Hongtao LI

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Research Interests

Macroeconomics, Economic Policy, Epidemiological Dynamics, and International Economics

Education Background

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy	April 2021 - July 2026
Ph.D. Candidate in 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 (China), School of Mathematics	August 2013 - June 2018
Bachelor of Science, Mathematics and Applied Mathematics	

Zhixin High School (China)	September 2010 - July 2013

Employment

Kanto Gakuen University, Faculty of Economics	Scheduled to begin in June 2026

Appointed as Assistant Professor

Planned teaching courses: Finance, International Finance, Pandemic and the Economy

Teaching Experience

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

The University of Tokyo, Graduate School of Public Policy	September 2022 - March 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	April 2021 - March 2025

Research Assistant

Research project: Covid-19 and Output in Japan.

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

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

Research Assistant

Research project: Macro-SIR model analysis

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

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.

Refereed Journal Publication

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

Working Paper

1. "Optimal Containment Policy with Private Protection", March 2026.
2. "Lockdown Policy Rules with a Hospital Capacity Constraint" (with Taisuke Nakata, Hiroki Sakamoto, and Hiroyuki Uneya), *submitted to* ***Journal of the Japanese and International Economies*** (**Under review**). CARF Working Paper No. CARF-F-620, Center for Advanced Research in Finance, the University of Tokyo, March 2026.
3. "Real-Time Covid-19 Projections in Tokyo: Lessons for Future Pandemics" (with Jianing Chu and Taisuke Nakata), March 2026.

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. MEXT Honors Scholarship, JASSO, 2020.
2. 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).

Presentation

1. March 2022: The 2nd TWID International Finance Conference, The University of Tokyo.
2. September 2025: "Lockdown Policy Rules with a Hospital Capacity Constraint" (with Taisuke Nakata, Hiroki Sakamoto, and Hiroyuki Uneya), Research Workshop, "Recent Development in Pandemic Policy Research", CiDER, Osaka University.
3. September 2025: "Real-Time Covid-19 Projections in Tokyo: Lessons for Future Pandemics" (with Jianing Chu and Taisuke Nakata), September 2025, Research Workshop, "Recent Development in Pandemic Policy Research", CiDER, Osaka University.
4. November 2025 (Invited speaker): Global Development & Governance Workshop Series, "International Public Policy", Journal of International Economy and Global Governance.

Additional Information and Skills

Skills: MATLAB, STATA, Latex, Microsoft Office.
Language Ability: Cantonese (native), Mandarin (native), English (fluent), and Japanese (fluent).