
CONTACT INFORMATION	Department of Economics University of Toronto Max Gluskin House, 150 St. George St Toronto, Ontario M5S 3G7	<i>Mobile:</i> 416-978-0147 <i>E-mail:</i> yanyou.chen@utoronto.ca <i>Website:</i> https://yanyouchen.com/
INTERESTS	Empirical Industrial Organization	
EMPLOYMENT	University of Toronto Assistant Professor of Economics, 2020 - Present	
EDUCATION	Duke University , Durham, North Carolina USA Ph.D., Economics, 2020 - Dissertation: “Efficiency Gain from Mergers: Evidence from the U.S. Railroads” - Committee: Daniel Yi Xu (Co-Chair), Allan Collard-Wexler (Co-Chair), Christopher Timmins, James Roberts, Bryan Bollinger M.A., Economics, 2014 The University of Hong Kong , Hong Kong SAR B.A., Economics, Mathematics, 2012	
WORKING PAPERS	“Network Structure and the Efficiency Gains from Mergers: Evidence from U.S. Freight Railroads”, 2026, <i>Accepted at RAND</i> <i>Finalist, Young Economists’ Essay Award, EARIE (2023)</i> “Driving the Drivers: Algorithmic Assignment in Ride-Hailing” (joint with Yao Luo and Zhe Yuan), 2026, <i>Revision requested at IJIO</i> “Empowering Inclusive Work” (joint with Mitchell Hoffman, Huilan Xu, and Zhe Yuan), 2026 “Consumer Search with Picture Guidance” (joint with Lu Fang, Chiara Farronato, and Zhe Yuan), 2026	
WORK IN PROGRESS	“Who Bears the Risk of Extreme Weather? Capacity Allocation in U.S. Natural Gas Pipelines” (joint with Adam Wyonzek and Emmanuel Murray Leclair), 2026 “Platform-Generated Quality Ratings: Theory, Empirics and Welfare Implications” (joint with Jie Bai, Daniel Yi Xu, and Zhe Yuan), 2025 “Platform of Platforms in Ride-Hailing” (joint with Yao Luo and Zhe Yuan), 2025	
PUBLICATIONS	“A Structural Empirical Model of R&D, Firm Heterogeneity, and Industry Evolution” (joint with Daniel Yi Xu), <i>The Journal of Industrial Economics</i> , 71(2), 323–353, 2023 (lead article).	
OTHER PUBLICATIONS	“Mortality Decline, Retirement Age, and Aggregate Savings” (joint with Sau-Him Paul Lau), <i>Macroeconomic Dynamics</i> , 20(3), 715–736, 2016.	

“Economic Incentives to Target Species and Fish Size: Prices and Fine-Scale Product Attributes in Norwegian Fisheries” (joint with Frank Asche and Martin D. Smith), *ICES Journal of Marine Science*, 72(3), 733–740, 2014.

“Optimizing the Scale of Markets for Water Quality Trading” (joint with Martin W. Doyle, Lauren A. Patterson, Kurt E. Schnier, and Andrew J. Yates), *Water Resources Research*, 50(9), 7231–7244, 2014.

TEACHING
EXPERIENCE

University of Toronto, Department of Economics 2020 - Present
Markets, Competition, and Strategy (UG)
Industrial Organization I (G)

Duke University, Department of Economics 2019
Introduction to R Programming (G)

AWARDS AND
GRANTS

Connaught New Researcher Award, CAD \$28,060 2025
SSHRC IG (as PI, with Co-PI: Yao Luo), CAD \$99,781 2023-2026
SSHRC IDG (as Co-PI, with PI: Yao Luo), CAD \$72,136 2023-2025
Finalist, Young Economists’ Essay Award, EARIE 2023
SSHRC IDG, CAD \$38,568 2021-2023
SSHRC Institutional Grant, CAD \$2,495 2021
NET Institute Summer Research Grant, US \$3,000 2021
Graduate Student Training Enhancement Grants (GSTEG), US \$5,000 2019
Duke Fellowship, Martina J. Bryant and Allen C. Kelley Endowment 2014-2019

SEMINARS AND
CONFERENCES

2026 (including scheduled): ASSA, University at Buffalo, IO Workshop in Ho Chi Minh, IIOC, 13th Postal Economics Conference at Toulouse School of Economics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Tilburg University

2025 ASSA, University of Guelph, University of Toronto, IIOC, CES North America Conference, Bank of Canada, China Industrial Organization Conference 2025, EARIE, NBER Economics of Transportation in the 21st Century, Competition Bureau Canada

2024 ASSA, 16th Digital Economics Conference at Toulouse School of Economics, SUNY Binghamton, VQMS, CES North America Conference, 12th biennial Postal Economics Conference, Harvard Business School, National University of Singapore (canceled), The University of Hong Kong (canceled), IIOC (canceled), University of Toronto, Canadian Economic Association, BU Platform Strategy Symposium, NBER SI Digitization, EARIE, Cambridge Handbook on Digital Platforms Symposium at USC Marshall, 17th Federal Trade Commission Microeconomics Conference, Western University Ivey Business School

2023 Paris Conference on Digital Economics, IIOC, North American Summer Meeting of Econometric Society, Canadian Economic Association, International Conference on Empirical Economics at PSU, CES North America Conference, EARIE, BU Platform Strategy Symposium, University of Toronto (Summer Brownbag), Peking University, Stanford GSB

2022 Canadian Economic Association Conference, China-VIOS, NBER SI Digitization, Queen’s University (Platforms and Data, discussant), University of Toronto, University of Western Ontario

2021 IOWW seminar, University of Toronto (IO Brownbag), Western University, North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society, IO Canada, Asian Meeting of Econometric Society, China Meeting of Econometric Society, European Summer Meetings

2020 National School of Development at Peking University; Microsoft Research, Office of the Chief Economist; Queen's University; Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania; University of Minnesota; Tuck School of Business; University of Toronto; Indiana University, Kelley School of Business; Luohan Academy; Uber Technologies; Monash University; University of Western Ontario; CEPR Virtual IO Seminar; CES North America Virtual Conference; IIOC Rising Stars

2019 Triangle Microeconomics Conference (UNC), China Meeting of Econometrics Society

REFeree SERVICE *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC), Canadian Journal of Economics, China Economic Review, The Economic Journal, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization, The Journal of Industrial Economics, Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Management Science, Marine Resource Economics, The RAND Journal of Economics, Research Policy, The Review of Economics and Statistics, Transport Policy, Travel Behaviour and Society*

PH.D. ADVISING

1. Mohaddeseh Heydari Nejad (2025): Kelley School of Business, Indiana University.
2. Hugo Cordeau* (2026): Concordia University.
3. Sixia Xie (2027).
4. Olivia Yu (2028).

* Committee chair or co-chair.