

Yiyang Chen

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EDUCATION

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

Bachelor of Arts in Economics and Computer Science

2019 – 2023

- Highest Honors in Economics
- High Distinction in General Scholarship, GPA 3.961
- Senior Honors Thesis: *Tax Revenue Cyclicalities and Income Inequality: Evidence from U.S. Counties from 1989 to 2019*, advised by Prof. Emi Nakamura

EXPERIENCE

Predoctoral Research Fellow

July 2023 – Present

Harvard University

Cambridge, MA

- Working with Prof. Melissa Dell on deep learning and its applications in economic history and political economy
- Develop deep learning pipelines to classify and analyze unstructured text and image datasets
- Apply models to extract accusations and fact-checking practices from historical news articles, identifying geographic and temporal patterns in media circulation and sensationalism during the McCarthy era
- Cluster and analyze historical newspaper images to study public reactions to key events (e.g., the Vietnam War) by comparing visual narratives across wire services
- Build and manage technical infrastructure, including scrapers for newspaper archives and Azure pipelines for full-edition newspaper digitization, and fine-tuned NLP models to improve various topic classification

Research Assistant

Sept 2020 – May 2023

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

- (Fall 2022 – Spring 2023) Assisting Prof. Ulrike Malmendier on “*Politician Voting*”: Assembled datasets from CRSP, stockwatcher, and other sources; performed analysis on how politicians’ life experience affect their voting decisions and investment decisions; scraped amendment texts from the Library of Congress and performed NER on texts
- (Fall 2022) Assisting Prof. Robert Edelman on “*Globalization and Climate Change*”: Assembled warm-house gases and sustainable technology datasets; examined causal relationship with natural experiments
- (Fall 2021 – Spring 2022) Assisting Oliver Kim (PhD) and Joel Ferguson (PhD) on “*Satellite Imagery and Historical East Asian Economic Growth*”: Applied machine learning methods and train satellite data to predict Chinese economic growth status during 1950-1960s; gathered gazetteer data and fetch geographical information used in training
- (Fall 2020 – Spring 2021) Assisting Jimmy Narang (PhD) on “*Misinformation and Belief Updating*”: Helped with logistic and design of experiment model used in the research; gathered empirical observations and perform preliminary analyses

Teaching Assistant

Sept 2021 – May 2023

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

- Working as teaching assistant for *Econ 148: Data Science for Economists* and *Data 88E: Economics Models*
- Developed and updated original course content (including textbook, lecture materials and lab Jupyter Notebooks)
- Gave lectures; hold discussion sections and office hours; manage class logistics (websites, discussion forums, etc.)

Peer Tutor and Course Liaison

Jan 2021 – Dec 2021

University of California, Berkeley

Berkeley, CA

- Provided drop-in tutoring service to students in *Econ 136: Financial Economics* class
- Coordinated peer tutors in the cluster and connect with the professor and offer students’ feedback

PRESENTATIONS

Forced Migrations, Historical Economic Development Reading Group, Harvard University

Economic Agents and LLM, Economics and Deep Learning Reading Group, Harvard University

HONORS AND AWARDS

Phi Beta Kappa

Michael and Chris Boskin Scholarship Award (2022)