

# Yang ZHONG

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**Fields of Interest** Primary fields: Experimental Microeconomics, Behavioral Economics  
Secondary fields: Applied Microeconomics, Organizational Economics

**Education** **University of Amsterdam** Sept 2020 - Aug 2025 (expected)  
PhD Economics  
Advisors: Thomas Buser, Hessel Oosterbeek

**Lund University** Jan 2023 - Mar 2023  
Research visit  
Host: Roel van Veldhuizen

**University of Amsterdam & Tinbergen Institute** Sept 2018 - Jun 2020  
MPhil Economics

**University of Amsterdam** Sept 2017 - Jul 2018  
MSc Finance

**University of Amsterdam** Sept 2014 - Mar 2017  
BSc Economics and Business

**Job Market Paper** **Working Under Distractions**  
*Abstract:* Distractions are pervasive in today's workplaces, from noisy open-plan offices to digital interruptions. Using an incentivized laboratory experiment, I study the effects of distractions on performance and mental well-being, elicit willingness to pay to avoid distractions, and validate questionnaire items on resilience in working under distractions. I then incorporate these validated items in a representative Dutch survey panel. I obtain four main results. First, despite having little impact on performance in the lab, distractions are detrimental to individuals' self-reported mental well-being while working. Second, many individuals are willing to pay to eliminate distractions, and this willingness to pay is negatively correlated with the change in mental well-being. Third, individual heterogeneity in the impact of distractions on mental well-being can be captured by questionnaire items. Fourth, resilience to distractions strongly predicts income and job satisfaction in the representative survey data, even conditional on education, sector, and other personality traits.

**Publications** **Time Pressure Preferences**  
*Management Science*, forthcoming  
with Thomas Buser and Roel van Veldhuizen

**Conferences and Workshops** **2024** Preferences, Traits, and Skills workshop (Amsterdam), ESA Asia (Singapore), IMEBESS (Riga), Young Economists' Meeting (Brno), Workshop on Social Economy for Young Economists (Bologna), ESA Europe (Helsinki), NCBEE (Copenhagen)

**2023** NEK Brown Bag (Lund), PhD Lunch Seminar (Copenhagen), BEE Brown Bag Seminar (Gothenburg)

	<b>2022</b> ESA Asia (virtual), Young Economists' Meeting (Brno), M-BEES (Maastricht), ESA World (Boston), ASFEE (Lyon, poster), ESA Europe (Bologna)	
	<b>2021</b> TIBER Symposium (Tilburg)	
<b>Summer Schools</b>	1st Summer School in Experimental and Behavioral Economics, by the European Economic Review (Crete, poster) Aug 2024	
<b>Scholarships</b>	<b>Full Graduate Scholarship</b> Tinbergen Institute	2019 - 2020
<b>Teaching Experiences</b>	<b>University of Amsterdam</b> Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics I (BSc Economics) Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics II (BSc Economics) Teaching Assistant, Economics of Markets and Organizations (BSc Economics) Thesis supervisor, BSc Organizational Economics	2020 - present
	<b>Tinbergen Institute</b> Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics IV (MPhil Economics)	2020
<b>Other Activities</b>	<b>University of Amsterdam</b> Co-organizer of Work in Progress seminars Co-organizer of the Preferences, Traits, and Skills workshop	2022 - present 2024
<b>Skills and Other Information</b>	<b>Programming:</b> Stata, oTree, Python, JavaScript, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X <b>Nationality:</b> Dutch	
<b>References</b>	<b>Thomas Buser</b> Professor of Economics University of Amsterdam t.buser@uva.nl	<b>Roel van Veldhuizen</b> Associate Professor of Economics Lund University roel.van_veldhuizen@nek.lu.se
	<b>Alexander W. Cappelen</b> Professor of Economics Norwegian School of Economics Alexander.Cappelen@nhh.no	
<b>Placement</b>	<b>Placement Director</b> Eric Bartelsman Tinbergen Institute e.j.bartelsman@tinbergen.nl	<b>Placement Assistant</b> Christina Månsson Tinbergen Institute c.mansson@tinbergen.nl