

# Mingyi Li

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Sichuan, China

## Research Interests

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Urban Economics, Labor Economics

## Education

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**Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen**

Ph.D. in Economics

2024 –

*Shenzhen, Guangdong, China*

**Xiamen University**

M.A. in Economics (GPA 3.84, advised by Ying Chen)

2020 – 2023

*Xiamen, Fujian, China*

Master's Thesis, "Impacts of Thermal Power Plants on Population Migration-An Analysis Based on the Spatial Equilibrium Model"

**Southwestern University of Finance and Economics**

B.A. in Economics (GPA 3.9)

2016 – 2020

*Chengdu, Sichuan, China*

## Work in Progress

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"Consumer Heterogeneity and the Stimulus Effect of Digital Coupons" with Ying Chen, Jiaming Mao, and Jingyi Zhou

**Abstract:** This paper studies the consumption stimulus effects of a large-scale digital coupon program implemented in China during COVID-19. We find that digital coupons positively stimulate consumption on average, but the effects are highly heterogeneous among individuals and across neighborhoods. Specifically, 7.3% of the individuals account for half of the total stimulus effect. We identify key coupon design features as well as individual and spatial characteristics that drive the heterogeneity in consumption response. Using our estimated model, we propose modifications to existing coupon distribution policies with the potential to significantly boost overall spending and support small and vulnerable businesses during the pandemic.

"Balancing Growth and Sustainability: the Impact of Coal-Fired Power Plants on Local Labor Markets" with Ying Chen and Shihe Fu

**Abstract:** In emerging markets, power shortages are a major obstacle to economic progress. Coal-fired power plants are the primary power source in these regions due to their affordability and stability. However, these plants also contribute to severe air pollution and pose a threat to public health. This paper examines the impacts and underlying mechanisms of coal-fired power plants on local labor markets using a Rosen-Roback style spatial framework and an instrumental variable approach. Our findings indicate that these plants enhance local firm productivity, increasing local population size. However, they also worsen air pollution, leading to an outflow of population. Notably, at the granular county level, the inflow of population on average exceeds the outflow. Additionally, we uncover significant spatial heterogeneity and spillovers in the impacts of coal-fired power plants. This study highlights the trade-offs faced by emerging economies as they strive to balance the need for a stable electricity supply with concerns about environmental hazards.

## Research Experience

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Research Assistant for Prof. Ying Chen, XMU 12, 2021 – 06, 2023

- Conducted data cleaning, data visualization, and advanced regression analysis
- Participated in weekly seminars, presenting and discussing frontier research papers

Project Assistant for Prof. Jiong Zhu, XMU 10, 2021 – 02, 2022

- Analyzed unstructured datasets using NLP techniques for econometrics research

Research Assistant for Prof. Yilin Zhang, SWUFE 06, 2018 – 06, 2020

- Contributed to literature review and academic writing
- Assisted in manuscripts review and editing

## Teaching Experience

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Teaching Assistant, Urban Economics (Undergraduate) 09, 2021 – 01, 2022

- Assisted in course preparation and grading
- Provided after-class office hours support to students

## Work Experience

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Product Manager, Shanghai Pudong Development Bank (Wealth management) 07, 2023 – 01, 2024

- Assisted in data analysis
- Facilitated daily communication with leadership and team members

## Relevant Coursework

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**Economics: Advanced Microeconomics I (Rank 1) & II, Advanced Macroeconomics I (A) & II (Top 1%), Advanced Econometrics I (A) & II (Top 5%), Urban Economics (Rank 1), Labor Economics, Microeconometrics and Application (A+)**

**Mathematics: Mathematical Economics (Top 2%), Advanced Mathematics I (A+) & II, Probability Theory (A+), Advanced Algebra, Data Structure**

*Note:* Courses taken at the master's level are highlighted in bold.

## Awards & Honors

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National Scholarship, XMU 2021

Teaching Assistant Award, XMU 2021

University Fellowships, SWUFE 2016–2019

## Languages & Skills

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Languages: English (fluent) and Mandarin (native)

Computer Languages: Python, R, SQL, Linux, Git

Software: STATA, ArcGIS, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## References

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Xiamen University  
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