Alba Miñano-Mañero

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Research Interests

Urban and Spatial Economics, International Trade, Applied Microeconomics

Education

Ph.D. in Economics (Cum Laude)   *2019 – 2023*
CEMFI (Madrid)
Advisor: Diego Puga

M.Sc. in Economics and Finance   *2017 – 2019*
CEMFI (Madrid)

B.Sc. in Economics – Mention in Economic Analysis   *2013 – 2017*
Universitat de València (València)

References

Diego Puga	Elisabet Viladecans-Marsal	Dani Arribas-Bel
CEMFI	Universitat de Barcelona, IEB	University of Liverpool, Alan Turing Institute
diego.puga@cemfi.es	eviladecans@ub.edu	d.arribas-bel@liverpool.ac.uk

Placement coordinators:

Nezih Guner	Tom Zohar
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Research

Job Market Paper

When are D-graded neighborhoods not degraded? Greening the legacy of redlining.

> This paper explores how geography shapes the legacy of redlining, the systemic mortgage lending bias against minority US neighborhoods. On average, redlined neighborhoods lag behind adjacent less-discriminated areas in home values, income, and racial composition. Yet, redlined neighborhoods near parks and water fare better. To help understand convergence, we inventory waterfront renovations, apply machine learning to historical imagery to track tree canopy changes, and instrument such changes exploiting tree replacements due to geographic variation in tree plagues and susceptible species. Findings suggest that enhancing waterfronts and increasing tree canopy can mitigate the long-lasting effects of institutionalized discrimination.

Working papers

City buzz: Face-to-Face interaction and the urban environment, **with Dani Arribas-Bel, Souneil Park and Diego Puga.**

> We measure face-to-face interactions as the coincidence in space and time of two cellphone users who have previously called each other or who start doing so after the event. We characterize the quantity, quality (network centrality of contacts met), and variety (probability that two interactions are with different contacts) of face-to-face interactions for every individual. We also characterize interactions defined by the different degrees of strength in the call network and differentiate among

strong and weak ties. We show how the individual's experienced density and other features of the urban environment affects these measures of interactions.

Trees of green: constructing panels of tree canopy with aerial imagery.

This paper develops a fully-automated workflow for constructing panels of tree canopy from high-resolution multispectral imagery with limited near-infrared (NIR) training data. The workflow utilizes the tree-pixel detection algorithm developed by Yang et al. (2009) and Bosch (2020) on a large set of U.S. urban areas but modifies it by creating automatic ground-truth masks through various visual graphics techniques that leverage modern high-resolution NIR data. Using a subset of cities that represent the different U.S. climate regions, I quantify the effectiveness of the workflow by implementing the algorithm. The comparison shows that my workflow is the option that leads to better results in terms of accuracy, recall, and precision.

Work in progress
The *Park Movement* and the urban mortality transition.

Pre-graduate:
Unemployment, spell duration and the burden of unemployment in Spain during the XXI Century, **with Francisco Goerlich** (2018). *Working Papers Serie EC* 2018-02, Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Económicas.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Lecturer:
Geographic Data Science for Applied Economist, CEMFI, Madrid   *Fall 2019, Fall 2020*
  Self-contained short course on Spatial data Science taken by all graduate students in the Urban Economics course taught by Elisabet Viladecans-Marsal (2019) and Diego Puga (2020).

Teaching Assistant:
International Economics (graduate), CEMFI, Madrid   *January–March 2020*
  Taught by Paula Bustos.

Introductory Mathematics (graduate), CEMFI, Madrid   *September 2019*
  Taught by Pedro Mira.

Grader:
Introductory Statistics (graduate), CEMFI, Madrid   *September 2020*
  Taught by Pedro Mira.

Introductory Mathematics (graduate), CEMFI, Madrid   *September 2020*
  Taught by Joan de Martí.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant:
Diego Puga	*September 2020–September 2023*
Paula Bustos	*September 2019 – September 2020*
Joan Monras	*August 2018 – September 2018*
Undergraduate Summer Internship (CEMFI)	*June 2016 – July 2016*

Other
Summer Intern (Compass Lexecon, Madrid)   *July 2016 - September 2016*

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2023 (including scheduled *):
LSE Economic Geography (London), Universitat de València (València); IEB (Barcelona)

Conference presentations

2023:

EWMES (University of Manchester)*

2022:

SAEe (València); North American Meetings of the UEA (Washington, D.C.); UEA Summer School (Barcelona)

2019:

X Jornadas de Posgrado – UIMP Summer School (Santander)

Awards and scholarships

Graduate:

SAEe PhD student grant, Fundación Ramón Areces and Spanish Economic Association, 2022
FPI Grant, Ministry of Economy and Competitiveness (Spain), September 2020–September 2023
Best Third Year Paper, CEMFI, September 2020
PhD Scholarship, CEMFI, September 2019 – September 2020
María de Maeztu PhD track Fellowship, CEMFI, September 2018 – August 2019
PhD track full scholarship, CEMFI, September 2017 – June 2018

Pre-graduate:

Award to Academic Excellence, Generalitat Valenciana, 2018
Award to Financial Excellence, Universitat de València and ASSET , 2018
Award to Best Academic Performance, Universitat de València and COEV, 2018
Award to Extraordinary Performance, Universitat de València, 2018
Research Collaboration Scholarship (tutor: Francisco Goerlich), Ministry of Education, Culture and Sport (Spain), 2016–2017
VII Contest on taxation (team awarded third prize), APAFCV and Universitat de València, 2016
Award to Extraordinary Secondary Education Performance (First position), Generalitat Valenciana, 2013

Programming Skills

Geographic Data Science (Python, R, ArcGIS, QGIS), Stata, Matlab, Latex.

Languages

Spanish (Native), Catalan (Fluent), English (Fluent), Italian (Fluent), French (Intermediate).

Other

"To apply or not to apply? (Focus on the apply part)" – mentoring sessions about graduate studies in Economics for CEMFI Undergraduate Summer Interns, 2021, 2022, 2023

Zoom moderator in CURE (hybrid), CEMFI, 2021

Ph.D. Student Representative, CEMFI Ph.D. Quality Committee, September 2019 – December 2021

M.Sc. Student Representative, CEMFI M.Sc. Quality Committee, January 2018 – July 2019

Updated October, 2023