Yuhe Li

+1 608 690 9938 | yli2492@wisc.edu

EDUCATION

University of Wisconsin–Madison, Department of Economics Sep 2023 – Present
PhD Student in Economics. Primary field: Industrial Organization. Secondary field: Labor Economics.
Relevant coursework: IO, Labor, Computational Economics, Applied Econometrics and Microeconomic Theory.

Hong Kong University of Science and Technology Sep 2019 – Jul 2023
B.S. in Economics and Finance.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

PhD Researcher, UW–Madison 2025 – Present

"AI Benchmarking and the Direction of Innovation"

- Studied whether current AI benchmarks mismeasure useful model improvements by emphasizing automated, parallel tasks rather than sequential tasks with feedback.
- Compared objective benchmark scores with human-rated LMArena scores for major AI firms' models.
- Developed a theoretical model to conduct welfare analysis under a misalignment in innovation incentives driven by benchmark features.

"Strategic Product Releases in the Generative AI Industry"

- Built a model-quality and release-timing dataset by combining LMArena leaderboard snapshots with firms' official release announcements for frontier AI models.
- Documented clustered release timing and asymmetric follow behavior using descriptive analysis.
- Developed and calibrated a dynamic leader-laggard release game; solved the model numerically and estimated parameters by Simulated Method of Moments in MATLAB and Python.
- Generated figures and calibration diagnostics linking strategic theory to observed release dynamics.

"Generative AI and the Knowledge Commons"

- Collected and organized monthly data via the Stack Overflow API for 6 tags across 86 monthly periods from Jan 2019 to Feb 2026 to study how AI affects public knowledge contribution and platform activity.
- Developing a dynamic structural model for welfare and counterfactual analysis of knowledge as a public-good provision with AI as a private substitute.

Independent Research with Prof. John Kennan Sep 2022 – Dec 2022

"Breaking Gender Norms: A Learning Model and the Role-Model Effect of Mothers"

- Collected, cleaned, and linked 20 years of NLSY79 and NLSY79 Young Adult data in Stata; constructed longitudinal analysis panels.
- Conducted regression analysis on how mothers' relative income within the household affects children's gender-role attitudes and STEM major choice.
- Combined a learning model with empirical analysis to study intergenerational effects of gender norms.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, UW–Madison 2023 – Present

- **Econ 570**: Data Analytics in Python for Economists - *Prof. John Brauer*.
- **Econ 711, with Best TA Award**: PhD Microeconomics - *Prof. Dan Quint and Prof. Ben Bernard*.
- **Econ 521**: Game Theory - *Prof. Ben Bernard*.
- **Econ 101/102**: Principles of Microeconomics/Macroeconomics - *Prof. David Johnson*.

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Analytical techniques

- Causal inference, panel construction, structural modeling, simulation and calibration, data visualization.

Programming

- Solid in Stata, Python, Julia, LaTeX; Experience with MATLAB and R.

Data sources

- Stack Overflow API, LMArena leaderboard, HuggingFace leaderboard, NLSY79.

Languages

- English (fluent), Mandarin (native).

HONORS AND AWARDS

- **Best TA Award**, PhD Microeconomics (Econ 711), University of Wisconsin–Madison, 2024.
- **Final Round 1st Place**, National Student Innovation and Entrepreneurship Competition, 2021.
  Entrepreneurship project: *Multifunctional Polyethylene Nano Membranes*.