

César Barilla

PhD Candidate | Columbia University, Department of Economics

420 West 118th Street, New York NY 10027

cesar.barilla@columbia.edu | +1 (646) 565-7405

<http://cesarbarilla.com>

Last updated: September 16, 2024

PLACEMENT CHAIRS:

Sandra Black Mark Dean
sblack@columbia.edu mark.dean@columbia.edu

PLACEMENT ADMINISTRATORS:

Amy Devine Rosie Lourentzatos
aed2152@columbia.edu rcl2109@columbia.edu

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Microeconomic Theory, Information Economics, Dynamic Games.

REFERENCES

Yeon-Koo Che

Kelvin J. Lancaster Professor of Economic Theory
Department of Economics
Columbia University
yc2271@columbia.edu

Navin Kartik

Professor
Department of Economics
Columbia University
nkartik@columbia.edu

Elliot Lipnowski

Associate Professor
Department of Economics
Yale University
elliot.lipnowski@yale.edu

Laura Doval

Chong Khoo Lin Professor of Business
Economics Division
Columbia Business School
md3958@columbia.edu

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York

PhD in Economics	2025 (<i>expected</i>)
M.Phil in Economics (<i>en route</i>)	2022
M.A. in Economics (<i>en route</i>)	2021

Paris School of Economics, Paris

Masters in Economics, APE (Analysis and Economic Policy)	2019
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Université Paris 6 (Pierre et Marie Curie – Jussieu), Paris

MSc in Mathematics, specialized in Mathematics for Modeling	2018
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École Normale Supérieure, Paris

Élève Fonctionnaire Stagiaire (Student civil servant, 4 years fellowship)	2015–2019
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RESEARCH

JOB MARKET PAPER

When and what to learn in a changing world

Short summary: I propose and study a new model of infrequent information acquisition about a changing state, in which a decision-maker facing repeated choices controls both the timing and content of periodic updates about current circumstances. I derive a general characterization of solutions, which relies on a novel decomposition of the problem. This pins down long run dynamics of beliefs, which reduce to a simple cyclical pattern despite the richness of the policy space. I use the model to study the effect of the environment (costs, underlying volatility) on the optimal information acquisition dynamics, as well as an application to a stylized investment problem.

PUBLICATIONS

The dynamics of instability

with Duarte Gonçalves, *Theoretical Economics*, 2024.

Short summary: Even if pure instability does not generate any short term expected gains, players with opposed interests can leverage it to obtain long term changes. In equilibrium, the least favored player uses instability in a decreasing manner as we get closer to a stable state; long run outcome exhibit path dependency and can sustain high inequity.

A mean-field game model for the evolution of cities

with Guillaume Carlier and Jean-Michel Lasry, *Journal of Dynamics & Games*, 2021.

Short summary: We propose a MFG model for the evolution of residents and firms densities, coupled both by labour market equilibrium conditions and competition for land use; the former induces a new optimal transport coupling in the system of two HJB and two Fokker-Planck equations. This MFG has a convex potential which enables us to find weak solutions by a variational approach. In the case of quadratic Hamiltonians, we reformulate the problem in Lagrangian terms and develop a numerical solution method.

WORKING PAPERS

Cultural transmission and historical origins of beliefs about climate risk

with Palaash Bhargava.

Short summary: The realized intensity of deviations from typical climatic conditions in ancestral generations influences how much descendants care about the environment. The effect exhibits a U-shape where more stable and more unstable climates lead to higher attention, with a dip for intermediate realizations. We propose a theoretical framework where the value of costly attention to environmental conditions depends on the perceived stability of the environment; prior beliefs about which are shaped through cultural transmission by the experience of ethnic ancestors.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Dynamic information acquisition with memory loss

with Arslan Ali.

Short summary: Does memory loss lead to more or less information acquisition? When information may be forgotten before it can be used to make decisions, the marginal value of an individual signal is subject to two opposite forces: it decreases since it is less likely to improve decisions and improves since having more information may improve overall retention. This leads to asymmetric distortions in sequential optimal information acquisition: memory loss leads to lower standards for information that confirms the status quo but over-confirmation for information that contradicts it.

OLDER WORK

Stability with complementarity in many-to-one matching markets

Masters Thesis, Paris School of Economics, 2019, supervised by Alfred Galichon

Optimal transport coupling in multi-population mean field games

Masters Thesis in Mathematics, Université Paris-Dauphine and INRIA Paris, 2018
supervised by Guillaume Carlier and Jean-Michel Lasry

TEACHING

INSTRUCTOR

Math Camp, Economics MA

Summer 2021

Game Theory, Undergraduate Elective

Summer 2022, Summer 2023

TEACHING FELLOW

Math Methods, Economic MA

Fall 2021, Fall 2020

for Profs. Ceyhun Ergin (2020) and Evan Sadler (2021)

Advanced Microeconomics II (PhD)

Spring 2022

for Profs. Yeon-Koon Che and Elliot Lipnowski

Microeconomic Analysis II (MA)

Spring 2023

for Prof. Guillaume Haeringer

(All classes at Columbia University.)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

REFEREING

AEJ:Micro, Games and Economic Behavior.

ORGANIZING

Student organizer for Columbia's Microeconomic Theory Colloquium (2021-2022).

AWARDS AND HONORS

Wueller Award for Best TA for a PhD Course, Columbia University Economics Department	<i>2022</i>
Vickrey Award for Best Third Year Paper, Columbia University Economics Department	<i>2022</i>
Lewis A. Sanders Fellowship in Economics, Columbia University	<i>2021-2022</i>
Harris Award for Best Second Year Paper, Columbia University Economics Department	<i>2021</i>
Research Fellow Summer Grant, Program for Economic Research, Columbia University	<i>2020</i>
Economics Department Fellowship, Columbia University	<i>2019-2024</i>
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	<i>2019-2024</i>
Élève Fonctionnaire Stagiaire, ENS Ulm, reçu au concours B/L	<i>2015-2019</i>

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE

Columbia University

Yeon-Koo Che	<i>2021-2022</i>
Navin Kartik	<i>2020-2021, 2023</i>

Observatoire Français des Conjonctures Économiques (OFCE)

Jérôme Creel	<i>2016</i>
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OTHER

Nationality	French
Programming Languages	Python, Julia, Mathematica, Matlab, Freefem++, R, Stata, L ^A T _E X.
Languages	French (Native) English (Fluent) Spanish (Good) Hindi (Elementary)

Palaash Bhargava

Columbia University
Department of Economics
New York City
New York, United States 10027

Email: palaash.bhargava@columbia.edu
Phone no.: (+1) 332 600 3253
Website: <https://sites.google.com/view/palaashbhargava>

References

Sandra Black
Professor
Department of Economics and
School of International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
sblack@columbia.edu

Cristian Pop-Eleches
Professor
School of International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
cp2124@columbia.edu

Miguel Urquiola
Professor
Department of Economics
Columbia University
msu2101@columbia.edu

Alex Eble
Associate Professor
Teachers College
Columbia University
eble@tc.columbia.edu

Education

Ph.D. Economics , Columbia University.	2019 – present
M.A. Economics , Delhi School of Economics.	2014 – 2016
B.A. (Hons) Economics , Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi.	2011 – 2014

Research

Publications

A Cross-verified Database of Notable People (3500 BC - 2018 AD), Nature Sci Data, June 9; 9(1):290 (*with Morgane Laouenan, Olivier Gergaud, Jean-Benoît Eyméoud, Guillaume Plique and Etienne Wasmer*)
Coverage: DailyMail UK, NY Post, Metro UK, +135 others

Working Papers

Homophily and Transmission of Behavioral Traits in Social Networks, Submitted (*with Daniel Chen, Matthias Sutter and Camille Terrier*)

Selected Works in Progress

Social Networks, Popularity and Student outcomes
Cultural transmission and historical origins of attention to environmental issues (*with César Barilla*)
Family Ties: The Effects of the Price of College on Parent and Student Finances (*with Sandra Black, Jeff Denning, Robert Fairlie and Oded Gurantz*)

Work in Early Stages

Trajectories of notable individuals: A cross verified database of locations (*with Minda Belete, Morgane Laouenan, Olivier Gergaud and Etienne Wasmer*)
Historical elite social networks and the escape from the Malthusian trap

