Kaidi Wu

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TECHNICAL SKILLS

Expertise: Causal inference, Demand estimation, A/B testing, Data manipulation/visualization
Programming/Software: Stata, Matlab, R, Gauss, SAS, Python, SQL

WORK EXPERIENCE

Economist Intern: Amazon   *Jul 2022-Sep 2022*
- Estimate price elasticity of downstream economic value to inform promotion and pricing decisions of Amazon Devices business. Used an instrumental variable approach and combined experimental and observational data to inform long-run causal price effect.

Instructor: Michigan State University   *2019-2020*
- Intermediate Microeconomics, two semesters, 69 senior undergraduate students, 90% satisfaction.

Teaching Assistant: Michigan State University   *2017-present*
- Undergraduate courses with 1,000+ students per semester, led group discussions and review sessions.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Journal Referee: Agribusiness, PLOS ONE   *2022-present*
- Provided feedbacks and comments for academic papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals.

Master Thesis Supervisor: Yue Ding, Wuhan University   *2022-present*
- Assisted with guiding the student's research project, thesis in preparation for publication.

Conference Session Chair and Organizer: The Southern Economics Association   *2021*
- Invited eight presenters and discussants from different academic institutions to participate in a session at the annual meeting of the Southern Economics Association.
- Coordinated presentations, led discussions as well as presented a paper at the session.

Conference Presentation: AAEA (2019,2020,2021), SEA (2021)   *2019-present*

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Consumption Smoothing and Frequency of SNAP Payments (collaborated)   *Oct 2020-present*
- Acquired 400 million purchase records from Nielsen Homescan to conduct event study and difference-in-difference analysis with Apache Spark on Azure Databricks to examine the impact of payment frequency on purchasing patterns among low-income households.
- Weekly spending decreased by 15% between monthly benefit payments on average. Semi-monthly payments helped mitigate the decline to 9%, indicating a 7% increase in consumer welfare.
- Presented research and led discussions at two economics conferences.

SNAP Benefit and Labor Supply: The Case of NYC taxi drivers (independent)   *Jan 2021–May 2021*
- Used Stata on HPC to apply the difference-in-difference techniques with 200 million taxi trip records to find that a decrease in the amount of government transfers led to higher labor supply among taxi drivers.
- An average of $36 reduction in benefits led to an increase of 2 hours of work and $22 in profit per week. Provided policy implications that the gig economy can serve as a complement to public safety net programs.

SNAP and Crime: Evidence from SNAP Issuance Disruptions (independent)   *Sep 2020-Apr 2021*
- Used Matlab to simulate a theoretical model to predict the impact of SNAP issuance on criminal behaviors.
- Carried out empirical causal analysis using regression discontinuity design in Stata with 8 million crime records from the NIBRS database and identified a 6% decrease in daily property crime rate due to the disbursement of benefits.

A Field Experiment on Appearance Discrimination (independent)   *Jan 2016-Nov 2016*
- Conducted a randomized controlled trial on a major online recruitment platform in China (CV test).
- Collected responses on 1,344 job applications. Ran t-tests and regression analysis with R to find applicants with prettier faces have higher response rate. And the effect is more prominent among female job applicants.
- Paper published on SSRN. Makes SSRN Top Ten List with 1,000+ views.

EDUCATION

PhD Economics	Michigan State University	*Expected May 2023*
MA Economics	Michigan State University	*2019*
BS Mathematics; BA Economics	Wuhan University	*2017*