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EDUCATION

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| Stanford Graduate School of Business (USA) | June, 2010 |
| PhD in Political Economics | |
| The University of Toronto (Canada) | 2003-2004 |
| Masters of Arts in Economics (PhD stream) | |
| The University of British Columbia (Canada) | 1999-2003 |
| Bachelor of Commerce with Honors | |

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development, Security, Comparative Politics and Methodology, Economic History, Institutional Economics

PUBLICATION

“Reversal toward Repression and Changing Dynamics of Ethnic Demography: Evidence from Tibet”
with Enze Han (forthcoming in *The China Quarterly*)

Abstract: In this paper, we look at a variety of geospatial factors related to waves of social unrest in Tibet and its surrounding regions in 2008. Our results indicate that the spread and frequency of protests are significantly associated with the number of government-registered Buddhist sites in particular locales. We argue that changes in religious tolerance policy towards certain counties between the 1980s and the 1990s are significantly correlated with the level of protests in 2008. The counties that experienced relative freedom but later were punished by repression were more likely to stage protests, than those that constantly were repressed. The result holds after controlling for both socioeconomic and ethnic factors commonly identified as leading to inter-ethnic conflict. We further characterize the importance of the case study by reviewing its implications of an authoritarian state’s combined policy of concession and repressive measures, and of gradual ethnic assimilation on uprisings.

“Altitude and Adaptation: A Study of Geography and Ethnic Division”
with Tsering W. Shawa (forthcoming in *Applied Geography*)

Abstract: In this paper we investigate the influence of geography on ethnic division by drawing evidence from Tibetan ethnic regions in China. Using a novel town name index database that identifies the ethnolinguistic origin of each town name, our empirical findings first show that regions with Han Chinese settlement in the past also witness higher concentration of Han population today. We also show that townships located at higher altitudes have less Han concentration. This altitude effect can be both indirect and direct; we find that the indirect effect through historical settlement is small compared to the direct physiological effect through altitude illness. The challenging environment of the plateau region acts as a physiological hindrance only for Han Chinese, and the natural separation continues to persist between the two groups.

WORKING PAPERS

“A Western Reversal Since the Neolithic? The Long-Run Impact of Early Agriculture”
with Ola Olsson (Revise & Resubmit, *Econometrica*)

Abstract: The "naive" version of the Jared Diamond-hypothesis states that regions that experienced a transition to Neolithic agriculture early should be institutionally and economically more advanced than regions that made the transition later. However, within the Western agricultural core that made the transition first (Southwest Asia, Europe, and North Africa) many indicators suggest that communities that adopted agriculture early now have weaker institutions and poorly functioning economies than later adopters. In the current paper, we attempt to integrate both of these trends in a coherent historical framework that augments the original Jared Diamond-hypothesis. Our main argument is that countries that made the transition early also tended to develop autocratic states with a weak rule of law and pervasive rent seeking whereas later adopters were more likely to have egalitarian states with stronger private property rights. These different institutional trajectories implied a gradual shift of dominance from the early civilizations towards regions in the periphery. We document this relative reversal within the Western core by showing a robust negative correlation between years since transition to agriculture and contemporary levels of income and institutional development on both a national and a regional level. Our results further indicate that the reversal had become manifest already before the era of European colonization.

“Keeping Up with the Jones: External Kin and Constructed Economic Interests in Minority Ethnic Group Mobilization” with Enze Han and Joseph O’Malley (Revise & Resubmit, *Conflict Management and Peace Science*)

Abstract: Many theories on ethnic conflict posit a relationship between economic inequality and conflict, and many tend to agree that economic inequality between groups within a domestic setting is one of the main causes of grievance and thereby political mobilization. This paper argues that there is a different type of economic inequality, which is the economic disparity between an ethnic group and its external kin group. We hypothesize that an ethnic group is more likely to feel grievance and thereby politically mobilize if its external kin group enjoys higher levels of economic development than the group itself. We test our hypothesis using both country-level and group-level analyses. Data for our analyses are drawn from the Minority At Risk dataset (MAR), the Geo-referenced Ethnic Power Relations dataset (GeoEPR), and Geographically based Economic data (G-Econ). The results show that economic disparity between an ethnic group and its external kin group is positively correlated with ethnic group political mobilization. The poorer an ethnic group is in comparison with its external kin group, the more likely it is to mobilize politically.

