

BAS SANDERS

bas_sanders@g.harvard.edu

Cell 857-928-8478

SandersBas@github.io



HARVARD UNIVERSITY

Littauer Center
1805 Cambridge St
Cambridge MA 02138

Placement Director: Jeremy Stein
Placement Director: Gabriel Chodorow-Reich
Administrative Director: Brenda Piquet

jeremy_stein@harvard.edu
chodorowreich@fas.harvard.edu
bpiquet@harvard.edu

617-495-3934
617-495-5079
617-495-8927

Education

Harvard University

Ph.D. Economics, 2021 to 2025 (expected)

M.A. Economics, 2024

London School of Economics

M.Sc. Econometrics and Mathematical Economics, Distinction, 2020

University of Groningen

B.Sc. Econometrics and Operations Research, Cum Laude, 2017

Fields

Econometrics
International Trade

References

Professor Isaiah Andrews
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
iandrews@mit.edu

Professor Jesse Shapiro
Harvard University
jesse.m.shapiro@gmail.com

Professor Pol Antràs
Harvard University
pantras@fas.harvard.edu

Professor Anna Mikusheva
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
amikushe@mit.edu

Fellowships & Awards

Harvard Griffin GSAS Dissertation Completion Fellowship, 2025-2026
Best Third Year Research Paper Prize, Harvard University, 2024

Research

Research Assistant, Harvard University, Professors Isaiah Andrews and Jesse Shapiro, 2021-2023
Research Assistant, London School of Economics, Professor Xavier Jaravel, 2020-2021

Job Market Paper

A New Bayesian Bootstrap for Quantitative Trade and Spatial Models

Economists use quantitative trade and spatial models to make counterfactual predictions. Because such predictions often inform policy decisions, it is important to communicate the uncertainty surrounding them. Three key challenges arise in this setting: the data are dyadic and exhibit complex dependence; the number of interacting units is typically small; and counterfactual predictions depend on the data in two distinct ways—through the estimation of structural parameters and through their role as inputs into the model's counterfactual equilibrium. I address these challenges by proposing a new Bayesian bootstrap procedure tailored to this context. The method is simple to implement and provides both finite-sample Bayesian and asymptotic frequentist guarantees. Revisiting the results in Waugh (2010), Caliendo and Parro (2015), and Artuç, Chaudhuri, and McLaren (2010) illustrates the practical advantages of the approach.

Working Papers	Measurement Error and Counterfactuals in Quantitative Trade and Spatial Models R&R at Review of Economics and Statistics
	<p><i>Counterfactuals in quantitative trade and spatial models are functions of the current state of the world and the model parameters. Common practice treats the current state of the world as perfectly observed, but there is good reason to believe that it is measured with error. This paper provides tools for quantifying uncertainty about counterfactuals when the current state of the world is measured with error. I recommend an empirical Bayes approach to uncertainty quantification, and show that it is both practical and theoretically justified. I apply the proposed method to the settings in Adao, Costinot, and Donaldson (2017) and Allen and Arkolakis (2022) and find non-trivial uncertainty about counterfactuals.</i></p>
	Weighing Experimental vs. Observational Evidence: Decision-Relevant Summaries of Treatment Effect Joint with Isaiah Andrews and Raj Chetty
	<p><i>We characterize when and how experimental evidence should be combined with observational information to guide treatment adoption at a new site. We show that the optimal linear predictor for the site-specific treatment effect is a weighted average of the cross-site experimental ATE and the local observational estimate, with weights determined by the covariance matrix of site effects and observational estimands. We provide unbiased estimators for this covariance in settings with both large and small sites, quantify the effect of mismatch between experimental and target sites, and derive easy-to-interpret breakdown points. Empirical illustrations using the Year Up RCT and Project STAR show substantial gains, with up to 40 percent reductions in out-of-sample MSE over naive ATE extrapolation.</i></p>
Seminars & Conferences	<p>2025: North American Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society, University of Amsterdam, Erasmus University Rotterdam, Tilburg University, Free University Amsterdam, Annual Conference of the International Association for Applied Econometrics, Radboud University Nijmegen, CPB Netherlands Bureau for Economic Policy Analysis</p> <p>2024: Urban Economics Association Summer School, (EC)² Conference on Unravelling Misspecification and Identification in Econometrics</p>
Languages	Dutch (native), English (fluent)
Software skills	MATLAB, R, STATA, Python