Xuerui Kou

CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

University of Nebraska-Lincoln,   2025 (expected)

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics,

- Dissertation Topic: "Three Essays on International Tax Avoidance"
- Advisor: Edward J. Balistreri (chair), John E.Anderson, Yifan Gong, John Beghin

University of International Business and Economics,   2018

- M.S., Finance
- Dissertation: "The Effects of Capital Account Liberalization on Labor Share in Developing Countries"
- Columbia University: Exchange Student (Summer 2018)

Shandong Univerity of Finance and Economics,   2016

B.A., Auditing

RESEARCH FIELDS   International Economics; Public economics; International Tax Avoidance; Gravity Model; Economic of Geography

RESEARCH PAPERS   **"China's Intellectual-property Supply Chain and Evidence of Under-reported U.S. to Tax Haven Transactions"**

Abstract: We use a modified gravity model to incorporate the difference between tax havens and non-tax havens in terms of the productivity of a country's imports as they relate to its exports. We hypothesize that, controlling for export level, tax havens have lower reported imports compared to the true value. This lower value of imports reflects the artificially low transfer pricing by MNEs. Our model is focused on trade in intangibles assets because the pricing of this trade is more difficult for any tax authorities to observe. The analysis relies on unique country-level bilateral data on services trade, which is the Balanced Trade in Services Datasets (BaTiS) published by the OECD and the WTO. Using a fixed-effect model, we find evidence consistent with a pattern of under-reported intellectual property values that move from the US to a third country and ultimately to China. The proportional distortion is roughly 35%. The sizeable distortion, however, is less apparent when we aggregate to total services, of which intellectual property is a component. This finding is consistent with the argument that intangible assets are the most important source of profit shifting.

"Foreign Direct Investment Responses to the 2018 US Corporate Tax Reform"

Abstract: This paper investigates the response of US multinational enterprises to the one-time repatriation tax reduction by repatriating their cash holdings abroad. We infer from reinvestment of earnings data, which is a component of Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to solve the data issue. To overcome these challenges, our empirical strategy leverages the observation that, while the permanent drop in CIT in the US affects its FDI in all foreign countries, the one-time reduction in repatriation tax only influences the countries where US MNEs have substantial amounts of unrepatriated earnings. We adopt an event study methodology, where the event is the enactment of the TCJA and the treatment group is the tax haven countries, to estimate the causal impact of the one-time reduction in repatriation tax. We find distinct

dynamic effects of the reduction on foreign investment and repatriation. In the short run (1-2 years after the enactment), we observe a significant reduction in FDI outflows to tax havens, driven predominantly by reinvestment of earnings and adjustments in services industries. Over the long term, these effects appear to bounce back to zero. These results suggest that MNEs chose to repatriate their foreign income soon after the TCJA went into effect despite having an 8-year window for the repatriation tax reduction. Hence, we provide evidence supporting the effectiveness of the tax reduction.

"Corporate Taxation and Foreign Patent Citation"

Abstract: The growing importance of intellectual property as a channel in tax avoidance presents challenges for tax authorities. MNEs strategically relocate valuable IPs to low-tax affiliates. We estimate a multinomial logit model that incorporates observed and unobserved heterogeneity in firms' location choices.

HONORS AND AWARDS		
	McConnell Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2024
	Ogle Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2023
	Ogle Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2022
	Chancellor's Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2020
	Chancellor's Fellowship, University of Nebraska-Lincoln	2019
	Guanghua Scholarship, University of International Business and Economics	2017
	Academic Scholarship, University of International Business and Economics	2017
	Outstanding Freshman Scholarship, University of International Business and Economics	2016
	Academic Scholarships, Shandong Univerity of Finance and Economics	2012-2016

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Research Assistant to Professor Edward Balistreri **2020 - 2023**
United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service (ERS): Supply Chain Info. and Improved State-level Trade Data

Research Assistant to Professor Ann Mari May **2022**
The Status of Women in the Economics Profession

Research Assistant to Professor Eric Thompson **2020-2021**
Bureau of Business Research

Huatai Securities

Research Assistant to Dr. Chao Li **2019**
Macro Research Related to Monetary Policy, Credit Financial Data, and Exchange Rates

Bank of China-Institute of International Finance

Research Assistant to Dr. Jingtong Zhou **2018**
The Economic Impact of the Belt and Road Initiative, Internet Finance, and the Structure of China's Financial System

University of International Business and Economics

Research Assistant to Professor Dan Xi   **2016-2018**
Effects of Capital Account Liberalization on Labor Share

CONFERENCE   Southern Economics Association 94th Annual Meeting (scheduled)
PRESENTATIONS UNL KU K-State Economic Research Day (scheduled)
              International Workshop on Regional, Urban, and Spatial Economics in China (scheduled)
              International Association of Applied Econometrics 2024 Annual Meeting (scheduled)
              Midwest International Trade Conference (Indianapolis, IN, 2024)
              Chinese Economists Society North America Annual Conference (Lewisburg, PA, 2024)

WORKSHOPS   Participant Workshop with GTAPinGAMS and GAMS/MPSGE (Denver, CO)   2024
              Participant WiNDC Database Short Summer Course (Madison, WI)   2021

TEACHING   Fall 2019, Spring 2020   Introductory Statistics, Teaching Assistant
EXPERIENCE   Spring 2017   International Finance, Teaching Assistant

ADDITIONAL   Programming: Stata, R, GAMS, Julia, Dynare, Python, Latex
INFORMATION

              Language: Chinese (native), English (fluent), French (basic)

              Citizenship: China