Xiaolin Zhou

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FIELDS Energy and Environmental Economics, Industrial Organization, Applied Economics

EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst
PhD, Resource Economics 2027 (expected)

University of Arizona
MS, Agricultural and Resource Economics 2021

Tamkang University
BA, Industrial Economics 2019
BBA, Finance 2019

RESEARCH

Job Market Paper

Subsidies, Cost Trends, and Pass-Through: Evidence from the Residential Solar Market. Most updated version.

> Clean energy subsidies are one of the main instruments in climate policy. Their values are designed to fall as technology adoption grows, but costs generally change over the same horizon, confounding the estimates of pass-through. I study two Massachusetts programs that pay homeowners per kilowatt-hour based on energy produced. To overcome timing challenges, I employ a novel identification strategy: estimating pass-through from differences in the subsidy across roofs that the same installer equips at the same time, because the subsidy depends on each roof's generation. I find that buyers receive about 85 percent of the subsidy under both designs, whereas a comparison over time gives a biased estimate. Installers raise prices only slightly for roofs that earn larger subsidies, which in this setting bounds the markup from roof-specific price discrimination at 2–7 percent of price.

Working Papers

Market Power in the New England Electricity Market: Evidence from Nuclear Refueling Outages. With Ming Ge, James Ji, and Matt Woerman.

> Uses ISO New England day-ahead data, 2016–2018. Outages raise prices $4.9/MWh; 36% of the rise is market power, a $43–45 million annual transfer from consumers.

Can Driver-Assistance Technology Offset the Vehicle-Weight Externality? With Yongjoon Park.

> We link millions of national, Massachusetts, and Texas crash records to vehicle weight by VIN. We find that a striking vehicle 1,000 lb heavier raises the risk of death by 53%. Driver assistance technology cuts rear-end crashes 30–50% but has no effect on angle and head-on crashes. Policy tools to regulate vehicle weight are still needed to mitigate the damage.

TEACHING

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Instructor of Record *(Undergraduate)*
Managerial Economics Summer 2024, 2025, 2026
Hunger in the Global Economy Fall 2025

TA, Intro to Statistics, Industrial Organization, Public Policy in Private Market, Hunger in the Global Economy *(Undergraduate)*

TA, Statistical Inference *(Graduate)*

EXPERIENCE **Research Assistant**, *Prof. Emily Wang, UMass Amherst* 2023

Research Assistant, *Prof. Matt Woerman, UMass Amherst* 2022

Research Assistant, *Prof. George Frisvold, University of Arizona* 2019–2021

Compliance Analyst Intern, *Haitong Securities* 2018

PRESENTATION

AERE Summer Conference, UMass Amherst Environmental Economics Reading Group, UMass Amherst IO Reading Group, UC Berkeley Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics

AWARDS

Department Travel Grant (×3), *Resource Economics, UMass Amherst*

CALS Fellowship, *College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, University of Arizona* 2019

SKILLS

Computing: R, Python, Git, LaTeX

Language: English, Chinese (Native)

SERVICE

Graduate Student Representative, *Department Hiring Committee* 2026

Organizer, *Graduate Research Support Group* 2023

REFERENCES

Christine Crago, *Associate Professor of Resource Economics, UMass Amherst*
ccrago@resecon.umass.edu

Yongjoon Park, *Assistant Professor of Resource Economics, UMass Amherst*
yongjoonpark@umass.edu

Matt Woerman, *Assistant Professor, Colorado State University*
matt.woerman@colostate.edu