

Yen Ling Tan
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University of Virginia
Department of Economics
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Education

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| University of Virginia, Ph.D. in Economics (Expected) | 2026 |
| <i>Dissertation. "The Winner's Curse in a Takeover Game with Two-Sided Asymmetric Information: Theory and Experiment"</i> | |
| <i>Committee. Charles Holt, Simon Anderson, Po-Hsuan Lin</i> | |
| National Taiwan University, Visiting Student in Department of Economics | 2025 |
| <i>Host. Joseph Tao-yi Wang</i> | |
| University of Auckland, B.A. (Hons) in Economics, First Class Honors | 2019 |
| <i>Thesis. "Consumer Decision-Making under Uncertainty on Digital Platforms"</i> | |
| <i>Advisor. Simona Fabrizi</i> | |
| 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. (2026) **"The Winner's Curse in a Takeover Game with Two-Sided Asymmetric Information: Theory and Experiment."**

Abstract. This paper examines how cursedness—the tendency to neglect how others' actions depend on private information—distorts trade in a bilateral takeover setting with one buyer and seller. Using cursed sequential equilibrium, I show that under two-sided asymmetric information, allocative efficiency and information transmission depend jointly on the degree of information asymmetry and relative size of the information rent. Consistent with model predictions, experimental evidence indicates a significant increase in separation of types among buyers, with an increase in the weight on the buyer's private signal or the relative size of the information rent. High type buyers exhibit systematic overbidding, suggesting they are more susceptible to cursedness than low type buyers. As the weight on the seller's private signal decreases, low type sellers exhibit a stronger upward bias, whereas high type sellers display a stronger downward bias in valuation, potentially reducing allocative inefficiencies.

Working Papers

1. Lin, P.-H. & Tan, Y.L. (2025) **"Cursed Job Market Signaling,"** R&R at Economic Journal.
2. Fabrizi, S. & Tan, Y.L. (2025) **"Decision-Making under Uncertainty on Digital Platforms."**

Work in Progress

1. 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."
2. Lin, P.-H. & Tan, Y.L. "An Experiment on Learning in Games of Imperfect Information."

Presentations

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| University of Virginia Theory/Experimental Workshop, 2nd European Economic Review Summer School in Experimental & Behavioral Economics, National Taiwan University, Behavioral & Experimental Economists of the Mid-Atlantic (BEEMA9), Economic Science Association North American Meeting, University of New South Wales AGORA Center for Market Design, Asia-Pacific Industrial Organization Conference | 2025 |
| Economic Science Association North American Meeting | 2024 |
| Economic Science Association North American Meeting, University of Virginia Economic Research Colloquium | 2023 |
| Asia-Pacific Industrial Organization Conference, University of Auckland Center for Mathematical Social Science Lightning Talks, New Zealand Microeconomics Study Group Meeting | 2019 |

Research Grants

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| Quantitative Collaborative Grant (US\$ 4,300), University of Virginia | 2023-2025 |
| Marshall Jevons Fund (US\$ 4,000), University of Virginia | 2025 |
| Radulovacki Fund (US\$ 5,000), University of Virginia | 2024 |
| Postgraduate Research Grant (NZ\$ 1,500), University of Auckland | 2019 |

Awards, Honors, Scholarships, & Fellowships

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| Admission & Travel Grant, Economic Theory Summer School, Econometric Society Arts, Humanities, & Social Sciences Research Fellowship, University of Virginia | 2025 |
| Raven Society, University of Virginia | 2025 |
| International Internship, Taiwan National Science & Technology Council | 2025 |
| Department of Economics Travel Grant, University of Virginia | 2023-2025 |
| Summer Research Scholarship, University of Auckland | 2019-2020 |
| Conference Assistant Award, New Zealand Association of Economists | 2019 |
| First in Class for Undergraduate Industrial Organization, University of Auckland | 2018 |
| Departmental Scholarship, University of Auckland | 2017-2018 |

Professional Experience

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

Coding

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| Programming Languages | Python, SQL, MATLAB, Stata, HTML, CSS, JavaScript, L ^A T _E X; Git |
| Econometrics | Causal inference (DiD, IV), structural estimation (logit, MLE) |
| Data Collection | oTree, zTree, web scraping |

Research Assistantships

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| Charles Holt, University of Virginia | 2025 |
| Haruka Takayama, University at Albany, State University of New York | 2022-2024 |
| Denis Nekipelov, University of Virginia | 2023 |
| Simona Fabrizi, University of Auckland | 2019-2020 |
| Simone Rodda, University of Auckland | 2017-2018 |

Teaching Experience

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| Teaching Assistant, University of Virginia | 2021-2026 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Industrial Organization (1 semester)Introduction to Econometrics (4 semesters)Intermediate Microeconomics (2 semesters)Principles of Microeconomics (2 semesters)Principles of Macroeconomics (1 semester) | |
| Teaching Assistant, University of Auckland | 2019 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">Industrial Organization (1 semester) | |
| Tutor, University of Auckland | 2018 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">General Mathematics (summer) | |

Service

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

References

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| Charles Holt Department of Economics University of Virginia holt@virginia.edu | Po-Hsuan Lin Department of Economics University of Virginia plin@virginia.edu |
| Simon Anderson Department of Economics University of Virginia sa9w@virginia.edu | Simona Fabrizi Department of Economics University of Auckland s.fabrizi@auckland.ac.nz |