

YACINE AÏT-SAHALIA

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EXPERIENCE

- 1998-present **Princeton University, Department of Economics and Bendheim Center for Finance** Princeton, New Jersey
2002-present: Otto A. Hack 1903 Professor of Finance and Economics.
1998-2002: Professor of Finance and Economics.
1998-2014: Founding Director, Bendheim Center for Finance.
Courtesy appointments in the Departments of Operations Research and Financial Engineering, the Program in Applied and Computational Mathematics and the Center for Statistics and Machine Learning.
- 1993-1998 **University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business** Chicago, Illinois
Assistant Professor (1993-96), Associate Professor (1996-98), Professor of Finance (1998).

EDUCATION

- 1989-1993 **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.)** Cambridge, Mass.
Department of Economics
Ph.D. in Economics. Fields: Finance and Econometrics.
Ph.D. Thesis: "Nonparametric Functional Estimation with Applications to Financial Models." Thesis Advisors: Jerry A. Hausman, Andrew W. Lo. and Whitney K. Newey.
- 1987-1989 **Ecole Nationale de la Statistique et de l'Administration Economique (E.N.S.A.E.)** Paris, France
Diplôme de l'ENSAE and M.S. in Economics and Statistics.
M.S. Thesis: "Stock Prices with Bubbles, Fads or Sunspots."
- Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris** Paris, France
Diplôme de l'I.E.P. Concentration in International Relations and Economics.
- 1985-1987 **Ecole Polytechnique** Palaiseau, France
B.S. in Mathematics (Diplôme d'Ingénieur de l'Ecole Polytechnique). Curriculum included Mathematics, Computer Science, Physics and Engineering Science.
Undergraduate Thesis: "Entropy and Equity."
- 1983-1985 **Lycée Louis-le-Grand** Paris, France
Preparatory Classes to Grandes Ecoles Scientifiques. Concentration in Mathematics.
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HONORS AND AWARDS

- 2024 Great Arab Minds Award, Economics.
- 2021 Tinbergen Annual Econometrics Lectures, Erasmus University, Rotterdam.
- 2020 Elected Fellow of the International Association for Applied Econometrics.
- 2014 Halbert White Memorial Lecture, Society for Financial Econometrics.
- 2012-present International Scientific Council of the Institut Louis Bachelier.
- 2012 Elected Fellow of the Society for Financial Econometrics.
- 2011-12 Vice-President of the International Scientific Jury, Agence Nationale de la Recherche.
- 2009 CORE Lectures, Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium.
- 2008 Hermann Otto Hirschfeld Lectures, Humbolt University, Berlin.
- 2008 Fellow, *Journal of Econometrics*.
- 2008 Elected Fellow of the American Statistical Association.
- 2008-09 John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellow.
- 2006 Econometric Society Australasian Meeting *E.J. Hannan Lecture*.
- 2005 Econometric Society World Congress Invited Lecture.
- 2004 Elected Fellow of the Institute of Mathematical Statistics.
- 2003 Dennis J. Aigner Award for the best paper in applied econometrics published in the *Journal of Econometrics* in 2001 and 2002.
- 2003-2006 Director of the Western Finance Association.
- 2002 Elected Fellow of the Econometric Society.
- 2001 Awarded the 2001 Annual FAME Research Prize.
- 1998-2000 Awarded Alfred P. Sloan Research Fellowship.
- 2009-2012 NSF Grant: "Specification Analysis of Continuous-Time Models"
- 2005-2008 NSF Grant: "Nonparametric Transition Based-Tests for Markov Processes"
- 2004-2007 NSF Grant: "The Econometrics of Distinguishing Jumps from Volatility"
- 2001-2004 NSF Grant: "Econometric Methods for Discretely-Sampled Continuous-Time Models"
- 1998-2001 NSF Grant: "The Dynamics of Interest Rates: Specification Analysis"
- 1998 Cornerstone Research Award by the *Western Finance Association*.
- 1997 Michael J. Brennan Award for the best paper published in the *Review of Financial Studies* in 1996.
- 1997 Invited lecturer: *American Mathematical Society* and *Institute of Mathematical Statistics*.
- 1997, 98 Member of the Program Committee of the *Econometric Society*.
- 2000, 03, 04 Named an "outstanding faculty" by *Business Week's* Guide to the Best Business Schools.
- 1997 Named an "outstanding faculty" by *Business Week's* Guide to the Best Business Schools.
- 1995-present Faculty Research Fellow (1995-98), then Research Associate (1998-present), at the *National Bureau of Economic Research*.

