

CURRICULUM VITAE

Yifan Zhang (张轶凡)

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Personal Data

- Full Name: Yifan Zhang
- Office Address: Room 920, Esther Lee Building, CUHK, Shatin, Hong Kong
- Telephone: 3943-8185
- Fax: 2603-5805
- E-mail: yifan.zhang@cuhk.edu.hk
- Webpage: <https://www.yifanzhang.net>

Professional Experience

- Professor, Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2022 – present
- Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Chinese University of Hong Kong, 2015 - 2022
- Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 2012 - 2015
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 2006 - 2012
- Post-Doctoral Associate and Lecturer, Council on East Asian Studies, Yale University, Aug 2005 – Aug 2006
- Visiting Research Fellow, CAS-Tsinghua Center for China Studies, Aug 1999 - Aug 2000

Education

- Ph.D., Economics, University of Pittsburgh, 2005
- M.A., Economics, Renmin University of China, 1997
- B.A., Economics, Renmin University of China, 1994

Main Research Interests

- Chinese Economy
- International Trade
- Development Economics

Refereed Journal Papers

1. “Migrants and Firms: Evidence from China” (2022) with Clement Imbert, Marlon Seror and Yanos Zylberberg, *American Economic Review*, 112(6), 1885-1914.

2. “Recent Productivity Trends in China: Evidence from Macro- and Firm-Level Data” (2022) with Loren Brandt, John Litwack, Elitza Mikva, Luhang Wang and Luan Zhao, *China: An International Journal*, 20(1), 1-21.
3. “Moving ‘Umbrella’: Bureaucratic Transfers and the Comovement of Interregional Investment in China” (2021) with Xiangyu Shi, Tianyang Xi and Xiaobo Zhang, *Journal of Development Economics*, 153, 102717.
4. “Do Multinationals Transfer Culture? Evidence on Female Employment in China” (2021) with Heiwai Tang, *Journal of International Economics*, 133, 103518.
5. “How do Households Adjust to Tariff Liberalization? Evidence from China’s WTO Accession” (2021) with Mi Dai and Wei Huang, *Journal of Development Economics*, 150, 102628.
6. “Persistent Effects of Initial Labor Market Conditions: The Case of China's Tariff Liberalization After WTO Accession” (2020) with Mi Dai and Wei Huang, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 178, 566-581.
7. “贸易自由化如何影响中国区域劳动力市场?” (2019) 戴觅, 张轶凡, 黄炜, 《管理世界》, 第 6 期, 第 56-69 页。
8. “WTO Accession and Performance of Chinese Manufacturing Firms” (2017) with Loren Brandt, Johannes Van Biesebroeck and Luhang Wang, *American Economic Review*, 107(9), 2784-2820.
9. “A Fire Sale without Fire: An Explanation of Labor Intensive FDI in China” (2016) with Yasheng Huang, Yue Ma and Zhi Yang, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 44(4), 884-901.
10. “Challenges of Working with the Chinese NBS Firm-Level Data” (2014) with Loren Brandt and Johannes Van Biesebroeck, *China Economic Review*, 30, 339-352.
11. “Factor Intensity, Product Switching and Productivity: Evidence from Chinese Exporters” (2014) with Yue Ma and Heiwai Tang, *Journal of International Economics*, 92(2), 349-362.
12. “Exchange Rates and the Margins of Trade: Evidence from Chinese Exporters” (2012) with Heiwai Tang, *CESifo Economic Studies*, 58(4), 671-702.
13. “Complex Goods' Exports and Institutions: Empirics at the Firm Level” (2012) with Yue Ma and Baozhi Qu, *Review of International Economics*, 20(4), 841-853.
14. “Creative Accounting or Creative Destruction? Firm-level Productivity Growth in Chinese Manufacturing” (2012) with Loren Brandt and Johannes Van Biesebroeck, *Journal of Development Economics*, 97(2), 339-351.
15. “Effect of Income Distribution on the Environmental Kuznets Curve” (2011) with Baozhi Qu, *Pacific Economic Review*, 16(3), 349-370.
16. “Judicial Quality, Contract Intensity and Trade: Firm Level Evidence from Developing and Transition Countries” (2010) with Yue Ma and Baozhi Qu, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 38(2), 146-159.
17. “Do Chinese Domestic Firms Benefit from FDI Inflow? Evidence of Horizontal and Vertical Spillovers” (2009) with Ping Lin and Zhuomin Liu, *China Economic Review*, 20(4), 677-691.
18. “Productivity Growth and Convergence across China's Industrial Economy” (2008) with Gary Jefferson and Thomas Rawski, *Journal of Chinese Economic and Business Studies*, 6(2), 120-141.
19. “Understanding Cross-country Differences in Export. Comparable Evidence for 14 Countries” (2008) with ISGEP, *Review of World Economics*, 144(4), 596-635.
20. “中国工业生产率的增长与收敛” (2008) 谢千里, 罗斯基, 张轶凡, 《经济学(季刊)》, 第 7(3) 期, 第 809-826 页。

