

David Van Dijcke

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Education

University of Michigan

PhD, Economics

May 2022 – Present

Ann Arbor, US

– Visiting Research Student Collaborator, Princeton University (Mar 2024). Sponsor: Prof. Ulrich K. Müller.

University of Michigan

MA, Economics

Aug 2020 – May 2022

Ann Arbor, US

University of Oxford

Probationer Research Student, Economics

Oct 2019 – Aug 2020

Oxford, UK

– Equivalent to 2nd year of MPhil; no grades due to COVID-19.

KU Leuven

MSc Economics; MSc Economic Policy; BA Philosophy

Sep 2016 – Jul 2019

Leuven, BE

– **MSc Economics** (*Magna cum laude*, 83%): dissertation awarded Best Student Paper (2018–19).

– **MSc Economic Policy** (*Summa cum laude*, 85.77%).

– **BA Philosophy** (*Magna cum laude*, 81.57%).

Royal Academy of Fine Arts / Ghent University

BA, Theatre (Cum laude)

Sep 2013 – Jul 2016

Ghent, BE

Fields

- Primary Field: Econometrics
- Secondary Field: Applied Microeconomics

Dissertation

Distributions & Discontinuities: Nonparametric Methods for Heterogeneous Threshold Effects in Economics

- **Chapter 1:** “Regression Discontinuity Design with Distribution-Valued Outcomes” (**Job Market Paper**)
- **Chapter 2:** “A Test for Jumps in Metric-Space Conditional Means: With Applications to Compositional and Network Data”
- **Chapter 3:** “Free Discontinuity Regression: With an Application to the Economic Effects of Internet Shutdowns” (w/ Florian Gunsilius)

Research

Publications

1. Van Dijcke, D., Wright, A. L., & Polyak, M. (2023). Public response to government alerts saves lives during Russian invasion of Ukraine. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*
2. Milosh, M., Painter, M., Sonin, K., Van Dijcke, D., & Wright, A. L. (2021). Unmasking partisanship: Polarization undermines public response to collective risk. *Journal of Public Economics*
3. Brzezinski, A., Kecht, V., Van Dijcke, D., & Wright, A. L. (2021). Science skepticism reduced compliance with COVID-19 shelter-in-place policies in the United States. *Nature Human Behaviour*, 5(11), 1519–1527
4. Brzezinski, A., Deiana, G., Kecht, V., & Van Dijcke, D. (2020). The COVID-19 pandemic: Government vs. community action across the United States. *Covid Economics: Vetted and Real-Time Papers*, 7, 115–156

Last updated: September 29, 2025

5. Van Dijcke, D. (2018). The impact of ECB unconventional monetary policy on income inequality in the Netherlands. *Bank en Financiewezen*, 3

Working Papers

1. Van Dijcke, D. (2025). A test for jumps in metric-space conditional means [Under review]. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2507.04560*
2. Gunsilius, F., & Van Dijcke, D. (2025). disco: Distributional synthetic controls [R&R at The Stata Journal]. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2501.07550*
3. Van Dijcke, D., Gunsilius, F., & Wright, A. L. (2024). Return to office and the tenure distribution [R&R at The Review of Economics and Statistics]. *University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute for Economics Working Paper*, (2024-56)
4. Blair, C. W., Van Dijcke, D., & Wright, A. L. (2025). Refugee return and conflict: Evidence from a natural experiment [R&R at the American Economic Review]. *University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute for Economics Working Paper*, (2021-82)
5. Gunsilius, F., & Van Dijcke, D. (2024). Free discontinuity regression [Under review]
6. Van Dijcke, D. (2023). On the non-identification of revenue production functions [Under review]. *Bank of England Staff Working Papers*, 1015
7. Van Dijcke, D., Buckmann, M., Turrell, A., & Key, T. (2023). Vacancy posting, firm balance sheets and government interventions during the COVID-19 pandemic [Under review]. *Bank of England Staff Working Papers (Forthcoming)*
8. Sonin, K., Van Dijcke, D., & Wright, A. L. (2023). Isolation and insurrection: How partisanship and political geography fueled January 6, 2021 [Under review]. *University of Chicago, Becker Friedman Institute for Economics Working Paper*, (2021-13)
9. Van Dijcke, D., & Wright, A. L. (2020). Using mobile device traces to improve near-real time data collection during the george floyd protests [Research note]. *Available at SSRN 3621731*
10. Lewis, V., & Van Dijcke, D. (2019). Work effort and the cycle: Evidence from survey data [Under review]. *Deutsche Bundesbank Discussion Papers*

Professional Experience

Teaching

Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago

Teaching Fellow

Oct 2024 – Nov 2024 & Nov 2025

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

- 2025: Main Lecturer for Economic Data & Modeling (2-week intensive course for Saudi government training program)
- 2024: Main Lecturer for Applied Econometrics (3-week program). 100% student satisfaction on evaluations.

