

Linli Zhao

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PROFESSIONAL PROFILE: DATA ANALYST & ECONOMIC RESEARCHER

Specializes in analyzing business cycles, labor market patterns, household demographics, and firm-worker dynamics. Proficient in advanced econometric causal-inference methods, including IV, time series approaches like VAR and Local Projection, and quantitative analysis of large datasets.

Areas of Expertise

Economic Research | Data Analytics | Team Collaboration | Technical Writing | Leadership | Mentoring

Technical Skills

Stata, LaTeX, R, Python, MATLAB, EViews, and Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher)

Languages

English (proficient) and Mandarin (native proficient)

Academic Experience

Assistant Professor of Economics – Elon University, Elon, NC Beginning Fall 2024

Education

Ph.D. Economics – University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 2019 - 2024 (expected)
M.S. Economics – University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 2019 - 2020
B. A. International Finance – Donghua University, Shanghai, China 2012 - 2016

Professional Experience

Doctoral Researcher, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 2019 - 2024

- Conduct empirical research, use real-world data, and collaborate with distinguished professors & peers.
- Develop proficiency in programming tools, gain expertise in managing large data and professional writing.

Economics Instructor, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 2020 - 2024

- Instruct courses in Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, and Statistics independently and accommodate a diverse student demographic across teaching formats.
- Coordinated large lecture courses for 400 students, applying effective communication with non-technical audiences.

Wealth Management Advisor, Huatai Futures, Shanghai, China 2018 - 2019

- Facilitated consultations with institutions and individuals to assess their investment requirements.
- Developed customized futures and options strategies for risk management and to fulfill investment objectives.

Loan and Treat Intern, Bank of America, Merrill Lynch, Shanghai, China 2016

- Assisted multiple departments in verifying receipts and calculating loans for machinery companies.
- Managed and updated the daily loan database, conducting weekly data validations with the Information Center.

Research Assistant Experience

Center for Business and Economic Research, with [Dr. Michael Clark](#) 2023

- Evaluated workforce training programs for the Kentucky Education & Labor Cabinet, supporting the project with extensive literature review and research on program evaluation methodologies, including propensity score matching and cost-benefit analysis.

Kentucky Research Data Census at the University of Kentucky, with [Dr. Ana María Herrera](#) 2022

- Accessed restricted Census datasets to analyze wage patterns and migration trends among U.S. firms, refining empirical analyses through regular weekly feedback.

Zillow Housing Transactions at the University of Kentucky, with [Dr. Christopher R. Bollinger](#) 2021

- Conducted analysis of Zillow housing data, utilizing Stata for data cleansing and management, while collaborating with peers and professors to explore the empirical correlation between housing characteristics and transaction trends.

Research Papers

'Economic Uncertainty's Impact on Aggregate Employment Fluctuations: Estimating the Importance of the Population's Age Distribution', analyzing how demographic profiles influence employment volatility in response to economic uncertainty. [Job-market paper is available at: [Link](#).]

'Macroeconomic Uncertainty and Regional Wage Dispersion', investigating the effects of macroeconomic uncertainty on wage dispersion and worker reallocating patterns across different skill levels in U.S. states and counties. [Draft available upon request.]

Co-authored with [Dr. Ana María Herrera](#) and [Dr. Ryan Hanson](#), "Oil Supply and Demand Shocks on Job Flows" examines how global oil shocks affect U.S. manufacturing employment. Using restricted Census data, we find demand-driven shocks have greater, lasting impacts. This effect is most evident in durable goods sectors. [Draft available upon Census disclosure.]

Leadership and Mentorship

Mentor undergraduates and graduate students 2020 - Current

- Provide guidance to undergraduate students from diverse cultural and educational backgrounds in navigating campus job searches, scholarship opportunities, and graduate program applications with professionalism.

Led Graduate Student Workshops 2022 - 2023

- Directed weekly workshops for 30 participants, organized welcoming events like pizza socials, secured sponsorships, facilitated presentations with faculty, alumni, and PhD students, and efficiently managed departmental proctoring schedules.

Professional Conference Development

Slated to present at the Southern Economic Association (SEA) conference scheduled in Washington, D.C. 2024

Presented at the American Economic Association conference in San Antonio, TX 2024

Delivered a presentation at the Southern Economic Association (SEA) conference held in New Orleans, LA 2023

Presented and participated in the Kentucky Economics Association conference in Berea College, KY. 2023

Delivered multiple presentations at departmental workshops and engaged in clear communication, adeptly addressing questions from the academic audience at the University of Kentucky, KY. 2023

Received paper acceptance but was unable to present at the Society for Nonlinear Dynamics and Econometrics 2024 and the Midwest Economics Association 2024 conference.

Honors, Fellowships, and Grants

Recipient of the Doctoral Research Excellence Award, Gatton College of Business and Economics 2024

Awarded the Block Funding Award and the Lockett / Max Steckler / Gatton Fellowship 2019 - 2024

Granted the Teaching Assistant Fellowship in recognition of scholarly performance 2019 - 2024

Honored with the Graduate Student Award by the Southern Economic Association 2023

Nominated for the Top Graduate Teaching Award at the University of Kentucky 2023

Received the Gunther Economics Research Paper Award twice at the Department of Economics 2022 & 2023

Awarded a summer research grant to support collaborative research from University of Kentucky 2022

Received travel funding for the SEA conference through the Women's Mentoring Workshop sponsorship 2022