

## Meng-Jhang Fong

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| <b>Education</b>          | Ph.D. in Social Science, Caltech  | Oct 2018–Sep 2023  |
|                           | - Thesis: “Essays in Behavioral Economics and Game Theory”  |                    |
|                           | - Advisor: Marina Agranov   |                    |
|                           | M.A. in Economics, National Taiwan University   | Sep 2014–June 2016 |
|                           | - Advisor: Joseph Tao-yi Wang   |                    |
|                           | B.B.A. in Finance, National Taiwan University   | Sep 2010–June 2014 |
| <b>Employment</b>         | Senior Research Fellow (Postdoc), MPI, Germany  | Apr 2025–          |
|                           | Data Collect Research, Amazon, U.S.A.   | Nov 2024–Mar 2025  |
|                           | Postdoctoral Scientist, Amazon, U.S.A.  | Oct 2023–Oct 2024  |
|                           | Research Assistant for Joseph Tao-yi Wang, NTU, Taiwan  | Nov 2017–July 2018 |
| <b>Research Interests</b> | Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Game Theory   |                    |
| <b>Working Papers</b>     | “A Comparison of Cursed Sequential Equilibrium and Sequential Cursed Equilibrium: Different Concepts of Cursedness in Dynamic Games,” 2026 (with Po-Hsuan Lin and Thomas R. Palfrey)  |                    |
|                           | <p><i>Abstract:</i> Cursed Equilibrium of Eyster and Rabin (2005) has been a leading theory for explaining winner’s-curse-type behavior in static Bayesian games, but it faces conceptual limitations when applied to dynamic games. Two recent extensions, Cursed Sequential Equilibrium (CSE) by Fong et al. (2025) and Sequential Cursed Equilibrium (SCE) by Cohen and Li (2026), address these limitations in fundamentally different ways. Complementing these two papers, this paper provides a systematic comparison of CSE and SCE, clarifying their conceptual foundations and technical implications, including their notions of cursedness, belief updating, and treatment of public histories.</p> |                    |
| <b>Published Papers</b>   | “Cursed Sequential Equilibrium,” 2025, <i>American Economic Review</i> , 115(8): 2616–2658 (with Po-Hsuan Lin and Thomas R. Palfrey)  |                    |
|                           | “Measuring Higher-Order Rationality with Belief Control,” 2025, <i>Experimental Economics</i> , 28(3): 804–831 (with Wei James Chen and Po-Hsuan Lin)   |                    |
|                           | - The recipient of John O. Ledyard Prize (best second-year paper) for Graduate Research in Social Science, Caltech, 2020  |                    |
|                           | “Extreme (and Non-Extreme) Punishments in Sender-Receiver Games with Judicial Error: An Experimental Investigation,” 2023, <i>Frontiers in Behavioral Economics</i> , 2 (with Joseph Tao-yi Wang)   |                    |
|                           | - The recipient of First Prize in Best Master Thesis Competition, Taiwan Economic Association, 2016   |                    |

