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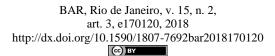
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# Financial Reporting Quality, Debt Maturity, and Chief Executive Officer Career Concerns on Investment Efficiency

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#### Abstract

The purpose of this research is to investigate the effect of financial reporting quality, debt maturity, and CEO career concerns on investment efficiency in Indonesia. This study used a sample of 680 observations from non-financial companies in Indonesia during the period from 2012 to 2015 using panel regression. The results show that financial reporting quality does not affect investment efficiency. This might be because the quality of financial reporting has no effect in the overinvestment scenario. Under this condition, financial reporting quality cannot mitigate the occurrence of overinvestment due to the high level of agency problems. However, financial reporting quality has a significantly positive effect under condition of underinvestment, which means that financial reporting quality can reduce the occurrence of underinvestment because it can be used to attract external funds so that companies can avoid underinvestment conditions. The debt maturity has a negative effect on investment efficiency. In particular, debt maturity has no effect on underinvestment, but it does have an effect on overinvestment, because by using short-term debt, the company has funds that can be used to make investments to enable overinvestment. CEO career concerns have no effect in underinvestment conditions because companies do not experience funding constraints, so the CEO career concerns do not mitigate underinvestment. Whereas in conditions of overinvestment, career concerns have a positive effect. Thus, CEO career concerns can reduce the occurrence of overinvestment.

**Key words**: investment efficiency; overinvestment; underinvestment.

#### Introduction

Various countries have policies to increase investment from domestic and foreign capital. This is done by governments because the investment activity will also encourage the country's economic activities, increase its output, and achieve savings of foreign exchange or even increase incoming foreign investment. In general, investment can be interpreted as a decision to spend current funds to buy real assets or financial assets with the purpose of obtaining income (Haming & Basalamah, 2010). Therefore, it is expected that companies can utilize their resources to achieve investment efficiency or avoid investment inefficiency conditions. Therefore, it is important to examine factors affecting this investment efficiency.

One of the factors affecting investment efficiency is financial reporting quality. The relationship between financial reporting quality and investment efficiency is related to the reduction of information asymmetry between firms and external capital providers. For example, higher financial reporting quality would allow firms with capital needs to attract additional capital by displaying projects that have a positive NPV to investors and mitigate adverse selection issues in securities issuance (this will mitigate underinvestment). Higher financial reporting quality can limit managerial incentives to engage in activities that degrade corporate value, such as empire-building in companies with excess capital (in other words, limiting overinvestment). This can be achieved if better financial reporting quality enables better contracting to prevent inefficient investment and enhance investors' ability to monitor management's investment decisions (Biddle, Hilary, & Verdi, 2009).

One way to mitigate the presence of information asymmetry is to improve financial reporting quality (Bushman & Smith, 2001; Healy & Palepu, 2001). McNichols and Stubben (2008) also argue that asymmetry of information can be minimized by improving the quality of financial reporting, because this will also increase outsiders' ability to monitor management. Therefore, if associated with investment efficiency, with high financial reporting quality then the problem of underinvestment (rejecting positive net present value/NPV projects) and overinvestment (carrying out negative NPV projects) will be reduced.

In addition to financial reporting quality, several other factors also affect investment efficiency. One of them is debt maturity. As mentioned by Gomariz and Ballesta (2014), the management of corporate funds is also a concern in improving investment efficiency, because managing the activities of operational and non-operational companies requires funds. Funding sources can include obtaining loans from certain parties. Every loan has its own maturity. Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) found that the use of short-term debt can mitigate investment inefficiency. Shorter maturities on debt can be used to mitigate information asymmetry problems because, from the borrower's perspective, firms are able to signal the lenders that they are good firms and thus able to obtain better loan terms in subsequent loan renewal; and from the perspective of the lender, shorter maturities will enable them to have more control and increase monitoring of management. The role of debt is relevant in the context of Indonesia: based on data on the Indonesia Stock Exchange, Indonesia has a relatively low number of debt issuers when compared with other ASEAN countries. Thus, it can be deduced that private debt is still a major financial source for many companies, in addition to issuing shares.

Non-financial factors should also be considered when discussing organizations' investment efficiency. Such factors include the role of parties that exist within a company or organization. There are various stakeholders in the organization, which all have goals and interests to be achieved. This study also considers the role of the CEO, which is responsible for determining strategic policy, mainly related to companies' investment policies, in accordance with the duties and responsibilities contained in Law No. 40 year 2007 Limited Liability Companies Act (Law n. 40, 2007).

