

**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)

University of Oxford, MPhil Economics, 2018

**References:**

Professor Ferdinand Rauch

University of Oxford

ferdinand.rauch@economics.ox.ac.uk

Professor Gabriel Ulyssea

University of Oxford

gulyssea@gmail.com

Professor Douglas Gollin

University College London

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*

Opportunity is unevenly distributed across space. Connecting lagging locations is a natural and commonly cited policy response aimed at equalizing opportunity. This paper studies the impact changes in connectivity, through road building, have on the geographical distribution of local educational opportunity in Benin, Cameroon, and Mali. I develop a theory-informed, market access based, sufficient statistic result which overcomes identification issues such as spillover effects, essential heterogeneity or general equilibrium concerns, and a novel not-on-least-cost-path instrumental variables strategy. I find that changing connectivity does alter the spatial distribution of local educational opportunity. However, these effects are complex and heterogeneous, estimating the structural spatial model using the sufficient statistic result, I show that road building since 1970 increased the causal effect on primary education of growing up in the most affected locations by 7.4pp. more than the least affected. Using

this framework, I estimate the future impact of upgrading each possible road and show that when connecting two locations first-order effects can be predicted by the 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](mailto:martin.weidner@economics.ox.ac.uk)

Graduate Administrator:

Julie Minns

[julie.minns@economics.ox.ac.uk](mailto:julie.minns@economics.ox.ac.uk)