

YOOJIN CHA

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Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs
The University of Texas at Austin
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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin 2026 (Expected)

Ph.D. Candidate in Public Policy

Fields: Environmental Economics, Public Economics, Non-market Valuation

Seoul National University

Master of Public Policy 2021

B.A. in Economics 2015

WORKING PAPERS & WORK IN PROGRESS

The Property Market Impacts of Water Pollution Trading (*Job Market Paper*)

This paper estimates the property market impacts of water pollution trading. Identifying the benefits of market-based approaches to surface water pollution control is empirically challenging due to the spatial heterogeneity of water bodies, making proper market formation and practical policy implementation difficult. The paper selects a well-suited policy case targeting nitrogen pollution in Long Island Sound and explores its impact on nearby housing prices both upstream and downstream of polluting sources, focusing on variation in which sources have sold or purchased pollution credits. The estimation results suggest that substantial reductions in nitrogen discharge throughout the post-treatment period lead to significant increases in nearby downstream housing prices. The paper also suggests that the program yields net benefit and outperform counterfactual command-and-control regulations, achieving similar environmental outcomes at lower cost. The paper lastly investigates more nuanced concerns about pollution trading, such as the formation of hotspots by reallocating pollution and corresponding distributional effects. While it finds spatially differential effects, it finds no evidence that this reallocation is associated with disproportionate impacts on communities based on income or race.

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 Petrushevich

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

The University of Texas at Austin

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

Teaching Assistant

The 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

CONFERENCE AND WORKSHOP PRESENTATIONS

8th Social Cost of Water Pollution Workshop, Washington, D.C. (scheduled) 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, The University of Texas at Austin 2025

The Graduate Recognition Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin 2025

LBJ Ph.D. Student Fellowship, The University of Texas at Austin 2021–Present

Fulbright Graduate Student Program Award (declined) 2021

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

SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Stata, R, Python, Matlab, ArcGIS, QGIS, L^AT_EX
English (fluent), Korean (native)

REFERENCES

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