Percolation of Natural Disaster related Credit Shocks through Family Networks (*with Shreya Chandra*)
Omniscient Teachers: Revealing Classroom social networks for better student outcomes (*with Tarang Tripathi*)
Uncovering the black box of academic peer effects: Effects of peer tutoring on agency of students (*with Madhavi Jha, Dashleen Kaur, Nikhil Kumar*)
Empowering Youth with Digital Skills: A Large-Scale Clustered Randomized Intervention in Kenya (*with Tommaso Batistoni, Daniel Chen, Tushar Kundu and Ken Maina*)

Fellowships, Scholarships, Grants and Awards

California Policy Lab, Graduate Fellowship (<i>with Shreya Chandra</i>)	2023
Winner, Vickrey Award for the best 3rd year paper , Columbia University	2022
PER Summer Research Fellowship , Columbia University	2020, 2021, 2022, 2023
Runners up, Wueller Teaching Award for PhD courses , Columbia University	2021
Runners up, Harriss Award for the best 2nd year paper , Columbia University	2021
Dean's Fellowship , Columbia University	2019 – 2024
PER Economics Department Fellowship , Columbia University	2019 – 2024
EXIM Bank Scholarship , Delhi School of Economics	2015 – 2016
Sri Bodhiswar Rai Scholarship , Delhi School of Economics	2014 – 2015
Runners up, Budding Economist , South Asian Economics' Students' Meet	2013

Research Grants

Program for Economic Research at Columbia University Experimental Grant (\$20,700)	2022-2024
The Weiss Fund at University of Chicago (\$25,325)	2023-2026
Center for Development and Economic Policy, Columbia University (\$5,000)	2023-2024
The Agency Fund (\$270,000 <i>in conjunction with InvolveEDU</i>)	2024-2025

Employment

Assistant Instructor of Economics , New York University Abu Dhabi	2017 – 2019
Assistant Instructor of Mathematics , New York University Shanghai	2018
Analyst, Capital Solutions Group, Investment Banking Division , Nomura Services Pvt. Ltd.	2016 – 2017
Research Assistant <i>for Professor Sandra Black, Columbia University</i>	2022 – 2024
Research Assistant <i>for Professor Evan Sadler, Columbia University</i>	2020 – 2022
Research Assistant <i>for Professor Etienne Wasmer, NYU Abu Dhabi</i>	2018

Teaching Experience

Economic Growth and Development, Instructor (Undergraduate level), School of Professional Studies, Columbia University	2022, 2023
PhD Math Camp Primary Instructor , Department of Economics, Columbia University	2020, 2021
Teaching Assistant (Undergraduate level), Department of Economics, Columbia University Intermediate Microeconomics, Spring 2023 (<i>for Professor Caterina Musatti</i>)	2022 – 2023
Teaching Assistant (Graduate level), Department of Economics, Columbia University Math Methods, Fall 2020 (<i>for Professor Jushan Bai</i>)	2020 – 2021
Recitation and Lab Instructor (Undergraduate level), NYU Abu Dhabi Markets, Spring 2019 (<i>for Professor Andrzej Baranski</i>) 5000 Years of Notable lives, Fall 2018 (<i>for Professor Etienne Wasmer</i>) Economic Dynamics, Fall 2018 (<i>for Professor Thomas Sargent</i>)	2017 – 2019

Intermediate Micro-Economics, Fall 2017, Spring 2018 *(for Professors Hervé Crès & Maximilian Mihm)*
 Calculus with Applications in Economics, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Summer 2018, Fall 2018, Spring 2019,
 Summer 2019
Recitation Instructor (Undergraduate level), NYU Shanghai 2018
 Integral Calculus, January 2018 *(for Professor Hisham Sati)*

Conferences and Seminars

Interdisciplinary PhD Workshop in Sustainable Development, Columbia University 2024
 Network Science in Management, IIM Ahmedabad 2022
 Young Scholars Matchmaking Workshop, CEPR - PEDL and NYU Abu Dhabi 2022
 Regional and Urban Economics Workshop - “Urban Economics and History”, Paris School of Economics 2020
 Development Graduate Summer School, Paris School of Economics 2018
 The Frontiers of Network Science, NYU Abu Dhabi 2018
 10th South Asian Economics’ Students’ Meet, Lahore University of Management Sciences 2013

Software

Python, STATA, R, MATLAB, Mathematica, \LaTeX , SQL

Languages known

English (Fluent), Hindi (Native), Oriya (Intermediate), French (Beginner)

Interests

Stone sculpting, Swimming, Badminton, Squash, Bouldering, Debating & Travelling

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W. MATTHEW ALAMPAY DAVIS

wmadavis.com Department of Economics
wm.alampaydavis@gmail.com Columbia University
alampay.davis@columbia.edu New York, NY 10027

EDUCATION Columbia University University of Oxford New York University
Dept. of Economics, GSAS Nuffield College Stern School of Business
Ph.D Economics (2025) *M.Phil* Economics (2019) *B.Sc* Business & Political Economy (2015)

RESEARCH Development Economics · Environmental/Climate Economics · Political Economy

Job market paper CLIMATE INEQUALITY

This paper documents new evidence that transitory temperature shocks exacerbate within-country income inequality substantially and persistently then considers its implications for the welfare economics of climate change. My empirical approach proceeds by applying time series methods to dataset standardizing comprehensive tax, survey, and national accounts data in order to estimate distributional impulse responses to identified temperature shocks. I then integrate these results with output from the latest generation of global circulation models to simulate the influence of anthropogenic radiative forcings on distributions of income both retrospectively and under a suite of projected emission scenarios. A stylized taxation model embedding a variety of social welfare functions implies a first-order role for compensatory fiscal policy in any optimal response to past and future climate change.

Work in progress POLITICAL TRANSITION UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL PRESSURE

ECONOMIC DISRUPTION, CULTURAL ANTI-PERSISTENCE, AND INTIMATE-PARTNER VIOLENCE
with Tanushree Goyal

ELITE CAPTURE AND IDENTITY POLITICS: A FORMAL MODEL OF SUBSTANTIVE REPRESENTATION

Publications LARGE POTENTIAL REDUCTION IN ECONOMIC DAMAGES UNDER UN MITIGATION TARGETS

with Marshall Burke, Noah S. Diffenbaugh *Nature* (2018)

COMBINING SATELLITE IMAGERY AND MACHINE LEARNING TO PREDICT POVERTY

with Neal Jean, Marshall Burke, Michael Xie, David B. Lobell, Stefano Ermon *Science* (2016)

Referee service *Journal of Development Economics*

TEACHING GRADUATE TEACHING FELLOW at Columbia University (nine semesters, 2020–2024)

Research consultant to all UG/MA economics thesis writers and research assistants

ECON-4999 – Senior honors thesis workshops (design and instruction)

ECON-3412 – Introduction to econometrics (TA)

ECON-3211 – Intermediate microeconomics (TA)

ECON-2257 – The global economy (TA)

PAST AFFILIATIONS RESEARCH ASSOCIATE at Climate Econometrics (2017–2019)

Nuffield College, University of Oxford

supervised by David F. Hendry, Elizabeth Baldwin

PRE-DOCTORAL SCHOLAR at Center on Food Security and the Environment (2015–2017)

Dept. of Earth System Science, Stanford University

supervised by Marshall Burke, David Lobell

HONORS PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC RESEARCH SUMMER FELLOWSHIP (2024)

Columbia economics department award supporting summer research activities

WUELLER FOURTH-YEAR PRE-DISSERTATION AWARD (2023)

Columbia economics department runner-up best dissertation proposal

UC BERKELEY AND SLOAN FOUNDATION DIVERSITY FELLOWSHIP (2022)

Awarded to five doctoral students in environmental and energy economics
 COLUMBIA GSAS DEAN’S FELLOWSHIP AND DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIP (2019)
Full-tuition scholarship and living stipend for up to six years of graduate study at Columbia
 OXFORD M.PHIL TOP-SCORING ECONOMICS THESIS (2019)
Department’s first ‘exceptional’ (mark of 80+) thesis in at least four years
 NUFFIELD COLLEGE–DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS JOINT STUDENTSHIP (2017)
Full-tuition scholarship and living stipend for up to four years of graduate study at Oxford

REFERENCES

<i>Administrators</i>	AMY DEVINE		ROSIE LOURENTZATOS
	aed2152@columbia.edu		rc12109@columbia.edu
<i>Chairs</i>	SANDRA BLACK		MARK DEAN
	sblack@columbia.edu		mark.dean@columbia.edu
<i>Letters</i>	SURESH NAIDU	JACK WILLIS	DAVID F. HENDRY
	Dept. of Economics, SIPA	Dept. of Economics	Nuffield College
	Columbia University	Columbia University	University of Oxford
	sn2430@columbia.edu	jack.willis@columbia.edu	david.hendry@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

PERSONAL

<i>Background</i>	Philippines (nationality) · Indonesia (13 years) · Vietnam
<i>Study and career</i>	United States · United Kingdom · China
<i>Immediate family</i>	Philippines · Australia · Canada

LUCAS DE LARA

Job Market Candidate ◇ Department of Economics ◇ Columbia University ◇ New York, NY 10027

lpd2122@columbia.edu ◇ +1 646-925-7525 ◇ Columbia UNI: lpd2122 ◇ lucasdelara.com

Placement Chairs: Sandra Black (sblack@columbia.edu) and Mark Dean (mark.dean@columbia.edu)

Placement Administrators: Amy Devine (aed2152@columbia.edu) and Rosie Lourentzatos (rcl2109@columbia.edu)

EDUCATION

Columbia University

2019 - 2025 (expected)

Ph.D.

