

# Agnieszka Dorn

Department of Economics, Columbia University  
420 W 118<sup>th</sup> St., New York, NY 10027

Phone: 6464219870  
Email: a.dorn@columbia.edu

Placement Chair: Martin Uribe, (+1) 212-851-4008, mu2166@columbia.edu

Placement Assistant: Amy Devine, (+1) 212-854-6881 aed2152@columbia.edu

## Education

2013-	(In Progress) PhD in Economics	Columbia University
2013	MSc in Mathematics	University of Warsaw
2011	MSc in Economics	University of Warsaw

## Fields of Interest

Macroeconomics, Labor Economics

## Honors and Awards

2018-2019	Dissertation Fellowship, Columbia University
2013-2018	Dean's Fellowship, Columbia University

## Job Market Paper: "The Cyclicalities of Wages and Match Quality"

I estimate the cyclicalities of real wages for job stayers, hires from employment and from unemployment, using an administrative matched employer-employee dataset from Germany. I find that the wages of new hires appear to be *less* procyclical than the wages of job stayers. I propose an explanation based on countercyclical selection on match quality: when aggregate productivity is low, worker-firm matches have to be unusually productive to warrant job creation. The presence of the match quality selection effect is supported by the relationship between the initial aggregate conditions and subsequent risk of separation: jobs started when unemployment is high are at a decreased risk of ending with a separation to unemployment, which suggests that they are positively selected. Finally, I show that a Diamond-Mortensen-Pissarides search and matching model with match-specific productivity and turnover costs is consistent with empirical findings.

## Work in Progress

"How Dangerous is Godfather? Job-to-Job Transitions and Wage Cuts."

Job-to-job transitions are surprisingly often accompanied by wage cuts. The fraction of such transitions ranges from 20% to 40%, depending on a country and data source, as found by Jolivet et al. (2006), and others. In the US, they are around 33% of job transition and the average wage cut is 20%, according to Tjaden and Wellschmied (2014). There are several competing explanations for this phenomenon. One explanation is based on the idea that workers accept wage cuts to enjoy higher wages in the future. This motive arises if firms offer an increasing wage-tenure profile, as in Coles and Burdett (2010), in the Bertrand competition framework introduced in Robin and

Postel-Vinay (2002), or if some firms offer attractive opportunities to accumulate human capital. The second main explanation is that workers accept wage cuts because the alternative is worse: they are hit by reallocation shocks, nicknamed "Godfather shocks," receiving randomly drawn wage offers they cannot refuse because the alternative is unemployment. I use German administrative microdata to investigate competing explanations for wage-decreasing job-to-job transitions. The data have important advantages: (1) workers are observed over long periods, (2) the matched employee-employer version allows the comparison of the wage dynamics of a worker making a job-to-job transition with his former coworkers, (3) information on unemployment registration is provided and workers can, and do, register as unemployed before, or just after, their current job ends. I compare after-transition wages of job movers, defined as workers who are no more than 2 weeks out of work and are not registered as unemployed, and that accept a wage cut with wages in comparison groups: (1) workers that are no more than 2 weeks out of work and are registered as unemployed, (2) workers that are 2-4 weeks out of work, (3) previous coworkers of wage-decreasing job movers.

"Employment Elasticities - A Granular Approach." (with Mumtaz Hussain and Younes Zouhar, IMF)

## Conferences

2018 ECB Forum on Central Banking – Young economists' session

## Research Experience

Summer 2018                                      The Fund Internship Program, the International Monetary Fund

## Teaching Experience

Fall 2017	Introduction to Econometrics, Prof. Seyhan Erden, Columbia University
Spring 2017	Behavioral Finance, Prof. Harrison G. Hong, Columbia University
Fall 2016	Intermediate Macroeconomics, Prof. Xavier Sala-I-Martin, Columbia University
Spring 2016	Intermediate Macroeconomics, Prof. Irasema Alonso, Columbia University
Fall 2015	Introduction to Econometrics, Prof. Seyhan Erden, Columbia University
Spring 2015	Introduction to Econometrics, Prof. Seyhan Erden, Columbia University
Fall 2014	Principles of Economics, Prof. Anna Musatti, Columbia University

## Other

Computer Skills: STATA, R, Matlab, Python

Languages: English (fluent), German (intermediate), Polish (native), Russian (elementary)

## References

Andres Drenik (co-advisor)	Jón Steinsson (co-advisor)	Andreas Mueller
Columbia University	University of California, Berkeley	Columbia Business School
(+1) 650-888-8349	(+1) 510-642-3674	(+1) 212-854-0248
ad3376@columbia.edu	jsteinsson@berkeley.edu	amueller@columbia.edu