Ron Yang Harvard University www.rnyang.net rnyang@g.harvard.edu

#### HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Placement Director: Amanda Pallais

Placement Director: Elie Tamer

Assistant Director: Brenda Piquet

APALLAIS@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

617-495-2151

ELIETAMER@FAS.HARVARD.EDU

617-496-1526

617-495-8927

#### **Office Contact Information**

Wyss House, Harvard Business School Boston, MA 02163 (617) 495-6101

### **Personal Contact Information**

27 Everett Street, 4B Cambridge, MA 02138 (815) 823-4020

## **Undergraduate Studies**:

B.A., Economics, University of Chicago, honors, 2014.

## **Graduate Studies:**

Harvard University, 2016 to present <a href="Ph.D. Candidate in">Ph.D. Candidate in</a> Business Economics <a href="Thesis Title: "Essays in Industrial Organization" Expected Completion Date: May 2022

### References:

Professor Ariel Pakes Harvard University apakes@fas.harvard.edu Professor Edward Glaeser Harvard University eglaeser@harvard.edu

Professor Myrto Kalouptsidi Harvard University myrto@g.harvard.edu Professor Robin Lee Harvard University robinlee@g.harvard.edu

Professor Mark Egan Harvard University megan@hbs.edu

# **Teaching and Research Fields**

Primary fields: Industrial Organization Secondary fields: Transportation Economics

## **Teaching Experience**

Spring 2020 Deconstructing + Reconstructing Markets (Co-instructor)

Spring 2019 Industrial Organization II (Teaching Fellow)

Instructor: Professor Robin Lee

## **Research Experience**

Harvard University, Research Assistant to Professor Robin Lee
MIT, Research Assistant to Professor Haoxiang Zhu
Federal Reserve Bank of New York, Research Analyst
University of Chicago, Research Assistant to Professor Eric Budish
University of Chicago, Research Assistant to Professor Ali Hortacsu

### **Professional Activities**

Referee: Journal of Urban Economics: Insights

Presentations: 2021: Urban Economics Association Summer School; Urban

Economics Association North America Meeting; HBS Rising Scholars Conference; Blueprint Junior Researcher Series; Asia Pacific Industrial

Organization Conference (scheduled).

## **Grants and Awards**

2021 UEA Best PhD Paper, Honorable Mention

2020 Lab for Economic Applications and Policy (LEAP) Grant

## **Research Papers**

"(Don't) Take Me Home: Home Bias and the Effect of Self-Driving Trucks on Interstate Trade" [Job Market Paper]

Abstract: How will self-driving trucks transform U.S. interstate trade? I argue that human drivers' preferences to return home generate geographic specialization in the freight market, and self-driving trucks would eliminate this "home bias." I build a model of trucking carriers who make dynamic decisions about where to work, given that they prefer to be at home. A large home bias increases the value of driving places that are likely to bring one home and increases the value of taking time off at home. Using trucking freight transactions and highway inspections, I estimate the model parameters and find that carriers value being at home at \$70 per day or about 1/3 of the daily wage. In a counterfactual where self-driving trucks have no home bias, carriers shift from driver-rich states to driver-poor states, and total driving increases as carriers spend less time off. The increased supply of carriers lowers overall freight prices by 5 percent and especially benefits driver-poor states. In a full counterfactual which also captures the effect of self-driving trucks on per-mile costs and daily driving range, eliminating home bias explains about 20 percent of the fall in overall prices.

"From Market Making to Matchmaking: Does Bank Regulation Harm Market Liquidity?" (with Gideon Saar, Jian Sun, and Haoxiang Zhu)

Abstract: Post-crisis bank regulations raised market-making costs for bank-affiliated dealers. We show that this can, somewhat surprisingly, improve overall investor welfare and reduce average transaction costs despite the increased cost of immediacy. Bank dealers in OTC markets optimize between two parallel trading mechanisms: market making and matchmaking. Bank regulations that increase market-making costs change the market structure by intensifying competitive pressure from non-bank dealers and incentivizing bank dealers to shift their business toward matchmaking. Thus, post-crisis bank regulations have the (unintended) benefit of replacing costly bank balance sheets with a more efficient form of financial intermediation.

## **Research in Progress**

"Intermodal Competition in Freight Transportation" (with Pedro Degiovanni)

### **Skills:**

Julia, Python, SQL, Matlab

## **Personal Information:**

Date of birth: December 26<sup>th</sup>, 1992

Citizenship: USA, Canada