

Mingyi Li

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Sichuan, China

Research Interests

Urban Economics, Labor Economics, Industrial Organization

Education

Xiamen University

2020 – 2023

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

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

2016 – 2020

B.A. in Economics (GPA 3.9)

Chengdu, Sichuan, China

Work in Progress

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

Abstract: This paper studies the stimulus effect of a large scale digital coupon program implemented in Beijing during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our analysis based on quantile regression uncovers significant variation in responses among those who obtained digital coupons. Using the causal forest approach, we estimate the high-dimensional heterogeneity in consumption responses and identify the key design features that drive spending. Finally, we examine the spatial distribution of the program's stimulus effects and conduct counterfactual analyses to assess the outcomes of alternative programs. Through these empirical investigations, our research sheds light on the dynamics of the digital coupon program and provides valuable insights for policymakers seeking to optimize economic stimulus measures.

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

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

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

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

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

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

National Scholarship, XMU 2021

Teaching Assistant Award, XMU 2021

University Fellowships, SWUFE 2016–2019

Languages & Skills

Languages: English (fluent) and Mandarin (native)

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

Software: STATA, ArcGIS, L^AT_EX

References

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Xiamen University
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Jiaming Mao
Wang Yanan Institute
for Studies in Economics
Xiamen University
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Shihe Fu
Economics and Management School
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