Book Chapters

21. “The Impacts of Import Tariff Reduction on Income Growth and Distribution in Urban China” (2020) with Mi Dai, in Chin Hee Hahn, Dionisius Narjoko, Ha Thi Thanh Doan and Shujiro Urata (ed.) *The Effects of Globalisation on Firm and Labour Performance*, Routledge.
22. “Local Government and Private Sector Development in China” (2006), in Shuming Bao, Shuanglin Lin and Changwen Zhao (ed.), *Chinese Economy after WTO Accession*, Routledge.

Working Papers

23. “Productivity Growth in China’s Manufacturing Sector: 1998-2013” with Loren Brandt, Johannes Van Biesebroeck and Luhang Wang. Revise & Resubmit, *Journal of Development Economics*.
24. “Estimating Capital-Labor Substitution in China: Evidence from Firm-Level Data” with Lingsheng Meng and Yunbin Zhang.
25. “Digital Footprints and Policing: The Socioeconomic Impacts of Mobile Payment Reform on China’s Sex Industry” with Ting Chen and Zhaoguang Wang.
26. “College Graduates in the Labor Market: Geographic Mobility and Sorting into Firms and Occupations” with Chen Liu and Sibio Liu.
27. “Can Return Migration Reshape Environmental Preferences? Evidence from the Great Recession in China” with Zhonghui Luo and Ran Song.
28. “From Invention to Education: Impact of Technology Innovation on Human Capital Formation in China” with Sibio Liu and Yunbin Zhang.
29. “Quality Differentiation and Trade Intermediation” with Heiwai Tang.

External Research Grants

- Principal investigator, RGC General Research Fund, “The Impact of Overseas Returnees on the Performance, Innovation, and Internationalization of Chinese Firms,” HK\$326,667 (2023-2025).
- Principal investigator, RGC General Research Fund, “The Failure of Capital Control: Transaction-Level Evidence of Hot Money Flows through Trade Misinvoicing, ” HK\$364,378 (2018-2020).
- Principal investigator, RGC General Research Fund, “Exchange Rate Movements and Export Behavior of Chinese Firms,” HK\$336,462 (2011-2013).
- Co-investigator, RGC Public Policy Research Funding Scheme, “Hong Kong as an International Financial Centre for China and for the World,” HK\$1,400,000 (2008-2010).

Editorial Work

- Editor, Pacific Economic Review, 2025-now
- Associate editor, China Economic Review, 2018-now
- Editorial Board, Academy of Asian Business Review, 2017-now

Short Research Visits

- Bank of Finland Institute for Emerging Economies (BOFIT), Helsinki (one month, 2013)

- Gakushuin University, Tokyo (one month, 2014)
- Cornell University (two months, 2015)

