Kerry Back

Curriculum Vitae

Jones Graduate School of Business
Rice University
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Education

1983 **Ph.D., Economics**, *University of Kentucky*

1978 **B.A., Economics**, *Western Kentucky University*

Employment

Rice University

2023–present **Finance Area Coordinator**

2014–present **J. Howard Creekmore Professor of Finance and Professor of Economics**

2009–2014 **J. Howard Creekmore Professor of Finance**

Texas A&M University

2004–2009 **Jerry and Kay Cox Chair in Business and Thomas W. and Marion K. Leland Memorial Chair in Finance**

Washington University in Saint Louis

1996–2001, 2002–2003 **Senior Associate Dean, Academic Affairs**

1996–2004 **Vernon W. and Marion K. Piper Professor of Financial Economics**

1989–1996 **Visiting Associate, Associate, and Professor of Finance**

Indiana University

1987–1990 **Associate Professor of Finance**

University of Pennsylvania

1988–1989 **Visiting Assistant Professor of Economics**

Northwestern University

1982–1987 **Assistant Professor of Economics**

Books

1. Back, K., Liu, Hong, and Mark Loewenstein, in preparation, *Pricing and Hedging Derivative Securities: Theory and Methods*, book.derivative-securities.org.
2. Back, K., 2016, *Asset Pricing and Portfolio Choice Theory*, Oxford University Press, New York, 2nd ed.
3. Back, K., 2005, *A Course in Derivative Securities: Introduction to Theory and Computation*, Springer, Berlin. Chinese translation by Shanghai People's Publishing House.

Refereed Articles

1. Back, K., Carlin, B., Kazempour, S. M., and C. Xie, forthcoming, "Discretionary Announcement Timing and Stock Returns," *Journal of Finance*.
2. Back, K., Crotty, K., and S. M. Kazempour, 2022, "Validity, Tightness, and Forecasting Power of Risk Premium Bounds," *Journal of Financial Economics*, **144**, 732–760.
3. Back, K., and P. Barton, 2022, "Mediation and Strategic Delay in Bargaining and Markets," *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, **141**.
4. Back, K., Liu, R., and A. Teguia, 2020, "Signaling in OTC Markets: Benefits and Costs of Transparency," *Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis*, **55**, 47–75.
5. Back, K., Liu, R., and A. Teguia, 2019, "Increasing Risk Aversion and Life-Cycle Investing," *Mathematics and*

Financial Economics, **13**, 287–302.

