# Yutong Hu

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Education:				
2018 - present Ph.D.		Finance	London Business School	
2017	M.A.	Economics	Columbia University	
2016	B.S.	Finance (summa cum laude)	Case Western Reserve University	

Research Interests: Empirical Asset pricing, intersection of corporate finance and asset pricing.

Working Paper:

• Option Return Predictability, a Machine-Learning Approach (with Prof. Steven Wei Ho), submitted to Western Finance Association Conference (WFA 2018), submitted to Review of Financial Studies FinTech Conference (RFS FinTech 2018).

We apply the Least Absolute Shrinkage and Selection Operator (LASSO) to make option return forecasts using 101 signals as candidate predictors. We investigate the entire option universe from January 1996 to December 2016. We hold the options till maturity and buy the options from inception with corresponding positions in the underlying stocks to establish a delta-hedge. Our LASSO results yield delta-hedged trading strategies with a monthly Sharpe ratio of 0.26 (0.90 annualized) for at-the-money calls and 0.91 (3.15 annualized) for at-the-money puts, and even higher for out-of-money calls and puts. The LASSO selected predictors also work well out-of sample. The LASSO selected predictors are different if we restrict our attention to options of different moneyness or maturities (30-, 60-, or 90-day).

# Master's Thesis Paper:

• Testing the Effectiveness of a Trading Strategy Based on Firm Size, Book-to-Market Ratio, Momentum, Profitability, and Asset Growth

Firm size, momentum, cash holdings, asset growth rate and book-to-market ratio have been proven to be effective in predicting high future stock returns by many researchers. This study evaluates the effectiveness of a mixed trading strategy proposed by Professor Steven Wei Ho that integrates all of the five single trading strategies on the recent U.S. stock market. The power of the trading strategies is measured by the abnormal returns generated under the Fama's Three Factor model. The results show that implementing each single strategy in appropriate order as the mixed strategy, the resulted abnormal return is much higher and more significant than those are generated by each single strategy.

### **Honors and Awards:**

2016.05	The Weatherhead School of Management Award, Case Western Reserve		
	University		
2016.05	Out Standing Finance Student Award, Case Western Reserve University		

2015.04 The Kevin J. Semelsberger Prize for excellence in management, Case Western Reserve University

### **Research Experience:**

Summer 2017-present

Research Assistant for Professor Steven Wei Ho (Columbia University)

#### **Additional Skills:**

Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent), Japanese (conversational) Software: SAS, STATA, MATLAB, SPSS, Adobe Audition, Cool Edit Pro

## **References:**

#### Steven Wei Ho

Adjunct Assistant Professor Economics Department Columbia University 203-928-9188 sh3513@columbia.edu

## **Steven Olley**

Lecturer in Discipline Economics Department Columbia University 212-854-5712 gso2106@columbia.edu

#### Jushan Bai

Professor Economics Department Columbia University 212-854-8033 jb3064@columbia.edu

# **CNV Krishnan**

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