Personal Statement

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Research Interests and Projects

I am a third-year doctoral candidate at the University of Michigan School of Information. My research interests lie at the intersection of behavioral economics and human-AI collaboration. I focus on how information technologies and AI systems can help promote positive social outcomes. My current research projects explore how AI systems influence individual and organizational outcomes such as job market success, crowdfunding effectiveness, and workplace productivity.

Social Media Promotion

Together with Professor Yan Chen, Professor Alain Cohn and Professor Al Roth, we conducted a field experiment on Twitter during the 2022–2023 economics job market. This study examined how social media promotion affects job market outcomes, especially for underrepresented groups, including women, racial and ethnic minorities, and LGBTQ+ individuals. Our findings indicate that social media promotion significantly increases visibility, and job market candidates in the treatment group received one additional flyout, with women receiving 0.9 more job offers. This work, supported by the Robert B. Zajonc Scholars Fund, has been presented at venues such as SITE at Stanford and featured in Michigan News.

AI-Mediated Communication and Polarization

Collaborating with Professor Yan Chen, Professor Qiaozhu Mei and Professor Teng Ye, I designed an experiment using Wikipedia to assess whether AI-mediated communication can reduce ideological and affective polarization. Our preliminary results suggest that AI-facilitated feedback improves intergroup attitudes, particularly on moderately polarizing topics. This suggests AI's potential in fostering constructive discussions.

AI in Hiring Processes

Together with Ph.D. student Qingyi Wang, I am investigating the impact of AI-generated content and recruiter perceptions on hiring outcomes. Our experimental design disentangles

the effects of actual AI use from perceived AI involvement, providing insights into the role of AI in recruitment and its implications for fairness and bias in hiring practices.

Coursework

- Econometric Analysis
- Microeconomic Theory
- Causal Inference
- Behavioral and Experimental Research in Operations
- Math for Economists
- Digital Public Goods

Dissertation

Title: *AI-based Digital Experiments for Social Good*

Abstract

This dissertation examines how digital technologies and artificial intelligence (AI) can address social divisions through three field experiments. The first experiment investigates how social media promotion affects academic job market outcomes, finding that targeted promotion leads to 0.8 additional job offers for women candidates. The second experiment uses Wikipedia as a testbed to evaluate AI-mediated communication in reducing political polarization, showing that AI interventions are most effective when facilitating discussions on moderately polarizing topics and encouraging supportive feedback. The third study explores the consequences of AI adoption in the workforce, using a 2×2 experimental design to disentangle how actual AI use versus perceived AI involvement differentially impacts hiring decisions and compensation. Through these investigations, my goal is to develop a framework for understanding how digital platforms and AI systems shape social outcomes.

Committee Members

- Professor Yan Chen, University of Michigan
- Professor Alain Cohn, University of Michigan
- Professor Qiaozhu Mei, University of Michigan
- Professor Stephen Leider, University of Michigan