6. Back, K., Collin-Dufresne, P., Fos, V., Li, T., and A. Ljungqvist, 2018, "Activism, Strategic Trading, and Liquidity," *Econometrica* **86**, 1431–1463.
7. Back, K., Crane, A., and K. Crotty, 2018, "Skewness Consequences of Seeking Alpha," *Review of Financial Studies*, **31**, 4720–4761.
8. Back, K., Crotty, K., and T. Li, 2018, "Identifying Information Asymmetry in Securities Markets," *Review of Financial Studies* **31**, 2277–2325.
9. Back, K., and K. Crotty, 2015, "The Informational Role of Stock and Bond Volume," *Review of Financial Studies* **28**, 1381–1427.
10. Back, K., 2014, "A Characterization of the Coskewness-Cokurtosis Pricing Model," *Economics Letters* **125**, 219–222.
11. Back, K., and S. Baruch, 2013, "Strategic Liquidity Provision in Limit Order Markets," *Econometrica* **81**, 363–392.
12. Back, K., and D. Paulsen, 2009, "Open Loop Equilibria and Perfect Competition in Option Exercise Games," *Review of Financial Studies* **22**, 4531–4552.
13. Back, K., and S. Baruch, 2007, "Working Orders in Limit Order Markets and Floor Exchanges," *Journal of Finance* **61**, 1589–1621.
14. Back, K., and S. Baruch, 2004, "Information in Securities Markets: Kyle Meets Glosten and Milgrom," *Econometrica* **72**, 433–465.
15. Back, K., and J. Zender, 2001, "Auctions of Divisible Goods with Endogenous Supply," *Economics Letters* **73**, 29–34.
16. Back, K., Cao, H., and G. Willard, 2000, "Imperfect Competition among Informed Traders," *Journal of Finance* **55**, 2117–2155 (nominated for Smith-Breeden award).
17. Dybvig, P. H., Rogers, L. C. G., and K. Back, 1999, "Portfolio Turnpikes," *Review of Financial Studies* **12**, 165–195.
18. Back, K., and H. Pedersen, 1998, "Long-Lived Information and Intraday Patterns," *Journal of Financial Markets* **1**, 385–402.
19. Back, K., and J. F. Zender, 1993, "Auctions of Divisible Goods: On the Rationale for the Treasury Experiment," *Review of Financial Studies* **6**, 733–764 (reprinted in Klemperer, Paul, ed., *The Economic Theory of Auctions*, 2000, Edward Elgar).
20. Back, K., 1993, "Asymmetric Information and Options," *Review of Financial Studies* **6**, 435–472 (received 1993 best paper award from RFS).
21. Back, K., and D. P. Brown, 1993, "Implied Probabilities in GMM Estimators," *Econometrica* **61**, 971–975.
22. Back, K., 1993, "Incomplete Markets and Individual Risks," *Economic Theory* **3**, 35–42.
23. Back, K., and D. P. Brown, 1992, "GMM, Maximum Likelihood, and Nonparametric Efficiency," *Economics Letters* **39**, 23–28.
24. Back, K., 1992, "Insider Trading in Continuous Time," *Review of Financial Studies* **5**, 387–409.
25. Back, K., 1991, "Asset Pricing for General Processes," *Journal of Mathematical Economics* **20**, 371–395.
26. Back, K., and S. R. Pliska, 1991, "On the Fundamental Theorem of Asset Pricing with an Infinite State Space," *Journal of Mathematical Economics* **20**, 1–18.
27. Back, K., 1988, "Structure of Consumption Sets and Existence of Equilibria in Infinite Dimensional Spaces," *Journal of Mathematical Economics* **17**, 39–49.
28. Back, K., 1988, "Convergence of Lagrange Multipliers and Dual Variables for Convex Optimization Problems," *Mathematics of Operations Research* **13**, 74–79.
29. Back, K., and S. R. Pliska, 1987, "The Shadow Price of Information in Continuous Time Decision Problems," *Stochastics* **22**, 151–186.
30. Back, K., 1987, "A Compact Space of Transitive Locally Non-Satiated Preference Relations," *Economics Letters* **24**, 1987, 253–256.
31. Back, K., 1986, "Concepts of Similarity for Utility Functions," *Journal of Mathematical Economics* **15**, 129–142.
32. Back, K., 1986, "Continuity of the Fenchel Transform of Convex Functions," *Proceedings of the American Mathematical Society* **97**, 661–667.

Working Papers

1. Back, K., and A. Ober, 2025, "Performance of Factor Models in a Simple Economy."
2. Back, K., Çelebi, O., Kakhbod, A., and A. M. Reppen, 2025, "Segmented Trading Markets."
3. Back, K., Cocquemas, F., Ekren, I., and A. Lioui, 2024, "Optimal Transport and Informed Trading in Securities Markets."

Other Publications

1. Back, K., 2010, "Martingale Pricing," *Annual Review of Financial Economics* **2**, 235–250.
2. Back, K., and S. Baruch, 2010, "The Kyle Model," in R. Cont, ed., *Encyclopedia of Quantitative Finance*, Wiley.
3. Back, K., 2004, "Incomplete and Asymmetric Information in Asset Pricing Theory," in M. Frittelli and W. Runggaldier, eds., *Stochastic Methods in Finance*, Lecture Notes in Mathematics, Springer.
4. Back, K., 1996, "Yield Curve Models: A Mathematical Review," in I. Nelkin, ed., *Option Embedded Bonds: Price Analysis, Credit Risk and Investment Strategies*, Irwin, 3–36.
5. Back, K., 1995, "Continuous Trading with Asymmetric Information and Imperfect Competition," in M. Davis, D. Duffie, W. Fleming, and S. Shreve, eds., *Mathematical Finance*, IMA Volumes in Mathematics and its Applications, Springer-Verlag.
6. Back, K., 1994, "Review of *Dynamic Asset Pricing Theory* by Darrell Duffie," in *Journal of Economic Literature* **32**, 708–9.
7. Back, K., 1991, "Review of *Prices in Financial Markets* by Michael U. Dothan," in *Review of Financial Studies* **4**, 221–226.

