



Jieun Lee

PhD in Economics from University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics at Emory University

Research Interest: Econometrics, Machine-Learning

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 • [Research Gate](#) • [LinkedIn](#) • [Github](#)

Language: English (fluent), Korean (native)

Citizenship/Immigration: South Korea (citizen), United States (permanent resident)

Professional Appointments

Emory University, USA

Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, 2025 – Present

Invited by Prof. Esfandiar Maasoumi to collaborate on a project developing the economic foundations of machine learning models.

Postdoctoral Fellow, Rollins School of Public Health, 2023 – 2025

Served as Econometrician, leading causal machine learning and quantitative projects.

Education

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), USA

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in *Economics* (2023) *Dissertation: Essays on Spatial, Health, and Socioeconomic Interactions*

Master of Science (MS) in *Mathematics* (2022); *Statistics-Applied* (2021)

Ewha Womans University, South Korea

Master of Arts (MA) in *Economics* (2016); Bachelor of Arts (BA) in *Economics* (2013)

Research Interest

Econometrics, Machine-Learning

Research (Chronological order)

Econometrics, Machine-Learning

8. Testing the endogeneity of a spatial weight matrix in the weak-tied spatial dynamic panel data model. *Econometric Reviews*, (2025), 44(4), 462–511. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07474938.2024.2427600> [Publication](#) [Manuscript Package](#)

7. Power Divergence Estimation (with Anil K. Bera)

6. Model Specification in Machine Learning (with Esfandiar Maasoumi)

5. Specification and Estimation for Correlated Trade Flows (with Hanbat Jeong)

4. Model Selection in Machine Learning (with Esfandiar Maasoumi)

3. Robust Inference under Weak Identification (with Xiye Yang)

2. Specification and Estimation for Congested Networks (with Florian Gunsilius)

1. Robust Standard Error Adjustment (with Hanbat Jeong)

Empirical Studies

3. Investment in social capital by the Korean elderly and baby-boomers (with V.Hlasny). *The Journal of the Economics of Ageing*, (2020), 17, 100256. [Publication](#) [Manuscript](#)

2. Health Capital and Knowledge Spillover in Economic Growth (with Stephen L. Parente)

1. Identifying Novel Social Determinants of Health Subgroups among the General US Population: A Machine Learning Approach (with Xue, Q., Li, P., Mitchell, E., Weber, M.B., Yue, D., Hong, Y., Dieci, M., Harding, J.L., Ali, M.K., Shao, H.)

Seminar & Conference

(*: Scheduled)

2026: American Economic Association (KAEA session); UIUC*; Georgia Institute of Technology*; Purdue (Ag Econ)*

2025: American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions; Econometric Society World Congress; KSU/Emory Global Diabetes Research Center Symposium; Midwest Econometrics Group; UIUC; Emory; Southern Economic Association

2024: *American Diabetes Association Scientific Sessions; Midwest Econometrics Group*

2023: *Purdue (Ag Econ); Rutgers; UIUC; Midwest Econometrics Group; Spatial Econometrics Association; Computational and Financial Econometrics*

2022: *Midwest Econometrics Group (Mentoring Workshop for Junior Female Economists)*

2019: *MEEA*

2016: *East Asian Social Policy Network; Korea and the World Economy; Aging & Society*

Professional Service & Membership

Referee for *Spatial Economic Analysis*, *Journal of Organizational Effectiveness: People and Performance*, *PharmacoEconomics*, *Journal of Diabetes Research*.

Member of the *Econometric Society*, *American Economic Association (AEA)*, *Korea-America Economic Association (KAEA)*, *Korean Women Economists Networking (KWEN)*, *Spatial Econometrics Association (SEA)*, *Southern Economic Association (SEA)*.

Teaching & Grading Experience

Econometric Analysis I (PhD Core, ECON 532)

2020 (Fall) & 2021 (Fall) & 2022 (Fall) Grader, Department of Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA.

Econometrics of Policy Evaluation (Undergraduate, ECON 474)

2022 (Spring) Grader, Department of Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA.

Macroeconomic Principles (Undergraduate, ECON 103)

2019 (Spring) & 2020 (Spring) Discussion Section Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA.

Statistics in Economics (Undergraduate, ECON 202)

2017 (Fall) & 2018 (Spring, Fall) Discussion Section Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA.

2014 (Fall) & 2015 (Spring) Discussion Section Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Ewha Womans University, South Korea.

Microeconometrics (Graduate)

2015 (Spring) Discussion Section Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Ewha Womans University, South Korea.

Applied Econometrics (Undergraduate)

2014 (Spring) & 2015 (Spring) Discussion Section Instructor and Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Ewha Womans University, South Korea.

Honors, Scholarships, and Awards

Scholarship

Department of Economics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, USA

Scholarship for Conference (2017 Fall, 2018 Fall)

Fellowship for PhD Students (2016 Fall, 2017 Spring)

Korea Student Aid Foundation, South Korea

Graduate Research Scholarship for Humanities and Social Sciences (2014)

Awards

Paper Competition for the Market Economy, South Korea (2014)

How to Lower the Barrier to Entry for Women in Korean Labor Market by Game Theory

Bestowed by KB Financial Group Inc. Chairman; organized by Market Economic Research Institute

Economic Universiade, South Korea (2012)

A Far-Sighted Policies to Develop Human Resources for the Economic Growth in Korea

Bestowed and organized by Edaily, Korea Association of Economic Education, SK communications; Sponsored by the Ministry of Strategy and Finance, Ministry of Knowledge Economy, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Ministry of Employment and Labor, Ministry of Environment