

# Byoungmin Yu

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## EDUCATION

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Ph.D. in Economics, Iowa State University	May 2025 (expected)
M.A. in Economics, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea	Jun 2020
B.A. in International Business, Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, Republic of Korea	Jun 2018

## FIELDS OF INTEREST

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Industrial Organization, Platform Economics, Applied Microeconomics

## JOB MARKET PAPER

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*“Commission Fee structure and Innovation: In the Case of Mobile Application Platform”*

**Abstract:** This study addresses the ongoing debate surrounding the regulation of platform commission fees and examines how firms’ innovation and pricing decisions are influenced by different fee structures within the mobile application market. Analyzing a panel dataset of music apps within the Apple iOS store in the United States spanning from October 2018 to February 2024, this research unveils two key findings. First, imposing a fee cap leads to heightened innovation levels among third-party app developers, coupled with reduced in-app prices. These findings reflect that the changes in commission fees that increase developers’ revenue serve as an incentive for innovation. Second, in a counterfactual where the platform additionally implements a unit fee scheme under the fee cap, in-app prices rise implying that unit fees are passed through consumers.

## JOURNAL PUBLICATION

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Kim, D., & Yu, B. (2024). Government incentives and firm location choices. *Public Choice*, 1-27. [Link]

## WORKING PAPERS

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*“Are Consumers Better off when Platform Makes its Own Product?”*

**Abstract:** This paper investigates how consumer welfare is affected when a platform makes its product and directly competes with fringe sellers. The model incorporates quality differentiation and consumer heterogeneity, capturing the strategic behaviors between the sellers. I find that the entry accompanying a higher commission fee, which is driven by the competitive effects of entry and the platform’s steering behavior, harms consumer welfare. When a platform enters a market with moderate consumer heterogeneity, it raises the commission fee, consequently increasing product price and lessening product variety. On the other hand, in a market with higher consumer heterogeneity, the platform increases the commission fee only if its product is of high quality.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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“Vertical integration, complementarity, and innovation in digital market.”

## PRE-DOCTORAL PUBLICATION

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Yu, B., & Choi, Y. J. (2021). An impact of local loop unbundling on investment in broadband networks. *Information Society Media*, 22(3), 55-80. [Link]

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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<b>Lab Instructor in Iowa State University</b>	
ECON 207 Applied Economic Optimization	Spring, Fall 2024
ECON 301 Intermediate Microeconomics	Fall 2023
<b>Teaching Assistant in Iowa State University</b>	
ECON 101 Principles of Microeconomics	Spring 2022, Fall 2023, Spring 2024
ECON 371 Introduction to Econometrics	Spring 2022
ECON 416 Industrial Organization	Spring 2023
<b>Teaching Assistant in Hankuk University of Foreign Studies</b>	
Readings in Economics	Fall 2019

PRESENTATIONS

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American Economic Association (AEA) Annual Meeting (Poster)	Jan 2025 (scheduled)
Southern Economic Association (SEA) 94th Annual Meeting	Nov 2024 (scheduled)
Western Economic Association International (WEAI) 99th Annual Meeting	Jun 2024
Economics Graduate Student Association Seminar, Iowa State University	Mar 2024
Southern Economic Association (SEA) 93rd Annual Meeting	Nov 2023
The Korean Association for Information Society Fall Annual Meeting	Nov 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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<b>Research Assistant for Dr. Joonyoung Hur / National Assembly Budget Office</b>	
<i>Hankuk University of Foreign Studies</i>	Sep.2019 — Dec.2019
<b>Research Assistant for Dr. Yong-Jae Choi / ETRI</b>	
<i>Hankuk University of Foreign Studies</i>	Jun. 2018 — Nov. 2018

SKILLS AND OTHER INFORMATION

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<b>Tools and Languages</b>	R (primary), Stata, Python, $\text{\LaTeX}$
<b>Communication</b>	English (Fluent), Korean (Native)
<b>Citizenship</b>	Republic of Korea