Editorial Positions

2022–present	Associate Editor, Journal of Finance (4th term)
2001–2011	Co-Editor, Finance and Stochastics
1994–1997	Editor, Review of Financial Studies
2003–2012	Associate Editor, Journal of Finance
1992–1994	Associate Editor, Review of Financial Studies
1993–1996	Associate Editor, Journal of Economic Theory
1995–1996	Associate Editor, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control
1990–1996	Associate Editor, Mathematical Finance
2015–2020	Associate Editor, Review of Asset Pricing Studies
2006–2021	Associate Editor, Mathematics and Financial Economics
2012–2019	Advisory Board, Finance and Stochastics
2012–2015	Advisory Board, FMA Survey and Synthesis Series

Ph.D. Committees Chaired and Initial Placements

Rice University

Patrick Blonien (Carnegie Mellon)
Seyed Mohammad Kazempour (LSU)
Paul Barton (SEC)
Alberto Teguia (University of British Columbia)
Ron Liu (University of Nebraska)
Morad Zekhnini (Tulane)

Texas A&M University

Philipp Illeditsch (Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania)

Washington University in St. Louis

Chris Yung (University of Colorado)
Tao Li (Chinese University of Hong Kong)

Shmuel Baruch (London Business School)
Hal Pedersen (Georgia State)

Teaching Awards

2023 Financial Management Association Innovation in Teaching Award (joint with Kevin Crotty)
2001 Executive Masters in Manufacturing Management Reid Teaching Award, Olin School of Business
1999 Executive M.B.A. Reid Teaching Award, Olin School of Business
1998 Professional M.B.A. Reid Teaching Award, Olin School of Business
1997 Executive M.B.A. Reid Teaching Award, Olin School of Business

Other Teaching Contributions

2009–present JGSB Finance Ph.D. Coordinator
Creator (with Kevin Crotty) of Learn Investments @ Rice Business
2021–2023 Advisor to Rice MBA teams that won the Chicago Quantitative Alliance Investment Challenge in 2021–22 and 2022–23

Other Awards and Honors

2024 Western Finance Association Keynote Speaker
2018–present Member of the Foundation for the Advancement of Research in Financial Economics
2017–present Fellow of the Finance Theory Group
2016 Nominated for AFA Board of Directors
2014 Charles River Associates prize for best paper in corporate finance, WFA: "Liquidity and Governance" (with Tao Li and Alexander Ljungqvist)
2013 University of Kentucky Gatton School of Business Alumni Hall of Fame
2013, 2019 Jones Graduate School of Business Scholarship Excellence Award
2007 Mays Business School Outstanding Research Award
2000 Kentucky Economic Association Distinguished Economist
1999 Washington University Distinguished Faculty Member
1993 Best paper in *Review of Financial Studies*: "Asymmetric Information and Options"
1991–1992 Batterymarch Fellow

Other Professional Activities

2015 Distinguished Visiting Scholar, Securities and Exchange Commission
2013–2014 Jon M. Huntsman Presidential Visiting Professor, Utah State University
2010–2011 AFA Editor Search Committee
1994 AFA Director Nomination Committee

Program Committee

2003–present Utah Winter Finance Conference
2007–present Financial Intermediation Research Society
2012–2014 Society for Financial Studies Cavalcade
1992, 2012–present Financial Management Association
2015–present European Finance Association
2014–present Finance Down Under Conference

1999, 2002 American Finance Association

1995–1998, 2002 Western Finance Association

Software

2010 *SimX*, written with Shmuel Baruch. This package consists of a server (the exchange) and client (for traders). The server is an Erlang program that runs in the Erlang shell and operates an open limit order book for a single stock. Students connect via the client from their computers and use the client to submit and cancel limit orders. Simulations can be run with numerous options concerning the frequency, size and distribution of automated noise and news trades. Students participate in the simulations as dealers or as traders with assigned trades to execute. Performance is measured for dealers in terms of risk-adjusted gains and for traders relative to the volume weighted average price.

Ad Hoc Reviewer

Finance

Annals of Finance, Journal of Business, European Finance Review, Journal of Finance, Finance and Stochastics, Journal of Financial and Quantitative Analysis, Journal of Financial Economics, Journal of Financial Intermediation, Review of Financial Studies, Mathematical Finance, Review of Quantitative Finance and Accounting, International Journal of Theoretical and Applied Finance

Economics

American Economic Review, Econometrica, Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control, International Economic Review, Review of Economic Studies, Economic Theory, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Mathematical Economics, Journal of Money, Credit and Banking, National Science Foundation (Division of Economics), Journal of Political Economy, Economic Inquiry, European Economic Review

Applied Mathematics

Annals of Applied Probability, Applied Mathematics & Optimization, Israel Science Foundation, Management Science, Mathematical Programming, Mathematics of Operations Research, National Science Foundation (Division of Mathematics), Optimal Control Applications & Methods, Journal of Optimization Theory and Applications, SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization, Stochastic Processes and their Applications

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