

Bomi K. Lee

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Education

Ph.D. Political Science, University of Iowa

2021

Dissertation: *Interconnected Rivalries*

Abstract: My dissertation examines why some interstate rivalries last longer than others and why leaders pay higher domestic costs for interactions with some rival states. I focus on how multiple rivalries and interconnectedness among them influences rivalry duration. Using network centrality measures for interstate rivalries from 1900-2010, I find that rivalries with one central actor and one minor actor (e.g., Iraq-Kuwait) have a higher probability for rivalry termination than rivalries with two central actors (e.g., China-Japan) or two minor actors (e.g., Bolivia-Chile). I also examine triangular rivalry relationships and find that rivalries with common allies or common enemies are more likely to terminate than rivalries with mixed threats, with the effects being strongest in minor power rivalries. Finally, a survey experiment and time series analyses of Japanese prime minister approval (1998-2014) reveal that leaders face higher costs for cooperating with salient rival states. My theory and analyses show the importance of moving beyond the dyadic rivalry framework and incorporating network ties in conflict studies.

Committee: Sara McLaughlin Mitchell (chair), Kelly M. Kadera, Brian Lai, Elizabeth Menninga, and Paul F. Diehl

MA, Political Science, University of Iowa

2019

MA, International Relations, Seoul National University (South Korea)

2013

BA, Political Science, Seoul National University (South Korea)

2011

Academic Appointments

Post-doctoral Scholar, Department of Political Science, University of Kentucky August 2021 -

Working with Dr. Tiffany D. Barnes and Dr. Diana Z. O'Brien in their National Science Foundation (NSF)-funded research program on [Women as Leaders, Policy-Makers, and Symbols](#).

Publications

[1] Schmidt, Cody J., **Bomi K. Lee**, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell. 2021. "Climate Bores of Contention: How Climate Variability Influences Territorial, Maritime, and River Interstate Conflicts." *Journal of Peace Research* 58(1): 132-150. DOI: [10.1177/0022343320973738](https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343320973738)

Book Chapter

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.** 2014. "North Korea's Peace Proposals in the 1970s," *Segye Jeongchi [World Politics]* 20: 323-370 [In Korean].

Papers Under Review

[3] **Lee, Bomi K.**, Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, Cody J. Schmidt, and Yufan Yang, "Disasters and the Dynamics of Interstate Rivalry" [Under Review after R&R Decision]

This project examines how disasters influence conflict dynamics in interstate rivalries. Drawing on the rivalry literature's idea of political shocks and the logic of diversionary conflict, we argue that rapid-onset disasters shorten the duration between militarized disputes in rivalry dyads.

[2] Tolbert, Caroline J., **Lee, Bomi K.**, and Karen Mossberger, "Broadband Use and Inclusive Prosperity in Communities." [Under Review]

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.**, "Triangles, Major Powers, and Rivalry Duration" [Under Review]

This paper examines a rivalry's strategic environment by focusing on triangular relationships. If two rivals are tied to a third party, this can be their common enemy, common friend, or mixed. Analyses of rivalry duration show that minor power rivalries are more likely to be influenced by their common allies (shorter duration) and mixed third parties (longer duration). In contrast, major-minor rivalries are affected by common enemies (shorter duration).

Working Papers

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.**, Cody J. Schmidt, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, "Paths to Peace in Issue Rivalries"

This paper moves beyond the dyadic rivalry context by considering how issue rivalry networks and extra-rivalry reputations influence peaceful and militarized conflict management in diplomatic issue conflicts. We capture interdependence by assessing the degree to which states are embedded in multiple rivalries using network analysis. We find that rivalry networks constrain militarization by target states in issue claims but have no effect on challengers.

In Progress

[2] Lee, Sojeong, and **Bomi K. Lee**, "Uncovering spatial variability of climate change, water, and conflict"

This project focuses on two mechanisms to examine the relationship between climate variability and interstate conflict: scarcity and accessibility. We use precipitation information from the PRIO-GRID dataset to focus on geographical variations of water and climate conditions.

[1] **Lee, Bomi K.**, "Do Doves Cry When They Face Multiple Rivals? Evidence from Survey Experiments in Japan and South Korea"

What rival relationship matters in domestic politics? When a country has multiple rivals, the effects of conflictual/cooperative policies and their outcomes can vary depending on the characteristics of rival relationships. I test the public's varying responses to interactions with rivals by using a 2 x 2 x 2 survey experiment in Japan (stronger/weaker x conflictual/cooperative x success/failure) and time series analyses.

