

Shengyu Li

Associate Professor of Economics

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Academic Appointments

Jan 2026–present **Associate Professor**, School of Economics, UNSW Sydney

Jul 2020–Dec 2025 **Senior Lecturer**, School of Economics, UNSW Sydney

Jul 2018–Jun 2020 **Lecturer**, School of Economics, UNSW Sydney

Aug 2014–Jun 2018 **Assistant Professor in Economics**, Business School, Durham University

Research Fields

Industrial organization, international trade.

Education

2014 **Ph.D. in Economics**, The Pennsylvania State University

2009 **M.A. in Economics**, Shanghai University of Finance and Economics

2007 **B.A. in Economics and Mathematics**, Wuhan University

Publications

“**Output Quality, Productivity, and Demand: Evidence from the Chinese Steel Industry**”, with Jing Li and Hongsong Zhang.
RAND Journal of Economics, 57(3), Fall 2026.

“**Fiscal Policy Volatility and Capital Misallocation: Evidence from China**”, with Sai Ding, Wei Jiang, and Shang-jin Wei.
European Economic Review, 167, August 2024.

“**Input Prices, Productivity and Trade Dynamics: Long-run Effects of Liberalization on Chinese Paint Manufacturers**”,
with Paul Grieco and Hongsong Zhang.
RAND Journal of Economics, 53(3), Fall 2022.

“**Does External Monitoring Improve the Performance of State-Owned Enterprises?**”, with Hongsong Zhang.
Economic Journal, 132(642), February 2022.

“**Non-Exclusive Dealing with Retailer Differentiation and Market Penetration**”, with Rong Luo.
International Journal of Industrial Organization, 70, May 2020.

“**Government Assistance and Total Factor Productivity: Firm-level Evidence from China**”, with Richard Harris.
Journal of Productivity Analysis, 52, December 2019.

“**A Structural Model of Productivity, Uncertain Demand, and Export Dynamics**”
Journal of International Economics, 115, November 2018. EARIE Young Economists’ Essay Award, 2014.

“**What Drives Home Market Advantage?**”, with Kerem Cosar, Paul Grieco, and Felix Tintelnot.
Journal of International Economics, 110, January 2018.

“Production Function Estimation with Unobserved Input Price Dispersion”, with Paul Grieco and Hongsong Zhang. *International Economic Review*, 57, May 2016.

Working Papers

“Factor Bias and Heterogeneous Output Quality in Multiproduct Production”, with Yi Lee and Mark Roberts. NBER Working Paper No. 35274, 2026. Revise and resubmit, *Journal of Political Economy*.

“Productivity and Quality of Multi-product Firms”, with Mauro Caselli and Arpita Chatterjee. Working paper, 2026. Revise and resubmit, *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*.

“Environmental Regulation, Heterogeneous Firms, and Industry Performance”, with Liang Chen and Mohan Zhou. SSRN working paper, 2026.

“Market Access, Production Network, and Firm Performance”, with Guojun He, Xing Hu, and Hongsong Zhang. Working paper, 2025.

Editorial and Professional Leadership

2025–present	Associate Editor, <i>China Economic Review</i>
2025–present	Co-founding Chair and Fellow, Association of Firms, Industry Growth, and Policy
2023–present	Co-founder and Co-organizer, Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop

Research Grants and Honors

2025	Finalist, Research for Societal Impact Award (Emerging), UNSW Business School
2024–2025	Dean’s Fellowship, UNSW Business School
2019	Outstanding Research Award, UNSW Business School
2018	Special Research Grant, UNSW, “The Role of Quality in Measuring Productivity Growth”
2017	HEFCE Newton Fund Official Development Assistance, Durham University, “Multi-Dimensional Gains from International Trade Liberalization” (Principal Investigator)
2016	International Engagement Travel Grant, Durham University (Principal Investigator)
2015–2018	General Research Fund, Hong Kong, “Competitiveness and Export Expansion of Chinese Firms in the Global Market” (Co-Investigator; HKD 339,000; Grant No. 17503115)
2014	Young Economists’ Essay Award, European Association for Research in Industrial Economics
2014	Seedcorn Funding, Durham University Business School (Principal Investigator)

Invited Seminars and Workshops

2021–2025	Monash University; National University of Singapore; National Taiwan University; Peking University; Renmin University of China; Shanghai University of Finance and Economics; Singapore Management University; Sun Yat-sen University; University of Auckland; University of Glasgow; University of Melbourne; UNSW Sydney; Wuhan University; Xiamen University; Zhejiang University
2016–2020	Jinan University; Xi’an Jiaotong-Liverpool University; UNSW Sydney; University of Sydney; Wuhan University; Southwestern University of Finance and Economics; Hong Kong University of Science and Technology; Durham University; University of Glasgow; Peking University; Shanghai University of Finance and Economics; University of Nottingham; University of Exeter
2014–2015	University of Liverpool; Copenhagen Business School; Fudan University; Shanghai University of Finance and Economics; Royal Holloway, University of London; Durham University

