

SHAN HUANG

Personal Information

- Personal Website: <https://www.shanhhuang.com/>
- Email: shanh@hku.hk & shan.huangbj@gmail.com
- Nationality: Canadian Citizenship

Professional Positions

- 2021 - Now: Assistant Professor
Area of Marketing 2023 – Now
Area of Innovation and Information Management (IIM) 2021 - 2022
Faculty of Business and Economics, The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Performance review: 5/5 (2021), 4/5 (2023, 2024), 5/5 (2025)
- 2018 – 2020: Assistant Professor
Department of Information Systems & Operations Management
Michael G. Foster School of Business, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, USA
Performance review on research (2020): 8.5/9
- 2018 - Now: Consultant
WeChat, Tencent Technology Company Ltd, China
- 2020 – 2025: Digital Fellow
Digital Economy Lab
Institute for Human-Centered AI, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA

Education

- 2012 - 2018: Ph.D., Management Science,
Sloan School of Management, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA, USA
Committee Chair: Erik Brynjolfsson
- 2010 - 2012: M.Sc., Management Information Systems,
Sauder School of Business, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Committee Chair: Izak Benbasat
- 2006 - 2010: B.A. Business Administration,
School of Economics and Management, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Research Interests

- Technology-Enabled Marketing Strategies and Decision-Making
 - Digital Experimentation Methods — Long-term effects, external validity, A/B testing at scale
 - AI for Marketing Decisions — LLM-based causal inference, product decisions, and evaluations
 - Social Media Platforms — Advertising effectiveness, content diffusion, algorithmic vs. social

recommendations

Publications

Journal Papers

1. **Shan Huang**^{†,‡}, Chen Wang^{*,‡}, Yuan Yuan^{*,‡}, Jinglong Zhao^{‡,*} & Jingjing Zhang[‡], (industry author) (2026) Estimating Effects of Long-Term Treatments, *Management Science*. (*paper forwarded at EC'23*)
 - The Method implemented at Tencent and ByteDance in their operations.
 - Presented at Tencent, Kuaishou, ByteDance, Meta, Lyft, and LinkedIn
 - Distributed as part of the Fast Causal Inference open-source package on GitHub: <https://github.com/Tencent/fast-causal-inference>.
2. Yifan Yu^{*,‡}, **Shan Huang**^{*,‡}, Yuchen Liu[‡], & Yong Tan (2025), Emotions in Online Content Diffusion, *Information Systems Research*.
3. **Shan Huang**[†] & Song Lin^{†,‡} (2024), Do More "Likes" Lead to More Clicks? Evidence from a Field Experiment on Social Advertising, *Journal of Marketing*.
4. **Shan Huang**[†], Sinan Aral, Yu Hu & Erik Brynjolfsson (2020). Social Advertising Effectiveness Across Products: A Large-Scale Field Experiment, *Marketing Science*, 39(6), 1142-1165.
 - The earliest large-scale experiment involving over 37 million users on WeChat, contributing to building WeChat's first A/B testing system at Tencent.
5. Hailiang Chen^{†,‡}, Yu Hu & **Shan Huang** (2019). Monetary Incentive and Stock Opinions on Social Media. *Journal of Management Information Systems*, 36(2), 391-417.

Conference Proceedings

6. **Shan Huang** and Yi Ji[‡], Algorithmic vs. Friend-based Recommendations in Shaping Novel Content Engagement: A Large-scale Field Experiment, in proceedings of The Twenty-Fifth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'24), Yale University, USA.
7. Chen Wang[‡], Shichao Han^{‡,*} (industry author) and **Shan Huang**, Enhancing External Validity of Experiments with Ongoing Sampling, in proceedings of The Twenty-Fifth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'24), Yale University, USA.
8. **Shan Huang**, Chen Wang[‡], Yuan Yuan^{‡,*}, Jinglong Zhao^{‡,*} and Jingjing Zhang^{‡,*} (industry author), Estimating Effects of Long-Term Treatments, in proceedings of The Twenty-Fourth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation (EC'23), King's College London, UK.

