

QINGYUAN CHAI

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Education

Ph.D. in Economics, Boston University (BU)	06/2025 (expected)
B.A. in Mathematical Economics (Highest Honors), Fudan University (FDU)	06/2019

Fields of Interest

Empirical Micro, Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics

Skills

Software: Stata, MATLAB, SAS, R, Python, LaTeX, Google Earth Engine, ArcGIS, Mathematica
Language: English (fluent), Chinese (native)

Research Experience

Ph.D. Researcher, Boston University, Boston, MA	09/2019-06/2025 (Expected)
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- Constructed econometric models using causal inference methods, including the instrumental variable (IV) approach, stacked difference-in-differences (stacked DID), and propensity score matching (PSM)
- Analyzed data from widely used datasets for labor studies, such as CPS, ACS, full-count censuses, LFS (UK), and Newspapers.com. Found patterns about workers' labor market behaviors facing technology shocks
- Analyzed a large commercial insurance dataset of over 273 million unique patients and find patterns about impacts of ED drugs on divorces
- Built and estimated a structural model to study the impact of housing prices on workers' migration behaviors, focusing on workers' fundamental preferences
- Conducted counterfactual simulations to evaluate potential regulatory changes. Found that housing policies need to target more at the poor to mitigate unequal labor market access

RA for Professor Yuan Zhang, Fudan University	01/2023-present
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- Utilized Python and OCR programs to transform images into digital datasets
- Generated railway access measures and geographic characteristics using ArcGIS and Google Earth Engine

RA for Professor Frank Schilbach, MIT	05/2018-09/2018
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- Designed a field experiment on the impacts of alcohol on people's behaviors
- Engaged with over 10 sales representatives to discuss the capacity of alcohol-testing equipment and evaluate feasibility of the experiment

Selected Working Papers and Publications

[Housing Prices, Internal Migration, and Intergenerational Mobility](#)

[Obsolescence Rents: Teamsters, Truckers, and Impending Innovations](#) NBER Working Paper No.31743
(with Cavounidis, C., Lang, K., and Malhotra, R.)

[World Bank vs. China: Comparing the Impacts of Their Development Projects in Africa](#) (with Tang, Z.)
"Going global" and FDI inflows in China *The World Economy* (2019) (with Luo, C. and Chen, H.)

Presentations

ASSA/NAWM- ES 2025 (scheduled), NBER Conference on Fertility 2024, Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society (AMES) 2024, The Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) 2023

Teaching Experience

Behavioral Economics, Teaching Fellow, Boston University	09/2020-12/2020, 09/2021-12/2021
Macroeconomics, Teaching Fellow, Boston University	02/2021-05/2021

Department Service

Graduate Economics Association, Boston University, Officer	05/2021 - 05/2022
Website maintainer for Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD)	01/2022 - present