“Ethnic Integration and Political Mobilization in Tibet”
(under review)

Abstract: This paper looks at waves of protests in 2008 across Tibetan regions in China, and investigates the extent to which ethnic integration of Han population led to these protests. It exploits the physiological differences between Tibetans and Han Chinese in their abilities to adapt to high altitudes, and uses the mean elevation of each region as an instrument variable for the level of Han concentration. The empirical findings show that the region with stronger presence of Han population witnessed a lower likelihood of one or more protests, suggesting powerful long term influence of geography and ethnic integration on diminishing political mobilization.

“Historical Group Divergence and Cultural Persistence: Evidence from the Neolithic Revolution”
with Ola Olsson

Abstract: This paper investigates long term influence of the Neolithic Revolution, an important historical event during which humans adopted agriculture for the first time, on the current regional cultural differences. A series of arguments presented in the paper claims that the advent of agriculture and subsequent migration of agriculturalists likely triggered the initial cultural divergence, which remained persistent over generations. Using novel Neolithic vegetation variation data and initial agricultural adoption dates, the empirical findings support the arguments and show that the regions which adopted agriculture early also value obedience more, a definitive cultural trait found in collectivist, hierarchical societies. The main finding remains robust to a series of both historical and contemporaneous variables, and adds to the literature which suggests the possibility of extremely long lasting norms and beliefs influencing today’s socioeconomic outcomes.

“Income or Politics? A Study of Satellite Streetlight Imagery Application in Pakistan”
with Jacob N. Shapiro

Abstract: In recent years economists and political scientists have used remote sensing in areas that do not have reliable census data. In particular, satellite images of nighttime illumination have been extensively used to measure income levels in third-world and developing nations. However, using remote sensing to measure economic activity is a more complicated endeavor than had been previously thought, at least if one wants to use it to measure activity below the level of the nation state. At the local level in many developing countries, both electricity provision and economic activity can be strongly influenced by local politics. Using data from nighttime illumination before and after the 2008 general election in Pakistan, we show that districts which supported the winning coalition party shone brighter than other economically comparable districts, while those which supported the losing party lost their share of light. The data also reveal that the light intensity measure does not proxy for local income and employment levels consistently. These findings together suggest that while the satellite imageries may capture economic performance at the macro level, it falls short of explaining variations within each state that likely needs this novel measure the most for assessing local economic activities.

“Rebellion and Taxation: Evidence from Early Modern Japan”
with Abbey Steele and Seiki Tanaka

Abstract: This paper explores the impact of rebellions within autocracies on taxation. Do rebellions lead rulers to tax at lower rates, in order to avoid future threats to order? Or do rebellions provide an incentive to tax at higher rates in order to fund repression and keep order? The former scenario would suggest a bargaining mechanism, in which autocrats concede to the masses’ demands. The latter would indicate a punitive mechanism, in which the warlord seeks to undercut the ability of the masses to revolt again. We test these hypotheses with fine-grained data on taxation and rebellion from Japan at the domain level (N=267) during the Tokugawa era (1603-1868). This paper makes three central contributions. First, while the early modern period of Japanese history has been intensely studied, exploiting sub-national variation in rebellion and taxation has been largely overlooked. Second, we reverse the typical question relating to taxation and rebellion: rather than explain rebellion as a function of taxation, we study how rebellion affects taxation. Finally, we examine the effect of rebellions on autocratic governance in a large-N setting.

