

Luke Heath Milsom
www.lukemilsom.com
luke.milsom@economics.ox.ac.uk

Undergraduate Studies:

BSc Econometrics and Mathematical Economics, London School of Economics, 2016

Graduate Studies:

University of Oxford, DPhil Economics, 2023 (expected)

- Visiting student: UC Berkeley, 2022

- Visiting student: National University of Singapore, 2019

University of Oxford, MPhil Economics, 2018

References:

Professor Ferdinand Rauch
Heidelberg University

ferdinand.rauch@economics.ox.ac.uk

Professor Gabriel Ulyssea
University College London

gulyssea@gmail.com

Professor Douglas Gollin
University of Oxford

Douglas.gollin@qeh.ox.ac.uk

Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Urban and Spatial, Development, Public

Secondary fields: Labor, International Trade

Teaching Experience:

2018-2023 Stipendiary Lecturer at Corpus Christi College, Oxford: Prelims Probability and Statistics, Prelims Macro and Micro, Core Macro, Econometrics, Quantitative Economics.

2021 Teaching Assistant, Oxford. MSc Economics for Development; International Trade.

2018 Teaching Assistant, LSE. EC201 Macroeconomics.

Research Experience and Other Employment:

2016-2021 RA: Professor Johannes Abeler, Oxford.

2018-2020 RA: Dr Isabelle Roland, Oxford.

2019 Short Term Consultant, World Bank.

2017 RA: Professor Sophocles Mavroeidis, Oxford.

2016-2017 RA: Professor Steve Machin, and Professor Sandra McNally, LSE.

Scholarships:

2021 Departmental Bursary, Oxford

2016-2021 Oxford Radcliffe ESRC Scholarship, Oxford

2016 Chelgren Scholarship, Oxford

Job Market Paper:

Moving Opportunity. Spatial Connectivity and Inequality of Opportunity.

Abstract

Within-country inequality across space is large, particularly in settings where local connectedness varies significantly. I examine how transportation network infrastructure in Benin, Cameroon, and Mali affects spatial inequality of opportunity through inducing the movement of people and goods, and therefore local opportunity. I develop a theory-informed, market access based, sufficient statistic result which overcomes identification issues such as spillover effects or general equilibrium concerns, and a novel not-on-least-cost-path instrumental variables strategy. I find that changes in connectivity alter spatial inequality of local opportunity, but the effects are complex and heterogeneous. Parameterizing the structural spatial model using estimates from the sufficient statistic result, I show that road building since 1970 increased the causal effect growing up in a given location

had on completing primary school in the most affected locations by 7.5pp. more than the least affected. Using this framework, I estimate the potential impact of upgrading each existing road. Leveraging variation across the three countries studied, I further find that network-level and road-level characteristics matter and that when connecting two locations first-order effects can be predicted by pre-existing trade and migration flows.

Working Papers:

1. Spatial Inequality of Opportunity in West Africa. *R&R Journal of Public Economics*
2. The Butcher, the Brewer, or the Baker: The Role of Occupations in Explaining Wage Inequality. *With Shihang Hou.*
3. Gravity in International Finance: Evidence from Fees on Equity Transactions. *With Vladimr Pazitka, Isabelle Roland, and Dariusz Wojcik.*
4. Minimum Wages and the China Syndrome: Causal Evidence from US Local Labour Markets. *With Isabelle Roland.*

Published Papers:

1. The Epidemiological Impact of the NHS Covid-19 App.
Nature 2021
With Chris Wymant, Luca Ferretti, Daphne Tsallis, Marcos Charalambides, Lucie Abeler-Dörner, David Bonsall, Robert Hinch, Michelle Kendall, Mathew Ayres, Chris Holmes, Mark Briers, Christophe Fraser.
2. Epidemiological changes on the Isle of Wight after the launch of the NHS Test and Trace programme: a preliminary analysis.
The Lancet Digital Health, 2020
With Michelle Kendall; Lucie Abeler-Dörner; Chris Wymant; Luca Ferretti; Mark Briers; Chris Holmes; David Bonsall; Johannes Abeler; Christophe Fraser.
3. Acceptability of App-Based Contact Tracing for COVID-19: Cross-Country Survey Study.
JMIR mHealth and uHealth, 2020
With Samuel Altmann; Hannah Zillesen; Raffaele Blassone; Frederic Gerdon; Ruben Bach; Frauke Kreuter; Daniele Nosenzo; Séverine Toussaert; Johannes Abeler

Placement Officer:

Martin Weidner

martin.weidner@economics.ox.ac.uk

Graduate Administrator:

Julie Minns

julie.minns@economics.ox.ac.uk