

# 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 common in the modern workplace with its 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 individuals' attitudes towards working under distractions both in the lab and in a representative Dutch survey panel. I obtain three main results. First, I find that 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, on average, individuals are willing to pay a positive amount to avoid working under 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 on mental well-being can be partially captured by simple survey questions on attitudes towards working under distractions, which are also strongly correlated with income and job satisfaction in the 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), Nordic Conference in Behavioral and Experimental Economics (Copenhagen, scheduled)

	<p><b>2023</b> NEK Brown Bag (Lund), PhD lunch seminar (Copenhagen), BEE Brown Bag Seminar (Gothenburg)</p> <p><b>2022</b> ESA Asia (virtual), Young Economists' Meeting (Brno), M-BEES (Maastricht), ESA World (Boston), ASFEE (Lyon, poster), ESA Europe (Bologna)</p> <p><b>2021</b> TIBER Symposium (Tilburg)</p>	
<b>Summer Schools</b>	1st Summer School in Experimental and Behavioral Economics, by the European Economic Review (Crete)	Aug 2024
<b>Scholarships</b>	Full Graduate Scholarship Tinbergen Institute	2019-2020
<b>Teaching Experiences</b>	<p><b>University of Amsterdam</b></p> <p>Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics I (BSc Economics)</p> <p>Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics II (BSc Economics)</p> <p>Teaching Assistant, Economics of Markets and Organizations (BSc Economics)</p> <p>Thesis supervisor, BSc Organizational Economics</p> <p><b>Tinbergen Institute</b></p> <p>Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics IV (MPhil Economics)</p>	<p>2020 - present</p> <p>2020</p>
<b>Other Activities</b>	<p><b>University of Amsterdam</b></p> <p>Co-organizer of the internal Work in Progress seminars</p> <p>Co-organizer of the Preferences, Traits, and Skills workshop</p>	<p>2022 - present</p> <p>2024</p>
<b>Skills and other information</b>	<p><b>Programming:</b> Stata, oTree, Python, Javascript, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X</p> <p><b>Language:</b> Chinese (native), English (fluent), Dutch (intermediate)</p> <p><b>Nationality:</b> Dutch</p>	