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|--|---|---|-------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|--|-------------------|--|-------------------|---|--------------------|---|--------------------|---|-------------------|---|-------------------|---|------|
| <b>Other Publications</b>  | <p>“Vendor Cost Transfer On Retail (VECTOR),” 2025 (with Jiaxuan Li and Dirk Bergemann) <i>Accepted at 2025 Consumer Science Summit (Amazon)</i></p> <p>“Vendor Negotiation Experiment and Training Tool,” 2024 (with Jiaxuan Li, Linfeng Li, Dirk Bergemann, and Yan Chen) <i>Accepted at 2024 Consumer Science Summit (Amazon)</i></p>  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| <b>Work in Progress</b>  | <p>“Belief Updating under an Ambiguous and Asymmetric Information Structure—An Experimental Study” (with En-Der Lai and Joseph Tao-yi Wang)</p> <p>“An Experiment on Threshold Public Goods Games with Communication under Unanimity Rule” (with Po-Hsuan Lin and Thomas R. Palfrey)</p> <p>“Gender Norms and Greedy Work: An Experiment on the Division of Labor” (with Aenne Läufer and Axel Ockenfels)</p> <p>“Conformity and Confirmation Bias”</p>   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| <b>Professional Activities</b>   | <p><i>Research Assistant</i></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>For Matthew Shum</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Dec 2019–Mar 2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (full-time RA)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Oct 2017–July 2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (lab assistant at TASSEL)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Aug 2015–July 2016</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Teaching Assistant</i></p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Economic Engineering, University of Cologne</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Sep 2025–Jan 2026</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behavioral Economics, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Jan 2023–Mar 2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Matching Market, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Apr 2022–June 2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Game Theory, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Apr 2021–June 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Introduction to Finance, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Dec 2020–Mar 2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Microeconomic Theory I (Graduate), National Taiwan U.</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Nov 2015–Jan 2016</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>Referee Service</i></p> <p>Journal of Economic Theory, European Economic Review</p>                                      | For Matthew Shum  | Dec 2019–Mar 2020 | For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (full-time RA)                       | Oct 2017–July 2018 | For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (lab assistant at TASSEL)            | Aug 2015–July 2016 | Economic Engineering, University of Cologne                            | Sep 2025–Jan 2026 | Behavioral Economics, Caltech  | Jan 2023–Mar 2023 | Matching Market, Caltech                                    | Apr 2022–June 2022 | Game Theory, Caltech  | Apr 2021–June 2021 | Introduction to Finance, Caltech                            | Dec 2020–Mar 2021 | Microeconomic Theory I (Graduate), National Taiwan U.       | Nov 2015–Jan 2016 |   |      |
| For Matthew Shum   | Dec 2019–Mar 2020   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (full-time RA)                                      | Oct 2017–July 2018  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| For Joseph Tao-yi Wang (lab assistant at TASSEL)                           | Aug 2015–July 2016  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Economic Engineering, University of Cologne                                | Sep 2025–Jan 2026   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Behavioral Economics, Caltech  | Jan 2023–Mar 2023   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Matching Market, Caltech   | Apr 2022–June 2022  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
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| Introduction to Finance, Caltech   | Dec 2020–Mar 2021   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Microeconomic Theory I (Graduate), National Taiwan U.                      | Nov 2015–Jan 2016   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| <b>Honors and Awards</b>   | <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>The Linde Institute CTESS Graduate Research Grant, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Davis Fellowship</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ministry of Education Taiwan-Caltech Scholarship</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2018–2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>John O. Ledyard Prize for Graduate Research in Social Science, Caltech</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Prize in Best Master Thesis Competition, Taiwan Economic Association</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2016</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Honorary Member of the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2016</td> </tr> </table>  | The Linde Institute CTESS Graduate Research Grant, Caltech        | 2022              | Davis Fellowship  | 2022               | Ministry of Education Taiwan-Caltech Scholarship            | 2018–2022          | John O. Ledyard Prize for Graduate Research in Social Science, Caltech | 2020              | First Prize in Best Master Thesis Competition, Taiwan Economic Association | 2016              | Honorary Member of the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society | 2016               |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| The Linde Institute CTESS Graduate Research Grant, Caltech                 | 2022  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
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| Ministry of Education Taiwan-Caltech Scholarship                           | 2018–2022   |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| John O. Ledyard Prize for Graduate Research in Social Science, Caltech     | 2020  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| First Prize in Best Master Thesis Competition, Taiwan Economic Association | 2016  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Honorary Member of the Phi Tau Phi Scholastic Honor Society                | 2016  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| <b>Conference and Workshop Presentation</b>                                | <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td>Leverhulme Social Norms and Applications Seminars, Royal Holloway</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2026</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Taiwan Economics Research Workshop, Academia Sinica, Taipei</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory Conference, Ischia</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Maastricht Behavioral and Experimental Economics Symposium</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2025</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Los Angeles Experiments (LAX) Workshop (Poster Session)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2023</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Behavioral and Experimental Economics Stanford-Caltech Student Workshop</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2022</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2021</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Science Association Asia Pacific Meeting, Brisbane</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2018</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Economic Science Association World Meeting, Jerusalem</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2016</td> </tr> </table> | Leverhulme Social Norms and Applications Seminars, Royal Holloway | 2026              | Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson | 2025               | Taiwan Economics Research Workshop, Academia Sinica, Taipei | 2025               | Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory Conference, Ischia      | 2025              | Maastricht Behavioral and Experimental Economics Symposium                 | 2025              | Los Angeles Experiments (LAX) Workshop (Poster Session)     | 2023               | Behavioral and Experimental Economics Stanford-Caltech Student Workshop | 2022               | Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson | 2021              | Economic Science Association Asia Pacific Meeting, Brisbane | 2018              | Economic Science Association World Meeting, Jerusalem | 2016 |
| Leverhulme Social Norms and Applications Seminars, Royal Holloway          | 2026  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson                | 2025  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Taiwan Economics Research Workshop, Academia Sinica, Taipei                | 2025  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Society for the Advancement of Economic Theory Conference, Ischia          | 2025  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Maastricht Behavioral and Experimental Economics Symposium                 | 2025  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Los Angeles Experiments (LAX) Workshop (Poster Session)                    | 2023  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Behavioral and Experimental Economics Stanford-Caltech Student Workshop    | 2022  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Economic Science Association North American Meeting, Tucson                | 2021  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Economic Science Association Asia Pacific Meeting, Brisbane                | 2018  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |
| Economic Science Association World Meeting, Jerusalem                      | 2016  |   |                   |   |                    |   |                    |  |                   |  |                   |   |                    |   |                    |   |                   |   |                   |   |      |

**Other**

*Computer Skills*

oTree, zTree, Stata, R, Python, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

*Languages*

Chinese-Mandarin (native), English

*Citizenship*

Taiwan