

MINJUAN SUN  
Department of Economics  
Arizona State University  
Tempe, AZ 85287 USA  
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## Professional Overview

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Accomplished Economist with broad expertise in macroeconomics and demographic economics. Proficient in performing data analysis including the application of statistics, econometrics, probabilistic modeling, and other quantitative modeling and analytics techniques. Skilled professional with excellent critical thinking ability and inter-personal skills.

## Education

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- 2018 Arizona State University  
*Ph.D in Economics (AS EXPECTED)*
- 2013 Zhejiang University  
*M.A. in Economics*
- 2011 Zhejiang University  
*B.A. in Economics*

## Summary of Skills

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Economic Research	Modeling and Forecasting
Analytical skills	Quantitative analysis
Data analysis	Statistical Analysis
Presentation	Documentation & Report

## Teaching Experience

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- 2017 Instructor of Microeconomics Principle (undergraduate), ASU
- 2018 Teaching Assistant, Industrial Organization (undergraduate), ASU
- 2017 Teaching Assistant, Economics of healthcare (undergraduate), ASU
- 2017 Teaching Assistant, Environmental Economics (undergraduate), ASU

2016 Teaching Assistant, Business Statistics (undergraduate), ASU

2015 Teaching Assistant, Business Statistics (undergraduate), ASU

### **Presentations**

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2017: ASU PhD Reunion Conference

2017: Mid-West Macroeconomics Conference at Louisiana State University

2017 ASU macroeconomics workshop

2016 ASU macroeconomics workshop

2015 ASU macroeconomics workshop

### **Grants/Awards**

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Graduate Scholarship and Stipend, Zhejiang University, 2011 - 2013

Graduate Scholarship and Stipend, Department of Economics, ASU, 2013 - 2018

### **Placement Contacts**

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Placement Director: Dan Silverman; Daniel.Silverman.1@asu.edu

Placement Coordinator: Laura Talts; (480) 727-7931; Laura-Jean.Talts@asu.edu

### **References**

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Professor Todd Schoellman

University of Notre Dame

E-mail: todd.schoellman@gmail.com

Professor Gustavo Ventura

Arizona State University

E-mail: gustavo.ventura@asu.edu

Professor Galina Vereshchagina

Arizona State University

Email: galinav@asu.edu

Professor Nancy Roberts (Teaching)

Arizona State University

Email: Nancy.Roberts@asu.edu

### **Language Skills**

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FLUENT: English

MOTHER TONGUE: Chinese

## Computer Skills

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R, Matlab, Stata, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

## Papers:

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### *Unequal Cities: Innovation, Skill Sorting, and Inequality (Working Paper)*

Abstract: One of the recent developments among American cities is the diverging trend in their skill compositions and measured innovation (e.g., patents, venture capital). Over the past thirty years, skilled cities have become more skilled and more productive, and have experienced faster growth in average wages and housing prices. This geographical divergence has contributed substantially to the rising inequality in America. This paper constructs a multi-city model of spatial skill sorting to explore the causes of this divergence. The key idea is that cities with advantages in innovation attract more productive entrepreneurs and more workers, thereby driving up wages and housing prices. I then show that the changing technologies have reinforced the geographical sorting of skills. Specifically, three types of technological changes have increased the benefits of skill clustering in innovative cities: general productivity increases; improvements in communications technologies; and declines in trade costs.

### *Household Savings Behavior and Coresidence in Urban China (Working Paper)*

Abstract: Chinese housing market has been undergoing a rapid booming period since 1998, causing the house prices increasing significantly. As a result, households endured severe financial burdens to buy homes at price-to-income ratios of around six. Along with the rising house prices, household savings rate has been increasing consistently since 1998. Can the rising house prices be an important factor to explain the increase in household saving rate? This paper develops a life cycle dynastic model with endogenous choice on housing, coresidence and intergenerational transfer, then quantitatively analyze the effect of housing price on household saving. It shows that housing is an important motive for saving, and it accounts for about 35% of the increase in household savings rate. The housing situation affects households' saving behavior through three channels. First, households are financially constrained due to the down payment requirement and they choose to limit their consumption in order to buy houses. Second, young adults live in their parents' houses for a long time and save more intensively, since they get to pay less for the housing expenses under coresidence. Thirdly, older parents make large sum of intergeneration transfer in aid of the children's housing purchase, indicating the housing affordability issue also has influence on old parents' saving decisions.

*When does elastic labor supply cause an inverted-U effect of patents on innovation? (with Angus C. Chu and Shiyuan Pan), Economics Letters (2012)*

Abstract: This study analyzes how patent protection affects innovation in an R&D-based growth model with elastic labor supply. We find that increasing patent breadth may generate an inverted-UU effect on innovation depending on whether the model features the knowledge-driven or lab-equipment innovation process. This result highlights an important interaction between elastic labor supply and the innovation process through which patent protection has an inverted-UU effect as documented in recent empirical studies.