Contact Department of Finance Email: fababa@iu.edu

Kelley School of Business Web: https://babayara.com 1309 East 10th Street Phone: 812-360-3714

Bloomington, IN 47505

Research Empirical Asset Pricing, Machine Learning, Factor Portfolios

Interests

Academic Indiana University, Bloomington, USA

Appointments Acting Assistant Professor of Finance July 2021 - December 2021

Assistant Professor of Finance January 2022 - Present

Education Nova School of Business and Economics, Carcavelos, Portugal

PhD in Finance and Economics 2015-2021

London School of Economics and Political Science, London, UK

Visiting Student Spring 2017

Norwegian School of Economics, Bergen, Norway

Masters in Business Administration and Economics 2013-2015

University of Ghana Business School, Accra, Ghana

Bachelor in Business Administration 2006-2010

Refereed Publications Value Return Predictability Across Asset Classes and Commonalities in Risk Premia. with Martijn Boons and Andrea Tamoni. Review of Finance (2021)

Persistent and Transitory Components of Characteristics: Implications for Asset Pricing with Martijn Boons and Andrea Tamoni. Journal of Financial

Economics (Forthcoming)

Working Papers Risk from the Inside Out: Understanding Firm Risk through Employee News Consumption with Carter Davis, Fotis Grigoris, and Preetesh Kantak. (Sub-

mitted)

Machine Learning and Return Predictability across Firms, Time and Port-

folios. (Job Market Paper)

The Factor Model Failure Puzzle. with Brian Boyer and Carter Davis.

Commodity Returns: Lost in Financialization with Massimiliano Bondatti

In Search of Sparsity: Bayesian Sparse Factor Models and the Factor Zoo.

with Robert Hill

Work in Progress

The price of macro-financial risk factors in the cross-section of commodity

returns. with Massimiliano Bondatti

Firm Attention and Earnings Announcements with Fotis Grigoris, and Preetesh Kantak.

Presentations

2024: ASSA, ASU Sonoran Winter Finance Conference*, Millennium Management*

2023: SWFA, EFA, Iowa Finance and Econ. Conference, UNC-Chapel Hill*, MFA*, FMCG*, EFMA*, AEFIN Finance Forum*, NBER SI*, SITE Uncertainty*, Bristol Financial Markets Conference*, Dolomite SFC*, Red Rock*, CFEA, Federal Reserve Board Conference on Nontraditional Data*, Financial Research Association Annual Meeting*

2022: Craig W. Holden Memorial Conference*, EFA*, Wabash River Conference, BI Norwegian Business School*, Australasian Finance and Banking Conference

2021: AFA*, HEC Paris, Stockholm School of Economics, Virginia Tech, Frankfurt School of Finance & Management, VU Amsterdam

2020: NFA; Virtual, 28th AEFIN Finance Forum*, Nova SBE (Seminar)

2019: Nova SBE (Seminar)

2018: Frontiers of Factor Investing*; Lancaster, Nova SBE (Seminar)

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Best Thesis (Nova SBE)	2022
FCT Project Fellowship	2019-2021
Frontiers of Factor Investing Best Paper Award	2018
Travel Grant, AFA, Philadelphia	2018
FCT PhD Fellowship	2015-2019
J. A. Nuamah Prize, Institute of Charted Bankers, Ghana.	2006

Teaching

Kelley School of Business at Indiana University, Bloomington Intermediate Investments Nova School of Economics and Business, Carcavelos Corporate Finance Asset Management Investments 2016-2020 2017-2020 2018, 2021

Service

Referee

Review of Financial Studies (RFS), Management Science (MS), Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis (JFQA), Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control (JEDC), Journal of Banking and Finance, (JBF), Journal of Corporate Finance, (JoCF), Journal of Empirical Finance (JoEF), Quarterly Journal of Finance (QJF)

Other Experience

University of Ghana, Finance Department, Accra

Accountant 2010-2013

^{*} co-author, † upcoming

 ${\bf Technology}$

Programming Languages

& Skills

R, Julia, Python, Matlab, Fortran, SQL, C++

Databases

WRDS, Bloomberg, Datastream, Quandl, Barchart

Libraries

Tidyverse, Tensorflow, Numpy, Pandas

Operations

Google Cloud, Google Colab, AWS

Nationality

Ghanaian

Languages

English (Native), Twi (Native), Hausa (Basic), French (Basic), Portuguese (Basic)