

# BOSTON UNIVERSITY

## PLACEMENT BROCHURE

**2024-2025**

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS  
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**PhD Placement Director: Juan Ortner  
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**PhD Administrator: MirthaCabello  
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Juan Ortner  
Associate Professor  
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## 2024-2025 PhD Candidates at Boston University Department of Economics

Dear Colleague:

Attached please find the CVs and abstracts of the **Ph.D. students** formally on the job market from the Boston University Department of Economics. This is a great cohort, and I encourage you to consider our students carefully for any job openings that you may have.

As you may be aware, our department has grown significantly in quality and stature and is now one of the top-rated economics departments in North America and the world, currently ranked 16<sup>th</sup> in the world by [REPEC](#) based on research papers and publications. This change in quality has been mirrored in the quality of our graduate students. In the **last six years**, our doctoral candidates have taken tenure-track jobs at Autònoma de Barcelona, Bonn, Brown, Northwestern, Renmin, Syracuse, Toronto, Toulouse, University of New South Wales, Western, and other fine universities and colleges all over the world. Our students have also found research positions at the Bank of Canada, the Bank of Italy, the Bureau of Economic Analysis, the US Census, the Federal Reserve Board, the Federal Reserve Banks of St. Louis, Atlanta and Cleveland, and the Inter-American Development Bank; post-doc positions at Princeton and Stanford; and jobs at Amazon, Analysis Group, Bates White, Cornerstone, Facebook, and many other top companies, research institutes, banks, and central banks.

Reflecting a continuing increase in the quality of our entering graduate students and our stringent standards for remaining in the Ph.D. program, we have an excellent group of job market candidates this year. I urge you to closely study the profiles of these candidates and to be in touch with them, their advisors, or me if you need any further information.

This full booklet, as well as job market candidate web pages and research papers, are available on our website at <https://www.bu.edu/econ/job-market-candidates/>.

You can contact me at [jortner@bu.edu](mailto:jortner@bu.edu), or by phone at (617) 353-6323. I will be happy to talk with you about any of the candidates. If you have difficulty reaching a candidate, please feel free to contact me or the Ph.D. program administrator Mirtha Cabello by email ([cabello@bu.edu](mailto:cabello@bu.edu)) or phone at 617-353- 4454.

I hope the enclosed packet will be useful in your recruiting efforts.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "J. Ortner", written in a cursive style.

Juan Ortner  
Associate Professor of Economics

## Boston University Department of Economics Faculty

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# Boston University Department of Economics

## Job Market Candidates

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**PhD Program Administrator:** Mirtha Cabello, [cabello@bu.edu](mailto:cabello@bu.edu), (617) 353-4454

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### Alonso Ahumada



**Fields:** Organizational Economics, Economic History, Development Economics

**Job Market Paper:** Can Protective Tariffs Induce Industrial Consolidations? Theory and Evidence from the Great Merger Movement

**CV | Website |** [alonsoa@bu.edu](mailto:alonsoa@bu.edu)

**References:** [Andrew Newman](#), [Martin Fiszbein](#), [Robert Margo](#)

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### Ariel Akerman



**Fields:** Macroeconomics, Development, Economic History

**Job Market Paper:** Deforestation and the Demographic Transition: Lessons from Brazil

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## Anastasiia Arbuzova



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## Byeo Rhee Bak



**Fields:** Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Health Economics

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## Franco Maldonado Carlin

**Fields:** International Economics, Macroeconomics, Public Policy

**Job Market Paper:** Trade Policy Uncertainty and Exporter Dynamics

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**References:** [Stefania Garetto](#), [Joaquin Blaum](#), [Natalia Ramondo](#), [Yuhei Mayauchi](#)

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## Elizabeth Casano



**Fields:** Macroeconomics, Labor Economics

**Job Market Paper:** Insurance vs. Redistribution in an Age of Inequality

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**References:** [Stephen Terry](#), [David Lagakos](#), [Pascual Restrepo](#)

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## Qingyuan Chai



**Fields:** Labor Economics, Development Economics

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## Peter Deffebach



**Fields:** Development, Urban, Macroeconomics

**Job Market Paper:** Labor Market Churn, Development, and Quits: Evidence from Urban Ghana

**CV | Website |** [peterdw@bu.edu](mailto:peterdw@bu.edu)

**References:** [David Lagakos](#), [Yuhei Miyauchi](#), [Masao Fukui](#)

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## Katarina Fedorov



**Fields:** Economic History, Labor, Gender

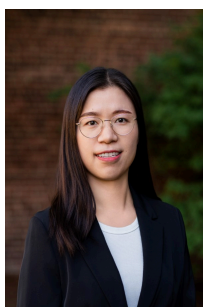
**Job Market Paper:** Beyond the Broom: The Decline of Women in Domestic Service

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**References:** [Robert Margo](#), [James Feigenbaum](#), [Martin Fiszbein](#)

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## Xuchao Gao



**Fields:** Labor, Development

**Job Market Paper:** Do Men and Women Hold Different Standards on Spouses: Evidence on Mating Preferences in China

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## Qifan Han



**Fields:** Quantitative Marketing, Applied Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics

**Job Market Paper:** The Impact of Banning Online Gambling Live Streams: Evidence from Twitch.tv

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**References:** [Hiroaki Kaido](#), [Marc Rysman](#), [Andrey Simonov](#)

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## Justin J. Hong



**Fields:** Development Economics, Political Economy, Public Economics

**Job Market Paper:** The Costs of Leader Biases: Evidence from Superstitious Chinese Mayors

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## Matthew Hong



**Fields:** Econometrics, Labor Economics, Health Economics

**Job Market Paper:** Heterogeneous Treatment Effects Analysis through Distribution Regression based Changes-in-Changes

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## Elaine Kiiru



**Fields:** Macroeconomics, Public Economics, Labor Economics

**Job Market Paper:** Growth, Inequality, and Nonprofit Contributions

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## Zixian Liu



**Fields:** Mechanism Design, Game Theory, Micro Theory

**Job Market Paper:** Contextual Bandit Mechanism: Optimal Delegation in the Experimentation Cycle

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## Yan Liu



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**References:** [Hiroaki Kaido](#), [Ivan Fernandez-Val](#), [Jean-Jacques Forneron](#)

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## Elijah Locke



**Fields:** Labor Economics, Economic History

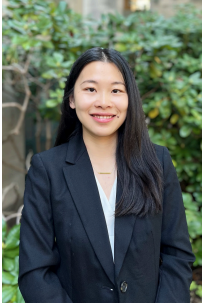
**Job Market Paper:** Ethnic-Occupational Niches: Evidence from the Age of Mass Migration

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## Lei Ma



**Fields:** Real Estate/Urban Economics, Industrial Organization, Household Finance

**Job Market Paper:** Build What and for Whom? The Distributional Effects of Housing Supply

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## Siyi Song



**Fields:** Empirical IO, Development Economics

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**References:** [Marc Rysman](#), [Dilip Mookherjee](#), [Kevin Lang](#)

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## Peiran Xiao



**Fields:** Microeconomic Theory, Mechanism Design, Information Economics

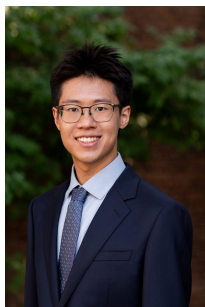
**Job Market Paper:** Incentivizing Agents through Ratings

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## Yuzhao Yang



**Fields:** Microeconomics Theory, Behavioral Economics

**Job Market Paper:** An Axiomatic Model of Cognitive Dissonance

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**References:** [Barton Lipman](#), [Jawwad Noor](#), [Larry Epstein](#), [Marciano Siniscalchi](#)

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## Liang Zhong



**Fields:** Econometrics, Labor Economics, Digital Economics, Optimization

**Job Market Paper:** Unconditional Randomization Tests for Interference

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**References:** [Hiroaki Kaido](#), [Jean-Jacques Forneron](#), [Daniele Paserman](#), [Kevin Lang](#)

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## Tyera Zweygardt



**Fields:** Decision Theory, Behavioral Economics

**Job Market Paper:** The Foundations of Anomalous Preference for Information

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**References:** [Jawwad Noor](#), [Barton Lipman](#), [Todd Idson](#), [Juan Ortner](#)



## Job Market Candidates by Field

<b>Decision Theory</b>	Tyera Zwegardt
<b>Development Economics</b>	Peter Deffebach, Justin J. Hong
<b>Econometrics</b>	Qifan Han, Matthew Hong, Yan Liu, Liang Zhong
<b>Economic History</b>	Katarina Fedorov
<b>Empirical Microeconomics</b>	Siyi Song
<b>Industrial Organization</b>	Alonso Ahumada, Lei Ma
<b>Labor Economics</b>	Byeo Rhee Bak, Qingyuan Chai, Xuchao Gao, Elijah Locke
<b>Macroeconomics</b>	Ariel Akerman, Franco Maldonado Carlin, Elizabeth Casano, Elaine Kiiru
<b>Microeconomic Theory</b>	Zixian Liu, Peiran Xiao, Yuzhao Yang
<b>Political Economy</b>	Anatasiia Arbuzova

## ALONSO AHUMADA

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Main advisor: Andrew F. Newman  
Dissertation Committee: Andrew F. Newman, Martin Fiszbein and Robert A. Margo

M.A., Economic Theory (*Coursework*), Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico City, Mexico 2017-2018

B.A., Economics (*Highest Honors*), Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Mexico City, Mexico 2017

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Organizational Economics, Economic History, Development Economics

### WORKING PAPERS

“Can Protective Tariffs Induce Industrial Consolidations? Theory and Evidence from the Great Merger Movement,” October 2024. Job Market paper.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Rising Concentration and Declining Labor Share: An Organizational IO Perspective” (joint with Andrew F. Newman and Patrick Legros)  
“Poverty, Human Capital, and Occupational Structure” (joint Martin Fiszbein, Nicolas Guida-Johnson and Mahesh Karra)

### PRIOR PUBLICATIONS

“Luce Rule with Limited Consideration,” (with Levent Ülkü) *Mathematical Social Sciences*, (2018) 93: 52-56.

### PRESENTATIONS

Latin American and Caribbean Economic Association (LACEA) and Latin American Econometric Society (LAMES) Annual Meeting, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2017

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

GRS Graduate Student Fellowship, Boston University, 2018-2024  
Academic Merit Scholarship, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), 2017-2018

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Martin Fiszbein, Department of Economics, Boston University, August 2021 – July 2023

Research Assistant for Laura Alfaro, Harvard Business School, Harvard University, Summer 2022

Research Assistant for Jawwad Noor, Department of Economics, Boston University, September 2019 – December 2020

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, PhD Math Camp, Questrom School of Business, Boston University, Summer 2022, 2023, 2024

Teaching Fellow, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2020-2024

First-year Ph.D: Mathematics for Economists (Fall 2021, 2022, 2023)

M.A.: Mathematics for Economists (Spring 2021, Fall 2023, 2024), Organizational Economics (Spring 2021, 2022), Behavioral Economics (Fall 2020, Spring 2023, 2024)

B.A.: Behavioral Economics (Spring 2023)

Lecturer, B.A. Introductory Microeconomics, Department of Economics, Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México (ITAM), Fall 2017, Spring 2018

#### **LANGUAGES**

Spanish (native), English (bilingual), French (B2)

#### **COMPUTER SKILLS: STATA, R, MATLAB, ArcGIS, LaTeX**

#### **CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: Mexico and Spain / F1**

#### **REFERENCES**

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### **Can Protective Tariffs Induce Industrial Consolidations? Theory and Evidence from the Great Merger Movement** (Job Market Paper)

The relationship between protective tariffs and industrial consolidations has been a subject of debate since the late 19th century, a time of protectionism in the United States that saw the rise of trusts across many industries. However, beyond the anecdotal, empirical evidence linking the two remains scarce. Building on a coalitional model of endogenous market structure, I show that higher tariffs can trigger consolidations in industries facing import competition. In such industries, where the price of imports acts as an effective ceiling for domestic producers, higher tariffs can strengthen incentives to merge. To test this prediction, I revisit the Great Merger Movement of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century. I construct a new dataset of consolidations in manufacturing industries, drawing extensively on historical sources to classify them at a detailed product level. My empirical strategy relies on two distinct sources of variation to estimate the effect of tariff changes on consolidations. First, I identify cross-industry variation in exposure to tariff changes using industries' dutiable status and import intensity. Second, I leverage changes in tariff policy driven by party turnover as a source of plausibly exogenous variation in tariff levels. Consistent with my prediction, I find that higher tariffs increase the likelihood of consolidation in tariff-exposed relative to non-tariff-exposed industries.

### **Rising Concentration and Declining Labor Share: An Organizational IO Perspective** (with Andrew F. Newman and Patrick Legros)

A recent literature has drawn attention to rising industry concentration and markups, and declining labor share, across many countries and industries. In line with standard models of market structure, common explanations for these trends rely on some form of growing non-convexities or easing of anti-trust enforcement. Less attention has been given to demand-side forces. In prior work on organizational models of endogenous market structure it has been shown that concentration and markups may increase with the size of product demand. We extend that analysis to incorporate a labor market and find that joint increases in the size of product demand and labor supply result in rising concentration and markups in product markets, a falling labor share, and possibly increased concentration and markdowns in labor markets, even in the absence of any technological change. Decoupling product-market and labor-market size parameters, we provide conditions under which their relative growth induces changes consistent with recent trends.

### **Poverty, Human Capital, and Occupational Structure** (with Martin Fiszbein, Nicolas Guida Johnson and Mahesh Karra)

We study an overlapping-generations model with credit market imperfections and varying degrees of sparsity in occupational structure. Occupations differ in their productivity and human capital requirements. To emphasize that parental investments at early stages of life may constrain human capital formation in later stages, we model human capital formation as dependent on investments received during childhood as well as later monetary investments. We show that, given any finite number of occupations, path dependence and earnings traps may arise even with perfect credit markets. However, the set of parameter values consistent with steady-state multiplicity contracts as we enrich the set of occupations, highlighting the role of occupational structure in shaping long-run equilibria.

