

# YONGZHI XU

Texas A&M University  
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## EDUCATION

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|---|-----------------|
| Ph.D. in Economics, Texas A&M University                            | 2026 (Expected) |
| M.S. in Economics, Texas A&M University                             | 2020            |
| Bachelor of Economics, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics | 2016            |

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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Digital Economics, Machine Learning, Empirical Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics

## PUBLICATION

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“The Impacts of Return Policies and Perception Heterogeneity on Sales Platforms for Experience Goods: An Experimental Study” (with Jinliang Liu). *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, Vol. 239, 2025, 107287.

## WORKING PAPERS

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“Tacit Collusion by Pricing Algorithm with Rule-Based Rivals” (**Job Market Paper**).

“Detecting Algorithmic Collusion by Algorithms” (with Yonghong An and Yu Zhu).

“Let Them Eat Pie: Addressing the Partial Contestation Problem in Multiparty Electoral Contests” (with Ali Kagalwala, Thiago M. Q. Moreira, and Guy D. Whitten). *Political Analysis*, *conditionally accepted*.

## WORK IN PROGRESS

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“Historical Simulations of Unified China and Divided Europe: Insights from Reinforcement Learning” (with Li Zheng and Weiwen Yin).

“Long Divided, Must Unite? Historical Simulations of Japan’s Political Evolution Using Reinforcement Learning” (with Li Zheng and Weiwen Yin).

## AWARDS, GRANTS, AND HONORS

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|   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Graduate Assistantship                  | Texas A&M University, 2020-2025 |
| Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant | Texas A&M University, 2021      |
| Department Scholarship                  | Texas A&M University, 2018-2019 |

## SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATION

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|                                     |                            |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| AEA Annual Meeting                  | Philadelphia, PA, Jan 2026 |
| SEA 95th Annual Meeting             | Tampa, FL, Nov 2025        |
| CES China Annual Conference         | Guangzhou, China, Jul 2025 |
| CES North America Annual Conference | Ann Arbor, MI, Mar 2025    |
| Texas Camp Econometrics XXVIII      | Burnet, TX, Feb 2025       |
| Texas Camp Econometrics XXVII       | Montgomery, TX, Feb 2024   |

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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Research Assistant to Prof. Guy D. Whitten  
Research Assistant to Prof. Yonghong An  
Research Assistant to Prof. Jeremy Fox

Texas A&M University, Fall 2025  
Texas A&M University, Full Year 2019  
Rice University, Spring 2019

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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### Instructor, Department of Economics, Texas A&M University

PhD Qualifier Camp for Econometrics I Summer 2025  
PhD Qualifier Camp for Econometrics II Summer 2024  
ECON 202 Principles of Economics: Microeconomics (Undergrad core) Summer 2023  
PhD Qualifier Camp for Microeconomic Theory I Summer 2022

### Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Texas A&M University

ECMT 676 Econometrics II (PhD core, with recitation),  
Prof. Manu Navjeevan & Prof. Jorge Luis García Spring 2025  
ECMT 675 Econometrics I (PhD core, with recitation), Prof. Yonghong An Fall 2024  
ECMT 676 Econometrics II (PhD core, with recitation),  
Prof. Yonghong An & Prof. Scott Cunningham Spring 2024  
ECMT 675 Econometrics I (PhD core, with recitation), Prof. Yonghong An Fall 2023  
ECMT 463 Introduction to Econometrics (with recitation), Prof. Yonghong An Spring 2023  
ECON 489 Data Science for Future Decision Makers, Prof. Fernando Luco Fall 2022  
ECON 426 Antitrust Economics, Prof. Fernando Luco Spring 2022  
ECMT 463 Introduction to Econometrics (with recitation), Prof. Zheng Fang Fall 2021  
ECON 203 Principles of Economics: Macroeconomics, Prof. Petro Bento Spring 2021  
Economics Tutoring Lab for Students (G & UG), Texas A&M University Fall 2020

## SKILLS

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### Programming Languages and Frameworks

Julia, MATLAB, Python, R, Stata, SAS, z-Tree, C#

### Languages

Mandarin Chinese (Native), English (Fluent)

## REFERENCES

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Yonghong An (Chair)  
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