

BIAN XIAOYU

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EDUCATION

2019.08-present: **Ph.D candidate in Economics**, The Chinese University of Hong Kong

2017.09-2019.07: **Master in Economics**, Nankai University

2013.09-2017.07: **B.A in Economics**, Nankai University

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Economics; Economic History ; Political Economy; Development Economics; Labor Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

“The Retreat of the Elephants’: Agricultural Expansion, Environment Degradation, and Economic Development.”

– Abstract:

WORKING PAPER

• **“Politics-driven Market Access and Its Cost: Evidence from China’s Grand Canal.”** (with Ying Bai and Ruixue Jia).

– Abstract: Using a grid-year level panel data covering the 8th century to 19th century, we find that (1) the national capital was relocated from the China central (the Tang and Song dynasties) to China north (Yuan, Ming and Qing dynasties) resulted in the redefinition of the Grand Canal to directly connect the national capital to the prosperous China south. Specifically, the optimal route to the national capital could predict the actual waterway. (2) It also changed each region’s market access and hence reshape the economic geography. 1% increase in market access and lead to 0.14% increase in population density. (3) Overall, the politics-driven transportation networks enhance the aggregate welfare. Removing the canal can cause 4% -1% decrease in the total population. But, it also caused misallocation. The redefinition of canal lead to 2.5% - 4% decrease in the total population.

• **“Protestantism and Agricultural Development in China. ”** (with Ying Bai), Accepted by *Quantitative History of China: State Capacity, Institutions and Development*. [ISBN978-981-96-8271-3].

• **“The Impact of Robots on College Enrollment in China: A Perspective on Employment Polarization.”** (with Guangsu Zhou and Songyuan Qiao), Revised & Resubmit at *Economic Development and Cultural Change*.

PUBLICATIONS

• **The Effects of Robots on Internal Migration: Evidence from China** (with Guangsu Zhou), 2024. *Journal of Regional Science* 64(3): 840–865.

• **“The impact of intergenerational income mobility on internal migration in China.”** (with Guangsu Zhou), 2024. *Economics of Transition and Institutional Change* 32(1): 183–208.

• **“The effect of inequality of opportunity (IO) on housing accessibility: Evidence from China.”** (with Guangsu Zhou), 2021. *Habitat International*, 116, 102414.

- **”Personal Early Experience and Household Investment on Risky Financial Assets: An Empirical Analysis Based on the “Going Up to the Mountains and Down to the Countryside” Movement in China.”** (with Guangsu Zhou and Qingjun Wu), 2020. *Journal of Financial Research*, 475(1): 150–170.

AWARDS

- Postgraduate Scholarships, 2019–2023

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- **Teaching Assistant**
 - Econometric Theory and Applications (Msc program, 2023-2024, 2024-2025, 2025-2026)

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

- Stata, R, ArcGIS, Matlab (computation and simulation)
- Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)

REFERENCES

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