

CHEK YIN CHOI

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Date of Birth	02 November 1995
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

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

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, Stockholm University Hedelius Scholarship — 500,000 SEK	2020–present
Visiting PhD Student, Bocconi University	Feb–Apr 2025
Master’s in Economics, Ludwig Maximilian University of Munich Grade average: 1.53 (1.0–6.0 scale)	2017–2020
Visiting Graduate Student, University of Wisconsin–Madison	Sep–Dec 2019
Bachelor’s in Business Economics, Martin Luther University of Halle–Wittenberg Deutschlandstipendium (Germany Scholarship), 2016 Grade average: 1.80 (1.0–6.0 scale)	2013–2017

WORKING PAPERS

Supplier Search and Market Concentration [Job Market Paper]

Abstract: This paper studies how changes in input market efficiency reshape the firm size distribution and aggregate productivity. I develop a quantitative model of supplier search in which firms incur fixed costs to find and bargain with input suppliers. The framework provides a microfoundation for how input trade affects firm performance and resource allocation. Empirical evidence from firm-level import data motivates the model through four key patterns: (i) the dispersion in the number of imported varieties across firms has widened, (ii) the sales distribution among importers has become more unequal, (iii) larger firms pay lower input prices, and (iv) firms in municipalities with better digital infrastructure have bigger variety networks, especially for larger firms. In general equilibrium, reductions in input search frictions reallocate resources toward more productive importers, raising real GDP by about 13 percent and increasing market concentration by about 12.7 percent. A counterfactual analysis shows that a 10 percent tariff on imported inputs would largely offset these gains while reducing market concentration.

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.

WORK IN PROGRESS

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

Are Robots Special?

with Isabella Maassen

The Scope of Innovative Firms and Multi-Skilled Workers: Evidence from Software Development

with Jinci Liu

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

Tools Git, Python, LaTeX, C++, C#, Matlab, Fortran

Languages Cantonese (mother tongue)

English (fluent)

Mandarin (fluent)

German (conversational)

Japanese (basic)

REFERENCES

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