Yidi (Eddie) WU

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EDUCATION

Brown University Providence, US

Ph.D. in Econometrics (expected graduation in 2026)

Aug 2022 - Present

• Coursework in Time Series, Causal Inference, Macro Econometrics, Probability Theory, Stochastic Calculus, Bayesian Inference, Optimization, Machine Learning, Nonparametric Statistics.

Imperial College London

London, UK

M.Sc. in Computing (AI and Machine Learning)

Sep2020 – Sep 2021

- Graduated with Distinction (GPA 4.0/4.0 equiv.) and coursework in Deep Learning, Reinforcement Learning, Natural Language Processing, Computational Finance, Operations Research, and Imaging.
- Experience working in PyTorch, TensorFlow, XGBoost, scikit-learn, SciPy, R, and MATLAB.

University of Cambridge

Cambridge, UK

B.A. (Hons) in Economics

Oct 2017 - Jun 2020

• Graduated with First-Class Honors (GPA 4.0/4.0 equiv.) and coursework in Statistics and Econometrics.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Brown University

Providence, US

Ph.D. Candidate (Academic Research)

May 2024 - Present

- Combined multi-armed bandits and Thompson sampling with random forest and shrinkage estimators such as LASSO regression to do high-dimensional variable selection, attained computational gains via stochastic optimization and improved the accuracy of selecting true variables relative to without bandits.
- Employed and fine-tuned variational autoencoders (VAE) to simulate cross-sectional economic data by minimizing the Wasserstein distance between the real and the generated variables, with the aim of developing autoregressive generative models for augmenting time series financial data.
- Estimated quantitatively the causal impact of Brexit on real GDP and gross disposable income by predicting the counterfactual economic outcomes of the UK using synthetic control methods with ridge regression.

Brown University Providence, US

Research Assistant

Jun-Sep 2021, Jun-Sep 2022

- Worked with Prof. Soonwoo Kwon and Prof. Jon Roth to write an R package for testing the hypothesis that a covariate is the sole causal mechanism and studied the test implications in two empirical applications.
- Supervised by Prof. Andriy Norets to develop a Bayesian conditional mixture model with continuous-discrete distributions and explored MCMC convergence for the model in MATLAB and Stan.

Institute for Fiscal Studies & University of Cambridge

London, UK

Research Assistant

Sep 2021 – May 2022

- Examined a panel data of more than 20,000 Americans collected over 20 years to estimate a longitudinal structural model with simulated method of moments in MATLAB to study how health impacts work.
- Preprocessed and analyzed US census and survey datasets comprising over 10 million observations to study the impact of affirmative action regulation on the share of minority hiring and economic outcomes.

J.P. Morgan London, UK

Global Markets Summer Analyst

Jun 2019 – Aug 2019

- Utilized time series methods including factor models and autoregressions in Python to analyze stock returns, swap rates and the Greeks of stock options to understand growth drivers and risk exposures.
- Built a program for monitoring live intraday Emerging Markets countries' swap rates in Excel VBA and automated the process of pulling data from Bloomberg Terminal.
- Rotated among Equities, Currencies and Emerging Markets rates trading desks to gain insights into trading, pricing, hedging, and risk management of derivatives including futures, swaps, options, and exotics.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Language: English (fluent), Mandarin (fluent), French (basic).

Technical: Python, Machine Learning libraries, R, SQL, MATLAB, Excel (basic in VBA).