Wan Ni LAI

Professor

Academy: Digitalization

Research center: Finance & Accounting Insights on Risk and Regulation

Campus: Sophia Antipolis

Email: wanni.lai@skema.edu

Research interests

Asset pricing, financial derivatives, portfolio management

Education

2022	Habilitation à Diriger des Recherches, Economy, Finance, Université Côte d'Azur, France
2009	Ph.D. in Management Sciences - Finance, Aix-Marseille Université, France
2006	DEA in Financial Instruments, Aix-Marseille Université, France
2004	MSc in Finance, EDHEC Business School, France
1997	BEng in Electrical Engineering, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Experience

Full-time academic positions

Since 2025	Professor, SKEMA Business School, France
2016 - 2024	Associate Professor, SKEMA Business School, France
2009 - 2016	Assistant Professor, KEDGE Business School, France

Other academic affiliations and appointments

Since 2024	Head of the Research Ethics Committee, SKEMA Business School, France
2016 - 2019	Program Director Master of Science in Corporate Financial Management, SKEMA Business School, France

Other professional experiences

2001 - 2005	Assistant Director of Applications (IT/Finance Applications), Monetary Authority of Singapore, Singapore

Research grants, Awards and Honors

Awards and Honors

2023	Faculty Excellence Award for Learning Experience, SKEMA Business School, France
2005	Merlion Scholarship to pursue a PhD in France, French Embassy, Singapore, Singapore
1999	Institute of Systems Science Book Prize, National University of Singapore

Publications

Peer-reviewed journal articles

GUENICHE, A., DUPUY, P. and LAI, W.N. (2023). Price contingent and pricevolume contingent portfolio strategies. *Journal of Asset Management*, 24(3), pp. 173-183.

LAI, W.N. (2022). Detecting stock market regimes from option prices. *Operations Research Letters*, 50(3), pp. 260-267.

LAI, W.N., CHEN, C.Y.T. and SUN, E. (2022). Risk factor extraction with quantile regression method. *Annals of Operations Research*, 316, pp. 1543–1572.

LAI, W.N., CHEN, Y.T. and SUN, E. (2021). Comonotonicity and Low Volatility Effect. *Annals of Operations Research*, 299(1-2), pp. 1057-1099.

GROSLAMBERT, B. and LAI, W.N. (2020). Ranking tail risk across international stock markets. *Economics Bulletin*, 40(2), pp. 1756-1768.

GROSLAMBERT, B., BASU, D. and LAI, W.N. (2019). Is tail risk the missing link between institutions and risk? *Economics Bulletin*, 39(2), pp. 1435-1448.

CHEN, Y.T., LAI, W.N. and SUN, E. (2019). Jump Detection and Noise Separation by Singular Wavelet Method for Forecasting with High-Frequency Data. *Computational Economics*, 54(2), pp. 809-844.

LAI, W.N. (2016). Do academic investment insights benefit society? *Research in International Business and Finance*, 38(C), pp. 172-176.

LAI, W.N. (2016). Evaluating the sovereign and household credit risk in Singapore: A contingent claims approach. *Research in International Business and Finance*, 37(C), pp. 435-447.

LAI, W.N. (2012). Faith Matters? A Closer Look at the Performance of Belief-Based Investments. *Journal of Asset Management*, 13(6), pp. 421-436.

LAI, W.N. (2012). Investors Expectations and Preferences during the Financial Crisis and the Bursting Internet Bubble: Evidence from the Options Markets. *Bankers, Markets & Investors*, 120(1), pp. 20-35.

LAI, W.N. (2011). Comparison of methods to estimate option implied risk-neutral densities. *Quantitative Finance*, 14(10), pp. 1839-1855.

GOLTZ, F. and LAI, W.N. (2009). Empirical Properties of Straddle Returns. *Journal of Derivatives*, 17(1), pp. 38-48.

Conference presentations

LAI, W.N. (2015). Sorting out low volatility stocks: Disentangling specific and systematic risk components. In: FEBS (International Conference of the Financial Engineering and Banking Society). Nantes.

LAI, W.N. (2015). Sorting out low volatility stocks: Disentangling specific and systematic risk components. In: AFFI (Association Française de Finance) Conference. Cergy.

LAI, W.N. (2011). Comparison of Non-Parametric Methods for Extracting Option Implied Risk-Neutral Distributions. In: SGF (Swiss Society for Financial Market Research) Annual Conference. Zurich.

LAI, W.N. (2010). A Tale of Two Crises. In: AFFI (Association Française de Finance) Conference. St Malo.

Other research activities

Reviewer for:

Journal of Futures Markets, European Financial Management, Empirical Economics, Economics Bulletin, Annals of Operations Research, Finance Research Letters, Journal of Futures Markets

PhD supervision

Since 2025	M. ISE, SKEMA Business School, PhD thesis, Thesis co-director
Since 2022	S. K. LU, SKEMA Business School, PhD thesis, Thesis director
Since 2019	L. REINALDO, SKEMA Business School, PhD thesis, Thesis director
2025	F. ROBERT, Grenoble Ecole de Management, PhD thesis, Thesis Reviewer
2023	K. IDBENJRA, IÉSEG School of Management, PhD thesis, Thesis Reviewer
2023	J. FARHAT, SKEMA Business School, PhD thesis, Thesis jury member

Other academic activities

2025	Scientific committee member -European Finance Association 52 Annual Meeting