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EDUCATION

Cornell University, SC Johnson College of Business — Ithaca, USA
PhD in Applied Economics and Management — *2016 - 2022 (expected)*
PhD minor in Computer Science — *2018 - 2022 (expected)*

Renmin University of China — Beijing, China
BS in Applied Economics (Honor of Excellence Graduate)) — *2014*

University of Copenhagen — Copenhagen, Denmark
Exchange Student in Mathematics and Applied Economics — *2012 - 2013*

DISSERTATION TOPIC

Commercialization of Artificial Intelligence, Technology Adoption

PHD COURSEWORK

Microeconomic Theory I, Microeconomic Theory II, Macroeconomics I, Intermediate Math Econ I, Econometrics I, Applied Microeconomics I & II, Models Methods Econometrics I, Dynamic Optimization, Applied Microeconomic Research I, Environmental Economics, Empirical Strategies II, Industrial Organization & Regulation I & II, Economics of Development, Machine Learning Data Science

WORKING IN PROGRESS

The effects of labor mobility on firm AI adoption decisions (with Chris Forman and Natarajan Balasubramanian)

AWARDS

China National Scholarship for US Graduate Study ($80k) — *2014*
Dyson Scholarship — *2016*
NBER Young Scholar in Economics of Artificial Intelligence — *2019*

SKILLS & OTHER

Software: STATA, Matlab, R, Python, ArcGIS, and QGIS
Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent)
Interests: Oil Painting, Cooking, Swimming, Travelling(backpack traveler in 34 European cities).

Summary of Research Interest in Economics of Digitizations

Under the supervision of Professor Chris Forman, my dissertation takes as its subject the commercialization of Artificial Intelligence technology. The first step is to come up with appropriate measurements for AI adoption and map the adoption patterns among U.S. firms in all industries. Employing the CI technology dataset that covers over three million establishments in the United States as in 2018, we propose to track the *software installation* among commercial firms from 2008 to 2018.

Our measurement contributes to understand the commercialization of AI technology adoption. So far, there're mainly three types of AI transformations among firms in the real world. The first one is to hire AI scientists and develop their own AI algorithms using the firm's data asset. The second type is to cooperate with an AI specialized company and have their system installed (example as Layer6 AI and TD bank). The third type is *user friendly AI*- tech vendors have embedded the AI function into their platform products, which allows a wider range of workers in the firm to understand and use AI in their daily tasks. The existing literature has mainly been focused on the first type, using the employment and self-reported skills data to measure AI investment and evaluate the intangible assets (Goldfarb et al. 2019, Tambe et al. 2019; Rock 2019). We hope our results could capture the wider diffusion of user-friendly AI embedded in software and help to depict the entire picture of AI on economic growth and business value.

Our current project is to examine the impact of labor mobility on AI investment decisions among commercial firms. Studies have suggested that limiting mobility can dampen innovation and growth by safeguarding employer's investment (Acemoglu and Shimer 1999, Marx et al. 2009). The hypothesis is that firms' willingness to invest in new technologies will increase as a result of restricting labor mobility. Using the changes in state-level noncompete agreements (NCAs) enforceability prior to 2018 as the proxy for labor mobility, we found interesting preliminary patterns that mobility affects AI technology adoption. I hope that our findings by the next spring will contribute to the discussion with the professors and graduate students in the Economics of Digitization Meeting. The tutorial would be of great value to my study, I am sincerely looking forward to the opportunity to join this prodigious event in Economics of Digitization.

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