YOOJIN CHA

✉ eugene.cha@utexas.edu
yoojincha.com

Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin
2315 Red River St., Austin, TX 78712

Education

University of Texas at Austin 2026 (Expected)

Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy
Fields: Environmental Economics, Public Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Seoul National University

Master of Public Policy 2021
B.A. in Economics 2015

References

Prof. Mary Evans
LBJ School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin
✉ mary.evans@austin.utexas.edu

Prof. Sheila Olmstead
Brooks School of Public Policy
Cornell University
✉ solmstead@cornell.edu

Prof. Daniel Phaneuf
Department of Agricultural & Applied Economics
University of Wisconsin – Madison
✉ dphaneuf@wisc.edu

Prof. Andrew Waxman
LBJ School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin
✉ awaxman@utexas.edu

Prof. Chi Ta
LBJ School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin
✉ chi.ta@austin.utexas.edu

Working Papers & Work in Progress

The Capitalization Effects of Water Pollution Trading: Evidence from Connecticut *(Job Market Paper)*
I estimate the impacts of water pollution trading on residential housing prices within a hedonic property value framework that exploits variation in trading behaviors of polluting facilities and relative home locations near them. I focus on the Connecticut Nitrogen Credit Exchange (NCE), a pollution trading program targeting waste water treatment plants that affect water quality in Long Island Sound. I find significant increases in housing prices for homes located just downstream of plants that sold pollution credits generated from surplus reductions beyond their required levels. Back-of-the-envelope calculations suggest that the program yields net benefits and outperforms a counterfactual command-and-control regulation. Lastly, the paper investigates more nuanced concerns about pollution trading, such

as the formation of hotspots by reallocating pollution and corresponding distributional effects. While I estimate spatially differential effects, I find no evidence that this reallocation is associated with disproportionate impacts based on community characteristics.

Estimating the Missing Benefits of Water Quality by Nesting Recreation Demand and Hedonic Modeling with Sheila Olmstead, Daniel Phaneuf, Yusuke Kuwayama, Jiameng Zheng, and Dimitris Friesen

Disruptions in Global Waste Trade: A General Equilibrium Analysis of Policy Responses with Chi Ta and Rachel Wellhausen

Toxic Pollution in Age of Climate Change: Investigating the Impacts of Natural Disasters on Industrial Emissions in Texas with Margarita Petrusevich

Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

Yoojin Cha and Min Gyo Koo. 2021. Who Embraces Technical Barriers to Trade?: The Case of European REACH Regulations. *World Trade Review* 20(1): 25-39.

Teaching Experience

Guest Instructor

University of Texas at Austin

Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis (graduate level), Spring 2025

Teaching Assistant

University of Texas at Austin

Urban Economics (graduate level), Spring 2025
Applied Microeconomics for Policy Analysis (graduate level), Fall 2024
Environmental Economics (graduate level), Spring 2024

Work Experience

Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. Memory Division, International Sales (full time) 2016–2018
R.O.K. Army, 52nd Division, Operations and Intelligence (military service) 2009–2011

Conference and Workshop Presentations

8th Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop, Washington, D.C. 2025
Camp Resources XXXI, Asheville, NC 2025
AERE @ Western Economic Association International, San Francisco, CA 2025
AERE 2025 Summer Conference, Santa Ana Pueblo, NM 2025
2024 STATA Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference, Dallas, TX 2024

7th Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop, Washington, D.C. 2024
Southern Economic Association 93rd Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA 2023
APPAM 2023 Annual Fall Research Conference, Atlanta, GA 2023
UT Environmental and Energy Economics Workshop 2023, Austin, TX 2023
Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics, Berkeley, CA 2022

Awards and Scholarships

LBJ Ph.D. Summer Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin 2025
The Graduate Recognition Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin 2025
LBJ Ph.D. Student Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin 2021–Present
Fulbright Graduate Student Program Award (declined) 2021

Skills and Languages

Stata, R, Python, Matlab, ArcGIS, QGIS, LaTeX
English (fluent), Korean (native)