**	-.081*	-.161**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.	.000	.014	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	ln_Voltrg	Correlation Coefficient	-.255**	.468**	-.175**	1.000	.916**	.733**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.	.000	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	ln_notrdg	Correlation Coefficient	-.174**	.502**	-.081*	.916**	1.000	.618**
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.014	.000	.	.000
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933
	lnamt_os	Correlation Coefficient	-.218**	.355**	-.161**	.733**	.618**	1.000
		Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	.000	.000	.000	.000	.
		N	933	933	933	933	933	933

\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

## Regression

### Model Summary<sup>b</sup>

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.467 <sup>a</sup>	.219	.212	.7966438

a. Predictors: (Constant), mat, age, coupon, Cr Rating, ln\_notrdg, ln\_Voltrg

b. Dependent Variable: bid ask spread

### ANOVA<sup>a</sup>

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	163.955	6	20.494	32.293	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	586.409	926	.635		
	Total	750.364	932			

a. Dependent Variable: bid ask spread

b. Predictors: (Constant), mat, age, coupon, Cr Rating, ln\_notrdg, ln\_Voltrg

### Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.
		B	Std. Error	Beta		
1	(Constant)	-.231	.229		-1.009	.313
	mat	.072	.012	.570	5.922	.000
	age	-.067	.012	-.519	-5.422	.000
	coupon	.004	.007	.018	.573	.567
	Cr Rating	.012	.012	.037	1.007	.314
	ln_Voltrg	.007	.053	.013	.136	.892
	ln_notrdg	.192	.053	.294	3.612	.000

### Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Model		95.0% Confidence Interval for B		Zero-order	Correlations Partial	Part	Collinearity Statistics Tolerance
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound				
1	(Constant)	-.681	.219				
	mat	.048	.095	.085	.191	.172	.091
	age	-.091	-.043	.029	-.176	-.158	.092
	coupon	-.010	.019	-.084	.019	.017	.897
	Cr Rating	-.011	.034	.236	.033	.029	.644
	ln_Voltrg	-.098	.112	.393	.004	.004	.087
	ln_notrdg	.088	.297	.387	.118	.105	.127



### Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Model		Collinearity Statistics	
		VIF	
1	(Constant)		
	mat		10.944
	age		10.815
	coupon		1.114
	Cr Rating		1.553
	ln_Voltrg		11.431
	ln_notrdg		7.849

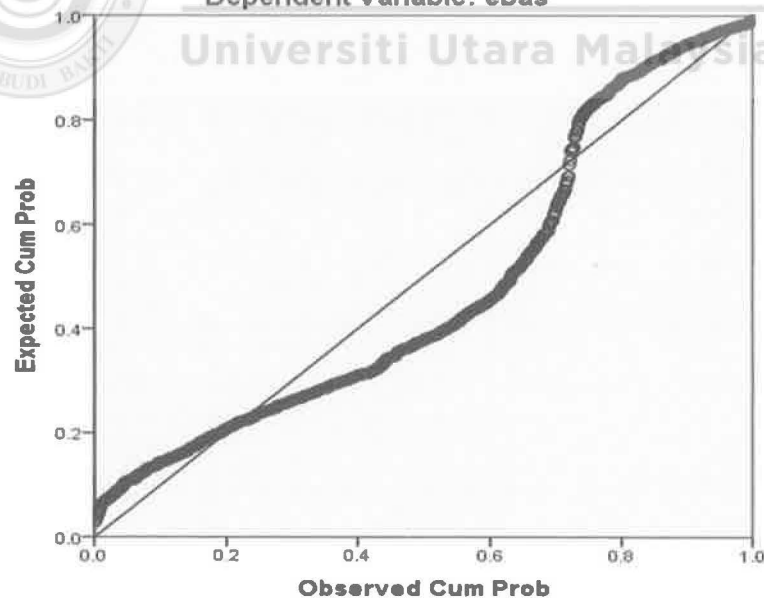
a. Dependent Variable: bid ask spread (ebas)

