# Linyu (Lucy) ZHOU, PhD

School of Accounting and Finance Contact

Phone:  $+852\ 6879-3197$ 

Information The Hong Kong Polytechnic University Hung Hom, Kowloon, Hong Kong

E-mail: linyu.zhou@polyu.edu.hk Web: https://linyuzhou.netlify.app

EMPLOYMENT

# School of Accounting and Finance, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

2023.08 - present Postdoctoral Fellow Supervisor: Prof. Jie Jay Cao

**EDUCATION** 

# Department of Finance, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2018.08 - 2023.07Ph.D. in Finance Supervisor: Prof. Hua Zhang

Ph.D. courses taught by Bing Han (Toronto); Andrew Ellul (Indiana); Tarun Chordia (Emory); Amit Goyal (HEC-Lausanne); Xavier Giroud (Columbia); Jarrad Harford (Washington), etc.

# Department of Mathematics, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China

M.Sc. in Probability and Mathematical Statistics 2014 - 2017

2010 - 2014B.Sc. in Statistics

Areas of Interests Research: Fixed Income Securities, Financial Institutions, Climate Finance, Textual Analysis

Teaching: Investments, Fixed Income, Financial Markets, Sustainable Finance

- RESEARCH PAPERS 1. Do Bond Short Sellers React to Earnings Conference Calls?
  - 2. Carbon Emissions, Mutual Fund Trading, and the Liquidity of Corporate Bonds (with Jie Cao, Yi Li, Xintong Zhan, and Weiming Zhang)
  - Major revision at Management Science
  - 3. Idiosyncratic Bond Volatility and Funding Liquidity (with Jie Cao, and Tarun Chordia)
  - Under review
  - 4. Do Insurers Listen to Earnings Conference Calls? Evidence from the Corporate Bond Market (with Jie Cao, Gang Li, Russell Wermers, and Xintong Zhan)
  - AFA 2024, MIT Asia Accounting Conference 2023

WORK-IN-PROGRESS 1. Does the Financial Health of Insurance Companies Affect Bond Market Stability?

- 2. The ESG Preference of Insurance Companies and Municipal Bond Prices
- 3. Dissecting the Market Impacts of Bond ETF Trading
- 4. The Bond Short Selling around FOMC Announcements
- **5.** Do Short Sellers Target Corporate Green Bonds?

TEACHING EXPERIENCE Teaching Assistant, CUHK Business School, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

Empirical Asset Pricing (PhD) 2021

2019 - 2020 Current Topics in Finance (MBA) 2020 - 2023 Financial Management (Undergraduate) 2018 - 2019 Fundamentals of Business Finance (Undergraduate)

