CONTACT Email: gavin.feng@cityu.edu.hk

INFORMATION Homepage: https://www.gavinfeng702.com

7-276, Lau Ming Wai Academic Building

83 Tat Chee Avenue, Kowloon Tong, Hong Kong

RESEARCH INTERESTS Financial Econometrics, Empirical Asset Pricing, Machine Learning, FinTech

Positions City University of Hong Kong College of Business

Assistant Professor of Business Statistics, 2017 - present

Program Leader for MSc Business Data Analytics, 2020 - present

PI/Co-PI of Lab for AI-Powered FinTech, 2021 - present

City University of Hong Kong School of Data Science

Faculty Affiliate, 2021 - present

EDUCATION The University of Chicago Booth School of Business

Ph.D. in Business Administration (Statistics and Finance), 2017

Co-Chairs: Professor Nicholas Polson and Dacheng Xiu

M.B.A., 2017

Pennsylvania State University Schreyer Honors College

B.S. in Honors Economics, B.S. in Mathematics, Minor in Statistics, 2012

Sun Yat-Sen University Lingnan College

Economics Coursework, 2007 to 2009

Publications Taming the Factor Zoo: A Test of New Factors

with Stefano Giglio and Dacheng Xiu.

The Journal of Finance, 2020, 75(3): 1327-1370.

2018 AQR Insight Award, First Prize.

Factor Investing: A Bayesian Hierarchical Approach

with Jingyu He.

Journal of Econometrics, 2022, 230(1): 183-200.

Regularizing Bayesian Predictive Regressions

with Nicholas Polson.

Journal of Asset Management, 21.7 (2020), 591-608.

Does higher-frequency data always help to predict longer-horizon volatility?

with Ben Charoenwong.

Journal of Risk, 19.5 (2017): 55-75.

The Market for English Premier League (EPL) Odds

with Nicholas Polson and Jianeng Xu.

Journal of Quantitative Analysis in Sports, 12.4 (2017): 167-178.

### Working Papers

### Asset Pricing with Panel Trees Under Global Criteria

with Xin He, Will Cong, and Jingyu He. Mar. 2022.

2022 INQUIRE Europe Research Grant Award

### Deep Learning in Characteristics-Sorted Factor Models

with Nicholas Polson and Jianeng Xu. Jan. 2021.

R&R, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis

Unigestion Alternative Risk Premia Research Grant Award

2019 Crowell Prize, Second Prize

2019 INQUIRE Europe Research Grant Award

## Regularized GMM for Time-Varying Models with Application to Asset Pricing

with Liyuan Cui and Yongmiao Hong. Jul. 2022.

R&R, International Economic Review

# Corporate Bond Pricing Using Interpretable and Arbitrage-Free Deep Learning

with Yizhi Song, Liang Jiang, and Junye Li. Jul. 2022.

# Real-Time Macro Information and Bond Return Predictability: A Weighted Group Deep Learning Approach

with Yinghua Fan, Andras Fulop, and Junye Li. Jun. 2022.

## Predicting Individual Corporate Bond Returns

with Xin He, Junbo Wang, and Chunchi Wu. Jun. 2021.

# Benchmarking Individual Corporate Bonds

with Xin He, Junbo Wang, and Chunchi Wu. Jun. 2021.

### ACADEMIC SERVICE

Referee Work:

#### JOURNALS:

Economics and Finance: Journal of Finance( $3\times$ ), Review of Financial Studies, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Management Science( $8\times$ ), Journal of Banking and Finance( $4\times$ ), Journal of Empirical Finance( $5\times$ ), Mathematics and Financial Economics, Finance Research Letters, Pacific-Basin Finance Journal, Journal of Asset Management, Decisions in Economics and Finance, Financial Innovation

**Econometrics and Statistics:** Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Business & Economic Statistics( $4\times$ ), Journal of Econometrics( $2\times$ ), Operation Research, Journal of Financial Econometrics( $4\times$ ), Journal of Applied Econometrics, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, Econometrics and Statistics, The Econometrics Journal, Technometrics, Scandinavian Journal of Statistics

**GRANT:** National Science Foundation (USA), Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (Canada), AISG's Technology Challenge (Singapore)

**CONFERENCE:** 2021 FMA Consortium on Asset Management and FinTech, 2020 FMA Consortium on Asset Management, 2019 Consortium on Factor Investing, FMA Asia/Pacific Conference (2019-2022), FMA Annual Meeting (2019-2022)