Economics

New York, NY, USA

Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV EPGE)

2017 - 2019

Master's

Economics

Rio de Janeiro, RJ, Brazil

Universidade Federal do Paraná (UFPR)

2012 - 2016

Bachelor

Economics

Curitiba, PR, Brazil

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Behavioral and Experimental Economics

Microeconomic Theory

JOB MARKET PAPER

Rational Choice Overload (*with Mark Dean*)

We present and experimentally test a collection of search theoretic explanations for ‘choice overload’, the phenomena by which a default alternative is selected more often in larger choice sets. A standard search model, with constant search costs and a known distribution of item quality, cannot give rise to choice overload. If one instead assumes that either (i) the Decision Maker (DM) must learn the quality distribution (ii) search costs are increasing or (iii) the DM decides the search strategy in advance, then choice overload can occur. Unlike existing models, our approach does not require ad hoc psychological costs (decision avoidance), or for the DM to assume the choice set was selected by a profit maximizing firm (contextual inference). Data from our laboratory experiments are consistent with choice overload caused by search with learning and increasing costs, and cannot be explained by decision avoidance or contextual inference.

Experiment: https://lplarac.github.io/co_exhibit/

WORKING PAPERS

A Closer Look at the Gambler's Fallacy

Experiment: https://lplarac.github.io/gf_exhibit/

Liquid Democracy: Two Experiments on Delegation in Voting (*with Victoria Mooers, Alessandra Casella, Joseph Campbell and Dilip Ravindran*)

NBER Working Paper

Second Experiment: <https://lplarac.github.io/lldrdk/full.html>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Columbia University 2023
Microeconomic Analysis I

- Teaching Assistant for Professors Mark Dean and Pierre-André Chiappori
- PhD

Columbia University 2023
Market Design

- Teaching Assistant for Professor Yeon-Koo Che
- Undergraduate

Columbia University 2022
Intermediate Microeconomics

- Teaching Assistant for Professor Anna Caterina Musatti
- Undergraduate

Columbia University 2021
Market Design

- Teaching Assistant for Professor Guillaume Haeringer
- Undergraduate

Columbia University 2020
Microeconomic Analysis I

- Teaching Assistant for Professor Wouter Vergote
- Master's

Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV EPGE) 2018
Mathematical Analysis II

- Teaching Assistant for Professor Humberto Moreira
- Master's/PhD

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Columbia University 2021-2022
A Model of Efficient Sampling

- Research Assistance for Professor Michael Woodford

Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV EPGE) 2018-2019
Delegated Coordination

- Master's Thesis. Advisor: Professor Humberto Moreira
- Click for file

Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV EPGE) 2018-2019
Robust Optimal Delegation

- Research Assistance for Professor Humberto Moreira

AFFILIATIONS AND POSITIONS

Columbia University Microeconomic Theory Colloquium. Organizer	<i>2022-2023</i>
Columbia University Cognition and Decision Lab https://www.cognition.econ.columbia.edu/	<i>2021-</i>
Columbia University Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences (CELSS) https://celss.iserp.columbia.edu/	<i>2020-</i>
Fundação Getulio Vargas (FGV EPGE) Economic Theory Workshop. Organizer	<i>2018-2019</i>

CONFERENCES

BRICX - Bounded Rationality in Choice Conference Presenting 'Rational Choice Overload'	<i>2024</i>
2023 Caltech CTESS Summer Workshop Presenting 'Rational Choice Overload'	<i>2023</i>
2022 Russell Sage Foundation Camp Summer Institute in Behavioral Economics	<i>2022</i>
2022 Sloan Nomis Summer School Cognitive Foundations of Economic Behavior	<i>2022</i>
2022 Caltech CTESS Summer School Theory Driven Experiments	<i>2022</i>

GRANTS

Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University PER Summer Research Fellow	<i>2024</i>
Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences (CELSS) CELSS Experimental Funding	<i>2024</i>
Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences (CELSS) CELSS Experimental Funding	<i>2023</i>
Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University PER Summer Research Fellow	<i>2023</i>
Microeconomic Theory Initiative (MTI) - Columbia University Summer Research Stipend	<i>2023</i>
Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University PER Summer Research Fellow	<i>2022</i>

Microeconomic Theory Initiative - Columbia University Summer Research Stipend	<i>2022</i>
Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University 2022 Award for Field or Experimental Research	<i>2021-2022</i>
Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences (CELSS) CELSS Experimental Funding	<i>2021</i>
Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University PER Summer Research Fellow	<i>2021</i>
Program for Economic Research (PER) - Columbia University 2021 Award for Field or Experimental Research	<i>2020-2021</i>
Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq) Scholarship funding for Master's studies	<i>2017-2019</i>
CNPq PIBIC - Programa Institucional de Bolsas de Iniciação Científica Scholarship funding for Undergraduate Scientific Initiation	<i>2015-2016</i>

PROGRAMMING

STATA, MATLAB, Mathematica, Python, JavaScript

REFERENCES

Mark Dean 1031 IAB mark.dean@columbia.edu 212-854-3669	Michael Woodford 1009B IAB mw2230@columbia.edu 212-854-1094	Hassan Afrouzi 1105A IAB ha2475@columbia.edu 212-854-4459
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MATTHEW EASTON

Updated September 2024

Email: me2713@columbia.edu, Website: matthew-easton.com

Placement Chairs:

Sandra Black (sblack@columbia.edu)
Mark Dean (md3405@columbia.edu)

Placement Administrators:

Rosa Lourentzatos (rc12109@columbia.edu)
Amy Devine-Keum (aed2152@columbia.edu)

References

David Weinstein

Dept. of Economics, Columbia University
dew35@columbia.edu
212-854-5524

Donald R. Davis

Dept. of Economics, Columbia University
drdavis@columbia.edu

Conor Walsh

Columbia Business School, Columbia University
caw2226@columbia.edu

Education

Ph.D., Economics, Columbia University, 2019 – 2025 [*Expected*]
M.Phil., Economics, Columbia University, 2022
M.A., Economics, Columbia University, 2021
B.S., Mathematics, Pennsylvania State University, 2016

Research Areas

Urban Economics, Spatial Economics, Economic Geography

Job Market Paper

“Populations in Spatial Equilibrium” (with Patrick Farrell)

Power law-like distributions for city populations are a distinctive, recurring feature of human settlement patterns. We propose a novel explanation for this phenomenon that reflects the qualities of a place (fundamentals) and its ability to benefit from trade based on its location (market access), two important forces that have not simultaneously been incorporated into an explanation of the city size distribution. Using random variation in geography to model these two terms within a quantitative spatial model results in lognormal population distributions which appear to follow a power law for the most populous locations (i.e., cities).

Working Papers

“Segregation, Spillovers, and the Locus of Racial Change” (with Donald R. Davis and Stephan Thies)

“Interest Spreads and Margins in Collateral Equilibrium with Heterogeneous Beliefs” (with Robert Barsky and Avery Bogus). *Chicago Fed Working Paper Series*, 2022-36, 2022.

