

# YIFAN YU

## PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

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## EDUCATION

**Princeton University** PhD Candidate Economics Expected 2020

**Princeton University** MA Economics 2016

**Mount Holyoke College** BA Economics, Mathematics, Magna Cum Laude 2011

## EMPLOYMENT

**Harvard University** June 2015 - August 2015

Research assistant for Professor Gita Gopinath, *Department of Economics*

**Federal Reserve Bank of Boston** June 2011 - July 2014

Senior Research Assistant, *Finance and Macroeconomics Group, Research Department*

**United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)** June 2010 - August 2010

Research Assistant, *Social Policy and Economic Analysis Section, East Asia and the Pacific Regional Office*

## REFERENCES

Professor Moto Yogo

Bendheim Center for Finance

Department of Economics

Princeton University

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Professor Wei Xiong

Bendheim Center for Finance

Department of Economics

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Professor Adrien Matray

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## RESEARCH FIELDS

Empirical Finance, Fixed Income Market, Institutional Investors

## **HONORS**

<b>Princeton University Fellowships, Princeton University</b>	2014 - 2020
<b>Galbraith Graduate Fellowship for Graduate Education in Economics, Mount Holyoke College</b>	2014
<b>Certificate of Excellence, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston</b>	2011, 2012
<b>Phi Beta Kappa, National Academic Honors Society</b>	2011

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

<b>ECO 363: Corporate Finance and Financial Institutions</b>	Spring 2018, 2019
Teaching assistant for Professor David Schoenherr, Professor Adrien Matray	
<b>FIN 594/ECO 494: Chinese Financial and Monetary Systems</b>	Fall 2016, 2017, 2018
Teaching assistant for Professor Wei Xiong	
<b>ECO 361: Financial Accounting</b>	Fall 2020, Spring 2017
Teaching assistant for Professor Donal Byard, Professor Roman Weil	

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Programming: Python, Java, Stata, Matlab, R, Sas  
Language: English, Chinese, French (intermediate), German (basic), Spanish (basic)

## **JOB MARKET PAPER**

### **Hunt-for-Duration in Corporate Bond Market**

*Abstract:* This paper demonstrates that life insurers, who are the largest players in the corporate bond market, shift their corporate bond portfolios towards bonds with longer duration as the interest rates decline to historical lows since the 2008 financial crisis. This is due to life insurers' interest rate risk hedging to ensure better duration matching between their assets and liabilities. This paper further examines the implication of life insurers' hunt-for-duration behavior for bond prices. I show that hunt-for-duration on the part by life insurers can drive overpricing of corporate bonds when a negative monetary policy surprise hits.

## **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

### **The Impact of the Risk-Based Capital Reform in the Insurance Industry on Corporate Bond Issuance**

*Abstract:* In response to more frequent and severe insolvencies of insurance companies in the late 1980s and early 1990s, National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) introduced a risk-based capital (RBC) system to limit the amount of risk an insurance company can take. One core component of the RBC rules deals with asset risks stemming from the assets on insurance companies' portfolios. As large participants in the corporate bond market, insurers could react to the RBC system by taking on bonds subject to smaller RBC requirements, thereby creating a shift in credit supply to corporations. Since insurance companies are important sources of funding for U.S. corporations, this paper investigates if the initial adoption of the NAIC RBC regulation in year 1993 affects corporations' ability to raise funds from the corporate bond

market. Specifically, I study if bond issuers responded to change in credit supply by issuing less new bonds or inflating yields at issuance to compensate the insurance companies for higher RBC requirements.