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VENTURE CAPITAL FUNDS:
EVIDENCE FROM GERMANY,
ISRAEL, JAPAN AND THE UK**

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FINANCIAL ECONOMICS



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ABSTRACT

Sources of Funds and Investment Activities of Venture Capital Funds: Evidence from Germany, Israel, Japan and the UK*

Using a newly constructed data set, we compare sources of funds and investment activities of venture capital (VC) funds in Germany, Israel, Japan and the UK. Sources of VC funds differ significantly across countries, eg banks are particularly important in Germany, corporations in Israel, insurance companies in Japan and pension funds in the UK. VC investment patterns also differ across countries in terms of the stage, sector of financed companies and geographical focus of investments. We find that these differences in investment patterns are related to the variations in funding sources – for example, bank and pension fund backed VC firms invest in later stage activities than individual and corporate backed funds – and we examine various theories concerning the relation between finance and activities. We also report that the relations differ across countries; for example, bank backed VC firms in Germany and Japan are as involved in early stage finance as other funds in these countries, whereas they tend to invest in relatively late stage finance in Israel and the UK. We consider the implications of this for the influence of financial systems on relations between finance and activities.

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1. Introduction

Promotion of entrepreneurship and innovation has become one of the primary industrial policies of developed economies around the world. For example, at the Nice European Council of December 2000, the leaders of the 15 member states of the European Union described entrepreneurship as a central component of European employment policy. The development of a venture capital (VC) industry is often regarded as a significant component of this policy.

The question that this raises is to what extent does the VC industry play a similar role in different countries, and how large is the influence of its sources on its activities. Some observers see the supply of entrepreneurs, the science base, technical transfer from universities to industry, the ability of entrepreneurs to capture the fruits of their inventiveness and other institutional factors affecting the *demand* for VC support as the key to investment in technology related industries. Others regard the financial system and the *supply* of risk capital as critical factors. Policies to encourage investors to invest in private equity and institutions to be less risk averse in their investment strategy have supply of funds at their root. For example, Gompers and Lerner (1998) argue that relaxation of the “prudent man” rule in the US at the end of the 1970’s allowed the rapid growth of VC in the 1990’s to occur.

The relevance of financial institutions and financial systems to corporate activity has been much discussed in the academic literature. In the context of the financing of innovation, Black and Gilson (1998) contrast bank and stock market-oriented financial systems, and argue that initial public offerings (IPOs) provide an important exit route for VC funds. More generally, differences in financial systems have been associated with different types of investments. Allen (1993) and Allen and Gale (2000) have argued that stock markets allow investors to hold diverse views about investments, whereas banks are well equipped to acquire information about firms where there is a high degree of consensus. Securities markets are therefore particularly relevant where investors have diverse views about, for example, new technologies, whereas banks can exploit economies of scale in collecting information about more traditional investments in, for example, manufacturing. Carlin and Mayer (1999) report a relation between the types of activities undertaken in different countries and the structure of countries’ financial systems.

The present paper is an industry study, focusing exclusively on the VC sector and posing the question how is the structure of VC funds and, more specifically, their

financing sources related to their investment activities. Our analysis can therefore be viewed as an attempt to shed light on the question of whether the Modigliani-Miller theorem holds in this sector. We report results from a newly constructed database consisting of about 500 venture capital firms in four countries – Germany, Israel, Japan and the UK. The database is valuable not only for studying the venture capital industry but also as a source of information on the above debates on relations between sources of finance and investment activity more generally. The data provide unique insights on both the types of investments made by financial institutions by stage of activity, sector and location and on the sources from which they raise their finance. It is therefore possible to undertake new analyses of how financing relates to institutions' investment allocations and to undertake comparisons of this across countries.

As regards the analysis of the VC industry itself, it differs from the existing literature in several respects. Firstly, the existing empirical literature is almost exclusively focused on the US. For example, in a collection of articles, Gompers and Lerner (1999) consider several financial aspects of VC investments and their impact on the performance of VC backed firms in the US (e.g. at the time of the IPO). Hellman and Puri (2000) study the influence of VC funds on the activities of their clients, and Kaplan and Stromberg (2000) examine the contractual relations between the funds and their clients, also within the US.¹

VC activity is growing rapidly elsewhere and there is increasing interest in the performance of the VC industry outside of the US.² This paper considers four countries - Germany, Japan, Israel and the UK, all of which have significant and/or rapidly growing VC industries. The spread of countries is interesting because it includes two bank-oriented systems (Germany and Japan), one (non-US) market-oriented system, the UK, and one major high technology success story, Israel, with supposedly the largest concentration of VC investments outside of California and Massachusetts. Within Europe, Germany and the UK are particularly important for the study of the VC industry, because these two countries together account for over half of all VC investments in the Continent (BVK, 2000).

¹ For more extensive surveys of (some of) the empirical VC literature, see, for example, Manigart and Sapienza (2000) and Gompers and Lerner (2001). The theoretical VC literature is also, to a very large extent, motivated by observations about the US VC industry, for example with respect to the type of contracts used (e.g. Cornelli and Yosha, 1997, Hellman, 1998).

Secondly, most analyses of VC in different countries report aggregate statistics. In this paper we employ disaggregated data at the individual fund level. Thirdly, to the extent that disaggregated data have been used they have focused on firms. We focus on the VC funds themselves rather than on financed firms, posing the question to what extent can differences in individual fund activities (in particular, the technological stage of financed firms and their sector focus) be associated with differences in the sources of finance. For example, is it the case that VC firms that are funded through banks invest in firms at different stages of their development from those that are funded by private individuals? To the best of our knowledge, no study has yet examined the relation between sources of funds and investment strategies in the VC industry.

Our empirical analysis proceeds in four stages. We first provide descriptive statistics of the VC industries in the four countries. We then analyze the correlation between sources of finance and types of activity financed, focusing on the technological stage of companies receiving VC finance. We examine a variety of regression specifications explaining VC activity, measured by stage, sector and geographical focus of investment. Initially, we assume that there are similar relations between sources of finance and activities across countries. We then relax this assumption and allow the relations to be country specific. This permits us to evaluate whether financial markets are integrated across countries or whether financial systems in different countries bear on the relations between sources of finance and activities. For example, are the activities of bank backed VC firms different in the bank oriented financial systems in Germany and Japan from those in the market oriented system in the UK? Our analysis sheds light on possible reasons for differences in VC activity across different funds within a country and between countries.

The results are striking. Firstly, there are substantial differences across countries in terms of the stage of finance of VC firms. They are much more focused on early stage investments in some countries, most notably Israel, than others, in particular Japan. There is a remarkably close similarity in stage of finance between Germany and the UK, despite the frequently cited differences in their financial systems. Secondly, there are significant differences in VCs' sector focus. While biotechnology and life sciences receive a substantial level of attention in all four

² See a survey of VC activity in Europe in Botazzi and Da Rin (2001) and Cumming's (2001) study of VC contracts in Canada.

countries, a much larger fraction of VC firms in Israel and Japan focus on information technology (IT) and software than in Germany and the UK, where the manufacturing sector receives more attention. VC investment in electronics appears to be relatively uncommon in Japan.

Turning to institutional differences across countries, we find that there are substantial variations in the sources of finance of VC firms. Banks are a major source of external finance in all countries, particularly in Germany and Japan. Pension funds are much more significant in the UK than in the other three countries. Corporations are a more important source of finance of VC firms in Israel than elsewhere.

We find that there are significant relations between sources of finance of VC firms and their investment activities within countries. In particular, banks, insurance and pension fund backed VC firms invest in later stage activities, and VC firms relying on private individual investors and corporations favour earlier stage activities. Individual and corporate backed funds invest more in IT, software and electronics in preference to manufacturing sectors, while the reverse holds for insurance and pension fund backed funds. Bank and pension backed funds invest domestically while individual and corporate backed funds invest globally. Financial intermediary backed funds are therefore focused on late stage investments in relatively low tech domestic industries while individual and corporate backed funds invest globally in early stage activities in high tech industries. Finally, we find a strong focus of government backed funds on domestic investments.

