

LIQUN "LEE " ZHUGE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, 2018–Jun. 2023 (expected)
Dissertation Title: *Essays on Labor Economics*
Dissertation Committee: Kevin Lang, Daniele Paserman and Martin Fiszbein

B.Econ., Finance, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China, 2013–2017

WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, School of Law, Boston University, Boston MA, 2019
Research Assistant, National Bureau of Economic Research, Cambridge MA, 2017
Research Assistant, People's Bank of China (Central Bank), Beijing, China, 2015

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Labor Economics, Development Economics, Corporate Finance

WORKING PAPERS

“[Catalyzing Household Well-being through Women's Property Rights Improvements](#),”
March 2023. Job Market paper.
“[Hukou and Guanxi: How Social Discrimination and Networks Impact Intrahousehold Allocations in China](#),” (with Kevin Lang), *Under Review*, November 2022.
“Does International Trade Drive Manufacturers to Go Green? Firm-level Evidence,” (with Dongyang Zhang and Richard B. Freeman, *Under Review*, October 2022

PREDOCTORAL PUBLICATIONS (CORPORATE FINANCE)

Zhuge, Liqun, Richard B. Freeman and Dongyang Zhang (2020) “[Firm Dynamics of Hi-Tech Start-ups: Does Innovation Matter?](#),” *China Economic Review*, 101370
Zhuge, Liqun, Richard B. Freeman and Matthew T. Higgins (2020) “[Regulation and innovation: Examining outcomes in Chinese pollution control policy areas](#),” *Economic Modelling*, 89: 19-31

PRESENTATIONS

SEHO Annual Conference, London, UK 2022
BU Empirical Microeconomics Workshop, Boston, MA 2022
Harvard China Economy Seminar, Cambridge, MA 2022
BU Micro Dissertation Workshop, Boston, MA 2022 2020 2018
WEAI Annual Conference, Online 2021
AERE Annual Conference, Online 2021

Queen Mary University of London, London, UK 2019

Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo, Japan 2018

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Graduate Student Fellowship, Boston University, 2018–2023

REFEREE EXPERIENCE

International Review of Economics & Finance, Finance Research Letter, Economic Modelling, Emerging Markets Finance and Trade, Economic Systems, Journal of Cleaner Production

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Fellow, Introductory Microeconomic Analysis, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2020, 2021, 2022 and Spring 2021

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics I (EC 303), Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics II (EC 204), Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2020

Teaching Assistant, Empirical Economics I (EC 203), Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2019

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Student Ambassador to the Research Computing Services (RCS) 2021–2022

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native)

COMPUTER SKILLS: R, MATLAB, Stata, Python, Java, SAS, Mathematica, LaTeX

CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: China/F1

REFERENCES

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Professor Richard B. Freeman Professor Benjamin Koskinen (teaching)

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Catalyzing Household Well-being through Women's Property Rights Improvements (Job Market Paper)

This paper investigates how enhancing women's property rights can improve the welfare of both spouses. It examines the effects of a change in marriage law that protects wives' property rights in the event of a divorce. This paper develops a model of a unique marriage institution prevalent in China. The bride's family sets a bride price, then gives a dowry to the new couple. The couple shares their income and the dowry unless they divorce. In the model, the groom's family gains directly from the marriage since, in China, couples typically relocate near the groom's family. Both sets of parents are altruistic towards their children. The study derives equilibrium prices for marriage payments. It shows that increasing the wife's property rights leads to a Pareto improvement if the bride price increases. Using a regression discontinuity design, I show that the law encourages larger dowries and bride prices and thus financially benefits both the husband and wife.

Hukou and Guanxi: How Social Discrimination and Networks Impact Intrahousehold Allocations in China (with Kevin Lang)

Hukou, China's system of household registration, affects access to public services and signals the strength of a person's local social network, *guanxi*. We use a collective model and data on household consumption and spouses' hukou status to show that hukou plays a crucial role in determining within-family bargaining power. Wives who bring the family more lucrative hukou enjoy significantly higher bargaining power than other wives. Still, these wives have less bargaining power than their husbands. Large differences in preferences between husbands and wives, especially regarding alcohol, tobacco, and clothing, allow us to identify these disparities.

Does International Trade Drive Manufacturers to Go Green? Firm-level Evidence (with Dongyang Zhang and Richard B. Freeman)

This paper delves into the question of whether trading with developed countries that have higher environmental standards and customers with higher environmental awareness exerts spillover effects on firms' environmental performances in China. This study utilized a comprehensive annual environmental survey dataset from 2011 to 2013 and matched it with the customs data. A full discussion will be presented of how firms' exportation influences their efforts toward environmental protection, measured using four different aspects, including four pollution treatment ratios, energy and resource structures, pollution intensities in production, and pollution-control expenditures. A further mechanism discussion is conducted from the perspectives of pollution abatement investments and the convergence between Chinese exporters and their developed trading partner countries regarding environmental standards. This study provides insights into the environmental benefits of trading with developed countries for both China and other developing countries, which are experiencing the quick shift of global manufacturing and the supply chain.