Under this Act, the role of the CEO is very important. Therefore, this study includes the role of CEO, especially their career concerns, in determining investment decisions. Since the CEO is responsible for all of a company's activities, it is imperative that his/her career concerns will also affect his/her investment decisions. In this study, CEO career concerns are measured with reference to CEO

age and CEO appointment. According to Xie (2015), CEO age and appointment have an influence on a company's investment decisions. Young and newly appointed senior CEOs are considered to be more efficient in investing because they are more willing to take risks to enter new business lines, thus avoiding underinvestment and cautious attitudes towards investment, as they want to build a good reputation that will mitigate the condition of overinvestment. On the other hand, older and long-standing CEO tend to keep the status quo, and their investment decisions are thus inefficient (Xie, 2015).

Based on the above explanations, the purpose of this research is to analyse the effect of financial reporting quality, debt maturity, and CEO career concerns on investment efficiency. Previous studies tend to focused more on analysing financial factors, whereas this research combines both financial and non-financial factors that can affect investment efficiency. This study extended previous studies by examining financial reporting quality and debt maturity as examined in Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) and CEO career concerns in Xie (2015).

#### **Literature Review**

## Financial reporting quality and investment efficiency

There are several ways to overcome the problem of information asymmetry. One of them is by improving the quality of financial reporting. High quality financial reporting can improve the monitoring of management to prevent opportunistic actions. The role of high quality financial reporting in mitigating information asymmetry is mainly related to investment decisions.

Investment efficiency can be improved by improving the quality of financial reporting (see, for example, Biddle & Hilary, 2006; Bushman & Smith, 2001; Healy & Palepu, 2001; Lambert, Leuz, & Verrecchia, 2007). The relationship between financial reporting quality and investment efficiency is related to the reduction of information asymmetry between firms and external capital providers. Higher financial reporting quality makes managers more accountable by allowing better monitoring, and can mitigate information asymmetry so that adverse selection and moral hazard can be avoided. On the other hand, higher quality financial reporting can also improve investment efficiency by enabling managers to better make investment decisions through better identification of projects for internal decision makers (Bushman & Smith, 2001; McNichols & Stubben, 2008). If external parties suspect that the quality of information in financial reporting is low, then they will tend not to invest in the company, which will limit the company's ability to exploit positive NPV projects, and will cause underinvestment conditions. Lower financial reporting quality, which means higher information asymmetry will mitigate outsider ability to monitor management, will increase moral hazard. This would include management that makes investment decisions for the purpose of empire building, such as undertaking negative NPS projects (hence overinvestment).

Biddle and Hilary (2006), Biddle, Hilary and Verdi (2009), and Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) find that high financial reporting quality can mitigate the problem of overinvestment and underinvestment. Based on the previous explanation, we propose the following hypothesis:

**H1:** Financial reporting quality is positively associated with investment efficiency.

**H1a:** Higher financial reporting quality can mitigate overinvestment.

**H1b:** Higher financial reporting quality can mitigate underinvestment.

#### **Debt maturity and investment efficiency**

A shorter maturity of debt can be used to mitigate the problem of information asymmetry from the borrower perspective (Berger & Udell, 1998; Flannery, 1986; Ortiz-Molina & Penas, 2008), since

the company can signal that it is a good company, and thus potentially allow it to obtain better price conditions at the next loan renewal. Meanwhile, from the lender perspective, the shorter maturity allows better control and monitoring of managers (Diamond, 1991, 1993). Theoretical models (Childs, Mauer, & Ott, 2005; Myers, 1977) predict that the greater flexibility of shorter debt maturity is useful in improving investment inefficiency, although there is limited evidence for this, particularly in relation to overinvestment. The role of a manager's discretion in reducing debt and making disciplined investment decisions has been discussed in the literature (Jensen, 1986; Myers, 1977), and there is some evidence that debt mitigates overinvestment (D'Mello & Miranda, 2010). However, the literature has also emphasized the role played by debt maturity under conditions of asymmetric information, which indicates that the use of short-term debt is the mechanism that could mitigate the asymmetric information and agency costs between shareholders, creditors, and management.

From the point of view of creditors, Flannery (1986) suggests that under conditions of asymmetric information with a good project, a shorter maturity is preferable to send signals to the market and mitigate the problem of asymmetric information. From the lenders' perspective, with asymmetric information, the use of short-term debt is more suitable than long-term debt to monitor the company (Diamond, 1991, 1993; Rajan, 1992). A shorter maturity of debt allows better control of the manager, because the shorter maturity leads to more frequent renegotiation. Lenders thus have close contact with borrowers and can ensure the company's performance during the first period, and then they can decide whether to update or change the terms of the contract at the subsequent renewal (Ortiz-Molina & Penas, 2008).

