# CHEK YIN CHOI

## PERSONAL INFORMATION


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| **Date of Birth** | 02 November 1995 |
| **Email** | chek-yin.choi@iies.su.se |
| **GitHub** | https://github.com/hkchekc |
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## RESEARCH INTERESTS

**Macroeconomics, Trade, Industrial Organization, Supply Chains, Computational Methods**

## EDUCATION

**PhD in Economics – IIES, Stockholm University** 2020–2026 (Expected)
Hedelius Scholarship: 500,000 SEK

**Visiting PhD Student – Bocconi University** Feb–Apr 2025

**Master's in Economics – Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich** 2017–2020
Grade average: 1.53 (1.0–6.0 scale)

**Visiting Graduate Student – University of Wisconsin–Madison** Sep–Dec 2019

**Bachelor's in Business Economics – Martin Luther University of Halle–Wittenberg** 2013–2017
Deutschlandstipendium (Germany Scholarship), 2016
Grade average: 1.80 (1.0–6.0 scale)

## JOB MARKET PAPER

**Supplier Search and Market Concentration**


Abstract: This paper studies how easier access to foreign suppliers of intermediate inputs reshapes the firm size distribution. I develop a quantitative model of supplier search in which firms incur fixed costs to discover and bargain with input suppliers. The model provides a microfoundation for how input trade influences aggregate productivity and resource allocation. Evidence from firm-level import data motivates the framework through four patterns: growing dispersion in imported varieties, rising inequality in importer sales, lower input prices for larger firms, and stronger supplier-network expansion in municipalities with better digital infrastructure. In general equilibrium, lower input search frictions reallocate resources toward more productive firms, raising real GDP by about 13 percent and increasing market concentration by 12.7 percent. A 10 percent tariff on imported inputs offsets the GDP gain and lowers concentration.


## WORKING PAPERS

**Inflation Persistence and a New Phillips Curve**
*with Marcus Hagedorn, Juan Llavador, and Kurt Mitman*


Abstract: Auclert et al. (2024) recently argued that, to first order, menu-costs models deliver the same New Keynesian Phillips Curves as time-dependent models in response to AR1 shocks. We show here that when considering a broader class of shocks, menu-costs models can generate qualitatively and quantitatively different Phillips

curves than implied by time-dependent models. Shocks to the growth rate of nominal demand generate inflation persistence in the model, in line with the data, but at odd with the standard time- dependent NKPC. Changes in the extensive margin of price adjustment in the menu-cost model generate history dependence that is captured by the lagged inflation rate. Once we control for lagged nominal demand growth, the explanatory power of lagged inflation drops significantly. The reason is that nominal demand growth is a second determinant of inflation in the Phillips curve in menu-cost models and inflation therefore inherits the persistence of the process for nominal demand.

**Are Robots Special?**
*with Isabella Maassen*

Abstract: Mainstream analysis of automation often treats capital as homogeneous and focuses narrowly on industrial robots. Using matched Swedish microdata linking firms, workers, and imports, we study how diverse forms of capital, both advanced and conventional, interact with labor and firm performance. We replicate Acemoglu et al. (2020) for Sweden and confirm similar effects of robot adoption on value added, employment, and workforce composition. Extending this framework, we analyze heterogeneity by firm size, robot value, and a wide range of disaggregated capital goods. Several other capital types, including conventional ones, show labor and productivity effects comparable to robots, while aggregate capital measures mask these relationships. We then classify capital goods by how they interact with labor across education, gender, and age categories. Overall, robots have large impacts on labor outcomes, but they are only one among several capital goods with similarly strong effects.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

**When Unified Markets Meet Local Markets: How Big Firms Drive Local Price Dynamics**

## WORK EXPERIENCE

**Software Development Research Assistant** Spring 2018–Summer 2019, Spring 2020
*G-Node (German Neuroinformatics Node), Munich*
Programmed primarily in Python and Go using a test-driven and object-oriented approach.
Developed Python libraries for neuroscience data to facilitate data storage, analysis, and sharing among neuroscientists.
Built data storage formats, functions, and command-line tools for the neuro-database system.

**Research Intern** May–Jun 2017
*Halle Institute for Economic Research (Leibniz Association), Halle (Saale)*
Worked in the macroeconomics research group.
Assisted research on inflation and taxation.
Analyzed data and constructed datasets using Stata.

**Business Development Intern** Oct 2016–Jan 2017
*Demoup GmbH, Berlin*
Online product video platform for e-commerce firms such as MediaMarkt and Target.
Responsibilities included contacting brands and managing the video database.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics I (PhD)** 2021
*Stockholm University*

## PRESENTATIONS

**2025:** Umeå NEWER Workshop, Bocconi University, 3rd RISE Workshop, Kiel University (Online); SUDSWEC Workshop, 14th National PhD Workshop in Finance

**2023:** Swiss–Swedish Macro Workshop

## SKILLS

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| **Tools** | Git, Python, C++, LaTeX, C#, Matlab, Fortran |
| **Languages** | Cantonese (mother tongue) |
| | English (fluent) |
| | Mandarin (fluent) |
| | German (conversational) |
| | Japanese (basic) |

## REFERENCES


**Timo Boppart**
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**Michele Fioretti**
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