## Jin Ho Kim

**CONTACT** 

Cardiff University

Cardiff Business School **INFORMATION** 

Aberconway Building 3 Colum Drive

Email: kimjh3@cardiff.ac.uk https://www.econjin.com

Tel:44(0) 7961-996-717

Cardiff, CF103EU, UK

CURRENT **POSITION** 

Cardiff Business School, Cardiff, UK

Lecturer in Economics

2023-

2020-2022

**PREVIOUS POSITION** 

University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

Lecturer in Development Economics

**EDUCATION** 

The George Washington University, Washington, DC, USA

Ph.D. Economics, 2020

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, USA

M.A. Economic Development, 2011, with academic excellence

Hongik University, Seoul, South Korea B.A. Economics, 2006, with highest distinction

RESEARCH INTERESTS Primary: Development and Labour Secondary: International Economics

PUBLICATIONS Minimum Wage, Women's Decision Making Power within Households: Evidence from Indonesia (with Benjamin Williams), 2021 Economic Development and Cultural Change, 70(1), pp. 359-414.

> Evaluating a Long-run Forecast: The World Bank Poverty Forecasts(with Herman Stekler) **Economic Bulletin**, (2017), 37(3), pp.1151-1159

**TEACHING EXPERIENCE**  Thesis Advisor

2020-2025

Cardiff Business School (12 students) University of Oxford (12 students)

2023-2025 2020-2022

Lecturer

Cardiff Business School

International Finance (BA in Economics) 2023-2025 International Trade (BA in Economics) 2023-2025 Development Economics (BA in Economics) 2023 International Trade (MPhill in Economics) 2024

University of Oxford

Quantitative Methods (MSc in Economics for Development) 2020-2022 International Trade Theory Module (MSc in Economics for Development) 2020-2022 Trade and Development Module (MSc in Economics for Development) 2021 - 2022

#### George Washington University

Development Economics (Undergraduate course)

Math Camp for Ph.D. student

Summer 2015 & Summer 2016

### Teaching Assistant, George Washington University

Econometrics for Policy Research II (PhD Course)

The Age of Globalization

Proseminar (Undergraduate Thesis course)

Macroeconomics I & II (PhD course)

Introduction to Econometrics

Introduction to Game Theory

Principle of Micro/Macroeconomics

Fall & Spring 2016

Fall & Spring 2016

Fall & Spring 2013-2015

### RESEARCH ASSISTANT

### Carl Dahlman, Research Assistant, Washington DC

Fall 2018

 Analysis of escalating trade conflict between the U.S. and China and its impact on South Korea

The World Bank, Short Term Consultant, Washington DC Summer 2015

- Analysis of Person Equivalent Poverty Measure, Multi-dimensional Poverty Measure for 2015 Global Monitoring Report
- Data analysis and literature review for 2015 Global Monitoring Report

### HONORS AND AWARDS

Graduate Teaching Assistantship, GWU

CCAS Dean's Graduate Instructorship Award, GWU

Philip J. Amsterdam Graduate Teaching Award, GWU

(appointed as the best TA of the year across the George Washington University)

Academic Excellence Award, Vanderbilt University

The Highest Distinction Honors, Hongik University

2009-2011

2001-2006

### CONFERENCE PRESENTA-TIONS

**2024** Asian Economic Development Conference, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics Conference

**2023** ISI India Economic Development Conference, Eurasia Business and Economics Society (EBES)

2022 Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) annual conference 2021 Centre for the Study of African Economies (CSAE) annual conference

2020 Jobs and Development Conference(World Bank/IZA/NJD)

2019 Asian Econometric Society, North American Econometric Society, European Econometric Society, Jobs and Development Conference (World Bank/IZA/NJD), Georgetown Center for Economic Research Biennial Conference, Midwest Economic Theory and International Trade Conference, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour Economics Conference, International Symposium on Contemporary Labor Economics 2018 Southern Economics Association, Asian Econometric Society, China Econometric Society, IAES London Conference, Economics of Informality Conference (Bogota) 2017 Singapore Economics Review, Asia-Pacific Conference on Economics & Finance

### **SOFTWARE** MATLAB, STATA, R, LATEX

LANGUAGE English(Fluent), Korean(Native)

### WORKING PAPERS

Minimum Wage, Informality, and Non-Compliance (with Roberto Samaniego)
This paper develops an equilibrium wage-posting model that provides a coherent the-

oretical prediction of the effect of minimum wage on the labor market structure. The

model incorporates labor market features commonly found in developing countries such as (i)monopsonistic competition among firms, (ii) firms that decide whether or not to comply with the minimum wage law, and (iii) heterogeneity of firm and worker productivity in the formal and informal sectors. Using historical minimum wage changes in Indonesia during 2000 2014, this paper empirically confirms the predictions of the equilibrium wage-posting model. An increase in the minimum wage induces (i) no reduction in formal sector employment, (ii) an increase in formal sector wages, (iii) reduced economic rents for monopsonistic employers, and (iv) an increase in the number of formal sector firms that do not comply with the minimum wage regulation.

