

MARIO LECCESE

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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Boston University, Questrom School of Business 2024 -
Assistant Professor in Strategy & Innovation

EDUCATION

University of Maryland

Ph.D., Economics 2024

Dissertation: "Essays on Competition and Innovation"

Committee: Ginger Zhe Jin, Andrew Sweeting,
Liad Wagman, Chenyu Yang and Rajshree Agarwal

M.A., Economics 2020

Bocconi University

M.Sc., Economics (DES) 2017

B.Sc., Economics (CLES) 2015

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Industrial Organization, Strategy, Antitrust & Competition Policy, Economics of Innovation, Venture Capital & Entrepreneurship.

PUBLICATIONS

- [1] Should We Expect Uncertain Synergies To Be Passed Through to Consumers? (with Andrew Sweeting and Xuezhen Tao). **The Journal of Industrial Economics**, Vol. 73(1), pp.1-30, 2025.
- [2] Taxing Ride-sharing: Which Neighborhoods Pay More? **Journal of Regional Science**, Vol. 64(4), pp.1393-1413, 2024.
- [3] M&A and Technological Expansion (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). **Journal of Economics & Management Strategy**, Vol. 3(2), pp. 338-359, 2024.
- [4] How Do Top Acquirers Compare in Technology Mergers? New Evidence from an S&P Taxonomy (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). **International Journal of Industrial Organization**, Vol. 89, 2023.
- [5] M&A and Innovation: A New Classification of Patents (with Zhaoqi Cheng, Ginger Zhe Jin, Dokyun Lee and Liad Wagman). **American Economic Association: Papers & Proceedings**, Vol. 113, pp. 288-293, May 2023.

BOOK CHAPTERS

- [6] The Role of Digital Platforms in Shaping Tech Venture Innovation (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). Chapter in the **Handbook on Digital Platforms**, edited by Anthony Dukes, D. Daniel Sokol, Tianshu Sun, and Feng Zhu, Cambridge University Press (forthcoming). Also available as NBER WP #33370.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- [7] The Draft Merger Guidelines Risk Reducing Innovation (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). ProMarket, October 2023.
- [8] Public comments submitted to the DOJ/FTC Request for Information regarding the Draft Merger Guidelines (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman), July 2023. Available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FTC-2023-0043-1429>.
- [9] Asymmetric Taxation, Pass-through and Market Competition: Evidence from Ride-sharing and Taxis. Proceedings of the 2022 ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, 371–372. New York, NY, USA: Association for Computing Machinery.
- [10] Public comments submitted to the DOJ/FTC Request for Information on Merger Enforcement (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman), March 2022. Available at: <https://www.regulations.gov/comment/FTC-2022-0003-0138>.

WORKING PAPERS

- [1] The Effects of Targeted Platform Taxes: Evidence from Ride-sharing and Taxis. 2022. SSRN working paper #3824453. *Revise and Resubmit* at the Journal of Public Economics.
- [2] Dynamic Competition with Bargaining: Implications for Subsidy and Competition Policies (with Shanglyu Deng, Calvin Jia and Andrew Sweeting). 2023. NBER working paper #32360.
- [3] The Signaling Value of Technology Venture Acquisitions (with Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). 2024. SSRN working paper #4943381. *Revise and Resubmit* at the Strategic Management Journal.
- [4] Strategic Investment in Competitors: Theory and Evidence from Technology Startups. 2024. SSRN working paper #4968068.
- [5] Hiding a Flaw? Experimental Evidence on Multi-Dimensional Information Disclosure (with Agata Farina). 2024. SSRN working paper #4785923.
- [6] How Does Privacy Regulation Affect Transatlantic Venture Investment? Evidence from GDPR (with Jian Jia, Ginger Zhe Jin and Liad Wagman). 2025. NBER working paper #33909. SSRN working paper #3436535.
- [7] Serial Acquisitions in Tech (with Ginger Zhe Jin, Liad Wagman and Yunfei Wang). 2025. SSRN working paper #5392628. NBER working paper #34178.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED SEMINARS

2026: ASSA Meeting; Next Generation of Antitrust Conference; Utah Antitrust Summit; NBER Law & Economics Spring Meeting; Utah Winter Strategy Conference (Scheduled); IIOC (Scheduled); EIEF (Scheduled)

2025: Unibg Industrial Organization Winter Symposium; Antitrust Merger Platform Policy Roundtable; Annual National Tax Association Conference (Discussant); BU IO Seminar; CRESSE (Presenter and Discussant); BSE Summer Forum; EAYE Annual Conference; IIOC (Presenter and Discussant); NBER Productivity Seminar; Digital Business Institute Research Showcase, Boston University; BYU/USC Winter Antitrust Conference

