

Andre Mouton

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Education

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, Carnegie Mellon University, 2022 (expected)
Dissertation: “*Structural effects of technical change on labor markets*”
Committee: Ali Shourideh, Laurence Ales, Brian Kovak, Rebecca Lessem
Program minor: financial economics

B.A. in Economics, CUNY Baruch College, 2016
Summa cum laude, excellence award (*mathematics, economics*)
Thesis: “*Technical analysis under Knightian uncertainty*”

Fields

Macroeconomics (*main*)
Labor economics, industrial organization (*secondary*)

Teaching experience

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| Instructor | 2020 | Principles of Microeconomics, CMU |
| Recitation leader | 2021, 2018-19 2020 | Principles of Macroeconomics, CMU Principles of Microeconomics, CMU |
| Head TA | 2020-21 2020-21 | Global Economics (MBA), CMU Future of Work (MBA), CMU |
| Teaching assistant | 2019 2019 2017 | Principles of Microeconomics, CMU Economics and Data Science, CMU Macroeconomics 1 (PhD), CMU |
| Continuing ed. | 2021 | Future Faculty Program, Eberly Center for Teaching Excellence & Educational Innovation |

Employment

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| 2014-2016 | Research assistant for Sean Crockett, CUNY Baruch |
| 2015-2016 | Research assistant for Sebastiano Manzan, CUNY Baruch |
| 2019 | Research assistant for Laurence Ales, CMU |
| 2019 | Content developer, Inclusive Growth and Prosperity Initiative, CMU |

Honors, fellowships, and awards

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| 2016 | William Larimer Mellon Fellowship, CMU |
| 2016 | Arnold Picker excellence award for mathematics, CUNY Baruch |
| 2016 | Excellence award for economics, CUNY Baruch |

Professional activities

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| Presentations | 2021 | ECINEQ |
| | 2018 | CMU Macro-Finance Seminar |
| | 2016-2021 | CMU Macro Workshop |
| Refereeing | Macroeconomic Dynamics | |

References

Professor Ali Shourideh (*chair*)
Carnegie Mellon University
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Professor Laurence Ales
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Professor Brian Kovak
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Professor Rebecca Lessem
Carnegie Mellon University
rlessem@andrew.cmu.edu

Miscellaneous

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| Languages | English (<i>native</i>), French (<i>proficient</i>), Spanish (<i>basic</i>) |
| Data/programming | R, Python, Stata |
| Citizenship | United States |

Research papers

“Skill demand, firm heterogeneity, and wage inequality” (**Job market paper**)

Abstract. I study how the aggregate relationship between wage inequality and skilled labor demand is intermediated by two aspects of firm heterogeneity: firms vary in their demand for skilled labor, and in the wages they pay to their workers. Past research suggests that wage inequality has risen due to (1) widening firm-wage premia and (2) sorting of skilled workers into high-paying firms. Using matched West German data for 1993-2017, I show that two measures of skill demand - industry and occupation - can account for much of the first channel and all of the second. I quantify the interactions between demand and firm premia by non-parametrically estimating an equilibrium model combining occupational assignment, industry-specific occupational demand, and firm wage-setting due to search frictions. I estimate that in West Germany, differences in firm pay amplified by one-third to one-half the effect of rising skill demand on wage variance. This interaction is especially important for understanding the role of changing industry demand, which contributed to wage dispersion solely due to differences in industry average firm pay. Finally, I estimate the model for East Germany, where wage variance has increased at slower rate, and find that one-half of this gap can be explained by different firm-wage premia associated with East German industries. ([Link to pdf](#))

“Task automation and job polarization”

Abstract. I study the short-term and long-run effects of task automation when jobs consist of multiple tasks. Leveraging German survey data I show that task variety is ubiquitous in labor markets, and that computerization over the 1979-2018 period is associated with intra-occupational shifts away from lower-skill and routine task content. I explore the implications of task automation in a model that combines occupational assignment with a time allocation problem where workers must perform multiple tasks. The model predicts a reverse pattern of automation: low-skill tasks are automated first in high-skill occupations, where labor costs are higher. In the short-term this creates wage and employment polarization. In the long-run, low-skill automation has ambiguous implications for wage inequality and employment, with outcomes for low-skill workers generally improving as the costs of automation decrease. I test the model’s short-run predictions against the historical time paths of computerization and occupational employment, and estimate a structural version of the model to obtain long-run predictions for German labor outcomes.