ZHENNING ZHAO

Austin, Texas | Tel: +1(512)468-5179 | Email: znzhao@utexas.edu

SUMMARY

4th-year Ph.D. student in macroeconomics with strong math background and 6+ years of research experience using Python, Stata, and MATLAB. Focused on finance and business cycle research leveraging massive datasets and structural modeling. Further equipped with a skill set of time series, causal inference and applied machine learning techniques.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, The University of Texas at Austin **05/2024 (Expected)**

- Highlighted Courses:
  Causality Inference, A/B Testing, and Applied Machine Learning with Python (Udacity/Coursera Courses)
  Ph.D. Sequence Field Courses of Macroeconomics, Empirical Asset Pricing and Econometrics (UT Austin)
- Graduate Student Fellowship

MA, Economics, The University of Texas at Austin **2019**

- Highlighted Course:
  Master Level Time Series and Data Mining Course (UT Austin)

Bachelor's Degree, Mathematical Economics and Finance, CUFE, China **2016**

SELECTED ACADEMIC RESEARCH PROJECT

The Social Media Channel of the FOMC induced Sentiment Shock **2022**

- Trained a state-of-the-art ULMfit machine learning model using Python and fastai library at 82% accuracy
- Applied text mining technology to identify the sentiment of the tweets
- Combined with high frequency identification to detect the FOMC meeting induced sentiment changes

Uncertainty shocks and Different Types of Financial Constraints **2022**

- Performed casual inference regression using IV techniques
- Processed the Compustat dataset containing massive company financial report data with Python and Stata
- Concluded heterogenous roles of the different types of debt that a firm owes when uncertainty increases

WORK EXPERIENCE

Graduate Research Assistant, UT Austin

Project: Central Bank Digit Currency, Banking, and Zero Lower Bound **2022**

- Carefully verified the DSGE math model
- Handled model realization with MATLAB codes

Project: What Do We Learn from Reading Every FOMC Transcript? **2019**

- Conducted the information labeling of the FOMC transcripts
- Organized and regularly reported the labeled data

Industrial and Commercial Bank of China HQ (Beijing, China) **2016 - 2018**

Assistant Manager, Asset Custody Department

- Maintained and reviewed 50+ mutual fund accounts at the company owning the largest market share
- Prepared accurate monthly consolidated financial statements and year-end financial reports
- Presented fund performance report frequently to the investor clients

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

CFA Level 2 Candidate **2017**

Research Skills: Quantitative Modeling, Data Analysis, Time Series, Machine Learning, Causal Inference

Computer Skills: MATLAB, Python, LaTeX, Stata, R, SQL