

RUICHI XIONG

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rotman School of Management,
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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Management (Economic Analysis and Policy Area) <i>Rotman School of Management, University of Toronto</i>	2018 - 2023 (expected)
M.Sc. in Economics and Finance <i>CEMFI</i>	2016 - 2018
M.A. in Economics <i>Central University of Finance and Economics</i>	2013 - 2016
B.A. in Economics <i>Hubei University</i>	2008 - 2012
B.A. in Chu Cai Class of Liberal Arts <i>Hubei University</i>	2008 - 2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Urban, Entrepreneurship, Innovation, Trade, Development

PUBLICATIONS

“以侨为桥—侨资企业与中国的外向型发展”, 陈方豪, 熊瑞驰, 2022, 1(1):4, 中国经济学

WORKING PAPERS

“Interregional Accessibility and Firm Creation in the Fragmented Economy”, *Job Market Paper*

“Familiar Strangers: Lineage Connection and Diaspora Direct Investment in China”, with Fanghao Chen (Jinan University) and Xiaobo Zhang (Peking University and IFPRI)

“Endogenous Learning, Dynamic Agglomeration, and the Skill Premium over Life Cycle”

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Interregional Accessibility and Firm Innovation in the Fragmented Economy”

“Local Connection, Domestic Sourcing, and FDI Performance”, with Fanghao Chen (Jinan University)

“Brain Gain on Diaspora Network”, with Fanghao Chen (Jinan University)

PRE-DOCTORAL WORK

“Does the College Graduate Village Officials Program Improve Village Governance in China ?”

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND GRANTS

SGS Conference Grant	2021
Ph.D. Student Fellow at Rotman Centre for Real Estate and Urban Economics	2021
Rotman China Initiative Grant	2020-2021
Distinction (ranked 1st) in the Micro Comprehensive Exam at Econ Department	2019
Rotman School of Management Dean's Fellowship	2018-2020
University of Toronto Fellowship - Management	2018-2023
CEMFI Master Full Scholarhsip	2016-2018

SEMINARS & CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2022 (Including scheduled with *): North American Urban Economic Association Meeting*, Trade Seminar at University of Toronto*, Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society in China, Urban Economic Association Summer School (canceled because of visa appointment), 5th International Conference of China Development Studies

2021: European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society

2020: Trade Brownbag at University of Toronto

OTHER ACTIVITIES

NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp	2020
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TEACHING EXPERIENCE

TA for ByungSoo Lee, Managerial Economics (MBA)	2021
TA for Stephan Heblich, Topics in Innovation II (Graduate)	2021
TA for Jack Parkinson, Introduction to Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	2021
TA for Stephan Heblich, Technology, Strategy, and Policy (Graduate)	2020
TA for Stephan Heblich, Topics in Innovation II (Graduate)	2020
TA for Victor Yu, Quantitative Methods in Economics I (Undergraduate)	2020
TA for Jack Parkinson, Introduction to Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	2020
TA for William Strange, Managerial Economics (MBA)	2019

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

RA for Daniel Trefler	2019
RA for Loren Brandt	2019
RA for Monica Martinez-Bravo	2019

GRADUATE COURSES

The Economics of Innovation	2021
Special Topics in the Economics of Technology and Innovation	2020
Industrial Organization II	2020
International Trade II	2020
Networks in Trade and Macroeconomics II	2020
Advanced Topics in Urban and Real Estate Economics II	2019
Labour Economics I	2020
International Trade Theory II	2019
Econometrics I, II	2018,2019
Macroeconomic Theory I, II	2018, 2019
Microeconomic Theory I, II	2018, 2019

LANGUAGES

Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)

REFERENCES

Nathaniel Baum-Snow (Supervisor)

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April Franco

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ABSTRACTS

Interregional Accessibility and Firm Creation in the Fragmented Economy

(Job Market Paper)

What are the effects of interregional accessibility on firm creation ? For studying this question in the context of international air connections between the USA and China, I provide a new measure of travel time between US CBSAs and Chinese prefectures over years and document its sharp and unevenly distributed reductions. With a novel instrument for travel time constructed from the gradual deregulation of US-China flight market, I show that the reductions on travel time to China increase firm creation in US cities. The effects of travel time reductions are larger in industries requiring many different suppliers. This motivates a quantitative spatial model with sourcing location choice, input-output structure, and firm entry decision. Estimating the model illuminates that, the 2004-2013 US-China aviation network expansion improves firm creation by 1.7% and welfare by 0.4%. 42% of the firm creation increases and 50% of the welfare gains are driven by the supplier presence heterogeneity across Chinese prefectures, because time reductions are larger in Chinese prefectures with higher presence of suppliers. In a counterfactual in which the flight network is expanded homogeneously by connecting all international gateway airports in US and China, the heterogeneity in supplier presence across Chinese prefectures accounts for only one percentage of the aggregate effects.

Familiar Strangers: Lineage Connection and Diaspora Direct Investments in China

(with Fanghao Chen (Jinan University) and Xiaobo Zhang (Peking University & IFPRI))

China's becoming top FDI destination in just a few decades defies the "Lucas Paradox". Using a unique dataset of universe foreign firms in China, we document that initial FDIs were mainly driven by Chinese diaspora and massive non-diaspora FDIs did not materialize until to a later stage. Leveraging the staggered opening-up of Chinese cities during 1981-1996 as identification strategy, we find that after a city's opening-up, diaspora direct investment (DDI) enters more into cities with stronger lineage connections. These cities with more lineage-driven DDIs in the early period also witness more non-diaspora foreign and domestic private firms later on.

Endogenous Learning, Dynamic Agglomeration, and the Skill Premium over Life Cycle

This paper proposes a new measure of learning with time use survey data. Learning time is showed to be lower in big city and higher for high skill workers, especially when they are young. This finding indicates that there is endogenous learning-working tradeoff with skill-learning complementarity. This paper also documents the fact that in 1980-2007 US census data, city size wage elasticity first diverge and then converge over worker's life cycle. This fact cannot be explained by existed literature which consider only passive experience accumulation as learning. The theoretical part of this paper therefore introduces the empirically observed endogenous learning-working tradeoff into dynamic life cycle model nesting experience accumulation. The model shows that both the divergence and convergence can be accounted for under one unified framework. Furthermore, the model can also match several other novel facts presented in this paper including skill-younghness complementarity in learning time, declining skill premium gap between big and small cities over life cycle and declining sorting of high skill workers into big city over life cycle.