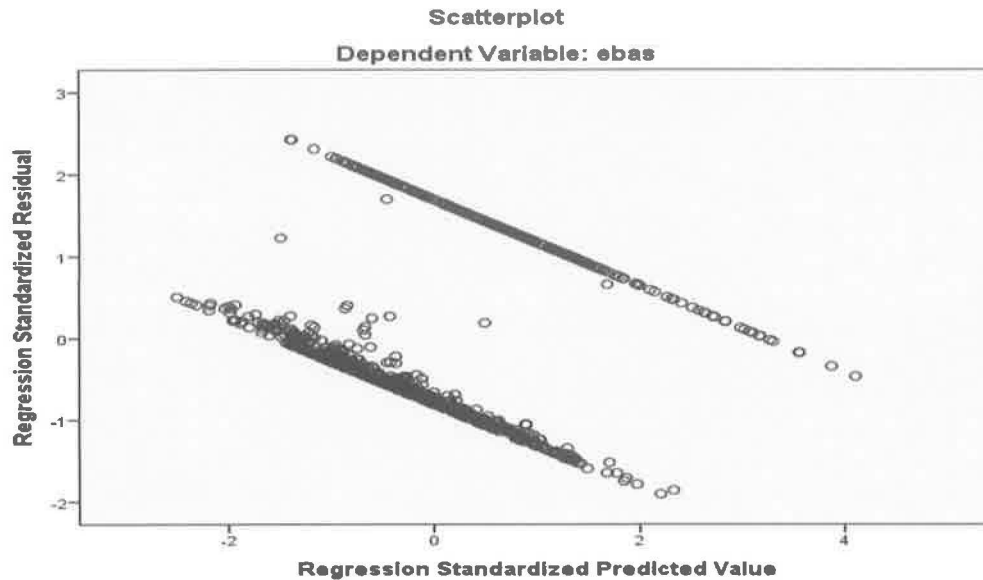
### Collinearity Diagnostics<sup>a</sup>

Model	Dimension	Eigenvalue	Condition Index	Variance Proportions						
				(Constant)	mat	age	coupon	Cr Rating	ln_Voltrg	ln_notrdg
1	1	7.463	1.000	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	2	.650	3.388	.00	.03	.01	.00	.05	.00	.00
	3	.459	4.034	.00	.01	.00	.28	.27	.00	.00
	4	.259	5.370	.00	.00	.00	.44	.41	.00	.01
	5	.110	8.248	.02	.00	.00	.16	.04	.01	.05
	6	.016	21.849	.03	.55	.62	.03	.04	.02	.16
	7	.009	28.567	.62	.23	.18	.00	.03	.07	.01

### Charts

Normal P-P Plot of Regression Standardized Residual  
Dependent Variable: ebas





## Regression

### Model Summary<sup>b</sup>

Model	R	R Square	Adjusted R Square	Std. Error of the Estimate
1	.270 <sup>a</sup>	.073	.065	.6472498

a. Predictors: (Constant), mat, age, coupon, Cr Rating, ln\_notrdg, ln\_Voltrg

b. Dependent Variable: amihud

### ANOVA<sup>a</sup>

Model		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	30.393	6	3.799	9.069	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	387.094	926	.419		
	Total	417.487	932			

a. Dependent Variable: amihud

b. Predictors: (Constant), mat, age, coupon, Cr Rating, ln\_notrdg, ln\_Voltrg

### Coefficients<sup>a</sup>

Model		Unstandardized Coefficients B	Std. Error	Standardized Coefficients Beta	t	Sig.
1	(Constant)	.818	.186		4.395	.000
	mat	.017	.010	.181	1.726	.085
	age	-.017	.010	-.179	-1.715	.087
	coupon	.002	.006	.013	.377	.706
	Cr Rating	-.003	.009	-.013	-.327	.744
	ln_Voltrg	-.200	.043	-.495	-4.618	.000
	ln_notrdg	.070	.043	.144	1.626	.104