University of Michigan

Graduate Student Instructor

Aug 2021 – Dec 2023

Ann Arbor, US

- Graduate Courses: Applied Microeconometrics (Fall 2024), Intro to Econometric Analysis I (Winter 2023)
- Undergraduate Courses: Intermediate Statistics & Econometrics I (Fall 2021-Spring 2022)

Research Experience

Ipsos Public Affairs, LLC

Consulting Analyst, Risk Analytics

Mar 2022 – May 2024

Washington, DC, US

- * Geospatial analyst for UN/World Bank post-disaster assessments (Gaza, Nepal, Afghanistan, Syria); findings cited by *Reuters* and other global outlets.
- * Built interactive real-time mobility monitoring app for FIFA World Cup 2022.
- * Integrated SAR imagery, mobile device data, and surveys for conflict/disaster impact analysis.

Bank of England

May 2020 – Present

Academic Visitor / PhD Intern

London, UK

- * Research and policy analysis using big data on UK labor markets and the COVID-19 economy; results presented to the Monetary Policy Committee and published as two Staff Working Papers.

Deutsche Bundesbank

June–Aug 2019

Research Intern

Frankfurt, DE

Fellowships and Awards

- Lawrence Klein Fellowship in Econometrics, University of Michigan (2025)
- Rackham Predoctoral Fellowship, University of Michigan (2024-25)
- WU Best Paper Award, City of Vienna (2022)
- Honorary Fellow, Belgian American Educational Foundation (2020-21)
- Pinxten Award, Best MSc Economics Paper, KU Leuven (2019)

Professional Activities

Conference Presentations

2026 ASSA Annual Meetings – AEA session, Philadelphia; Econometric Society North American Winter Meetings, Philadelphia. **2025** Econometrics Seminar, Emory University; New Methods Seminar, Bank of England; EEA Congress, Bordeaux School of Economics; Econometrics Seminar, University of Copenhagen; Midwestern Econometrics Meeting, UIUC; Economics Graduate Student Conference, Washington University in St. Louis; Canadian Econometrics Meeting, Ottawa; Southern Economic Association Annual Conference, Florida. **2024** Michigan IO-Econometrics Workshop, University of Michigan; Remote Work Conference, Stanford University; New Connections in the Study of Political Economy, Panama; ESIF Economics and AI+ML Meeting, Cornell University; ASSA 2024, San Antonio. **2023** Econometric Society European Winter Meeting 2023, University of Manchester; Econometric Society North America Summer Meeting 2023, UCLA; New Methods Seminar, Bank of England; ASSA 2023, New Orleans; Dewey Data Research Seminars; Ipsos Center for Analytics Excellence. **2022** EEA-ESAM Congress, Bocconi University; Econometric Society Australasia Meeting; ESCoE Conference on Economic Measurement, University of Strathclyde; Bank of England. **2021** NBER Summer Institute 2021, National Security Session; Bank of England; Indeed Policy Partners Workshop. **2020** Banca d'Italia and Federal Reserve Board Joint Conference on Nontraditional Data & Statistical Learning; SafeGraph Data Consortium.

Refereeing

Journal of Public Economics; Journal of the European Economic Association; Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review

Skills

Programming Languages (Expert Level): Python, R, Stata, MATLAB

Other Technical Skills: PyTorch, Transformers/PEFT, RL, CV, Causal ML & Econometrics, ArcGIS, GeoPandas, spatial SQL (Spark), SAR, Spark/PySpark, AWS, BigQuery, Slurm, C++, Fortran, Git, Linux, LaTeX, R Shiny, SQL

Foreign Languages: Dutch (native), English (advanced), French (advanced), German (intermediate)

Software Packages

1. R3D (R): Regression Discontinuity with Distribution-Valued Outcomes <https://www.davidvandijcke.com/R3D/>
2. frechesTest (R): Test for Jumps in Metric-Space Conditional Means <https://github.com/Davidvandijcke/frechesTest>
3. DiSCos (R, Stata): Distributional Synthetic Controls <https://www.davidvandijcke.com/DiSCos/>

Citizenship

Citizen of Belgium, US Work Authorization (F-1 OPT)

Dissertation Committee

Prof. Florian Gunsilius (Co-Chair)

Department of Economics, Emory University
florian.felix.gunsilius@emory.edu

Prof. Konstantin Sonin

Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago
ksonin@uchicago.edu

Prof. Eva Janssens

Department of Economics, University of Michigan
evafj@umich.edu

Prof. Kaspar Wuthrich (Co-Chair)

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kasparwu@umich.edu

Prof. Andreas Hagemann

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hagem@umich.edu