Contact Information

Name: Jin Liu

Email: jl7767@nyu.edu

Phone: 984-244-3293

Institution: Department of Economics, New York University

Address: 150 Union Ave Apt 3i, Brooklyn, NY, 11206

Jin Liu

Department of Economics
New York University
19 West 4th Street, 6th floor
New York, NY 10012

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Email: jl7767@nyu.edu
Homepage: https://sites.google.com/view/jinliusite

Education

Ph.D in Economics, New York University (expected)	2023
M.A. in Economics, Duke University	2018
B.A. in Mathematical Economics, Fudan University	2016

Fields and Coursework

Major: Industrial Organization; Minor: Macroeconomics.

Area of Interests: Firm dynamics, firm networks, technology adoption, e-commerce and online platforms.

Key Courses: First-year sequences of Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Econometrics, and Mathematics; Industrial Organization I, II, III; Advanced Macroeconomics I and II; Macro and Finance; Applied Microeconometrics; IO on Networks and Empirical Contracts (Princeton); Programming for Data Science.

Working Paper and Work in Progress

"Search and Information Frictions on Global E-Commerce Platforms: Evidence from Ali-Express" with Jie Bai, Maggie Chen, and Daniel Yi Xu.

"Strategic Motives, Innovation and Firm Growth" with François Miguet (NYU Stern)

Publication

"Do Industrial Policies Lead to Excess Capacity? Empirical Evidence from China" with Zonglai Kou and Xueyue Liu, Fudan Journal (Social Sciences Edition), 59(5), 2017: 148-161.

"Policy Suggestions to Dissolve Excess Capacity" with Zonglai Kou and Xueyue Liu, Review of Economic Research, 66 (2017): 20-21.

Additional Skills

Software	Stata, Python, MATLAB, Julia, C, Dream Weaver, LaTeX, Unix
Languages	Chinese (native), English (fluent)

Statement of Interests in AI

AI and my ''Search and Information Frictions'' project. In my recent working paper on E-commerce, we document empirical evidence for the prevalence of both search and information frictions in online transactions. One key factor lying at the intersection of these frictions is the platform's machine learning algorithm of recommendations: A successful recommendation algorithm serves to reduce search friction by matching consumers with desired products; however, the lack of selection together with the prevalent information friction will hugely weaken its effectiveness. Nonetheless, even after talking to managers of the platform, this important recommendation algorithm remains a black box in the sense that we do not know exactly why it ranks some products higher than others. Knowing more about how AI helps with platform decision making and consumer-product matching will better shed light on how visibility is determined in this working paper.

New Interests related to AI. I have newly developed interests in the following two research topics: (1) How does a new technology diffuse across firms? Is it through the input-output network (say, by factor complementarity), the network of common ownership or managers, geographical spillover, or market competition? (2) How does the heterogenous adoption decisions of AI-related technology affect the firm size distribution and industry dynamics. What is important to both topics is the question about how the new AI technology is different from the old IT technology or other specific R&D activities. The generation and usage of data, for example, is one distinguished feature of AI. Thus, I am eager to learn more about how AI fits into our general economic framework and what adjustments we need to think about it.