KYUNG TAE CHO

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Last Update: Oct 27, 2026

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Economics — Sep. 2021 - May 2027 *(Expected)*
Texas A&M University (TAMU) — *College Station, Texas*

M.A. in Economics — Mar. 2019 - Feb. 2021
Sung Kyun Kwan University (SKKU) — *Seoul, Republic of Korea*

B.A. in Economics — Mar. 2013 - Feb. 2019
Sung Kyun Kwan University (SKKU) — *Seoul, Republic of Korea*

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Industrial Organization, Energy/Environmental Economics, Artificial Intelligence

REFERENCES

Professor Steve Puller (Chair)
Department of Economics
Texas A&M University
spuller@tamu.edu

Professor Fernando A. Luco Echeverría
Department of Economics
Texas A&M University
fluco@tamu.edu

Professor Benjamin Klopack
Department of Economics
Texas A&M University
bklopack@tamu.edu

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Sorting into Exposure: Inequality and Welfare Effects of Urban Fracking in Dynamic Equilibrium" (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Urban fracking creates a local environmental disamenity, but its welfare consequences ultimately depend on how residents sort across neighborhoods, how rents and neighborhood composition adjust, and how residents value those changes over time. I study these forces in Tarrant County, Texas, using a dynamic residential sorting equilibrium model. Fracking restrictions reduce environmental exposure but generate heterogeneous welfare effects across demographic groups through equilibrium adjustments in rents and neighborhood composition and changes in expected future neighborhood values. A targeted ban in neighborhoods with high concentrations of poor Hispanic residents raises rents and induces poor Hispanic residents to move out, thereby leaving the policy's intended beneficiaries worse off. Tightening well-entry along the profitability margin benefits every demographic group in a myopic residential sorting model but makes some minority groups worse off when residents are forward-looking. Methodologically, I develop tractable procedures for estimating dynamic residential sorting and solving equilibrium counterfactuals using only aggregate location shares and moving probabilities, both commonly available in conventional census data.

WORKING PAPER

"Common Global Warming, Unequal Consequences in Local Income", with Yeonjik Lee

WORKS IN PROGRESS

"Machine Learning Machines: Strategic Interactions and Learning of AI Agents in Competitive Markets", with Steve Puller

"Who Keeps the Shale Windfall? Evidence from Public Expenditures in Texas", with Taewon Hwang

"Heat or Eat? Household Temperature Choice and Energy Burden of U.S. Low Income Households"

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PARTICIPATIONS

2026-2027: SEA Annual Conference (Scheduled), North Texas Economics Conference (Scheduled), EAFIT (Scheduled), Midwest Econometrics Group Conference (Cincinnati, OH), TAMU Conference on Energy (College Station, TX)
2025: SEA Annual Conference (Tampa, FL), CU Environmental & Resource Economics Workshop (Vail, CO), Texas Applied Microeconomics Student Workshop (College Station, TX)
2024: Texas A&M University (College Station, TX)
2023: Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics (Berkeley, CA)
2021: EEA Annual Conference (Virtual), WEAI Annual Conference (Virtual)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Main Instructor, TAMU	
Energy Markets and Policy	Spring 2024
Qualifier Camp - Microeconomics 1 (Ph.D.)	Summer 2023, 2024
Teaching Assistant, TAMU	
Introduction to Econometrics	Spring 2025
Data Science for Future Decision Makers	Fall 2024
Economic Data Analysis	Spring 2023
Energy Markets and Policy	Fall 2022
Microeconomic Theory 1 (Ph.D., with Weekly Recitations)	Spring 2022
Microeconomic Theory	Spring 2021
Teaching Assistant, SKKU	
Statistical Analysis for Economics	Spring 2019
Industrial Organization	

HONORS AND AWARDS

M.J. Grove Scholar and PERC Student Fellow	2026
TAMU Department of Economics Research Fund	2025
UC Berkeley Energy Institute Summer Camp Travel Fund	Aug. 2023
Brain Korea 21 (BK21) Scholarship, SKKU	2020
Simsan Graduate Scholarship, SKKU	2019 - 2020
Academic Excellence Scholarship, SKKU	2013 - 2019

Dean's List, SKKU 2013 - 2019

PROFESSIONAL/WORK EXPERIENCE

Academic Research Aug. 2025 - Present
Research Assistant for Prof. Emily Cook *College Station, Texas*
Litigation Consulting Research Jan. 2020 - Aug. 2021
Research Associate for Prof. Minsoo Park (Expert Witness) *Seoul, Republic of Korea*

SKILLS

Programming Languages: Python, R
Software and Tools: STATA, MATLAB, QGIS, ArcGIS, LaTeX, Qualtrics
Language: English (Fluent), Korean (Native)

OTHER EXPERIENCE

Representative, Economics Graduate Student Association 2024 - 2025
Military Experience, Republic of Korea Air Force Mar. 2015 - Mar. 2017