

# Xinmei Yang

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🌐 <https://elle2222.github.io/>

## Education

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- **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

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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

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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

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**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

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- 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

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**Journal Reviewer:** Journal of Public Economics

## Professional Activities

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

## Research Experience

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**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

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**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