LAN NGUYEN
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Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

(347) 822-6528
tn2304@columbia.edu
http://econ.columbia.edu/e/lan-nguyen

Placement Chairs: Donald Davis, drd28@columbia.edu, Martin Uribe, mu2166@columbia.edu
Placement Assistant: Amy Devine, (212) 854-6881, aed2152@columbia.edu

Education:

2020 (expected)	Ph.D.	Economics	Columbia University
2017	M.Phil.	Economics	Columbia University
2016	M.A.	Economics	Columbia University
2013	B.A. *Honors - Class I*	Economics	University of Queensland

Honors and Awards:

2019 – 2020	Dissertation Fellowship, Department of Economics, Columbia University
2014 – 2019	Dean's Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
2017 – 2018	Trudy and Paul Woodruff Fellowship, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Columbia University
2013	University Medal, University of Queensland
	Bachelor of Economics Honors Scholarship, School of Economics, University of Queensland
	Synergies Economic Consulting Honors Prize
	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission Economics Honors Prize
2012	Summer Research Scholarship, University of Queensland
	Dean’s Honor Roll, Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, University of Queensland
2010 – 2012	Bachelor of Economics Scholarship, School of Economics, University of Queensland

Fields of Specialization:

Industrial Organization, Economics of Education, Market Design, Applied Microeconomics

Job Market Paper:

Predicting the Effect of Affirmative Action Plans in New York City Elite Public High Schools

In recent years, there have been concerns about the lack of diversity in schools, especially elite schools that select students based on exams. This paper studies the impact of two possible affirmative action plans in New York City by estimating students' underlying preferences and then simulating their actions under the two proposed plans. There is a trade-off between promoting diversity and maintaining student quality in elite schools. A tier-based plan similar to that in Chicago does little to increase the overall racial diversity of this sector, but it preserves the quality of incoming students. In contrast, a plan to guarantee elite school seats to students who placed in the top seven percent (by academic performance) of each public middle school causes substantial exchanges of students between the elite and regular sectors, thereby giving more access to Black and Hispanic students at the cost of lower student quality. The two plans also change the distribution of diversity across schools in different ways. The Chicago plan reduces the differences among schools within the elite sector, while the Top 7% plan bridges the gap in diversity between the two sectors even as it increases within-sector dispersion. Both plans result in considerable changes in school assignments in the regular school sector.

Working Paper:

Price Staggering in Cartels (with Heiko Gerlach)
[Revise and Resubmit at International Journal of Industrial Organization]

In this paper, we investigate the optimal organization of staggered price increases in cartels. Staggered price increases impose a cost during cartel formation as the price leader initially loses sales. We show that for intermediate discount factors, staggered price increases can only be sustained when the increase is neither too low nor too high. When a cartel executes two consecutive price increases, the choice between using the same leader or alternating leadership depends on the initial price level in the industry. We also discuss the allocation of price leadership in the presence of cost asymmetry and consider the effect of strategic buyers on price staggering.

Works in Progress:

Matching and Learning – An Experimental Study (with Guillaume Haeringer and Silvio Ravaioli)

Does Preparation for the Entrance Examination Matter for Performance in College? Evidence from Vietnam

Presentation:

2018 45th Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE 2018)

Research Assistantships:

2016 – 2017 Mike Riordan, Department of Economics, Columbia University
2012 – 2014 Heiko Gerlach, School of Economics, University of Queensland

Teaching Assistantships:

Spring 2019 Market Design (Undergraduate), Guillaume Haeringer, Columbia University

Fall 2018	Principles of Economics (Undergraduate), Prajit Dutta, Columbia University
Spring 2018	Market Design (Undergraduate), Guillaume Haeringer, Columbia University
Spring 2016	Industrial Organization (Undergraduate), Mike Riordan, Columbia University
Fall 2015	Principles of Economics (Undergraduate), Nicola Zaniboni, Columbia University
2012 – 2013	Industrial Economics (Undergraduate), Heiko Gerlach (two semesters), University of Queensland
2012 – 2013	Benefit-Cost Analysis & Project Evaluation (Undergraduate & Master), Richard Brown (two semesters), University of Queensland
2013	Behavioural and Evolutionary Economics (Undergraduate), Paul Frijters, University of Queensland
2012	Quantitative Economic & Business Analysis B (Undergraduate), Do Won Kwak (two semesters), University of Queensland

Personal:

Citizenship: Vietnam
Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fluent), French (passive)
Programming and Software: Python, Stata, R, Mathematica, Matlab

References:

Yeon-Koo Che (co-advisor)
Kelvin J. Lancaster Professor of Economic Theory
Department of Economics, Columbia University
(212) 854-8276
yc2271@columbia.edu

Miguel Urquiola (co-advisor)
Professor and Chair, Department of Economics
Professor, School of International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
(212) 854-3769
msu2101@columbia.edu

Bernard Salanié
Professor
Department of Economics, Columbia University
bs2237@columbia.edu