Program Committees:

FMA Asia/Pacific Conference (2020-2022), FMA Annual Meeting (2020-2022)

#### Session Chair:

2nd International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics "Statistical Learning in Finance"

2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting Seattle "Machine Learning in Finance"

2020 FMA Annual Meeting (Online) "Investment Returns"

2021 INFORMS Annual Virtual Meeting "Machine Learning in Finance"

### Organizer:

2022 Hong Kong Conference for Fintech, AI, and Big Data in Business, 2022

CityU Workshop in Econometrics and Statistics, 2019

#### RESEARCH GRANTS

INQUIRE Europe Research Grant for "P-Trees: A New Interpretable Framework For Asset Pricing and Investment Management", 2022

Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research, HKIMR Open-bid Applied Research Programme, 2022

Hong Kong Research Grants Council, General Research Fund for "Textual Analysis of Corporate Bond Market", 2022-2024

CityU HK, Strategic Research Grant for "A Bayesian Hierarchical Approach in Asset Pricing", 2020-2022

INQUIRE Europe Research Grant for "Deep Learning in Asset Pricing", 2019

CityU HK, Strategic Research Grant for "A Bayesian Method for Factor Investing and Efficient Portfolio", 2019-2021

Hong Kong Research Grants Council, Early Career Scheme for "A Deep-Learning Approach in Asset-Pricing Anomalies", 2019-2021

Unigestion Alternative Risk Premia Research Grant, 2018

CityU HK, Start-up Research Grant for "Data Science in Marketing", 2018-2020

Fama-Miller Center for Research in Finance, Grant for "Myriad of Factors", 2015

Research Grant, Bates White Research Experience for Undergraduates (2×), 2010-2011

#### Honors and Awards

INQUIRE Europe Research Grant Award, 2022

HKIMR Open-bid Applied Research Programme Award, 2022

PwC 3535 Finance Forum Annual Best Paper Award, 2020

INQUIRE Europe Research Grant Award, 2019

Crowell Prize, Second Prize, 2019

AQR Insight Award, First Prize, 2018

Unigestion Alternative Risk Premia Research Grant Award, 2018

Jennifer Jones PhD Fellowship, 2016-2017

Katherine Dusak Miller PhD Fellowship, 2015

Teaching Award for Exceptional Service to Executive MBA Program, 2014

Oscar Mayer Fellowship for Summer Research, 2013

University of Chicago Booth School of Business PhD Program Fellowship, 2012-2017

Phi Beta Kappa, 2012

Penn State University Economics Honors Program, 2011-2012

# OTHER RESEARCH POSITIONS

# Hong Kong Institute for Monetary and Financial Research

Researcher of Open-bid Applied Research Programme, 2022

## Citadel LLC, New York City, USA

Research Consultant, 2018 - 2020

### Citadel LLC, Chicago, USA

Research Intern, 2016 - 2017

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

## Instructor, City University of Hong Kong

Statistical Data Analysis, Fall 2020-2021

Statistical Modeling in Economics and Finance, Spring 2018-2021

Predictive Modeling in Marketing, Spring 2018-2020

Statistical Methods for Business Research, Spring 2019-2020

## Guest Speaker (Universities and Financial Institutions)

Machine Learning in Asset Pricing

### SUPERVISED STUDENTS

### PhD Students

Xin He (2018 Cohort; In Progress)

Yizhi Song (2020 Cohort; In Progress)

Yinghua Fan (2021 Cohort; In Progress)

## College of Business Honor Thesis

Lujia Yang (2020), Raymond WIDJAJA (2021)

#### Presentations

# 2022 Financial Econometrics Junior Forum (2022/7, Online)

2022 Chinese Financial Technology Research Conference (2022/4, Online)

Invited Conference, Beijing Normal University & Hong Kong Baptist University United International College (2022/1, Online)

2021 Invited Seminar, Fudan University (2021/12, Online)

Invited Seminar, University of Science and Technology of China (2021/12, Online)

Invited Seminar, Sun Yat-Sen University (2021/12, Guangzhou)

Invited Workshop, Workshop on Financial Engineering at SUSTech (2021/12, Shenzhen)

Invited Workshop, Lab for AI-Powered Fintech (2021/9, Hong Kong)

Invited Workshop, SJTU Private Equity Investing Seminar (2021/7, Shanghai)