# ARIEL AKERMAN

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## EDUCATION

- Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on the Macroeconomics of Development*  
Dissertation Committee: David Lagakos, Martin Fiszbein, and Robert Margo
- M.S., Economics, São Paulo School of Economics – Getulio Vargas Foundation, São Paulo, Brazil, April 2019  
Dissertation Title: *US Geopolitical Goals and IMF Conditionality*  
Advisors: Leonardo Weller and João Paulo Pessoa
- B.S., Economics, University of São Paulo, São Paulo, Brazil, 2016  
Monograph: *The Conference of Inflation and Development of 1963*  
Honorable mention prize, School of Economics, Business and Accounting of the University of São Paulo  
Advisor: Ana Maria Bianchi

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Macroeconomics, Development Economics, Economic History

## PUBLICATIONS

- “The West’s Teeth: IMF Conditionality During the Cold War,” (joint with Leonardo Weller and João Paulo Pessoa) *The World Economy*, (2022) 45:2034-2051

## WORKING PAPERS

- “Deforestation and the Demographic Transition: Lessons from Brazil,” September 2024. Job Market paper
- “The Effects of Zoning Reform on Formal and Informal Housing,” (with Zhongyi Tang), May 2024

## WORK IN PROGRESS

- “Agricultural Research and the Development of the Brazilian Agriculture” (joint with Jacob Moscona, Heitor Pellegrina, Karthik Sastry, and Aidan Toner-Rodgers)
- “Mapping Population in Colonial America” (joint with Martin Fiszbein)
- “Guns, Rails, and Letters: Territorial Expansion and Nation Building in the U. S.” (joint with Sam Bazzi, Chelsea Carter, Martin Fiszbein, and Mesay Gebresilasse)
- “The Green Revolution Impacts on Brazilian Agriculture: Structural Transformation and Development”
- “Mining Income and Conflict in Sub-Saharan Africa” (joint with Enrico di Gregorio and Myrto Oikonomou)

## PRESENTATIONS

- Northeast Universities Development Consortium, Boston, November 2024 (expected)
- Green Line Macro Meeting, Boston University, October 2024 (expected)
- 6<sup>th</sup> Brazilian Economic History Workshop, São Paulo, Brazil, August 2019

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Outstanding Teaching Fellow, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2020-2021  
Master's scholarship, São Paulo School of Economics – Getulio Vargas Foundation, 2017-2019  
Master's scholarship, Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível, 2017-2019  
Scientific Initiation, Research Support Foundation of São Paulo, Brazil, 2015-2016

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern, International Monetary Fund, Washington DC (Summer 2024)  
Under the supervision of Myrto Oikonomou, Africa Department  
Research Assistant, Boston University, Boston, MA  
To Martin Fiszbein (2022-2024, Summer 2021) and David Lagakos (2021-2022)  
Research Assistant, Getulio Vargas Foundation, São Paulo, Brazil  
To João Paulo Pessoa (2019), Leonardo Weller and Ali Coskun Tuncer (2017-2019), Daniel da Mata (2018-2019), and Tiago Cavalcanti (2018)

## REFeree EXPERIENCE

*Journal of Political Economy, Journal of Development Economics, Estudos Econômicos*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, International Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023 and Fall 2024  
Teaching Fellow, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Boston University, Fall 2023 and Fall 2024  
Teacher, Brazilian Economy, Preparatory Course Cursinho Simples, Brazil, 2022-2024  
Teaching Fellow, Introduction to Microeconomics, Boston University, Fall 2020 and Spring 2021  
Teaching Assistant, Brazil's Economic Formation, São Paulo School of Economics, 2018  
Teaching Assistant, Brazil's Institutions, São Paulo School of Economics, 2018  
Teaching Assistant, Econometrics, São Paulo School of Economics, 2018  
Teaching Assistant, Master's Macroeconomics, São Paulo School of Economics, 2018

## LANGUAGES

Portuguese (native), English (fluent), French (fluent), Spanish (intermediate)

## COMPUTER SKILLS: R, Matlab, GIS, Stata

## CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: Citizen of Brazil and Poland

## REFERENCES

**Professor David Lagakos**  
Department of Economics  
Boston University  
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**Professor Martin Fiszbein**  
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**Professor Robert Margo**  
Department of Economics  
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### **Deforestation and the Demographic Transition: Lessons from Brazil** (Job Market Paper)

The premise of this paper is that the population slowdown in Brazil was a major factor preventing the deepening of deforestation in the Amazon. I construct a novel dataset covering deforestation, population, and agricultural outcomes in every municipality in Brazil over the last 60 years. I then use an instrumental variable strategy to estimate that a birth rate decline of five children per thousand leads to around 10 percent less deforestation after twenty years. Using these and other findings, I estimate a dynamic spatial general equilibrium model with agricultural and non-agricultural sectors, population growth, and deforestation. The model predicts that if Brazil's population growth slowdown had started two decades later, around 13 percent more of the Amazon would be deforested today.

### **The Effects of Zoning Reform on Formal and Informal Housing** (With Zhongyi Tang)

More than 1 billion people worldwide inhabit slums or informal settlements, characterized by inadequate access to public infrastructure. Although slums offer affordable housing options near employment opportunities, their residents often face the risk of displacement due to urban development initiatives and land use policy changes. This paper examines the impacts of a zoning reform in São Paulo, Brazil, on formal and informal housing. To evaluate these impacts, we compile an extensive dataset covering the years 1996-2016, tracking slum evolution, zoning changes, public housing constructions, detailed formal housing records from property tax, and socioeconomic variables at the neighborhood level. Our identification strategy combines propensity score matching and difference-in-differences design. We find that the reform led to an increase in formal housing supply, a decrease in slum prevalence, and an uptick in public housing development. Neighborhoods affected by the reform show some evidence of higher income and education attainment, indicating gentrification.



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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)

Dissertation Title: *The Economics of Autocratic Elections*

Dissertation Committee: Raymond Fisman, Benjamin Marx, Martin Fiszbein

B.A., Economics, New Economic School, Moscow, Russia, 2019

Exchange Student, University of Groningen, Groningen, Netherlands, Fall 2018

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Political Economy, Development Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

“Fraud and Legitimacy: The Economics of Autocratic Elections,” October 2024. Job Market paper.

“Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport in Ethiopia,” (with Tigabu Getahun, Ammar A. Malik, Mahesh Karra), August 2024.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Social Networks and Solving Collective Action Problem”

## PRESENTATIONS

International Political Science Association, Lisbon, Portugal, September 2024

International Conference on Empirical Economics at Pennsylvania State University at Altoona, online, August 2024

Urban Economics Association, Copenhagen, Denmark, June 2024

Addis Ababa University, online, March 2024

African Transport Research Conference, Cape Town, South Africa, March 2024

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Summer in the Field Fellowship, Global Development Policy Center at Boston University, 2024

Abdala Fieldwork Research Grant, Institute for Economic Development at Boston University, 2023 & 2024

Early Career Researchers Grant, International Growth Center, 2021

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Intern, Moody's Investors Service, Moscow, Russia, 2017-2018

## REFeree EXPERIENCE

*Review of Economics and Statistics, African Transport Studies*

October 2024

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Summer Challenge: Economics, Summer Term, Boston University, Summer 2024  
Instructor, EC101 Introductory Microeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Summer 2023  
Teaching Fellow, EC101 Introductory Microeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2021-2024  
Teaching Fellow, EC320 Economics of Less-Developed Regions, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023  
Teaching Fellow, EC328 Urban and Regional Economics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023  
Teaching Fellow, EC102 Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022  
Teaching Fellow, Calculus II, Department of Economics, Higher School of Economics, 2017

## LANGUAGES

Russian (Native), English (Fluent), Spanish (Proficient), German (Intermediate)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** ArcGIS/QGIS, LaTeX, Python, STATA

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** Russia/F1

## REFERENCES

**Professor Raymond Fisman**

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**Professor Benjamin Marx**

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**Professor Martin Fiszbein**

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**Professor Mahesh Karra**

Frederick S. Pardee School of Global Studies  
Boston University  
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## ANASTASIIA ARBUZOVA

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### **Fraud and Legitimacy: The Economics of Autocratic Elections** (Job Market Paper)

Why do autocracies employ seemingly excessive electoral fraud when victory is virtually guaranteed? This paper examines whether an autocratic government can use fraud to improve its perceived legitimacy, especially when it is damaged by unrest or unpopular policies. Through a survey experiment with a representative sample of Russian voters, I demonstrate that reported election outcomes can influence voters' perceptions: information about high (low) turnout increases (decreases) trust in the government. Next, analyzing data from the 2021 Russian legislative elections, I identify electoral manipulations via the excess integer values method and hypothesize that legitimacy concerns can explain their spatial distribution. Utilizing a novel dataset on the 2018 anti-pension reform protests, I show that protests informed fraud allocation: places with higher protest participation experienced higher electoral fraud in the subsequent legislative elections.

### **Gendered Differences in Mobility and the Demand for Transport in Ethiopia** *with Tigabu Getahun, Ammar A. Malik, Mahesh Karra*

We assess the extent to which travel demand varies by gender, particularly for women, with the introduction of high-quality transport in urban Ethiopia. A total of over 1,000 married couples in Addis Ababa were offered an allowance for on-demand, private taxi services over a two-month period. The allowance recipient was randomized to be either the woman, the man, or the couple jointly. Additionally, the total allowance amount was randomized between Low (ETB 1540) and High (ETB 4100). We document significant baseline gender differences in mobility, with 80 percent of men traveling daily or almost every day compared to less than 40 percent of women. As a result of the intervention, we find no significant differences in taxi service utilization measured by allowance take-up, total trips made, the proportion of credit spent, and the average trip cost between the Woman and Man arms, suggesting that the improved transport option may have contributed to closing the gender gap in physical mobility.

### **Social Networks and Solving Collective Action Problem**

This paper investigates whether social connectedness can help opposition overcome the collective action problem by facilitating spread of a unified voting strategy. I construct a social network graph using public profiles from VKontakte, one of Russia's most popular social media platforms, and calculate measures of social connectedness (density and average path length) at a city level. My findings reveal that higher connectedness amplifies the effect of opposition presence, a proxy for voting strategy utilization, and is associated with a lower incumbent vote share.

## **BYEO RHEE BAK**

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---

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Multigenerational Impact of Parental Absence*  
Dissertation Committee: Kevin Lang, Ivan Fernandez-Val, and Daniele Paserman  
M.A., Economics, Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea, 2019  
B.A., Economics (*Summa Cum Laude*), Seoul National University, Seoul, South Korea, 2017

### **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics, Health Economics

### **PUBLICATIONS**

“COVID-19 Vaccine Misinformation in Middle Income Countries,” (w. Jongin Kim, Aditya Agrawal, Jiaxi Wu, Veronika J. Wirtz, Traci Hong, Derry Wijaya), *Proceedings of the Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing 2023*

### **WORKING PAPERS**

“Parental Absences, Children, and Their Children” Sep 2024 (Job Market Paper)  
“Son Preference: Childbearing and Asian American Women's Labor Market Outcomes,” May 2024.  
“Comparative Analysis of Social Media Moderation Strategies in Combating COVID-19 Misinformation,” (w. Traci Hong, Nina Mazar, Pujan Paudel, Gianluca Stringhini), May 2024.  
“Cultural Norm, Shotgun Marriage, and Birth Outcomes,” (w. Sokchul Hong, and Wonsik Ko), Oct 2022.

### **RESEARCH IN PROGRESS**

“How Does Education Affect Financial Planning Horizon?” August 2023.  
“Measuring Temporal Discounting Independently from Measuring Utility,” March 2021.

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Dean’s Student Fellowship, Boston University, 2019  
Brain Korea 21 Research Scholarship, Seoul National University, 2017-2018  
KFAS Scholarship, Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies, 2012-2017

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, Econometric Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023  
Instructor, Empirical Economic Analysis 2, Department of Economics, Boston University,  
Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant, Economics of Risk and Uncertainty, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2024 (Gerard Porter)

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economic Analysis 2, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Spring 2023, Spring 2022, Spring 2021 (Zhongjun Qu) Fall 2021 (Jean-  
Jacques Forneron)

Teaching Assistant, Introductory Microeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics,  
Boston University, Summer 2021, Fall 2020 (Benjamin Koskinen)

## **LANGUAGES**

English (fluent), Korean (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, Python, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** South Korea/F1

## **REFERENCES**

### **Professor Kevin Lang**

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### **Professor Daniele Paserman**

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### **Professor Pauline Mourot**

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Boston University  
Email: [pmourot@bu.edu](mailto:pmourot@bu.edu)

## **BYEO RHEE BAK**

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### **Parental Absences, Children, and Their Children (Job Market Paper)**

A substantial proportion of children in the U.S. experience parental absence, a significant event whose impact may extend to future generations. However, methodological challenges and data limitations have hindered analysis on the multigenerational implications of parental absence. This paper addresses this gap by integrating the National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1979 (NLSY79) with its Child and Young Adult (CYA) data, where the mothers of CYA respondents are the female respondents in NLSY79. I use augmented inverse probability weighting (AIPW), which is more robust than traditional linear regression, to estimate average treatment effects. AIPW provides consistent estimates when the treatment model, outcome models, or both are correctly specified, and these models can also be used for other consistent estimators. I propose a novel validity test that exploits the "either/or" nature of the consistency assumptions for AIPW, evaluating the alignment of AIPW estimates with alternative estimates. I found a 7.5 percentage point decline in college graduation rates for male children whose mothers experienced parental absence—excluding cases of death—before age 18. This decline is comparable to, if not greater than, the effects of parental absence itself. Furthermore, parental absence has a substantially larger negative impact on the educational attainment and early wages of the younger generation from CYA compared to its effects on the older generation from NLSY79.

### **Son Preference: Childbearing and Asian American Women's Labor Market Outcomes**

This study employs an IV based on son preference to investigate the impact of having more than one child on the labor supply of Asian American females in the IPUMS USA dataset. Under son preference, mothers with a first-born girl are more likely to have another child in the hope of having a son. Therefore, I use the sex of the first child to instrument for having more than one child. The IV estimates reveal that having more than one child substantially reduces women's employment, number of weeks worked, weekly working hours, probability of working in the last year, and annual earnings. I provide suggestive evidence supporting the exclusion restriction and monotonicity assumptions. The results are robust to allowing for defiers and heterogeneous treatment effects.

