

# Zi Yang Kang

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📅 Last updated: February 2025

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## Employment

University of Toronto

Assistant Professor of Economics 2024–Present

Harvard University

Postdoctoral Fellow, Center of Mathematical Sciences and Applications 2023–2024

## Education

Ph.D. in Economic Analysis and Policy, Stanford Graduate School of Business 2018–2023

M.S. in Mathematics, Stanford University 2017–2018

B.S. with Honors in Mathematics, Stanford University 2014–2017

## Working Papers

[“Optimal Redistribution Through Subsidies”](#) with Mitchell Watt

[“Optimal In-Kind Redistribution”](#) with Mitchell Watt

[“Robustness Measures for Welfare Analysis”](#) with Shoshana Vasserman

*Conditionally accepted at the American Economic Review; accepted for presentation at EC’22*

[“Optimal Indirect Regulation of Externalities”](#)

*Accepted for presentation at EC’23*

[“The Public Option and Optimal Redistribution”](#)

*Accepted for presentation at EC’21*

[“Contracting and Vertical Control by a Dominant Platform”](#) with Ellen V. Muir

*Accepted for presentation at EC’22*

[“Fixed-Price Approximations to Optimal Efficiency in Bilateral Trade”](#) with Jan Vondrák

## Selected Work in Progress

“On the Optimality of Congestion Pricing Under Redistributive Preferences” with Piotr Dworczak

## Conference Publications

[“Fixed-Price Approximations in Bilateral Trade”](#) with Francisco Pernice and Jan Vondrák, in *Proceedings of the 2022 Annual ACM-SIAM Symposium on Discrete Algorithms (SODA’22)*, pp. 2964–2985, 2022.

## Other Publications

[“General Theories of Reflection and Transmission Scratch Holograms”](#) with Bingjian Li, Jiahuang Lin, Ye Yeo, and Guoxian Tan, in *Canadian Journal of Physics*, **95**(5), pp. 432–419, 2017.

[“The Vertical Oscillations of Coupled Magnets”](#) with Kewei Li, Jiahuang Lin, Samuel Yee and Jeremias Wong in *European Journal of Physics* [Special Issue] **32**(4), pp. S1–S14, 2011.

## Honors and Fellowships

|   |      |
|---|------|
| Regulatory Policy Fellowship, Stanford Institute for Economic Policy Research (SIEPR) | 2022 |
| Jaedicke Merit Award, Stanford Graduate School of Business                            | 2018 |
| Phi Beta Kappa  | 2018 |
| Firestone Medal for Excellence in Undergraduate Research, Stanford University         | 2017 |
| J. E. Wallace Sterling Award for Scholastic Achievement, Stanford University          | 2017 |
| President’s Award for Academic Excellence in the Freshman Year, Stanford University   | 2015 |
| Gold Medal, International Physics Olympiad  | 2011 |
| Gold Medal (Champion Team), International Young Physicists’ Tournament                | 2010 |

## Seminars and Conferences

2024–2025

Cornell (Johnson College of Business) · National University of Singapore · Princeton

Columbia Conference on Economic Theory · NAWM

*Scheduled:* Caltech · Florida State · Rochester (Simon Business School) · Waterloo · Triangle Microeconomics Conference

2023–2024

Harvard/MIT · Microsoft Research · Warwick · Wisconsin–Madison (Macroeconomics)

Cowles Conference on Economic Theory · GAMES · NASM

2022–2023

Bocconi (Decision Sciences) · Georgia · Michigan · Northwestern (Kellogg School of Management) · Pittsburgh ·

Rochester (Simon Business School) · National University of Singapore · Toronto · Yale (School of Management) · NT23TM · Group for Research in Applied Economics

Berkeley/Columbia/Duke/MIT/Northwestern IO Theory Conference · EC'23 · FTC Microeconomics Conference · Markets, Contracts, and Organizations Conference

### *Prior*

Group for Research in Applied Economics · EC'22 · EC'21 · INFORMS 2021 · Young Researcher Workshop on Economics and Computation (YoungEC'19)

## **Professional Service**

### *Refereeing*

American Economic Review · AER Insights · Econometrica · Economic Journal · International Journal of Industrial Organization · Journal of Economic Theory · Journal of Industrial Economics · Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization · Journal of Political Economy · Mathematics of Operations Research · Quarterly Journal of Economics · RAND Journal of Economics · Review of Economic Studies

### *Grant Review*

National Science Foundation

### *Seminar and Conference Organization*

University of Toronto Economic Theory Seminar (2024–present) · Canadian Economic Theory Conference (2024)

### *Conference Program Committee Participation*

ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (2024)

### *Conference Discussion*

Theory@PennState Conference (2023)

### *Other*

Economics arXiv moderator for econ.GN (2024–2025)