

Minji Bang
www.minjibang.com
mbang@sas.upenn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

Placement Director: Iouri Manovskii	MANOVSKI@ECON.UPENN.EDU	215-898-6880
Placement Director: Holger Sieg	HOLGERS@ECON.UPENN.EDU	215-898-7194
Graduate Student Coordinator: Gina Conway	GNC@SAS.UPENN.EDU	215-898-5691

Office Contact Information

Department of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
133 South 36th Street, Office 640
Philadelphia, PA 19104
+1 (215) 479-1623

Personal Information

Citizenship: South Korean
Gender: Female
Date of Birth: May 3, 1989
Visa: F1

Undergraduate Studies:

B.B.A. in Business Administration, Korea University, 2014

Master Level Work:

M.S. in Policy Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 2016

Graduate Studies:

University of Pennsylvania, 2016 to present.
Thesis Title: "Essays in Labor Economics"
Expected Completion Date: May 2022

Thesis Committee and References:

Professor Holger Sieg (Co-advisor)
Department of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
133 South 36th Street, Office 615
Philadelphia, PA 19104
+1 (215) 898-7194
holgers@econ.upenn.edu

Professor Petra Todd (Co-advisor)
Department of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
133 South 36th Street, Office 606
Philadelphia, PA 19104
+1 (215) 898-4084
ptodd@econ.upenn.edu

Professor Andrew Shephard
Department of Economics
University of Pennsylvania
133 South 36th Street, Office 601
Philadelphia, PA 19104
+1 (215) 898-7408
asheph@econ.upenn.edu

Research Fields:

Labor Economics, Public Economics, Economics of Education, Applied Econometrics

Teaching Experience:

Fall, 2018	Introductory Economics for Business Students, University of Pennsylvania, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Gizem Saka
Spring, 2018	Econometrics II (PhD Level), University of Pennsylvania, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Francis Diebold

Research Experience and Other Employment:

2018-Present	Research Assistant and Sponsored Ph.D. Student, Penn Wharton Budget Model, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania
Summer, 2020	Research Assistant for Prof. Corinne Low, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Professional Activities:

Referee	International Economic Review
Presentations	Penn Wharton Budget Model, University of Pennsylvania

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2021-2022	Maloof Family Dissertation Fellowship in Economics, University of Pennsylvania.
2017	Award for Best Preliminary Examination in Econometrics, University of Pennsylvania
2012	Sekrim Scholarship, Korea University Business School
2009	KUBS Special Scholarship, Korea University Business School

Research Papers:

“Job Flexibility and Household Labor Supply: Understanding Gender Gaps and the Child Wage Penalty” (JOB MARKET PAPER)

This paper investigates how occupational flexibility affects married couples' labor supply and the gender pay gap around childbirth. Using the NLSY79 data and Goldin's (2014) measure of occupational flexibility, I show that flexibility is a significant determinant of married couples' labor supply. When a husband's job exhibits low occupational flexibility, couples are more likely to specialize with the wife dropping out of the labor market, and the husband increasing hours worked. In contrast, couples with greater flexibility show less labor market adjustment to childbirth. To analyze the relationship between occupational flexibility and labor market policies, I develop and estimate a dynamic discrete choice model of couples' decision-making about labor supply and occupations. In the model, occupations are characterized by wage schedules and flexibility levels. I find that increasing women's and men's own occupational flexibility increases labor force participation by 4 percentage points in the childbirth year. Interestingly, increasing husband's flexibility has a greater impact on the wife's labor adjustment than her own flexibility, augmenting her participation rate and working hours by 10 and 7 percentage points. Finally, I evaluate the effects of family-friendly policies providing temporary flexibility for couples experiencing birth in the last two years. Policies that target women increase female labor supply and reduce the gender pay gap by 8% in the long run. However, when the benefits are offered to both spouses, the positive effects on the wife's labor supply are weakened, and the gender pay gap expands in the long run.

[*“Using Monotonicity Restrictions to Identify Models with Partially Latent Covariates”*](#)
with Wayne Gao, Andrew Postlewaite, and Holger Sieg

This paper develops a new method for identifying econometric models with partially latent covariates. Such data structures arise in industrial organization and labor economics settings where data are collected using an “input-based sampling” strategy, e.g., if the sampling unit is one of multiple labor input factors. We show that the latent covariates can be nonparametrically identified, if they are functions of a common shock satisfying some plausible monotonicity assumptions. With the latent covariates identified, semiparametric estimation of the outcome equation proceeds within a standard IV framework that accounts for the endogeneity of the covariates. We illustrate the usefulness of our method using a new application that focuses on the production functions of pharmacies. We find that differences in technology between chains and independent pharmacies may partially explain the observed transformation of the industry structure.

Research Papers in Progress:

“Self-Employment Decisions and Household Risk Sharing”

“Determinants of Preschool Choices and Child Development” with Emilio Borghesan

“Labor Market Impact of M&A and Skill Complementarity” with Hanbaek Lee

Languages: Korean (Native), English (Fluent)

Computational Skills: MATLAB, R, Rcpp, Stata, Python