Junlong Xu

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Espoo, Finland   Updated: April 2025

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Empirical Asset Pricing, Risk Management, International Finance

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Student in Finance, Aalto University   Since 08/2025

M.Sc. in Finance, Stockholm School of Economics   08/2023 – 06/2025
- GPA: 4.5/5.0
- Thesis: Deep Learning for Predicting Market Excess Return: The Role of Cross-Sectional Predictors

B.Sc. in Financial Mathematics, University of Liverpool   09/2018 – 07/2022
B.Econ. in Financial Mathematics, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University (Double Degree)
- GPA: First Class Honors
- Thesis: Spillover Effects of Global Capital Flow Volatility: Evidence from G20 Countries

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Swedish House of Finance   03/2024 – 03/2025
The Deposit Business at Large vs. Small Banks | Advisor: Dr. Adrien d'Avernas
- Conducted literature reviews and assisted in data cleaning for large datasets (e.g., Call report data)
- Replicated figures using Python and Stata, following supervisor instructions to enhance visual accuracy
- Contributed to creating the project's replication package, including developing custom plotting functions and drafting parts of README file for reproducibility

Master Thesis in Finance, Stockholm School of Economics   09/2024 – 12/2024
Deep Learning for Predicting Market Excess Return: The Role of Cross-Sectional Predictors | Advisor: Dr. Tobias Sichert
- Conducted a systematic comparison of linear and nonlinear models in predicting market excess returns, demonstrating the superior performance of neural networks in out-of-sample predictions
- Aggregated 105 firm-level features into time-series predictors, revealing the shared systematic information with time-series macroeconomic predictors
- Identified trading activity and asset structure as key predictors to the prediction of deep learning models by using SHAP

Research Assistant, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University   09/2022 – 08/2023
Volatility Spillover of Cross-Border Fund Flow and the Geopolitical Risk Channels | Advisor: Dr. Lu Zong
- Constructed the volatility spillover network for G20 fund flows through a variance decomposition method
- Applied the PageRank algorithm to measure a country's long-term systemic risk exposure in a network
- Explored the determinants of spillovers using panel regression within a pull-push factor framework
- Assessed the impact of global and country-specific geopolitical risks on a country's vulnerability to external shocks

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Grants: HSE Support Foundation (13,000 €)   2025
Best Performance in Final Year Project, School of Science, Xi'an Jiaotong-Liverpool University   2022
Excellent Undergraduate Final Year Project Award, Jiangsu Provincial Department of Education   2022

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Summer Intern, Yuans Capital Equity Investment Management (Shanghai) Co., Ltd   2021
- Due diligence: completed the early investigation of two companies and helped with the due diligence process

- Industry research: collected industry information about new materials, healthcare, etc. to generate analysis reports
- Investment proposal: screened information related to market share, pain points, and head companies to propose investment suggestions

Summer Intern, TF (Tianfeng) Securities Co., Ltd. 2020
- Market analysis: collected information on newly issued bonds for targeting potential clients
- Client maintenance: communicated with clients and generated daily transaction tables as required
- Counter service: utilized the counter system to assist in client account registration and related verification process

EXTRACURRICULAR EXPERIENCE

Group Leader, The Outreach Department for Students Union 2020
- Led five team members in negotiations with sponsors and raised over 12,000 CNY for extra campus activities
- Organized the university exchange meeting, including procurement, budgeting, and other tasks, which attracted more than 150 participants

SKILLS

Languages: Chinese (native), English (proficient)
Programming: R, Python, Stata, LaTeX, MS Office