Arseniy Braslavskiy

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EDUCATION

University of Maryland (UMD)

Ph.D. in Economics expected 2026

M.A. in Economics (GPA: 3.95/4) 2022

New Economic School & Higher School of Economics (NES & HSE)

Semester Abroad: **University of Groningen**

B.A. in Economics (GPA: 8.5/10) 2020

WORKING PAPERS

Beyond the Flypaper Effect: Crowding-In from Federal Investment in Public Transit
Job Market Paper

I study how targeted federal grants affect state and local transit spending. My analysis uses comprehensive U.S. expenditure data from 2000–2019 and a plausibly exogenous shock from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). ARRA funds were apportioned to Urbanized Areas using pre-existing formula programs, with amounts independent of potential changes in transit investment. Using ARRA apportionments as an instrument, I find that each additional $1 of federal grants generates a $0.21 annual increase in capital transit spending from all sources. This average reflects two distinct phases of the dynamics between 2009 and 2019: an initial rise in federally funded expenditures with no displacement of state or local spending (the flypaper effect), followed by substantial crowding-in of state investments. I find that the additional funds were directed mainly toward upgrading existing buses rather than expanding systems. Consistent with this pattern, Urbanized Areas receiving more federal grants did not experience an increase in transit provision, while ridership rose only marginally. I propose a novel mechanism for the crowding-in of state investment: federal grants empowered local transit agencies, strengthening their ability to negotiate additional state funding. This interpretation is consistent with the crowding-in being confined to state sources and present in spending without economies of scale. Variation in crowding-in strength across states with different institutional characteristics provides further support for this mechanism

In the Weeds of Traffic Fatalities: Revisiting the Effect of Medical Marijuana Laws
Reject and Resubmit at the Journal of Law and Economics

This study re-examines the finding by Anderson, Hansen, and Rees (2013) that medical marijuana laws *decrease* traffic fatality rates by 10.4%. I demonstrate that legalizing states were already experiencing declining fatalities prior to legalization, even after controlling for state-specific linear trends in a Two-Way Fixed Effects model. To address these pre-trends, I apply the Imputation Procedure (IP) by Borusyak, Jaravel, and Spiess (2024), which estimates state-specific trends using only not-yet-treated observations. Depending on the inclusion of potentially confounding covariates, my IP estimates suggest either a 12% *increase* or a zero effect on fatalities. I also show that the average state effect differs substantially from the average individual effect, indicating large heterogeneity across states. Much of the original negative result is driven by California, which accounts for over half of the population-weighted estimate. This state consistently exhibits one of the largest estimated negative effects and one of the steepest negative pre-trends.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Where the Road Leads: Can Infrastructure Investment Drive Technology Adoption?
With R. Benjamin Rodriguez

Feudalism and Democracy: Evidence from Weimar Germany
With Kartikeya Batra, Ethan Kaplan & Weizheng Lai

TEACHING

Instructor:

ECON325 Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis, UMD	Summer 2022

Teaching Assistant:

ECON456 Law and Economics, UMD	Fall 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2024, Spring 2025
ECON326 Intermediate Microeconomic Analysis, UMD	Fall 2024
ECON325 Intermediate Macroeconomic Analysis, UMD	Spring 2022, Spring 2023
Discrete Mathematics, HSE	Fall 2017, Spring 2018

Middle School Elective Teacher:

Economics, Mathematics, and Computer Science	2016 - 2017

GRANTS & AWARDS

Fellowships:

Interdisciplinary Transportation Doctoral Fellowship ($36,000) — 2025-2026
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

Faculty-Student Research Award ($10,000) — 2023
(With Kartikeya Batra, Ethan Kaplan & Weizheng Lai)
Graduate School, UMD

Summer Research Fellowship ($5,000) — 2023
Graduate School, UMD

First-Year Summer Research Fellowship ($2,000) — 2021
Department of Economics, UMD

Prizes:

Graduate Research Competition Winner — 2025
Pennsylvania Economic Association

Three Minute Thesis: College-Level Winner — 2025
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMD

Visiting Day Poster Competition: First Prize — 2025
Department of Economics, UMD

Travel Grants:

Dean's Research Initiative Travel Grant — 2025
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, UMD

Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant — 2024
Graduate School, UMD

International Conference Student Support Award — 2024
Graduate School, UMD

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2025: SEA Annual Meeting, Tampa, FL (scheduled); APPAM Fall Research Conference, Seattle, WA (scheduled); Markets & Society Conference, Falls Church, VA (scheduled); UEA North American Meeting, Université du Québec à Montréal (scheduled); PEA Annual Conference, Penn State Berks; Urban Economics Day, GWU; SGE Annual Conference, AU; Climate Change: Impacts & Responses, Online; AEA Annual Meeting, San Francisco, CA (poster, video interview).

2024: Warsaw International Economic Meeting, University of Warsaw.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Graduate Student Senator, University Senate, UMD *(elected)*	2025-2026
Poster Evaluator, McNair Scholars Research Conference, UMD	2025
Representative, Provost's Graduate Student Advisory Council, UMD	2024-2025
"Externalities" Soccer Team Captain, Department of Economics, UMD	2024
Member, Economics Graduate Student Association, Department of Economics, UMD	2021-2022

OTHER EXPERIENCE & SKILLS

Research Assistantships:

Prof. Allan Drazen, UMD	Fall 2022
Prof. Luminita Stevens, UMD	Summer 2021
Prof. Chenyu Yang, UMD	Summer 2021
Prof. Cemal Eren Arbatli, HSE *Agro-climatic Origins of Value Diversity*	2019-2020
Prof. Victoria Dobrynskaya, HSE *LEGO - The Toy of Smart Investors* *Does Momentum Trading Generate Extra Downside Risk?*	2019

Other Positions:

Graduate Computing Assistant, UMD	Fall 2021, Spring 2021
Intern, McKinsey & Company, Moscow	2019

Computer Skills: Python, Stata, ArcGIS & QGIS, MATLAB, R

Languages: Russian – Native; English – Fluent; German, Czech – Beginner

REFERENCES

Prof. Melissa Kearney
University of Notre Dame
mkearne9@nd.edu
574-631-6393

Prof. Maureen Cropper
University of Maryland
mcropper@umd.edu
301-405-3483

Prof. Ethan Kaplan
University of Maryland
edkaplan@umd.edu
301-405-3501