

Sara Gong

saragong@usc.edu | 702.338.9714 | saragong.github.io

Education	University of Southern California B.S. in Economics and Math B.A. in Philosophy <ul style="list-style-type: none">Awarded five competitive scholarships, including USC's Presidential Scholarship.Relevant Coursework: Thematic Option Honors Program (intensive liberal arts track), Real Analysis, Probability Theory, Mathematical Statistics, Linear Algebra, Calculus III, Econometrics, Intermediate Microeconomics and Macroeconomics	Aug 2017 – May 2021 Los Angeles CA
Experience	Research Assistant Columbia Business School <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coauthoring working paper with Dr. Jorge Guzman, creating a theoretical paradigm of the role of identity in strategy to model how the growth of startups is constrained by the personal commitments and motivations of their founders.Designing and implementing a experiment to study how an identity-priming intervention affects entrepreneurial decision-making.Writing R code for econometric analysis and developing an R package to sort data by covariates for block randomization.	May 2019 – present New York NY
	Research Assistant USC Viterbi School of Engineering MINERVA Lab <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coauthored working paper, "Financing Cascades: Sequencing Public and Private Funding in University Spinoffs," with Dr. Andrea Belz and Dr. Fernando Zapatero, studying entrepreneurial finance and technology transfer to explore how innovative ideas are developed into successful technologies.Designed surveys in Qualtrics, performed econometric analysis in R, Stata, and Excel, discussed research at weekly lab meetings, and interviewed undergraduate candidates for research assistant positions.	Sep 2017 – May 2019 Los Angeles CA
	Legislative Intern U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations <ul style="list-style-type: none">Drafted legislative language for the Labor-Health-Education FY 19 appropriations bill and committee report, including an amendment offered by Congressman Henry Cuellar (TX 28) and accepted by the committee into H. Rept. 115-862.Conducted research, wrote memos, and performed fact-checking for the Democratic Committee Staff (Financial Services Subcommittee) at the service of Ranking Member Nita Lowey (NY 17).Assisted both Democratic and Republican Members of Congress at committee markups and attended briefings by government agencies, interest groups, and think tanks.	May 2018 – Jul 2018 Washington DC
	Organizing Fellow Hillary for America <ul style="list-style-type: none">Managed daily voter registration, phone banks, and get-out-the-vote drives at community centers across Las Vegas for the 2016 presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton.Trained hundreds of volunteers for canvassing duties and staffed events, including campaign rallies and the 3rd Presidential Debate at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.	Aug 2016 – Nov 2016 Las Vegas NV
Skills	English, French (intermediate), Mandarin (basic) R, Python, MATLAB, Git, LaTeX, HTML/CSS, Excel	
Honors	USC Presidential Scholar (present), USC Undergraduate Research Fellowship (2019), Lime Connect Fellow (2018), National Merit Scholar (2017)	
Interests	Competitive swimming, poetry, piano, existentialism, political activism, AI and machine learning	