There are significant differences in the relations between financing and investment stage across countries. While bank backed VC firms in Israel and the UK invest in later stage activities relative to other sources of finance, this is not the case in Germany and Japan. In contrast, investment in early stage activities by corporate backed funds is a feature of Germany and the UK, not of Israel and Japan. Early stage investment by individual backed funds is a feature of Germany and Japan but not of Israel and the UK.

We believe that these relations may have important implications for theories of corporate finance. In particular, they support theories that suggest that banks are associated with investments in less innovative, more traditional activities that benefit from active screening and monitoring requiring geographic proximity to investments. The cross-country variations indicate that this is less pronounced in some countries - those with bank oriented financial systems where long-term relations between banks

and firms may be associated with more innovative investments than elsewhere. Individual and corporate backed funds are associated with more innovative and higher technology industries and greater international diversification. There is some evidence suggesting that this feature may be more pronounced in bank oriented systems where there is less emphasis on diversification through financial instruments and markets (see Allen and Gale, 2000).

The paper is organized as follows. In the next section, we present a conceptual framework for our empirical analysis and derive a set of testable hypotheses. Our database and the descriptive statistics on VC in the four countries are described in Section 3. Section 4 presents the results of the correlation and regression analyses. Section 5 summarizes the results and their implications for the hypotheses of Section 2. Section 6 concludes the paper.

2. Conceptual Framework

This paper is concerned with the relation between the activities of VC firms and their financing. Our conjectures are summarized in a series of hypotheses, denoted by *H1* through *H10*.

In the presence of perfect capital markets, there should be no systematic relation between sources of finance and activities.

H1: The activities of VC are independent of their sources of finance.

However, in the presence of imperfect information and incomplete contracts, several reasons have been suggested for why there may be a relation between financing and activities. Allen (1993) and Allen and Gale (2000) argue that banks can exploit economies in acquiring information about firms where there is a high degree of consensus about more traditional investments whose technologies are well understood. In addition, the liability structure of banks is short-term and they are exposed to maturity transformation risks from long-term investments. The requirement to be actively involved in screening and monitoring makes the focus of their investments local and national.

H2: Bank backed VC firms are inclined towards late stage investments in domestic, low technology sectors, such as manufacturing.

Like banks, pension funds and insurance companies can exploit economies of scale in information collection but, in contrast to banks, their liabilities are long term. Their preferred investment profile might therefore be expected to be early stage but with a focus on sectors that are subject to little speculative investment. As in the case of banks, screening and monitoring make the focus of pension fund and insurance backed VC funds domestic.

H3: Pension fund and insurance company backed VC firms invest in early stage activities in relatively low technology domestic sectors such as manufacturing and services.

In contrast, individual investor participation is found where there are few economies of acquiring information about firms and there are greater benefits from aggregating the diverse views of many investors about, for example, new technologies. There are diversification benefits from investing in overseas as well as domestic markets

H4: Individual investor backed VC funds are focused on early stage investments in high technology sectors such as biotechnology, IT and electronics in global as well as domestic markets.

Companies will look to VC firms as ways of undertaking activities that they cannot perform in-house. For example, VC vehicles may be used to invest in earlier stage and higher risk activities than those in which the sponsoring firm is engaged.

H5: Corporate backed VC firms invest in early stage activities in high technology sectors overseas.

Finally, governments will be concerned with rectifying domestic market failures, which are most likely to be observed for long-term investments in risky domestic sectors.

H6: Government backed VC firms invest in early stage activities in domestic high technology sectors.

The predicted stage, industry and geographical focus of different types of funds are summarized below:

Source of Funds	Stage	Sector	Geographical Focus
Banks	Late	Low technology	Domestic
Pension funds/ insurance cos.	Early	Low technology	Domestic
Individuals and corporations	Early	High technology	International
Government	Early	High technology	Domestic

If capital markets are internationally integrated so that VC firms can raise funds from any national market then we would not expect there to be a variation in these relations across countries. Our next hypothesis assumes internationally integrated financial markets.

H7: There are similar relations between VC activities and sources of finance across countries.

In the absence of complete capital market integration then domestic capital conditions may affect the above relations. In some countries, there appear to be closer relations between banks and corporate borrowers than in others. It is possible that in these countries, banks are better placed to fund longer term investments.

H8: The emphasis of bank backed VC funds on late stage investments is particularly pronounced in countries where long-term relations between banks and firms are absent.

In countries with large stock markets, there are more opportunities for diversification through financial instruments and markets than elsewhere (see Allen and Gale, 2000). The emphasis of individual and corporate backed VC funds on early stage, high tech sectors should be particularly pronounced in markets where these opportunities are less readily available.³

H9: The focus of individual and corporate backed funds on early stage investments in high tech sectors is particularly in evidence in bank oriented economies where diversification opportunities are limited.

There will be less of a requirement for governments to correct market failures in investing in high technology, long-term activities in countries where diversification opportunities are present.

H10: Government backed funds will be particularly focused on early stage activities in high technology sectors in bank oriented financial systems.

The differences expected across countries are summarized below:

Financing Source	Stock Market Economies	Bank Oriented Systems
Bank backed funds	More late stage, low tech investment	
Individual and corporate backed funds		More early stage, high tech investment
Government backed funds		More early stage, high tech investment

We examine the above relations as follows. Let α_{ij} represent the allocation of VC firm i 's funds to investment activity j and β_{is} its financing from source s . We will assume that VC firms in country k operate within the same market but face different demands from those in other countries. We then examine the relation between activities and sources of finance in the following equation:

$$\alpha_{ij} = a_k + \sum_s a_s \beta_{is} \quad (1)$$

Figure 1 illustrates this. It shows the supply of VC funds (S_{ij}) against returns (R_{jk}) for activity j from two funds ($i = 1$ and 2) that obtain their finance from different

³ A competing conjecture is that individuals invest more in early stages in countries where they are better able to diversify risk.

sources in each country but from the same sources in the two countries ($k = A$ and B). The funds face common demands from entrepreneurs within a country (D_{jk}) but different demands across countries. If VC activities are independent of sources of finance then $a_s = 0$ and the supply schedules shown in Figure 1 will coincide.

Equation (1) assumes that financial markets are integrated so that similar activities are associated with financing from similar institutions in different countries. Equation (2) relaxes this by allowing the relation between VC fund activity and sources of finance to vary across countries.

$$\alpha_{ijk} = a_k + \sum_s a_{ks} \beta_{is} \quad (2)$$

Figure 2 shows this for two VC funds that, as in Figure 1, derive their finance from different sources in each country and the same sources in the two countries but now the relation between activity and source of finance is allowed to differ across the two countries.

In the subsequent analysis, we estimate the coefficients a_s and a_{ks} that relate the sources of finance of VC firms to the allocation of their investments, α_{ij} .

3. Data

3.1 Sources and Sample Coverage

Our data are drawn from the individual countries' venture capital associations. For Germany and the UK, we use information from the European association of venture capitalists (evca.com) as well as from their respective local associations in 2000. For Israel, we use data provided by the Israeli association of venture capital (ivc-online.com, a "snapshot" as of late 2000), and for Japan we rely on a survey conducted by *Nikkei Kinyu* (Financial Nikkei) in 1999 on venture capital activities in Japan.

For Germany, Israel and the UK we have data on all VC funds included in the associations, although some funds do not fully disclose data on their sources of funds and investment activities. Our database includes 187 German funds, 119 from Israel and 140 from the UK.⁴ For Japan, the survey we use includes information on 62 VC funds, about half of the extant population of VC funds in Japan according to this

⁴ Membership of a particular country's VC association is open to funds operating in that country irrespective of where the fund is owned or controlled.

survey. We have no reason to suspect any particular bias in this sample of respondents.⁵

For each venture capital fund we collect information on the fund size (capitalization) (section 3.2), its corporate form and types of investment (section 3.3), its sources of funds or ownership (section 3.4), and its investment strategies by stage of investment (section 3.5), sector (section 3.6) and location of investment (section 3.7).

