Tao Chen

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics Expected July 2026

University at Albany, SUNY
Committee: Professor Zhongwen Liang (Chair), Professor Kajal Lahiri (Co-Chair), Professor Ulrich Hounyo

M.A. in Economics 2023

University at Albany, SUNY
Concentration: Public Economics

Graduate Studies in Finance Sept. 2016 – Jun. 2020

Shandong University, Center of Economics Research
Concentration: Quantitative Finance
Advisors: Professor Zhijie Xiao and Professor Jilin Wu
Exchange: Xiamen University, Wang Yanan Institute for Studies in Economics (WISE), Sept. 2018 – Jun. 2020

B.A. in Economics Sept. 2011 – Jun. 2015

Southwestern University of Finance and Economics
Concentration: Public Finance

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Time Series Econometrics, Quantile Regression, Model Averaging, Machine Learning
Secondary: Macroeconomic Forecasting, Financial Economics, Health Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Time-Varying Jackknife Model Averaging for Quantile Regression" (with Zhongwen Liang)

We propose a time-varying jackknife model averaging (TV-JMA) estimator for quantile regression that allows model averaging weights to adapt smoothly over time via local kernel estimation. A centering correction to the cross-validation criterion eliminates the bias from the non-zero conditional mean of the quantile regression error, enabling MSE-based weight selection. We establish convergence rates, asymptotic normality with diverging model dimensions, and asymptotic optimality of the selected weights under a scale-bias orthogonality condition that is automatically satisfied for median regression, pure location models, and heteroskedastic models with appropriately specified candidates. Monte Carlo simulations show

that TV-JMA dominates constant-weight and constant-coefficient alternatives, with the gains increasing at tail quantiles and larger sample sizes. An empirical application to conditional quantile forecasting of excess stock returns and GDP growth-at-risk demonstrates the practical gains.

PUBLICATIONS

Jin, F., & Chen, T. (2025). Community nursing on subjective well-being of the elderly: Evidence from CLASS data. *BMC Nursing*, 24(1), 757.

WORKING PAPERS

"Time-Varying Partially Linear Quantile Regression Under α-Mixing Conditions."

"PMI Thresholds for Economic Growth Prediction." (with Kajal Lahiri)

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Conformalized Time-Varying Quantile Regression: Distribution-Free Prediction Intervals for Locally Stationary Processes."

"Jackknife Model Averaging for Partially Linear Time-Varying Coefficient Quantile Regression."

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor of Record

AECO 301: Intermediate Macroeconomics
Summer 2023, Fall 2023 (2 sections), Spring 2024 (2 sections), Summer 2024, Fall 2024

AECO 320: Economic Statistics
Fall 2024, Spring 2025 (2 sections)

Teaching Assistant

AECO 405/505: Game Theory (Professor Rui Zhao), University at Albany
Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

AECO 300: Intermediate Microeconomics (Professor Rui Zhao), University at Albany
Fall 2021, Spring 2022, Spring 2023

AECO 301: Intermediate Macroeconomics (Professor Yue Li), University at Albany
Fall 2022

Advanced Econometrics (Professor Jilin Wu), Shandong University
Fall 2018

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant 2017 – 2020

Advisors: Professor Jilin Wu and Professor Zhijie Xiao, Shandong University / Xiamen University

AWARDS AND HONORS

Helen Horowitz Award for Exceptional Teaching by Graduate Students	2024
First Grade PhD Scholarship	2017, 2018, 2019
Outstanding Graduate Students Scholarship	2017
Outstanding Undergraduate Scholarship	2012, 2013, 2014, 2015
Morality Scholarship	2015
Honorable Mention, Mathematical Contest in Modeling	2014
National Prize (2nd), China Electronic and Engineering Mathematical Modeling Contest	2013
State Prize (3rd), China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling	2013

SKILLS

Programming: Python, R, Stata, MATLAB, LaTeX
Languages: Mandarin Chinese (native), English (fluent)