

Yang ZHONG

Updated Oct 23, 2024

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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 common in modern workplaces with noisy open-plan offices and constant digital interruptions. I use an incentivized laboratory experiment to study the effects of auditory and task-switching distractions on performance and mental well-being, and to elicit willingness to pay to avoid distractions. I also elicit questionnaire items on distraction resilience in the lab and a Dutch survey panel. I obtain three main results. First, while working under distractions does not have a strong impact on performance in the lab, both types of distractions are detrimental to individuals' self-reported mental well-being. 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 but not in performance. Lastly, the heterogeneity in the impact of distractions on mental well-being can be captured by questionnaire items. These items predict income and job satisfaction in representative survey data.

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), NCBE (Copenhagen)
2023 NEK Brown Bag (Lund), PhD lunch seminar (Copenhagen), BEE Brown Bag Seminar (Gothenburg)
2022 ESA Asia (virtual), Young Economists' Meeting (Brno), M-BEES (Maastricht), ESA World (Boston), ASFEE (Lyon, poster), ESA Europe (Bologna)

2021 TIBER Symposium (Tilburg)

Summer Schools 1st Summer School in Experimental and Behavioral Economics, by the European Economic Review (Crete, poster) Aug 2024

Scholarships **Full Graduate Scholarship** 2019 - 2020
Tinbergen Institute

Teaching Experiences **University of Amsterdam** 2020 - present
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

Tinbergen Institute 2020
Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics IV (MPhil Economics)

Other Activities **University of Amsterdam**
Co-organizer of the internal Work in Progress seminars 2022 - present
Co-organizer of the Preferences, Traits, and Skills workshop 2024

Skills and other information **Programming:** Stata, oTree, Python, Javascript, L^AT_EX
Nationality: Dutch

References **Thomas Buser** **Roel van Veldhuizen**
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