Therefore, the use of short-term debt is expected to mitigate the information asymmetry problem. Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) predicted and found that the conditions of overinvestment and underinvestment can be avoided by increasing the use of shorter debt maturity. They assume that short-term maturity allows firms to raise funds to finance their investments, thus reducing the problem of underinvestment, and short-term debt will mitigate overinvestment due to the company's obligation to repay loan funds. This is also in line with Amrullah's (2015) findings in Indonesia. Thus, the following hypotheses is proposed:

**H2:** The use of short-term debt is positively associated with investment efficiency.

**H2a:** Higher use of short-term debt can mitigate overinvestment.

**H2b:** Higher use of short-term debt can mitigate underinvestment.

### **CEO** career concerns and investment efficiency

Li, Low and Makhija (2011) state that CEO career concerns have an effect on investment decisions, with the assumption that younger CEOs are driven by the desire to build a good reputation and want to change the base assets of a company by way of entering new business segments. Career concerns of young or newly appointed CEOs tend to focus more on benefits, and they invest more efficiently. In particular, young CEOs are more sensitive to new information and make more aggressive investment decisions. In contrast, older and more experienced CEOs tend to invest less efficiently due to fears of diversification of human capital rather than concerns for their own careers. However, the work experience of older CEOs serves to limit errors in investment decisions. Therefore, the relationship between the CEO career concern of the director and investment efficiency is still unclear. The alleged short-term career focus hypothesis predicts that the CEO career concern will be to enhance his or her reputation by taking suboptimal projects that are not in the interest of investors. The long-term hypothesis predicts that CEOs' career concerns will be focused on their long term reputation and they will take advantage of incentives to improve the efficiency of the company's investment in order to build a good reputation for the future. In this study, we argue that CEO should have more long-term consideration in making investment decisions, as they want to keep their job as long as possible. Thus, we propose following hypothesis:

**H3:** CEO Career concerns are positively associated with investment efficiency.

H3a: CEO career concerns mitigate overinvestment.

**H3b:** CEO career concerns mitigate underinvestment.

#### **Research Method**

This study used secondary data from the Annual Reports of companies listed on the Indonesian Stock Exchange, as well as data available on Eikon and Thomson Reuters Datastream. The population in this study is non-financial companies listed on the Indonesian Stock Exchange between 2012 and 2015. The determination of 2012 as the start date for this study relates to the revision of OJK regulation number X.K.6 on Submission of Annual Report of Issuers and Public Companies (Regulation number X.K.6, 2012). This regulation includes several improvements, one of which emphases more detailed information disclosure related to directors, including CEOs. One aspect of the information in the annual report is related to CEO age and appointment, which will be used to measure CEO career concerns.

We employed several sample selection criteria. There were 406 non-financial companies listed in the year 2015. From those companies, 106 were first listed after the year 2012, hence there are 300 companies that were consistently listed during 2012-2015. There were several companies that do not have complete data available to compute variables, 130 companies in all, which resulted in a final sample of 170 companies. Thus, we have 680 observations during 2012-2015.

To test the hypotheses, this study used a research model which refers to Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) and Xie (2015):

$$InvEff_{i,t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 FRQ_{i,t} + \beta_2 STDebt_{i,t} + \beta_3 CareerConcerns_{i,t} + \beta_4 Tang_{i,t} + \beta_5 TobinsQ_{i,t} + \beta_6 CFO_{i,t} + \beta_7 Lev_{i,t} + \beta_8 Size_{i,t} + \beta_9 LnAge_{i,t} + \beta_{10} Loss_{i,t} + e_{i,t}$$

$$(1)$$

Where:

*InvEff*: Investment Efficiency

*FRQ*: Financial reporting quality measured by an aggregate of Kasznik (1999), Dechow and Dichev (2002), and McNichols and Stubben (2008) models.

STDebt: ratio of short term debt to total debt

CareerConcerns: CEO career concerns, the sum of two dummy variables which are age (1 if the age of the president director is more than 50 years old and 0 if otherwise) and appointment (1 if a new appointment during the observation year and 0 otherwise)

Tang: Ratio of property, plant, and equipment to total assets

TobinsQ: Tobin's Q

*CFO*: Cash flow from operations to total assets

Lev: Debt to total assets

Size: Natural logarithm of total revenue

*LnAge*: Age of the firm

Loss: Dummy firm loss, 1 if the firm reported losses and 0 if otherwise

The dependent variable of this study is investment efficiency. We measure this variable following precedent from Chen, Hope, Li and Wang (2011) and Gomariz and Ballesta (2014):

$$Invest_{i,t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 NEGi_{,t-1} + \beta_2 \% RevGrowth_{i,t-1} + \beta_3 NEG^*\% RevGrowth_{i,t-1} + e_{i,t}$$
(2)

Investment represents the total investment of firm i in year t which is defined by the amount of investment in property, plant, and equipment, and research and development minus sales of property, plant, and equipment, and is scaled by lagged total asset i in year t. % RevGrowth is the annual revenue growth rate. The NEG is indicator variable, where 1 for negative revenue growth and 0 otherwise. The model is estimated cross sectionally, by regressing the model each year and each industry. The residual value of this equation reflects the departure from the expected level of investment (or investment inefficiency). A positive residual means overinvestment and a negative residual value means underinvestment conditions. The absolute value of these residuals is then multiplied by -1, so a higher value will indicate a higher investment efficiency.

