

JIE DUAN

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, National University of Singapore	August 2020 - June 2025 (Expected)
MSc. Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science	August 2018 - May 2019
B.A. Economics, Central University of Finance and Economics	September 2014 - June 2018

RESEARCH FIELDS

Primary: Macro Labor
Secondary: (Applied) International Trade

WORKING PAPERS

The Underemployment Trap (with Paul Jackson), *Accept with Minor Revision at Journal of Monetary Economics*

Abstract: Many college graduates are underemployed, i.e., work in occupations that do not require a college degree. We document that underemployed workers are less likely to transition to a college occupation the longer they are underemployed and that longer underemployment histories are associated with lower wages in college occupations. To explain these findings, we develop a directed search model with unobserved heterogeneity, occupation-specific human capital, and on the job search. Workers are uncertain about their suitability for college jobs and learn through search. Underemployment is generated by search and information frictions, as workers with a low expected job-finding probability in college occupations self-select into underemployment. Once underemployed, workers' college occupation-specific human capital decays. A quantitative decomposition shows that unobserved heterogeneity explains most of the duration dependence in underemployment, and that information frictions play a significant role in both the existence of underemployment and the resulting duration dependence.

Internet Linkage and International Trade (with Zengxi Hu), *Forthcoming at The World Economy*

Abstract: Extensive research has studied the effect of the Internet on trade, yet little is known about its role in trade facilitation through risk alleviation. This research investigates the facilitation of Internet linkage on export, particularly through the novel channel of risk alleviation. Theoretically, this paper introduces a gravity model augmented with export risk to establish the stimulus of Internet linkage on exports. Empirically, this paper uses inter-domain hyperlinks as a proxy for Internet linkage in 2009, uncovering a statistically significant positive impact of Internet linkage on exports. Notably, there is a 27.8% increase in exports in reaction to a doubling of the Internet linkage intensity. By employing various techniques, we meticulously address potential endogeneity issues and substantiate the risk-alleviation mechanism at both the country and product levels. Particularly, we find that exports to riskier countries and of riskier products benefit more from the Internet linkage. This study sheds new light on the novel channel through which the Internet promotes exports, enriching the existing literature in this field.

(SELECTED) WORK IN PROGRESS

The Pro-cyclicality of Wage Losses from Skill Mismatch

On the Unemployment-Education Gap (with Paul Jackson and Lichen Zhang)

TEACHING AND RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore

EC6102 Advanced Macroeconomics Theory (Ph.D. Course)	Spring 2023, Spring 2022
EC5102 Macroeconomics Theory (Graduate Course)	Fall 2022

Exam Grader, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore

EC2303 Foundations for Econometrics (Undergraduate Course)	Fall 2021
EC2101 Microeconomic Analysis I (Undergraduate Course)	Fall 2021

Research Assistance, Department of Economics, National University of Singapore

Research Assistant for Dr. Paul Jackson	January 2023 - April 2023
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TALKS AND CONFERENCES

2022: Asian Econometric Society Meeting 2022 (Virtual)

2023: Asian Econometric Society Meeting 2023, Beijing; Asian Econometric Society Meeting 2023, Singapore; Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Sydney; NUS Macro Brownbag; OzMac, Melbourne

2024: SWUFE (Scheduled); 7th Annual International Conference of China and Development Studies (SJTU, Scheduled); Asian Econometric Society Meeting 2024 (ZJU, Scheduled); CES 2024 (ZJU, Scheduled); China Labor Economists Forum (SUFE, Scheduled); SUFE (Scheduled)

SERVICE

<i>Student Coordinator</i> , NUS Macro Workshop	2024
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AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Department Scholarship, NUS	2025
Research Incentive Award, NUS Econ Department	2023
Conference Funding, NUS Econ Department	2023
Conference Funding For Graduate Students (SGD2,000), NUS	2023
Research Scholarship, NUS	2020 - 2024
Chinese Government Scholarship (GBP13,200), CSC	2018 - 2019
Outstanding Undergraduate Graduate, CUFE	2018
Overseas Education Scholarship (RMB50,000), CUFE	2018
Premier Comprehensive Excellence Scholarship (Top 4%), CUFE	2015, 2016, 2017

MISCELLANEOUS

Programming: Stata, Matlab, Mathematica, \LaTeX

Language: Mandarin (native), English (proficient)

Personal: Born in 1996, female, Chinese

Last updated: April 2024