

Independent Study Title	AN EMPIRICAL EXAMINATION OF AVERAGE FUND INVESTOR TIMING ABILITY IN OPEN-ENDED FUNDS
Author	Ms. Kawita Machai
Degree	Master of Science (Finance)
Major Field/Faculty/University	Master of Science Program in Finance (International Program) Faculty of Commerce and Accountancy Thammasat University
Independent Study Advisor	Associate Professor Pantisa Pavabutr, Ph.D.
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ABSTRACT

We obtain monthly data of mutual funds since 2011 – 2013 in Malaysia, Singapore and Thailand that invest in equity and fixed-income to measure the average retail investors timing ability which is represented by negative performance gap. On average in Malaysia and Thailand retail investors have no timing ability, with using buy and hold strategy since the beginning of the period it gives higher return than rebalancing portfolio of retail investor in Malaysia and Thailand. For Singapore, the study shows that retail investors has timing ability of buying and selling mutual funds than staying with the funds since the beginning of the period. However, in 2012 retail investors of all three countries have timing ability both equity and fixed-income funds since the Asia market was performed very well. Moreover, mutual funds' characteristics such as fund age and fees have significant impact on average retail investors' decision and their timing ability.

Keywords: Total Return, Investor Return, Performance Gap