## The Working Dread? Analyzing the Impact of the HukouReform on Firms' Monopsony Power in China (with Ida Brzezinska, Francesco Zanetti)

This paper analyses the impact of the household registration system (Hukou) reform in China on firms' behavior. We develop an equilibrium search model that features labor market characteristics commonly found in developing countries, such as (i) monopsonistic competition among firms, (ii) heterogeneity of firm productivity, and (iii) disadvantaged group of workers. Using historical hukou reform in China during 1998-2007, this paper empirically confirms the predictions of the equilibrium search model. A hukou reform (i)induces an increase in wage payment for rural hukou owners, (ii) reduces economic rent monopsonistic firms, (iii) forces least productive firms to leave the market, thereby increasing average labor productivity, and (iv) increases employment for remaining firms.

# Medicine or Poison? Minimum Wages for Chinese Firms and Workers (with Ida Brzezinska, Zhaohe Yang)

This paper investigates the impact of minimum wage increases on firms' pricing strategies with a focus on markup and markdown adjustments. Utilizing the 2004 minimum wage reform in China and leveraging city-time variations and policy discontinuities at provincial borders, we find that minimum wages lead to increased markups and reduced markdowns. These adjustments are driven by rising wages, improved labor productivity, reduced employment, and heightened firm exit rates. While firms generally adjust in response to cost pressures, their responses vary significantly by ownership type. State-owned enterprises (SOEs) consolidate market power to raise markups despite limited productivity gains, while also experiencing the largest markdown reductions, likely due to their inability to improve labor productivity. Private firms show modest markup increases but significant markdown reductions due to wage increases outpacing productivity improvements. Foreign-owned firms, operating under competitive global pressures, maintain stable markdown levels, leveraging superior productivity to absorb higher wage costs without significant markup changes. These effects persist beyond the initial adjustment period, with markup increases and markdown reductions remaining significant over the medium term. These findings highlight the heterogeneous responses of firms to labor cost shocks, emphasizing the role of market conditions and firm characteristics in shaping market power outcomes.

## RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

# **Productivity dispersion and the rise of unemployment** (with Hyung Joon Chung)

The paper studies the effect of segmented labor market on individual's choice over the types of firm and employment, and time spent for job search. Using Korean Labor and Income Panel Study (1997-2017) data and borrowing empirical strategy from migration literature (G.K. Dahl (2002)), we first show that wages are the most important determinant for the individuals' choice over job types. Then, using counterfactual wages over different types of job for each individual, we calculate inequality measure such as Gini coefficient or Theil's index. We regress these index on time spent for job

search, and initial age to enter the labor market. We find that as inequality of counter-factual wages increases, the time spent on job search increases, and the initial age for job entrance increases as well. We are currently constructing a model to capture this empirical finding, modifying McCall job search model.

## Gender-Specific Informal Sector Heterogeneity: Evidence from Indonesia (with Benjamin Williams and Hyung Joon Chung)

We analyse the nature and driving mechanism of informality experienced by different genders, with a particular emphasis on informality's effect on women's wellbeing. Using the three rounds of the Indonesian Family Life Survey (IFLS) data and the marginal treatment effects (MTE) framework (Heckman, Urzua, and Vytlacil, 1999, 2005, 2007), we generate an inference on the behavioral response of individuals' choice on the treatment status based on their expected outcome, allowing us to infer the driving mechanism for in/formal sector employment. We find substantial heterogeneity in returns to formal sector employment across gender: whereas we observe clear positive sorting on the gain in the male sample, suggesting a rational choice of in/formal sector employment, we do not observe this pattern in the female sample; at best, our analysis suggests that females earn more in the formal sector regardless of individuals' innate preference for in/formal sector employment. This finding suggests a fragmented labor market for women and that working in the formal sector improves the lives of female workers.

## Hetergeneity in Household Decision Making: Evidence from Indonesia (with Benjamin Williams)

We investigate heterogeneity in household decision-making, based on wives' labor force participation, using IFLS data. Taking wives' labor force participation status as a treatment and employing the marginal treatment effect method (MTE), we test how wives' involvement in the labor force affects her decision making power in the household. While we find that for most households, wives experience an increase in decision marking power as their labor market participation increases, there are specific sub-groups, where decision-making power reduces with an increase in labor force participation. Our preliminary results suggest that the decision-making process differs across households and that neither the unitary model nor the bargaining model can fully capture underlying household dynamics. It seems the unitary model with a dominant husband could explain the decision making-process for sub-groups where married women work and subsequently lose their decision making power.

### **Chronic Poverty Measurement**

Distinguishing the chronic poor from the transient poor is an important task in that the relevant policy to cope with each kind of poverty varies. As such, researchers suggested different approaches to identify chronic poverty and transient poverty. Two identification approaches have been popularized, and applied in many different contexts: component approach and counting approach. This paper surveys the existing two different chronic poverty measurement, reinterprets the existing methodologies with focus on the intertemporal substitutability assumption which distinguishes these methods, and then suggests the way to apply each measurement given certain survey data (Income/consumption).

### References

Roberto Samaniego
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
The George Washington University
roberto@gwu.edu

Engin Kara
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
Cardiff University
karae1@cardiff.ac.uk

Christopher Woodruff
Professor of Economics
Department of International Development
The University of Oxford
christopher.woodruff@qeh.ox.ac.uk

Francesco Zanetti
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
The University of Oxford

francesco.zanetti@economics.ox.ac.uk