

# QINGYUAN CHAI

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## Education

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

## Fields of Interest

Empirical Micro, Labor Economics, Applied Econometrics

## Skills

Technical Skills: 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)

- 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 found 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 housing policy changes

**RA for Professor Yuan Zhang, Fudan University** 01/2023-present

- 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

- Designed a field experiment on the impacts of alcohol on people's behaviors
- Collaborated with 10 sales representatives to assess the functionality and suitability of alcohol-testing equipment for a field experiment, evaluating their capabilities and limitations for the study's specific goals

## 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  
• Organized more than 10 academic and non-academic events  
Website maintainer for Theoretical Research in Development Economics (ThReD) 01/2022 - present