- 1995 Emory Williams Award for Excellence in Teaching (“Teacher of the Year”) at the Graduate School of Business, University of Chicago.
- 1994 Zellner Thesis Award by the *American Statistical Association*, honorable mention.
- May 1993 Invited to *The Review of Economic Studies* 1993 European Tour, designed to “promote the doctoral work of the most promising young researchers.”
- 1989-93 Awarded M.I.T. Doctoral Fellowship.
- July 1989 *Lauréat avec les félicitations spéciales du Jury* of Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris (*Summa cum Laude*). Ranked first.
- July 1987 Awarded Ecole Polytechnique's Prize for Best Undergraduate Thesis of the Year (*Prix d'Option de l'Ecole Polytechnique*). B.S. *Summa cum Laude*.
- July 1985 Ranked first and third (top 1/1000) of applicants taking competitive entrance exams to France's "Grandes Ecoles" (Ecole Polytechnique, Ecole des Mines-Ponts and Ecole Centrale).
- July 1983 Baccalauréat Mention Très Bien (*Summa cum Laude*).

PUBLICATIONS

“Saddlepoint Approximations for Hawkes Jump-Diffusion Processes with an Application to Risk Management,” with Roger Laeven, forthcoming in the [Journal of the American Statistical Association](#).

“How and When are High-Frequency Stock Returns Predictable?”, with Jianqing Fan, Lirong Xue and Xiaonan Zhu, forthcoming in [Management Science](#).

“Continuous-Time Fama-MacBeth Regressions,” with Jean Jacod and Dacheng Xiu, [Review of Financial Studies](#), 2025, 38, 3542-3579.

“When Uncertainty and Volatility Are Disconnected: Implications for Asset Pricing and Portfolio Performance,” with Felix Matthys, Emilio Osambela and Ronnie Sircar, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2025, 248, 105654.

“Non-Standard Errors,” crowdsourcing project with 342 coauthors, [Journal of Finance](#), 2024, 79, 2339-2390.

“Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Latent Markov Models Using Closed-Form Approximations,” with Chenxu Li and Chen Xu Li, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2024, 240, 105008.

“High Frequency Market Making and Volatility: The Role of Speed,” with Mehmet Saglam, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2024, 239, 105421.

“Closed-form Implied Volatility Surfaces for Stochastic Volatility Models with Jumps,” with Chenxu Li and Chen Xu Li, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2021, 222, 364-392.

“Implied Stochastic Volatility Models,” with Chenxu Li and Chen Xu Li, [Review of Financial Studies](#), 2021, 34, 394-450.

“From Tick Data to Semimartingales,” with Jean Jacod, [Annals of Applied Probability](#), 2020, 30, 2740-2768.

“The Term Structure of Equity and Variance Risk Premia,” with Mustafa Karaman and Lorian Mancini, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2020, 219, 204-230.

“High Frequency Traders and the Price Process,” with Celso Brunetti, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2020, 217, 20-45.

“High-Frequency Factor Models and Regressions,” with Ilze Kalnina and Dacheng Xiu, [Journal of Econometrics](#), 2020, 216, 86-105.

“Robust Consumption and Portfolio Policies When Asset Prices Can Jump,” with Felix Matthys, Journal of Economic Theory, 2019, 179, 1-56.

“Principal Component Analysis of High Frequency Data,” with Dacheng Xiu, Journal of the American Statistical Association, 2019, 114, 287-303.

“A Hausman Test for the Presence of Market Microstructure Noise in High Frequency Data,” with Dacheng Xiu, Journal of Econometrics, 2019, 211, 176-205.

“Semimartingale: Itô or Not?,” with Jean Jacod, Stochastic Processes and their Applications, 2018, 128, 233-254.

“Estimation of the Continuous and Discontinuous Leverage Effects,” with Jianqing Fan, Roger J.A. Laeven, Christina Dan Wang and Xiye Yang, Journal of the American Statistical Association, 2017, 112, 1744-1758.