Seminar/Conference Presentations

- First CCER Conference on Trade and Development, Yantai, Oct 2015
- Workshop on Chinese Firms in a Globalized World, Paris, Jan 2016
- Asian Economic Institute Meeting, Beijing, Apr 2016
- CES China Conference, Shenzhen, Jun 2016
- School of Economics Seminar, Renmin University of China, Jun 2016
- Workshop on Chinese Firm-Level Data, Beijing, Jun 2016
- Workshop on Innovation, Trade and Wages in the East Asian Region, Kobe, Jul 2016
- WUN Conference on China's Growth Slowdown, Perth, Oct 2016
- Annual GEP China Conference, Ningbo, Nov 2016
- CUHK Conference on Trade and Development, Hong Kong, Dec 2016
- School of Economics and Management Forum, Wuhan University, May 2017
- Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Hong Kong, Jun 2017
- Second World Congress of Comparative Economics, Saint Petersburg, Jun 2017
- 92nd Annual Conference of Western Economic Association, San Diego, Jun 2017
- Academic Seminar, School of Economics, Jinan University, Jul 2017
- Academic Seminar, School of Business, Xiangtan University, Jul 2017
- Department of Economics Seminar, Hong Kong Baptist University, Oct 2017
- Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics, Jinan University, Dec 2017
- 10th Conference on China's Economic Development Model, Academia Sinica, Dec 2017
- ASSA Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, Jan 2018
- Australasian Trade Workshop, Auckland, Mar 2018
- Zhongshan University, May 2018
- India-China Conference, Paris School of Economics, Jun 2018
- InsTED Workshop, Syracuse University, Jun 2018
- Seminar, Nankai University, Oct 2018
- 11th Conference on China's Economic Development Model, Academia Sinica, Dec 2018
- Seventh National Industrial Economics Forum, Jiangxi University of Finance and Economics, China, Oct 2018
- HKU International Trade Workshop, University of Hong Kong, May 2019
- Asian Pacific Trade Seminars, University of Tokyo, Jun 2019
- NBER Summer Institute, Development Program, Boston, Jul 2019
- Seminar, Zhejiang University, Sep 2019
- Seminar, Shanghai Jiaotong University, Oct 2019
- GEP Conference in China, Ningbo, Nov 2019
- Conference on Growth and Institution, Tsinghua University, Dec 2019
- Global Economic Policy Group Meeting (Online), University of Hagen, Germany, Jan 2021
- Seminar, Dongbei University of Finance and Economics, Oct 2021
- 15th Australasian Trade Workshop, Mar 2022
- 9th International Workshop on New Structural Economics, Jul 2022
- Seminar, University of Hong Kong, Feb 2023

- Distinguished Scholar Seminar, University of Macao, May 2023
- Big Data Workshop, University of Sydney, Jun 2023
- KER International Conference, Yeosu, Jul 2023
- Summer Workshop, Shandong University, Jul 2023
- International Agricultural Trade and Investment Forum, China Agricultural University, Jul 2023
- International Conference on Industrial Economics, Zhejiang University, Jul 2023
- Guangdong Economic Association Conference, Harbin Institute of Technology (Shenzhen), Aug 2023
- World Affairs Conference, Berkeley, Sep 2023
- HKIMR 13th Annual International Conference on Chinese Economy, Hong Kong, Oct 2023
- Inaugural Symposium for the CUHK-UC San Diego Joint Laboratory on Chinese Economy, CUHK, Dec 2023
- Association for Asian Studies Annual Conference, Seattle, Mar 2024
- Seminar, School of Economics, Central University of Economics and Finance, Apr 2024
- Seminar, Guanghua School of Management, Peking University, Apr 2024
- Seminar, Antai College of Economics and Management, Shanghai Jiaotong University, May 2024
- Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop, University of Hong Kong, May 2024
- Seminar, United International College, May 2024
- Academic forum, School of Economics and Trade, Hunan University, Jun 2024
- HKU Labor Symposium, Jun 2024
- Sixth China International Conference in Macroeconomics, CUHK, Jun 2024
- Asian Meeting of Econometrics Society, Hangzhou, Aug 2024
- CUHK-PKU Workshop on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Nov 2024
- CUHK-UCSD Joint Lab Conference, San Diego, Apr 2025
- Göttingen China Workshop on Globalization and Development, Jul 2025
- 2nd Kiel-Göttingen-CEPR Conference on China in the Global Economy, Jul 2025

