Tonghui Qi

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Education

National University of Singapore, Singapore — Aug. 2021 – Present
Ph.D. in Economics. Advisor: Prof. Sorawoot Srisuma

Duke University, Durham, USA — Aug. 2019 – Jun. 2021
M.A. in Economics

Nankai University, Tianjin, China — Sep. 2015 – Jun. 2019
Bachelor of Economics

Research Interest

Econometrics; Empirical IO.

Working Papers

Identification in Auctions with Truncated Transaction Prices, Job Market Paper.

Abstract: I establish nonparametric identification results in first- and second-price auctions when transaction prices are truncated by a binding reserve price under a range of information structures. When the number of potential bidders is fixed and known across all auctions, if only the transaction price is observed, the bidders' private-value distribution is identified in second-price auctions but not in first-price auctions. Identification in first-price auctions can be achieved if either the number of active bidders or the number of auctions with no sales is observed. When the number of potential bidders varies across auctions and is unknown, the bidders' private-value distribution is identified in first-price auctions but not in second-price auctions, provided that both the transaction price and the number of active bidders are observed. I derive analogous results to auctions with entry costs, which face a similar truncation issue when data on potential bidders who do not enter are missing.

Identification and Estimation of Seller Risk Aversion in Ascending Auctions, with *Nathalie Gimenes* and *Sorawoot Srisuma*.

Abstract: How sellers choose reserve prices is central to auction theory, and the optimal reserve price depends on the seller's risk attitude. Numerous studies have found that observed reserve prices lie below the optimal level implied by risk-neutral sellers, while the theoretical literature suggests that risk-averse sellers can rationalize these empirical findings. In this paper, we develop an econometric model of ascending auctions with a risk-averse seller under independent private values. We provide primitive conditions for the identification of the Arrow–Pratt measures of risk aversion and an estimator for these measures that is consistent and converges in distribution to a normal distribution at the parametric rate under standard regularity conditions. A Monte Carlo study demonstrates good finite-sample performance of the estimator, and we illustrate the approach using data from foreclosure real estate auctions in Sao Paulo.

Teaching Experience

National University of Singapore, Singapore

TA, EC5103: Econometric Modelling and Applications I (Graduate, Prof. Sorawoot Srisuma)	Aug. 2025 – Dec. 2025
Lecturer, Math Camp (Statistics Part)	Jul. 2024 – Aug. 2024
Lecturer, EC5104: Mathematics for Economists (Graduate)	Aug. 2023 – Dec. 2023
Lecturer, Math Camp (Statistics Part)	Jul. 2023 – Aug. 2023
TA, EC5104: Mathematics for Economists (Graduate, Prof. Parimal Bag)	Aug. 2022 – Dec. 2022

Duke University, Durham, USA

TA, ECON707: Econometrics II (Graduate, Prof. Matthew A. Masten)	Aug. 2020 – Dec. 2020

Conferences

Presenter, Asia-Pacific Industrial Organization Conference (scheduled), Brisbane	Dec. 2025
Participant, Dynamic Structural Econometrics Conference, London	Jul. 2025
Participant, Singapore Rising Scholars Conference, Singapore	May. 2023

Awards and Scholarships

Goh Keng Swee Scholarship, NUS	Aug. 2025 – May. 2026
Research Scholarship, NUS	Aug. 2021 – Aug. 2025
M.A. Merit Scholar Award, Duke University	Aug. 2020
M.A. Merit Scholar Award, Duke University	Jan. 2020
Scholarship for Excellent Academic Performance, Nankai University	2017
Freshman Scholarship, Nankai University	2015

References

Sorawoot Srisuma (Advisor), Associate Professor, Department of Economics, NUS	s.srisuma@nus.edu.sg
Jingfeng Lu, Professor, Department of Economics, NUS	ecsljf@nus.edu.sg
Ming Li, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, NUS	mli@nus.edu.sg