

## THE IMPACTS OF CAPITAL STRUCTURE ON PROFITABILITY OF CONSTRUCTION FIRMS IN MALAYSIA

### ANIS FATINI SYAHRAIN BINTI ZAIDIN 2016630656

# BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION WITH HONOURS (FINANCE)

FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA
KOTA KINABALU, SABAH

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious and the Most Merciful.

Alhamdulillah, all praises to Allah for the blessing and for giving me the strengths to successfully finish this study.

I want to express my sincere appreciation and thanks to my supervisor, Mr. Sobre bin Ismail, lecturer of Faculty Accountancy, for providing all necessary resources in the success of this thesis. I am also appreciate his supervision, encouragement and continuous support as well as the efforts and commitment given in reviewing overall progress of this thesis. Indeed, I am grateful for his honest feedback and suggestions which is very helpful to improve my thesis.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to my friends, relatives and all those people who had shared their thoughts, give endless advice and guidance to me in completing this thesis.

I want to express my appreciation to my family who are always there when I need them. To my wonderful parents, thank you for your constant prayers, encouragement, endless support and attention to the success of this thesis.

### TABLE OF CONTENT

	Page			
TITLE PAGE	i			
DECLARATION OF ORIGINAL WORK				
LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL  ACKNOWLEDGEMENT  TABLE OF CONTENTS  LIST OF FIGURES				
			LIST OF TABLES	viii ix
			LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	
				X .
ABSTRACT	xi			
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	1			
1.1 Background of Study	1			
1.1.1 Capital Structure and Profitability of Construction Firms	2			
1.2 Problem Statement	4 5			
<ul><li>1.3 Research Questions</li><li>1.4 Research Objectives</li></ul>	5 6			
1.5 Significance of Study	6			
1.5.1 The Body of Knowledge	6			
1.5.2 The Government	6			
1.5.3 The Investor	7			
1.5.4 The Researcher	7			
1.6 Scope and Limitation of Study	7			
1.6.1 Scope of Study	7			
1.6.2 Limitation of Study	8			
1.7 Organization of report	8			
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURES REVIEW	10			
2.1 Introduction	10			
2.2 Theory Associated to This Study	10			
2.2.1 Modigliani and Miller: Theory of capital Structure (1963) and Miller (	1977) 10			

2.2.	2 Trade-off Theory	11
2.2.	3 Pecking Order Theory	11
2.3	Literature Review	12
2.4	Theoretical Framework	15
2.5	Conclusions	15
СНАРТ	ER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	16
3.1	Introduction	16
3.2	Data Descriptions	16
3.3	Measurement of variables	18
3.3.	1 Return on Asset (ROA)	18
3.3.	2 Long-term Debt ratio (LTD)	18
3.3.	3 Short-term debt (STD) ratio	19
3.3.	4 Debt-to-equity ratio (DER)	19
3.4	Sampling Design	20
3.4.	1 Population	20
3.4.	2 Sampling Size	20
3.4.	3 Sampling Method	20
3.4.	4 Data Collection	21
3.4.	5 General-purpose Statistical Software package (Stata Version 12)	21
3.5	Model	22
3.6	Research Hypotheses	23
3.7	Research Design	24
3.8	Normality test	25
3.8.	1 Log	25
3.9	The Unit Root Test	25
3.9.	1 Hadri Lagrange Multiplier (LM) Unit Root test (Hadri LM)	26
3.9.	2 Levin-Lin-Chu Unit Root test (LLC)	26
3.9.	3 Harris-Tzavalis Unit Roots Test (HT)	26
3.10	Breuch Pagan Lagrangian Multiplier (BPLM) test	27
3.10	0.1 Pooled Ordinary Least Squares (Pooled OLS)	27
3.11	Empirical Model	27
3.12	Diagnostic Checks	28
3.12	2.1 Multicollinearity	28
3.12	2.2 Autocorrelation	28
3.12	2.3 Heteroscedasticity	29
3 10	) A White's test	20

#### **ABSTRACT**

The aims of this study was to identify the impacts of capital structure to the profitability of construction firms in Malaysia. The study focus on 10 construction firm in listed in Bursa Malaysia with the highest market capitalization (2015) as stated in Macropolis report. The financial ratio was obtained for the period of 2011 to 2016. This study also includes the descriptive statistics, normality test, unit roots tests, diagnostic check, Breuch Pagan Langrangian multiplier (BPLM) test, correlations, and regression analysis. The Pooled Ordinary Least Square (Pooled OLS) was used to create the regression model of the study. The results confirm that there is a significant positive impacts of independent variable that is Long-term debt ratio to the dependent variables that is return on asset (ROA) of firm. Meanwhile, both Short-term debt ratio (STD) and Debt-to-equity ratio (DER) have no significant effect to firm's ROA. Based on this study, firms will increase their profit if they have low long-term debt ratio. Thus, any movement in STD and DER, this does not give any changes in firm's ROA. Therefore, firms need to identify the best capital structure decision by emphasizing it effect to their profitability. Furthermore, the details of these information will be explain in this paper.

Keywords: Capital structure, firm's profitability, Long-term debt ratio, Short-term debt ratio, Debt-to-equity ratio, construction firms