Research and Teaching Interests

International Relations: International Conflict and Cooperation, Interstate Rivalries, Interaction between Domestic and International Politics, Environmental Issues, Regional Security (East Asia)

Political Methodology: Introductory Statistics, Network Analysis, Time Series Analysis, Survival Analysis, Spatial Analysis, Survey Experiments

Research Experiences

University of Iowa

Countries Facing Multiple Rivals Project (online survey experiment in Japan) August 2019 -

Designed experiment/questionnaire and received the IRB approval (n=1,200).

Research Assistant on Project Haystack (with GoDaddy.com) for Prof. Caroline Tolbert and Prof. Karen Mossberger January 2021 - June 2021; September 2018 - December 2019

Cleaned raw data (n=20 million), visualized collapsed data (at the state/county/ZIP code levels), and conducted empirical analysis.

Research Assistant for Prof. Elizabeth Menninga Summer 2019

Combined civil war datasets (UCDP/PRIO Armed Conflict Dataset, Non-State Actors in Armed Conflict Dataset, etc), and visualized networks and empirical results.

Research Assistant on Issue Correlates of War (ICOW) Project for Prof. Sara McLaughlin Mitchell Summer 2017

Searched news stories for identity claims in Asia via LexisNexis.

The Institute for Far Eastern Studies (South Korea)

Research Intern for Prof. Jong-Dae Shin March 2015 - October 2015

Searched and made a list of released governmental documents on the relationship between South Korea and North Korea.

Seoul National University (South Korea)

Research Assistant on East Asian International Relations Theory Project for Prof. Wookhee Shin September 2012 - August 2015

Teaching Experiences

University of Iowa

(Online) Teaching Assistant for Consequences of War Spring 2021

Instructor for Analyzing Political Data Spring 2020

Guest Lecturer for Introduction to International Relations Spring 2018

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations Fall 2016/2017, Spring 2018

(Online) Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations Summer 2018

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to American Politics Spring 2017

Iowa Social Science Research Center, University of Iowa

Statistical Consultant Fall 2019 - Spring 2021

Taught workshops: Introduction and Data Management Using R, Network Visualization Using R, and Network Analysis Using R

ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan

Teaching Assistant for Time Series Analysis 1

Summer 2019

Taught six computer lab sessions with Dr. Desmond Wallace, and graded assignments.

Seoul National University (South Korea)

Teaching Assistant for Introduction to International Relations

Fall 2011

Additional Training

ICPSR Summer Program, University of Michigan

Summer 2017

Game Theory 1 & Rational Choice Theories of Politics and Society

ISRC Workshops, University of Iowa

Fall 2018

Python Basics

Honors, Awards, and Grants

Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award (\$1,000), University of Iowa (2021)

Graduate College Post-Comprehensive Research Fellowship (\$10,000), Graduate College, University of Iowa (2020)

Graduate College Summer Fellowship (\$5,000), Graduate College, University of Iowa (2020)

Travel Grant (\$150), International Studies Association-Midwest (2020)

Research Grant (\$1,000), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2020)

The Frank J. Klingberg Best Paper Award, Cody Schmidt, **Bomi Lee**, and Sara McLaughlin Mitchell, "Climate Bones of Contention", International Studies Association Midwest (2019)

Research Grant (\$1,400), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019)

Research Grant (\$500), Graduate & Professional Student Government, University of Iowa (2019)

Travel Grant (\$200), American Political Science Association (2019)

Travel Grant (\$500), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019)

NSF Fellowship (\$900), Political Networks Workshops & Conference (2019)

Travel Funds Award (\$750), Graduate Student Senate (GSS), University of Iowa (2019)

Best Course Paper Award, "Dissolution of Rivalries and Formation of Warm Peace," Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2018)

Travel Grant (\$550), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2018)

Summer Training Grant (\$3,300), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2017)

Travel Grant (\$600), Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2017)

Invited Conferences

Visions in Methodology (VIM) at Claremont Graduate University (2021)

University of Alabama's ISSR Workshop on International Conflict (2020): canceled due to the COVID-19

Minnesota Political Methodology Graduate Student Colloquium (2019)

Conferences

Paper Presentations

International Studies Association Annual Conference (2021)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2020)

American Political Science Association Annual Meeting (co-author) (2019, 2021)

Peace Science Society Annual Meeting (co-author) (2019, 2020)

International Studies Association Midwest Annual Conference (2017, 2018, 2019, 2020)

Midwest Political Science Association Annual Meeting (2018)

Poster Presentations

International Studies Association Annual Conference (2020): canceled due to the COVID-19

Peace Science Society Annual Meeting (2019)

Political Networks (2019)

Professional Affiliations

American Political Science Association

International Studies Association

Peace Science Society

Professional Services

Reviewer, *American Political Science Review* (2021-)

Instructor, Math Camp for incoming graduate students, Department of Political Science, University of Iowa (2019, 2020)