Qingyu Chen

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Research Fields

International Trade, Development Economics, Spatial Economics

Education

D.Phil. in Economics, University of Oxford — 2024–2027 (expected)

Exchange Scholar, Yale University — Spring 2027

M.Phil. in Economics, University of Oxford — 2022–2024

B.A. in Finance, Peking University — 2018–2022

Exchange Student, University of California, Berkeley — Spring 2021

Job Market Paper

"Digging Up the Value Chain: Mineral Export Restrictions and Industrial Upgrading" [SSRN]

Abstract: Resource-rich developing countries increasingly restrict raw mineral exports to promote industrial upgrading. I develop a general equilibrium framework in which mineral export restrictions improve the terms of trade and subsidize downstream manufacturing, but their welfare implications depend critically on how far downstream production expands. Using a global dataset of 112 mineral export restrictions imposed by 28 countries during 2008–2023, I trace their effects along downstream production chains. I find that restrictions reduce targeted mineral exports by 42 percent while raising their export prices by 14 percent. Downstream exports increase by 12 percent, but the gains are confined to the first processing stage and concentrated in base metals and technologically simple products. This reveals a policy dilemma: mineral export restrictions raise export prices and stimulate basic processing, but fail to deliver the broad-based industrial upgrading that policymakers envision.

Working Papers

"A Tale of Two Chinas: Trade, Spatial Reallocation, and Uneven Structural Change" [SSRN]
Under review.

"Disruptive Power: Spatial Diffusion of Distributed Solar in South Africa"
with Yifan Wang and Eddy (Weijian) Zou.

Work in Progress

"Growing from Within: Multinational Linkages and Internal Reorganization in Supplier Firms"
with Yang Xu.

"When the Tide Turns: African Welfare under Reversing Trade Preferences"

"Port Investments and Firm Performance"
with Phoebe W. Ishak, Maty Konte, and Alejandro Rueda-Sanz.

"The Slippery Job Ladder in Developing Economies"
with Fabiano Dal Ri, Arti Grover, Anton Heil, Piyush Panigrahi, and Mariana Pereira-López.

"Planning for Decline: Evidence from Japan's Municipal Mergers"

Publications

"ASEAN Integration into a Shifting Global Landscape" [Book]
with Corinne Deléchat, Emmanouil Kitsios, Margaux MacDonald, Akshat Singh, Nujin Suphaphiphat, and Weining Xin. In *Shaping the Future of Asia: Opportunities and Challenges*, edited by Rahul Anand, Thomas Helbling, and Krishna Srinivasan, pp. 219–240. Washington, DC: International Monetary Fund, 2026.

Work Experience

Short-Term Consultant, International Finance Corporation, World Bank Group	2026–
Fund Intern, Asia and Pacific Department, International Monetary Fund	Summer 2025
Research Assistant for Dr. Florian Trouvain, University of Oxford	2023–2025
Research Assistant for Prof. Shaoda Wang, University of Chicago	2021–2022
Research Assistant for Prof. Franklin Qian, UNC-Chapel Hill	2021–2022

Presentations

(* scheduled, † presented by coauthor)

2027: AEA 2027 Annual Meeting*† (Washington), STEG 2027 Themed Workshops* (Manchester)

2026: AEA 2026 Annual Meeting (Philadelphia), The Economics and Politics of Inequality in China Conference (Manchester), 18th FIW Research Conference (Vienna), Junior Applied Economics Seminar (LSE), CSAE 2026 Conference (Oxford), Midwest International Trade and Theory Conference (Ohio State), CSAE Research Workshop (Oxford), UEA 2026 European Meeting (Barcelona), 13th RUSE Conference (Beijing), 1st ISSCAD Global South Development Conference (Beijing), "Building for the Future" Workshop† (UCLouvain), ETSG 2026 Conference (Exeter), 7th KDI–World Bank DECDI Development Impact Conference† (Seoul), 8th World Bank–ODI–IFS Public Finance Conference† (Washington), PEDL Climate and Environment Mini-Conference† (LSE), Banca d'Italia–ECB 5th Conference (Rome), Kiel Institute 2nd Industrial Policy Lab Annual Conference* (Berlin)

2025: CSAE Research Workshop (Oxford), Junior Research Day (Queen Mary), 18th RGS Doctoral Conference (Dortmund), 15th International Conference on Economics of Global Interactions (Bari), ETSG 2025 Conference (Milan), 8th UKTPO Annual Conference (London)

2024: RES 2024 PhD Conference (Portsmouth)

Invited Events

Wealth of Nations at 250 Conference, Royal Society of Edinburgh (rapporteur)	2026
Nordic International Trade Seminars (NOITS), ROCKWOOL Fonden, Copenhagen	2025
PEDL Young Scholars Matchmaking Workshop, University of Oxford	2025

Professional Services

Referee: *Journal of International Economics* ($\times$2), *Oxford Economic Papers*

Honors, Awards, and Grants

CSAE Small Grant (£4,000)	2026
PEDL Exploratory Research Grant, Co-PI (£14,000)	2026
PEDL Seed Research Grant, Co-PI (£5,000)	2025

University of Oxford

George Webb Medley Fund (£2,500) 2025

Nuffield College Travel Grant (£500) 2025

Best Overall Performance in Examinations (Advanced Papers, *proxime accessit*) 2023

Nuffield College–Department of Economics Joint Graduate Scholarship 2022

Peking University

Outstanding Graduate (Dean's List) 2022

Leo Koguan Scholarship 2021

Mingde Fellowship 2018

Gold Medal, 50th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO), *Representing P.R. China* 2018

Gold Medal, 31st Chinese Chemistry Olympiad (CChO), *Representing Shandong* 2017

Teaching

University of Oxford, Tutor

Economics of Industry (undergraduate) Michaelmas 2025, 2026

Peking University, Teaching Assistant

Economy and Society (Freshman Seminar), for Prof. Lin Tao Fall 2021

Introduction to Finance, for Prof. Mai Li Spring 2021

Additional Information

Programming: Stata, Python, R, SQL, QGIS, MATLAB, LaTeX

Languages: Chinese (native), English (fluent), Japanese (advanced), Turkish (elementary)

Citizenship: Chinese

References

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