Dr. Yihan Wang is a postdoctoral researcher of international business at HEC Montréal, Canada. His research areas are industrial clusters, innovation networks, and internationalization strategies in emerging economies. By analyzing the international business network configurations of the aerospace industry in China, his research explores how multinational enterprises leverage diverse internationalization strategies to enhance their embeddedness in the innovation ecosystem of a large emerging economy. Having studied in Nanjing, China (B.A.), Frankfurt am Main Germany (M.A.) and Montréal, Canada (Ph.D.), he is fluent in Mandarin, English, German and French.

International Business Networks and Two Perspectives of Clusters: Analysis of China’s Aerospace Industry

The growing cross-border interconnectivity of firms and regions in networks characterizes international business nowadays. From the perspectives of spatial agglomeration and relational cohesion, researchers in economic geography and international business attribute the formation of clusters to the network embeddedness hierarchy of individual economic actors. Analyzing the multiplex network configurations of the aerospace industry in China, this research explores how spatial proximity in the industrial clusters affect the value chain governance to determine a firm’s network embeddedness, as well as how foreign-based firms leverage horizontal and vertical linkages across relational proximity-based topological communities to acquire insidership in the host country.