3.2 Size of Funds

Measuring fund size in terms of assets under management, British venture capital funds are by far the largest, with mean capital of over 900 million US dollars, about eight times bigger than the average Japanese fund (\$115m)⁶, and twelve times bigger than the average Israeli fund (\$73m). Although no information on individual fund size is available for Germany, aggregate statistics suggest that the average German fund is about the same size as the average Israeli fund, with capital of about \$77m (BVK, 2000). Using medians rather than means suggests that in all countries the majority of funds are much smaller. In the UK the median VC has capital of about \$140m, compared with only \$12m in Japan and about \$40m in Israel. Interestingly, the median Israeli fund is bigger than the median Japanese fund, although both are much smaller than the median British VC.

3.3 Corporate Form and Types of Investment

VC firms have different legal structures in the four countries of our sample. In the Japanese sample, all VC funds are joint stock companies, often affiliates of banks and securities companies.⁷ In Germany about a quarter of the funds are listed companies (AG's), and in the UK limited partnership is the most common form of VC organization (only about 5 percent of the funds are public companies).

⁵ A more recent survey conducted by Nikkei Venture Business (2001) provides a larger sample of about 100 VC funds and other providers of finance, but with only limited information on their activities. Another survey (conducted by the Asian Venture Capital Journal) reports the existence of about 220 VC funds in Japan, although only about half of them are active (Lerner and Hardyman, 1999). Further information on the Japanese venture capital industry is available in Sako and Kelly (2002).

⁶ This figure is very close to the one reported by the Asian Venture Capital Journal.

⁷ Sako and Kelly (2002) note that it was only in 1998 that the Japanese government enacted the Limited Partnership for Venture Capital Investment (*Toshi jigyo yugensekinin kumiai ho*) which defined the legal basis for the limited liability of non-general partners.

Data on types of investment made by funds are available for Germany and Israel. In both countries, equity is the dominant form of investment, unlike the US, where convertible debt has been documented as the most common form of VC finance. Lerner and Hardyman (1999) report that equity finance is common among Japanese VC funds as well. Loans are provided by about one-sixth of funds in Germany, and in Israel convertible debt (but not straight debt) is provided by about half of the funds.⁸

3.4 Sources of Finance

As noted, all venture capital funds in our Japanese sample are joint stock companies, and their owners are also their investors and providers of funds. In other countries, funds report whether they received finance from a certain category of investors. The data reported below are a snapshot of the stock of sources of finance used by VC funds, rather than a flow of money in a given period, or financing patterns over time. With the exception of Japan, our data sources do not provide the precise amounts of money received from each source, and we therefore define a number of qualitative and not mutually exclusive dummy variables that equal one if the fund reports having used a given source of finance. These dummies signify whether there is bank finance (BANK), finance from pension funds (PENSION), insurance companies (INSUR), other financial institutions (OTHER), corporate investors (CORPORATE), private individual investors (INDIVIDUAL) or the government and regional authorities (GOV'T).

Table 1 displays the sources of external finance for the VC industry in the four countries.⁹ There are clearly some important differences between the countries. In Germany, banks are by far the most important source of finance for the VC industry, nearly twice as popular as the second largest source of finance, individual investors. Bank finance is between three and four times more popular in Germany than finance from industrial corporations or insurance companies. Relying exclusively on bank finance is also very common in Germany: over 60 percent of the VC funds that raise

⁸ Cumming (2001) provides evidence that VC contracts in Canada also involve a variety of financial contracts other than convertible debt. He also makes references to studies documenting non-convertible debt contracts between VC and client firms in various countries. Bascha and Walz (2001) study the organization of the venture capital industry in Germany, and document the use of various types of financial contracts, which, in their view, depend on the severity of agency problems.

⁹ In the UK sample, there are 19 funds that rely exclusively on their own or their parent company funds.

money from banks use this source exclusively. The equivalent figure for the UK is about one third, and for Israel about one fifth. Surprisingly, only one seventh of the Japanese VC funds in our sample rely exclusively on bank finance.

Pension funds are conspicuously absent as a source of venture capital funds in Germany.¹⁰ This is in sharp contrast to the UK where pension funds, other institutional investors, and individual investors provide funds to as many companies as banks. Government (typically local authority) funding plays a more important role in the UK than it does in Germany, and is negligible in the other countries.

Sources of funds for the Israeli VC industry are widespread, with industrial corporations (typically from the US) being the single most popular source of funds. Since Japanese funds are organized in the form of joint stock companies (rather than as limited partnerships) with the owners providing the sources of funds, the figures for Japan in Table 1 are based on ownership data. Financial institutions other than banks (e.g. securities firms, credit card or leasing companies and mortgage institutions) are the single most important category of finance among Japanese funds, followed by banks and insurance companies.¹¹ It is quite common in Japan for the owners/providers of finance for Japanese VC funds to be all affiliated with the same bank-centered corporate group, or to be otherwise related to each other. In over half of the Japanese funds in our sample, at least three of the five largest shareholder providers of finance are related to each other or affiliated with the same group.

It is interesting to note from Panel B of Table 1 that VC funds in Germany tend on average to use fewer sources of funds than do VC's in other countries, and 61 percent of them rely on a single source of funds. By contrast, funds in Israel, Japan and the UK tend to use many sources of finance; in particular, about a quarter of the UK funds report using at least four different sources.

For the UK and Germany, it is possible to compare the figures in Table 1 with aggregate statistics on sources of finance to VC and private equity (BVK, 2000). Aggregate figures differ somewhat from the figures in Table 1, because they are based on the amounts invested rather on whether or not a particular source is used. They

¹⁰ In the German data, up to 1999 pension fund contributions to VC funding have been small (BVK, 2000) and are included in the category "other financial institutions." BVK (2000) suggests that, as a result of on-going reforms in the German pension system, pension funds have become a much more important source of funds for the VC industry. Differences between Germany and the UK in this respect may therefore diminish over the next few years.

¹¹ Some, but not all, of these institutions are partly bank owned, sometimes indirectly. However, we do not track the ultimate ownership of any of the institutions providing finance to VC companies.

also reflect a size-weighted average of the sources used by individual funds, whereas our figures are simple averages. Finally, the aggregate statistics refer to private equity in general, rather than specifically to VC funds. Nevertheless, aggregate figures support our conclusions that banks are by far the most important source of finance for the German VC industry, providing about 40 percent of funds in 1999, far more than any other source. In the UK, pension funds, banks and insurance companies, in this order, were the largest sources of finance in 1999, providing 31 percent, 25 percent, and 14 percent of the funds, respectively.¹² The figures in Table 1 are consistent with those reported for Japan in 2000 by the Asia Venture Capital Journal. According to these aggregate statistics, corporations (aggregating financial and other), banks and insurance companies were the most important sources of finance for the Japanese venture capital industry, providing 48 percent, 25 percent, and 13 percent of all funds, respectively. By way of comparison, we note that aggregate figures for the US suggest that the most important sources of funds for the American VC industry in 1999 were pension funds, individuals, corporations, and insurance companies. These provided 23 percent, 22 percent, 15 percent, and 13 percent of funds in the US, respectively (NVCA, 2000).

3.5 Type of Investment Activity: Investment Stage

Table 2 provides statistics on the type of investment activity funded by VC's in the four countries, characterizing investments by the technological stage at which they are made, sector and geographical focus. Panel A displays the percentage of VC funds investing in different stages and their average stage of investment. Funds report focus on one or more categories of investments (seed, start-up, middle, expansion and growth, and later stages including refinancing and management buy-ins and buy-outs), without specifying the precise amounts invested in each activity.

