

Kai Song

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Personal Statement

Aspiring economist with strong interests in public and development economics, inequality studies, and econometrics. Experienced in Stata, R, and LaTeX, with research experience in optimal taxation and income inequality. Passionate about data-driven solutions that impact real-world policy.

Education

Australian National University, Acton, ACT, Australia Bachelor of Economics (Honours) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Thesis on <i>Optimal Intergenerational Sugar Tax: a Sufficient Statistics Approach</i> Supervised by: Dr. Ash Craig	Feb 2025 – Nov 2025
Australian National University, Acton, ACT, Australia Bachelor of Economics Bachelor of Science in Mathematics GPA for Economics: 6.38/7, overall: 5.94/7 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coursework: Econometrics, public economics, behavioural economics, special topics in economics, micro, macro economics, abstract mathematical analysis, probability and measure theory, applied mathematics, etc.• I took the initiative and had the Research School of Economics (RSE) the first time carry out ECON3020: special topics in Economics and became the only student in that class. I looked into Indigenous Australian income inequality under the guidance of Professor Bob Gregory.	Feb 2021 – Nov 2024
London School of Economics, Holborn, London, UK Development Economics (Summer compacted course)	Jul 2023 – Aug 2023

Experience

Research Assistant, Research School of Economics, ANU, – ACT, Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported quantitative analysis for optimal carbon tax research using R and Stata.• Managed and cleaned large datasets from Consumer Expenditure Survey (CEX), ensuring data accuracy and consistency for econometric analysis.• Reviewed theoretical literature on sufficient statistics and optimal taxation to support empirical design.• Collaborated with lead researcher and co-authors in survey data, model review and micro-data analysis.	Jun 2024 – Current
Research Assistant, Mandala, – ACT, Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Performed data analysis and visualisation to support client projects on Australian liquor exporting's background and context, using Excel.• Prepared reports and presentations with colleagues, searching for figures and data to support the story.	Nov 2023 – Dec 2023
Teaching Assistant, Research School of Economics, ANU, – ACT, Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prepared and delivered tutorials, provided help-desk hours, and marked assessments for first and second-year undergraduate microeconomics.• Communicate effectively to support students with specific difficulties regarding course content.• The first undergraduate student demonstrating tutorial for second-year economics class.• More than 100 hours of facing students directly.	Feb 2023 – Jul 2024
Front Desk Reception, ANU sport and recreation association, – ACT, Australia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Corresponding email, phone calls and managing membership, paperwork, and retailing.	Oct 2022 – Apr 2023
Tutor, Self-employed <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deliver private tutorials to year 7-8 students in English and mathematics.	Jun 2020 – Aug 2020

Award

Bob Gregory Honours in Economics Scholarship

Jan 2025

- The research school of economics offer such an award each year to encourage high-achieving students to participate economics honours program.

Project

Decomposing the Gap: Tracing the Sources of Indigenous Income Inequality

ECON3020 project

- Perform an Oaxaca decomposition via public data.
- Demonstrated the possibility of income inequality analysis without individual-level data.
- Highlighted the role of education and the employment conditioned on education in the income analysis, both theoretically and empirically.

Optimal Intergenerational sin tax: a sufficient statistics methods

Honour thesis

- Derive optimal sugar tax, as an intrinsically paternalistic corrective tax.
- Aims at estimating the result with empirical data, to better fit into the policy debate.
- Highlighted the interaction between parents and policy makers, two paternalistic agents and the result of different knowledge and bias.

Activity

Team ANU member, Queensland University of Technology, Brisbane, QLD

Apr 2024

Nudgeathon 2024

- Represented ANU with 3 other peers in Nudgeathone 2024: a behavioural economics and policy studies competition.
- Prepared a brief report and gave a short presentation on national bio-security and strategies to encourage bio-hazard reporting under time pressure.

Marketing team leader, College of Business and Economics, ANU,

Nov 2021 - Dec 2021

virtual internship program

- Assisting a start-up company in constructing an optimal social media marketing strategy, supporting team members, and communicating with the client.

Skill Set

- R, Matlab, STATA
- LaTeX, Microsoft
- Economics, Econometrics, Applied Mathematics
- Teaching and demonstrating

Referees

Dr. Ash Craig RA and Honours supervisor ashley.craig@anu.edu.au
Prof. Bob Gregory ECON3020 course convenor bob.gregory@anu.edu.au