Based on Gomariz and Ballesta (2014), financial reporting quality (FRQ) is measured using three measurement models developed by McNichols and Stubben (2008), Kasznik (1999), and Dechow and Dichev (2002). The respective measurement models are explained as follows:

McNichols and Stubben's (2008):

$$\Delta AR_{i,t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 Sales_{i,t} + ei,t \tag{3}$$

 $AR_{i,t}$  is the annual change in the firm's receivables, whereas sales represent the annual change of the firm's sales. All variables are scaled by lagged total assets. The absolute residual value from this model, and is then multiplied by -1, so a higher value shows higher FRQ.

Kasznik's (1999):

$$TA_{i,j} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \Delta Sales_{i,t} + \beta_2 PPE_{i,t} + \beta_3 \Delta CFO_{i,t} + e_{i,t}$$

$$\tag{4}$$

TA is total accruals, calculated as the change in non-liquid current assets minus the change in current liabilities plus the change in the short-term bank debt, minus depreciation.  $\triangle sales$  is the change in revenues;  $PPE_{i,t}$  is property, plant, and equipment;  $\triangle CFO_{i,t}$  is the change in cash flow from operations. All variables are deflated by lagged total asset. Same as the first model, the absolute value of residual values from the model is then multiplied by -1, so a higher value means a higher FRQ.

Dechow and Dichev's (2002) Measurement Model:

$$WCA_{i,t} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 CFO_{i,t+1} + \beta_2 CFO_{i,t+1} + \beta_3 CFO_{i,t+1} + e_{i,t}$$
(5)

 $WCA_{i,t}$  is working capital accruals, calculated as the change in liquid current assets, minus the change in current liabilities plus the change in short-term debt.  $CFO_{i,t-1}$ ,  $CFO_{i,t}$ , and  $CFO_{i,t+1}$  are the last year, current, and next year cash flow from operations. All variables are deflated by total asset. Consistent with the first and second models above, the absolute values of residuals from the model are then multiplied by -1, so that a higher value means higher FRQ.

The second independent variable is short-term maturity. Following Gomariz and Ballesta (2014), STDebt is the ratio of short-term debt to the total debt. A higher ratio value means that the company has a greater short-term debt maturity and vice versa. If the company has a lower ratio value, then it has less short-term debt or more long-term debt.

The career concerns variable in this study are based on age and appointment of CEO. The measurement of this variable is the sum of two dummy variables. The first age dummy variable is 1 if the director is more than 50 years old and 0 otherwise. A second appointment dummy variable is of 1 if CEO is newly appointed in that year and 0 otherwise. The two dummy variables are then summed. This is in accordance with the research conducted by Xie (2015).

The control variables used in this research are Tangibility (Tang), which is the tangibility asset to total asset ratio, TobinQ, which is used to measure the existence of growth options, Cash Flow Operation

(CFO) to measure cash flow on operations, Leverage (Lev) to measure the total debt of the company, (Size) to control company size, LnAge to measure company age, and Loss to measure the position of financial reporting quality, with a dummy variable of 1 for company profit and 0 for company losses.

#### Results

# **Analysis: descriptive statistics**

As shown in Table 1, below, InvEff has an average value of -0.0417 with a standard deviation of 0.039. This illustrates that the level of investment inefficiency in companies in Indonesia is still low, at -0.0417, while the spread of data on the investment efficiency of the sample companies is 0.39. Regarding investment inefficiency, there are two scenarios: underinvestment and overinvestment. The data indicate that most of the sample companies have an overinvestment problem: 415 observations, representing 61.02% of the total sample. Meanwhile, 265 observations, representing 38.9% of the sample, demonstrate underinvestment.