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>							
Model		95.0% Confidence Interval for B		Zero-order	Correlations Partial	Part	Collinearity Statistics Tolerance
		Lower Bound	Upper Bound				
1	(Constant)	.453	1.184				
	mat	-.002	.036	.029	.057	.055	.091
	age	-.037	.002	-.014	-.056	-.054	.092
	coupon	-.010	.014	-.008	.012	.012	.897
	Cr Rating	-.022	.015	-.083	-.011	-.010	.644
	ln_Voltrg	-.286	-.115	-.229	-.150	-.146	.087
	ln_notrdg	-.015	.155	-.203	.053	.051	.127

Coefficients <sup>a</sup>			Collinearity Statistics VIF
Model			
1	(Constant)		
	mat		10.944
	age		10.815
	coupon		1.114
	Cr Rating		1.553
	ln_Voltrg		11.431
	ln_notrdg		7.849

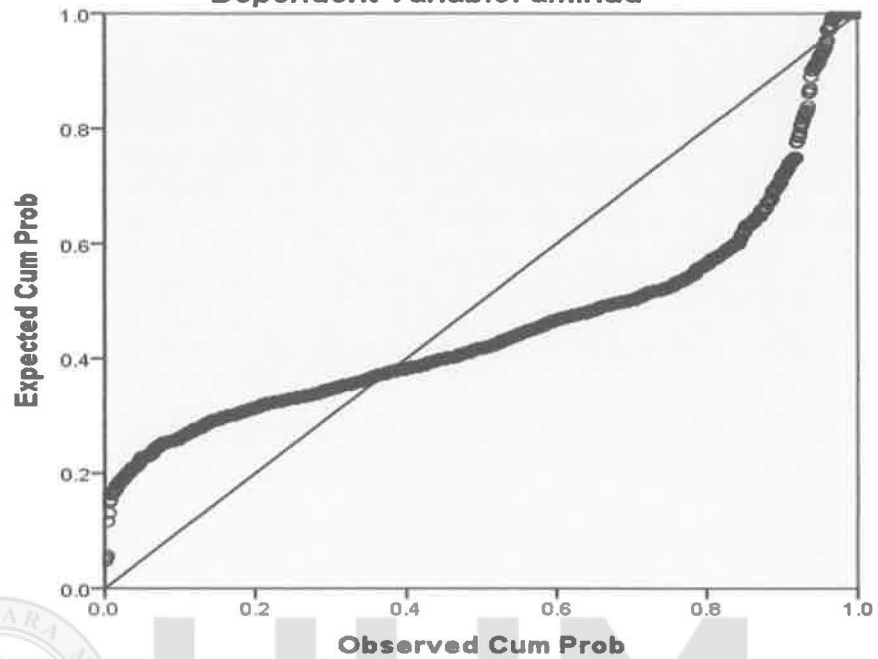
a. Dependent Variable: amihud

Collinearity Diagnostics <sup>a</sup>										
Model	Dimension	Eigenvalue	Condition Index	Variance Proportions				Cr Rating	ln_Voltrg	ln_notrdg
				(Constant)	mat	age	coupon			
1	1	7.463	1.000	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
	2	.650	3.388	.00	.03	.01	.00	.05	.00	.00
	3	.459	4.034	.00	.01	.00	.28	.27	.00	.00
	4	.259	5.370	.00	.00	.00	.44	.41	.00	.01
	5	.110	8.248	.02	.00	.00	.16	.04	.01	.05
	6	.016	21.849	.03	.55	.62	.03	.04	.02	.16
	7	.009	28.567	.62	.23	.18	.00	.03	.07	.01

a. Dependent Variable: amihud

## Charts

**Normal P-P Plot of Regression Standardized Residual**  
**Dependent Variable: amihud**



**Scatterplot**  
**Dependent Variable: amihud**

