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## HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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### **Office Contact Information**

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### **Undergraduate Studies:**

MSc in Economic and Social Sciences, Bocconi University, cum laude, 2013  
BA in Economic and Social Sciences, Bocconi University, cum laude, 2011

### **Graduate Studies:**

Harvard University, 2014 to present  
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics  
Thesis Title: "Essays on Public and Labor Economics"  
Expected Completion Date: May 2019

### References:

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### **Teaching and Research Fields:**

Primary fields: Public Economics, Labor Economics  
Secondary fields: Economics of Aging, Personnel Economics

### **Teaching Experience:**

Fall, 2016	Public Economics (graduate), Harvard, teaching fellow for
2017	Professors Stefanie Stantcheva and John N. Friedman
Spring, 2015	Behavioral Economics, Harvard, teaching fellow for Professors
2016 2017	David Laibson and Andrei Shleifer

### **Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:**

2017-2018	Fellowship, Center for Retirement Research at Boston College
2017	Research Grant, Foundations of Human Behavior
2018	Research Grant, LEAP Program, Harvard University
2016	VISITINPS Scholarship, INPS

**Professional Activities:**

Referee for	<i>Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Public Economics, The Economic Journal, Journal of Urban Economics, Journal of Law and Economics, American Political Science Review, Economics and Politics</i>
Invited Presentations	2018: NBER Summer Institute - Aging; Retirement Research Constortium Meeting, D.C.; Symposium on Economics and Institutions Anacapri 2017: ESEM University of Lisboa; First VisitINPS Conference, INPS 2016: Lunch Seminar, INPS 2014: 9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Graduate Student Conference, Washington University (St Louis); 1 <sup>st</sup> Annual PhD Student Conference, Leicester University

**Job Market Paper:**

*“Labor Substitutability and The Impact of Raising the Retirement Age”*, with Giulia Bovini

The degree of substitutability among different types of workers can affect the incidence of public policies by creating labor demand spillovers within firms. We study the substitutability between age cohorts in the context of an unexpected public pension reform increasing the full retirement age in Italy starting in 2012. An increase of the full retirement age creates incentives for older workers to delay retirement and temporarily increases their retention at the employer firm. We investigate how retaining an additional old worker affects employer labor demand for other workers. Using a large and rich matched employer-employee administrative data set for Italy, we exploit the substantial idiosyncratic firm-level variation in the impact of the unanticipated pension reform persisting even after conditioning on the demographics at the firm. We find that workers on the cusp of retirement and younger co-workers are substitutes. When a worker is retained firms fire on average 0.16 more workers and decrease hiring by 0.29 units. Older workers in the same occupation group are the closest substitute to the retained old workers who delay retirement. Extending the retirement age also decreases labor earnings and increases the take-up of social security programs of incumbent workers. Patterns of labor-labor substitutability have important implications for the incidence of public policies that increase retention of older workers like this reform. We provide supporting evidence using a government accounting model that allows for spillovers across government programs and workers. Our results show that almost all of the short-run fiscal cost of the pension reform is explained by labor demand spillovers.

**Working Papers:**

*“Chains of Opportunity Revisited”*, with Nicola Bianchi, Giulia Bovini, Jin Li and Michael Powell

Promotions are an important component of a worker’s wage. Yet, traditional theories about the factors driving career progressions typically focus on worker-level characteristics like human capital acquisition, on learning, or on broad market-level factors like labor supply and demand. We study coworker-career spillovers that arise in firms with limited promotion opportunities. We exploit a 2011 Italian pension reform that tightened eligibility criteria for the public pension. We use administrative data on Italian private-sector and leverage cross-firm variation to isolate the effect of retirement delays among soon-to-retire workers on the promotions of their colleagues. We find evidence of career spillovers, and the patterns of these spillovers are consistent with the idea that older workers block the careers of their younger colleagues in firms with limited opportunities. Delays in retirement lead to a decrease in younger workers’ wage growth. Promotions from blue to white-collar positions fall in response to retirement delays among white-collar workers, whereas there is no effect of such delays among blue-collar workers. The effects are largest in firms with shrinking employment in the years leading up to the policy and negligible among fast-growing firms. We derive in a model the key features necessary to explain our results.

**Research Papers in Progress:**

*“Firm-level Tax Incidence: the Redistribution of the Cost of Labor”*

How is the cost of payroll taxes redistributed within the firm? Standard tax incidence theory is based on the assumption that labor market are perfectly competitive and firm-level shocks to the cost of labor have no effects on the wages of incumbent workers. Identification techniques applied at the individual level balance unobservable individual characteristics and by construction rule out firm idiosyncratic characteristics. As a result, the estimated elasticity misses an important channel of the pass-through of taxes to wages. I attempt to identify this component by studying how wages respond to firm-level changes in the cost of labor. I use administrative data for the universe of French private sector firms that I match to information on paid social security contributions to study a payroll tax reform that was implemented in France in 2003. The policy changed payroll tax subsidies for low-paid workers leaving tax rates unchanged for other workers. I exploit variation in the wage distribution of the subset of low-paid workers to create firm-level shifts in the average payroll tax rate of low-paid employees and I use them as an instrument for the total change in the cost of labor. I study spillovers within the firm by looking at the workers who are unaffected by the policy and I evaluate how an extra euro of subsidies to low-paid individuals is redistributed along the wage distribution. Preliminary results show that an increase in the average tax rate of low-paid employees causes significant drops in the wages of incumbent high-paid employees.

*“In the Business of Compliance: Firm Revenue Manipulation in Response to the Audit System”*, with Enrico Di Gregorio

Small and medium businesses face greater opportunities to conceal their income sources relative to employees, leading to substantial tax gaps. Despite the magnitude of this problem, evidence on how these businesses comply with the tax system is still scarce. We exploit a unique discontinuity in audit probability around a firm-specific revenue threshold in the Italian audit system to estimate revenue manipulation elasticities and perceived audit risk. To this end, we rely on new sources of administrative data on the universe of tax returns filed by small businesses and self-employed over 2007-2016 in Italy. Our theory adapts non-linear budget set models to the context of firm revenue declaration. Unlike previous studies using these methods, the probability jump in our setting allows to directly identify the elasticity of revenue manipulation as a component of the total taxable revenue elasticity. Our framework also provides us a non-parametric upper bound to the share of non-manipulators, which we use to characterize the correlates of business tax compliance.