We categorize stages as “early” for seed and start-up, “middle” for middle, expansion and growth investments, and “late” for later stage investments.¹³ We also calculate a simple “average stage” by assigning the value 1 to early, 2 to middle and 3

¹² The significance of individual investors as a source of funds is greater in our data than in the aggregate figures, probably because they provide small amounts of money relative to other, institutional, sources of funds. Individual investors provided only 4 percent of the total amount of private equity raised in the UK in 1999.

¹³ In the Japanese data, the definition of the stages is somewhat different, but the three categories in the survey correspond to early, middle and later stages. We discuss the possible impact of differences in the stage definitions between Japan and the other countries in the sample below.

to late stage investments. We then derive the mean investment stage under the assumption of equal investment in all stages in which the fund invested positive amounts.

Panel A of Table 2 shows that the VC industry in Israel provides finance primarily to companies in early stages of development. Nearly all funds report positive investments in firms in their early stages. The average stage of investment is 1.4, between “early” and “middle” stages. VC funds in Germany and the UK provide funding to companies in all stages, with a slight bias towards later stages of development (their average investment stage is about 2 or “middle”) with the figure for the UK somewhat higher than that of Germany. In Japan, VC funds are predominantly directed at companies in (middle and) later stages of development with very little support for seed and start-up companies. Average stages of financing in Germany, Israel and Japan are all statistically different from those in the UK. The distributions of fund investments by stages are also statistically different at the 5 percent level in Israel and Japan from the UK. The proportion of funds investing in early stages is significantly higher (at the 5 percent level) in Germany than in the UK.

These observations are consistent with evidence from other sources. EVCA (2000) reports, using aggregate data, that the distribution of investments for UK funds is centred on firms in middle stages of development, when measured by the number of companies in which investments are made.¹⁴ Jeng and Wells (2000) report that investment in early stages relative to GDP has been slightly higher in Germany than in the UK in recent years, although in the past the UK has invested relatively more in companies in their early stages. BVK (2000) provides figures that are consistent with these observations as well. IVA (2000) confirm our observation that VC investments in Israel are focused on early stages. Lerner and Hardyman (1999) describe the Japanese VC industry as focused on investment in much older firms than its American counterpart. Seed and startup investments accounted for only 17 percent of all VC investments in Japan in 1996, whereas expansion and “mezzanine” investment accounted for over 80 percent.

¹⁴ In terms of *amounts* invested, there seems to be more weight on later stage investments involving MBI/MBO activities.

3.6 Type of Investment Activity: Sector

VC funds record the industries in which they invest. We classify these investments into one or more of the following five categories of industries: (1) life sciences, biotechnology and environmental technology; (2) software, communication and information technology; (3) electronics and semiconductors; (4) manufacturing (including chemicals); (5) services and other sectors. Again we have (only binary) information on whether or not a fund invests in a particular sector.

For the purposes of producing summary statistics in Table 2, we construct industry shares under the assumption of equal investments in all the industries in which a fund invests positive amounts. Thus, if a fund invests in n industries, each industry's share in total investment is calculated as $1/n$.

Panel B of Table 2 reports the industry distribution of VC investments in the three countries. There are substantial differences. VC funds in Israel and Japan invest predominantly in the IT and software industry, whereas the distribution of investments across industries in Germany and the UK is more even, and surprisingly similar to each other. Another surprising result is that, in Japan, the electronics industry seems to be a less favourable target for VC investments than it is in other countries, perhaps because R&D in this sector is carried out within large companies. Manufacturing and chemicals are relatively more popular in Germany and the UK.

Panel C of Table 3 reports the number of industries in which VC funds, on average, invest in the four countries. Funds are heavily diversified across sectors (four or more) in the UK and Germany, and somewhat less so in Japan. In Israel, many more funds are concentrated in only one sector.

Again, the available aggregate statistics are not easily comparable because the industry classifications used differ between sources and because of our assumption that funds invest equal amounts in all sectors in which they report positive investment. Nevertheless, for Israel, IVA (2000) provide figures on VC investments by industry, which are consistent with ours. For Germany and the UK, BVK (2000) confirms the relative even spread of investments across sectors, with IT and manufacturing being important investment targets.¹⁵

¹⁵ Earlier figures for Japan are somewhat different from ours: Lerner and Hardyman (1999) report substantial VC investments in financial and other services, as well as in (the not clearly defined) "consumer products." The Asian Venture Capital Journal figures (which refer to 2000) are closer to ours in that they report substantial investment in services, but, like us, find that computer related

3.7 Type of Investment Activity: Location

Finally, we gather information on the geographical concentration of fund investments in specific regions or countries. We describe each fund's geographical focus as follows: we assign the number 1 to it if it invests within a single region within a country; 2, if it invests anywhere in its domestic country; 3 if it operates within a single continent; 4, if it operates worldwide (i.e. in two or more continents). Since Japanese companies report the fraction of their investments invested abroad (with no geographical breakdown), we construct the variable for Japan in a slightly different way. We assign the number 1 to it if the fund is regional; 2 if it invests in Japan only; 3 if it invests up to 50 percent of its funds abroad; and 4 if over 50 percent of the fund's investment are abroad.

There are again some interesting differences across countries (Panel D of Table 2). The UK venture capital industry is the most international with 60 percent of funds having some investments outside the UK. By contrast, two thirds of German funds invest only in Germany (or in a region within Germany). Aggregate statistics from BVK record that UK VC funds invest 25 percent of their capital abroad, compared with 15 percent invested outside Germany by German VC firms. Figures for Japan (as reported by the Asian Venture Capital Journal) suggest that investment outside Japan constituted 24 percent of total investment by Japanese VC funds in 2000.

4. The Determinants of VC Investments

In the next three sections we analyze the relation between the sources of funding and the nature of VC investment activity. Section 4.1 provides partial correlation coefficients between sources of finance and investment activities. Section 4.2 describes the way in which equations describing the relation between sources of funding and VC investment have been estimated, and section 4.3 presents the results.

4.1 Partial Correlation Coefficients

Table 3 reports partial correlation coefficients between sources of finance, country dummies and stage of investment. Correlation coefficients with both individual stage responses and average stage are reported, and record similar results.

investments constitute about 27 percent of the total amounts invested, far more than the life sciences and electronics sectors.

There is a negative association between bank, insurance and pension backed funds and early stage investment, and a positive correlation with average stage. The backing of financial intermediaries is therefore associated with the provision of later stage finance.

There is a positive correlation between corporate and individual investor backed funds and early stage and a negative correlation with average stage. Corporate and private individual finance is therefore associated with the provision of earlier stage investment. There is a positive, albeit statistically insignificant, association of government backing and average stage, implying that government finance is associated with later stage financing.

In regard to the location of the VC funds, the positive correlation of early stage and the negative correlation of average stage with the Israeli dummy means that Israeli funds are early stage investors. Conversely, in Japan and to a lesser extent in the UK, Japanese and UK funds tend to be later stage investors. German funds are most closely correlated with middle stages.

4.2 Estimating the Determinants of VC Investments

We examine three measures of activity (a_{ij}): stage of investment, sector and geographical focus. For investment stage, three specifications are used. In the first, the choice of early and late stages is estimated as seemingly unrelated zero-one Probit regressions. The advantage of this approach is that no assumptions have to be made about relative proportions of investment in the three stages. The second method uses the average stage of investment, computed under the assumption of equal allocations to stages in which funds report positive investment. Since the averages are bounded between one and three we use Tobit regressions for this. The third specification is based on ordering all possible combinations of stages of investment reported by the funds to generate “stage rank” as follows:

Fund	Investment	Strategy	Stage Rank
Early	Middle	Late	
1	0	0	1
1	1	0	2
1	0	1	3
1	1	1	3
0	1	0	3
0	1	1	4
0	0	1	5

This ranking scheme is valid assuming equal investments in the various stages, although it is sufficient to assume that investments in the various stages are not very different. We estimate this using Ordered Probit.¹⁶

Several tests of robustness of the results were performed. Firstly, there might be a degree of heterogeneity in VC firms operating in different sectors. To investigate this, we disaggregated the regressions on average stage by sector. Secondly, an underlying assumption in this analysis is that VC firms in a particular country operate in a single market and face common demand functions, so that different investment strategies reflect different fund attributes (such as the sources of finance) rather than different demand conditions. This is a questionable assumption for funds that operate at a regional rather than a national or international level. We therefore repeated the above regressions excluding VC firms that said that they operate at a regional level.

