LUOFENG ZHOU

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Education Background

Columbia University, The Fu Foundation School of Engineering and Applied Science **New York, NY**
M.S.** in Financial Engineering* ***Aug. 2019 – Dec. 2020

- **Cumulative GPA: 3.82/4.0**
- **Relevant Coursework:** Finance Theory I (Business School PhD level), Continuous Time Models, Statistical Analysis & Time Series, Stochastic Models for Financial Engineering, Optimization Models & Methods

Wuhan University, Economic and Management School & School of Computer Science **Wuhan, China**
B.A.** in Economics, **B.S.** in Mathematics, **B.Eng.** in Computer Science & Technology (with Honors)* ***Sep. 2015 – Jun 2019

- **Cumulative GPA: 3.85/4.0**
- **Award:** Honor Graduate Award of "Hongyi" Honor College (2.4%)
- **Relevant Coursework:** Advanced Microeconomics I, Advanced Macroeconomics I, Advanced Econometrics, Options, Futures & Derivatives, Mathematical Analysis, Real Analysis, Complex Analysis, Linear Algebra, Mathematical Statistics, Topology, Object-Oriented Programming, Analysis & Design of Algorithms

Working Paper

"Stay Distinct, Stay Silent: The Impact of Business Strategy on Disclosure Choice" (with Rajiv D. Banker and Wei Shi)

- **Short Abstract:** Using validated textual measures based on earnings conference calls and 10-Ks, this paper provides novel evidence on how firms make disclosure choices given their business strategies. Although analysts tend to ask more product-related questions to innovative firms during calls, these firms successfully protect their secrets via more non-answers to proprietary-related questions, gaining competitive advantages and then capitalizing them into their firm-values.
- **Keywords:** Business Strategy; Earnings Conference Calls; Financial Disclosure; Textual Analysis

Research Assistantship

Research Project on Empirical Corporate Finance **Columbia Business School, New York, NY**
Supervisor: Prof. Wei Jiang ***Sep. 2020 – Dec. 2020***
Research Topic: Mutual fund voting in proxy contests

- Cleaned and parsed form N-PX from SEC EDGAR, built a unified database to store main variables (python)
- Investigated other variables contained in N-PX and advanced exploratory work on how they relate to the research question

Research Project on Empirical Asset Pricing **Columbia Business School, New York, NY**
Supervisors: Prof. Simona Abis and Prof. Anton Lines ***Nov. 2019 – Dec. 2020***
Research Topic: Disclosure of soft information of US mutual funds and investors' responses

- Parsed prospectuses from SEC EDGAR, applied machine learning models to predict risk-shifting behaviors (python)
- Designed novel textual measures that connect readability to financial content in mutual fund disclosures

Research Project on Entrepreneurial Finance **Cornell Johnson Graduate School of Management, Ithaca, NY**
Supervisor: Prof. Lin William Cong ***Nov. 2019 – Nov. 2020***

- Research Topic: Income Inequality and Occupational Risk-taking
- Deduced analytical proofs, conducted Monte Carlo simulations to study comparative statics numerically (python)
- Explored other widely used model settings that could potentially increase the tractability and/or proximity to reality

Research Project on Data Mining **Tsinghua Institute of Interdisciplinary Information Sciences, China**
Supervisor: Prof. Jian Li ***Jun. 2019 – Aug. 2019***

- Research Topic: Alpha mining using signal processing techniques and deep learning
- Utilized signal processing techniques to form alpha portfolio via gradient boosting and deep neural networks (python)
- Provided economics explanation for alphas mined by algorithms (e.g. generic algorithms)

Internship Experience

Panda Capital **Beijing, China**
Investing Intern, Department of Investment ***Jul. 2018 - Aug. 2018***

- Investigated a series of entrepreneurship programs around AI and medical care (focus group analysis and field studies)
- Parsed sales and comments data from e-commercial platforms in objective fields (python)
- Summarized founders' past experience of venture capital program to streamline decision making for a new project

China Universal Asset Management Co., Ltd **Shanghai, China**
Customer Analysis Intern, Department of Wealth Management ***Jul. 2017 - Aug. 2017***

- Analyzed concerns of high net worth clients (HNW clients) to support the newly established private banking department
- Formed diversified portfolio (including equities, bonds, insurances, trusts, etc.) to fit the needs of HNW clients

Changjiang Securities **Wuhan, China**
Quant Intern, Department of Asset Management ***Jul. 2016 - Aug. 2016***

- Researched the three biggest Chinese listed companies in the pharmaceutical industry (case studies); assessed the trends and future for the Chinese pharmaceutical industry by analyzing media and investor sentiment (python)
- Back-tested factor models with our dictionary-based sentimental factor in Chinese pharmaceutical industry (MATLAB)

Previous Papers

"DMD: Discovering Time-Variant Temporal Dependence from Time Series Using Predictive Codelength"

- **Coauthors:** Zixuan Cao (Peking University), Bo Han (Wuhan University)
- **Short Abstract:** Using predictive codelength and sequential normalized maximum likelihood estimators, we propose a novel model, DMD, to identify time-variant temporal dependence from the perspective of changes in certainty.
- **Keywords:** Time-Variant causality; Data Mining; Predictive Codelength; Sequential Normalized Maximum Likelihood

"Meta-Embeddings Based on Self-Attention"

- **Coauthors:** Qichen Li (MIT), Yuanqing Lin (Peking University), Jian Li (Tsinghua University)
- **Short Abstract:** In this paper, we devise a new meta-embedding model based on the self-attention mechanism, namely Duo, which achieves state-of-the-art accuracy in text classification tasks. Based on Duo, we then propose a novel meta-embedding sequence-to-sequence model for machine translation tasks, with high convergence speed.
- **Keywords:** Natural Language Processing; Self-Attention; Meta-Embeddings

Miscellaneous

- Languages: Mandarin (native), English (fluent), TOEFL: 103/120 (speaking 25).
- Programming skills: Python, Java, SQL, Stata, R, MATLAB
- Ad hoc referee service: Management Science

(Last revised: Nov. 27th, 2020)