

Yang Zheng

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Positions

Lecturer (Assistant Professor) in Economics, Department of Economics & International Business, Aston Business School, Aston University, 03/2024 – present

Theme Lead (Sustainable Transformation), Centre for Business Prosperity, Aston Business School, Aston University, 10/2025 – present

Affiliations

Visiting Fellow, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics, 10/2023 – present

Education

PhD in Environmental Economics, London School of Economics (LSE), 2018 – 2023.

Doctoral thesis: "Essays on Economics of Green Innovation and Climate Policy".

Supervisors: Eugenie Dugoua, Misato Sato, Giles Atkinson.

Defense committee: David Popp, Ralf Martin.

MSc in Economics, Wuhan University, 2015 – 2018.

BA in Economics, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, 2011 – 2015.

Research Interests

Environmental Economics, Economics of Innovation, Climate Policy, Applied Microeconomics

Publications

The Effectiveness of China's Regional Carbon Market Pilots in Reducing Firm Emissions (with Jingbo Cui, Chunhua Wang, Junjie Zhang), *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118(52), 2021 ([link](#))

Research Highlight in *Nature Climate Change* ([link](#))

Carbon Pricing Induces Innovation: Evidence from China's Regional Carbon Market Pilots (with Jingbo Cui and Junjie Zhang), *AEA Papers and Proceedings*, 108: 453-437, 2018 ([link](#))

Current Research

Carbon Leakage within Firm Ownership Networks (with Jingbo Cui, Chunhua Wang, Zhenxuan Wang, Junjie Zhang), *SSRN Working Paper* ([link](#)), Revise & Resubmit at *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*

Clean Energy Innovation Spillover Effects in Corporate Ownership Network: Evidence from Emission Trading Scheme in China (with Jingbo Cui, Jing Dai, Dong Xu), Reject & Resubmit at *Production and Operations Management*

Carbon Price, Innovation, and Firm Competitiveness (with Jingbo Cui and Junjie Zhang), *SSRN Working Paper* ([link](#))

Economic Returns on Low-carbon Technology Diffusion: Evidence from Global Firm Level Data (with Myra Mohnen and Misato Sato)

Previously circulated as "Green Revenues, Low-carbon Technologies and Their Spillovers"

Knowledge Spillover from Green FDI: Evidence from Green Innovation in China

Global Carbon Market and Industrial Decarbonization Innovation (with Jingbo Cui and Te Lai)

Teaching Experience

Aston University

Environmental Economics (undergraduate), Instructor & Module Lead, 2025-2026

London School of Economics

Applied Environmental Economics (undergraduate), Graduate Teaching Assistant, 2019-2023

Duke Kunshan University

Data Analysis with Python (summer boot camp), Guest Lecturer, Summer 2019

Other Employment

Research assistant for Misato Sato (LSE), 03/2019 – 01/2022

Focus: green jobs in the UK and global green revenues.

Research assistant for Jingbo Cui (Wuhan University), 07/2016 – 06/2018

Focus: corporate shareholding and technology spillovers; China's ETS and innovation

Invited Talks & Conference Presentations

2025 Research Seminar, NUS LKY School of Public Policy
Environmental Research Center, Duke Kunshan University
AOM 2025 Annual Conference, Copenhagen
2nd Midlands Trade & Investment Network ECR Conference, University of Birmingham
Midlands Network for Trade & Investment Workshop, University of Birmingham

2024 Workshop on Climate Change, Labour and Inequality, UNU-WIDER
Bessemer Symposium in Economic Geography of Innovation, University of Sheffield
Workshop for Shaping Sustainable Societies, University of Birmingham
EAERE 2024 Annual Conference, KU Leuven

12th MCEE Conference, University of Mannheim
RES 2024 Annual Conference, Queen's University Belfast

2023 LSE Environment Day, Department of Economics, LSE
Research Seminar, Institut d'Economia de Barcelona, University of Barcelona

Prior to 2023 GRI Empirical Seminar, LSE; PhD Work-in-progress Seminar, LSE; EAERE 2022 Annual Conference, University of Bologna (Rimini); EAERE 2021 Annual Conference, Virtual; AERE 2021 Summer Conference, Virtual; EAERE 2020 Annual Conference, Virtual; EAERE 2019 Annual Conference, University of Manchester

Referee Service

China Economic Review, Climate Policy, Economic Journal, Economic Modelling, Environment and Development Economics, Empirica, Humanities & Social Sciences Communications, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of Development Economics, Nature Climate Change

Grants and Awards

LSE Class Teacher Award (Highly Commended), 2023

Research Student Travel Fund, London School of Economics, 2019, 2022, 2023

PhD Studentship, London School of Economics, 2018 – 2023

Graduate Student Academic Scholarship, Wuhan University, 2016 – 2018

National Scholarship, Zhongnan University of Economics and Law, 2015

Skills and Certificates

Computer Skills: Python, Stata, L^AT_EX, SQL, Microsoft Office

Languages: Mandarin (native), English (fluent)

Certificates: Fellowship of the UK Higher Education Academy/Advance HE

References

[Available Upon Request]