James Li

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Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison May 2026
Triple major in B.S. Mathematics, Economics & Data Science *GPA: 3.5/4.0*

University of California, Riverside September 2022 - June 2023
B.A. Economics, then transferred out. *Dean's Honors List, GPA: 3.80/4.0*

Coursework

Courses: Money and Banking, Industrial Organization, International Macroeconomic&Fiance, Big Data, Data Science Programming I&II (Python), Modeling I&II (R), visualization (Tableau), Calculus(I, II, III)

Skills

Skills: Micrsoft Office, Excel, Google Cloud Platform, GitLab, GitHub, Python, RStudio, Tableau, SQL, Stata, Docker, Operation Control, Linux, LaTeX, Self-starter, Teamwork, Adaptability, Machine Learning
Languages: English (Native Proficiency), Chinese (Native Proficiency)

Work Experience

Department of Economics, UW-Madison | *Research Assistant* March 2025 – Present
- Collected and parsed 1,200+ utility rate documents across California water districts to support empirical analysis of water infrastructure investment and pricing regulation.
- Contributed to a novel dataset and research analyzing how electoral incentives and regulatory constraints affect public infrastructure investment decisions.

School of Business, UC Riverside | *Research Assistant* January 2023 – August 2023
- Cleaned consumer feedback on medical AI usage with **excels** then **statistical analyzed** and inference tested, with **RStudio**, to reveal the distrust among consumers towards medical AI usage, and presented to the laboratory.
- Engaged and thrived in **research conduction** and **literature review training** from Dr. Ye Li.

Leadership & Involvement

Federal Reserve Camp, UW Madison | *Senior Research Associate/Team Lead* September 2023 – Present
- Spearheaded a team of six to compile macroeconomic trends and crafted a data-backed narrative on GDP performance as the foundation for team's monetary policy *(2024 Fed Challenge).*
- Successfully constructed the Phillips Curve model, using **stata** & FRED, to demonstrate the anomalies with the inflation-unemployment tradeoff, strengthening the team's presentation to FED economists. *(2024 Fed Challenge).*
- Analyzed CBO reports to suggest to increase Child Tax Credit to $3600 to achieve an estimated $982 billion of social benefits per year, housing assistance expansion through Section 8, and reduction in U.S. Child Care Stabilization Program due to diminishing marginal return *(2023 Fiscal Challenge).*

Economic Development Case Competition | *Team Lead & Policy Strategist* October 2024 – November 2024
- Led a team of five in a high-stakes economic analysis of the Columbia Energy Center closure in Portage, WI, designing comprehensive relief strategies to mitigate over $250 million in economic losses for stakeholders.
- Researched Wisconsin's power supply and demand to propose alternative renewable energy strategies that restored market equilibrium while adhering to strict budget constraints.
- Utilized **excel** and **tableau** to reveal and visualize the impacted demographic has higher income level than the county's median, identified the inelasticity and resistance to the unemployment shock, identified aging structure and declining LFPR, thus informed the team's suggestions with enhanced and compelling visualization.

National Model United Nations Competition | *Delegate & Policy Researcher* September 2022 – June 2023
- Represented South Sudan in the General Assembly II, securing the Excellent Delegation Award (Top 5% ranking).
- Conducted high-impact policy research using international **databases** to craft policy position papers and speeches that effectively advocated for South Sudan's stance on global economic and development issues.

Mathematical Contest in Modeling | *Organizer & Team Lead* February 2023 – February 2023
- Initiated and led a team of three students to represent UC Riverside in the 2023 math modeling contest.
- Engineered a system of differential equations to model biodiversity, neighbor effects, and drought impacts on plant interactions. Delivered a 25-page research paper using **LaTeX**, and **Python** to leverage linear regression and correlational analysis to extract key plantation insights.