

ZIKAI XU

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EDUCATION

Columbia University <i>Ph.D. candidate in Economics</i>	<i>Aug 2022 -</i>
Columbia University <i>M.A. in Economics</i>	<i>Aug 2020 - Dec 2021</i>
University of California, Berkeley <i>Berkeley Economics Semester Abroad Program</i>	<i>Aug 2018 - May 2019</i>
Nankai University <i>B.S. in Financial Engineering</i>	<i>Aug 2016 - June 2020</i>

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Columbia University <i>Research Assistant for Prof. Bo Cowgill</i>	<i>Sept 2023 - present</i>
- Working paper: Network Formation via Mechanism Design with Bo Cowgill	<i>Sept 2023-present</i>
<i>Research Assistant for Prof. Navin Kartik</i>	<i>May 2021 - Sept 2021</i>
- Master Thesis: Observational Learning with Competitive Prices	<i>Sept 2021-present</i>
University of California, Berkeley <i>Independent Research</i>	<i>Aug 2018 - Dec 2018</i>
- Reviewed, summarized, and cleaned the employment data of the United States, as well as the production data of renewable energy industries and created a new panel data set.	
- Applied multiple econometric methods on the processed panel data set, and evaluated the potential impact from the development of renewable energy industries on labor market.	
- Interpreted and analyzed quantitative and qualitative results and expressed results and findings in the form of a research paper.	
Nankai University <i>Honor Thesis: Econometric Analysis of Leverage Effect - Based on CEV Model</i>	<i>Aug 2019 - May 2020</i>
- Reviewed and replicated the previous literature that estimates the leverage effect in financial market, mainly focusing on two feasible econometric methods, log-linearized OLS and log-differenced OLS.	
- By simulation in Python, numerically showed that log-linearized OLS is superior to log-differenced OLS in terms of Mean Squared Error, however, at the cost of higher variance.	

AWARD

- Stellar.org Academic Research Grant. \$75K with Bo Cowgill	<i>May 2025</i>
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SKILLS

Programming:	Matlab, Python, Stata, SAS and Latex
Language:	Chinese Mandarin (native) and English (fluent)