“Using Principal Component Analysis to Estimate a High Dimensional Factor Model with High Frequency Data,” with Dacheng Xiu, Journal of Econometrics, 2017, 201, 384-399.

“Increased Correlation Among Asset Classes: Are Volatility or Jumps to Blame, or Both?,” with Dacheng Xiu, Journal of Econometrics, 2016, 194, 205-219.

“Bandwidth Selection and Asymptotic Properties of Local Nonparametric Estimators in Possibly Nonstationary Continuous-Time Models,” with Joon Y. Park, Journal of Econometrics, 2016, 192, 119-138.

“Portfolio Choice in Markets with Contagion,” with Tom Hurd, Journal of Financial Econometrics, 2016, 14, 1-28.

“Modeling Financial Contagion Using Mutually Exciting Jump Processes,” with Julio Cacho-Diaz and Roger Laeven, Journal of Financial Economics, 2015, 117, 585-606.

“Market-Based Estimation of Stochastic Volatility Models,” with Dante Amengual and Elena Manresa, Journal of Econometrics, 2015, 187, 418-435.

“Mutual Excitation in Eurozone Sovereign CDS,” with Roger J.A. Laeven and Loriana Pelizzon, Journal of Econometrics, 2014, 183, 151-167.

“The Leverage Effect Puzzle: Disentangling Sources of Bias at High Frequency,” with Jianqing Fan and Yingying Li, Journal of Financial Economics, 2013, 109, 224-249.

“Analyzing the Spectrum of Asset Returns: Jump and Volatility Components in High Frequency Data,” with Jean Jacod, Journal of Economic Literature, 2012, 50, 1007-1050.

“Identifying the Successive Blumenthal-Gettoor Indices of a Discretely Observed Process,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2012, 40, 1430-1464.

“Testing for Jumps in Noisy High Frequency Data,” with Jean Jacod and Jia Li, Journal of Econometrics, 2012, 168, 207-222.

“How to Stop a Herd of Running Bears? Market Response to Policy Initiatives during the Global Financial Crisis,” with Jochen Andritzky, Andreas Jobst, Sylwia Nowak and Natalia Tamirisa, Journal of International Economics, 2012, 87, 162-177.

“Stationarity-Based Specification Tests for Diffusions When the Process is Nonstationary,” with Joon Park, Journal of Econometrics, 2012, 169, 279-292.

“Testing Whether Jumps Have Finite or Infinite Activity,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2011, 39, 1689–1719.

“Edgeworth Expansions for Realized Volatility and Related Estimators,” with Lan Zhang and Per A. Mykland, Journal of Econometrics, 2011, 160, 160-175.

