

LIQUN "LEE " ZHUGE

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, 2018–May 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, Corporate Finance

WORKING PAPERS

[“Bargaining over Marriage Payments: Theory, Evidence, and Policy Implications,”](#)
November 2022. Job Market paper.
[“Hukou and Guanxi: How Social Discrimination and Networks Impact Intrahousehold Allocations in China,”](#) (with Kevin Lang), November 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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Bargaining over Marriage Payments: Theory, Evidence, and Policy Implications (Job Market Paper)

One unique aspect of the marriage tradition in Chinese society is the presence of both a bride price, paid by the groom's family to the bride's, and a dowry, paid by the bride's family to the couple. This article develops a model in which the bride's family sets the bride price and then transfers the dowry to the new couple, who then divide their resources. Critically, the groom's family receives services from the bride since the couple typically relocates near his family, and both sets of parents are altruistic towards their children. I derive the equilibrium of the marriage payment prices. Empirically, using both a structural collective model and reduced-form evidence, I show that a larger dowry increases the wife's bargaining power within a new conjugal household. Then using regression discontinuity, I examine the effects of a new law protecting the wife's property rights in the event of divorce. By increasing dowry value, this law encourages larger dowries and financially benefits both the husband and wife, as demonstrated by the positive effect on the bride price as well as the dowry.

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.