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Persuasion in Financial Advertising: Behavioral or Rational?

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#### ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

#### Highlights

- We test the behavioral versus the rational model of advertising in financial markets.
- Granger causality between the number of ads and the stock is used to test whether advertisements precede or follow the stock index.
- We separate risky and non-risky products advertising and find that risky products ads follow the stock index while non-risky products are unrelated to the stock index.
- The behavioral model of advertising applies for risky products ads while the rational model applies for non risky products ads: the two models are complementary rather than alternative.
- A dual process of reasoning is at the base of investors' behaviors, anticipated by advertising companies.



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