

KAIRONG CHEN

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Placement Director: Volodymyr Lugovskyy

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Placement Coordinator: Elizabeth Bolyard

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EDUCATION:

Indiana University, Department of Economics, Bloomington, IN May 2022 (*Expected*)
Ph.D. Economics
Thesis Title: “*Essays on International Trade*”
Yeshiva University, Department of Economics, *New York, NY* 2015
M.Sc. Quantitative Economics
Peking University, National School of Development, *Beijing, China* 2014
B.A. Economics
China Agricultural University, College of Biological Sciences, *Beijing, China* 2014
B.S. Biological Science

RESEARCH INTERESTS:

International Trade, Trade Policy Uncertainty, International Finance, Applied Econometrics, Textual Analysis

WORKING PAPERS:

[*“Trade Policy Uncertainty: Measurement and Impacts on US Firms in Global Value Chains”*](#)

(*Job Market Paper*)

Abstract: This paper studies the effects of trade policy uncertainty (TPU) on US firms' global value chain links. Based on the transcripts of earnings conference calls, I adapt a text-based method to construct and validate new measures of trade policy shocks faced by individual US firms. Estimation results with the trade policy measures show that high TPU deters capital investment and induces temporary stockpiling. I then evaluate the impact of TPU on firms' reliance on foreign relationships. Using firm-level data on global supply chain relationships in 2010-19, I find that TPU is negatively associated with US firms' foreign customer fractions. The effects are more pronounced on downstream producers than upstream producers. By contrast, there is no association between TPU and foreign supplier fractions, probably due to the firms' additional offshoring behavior during the US-China trade war.

“Dynamic Effects of Trade Policy and Capital Controls: A Terms-of-Trade Manipulation Perspective”

Abstract: This paper studies the interaction between trade policy and capital control policy from a terms-of-trade manipulation perspective. I extend the dynamic two-country multi-good endowment economy in Costinot, Lorenzoni, and Werning (2014) with trade taxes/subsidies. Home country chooses optimal taxes on all tradable goods and international capital flows in order to maximize domestic welfare, while the foreign country is passive. When only good-specific trade taxes/subsidies are available, Home has an incentive to manipulate tariffs to depreciate its real exchange rate, if it has a faster-growing endowment than the Foreign. Moreover, I find that taxing capital inflow/subsidizing capital outflow is equivalent to a uniform reduction in gross trade tariffs on all goods. There is no need for capital controls if the government can get access to good-specific tariffs/subsidies.

WORK IN PROGRESS:

“Trade Finance and Transportation Modes” (with Adina Ardelean and Volodymyr Lugovskyy)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:

Research Assistant, for Professor Todd Walker

Winter 2020, Summer 2021

Research Assistant, for Professor Volodymyr Lugovskyy

Summer 2019

TEACHING EXPERIENCE (all at Indiana University):

Graduate Courses

Instructor, Introduction to Python for Economists [[GitHub](#)] *Summer 2021*
Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomic Theory I for Professor Todd B. Walker *Fall 2018*

Undergraduate Courses

Associate Instructor (*full teaching responsibility*)

Fundamentals of Economics for Business I *Spring 2021*
Introduction to Microeconomics *Fall 2019*

Teaching Assistant

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|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Everyday Economics | <i>Fall 2021</i> | Fund. of Econ. for Busi. I | <i>Fall 2020</i> |
| Intermediate Macro | <i>Summer 2020</i> | Financial Economics | <i>Spring 2020</i> |
| Intro to Macro | <i>Su. 2018, Su. 2019</i> | Intermediate Micro | <i>Summer 2019</i> |
| Intro to Micro | <i>Spring 2019</i> | Money and Banking | <i>Sp., Su. 2018</i> |
| Industrial Organization | <i>Spring 2018</i> | Stat. Analysis for Busi. & Econ. | <i>Fall 2017</i> |

HONORS AND AWARDS:

Daniel J. Duesterberg Award, *Indiana University* *2021*
College of Arts and Sciences Travel Award, *Indiana University* *2021*
Department of Economics Graduate Assistantship, *Indiana University* *2017-2021*
Best Third-Year Paper Award, *Department of Economics, Indiana University* *2019*
College of Arts and Sciences Graduate Fellowship, *Indiana University* *2016-2017*

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES:

Presentations

2021: Midwest Trade (21Fall, MSU), IU Trade Brownbag.
2019: Jordan River Conference (IU).

Referee Service

Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance, Review of International Economics,
Economics & Politics

MISCELLANEOUS:

Programming: Python, MATLAB, STATA, SQL, R, Fortran, C++, LaTeX
Coursera Certificates - Machine Learning, Neural Network and Deep Learning *July, August 2019*
QuantNet Certificate - C++ Programming for Financial Engineering *September 2015*
Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent)

REFERENCES:

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|---|---|
| Professor Mostafa Beshkar (co-chair) Department of Economics Indiana University mbeshkar@iu.edu (812) 855-6383 | Professor Volodymyr Lugovskyy (co-chair) Department of Economics Indiana University vlugovsk@iu.edu (812) 856-4594 |
| Professor Todd B. Walker Department of Economics Indiana University walkertb@iu.edu (812) 856-2892 | Professor Ke-Li Xu Department of Economics Indiana University kelixu@iu.edu (812) 855-5525 |