

# Ying Chen

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## Education

- 2019 - 2024.6 (exp.) Ph.D. in Economics, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China.  
Title: Experiments on Public Goods, Networks and Social Interactive Behaviour  
Advisors: Stuart McDonald, Tom Lane, Chris Starmer  
Examiners: Simon Gächter, Saileshsingh Gunessee, Simin He, Martin Sefton
- 2018 - 19 M.Sc. in Microeconomics and Decision Making, *Sehr Gut*, Universität Konstanz, Germany.
- 2017 - 18 M.Sc. in Economics, *Distinction*, University of Nottingham, U.K.
- 2012 - 16 B.Sc. in Economics, *First Class Honors*, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China.

## Fields of Interests

Behavioural Economics, Experimental Economics, Network Economics, Microeconomics

## Working Papers

1. “*Endogenous Network Formation in Local Public Goods: An Experimental Analysis*”, with Tom Lane & Stuart McDonald, **revise & resubmit at Games and Economic Behavior**. [Click here to download](#).  
**Abstract:** We experimentally explore public good production levels, and the endogenous formation of network structures to facilitate output sharing, among agents with heterogeneous production costs or valuations. Results corroborate the key theoretical insights of Kinatered & Merlino (2017) characterizing how agents form core-periphery networks. However, subjects often produce more and form denser networks than predicted, which sometimes reduces efficiency. There is some tendency for behaviour to converge towards the theoretical equilibrium over repeated play. Our results help us understand the emergence of the ‘law of the few’ in real-world networks, and suggest it is driven by endogenous sorting of heterogeneous agents.
2. “*Social Norm Nudging in Cooperation Behaviour*”, solo. Manuscript upon request.  
**Abstract:** This paper explores how norm-based information affects agents’ social expectations and contribution behaviour in the scenario of public good provision. I conduct a laboratory experiment and an online experiment, in which all decision scenarios of the two studies were embedded into a standard linear public goods game. The online experiment elicits the perceptions of injunctive norms of each subject and their level of contribution. Using the results from the online experiment, I conduct laboratory experiments to elicit each subject’s perception of injunctive norm, personal norm and perception of descriptive norm, as well as the amount of their contribution. Each treatment of the lab experiment contains either one piece of information generated from the online experiment or no information (as a control). By comparing the average level of norm perception, the experimental results show that norm-based information can nudge the norms in the direction of supporting a high level of contribution to the public good, this leads to a statically insignificant increase in the level of contribution. Moreover, each type of norm is most heavily affected by information relating to the same norm domain.
3. “*How does social identity affect network formation and public good provision?*”, with Tom Lane & Stuart McDonald. In preparation.

## Work in Progress

4. “*Self-selection into cheap talk with gender quotas*”, with Sebastian Feherler.

## Conferences & Seminar Presentations

- 2023 Fudan University (China International Conference in Economics, 16/12); UNNC (School of Economics Brown Bag Seminar, 27/12; CeDEx China Brown Bag Seminar, 27/10; 2nd CeDEx China Workshop on Behavioural & Experimental Economics, Nottingham China, 06/05; 7th PGR Conference, 18/03); Hunan University (2nd Xiangjiang River Forum in Economics for Young Scholars, 26/08); Nanyang Technological University (Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society East and South- East Asia, 28/07); Tsinghua University (Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society China, 30/06); Zhongnan University of Finance and Economics (Chinese Economists Society Annual Conference, 24/06); Wuhan University (5th China Behavioral and Experimental Economics Forum, 18/06)

2022	Zhejiang University of Finance and Economics (4th Doctoral Student Forum on Economics, 24/12); Dongbei University of Finance and Economics (National Doctoral Student Forum on Quantitative Economics, 17/12); Hunan University (1st Xiangjiang River Forum in Economics for Young Scholars, 20/08); National University of Singapore (Conference on Mechanism and Institutional Design, 15/07)
2020 - 2021	UNNC (School of Economics PhD Conference, 2020, 2021)

## **Awards, Grants & Scholarships**

### **GRANTS & SCHOLARSHIPS**

2023	Graduate School Travel Grant, UNNC (RMB12,000)
2021	Graduate School Research Grant, UNNC (RMB3,092.6)
2020 - 2023	CeDEx China Project Funding, UNNC (RMB102,813.9)
2019 - 2023	School of Economics Research Grant, UNNC (RMB5,000 per annum)
2019 - 2022	Early Career Researchers Scholarship, UNNC (tuition fee waiver+ RMB54,000 per annum)
2019	Funding for Economics Experiments, Thurgauer Wirtschaftsinstitut & Konstanz LakeLab (€1,500)
2018	Master's Scholarship, Universität Konstanz (€1,500)
2017	Master's Scholarship, UNUK (£6,750)
2013 - 2015	Dean's Scholarship, UNNC (RMB6,000 per annum)

### **AWARDS**

2023	Tri-Campus Postgraduate Prize, UNUK & UNNC & UNMY (RMB1,000)
2023	Best Presenter Award, 7th PGR Conference, UNNC (RMB5,000)
2022	Best Paper Award, 4th Doctoral Student Forum on Economics, ZUFE (RMB3,000)
2016	Best Dissertation Award, UNNC

## **Teaching Experiences**

### **CO-INSTRUCTOR**

Spring 2021 - 2023	Advanced Experimental & Behavioural Economics (Undergraduate Y4, <a href="#">slides &amp; handouts</a> )
Autumn 2022	Advanced Microeconomics (Graduate, <a href="#">slides &amp; handouts</a> )

### **GRADUATE TEACHING ASSISTANT**

Spring 2021	Introductory Econometrics (Undergraduate Y2)
Autumn 2020	Mathematical Economics (Undergraduate Y2)
Autumn 2020	Microeconomic Theory (Undergraduate Y3)
Spring 2020	Advanced Public Economics (Undergraduate Y4, online teaching)

## **Affiliations**

2019 - present	Steering committee (lab manager) - <a href="#">Centre for Decision Research &amp; Experimental Economics</a> (China)
2020 - 2022	PhD representative - School of Economics, UNNC
2020 - 2021	Research assistant - Institute of Income Distribution & Public Finance, Zhongnan U of Econ & Law

## **Skills**

Languages:	Wú Chinese (native), Mandarin (native), English (C1), German (A2)
Data analysis:	Matlab, Python, R, Stata
Lab related:	oTree, z-Tree, ORSEE, web programming (HTML/CSS, JavaScript, PHP)

## **References**

Dr Stuart McDonald School of Economics University of Nottingham Ningbo China <a href="mailto:Stuart.McDonald@nottingham.edu.cn">Stuart.McDonald@nottingham.edu.cn</a>	Dr Tom Lane Business School Newcastle University <a href="mailto:Tom.Lane@newcastle.ac.uk">Tom.Lane@newcastle.ac.uk</a>	Professor Chris Starmer School of Economics University of Nottingham UK <a href="mailto:Chris.Starmer@nottingham.ac.uk">Chris.Starmer@nottingham.ac.uk</a>
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