poke@bobbyho.me | https://bobbyho.me

RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Trade, Spatial Economics, Political Economy

EDUCATION

Master's Student in Economics, National Taiwan University 2024–Present (on leave)

- Visiting UC Berkeley in the 2024–25 academic year as first-year Master's student.
- On leave of absence since Fall 2025.

Visiting Student, University of California, Berkeley

2024-25

• Ph.D. Core/Field Courses: Econometrics (A), Political Economy (A+), Industrial Organization (A), Topics in International Economics (Spatial Economics) (A), Formal Models of Political Science (A)

B.A. in Economics, National Taiwan University

2020-24

- GPA: 4.14/4.3
- Class Rank: 7/138
- Thesis: "Closing the Gender Gap in Willingness to Contribute Ideas: A Lean-in Intervention"
- Selected Courses:
 - o Math: Linear Algebra (A-, B+), Advanced Calculus (equiv. Real Analysis) (A+, A+)
 - Graduate-Level Methods: Economic Analysis of Social Networks (A+), Machine Learning and Econometrics (A+)
 - Graduate-Level Fields: Behavioral Game Theory (A+), Labor Economics (A+)

PUBLICATIONS

• "The Impact of Female Political Leadership on Gender Attitudes: Evidence from Taiwan's Local Councils" (with Yen-Chien Chen, Elliott Fan, Matthew Yi-Hsiu Lee, and Jin-Tan Liu), 2025, Journal of Development Economics

WORKING PAPERS

• "Closing the Gender Gap in Willingness to Contribute Ideas: A Lean-in Intervention" (with Josie I Chen), 2024

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- RA and coauthor of Chang-Tai Hsieh (Chicago Booth) and Wen-Tai Hsu (Academia 2024–Present Sinica)
 - Derive and implement a quantitative spatial model to evaluate the welfare consequences of urban land-use misallocation.
 - Prove welfare properties of the laissez-faire land allocation.
 - Improve the numerical solver of structural equations to make high-dimensional optimization problems computationally feasible.
- RA to Chang-Tai Hsieh (Chicago Booth), Erik Hurst (Chicago Booth), and Pete Klenow 2025–Present (Stanford)
 - Implement a structural model of firm dynamics to study the relationship between declining business dynamism, US aggregate wage trends, and firm wage effects.
 - Accelerate SMM estimation harnessing GPU clusters and parallel computing.
- RA and coauthor of Elliott Fan (National Taiwan University)

2021-Present

- Using causal inference techniques with large administrative data to study the origin of egalitarian gender norms and attitudes in Taiwan.
- Study the effects of gender quota on women's political representation and its consequences on gender norms and behaviors of female voters.
- Bachelor's thesis supervised by Josie I Chen (National Taiwan University)

2023-2024

- Using a lab experiment to uncover the effects of gender stereotypes on willingness to contribute ideas.
- Evaluate a policy intervention aiming to mitigate the inefficiency created by the stereotypes.

Grants and Awards

- Study Abroad Programme for Future Scholars in the Humanities and Social Sciences, 2024–25, Ministry of Education, Taiwan
- College Student Research Scholarship, 2023, National Science and Technology Council, Taiwan
 - College Student Research Creativity Award (awarded to 5% of grant recipients)
- Dean's List Award (top 5%), 4 semesters, National Taiwan University

Conference Presentations

- Economic Science Association Asia-Pacific Meeting (APESA), Singapore, May 2024
- Annual Conference of Asian & Australasian Society of Labour Economics (AASLE), Taipei, Dec 2023
- Applied Economics Workshop (AEW), Online, Aug 2023