

SOOAHN SHIN

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POSITIONS

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science (incoming)

July 2027 –

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Postdoctoral Associate, Department of Political Science

June 2026 – present

Airbnb, Inc.

Data Scientist, Platform

July 2025 – May 2026

EDUCATION

Harvard University

Ph.D. in Political Science, Department of Government

Sep. 2019 – Nov. 2025

Committee: Kosuke Imai (chair), Matthew Blackwell, Naijia Liu

Graduate Affiliate, Institute for Quantitative Social Science

Seoul National University

M.A. in International Relations, Department of Political Science & Int'l Relations

Aug. 2019

B.A. in International Relations, Department of Political Science & Int'l Relations

Aug. 2017

Honors: summa cum laude

PUBLICATIONS

4. Ben-Michael, Eli, D. James Greiner, Melody Huang, Kosuke Imai, Zhichao Jiang, and Sooahn Shin. “Does AI help humans make better decisions? A statistical evaluation framework for experimental and observational studies.” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 2025.
3. Shin, Sooahn, Johan Lim and Jong Hee Park. “ ℓ_1 -based Bayesian Ideal Point Model for Multidimensional Politics.” *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 2025.
2. Imai, Kosuke, Zhichao Jiang, D. James Greiner, Ryan Halen and Sooahn Shin. “Experimental Evaluation of Algorithm-Assisted Human Decision-Making: Application to Pretrial Public Safety Assessment.” (with discussion) *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A (Statistics in Society)*, 2023.
1. Park, Jong Hee and Sooahn Shin. 2020. “Bayesian Methods in Political Science”. Luigi Curini and Robert J. Franzese, Jr. eds., *The SAGE Handbook of Research Methods in Political Science & International Relations*.

WORKING PAPERS

Artificial Intelligence/Large Language Model

- ◊ “Triage Score: A Counterfactual Risk Assessment Instrument” (with Kosuke Imai, D. James Greiner, and Ryan Halen)

Causal Inference

- ◊ “Difference-in-Differences Design with Outcomes Missing Not at Random”
- ◊ “Synthetic Control Methods with Missing Pre-treatment Outcomes” (with Naijia Liu and Soichiro Yamauchi)

Computational Social Science

- “Measuring Issue Specific Ideal Points from Roll Call Votes”
 - ★ *The Best Poster Prize (Methods)* in the 2024 Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology

SELECTED AWARDS

- ★ **Toppan Prize** for the best dissertation in political science 2026
Harvard University
- **The Best Poster Prize (Methods)** 2024
Annual Meeting of Society for Political Methodology
- ★ **John T. Williams Dissertation Prize** 2024
Society for Political Methodology
- **Derek C. Bok Award for Distinction in Teaching** Fall 2021; Spring/Fall 2022
Bok Center for Teaching and Learning, Harvard University

SOFTWARE

- **aihuman** (available on CRAN)
R package written in Rcpp for an experimental evaluation of causal impacts of algorithmic recommendations on human decisions developed by Imai et al. (*JRSS*, 2023) and Ben-Michael et al. (*PNAS*, 2025).
- **issueirt**
R package for issue specific ideal point estimation developed by Shin (working paper). Uses Stan.
- **l1ideal**
R package for ℓ_1 -based multidimensional ideal point estimation developed by Shin et al (*JASA*, 2025).
- **polnet**
R package for statistical analysis of political networks using biLCM developed by Kim and Kunisky (*Political Analysis*, 2021). Uses EM algorithm, a Variational Inference method, for the estimation.

TEACHING

- **Teaching Fellow, Harvard University**
 - Causal Inference with Applications*, Kosuke Imai (Gov 2003; for graduates) Fall 2023
 - Applied Bayesian Statistics for the Social Sciences*, Imai (Gov 2017; for graduates) Spring 2023
 - Data Science for the Social Sciences*, Matthew Blackwell (Gov 50; for undergrad.) Fall 2022
 - Introduction to Machine Learning*, Adeline Lo (Gov 2018; for graduates) Spring 2022
 - Causal Inference with Applications*, Matthew Blackwell (Gov 2003; for graduates) Fall 2021
- **Instructor, Math Prefresher, Harvard University** Summer 2023

PRESENTATIONS

- Department of Political Science, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Invited speaker 2025
- *Stanford Sporadic Psychometrics Seminar*, Stanford University Invited speaker 2025
- *Society for Political Methodology*, Annual Meeting Poster 2022, 2023, 2025; Paper/poster 2020, 2024
- *Frontiers in Political Methodology Conference*, Washington University in St. Louis Invited speaker 2025
- Department of Political Science, University of Chicago Invited speaker 2024
- Department of Political Science, University of Wisconsin–Madison Invited speaker 2024
- Department of Political Science, Duke University Invited speaker 2024
- Department of Political Science, MIT Invited speaker 2024
- *American Political Science Association*, Annual Meeting Paper 2021, 2024

- *Visions in Methodology Conference* Poster 2024
- *American Causal Inference Conference* Poster 2024
- *Midwest Political Science Association, Annual Meeting* Paper 2024
- *Applied Statistics Workshop, Harvard University* Invited speaker 2024, 2025
- *NYU CESS Experimental Political Science Conference* Paper 2021
- *Asian Political Methodology, Annual Meeting* Poster 2018; Paper 2019

SERVICE

- **Referee for *American Political Science Review*, *Political Analysis*, *Journal of Law and Courts*, *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society (Series A)***
- **Applied Statistics Workshop Coordinator** *AY 2021/22*
 Institute for Quantitative Social Science, Harvard University

Last updated on May 31, 2026