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EDUCATION	Ph.D. in Economics, University of California, Irvine	2017-Present
	M.A. in Economics (Ph.D. Track), Korea University, Seoul	2016
	B.A. in Economics, Korea University, Seoul	2013
	Exchange year, National University of Singapore	2011-2012

RESEARCH FIELDS      Public Economics, Labor Economics, and Health Economics

PUBLICATION	<i>Bayesian Analysis of Optimal Foreign Currency Portfolio Selection</i>	2016
	with Donghwan Kim and Kyu Ho Kang, <i>Financial Stability Studies</i>	

WORK IN PROGRESS      *The Effects of Old-Age Pension Receipt on Elderly Employment and Health: Evidence from South Korea*

Public old-age pensions are an important component of the social safety net in many countries. This paper estimates the causal effects of pension receipt on employment and health of elderly people by exploiting exogenous changes to the full retirement age under South Korea's pension system. Using rich survey data, I find that pension receipt decreases employment and improves self-reported health. The results shed light on the effects of public old-age pensions on individuals' work behavior and well-being. The policy implications are also particularly timely as many countries attempt to shore up public old-age pension finances in the face of major demographic shifts in their populations.

*Quasi-Experimental Evidence on the Effects of Expanding TANF Cash Assistance* (joint with [Matthew Freedman](#)) [[SSRN](#)] (*Revise and resubmit, Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*)

We study the labor supply and consumption responses to cash assistance delivered through the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program in the United States. Exploiting a sharp increase in cash benefit generosity for low-income single-parent families in New Hampshire due to a legislative revision to payment calculations, we implement difference-in-differences and triple-differences to estimate the impacts of greater benefits on work behavior as well as on food expenditures and food security. Our results suggest that more generous cash assistance reduces labor supply among likely TANF-eligible individuals, but also increases household food spending and reduces the incidence of food insecurity. Our findings speak both to the moral hazard costs and to the standard-of-living improvements associated with expanded cash assistance in an era in which cash welfare is at historically low levels, is time limited, and imposes work requirements.

*The Effects of Universal Free Lunch Provision on Student Achievement: Evidence from South Korea*

This paper examines the impact of the Universal Free Lunch Program (UFLP) on student achievement in South Korea. I leverage the staggered rollout of the UFLP across South

Korean provinces and employ both difference-in-differences and IV strategies. Taking advantage of rich school-level data, I find that providing free lunch to all students leads to modest improvements in academic achievement on average. However, the effects are heterogeneous across the achievement distribution, with the relatively large gains for those at below-basic levels. I additionally test for heterogeneous effects across schools in higher and lower income areas. To explore potential mechanisms, I examine both students' and schools' response that could have led to improvements in academic outcomes.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	Research assistant to Professor Matthew Freedman, University of California, Irvine	2020
	Research assistant to Professor Kyu Ho Kang, Korea University	2016
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Teaching assistant, University of California, Irvine	2017-Present
	Labor Economics, Health Economics, Basic Economics 1& 2, Managerial Economics, International Business Economics, Intermediate Microeconomics 2, Intermediate Macroeconomics	
	Teaching assistant, Korea University	2013-2016
	International Finance (in English), Econometrics 2	
	Teaching assistant, Bank of Korea	2015
	Intermediate Time Series using MATLAB	
HONORS, AWARDS, AND FELLOWSHIPS	Conference Grant, University of California, Irvine	2021
	School of Social Science Associate Dean's Fellowship, University of California, Irvine	2020
	Economics Summer Research Fellowship, University of California, Irvine	2020
	Economics Summer Research Fellowship, University of California, Irvine	2019
	Merit Fellowship in Economics, University of California, Irvine	2017-Present
	Recruitment Fellowship, University of California, Irvine	2017
	BK21+ Scholarships, Korea University, Seoul	2014-2016
	General Scholarships, Korea University, Seoul	2013-2015
	POSCO Scholarships, POSCO, Seoul	2011
	Honor Scholarships (C), Korea University, Seoul	2009-2010
SELECTED PARTICIPATION & ACTIVITIES	Association for Mentoring & Inclusion in Economics (AMIE):	
	1st Workshop in Applied Microeconomics (mentee)	2021
	Diversity Training, School of Social Science, UCI	2020
	PhD Student Mentor Program, Department of Economics, UCI (mentor)	2019-present
	Mentoring Workshop for the Female Economics PhD Students, Stanford Univ. (mentee)	2019
	Women in Economics PhD Student group, Dept. of Economics, UCI (member)	2018-present
CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, AND SEMINARS	Southern Economic Association 91st Annual Meeting (Scheduled)	2021
	WEAI Annual Meeting	2021
	Population Association of America Annual Conference ( <i>presented by coauthor</i> )	2021
	Society of Labor Economists Annual Meeting ( <i>presented by coauthor</i> )	2021
	WEAI Virtual International Conference	2021
	Association for Mentoring & Inclusion in Economics (AMIE):	
	1st Workshop in Applied Microeconomics	2021
	Southern Economic Association 90th Annual Meeting	2020

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	APPAM Fall Research Conference	2020
	APPAM California Regional Student Conference (Scheduled, canceled due to COVID-19)	2020
	Public Choice Society 89th Annual Meeting (Scheduled, canceled due to COVID-19)	2020
	Southwestern Social Science 99th Annual Meeting (Poster)	2019
INTERNAL PRESENTATIONS	Applied Micro Workshop, Economics Department, University of California, Irvine	2020
	Economics Department, University of California, Irvine (Poster)	2020
	THPE Workshop, University of California, Irvine	2020
	Economics Department, University of California, Irvine (Poster)	2019
COMPUTER SKILLS	MATLAB, Stata, Gauss (full proficiency)	
	Python, R, Linux (basic proficiency)	
LANGUAGES	Korean (native), English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (basic knowledge)	
REFERENCES	<a href="#">Matthew Freedman</a> (Chair) Department of Economics University of California, Irvine (949) 824-8257 <a href="mailto:matthew.freedman@uci.edu">matthew.freedman@uci.edu</a>	<a href="#">Vellore Arthi</a> Department of Economics University of California, Irvine (949) 824-3324 <a href="mailto:varthi@uci.edu">varthi@uci.edu</a>
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