

## Undergraduate Research Assistants Spring

2022

MCCOMBS STUDENT	MCCOMBS FACULTY	PROJECT	URA DUTIES
Yuxin Li	Yan Leng (IROM) Wen Wen (IROM)	Identifying knowledge spillovers on venture capital-enabled firm networks	This project aims to identify the knowledge spillover effect from startups mediated through VC, in which state-level tax credit rate can be an effective instrument variable. Yuxin helped us collect tax credit data from tax forms in all US states from 2011 to 2021. She carefully read all the tax forms to ensure that the calculation is correct, as in a previous influential paper with a similar identification strategy.
Monica Villarreal	Sebastian Hohenberg (MKT) Tushmit Hasan (PhD MKT Student)	ESG Communication Strategies	The URA has worked on a data collection project. Specifically, the URA helped to manage communication with a freelancer, who is extracting letters to shareholders from annual reports. For instance, the URA has downloaded the population of annual reports from which the extraction work was done, and she has prepared the sample (by removing reports that don't have letters). Importantly, the URA was also responsible for manual quality checks to assess the freelancer's extraction work.
Emma Rodman	Nicholas Hallman (ACC)	Audit Quality & Auditor Selection	Emma helped me keep the database of partner information up to date so that I can continue to use it in future work. Specifically, Emma helped me check on audit partners self-disclosed home cities, industry specialization, educational history, etc.

Nitya Prakash	Huseyin Tanriverdi (IROM)	Algorithmic Social Injustice	<p>Nitya assisted with the coding of research variables for a sample of 30 pairs of problematic and problem-free algorithms. She participated in weekly research meetings to understand the research objectives and procedures. She received training on coding tasks and guidelines.</p> <p>She reviewed the problematic algorithms and verified that they satisfied our criteria for inclusion in the research.</p> <p>For each problematic algorithm, Nitya searched for and found a problem-free match, which satisfied all matching criteria.</p> <p>She did quality checks on the previously collected data sources for coding the research variables. She dropped poor sources and found better quality replacements.</p> <p>She did preliminary coding of some algorithms and compared her coding with the coding of another independent coder. Jointly, the two coders generated lessons for further development, refinement, and validation of the coding guidelines.</p> <p>Once the coding guidelines were validated, Nitya fully coded the remaining algorithms in the sample and achieved 90% + concordance rates with the coding of the other independent coder. She shared her best practices for producing high quality, reliable coding.</p> <p>Beyond coding, she participated in discussions of the research study to learn about other aspects of the research process. She read early drafts of the paper written out of this research project to see how her piece fits into the big picture of the paper.</p>
Alim Momin	Jonathan Cohn	The Impact of Private Equity Firms on Public Markets	<p>The work for this project involved primarily matching a database of private equity-backed firms to eventual initial public offerings.</p>