Work in Progress

“Amenities and Population Growth: The Case of the Sun Belt”

“A Survey of Unemployment in Metro Areas” (with Donald R. Davis and Tomasz Michalski)

Other Publications

“The Global Saving Glut and the Fall in U.S. Real Interest Rates: A 15-Year Retrospective” (with Robert Barsky). *Chicago Fed Economic Perspectives*, 2021-1, 2021.

Visits

Visiting Scholar, Sciences Po, June and July 2023

Scholarships, Fellowships, and Awards

Columbia Dissertation Fellowship, 2024 – 2025

Wueller Teaching Award (Runner-up prize), 2022 and 2024

Wueller Travel Scholarship, 2024

David C.F. Hsiung '34 M.A. and Vivian S.Y.W. Hsiung Fellowship in Economics (supporting Columbia GSAS fellowship), 2022 – 2023

Columbia Dean's Fellowship, 2019 – Present

Leonard Euler Memorial Scholarship, 2016

Christopher R. Dyckman and Susan Scotto Scholarship, 2015

Schreyer Academic Excellence Scholarship, 2012 – 2016

Relevant Positions

Research Assistant to Donald R. Davis, Columbia University, Summer 2022/2023/2024

Senior Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 2018 – 2019

Research Assistant, Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, 2016 – 2018

Teaching Experience

Columbia University, Undergraduate

Economics of NYC, teaching assistant for Donald R. Davis, SP2022/SP2024

Economic Development of Japan, teaching assistant for David Weinstein, FA2022/FA2023

Finance and the Real Economy, teaching assistant for Matthieu Gomez, SP2023

Financial Crises, teaching assistant for José Scheinkman, FA2021

Financial Economics, teaching assistant for Tamrat Gashaw, SU2021

Financial Economics, teaching assistant for Martina Jasova, SP2021

Intermediate Macroeconomics, teaching assistant for Irasema Alonso, FA2020

Presentations (*: *scheduled*)

2024

Econometric Society North American Summer Meeting, 18th North American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association

2023

Regional, Urban, Spatial, and Housing (RUSH) Graduate Student Brownbag

Clearances and Grants

Data Clearances

French CASD Access

Grants

Program for Economic Research Student Conference Support Program, 2024

Program for Economic Research Summer Research Assistant Grant, 2024

Program for Economic Research Summer Research Assistant Grant, 2023

Alliance Doctoral Mobility Grant, 2023

Program for Economic Research Student Conference Support Program, 2022

Sang Hoon Kong

September 2024

Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

E-mail: s.kong@columbia.edu
Website: www.sanghoonkong.com
Phone: +1 551-375-7987

Placement Committee

Chairs: Sandra Black (sblack@columbia.edu), Mark Dean (mark.dean@columbia.edu)
Admin.: Amy Devine (aed2152@columbia.edu), Rosie Lourentzatos (rc12109@columbia.edu)

Education

Columbia University New York, NY, USA
Ph.D. in Economics 2025 (expected)
Fields: International Trade (primary), Urban Economics, Development Economics
Notes: Military Leave of Absence (September 2022 - May 2024)

University of Michigan Ann Arbor, MI, USA
B.A. in Economics (High Honors) and Mathematics 2016

Job Market Paper

Does Greater Access to Higher-Income Markets Lead to Quality Upgrading and Gains in Productivity? Evidence from India's Highway Project

Abstract: Does greater access to higher-income markets lead to quality upgrading and gains in productivity among local firms? Taking advantage of a major highway project in India, I find that firms responded differently to large and small increases in access to higher-income markets. When shocks were large, local firms produced higher-quality output by using more skilled labor, capital, and expensive materials, leading to productivity gains. For small shocks, local firms also produced higher-quality output but only by using more quantities of input and without any signs of productivity gains. This differential response suggests that firms face substantial adjustment costs that prevent them from adopting more sophisticated production technologies when shocks are small. Since regional income differences within India are much narrower than those across countries, the estimated effects for large shocks reveal that relatively small differences in income are able to promote productivity growth through quality upgrading.

Working Paper

1. Mary Amiti, Matthieu Gomez, Sang Hoon Kong, and David Weinstein. Trade Protection, Stock-Market Returns, and Welfare, May 2021. URL <https://www.nber.org/papers/w28758>. **Reject and Resubmit at American Economic Review**

Abstract: This paper develops a methodology to assess the expected impact of trade-policy announcements on aggregate welfare using financial market reactions. We use an infinite-horizon specific factors model of production to map the present discounted value of firm cash flows into aggregate welfare. We show that the policy-induced movement in the present value of firm cash flows—a variable that can be estimated from financial data—encapsulates the welfare impact of the tariffs. After applying our framework to the data, we find that the U.S.-China trade war lowered U.S. welfare by three percent.

2. Sang Hoon Kong. Rational Voter Responses to the 2018 Trade War: Evidence From the 2018 U.S. House of Representatives Elections, November 2019. URL <https://papers.ssrn.com/abstract=3487088>

Abstract: I examine county-level outcomes of the 2018 U.S. House elections to investigate whether voters electorally responded to the economic impacts of the trade war tariffs in 2018. I find causal evidence that votes for the incumbent president's party (Republican) increased in counties that benefited from the domestic tariffs while those votes decreased in counties that were harmed. The median net effect is negative but economically insignificant. In contrast, I do not find comparable effects on the votes for Democratic candidates, which suggests the domestic tariffs largely impacted the turnout among Republican supporters but did not lead to switching of parties. Finally, I do not find any substantive responses to the retaliatory tariffs.

Teaching Experience

Instructor: International Trade (6-week Summer Course)

Teaching Assistant: International Trade (3 semesters), Global Economy (2), Intermediate Microeconomics (2), Economic Development of Japan (1)

Professional Experience

NBER Trade and Trade Policy in the 21st Century Conference (2022, co-author)

China Economic Review (referee)

Awards and Grants

Capital Fund Management Data Initiative (2020)

Program for Economic Research Summer Research Fellow Grant (2018, 2019, 2021)

Best Teaching Fellow in an Elective Undergraduate Economics Course (Runner-Up, 2017-2018)

Other Experience

ROK Army Logistics Command

Interpreter/Data Analyst

- Received two Army Logistics Commander (LTG) Commendations.

Daejeon, South Korea

September 2022 – March 2024

References

David E. Weinstein
*Carl S. Shoup Professor of
Japanese Economy*
Columbia University
dew35@columbia.edu
+1 (212) 854-5524
+1 (604) 827 0004

Donald R. Davis
*Ragnar Nurkse Professor of
Economics*
Columbia University
drd28@columbia.edu
+1 (212) 854-4037

Réka Juhász
*Assistant Professor of
Economics*
University of British Columbia
reka.juhasz@ubc.ca

Jongho Lee

September 26, 2024

Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

Email : jongho.lee@columbia.edu
Website: <https://www.jongholee.org>
Mobile : 347-504-2242

Education

Columbia University

Ph.D. in Economics

M.Phil. in Economics

New York, United States

2019 - Present

2022

Seoul National University

B.A. in Economics

Seoul, Republic of Korea

2009 - 2016

Fields of Specialization

Macroeconomics, Finance, International Economics

Working Papers

“Synthetic Dollar Funding Channel of U.S. Monetary Policy”

“Optimal Central Bank Swap Line Policy”

“The Effects of Monetary Policy under Dominant Currency Pricing and Dominant Currency Financing”

Works in Progress

“Monetary Policy Transmission in a Multi-Sector Small Open Economy” with Hamed Bouakez and Jay Hyun

Pre-Doctoral Publication

“Effects of Global Value Chains on Productivity of Individual Industries” (with Sihwan Yang), *BOK Monthly Bulletin*, 2017-7 (in Korean)

Research Experience

Federal Reserve Board, Division of International Finance

Dissertation Fellow

Jun 2024 - Aug 2024

Columbia University, Department of Economics

Research Assistant for Professor Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé

Aug 2022

Bank of Korea, Research Department and Communications Department

Junior Economist

Jan 2016 - Jul 2018

Teaching Experience

Columbia University , <i>Teaching Assistant</i>	New York, United States
Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate, Émilien Gouin-Bonenfant)	Spring 2024
Macroeconomic Analysis I (M.A., Julian di Giovanni)	Fall 2023
Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate, Martín Uribe)	Spring 2023
International Macroeconomics (Undergraduate, Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé)	Fall 2022
Macroeconomic Analysis II (Ph.D., Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé)	Spring 2022
Corporate Finance (Undergraduate, Ethan Namvar)	Fall 2021
Introduction to Econometrics (Undergraduate, Seyhan Erden)	Spring 2021
Macroeconomic Analysis I (M.A., Ronald Miller)	Fall 2020

