

Wendan Zhang

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

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

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| 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

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| Measuring the Economic Consequences of Uncertainty | University of Arizona, AZ |
| Research Assistant to Prof. Ashley Langer and Prof. Derek Lemoine | Summer 2017, 2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 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

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| SEA 90th Annual Meeting (Scheduled Online due to COVID-19) | 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

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| Chinese Economists Society North America Annual Conference (Online due to COVID-19) | 8/13-8/15 2020 |
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Presentation: Emissions from Coal-Fired Power Plant Retirements

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| AAEA Annual Meeting (Online due to COVID-19) | 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

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| AERE Summer Conference (Online due to COVID-19) | 6/3-6/5 2020 |
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Presentation: Effects of Market Conditions, Environmental Regulations and Regulatory Uncertainty on Investment and Exit

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| 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

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| 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

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| 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 |
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| Econ 519 Mathematical Economics (First-year Graduate Course) | Fall 2017 |
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| 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

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| Geography Week & GIS day workshop (online logistic) | 11/16-11/20/2020 |
| Economic Science Association (ESA) Global Conference Graduate Student Helper Asian Percific 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

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| University of Arizona GPSC Travel Grant | 2020, 2021 |
| University of Arizona, Department of Economics, Travel Grant | 2018(, 2020 did not use due to COVID-19) |
| 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

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| 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

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|---|------------------------------------|
| Ashley Langer (Dissertation Advisor) | alanger at arizona.edu |
| Derek Lemoine | dlemoine at arizona.edu |
| Gautam Gowrisankaran | gowrisankaran at eller.arizona.edu |
| John Drabicki (Teaching Reference) | drabicki at eller.arizona.edu |

Last updated on November 10, 2020