TAOYI SUN

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EDUCATION

The University of Edinburgh (UoE)   09/2020 - 12/2021
MS.c. in Economics (Merit)

· **Related Courses**   Mathematical Microeconomics I (A), Macroeconomics II (A), Econometrics II - Applied Microeconometrics (B), Experimental Economics and Finance (A).
· **Dissertation**   "An Economic History of Fertility between 1982 and 2017 in China"

Guangdong University of Foreign Studies (GDUFS)   09/2016 - 06/2020
Bachelor of Economics in International Economy and Trade (Distinction, 3.72/4.0)

· **Related Courses**   Microeconomics (97%), Macroeconomics (87%), International Economics I (86%), International Economics II (88%), Econometrics (80%), Calculus I (89%), Calculus II (95%), Linear Algebra (84%).
· **Dissertation**   "India's intensifying anti-dumping measures and their impact on Chinese chemical exports: A Synthetic Control Approach"

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Regional Integration, Inequality and Infant Health in ASEAN less-developed Countries" (with Kevin Chen, to be presented on ASEAN-CGIAR Project Workshop in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in January, 2024.)

CURRENT POSITIONS

Asian Development Bank (ADB)   11/2023 - present
Junior Agricultural and Environmental Economist (Consultant)

· Assessing the country-level performance and challenges of the agrifood system for two targeted countries based on a social accounting matrix and consultations with national stakeholders and ADB representatives.

International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)   10/2022 - present
Research Assistant (for East and Central Asia Office and Professor Kevin Chen)   *Beijing*

· Contributed to various research activities, including conducting literature reviews, data analysis using Stata, and preparing reports, policy briefs, presentations, and an academic paper.
· Assisted in the development of three project proposals with a total funding amount exceeding US$ 1,000,000.
· Supported internal and external communication for research/consulting projects, including coordinating with partners and participating in workshops and meetings.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE (*indicates at IFPRI)

ASEAN-CGIAR Innovate for Food program (focusing on value chains and regional trade)*
Research Analyst   05/2023 - present

· Constructed the asset-based income using Principal Component Analysis and investigated the inequality change in less-developed ASEAN countries, revealing a narrowing of asset-based inequality in urban and rural areas, and constantly larger inequality in the latter areas after 2000.
· Explored the impact of increased regional integration, with a focus on agri-food sector, on infant health in less-developed ASEAN countries based on mother-fixed effects, concluding significant birthweight gains associated with changes in agricultural trade openness between 2000 and 2019.

Promoting Sustainable Production, Trade and Consumption in China-Brazil Soy and Beef Sector*

Coordinator & Research Assistant (supported by the Nature Conservancy)   05/2023 - present

· Conducted a study on the development of sustainable beef in Brazil, and constructed a dataset for costs and prices of Brazilian beef production with a project partner (Getulio Vargas Foundation).
· Preparing a comprehensive report investigating the variations in costs and prices among conventional, carbon neutral and deforestation free beef in Brazil.

Returns to Schooling: The Weak-Instruments Problem (Econometrics Project, UoE)

Co-Principle Investigator, advised by Professor Mark Schaffer, Heriot-Watt University & Professor David A. Jaeger, University of St Andrews   12/2020 - 03/2021

· Contributed to addressing the weak-instruments problem by applying point and interval estimation methods, and weak-identification-robust inference procedures after identifying its existence. Concluded that the weak instrument in the one-endogenous-regressor case may not significantly affect the estimates.
· Presented at the Scottish Graduate Programme in Economics Conference (online), scoring 80% (A) as an oral presenter in January 2021.

Impacts of International Trade Policy Based on Synthetic Control Method: Taking Anti-dumping as An Example (Teacher-Student Joint Research Program, GDUFS)

Student Researcher for Professor Longjiang Chen   06/2019 - 06/2020

· Offered insights into recent studies on the synthetic control method (SCM) on its potential applications in international trade with the project team.
· Provided teaching and technical support to fellow graduate students on SCM using Stata.
· Extended and deepened research on my undergraduate dissertation by utilizing newly available data and information, and concluded that anti-dumping measures imposed by India have a significant restrictive effect on chemical exports, and this effect diminishes over a six-month period.

FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE (*indicates at IFPRI)

Policy Research and Capacity Building to Strengthen Rural Economies in the Southwest Region of the People's Republic of China*

Research Consultant (supported by ADB)   12/2022 - 07/2023

· Analyzed comprehensively the rural economies of selected agriculture-related industries (e.g. tea, mushroom, sustainable poultry, and rural tourism) in the targeted counties of Guizhou Province based on both smallholders' questionnaires and interviews with government officials and village leaders.
· Found the restricted development of agricultural value chains without sufficient financial and human capital support, and the income gap of the rural low-income population among different villages due to homogenized industry development with non-growing demand.

AWARDS AND HONORS

· Title of Excellent Student, GDUFS (Top 3%)   2020
· Second-class Scholarship, GDUFS (Top 10%)   2017 & 2019
· Excellent Intern at the 124th China Import and Export Fair (Top 10%)   2018

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Languages	Mandarin (Native), Cantonese (Native), English (Fluent), Japanese (Basic)
Technical Skills	Stata (Professional), Python (Basic), LaTeX (Basic)
Activities	CrossFit, Running, Hiking