

# Huaxin Wang-Lu

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## FIELDS OF CONCENTRATION

Applied Microeconomics; Development Economics

## EDUCATION

### IQS School of Management | Universitat Ramon Llull

Barcelona, Spain

- Ph.D. in *Business and Territorial Competitiveness, Innovation and Sustainability* 10/2020–present
- Dissertation Title: Three Essays on Human Development and Mobility in China
- Advisor: Dr. [Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza](#) & Dr. [Flavio Comim](#)
- Affiliation: [Social Economics & Ethics Group](#)

### Universität Konstanz

Konstanz, Germany

- M.Sc. in Economics 10/2016–03/2019

### Shanghai Lixin University of Accounting & Finance

Shanghai, China

- B.Sc. in Insurance 09/2012–06/2016

## VISITING POSITIONS

Research stay, Heidelberg University | Host: [Dr. Simiao Chen](#) (expected) 11/2022–12/2022

Erasmus+, University of Essex Fall 2018

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

### IQS School of Management | Universitat Ramon Llull

Barcelona, Spain

Research Assistant

09/2020–present

- Researched Chinese labor migration and child development for the Horizon 2020 CHINEQUALJUSTICE project.
  - ◊ Created a unique quasi-panel, synthesized virtues of prospect theory and dynamic discrete choice models, drew empirical specifications with theoretical micro-foundations, examined the

effects of sector-based job prospects on individual migration decisions across approx. 280 Chinese cities and applied *fixed effects, multilevel logistic regression and two-step system GMM*.

◇ Assembled a panel, constructed novel indicators on the basis of the Human Development Index and Capability Approach and assessed the academic development of Chinese children and adolescents with *fixed effects, linear mixed-effect and sharp RD estimators*.

- Authored two articles with Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza and Dr. Flavio Comim.
- Developed three research projects in collaboration with Dr. Simiao Chen, Dr. Mihály Tamás Borsi, and Dr. Jack W. Hou, respectively.

**IQS School of Management | Universitat Ramon Llull**

Barcelona, Spain

Teaching Assistant

02/2022–06/2022

- Trained, taught and graded 3rd-year double-degree undergraduate students in Econometrics and Forecasting, and proctored their exams.
- Trained and graded 1st-year undergraduate students in Applied Mathematics, and proctored their exams.

## WORKING PAPERS

### First Authored:

1. **Job Prospects and Labour Mobility in China**, with Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza [First Draft: March 2022]

- Job Market Paper

**Short Abstract:** Chinese migration research with a forward-looking perspective and on bilateral longitudinal determinants at the prefecture city level is almost non-existent. This paper investigates the effects of sector-based job prospects on individual migration decisions across prefecture boundaries. We created a proxy variable for job prospects, compiled a unique quasi-panel of 66,427 individuals from 283 cities during 1997–2017, introduced reference-dependence to the random utility maximisation model of migration in a sequential setting, derived empirical specifications with theoretical micro-foundations, and applied various monadic and dyadic fixed effects to address multilateral resistance to migration. Multilevel logit models and two-step system GMM estimation were adopted for the robustness check. Our primary findings are that a 10% increase in the ratio of sector-based job prospects at destination to at origin raises migratory probabilities by 1.281–2.185 percentage points, and the effects tend to be stronger when the scale of the ratio is larger. Our results suggest that the ongoing industrial reform in China influences labour mobility between cities.

2. **Valuing Children in China: Parents' Perceptions, Spending Priorities and Children's Capabilities**, with Dr. Flavio Comim and Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza [First Draft: May 2022]

- Under review in World Development

**Short Abstract:** This paper provides a composite analysis of children's academic development based on comprehensive outcomes and introduces a series of innovative indicators rooted in the capability approach. Significantly, it presents an index of parents' advantages to capture how parents influence their children and

establishes a new indicator of spending priorities to reify the value of children's education that families have reasoned. The study sample consists of 8,422 children and adolescents surveyed during 2012 to 2018. Our results primarily show that a 1% increase in the parent advantage index yields an increase of 13.85% to 21.31% in children's academic development, and the biggest leap in prioritizing education-relevant spending increases the child outcomes by 2.88% to 6.57%. Further, if the interplay of parent's higher educational attainment and spending priorities is taken into account, children's academic development could reach a maximum difference of 21.96%. We conclude that parents can influence the development of their children through their beings and doings and, particularly, the value they place on their children's education, that go beyond a limited focus on material dimensions.

#### Single Authored:

1. **Bitcoin Returns and Public Attention to COVID-19: Do Timing and Individualism Matter?**  
– Under review in Applied Economics Letters

## WORK IN PROGRESS

#### First Authored:

1. **Post-Pandemic Human Mobility Dynamics in China**, with Dr. Mihály Tamás Borsi and Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza

## FUNDED PROJECTS

**CHINEQUALJUSTICE** 2020–2022

Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions | Grant ID: 838534 (PI: Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza)

- Type of Participation: Research Assistant.
- Amount: €172,932.48.

**Identifying Opportunities in the Future Chinese Consumer Market** 2020–2022

Spanish Ministry of Science, Innovation and Universities | Grant ID: EIN2019-102931 (PI: Dr. Octasiano M. Valerio Mendoza)

- Type of Participation: Researcher.
- Amount: €23,880.

## CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

#### **Presentations at Conferences & Workshops**

2022: 1st International Workshop on the Chinese Development Model; 15th RGS Doctoral Conference in Economics

2021: 46th Symposium of the Spanish Economic Association (SAEe); 13th Chinese Economic Association & 32th CEA UK Annual Conference; Inequality Conference, International Centre for Economic Analysis; 9th International Conference on Applied Research in Economics and Finance; The Chinese Economists Society 2021 Annual Conference

### Presentations at Seminars

Research Group Seminar, Social Economics & Ethics, IQS SM; [invited speaker] Research Seminar, AQR-IREA, University of Barcelona; Research Seminar, IQS SM; Journal Club Seminar, Deusto Business School

## OTHER EXPERIENCE

**Summer School:** [Axel Leijonhufvud – Advanced School 2022](#)

**Organizing Committee:** [1st International Workshop on the Chinese Development Model](#)

**Writings:** “[Should you prolong your predoc life?](#)”. In: INOMICS.

### Non-Academic Work:

**YITU Technology**

Shanghai, China

Data Analyst

04/2019–12/2019

- Operated databases, prepared SQL and Qlik Sense scripts for business analyses, visualized data with interactive dashboards, wrote weekly reports and assisted in product development, etc.

## HONOURS AND AWARDS

<a href="#">Research Mobility Grant</a> (4,200€), Societat Econòmica Barcelonesa d'Amics del País	2022
Fellowship for Ph.D. students presenting at SAEe, Fundación Ramón Areces	2021
Three-Year Doctoral Fellowship (tuition waiver & salary), IQS SM	2020
Erasmus+ Grant, Universität Konstanz	2018

## SKILLS AND OTHERS

**Programming & Software:** Stata (used often),  $\LaTeX$  (used often), SQL (used often), R (less often, complement the use of Stata), Matlab/Octave (basic), Python (basic – learning; complement the use of Stata & R)

**Languages:** Chinese (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic)