

MELCHIOR CLERC

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Current position

CERDI, Clermont-Auvergne University

2022 –

PhD: Migration and household composition in developing countries

Pr. Simone Bertoli and Dr. Èric Roca Fernández

Research interests

Development Economics, Migration and Family Economics, Cultural Economics.

Education

CERDI, Clermont-Auvergne University

2018 – 2021

Magistère in Development Economics

Clermont-Ferrand

Fundação Getulio Vargas

January 2020 – June 2020

Second semester of the first year of Master's degree

Rio de Janeiro

Turgot High School

2016 – 2018

Classe préparatoire aux Grandes Ecoles ENS Cachan D2

Paris

Université Paris I Panthéon Sorbonne

2016 – 2018

B.Sc. in Economics

Paris

Publications

Understanding cultural persistence and change: A replication of Giuliano and Nunn (2024), with Simone Bertoli, Jordan Loper and Èric Roca Fernández, *Economic Inquiry*

<https://doi.org/10.1111/ecin.13242>

A Replication of Macchi: “Worth Your Weight: Experimental Evidence on the Benefits of Obesity in Low-Income Countries” (2023), with Adrien Gosselin-Pali and Eliot Wendling, *I4R Discussion Paper Series*

<https://ideas.repec.org/p/zbw/i4rdps/145.html>

Working Papers

Migration and the epidemiological approach: time and self-selection into foreign ancestries matter (2024), with Simone Bertoli, Jordan Loper, Èric Roca Fernández, *Revise & Resubmit in Journal of Development Economics*

Data on individuals of immigrant origin are used in the epidemiological approach in comparative development for understanding cultural persistence, the determinants of cultural norms, and the effects of genetic traits. A widespread presumption is that this approach is exposed to attenuation bias. We describe how the increasing reliance on a foreign ancestry to identify respondents' origin can invalidate this presumption. Self-selection into reporting a foreign ancestry and unobserved heterogeneity in the time elapsed since ancestral migration can induce an overestimation of the effect of interest. A simple theoretical framework describes the joint influence of these two factors on the estimates obtained from a canonical specification. We provide illustrative examples of the empirical relevance of our concerns drawing on two influential papers in the literature, namely Fernández and Fogli (2006) and Giuliano and Nunn (2021).

Work in progress

Harmful sexual practices and girls' mobility in Sub-Saharan Africa [Job Market Paper]

Externalization of Migration policies and the 2015 Europe Refugee crisis, with Alice Mesnard

Non-academic publications

Renforcer le soutien en faveur de l'Afrique pour répondre à la crise (2021), with Luc Jacolin, Thibault Lemaire and Nathan Viltard, *FERDI Policy Brief*

<https://ideas.repec.org/p/hal/journal/hal-03324533.html>

Talks

2024

4th International Conference on Development Economics, July 2-3, ICDE, Aix-en-Provence, France
3rd international workshop on migration and family economics, June 17-18, IESEG, Paris, France
Scientific day of the PhD school, June 13, IADT, Clermont-Ferrand, France
8th International Conference "Understanding Voluntary and Forced Migration", May 23-24, LEM, Lille, France
"Migration and Mobility" workshop, February 16, CERDI, Clermont-Ferrand, France

2023

PhD Seminar, Septembre 28, CERDI, Clermont-Ferrand, France
Scientific day of CIR 4 project, 16-17 November, ISIMA, Clermont-Ferrand, France

Technical skills

Software: Comfortable working with Stata, Q-GIS, L^AT_EX. Have dabbled with R, HTML and CSS.

Languages: English (proficient), French (mother tongue), German (notions), Portuguese (notions).

Teaching experience and services

TA - Impact analysis, 2nd year M.Sc. **2022 –**

TA - Development Economics Seminar, 2nd year M.Sc. **2024 –**

Really enjoy creating a "comfortable" environment to maximize interactions with (and between) students and stimulate critical thinking.

Member of the organizing team of "The Economics of Migration Junior Seminar" **2022 –**

Member of the scientific committee of the Junior Workshop on the Economics of Migration **2024**

Experience

World Bank **January – April 2024**

Consultant *Remotely*

Conducted two distinct literature reviews on (i) Political & economic shocks and high-skilled migration, and (ii) Climate change & natural disasters and migration from East Asian Pacific.

French Central bank, Africa and Development Division **March 2021 – April 2022**

Development economist *Paris*

Collaborated with department research fellows on research projects and contributed to the 2020 annual department report, with a focus on the African economic environment and the fiscal and monetary policies implemented by the BEAC (Central Africa). Periodically produced notes on various topics as needed (e.g., migration, conflicts, remittances, ODA).

Kateka Association educational center **May – July 2019**

Volunteer *Koh-Thum province, Cambodia*

Spent most of my time giving classes in English on various subjects to students of all ages, from primary school to the end of high school. In parallel, ran a field survey on the village population's water usage.