

# YANG LI

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## EDUCATION

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<b>Simon Fraser University, Canada</b>	Aug. 2025–Present
<i>M.A. in Economics</i>	<i>Core GPA: 4.25/4.33</i>
<b>Nankai University, China</b>	Aug. 2022–Jun. 2025
<i>M.A. in Economics</i>	<i>GPA: 3.3/4.0</i>
<b>Hunan University, China</b>	Aug. 2018–Jun. 2022
<i>B.A. in Economics, with Honors</i>	<i>Core GPA: 4.0/4.0</i>

## RESEARCH INTEREST

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Labor Economics; Gender Economics

## WORKING PAPER

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**Pension Income, Household Reallocation, and Medical Utilization: Evidence from** 2026  
**China's Urban–Rural Resident Pension Reform (*with Xinhao Dong*)**

*Scheduled for presentation at the 2026 CEA Annual Conference.*

- Study how China's urban–rural resident pension reform changed medical utilization and household resource allocation among older adults.
- Use a balanced CHARLS panel (2011, 2013, 2015, 2018) and implement a reform-period rural–urban difference-in-differences design, complemented by event-study evidence and an age-60 fuzzy RD.
- Find that formal outpatient and inpatient care decline after the reform, while medicine-based treatment rises and older adults retain more household resources through lower downward transfers to children.

**Global Value Chains, Specialized Inputs, and Sino–U.S. Trade Friction: Evidence** 2024  
**from China's Customs Data**

- Develop a generalized input–output accounting framework that allows for destination- and product-specific intermediate input use by combining WIOD tables with China's HS8-level customs data.
- Construct foreign value-added measures under heterogeneous input structures, relaxing the proportional-use assumption in standard TiVA methodologies.
- Show that conventional TiVA measures can substantially understate U.S. value added embodied in China's exports, especially in electronics and other high-tech sectors.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

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**Border Trade and Frontier Governance in China, 2015–2024** 2025

*Supervisor: Prof. Jian Lu*

*Yangtze Institute for Development,  
Nanjing University*

- Compile and harmonize provincial statistics from 2015 to 2024 to study the evolution of China’s small-scale border trade across major border provinces.
- Document changes in trade volume, spatial concentration, partner-country composition, port networks, and product specialization for Xinjiang, Guangxi, Inner Mongolia, Heilongjiang, Yunnan, and Tibet.
- Provide descriptive evidence on Xinjiang’s shift from a corridor-based to a hub-based border-trade pattern and discuss implications for regional trade connectivity.

**China’s Position in Global Value Chains under Deglobalization Risks**

2024

*Supervisor: Prof. Terence Chong Tai Leung*

*Department of Economics, Chinese*

*University of Hong Kong*

- Prepare a research memo on TiVA and GVC measurement and summarize evidence on China’s value capture in fragmented production networks.
- Synthesize mechanisms linking U.S.–China trade frictions and supply-chain reconfiguration to sectoral upgrading and value capture.

**“Challenge Cup” College Student Academic Works Competition**

2021

*Supervisor: Prof. Hao Xiao*

*School of Economics and Trade,*

*Hunan University*

- Construct a 53-country panel dataset on China–Africa engagement and agricultural trade outcomes using survey data and cross-country statistics.
- Estimate dynamic panel models (GMM) to examine how different aid categories relate to trade and contracting outcomes, and conduct robustness checks.

**Innovation and Entrepreneurship Training Program, Hunan Province**

2020

*Supervisor: Prof. Hao Xiao*

*School of Economics and Trade,*

*Hunan University*

- Lead a team project studying whether the composition of China’s aid predicts later contracting activity in 53 African recipient countries.
- Construct key variables from the China Aid Data and estimate dynamic panel models (GMM) under alternative specifications and diagnostic checks.
- Write the empirical section and coordinate the literature review and final report preparation.

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**

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**ECON 331, Simon Fraser University**

Spring 2026

*Teaching Assistant*

*Instructor: Prof. Bertille Antoine*

**Mathematical Economics (M.A.), Nankai University**

Fall 2024

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

*Instructor: Prof. Dianchun Jiang*

**Digital Economics (B.A.), Nankai University**

Spring 2024

*Teaching Assistant*

*Instructor: Prof. Yongjin Wang*

**Industrial Organization Theory (M.A.), Nankai University**

Spring 2023

*Graduate Teaching Assistant*

*Instructor: Prof. Yongjin Wang*

## HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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- Special Graduate Entrance Fellowship, Simon Fraser University 2025
- Graduate Admission Scholarship for Recommended Admission without Examination, Nankai University 2022
- Special Graduate Entrance Scholarship, Nankai University 2022
- Outstanding Graduate of the Department, Hunan University 2022
- First-Class Scholarship, Hunan University 2021

## COURSEWORK

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**Economics:** Microeconomics (M.A.); Macroeconomics (M.A.); Econometric Theory (M.A.); Applied Econometrics (M.A.); Advanced Microeconomics (Ph.D., audited); Advanced Econometrics (Ph.D., audited)

**Mathematics and Statistics:** Math Camp (M.A., 97.5/100); Probability Theory and Mathematical Statistics; Linear Algebra; Stochastic Processes (graduate level)

## TECHNICAL SKILLS

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**Languages:** Mandarin (native); English (Fluent)

**Software:** MATLAB, R, Stata, Python