WORK IN PROGRESS

“Geopolitics of National Integration: Evidence from Sino-Southeast Asia Border Land” with Enze Han

“Disasters and Dictators” with Tuan Hwee Sng and Seiki Tanaka

“Measures of Genetic, Linguistic and Religious Distance Across Countries” with Enrico Spolaore and Romain Wacziarg

“Nuclear or Not? A Panel Study of Political Constraints and the Adoption of Nuclear Power”

“The Impact of Unemployment and Immigration on Conscription”

“Ethnic Concentration and Public Goods Provision in China: A Study of China Population Census and Streetlight Imagery” with Enze Han

“Social Networks and Institutional Development”

“Ethnicity, Violence and the Enemy: A Study of Terrorism” with Peter Schram

OTHER WORKS

“Understanding Your Retirement Savings: How the Recent Economic Recession Changed Advertising in Retirement Financial Services” with Taejun Lee and Wonjun Chung
Journal of Financial Services Marketing (2011) **16**, 244–262

PRESENTATIONS

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| Pacific Development Economics Conference (San Francisco) | 2009 |
| Midwest Political Science Association (MPSA) Conference (Chicago) | 2009 |
| Stanford Graduate School of Business Political Economy Workshop (Stanford) | 2009 |
| Haas School Oliver Williamson Seminar on Institutional Analysis (Berkeley) | 2009 |
| Stanford University Development Economics Workshop (Stanford) | 2009 |

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| International Society for New Institutional Economics (ISNIE) Conference | 2009, 2011 |
| American Political Science Association (APSA) Conference (Seattle) | 2011 |
| New York University Politics Seminar (New York) | 2011 |
| Northeast Universities Development Consortium (NEUDC) (Yale, New Haven) | 2011 |
| Gothenburg University Economics Seminar (Gothenburg, Sweden) | 2011 |
| Kyunghee University International Studies Seminar (Korea) | 2011 |
| Brown University Macroeconomics Workshop | 2012 |
| Social Sciences History Association Annual Meeting (Vancouver) | 2012 |
| Kookmin University Social Sciences Seminar (Korea) | 2012 |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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|---|-----------|
| Woodrow Wilson School, Princeton University | 2010-2012 |
| Postdoctoral Research Associate | |
| Graduate School of Business, Stanford University | |
| Course Assistant for Non-market Strategy (MBA) | 2006-2007 |
| Research Assistant | 2005-2009 |
| University of Toronto | |
| Teaching Assistant for Undergraduate Microeconomics | 2003 |
| University of Alberta | |
| Research Assistant | 2001-2003 |
| University of British Columbia | |
| Research Assistant | 2001-2003 |

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for *Quarterly Journal of Political Science*, *Journal of Peace Research*, and *Econometrica*

HONORS AND REWARDS

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|---|-----------|
| Doctoral Fellowship, Stanford Graduate School of Business | 2004-2009 |
| University of Toronto Fellowship | 2003-2004 |
| University of British Columbia Undergraduate Scholars Program | 2000-2003 |
| University of British Columbia Dean's Honor Roll, 2000-2003 | 2000-2003 |

REFERENCES

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| Prof. Romain Wacziarg UCLA Anderson School of Management 110 Westwood Plaza, C-510 Entrepreneurs Hall Los Angeles, CA 90095-1481 +1 (310) 825-4507 wacziarg@ucla.edu | Prof. Jacob Shapiro Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs Princeton University Princeton, NJ 08544 +1 (609) 258-2256 jns@princeton.edu |
| Prof. Carles Boix Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs Princeton University Princeton, NJ 08544 +1 (609) 258-2139 | Prof. James Fearon Department of Political Science, MC6044 Stanford University Stanford, CA 94305-6044 +1 (650) 725-1314 jfearon@stanford.edu |

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OTHER INFORMATION

Citizenship- Canadian

Languages- English, Korean, Spanish (Beginner), French (Beginner)