- “Ultra High Frequency Volatility Estimation with Dependent Microstructure Noise,” with Per A. Mykland and Lan Zhang, Journal of Econometrics, 2011, 160, 190-203.
- “High Frequency Covariance Estimates with Noisy and Asynchronous Financial Data,” with Jianqing Fan and Dacheng Xiu, Journal of the American Statistical Association, 2010, 105, 1504–1517.
- “Nonparametric Tests of the Markov Hypothesis in Continuous-Time Models,” with Jianqing Fan and Jiancheng Jiang, Annals of Statistics, 2010, 38, 3129-3163.
- “Is Brownian Motion Necessary to Model High Frequency Data?,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2010, 38, 3093–3128.
- “Estimating Affine Multifactor Term Structure Models Using Closed-Form Likelihood Expansions,” with Robert Kimmel, Journal of Financial Economics, 2010, 98, 113–144.
- “Operator Methods for Continuous-Time Markov Processes,” with Lars P. Hansen and José A. Scheinkman, in *Handbook of Financial Econometrics*, edited by Y. Aït-Sahalia and L.P. Hansen, North Holland, 2010.
- “Estimating and Testing Continuous-Time Models in Finance: The Role of Transition Densities,” Annual Review of Financial Economics, 2009, 1, 341-359.
- “Nonparametric Transition-Based Tests for Jump-Diffusions,” with Jianqing Fan and Heng Peng, Journal of the American Statistical Association, 2009, 104, 1102-1116.
- “Estimating the Degree of Activity of Jumps in High Frequency Data,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2009, 37, 2202-2244.
- “Estimating Volatility in the Presence of Market Microstructure Noise: A Review of the Theory and Practical Considerations,” with Per Mykland, in *Handbook of Financial Time Series*, edited by Thomas Mikosch et al., Springer-Verlag, 2009.
- “Portfolio Choice with Jumps: A Closed Form Solution,” with Julio Cacho-Diaz and Tom Hurd, Annals of Applied Probability, 2009, 19, 556–584.
- “High Frequency Market Microstructure Noise Estimates and Liquidity Measures,” with Jialin Yu, Annals of Applied Statistics, 2009, 3, 422-457.
- “Testing for Jumps in a Discretely Observed Process,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2009, 37, 184-222.
- “Out of Sample Forecasts of Quadratic Variation,” with Lorian Mancini, Journal of Econometrics, 2008, 147, 17-33.
- “Fisher's Information for Discretely Sampled Lévy Processes,” with Jean Jacod, Econometrica, 2008, 76, 727–761.
- “An Analysis of Hansen-Scheinkman Moment Estimators for Discretely and Randomly Sampled Diffusions,” with Per A. Mykland, Journal of Econometrics, 2008, 144, 1-26.
- “Closed-Form Likelihood Expansions for Multivariate Diffusions,” Annals of Statistics, 2008, 36, 906-937.
- “Volatility Estimators for Discretely Sampled Lévy Processes,” with Jean Jacod, Annals of Statistics, 2007, 35, 355-392.
- “Estimating Continuous-Time Models Using Discretely Sampled Data,” Econometric Society World Congress Invited Lecture, in *Advances in Economics and Econometrics, Theory and Applications, Ninth World Congress*, edited by Richard Blundell, Persson Torsten and Whitney K. Newey, Econometric Society Monographs, Cambridge University Press, 2007.
- “Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Stochastic Volatility Models,” with Robert Kimmel, Journal of Financial Economics, 2007, 83, 413–452.

“Saddlepoint Approximations for Continuous-Time Markov Processes,” with Jialin Yu, Journal of Econometrics, 2006, 134, 507-551.

“Likelihood Inference for Diffusions: A Survey,” in *Frontiers in Statistics: In Honor of Peter J. Bickel's 65th Birthday*, edited by Jianqing Fan and Hira L. Koul, Imperial College Press, 2006.

“A Tale of Two Time Scales: Determining Integrated Volatility with Noisy High-Frequency Data,” with Lan Zhang and Per A. Mykland, Journal of the American Statistical Association, 2005, 100, 1394-1411.

“How Often to Sample a Continuous-Time Process in the Presence of Market Microstructure Noise,” with Per A. Mykland and Lan Zhang, Review of Financial Studies, 2005, 18, 351-416.

“Estimators of Diffusions with Randomly Spaced Discrete Observations: A General Theory,” with Per A. Mykland, Annals of Statistics, 2004, 32, 2186-2222.

“Luxury Goods and the Equity Premium,” with Jonathan Parker and Motohiro Yogo, Journal of Finance, 2004, 59, 2959-3004.

“Disentangling Diffusion from Jumps,” Journal of Financial Economics, 2004, 74, 487-528.

“Nonparametric Option Pricing Under Shape Restrictions,” with Jefferson Duarte, Journal of Econometrics, 2003, 116, 9-47.

“The Effects of Random and Discrete Sampling When Estimating Continuous-Time Diffusions,” with Per A. Mykland, Econometrica, 2003, 71, 483-549.

“Telling From Discrete Data Whether the Underlying Continuous-Time Model is a Diffusion,” Journal of Finance, 2002, 57, 2075-2112.

“Maximum-Likelihood Estimation of Discretely Sampled Diffusions: A Closed-Form Approximation Approach,” Econometrica, 2002, 70, 1, 223-262. This paper was awarded the 1998 Cornerstone Research Award.

“Goodness-of-Fit Tests for Regression Using Kernel Methods,” with Peter Bickel and Thomas Stoker, Journal of Econometrics, 2001, 105, 2, 363-412.

“Variable Selection for Portfolio Choice,” with Michael Brandt, Journal of Finance, 2001, 56, 4, 1297-1351. This paper was awarded the 2001 Annual FAME Research Prize.

