

Thao Duong

Department of Economics, Texas A&M University
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Education

Texas A&M University

Ph.D. Economics

College Station, TX

May 2025

Kalamazoo College

B.A. Economics (with honors)

Kalamazoo, MI

June 2018

Research Interests

Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconomics, Energy and Environmental Economics

Publication

Trade Openness, Economic Growth, and Environmental Degradation in Asian Developing Countries (with Patrik T. Hultberg), *Journal of Applied Business and Economics*, Vol 20 No 5 (2018)

This paper examines the effects of trade openness and economic growth on CO2 emission using a theoretical trade model. The theoretical results indicate that an increase in trade openness intensifies environmental degradation, while an increase in imports may result in the advancement of technology that has a positive effect on environmental quality, implying a possible existence of the Environmental Kuznets Curve (EKC). This paper explores these findings using a panel data framework based on annual data from Asian developing countries (1986-2013). The empirical results show that trade openness and economic growth intensify CO2 emissions. However, the results do not validate the EKC.

Working Papers

Duong, Thao, and Stephanie Weber. "Should subsidies go to consumers or producers? Evidence from electric vehicle subsidies"

Duong, Thao, and Jiee Zhong. "The Effect of Lead Pollution on Human Capital Formation: Evidence from Aviation Fuel"

Duong, Thao, and Jiee Zhong. "The Effect of Noise Pollution: Evidence from Wind Energy"

Duong, Thao, and Jonathan Scott. "Evaluation of Automobile Safety Ratings"

Teaching Experience

Instructor

ECON 285 - Hullabaloo U, Texas A&M University (course evaluation: 4.5/5)

Fall 2023

ECMT 463 - Introduction to Econometrics, Texas A&M University (course evaluation: 4.73/5)

Fall 2022

Teaching Assistant

ECON 440 - Experimental Economics, Texas A&M University

Spring 2024

ECON 323 - Microeconomic Theory, Texas A&M University

Fall 2023

ECMT 463 - Introduction to Econometrics (with recitations), Texas A&M University

Summer 2023

ECON 433/633 - Energy Market and Policy, Texas A&M University

Spring 2022

ECON 489 - Data Science, Texas A&M University

Fall 2021

ECON 636 - Ph.D-level Macroeconomic Theory I (with recitations), Texas A&M University

Fall 2020

ECON 330 - Economic Development, Texas A&M University

Spring 2020

Tutoring Lab, Texas A&M University

Fall 2019 & Spring 2023

Research Experience

Research Assistant, Dr. Kalena Cortes, Texas A&M University Summer 2022-Summer 2023

Cleaned and analyzed administrative and survey data for Texts4Teens, a middle school parent engagement texting study. Estimated regression models to understand the effect of parental-child engagement on middle school students' behavioral and academic outcomes.

Research Assistant, Dr. Marco Castillo, Texas A&M University Spring & Summer 2021

Estimated structural models of household's energy consumption in response to the information on gas usage or information coupled with conservation incentives provided by the Alaska Home Energy Rebate Program.

Research Assistant, FleishmanHillard TRUE Global Intelligence 2018-2019

Conducted literature review and secondary research in finance, banking, international trade, and technological advances. Assisted in qualitative and quantitative primary research projects such as designing surveys, analyzing survey data, performing data analysis, and writing research reports and proposals.

Research Assistant, Dr. Nguyen Duc Thanh, Vietnam Economics and Policy Research Institute Summer 2017

Worked and reported directly to Dr. Nguyen Duc Thanh, director of VEPR and a member of the Vietnam Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Group. Participated in various research projects including informal sector, minimum wage and labor productivity in developing countries. Assisted economists and researchers in writing Vietnam Quarterly Macroeconomic Report (2017-2018)

Conferences

Southern Economic Association (SEA) Conference	2022, 2023, 2024
Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Conference	2024
Eastern Economic Association (EEA) Conference	2023
Midwest Economic Association (MEA) Conference	2018
Michigan Academy of Science, Arts & Letters Conference	2018

Honors and Awards

S. Charles Maurice Graduate Fellowship in Economics	2023
Gail Frey Monson Memorial Scholarship	2023
Private Enterprise Research Center's E.R. Daniel Scholarship	2022-2023
Department of Economics Graduate Assistantship, Texas A&M University	2019-2024
The Provost Prize in Business and Economics, Kalamazoo College	2018
Departmental Honor in Economics, Kalamazoo College	2018
Excellent Senior Thesis, Kalamazoo College	2018

Language

English (fluent), Vietnamese (native)

Skills

Computer Languages: STATA, MATLAB, Python, SQL

Software & Tools: LaTeX, ArcGIS

References

Dr. Steve Puller
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Texas A&M University
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Dr. Fernando Luco
Department of Economics
Texas A&M University
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Dr. Benjamin Klopach
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