Pres	SENTATIONS
AND	DISCUSSIONS

Selected Presentations (# online,* by coauthor) Page 2
• American Finance Association Annual Meeting, Texas, US * 2024
• The 20 <sup>th</sup> Chinese Finance Annual Meeting, Beijing, China *
• The $10^{th}$ SAFE Asset Pricing Workshop, Frankfurt, Germany * 2023
• FIRN Asset Management Meeting, Brisbane, Australia * 2023
• XJTLU AI and Big Data in Accounting and Finance, Suzhou, China 2023
• China Fintech Research Conference, Chengdu, China 2023
$ullet$ The $2^{nd}$ Workshop on Theory and Application of Big Data Econometrics, Changsha, China 2023
• Big Data and Statistical Science Interdisciplinary Academic Forum, Shenzhen, China 2023
$ullet$ The $1^{st}$ Academic Conference on Financial Technology and Big Data, Guilin, China 2023
• FMA Annual Meeting, Atlanta, US # 2022
• Mordant Risk Society (MRS) PhD Seminar # 2022
• Midwest Finance Association Meetings (MFA), Chicago, US * 2022
$\bullet$ Financial Markets and Corporate Governance Conference (FMCG), Melbourne, Australia $^\#$ 202:
$\bullet$ The $4^{th}$ Xiamen University Finance Engineering & Quantitative Finance Workshop, China $^{\#}$ 202:
• Shanghai-Edinburgh-London Green Finance Conference, Shanghai, China # 2023
• Finance and Accounting Annual Research Symposium (FARS), London, UK # 2023
• The 4 <sup>th</sup> Israel Behavioral Finance Conference, Tel Aviv-Yaffo, Israel #*
• China International Risk Forum (CIRF), Dalian, China # 2022
• FMA European Conference, Lyon, France # 2023
• CSR, the Economy and Financial Markets, Tokyo, Japan # 202
• The 7 <sup>th</sup> Annual Volatility Institute Conference at NYU Shanghai, Shanghai, China #* 202
• The 16 <sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Asia-Pacific Financial Markets (CAFM), Seoul, Korea # 202
• New Zealand Finance Meeting (NZFM), Auckland, New Zealand # 202
• The 34 <sup>th</sup> Australasian Finance and Banking Conference (AFBC), Sydney, Australia # 202
• World Finance and Banking Symposium (WFBS), Budapest, Hungary # 202
Discussions
• Mutual Fund Derivative Usage, Fire-sale Spillovers, and Corporate Bond Market Fragility, China Finance Review International (CFRI) and CIRF Joint Conference, by Quan Qi 2023
• Predicting Individual Corporate Bond Returns, XJTLU AI and Big Data in Accounting and Fi nance Conference, by Xin He, Guanhao Feng, Junbo Wang, and Chunchi Wu 2023
• The Impact of Introducing a (Nearly) Redundant Security: Evidence from Malaysian Corporate Bonds, FMA annual meeting, by Jean Helwege, Amanda Liu, and Frank Packer 2023
• A Structural Model of Liquidity in Over-the-Counter Markets, Financial Markets and Corporate Governance Conference, by Jamie Coen and Patrick Coen 202
• Instantaneous Volatility of the Yield Curve, Variance Risk Premium and Bond Return Predictability, The 4 <sup>th</sup> Xiamen University Finance Engineering & Quant Finance Workshop, by Ximing Yin2022
• Green Public Procurement and Corporate Environment and Policy: Spillover Effect, Shanghai Edinburgh-London Green Finance Conference, by Wendi Huang  202:
• Tax Avoidance as An Unintended Consequence of Environmental Regulation: Evidence from the

• Asset Growth Anomaly of Corporate Bonds: A Decomposition Analysis, China International Risk Forum, by Fang Chen, Yifei Li, Wenfeng Wu, and Tong Yu 2022

EU ETS, Finance and Accounting Annual Research Symposium, by Vincent Compagnie, Kristof

2022

Struyfs, and Wouter Torsin

- The Impact of the HYG ETF on the Liquidity of the Markets for the Underlying High-Yield Bonds, FMA European Conference, by John D. Finnerty and Natalia Reisel 2022
- LTCM Redux? Hedge Fund Treasury Trading and Funding Fragility during the COVID-19 Crisis, Australasian Finance and Banking Conference, by Mathias S. Kruttli, Phillip J. Monin, Lubomir Petrasek, and Sumudu W. Watugala 2021
- Does a Financial Crisis Impair Corporate Innovation? World Finance and Banking Symposium, by Masami Imai and Michiru Sawada 2021

# Honors and Awards

- Postgraduate Fellowship, The Chinese University of Hong Kong 2018 2023
- Outstanding Postgraduate, Nanjing University 2017
- $\bullet$  1<sup>st</sup> Prize Graduate Academic Scholarship, Nanjing University 2014
- Outstanding Graduate, Nanjing University 2014
- Outstanding Student, Nanjing University 2012 2013

