JINGWEN CHEN

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EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, University of Liverpool, UK   2022 - 2026(expected)
Supervisors: Gareth Liu-Evans, Jacopo Bregolin
Research Area: Urban Economics, Industrial Organization, Labour Economics
Main Coursework: Machine Learning and Big Data Econometrics, Analysis of Big Data, Advanced Topics in Microeconometrics, Advanced Topics in Macroeconometrics

MRes Economics, University of Southampton, UK   Sep 2019 - Sep 2020
Merit classification

BSc (Hons) Management, Sichuan University, China   Sep 2014 - June 2018

JOB MARKET PAPER

Spatial Heterogeneity in the Sharing Economy: Uber's Impact on Hotel Price
This study investigates how Uber's market entry influences hotel prices across urban geographies, with a focus on heterogeneous impacts driven by proximity to city centres and public transit accessibility. Employing a staggered difference-in-differences (DiD) framework on granular zip code-level data spanning six major U.S. cities (2011–2015), we find that Uber's entry increases average hotel prices by 7.75%. The largest price increases arise in neighbourhoods with moderate but incomplete public transit access, rather than in the most distant or best transit locations. This pattern indicates that Uber acts as a complement to existing mobility infrastructure, increasing the effective accessibility of locations that were previously underserved. Mechanism tests based on hotel occupancy and demand confirm that these pricing effects are demand-driven rather than supply-driven. The results highlight a previously overlooked cross-sector linkage: ride-sharing can expand spatial hotel demand by reducing last-mile frictions. These findings underscore Uber's role not only as a transportation disruptor but also as an urban re-allocator of economic activity, with implications for hospitality markets, platform regulation, and urban accessibility policy.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Ride-Sharing, Safer or More Dangerous for Women?
This paper investigates the impact of the introduction of ride-sharing service on sexual offence rates in London. Exploiting the launch of UberX in July 2013 as a natural experiment, we apply a Regression Discontinuity in Time (RDiT) method, using monthly crime data at the Middle Layer Super Output Area (MSOA) level from 2010 to 2016. We find that Uber's market entry accounts for a statistically significant decline in sexual offences, particularly in the eight months window following its entry. To further examine Uber's moderating role, we explore how its presence interacted with public transportation disruptions by analysing two major tube line closures, one before and one after Uber's entry. A Difference-in-Differences (DiD) approach suggests that while the 2011 disruption had no significant effect on sexual offence rate, the 2015 closure coinciding with Uber's presence led to a significant reduction in sexual offences. Our findings highlight the potential of technology-enabled transport alternatives to enhance urban safety, particularly for women.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

- 9th Workshop on the Economics of Organised Crime (University of Edinburgh)
  NWSSDTP Doctoral Conference (University of Manchester)
  Economics Group Internal Seminar(University of Liverpool)   2024 - 2025

- NWSSDTP Doctoral Conference (Univesity of Lancaster), Applied Micro Cluster (University of Liverpool);
  Economics Group Internal Seminar (University of Liverpool)   2023 - 2024

- Micro Applied Cluster (University of Liverpool), Economics Group Internal Seminar (Liverpool) 2022 - 2023

TEACHING ASSISTANCE

BEng Pitch Project (Undergraduate) 2025

MEng Pitch Project (Postgraduate) 2025

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Founder & Manager, GanTang Office, China 2020 - 2022

- Oversee the daily operations of the business to ensure efficiency and smooth workflow.
- Manage scheduling, basic administration, and coordination across different business activities.
- Create and execute effective publicity, branding, and marketing strategies to raise business awareness.
- Produce promotional materials and manage content for social media, online platforms, and offline channels.
- Supervise progress, provide guidance, and ensure all tasks are completed on time and at high quality.
- Organize regular team meetings to communicate goals, review progress, and solve operational issues.

Teacher, New Oriental Education & Technology Group, China 2019

- Provided structured and engaging lessons in English and Mathematics to high school students.
- Designed lesson plans tailored to students' academic levels and learning needs.
- Contributed to course enrollment growth by providing professional, ethical, and student-centered consultation.

LANGUAGE AND SKILLS

Languages: Chinese (Native), English (Advanced)
Software: Python, Stata, ArcGIS Pro, R

REFERENCES

Gareth Liu-Evans
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