### **Cultural Norm, Shotgun Marriage, and Birth Outcomes**

This paper explores how shotgun marriage negatively affects birth outcomes in South Korea and suggests that it is mediated by Confucianism which taboos sexuality and emphasizes sexual chastity. The results show that shotgun marriage decreases a child's birthweight by 9 grams and increases her low birthweight probability by 0.09pp, or about 2.4%. We use the sex ratio at birth of the third child (TSR) as a proxy of the Confucian culture and show that 1 standard deviation increase in TSR given shotgun marriage is associated with a further 6-gram decrease in the birthweight and 0.14pp increase in low birthweight probability. Alternative channels such as differential prenatal care, selective abortions, and selection into shotgun marriage cannot fully explain the results.

### **Son Preference: Childbearing and Asian American Women's Labor Market Outcomes**

This paper introduces a multilingual dataset of COVID-19 vaccine misinformation, consisting of annotated tweets from three middle-income countries: Brazil, Indonesia, and Nigeria. The expertly curated dataset includes annotations for 5,952 tweets, assessing their relevance to COVID-19 vaccines, presence of misinformation, and the themes of the misinformation. To address challenges posed by domain specificity, the low-resource setting, and data imbalance, we adopt two approaches for developing COVID-19 vaccine misinformation detection models: domain-specific pre-training and text augmentation using a large language model. Our best misinformation detection models demonstrate improvements ranging from 2.7 to 15.9 percentage points in macro F1-score compared to the baseline models. Additionally, we apply our misinformation detection models in a large-scale study of 19 million unlabeled tweets from the three countries between 2020 and 2022, showcasing the practical application of our dataset and models for detecting and analyzing vaccine misinformation in multiple countries and languages. Our analysis indicates that percentage changes in the number of new COVID-19 cases are positively associated with COVID-19 vaccine misinformation rates in a staggered manner for Brazil and Indonesia, and there are significant positive associations between the misinformation rates across the three countries.

### **Comparative Analysis of Social Media Moderation Strategies in Combating COVID-19 Misinformation**

The rapid spread of misinformation during the COVID-19 pandemic posed significant challenges for social media platforms, prompting them to implement various moderation strategies. This paper examines Instagram's and Twitter's differing approaches to mitigating COVID-19 misinformation and the resultant impact on user sentiment extracted using a large language model, FLAN-T5. Specifically, we focus on Instagram's *unilateral moderation* strategy, introduced on February 9, 2020, and Twitter's evolving moderation measures, culminating in a *curated moderation* mechanism in May 2020. We found that Instagram's moderation was more effective than Twitter's in both promoting positive sentiments and reducing negative sentiments toward trustworthy *organizations* and *people*.



# FRANCO MALDONADO CARLIN

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University Main advisor: Stefania Garetto	May 2025 (expected)
M.A., Economics, Boston University	2018
B.A., Economics, Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola, Lima, Peru	2007

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

International Economics, Macroeconomics, Public Policy

## REFEREED PUBLICATIONS

“The Role of IMF in the Fight Against COVID-19: The IMF COVID RESPONSE INDEX,”  
(with Kevin P. Gallagher) *Covid Economics: Vetted and Real-Time Papers*, (2020) 42:  
112-142.

## WORKING PAPERS

“Climate Change and IMF Debt Sustainability: Adapting the IMF Toolkit for Colombia and Peru,” (with Kevin P. Gallagher and Ana Maria Trujillo), July 2023.

“Climate Vulnerability and Balance of Payments Problems in Developing Countries,” (with Kevin P. Gallagher), April 2023.

“From Words to Actions: Tracking the IMF’s leadership and engagement to Climate Change,” (with Luma Ramos, Kevin P. Gallagher, and William Nicholas Kring), April 2022.

“Climate Change and IMF Debt Sustainability Analysis,” (with Kevin P. Gallagher), April 2022.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Trade Policy Uncertainty and Exporter Dynamics”

“No Sugar Coating: Quantifying the Welfare Losses from the Cuban Embargo” (with Stefania Garetto and Marie Petkus)

“Climate Vulnerability and Shocks, and International Monetary Fund Support” (with Kevin P. Gallagher)

“Trade Policy Uncertainty and Supply Chain Changes” (with Vikram Dixit and Juan Jacoubian)

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

### **ACADEMIC**

Boston University, Department of Economics	
Research Assistant for Pr. Stefania Garetto	Spring 2021 – Spring 2024
Research Assistant for Pr. Stephen Terry	Summer 2017
Boston University, Global Development Policy Center	
Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow	Fall 2020 – Present
Research Assistant for Pr. Kevin P. Gallagher	Summer 2020
Questrom School of Business, Boston University	
Research Assistant for Pr. Mathew Marx	2018 – 2019

### **NON-ACADEMIC**

Ministry of Economy and Finance of Peru, General Directorate of International Economic Affairs, Competition, and Productivity, Lima, Peru	
Consultant	2010 – 2016
APOYO Consultoria, Area of Economic Studies, Lima, Peru	
Economic Analyst	2007 - 2009

## **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Boston University, Department of Economics	
Head Teaching Fellow	
Introductory Microeconomic Analysis	Fall 2020
Teaching Fellow	
Economics of Information	Fall 2024
Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis	Fall 2024
Introductory Microeconomic Analysis	Fall 2019
Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis	Spring 2019
Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas, Department of Economics, Lima, Peru	
Part-time Instructor	
Austrian School of Economics	Fall 2015
Teaching Assistant	
Introduction to Microeconomics	Spring 2011 – Fall 2011
Universidad del Pacifico, Department of Economics, Lima, Peru	
Teaching Assistant	
Microeconomics II	Fall 2008 / Spring 2010
Microeconomics I	Spring 2008

## REFEREEING ACTIVITY

Journal of Globalization and Development; Climate Policy; Climate and Development

## DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Boston University, Department of Economics	
Department Housing/Peer Advisor	2018 – Present
International Trade Reading Group, Organizer	2021

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean Fellowship, Boston University, Department of Economics	2018 – Present
Pre-Doctoral Research Fellow Global Development Policy Center, Boston University	2021 – Present
Academic Excellence Prize in the Master of Arts in Economics Boston University, Department of Economics	2018
AFP Prima Award for Outstanding Graduation Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola, Lima, Peru	2017
Dean's scholarship Universidad San Ignacio de Loyola, Lima, Peru	2004 – 2007

**LANGUAGES:** English (fluent) and Spanish (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, MATLAB, R, Python, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** Peru/F1

## REFERENCES

### **Stefania Garetto**

Associate Professor  
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### **Kevin P. Gallagher**

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### **Yuhei Miyauchi**

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## **ELIZABETH A. CASANO**

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays in Macroeconomics*  
Dissertation Committee: Stephen Terry, David Lagakos, and Pascual Restrepo  
  
B.A., Economics, Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2013

### **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Macroeconomics, Labor Economics, Entrepreneurship

### **WORKING PAPERS**

“Insurance vs. Redistribution in an Age of Inequality,” October 2024, Job Market Paper.

### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

“Entrepreneurship and the Housing Market”

### **PRESENTATIONS**

BU Macro Dissertation Workshop, Boston, MA, 2021, 2022, 2024

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Graduate Student Fellowship, Fall 2018 - present

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

#### **ACADEMIC**

Research Assistant to Marianne Baxter, Boston University, Spring 2022  
Research Assistant to Theresa Kuchler and Alexi Savov, NYU Stern School of Business,  
September 2016 - May 2018  
Research Assistant to Seema Jayachandran, Northwestern University, Spring 2013

#### **NON-ACADEMIC**

Associate, The Moran Company, Arlington, VA, January 2016 - August 2016  
Research Assistant, The Moran Company, Arlington, VA, August 2013 - December 2015

### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant, Monetary and Banking Theory, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2024  
Teaching Fellow, Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2019 - Fall 2021 (five semesters), Fall 2023, Spring 2024

**LANGUAGE:** English (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, MATLAB, R, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP:** USA

**REFERENCES**

**Professor Stephen Terry**  
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**Professor Pascual Restrepo**  
Department of Economics  
Yale University  
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[pascual.restrepo@yale.edu](mailto:pascual.restrepo@yale.edu)

**Insurance vs. Redistribution in an Age of Inequality** (Job Market Paper) Provided that individual labor income reflects both idiosyncratic shocks and permanent heterogeneity, what is the value of insurance to a utilitarian social planner, and what is the value of redistribution? To address these questions, I use longitudinal earnings data from the PSID to calibrate a parsimonious earnings process which matches both idiosyncratic volatility (risk) and the dispersion of individual fixed effects (inequality) in the data. I then embed this process in a canonical heterogeneous agent incomplete markets model and use it as a laboratory for steady-state counterfactual analysis and policy experiments. There are two main takeaways: (1) The utilitarian planner overestimates the welfare gains (in terms of consumption-equivalent variation) from public insurance by about 40\% when he incorrectly attributes all cross-sectional earnings dispersion to risk. (2) After accounting for inequality, redistribution strictly dominates insurance, and is itself strictly dominated by a third policy which elicits redistribution under the guise of insurance. Relating these results to real-world programs, such as unemployment insurance, Head Start, and the Earned Income Tax Credit, suggests directions of prioritization for policymakers.

# QINGYUAN CHAI

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Three Essays on Labor Economics*  
Dissertation Committee: Kevin Lang, Daniele Paserman, and Raymond Fisman  
  
B.A., Mathematics and Economics, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, 2019  
  
Exchange Student, University of California, Berkeley, CA, 2017

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Development Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

“[Housing Price, Internal Migration, and Intergenerational Mobility](#),” September 2024. Job Market Paper.  
“[Obsolescence Rents: Teamsters, Truckers, and Impending Innovations](#),” (with Costas Cavounidis, Kevin Lang, and Raghav Malhotra), September 2024, NBER Working Paper No.31743, *submitted*.  
“[Gender Imbalance, Marriage Stability, and Divorce Rate: Evidence from China](#),” (with Shiyi Sun and Yuan Zhang), August 2024, *submitted*.  
“[The World Bank and China: Comparing the Impacts of Their Development Projects in Africa](#),” (with Zhongyi Tang), May 2024, *submitted*.

## PUBLICATIONS

““[Going global](#)’ and FDI inflows in China: ‘One Belt & One Road’ initiative as a quasi-natural experiment,” (with Huiyao Chen and Changyuan Luo) *The World Economy*, (2019) 42: 1654-1672.  
“[US Outward FDI: Is China a Special Host Country?](#)” (with Changyuan Luo and Chengxue Mao) *Journal of Financial Research (in Chinese)*, (2018) 462: 72-90.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Potency of the Pill: ED Medications and Marriage Stability” (with Daniele Paserman)  
“Hope or Trap: Navigating the Dual Impact of Cotton Cultivation on Rural Girls’ Development” (with Fei Teng and Yuan Zhang)  
“Siblings and Migration”

## PRESENTATIONS

North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (ASSA/NAWM-ES), 2025  
NBER Conference on Fertility and Declining Population Growth, 2024  
Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES), 2024  
The Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), 2023  
Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES), 2023



**REFeree EXPERIENCE**

*Journal of Political Economy, Contemporary Economic Policy, Population Research and Policy Review*

**FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University 2019-2024

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant for Prof. Kevin Lang, Boston University, 01/2022-present  
Research Assistant for Prof. Linh T. Tô, Boston University, 12/2020-01/2021  
Research Assistant for Prof. Dilip Mookherjee, Boston University, 05/2021-08/2021  
Research Assistant for Prof. Frank Schilbach, MIT, 05/2018-09/2018  
Research Assistant for Prof. Ulrike Malmendier, University of California, Berkeley, 09/2017-04/2018

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant, Behavioral Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020 and Fall 2021  
Teaching Assistant, Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis, Boston University, Fall 2021  
Teaching Assistant, Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis, Boston University, Spring 2021

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Graduate Economics Association, Boston University, Officer 2021-2022  
Co-organizer of Empirical Micro Reading Group, Boston University, 2022-2023  
Website maintainer for Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD), 2022-present  
Conference Coordinator for Society of Economics of the Household (SEHO), 2021

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, MATLAB, SAS, LaTeX, R, Python, ArcGIS, Google Earth Engine, Mathematica

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

**REFERENCES**

**Professor Kevin Lang**  
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**Professor Daniele Paserman**  
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**Professor Raymond Fisman**  
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# QINGYUAN CHAI

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## **Housing Price, Internal Migration, and Intergenerational Mobility (Job Market Paper)**

This paper examines how housing affordability affects intergenerational mobility in China by influencing internal migration. I find that higher destination housing costs deter migration, with a more pronounced effect on adult children from disadvantaged families. Consequently, these children earn lower incomes than comparable children from more affluent backgrounds, thereby reducing intergenerational mobility. These findings align with a migration decision model in which housing costs place a disproportionate burden on less affluent individuals. To address housing price endogeneity, I employ an instrumental variables approach exploiting the Housing Purchase Restriction policy as a natural experiment. The policy limited the number of properties households could purchase in selected prefectures, thus slowing price growth. A structural approach allows me to distinguish among destinations and evaluate the effects of various housing policies. The structural estimates highlight that the impact of housing costs varies depending on the nature of the prefecture. Providing rent subsidies to migrants to megacities increases migration among advantaged children more than among disadvantaged children, which exacerbates income disparities, while a policy targeting disadvantaged children helps increase their migration and enhance intergenerational mobility.

## **Obsolescence Rents: Teamsters, Truckers, and Impending Innovations**

*(with Costas Cavounidis, Kevin Lang, and Raghav Malhotra)*

Motivated by the advent of self-driving trucks, which will dramatically reduce demand for truck drivers, we consider large, permanent shocks to individual occupations whose arrival date is uncertain. Using a bare-bones overlapping generations model, we examine an occupation facing obsolescence. Workers are compensated for entering the occupation - receiving what we dub *obsolescence rents* - with fewer and older workers remaining in the occupation. We investigate the market for teamsters at the dawn of the automotive truck as an à propos parallel to truckers themselves. As predicted by the model, as widespread adoption of trucks crested the horizon, teamster wages rose, the number of teamsters fell, and the occupation became 'grayer'. Older workers became more likely to enter and less likely to exit work as teamsters. As permitted, but not required, by the model, the number of older teamsters grew as a fraction of older workers. We obtain similar findings for current occupations threatened by computerization.

