

Youwei Xing

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EDUCATION

Clemson University

Ph.D. in Economics

Clemson, SC

Expected 2024

- Primary fields: Public Economics, Economic History
- Secondary fields: Applied Microeconomics, Growth and Development

Clemson University

M.A. in Economics

Clemson, SC

2019–2022

Ocean University of China

M.S. in Economics

Qingdao, Shandong

2016–2019

Jiangxi University of Fiance and Economics

B.A. in Economics (Minor in Finance), with honors

Nanchang, Jiangxi

2012–2016

WORKING PAPERS

1. **The Erie Canal and the Economic Transformation of Nineteenth-Century New York State (Job Market Paper)**
 - Economic History Association Annual Conference, Sacramento, 2024.09
 - 13th European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Copenhagen, 2024.06
 - The Ninth World Congress of Cliometrics, Trinity College Dublin, 2023.07
2. **Voting Along the Canal: Party Realignment in Nineteenth-Century New York State**
 - Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, Seattle, 2024.07
 - Southern Economic Association Annual Conference in Washington, DC, 2024.11
3. **The Productivity of the Canal System in New York State: 1844-1860**

PUBLICATIONS(PRE-DOCTORAL)

1. **Xing, Y.**, X. Jiang and X. Li (2018). Heterogeneous Impacts of Investments in Environmental Governance on Economic Growth: A Perspective from Urbanization. *Journal of Natural Resources* 33(4): 576-587. (in Chinese)
2. **Xing, Y.** (2015). Re-examination of the Impact of Housing Prices on Urban Residents' Consumption. *Finance and Economics* (4): 80-83. (in Chinese)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Bank Bailouts during the Panic of 1834 (with Howard Bodenhorn)
2. The Political Distribution of Erie Canal Construction
3. Legislative Preferences and Political Parties in Nineteenth-Century New York State.(with Howard Bodenhorn)

4. The Effects of Electrification on Textile Mills' Productivity in Twentieth-Century South Carolina. (with Howard Bodenhorn)
5. The Grand Canal and the Development of Paper Money, 1650-1911

TEACHING

- **Instructor of Record** Clemson University
Principles of Microeconomics (ECON 2110): Fall 2021; Fall 2022 ; Spring 2023; Fall 2023; Spring 2024
- **Teaching Assistant** Clemson University
Public Choice (ECON 3600): Spring 2022
Intermediate Microeconomics (ECON 3140): Spring 2022
Principles of Macroeconomics (ECON 2120): Spring 2021

FELLOWSHIPS

- Graduate Research Assistant Excellence Award, Wilbur O. & Ann Powers College of Business, Clemson University, 2024.05
- John E. Walker Department of Economics Assistantship, Clemson University, 2019–2024.
- Graduate Excellence Award, Ocean University of China, 2018.10.
- National Scholarship for Graduate Students, Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China, 2018.
- Bank of Jiujiang Scholarship , Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics, 2015.11.

PRESENTATIONS

- Southern Economic Association Annual Conference in Washington, DC, 2024.11
- Economic History Association Annual Conference, Sacramento, 2024.09
- Western Economic Association International Annual Conference, Seattle, 2024.07
- 13th European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, Copenhagen, 2024.06
- The Ninth World Congress of Cliometrics, Trinity College, Dublin, 2023.07
- Workshops in Public Economics, John E. Walker Department of Economics, 2020–2023.
- Historical Perspectives on Economics Issues: Big Data and Applications, University of Southern Denmark, 2022.08
- The Fourth National Graduate Annual Conference, Wuhan, 2017
- Doctoral Forum of Fudan University, Shanghai, 2016

SERVICES

Student Ambassador, Economic History Society

SKILLS

- **Causal Inference:** Difference-in-Differences, Regression Discontinuity, Instrumental Variables, Event Studies, Synthetic Control
- **Programming Languages:** Python (numpy, pandas, scikit-learn, BeautifulSoup)
- **Analytical Tools:** Stata, ArcGIS (distance analysis, geoprocessing, digitizing, map design, StoryMaps)
- **Other Skills:** L^AT_EX

LANGUAGES

- **Chinese:** native
- **English:** fluent

REFERENCES

Howard N. Bodenhorn (Chair)

Professor, Department of Economics
Clemson University
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Research Associate, NBER
Email: bodnhnrn@clemson.edu
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ABSTRACT OF WORKING PAPERS

The Erie Canal and the Economic Transformation of Nineteenth-Century New York State (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: This paper presents the first causal estimates of the impact of canals on sectoral transition and long-term growth. My context is the Erie Canal in nineteenth-century New York State. Using a difference-in-differences approach, I compare the outcomes in towns located close to the canal relative to those that were not close to the canal, before and after its opening. In an alternative identification strategy, I construct a least-cost path connecting targeted towns as an instrument for the actual canal route. I find that towns located close to the canal experienced faster population growth, lower employment shares in agriculture, higher employment shares in commerce, and faster employment growth in manufacturing. I argue that the mechanism underlying sectoral transition and long-term growth was the development of small-scale manufacturing that processed agricultural products and the expansion of commercial activities brought about by lower transportation costs and easier access to distant markets. My findings also indicate the extent of the canal's impact: the effects disappear in areas that were located more than 15 to 20 km from the canal.

Voting Along the Canal: Party Realignment in Nineteenth-Century New York State

Abstract: This paper explores the voting consistency between non-democrat parties and presents causal estimates of the impacts of transportation infrastructure on town-level voting patterns in nineteenth-century New York State. Using a difference-in-differences approach, I compare outcomes in towns located close to the canal relative to those that were not close to the canal. In an alternative identification strategy, I construct a least-cost path connecting targeted towns as an instrument for the actual route. I find that towns located close to the canal have a higher percentage of non-democrat votes for governor. I argue that the mechanism underlying was the thriving commercial activity brought about by lower transportation costs and easier access to distant markets. These commercial workers had easier access to political meeting places and discretionary time than remote farmers.

The Productivity of the Canal System in New York State: 1844-1860

Abstract: This paper calculates the total factor productivity (TFP) of the canal system in New York State from 1844 to 1860. The data indicates a gradual increase in TFP, punctuated by a remarkable surge between 1849 and 1852. This surge is attributed to two factors: the enlargement of the canal system that facilitated the passage of larger boats, and extended navigable days resulting from warmer weather conditions. The panic of 1857 resulted in a decline in the total

tonnage movement across the canals. Interestingly, this downturn in tonnage did not translate into decreased TFP. The TFP actually increased due to the extended navigable days and quick recovery of canal traffic post-panic.