

Yuan Tian

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EMPLOYMENT

November 2024 – Present Economist, IFC, World Bank Group
August 2020 – October 2024 Assistant Professor, School of Economics, University of Nottingham
July 2018 – July 2020 Postdoctoral Fellow, Heinz College, Carnegie Mellon University

SHORT-TERM VISITS

September 2024 – October 2024 LBJ School of Public Affairs, UT Austin

EDUCATION

2012 – 2018 University of California, Los Angeles, Ph.D. in Economics.
2011 – 2012 Michigan State University, Ph.D. coursework.
2007 – 2011 Tsinghua University, B.A. in Economics.

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Trade, development, urban.

PUBLICATIONS AND WORKING PAPERS

Publications:

“International Trade Liberalization and Domestic Institutional Reform: Effects of WTO Accession on Chinese Internal Migration Policy”, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, May 2024, 106 (3), pp. 794–813.
“Social Learning Along International Migrant Networks”, with Maria Esther Caballero and Brian Kovak, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, March 2022, 195, pp. 103-121.
“The Safest Time to Fly: Pandemic Response in the Era of Fox News”, with Maxim Ananyev and Michael Poyker, *Journal of Population Economics*, July 2021, 34(3), pp. 775-802 (lead article).
“Killer Cities: Past and Present”, with William Walker Hanlon, *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 2015, 105(5), pp. 570–575.

Working papers:

“Trade-Induced Urbanization and the Making of Modern Agriculture”, with Junjie Xia and Rudai Yang.
“Unpacking Global Shocks”, with Alejandro Graziano.
“Out of the Network: Migration and the Decay of Relational Society”, with Junjie Xia.
“Social Ties and Gift Exchanges in a Relational Society”, with Junjie Xia.

Works in progress:

“Migration Restrictions and Economic Misallocation”, with Brian Kovak.
“Shape of Jobs and Urban Wage Premium”, with Junjie Xia.
“Jobs in Recessions: Demand, Supply, and the Role of Technological Changes”, with Junjie Xia.
“Superstar Firms and the Creation of Experts Along the Supply Chain”, with Junjie Xia.
“Exporters, Banks, and the Propagation of Global Shocks”, with Junjie Xia.

Book chapters:

“Covid-19 and the Media”, with Maxim Ananyev and Michael Poyker, prepared for the Handbook of Labor, Human Resources and Population Economics, K.F. Zimmermann (ed.).

CONFERENCE PRESENTATION AND SEMINARS (* indicates scheduled)

2025: ENS de Lyon*.
2024: CEPR STEG (Abu Dhabi presenter, Barcelona discussant); Texas A&M Bush School; University of Houston; NICEP Conference (Nottingham); Paris PSE Shipping Conference (Paris).
2023: CITP seminar; Trade and Development Workshop (KCL, London); Trade, Value Chains and Financial Linkages in the Global Economy (Bank of Italy, Rome); CUHK trade workshop (Hong Kong); Loyola Marymount University.

2022: Oxford; BSE Summer Forum Geography, Trade, and Growth (Barcelona); Econometric and Big Data Analyses of Global Economy, Financial Markets and Economic Policies (Liverpool); ESM Econometric Society (Milan); UEA (DC); Aarhus University; Fudan University; Geneva Graduate Institute (GTDW workshop); Birmingham University.

2021: Royal Economic Society Conference; The Third International Workshop on Market Structure and Spatial Economics; 18th Midwest International Economic Development Conference; European UEA; 2021 SUFE&PKU Trade Workshop; SED; NBER SI ITI; Kobe University Summer Cooling Workshop; 14th AFD-World Bank Migration and Development Conference; INSEAD; LSE/CEP; HKU.

2020: Nottingham University; Ryerson University; Queen's University; SHUFE; HKUST; Jinan University, IESR; World Congress Econometric Society; NBER SI Development; EEA; University of Zurich.

2019: Rocky Mountain Empirical Trade (Banff); NASM Econometric Society (Seattle); UEA (Philadelphia); EWM Econometric Society (Rotterdam).

2018: NYU Shanghai; Peking University, INSE; UNSW; 11th International Conference on Migration and Development (Stanford); Nanyang Technological University; Carnegie Mellon University; UEA (New York); EWM Econometric Society (Naples); Peking University, INSE Winter Meeting (Beijing).

2017: AEA (Chicago); All California Labor Conference, poster (Stanford); Midwest Trade Conference (Dallas); EWM Econometric Society (Barcelona); SAEe (Barcelona).

2016: NASM Econometric Society (Philadelphia).

2015: EWM Econometric Society (Milan).

Postponed: CEPREMAP India-China Conference (Namur).

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee for *American Economic Journal, Applied*; *American Economic Journal, Policy*; *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*; *European Economic Review*; *International Economic Review*; *Journal of Development Economics*; *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*; *Journal of Economic Geography*; *Journal of Health Economics*; *Journal of International Economics*; *Journal of Population Economics*; *Journal of Regional Science*; *Labour Economics*; *Quantitative Economics*; *Quarterly Journal of Economics*; *Review of Economics and Statistics*; *Review of International Economics*; *Review of World Economics*; *World Economy*; Research Grants Council of Hong Kong.

Co-organizer of the Globalization and Economic Policy (GEP) seminar series, University of Nottingham, 2022–2023.

Co-organizer of the 19th and 20th GEP/CEPR Annual Postgraduate Conference, University of Nottingham, 2021, 2022.

Junior recruiting, University of Nottingham, 2020, 2022.

TEACHING

Nottingham (master) Trade Analysis and Policy, Spring 2021, 2022, 2023;

(undergraduate) Economic Integration II, Spring 2021, 2022, 2023; Advanced International Trade I, Fall 2022.

UCLA (undergraduate) International Finance, Spring 2018; Introduction to Economics, Spring 2017.

HONORS AND AWARDS

ESRC Centre for Inclusive Trade Policy 2022-2026, Investigator.

British Academy/Leverhulme Small Research Grant SRG 2020-2021 Round, PI.

UCLA Graduate School Dissertation Year Fellowship, 2017.

Ziman Center's UCLA Rosalinde and Arthur Gilbert Program in Real Estate, Finance and Urban Economics, Research Grant, 2015.

Honored Pass in Econometrics Field, UCLA, 2014.

Graduate Office Fellowship in Economics Department, Michigan State University, 2011.

Award for Undergraduate Thesis, Tsinghua University, 2011.

Tsinghua University-Tianyi Comprehensive Performance Scholarship, 2010.

Tsinghua University-Morgan Stanley Scholarship, 2010.

Tsinghua University Secondary Freshmen Scholarship, 2007.

MEDIA COVERAGE

Vox-EU, Faculti.net.

SKILLS

Language skills: English – fluent; Chinese – native.

Computer skills: STATA, Matlab, R, ArcGIS, Python.