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards

Dissertation Fellowship, <i>Columbia University</i>	2024 - 2025
Wueller Teaching Award, <i>Winner, Columbia University</i>	2024
Dissertation Fellowship, <i>Federal Reserve Board</i>	2024
Wueller Teaching Award, <i>Runner-up, Columbia University</i>	2022
Wueller Teaching Award, <i>Winner, Columbia University</i>	2021
Dean's Fellowship, <i>Columbia University</i>	2019 - 2024
Doctoral Study Abroad Scholarship, <i>Korea Foundation for Advanced Studies</i>	2019 - 2024
Governor's Award for Academic Paper Competition, <i>1st prize, Bank of Korea</i>	2017
Eminence Scholarship, <i>Full scholarship, Seoul National University</i>	2014

Conference and Seminar Presentations (* SCHEDULED)

2024: Annual Carey Finance Conference*, 19th WashU Economics Graduate Student Conference*, Asia Meeting of the Econometric Society in East & Southeast Asia, Federal Reserve Board Dissertation Fellowship Seminar, 30th CEF Conference (declined), 23rd Macro-Finance Society Workshop, Columbia Macroeconomics Seminar

2023: Columbia Macroeconomics Seminar

Personal

Citizenship: Republic of Korea
Computer Skills: MATLAB, STATA, Python, R
Language: English (Fluent), Korean (Native)
Military Service: Sergeant, Republic of Korea

References

Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé Professor of Economics Department of Economics Columbia University ss3501@columbia.edu	Martín Uribe Robert A. Mundell Professor of Economics Department of Economics Columbia University mu2166@columbia.edu	Jesse Schreger Associate Professor of Business Columbia Business School Columbia University jesse.schreger@columbia.edu
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Tam Mai

Last updated: October 2024

Department of Economics
Columbia University
420 West 18th Street, NY 10027

tam.mai.vii@gmail.com
(+1) 267 475 5433
<https://sites.google.com/view/tam-mai>

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairs: Sandra Black (sblack@columbia.edu), Mark Dean (mark.dean@columbia.edu)

Administrators: Amy Devine (aed2152@columbia.edu), Rosie Lourentzatos (rl2109@columbia.edu)

CURRENT POSITION

Norwegian University of Science and Technology 2023 -
Postdoctoral Fellow in Economics

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, Columbia University 2022
M.A. Economics (*en route*) 2018
B.S. Economics (*summa cum laude*), Drexel University 2016

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Primary: Labor Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Secondary: Health and Education, Development Economics

WORKING PAPERS

Social Network Formation and Exam Fraud: *A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed* [[Job Market Paper](#)]

Abstract: This paper is a forensic investigation of student cheating in Vietnam's national high school exit exam, where cheating is interpersonal: Students from low-ranked schools benefit from close proximity to peers from elite schools on test day. My identification combines the quasi-random assignment of students into test rooms with the introduction of a major exam overhaul in 2015. The former allows me to estimate the causal effects of elite students on the test performance of non-elite peers whereas the latter is used to examine the evolution of these effects. Using individual-level data from a large Vietnamese province, I find that prior to the reform, sharing the same test room with elite peers raised the test scores of non-elite students. However, the gains were concentrated in the multiple-choice and quantitative subjects while absent in the essay tests. Moreover, the positive effects virtually vanished after the 2015 revamp increased the stakes of the exam. Backed by institutional details, these suspicious patterns provide credible evidence that discreet cheating was once prevalent, but has since disappeared after the reform reshaped student incentives.

Separate but Not Equal: The Uneven Cost of Residential Segregation for Network-Based Hiring
[PDF]

Abstract: This paper studies how residential segregation by race and by education affects job search via neighbor networks. Using confidential microdata from the US Census Bureau, I measure segregation for each characteristic at both the individual level and the neighborhood level. My findings are manifold. At the individual level, future coworkership with new neighbors on the same block is less likely among segregated individuals than among integrated workers, irrespective of races and levels of schooling. The impacts are most adverse for the most socioeconomically disadvantaged demographics: Blacks and those without a high school education. At the block level, however, higher segregation along either dimension raises the likelihood of *any* future coworkership on the block for all racial or educational *groups*. My identification strategy, capitalizing on data granularity, allows a causal interpretation of these results. Together, they point to the coexistence of homophily and in-group competition for job opportunities in linking residential segregation to neighbor-based informal hiring. My subtle findings have important implications for policy-making.

Expanding the Safety Net and the Gender Labor Force Participation Gap, with Andreas Kostøl and Ellen Reitan
[Under Preparation]

Abstract: This paper studies gender gaps in labor market outcomes in response to an expansion of unemployment insurance (UI) in Norway. Using a sharp regression discontinuity design, we find that extending UI eligibility from 12 to 24 months increases the prevalence of long-term unemployment spells by 4-5 percentage points but does not affect employment during the first 24 months. Beyond this initial period, however, the extension widens the gender gap in labor force participation: Men's participation and disposable income increase by 5%, while no discernible impact is found for women. The differential effects are statistically significant and persist after controlling for family situations, indicating that our results are not driven by marriage or child penalties or by differential ability to self-insure. Rather, our evidence highlights important differences in duration dependence between men and women, with significant implications for inclusive labor market policy.

WORK IN PROGRESS

The Unequal Risks and Returns from Employee Stock Ownership: Evidence from the Great Recession, with Andreas Kostøl

Employment during the COVID-19 Pandemic: Collapse and Early Recovery, with Ou Liu

GRANTS

Doctoral Dissertation Grant, National Science Foundation	2021
Applied Microeconomics Colloquium Data Grant, Columbia University	2020
CDEP Student Research Grant, Columbia University	2019

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Visiting Scholar, Columbia University	2024 - 2025
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	2016 - 2022

Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University	2021
Wueller Teaching Award (runner-up x2), Columbia University	2020
Fellowship 322, Ministry of Education and Training of Vietnam	2011 - 2016
Omicron Delta Epsilon, Drexel University	2016

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS (*scheduled)

2024	SOLE, EALE, Drexel University*
2023	NTNU, Workshop on Education Economics and Policy (WEEP), FSRDC Annual Research Conference, Center for Fertility and Health - Norwegian Institute of Public Health

DISCUSSIONS

2023 WEEP Discussant: *Digital Learning and Student Achievement: Evidence from Developed and Developing Countries* by Likun Mao & Liyu Yang

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee: Journal of the European Economic Association (x2)
Organizer: Oslo Empirical Labor Market Research Workshop 2023

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

Tania Babina, Columbia Business School	2018 - 2021
Maria Olivero, Matthew Weinberg, and Yoto Yotov, Drexel University	2013 - 2014
University College Dublin Geary Institute, Dublin, Ireland	2014

TEACHING

<i>Instructor</i>	MPA Math Camp (<i>Fall 2022</i>)
<i>Teaching Fellow</i>	MPA Introductory Statistics (<i>Summer 2022</i>), MPA Microeconomics (<i>Summer 2022</i>), Advanced Microeconomics (<i>Spring 2022</i>), Intermediate Microeconomics (<i>Fall 2017, Fall 2019, Fall 2020</i>), Principles of Economics (<i>Spring 2019, Spring 2020</i>), Industrial Organization (<i>Summer 2019</i>), Introduction to Econometrics (<i>Fall 2018</i>), Globalization and Its Risks (<i>Spring 2018</i>)

OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Short-Term Associate, Econsult Solutions Inc., Philadelphia, PA	2015
Intern, China Carbon Forum, Beijing, China	2013

MISC.