For sectors, we estimate the sector share variables (maintaining the assumption of equal investment) as a system of four seemingly unrelated equations.¹⁷ Finally, we estimate the determinants of the geographical focus of investment using Ordered Probit regressions, where the dependent variable takes values between 1 and 4, as described above.

4.3 Regression Results

4.3.1 Investment Stage

Table 4 presents Probit, Tobit and Ordered Probit estimates of equation (1) on stages of investment. Results are very consistent across the three methodologies. Panel A reports the Probits on early and late stage, estimated as seemingly unrelated regressions. They reveal that bank, insurance and pension backed funds are associated with later stage investments, whereas funds that obtain finance from corporations and individuals are more likely to invest in early stages. Panel B of Table 4 reports Tobit estimates of the determinants of average stage (which lies between 1 and 3) and Ordered Probit estimates of the stage rank. According to both specifications, bank finance is associated with later stage investment. VC funds that rely on pension funds also tend to favour later stages, whereas funds obtaining money from individual investors prefer earlier stages.

¹⁶ In our data, 17 percent of the funds are in Stage Rank 1, 14 percent in 2, 34 percent in 3, 24 percent in 4, and 11 percent in 5.

In the left column of Panel B, shifting from individual to bank finance is associated with an increase of 0.26 in average investment stage. This compares with a standard deviation of between 0.45 in average stage (in Germany) and 0.76 (in Japan). The shift therefore represents between 0.3 and 0.6 of a standard deviation. The within country relations between investment stage and source of funds are therefore economically as well as statistically significant.

Several tests of robustness of the results were performed (Panel C of Table 4). Firstly, there might be a high degree of heterogeneity in VC firms operating in different sectors. To investigate this, we disaggregated the regressions on average stage by sector. There was a high degree of consistency across sectors. A positive relation was found between average stage and bank, insurance and pension fund backing in all sectors. Conversely, a negative relation between corporate, private and government backing and stage was observed in all sectors.

Secondly, to test the assumption that firms operate in a single market within a country and face common demand functions, we disaggregated the regression by geographical focus. In particular, we repeated the regression on average stage excluding VC firms that stated that they operate at a regional rather than a national or international level. 93 observations are dropped but the results remain almost identical to those reported above. The size and significance of coefficients is little affected with the exception that pension funds are no longer significant at the 10 percent level.

4.3.2 *Sector*

Table 5 reports seemingly unrelated regressions of VC investments by sector on sources of finance. The table suggests that VC funds that rely on pension funds and insurance companies for finance (“institutional investors”) are less likely to focus on IT and software, and more likely to favour the life-sciences (insurance backed funds) and manufacturing (pension backed funds). In contrast, corporate and individual backed funds are less likely to invest in manufacturing and more likely to direct more resources to IT and software. Institutional backed funds therefore tend to invest in relatively low technology manufacturing in preference to high technology IT and

¹⁷ We also estimated the four equations separately using Tobit regressions and obtained very similar results.

software and corporate and individual backed funds in high technology IT and software in preference to low technology manufacturing.¹⁸

4.3.3 *Geographical Focus*

We examine the relation between geographical focus of VC investment and sources of finance using Ordered Probit regressions (Table 6). We observe that bank backed VC funds tend to invest more locally, whereas funds backed by industrial corporations, insurance companies and individual investors tend to invest more abroad. Government funding is particularly closely associated with local and national investment.

4.3.4 *Country Specific Estimates*

To date, we have imposed the same coefficients on sources of financing in different countries. Table 7 reports the results of average stage and stage rank in regressions with country-specific coefficients. The tendency of banks to favour later stage investments is observed in British and Israeli VC funds but not in German and Japanese funds, where bank finance is not associated with significantly earlier or later stage investment. The coefficients on the bank variable in Israel and the UK are economically as well as statistically significant amounting to 0.65 and 0.59 of a standard deviation in investment stage respectively in the two countries. The tendency of individual and corporate backed VC firms to invest in early stage activities is observed in Germany and Japan but not in Israel and the UK. The association of government backed funds with early stage activities is observed in Germany but not in the UK. Overall, a hypothesis that the four country coefficients are equal can be rejected at the one percent level.

Thus far, we have not made reference to the coefficients on the country dummies in the regressions. In Table 4, the country dummy variables for Japan and Israel are highly statistically significant. The Israeli VC industry is associated with

¹⁸ Note that these conclusions are based on investment shares, calculated under the equal investment assumption. It is also possible to estimate Probit regressions, where the dependent variable is a dummy which equals one if a fund invests in a particular sector. We do not present the results of this specification because we believe the industry shares shed more light on the relative fund focus between different industries.

earlier stage of investment than that in the UK, and Japan appears to be associated with later stage investment than the UK.¹⁹

Similarly in Table 5, the country dummy variables are significant (relative to the UK) and suggest an Israeli and Japanese focus on IT, software and life sciences, away from manufacturing. German VC investment is directed more towards the life sciences and away from investment in IT and software.

Finally, Table 6 shows that funds in the UK tend to invest more abroad than funds in other countries. In contrast to investment stage and sector preference, the coefficients on some funding sources are of similar magnitude to the country dummy variables suggesting that source of finance is as critical a determinant of location of investment as the country of operation of a fund.

5 Summary and Implications of Results

In summary, we find that:

- Investment activities of VC funds as measured by stage, sector and geographical focus of investments are closely associated with sources of finance. We therefore reject Hypothesis 1 that the activities of VC firms are independent of their sources of finance.
- Bank backed funds invest in late stage, domestic activities. We therefore fail to reject Hypothesis 2.
- Pension and insurance-backed funds invest in late stage activities in low technology sectors. We therefore do not reject Hypothesis 3's prediction about sector but we do reject its prediction about stage.

¹⁹ MBI/MBO activity is extremely rare in Japan, suggesting that some of the funds classified as engaged in financing later stage activities in the Japanese survey could perhaps be classified as supporting middle staged companies according to the other data sources. Lerner and Hardyman's (1999) description of VC activity in Japan is also consistent with this view. We therefore convert all Japanese funds with later stage investments into middle stage, and find no significant changes in the coefficients on the sources of finance, although this change does render the Japan country dummy statistically insignificant (i.e. not different from Britain). Nevertheless, it is clear that early stage investments (in seed and start-up companies) are extremely rare in the Japanese funds included in our data. It should also be noted that the Japan dummy is *negative* in both Probit regressions (Panel A of Table 4), and positive in the other stage specifications. This is due to the fact that Japanese funds typically invest in only one stage (middle or late) whereas British funds invest in many stages. Therefore, when estimating the determinants of investment in a particular stage separately, as in the Probit specification, it appears that UK funds invest more than Japanese funds in both early and later activities.

- Corporate and individual backed VC firms invest in early stage, high technology activities globally rather than domestically. We do not therefore reject Hypothesis 4 or Hypothesis 5.
- Governments invest in domestic activities. We therefore do not reject Hypothesis 6.

With the exception of Hypothesis 1, it has not therefore been possible to reject any of the hypotheses described in section 2 though we do not find a difference in stage of investment between bank backed and pension and insurance backed funds. Instead, financial intermediary-backed funds all invest in relatively late stage activities.