Conference/Session Organization

- Co-organizer, Conference on Trade and Development, CUHK, December 2016
- Session organizer, Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Hong Kong, June 2017
- Session organizer, Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Hangzhou, June 2024
- Co-organizer, Hong Kong International Trade Online Seminar Series, 2020 – now
- Organizer, CUHK Workshop on International Trade, Nov 2023
- Co-organizer, ISER-CUHK Joint Workshop, Guangzhou, Oct 2025
- Organizer, CUHK-PKU Workshop on Innovation and Entrepreneurship, Hong Kong, Nov 2024
- Co-organizer, CUHK Summer School of Asia in the Global Economy, Jun 2025
- Co-organizer, China Economic Summer Institute, Aug 2025

Courses Taught

- Advanced International Trade, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Economic Analysis of Public Policy in China, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Economy of China, Chinese University of Hong Kong

- Business Environment of China, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Guided Studies in Current Economic Problems I & II, Chinese University of Hong Kong
- Introduction to Economics, Lingnan University
- Intermediate Microeconomics, Lingnan University
- The Chinese Economy, Lingnan University
- Financial Econometrics, Lingnan University
- Economic Growth in East Asia, Yale University
- Introduction to Macroeconomics, University of Pittsburgh

PhD/MPhil Student Supervision

- PhD students: Ziyu Peng, Jin Han, Ruilong Li, Zhi Cao, Lu Yang, Anning Xie, Juyang Wang, Anbang Tan, Yunbin Zhang, Ciqiao Wang, Zhaoguang Wang
- MPhil students: Hanrui Zeng, Siyi Li, Anbang Tan

Internal Service

- Head, Graduate Division, Department of Economics, 2022-now
- PhD Placement Coordinator, Department of Economics, 2018-now

External Service

- Fellow, Global Labor Organization, 2018-now
- Co-chair, Scientific Committee, China Economic Summer Institute, 2025-now
- Member, Scientific Committee, China Economic Summer Institute, 2019-2025
- Member, Steering Committee, CUHK-Tsinghua Joint Center for Chinese Economy, 2020-now
- Affiliate Fellow, Pan Sutong Shanghai-Hong Kong Economic Policy Research Institute, Lingnan University, 2016-now
- External affiliated faculty: Cornell Institute for China Economic Research (CICER), 2015-now
- External examiner: EMBA program and IMBA program, HKU Business School, 2025-now
- External examiner: Faculty of Business, Chu Hai College of Higher Education, Hong Kong, 2011-now
- External academic advisor: MSc International and Development Economics Program, Lingnan University, Hong Kong, 2016-now
- External reviewer: MSc Economics Program, CUHK Shenzhen, 2020-now
- External reviewer: Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications, 2023
- External examiner for PhD thesis: CityU (2020), HKU (2013, 2018, 2021, 2022, 2024), Lingnan U (2019, 2024), NTU (2015), NUS (2014, 2018)
- Consultant, World Bank, “China’s Firm Productivity Growth”, 2016-2018
- Consultant, Asian Development Bank, “China’s State-Owned Enterprises”, 2011-2015
- Consultant, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), “Microdata Project”, 2010, 2013, 2016
- Honorary president, Hong Kong Confederation of Jiangxi Associations, 2022-present

Media Interviews

Caixin, Channel News Asia, Dollar Business, Financial Times, Fortune, Hong Kong Economic Journal, Los Angeles Times, South China Morning Post, Sputnik Radio, Swiss Radio, Voice of America.

Referee Service

American Economic Review, Journal of Political Economy, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, Asian Development Review, B.E. Journal of Macroeconomics, Bulletin of Economic Research, Canadian Journal of Economics, China Economic Review, Contemporary Economic Policy, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Inquiry, Economic Journal, Economics Bulletin, Economics of Transition and Institutional Change, European Economic Review, German Economic Review, International Economic Review, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Chinese Economic and Business Studies, Journal of Comparative Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic History, Journal of Economic Surveys, Journal of Human Resources, Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of International Economics, Journal of International Trade & Economic Development, Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Population Economics, Journal of Productivity Analysis, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Urban Economics, Labour Economics, National Tax Journal, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Oxford Economic Papers, Pacific Economic Review, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economic Dynamics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Review of Finance, Review of Industrial Organization, Review of World Economics, Singapore Economic Review, World Development, World Economy.