

# Luhang Wang

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**Citizenship**            People's Republic of China

**Languages**            English, Mandarin

**Research Interests**    International Trade  
Development  
Chinese Economy

**Teaching Interests**    Intermediate Microeconomics  
Applied Econometrics  
International Trade  
Chinese Economy

## Education

2012                    PhD, Economics, University of Toronto  
(expected)  
Dissertation:    Three Essays on Chinese Economy  
Committee:      Loren Brandt (supervisor), Gilles Duranton, Peter Morrow

2003                    MA, Economics, Peking University

2000                    BA, Commerce, Renmin University of China

## Awards

Edward B. Kernaghan Fellowship, Department of Economics, University of Toronto, 2011  
Award for Excellence in Teaching by Teaching Assistants, Department of Economics, University of Toronto, 2010  
Lawrence and Tracey Smith Bursary in Economics, Department of Economics, University of Toronto, 2009  
Thesis Completion Grant, University of Toronto, 2008-2009  
School of Graduate Studies Travel Grant, University of Toronto, 2006  
University of Toronto Fellowship, 2004-2008  
Wusi Scholarship, Peking University, 2001  
Undergraduate Scholarship, Remin University of China, 1997-1999

## Publications and Research Papers

- Quality, Input Choices and Learning by Exporting: Evidence from Chinese Exporters (*job market paper*)
- Tax Reform, Local Resources and Village Leader Elections in Rural China (*preliminary*)
- WTO Accession and Firm-level Productivity in Chinese Manufacturing, joint with Loren Brandt, Johannes van Biesebroeck and Yifan Zhang (*in progress*)
- The Impact of Foreign Bank Entry on Domestic Firm Performance: The Case of China, joint with Tat-kei Lai and Zhenjie Qian (*in progress*)

## Professional Experience

2009-2011: Course Instructor, University of Toronto

Intermediate Microeconomics, for second year undergraduates

2004-2010: Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto

Introductory Economics, Intermediate Microeconomics, Quantitative Methods in Economics, Urban Economics, Real Estate markets, Real Estate Finance and Management, for undergraduates

Economic Environment of International Business, Real Estate Investment, Real Estate Economics, for MBA

## Conferences and Invited Seminar Presentations

2008 Canadian Economic Association (CEA), Vancouver, Canada

2009 Canadian Economic Association (CEA), Toronto, Canada  
Comparative Analysis of Enterprise Data (CAED), Tokyo, Japan

## References

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## **Dissertation Abstract**

### **Quality, Input Choices and Learning by Exporting: Evidence from Chinese Exporters (job market paper)**

Using the detailed Chinese firm level exports information between 2000 and 2006, this paper estimates market- and product-specific demand functions for China's Electrical Machineries exports and recover the latent quality as the demand residual. I apply an instrument based on the idea of Hausman-Nevo instrument to our multi-market and multi-origin data for identification. I then combine our quality measure with other firm level observations to identify factors that are behind the cross firm and over time variation in the measured quality. I find importing activities to be significantly associated with quality differentiation, especially among Chinese non-state owned firms in their shipments to high income destinations. Studying the within firm over time evolution of quality, I find evidence for quality learning from experience of exporting to high income markets.

### **WTO Accession and Firm-level Productivity in Chinese Manufacturing (with Loren Brandt, Johannes van Biesebroeck and Yifan Zhang, in progress)**

A major motivation of China's policy-makers for accession into the WTO at the end of 2001 was the potential to boost the impact of reforms. Drawing on a unique firm-level data set that covers all state-owned firms and non-state owned firms with sales above 5 million RMB and spans the period 1998-2007, the primary purpose in this paper is to analyze the effect of several important dimensions of China's trade liberalization on firm and industry level productivity. An important dimension to these effects is the heterogeneity we observe across firms in terms of initial productivity and ownership. There are also important industry dimensions to these impacts as well that may be linked to the forces of entry and exit.

### **Tax Reform, Local Resources and Village Leader Elections in Rural China (preliminary)**

This paper investigates the effect of the recent Tax and Fee Reform on the re-election incentives of village leaders in rural China from the view of a retrospective voting model. The primary purpose of the fiscal reform was to tighten the hands of local cadres to improve local governance. But predictions of the effects of such tightening policies from a retrospective model can be two-sided. The welfare-reducing effect comes through the channel that equilibrium rents an incumbent can obtain without losing the election decrease with the rising taxation costs and lower inside rents lead to higher probability of opportunistic behaviour. This paper utilizes data on election outcomes from a randomly selected set of 100 villages across 5 provinces in China to investigate the relative magnitude of the two opposing effects. It also incorporates into the analysis the potentially important role of non-tax local revenue sources and election quality. Our empirical analysis of the re-election rates shows that the net effect of the reform on re-election incentive is negative; furthermore, this effect is amplified by cleaner elections and mitigated by abundance of local non-tax revenue resources.