

Wendan Zhang

Email: wzhang357@email.arizona.edu Tel: (608) 422-2963

[GitHub](#) [Personal Website](#) [LinkedIn](#) [ASA](#)

I apply my quantitative skills and analytical thinking in revealing the underlying mechanism and informing effective policy design. My research aims to improve our living environment in a cost-efficient way.



Education

University of Arizona <i>Tucson, AZ</i>	Ph.D., May 2021 (expected)
Major: Economics	Master's degree, Dec 2017
Minor: Geographic Information Systems Technology (GIST)	
University of Wisconsin-Madison <i>Madison, WI</i>	Master's degree, May 2016
Major: Mathematics	
Shanghai Jiao Tong University <i>Shanghai, China</i>	Bachelor of Science degree, June 2015
Major: Mathematics and Applied Mathematics	
Minor: Business Administration, East China Normal University <i>Shanghai, China</i>	

Fields

Environmental and Energy Economics; Industrial Organization; Applied Microeconomics

Working Papers & Publication

Job Market Paper:

[Measuring Policy Uncertainty Using Coal Power Plants' Investment and Exit Decisions](#)

Other Working Paper:

[Emissions from Coal-Fired Power Plant Retirements](#)

Work in progress:

[Electric Vehicles are driven less: selection or substitution](#) (Ashley Langer, Clifford Winston, Wendan Zhang)

[Enforcing Higher Quality of Care: Nursing Home Industry under Dynamic Inspection](#) (with Miao Guo)

Publication:

Christopher T Robertson, Andy Yuan, **Wendan Zhang** and Keith Joiner. "Distinguishing moral hazard from access for high-cost healthcare under insurance." PloS one (2020) (peer-reviewed, interdisciplinary for science and medicine)

Research Assistant Experiences

Measuring the Economic Consequences of Uncertainty	University of Arizona, AZ
Research Assistant to Prof. Ashley Langer and Prof. Derek Lemoine	Summer 2017, 2018

- Used option data to reveal the market expectation for certain events
- Used Stata to provide empirical evidence for the project

Computational Biochemistry Lab

University of Wisconsin-Madison Madison, WI

Research Assistant to Prof. Julie Mitchell

01/2015 – 07/2016

- Applied Machine Learning algorithms to data analysis and build models to describe patterns in DNA sequences
- Processed large data with High Throughput Computing (HTC), created graphs to visualize large data with Matlab, Python, and R
- Explained and reported research results to group members

Workshops/Conferences

SEA 90th Annual Meeting	11/21-23 2020
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Presentation: Effects of Market Conditions, Environmental Regulations and Regulatory Uncertainty on Investment and Exit

General Session: Enforcing Higher Quality of Care: Nursing Home Industry under Dynamic Inspection (with Miao Guo)

Graduate Student Invited Session (with cash award and membership): Emissions from Coal-Fired Power Plant Retirements

Chinese Economists Society North America Annual Conference	8/13-8/15 2020
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Presentation: Emissions from Coal-Fired Power Plant Retirements

AAEA Annual Meeting	8/10-8/11 2020
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Lightning Paper Presentation: Effects of Regulatory Uncertainty on Coal-fired Power Plants' Investment and Exit Decisions

AERE Summer Conference	6/3-6/5 2020
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Presentation: Effects of Market Conditions, Environmental Regulations and Regulatory Uncertainty on Investment and Exit

Women in Data Science (WiDS)	4/5/2019
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Arizona Student Energy Conference	11/7-11/9 2018
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Panel Presenter; Poster; Fast Pitch; Member of One of the Two Grand Challenge Winning Teams

Presentation: Emission Footprint: the dying message from coal power plants

International GIS day workshop	11/18/2020; 11/13/2019; 11/14/2018
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2018 Berkeley Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics	8/13-8/17 2018
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Research Computing: NVIDIA GPU Workshop	4/25-4/26 2018
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Teaching Experiences

Sole Instructor	University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ
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Econ 330 Macroeconomic and Global Institutions and Policy (Online)	Summer (4.08), Winter 2019; Summer 2020
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Econ 431 Games and Decisions	Summer 2019 (3.88); Winter 2017 (4.4)
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Econ 436 Behavioral Economics	Summer 2018 (3.9)
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Teaching Assistant

University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ

Econ 519 Mathematical Economics (First-year Graduate Course)	Fall 2017
Econ 453 Quantitative Methods for Economic Strategy	Fall 2020
Econ 443 International Trade Theory	Fall 2020
Econ 431 Games and Decisions	Spring 2017
Econ 340 International Economics and Policy	Spring 2019
Econ 330 Macroeconomic and Global Institutions and Policy	Fall 2017
Econ 300 Microeconomic Analysis for Business Decisions	Fall 2016; Winter 2016 (online)
Econ 200 Basic Economic Issues	Fall 2016 (online); Spring 2017; 2018; 2019; Spring 2020

Volunteer

Geography Week & GIS day workshop (online logistic)	11/16-11/20/2020
Economic Science Association (ESA) Global Conference Graduate Student Helper Asian Pacific Block	9/10-9/12/2020
GISCorps – Humanitarian Openstreetmap Team Project	Summer 2020
Eller Make A Difference Day	10/26/2019
UA Women's Hackathon (Python for Programmers; Cloud-Based GIS with Python)	10/19-10/20/2019
University of Arizona Global Health Competition	10/12-10/13 2019
University of Arizona Graduate and Professional Student Council Grants Judge	2016-2019
Software/Data Carpentry Workshop (Assistant)	08/2017
UW Arboretum restoration (organized by UW actuarial club)	01/2016
UW Homecoming -- run for literacy	10/2015
Shanghai International Marathon Volunteer	12/2012

Awards & Exams

University of Arizona GPSC Travel Grant	2020, 2021
University of Arizona, Department of Economics, Travel Grant	2018, 2020, 2021
University of Arizona, Department of Economics, Graduate Assistantship	2016-2021
Outstanding graduate of the Shanghai Jiao Tong University	06/2015
Japanese Language Proficiency Test N1 (the highest level): passed	12/2013

Affiliations/Memberships

Associate of the Society of Actuaries (ASA of the SOA)	Since Feb 2018
Graduate Student Affiliate (Institute for Energy Solutions)	Since 2019
Member of the Chinese Economist Society (CES)	
Member of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE)	

Member of the Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (AAEA)

Member of the Southern Economic Association (SEA)

Student Ambassador of the University of Arizona Geographic Information Systems Users Group (UAGISUG)

Technical Skills

For research: R, Stata, Python, Latex, ArcGIS Pro (Python), MATLAB, Bash, SAS, Orange, C, SQL, AWK, GitHub

For teaching: Microsoft Word, Excel (with VBA), PowerPoint, Adobe Creative Suite (Acrobat Pro DC, Premiere Pro, Prelude, Audition, After Effect and Media Encoder), iMovie, Overleaf

Website: PHP, HTML, CSS

Operating System: Mac, Windows, Linux (Ubuntu)

Languages

Citizenship: China

Native: Mandarin, Cantonese, Chaoshan dialect

Fluent: English, Japanese

Basic: Korean

References

Ashley Langer (Dissertation Advisor)	alanger at arizona.edu
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Derek Lemoine	dlemoine at arizona.edu
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Gautam Gowrisankaran	gowrisankaran at eller.arizona.edu
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John Drabicki (Teaching Reference)	drabicki at eller.arizona.edu
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Last updated on November 25, 2020