US Census Bureau Special Sworn Status, 2018 - 2022

Computer Skills: Stata, SAS, R, MATLAB; Linux; L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office

Languages: English (fluent), Mandarin Chinese (advanced), Norwegian (intermediate), Polish (beginner), Vietnamese (native)

Citizenship: Vietnam

REFERENCES

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Colin Green | Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
<i>Norwegian University of Science and Technology</i>
colin.green@ntnu.no |
| Jonas Hjort | Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
<i>University College London and University of Oslo</i>
j.hjort@ucl.ac.uk |
| Andreas Kostøl | Associate Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
<i>BI Norwegian Business School</i>
andreas.r.kostol@bi.no |
| Miguel Urquiola | Dean of Social Science and Professor of Economics and International Affairs
Department of Economics
<i>Columbia University</i>
msu2101@columbia.edu |

Kosha Modi

[koshamodi.github.io](https://github.com/koshamodi)
[linkedin.com/in/kosha-modi](https://www.linkedin.com/in/kosha-modi)
kosha.modi@columbia.edu
[+16822834298](tel:+16822834298)
Placement Chairs: Sandra Black, Mark Dean

Placement Administrator: Amy Devine

 Department of Economics
 Columbia University
 New York, NY 10027

EDUCATION

Columbia University in the City of New York <i>Ph.D. Economics</i>	2019-2025 <i>(expected)</i>
Indian Statistical Institute, New Delhi <i>Masters in Quantitative Economics</i>	2015-2017 <i>Rank 2</i>
Presidency University, Kolkata <i>B.Sc. in Economics</i>	2012-2015 <i>Rank 1</i>

RESEARCH FIELDS

Macro-Finance, Monetary Economics

WORKING PAPERS

The Perceived Sources of Unexpected Inflation (*Job Market Paper*)
 with Emilio Zaratiegui

We use high-frequency asset price changes around Consumer Price Index announcements in the US to learn about market perceptions regarding the economy. First, we document some facts. An unexpected increase in the CPI inflation leads to an increase in (a) treasury nominal yields (b) forward breakeven inflation rates. The response of price of S&P 500 and the future annual dividends of S&P 500 companies varies over the years in response to the surprise. We interpret these facts through the lens of a New Keynesian Model with an inflation announcement to decompose unexpected inflation into demand and supply components. We find that the share of supply in unexpected inflation has increased by 20 percentage points post-covid.

Anatomy of Banks' IT Investments: Drivers and Implications
 with Nicola Pierri, Yannick Timmer, and María Soledad Martínez Pería

Using a newly compiled measure, this paper studies the determinants and implications of US banks' Information Technology (IT) investments. Exposure to fintech competition and novel economies of scale are important drivers of the six-fold increase in IT investments observed over two decades. Further analyses point towards significant implications of banks' IT investments for both (i) monetary policy transmission to lending and (ii) financial inclusion of low income borrowers.

Loan Covenants and the Firm Investment Channel of Monetary Policy

We study the role of loan-level financial covenants in determining the investment channel of monetary policy. We find that out of all covenant-types, the minimum interest coverage covenant, which sets a minimum ratio of earnings to interest payments, interacts robustly with monetary shocks. When there is a positive monetary shock, the farther away a firm is from violating its interest coverage threshold, the more responsive it is to a monetary shock in terms of investment. This finding is robust to controlling for factors known to affect the transmission of monetary policy to firm investment.

PRESENTATIONS

Federal Reserve Bank (Richmond, St Louis, New York), International Monetary Fund, Columbia University, Central Bank Research Association (Poster), Macro Finance Research Workshop Chicago (Poster)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND OTHER EMPLOYMENT

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis <i>Dissertation Fellow, Research Division</i>	2024
Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond <i>PhD Summer Economics Fellowship program, Research Division</i>	2024
International Monetary Fund <i>Fund Internship Programme, Macrofinance Research Division</i>	2022
Research Assistant for Professor Olivier Darmouni <i>Columbia Business School</i>	2021
Research Assistant for Professor Laura Veldkamp <i>Columbia Business School</i>	2020
University of Pennsylvania - Center for Advanced Study of India <i>Associate Director (Research) - Indian Agricultural Markets</i>	2018-2019
WalmartLabs, Bengaluru <i>Statistical Analyst</i>	2017-2018
Research Intern - London School of Economics <i>ESRC-DFID funded project on Microfinance</i>	2017

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University	2024-2025
Department Research Assistant Award, PER, Columbia University	2023
Data Purchase Grant Award, PER, Columbia University	2023
Vickrey Award, Best Third Year Paper (runner-up), Columbia University	2021
Harriss Award, Best Second Year Paper (runner-up), Columbia University	2020
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	2019-2024
Fellowship, Indian Statistical Institute	2015-2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Finance and the Real Economy	2021,2023,2024
Principles of Economics <i>Wueller Teaching Award for best teaching assistant (Runner-up)</i>	2020,2021,2023
International Economics	2022

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Language/Software: R, Stata, Python, Matlab, Git, L^AT_EX

NATIONALITY: INDIA

REFERENCES

Jennifer La'O

Associate Professor of Economics
Columbia University
jenlao@columbia.edu

José Scheinkman

Professor of Economics
Columbia University
js3317@columbia.edu

Matthieu Gomez

Associate Professor of Economics
Columbia University
mg3901@columbia.edu

VICTORIA MOOERS

September 20, 2024

Department of Economics
Columbia University
New York, NY 10027

Phone: +1 (405) 315-7297
Email: vrn2120@columbia.edu
Web: <https://vmooers.github.io/>

PLACEMENT COMMITTEE

Chairs: Sandra Black (sblack@columbia.edu); Mark Dean (md3405@columbia.edu)
Administrators: Amy Devine (aed2152@columbia.edu); Rosa Lourentzatos (rcl2109@columbia.edu)

EDUCATION

2025 (expected)	Ph.D.	Economics	Columbia University
2022	M.Phil.	Economics	Columbia University
2021	M.A.	Economics	Columbia University
2016	B.A.	Economics, Public Policy (with honors)	University of Chicago

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Applied Microeconomics, Political Economy
Secondary: Experimental Economics, Public Economics

JOB MARKET PAPER

Social Networks and Voter Information

Abstract: Informed voters are essential for government accountability, and social networks are an important avenue through which voters acquire political information. However, U.S. congressional districts do not need to align with social networks, potentially impacting how easily voters learn about their representatives. I study whether the alignment between district boundaries and social networks affects voter knowledge and turnout in congressional elections. Using Facebook's Social Connectedness Index and an event study design, I find that an increase in the share of friends living in the same district increases voters' knowledge about their representative. For example, a 10-percentage point (one standard deviation) increase in this share raises the probability that a voter knows their representative's party by 3.3 percentage points, a 5% increase over the mean. Additionally, a higher share of friends in the same district decreases voter abstention, and shifts campaign contributions towards in-district candidates. I use a model of information diffusion to simulate the share of informed voters under counterfactual district maps, creating a framework to evaluate the informational effects of proposed maps. These findings suggest that aligning political boundaries with social networks can enhance democratic engagement.

PUBLICATIONS

The Use and Misuse of Income Data and Extreme Poverty in the United States, with Bruce D. Meyer, Derek Wu, and Carla Medalia. *Journal of Labor Economics* 39:S1, S5-S58 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1086/711227>

Abstract: Recent research suggests that the share of US households living on less than \$2/person/day is high and rising. We reexamine such extreme poverty by linking SIPP and CPS data to administrative tax and program data. We find that more than 90% of those reported to be in extreme poverty are not, once we include in-kind transfers, replace survey reports of earnings and transfer receipt with administrative records, and account for ownership of substantial assets. More than half of all misclassified households have incomes from the administrative data above the poverty line, and many have middle-class measures of material well-being.

WORKING PAPERS

Delegation under Liquid Democracy: Two Experiments, with Joseph Campbell, Alessandra Casella, Lucas de Lara, and Dilip Ravindran. <https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2212.09715>

Abstract: Proponents of participatory democracy praise Liquid Democracy: decisions are taken by referendum, but voters delegate their votes freely. When better informed voters are present, delegation can increase the probability of a correct decision. However, delegation must be used sparingly because it reduces the information aggregated through voting. In two different experiments, we find that delegation underperforms both universal majority voting and the simpler option of abstention. In a tightly controlled lab experiment where the subjects' precision of information is conveyed in precise mathematical terms and very salient, the result is due to overdelegation. In a perceptual task run online where the precision of information is not known precisely, delegation remains very high and again underperforms both majority voting and abstention. In addition, subjects substantially overestimate the precision of the better-informed voters, underlining that Liquid Democracy is fragile to multiple sources of noise. The paper makes an innovative methodological contribution by combining two very different experimental procedures: the study of voting rules would benefit from complementing controlled experiments with known precision of information with tests under ambiguity, a realistic assumption in many voting situations.