Working Papers

1. **Shan Huang**[†], Yi Ji[‡], & Leyu Lin[‡], (industry author), Algorithms vs. Peers in Shaping Novel Content Engagement, under *2nd Round Review at Information Systems Research*. (*paper forwarded at EC'24*)
2. Chen Wang[‡], **Shan Huang**[†], & Shichao Han[‡], (industry author), Enhancing External Validity of Experiments with Ongoing Sampling, under *Revise and Resubmit at Journal of Marketing Research*, (*paper forwarded at EC'24*)
 - a. Implemented as an embedded function in Tencent's experimentation system.
 - b. Presented at Tencent, ByteDance, and LinkedIn
3. Chen Wang[‡], **Shan Huang**[†], Shichao Han[‡] (industry author) & Yong Wang (industry author), LLM-Driven Multi-Agent Framework for Causal Inference

- a. Developed with Tencent; tested and adopted in production.
 - b. Presented at Workshop on AI Data Scientist, KDD 2026 & MIT CODE 2025
- 4. Yi Ji†, **Shan Huang**‡, Tong Wang‡, & Jinyong Ma‡ (industry author), Measuring User Satisfaction at Scale with LLMs
 - a. Developed with ByteDance; tested and validated in practice.
- 5. Yi Ji† & **Shan Huang**‡, LLMs in Product Selection for Small Businesses
 - a. Developed with small e-commerce platforms; tested in practice.
- 6. **Shan Huang** & Yifan Yu (2024), Customer-Product Matches in Social Referrals¹.

Business Cases

- 1) **Shan Huang**, Shipeng Yan‡*, Zhenhui Jiang, and Minying Huang (2022), ESG at WeChat Pay to Support SMEs, *Asia Case Research Centre*
- 2) **Shan Huang**, Xiaoming Yuan, and Minying Huang (2025), Algorithm Innovation at Huawei Cloud, *Asia Case Research Centre, forthcoming*

Book-in-Progress

Title: Experimentation at Scale: Methods and Practice from China's Tech Frontier

- *Authors:* Yunfei Han* (ByteDance), **Shan Huang***, Jinyong Ma* (ByteDance), Yong Wang* (Tencent), and Kenny Xie* (Google; formerly Alibaba and Kuaishou)
- *Publisher:* Posts & Telecommunications Press.

* *Authorship is ordered alphabetically or by reverse seniority,*

† *Corresponding author*

‡ *Junior Coauthor (Student and Assistant Professors during which they mainly contributed to the paper.)*

Conference Presentations

- Chen Wang, **Shan Huang**, Shichao Han (industry author) and Yong Wang (industry author), “CausLab: LLM-Driven Multi-Agent Bayesian Framework for Causal Inference”,
 - 1) The 1st International Workshop on AI Data Scientist, KDD 2026
 - 2) MIT CODE, Atlanta, USA, 2025
- Yi Ji & **Shan Huang**, LLMs in Product Selection for Small Businesses
 - 1) INFORMS Annual Meeting, Atlanta, USA, 2025
- **Shan Huang** and Yi Ji, “Novel Information Mediated by Algorithms vs. Social Ties: A Large-scale Field Experiment”,
 - 1) Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST, scheduled), Atlanta, 2025
 - 2) Marketing Science Conference, Washington DC, USA, 2025
 - 3) The Twenty-Fifth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, New Haven, 2024
 - 4) China-India Insights, Hong Kong, 2024
 - 5) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, USA, 2022
- Chen Wang, **Shan Huang**, and Shichao Han “Enhancing External Validity of Experiments with Ongoing Sampling”,
 - 6) Marketing Science Conference, Washington DC, USA, 2025

¹ This paper was under major revision at *Journal of Marketing*. We decided to not pursue it for publication due to the data privacy issue very recently.

