

YANGKEUN YUN

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DOCTORAL STUDIES

UCLA Anderson School of Management, 2021 to present
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Expected Completion Date: June 2026
Dissertation: “Essays on Industrial Organization and Environmental Economics”

References:

Professor John Asker
UCLA Department of Economics
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Professor Nico Voigtländer
UCLA Anderson School of Management
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Professor Will Rafey
UCLA Department of Economics
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Professor Romain Wacziarg
UCLA Anderson School of Management
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PRIOR EDUCATION

M.A. Economics, Seoul National University, 2019
B.A. Economics & Public Administration, Kyunghee University, 2015

FIELDS

Industrial Organization, Environmental Economics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Winter 2025 Teaching assistant for MBA Global Trends, UCLA
Winter 2024 Teaching assistant for MBA Managerial Economics, UCLA
Spring 2023 Teaching assistant for MBA Macroeconomics, UCLA

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2024-2025 Research assistant for Prof. Romain Wacziarg
2023-2024 Research assistant for Prof. Paola Giuliano
2022-2025 Research assistant for Prof. Nico Voigtländer
2022-2023 Research assistant for Prof. Will Rafey

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

2023-2024 Societal Impact Research Grant, Center for Impact, UCLA
2023-2025 Global Research Award, Center for Global Management, UCLA
2023 Best Presentation Award, Proseminar in Economic History, UCLA
2022 Diversity Fellowship, Environmental & Energy Economics Summer School, UC Berkeley
2021-2026 Anderson Fellowship, UCLA
2020 Second Prize in Student Paper Award, iHEA
2019 Best Thesis Award, Seoul National University

JOB MARKET PAPER

Navigating the Commons

Abstract: This paper develops a model of firm dynamics in common-pool resources to investigate long-run market inefficiencies. Firms strategically enter, exit, and invest while accounting for resource dynamics and evolving industry conditions. These actions create congestion and stock externalities, which individual firms have no incentive to internalize. The model is estimated using long-panel data from the 19th-century American whaling industry, an unregulated global commons for oil and bone production. Counterfactual simulations show that the observed market allocation resulted in a deadweight loss of \$3.7 billion in 2024 dollars, representing 30 percent of the first-best social welfare. A collusive monopoly would produce larger welfare losses, as higher markups outweigh gains from internalizing externalities. The welfare impacts vary significantly with changes in demand and technological progress.

WORKING PAPER

Water Investment and Pricing (with Will Rafey)

PRESENTATIONS

2024-2025 World Congress of the Econometric Society; European Association of Young Economists; Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting; Lewis Lab Graduate Student Workshop (University of Manchester)

2023-2024 Society for Economic Dynamics Annual Meeting; North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society; International Industrial Organization Conference; Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting; Royal Economic Society Annual Conference; Northeastern Universities Development Consortium; Economics Graduate Student Conference (Washington University in St. Louis)

2022-2023 LSE Environment Day; Mountain West Economic History Conference (Utah State University)

Last updated: May 2025