

Yiming (Paul) Li

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Education

The University of Chicago

PH.D. IN PUBLIC POLICY

Chicago, IL

June 2018

- Fields: Applied Econometrics, Labor Economics, Public Economics, Health Economics

MASTER OF PUBLIC POLICY

2012

City University of Hong Kong

Hong Kong, China

M.S. IN ECONOMICS

2009

Beijing Technology and Business University

Beijing, China

B.S. IN ECONOMICS, HIGHEST HONOR

2006

- Best Debater in University Debate Competition; Outstanding Student Leader

Skills

Statistics and ML Causal Inference, Impact Evaluation, Experimental and Quasi-Experimental Design, Predictive Modeling, Regression, Matching, Instrumental Variables, Regression Discontinuity

Programming R, Python, PostgreSQL, Stata, Git, Shell, LaTeX

Experience

Consultant

Chicago, IL

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PROFESSIONAL AND FINANCIAL REGULATION

Jan.-Apr. 2016

- Investigated the effects of occupational licensing regulations using longitudinal methods; found that occupational licensing contributed to fewer nurses and pharmacists moving across state borders
- Gathered, manipulated, and analyzed administrative data and survey data with R, Python, and SQL
- Automated the analyses, visualization, and reporting using R Markdown
- Designed and developed a benchmarking tool for easily comparing pharmacist licensure across states
- Presented the research and policy suggestions to the department secretary and directors

Manager, Management Trainee

Beijing, China

CHINA RAILWAY EXPRESS LOGISTICS TECHNOLOGY

Oct. 2006–Jun. 2008

- Identified stowage waste and developed an application to optimize usage, automate planning, and reduce waste
- Showcased the application at company's national conference; convinced team leaders to test the application
- Designed and conducted randomized controlled experiments (A/B testing) in the field to test the application
- Gathered and analyzed the experimental data with R; reduced stowage waste by 7%

Intern Programmer and Database Designer

Ningbo, China

CHINA TELECOM, HEALTH DEPARTMENT

May.–Sept. 2004

- Designed and developed an MS Access database to manage drug inventory, which cut reporting time by 70%
- Trained the staff members basic SQL queries and GUI operations of the database

Research and Teaching

Researcher in Economics and Econometrics

- Investigated various topics using quasi-experimental design and observational causal inference methods, including longitudinal methods, matching, propensity score methods, instrumental variables, and dimension reduction
- Identified causal links between the depressed labor markets and high take-up of government disability programs, the links between lost jobs for men and the decline in marriage and the rise in out-of-wedlock births, and the links between the rising child care costs and the stagnating female labor force participation
- Improved instrumental variable method using machine learning techniques (Ridge, Lasso, and Elastic net)
- Examined the bias of Bartik instrumental variables methods under non-random measurement error
- Gathered, cleaned, and analyzed big data sets from various sources on large computing clusters with R and Python
- Presented research to policymakers, domain experts, and non-expert audiences

Instructor and Teaching Assistant for Graduates and Undergraduates

- Taught 10+ graduate and undergraduate courses in math, statistics, regression, program evaluation, and economics
- Designed, developed, and taught a course on law and economics for undergraduate students
- Consistently earned high evaluations from students, as high as 4.9/5

Publication

Disability Benefit Take-Up and Local Labor Market Conditions

REVIEW OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS, WITH KERWIN CHARLES AND MELVIN STEPHENS

Forthcoming