# OTHER INFORMATION

- Computer Skills: SAS, STATA, Python, R, LaTeX
- Databases: CRSP, Compustat, TRACE, Mergent FISD, eMAXX, NAIC, RavenPack, TAQ, Bloomberg, SEC Edgar, Seeking Alpha
- Languages: Chinese (Native); English (Fluent)
- CFA Level II Passed, FRM Level II Passed

### References

# Jie (Jay) CAO

Professor of Finance School of Accounting and Finance The Hong Kong Polytechnic University jie.cao@polyu.edu.hk, (+852) 2766-7099

# Tarun CHORDIA

R. Howard Dobbs, Jr. Chaired Professor of Finance Goizueta Business School Emory University Tarun.Chordia@emory.edu, +1 (404) 727-1620

# Hua ZHANG

Professor of Finance Department of Finance, CUHK Business School The Chinese University of Hong Kong hzhang@cuhk.edu.hk, (+852) 3943-7760

### Xintong ZHAN

Li-Dasan Chair Professor of Finance School of Management Fudan University xintongzhan@fudan.edu.cn, (+86) 21 2501-1205

## 1. Do Bond Short Sellers React to Earnings Conference Calls?

This paper examines how short sellers make use of the textual information in firms' earnings conference calls in trading corporate bonds. I find that short-sale activities increase for corporate bonds issued by firms with more negative earnings conference calls. The relation is not driven by looser short-sale constraints, nor the spillover from equity short-sale activities. Bond short sellers are skilled at processing soft information in earnings conference calls, especially the default-related information. Bonds of firms with more negative conference calls are more likely to be downgraded and default, and have lower returns in the future. Besides, the impact of the conference call tone spills over to the shorting volumes of bonds issued by private industry peers.

# 2. Carbon Emissions, Mutual Fund Trading, and the Liquidity of Corporate Bonds (with Jie Cao, Yi Li, Xintong Zhan, and Weiming Zhang)

### - Major revision at Management Science

This paper investigates how climate-related risks affect the trading behavior of bond mutual funds and tests the underlying mechanisms. We find that mutual funds collectively sell corporate bonds issued by firms with high carbon emissions, driven by funds' concerns about carbon-related redemption risks, rather than by a permanent shift in funds' investing preferences. Higher carbon exposures in mutual fund portfolios lead to more investor outflows, and bonds tend to experience more intensive selling if their holding mutual funds have higher flow-to-carbon sensitivity. Bonds issued by high-carbon firms experience worse liquidity conditions, especially when concerns about carbon-related risks heighten.

# 3. Idiosyncratic Bond Volatility and Funding Liquidity

(with Jie Cao, and Tarun Chordia)

A positive cross-sectional relation between returns and lagged idiosyncratic volatility (IVOL) obtains in the corporate bond market because dealers are less willing to accept high IVOL bonds into inventory during low funding liquidity periods and the subsequent relaxation of this constraint causes an increase in prices. An exogenous shock to funding liquidity due to the Volcker rule (which limited the provision of liquidity by corporate bond dealers) drives the identification. Both, the time-series shock to the supply of funding liquidity and the cross-sectional variations in the demand for funding liquidity following the Volcker rule, impact the bond IVOL-return relation.

# 4. Do Insurers Listen to Earnings Conference Calls? Evidence from the Corporate Bond Market

(with Jie Cao, Gang Li, Russell Wermers, and Xintong Zhan)

# - AFA 2024, MIT Asia Accounting Conference 2023

We find that insurance companies decrease their holdings of a bond if the tone of the bond issuer's earnings conference call is more negative. The net negative tone of conference calls significantly predicts the issuer's default risk, which is a central concern for insurance companies. By creating a novel default-related dictionary, we further confirm that insurance companies react to the tone related to default information in conference calls. Bonds issued by firms with more negative conference calls and largely held by insurance companies experience lower returns after the calls. The aggregate selling of insurance companies triggered by negative conference calls would spill over to private industry peers and lead to liquidity risk in the underlying corporate bond market.