

Weihong Li

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EDUCATION

Southern Methodist University

Dallas, TX

Ph.D. in Economics

May 2025

M.A. in Economics

Dec 2022

Fields: Development Economics, Political Economics, Environmental Economics

Dissertation: Essays on Development Economics,

- < Built empirical models and wrote Stata scripts to quantitatively analyze the influence of digital trade, infrastructure, and services on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Methodologies included OLS-FE, OLS with lags, one/two-step difference GMM, one/two-step system GMM, and 2SLS.
- < Wrote an essay specifying the models, including a comparison with those applied in other papers.
- < Conducted literature reviews and wrote essays on the impact of digital trade, infrastructure, and services on poverty alleviation, environmental protection, disaster reduction, climate change, education access, public health, and women empowerment. The essays have been incorporated into the Asia-Pacific Trade and Investment Report 2023-2024: Unleashing Digital Trade and Investment for Sustainable Development (<https://www.unescap.org/kp/APTIR2023>).
- < Updated and maintained DigiSRII database, which stores country-level data for digital trade studies. Updated R scripts used to generate key variables, along with a manual explaining how to access and download the DigiSRII database.

Department of Economics,
