

# Kaidi Wu

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## EDUCATION

PhD Economics	Michigan State University	<i>Expected May 2023</i>
MA Economics	Michigan State University	2019
BS Mathematics; BA Economics	Wuhan University	2017

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## TECHNICAL SKILLS

<i>Data Analysis:</i>	Causal Inference, Demand Estimation, A/B Testing, Data manipulation/visualization
<i>Machine Learning:</i>	Double/debiased Machine Learning, Causal Forest
<i>Programming/Software:</i>	Stata, Matlab, R, Gauss, SAS, Python, SQL

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## WORK EXPERIENCE

*Economist Intern:* Amazon.com *Jul 2022-Sep 2022*

- Designed price experiments to estimate the price elasticity of downstream economic value, which is used to inform pricing and promotion decisions in the Amazon Devices business
- Analyzed long-run causal price effects using instrumental variables and combination of experimental and observational data
- Reduced revenue prediction error by 50% with the newly developed elasticity measure

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## RESEARCH PROJECTS

*Consumption Smoothing and Frequency of SNAP Payments* (collaborated) *Oct 2020-present*

- Analyzed 400 million purchase records from Nielsen Homescan with Apache Spark on Azure Databricks to examine how payment frequency affects low-income households' purchasing patterns under an event study framework.
- Estimated a decrease of 23% in weekly food expenditures between monthly benefit payments. Semi-monthly payment mitigated the decline by 10%, indicating a 7% increase in consumer welfare.
- Presented research and led discussions at two economics conferences.

*SNAP Benefit and Labor Supply: The Case of NYC taxi drivers* (independent) *Jan 2021–May 2021*

- Used Stata on HPC to apply the difference-in-difference techniques with 200 million taxi trip records and found that a decrease in the amount of government transfers led to higher labor supply among taxi drivers.
- Found that the \$36 reduction in benefits led to an increase of 2 hours of work and \$22 in profit per week.
- Provided policy implications that the gig economy can serve as a complement to public safety net programs.

*SNAP and Crime: Evidence from SNAP Issuance Disruptions* (independent) *Sep 2020-Apr 2021*

- Used Matlab to simulate a theoretical model to predict the impact of SNAP issuance on criminal behaviors.
- Carried out empirical causal analysis using regression discontinuity design in Stata with 8 million crime records from the NIBRS database and identified a 6% decrease in daily property crime rate due to the disbursement of benefits.

*A Field Experiment on Appearance Discrimination* (independent) *Jan 2016-Nov 2016*

- Conducted a randomized controlled trial on a major online recruitment platform in China (CV test).
- Collected responses on 1,344 job applications. Utilized R to conduct t-tests and regression analysis to determine that applicants with prettier faces have higher response rates. Women are more affected by this effect than males.
- Paper published on SSRN. Makes SSRN Top Ten List with 1,000+ views.

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## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

*Journal Referee:* Agribusiness, PLOS ONE *2022-present*

- Provided feedbacks and comments for academic papers submitted to peer-reviewed journals.

*Master Thesis Supervisor:* Yue Ding, Wuhan University *2022-present*

- Assisted with guiding the student's research project, thesis in preparation for publication.

*Conference Session Chair and Organizer:* The Southern Economics Association *2021*

- Invited eight presenters and discussants from different academic institutions to participate in a session at the annual meeting of the Southern Economics Association.

- Coordinated presentations, led discussions as well as presented a paper at the session.

*Conference Presentation:* AAEA (2019-2022), SEA (2021) *2019-present*