Conference Presentations

2026	The 4th Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop, Sydney; the Chinese Economists Society China Annual Conference, Chengdu
2021–2025	The 3rd Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop, Hong Kong; the Econometric Society World Congress, Seoul; the ESCoE–UNSW Conference on Economic Measurement, Sydney; the 18th Comparative Analysis of Enterprise Data Conference, State College; the 2nd Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop, Hong Kong; the International Association for Applied Econometrics Conference, Xiamen; the 51st Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics, Amsterdam; the 1st Firm and Industry Dynamics Workshop, Hong Kong; the Econometric Society Australasian Meeting, Sydney; the 17th Comparative Analysis of Enterprise Data Conference, Coimbra
2016–2020	The 46th Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics, Barcelona; the Econometric Society European Meetings, Manchester; the Economic Measurement Group Workshop, Sydney; the Econometric Society Asian Meetings, Xiamen; the Asia-Pacific Industrial Organisation Conference, Tokyo; the Royal Economic Society Conference, Brighton; the Asia-Pacific Industrial Organisation Conference, Melbourne; the Royal Economic Society Conference, Bristol; the Econometric Society China Meeting, Wuhan; the Econometric Society European Meetings, Switzerland; the Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Philadelphia; the 9th Biennial Conference of the Hong Kong Economic Association
2012–2015	The Econometric Society World Congress, Montréal; the 42nd Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics, Munich; the Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, Boston; the 3rd Seminars on Asia and Pacific Economies, Suzhou; the 41st Annual Conference of the European Association for Research in Industrial Economics, Milan; the 12th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, Chicago; the Econometric Society North American Summer Meetings, Los Angeles; the 11th Annual International Industrial Organization Conference, Boston; the 22nd Annual Meeting of the Midwest Econometrics Group, Kentucky

Teaching

UNSW Sydney	Undergraduate, Honours, and postgraduate Industrial Organization; Business Economics; Quantitative Methods for Business; Introductory Statistics and Data Analysis
Durham University	Undergraduate and postgraduate Industrial Organization; Econometrics; The Global Economy; European Economics; Economic Methods

Research Supervision

UNSW Sydney	Ph.D. supervision Pakasa Bary (secondary supervisor, ongoing); Dianer Ding (visiting Ph.D. student, 2026); Long Zhang (joint supervisor); Yixuan Wang (visiting Ph.D. student, 2024). Honours supervision Minali Alwis Weerakkody (2025); Wanjia Lu (2024); Zhenhui Li (2024); Ivy Yu (2023); Jeffrey Wang (2021, University Medal); Leo Jiang (2021); Robert Tiong (2019); Jim Xu (2019).
Durham University	Ph.D. supervision Yunzi He (joint supervisor; graduated 2019; Teaching Associate, University of Bristol); Tong Qu (joint supervisor; visiting Ph.D. student, 2017). Other supervision 41 master's theses and 38 undergraduate theses, 2014–2018.

Academic Service

Refereeing

- *Quarterly Journal of Economics*
- *American Economic Review*
- *Review of Economic Studies*
- *Review of Economics and Statistics*
- *Economic Journal*
- *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*
- *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*
- *Journal of Development Economics*
- *Management Science*
- *Journal of Applied Econometrics*
- *Energy Economics*
- *Journal of Money, Credit and Banking*
- *Labour Economics*
- *China Economic Review*
- *Journal of Industrial Economics*
- *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*
- *Journal of Law, Economics & Organization*
- *Environmental and Resource Economics*
- *International Review of Economics & Finance*
- *Journal of Economics & Management Strategy*
- *International Journal of Industrial Organization*
- *World Economy*
- *Empirical Economics*
- *Economics Letters*
- *Canadian Journal of Economics*
- *Review of International Economics*
- *Review of Development Economics*
- *Journal of Productivity Analysis*
- *Economic Record*
- *International Economic Journal*

School and university service

2025-2026	School representative for UNSW Business School International Strategic Visit, UNSW Sydney
2022-2024	Undergraduate Program Director; Bachelor of Commerce Stream Coordinator; School Representative, Final Year Synthesis Courses Subcommittee; member, School Research Committee; member, School Education Committee, UNSW Sydney
2022	Acting Deputy Head of School (Education), UNSW Sydney
2020-2021	School of Economics Internal Seminar Coordinator, UNSW Sydney
2019	Sydney Trade Workshop Coordinator, UNSW Sydney
2014-2018	Undergraduate Admissions Selector; Post-application Open Day Representative; Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee member, Durham University