Dian Jiao

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics, **Columbia University** New York, NY   **Aug. 2018 – May. 2024 (expected)**

Research fields: Development Economics, International Trade, Applied Microeconomics

Related coursework: Causal Inference; Econometrics; Machine Learning

Dean's Fellowship, 2018-19; Weatherhead Fellowship, 2018-19; Dissertation Fellowship, 2022-23

Stanford University Stanford, CA, Exchange Scholar Program   Sep. 2022 - Jan 2023

B.A. in Economics and Mathematics, **Vassar College** Poughkeepsie, NY   Sep. 2013 - May 2017

Graduate with General and Departmental Honors, Eleanor H. DeGolier Fellowship (top of the class)   GPA:4.0/4.0

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Causal Inference, Structural Estimation, A/B testing, Python, SQL, STATA, R, MATLAB, GIS, Git, AWS S3, AWS SageMaker

WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon.com, Inc., Economist Intern   June 2023 - September 2023

Core Artificial Intelligence Team (manager: Vikram Pathania)

- Collaborated with engineers and scientists to improve models and data pipelines handling 60M + data points daily
- Developed data pipelines to integrate internal ASIN-day-zipcode sales with external zipcode-level datasets (Stata, R, and SQL)
- Analyzed hurricane impacts on Amazon sales across U.S. zip codes by income, leveraging advanced causal inference methods (*Triple Difference, Matching,* and *Synthetic diff-n-diff*).
- Communicated complex data insights for non-technical stakeholders and presented high-impact findings to cross-functional teams, with upcoming publications in leading media and academic journals.
- Developed an automated Stata program for event study plots, optimizing future Triple Difference data projects.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Bank Expansion, Firm Dynamics, and Structural Transformation: Evidence from India (with Marshall Mo)

- Examined the role of banks in capital misallocation and structural transformation in India using census, bank branch and firm data
- Conducted *regression-discontinuity* analysis to study the causal effect of a private bank expansion policy on firms and labor
- Found that on average, firms in treated districts increased physical capital by 20.7% and pay wages 14.1% more than those in control
- Showed that reform reduced capital misallocation and facilitated structural transformation in heterogeneous effect regression
- Presented at Columbia Dev Colloquium, NBER-ISB Conference, and WEFIDEV webinar

Religiosity and Firm productivity, Evidence from firms in India

- Analyzed effects of religious beliefs of households on firm productivity using 10M+ consumer and firm data (Python, R, STATA)
- Measured religiosity using local food consumption data via Revealed Preference approach and geo-visualization (GIS, R)
- Structurally estimated firm productivity using Control Function and two-stage iterative Generalized Method of Moments (Matlab)
- Conducted *diff-in-diff* analysis to estimate causal effect of local religiosity on firm productivity using a quasi-random exposure to Ram Rath Yatra campaign in 1990 as the treatment
- Found that religiosity improved firm productivity over 10% through demand shocks and revenue reinvestment in capital