

LEI MA

Department of Economics · Boston University
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, Boston University, May 2019 - present
M.A., Social Sciences, University of Chicago, 2017
B.S., Economics (*Highest Distinction*), University of Minnesota, 2015

FIELDS

Real Estate, Industrial Organization, Urban Economics, Household Finance

REFERENCES

Professor Adam Guren (co-chair)
Department of Economics
Boston University
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Professor Marc Rysman (co-chair)
Department of Economics
Boston University
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Professor Kevin Lang
Department of Economics
Boston University
Email: lang@bu.edu

Professor Jihye Jeon
Department of Economics
Boston University
Email: jjeon@bu.edu

JOB MARKET PAPER

Build what and where? The distributional effects of housing supply

WORKING PAPERS

Racial disparities in home selling, with Leonel Drukker
When institutional investors come to town: The local effects of buy-to-rent properties
Happy at home or stuck in place? The determinants of declining local residential mobility

WORK IN PROGRESS

The impact of parenthood on the financial wellbeing of families, with Victoria Wang and Letian Yin
The rise and fall of American Chinatowns, with Victoria Wang

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Adam Guren, Boston University, 2020-2024
Research Assistant, Peter Ganong and Pascal Noel, University of Chicago, 2018-2019
Research Assistant, Christopher Palmer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2017-2018
Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, 2015-2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching assistant, Introduction to Mathematical and Computational Economics (PhD),
Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergrad), Money and Banking (Undergrad), Elementary
Mathematical Economics (Master), Boston University
Teaching assistant, Theory of Probability and Statistics (Undergrad), University of Minnesota

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Co-chair, Women in Economics (WEorg), Boston University, 2021 - 2023
Co-organizer, Spatial and Trade Reading Group, Boston University, 2022 - 2023
Mentor, Master RA mentor program, Boston University, 2022 - 2023
Mentor / tutor, Boston Partners in Education, 2022-2023
Committee member, University of Chicago MAPSS Alumni Association Executive Committee,
2022 - 2024

OTHER PUBLICATION

County-level estimates of excess mortality associated with COVID-19 in the United States,
with Andrew Stokes, Calvin Ackley, Dielle Lundberg, Irma Elo, and Samuel Preston, SSM-
Population Health, 2022 Jan 5: 101021

FELLOWSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

Graduate Fellowship, Boston University, 2019 - 2024
Institute for Economics Development travel grant, Boston University, 2023
Institute for Economics Development research grant, Boston University, 2023
California Policy Lab seed grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020
UCLA Ziman Center for Real Estate research grant (co-authored project), UCLA, 2020
Graduate Fellowship, University of Chicago, 2016-2017
Dean's List, University of Minnesota, 2013-2015

SOFTWARE SKILLS: R, Julia, Python, Stata, Matlab, Git, LaTeX, cluster computing

LANGUAGES: English, Chinese, Spanish (beginner)

CITIZENSHIP/VISA STATUS: China. U.S. permanent resident (green-card holder)