2024: Harvard-Oxford Conference on Common Ownership; Southern Economic Association Annual Conference; Digital Platforms Symposium at USC Marshall; 51st Annual Conference of EARIE; BSE Summer Forum (Economics of Science and Innovation); DRUID; University of Maryland Smith School of Business; USC Gould School of Law

2023: Boston University, Questrom School of Business; University of Toronto, Rotman School of Management; ESADE Business School; Universitat Pompeu Fabra; Universidad Carlos III de Madrid; Georgia Institute of Technology, Scheller College of Business; WEFI Student Workshop; University of Maryland (Dept. of Economics); University of Maryland Smith School of Business (Finance); University of Maryland Smith School of Business (Strategy); WEFI Student Workshop; NFI-NBIM-Oxford Conference on Common Ownership (Discussant)

2022: NBER Conference on Megafirms and the Post-COVID Economy; 23rd ACM Conference on Economics & Computation; Urban Economics Association North American Meeting; Conference on The Business Revolution of Digital Transformation at USC; GMU Law&Economics Center Research Roundtable on The Data-Competition Interface; 5th International Conference of China Development Studies

2021: IIOC Rising Stars; MACCI Annual Conference

GRANTS, HONORS AND AWARDS

Mehrotra Institute's Research Grant (\$20,000, PI) Project: "Antitrust Beyond Prices"	2026
International Center for Law & Economics Research Grant (\$60,000, Co-PI) Project: "Post-Acquisition Career Paths of Founders in the Digital Economy"	2025
Finalist 2024 Antitrust Writing Awards: Academic Articles, Mergers Concurrences	2024
University of Maryland BSOS Dean's Research Initiative Travel Grant (\$1,000)	2023
Washington Center for Equitable Growth Doctoral Grant (\$15,000, PI) Project: "Startups' Common Ownership and Competition in Technology Markets"	2022
Program on Economics and Privacy at GMU Research Grant (\$7,000) Project: "How Do Top Acquirers Compare in Technology Mergers?"	2022
University of Maryland Faculty-Student Research Award Research Grant (\$10,000), with Ginger Zhe Jin	2022
Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant University of Maryland	2022

Best Third Year Paper Award (2 nd prize) Department of Economics, University of Maryland	2021
University of Maryland Graduate School Summer Research Fellowship Stipend to support research activities (\$5,000)	2021
University of Maryland BSOS Dean's Research Initiative Research Grants (\$1,500 and \$3,248, respectively)	2020, 2021
Graduate Research Assistantship Department of Economics, University of Maryland	2021-2023
Graduate Teaching Assistantship Department of Economics, University of Maryland	2019-2021
First-year Graduate Fellowship Department of Economics, University of Maryland	2018-2019

TEACHING

Entrepreneurial Strategy MBA elective, Boston University	2026
Strategy, Innovation, and Global Competition Undergraduate, Boston University	2025-2026
Research Seminar in Technology Strategy and Innovation Ph.D., Boston University	2025
Intermediate Microeconomics Undergraduate, University of Maryland	2020-2021

UNIVERSITY AND DEPARTMENT SERVICE

Doctoral Advising and Committees

Zeyang Xue (Boston University, Committee Member, current)

Master Students and Past Research Assistants

Daling Shi (2024-2025, Placement: University of Miami, PhD in Biomedical Informatics)

Rayna Yang (2025-2026, Placement: Boston University, PhD in Information Systems)

Co-organizer of the Doctoral Consortium of the Platform Strategy Symposium Boston University	2026
Organizer of the Strategy & Innovation Research Seminar Boston University	2025-
Organizer of the Industrial Organization Seminar Boston University	2024-
Strategy & Innovation Department, Search committee for Assistant Professor Boston University	2024-2025
Member of the Academic Conduct Committee Boston University	2024-2025

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for: *Applied Economics Letters, International Journal of Industrial Organization, Metroeconomica, RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies, Strategic Management Society Annual Conference*

Young Economist Representative of the Transportation and Energy Committee American Bar Association	2022-2023
Economics Ambassador American Bar Association	2021-2022

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

NBER Entrepreneurship Research Bootcamp Summer school in Entrepreneurship & Innovation	2023
Research Assistant for Ginger Zhe Jin University of Maryland	2022-2023
Research Assistant for Andrew Sweeting University of Maryland	2021-2022
NBER Digitization Tutorial Additional classes in Digital Economics	2021
Research Assistant for Marco Ottaviani Bocconi University	2017
Research Assistant at LEAR Economic Consulting	2018
IGIER Visiting Student Bocconi University	2015-2016

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Languages: English (Fluent), Italian (Native), Spanish (Beginner)
Programming: Stata, MATLAB, R, Mathematica, Python, oTree, Latex

Last updated: March 7, 2026.