“Do Option Markets Correctly Price the Probabilities of Movement of the Underlying Asset?” with Yubo Wang and Francis Yared, Journal of Econometrics, 2001, 102, 67-110. This paper was awarded the Dennis J. Aigner for the best paper in applied econometrics published in the *Journal of Econometrics* in 2001 and 2002.

“Nonparametric Risk Management and Implied Risk Aversion,” with Andrew W. Lo, Journal of Econometrics, 2000, 94, 9-51.

“Transition Densities for Interest Rate and Other Nonlinear Densities,” Journal of Finance, 1999, 54, 1361-1395. Reprinted in: *Introduction to Mathematical Finance* (San Diego, CA, 1997), 65--99, Proc. Sympos. Appl. Math., 57, American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 1999.

“Nonparametric Estimation of State-Price-Densities Implicit in Financial Asset Prices,” with Andrew W. Lo, Journal of Finance, 1998, 53, 499-547.

“Dynamic Equilibrium and Volatility in Financial Asset Markets,” Journal of Econometrics, 1998, 84, 93-128.

“Testing Continuous-Time Models of the Spot Interest Rate,” Review of Financial Studies, 1996, 9, 385-426. This paper was awarded the Michael J. Brennan Award for the best paper published in the Review of Financial Studies in 1996.

“Nonparametric Pricing of Interest Rate Derivative Securities,” *Econometrica*, 1996, 64, 527-560 (lead article). Reprinted in *Modeling Stock Market Volatility: Bridging the Gap to Continuous Time*, edited by Peter E. Rossi, Academic Press, 1997.

“Entry-Exit Decisions of Foreign Firms and Import Prices,” *Annales d'Economie et de Statistique*, 1994, 34, 219-244.

“Updating Input-Output Tables,” with M. Balinski and G. Demange, in *Economic Essays in Honor of Edmond Malinvaud*, MIT Press, Cambridge, 1991.

BOOKS

High Frequency Financial Econometrics, with Jean Jacod, Princeton University Press, 2014.

Handbook of Financial Econometrics, 2 volumes, co-edited with Lars Peter Hansen, North Holland, 2010.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

“Testing Whether Volatility is Local or Stochastic,” with Jean Jacod.

“High Frequency Market Making and Volatility,” with Mehmet Saglam.

“So Many Jumps, So Little News”, with Chenxu Li and Chen Xu Li.

“Saddlepoint Approximations for Hawkes Jump-Diffusion Processes with an Application to Risk Management,” with Roger Laeven.

“Measuring the Cost of Latency in Likelihood Inference for Continuous-Time Models with Latent Variables,” with Chenxu Li and Yuheng Zheng.

TEACHING AND GRADUATE STUDENT ADVISING

Classes Taught	Financial Econometrics (Ph.D.) Time Series (Ph.D.) Asset Pricing in Continuous Time (Ph.D.) Financial Engineering: Mathematical Models of Option Pricing (Ph.D.). Fixed Income and Term Structure (Undergraduate, M.Fin.). Portfolio Theory and Asset Management (Undergraduate, M.Fin.). Investments (Undergraduate.)
Student Advising	Ph.D. Thesis Committees: Chair (17), Member (21). Undergraduate Senior Theses (21).

EDITORIAL BOARDS

2012-2018	Co-Managing Editor, <i>Journal of Econometrics</i> .
2012-present	Editorial Board Member, <i>Annual Reviews of Financial Economics</i> .
2007-2013	Associate Editor for <i>Econometrica</i> .
2007-2010	Associate Editor for <i>The Journal of Finance</i> .
2003-2006	Editor, <i>Review of Financial Studies</i> .

- 2004-2006 Associate Editor for the Annals of Statistics.
- 2005-2010 Co-Editor (with Lars Peter Hansen), *Handbook of Financial Econometrics*, North Holland.
- 2001-2011 Associate Editor for the Journal of Financial Econometrics.
- 1998-2012 Associate Editor for the Journal of Econometrics.
- 1996-2011 Associate Editor for Finance and Stochastics.
- 1995-1999 Associate Editor for the Review of Financial Studies, the Journal of Empirical Finance and the Journal of Securities Markets.
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