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“Success is not measured by what you accomplish, but by the opposition you have encountered, and the courage with which you have maintained the struggle against overwhelming odds.”

Orison Swett Marden

Reading, analyzing and writing, these are what life as a Research Scholar at University seems to be about. In this thesis, I tried to address some empirical issues in International Finance, but an important question left unanswered is why I started it all, or better: why it was a memorable journey of my life filled with lots of fun? It was a fun because I truly enjoyed the learning experiences of writing research papers, attending conferences and later on the thesis itself, thanks to the support of many people who supported my endeavor throughout the years.

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