Yutao WANG

School of Economics, Singapore Management University

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Contact Information

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Personal Information:

Date of Birth: 13th March 1995

Sex: Male Citizenship: Chinese

Undergraduate Studies:

Bachelor of Economics in Finance, College of Economics and Management, Northwest A&F University, 2017

Masters Level Work:

Master of Science in Quantitative Economics, School of Statistics, Southwestern University of Finance and Economics, 2020

Graduate Studies:

Ph.D. in Economics, Singapore Management University, 2020 to present

Thesis Title: "Essays on Labor and Family Economics"

Expected Completion Date: July, 2025

Thesis Committee and References:

Christine Ho (Chair)

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Sunha Myong

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Tomoki Fujii

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Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Labor Economics, Development Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Secondary fields: Economics of the Family, Economics of Gender

Teaching Experience:

Teaching Assistant

Economics and Society (UG), SMU, Spring 2025

Instructor: Assistant Professor Nona Pepito

Topics in Public Policy (PhD), SMU, Fall 2024

Instructor: Associate Professor Christine Ho

Macroeconomics II (PhD), SMU, Fall 2022 & 2023

Instructor: Associate Professor Jianhuan Xu

Demographic and Family Economics (UG), SMU, Fall 2022 & 2023

Instructor: Associate Professor Christine Ho Econometrics (UG), SWUFE, Fall 2018 Instructor: Professor Weidong Zhang

Tutorial Instructor

Demonstration Tutorial: Demographic and Family Economics (UG), SMU, Fall 2022 & 2023 *Teaching evaluations (7-point scale: 5 = "Good," 6 = "Very Good"): 5.895/7 (2022), 5.963/7 (2023)*

Research Experience:

Research Assistant to Associate Professor Christine Ho, SMU, 2022 – 2025 Research Assistant to Associate Professor Jing Li, SMU, 2021

Professional Activities:

Conference Organization

Local Organizing Committee, 2024 Society of Economics of the Household (SEHO) Meeting, 2024

Summer School

Accepted Participant, Econometric Society Summer School in Dynamic Structural Econometrics (DSE) – "Policy Evaluation and Heterogeneity Measurement", 2024

Grant Collaboration

Research Collaborator, MOE Tier 1(A) Grant, Child Migration and Human Capital Investment (SGD 38,395), Funded by Ministry of Education of Singapore, 2023 – 2025

Conference and Seminar Presentations:

2024 (including scheduled)

Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Monash University, Melbourne RUC-GLO Annual Conference, Renmin University of China, Beijing Seminar Series, Singapore Management University, Singapore Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society in China, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou SEHO Annual Meeting, Singapore Management University, Singapore

2023

AASLE Conference, National Taiwan University, Taipei Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore Applied Micro Workshop, Singapore Management University, Singapore

2022

GLO Global Conference, Global Labor Organization, Virtual Forum of Public Economics and Policy, Fudan University, Virtual SMU Brownbag Workshop Series, Singapore Management University, Singapore

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

Presidential Doctoral Fellowship ($\times 2$), Singapore Management University, 2023 - 2025 Ph.D. Full Scholarship, Ministry of Education of Singapore, 2020 - 2024

"Guanghua" Distinguished Master's Thesis Award, SWUFE, 2020 National Scholarship for Graduate Students, Ministry of Education of China, 2019 Outstanding Master's Student Award, SWUFE, 2019 First-Tier Academic Scholarship (×3), SWUFE, 2018 – 2019 Distinguished Undergraduate Dissertation Award, Northwest A&F University, 2017

Publications:

"Child Migration and the Labor Supply of Migrant Mothers" (with Kaizhi Yu and Hong Zou), *Statistical Research* (in Chinese,统计研究), 2022, 39(2): 64 – 79.

Research Papers:

"Social Institutions and Low Birth Rates" (with Christine Ho) Job Market Paper

Abstract: We document three cross-sectional stylized facts on labor supply and family formation. First, female labor force participation (LFP) and fertility rates are much lower in Eastern societies compared to Western economies. Second, labor hours and the gender-pay gap are much higher in the East than in the West. Third, parents spend very high amounts of time and money per child in Eastern societies. To account for these features, we develop and estimate a rich heterogeneous-agent model with endogenous marriage, fertility, labor supply, and time and money investment in children. Estimates using data from South Korea and the United States highlight the importance of gender norms and long work hours practices in driving down female LFP while child quality mores drive down fertility in South Korea. Our results suggest that a multi-pronged policy approach or reductions in the gender-pay gap may help boost both female LFP and fertility in East Asia.

"Family Size and Child Migration: Do Daughters Face Greater Trade-Offs than Sons?" (with Christine Ho and Sharon Xuejing Zuo)

Abstract: We show that, conditional on family size, rural boys and girls are equally likely to migrate with parents in China. Nevertheless, daughters' migration may still be compromised because they tend to have more siblings in societies with strong son preference, and larger families are more likely to leave all children behind. We find that a one unit increase in sibship size decreases the probability that a daughter migrates by 12.5 percentage points—with stronger effects when migration restrictions are more stringent—but has negligible effects on sons. The results suggest that gender-neutral migration constraints may generate gendered family size trade-offs.

Selected Work in Progress:

"Hukou Reform and Labor Market Sorting: A Quantitative Analysis" (with Tong Ni)

"Pension Enrolment and Child Migration in China" (with Christine Ho and Sharon Xuejing Zuo)

Computer Skills:

Matlab, STATA, R, Fortran, LATEX

Languages:

Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)