

Arlan Brucal

abrucal@hawaii.edu • azibrucal@gmail.com • +1 (808) 393-8664

Permanent: Block 14 Lot 36 Westbay Homes, Daan-Bukid, Bacoar, Cavite, Philippines 4102

Current: 742 Lukepane Avenue, Honolulu, HI, USA 96816

Current Position

Postdoctoral Research Fellow

University of Hawai'i Economic Research Organization (UHERO)

August 2016 - 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.

Work in Progress

Do FDI's 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.

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.

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), Economics and Statistics, <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2012-2015
Teaching Assistant, Economics <i>University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>	2011-2013
Assistant Professorial Lecturer, Economics, <i>De La Salle University, Philippines</i>	2009
Teaching Fellow, 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.