Motivated by rapid economic growth, China has emerged to be a global player in the past three decades and seeks to expand its presence in remote regions including Latin America. It is noteworthy that Venezuela, a country geographically far from East Asia and without conventional ties with China, is seeking to enhance political and economic partnership with it. In fact, the bilateral relations have undergone a rapid development since the late 1990s because of President Hugo Chavez’s pursuit of close partnership with major powers in the world which facilitates his radical domestic reform. However, the rapid development is also a result of China’s increasing involvement in Latin America that allows it to gain weight over regional affairs. This talk seeks to explore the opportunities and challenges for China from the unconventional bilateral relationship and tries to analyze the prospects for China to project its power into new frontiers like Latin America.

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