- 7) The Twenty-Fifth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, New Haven, USA, 2024
- 8) China-India Insights, Hong Kong, 2024
- 9) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, USA, 2024
- **Shan Huang**, Chen Wang, Yuan Yuan, Jinglong Zhao and Jingjing Zhang, “Estimating Effects of Long-Term Treatments”,
 - 10) Marketing Science Conference, Sydney, Australia, 2024
 - 11) Marketing Innovation Workshop, Atlanta, USA, 2023
 - 12) American Causal Inference Conference (ACIC), Austin, USA, 2023
 - 13) Revenue Management and Pricing (RMP), London, UK, 2023
 - 14) Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST), Phoenix, USA, 2023
 - 15) The Twenty-Fourth ACM Conference on Economics and Computation, London, 2023
 - 16) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, USA, 2022
- **Shan Huang** and Yifan Yu, “Customer-Product Matches in Social Referrals”,
 - 17) Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST), Indianapolis, USA, 2022
- Yifan Yu, **Shan Huang**, Yuchen Liu, and Yong Tan, “Emotions in Online Content Diffusion”,
 - 18) Marketing Science Conference, Online, 2020
 - 19) International Conference on Computational Social Science (IC2S2), Online, 2020
 - 20) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, 2019
- **Shan Huang and Song Lin**, “Do More ‘Likes’ Lead to More Clicks? Evidence from a Field Experiment on Social Advertising”, (early version presented as *Shan Huang, “Social Influence in Public and Private Behaviors”*).
 - 21) INFORMS Annual Meeting, Seattle, USA, 2019
 - 22) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, USA, 2017
 - 23) International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS), Dublin, Ireland, 2016
 - 24) Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST), Dublin, Ireland, 2016
- **Shan Huang**, Sinan Aral, Yu Hu, and Erik Brynjolfsson. Social Advertising Effectiveness Across Products: A Large-Scale Field Experiment
 - 25) Conference on Information Systems and Technology (CIST), Seoul, Korea, 2017
 - 26) MIT Conference on Digital Experimentation (CODE), Boston, USA, 2016
- Hailiang Chen, Yu Hu and **Shan Huang**. Does monetary incentive lead to better stock recommendations on social media?
 - 27) International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS), Seoul, Korea, 2017
- **Shan Huang**, Izak Benbasat and Andrew Burton-Jones, The role of product recommendation agents in collaborative online shopping
 - 28) Thirty-Second International Conference on Information Systems (ICIS), Shanghai, 2011

Invited Talks - Academia

- 1) Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN, USA, 2026
- 2) University of Notre Dame, South Bend, IN, USA, 2026
- 3) Boston University, Boston, MA, USA, 2025
- 4) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 2025
- 5) Yale University, New Haven, CT, USA, 2025
- 6) Tsinghua, Shenzhen, 2025
- 7) Invited discussant, Session on Technology, Digital Markets, and AI, ABFER (Asian Bureau of

- Finance and Economic Research) Annual Conference, Singapore, 2025
- 8) Keynote speaker, HK Quant Marketing Conference, Hong Kong, 2025
 - 9) The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen, 2024
 - 10) Keynote speaker, HKU-PKU Marketing Conference, Hong Kong, 2023
 - 11) Peking University HSBC Business School, Shenzhen, China, 2023
 - 12) Stanford University, Digital Economy Lab, HAI, Palo Alto, CA, USA, 2022.
 - 13) The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Faculty of Business, Hong Kong, 2022
 - 14) Nanyang Business School, NTU, Singapore, 2021.
 - 15) University of Hong Kong, Faculty of Business and Economics, 2020
 - 16) Fox School of Business, Temple University, Philadelphia, PA, USA, 2019
 - 17) MIT Initiative on Digital Economy Annual Conference, Cambridge, MA, USA, 2018
 - 18) McGill University, Desautels Faculty of Management, Montreal, QC, Canada, 2018
 - 19) University of Washington, Foster School of Business, Seattle, WA, USA, 2018
 - 20) University of California San Diego, Rady School of Management, La Jolla, USA, 2018
 - 21) The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, Business School, 2018
 - 22) University of Pennsylvania, Wharton School of Business, Philadelphia, PA, USA, 2017
 - 23) Boston College, Carroll School of Management, Chestnut Hill, MA, USA, 2017
 - 24) MIT Economic Sociology Workshop, Cambridge, MA, USA, 2017
 - 25) University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada, 2017

