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Citizenship: China (F1 Visa)

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary Interests: International Trade, Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics
Secondary Interest: Transportation Economics

EDUCATION

University at Albany, State University of New York

Ph.D. Economics, May 2024 (expected)
M.A. Economics, 2022

Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, China

M.A. Economics, 2019
B.A. Economics, 2016

WORKING PAPERS

- “The Impact of Air Connectivity on Travel Trade: Evidence from Cross-border Card Payments” with Chun-Yu Ho, Haruka Takayama, and Li Xu (Job Market Paper)
- “Competitive Effects of Regional Airline Exit: Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic” with Chun-Yu Ho and Li Xu
- “Industrial Policy and Comparative Advantage: Evidence from Global Shipbuilding Industry” with Chun-Yu Ho

PUBLICATION

- “Human Capital Accumulation, Trade Openness, and China’s Industrial Firms Innovation” with Liang Zhang and Bin Qiu (accepted at China Economic Quarterly(经济学季刊) in Chinese)

TEACHING EXPERIENCES

Instructor, University at Albany	Spring 2022-Fall 2023
Principles of Economics I: Microeconomics, Fall 2022-Fall 2023	
Money and Banking, Summer 2023	
International Economic Relations, Spring 2022, Summer 2023, Spring 2023	
Teaching Assistant, University at Albany	Spring 2020-Fall 2021
Macroeconomics I, Fall 2021	
Industrial Organization, Fall 2020-Spring 2021	

Economic Statistics, Spring 2020

Tutor, University at Albany

Fall 2019

Principles of Economics I: Microeconomics, Fall 2019

Principles of Economics II: Macroeconomics, Fall 2019

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

93rd Southern Economic Association Conference

2023 Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

2023 CES Annual Conference, Wuhan, China

2023 Chinese Economic Association, Guangzhou, China

2022 CSWEP Mentoring Workshop for Graduate Students

HONORS AND AWARDS

Karen R. Hitchcock New Frontiers Fund Awards, IFW, University at Albany	2023
Pong Lee Award (Third-year Paper) annually given to a Ph.D. student for outstanding research in economics, University at Albany	2022
Graduate Student Association Professional Development Grants	2022
The Buhrmaster Family Endowment Award, IFW, University at Albany	2022
Graduate Assistantship, University at Albany	2019-2023
Graduate National Scholarship	2017
First Class of Graduate Academic Scholarship	2016-2019
Outstanding Graduate	2016
National Encouragement Scholarship	2015

SKILLS

Software: Stata, Latex, R, MATLAB, MS Office, proficiency in Stata, Latex, and MS Office

Languages: English (Fluent), Chinese (Native), Cantonese (Fluent)

REFERENCES

Chun-Yu Ho

Associate Professor

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University at Albany, SUNY

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Haruka Takayama

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ABSTRACTS

The Impact of Air Connectivity on Travel Trade: Evidence from Cross-border Card Payments with Chun-Yu Ho, Haruka Takayama, and Li Xu (Job Market Paper)

We study the impact of air connectivity on trade in travel services, the biggest tradable service sector. A novel dataset on on-site card payments made by Chinese travelers allows us to analyze the bilateral flow of travel services. We instrument for Chinese city-level air connectivity using a measure of destination countries' comparative advantage in air transportation. Our IV estimates indicate that a 1% increase in the weekly frequency of direct flights leads to a 1.8% increase in cross-border card transaction value. While air connections promote cross-border trade in travel services, we find that negative shocks to consumer tastes can diminish this effect. By contrast, such changes in consumer preferences have no effect on trade in goods. This research sheds light on the role of air connectivity in shaping trade in travel services and its interaction with consumer preferences.

Competitive Effects of Regional Airline Exit: Evidence from the COVID-19 Pandemic with Chun-Yu Ho and Li Xu

We examine the competitive effects of regional airline exits on the U.S. airline industry during the period from April 2019 to December 2020, using data at the airline-market-time level and leveraging the COVID-19 pandemic as a natural experiment. Our empirical analysis based on the propensity score matching and difference-in-differences models leads to several conclusions. At the market level, when regional airlines exit, there is a significant decrease in both flights and passengers, with no immediate replacements. Although on-time performance initially improves with a 21.1% reduction in delays, it later reverts to the original level, and airfare rises by roughly 3.7%. Overall, consumers are worse off. On the airline market level, incumbent carriers respond by increasing flights and capacity by 11.7%. Smaller and better on-time performance carriers, in particular, capture more markets from exiting regional airlines. Collectively, our findings reveal the multifaceted nature of competition dynamics in the airline industry, informing the design of effective regulatory and competitive policies to benefit consumers.