In relation to the theories on financial market integration, we find that:

- Relations between sources of finance and VC activities differ across countries, leading to a rejection of Hypothesis 7 of capital market integration.
- The association of bank backed VC firms with later stage activity than investment by other VC firms is weaker in the bank based systems of Germany and Japan, relative to the UK (although it is present in Israel, whose financial system is also dominated by banks). We cannot therefore reject Hypothesis 8.
- The association of individual backed activities with early stage investment is a feature of the bank-based systems of Germany and Japan. The association of corporate backed activities with early stage is observed in Germany (although not Japan). We cannot therefore reject Hypothesis 9.
- The relation of government backed funds to early stage investment is found in bank dominated Germany, in which less diversification opportunities through financial instruments and markets are present. We cannot therefore reject Hypothesis 10.

Finally, it is worth noting the positive association between pension backed funds with stage in the UK and of insurance backed funds with stage in Germany. In neither country does the long-term nature of their liabilities encourage long-term finance. In contrast, Japanese funds financed by non-bank financial institutions invest relatively more in earlier stages. Regulation may bear on these observations in so far as it encourages institutions to pursue conservative investment strategies to meet, for example, “prudent man” and, in the UK, “Minimum Funding” requirements.²⁰

²⁰ Minimum Funding Requirements stipulate the conduct of pension funds and the basis on which their liabilities should be valued.

One possible explanation for the significance of the dummy variables in the activity equations is the violation of the integrated financial market assumption. However, as Table 7 records, even once the restriction of common coefficients on the financing variables in the investment stage regressions is relaxed, the intercept terms on the individual country equations are significantly different. The interaction of financial systems with the relation of financing sources to activities cannot explain the pronounced country differences.

There are several factors that could account for the country dummy variables and intercepts. These include differences in the availability of investment projects, i.e. the supply of entrepreneurs rather than finance, alternative sources of finance for innovative activity in different countries, for example business angels, differences in the location of innovative activity within as against outside firms, tax incentives, legal differences, and macroeconomic conditions. The advantage of fund level data is that it controls for the large number of other factors that might influence investment activity and which afflict more macroeconomic analyses. However, by the same token, they do not readily lend themselves to an assessment of the influence of other factors.

It is therefore beyond the scope of the paper to provide much evidence on this. However, one piece of evidence that suggests that entrepreneurial demand may be a key factor comes from the geographical focus of funds. When we concentrate on funds that operate in an international market and therefore face common worldwide demand functions (i.e. with the geographical focus variable equals 4), then the country of origin of the fund as well as its sources of funds are generally insignificant determinants of the preferred investment stage.²¹

6. Conclusions

The purpose of this article has been to examine the financing of the VC industry in four countries where VC funds are important or growing and to establish

²¹ The one exception is the Israel dummy, which remains significantly negative. This probably reflects the fact that Israeli VC funds are not as global as international funds in other countries. We also examine the investment strategies of six funds operating in both Germany and UK, and another fund operating in both the UK and Japan, finding no significant difference in the stage of investment of these funds in different countries. This could reflect a similarity of demand conditions in Germany and the UK, or perhaps reflect a general investment strategy adopted by funds irrespective of where they operate.

how institutional differences in the financing of VC firms relate to the types of activities in which they invest.

To answer this question, we have collected a unique data source on VC firms and their sources of finance and provided cross-country controls that allow us to identify the impact of sources of finance on VC activity. We use the data to test a range of theories concerning the relation between sources of finance and investment activities.

We have documented substantial differences across countries in the sources of funds used to finance VC investment and substantial differences in the activities in which they invest. We have found that the sources of finance are significantly related to the differences in VC activities within countries. In particular, financial intermediary-backed funds are associated with late stage investments in relatively low technology industries. In contrast, individual and corporate backed funds invest in early stage, higher technology industries. Their investment is also more globally focused than that of financial intermediary backed funds.

We have argued that these observations are consistent with theories that emphasize the different information collected by financial intermediaries and market participants. They are also in line with patterns of relations that would be expected of funds operating in countries with different bank-firm relations and opportunities for risk spreading through financial markets and instruments. Consistent with a role for government in correcting market failures, public sector funding is associated with investment in domestic early stage activities.

However, we have also found that sources of finance only account for a portion of the differences in VC activities across countries. A range of other factors including demand for funds (i.e. supply of entrepreneurs), alternative sources of entrepreneurial finance (for example, business angels) and different corporate organization of entrepreneurial activities may also be relevant.

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Figures 1 and 2

The returns on investment in activity j are on the vertical axis and the amount of capital is on the horizontal axis. The downward sloping “demand” schedules describe the pool of available projects requiring funds in two countries, A and B . The a 's are the amounts provided by each fund in each country. In Figure 1, the two supply schedules describe a case in which in each country there are two VC funds ($i=1$ and 2) which differ from each other in their investment preferences, but are identical across countries. In Figure 2, funds in each country have investment preferences, which differ between funds and across countries.

Figure 1

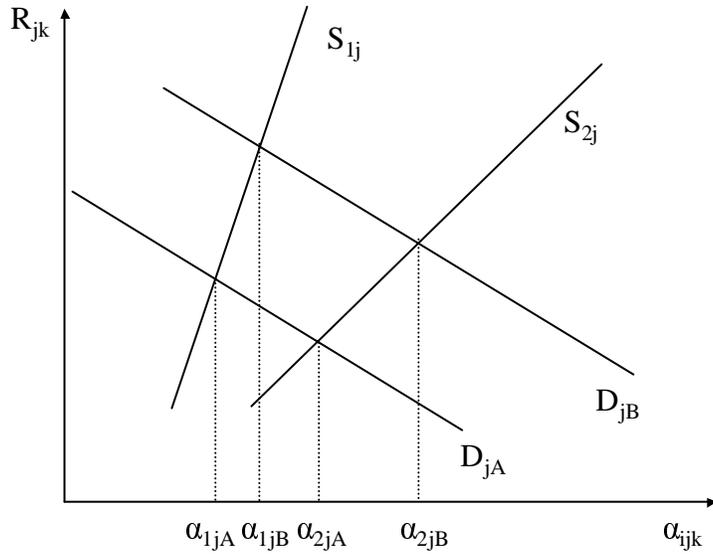


Figure 2

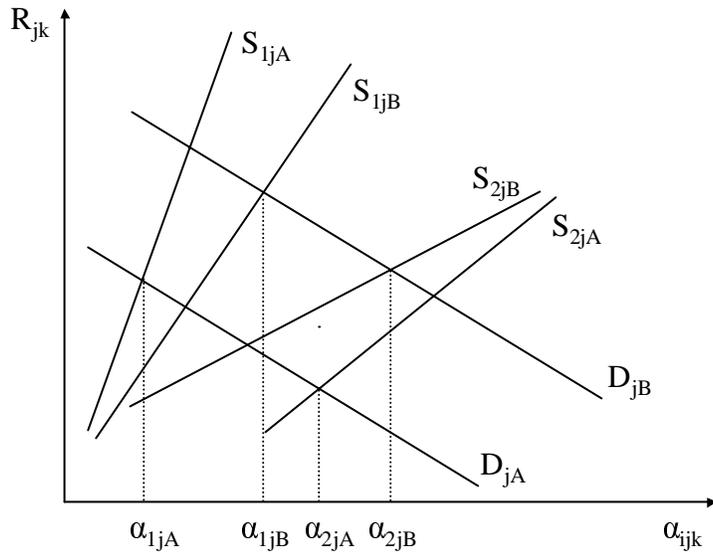


Table 1: Sources of External Funds for the VC Industry

This table reports sources of funds of VC firms in Germany, Israel, Japan and the UK based on binary responses to a question of whether or not a particular fund uses a certain source. Panel A records the fraction of funds that report using a given source. Panel B records the percentage of funds using one, two, three, or four or more sources. * and ** denote mean values which are statistically different from those of the UK at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively.