Table 1

Descriptive Statistics

|                 | N   | Mean      | Median     | Std.Dev  | Max.       | Min       |
|-----------------|-----|-----------|------------|----------|------------|-----------|
| Inveff          | 680 | -0.041776 | -0.034832  | 0.039692 | -0.000009  | -0.380712 |
| Overinvestment  | 415 | -0.034377 | -0.035161  | 0.017138 | -0.000159  | -0.069472 |
| Underinvestment | 265 | -0.053563 | -0.0324463 | 0.058076 | -0.0000096 | -0.380712 |
| Aggreg          | 680 | -0,11941  | -0,08120   | 0,11911  | -0,000214  | -0,64059  |
| STDebt          | 680 | 0.628669  | 0.634482   | 0.229209 | 0.999644   | 0.014004  |
| CC              | 680 | 1.101471  | 1          | 0.316457 | 2          | 0         |
| LnAge           | 680 | 3.547269  | 3.583519   | 0.391318 | 4.644391   | 2.302585  |
| Loss            | 680 | 0.225000  | 0          | 0.417890 | 1          | 0         |
| CFO             | 680 | 0.070706  | 0.052441   | 0.112309 | 0.662711   | -0.330678 |
| Lev             | 680 | 0.553928  | 0.534425   | 0.367800 | 6.188641   | 0.011298  |
| Size            | 680 | 28.23457  | 28.29361   | 1.821647 | 32.93781   | 23.35688  |
| Tang            | 680 | 0.482285  | 0.473592   | 0.206998 | 0.980295   | 0.026944  |
| TobinQ          | 680 | 0.296728  | 0.104352   | 6.111614 | 3.617156   | -1.203435 |
|                 |     |           |            |          |            |           |

Note. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\* The significance level at 10%, 5%, and 1%. InEff = Investment Efficiency, Overinvestment = Over Investment, Underinvestment = Under Investment FRQ\_Nic = discretionary revenue, FRQ\_Kaz = discretionary accruals, FRQ\_DD = accrual quality, Aggreg = Aggregate FRQ\_Nic, FRQ\_Kaz, and FRQ\_DD, STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise), LnAge = Company age, Loss = dummy variable (1 if loss and 0 otherwise), CFO = cash flow / total assets, Lev = total debt / total assets, Size = Logarithm natural sales , Tang = total tangible asset, TobinQ = ratio between market value of equity and debt to total assets.

# **Pearson correlation matrix**

Table 2 presents the Pearson Correlation Matrix. There is a significant positive correlation between Aggregate, STDebt, CC, LnAge, and Size variables, while the variables *Loss, CFO, Lev, Tang*, and *TobinQ* have negative and significant correlations. A negative correlation indicates that a higher value of a variable will mitigate investment inefficiency, while a positive correlation indicates that a higher value of a variable will increase investment inefficiency.

Table 2

Pearson Correlation Matrix

|        | InvEff      | FRQ_Nic     | FRQ_Kaz    | FRQ_DD     | Aggregat   | STDebt     | CC         | Age        | Loss      | CFO        | Lev        | Size       | Tang       | TobinQ   |
|--------|-------------|-------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|----------|
| InvEff | 1.000000    |             |            |            |            |            |            |            |           |            |            |            |            |          |
| FRQ    | 0.056050*   | -0.044099*  | 0.014269*  | 0.321421   | 1.000000   |            |            |            |           |            |            |            |            |          |
| STDebt | 0.034015**  | -0.118342*  | -0.148333  | -0.142358  | -0.117098  | 1.000000   |            |            |           |            |            |            |            |          |
| CC     | 0.007392*** | 0.061861*   | 0.031668*  | -0.011755* | 0.007371*  | -0.019695* | 1.000000   |            |           |            |            |            |            |          |
| Age    | 0.047511**  | 0.047326**  | -0.011950* | 0.036441*  | 0.022758*  | 0.057725*  | -0.009291* | 1.000000   |           |            |            |            |            |          |
| Loss   | -0.095630*  | 0.024048**  | -0.059999* | -0.047447* | -0.002022* | -0.146436* | 0.049836** | -0.117272* | 1.000000  |            |            |            |            |          |
| CFO    | -0.060720*  | 0.043461**  | 0.024853*  | 0.047939*  | -0.048102* | 0.074244*  | 0.011648*  | 0.165071   | -0.210506 | 1.000000   |            |            |            |          |
| Lev    | -0.073305*  | 0.007380*** | -0.100006  | -0.163397  | -0.055184* | -0.165114* | 0.009646*  | -0.053053* | 0.298491  | -0.141413* | 1.000000   |            |            |          |
| Size   | 0.077089*   | 0.149343    | 0.037116*  | 0.038486*  | -0.010701* | -0.029110* | 0.132340   | 0.274478   | -0.184543 | 0.243286   | 0.017627*  | 1.000000   |            |          |
| Tang   | -0.200805*  | 0.237664    | 0.030116*  | 0.086397*  | 0.002713*  | -0.470136  | 0.037876** | -0.053324* | 0.296194  | -0.066368* | 0.131630   | -0.042014* | 1.000000   |          |
| TobinQ | -0.003013*  | 0.023245*** | -0.003571* | 0.018603*  | -0.018439* | 0.093512*  | 0.018254*  | 0.116574   | 0.018155* | 0.362767   | -0.041561* | 0.028183*  | 0.038054** | 1.000000 |

Note. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* The significance level at 10%, 5%, and 1%. InvEff = Investment Efficiency, FRQ = Financial Reporting Quality (the aggregate of FRQ\_Nic (discretionary revenue), FRQ\_Kaz (discretionary accruals), and FRQ\_DD (accruals quality)), FRQ\_Nic = discretionary revenue, FRQ\_Kaz = discretionary accruals, FRQ\_DD = accrual quality, STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise), Age = Company age, Loss = dummy variable (1 if loss and 0 otherwise), CFO = cash flow / total assets, Lev = total debt / total assets, Size = Logarithm natural sales , Tang = total tangible asset, TobinQ = ratio between market value of equity and debt to total assets.

