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Personal Information:

Citizenship: USA

Undergraduate Studies:

A.B. Brown University, *Magna Cum Laude*, 2009

Graduate Studies:

Harvard University, 2012 to Present
Ph.D. Candidate in Political Economy and Government, Economics Track
Thesis Title: Essays on Labor Demand
Expected Completion Date: June 2018

References:

Professor Lawrence Katz Littauer Center 224, Harvard University P: 617- 495-5148 E: lkatz@harvard.edu	Professor Nathaniel Hendren Littauer Center 224, Harvard University P: 617- 496-3588 E: nhendren@harvard.edu
Professor Edward Glaeser Littauer Center 315A, Harvard University P: 617- 495-0575 E: eglaeser@harvard.edu	Professor Claudia Goldin Littauer Center 228, Harvard University P: 617- 496-5079 E: cgoldin@harvard.edu

Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Labor Economics, Public Finance

Secondary field: Urban Economics

Teaching Experience:

Spring 2015– 2017	Graduate Public Finance II, Harvard Economics Department, Teaching Fellow for Professor Nathaniel Hendren
Fall 2014– 2015	Economics of Work and Family, Harvard College, Teaching Fellow for Professor Claudia Goldin
Fall 2014	Quantitative Analysis and Empirical Methods, Harvard Kennedy School (M.P.P. course), Teaching Fellow for Professor Maya Sen

Research Experience and Other Employment:

2017–Present Internal Revenue Service, Student Volunteer, Research, Applied Analytics, and

	Statistics (RAAS) Division
2011–2012	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Research Assistant to Professors David Autor and Parag Pathak
2009–2011	United States Congress, Joint Committee on Taxation, Research Assistant

Professional Activities

Referee Service: *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*

Conference Discussant: *NBER Summer Institute, Urban Economics Section* (2016)

Conference Presentations: Society of Labor Economists 2017 Meeting, “*Public Investment and the Spread of ‘Good-Paying’ Manufacturing Jobs: Evidence from World War II’s Big Plants*”

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2014–Present	Fellow, Multidisciplinary Program in Inequality and Social Policy, Harvard University
2016–2017	Harvard Lab for Economic Applications and Policy Grant (x3)
2016	Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching
2014–2017	US Department of Transportation, University Transportation Centers Grant (with Edward Glaeser)
2014	Harvard Kennedy School Taubman Center Urban Dissertation Fellowship

Research Papers:

“*How Does Firm Performance Affect Wages? Evidence from Idiosyncratic Export Shocks*” (with Filipe Silverio, Banco de Portugal) Job Market Paper

In the canonical competitive labor market model, firms are wage-takers and idiosyncratic shocks to individual firms do not affect wages. However, when labor markets are frictional, wages may directly depend on firm-specific factors. We test how sensitive wages are to firm-level labor demand by estimating the incidence of idiosyncratic export demand shocks on the wages of incumbent workers in Portugal during the Great Recession (2008-2010). Using detailed export records, we construct measures of firm exposure to unanticipated shocks to the demands of different countries for specific products. The shocks predict changes in output and payroll at affected firms, but not at other similar firms. We combine the export demand measures with firm balance sheet data and matched longitudinal administrative employer-employee records to estimate the impact of idiosyncratic firm-level demand shocks on employee outcomes. We find that idiosyncratic shocks that decreased sales or value added by 10 percent caused wages of incumbent workers who were employed by affected firms in 2007 to decrease by 1.5 percent relative to trend. Furthermore, we find that these pass-through effects are stronger in industries with higher durability of employment relationships and lower employee turnover rates. These results support a model in which barriers to replacing incumbent workers give rise to internal labor markets within the firm, exposing workers to their employers' idiosyncratic conditions.

“*Putting America to Work, Where? The Limits of Infrastructure Construction as a Locally Targeted Employment Policy*” (Revise and Resubmit, *Journal of Urban Economics*)

Is infrastructure construction an effective way to boost employment in distressed local labor markets? I use new geographically detailed data on highway construction funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to study the relationship between construction work and local employment growth. I show that the method for allocating funds across space facilitates a plausible selection-on-observables strategy. However, I find a precisely estimated zero effect of spending on road construction employment—or other employment—in the locale of the construction site. Reported data on vendors reveal this is because the majority of contractors—selected by competitive bidding—commute from other local labor markets. I also find no robust effect in the locales of the contractors’ offices, but argue that this source of variation does not capture an economically meaningful local demand shock. I

conclude that infrastructure construction is not effective as a way to stimulate local labor markets in the short run so long as projects are allocated by competitive bidding.

“Public Investment and the Spread of ‘Good-Paying’ Manufacturing Jobs: Evidence from World War II’s Big Plants”

This paper studies the long-run local labor market effects of the publicly financed construction of large manufacturing facilities during World War II. I focus on a subset of large, new plants on which the military was not able to incentivize private firms to stake any capital and that likely would not have been built if not for the war. I compare recipient counties to counties that were similar but for conditions engendered by the war. After establishing an absence of pre-trends across a number of outcomes, I show that recipient counties experienced a large post-reconversion boost in manufacturing employment and wages that persisted for several decades. I show how these effects impact broader labor market outcomes in the post-war period and discuss methods for distinguishing between causal mechanisms using plant-level data.

Research in Progress

“Growth in Supply and Demand for Contingent Work: Evidence from Tax Returns” (with David Card, Lawrence Katz, and Dmitri Koustas)

Contingent work has grown rapidly in the U.S. in recent years, but the sources of this growth remain largely unknown. We use longitudinally linked tax data combining individual returns (1040s) and firm-issued information returns on both non-employment labor earnings (1099s) and employment earnings (W-2s) to study how individuals and households transition into and out of alternative work. We document pathways leading both individuals and firms into alternative work arrangements and examine whether tax policy may have contributed to these changes.