Panel A: Fraction of Funds using Particular Sources

	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Banks</i>	<i>Insurance Companies</i>	<i>Pension Funds</i>	<i>Corporate Investors</i>	<i>Individual Investors</i>	<i>Gov't</i>	<i>Other Institutions</i>
Germany	187	0.59**	0.22**	0**	0.16**	0.36*	0.09**	0.21**
Israel	119	0.51	0.11**	0.02**	0.60**	0.36	0.01**	0.54
Japan	62	0.56	0.43	0**	0.27	0.21**	0.03**	0.80**
UK	140	0.44	0.36	0.49	0.26	0.45	0.24	0.55

Panel B: Percentage of Funds using Particular Number of Sources

	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4 or more</i>
Germany	61%	22%	9%	8%
Israel	38%	27%	21%	15%
Japan	21%	39%	29%	11%
UK	35%	16%	15%	24%

Table 2: Characteristics of VC Investments

Table 2 reports the characteristics of VC investments based on discrete responses by firms. Panel A refers to investment stage and reports the proportion of funds investing in different investment stages: “early” refers to seed and start-up, “middle” to expansion and growth, and “late” to later stages. Panel B refers to the sectors of investment using five groups of industries: life sciences, IT and software, electrical and semi-conductors, manufacturing and chemicals, and other industries (further discussion of the calculation used to derive these results is in the text). Panel C records the percentage of funds investing in one, two, three, or four or more industries. Panel D records the regional, national or international nature of investments by funds. It reports the percentage of funds investing in a region within a country, in several regions within a country, within a single continent, or in two or more continents (or in the case of Japan if more than 50 percent is invested abroad). * and ** denote mean values which are statistically different from those of the UK at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively.

Panel A: VC Investments by Stage

	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Early (1)</i>	<i>Middle (2)</i>	<i>Late (3)</i>	<i>Average Stage</i>
Germany	187	0.68**	0.89*	0.74	2.0**
Israel	98	0.93**	0.49**	0.28**	1.4**
Japan	57	0.15**	0.19**	0.65**	2.5**
UK	140	0.48	0.84	0.80	2.1

Panel B: VC Investments by Industry

	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>IT and Software</i>	<i>Elect and Semi-C.</i>	<i>Mnfg and Chemicals</i>	<i>Other Industries</i>
Germany	183	0.21**	0.23	0.16	0.23	0.17
Israel	95	0.24**	0.51**	0.16	0.08**	0.01**
Japan	56	0.26**	0.49**	0.05**	0.06**	0.14
UK	140	0.17	0.26	0.15	0.24	0.19

Panel C: Percentage of Funds Investing in Certain Number of Industries

	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4 or more</i>
Germany	9%	16%	15%	60%
Israel	39%	23%	17%	21%
Japan	3%	12%	42%	42%
UK	11%	7%	7%	75%

Panel D: VC Investments by Region

Percentage of Funds Investing in Different Locations

	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Region within Country (1)</i>	<i>Country only (2)</i>	<i>County and Continent (3)</i>	<i>Worldwide (4)</i>	<i>Average</i>
Germany	187	34%	32%	18%	17%	2.18*
Israel	97	1%	67%	25%	7%	2.35*
Japan	55	13%	44%	38%	5%	2.28*
UK	139	16%	24%	35%	24%	2.68

Table 3: Partial Correlation Coefficients

Table 3 reports partial correlation coefficients and p-values (in brackets) of sources of funds (bank, insurance companies, pension funds, corporate, individual, government and other) and location of VC firms with stage (early, middle, late and average stage), sector of investments (life sciences, IT and software, electrical and semi-conductors, manufacturing and chemicals) and geographical focus (the percentage of funds investing in a region within a country, in several regions within a country, within a single continent, or in two or more continents (or in the case of Japan if more than 50 percent is invested abroad).

	<i>Early</i>	<i>Middle</i>	<i>Late</i>	<i>Avg. Stage</i>	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>IT and Software</i>	<i>Electronics</i>	<i>Manufactng.</i>	<i>Geog. Focus</i>
BANK	-0.05 (0.25)	0.11 (0.01)	0.09 (0.06)	0.10 (0.03)	0.10 (0.03)	0.09 (0.04)	0.10 (0.03)	0.06 (0.21)	-0.12 (0.00)
INSURANCE	-0.16 (0.00)	-0.00 (0.97)	0.08 (0.06)	0.18 (0.00)	0.13 (0.00)	-0.07 (0.13)	-0.03 (0.54)	0.09 (0.06)	0.14 (0.00)
PENSION	-0.15 (0.00)	0.10 (0.02)	0.15 (0.00)	0.16 (0.00)	0.18 (0.00)	0.10 (0.02)	0.19 (0.00)	0.24 (0.00)	0.16 (0.00)
CORPORATE	0.13 (0.00)	-0.14 (0.00)	-0.20 (0.00)	-0.16 (0.00)	-0.14 (0.00)	-0.03 (0.58)	-0.10 (0.03)	-0.16 (0.00)	0.21 (0.00)
INDIVIDUAL	0.11 (0.02)	0.00 (0.96)	-0.07 (0.13)	-0.09 (0.04)	-0.09 (0.06)	-0.05 (0.27)	-0.04 (0.41)	-0.06 (0.19)	0.10 (0.02)
GOVERNMT	-0.03 (0.50)	0.09 (0.05)	0.07 (0.10)	0.04 (0.35)	0.09 (0.05)	-0.07 (0.15)	0.15 (0.00)	0.15 (0.00)	-0.08 (0.07)
OTHER	-0.09 (0.03)	-0.19 (0.00)	-0.02 (0.63)	0.06 (0.16)	-0.05 (0.29)	0.08 (0.07)	-0.10 (0.02)	-0.07 (0.09)	0.10 (0.03)
GERMANY	0.07 (0.10)	0.32 (0.00)	0.17 (0.00)	0.05 (0.20)	0.20 (0.00)	-0.14 (0.00)	0.18 (0.00)	0.23 (0.00)	-0.14 (0.00)
ISRAEL	0.35 (0.00)	-0.25 (0.00)	-0.41 (0.00)	-0.46 (0.00)	-0.20 (0.00)	0.03 (0.46)	-0.15 (0.00)	-0.32 (0.00)	-0.03 (0.43)
JAPAN	-0.34 (0.00)	-0.39 (0.00)	0.01 (0.83)	0.30 (0.00)	-0.14 (0.00)	-0.01 (0.75)	-0.36 (0.00)	-0.24 (0.00)	-0.01 (0.88)
UK	-0.19 (0.00)	0.18 (0.00)	0.21 (0.00)	0.19 (0.00)	0.09 (0.04)	0.13 (0.00)	0.20 (0.00)	0.24 (0.00)	0.19 (0.00)

Table 4: Estimates of the Determinants of the Stage of Investment

This table reports the results of pooled regressions of stages of investment on sources of funds reported by individual VC funds with individual country intercepts. Panel A reports the results of seemingly unrelated Probit estimates where the dependent variables are *EARLY* and *LATE*. The left column of Panel B reports the results of Tobit regressions of average stage of investments of a fund (which lies between 1 and 3). The right column of Panel B reports the results of an ordered Probit on Stage rank, which lies in the range of 1 to 5. Panel C reports similar regressions for several sub-samples. The country-specific intercepts are measured relative to the UK. * and ** denote statistical significance at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively

Panel A: Seemingly Unrelated Probit Estimates

	<i>EARLY</i>	<i>LATE</i>
CONSTANT	0.02 (0.17)	0.88** (0.19)
BANK	-0.05 (0.13)	0.25* (0.13)
INSURANCE	-0.18 (0.16)	0.06 (0.16)
PENSION	-0.45* (0.25)	0.31 (0.27)
OTHER	0.06 (0.15)	0.08 (0.15)
CORPORATE	0.26 (0.16)	-0.31** (0.15)
INDIVIDUAL	0.31** (0.14)	-0.29** (0.13)
GOVERNMENT	0.09 (0.20)	-0.13 (0.21)
GERMANY	0.33* (0.18)	-0.24 (0.20)
ISRAEL	1.32** (0.27)	-1.35** (0.23)
JAPAN	-1.17* (0.27)	-0.57** (0.26)
N	482	482
LOG LIKELIHOOD	-475.2	