## **Gender Imbalance, Marriage Stability, and Divorce Rate: Evidence from China**

*(with Shiyi Sun and Yuan Zhang)*

The deficit of men or women in a regional marriage market is a commonly observed phenomenon stemming from factors such as "Missing Girls" at birth, immigration, and higher mortality rates among men due to war. However, the impact of this deficit on marriage stability remains not well understood. In this paper, using provincial, census, and household survey data in China, we find that a higher male-to-female ratio increases divorce rates. Further analyses support the hypothesis that this impact is primarily driven by married women having more options outside their marriage. The effect is more pronounced in economies with greater income inequality, where there are more wealthy prospective partners. These findings highlight the significance of gender balance in sustaining stable marriages and uncover a new contributing factor to the escalating divorce rates in China.

# PETER DEFFEBACH

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## EDUCATION

PhD, Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA Expected 2025  
Dissertation title: Labor Market Churn, Development, and Quits: Evidence from Urban Ghana  
Main advisor: David Lagakos  
Dissertation Committee: David Lagakos, Yuhei Miyauchi, and Masao Fukui  
AB, Economics, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ 2017

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Macroeconomics of Development, Urban Economics, Labor Economics

## PUBLICATIONS

Elwyn Davies, Peter Deffebach, Leonardo Iacovone, and David McKenzie. Training microentrepreneurs over zoom: Experimental evidence from Mexico. *Journal of Development Economics*, 167, 2024. URL <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2023.103244>

## WORKING PAPERS

## WORKS IN PROGRESS

Quits in a Low-Income Urban Labor Market: Evidence from Ghana (Job Market Paper)  
Economic Development and the Spatial Distribution of Income in Cities, with David Lagakos, Yuhei Miyauchi, and Eiji Yamada

## PRESENTATIONS

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

International Growth Centre (IGC) Small Research Grant (£20,000)	2022
Structural Change and Economic Growth (STEG) Small Research Grant (£15,000)	2023
International Growth Centre (IGC) Full Research Grant (£44,000)	2023

## REFEREEING

Journal of Development Economics  
Review of Economic Dynamics

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Economics (Graduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, 2021, 2022

## LANGUAGES

English (native), Spanish (fluent)

**COMPUTER SKILLS**

Julia, R, Stata, GIS, Matlab, Python

**CITIZENSHIP**

USA

**REFERENCES**

**David Lagakos**

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**Yuhei Miyauchi**

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**Masao Fukui**

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## PETER DEFFEBACH

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### **Quits in a Low-Income Urban Labor Market: Evidence from Ghana** (Job Market Paper)

Why are rates of wage employment so low in poor countries? I conduct a panel survey of job-seekers and a survey of firms in urban Ghana to explore labor market dynamics in depth. I document entry rates into employment are equal between the US and Ghana, but high exit rates mean Ghanaian job-seekers are only half as successful at finding wage work in the long run. In Ghana, I find exits are dominated by quits, while layoffs play a negligible role, in strong contrast with the USA, where layoffs dominate, and quits are infrequent. I examine, and reject, informational frictions as a key driver of high quit rates and show self-employment at most a moderate role. I show quits are most common among individuals who at Baseline are temporarily without flows of non-wage income. To quantify the contribution of changing non-wage income in driving quitting behavior, I build model of job search in which workers face uncertain non-wage income and accept and quit jobs to cope with temporary losses in income. I conclude 20 percent of the difference in exit rates between the USA and Ghana can be attributed to this mechanism.

### **Economic Development and the Spatial Distribution of Income in Cities** with David Lagakos, Yuhei Miyauchi, Eiji Yamada

We draw on new granular data from cities around the world to study how the spatial distribution of income within cities varies with development. We document that in less-developed countries, average incomes of urban residents decline monotonically in distance to the city center, whereas income-distance gradients are flat or increasing in developed economies. We also show that urban neighborhoods with natural amenities – in hills and near rivers – are poorer than average in less-developed countries and richer than average in developed ones. We hypothesize that these patterns arise due to the differences in the provision of residential and transportation infrastructure within cities. Using a quantitative urban model, we show that observed differences in residential and transportation infrastructure help explain a significant fraction of how the spatial income distribution within cities varies with income per capita.

# KATARINA FEDOROV

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)

Dissertation Title: *Essays on Economics and Gender*

Dissertation Committee: Robert Margo, James Feigenbaum, Martin Fiszbein

M.A., Political Economy, Boston University, Boston MA, 2021

B.S., Joint Mathematics and Economics, University of California San Diego, San Diego CA,  
Dec 2015

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Applied Microeconomics, Economic History, Economics of Gender, Economics of Culture

## WORKING PAPERS

“Beyond the Broom: Women in Domestic Service,” September 2024. Job Market paper.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Gender of Names” (joint with Sam Bazzi, Martin Fiszbein, and Eli Locke)

“A Silver Lining: Women and the 1918 Flu Pandemic” (joint with Pawel Janas and Hanna Schwank)

## PRESENTATIONS

Boston University Applied Micro Dissertation Workshop, Boston MA (scheduled)

Southern Economics Association, Washington DC, 2024 (scheduled)

Southern Economics Association, New Orleans, LA, 2023

Boston University Applied Micro Student Workshop, Boston MA, 2020, 2022, 2023

\*Selected presentations by co-authors

\*Harvard Graduate Student Workshop in Economic History, Cambridge MA, 2024

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Travel Grant, Institute for Economic Development, Boston University, Fall 2024

Travel Grant, Institute for Economic Development, Boston University, Fall 2023

PhD Summer Research Fellowship, Boston University 2019-2022

Deans Student Fellowship, Boston University, 2018-2019

Provost Honors, University of California San Diego, 2014-2015

Regents Scholarship for Academic Excellence, University of California San Diego, 2013-2015

Certificate for Excellence in the Presentation of Research, Faculty Mentor Program,  
University of California San Diego, 2015

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### ACADEMIC

Research Assistant to Martin Fiszbein, Boston University, Boston MA, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022

Research Assistant to Prashant Bharadwaj, University of California San Diego, San Diego CA, Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2015

### INDUSTRY

Business Analyst, Catalytic Risk Managers & Insurance Agency, LLC., San Diego CA, Nov 2015-April 2015

Research Assistant (Intern), Workplace Technologies Research, Inc., San Diego CA, Oct 2015-Jun 2015

## ACADEMIC SERVICE

Officer, Graduate Economics Association, Boston University, Fall 2020, Spring 2021

Section Editor, Undergraduate Research Journal, University of California San Diego, Spring 2015, Summer 2015, Fall 2015

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Gender Through Economic History, Department of Economics, Harvard University, Spring 2024

Teaching Fellow, Principles of Microeconomics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023, Fall 2019, Spring 2020

Teaching Fellow, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020

Teaching Fellow, Development Economics (master-level), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020

## LANGUAGES

Fluent: English (native), Russian and Serbian. Conversational: Spanish.

## COMPUTER SKILLS

STATA, Python, LaTeX

## CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: US Citizen

## REFERENCES

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**Professor Martin Fiszbein**  
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# KATARINA FEDOROV

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## **Beyond the Broom: The Decline of Women in Domestic Service (Job Market Paper)**

This paper investigates the significant decline of young white women in domestic service in the United States between 1880 and 1930, one of the most notable and understudied shifts in women's labor history. I utilize historical data to explore the impact of rising educational attainment and the spread of electrification on the reduction of domestic service employment. I find that education played a pivotal role in reducing the supply of white domestics both directly through increased school attendance and through human capital which enabled women to pursue higher skilled jobs. I validate these findings with an instrumental variable strategy that leverages changes in state level compulsory schooling laws over time. The spread of electrification further accelerated the decline for native born white women by creating new, skilled job opportunities and increasing returns to human capital. These findings provide new insights into how education and technological advancement shaped women's labor choices in the early 20th century, offering a deeper understanding of the forces driving occupational change during this period.

## **The Gender of Names**

*(with Samuel Bazzi, Martin Fiszbein and Eli Locke)*

Changes in gender norms have shaped many aspects of the U.S. economy over the last two centuries, but assessing their evolution is difficult due to the paucity of historical data regarding societal views on gender. In this project, we use a simple and readily available source of data to plausibly infer gender norms: first names. Sound symbolism, a concept deriving from linguistics and psychology, posits that certain names sound harsh to the ear and are therefore perceived as masculine. Thus, determining how the sound of baby names has changed over time allows a novel analysis of gender norms, which we operationalize using Barry and Harper (1995). We find that the difference in the average sound of baby boys' and baby girls' names has been nearly constant over the last 200 years. Yet, since the 1930s, baby names for both genders have become substantially more feminine-sounding. Data from 1940 show that a woman's labor force participation was positively correlated with her children and spouse having more feminine-sounding names, even after accounting for confounding factors. In future work, we plan to demonstrate the robustness of these results using various measures of female empowerment.



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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays in Urban and Labor Economics*  
Dissertation Committee: Kevin Lang, Daniele Paserman and Benjamin Marx  
  
M.A., Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2018  
  
B.A., Agricultural Economics, Renmin University of China, Beijing, China, 2016  
Exchange Program, UC Davis, CA, 2014-2015

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Urban Economics, Development Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

“Do men and women hold different standards on spouses: evidence on mating preferences in China”. October 2024. Job Market paper.  
“The impacts of population mobility controls on housing prices: Evidence from the 2014 household registration reform in China,” October 2023.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Network job and worker benefits of rural urban migrants in China,” October 2020.

## PRESENTATIONS

Applied Microeconomics Dissertation Workshop, Boston University, 2020-2023  
Development Reading Group, Boston University, 2020

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2018-2023  
Tuition Scholarship, Duke University, 2016-2018  
Scholarship for undergraduate exchange program, Renmin University of China, 2014-2015  
Scholarship of Academic Excellence, Renmin University of China, 2013-2016  
National Scholarship for undergraduate, China Education Ministry, 2012

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Professor Marjorie McElroy and Professor Seth Sanders, Duke University, 2017-2018

Co-organizer, Development Reading Group, Fall 2020

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, Empirical Economics II, Department of Economics, Boston University, Summer 2022  
Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics II (EC204), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2023  
Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics I (EC203), Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022, Fall 2022, Spring 2023  
Teaching Fellow, Introductory Microeconomics Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2021, Summer 2023  
Teaching Fellow, Introductory Macroeconomics Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Summer 2022, Summer 2023  
Academic Tutor, Introductory Microeconomics Analysis, Summer 2017

**LANGUAGES**

English (fluent), Mandarin (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, R, MATLAB, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

**REFERENCES**

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## XUCHAO GAO

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### **Do men and women hold different standards on spouses: evidence on mating preferences in China** (Job Market Paper)

Some common mating preferences fail to rationalize the matching patterns observed in the Chinese marriage where women's single rates increase in education attainment but in contrast, men are less likely to be single when they become more educated. I propose a utility model that allows testing for the intensity of assortative mating among men and women as well as the impact of traditional gender norms. Estimating the preference parameters with 2010 Census data from China, I find that the preferences vary across regions and at the national level, the estimated preference parameters suggest the traditional divisions of gender roles may still be deeply rooted in people's mating preferences and make education a less desirable trait for women compared to men.

### **The impacts of population mobility controls on housing prices: Evidence from the 2014 household registration reform in China**

Household registration system (Hukou system) as a mobility control instrument in China largely restricts individuals' access to social welfare system out of their hometown, making it costly and inconvenient for migrants to live in the hosting cities in the long term. Majority of the migrants do not consider purchase houses where they work without a Hukou. In this paper, I study the effects of 2014 Hukou reform, a major household registration relaxation, on housing prices in the urban area. Using apartment complex level housing data, I find that the implementation of the reform lead to an increase in prices of lower-quality residential properties while those of higher quality experience negative shocks. This is consistent with the findings in previous literature that more migrant workers move to places where controls are relaxed, which spur demands for basic housing.

### **Network job and worker benefits of rural urban migrants in China**

Despite the rise in the number of rural urban migrants since the 1980s, many migrants remain unaware of or are denied their entitled labor benefits. This situation could be exacerbated by the lack of transparency about worker benefits, and the high mobility of the migrant workforce. Using Chinese rural urban migration data, this paper studies whether jobs obtained through social network provide better worker benefits. My results suggest that network jobs tend to be associated with worse benefits. I discuss a few potential reasons behind this pattern. Furthermore, I find that migrants' decision to stay in urban areas is influenced more by housing benefits than other forms of worker benefits.

## QIFAN HAN

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays in Digital Marketing and Partial Identification*  
Main advisor: Hiroaki Kaido  
Dissertation Committee: Hiroaki Kaido, Marc Rysman, Andrey Simonov

M.A. Econometrics and Mathematical Economics, LSE, London, UK, 2019

M.A. Quantitative Methods in the Social Sciences, Columbia University, New York, USA  
2018

B.A., International Politics, Fudan University, Shanghai, China, 2016

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Quantitative Marketing, Applied Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics

### WORKING PAPERS

“[The Impact of Banning Online Gambling Livestreams: Evidence from Twitch.tv,](#)” (with Jasmine Yang and Andrey Simonov), October 2024. Job market paper  
“[Collaboration Among Content Creators,](#)” (with Jasmine Yang and Kinshuk Jerath), July 2023.  
“[Impulse Response Inferences With Existence of Repeated Roots,](#)” July 2024

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Partial Identification Under Multiple Nest Structures”  
“Optimal Achievement System Design on Video Game Platforms”

### PRESENTATIONS

Interactive Marketing Research Conference, Boston, MA, 2024  
China India Insights Conference, Stanford, CA, 2023

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024  
Excellent Student Cadre, Fudan University, 2014  
Student Scholarship, Fudan University, 2014-2015

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Hiroaki Kaido, Boston University, Spring 2022, Spring 2023  
Research Assistant for Prof. Jose Montiel Olea, Columbia University, Summer 2017, Winter 2019  
Marketing Intern, Harvard Center Shanghai, Shanghai, China, Spring 2015

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Fellow, Statistics for Economists, Department of Economics, Boston University,  
Fall 2023-Fall 2024

Teaching Fellow, Empirical Economic Analysis 2, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant, Environmental Economics, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2022

Teaching Fellow, Introductory Macroeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2020-Fall 2021

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** R, Python, MATLAB, STATA, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

**REFERENCES** [Format references in two or three columns to use up extra space as available. 3 or 4 refs are allowed. List references in order of *contribution*, not alphabetically.]

