

Zihan Zhang

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Education

North Carolina State University

PhD student in Economics

Raleigh, NC, USA

2023 – Present

Xiamen University

Postgraduate student, Economics

Advisor: Shihe Fu, Email: fushihe@whu.edu.cn

Xiamen, China

2020 – 2023

Xiamen University

Bachelor of Economics

The International Undergraduate Experimental Class (IUEC)
at the Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics (WISE).

Xiamen, China

2016 – 2020

Research in progress

Trade Shocks and Labor Market Adjustment

With Jiaming Mao and Jingzhi Xu

We examine how changes in trade policy affect labor market equilibrium and the adjustment process. Our dynamic equilibrium framework incorporates costly transition of workers across jobs and space. Our main methodological contribution includes the introduction of machine learning techniques into structural general equilibrium modeling that allows us to break the curse of dimensionality and extend our analysis to high-dimensional state-space. We use counterfactual experiments based on our estimated model to paint a full picture of how workers respond to trade shocks and their welfare implications.

Home Appliance Trade and Female Labor Participation

With Shihe Fu

Using the novel instrument, we are able to separate the supply effect of improving home technology from the demand effect of trade shock on local industry and workers, and to address the potential reverse causality issue of female labor supply on home appliance demand. Our research shows that by lowering appliances price, trading appliance with China lead to a substantial positive impact on female labor force participation rate in African developing countries.

The Value of Climate Amenities in China

This study estimates the marginal willingness to pay for climate amenities of Chinese households using a discrete choice model and a nationwide migration dataset. It explores heterogeneous preferences of Chinese households over climate amenities.

Teaching experience	Lab instructor, North Carolina State University	
	<i>Instructor of the recitation session.</i>	
	EC201: Principle of Microeconomics (<i>Average rating: 4.4/5</i>)	Spring 2024
	EC205: Fundamentals of Economics (<i>Average rating: 4.5/5</i>)	Fall 2023
	Teaching assistant, WISE, Xiamen University	
	Applied Microeconometrics	Spring 2023
	Labor Economics	Spring 2022
	Economic Growth	Fall 2021
Honors and Awards	North Carolina State University	
	Warren and Ellen C. Watson Graduate Fellowship for Economic Leadership	2024
	The University Graduate Fellowship	2023
	Xiamen University	
	Best TA Award of WISE for AY22-23	2023
	Freshman Fellowship of the Doctoral Graduate Program	2020
Skills	Programming	
	Proficient in: Matlab, R, Stata, \LaTeX .	
	Familiar with: Python.	
	Languages	
	Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)	
Academic	WISER Club, WISE, Xiamen University	2020 - 2021
Involvement	The Insider (Membership) of the Machine Learning Group of WISER Club. <i>A data science mutual learning organization managed by Econ graduate students</i>	
Other interests	Table tennis, Cycling, Reasoning games, Sid Meier's Civilization VI.	