

## Shixuan Wang



Shixuan Wang is an Associate Professor in Economics at the University of Reading, UK. Before joining Reading, he was a postdoctoral researcher in statistical forecasting at Cardiff University. He received his PhD in Economics from the University of Birmingham and was awarded a Royal Economic Society (RES) junior fellowship.

His primary research focuses on the econometrics of change-points (structural breaks), functional data analysis, and their interactions with statistical forecasting. Additionally, he is interested in using big data techniques and machine learning for operations management. His research has been published in top journals, including *Annals of Statistics*, *Journal of Econometrics*, *Journal of Business & Economic Statistics*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, and of course *International Journal of Forecasting*. In terms of his industry collaboration, he developed an innovative AI solution for BT Fleet, which has been selected as a finalist for [The National AI Awards](#) in 2024. Currently, he is leading a funded project to improve staff retention at Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust (RBFT) by using probabilistic forecasting.

Beyond research, Shixuan has contributed to the academic community at various levels. At the university level, Shixuan is the Research Division Lead for Economics at Reading, where he has successfully led the development of a new research strategy “[Economics to help](#)”. He also founded a new research cluster [Econometrics with Data Science](#) (EwDS) and hosted its inaugural conference. At the UK national level, he contributes to the [OR4](#) project, which aims to reward and recognise open and responsible research. At the international level, he serves as an associate editor for [International Journal of Finance & Economics](#) (ABS 3) and organises the [Forecasting for Social Good](#) (F4SG) research grant within International Institute of Forecasters (IIF).

### Statement of intent

My journey with the IIF began in 2018 when I attended my first ISF at Boulder, Colorado. As an early career researcher at that time, I was deeply impressed by the largest community of forecasters, received constructive feedback on my forecasting project, and established friendship with many forecasters at different career stages. Since then, I have attended the subsequent ISFs and the summer schools in Thessaloniki, Oxford, and Dijon. Meanwhile, I have been contributing to the IIF by organising the F4SG research grant.

Over the past years, my membership in the IIF has been instrumental in the development of my research and career, and I am dedicated to giving back. If I have the honour to be elected as Director, I hope to make more significant contribution to the IIF by

1. Developing a strategy to enhance the public visibility of IIF by showcasing how forecasters help people, society, and the world
2. Facilitating the advancement of the forecasting knowledge and its interactions with other fields
3. Supporting collaboration between forecasting academics and practitioners
4. Advocate for a commitment to open and responsible research in forecasting
5. Promoting the IIF’s conferences, workshops and membership

Thank you for your consideration.

Your sincerely,  
Shixuan Wang