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**Professor Marc Rysman**

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**Professor Andrey Simonov**

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# QIFAN HAN

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## **The Impact of Banning Online Gambling Livestreams: Evidence from Twitch.tv** (Job Market Paper, *with Jasmine Yang and Andrey Simonov*)

The necessity of content regulation on digital platforms, particularly concerning misinformation and harmful content, has sparked a growing debate. While many platforms have increasingly relied on self-regulation to address these issues, the effectiveness of such measures remains uncertain, as platforms may prioritize profits over consumer protection, potentially leading to misaligned incentives with regulators. We investigate the effectiveness and market outcomes of content self-regulation by studying Twitch's ban on online gambling livestreams in October 2022, using a novel high-frequency panel dataset covering the top 6,000 Twitch streamers. To identify banned content and streamers affected by the policy, we leverage video analysis on historical video clips, high-frequency stream titles, and in-stream chat analysis. To tackle key identification challenges, we use three causal estimators: two-way fixed effects DiD, Synthetic DiD, and the doubly-robust estimator of group-time average treatment effects, and propose a network analysis to construct valid treated and control groups. On the supply side, we find that the policy caused a reduction in weekly gambling streams by 63.2% for streamers whose content was banned and 12.2% for streamers whose content was not banned. However, the policy also decreased non-gambling streams as an unintended cost for the platform, resulting in an overall reduction in content production and diversity. Additionally, the more popular streamers experienced a higher content reduction, driven by two underlying mechanisms: lower reliance on gambling content and concerns for reputation. On the demand side, we find that the policy only reduced total viewership and low-tier subscriptions, with revenue from loyal viewers unaffected. We discuss the implications of Twitch's policy ban and the broader practices of content self-regulation on platforms in general.

## **Collaboration Among Content Creators** (*with Jasmine Yang and Kinshuk Jerath*)

We study content collaboration in the creator economy, in which competing creators mutually agree to collaborate on joint content and negotiate on content production and revenue sharing. Using a game theory model with creators competing for consumers on a Hotelling line, we show that collaboration allows creators to use the jointly-produced content to moderate competition, while using their individual content to expand into new audiences. This increases content diversity but also leads to increased monetizability of content. In general, collaboration among creators has an effect of increasing the profits of creators while reducing consumer surplus. When creators create content with heterogeneous entertainment values, the creator producing content of lower entertainment value has an incentive to free ride on the collaborative content. This free riding may increase surplus for consumers (who without collaboration would watch content of low entertainment value), thereby improving creators' profits as well as consumer surplus. Our results provide guidance to content creators, to platforms designing tools to facilitate collaborations, and to policy makers.

## **Impulse Response Inferences With Existence of Repeated Roots**

Vector Autoregression (VAR) and Local Projection (LP) are two popular methods of estimating the impulse response functions (IRFs) and conducting inferences in macroeconomic studies. However, it remains unclear which one should be a better choice in empirical practices. This paper extends existing works on the comparison between Vector Autoregression and Local

Projection methods, by considering inferences when the data generating processes involve repeated roots. I show that the autoregressive estimation of impulse response functions will converge to a special type of real-valued random variable, resulting in conservativeness of the widely-used bootstrap Efron confidence interval, even when the roots are away from the unit circle. This property of conservativeness becomes even more severe in the following cases: 1) when the time series is highly persistent; and 2) when the researcher is interested in impulse response functions at intermediate or long horizons. The theoretical results are supported by Monte Carlo simulations with different values of roots in a variety of model specifications, including AR(2), AR(3) and VAR(1).

# JUSTIN J. HONG

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Website: <https://www.hjihao.org/>

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Three Essays in Development and Political Economics*  
Dissertation Committee: Raymond Fisman, Dilip Mookherjee, and Martin Fiszbein  
B.A., Economics, Xiamen University (WISE), China, 2019  
Visiting Student, University of California, Berkeley, 2018

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Primary fields: Development Economics, Political Economy  
Secondary fields: Labor Economics, Public Economics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

[“The Costs of Leader Biases: Evidence from Superstitious Chinese Mayors,”](#) (with Yuheng Zhao)

## WORKING PAPERS

[“Corruption and Human Capital Supply for the State,”](#) 2023,  
Revise & Resubmit at *Journal of Labor Economics*.  
[“Risk-Taking and Public Leadership: Evidence from Chinese Villages,”](#) 2022, *Submitted*.  
[“Host Favoritism and Talent Selection in Chinese Science Olympiads,”](#) (with Xuan Li), 2022,  
Revise & Resubmit at *Journal of Law, Economics and Organization*.  
[“History Education and Identity-Building in Taiwan,”](#) (with Yuhang Lyu), 2020,  
Conditionally Accepted at *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Southbound Bureaucrats and the Making of China, 1949 - 2019” (with Yuheng Zhao)  
“Licensed Corruption” (with Yiming Cao, Raymond Fisman, Xuan Li, and Michael Luca)  
“Robots and State Capacity” (with Yiming Cao)  
“Legal Capacity and State-Building”

## PRESENTATIONS

North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society (joint with ASSA), 2025  
CEPR Symposium – Development Economics Program, 2024  
Asian Meeting of the Econometrics Society, 2024  
Conference of the International Association for Applied Econometrics (IAAE), 2024  
Chinese Economists Society North America Annual Conference, 2024  
Hong Kong Economic Association Biennial Conference\*, 2023  
BU Wheelock PREREQ Seminar\*, 2023  
ASSA Annual Meeting (Poster), 2023  
The Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC), 2022



Development & Political Economics Graduate Conference, Stanford University, 2022  
Cambridge China Politics Research Workshop, MIT, 2021  
Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, 2019

(\*: coauthor presenting)

#### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

Rosenstein-Rodan Prize for Best Essay in Development Economics, Boston University, 2024  
Best Teaching Fellow Award, Boston University, 2022  
Dean's Student Fellowship, Boston University, 2019 - 2024  
National Scholarship, Ministry of Education (China), 2017

#### **WORK EXPERIENCE AND SUMMER SCHOOL**

Price Theory Summer Camp, University of Chicago, 2022  
Research Assistant for Raymond Fisman, Boston University, 2022 - 2023  
Research Assistant for Guo Xu, UC Berkeley, 2018  
Research Assistant for Xi Yang, Xiamen University, 2016

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Fellow, Empirical Economics I (EC 203), Boston University, Spring 2023, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024  
Teaching Fellow, Empirical Economics II (EC 204), Boston University, Fall 2022  
Teaching Fellow, Introductory Macroeconomics (EC 102), Boston University, Spring 2021  
Teaching Fellow, Introductory Microeconomics (EC 101), Boston University, Fall 2020, Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Summer 2022

#### **REFeree EXPERIENCE**

*Review of Economics and Statistics*

#### **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Development Reading Group, Boston University, Co-Organizer, Fall 2021 - Spring 2023  
MA-RA Mentor Program, Boston University, Mentor, Summer 2022 - Summer 2024

**LANGUAGES:** Chinese (native), Taiwanese Hokkien (fluent), English (fluent)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** Stata, R, LaTeX, ArcGIS

#### **REFERENCES**

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## JUSTIN J. HONG

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### **The Costs of Leader Biases: Evidence from Superstitious Chinese Mayors**

(Job Market Paper) *(with Yuheng Zhao)*

Biased and false beliefs – such as denialism and superstitions – influence human decision-making, potentially including key individuals that wield considerable economic and political power. This paper documents the substantial macro-level impact of leaders’ misbeliefs in China, exploiting prevalent Asian traditional beliefs that allow us to link quasi-random, leader-specific spatial biases to regional development within cities. We find that municipal zones that are supernaturally unfavorable to mayors (i.e., subject to mayors’ over-pessimism) have an average 2% lower GDP compared to other zones. Exploiting mayor reports and administrative micro-level data, we show reduced policy support and public investment as the key drivers. Downstream changes in firms and households further amplify the loss, with a 6% decrease in firm entry, a 4% reduction in the productivity of remaining firms, and a small population decline. Our back-of-the-envelope calculation suggests Chinese mayors’ spatial misbeliefs are associated with at least a 0.1% annual GDP loss over the past two decades. Overall, our findings highlight subjective beliefs as a key determinant of leader performance, contributing to a deeper understanding of why leaders matter for economic development.

### **Corruption and Human Capital Supply for the State, R&R at *Journal of Labor Economics***

I study the impact of corruption crackdown on human capital supply for the state, exploiting China’s staggered anti-corruption inspections. Using unique applicant data from state organizations, I find that anti-corruption induces positive selection for prosociality into the state sector, without significantly affecting overall ability. These shifts in supply are associated with enhanced work performance. Changes in occupational preferences from a representative household panel corroborate talent allocation as a prominent mechanism. I further document dynamic effects wherein households increase investment in human capital and the integrity of the next generation. Together, these findings highlight reward structures as an important determinant of the public sector’s human capacity.

### **Risk-Taking and Public Leadership: Evidence from Chinese Villages**

This paper studies the causal impact of risk-taking on public leadership, exploiting Chinese zodiac culture that creates within-individual variation in risk appetite. Employing a representative village panel, I find that lower risk-taking of village heads leads to improved governance processes and greater responsiveness. I also observe consistent expenditure changes, with higher public good spending and a comparable decline in administration spending that is prone to misuse. However, risk-averse leaders are also less likely to promote policy innovation. Collectively, risk avoidance can improve leader performance when incentives for responsiveness are limited, with a potential trade-off between accountability and public entrepreneurship.

### **Host Favoritism and Talent Selection in Chinese Science Olympiad *(with Xuan Li)*,**

*R&R at Journal of Law, Economics & Organization*

We study favoritism in the selection of elite scientific talent, by examining the host institution affiliation and performance in the Chinese Science Olympiad, where a gold medal guarantees a student’s admission to top universities. Using hand-collected participant-level data (2003 - 2021), we find that host-affiliated students have a significantly higher winning probability. We present evidence suggestive of cheating behavior using a portion of the contest vulnerable to information leakage, as well as the centralized post-Olympiad selection outside the control of host provinces. Together, our findings shed light on the crucial role of organizational structure in designing equitable assessment systems for talent.

# MATTHEW M. HONG

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Econometrics and Distributional Analysis*  
Dissertation Committee: Ivan Fernandez-Val, Hiroaki Kaido and Jean-Jacques Forneron

M.Phil., Economics, University of Oxford, UK 2019

B.Sc., Economics, Mathematics and Statistics (*High Distinction*), University of Toronto,  
Toronto, ON, 2017

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Econometrics, Labor Economics, Health Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

“Heterogeneous Treatment Effects Analysis through Distribution Regression based Changes-in-Changes,” Sep 2024. Job Market paper.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Flexible Distribution Regression using Neural Networks” (with Victor Chernozhukov, Ivan Fernandez-Val and Victor Quintas-Martinez)  
“Panel Data Quantile Regression with Grouped Fixed Effects”

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024  
Optimization-Conscious Summer School Travel Grant, University of Chicago, 2023  
Finalist, Best Second-Year Paper Award, Boston University, 2021  
Dean’s List Scholar, University of Toronto, 2013-2017  
Winner, Waterfront International Quant-a-thon Challenge, Toronto, 2016  
Essay Prize in Economic Policy, University of Toronto, 2015  
Leonard McLaughlin Scholarship, University of Toronto, 2013-2014

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Ivan Fernandez-Val, Boston University, Spring & Summer 2022,  
Spring 2023, Spring & Summer 2024  
Research Assistant for Prof. Sarah Armitage, National Bureau of Economic Research and  
Boston University, Summer 2024  
Research Assistant for Assoc. Prof. Hiroaki Kaido, Boston University, Summer 2020  
Summer Analyst at CIBC Global Investment Banking, Toronto, Summer 2016

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, Advanced Statistics for Economists, Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Fall 2023, Fall 2024

Teaching Fellow, Macroeconomic Theory I, Department of Economics, Boston University,  
Fall 2020

**DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Co-Organizer, BU Econometrics Reading Group, Fall 2022-Spring 2023

**LANGUAGES:** English (Native), Korean (Native), Mandarin (Conversational)

**PROGRAMMING SKILLS:** R, Python, MATLAB, Stata/Mata, LaTeX, Git, Cluster Computing

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** Canada/F1

**REFERENCES**

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**Professor Jean-Jacques Forneron**

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# MATTHEW M. HONG

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## **Heterogeneous Treatment Effects Analysis through Distribution Regression based Changes-in-Changes (Job Market Paper)**

The changes-in-changes method, developed by Athey and Imbens (2006), is a powerful tool for identifying the distributional effects of a policy intervention, allowing for endogenous treatment assignment and full counterfactual distribution identification. However, challenges with incorporating control variables to address concerns akin to differential parallel trends in the difference-in-differences literature, and accommodating mixed continuous-discrete outcomes such as censored outcomes persist. In this paper, I propose a semiparametric approach to changes-in-changes based on distribution regression that can flexibly account for observed confounders. This approach can be applied to continuous and/or discrete outcome variables. I derive functional central limit theorems for the distribution regression based changes-in-changes estimator and for functionals thereof. These include unconditional distributional and quantile treatment effects, average treatment effects, and decomposition treatment effects for the treated group. Bootstrap validity result is also provided for conducting inference in practice. Lastly, I apply the approach to study the heterogeneous effects of Earned Income Tax Credit on infant weights and find that the policy had higher concentrated benefits for lower birth weights and more muted effects across the birth weight distribution than previously reported.