# **Regression result - investment inefficiency**

The regression results are presented in Table 3 for all samples, Table 4 for Overinvestment scenario, and Table 5 for Underinvestment scenario. The summary results of all main independent variables are presented in Table 6. FRQ is proxied by an aggregate of three models developed by McNichols and Stubben (2008), Kasznik (1999) and Dechow and Dichev (2002). The results showed that for all samples the financial reporting quality do not have significant effect on investment efficiency. This result does not support the hypothesis, which states that the financial reporting quality has a positive effect on investment efficiency. Thus, hypothesis 1 (H1) is not supported.

Table 3

Regression Result - Investment Efficiency

| Variable    | Duodistion   | InvEff      |           |  |  |
|-------------|--------------|-------------|-----------|--|--|
|             | Prediction – | Coefficient | Prob      |  |  |
| FRQ         | +            | 0.007968    | 0.15195   |  |  |
| STDebt      | +            | -0.012368   | 0.0856*   |  |  |
| CC          | +            | 0.000671    | 0.4385    |  |  |
| Age         | +            | 0.003288    | 0.27495   |  |  |
| Loss        | -            | -0.001000   | 0.40635   |  |  |
| CFO         | -            | -0.041370   | 0.0048*** |  |  |
| Lev         | -            | -0.005963   | 0.10935   |  |  |
| Size        | +            | 0.001853    | 0.0633*   |  |  |
| Tang        | -            | -0.048047   | 0.000***  |  |  |
| TobinQ      | +            | 0.000533    | 0.42555   |  |  |
| C           |              | -0.069245   | 0.0565    |  |  |
| R-square    |              | 0.050757    |           |  |  |
| F-statistic |              | 3.577243    |           |  |  |
| Prob>F      |              | 0.000122    |           |  |  |
| Obs         |              | 680         |           |  |  |

Note. \*, \*\*\*, \*\*\* The significance level at 10%, 5%, and 1%. InvEff = Investment Efficiency, FRQ = Financial Reporting Quality (the aggregate of FRQ\_Nic (discretionary revenue), FRQ\_Kaz (discretionary accruals), and FRQ\_DD (accruals quality)), STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise), Age = Company age, Loss = dummy variable (1 if loss and 0 otherwise), CFO = cash flow / total assets, Lev = total debt / total assets, Size = Logarithm natural sales, Tang = total tangible asset, TobinQ = ratio between market value of equity and debt to total assets.

Table 4

Regression Result – Overinvestment

| Variable     | Duo di eti en | InvEff      |           |  |
|--------------|---------------|-------------|-----------|--|
| Variable     | Prediction    | Coefficient | p         |  |
| FRQ          | +             | 0.010999    | 0.1118    |  |
| STDebt       | +             | -0.000003   | 0.49655   |  |
| CC           | +             | 0.003176    | 0.08945*  |  |
| Age          | -             | 0.000464    | 0.4197    |  |
| Loss         | -             | -0.004656   | 0.0131**  |  |
| CFO          | +             | 0.023180    | 0.0035*** |  |
| Lev          | -             | -0.000704   | 0.3607    |  |
| Size         | +             | 0.003025    | 0.000***  |  |
| Tang         | +             | 0.009968    | 0.0187**  |  |
| TobinQ       | +             | 0.000431    | 0.04535** |  |
| $\mathbf{C}$ |               | -0.127840   | 0.0000    |  |
| R-square     |               | 0.160716    |           |  |
| F-statistic  |               | 7.736277    |           |  |
| Prob>F       |               | 0.000000    |           |  |
| Obs          |               | 415         |           |  |

**Note**. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* The significance level at 10%, 5%, and 1%. InvEff = Investment Efficiency, FRQ = Financial Reporting Quality (the aggregate of FRQ\_Nic (discretionary revenue), FRQ\_Kaz (discretionary accruals), and FRQ\_DD (accruals quality)), STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise), Age = Company age, Loss = dummy variable (1 if loss and 0 otherwise), CFO = cash flow / total assets, Lev = total debt / total assets, Size = Logarithm natural sales, Tang = total tangible asset, TobinQ = ratio between market value of equity and debt to total assets.

