

ZHONGYUAN (LEO) LIU

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RESEARCH FIELD OF INTERESTS

Empirical Industry Organization, Innovation, Corporate Finance, Corporate Governance

EDUCATION

University of New South Wales *2017 - 2022*
PhD in Finance
School of Banking and Finance

University of New South Wales *2015 - 2017*
Master of Philosophy, Finance.
School of Banking and Finance

Bond University *2009 - 2012*
Bachelor of Commerce

WORKING PAPERS

Advanced Manufacturing and Process Innovation, Productivity and Growth (with Elvira Sojli and Wing Wah Tham) (Job Market Paper)

Abstract:

We propose a new time-varying measure of advanced manufacturing and process innovations based on patent invention titles from 1926 to 2019 across 51 countries. Using this measure, we provide evidence that these innovations are important for firm and aggregate economic growth through technological spillover to product innovations and increased profitability. We find that patents with advanced processes have higher forward citations, number of claims, and economic value than product patents of the same technology class and cohort. Firms with higher quality process innovation are associated with higher profits, sales, capital, employment, and total factor productivity in the short run, while product innovation plays a larger role in the longer run. At the aggregate level, both advanced manufacturing and product innovations are positively related to U.S. economic growth. In cross-country analysis, we find that product innovation is more important than process innovation for emerging countries with low labor costs for growth convergence towards the U.S. economy, but the opposite holds for productivity.

Conferences:

- ABFER (Asian Bureau of Finance and Economic Research) 2022
- CEPR (Centre for Economic Policy Research) Rising Asia 2022
- EARIE (European Association for Research in Industrial Economics) 2022
- SEM (Society for Economic Measurement) 2022
- FMCG (Financial Market and Corporate Governance) 2022
- Asian Innovation Economics Conference 2021 (invitation-only)
- Business Financing and Banking Research Group Annual Workshop 2021 (invitation-only)
- Macroeconomics Reading Group Workshop 2021 (invitation-only)

Common Ownership and Antitrust Enforcement: Evidence from the Court (with Huaizhou Li, Ronald Masulis and Jason Zein)

Abstract:

An increasing number of publicly-owned rival firms are jointly held by a small group of large institutional investors. This has led to serious concerns regarding the economic implications of such common ownership. We analyze U.S. legal cases to uncover links between common ownership and antitrust litigation. This approach allows us to establish a direct connection between common ownership and anti-competitive product market behavior. We empirically show that there is a significant positive relationship between common ownership and the probability that a pair of firms face the same antitrust prosecution. We use mergers between financial institutions as exogenous variations in common

ownership to provide causal evidence on this proposed relation. We also show that firm-pairs subject to antitrust litigation are characterized by more socially connected directors, pointing to a possible coordination mechanism.

Conferences:

- CELS 2022 (Conferences on Empirical Legal Studies)
- FMCG 2022

Re-defining Industry Classification (with Roni Michaely, Elvira Sojli and Wing Wah Tham)

Reassessing the Measures of Carbon Emission Intensity (with Harrison Hong, Elvira Sojli and Wing Wah Tham)

Clean Innovation (with Elvira Sojli and Wing Wah Tham)

Measuring CEO's General Ability by Recovering Boards' Perception (with Lixiong Guo)

Conferences: FMA 2017 semi-finalist for best paper award, CAFM 2017, AFBC 2017.

Easy to Parse, Easy to Trade (with Van Dang)

Conferences: Asian FA 2019, FMA 2019, FIRN 2019

WORKING EXPERIENCE

UNSW 2022
Early Career Fellow (Level A)

- Responsible for teaching several core postgraduate courses and contribute to the research of the School

UNSW 2020 - 2021
PhD Teaching Fellow (Level A)

- Responsible for teaching several core postgraduate courses

Rozetta (formerly CMCRC) 2017 - 2018
Research Consultant / Business Analyst

- Development of Research Platform (www.mqdashboard.com) to assist regulators and stock exchanges in assessing market quality and the effects of market design changes. Primary roles include developing algorithm and metrics of market quality assessment; Producing research reports to regulator and exchanges to assist their decision-making.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer-in-Charge

- FINS5517 Applied Portfolio Management (2021)
 - Teaching Evaluation: mean score 5.72 (Faculty 5.32)
- MFIN6201 Empirical Techniques and Application in Finance (2020, 2021, 2022)
 - Most Recent Teaching Evaluation: mean score 5.73 (Faculty 5.31)
- MFIN6210 Empirical Studies in Finance (2020)
 - Teaching Evaluation: mean score 5.58 (Faculty 5.22)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

- FMA International 2017 (discussant)
- CAFM 2017 (discussant)
- Asian FA 2019 (discussant)

- FIRN 2019 (discussant)
- FMCG 2022 (discussant)

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- A Python developer, contributed to scientific packages such as pandas.
- Proficient in a variety of modern technologies: Apache Spark, SAS, Postgres, MongoDB, Stata, Machine Learning such as tree, deep neural networks and natural language processing.

LANGUAGE

Chinese - Native
English - Fluent

NATIONALITY

Australian Citizen

REFEREES

Assoc. Prof. Wing Wah Tham
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