MARCO STENBORG PETTERSON

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BROWN UNIVERSITY

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Contact Information
64 Waterman St
02912, Providence, RI
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Personal Information
Born February 19, 1991, Male, Italian and Swedish citizen

Undergraduate Studies
BA in International Economics and Finance, Bocconi University (*Summa cum Laude*)   2013

Graduate Studies
MA in Economics, Brown University   2017
MSc in Economics and Social Sciences, Bocconi University (*Summa cum Laude*)   2016

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Thesis Title: "Essays in Applied Econometrics"
Expected Completion Date: May 2022

References
Professor Jesse M. Shapiro   Professor Andriy Norets
Department of Economics   Department of Economics
Brown University   Brown University
jesse_shapiro_1@brown.edu   andriy_norets@brown.edu

Professor Neil Thakral
Department of Economics
Brown University
neil_thakral@brown.edu

Teaching and Research Fields
Primary field: Applied Econometrics

Secondary fields: Industrial Organization and Behavioral Economics

Teaching Experience
Spring 2020	Economics of Mass Media, TA for Professor Jesse M. Shapiro
Summer 2019	Econometrics and Statistics, Pre-college Summer Program
Spring 2019	Economics of Mass Media, TA for Professor Jesse M. Shapiro
Fall 2018	Designing Internet Marketplaces TA for Professor Bobak Pakzad-Hurson
Summer 2018	Behavioral Economics and Game Theory, Pre-college Summer Program
Spring 2018	Designing Internet Marketplaces TA for Professor Bobak Pakzad-Hurson

Fall 2017   Graduate Level Mathematics for Economics, TA for Professor Alex Poterack

Research Experience and Other Employment
2018-2021   Brown University, Research Assistant for Professors Jesse M. Shapiro, Andriy Norets,
                   and Emily Oster
2013-2016   Bocconi University, Research Assistant for Professors Marco Ottaviani and Martin
                   Dufwenberg
Summer 2014   Citigroup, Summer Analyst TMT Team in Investment Banking

Professional Activities
2019,2020,2021   Econometrics Lunch Seminar Presentation, Brown University
2021   Applied Micro Lunch Seminar Presentation, Brown University
2019   NBER-NSF SBIES Conference Poster Session
2018-2019   Organizer Econometrics Lunch Seminar, Brown University

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships
2020   Brown University, Merit Dissertation Fellowship
2020   Brown University, Teaching Award
2019   Brown University, Best Third Year Paper Prize
2018   Brown University, Distinction in Second Year Field Exam
2016-Present   Brown University, PhD Scholarship
2013-2016   Bocconi University, IGIER Visiting Student

Research Papers
"Estimation of a Latent Reference Point: Method and Application to NYC Taxi Drivers" (Job Market Paper)
I use a dynamic discrete choice model with a latent variable to flexibly estimate reference-dependent utility models. The structure and evolution of the reference point is estimated directly from observational data. I apply the model to daily labor-supply choices of NYC taxi drivers and use a Bayesian estimation approach. I tackle two open questions in the literature: how persistent reference points over time are and whether reference points adjust differently to positive and negative shocks. I show that drivers adjust faster to positive income shocks than to negative ones and that the shock to the reference point dissipates within hours. I also investigate the role of changes in expectations in the evolution of the reference point. I furthermore provide identification results for dynamic discrete choice models with persistent unobserved heterogeneity using an identification strategy based on the relationship between observed conditional choice probabilities and the latent state.

"Bounds on a Slope from Size Restrictions on Economic Shocks" *(w/ Jesse M. Shapiro and David Seim)*
We study the problem of learning about the slope of a linear relationship between an outcome (e.g., quantity) and an input (e.g., price) when the outcome is subject to time-varying, unobserved economic shocks. We show that restrictions on the size of the economic shocks are informative for the magnitude of the slope. We argue that such restrictions are reasonable in some economic situations. We illustrate with an application to the demand and supply of food grains.

"Nonparametric Bayesian Conditional Density Models based on Orthogonal Polynomials" *(w/ Andriy Norets)*
The paper considers a nonparametric Bayesian model for conditional densities. The model considered is a mixture of orthogonal polynomials with a prior on the number of components. The use of orthogonal polynomials allows for a great deal of flexibility in applications while maintaining useful approximation properties. We provide the posterior contraction rate in the case of Legendre polynomials. The algorithm proposed allows for cross-dimensional moves, allowing it to choose the optimal number of terms in the series expansion conditional on a penalty parameter. We also provide Monte Carlo simulations that show how well the model approximates known distributions also in finite sample situations.