

LEI MA

Boston University
Department of Economics
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, May 2019 - 2025 (expected)
Advisors: Adam Guren, Marc Rysman, Kevin Lang, Jihye Jeon
M.A., Social Sciences, University of Chicago, 2017
B.S., Economics (*Highest Distinction*), University of Minnesota, 2015

FIELDS

Real Estate/Urban Economics, Industrial Organization, Household Finance

Job Market Paper

“Build what and for whom? The distributional effects of housing supply”

WORKING PAPERS

“[Racial disparities in home selling](#),” with Leonel Drukker
“[When institutional investors come to town: The local effects of buy-to-rent properties](#)”
“[Happy at home or stuck in place? The determinants of declining local residential mobility](#)”

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The impact of parenthood on the financial well-being of families,” with Victoria Wang and Letian Yin
“Housing inequality in the United States,” with Gerard Domènech Arumí and Giovanni Paolo Mariani

PRESENTATIONS (ACCEPTED/SCHEDULED)

2024 FDIC Consumer Research Symposium, IHS Workshop on NIMBYism and the Future of Housing,
2024 Urban Economics Association Europe Meeting, University of Chicago Stone Center Summer
School on Socioeconomic Opportunity and Inequality, 2024 Urban Economics Association North
America Meeting, 2024 Midwest Econometrics Group Conference, 2024 North America Regional
Science Council Conference, GNlab Alumni Conference, Dallas Fed and Norges Bank Second Women in
Central Banking Workshop, 2024 American Real Estate Society Fall Research Symposium

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Marc Rysman, Boston University, 2024
Research Assistant, Adam Guren, Boston University, 2020-2024
Research Assistant, Peter Ganong and Pascal Noel, University of Chicago, 2018-2019
Research Assistant, Christopher Palmer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2017-2018
Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 2015-2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistant, Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Economics (PhD), Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergrad), Money and Banking (Undergrad), Elementary Mathematical Economics (Master's), Boston University. **Teaching evaluation: 4.75/5**

Teaching assistant, Theory of Probability and Statistics (Undergrad), University of Minnesota

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Co-chair, Women in Economics (WEorg), Boston University, 2021 - 2023

Co-organizer, Spatial and Trade Reading Group, Boston University, 2022 - 2023

Mentor, Master RA mentor program, Boston University, 2022 - 2023

Mentor/tutor, Boston Partners in Education, 2022-2023

Committee member, University of Chicago MAPSS Alumni Association Executive Committee, 2022 - 2024

OTHER PUBLICATION

"County-level estimates of excess mortality associated with COVID-19 in the United States," with Andrew Stokes, Calvin Ackley, Dielle Lundberg, Irma Elo, and Samuel Preston, SSM-Population Health, 2022 Jan 5: 101021

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 2019 - 2024

Institute for Economics Development travel grant, Boston University, 2024

Institute for Economics Development research grant, Boston University, 2023

California Policy Lab Seed grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020

UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate research grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020

Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2016-2017

Dean's List, University of Minnesota, 2013-2015

SOFTWARE SKILLS

R, Julia, Python, Stata, Matlab, Git, LaTeX, cluster computing

LANGUAGES

English, Chinese, Spanish (beginner)

CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS

China. U.S. permanent resident (green-card holder)

REFERENCES

Professor Adam Guren (co-advisor)
Department of Economics, Boston University
Email: guren@bu.edu

Professor Kevin Lang
Department of Economics, Boston University
Email: lang@bu.edu

Professor Marc Rysman (co-advisor)
Department of Economics, Boston University
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Professor Jihye Jeon
Department of Economics, Boston University
Email: jjeon@bu.edu