

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 |
| Dissertation: <i>“The Winner’s Curse in a Takeover Game with Two-Sided Asymmetric Information: 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

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| 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

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

Awards, Honors, & Scholarship

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| 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

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| 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

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

Teaching Experience

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| 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

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| 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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