Table 5 **Regression Result – Underinvestment** 

| ¥7       | Duo di eti en | Inv         | Eff       |
|----------|---------------|-------------|-----------|
| Variable | Prediction    | Coefficient | p         |
| FRQ      |               | 0.120700    | 0.0000    |
| STDebt   | +             | 0.130600    | 0.0080    |
| CC       | +             | -0.038123   | 0.02965** |
|          | +             | -0.007007   | 0.26065   |
| Age      | <del>-</del>  | 0.002377    | 0.4040    |
| Loss     | -             | -0.003151   | 0.3715    |
| CFO      | -             | -0.079113   | 0.01815** |
| Lev      | <del>-</del>  | -0.031783   | 0.03565** |
| Size     | -             | 0.002685    | 0.12125   |
| Tang     | -             | -0.115408   | 0.000***  |
| TobinQ   | +             | 0.002028    | 0.13495   |
| C        |               | -0.016286   | 0.8111    |

**Continues** 

**Table 5 (continued)** 

| Variable    | Prediction | InvEff      |   |  |
|-------------|------------|-------------|---|--|
| v ai iable  | Trediction | Coefficient | p |  |
| R-square    |            | 0.163987    |   |  |
| F-statistic |            | 4.962670    |   |  |
| Prob>F      |            | 0.000001    |   |  |
| Obs         |            | 265         |   |  |

Note. \*, \*\*, \*\*\* The significance level at 10%, 5%, and 1%. InvEff = Investment Efficiency, FRQ = Financial Reporting Quality (the aggregate of FRQ\_Nic (discretionary revenue), FRQ\_Kaz (discretionary accruals), and FRQ\_DD (accruals quality)), STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise), Age = Company age, Loss = dummy variable (1 if loss and 0 otherwise), CFO = cash flow / total assets, Lev = total debt / total assets, Size = Logarithm natural sales, Tang = total tangible asset, TobinQ = ratio between market value of equity and debt to total assets.

Following Gomariz and Ballesta (2014) and Xie (2015), observations are then divided into two groups, which are overinvestment and underinvestment. The insignificant result for the overinvestment sub-sample (Table 4) is contrary to the results of Biddle *et al.* (2009) and Gomariz and Ballesta (2014), which find that high financial reporting quality affects investment efficiency levels under both underinvestment and overinvestment conditions. On the other hand, the financial reporting quality has a significant positive effect on underinvestment (Table 5), so hypothesis 1b is supported. This finding is in line with Biddle *et al.* (2009) and Gomariz and Ballesta (2014).

The insignificant result of overinvestment scenario is also consistent with the findings of Handayani, Siregar, and Tresnaningsih (2016), which find that the financial reporting quality does not affect overinvestment. This is likely to be caused by high agency problems, so the financial reporting quality does not prevent the manager (agent) from investing more (overinvestment): for example, with the aim of empire building in order to obtain a higher bonus. Meanwhile, under the conditions of underinvestment, the financial reporting quality has positive effect on investment efficiency, which means that higher financial reporting quality will reduce underinvestment.

Table 6 **Summary** 

| Variable | Prediction | InvEff  | Prediction | OverInvestment | Prediction | UnderInvestment |
|----------|------------|---------|------------|----------------|------------|-----------------|
| FRQ      | +          | No Sig  | +          | No Sig         | +          | Sig (+)         |
| STDebt   | +          | Sig (-) | +          | No Sig         | +          | Sig (-)         |
| CC       | +          | No Sig  | +          | Sig (+)        | +          | No Sig          |

**Note**. InEff = Investment Efficiency, Overinvestment = Over Investment, Underinvestment = Under Investment, FRQ = Financial Reporting Quality (the aggregate of FRQ\_Nic (discretionary revenue), FRQ\_Kaz (discretionary accruals), and FRQ\_DD (accruals quality)), STDebt = total short-term debt / total debt, CC = the sum of dummy variable (1 if more than 50 years and 0 otherwise, as well as 1 if newly appointed and 0 otherwise).

The results show that debt maturity has a significant negative effect on investment efficiency. The significant negative effect of STDebt on investment efficiency is possibly because the result for underinvestment conditions also show significant negative results. Under the condition of underinvestment, debt maturity has a negative effect because based on the descriptive statistics of the sample in this study, the majority of companies have high tangible assets, so that there are no external financing constraints because the property, plant, and equipment can be used as debt collateral and hence a company can obtain additional funding and be able to avoid underinvestment (Handayani, Siregar, & Tresnaningsih, 2016).

In addition, if the firm uses more short-term debt, it will be obliged to repay this debt as soon as possible once it matures so that the conditions for underinvestment will increase. It is thus understandable that the results of this study show debt maturity has negative effect on investment efficiency, under conditions of underinvestment. Meanwhile, in conditions of overinvestment, STDebt had no significant effect on investment efficiency. This is in line with the results of a study conducted by Mauludy (2015), which indicates that debt maturity has no significant effect on overinvestment.

