

Yen Ling Tan

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University of Virginia

Department of Economics

248 McCormick Rd, Charlottesville, VA 22904, USA

Education

University of Virginia, Ph.D. in Economics (Expected)	2026
Dissertation: “ <i>The Winner’s Curse in a Takeover Game: Theory and Experiments</i> ”	
Committee: Charles Holt, Simon Anderson, Maxim Engers, Po-Hsuan Lin	
National Taiwan University, Visiting Student in Department of Economics	2025
University of Auckland, B.A. (Hons) in Economics	2019
Thesis: “ <i>Consumer Decision-Making under Uncertainty on Digital Platforms</i> ”	
Advisor: Simona Fabrizi	
University of Auckland, B.A., & B.H.Sc. in Economics, Math, & Population Health	2018

Research Fields

Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Game Theory, Industrial Organization

Job Market Paper

1. Tan, Y.L. (2025) “**The Winner’s Curse in a Takeover Game with Two-Sided Asymmetric Information: Theory and Experiments.**”

Abstract. This paper studies how *cursedness*—the tendency to neglect how other people’s strategies depend on their private information—affects trade in a takeover game with one buyer and seller. I apply the Cursed Sequential Equilibrium concept, showing that information transmission and allocative efficiency depend on the degree of information asymmetry and size of the stakes. Finally, this paper discusses two experiments to test the model predictions and explores whether experience in different roles impacts cursed behavior.

Working Papers

2. Lin, P.-H., & Tan, Y.L. (2025) “[Cursed Job Market Signaling](#),” Under Review.
3. Fabrizi, S. & Tan, Y.L. (2025) “Decision-Making under Uncertainty on Digital Platforms.”

Work in Progress

4. Holt, C. A., Smith, A. M., Sprott, E. & Tan, Y.L. "Binary Lotteries Do Not Induce Risk Neutrality: An Analysis of Games and Decisions Made in the Lab."
5. Lin, P.-H., & Tan, Y.L. "An Experiment on Learning in Games of Imperfect Information."

Presentations

UVA Theory/Experimental Workshop, 2nd European Economic Review Summer School in Behavioral & Experimental Economics	2025
Economic Science Association North American Meeting	2024
Economic Science Association North American Meeting, UVA Economic Research Colloquium	2023
Asia-Pacific Industrial Organization Conference, UoA Center for Mathematical Social Science Lightning Talks, New Zealand Microeconomics Study Group Meeting	2019

Research Grants

Marshall Jevons Fund, UVA	2025
Radulovacki Fund, UVA	2024
Quantitative Collaborative Grant, UVA	2023-2024
Postgraduate Research Grant, UoA	2019

Awards, Honors, & Scholarship

Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Summer Research Fellowship, UVA	2025
Raven Society, UVA	2025
International Internship Pilot Program, NSTC Taiwan	2025
Department of Economics Travel Grant, UVA	2023-2024
Summer Research Scholarship, UoA	2019-2020
Conference Assistant Award, New Zealand Association of Economists	2019
First in Class for Undergraduate Industrial Organization, UoA	2018
Departmental Scholarship, UoA	2017-2018

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Prof. Charles Holt, UVA	2025
Research Assistant for Prof. Haruka Takayama, UAlbany	2022-2024
Research Assistant for Prof. Denis Nekipelov, UVA	2023
Research Assistant for Prof. Simona Fabrizi, UoA	2019-2020
Research Assistant for Prof. Simone Rodda, UoA	2017-2018

Professional Experience

Antitrust/Competition Economics Intern, Commerce Commission, New Zealand	2018-2019
Health Economics Intern, Waitemata District Health Board, New Zealand	2017

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, UVA (Undergraduate) Industrial Organization, Introduction to Econometrics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Principles of Microeconomics, Principles of Macroeconomics	2021-2025
Teaching Assistant, UoA (Undergraduate) Industrial Organization	2019
Tutor, UoA (Undergraduate) General Mathematics	2018

Service

Research Committee Co-Chair, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Council, UVA	2024-2025
Co-Organizer, Graduate Student Workshop, Department of Economics, UVA	2021-2023
Co-President, Make a Difference with Economics, UoA	2019

Coding

Python, MATLAB, oTree, z-Tree, Stata, PHP, MySQL, HTML

Languages

English (fluent), Chinese (native), Malay (fluent), Japanese (beginner)

References

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