

Arlan Brucal

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Current Position

Research Officer (Postdoctoral Research Position)
The London School of Economics and Political Science
Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change and the Environment
January 2017 - present

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, August 2016 (expected)
Dissertation Title: Essays on Energy and Environmental Economics
Chair: Prof. Michael Roberts
Committees: Profs. Baybars Karacaovali, Inessa Love, Nori Tarui, Jeffrey Traczynski
M.A. in Economics, University of the Philippines, October 2006
B.S. in Economics, University of the Philippines, April 2002

Research Interest

Environmental Economics, Energy Economics, Applied Econometrics

Working Paper

Do Standards Hurt Consumers? Evidence from a Near Population of Household Appliance Sales
(with Michael Roberts)

Abstract: Since 1987, the Department of Energy periodically raised the threshold for the minimum energy efficiency standard for major appliances sold in the US market. To evaluate the impact of the policy, we develop a constant-quality price index using same-model price changes of clothes washer models sold in the US between 2001 and 2011. We use this index to disentangle overall price and quality changes, and then examine how each changed as energy efficiency standards become progressively more stringent. Holding quality constant, we find no indication that the rise in energy efficiency standards thresholds increased price. Instead, we find indication that price declined and quality improvements accelerated around times when more stringent energy efficiency standards are implemented. (*under review*)

Work in Progress

Do FDIs Harm the Environment? Evidence from the Indonesian Manufacturing Industry
(with Beata Javorcik and Inessa Love)

This paper analyzes the relationship between foreign acquisition and various aspects of plant-level environmental performance. The results suggest that foreign ownership has a positive influence on the environmental performance of acquired plants, as proxied by energy intensity and pollution intensity of their production process. (*under review*)

Not All States Are Alike: The Effect of Oil Price Shocks on State-Level Economies in the US
(with Michael Roberts)

This paper analyzes the economic influence of oil price shocks at the individual state level in the US, accounting for the endogeneity of the changes in crude oil price, differences amongst states, and spillover effects from neighboring states. Results suggest that while differences in oil-resource dependencies matter, cross-sectional interdependence significantly contributes in determining how a state ultimately responds to underlying oil price shocks.

Aligning Utility's Incentives to State Agenda: The Case of Revenue Decoupling in the US
(with Nori Tarui)

This paper examines the economic impact of implementing Revenue Decoupling (RD)—a policy that disentangles utility's profits from sales of electricity and implemented to eliminate utility's disincentives to support energy conservation programs. Apart from increasing power rates and utility's profits, we find that RD also causes unintended distributional consequences.

Previous Professional Experience

University of Hawaii at Manoa

HONOLULU (HI), USA

Postdoctoral Researcher

Aug '15 – Jan '17

UHERO is an economic research organization at the University of Hawaii. I work with senior faculty members of the Department of Economics in (i) conducting research on energy efficiency standards and (ii) pricing adaption to climate change (e.g. sea level-rise), and (iii) administering workshops on energy and environmental research.

Graduate Research Assistant

Apr '14 – Jul '15

With research grant from the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, I assist in conducting research on energy efficiency standards, behavioral anomalies in energy consumption and energy markets in the US.

Graduate Research Assistant

Feb '13 – Apr '14

REIS Center is a collaboration of eight colleges at the University of Hawaii working on research and education problems in renewable energy and island sustainability. I assisted in conducting research on the distributional impact of energy policies in the US.

Nathan Associates, Inc.

ARLINGTON (VA), USA

Asst. M&E Specialist/Project Coordinator

Oct '07 – Sep '11

NAI is an economic consulting group working on international development projects. I performed project coordination and monitoring and evaluation in several USAID-supported projects in the Philippines. Technical assistance activities include the ASEAN Single Window, Philippine Accession to the Revised Kyoto Convention, Support to Philippines' participation to the WTO Negotiations, etc.

Several Research Project (Part-time)

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Research Assistant (Several Projects)

Sep '07 – Sep '10

I provided research assistance to Prof. Ramon L. Clarete, Ph.D. in conducting economic researches commissioned by several agencies, including the Australian Embassy to the Philippines and the Asian Development Bank (ADB). Research projects include international trade in ASEAN++, Road Infrastructure and FDI, and ASEAN Single Window.

Asian Development Bank

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Staff Consultant

Jan '07 – Oct '07

I provided consultancy services to ADB's Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation (CAREC) Customs Cooperation Program. Activities include project coordination, information dissemination, and participation to missions.

Philippine Exporters' Confederation, Inc.

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Technical Assistant

Aug '05 – Jan '07

I provided technical assistance to the Deputy Chief of Party of the USAID-supported Philippine Access to Competitiveness and Trade (PACT) Project. Activities include project coordination, M&E, and preparation of written inputs including position/issues paper.

IDEA Inc.

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Senior Research Associate/Editor

Jun '05 – Dec '05

The Institute for Development and Econometric Analysis (IDEA), Inc. is a non-stock non-profit organization based at the University of the Philippines School of Economics dedicated to high quality research, instruction and communication. I performed, reviewed and edited industry analyses and company ratings.

Department of Agriculture - Philippines

MANILA, PHILIPPINES

Project Development and Implementation Officer

Aug '02 – Sep '04

I was part of the research team tasked to perform nationwide assessment of the GMA Rice Program. I also provided technical assistance to the GMA Rice Program Director.

Awards

College of Social Science Travel Grant, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2015
Graduate Student Organization Travel Grant, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2015
Burnham Campbell Scholarship, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2015
Seiji Naya Best Third Year Paper, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2015
REIS Research Fellowship, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2013-2014
Graduate Degree Fellowship, <i>East-West Center</i>	2012-2014
Eddie and Elaine Flores Endowed Scholarship, <i>East-West Center</i>	2012
Education USA Opportunity Grant, <i>Phil.-American Educational Foundation</i>	2011
School of Economics Fellowship, <i>University of the Philippines</i>	2004-2006

Invited Seminars and Presentations

2016	Philippine Institute for Development Studies, University of the Philippines, Energy Policy and Development Program Conference
2015	Association of Agricultural and Applied Economist Annual Meeting, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists Summer Conference, East-West Center International Graduate Student Conference, Western Economic Association International Annual Meeting
2014	Workshop on Energy Efficiency Standards, University of California, Berkeley

Refereeing Experience

Journal of Environmental Economics and Management

Teaching Experience

Instructor (summer), undergraduate-level economics and statistics, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2012-2015
Teaching Assistant, undergraduate economics <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2011-2013
Assistant Professorial Lecturer, undergraduate economics, <i>De La Salle University, Philippines</i>	2009
Teaching Fellow, undergraduate economics, <i>School of Economics, University of the Philippines</i>	2005-2007

Other Trainings

- Graduate Certificate in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance, 2015
- Philippine Global Trade E-Learning Project (PGTEP) Certificate, 2006

Skills

Technical specialties: Proficiency in STATA, typography (\LaTeX), and MS Office Packages; Basic knowledge of R and ArcGIS.

Languages: Filipino (*mother tongue*), English (*full professional proficiency*).

Professional Affiliations

American Economic Association, Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Association of Agricultural and Applied Economists, Western Economic Association International

References

Available upon request.