Invited Seminar, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (2021/7, Online)

Invited Seminar, Shanghai Jiao Tong University (2021/6, Online)

37th International Conference of the French Finance Association (2021/5, Online)

Invited Workshop, Bloomberg Hong Kong (2021/3, Online) Invited Seminar, University of Gothenburg (2021/2, Online) 2020 Invited Seminar, Fudan University (2020/12, Online)

Invited Workshop, Wolfe Research 1st Asia Quantitative and Macro Investment Conference (2020/11, Online)

FMA Annual Meeting (2020/10, Online)

Invited Webminar, Citadel LLC (2020/7, Online)

2019 Invited Seminar, Jinan University (2019/12, Guangzhou)

Invited Seminar, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics (2019/12, Shanghai)

Invited Workshop, PanAgora Asset Management (2019/11, Boston)

Invited Seminar, Boston University (2019/10, Boston)

INFORMS Annual Meeting (2019/10, Seattle)

Invited Workshop, Autumn Seminar of Inquire Europe (2019/10, Krakow)

China International Conference in Finance (2019/7, Guangzhou)

Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (2019/6, Xiamen)

Twelfth Annual SoFiE Conference (2019/6, Shanghai)

2019 International Conference on FinTech (2019/6, Shanghai)

Financial Econometrics and New Finance Conference (2019/6, Hangzhou)

Invited Workshop, AXA IM Chorus (2019/3, Hong Kong)

Invited Workshop, Schroders Asset Management (2019/2, London)

Invited Workshop, New Development in Factor Investing (2019/2, London)

2018 New Zealand Finance Meeting (2018/12, Queenstown)

31st Australian Finance and Banking Conference (2018/12, Sydney)

2018 Workshop on Bayesian Methods in Finance (2018/12, Singapore)

Invited Workshop, Wolfe Research 2nd Annual Global Quantitative & Macro Investment Conference (2018/11, New York City)

Invited Seminar, South China Normal University (2018/11, Guangzhou)

Asian Quantitative Finance Conference (2018/11, Guangzhou)

Invited Seminar, City University of Hong Kong (2018/11, Hong Kong)

Invited Workshop, CQAsia Annual Conference (2018/11, Hong Kong)

European Seminar on Bayesian Econometrics (2018/10, New Orleans)

Invited Seminar, Southern University of Science and Technology (2018/9, Shenzhen)

Invited Workshop, AQR Capital Management (2018/8, Hong Kong)

2nd International Conference on Econometrics and Statistics (2018/6, Hong Kong)

R/Finance 2018 (2018/5, Chicago)

Invited Workshop, CUHK Workshop on Econometrics (2018/4, Hong Kong)

2017 Joint Statistical Meetings (2017/8, Baltimore)

NBER-NSF Seminar on Bayesian Inference in Econometrics and Statistics (2017/5, St. Louis)

R/Finance 2017 (2017/5, Chicago)

Vienna-Copenhagen Conference on Financial Econometrics (2017/3, Vienna)

2016 11th Annual Economic Graduate Student Conference (2016/10, Champaign)

Invited Seminar, City University of Hong Kong (2016/10, Hong Kong)

Invited Workshop, Charles Schwab (2016/8, Chicago)

Symposium on Financial Engineering and Risk Management (FERM) (2016/7, Guangzhou)

DISCUSSIONS

2022 "An Agnostic and Practically Useful Estimator of the Stochastic Discount Factor" at 30th Annual Conference on PBFEAM (2022/5, Online)

"Do Mutual Funds Walk the Talk? A Textual Analysis of Risk Disclosure by Mutual Funds" at 2022

- Chinese Financial Technology Research Conference (2022/4, Online)
  "Granular Information and Sectoral Movements" at 2022 Annual Conference in Digital Economics (2022/1, Online)
- 2021 'Business News and Business Cycles" at Shanghai Finance Forefront Symposium (2021/12, Online) "AlphaPortfolio: Direct Construction Through Reinforcement Learning and Interpretable AI" at MFA Annual Meeting (2021/3, Online)
- 2019 "New Factors Wanted: Evidence from a Simple Specification Test" at China International Conference in Finance (2019/7, Guangzhou)
- 2018 "Risk-neutral Beta and Idiosyncratic Downside Risk of Individual Stocks" at New Zealand Finance Meeting (2018/12, Queenstown)