

SIYI SONG

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, Boston MA, May 2024 (expected)
Dissertation Committee: Dilip Mookherjee, Marc Rysman, Kevin Lang, Raymond Fisman

B.E., Economics & Finance (*first class honours*), University of Sydney, Australia, 2018

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Development Economics, Industrial Organization, Political Economy

Working Paper

“[Big Crunch after Big Bang: The Income Effect of China's Anti-Corruption Campaign](#),” Oct 2023

“[Dynamic Demand for Durable Goods with Refill Complements: US Electric Toothbrush Market](#),” Oct 2023

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Inequality, Productivity and Firm Entry: Impact of China’s Land Quota Policy”

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Dean’s Fellowship, Boston University, 2018-2023

Honours Scholarship, University of Sydney, 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, EC332 Industrial Organization, Department of Economics, Boston University, Fall 2022, Fall 2023

Teaching Fellow, EC204 Empirical Economics II, Department of Economics, Boston University, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

Teaching Fellow, EC101 Introductory Microeconomics, Department of Economics, Boston University, 2019-2021

Teaching Fellow, ECON1001 Introductory Microeconomics, School of Economics, University of Sydney, 2016-2018

ACTIVITY

Co-organizer, the Development Economics Reading group, Boston University, 2021-2022

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (native)

COMPUTER SKILLS

STATA, MATLAB, Python, LaTeX

CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS

China/F1

REFERENCES

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Big Crunch after Big Bang: The Income Effect of China's Anti-Corruption Campaign

This paper delves into the income effect of the Big Bang anti-corruption campaign under Xi Jinping in China. Leveraging data from two household panel surveys spanning the period from 2010 to 2018, I employ a difference-in-difference (DID) framework, capitalizing on the temporal variations introduced by the Central Committee of Discipline Inspections. I find a significant decrease in household income following the campaign—a phenomenon aptly termed the 'Big Crunch'. This effect remains robust across alternative specifications and placebo tests. Moreover, I document a post-campaign decrease in the income premium received by politically connected groups, including Communist Party members, State-owned Enterprises and Public Institutions employees. I then discuss potential mechanisms underpinning the income contraction after the campaign and find suggestive evidence for one channel: capital misallocation between State-Owned Enterprises and private firms, potentially because banks suffered from heightened political scrutiny and information asymmetry. In terms of welfare implications, I find government transfers nearly halved after the campaign, exacerbating the Big Crunch. However, households mitigate the income shock via reciprocal private transfers within social networks.

Dynamic Demand for Durable Goods with Refill Complements: US Electric Toothbrush Market

This paper delves into the intricate intertemporal dynamics of consumer demand for a durable product (specifically, the electric toothbrush handle) and its associated refill complements (the replacement heads). It commences by formulating a comprehensive structural model that captures consumer decision-making processes where the consumer decides when, what, and how much to purchase, tracking his current inventory and the market price processes. To empirically ground this model, data on the purchasing behavior of a panel of households in the oral hygiene product domain is leveraged, spanning the years from 2014 to 2019. The estimation process relies on a simulated maximum likelihood (SML) approach, complemented by an 'inner' value function iteration procedure. Employing the estimated model, I proceed to simulate market outcomes under various counterfactual scenarios, encompassing alterations in market structures and product compatibilities. The results emphasize the importance of considering interconnected markets in policy analysis.