Two proxies are used in measuring the career concerns of CEO, namely age and time since appointment. Regression results indicate that CEO career concerns have no significant effect on investment efficiency (this does not support H3). To examine the specific effect of CEO career concerns on investment efficiency, companies are classified into two scenarios, namely overinvestment and underinvestment. Based on the regression result, the career concerns of the main CEO variable has a significant positive effect on overinvestment (in support of H3a), but does not have a significant effect on the underinvestment scenario (does not support H3b).

The insignificant result of all samples is likely due to underinvestment conditions, which also shows insignificant result. Based on the descriptive statistics, most of observations may not be constrained by funding problems, as indicated by the high proportions of property, plant, and equipment, so the career concerns of the CEO, primarily related to age and time since appointment, are not significant under conditions of underinvestment. The positive and significant effect of overinvestment on investment efficiency is in support of hypothesis 3a and consistent with finding in Xie (2015). Xie (2015) argues that CEOs that have been in office for longer period (and have less career concerns) are likely to keep the status quo and to be inefficient in making investments.

The results show that overinvestment is affected by the control variables Loss, CFO, Size, Tang, and TobinQ. Tang has a significant and positive effect on investment inefficiency, with the assumption that the greater the amount of tangible assets that exist in the company, the higher the possibility of overinvestment, because the assets can be used as guarantees for external funding. The control variables CFO, Size, and TobinQ are closely related to firm size, as well as the company's financial condition. It can thus be assumed that the greater the availability of funds, the more likely the company is to experience inefficiencies in the overinvestment scenario. The Loss control variable has a negative and significant influence on overinvestment, with the assumption that a higher loss rate will mitigate investment inefficiency in the form of overinvestment, assuming that if the company suffers losses in the current year, it will subsequently be less likely to overinvestment due to limited funds. These results are consistent with the results of research conducted by Gomariz and Ballesta (2014). The LnAge and Lev control variables in the overinvestment scenario do not affect investment inefficiency. The control variables that affect investment inefficiency in the underinvestment scenario are Tang, CFO, and Lev. Under underinvestment conditions, control variables that have no significant effect are LnAge, Loss, Size, and TobinQ.

#### Conclusion

Financial reporting quality has positive significant effect on investment efficiency in underinvestment scenario. Whereas in the sample as a whole as well as in overinvestment scenario, financial reporting quality has no significant effect on investment efficiency. The high financial reporting quality can be used by companies to attract funds from external sources so that they can avoid underinvestment conditions. The maturity of debt, to the contrary, has a significant negative effect on investment efficiency in the sample as a whole as well as in underinvestment conditions. In the overinvestment scenario, debt maturity has no significant effect, whereas under conditions of underinvestment, debt maturity has a significant negative effect. This result indicates that the higher use of short-term debt in the firm will increase underinvestment, maybe because with more short-term debt the company has a higher obligation to repay the loan as soon as possible, so that the company will

tend to have limited funds and hence underinvestment. CEO career concerns have significant positive effect only on overinvestment scenario, whereas in the sample as a whole and also under the conditions of underinvestment, CEO career concerns do not have significant effect. CEOs that are newly appointed (having more career concerns) maybe tend to enhance their reputation by making efficient investment decisions.

The results of this study have several implications. The evidence that financial reporting quality plays a very important role in investment activities (especially in underinvestment conditions), allows regulators to make regulations to improve reporting quality; for example, issuing regulations that can minimize the potential for management to manipulate financial statements. Future studies should expand the research related to investment efficiency and identify other factors that affect it. The finding of shorter debt maturities can negatively affect investment efficiency in underinvestment conditions, suggest that the companies should pay attention to their debt policy. CEO career concerns have significant effect in overinvestment conditions. Therefore, companies may need to consider age as one of the factors in appointing a new CEO and to set a limit as to how many times a CEO can be re-elected

There are several limitations of this study. It only examined non-financial companies listed on the Indonesian Stock Exchange. Future research may examine financial companies, to see whether the results hold in this industry. This study only employed a simple model to measure investment inefficiency, which is based on revenue growth (following Gomariz & Ballesta, 2014). Further research may develop more complex measures to capture investment efficiency. This study already used aggregate measures of financial reporting quality (based on 3 models), but it is possible that these models do not comprehensively measure financial reporting quality. Therefore, future research could use other proxies to measure the quality of financial reporting, such as readibility (Biddle *et al.*, 2009). Future studies may also incorporate other variables that may affect investment efficiency, such as corporate governance variables.

# **Contributions**

Concept: 1st author and 2nd author Design: 1st author and 2nd author

Writing and analysis of the manuscript: 1st author and 2nd author

Discussion of results: 1st author and 2nd author

Participated in final revision and final approval of the paper: 1st author and 2nd author

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