Xinmei Yang

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🌐 https://xinmeiyang.github.io/

Education

Harvard University	**Cambridge, MA, USA**
Ph.D. in Economics	*2023 – 2029 (expected)*

Renmin University of China	**Beijing, China**
B.A. in Resource Economics	*2018 – 2023*

University of California, Berkeley	**Berkeley, CA, USA**
Visiting undergraduate student	*2021 – 2022*

Publications

1. **Xinmei Yang***, Abhishek Arora, Shao-Yu Jheng & Melissa Dell. **Quantifying Character Similarity with Vision Transformers**, *Proceedings of the 2023 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP)*, 2023.

Working Papers

1. Zhiren Hu, **Xinmei Yang***. **Efficiency improvement through outsourcing and incentivizing: Evidence from Judicial Auctions in China**, 2025.
2. Abhishek Arora, **Xinmei Yang***, Shao-Yu Jheng & Melissa Dell. **Linking Representations with Multimodal Contrastive Learning**, 2023.
3. **Xinmei Yang***, Junru Lyn. **Deadline effects in Crowdfunding: Evidence from a Regression Discontinuity Design**, 2024.

Tools & Packages

HomoglyphsCJK: An efficient and useful tool to fuzzy match Japanese, Korean, Simplified Chinese or Traditional Chinese words, using character visual similarity.

Professor Salary: Visualization of professors salary by gender, title, department across eight public universities.

Honors and Awards

2019: National Scholarship for Excellent Academic Performance (**Top 1% of nation-wide students**)

2019: First Prize (top 3%), China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling

2020: National Scholarship for Excellent Academic Performance (**Top 1% of nation-wide students**)

2020: Finalist, Interdisciplinary Contest in Mathematical Modeling

2021: Fung Scholarship, University of Hong Kong

2021: Second Prize, Challenge Cup Research Competition

2021: Outstanding Student, Camphora Youth Economists Summer School

Professional Service

Journal Reviewer: Journal of Public Economics

Professional Activities

2024: Harvard Contracts and Organizations, Environmental, and Development workshops.

Research Experience

2024-25: Harvard and MIT - Research Assistant to Prof. Jesse Shapiro and Prof. Isaiah Andrews

2024-24: Harvard and MIT – Research Assistant to Prof. Ben Olken, Prof. Rema Hanna, and Prof. Gabriel Krindler

2023-24: Harvard - Research Assistant to Prof. Ariel Pakes, Prof. Jack Porter and Prof. Mark Shepard

2021-25: Harvard - Research Assistant to Prof. Melissa Dell

2021-22: UC Berkeley - Research Assistant to Prof. Ricardo Perez-Truglia

Language & Interests

Fluent: English

Native: Chinese (Mandarin)

Interests: Piano (a fan of Frédéric Chopin), Philosophy (a fan of Wittgenstein), Literature (a fan of Jorge Luis Borges and James Joyce), Hiking