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Women, Men, and Pólya Urns: Underrepresentation at Equal Talent in the Absence of Discrimination, with Laura Caron and Alessandra Casella.

Abstract: In a world where the majority and the minority group have equal distributions of talent, where candidates are objectively and accurately evaluated, and no discrimination occurs, the underrepresentation of the minority group in prestigious positions is nonetheless highly sticky. If the sample of candidates from the minority group is numerically smaller, at equal distribution of talent, the most qualified candidate is more likely to belong to the majority sample, mirroring its larger numerical size. If future samples of candidates respond to the realized selection in the expected direction—increasing if the selection came from the sample, decreasing or increasing less if it did not—the higher probability of success in the majority sample will persist. We capture this process with a well-known statistical model: the Pólya urn. The richness of existing results and the streamlined model allow us to study and compare different policy interventions. A simple app (<https://caron.shinyapps.io/Women-Men-Polya-Urns/>) allows readers to run their own experiments. Two robust results are that temporary affirmative action interventions have long-term equalizing effects, and that any decline in the quality of selected candidates is self-correcting, even while the intervention lasts.

RESEARCH & WORK EXPERIENCE

Lab Manager, Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences	Jan 2023 – Dec 2023
Research Assistant for Alessandra Casella, Columbia University	Jul 2022 – May 2023
Research Assistant for Joseph Stiglitz, Columbia University	Jun 2020 – Dec 2022
Pre-Doctoral Fellowship with Bruce D. Meyer, UChicago Harris School of Public Policy (based at U.S. Census Bureau Headquarters)	Jan 2018 – Jun 2019

Analyst, Compass Lexecon, Antitrust and Competition Practice in Washington, DC	Aug 2016 – Dec 2017
Research Assistant for Thomas Covert, Energy Policy Institute at UChicago	Jun 2015 – Jun 2016
Research Assistant for Glen Weyl & James Evans, Computation Institute at UChicago	May 2014 – Dec 2014

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Columbia University, Department of Economics

Teaching Assistant

Undergraduate level

Public Economics (Instructor: Ceyhun Elgin) <i>Rating: 4.19/5.00</i>	Spring 2021
Intermediate Microeconomics (Instructor: Wouter Vergote) <i>Rating: 4.50/5.00</i>	Fall 2020

AWARDS & FELLOWSHIPS

2024	Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
2023	Lewis A. Sanders Endowed Fellowship in Economics, Columbia University (for a PhD student in the department who demonstrates the potential to make important contributions to the field of economics)
2023	Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award: runner-up for best fourth-year proposal, Columbia University
2022	Vickrey Prize: runner-up for best third-year paper, Columbia University
2021-22	Trudy and Paul Woodruff Fellowship, Columbia University
2019-24	Economics Department Fellowship, Columbia University
2019-20	Provost Diversity Fellowship, Columbia University
2019-20	Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University
2016	David L. Fulton Prize (for orchestral excellence), University of Chicago
2015	Careers in Public Policy and Service Scholar, University of Chicago
2013-16	Klowden Scholarship (for distinction in extracurricular activities), University of Chicago
2012-16	Dean's List, University of Chicago
2012-16	National Merit Scholarship, University of Chicago

GRANTS

2024	Provost Diversity Fellows Small Grants Program (\$1,500)
2024	Program for Economic Research (PER) Research Summer Fellow (\$3,500)
2023	Program for Economic Research (PER) Research Summer Fellow (\$4,000)
2022	Program for Economic Research (PER) Research Summer Fellow (\$2,000)
2022	PER Award for Field or Experimental Research (\$3,500)
2021	PER Award for Field or Experimental Research (\$2,000)
2021	Program for Economic Research (PER) Research Summer Fellow (\$2,000)
2021	Columbia Experimental Laboratory for Social Sciences (CELSS) Grant for Graduate Student Projects (\$1,000)
2021	Micro Theory Initiative (MTI) Summer Funding (\$1,000)

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2024	Economics Graduate Student Conference, Washington University in St. Louis (<i>invited</i>)
2023	Student Workshop on Experimental Economics Techniques (SWEET), New York University
2022	Women in Economic Theory Student Conference, University of Chicago

SUMMER SCHOOLS & WORKSHOPS ATTENDED

2024 WEAI Graduate Student Workshop
2023 NBER Behavioral Public Economics Bootcamp
2022 Caltech CTESS Summer School on Theory Driven Experiments
2020 Virtual Berkeley Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics

DEPARTMENT SERVICE

2023 Student Workshop on Experimental Economics Techniques (SWEET), conference organizer
2022-23 Applied Microeconomic Methods Colloquium Organizer
2020-24 Undergraduate Mentoring Program, founder and organizer; mentor 2022-2024
2020-22 Association of Graduate Economics Students (AGES) Graduate Mentoring Program mentor
2020-21 Departmental Diversity Committee Graduate Student Liaison

REFERENCES

Andrea Prat
Professor of Economics &
Business
Columbia University
+1 (212) 854-0224
andrea.prat@columbia.edu

Alessandra Casella
Professor of Economics &
Political Science
Columbia University
+1 (212) 854-2459
ac186@columbia.edu

Suresh Naidu
Professor of Economics &
International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
+1 (212) 854-0027
sn2430@columbia.edu

Akanksha Vardani

CONTACT INFORMATION

DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
Columbia University
420 West 118th Street
New York, 10027

akanksha.vardani@columbia.edu
<https://akankshavardani.github.io>

PLACEMENT CHAIRS

Sandra Black
sblack@columbia.edu

Mark Dean
mark.dean@columbia.edu

PLACEMENT ADMINISTRATORS

Amy Devine
aed2152@columbia.edu

Rosie Lourentzatos
rcl2109@columbia.edu

EDUCATION

Columbia University, New York

Ph.D in Economics

2019-2025 (Expected)

M.Phil in Economics

2022

M.A. in Economics

2021

Delhi School of Economics (DSE), New Delhi

Master of Arts in Economics

2018

Indraprastha College for Women(IPCW), University of Delhi

Bachelor of Arts (Honors) in Economics

2016

Springdales School, Pusa Road, New Delhi

Senior Secondary

2013

RESEARCH FIELDS

Development Economics, Family Economics, Public Economics

WORK IN PROGRESS

A House for Two : Empowering Women with Property Rights (JMP)

Abstract: Despite global efforts to advance gender parity in property ownership, evidence on the impact of these initiatives remains mixed. One potential reason is the failure to differentiate between documented ownership and effective ownership, which encompasses documented rights and social recognition of the rights. This study examines the gap between documented and effective property rights by randomizing a household-level awareness campaign in a setting where, despite women holding documented ownership, their effective rights remain weak, and beliefs about these rights varies within couples, with husbands and wives holding different initial beliefs. The intervention involves providing both spouses in the treatment group with information about women's property rights alongside a physical copy of the ownership document. I assess how strengthening women's effective rights influences their empowerment by analyzing its impact on gendered resource allocation within households and domestic violence. The findings show that the campaign significantly improved perceptions of women's ownership, leading to increased expenditure on women-specific goods, such as clothing, and reduced men's alcohol consumption. However, there is no overall effect on domestic violence. To explore how pre-existing differences in spousal beliefs mediate the intervention's effects, I develop and test an intra-household bargaining model, finding that the strongest impacts on consumption occur in households with the lowest initial beliefs about women's ownership, while domestic violence improves in households where the husband's initial beliefs are lower than the wife's.

How do political connections affect property tax compliance?

with Aneesha Parvathaneni

Abstract: How does being connected to a local elected leader affect property tax compliance? Using a close election difference-in-discontinuities design, we quantify the effect of being connected to a local elected leader on tax liability and compliance. We use novel administrative data on property taxation from an Indian district and find that citizens connected to local elected leaders are 45 percentage points more likely to remit taxes and remit 351% more in taxes. We also find that these results are partially driven by enforcement as those who are connected are 30.8 percentage points more likely to face fines and face 247% more in fines. Among those who are connected to the local elected leader, we find that these results are driven by poorer property owners.