## **Quantile Regression in Panel Data with Grouped Fixed Effects**

This paper considers the estimation and inference of panel quantile regression with unobserved grouped heterogeneity. The method assumes a finite number of groups in the underlying population, while group membership is not assumed to be known a priori and is allowed to vary across quantiles. The paper provides informative inputs for clustering and illustrates selection rules for the number of groups. An extensive Monte Carlo study suggests strong estimation properties and fast computational speed of the proposed method relative to existing methods. Lastly, an empirical application of the estimator to Acemoglu et al. (2019) finds heterogeneous impact of democratization on growth.

## **ELAINE KIIRU**

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### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, August 2024

Dissertation Title: *Nonprofit Organizations in Macroeconomics*

Main advisor: David Lagakos

M.A., Political Economy, Boston University, Boston, MA, 2023

B.A., Economics, University of Richmond,  
Richmond, VA, 2018

### **FIELDS OF INTEREST**

Macroeconomics, Public Economics, Labor Economics

### **PUBLICATIONS**

Kiiru, Elaine, Alexander Wolman, and Renee Haltom (2018) “[Have Yield Curve Inversions Become More Likely](#),” *Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond Economic Brief*.

### **WORKING PAPERS**

“[Growth, Inequality, and Nonprofit Contributions](#)” September 2022. Job Market paper.

“[Innovative Nonprofits: Evidence from Patents](#),” January 2024.

### **WORK IN PROGRESS**

“Local Bias in Nonprofit Contributions”

### **PRESENTATIONS**

Science of Philanthropy Initiative Conference, Indianapolis, IN, 2024

International Conference on Empirical Economics, Virtual 2024

### **FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS**

GivingTuesday Data Commons Fellowship, GivingTuesday, 2023

Outstanding Student in Economics, University of Richmond, 2018

Boatwright Full-Tuition Scholarship, University of Richmond, 2014-2018

### **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Model Risk Specialist, Atlantic Union Bank, January 2024 - Present

Research Fellow, Boston University (to Stephen Terry), January 2022 - May 2023

Research Associate, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (to Alex Wolman and Andreas Hornstein), June 2018 - August 2020

**REFeree EXPERIENCE**

*The Economic and Labour Relations Review, Economic Quarterly*

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Fellow, Introductory Microeconomics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023 (In Person) and Summer 2024 (Online)

Teaching Fellow, Introductory Macroeconomics, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2021 (In Person)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** R, Python, LaTeX, STATA, MATLAB, SQL

**CITIZENSHIP:** United States

**REFERENCES**

**Professor David Lagakos**

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**Associate Professor Pascual Restrepo**

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**Associate Professor Stephen Terry**

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**Assistant Professor Masao Fukui**

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**Growth, Inequality, and Nonprofit Contributions (Job Market Paper)**

The nonprofit sector is a small part of the economy that has potentially outsized effects on welfare and has grown in the past 30 years. One important distinction between nonprofit organizations and for-profit firms is that many nonprofits receive charitable contributions. Contributions to nonprofits have risen from 1.2 percent of GDP to around 1.7 percent of GDP, while the income distribution has become more unequal over this period. In a model with non-homothetic preferences for positive charitable contributions and other consumption, increasing GDP produces more than the observed increase in charitable contributions, while increasing inequality slightly decreases charitable contributions.

**Innovative Nonprofits: Evidence from Patents**

In endogenous growth theory, patenting is motivated by profits. However, this paper finds that nonprofit organizations own about two percent of granted patents in the United States. Furthermore, nonprofit patents document important contributions to innovation. Text analysis shows that nonprofit patents make disproportionate contributions to technological categories that have positive externalities, such as medical, green, and basic research. High citations and high novelty relative to impact, as measured by the similarity between past and future patents, suggest that nonprofit patents generate notable spillovers. These contributions not only enhance technological and societal impact but also align closely with the nonprofits' prosocial missions.



## ZIXIAN LIU

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Experimentations, Misinformation, and Shill Bidding*  
Dissertation Committee: Juan Ortner, Albert Ma and Bart Lipman

M.A., Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2019

B.A., International Finance, CUFU, Beijing, China, 2017

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Mechanism Design, Game Theory, Micro Theory

### WORKING PAPERS

“Contextual Bandit Mechanism: Optimal Delegation in the Experimentation Cycle,” October 2024. Job Market paper.

“Misinformation and Markets for Truth,” (with Marshall Van Alstyne), September 2024.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Dynamic Advice”

“Endogenous Network and Group Design”

“Shill Bidding”

### PRESENTATIONS

Chinese Economists Society 2018 North America Conference, Athens, GA, 2018

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Prof. Juan Ortner, 2023-2024

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, Economics of Public Sector (undergraduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Teaching Fellow, Environmental Economics (undergraduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Teaching Fellow, Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (undergraduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024

Teaching Assistant, Elementary Mathematical Economics (Master), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2021, Spring 2022

**LANGUAGES:** English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** STATA, Mathematica, LaTeX [don't put Microsoft Office!]

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

**REFERENCES**

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**Professor Marshall Van Alstyne**  
Questrom School of Business  
Boston University  
Phone: (617) 358-3571  
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### **Contextual Bandit Mechanism: Optimal Delegation in the Experimentation Cycle** (Job Market Paper) *(with Liang Zhong)*

We study a dynamic relationship in which a long-lived principal delegates experimentation to short-lived agents, each living for one period. Therefore, the principal has more incentives to experiment than agents. We model this as a contextual bandit problem, where the experimentation yields success that follows a state-dependent Poisson process. The state is drawn independently at the beginning of each period, and a new agent arrives each period with private knowledge about the state. The success rate is unknown to the principal and all agents in one of the states, and it can either be high or low. Players will learn it through experimentation. We focus specifically on stopping-time policies. Due to state transitions, we show that experimentation tends to follow a cyclical pattern—experiencing phases of interest, abandonment, and revival. Meanwhile, the conflict of interest leads to both over- and under-experimentation.

### **Misinformation and Markets for Truth** *(with Marshall Van Alstyne)*

We analyze a misinformation problem involving multiple speakers and listeners. Speakers benefit if listeners read their claims, and listeners benefit when they receive accurate information. Speakers can lie and attract listeners through advertisements with costs. The first welfare theorem does not apply in our setting. We define a new equilibrium concept, stable competitive equilibrium, based on the matching theory and prove that such an equilibrium always exists in the Coasian market, where speakers are required to warrant their claims. Additionally, we compare the Coasian market with the Lemons market and the Pigouvian market, highlighting its advantages. Finally, we apply our findings to examples in advertising and voting.

### **Shill Bidding**

This paper investigates whether shill bidding can increase the seller's expected revenue in a common value button auction. In this auction, the price rises continuously, and bidders remain active by holding down a button, or drop out by releasing it. The auction concludes when all but one bidder has dropped out, with the winner paying the price at which the second-to-last bidder exited. We assume that dropout prices and bidder identities are unobservable. We characterize the symmetric equilibrium when the seller employs a secret reserve price and when there is a positive probability that the seller hires a shill bidder. We demonstrate that shill bidding impacts revenue by altering the number of participants, which disrupts others' expected value of the item. Whether shill bidding or using a secret reserve price is more effective depends on the number of bidders.

# YAN LIU

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays in Econometrics*  
Main advisor: Hiroaki Kaido  
Dissertation Committee: Hiroaki Kaido, Iván Fernández-Val, and Jean-Jacques Forneron  
  
M.A., Economics, Kyoto University, Kyoto, Japan, 2018  
  
B.A., Economics, Peking University, Beijing, China, 2015  
B.S., Statistics, Peking University, Beijing, China, 2015

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics

## PUBLICATIONS

“Asymptotic Properties of the Maximum Likelihood Estimator in Regime-Switching Models with Time-Varying Transition Probabilities,” (with Chaojun, Li) *The Econometrics Journal*, (2023) 26(1): 67-87.

## WORKING PAPERS

“[Robust Counterfactual Analysis for Nonlinear Panel Data Models](#),” October 2024. Job Market paper.  
“[Policy Learning under Endogeneity Using Instrumental Variables](#),” March 2024.  
“Model Selection Tests for Incomplete Models,” (with Hiroaki Kaido), October 2024

## PRESENTATIONS

2024 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society in China, Hangzhou, China, 2024  
IAAE 2024 Annual Conference, Xiamen, China, 2024  
BU-BC Joint Workshop in Econometrics, Boston, MA, 2023  
Midwest Econometrics Group 2022 Conference, East Lansing, MI, 2022  
Young Economist Symposium 2022, New Haven, CT, 2022  
16th International Symposium on Econometric Theory and Applications (online), 2022  
2022 Australasia Meeting of the Econometric Society (online), 2022  
IAAE 2022 Annual Conference, London, UK, 2022  
2022 North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, Miami, FL, 2022  
2019 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Xiamen, China, 2019  
2018 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Seoul, Korea, 2018

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Best Second Year Paper Award, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2022

Dean's Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024  
Foreign Student Scholarship, Nomura Foundation, 2018-2019  
Outstanding Master's Thesis Award, Graduate School of Economics, Kyoto University, 2018  
Asian Future Leaders Scholarship Program, Bai Xian Asia Institute, 2016-2018  
Academic Excellence Award, Peking University, 2013  
Leo KoGuan Scholarship, Peking University, 2013  
Merit Student, Peking University, 2012  
ICBC Scholarship, Peking University, 2012

#### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Research Assistant to Professor Hiroaki Kaido, Boston University, Fall 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2024  
Research Assistant to Professor Pierre Perron, Boston University, Summer 2023-Present  
Research Fellow (DC2), Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, 2019

#### **REFEREE EXPERIENCE**

*Annals of Statistics*

#### **TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant, Advanced Econometrics 1 (Ph.D.), Boston University, Spring 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023  
Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics 1, Boston University, Fall 2021  
Teaching Assistant, Elementary Mathematical Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020  
Teaching Assistant, Advanced Microeconomics, Kyoto University, Spring 2019  
Teaching Assistant, Advanced Econometrics, Kyoto University, Fall 2018  
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Financial Economics, Peking University, Fall 2014  
Teaching Assistant, Principles of Economics, Peking University, Fall 2014

#### **DEPARTMENT SERVICE**

Co-Organizer, BU Econometrics Reading Group, Fall 2021-Spring 2023

#### **LANGUAGES**

Chinese (native), English (fluent), Japanese (fluent)

#### **COMPUTER SKILLS: MATLAB, Python, R, STATA, LaTeX**

#### **CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: China/F1**

#### **REFERENCES**

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**Professor Iván  
Fernández-Val**  
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**Professor Jean-Jacques Forneron**  
Department of Economics  
Boston University  
Phone: (617) 353-4824  
Email: [jjmf@bu.edu](mailto:jjmf@bu.edu)

## **Robust Counterfactual Analysis for Nonlinear Panel Data Models (Job Market Paper)**

This paper studies robust counterfactual analysis in a wide variety of nonlinear panel data models. I impose only mild assumptions, including time homogeneity on the distribution of unobserved heterogeneity and index separability on the structural function. I derive the sharp identified set for the distribution of the counterfactual outcome, noting that point identification is impossible in general. I also provide tractable implementation procedures that circumvent the need to directly search over latent distributions. I propose inference for sharp bounds on counterfactual probabilities based on aggregate intersection bounds and Bonferroni-adjusted confidence intervals. I apply my approach to empirical data to predict female labor force participation rates under counterfactual values of fertility and husband's income, as well as market shares of different saltine cracker brands under counterfactual pricing schemes.

## **Policy Learning under Endogeneity Using Instrumental Variables**

This paper studies the identification and estimation of individualized intervention policies in observational data settings characterized by endogenous treatment selection and the availability of instrumental variables. I introduce encouragement rules that manipulate an instrument. Incorporating the marginal treatment effects (MTE) as policy invariant structural parameters, I establish the identification of the social welfare criterion for the optimal encouragement rule. Focusing on binary encouragement rules, I propose to estimate the optimal policy via the Empirical Welfare Maximization (EWM) method and derive convergence rates of the regret (welfare loss). I consider extensions to accommodate multiple instruments and budget constraints. Using data from the Indonesian Family Life Survey, I apply the EWM encouragement rule to advise on the optimal tuition subsidy assignment. My framework offers interpretability regarding why a certain subpopulation is targeted.

## **Model Selection Tests for Incomplete Models**

*(with Hiroaki Kaido)*

This paper expands the scope of likelihood-based model selection tests to a broad class of discrete choice models. A notable feature is that each of the competing models can make either a complete or incomplete prediction. We provide a novel cross-fitted likelihood-ratio statistic for such settings, which can be compared to a normal critical value. The proposed test does not require any information on how an outcome is chosen when multiple solutions are predicted. This allows the practitioner to compare, for example, a model that predicts a unique equilibrium to another model that allows for multiple equilibria. We examine the finite-sample properties of the test and provide guidance on the choice of tuning parameters through Monte Carlo experiments.

# ELIJAH LOCKE

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)

Dissertation Title: *Labor Markets, Social Networks, and Economic History*

Dissertation Committee: Martin Fiszbein, Robert Margo, Dilip Mookherjee, Daniele Paserman

B.S., Mathematics, B.A., Economics (*Summa Cum Laude*), William & Mary, Williamsburg, VA, 2019

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Economic History, Networks, Culture

## WORKING PAPERS

“Ethnic-Occupational Niches: Evidence from the Age of Mass Migration,” September 2024, Job Market Paper.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Gender of Names,” (with Martin Fiszbein, Katarina Fedorov, and Samuel Bazzi), May 2024.