Panel B: Tobit and Ordered Probit Estimates

	<i>Avg. Stage</i> (Tobit)	<i>Stage Rank</i> (O. Probit)
CONSTANT	2.04** (0.09)	Not applicable
BANK	0.14** (0.07)	0.19* (0.10)
INSURANCE	0.11 (0.08)	0.17 (0.12)
PENSION	0.24** (0.12)	0.38** (0.19)
OTHER	-0.01 (0.07)	-0.01 (0.11)
CORPORATE	-0.10 (0.08)	-0.17 (0.12)
INDIVIDUAL	-0.12* (0.07)	-0.21** (0.12)
GOVERNMENT	-0.11 (0.11)	-0.16 (0.16)
GERMANY	-0.10 (0.10)	-0.20 (0.15)
ISRAEL	-0.79** (0.12)	-1.16** (0.18)
JAPAN	0.65** (0.14)	0.97** (0.21)
N	482	482
PSEUDO R ²	0.14	0.11

Panel C: Average Stage Tobit Regressions for Sub-Samples

	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>IT and Software</i>	<i>Electronics</i>	<i>Mnfg.</i>	<i>Local Funds Excluded</i>
CONSTANT	2.16** 0.09	2.03** 0.09	2.17** 0.08	2.17** 0.08	2.04** 0.11
BANK	0.15** 0.07	0.13* 0.07	0.09 0.06	0.12* 0.07	0.18** 0.08
INSURANCE	0.05 0.08	0.19** 0.09	0.18** 0.08	0.14* 0.08	0.11 0.09
PENSION	0.10 0.12	0.22 0.14	0.11 0.11	0.10 0.12	0.20 0.15
OTHER	0.07 0.07	0.01 0.08	0.11 0.07	0.05 0.08	-0.02 0.09
CORPORATE	-0.12 0.08	-0.10 0.09	-0.20** 0.08	-0.15* 0.08	-0.14 0.09
INDIVIDUAL	-0.05 0.07	-0.18** 0.08	-0.08 0.07	-0.03 0.07	-0.14* 0.08
GOVERNMENT	-0.22** 0.10	-0.03 0.12	-0.11 0.09	-0.13 0.09	0.04 0.16
GERMANY	-0.21** 0.10	-0.06 0.10	-0.17* 0.09	-0.14 0.09	-0.03 0.12
ISRAEL	-0.82** 0.13	-0.71** 0.13	-0.75** 0.11	-0.74** 0.14	-0.79** 0.13
JAPAN	0.49** 0.15	0.70** 0.15	0.38 0.24	-0.02 0.21	0.69** 0.16
N	347	409	295	263	389
Pseudo R ²	0.154	0.141	0.173	0.125	0.155

Table 5: The Determinants of Industry Investment Shares

This table reports the results of seemingly unrelated OLS regressions of the share of a fund's investment in five different sectors (life sciences, IT and software, electronics and semiconductors, manufacturing and services and other sectors) on sources of funds. * and ** denote statistical significance at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively

	<i>Life Sciences</i>	<i>IT and Software</i>	<i>Electronics</i>	<i>Manufacturing</i>
CONSTANT	0.15** (0.03)	0.29** (0.03)	0.14** (0.02)	0.70** (0.05)
BANK	-0.03 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.01)	0.01 (0.02)
INSURANCE	0.07** (0.02)	-0.06* (0.03)	-0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)
PENSION	0.06 (0.04)	-0.11** (0.05)	0.02 (0.02)	0.08** (0.03)
OTHER	-0.01 (0.02)	0.02 (0.03)	-0.00 (0.14)	0.00 (0.02)
CORPORATE	0.00 (0.02)	0.05* (0.03)	0.01 (0.14)	-0.04** (0.02)
INDIVIDUAL	-0.03 (0.02)	0.06** (0.03)	0.00 (0.01)	-0.05** (0.02)
GOV'T	-0.01 (0.03)	-0.04 (0.04)	0.02 (0.02)	0.01 (0.02)
JAPAN	0.10** (0.04)	0.18** (0.05)	-0.09** (0.03)	-0.16** (0.03)
GERMANY	0.07** (0.03)	-0.09** (0.04)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)
ISRAEL	0.11* (0.03)	0.16** (0.04)	0.00 (0.02)	-0.12** (0.03)
N			474	
R ²	0.05	0.21	0.07	0.25

Table 6: Ordered Probit Estimates of the Determinants of Geographical Focus

The table reports the results of regressions of geographical focus (which takes values between 1 and 4, where 1 corresponds to investment within a region within a country, 2 to investment in one country, 3 to investment in a continent, and 4 to worldwide investments) on sources of funds. * and ** denote statistical significance at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively

BANK	-0.21** (0.10)
INSURANCE	0.28** (0.12)
PENSION	-0.02 (0.20)
OTHER	0.02 (0.11)
CORPORATE	0.56** (0.12)
INDIVIDUAL	0.19* (0.10)
GOVERNMENT	-0.70** (0.17)
GERMANY	-0.52** (0.15)
ISRAEL	-0.52** (0.18)
JAPAN	-0.41* (0.20)
N	478
PSEUDO R ²	0.06

Table 7: Regressions with Country-Specific Coefficients

This table reports the results of regressions of stages of investment on sources of funds reported by individual VC funds with individual country intercepts and coefficients. For each country, the left column reports the results of Tobit regressions of average stage of investments of a fund (which lies between 1 and 3). The right column reports the results of an ordered Probit on Stage rank, which lies in the range of 1 to 5. The constants for Germany, Japan and Israel are measured relative to the UK. * and ** denote statistical significance at the 10 and 5 percent levels, respectively

	<i>GERMANY</i>		<i>ISRAEL</i>		<i>JAPAN</i>		<i>UK</i>	
	Avg. Stage (Tobit)	Stage Rank (O. Probit)	Avg. Stage (Tobit)	Stage Rank (O. Probit)	Avg. Stage (Tobit)	Stage Rank (O. Probit)	Avg. Stage (Tobit)	Stage Rank (O. Probit)
CONSTANT	2.06** (0.11)	0.08 (0.24)	1.01** (0.18)	-1.43** (0.33)	3.68** (0.34)	2.62** (0.55)	1.98** (0.10)	N/A
BANK	-0.02 (0.11)	-0.04 (0.18)	0.34** (0.17)	0.43* (0.26)	-0.18 (0.22)	-0.27 (0.33)	0.30** (0.12)	0.47** (0.20)
INSURANCE	0.21* (0.12)	0.34* (0.20)	0.12 (0.24)	0.25 (0.38)	0.07 (0.21)	0.08 (0.32)	-0.02 (0.16)	-0.07 (0.25)
PENSION	N/A	N/A	-0.09 (0.37)	-0.22 (0.57)	N/A	N/A	0.32** (0.16)	0.55** (0.25)
OTHER	0.08 (0.12)	0.16 (0.20)	-0.01 (0.16)	0.00 (0.26)	-0.91** (0.30)	-1.39** (0.47)	-0.07 (0.14)	-0.11 (0.21)
CORPORATE	-0.27** (0.13)	-0.47** (0.22)	0.07 (0.16)	0.04 (0.25)	0.08 (0.24)	0.15 (0.37)	-0.25 (0.16)	-0.38 (0.25)
INDIVIDUAL	-0.17 (0.11)	-0.31* (0.17)	0.05 (0.18)	0.05 (0.27)	-0.58 (0.25)	-0.93** (0.38)	-0.09 (0.12)	-0.18 (0.20)
GOV	-0.29* (0.16)	-0.49* (0.26)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.13 (0.15)	0.21 (0.23)
N	482							
PSEUDO R ²								
Tobit	0.18							
Probit	0.14							