Invited Talks - Industry

- 1) Organizer, panelist and moderator, Inaugural MIT-Shenzhen AI Summit, Shenzhen, 2025
- 2) Data Applications, ByteDance, Beijing, 2025
- 3) IEG Globe, Tencent, Palo Alto, CA, 2025
- 4) Tech Talk (company-wide) @ LinkedIn, Mountain View, CA, 2025
- 5) Academic Lecture Series (company-wide), Kuaishou Technology, Beijing, China, 2023
- 6) WeChat Business Group (company-wide), Tencent, Guangzhou, 2021

* “Company-wide talk” refers to a talk that invites all employees across the organization.

Selected Awards and Grants

- Faculty Research Postgraduate Supervision Award (350,000 HKD), HKU Business School, 2026
- Principal investigator, General Research Fund (GRF), The Research Grants Council, Hong Kong, 482,814 HKD, 2026 - 2029.
- Principal investigator, WeChat (Tencent) Research Grant (Competitive Industry Grant), 1.2 million HKD, 2026 – 2029
 - Project: LLMs for Innovative Causal Inference
- Teaching Innovation Award (30,000 HKD), HKU Business School, 2024
- Principal investigator, Innovation and Technology Support Program (Platform), Hong Kong Government, 1,165,000 HKD, 2023-2025
 - Sole ITSP project awarded to HKU Business School; One of Only 4 ITSP projects awarded university-wide in 2022/23.
- Principal investigator, Research Projects of the University of Hong Kong Faculty of Business and Economics, Shenzhen Research Institutes (SZRI), 537,500 RMB, 2023 - 2024

- Principal investigator, WeChat (Tencent) Research Grant, 740,000 RMB, 2022-2024
 - Empirical Analysis of WeChat Ecosystems
- Peterson Jr. Fellowship, MIT Sloan School of Management, 2012 - 2018
- Fellow, NBER Economics of Digitization Doctoral Consortium, 2017

Teaching and Mentoring

- AI in Business Decisions (2026, Jan to March)
 - MSc at Mitch Daniels School of Business, Purdue University
 - Distinguished Fellow and Visiting Professor: Mitch Daniels School of Business, Purdue University (2026)
- A/B Testing in Product Management (2025 – Now)
 - Master of Science in Marketing and Master of Science in Business Analytics, HKU Business School
 - Founding course instructor; teaching evaluation: avg. 90, 91/100, 2025
- Field Experiments (2025 – Now)
 - PhD Program, HKU Business School
 - Founding course instructor
- Digital Experimentation Methods (2021-2024)
 - Master of Science in Business Analytics, HKU Business School (2021-2024)
 - Founding course instructor; teaching evaluation: avg. 95, 95/100, 2024; highest-demand elective course in MSBA 2022-2024
 - Teaching Innovation Award, HKU Business School
- Department of Information Systems & Operations Management, Michael G. Foster School of Business, UW (2018-2020)
 - IS445, Database Management (undergraduate)
 - IS460, System Analysis and Design (Product Management) (undergraduate)
 - IS 581A, Applied Network Theory & Networked Experiments (PhD)
- Ph.D. Student Mentoring (Committee Chair)
 - Chen Wang (HKU) – Placement: HKUST(GZ)
 - Yi Ji (HKU)

Professional Service

- Track Chair, Digital Marketing and Social Media, AMA Summer Academic Conference 2026
- Editorial Board Member, Journal of Business Research (since 2025)
- Conference Committee Members:
 - Annual Conference on Capital Market Research in the Era of AI (AICM), 2025
 - Conference on Information Systems and Technologies (CIST by INFORMS), 2019 - 2025
- Reviewers: Management Science, Quantitative Marketing and Economics (QME), Information Systems Research, MIS Quarterly

References

- **Junhong Chu**, Professor of Marketing, HKU Business School, chu123@hku.hk

- **P.K. Kannan**, Professor of Marketing, Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland, pkannan@umd.edu
- **Erik Brynjolfsson**, Professor and Senior Fellow at the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI (HAI), erikb@stanford.edu

[Updated on July 23rd, 2026]