“Our Crowd? Intragroup Friction and Assimilation in Jewish Migration to the U.S.,” (with Sara Benetti and Ross Mattheis)

“Networks, Individualism, and Innovation,” (with Martin Fiszbein)

## PRESENTATIONS

Social Sciences History Association, 2024 (scheduled)

Southern Economic Association, 2024 (scheduled)

Harvard Graduate Workshop in Economic History, 2023, 2024

Economic History Association Annual Meeting, Poster Session, 2024

NBER Summer Institute, Development of the American Economy Poster Session, 2024

Institute for Religion, Economics, and Society (IRES) Graduate Workshop, Chapman University, 2024

ASREC Conference, 2024

William & Mary, 2023

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

BU Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Henry S. Newman Graduate Student Fellowship, 2024-2025

IRES Graduate Workshop Honorarium, Chapman University, 2024

Institute for Economic Development Travel Grant, Boston University, 2024

Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant, Boston University, 2023

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024

Terry Glenn Memorial Scholarship Award, William & Mary, 2018-2019

**September 2024**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Professor Martin Fiszbein, Boston University, Spring 2022 - Spring 2024

Research Assistant to Professor Samuel Bazzi, NBER, Fall 2022

Performance Analysis Intern, D.C. United, 2017-18

## REFeree EXPERIENCE

*Journal of Development Economics*

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Head Teaching Assistant, Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant, Introductory Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020-Spring 2022

## COMPUTER SKILLS: Python, STATA, MATLAB, LaTeX

## ACADEMIC SERVICES

Student co-coordinator, Harvard Graduate Workshop in Economic History, Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Boston University Jazz Band, Fall 2022, Fall 2023 – Spring 2024

Graduate Economics Association Officer, Boston University, Fall 2021 – Spring 2022

## REFERENCES

### **Professor Martin Fiszbein**

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### **Professor Robert Margo**

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Housing Markets and Urban Economics*  
Dissertation Committee: Adam Guren, Marc Rysman, Kevin Lang and Jihye Jeon

M.A., Social Sciences (Economics), University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2017

B.S., Economics (*Highest Distinction*), University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN, 2015

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Real Estate/Urban Economics, Industrial Organization, Household Finance

### WORKING PAPERS

“[Build What and for Whom? The Distributional Effects of Housing Supply](#),” September 2024. **Job Market paper.**  
“[Racial Disparities in Home Selling](#),” (with Leonel Drukker), September 2024, ready to submit.  
“[When Institutional Investors Come to Town: The Local Effects of Buy-to-Rent Properties](#)” January 2024.  
“[Happy at Home or Stuck in Place? The Determinants of Declining Local Residential Mobility](#),” October 2021.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“The Impact of Parenthood on the Financial Well-Being of Families,” with Victoria Wang and Letian Yin  
“Housing Inequality in the United States,” with Gerard Domènech Arumí and Giovanni Paolo Mariani

### PRESENTATIONS

FDIC Consumer Research Symposium (Poster), Washington, D.C., 2024  
IHS Workshop on NIMBYism and the Future of Housing, Online, 2024  
Urban Economics Association Europe Meeting, Copenhagen, Denmark, 2024  
University of Chicago Stone Center Summer School on Socioeconomic Opportunity and Inequality (Poster), Chicago, IL, 2024  
Urban Economics Association North America Meeting, Washington, D.C., 2024  
Midwest Econometrics Group Conference (scheduled), Lexington, KY, 2024  
North America Regional Science Council Conference (scheduled), New Orleans, LA, 2024  
GNLab Alumni Conference, Chicago (scheduled), IL 2024  
Dallas Fed and Norges Bank Second Women in Central Banking Workshop (scheduled), Dallas, TX, 2024  
2024 American Real Estate Society Fall Research Symposium (scheduled), Denver, CO, 2024

#### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024  
Institute for Economics Development travel grant, Boston University, 2024  
Institute for Economics Development research grant, Boston University, 2023  
California Policy Lab Seed grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020  
UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate research grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020  
Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2016-2017  
Dean's List, University of Minnesota, 2013-2015

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Marc Rysman, Boston University, 2024  
Research Assistant, Adam Guren, Boston University, 2020-2024  
Research Assistant, Peter Ganong and Pascal Noel, University of Chicago, 2018-2019  
Research Assistant, Christopher Palmer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2017-2018  
Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 2015-2016

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Average course rating: 4.75/5  
Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Economics (PhD),  
Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023  
Teaching Assistant, Elementary Mathematical Economics (Master's), Department of  
Economics, Boston University, Fall 2023  
Teaching Fellow, Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergrad), Department of Economics,  
Boston University, Fall 2021 and Spring 2021  
Teaching Fellow, Money and Banking (Undergrad), Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Spring 2021

#### LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Chinese (native), Spanish (beginner)

#### COMPUTER SKILLS

R, Julia, Python, Stata, Matlab, Git, LaTeX, cluster computing

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China. U.S. permanent resident (green card holder)

#### REFERENCES

**Professor Adam Guren** (co-advisor)  
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**Professor Marc Rysman** (co-advisor)  
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**Professor Kevin Lang**  
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Boston University  
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**Professor Jihye Jeon**  
Department of Economics  
Boston University  
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### **Build What and for Whom? The Distributional Effects of Housing Supply** (Job Market Paper)

New construction has favored bigger, more expensive houses. This paper studies the causes of this pattern and analyzes various policies to promote affordability at the lower end of the owner-occupied housing market. I develop an equilibrium model of segmented housing markets with two key features: (1) heterogeneous preferences for housing quality by household demographics and (2) endogenous supply with varying development costs by housing quality. Using linked household-property data, I find that lower-income households are less willing to pay for higher-quality homes, and zoning regulations increase the cost of smaller homes. Consequently, developers find it more profitable to build larger homes given top income growth and stringent zoning. I then evaluate the impact of supply- and demand-side subsidies proposed by the Harris Campaign and zoning reforms on the housing market and welfare. Subsidizing young, low-income households helps recipients but hurts others due to rising prices. In contrast, subsidies to small home construction and zoning reforms expand supply and benefit a broader range of households.

### **Racial Disparities in Home Selling** (with Leonel Drukker)

This study investigates the financial disparities Black sellers face in the US housing market. Using repeat-sale transactions from 2003 to 2020, we document that Black sellers earn, on average, 0.36% lower annualized unlevered returns on their property sales compared to non-Black sellers. These racial disparities in housing returns cannot be explained by seller characteristics, property renovations, the buyer's race, seller agent fixed effects, and appraisal measures. However, we find significant racial gaps in listing prices and time on market, which we attribute to intermediaries involved in housing transactions. Controlling for these factors reduces the racial gap in returns to effectively zero. Additionally, we find that when homes are sold to iBuyers, where human intermediary bias is removed, the racial gap in housing returns disappears. Our findings suggest that Black sellers experience higher search frictions, leading to worse selling outcomes.

### **When Institutional Investors Come to Town: The Local Effects of Buy-to-Rent Properties**

Since 2012, institutional buy-to-rent (B2R) investors have entered the single-family rental market, converting a substantial number of owner-occupied homes into rental properties. This study examines the impact of B2R investors on local housing markets, providing reduced-form evidence on the size and origin of spillover effects resulting from their presence. An additional property by B2R investors within 150 meters increases housing price growth by 2-3%. The impact is more pronounced in neighborhoods with a higher share of Black residents and lower property values. The reduced supply of owner-occupied housing and improvements in local amenities are key factors driving the positive spillover effects on housing prices.

## SIYI SONG

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays in Policy Evaluation*  
Dissertation Committee: Marc Rysman, Dilip Mookherjee, Kevin Lang

B.E., Economics & Finance (*first class honours*), University of Sydney, Australia, 2018

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Empirical Industrial Organization, Development Economics, Public Economics

### Working Paper

“[Dynamic Demand Under High Stockouts: The Toilet Paper Run in the U.S.](#)” Sep 2024  
“[Big Crunch after Big Bang: Household Income Effects of China's Anti-Corruption Campaign](#),” May 2023

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Fear not Poverty but Inequality: China’s Land Quota Policy”

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2018-2024  
Honours Scholarship, University of Sydney, 2017

### Work Experience

Intern, Boehringer Ingelheim, Beijing, 2017  
Intern, China Credit BGC Money Broking, Beijing, 2016

### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, EC332 Industrial Organization, Boston University, Fall 2022  
Teaching Fellow, EC204 Empirical Economics II, Boston University, Spring 2022, 2023  
Teaching Fellow, EC101 Introductory Microeconomics, Boston University, 2019-2021  
Teaching Assistant, EC406 Applied Econometrics, Boston University, Spring 2024

### SERVICE

Co-organizer, the Development Economics Reading group, Boston University, 2021-2022

### LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native)

### COMPUTER SKILLS: MATLAB, STATA, Python, LaTeX

### CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: China/F1

**REFERENCES**

**Professor Marc Rysman**  
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**Professor Dilip Mookherjee**  
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**Professor Kevin Lang**  
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## SIYI SONG

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### **Dynamic Demand Under Stockouts: The Toilet Paper Run in the U.S.**

This paper analyzes the toilet paper run of March 2020 across nine U.S. cities, examining the rationality behind the buying frenzy and evaluating the welfare effects of potential policy interventions. I develop a dynamic demand model that incorporates stockpiling behavior, persistent taste heterogeneity, rational expectations, product differentiation, and availability. Using panel scanner data from retail sales and household purchases (2018–2021), I structurally estimate the model with an innovative algorithm, iteratively updating simulated maximum likelihood estimators from the traditional split estimation procedure designed for homogeneous tastes. The findings suggest that rational consumers participated in the toilet paper run due to anticipated stockouts. Methodologically, I find that ignoring product availability and persistent taste heterogeneity reduces both the efficiency and accuracy of the estimation. Counterfactual simulations show that preemptive warnings about potential stockouts improve consumer welfare; however, such warnings are risky, as a general equilibrium analysis suggests that changes in behavior by a small proportion of consumers could still trigger a run. Surprisingly, increasing the availability of certain product sizes is found to decrease consumer welfare due to excessive stockpiling. Therefore, the autonomous quantity rationing imposed by retailers may have inadvertently reduced consumer welfare.

### **Big Crunch after Big Bang: Household Income Effects of China's Anti-Corruption Campaign**

This paper estimates household income effects of the Big Bang anti-corruption campaign since 2013 in China. Utilizing data from two household panel surveys spanning from 2010 to 2018, I employ a difference-in-difference (DID) framework, leveraging the temporal variations introduced by the Central Committee of Discipline Inspections. The study reveals a significant decrease in household income following the campaign, a finding robust across various model specifications and placebo tests. Furthermore, the analysis identifies a decline in the income premium enjoyed by politically connected groups after the campaign. The paper explores potential mechanisms underlying this income contraction, pointing to capital misallocation between SOEs and private firms, potentially because banks suffered from heightened political scrutiny and information asymmetry. Additionally, the study finds a notable reduction in government transfers following the campaign, exacerbating the overall income Big Crunch. However, households mitigate the income shock via reciprocal private transfers within social networks, thereby maintaining their expenditures at relatively stable levels.

### **Fear not Poverty but Inequality: China's Land Quota Policy**

The central government imposes limits on the amount of land that can be utilized annually in each province in China. This paper analyzes this policy using a dynamic game where each province decides how to allocate its land quota towards sales for revenue or towards industrialization use for growth. The study first estimates the relationships between macroeconomic variables in a nonparametric manner. Then it estimates the provinces' objectives using the Generalized Method of Moments (GMM) approach. By simulating counterfactual scenarios without the land quota policy, the study finds that the use of land quota policy sacrifices GDP for less regional inequality.

## PEIRAN XIAO

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### EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Information Economics*  
Dissertation Committee: Barton Lipman, Juan Ortner, and Krishna Dasaratha  
  
M.A., Economics, Duke University, Durham, NC, 2019  
  
B.A., Economics & B.S., Mathematics, Wuhan University, Wuhan, China, 2017

### FIELDS OF INTEREST

Microeconomic Theory, Mechanism Design, Information Economics

### WORKING PAPERS

“[Incentivizing Agents through Ratings](#),” September 2024. Job Market Paper.  
“[Allocating Positional Goods: A Mechanism Design Approach](#),” August 2024.  
“[Tournaments with Managerial Discretion](#),” (with Hashim Zaman), April 2024, submitted.

### WORK IN PROGRESS

“Endogenous Segregation across Social Media Platforms.”  
“Group Design with Endogenous Networks.”

### SHORT NOTES

“[A Pontryagin Approach to Delegation Problems](#),” November 2023.

### PRESENTATIONS

Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, Stony Brook, NY, 2024  
ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (Poster Sessions), New Haven, CT, 2024  
BC-BU-Brown Theory Workshop, Providence, RI, 2024

### FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2019–2024  
Summer Research Grant, Boston University Center for Innovation in Social Science, 2024  
M.A. Merit Scholar, Duke University, Spring 2018, Fall 2018

### WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Krishna Dasaratha, Boston University, Summer 2024  
Research Assistant for Chiara Margaria, Boston University, Spring 2022  
Research Assistant for Matthew Masten, Duke University, October 2018–May 2019  
Research Assistant for Ofer Eldar, Duke University, January 2018–May 2019

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Teaching Assistant, Algorithmic Mechanism Design (Ph.D.), Faculty of Computing & Data Sciences, Boston University, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Boston University

Game Theory (M.A.), Spring 2021, Fall 2021

Economics of Information, Spring 2021

Market Structure and Economic Performance, Fall 2020

Teaching Assistant, Competitive Strategy and Industrial Organization (M.A.), Department of Economics, Duke University, Spring 2019

**DEPARTMENTAL SERVICES**

Co-organizer of BC-BU-Brown Theory Workshop, Fall 2023–Fall 2024.

Co-organizer of Micro Theory Reading Group, Boston University, Fall 2021–Spring 2023.

**LANGUAGES**

English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** Mathematica, MATLAB, STATA, R, Python, LaTeX

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

**REFERENCES**

**Professor Barton Lipman**

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**Professor Juan Ortner**

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# PEIRAN XIAO

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## **Incentivizing Agents through Ratings** (Job Market Paper)

I study the optimal design of ratings to motivate agent investment in quality. The principal designs a rating scheme that maps the agent's quality to a possibly stochastic score. The agent has private information about his ability, which determines his cost of investment, and chooses the quality level. The market observes the score and offers a wage equal to the agent's expected quality. I reduce the principal's problem to the design of an interim wage function of quality. When restricted to deterministic ratings, I provide necessary and sufficient conditions for the optimality of simple pass/fail tests and lower censorship. In particular, when the principal aims to maximize expected quality, pass/fail tests (lower censorship) are optimal if the ability distribution has an increasing (unimodal) density. The results generalize existing results in optimal delegation with voluntary participation, as pass/fail tests (lower censorship) correspond to take-it-or-leave-it offers (threshold delegation). Additionally, I provide sufficient conditions for pass/fail tests and lower censorship to remain optimal without restriction to deterministic ratings. Pass/fail tests remain optimal in quality maximization if the ability density is increasing.