Signaling in Female Education

with Tushar Kundu

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE AND INTERNSHIPS	Research Assistant	<i>2020-2021</i>
	<i>Supervisors: Michael Best and Evan Sadler</i>	
	Department of Economics, Columbia University, New York	
	Research Assistant	<i>2017-2019</i>
	<i>Supervisor: Rohini Somanathan</i>	
	Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, New Delhi	
	Research Analyst Intern	<i>2015</i>
	India Institute, New Delhi	
	Research Intern	<i>2014-2015</i>
	Consumers India, New Delhi	
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Teaching Fellow, Columbia University	
	Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	<i>Fall 2022</i>
	Microeconomics (MA)	<i>Spring 2022</i>
	Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate)	<i>Fall 2021</i>
	Math Camp (PhD)	<i>Summer 2021</i>
AWARDS AND HONORS	SurveyCTO Primary Data Collection Research Grant (Honorable Mention)	<i>2024</i>
	Wueller Pre-Dissertation Award for Best 4th-year Proposal, Columbia University	<i>2023</i>
	Reubens Travel and Research Award, Columbia University	<i>2023</i>
	Wueller Award for Best TA for MA Program, Columbia University	<i>2022</i>
	Wueller Award for Best TA (Runners up) for Undergraduate Courses, Columbia University	<i>2022</i>
	Exim Bank Scholarship, DSE	<i>2016-2018</i>
	National (CAS) Scholarship Internal, DSE	<i>2016-2018</i>
	Rai Bahadur Raghunath Sahai Memorial Prize, IPCW	<i>2016</i>
	Rewa Dhawan Memorial Scholarship, IPCW	<i>2013-2016</i>
	Nagendra Nath Majumdar Memorial Prize, IPCW	<i>2016</i>
	Principal's Honour Roll, IPCW	<i>2015</i>
FELLOWSHIPS	NBER Gender in the Economy Fellowship	<i>2023-2024</i>
RESEARCH GRANTS	Weiss Fund (with Aneesha Parvathaneni)	<i>2024</i>
	CDEP Student Research Grant , Columbia University	<i>2023</i>
	PER Experiment Grant , Columbia University	<i>2023</i>
	CDEP Student Research Grant , Columbia University	<i>2022</i>
	PER Experiment Grant , Columbia University	<i>2022</i>
	PER Research Fellow Summer Grant , Columbia University	<i>2020</i>
FIELDWORK EXPERIENCE	Running a randomised control trial (RCT) in India to study the impact of land ownership on women's empowerment.	<i>May 2023-present</i>
	Conducted a household-level survey on women's bargaining power across 30 villages, covering 150 households in Pune, India.	<i>October 2022</i>
	Surveyed the workers of the informal wire stripping industry in Seelampur, Delhi.	<i>March 2015</i>
	Surveyed the workers of the informal garment sector in Kapashera, Delhi.	<i>December 2013</i>

ACADEMIC
PRESENTATIONS

European Association of Young Economists Annual Meeting	2024
Imperial College PhD Conference	2024
NBER Summer Institute	2023
14th Annual Conference on Economic Growth and Development	2018
4th Annual Center for research on the Economics of Climate, Food, Energy and Environment (CECFEE) Research and Policy Workshop	2018
12th South Asian Economics Students' Meet	2016

TECHNICAL SKILLS

STATA, R, Python, L^AT_EX

LANGUAGE SKILLS

English (Fluent), **Hindi** (Native Speaker), **French** (Intermediate) and **German** (Beginner)

REFERENCES

Cristian Pop-Eleches
Professor
School of International and Public Affairs
Columbia University
cp2124@columbia.edu

Pierre-André Chiappori
E. Rowan and Barbara Steinschneider
Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
Columbia University
pc2167@columbia.edu

Michael Best
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Columbia University
mcb2270@columbia.edu

Bernard Salanié
Sami Mnaymneh Professor of Economics,
Director of the Master's Program
Department of Economics
Columbia University
bs2237@columbia.edu

Jack Willis
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics
Columbia University
jw3634@columbia.edu

EMILIO ZARATIEGUI

+1 (646) 821-7664 ◊ ez2292@columbia.edu ◊ www.emiliozaratiegui.com

Department of Economics ◊ Columbia University,
420 West 118th Street ◊ New York, NY 10027, USA

Placement Chairs

Sandra Black Mark Dean
sblack@columbia.edu md3405@columbia.edu

Placement Administrators

Amy Devine Rosa Lourentzatos
aed2152@columbia.edu rcl2109@columbia.edu

REFERENCES

Martín Uribe Department of Economics Columbia University mu2166@columbia.edu	Jesse Schreger Economics Division Columbia Business School jms2476@columbia.edu	Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé Department of Economics Columbia University ss3501@columbia.edu
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EDUCATION

Columbia University PhD in Economics	<i>2019 - 2025 (Expected)</i>
Universidad de San Andrés MA Economics	<i>2017</i>
Universidad Nacional del Sur Bachelor in Economics	<i>2012- 2016</i>

RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics and International Finance

WORKING PAPERS

Macprudential Policy with Firm Heterogeneity (Job Market Paper)

I study how capital misallocation affects optimal macroprudential policy in a small open economy susceptible to sudden stops. I introduce a novel, tractable way of modeling misallocation that generates a link between investment and productivity and can be easily taken to the data. I show that, when the policymaker is constrained in their available instruments, this generates a policy trade-off between financial stability and productivity growth. I derive a formula for the second-best capital control that only requires a few sufficient statistics, including the productivity cost of capital controls. Leveraging the tractability of the model I obtain a range of estimates for the latter using firm-level microdata for several European countries. The trade-off is quantitatively relevant: for the baseline crisis probabilities, productivity losses reduce optimal capital controls from 0.22% to a subsidy of almost 0.4%. Productivity losses are also a source of heterogeneity, with capital controls varying as much as 0.4% within the countries in the sample.

A Theory of Labor Markets with Inefficient Turnover” (with Andres Blanco, Andres Drenik and Chris Moser)

We develop a theory of labor markets with four features: search frictions, worker productivity shocks, wage rigidity, and two-sided lack of commitment. Inefficient job separations occur in the form of endogenous quits and layoffs that are unilaterally initiated whenever a worker’s wage-to-productivity ratio moves outside an inaction region. We derive sufficient statistics for the labor market response to aggregate shocks based on the distribution of workers’ wage-to-productivity ratios. These statistics depend on the incidence of inefficient job separations and are linked to readily available microdata on wage changes and worker flows between jobs.

The Perceived Sources of Unexpected Inflation (with Kosha Modi)

We use high-frequency asset price changes around Consumer Price Index announcements in the US to learn about market perceptions regarding the economy. First, we document some facts. An unexpected increase in the CPI inflation leads to an increase in (a) treasury nominal yields (b) forward breakeven inflation rates. The response of price of S&P 500 and the future annual dividends of S&P 500 companies varies over the years in response to the surprise. We interpret these facts through the lens of a New Keynesian Model with an inflation announcement to decompose unexpected inflation into demand and supply components. We find that the share of supply in unexpected inflation has increased by 20 percentage points post-covid.

PUBLICATIONS

Central Bank Credibility and Fiscal Responsibility (with Jesse Schreger and Pierre Yared)
American Economic Review: Insights
Nominal Devaluations, Inflation and Inequality (with Andres Blanco and Andres Drenik)
Conditionally accepted at American Economic Journal: Macroeconomics

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

ASSA Annual Meeting: New Orleans 2023

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Professors Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé and Martin Uribe	<i>2021-2022</i>
Research Assistant, Professor Andrés Drenik	<i>2018-2019</i>

HONORS AND AWARDS

Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University	<i>2024</i>
Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University	<i>2019-2024</i>
Research Fellow Summer Grant, Program for Economic Research	<i>2020, 2022</i>
	<i>2024</i>
Academic Merit Scholarship, Universidad de San Andrés	<i>2017</i>
Academia Nacional de Ciencias Economicas 2016 Award	<i>2017</i>
Awarded to the best economics graduate from Universidad Nacional del Sur	
Emerging Leaders of the Americas Program Scholar	<i>2016</i>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Journal of International Economics - Social Media Editor	<i>2023-present</i>
Macro Students Colloquium - Student Organizer	<i>2022-2023</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Columbia University - Teaching Assistant	<i>2020-2023</i>
Principles of Economics, Money, Banking and Credit, Advanced Macroeconomics, Macroeconomics I (MA)	
Universidad de San Andrés - Teaching Assistant	<i>2018</i>
Macroeconomics II, Economic History, Macroeconomics I	

SKILLS

Languages	Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), Japanese (Beginner)
Software	STATA, MATLAB, Python, Dynare, Latex, Office

PERSONAL

Citizenship: Argentine and Spanish