

Danyan Zha

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Placement Committee:

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Education

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|-----------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| 2019 (expected) | Ph.D. Economics | Columbia University |
| 2013 | M.A. Economics | University of Maryland at College Park |
| 2011 | B.A. Economics and Finance | Tsinghua University, China |
| 2011 | B.S. Pure and Applied Mathematics | Tsinghua University, China |
| 2010 spring | Exchange Program | University of California, Berkeley |

Fields of Specialization:

Primary Fields: Applied Microeconomics, Development Economics, Family Economics

Secondary Fields: Matching theories, Gender Economics

Working papers

Schooling Expansion and Marriage Market: Evidence from Indonesia (*Job Market Paper*)

Abstract: This paper analyzes how education distribution affects the marriage market by exploiting a massive primary school construction program in Indonesia in the late 1970s as a quasi-natural experiment. Using the variation across regions in the number of schools constructed and the variation across birth cohorts, I show that in densely populated areas, primary school construction did not affect primary school attainment rate. More surprisingly, the program decreased secondary school attainment rate for both men and women due to a crowding out of teacher resources. Using this change in the education distribution as a source of variation, I find a woman marries earlier and spousal age gap increases when average education of other women decreases. I then rationalize this finding by developing a two-to-one dimensional matching model with transferable utilities in an OLG framework, in which the marital surplus allows complementarity between men's education and both characteristics of women: education and younger age.

Multidimensional Matching: *Hukou* Status in the Marriage Market

winner of the Vickrey Prize for best third year paper

Abstract: Following P. Chiappori et al. (2012), I develop a two-dimensional matching model on the marriage market in China, where individuals differ in a continuous attribute (e.g. socioeconomic status) and a discrete attribute (*hukou* status). Surplus gain from marriage depends on the discrete characteristic with the rationale that an urban *hukou* is much more valuable than a rural *hukou*, it's harder for a husband to move to the wife's place and a limited quota of *hukou* change is available upon marriage. I first derive some general properties of the stable matching, then characterize the closed-form solutions by specifying a quadratic surplus function. Using China 1990 1% sample census and using educational attainment as a proxy for socioeconomic status, the model predictions are validated. There are fewer across-*hukou* type marriages and even fewer rural husband -- urban wife match. Matching is assortative on education within each marriage type. Urban husbands with rural wives have on average fewer schooling years than those with urban wives. Moreover, rural wives with rural husbands have on average more schooling years than those with urban husbands.

Work in Progress

Gender Norm, Labor Supply and Marriage Market

What I Missed: Marriage Outcomes of Sent-Down Youth in China, with Lu Liu

The Hong Kong Marriage Market in the Past Three Decades, with [So Yoon Ahn](#) and [Edoardo Ciscato](#)

Awards

Columbia Dissertation Fellowship, 2018-2019

Columbia Economics Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award (runner-up), 2017

Columbia Economics Best third year paper Vickery prize, 2016

Kathryn and Shelby Davis International Fellowship, 2017-2018

Chi-Ming Hou Memorial Fellowship, 2016-2017

Academic Excellence Award, Tsinghua University, 2008, 2009, and 2010

First prize in Jiangxi Province in the *National Mathematics Olympic Competition* at high school in 2006

Research Experience

2017 Summer Visiting scholar to Peking University HSBC Business School, China

2016 Research Assistant to Yeon-Koo Che

2015 Research Assistant to Jonas Hjort

2014-2015 Research Assistant to Michael Woodford

2012-2013 Research Assistant to Erkut Ozbay and Emel Filiz Ozbay

Teaching Experience

- 2015-2018 Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, Columbia University
Intermediate Microeconomics (Spring 2018) - Instructor: Anna Musatti
Economics of Information (Fall 2017) - Instructor: Pierre-André Chiappori
Market design (Spring 2017) - Instructor: Guillaume G. Haeringer
Market design (Spring 2016) - Instructor: Yeon-Koo Che
Microeconomics Analysis I (PhD) (Fall 2015)
- Instructors: Pierre-André Chiappori and Pietro Ortoleva
- 2013 Instructor, Department of Economics, University of Maryland at College Park
Economic Statistics (Summer 2013)

Professional Services

Referee for Journal of Human Resources

Conference Presentations

- North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, UC Davis, June 2018
European Meeting of the Econometric Society, Cologne, Germany, August 2018
Southern Economic Association Conference, Washington DC, November 2018

Other

Software skills: Stata, R, Matlab, QGIS
Language: Chinese (Native), English (Fluent), French (Intermediate)

References

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