## **Allocating Positional Goods: A Mechanism Design Approach**

Consumers of positional goods care about their relative positions in the consumption of the goods, so allocating an item to one buyer has externalities on others. Using a mechanism design approach, I characterize the externalities by a feasibility condition. I find the revenue-maximizing mechanism excludes some low types and fully separates the rest if and only if the buyer's type distribution is regular. The seller can guarantee at least half the maximal revenue by offering one level of positional goods, and the approximation can be arbitrarily close if the buyer's type distribution is sufficiently concave. Moreover, if the distribution has an increasing (decreasing) failure rate, total pooling (full separation) without exclusion maximizes the consumer surplus, and the consumer surplus is decreasing (increasing) in the number of positional good levels. Applications include education, priority services, luxury goods, and organizational design.

## **Tournaments with Managerial Discretion** (*with Hashim Zaman*)

We study the optimal design of a two-player tournament in which one player (the manager) has discretion over hiring the other. The manager determines the new hire's ability and competes with him in a Lazer-Rosen-style tournament, in which the one with higher output wins a fraction of the total output. The principal determines the payout ratio and the head start (or handicap) to the manager—an advantage (or disadvantage) when comparing output. We find the head start has three effects on the output: (i) encouragement effect on the manager, (ii) discouragement effect on the new hire, and (iii) hiring effect through the increased ability of the new hire. The hiring effect dominates the discouragement effect until the best candidate is hired; once the best is hired, any further head start leads the discouragement effect to dominate the encouragement effect. Therefore, the optimal contract offers just enough head start to induce the manager to hire the best candidate. However, in a two-period model where the first-period winner is retained for the future, the optimal contract may allow the manager to hire a suboptimal candidate who must still have a higher ability than the manager.

# YUZHAO YANG

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2025 (Expected)

Dissertation Title: *Essays in Decision Theory*

Dissertation Committee: Barton Lipman, Jawwad Noor and Larry Epstein

B.Econ., the University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong S.A.R., 2019

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Microeconomics Theory, Behavioral Economics

## WORKING PAPERS

“An Axiomatic Theory of Cognitive Dissonance,” September 2024. Job Market paper.

“(Non)-Commutative Aggregation,” April 2024. (Revise and Resubmit, *Theoretical Economics*).

“Overprecise Updating.”

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Associative Updating.”

## PRESENTATIONS

Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory, Stony Brook, NY, 2024

Decision: Theory, Experiments, and Applications, Paris, France, 2024

Science of Decision Meeting, Hong Kong S.A.R., 2023

Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, China, 2023

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Best Second Year Paper Award, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2020-2021

HKU Entrance Scholarship, the University of Hong Kong, 2015-2019

## REFeree EXPERIENCE

*Econometrica*, *Theoretical Economics*

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Jawwad Noor, Boston University, 2020

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

Instructor, Summer Challenge program, Boston University, 2023  
Instructor, Ph.D. Math Camp, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2021  
Teaching Assistant, Microeconomic Theory, Boston University, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Fall 2022.

**LANGUAGES**

English (fluent), Mandarin (native), Cantonese (fluent).

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1**REFERENCES****Professor Barton Lipman**

Department of Economics  
Boston University  
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**Professor Jawwad Noor**

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**Professor Larry Epstein**

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McGill University  
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**Professor Marciano Siniscalchi**

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# YUZHAO YANG

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## **An Axiomatic Theory of Cognitive Dissonance (Job Market Paper)**

I propose an intrapersonal game to model a decision-maker (DM) who distorts her beliefs to reduce cognitive dissonance from past choices. Two selves make sequential, observable decisions, with unobservable belief manipulation occurring in the interim stage between them. The subgame perfect Nash equilibria are characterized by tractable axioms on choice patterns, with parameters identifiable from choice data. The model provides a useful tool for studying path dependence in decision-making, explaining a variety of experimental and real-world evidence. I discuss two applications: one on how cognitive dissonance may affect buyer-seller interactions and the other on how it can impose a “cognitive tax” that lowers decision quality, particularly for those in poverty.

## **(Non-)Commutative Aggregation**

Commutativity is a normative criterion of aggregation and updating stating that the aggregation of expert posteriors should be identical to the update of the aggregated priors. I propose a thought experiment that raises questions about the normative appeal of Commutativity. I propose a weakened version of Commutativity and show how that assumption plays central roles in the characterization of linear belief aggregation, multiple-weight aggregation, and an aggregation rule which can be viewed as the outcome of a game played by “dual-selves,” Pessimism and Optimism. Under suitable conditions, I establish equivalences between various relaxations of Commutativity and classic axioms for decision-making under uncertainty, including Independence, C-Independence, and Ambiguity Aversion.

## **Overprecise Updating**

I introduce a model on the intrapersonal trade-off between the desire to mitigate risk and to avoid distorted posteriors. The agent in my model considers the felicity generated by uncertainty reduction (measured by Shannon entropy) and optimally forms the posterior. This leads to overprecision, that is, the overestimation of the posterior’s level of informativeness. I provide a characterization for this procedure. My core assumption establishes a clear link between the laboratory evidence and the psychological mechanism of uncertainty reduction. I discuss two important special cases, Bayes’ rule and the maximum a posteriori estimation, and characterize the former one. I show how the desire for uncertainty reduction leads to various cognitive biases, including overinference, confirmation bias, tail risk neglect, overoptimism, and polarization. When sequentially updating a string of signals, the agent systematically overstates the primary signals.

# LIANG ZHONG

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## EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, May 2025 (expected)  
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Causal Inference, Structural Estimation, and their Applications*  
Main advisor: Hiroaki Kaido  
Dissertation Committee: Hiroaki Kaido, Jean-Jacques Forneron, M. Daniele Paserman

M.A., Econometrics and Quantitative Economics, Boston University, Boston, MA, 2019

B.S., Mathematics and Applied Mathematics, Zhejiang University, Hang Zhou, China, 2017

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

Econometrics, Labor Economics, Digital Economics, Optimization

## WORKING PAPERS

“[Unconditional Randomization Tests for Interference](#),” September 2024. **Job Market paper.**  
“[Convexity Not Required: Estimation of Smooth Moment Condition Models](#),” (with Jean-Jacques Forneron), September 2024, **Revise and Resubmit, *Review of Economic Studies*.**  
“[COPPAcalypse? The Youtube Settlement's Impact on Kids Content](#),” (with Garrett Johnson, Tesary Lin, and James Cooper), April 2024, **Revise and Resubmit, *Management Science*.**  
“[Racial Screening on the Big Screen? Evidence from the Motion Picture Industry](#),” (with Angela Crema, and M. Daniele Paserman), November 2023.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

“Contextual Bandit Mechanism: Optimal Delegation in the Experimentation Cycle” (with Zixian Liu)

## PRESENTATIONS (\*: CO-AUTHOR PRESENTS)

Midwest Econometrics Group Conference, Lexington, KY, 2024  
Greenline Workshop in Econometrics, Boston, MA, 2024  
19th Economics Graduate Student Conference, St. Louis, MO, 2024  
NBER SI 2024 Digital Economics and Artificial Intelligence, Cambridge, MA, 2024  
New York Camp Econometrics (Poster Session), Bolton Landing, NY, 2023  
University of Rochester Simon Business School\*, Rochester, NY, 2023  
Columbia Business School\*, New York, NY, 2023  
SOLE Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN, 2022  
WEAI Annual Conference\*, Portland, OR, 2022  
United States Military Academy West Point\*, West Point, NY, 2022  
EEA-ESEM Congress\*, Milano, Italy, 2022  
Boston University, Econometrics Seminar, Boston, MA, 2021-2024

## FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Doctoral Fellowship, Boston University, 2019-2024  
Optimization-Conscious Summer School Travel Grant, University of Chicago, 2023  
IED Travel Grant, Boston University, 2022-2024  
MA Prize for Best Paper, Boston University, 2019  
Distinction in the MA Comprehensive Examination, Boston University, 2018  
Excellence Award in the 7<sup>th</sup> Chinese Mathematics Competition, 2015

## WORK EXPERIENCE

### ACADEMIC

Research Assistant for Prof. Kevin Lang, Boston University, 2024  
Research Assistant for Prof. Jean-Jacques Forneron, Boston University, 2021-2023  
Research Assistant for Prof. Hiroaki Kaido, Boston University, 2020-2022  
Research Assistant for Prof. Adam Guren, Boston University, 2018  
Research Assistant for Prof. Raymond Fisman, Boston University, 2018

### NON-ACADEMIC

Summer Associate, Analysis Group, Boston, MA, 2022

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, Econometrics (MA-level), Department of Economics, Boston University,  
Spring 2024 (**Evaluation Score: 4.10/5**)  
Teaching Fellow, Advance Econometrics II (2<sup>nd</sup> year Ph.D), Department of Economics,  
Boston University, Fall 2023 (**Evaluation Score: 4.45/5**)  
Teaching Fellow, Econometrics (MA-level), Department of Economics, Boston University,  
Spring 2021 (**Evaluation Score: 4.73/5, with course benchmark of 4.15**)  
Teaching Fellow, Microeconomic Theory (MA-level), Department of Economics, Boston  
University, Fall 2020 (**Evaluation Score: 4.69/5, with course benchmark of 4.03**)

**LANGUAGES:** English (Fluent), Mandarin (Native)

**COMPUTER SKILLS:** C, MATLAB, R, Python, JULIA, STATA(MATA), Version Control(git)

**CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS:** China/F1

## REFERENCES

**Professor Hiroaki Kaido**  
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**Professor Daniele Paserman**  
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Boston University  
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**Professor Kevin Lang**  
Department of Economics  
Boston University  
Phone: (617) 353-5694  
Email: [lang@bu.edu](mailto:lang@bu.edu)

### **Unconditional Randomization Tests for Interference** (Job Market Paper)

When conducting causal inference or designing policy, researchers are often concerned with the existence and extent of interference between units, shaped by factors such as distance, proximity, and connection strength. However, the complex correlations across units present significant challenges for inference. This paper introduces Partial Null Randomization Tests (PNRT), a novel framework that is straightforward to implement in experimental settings. PNRT provides finite-sample validity under minimal assumptions on network structure, utilizing unconditional randomization testing and pairwise comparisons. To illustrate the method's broad applicability, I apply it to the large-scale experiment conducted by Blattman et al. (2021) in Bogotá, Colombia, and find the displacement effect for violent crime to be marginally significant. A simulation study calibrated to this dataset further demonstrates PNRT's strong power properties and its suitability for general interference scenarios.

### **Convexity Not Required: Estimation of Smooth Moment Condition Models**

*(with Jean-Jacques Forneron)*

Generalized and Simulated Method of Moments are often used to estimate structural Economic models. Yet, it is commonly reported that optimization is challenging because the corresponding objective function is non-convex. For smooth problems, this paper shows that convexity is not required: under a global rank condition involving the Jacobian of the sample moments, certain algorithms are globally convergent. These include a gradient-descent and a Gauss-Newton algorithm with appropriate choice of tuning parameters. The results are robust to 1) non-convexity, 2) one-to-one non-linear reparameterizations, and 3) moderate misspecification. In contrast, Newton-Raphson and quasi-Newton methods can fail to converge because of non-convexity. The condition precludes non-global optima. Numerical and empirical examples illustrate the condition, non-convexity, and convergence properties of different optimizers.

### **Racial Screening on the Big Screen? Evidence from the Motion Picture Industry**

*(with Angela Crema and M. Daniele Paserman)*

We develop a model of discrimination that allows us to interpret observed differences in outcomes across groups, conditional on passing a screening test, as taste-based (employer,) statistical, or customer discrimination. We apply this framework to investigate the nature of non-white underrepresentation in the US motion picture industry. Leveraging a novel data set with racial identifiers for the cast of 7,000 motion pictures, we show that, conditional on production, non-white movies exhibit higher average revenues and a smaller variance. Our findings can be rationalized in the context of our model if non-white movies are held to higher standards for production.

**Tyera Zwegardt**

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## EDUCATION

**Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Boston University**, Boston, MA, Expected 2025

- Fields: decision theory, information economics, behavioral economics, experimental economics
- Research Assistant for Professor Krishna Dasaratha: network theory and game theory, Fall 2022
- Research Assistant for Professor Linh Tô: economic experiment design, Spring 2022

**M.A. in Public Economy, Boston University**, Boston, MA, 2023

**B.S. Mathematics and B.S. Economics, Arizona State University**, Tempe, AZ, 2018

- Undergraduate thesis under Dr. Edward Prescott, Regents Professor

## RESEARCH

**The Foundations of Anomalous Preference for Information (JMP, working 2024)**

Abstract: This paper develops a model of nonstandard preferences for information using an axiomatic approach. While classical economic models treat information as solely instrumental in improving decision outcomes, I explore how agents may derive non-instrumental value from information. I provide characterizations of specific classes of nonstandard choice of information including preference over the timing of uncertainty resolution and preference for positive/negative skewness in beliefs. In particular I show that one of these special classes along with mild assumptions reveals an underlying preference over states of the world, offering new insights into broader economics implications of informational choices.

**A Note on Quasiperiodic Preferences (work in progress 2024)**

Abstract: This note provides behavioral foundations for preferences that are represented by a special class of quasiperiodic utility functions. I show that in the context of anomalous preference for information, ruling out quasiperiodic preferences allows for the identification of intrinsic utility from information. Other economic interpretations of these preferences are discussed.

## TEACHING

**Instructor:**

- **Introductory Microeconomics EC101**, Boston University, Summer 2024
- **Summer Challenge Economic Seminar (High School)**, Boston University, Summer 2024
- **Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis EC201**, Boston University, Summer 2023
- **Introductory Microeconomics EC101**, Boston University, Summer 2022

**Head Teaching Assistant:**

- **Introductory Microeconomics EC 101 (Professor Todd Idson)**, Boston University, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2021, Spring 2023, Fall 2024

I am honored to have received the 2024 GRS Outstanding Teaching Fellow Award in the Department of Economics at Boston University.