

Hongtao LI

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Research Interests

Macroeconomics, Economic Policy, Epidemiological Dynamics, International Finance, and International Economics

Education Background

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy April 2021 - Present
Ph.D. Candidate in International Public Policy: International Finance and Development

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy April 2019 - March 2021
Master of Public Policy, Economic Policy Program

Sun Yat-sen University, School of Mathematics August 2013 - June 2018
Bachelor of Science, Mathematics and Applied Mathematics

Teaching Experience

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024, 2024 - 2025
Instructor (Graduate Teaching Fellow), Practice Session for Macroeconomics (Master Core)

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy 2022 - 2023, 2023 - 2024, 2024 - 2025
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomics (Master Core) (Taught by Taisuke Nakata)

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy August 2020 - January 2021
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Mathematics for Public Policy (Taught by Makoto Kakinaka)

Relevant Position

The University of Tokyo March 2021 - March 2025
Research Assistant

Research project: Covid-19 and Output in Japan.

Under the supervision of Professor Taisuke Nakata, I am working on the analysis of the epidemiological macroeconomics model.

Tongji University September 2021 - December 2021
Research Assistant

Research project: Political Process and Transaction Cost.

Under the supervision of Professor Changrong LU, I worked on the estimation analysis.

The University of Tokyo April 2021 - March 2022, April 2023 - March 2024
Research Assistant

WINGS-GSDM: World-leading Innovative Graduate Study Program on Global Leadership for Social Design and Management

Refereed Journal Publication

1. “Transportation Infrastructure and Trade” (with Han Zheng), *Japan & the World Economy*, volume 64, December 2022, 101162.

Working Paper

1. “Optimal Containment Policy in a Macro-SIR Model with Cautiousness”, September 2025.
2. “Real-Time Covid-19 Projections in Japan: Lessons for Future Pandemics” (with Jianing Chu and Taisuke Nakata), September 2025, Research Workshop, “Recent Development in Pandemic Policy Research”, CiDER, Osaka University.

Writing Paper

1. “Lockdown Policy Rules with Hospital Capacity Constraints” (with Yuta Maeda, Hiroki Sakamoto, Taisuke Nakata, and Hiroyuki Uneya), September 2025, Research Workshop, “Recent Development in Pandemic Policy Research”, CiDER, Osaka University.

Fundings

1. Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, WINGS-GSDM Designing Future Society Fellowship Research Fund, Project Number 150201SP01, 2021 – 2024 (Stipend paid in 2021 and 2023; not paid in 2022 owing to residence abroad).

Awards

1. Designing Future Society Fellowship: full scholarship, provided by Global Leadership Program for Social Design and Management, The University of Tokyo, JASSO, 2021 – 2024 (Stipend paid in 2021 and 2023; not paid in 2022 owing to residence abroad).
2. MEXT Honors Scholarship, JASSO, 2020.

Presentation

March 2022: The 2nd TWID International Finance Conference, The University of Tokyo.

September 2025: Research Workshop, CiDER, Osaka University.

November 2025 (Invited speaker): Global Development & Governance Workshop Series, “International Public Policy” , Journal of International Economy and Global Governance.

Additional Information and Skills

Programming Skills: Matlab, STATA, Latex, Microsoft Office.

Language Ability: Cantonese (native), Mandarin (native), English (fluent), and Japanese (fluent).