ZONG HUANG

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EDUCATION

Stanford University, Palo Alto, CA 2025
PhD in *Economics*, PhD minor in *Statistics*

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL 2016
BA (with honors) in *Economics* and *Mathematics*

WORK EXPERIENCE

Microsoft Research, Cambridge, MA
PhD Research Scientist Intern June 2022 – September 2022
- Analyzed cloud utilization by 100,000 firms to study the economics of cloud computing (SQL)
- Contributed to causal machine learning implementations in EconML codebase (Python)

Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research, Palo Alto, CA
Research Scientist (Gentzkow Shapiro Lab) July 2018 – June 2020
- Implemented experiments with 5,000+ participants to study the effects of social media on political behaviors and mental health (R)
- Hired and managed 2 contract software engineers to build and launch online web app
- Created open-source tools to facilitate research analysis and replicability (Python, Github)

The Brattle Group, San Francisco, CA
Research Analyst May 2016 – June 2018
- Select project: Conducted hierarchical Bayesian modeling on prescription claims data for Nobel Laureate in false claims lawsuit against pharmaceutical company (SQL, Stan)
- Oversaw team of 3 analysts and interfaced with expert, counsel, and client on deliverable results and demonstratives; litigation ended in favorable settlement of $600+ million
- Chosen to create learning materials and lead firm-wide training on statistical programming

RESEARCH PROJECTS

The Unequal Effects of Upzoning: Evidence from Cook County
- Spatially linked millions of properties in Chicago from 2000–23 to track housing developments (GIS)
- Predicted housing values using property descriptions via NLP and neural networks (BERT, PyTorch)
- Estimated discrete choice models of developer behavior via maximum simulated likelihood and bag of little bootstraps (Julia)
- Presented research at academic conferences such as the 2024 NBER Summer Institute

The Effect of Public Insurance Design on Pharmaceutical Prices: Evidence from Medicare Part D
- Constructed price metrics using prescription claims data (5TB) from Medicare Part D (SQL)
- Quantified the effects of insurance expansion on drug consumption via causal inference methods such as regression discontinuity design and synthetic difference-in-differences (R)
- Won $120,000 grant through the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as Principal Investigator

ADDITIONAL

Technical: Python (PyTorch), SQL, R (Stan), Julia (Flux), Git, Matlab, Stata, GIS, LaTeX
Languages: English (native), Mandarin Chinese (fluent)
Clearance: U.S. citizenship, Census Bureau Special Sworn Status