FLAVIO HAFNER

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UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

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Personal Information
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Undergraduate Studies

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, University of St. Gallen (Switzerland), 2013

Graduate Studies

PhD Candidate in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, 2015 to present

<u>Thesis Title</u>: "Essays in Labor Economics" <u>Expected Completion Date</u>: July 2020

M.Res in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, 2015

M.Sc in Economics, Barcelona GSE, Barcelona, Spain, 2014

References:

Professor Ruben Enikolopov
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Teaching and Research Fields

Primary field: Labor Economics

Secondary fields: Urban Economics, Applied Microeconomics

Teaching Experience

Fall, 2016	Research Methods (PhD), TA for Prof. Hogarth
	Human Resources I, TA for Prof. Barrenechea (in Spanish)
Fall, 2015	Research Methods (PhD), TA for Prof. Hogarth
	Introduction to Microeconomics, TA for Prof. León (in Spanish)
	Data Analysis, TA for Prof. García-Fontes (in Spanish)
Winter, 2015	Introduction to Game Theory, TA for Prof. Calsamiglia
	Microeconomics II (Graduate), TA for Prof. de Martí
Fall, 2014	Data Analysis, UPF, TA for Prof. García-Fontes (in Spanish)
	Introduction to Microeconomics, TA for Prof. León (in Spanish)

Research Experience and Other Employment

2017	Visiting PhD student, University College London, London, UK
2013	Citi Private Bank, Geneva, Summer Analyst
2012	UBS, Zurich, Intern in Economic Research

Professional Activities

Con	ferences
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2019	GEP/CEPR Postgraduate Conference Nottingham, Munich Young Economists
	Meeting, European Association of Labor Economists (EALE)
2018	Mannheim Conference on Migration, Asian and Australasian Society of Labour
	Economics

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2019	Best Paper Prize "Labor Supply Shocks and the Organization and Performance of	
	Firms", GEP/CEPR Postgraduate Conference, University of Nottingham	
2018-2020	Predoc Fellowship, Spanish Ministry of Education	
2017	DocMobility Fellowship, Swiss National Science Foundation	
2014-2016	UPF Teaching Assistant Scholarship	

Languages

Human	German (native), English, French, Spanish
Computer	R, Python, Stata, Bash

Research Papers

"Labor Market Competition, Wages and Worker Mobility" (Job Market Paper)

When workers are unable or unwilling to move to better-paying employers, monopsony power may depress wages and employment. With a quasi-experiment I study how improving worker mobility affects the labor market. In 1998 French border-commuters gained access to the Swiss labor market where nominal wages were twice as high. I use a difference-in-differences design to study the effect of the market integration on French border labor markets. I find an overall increase in wages and employment. The effects are asymmetric across skill groups. New commuters are highly skilled, but wages of remaining high-skill workers do not change. The wage and employment gains stem from low-skill workers. The reason is that the labor market integration raised workers' outside options and made their supply to French firms more elastic. First, the wage gains are stronger for workers with a less elastic labor supply to individual firms. Second, wages rise more quickly at more productive firms. Third, employment expands in the tradable sector where firms have less price-setting power in the

product market. The evidence is consistent with models where larger labor markets are more competitive. Removing barriers to labor mobility may thus increase both wages and employment through lower monopsony power.

Research in Progress

"Labor Supply Shocks and the Organization and Performance of Firms"

I study how worker replacement frictions affect firms in the long-run. French and Swiss labor markets along the border were integrated in 1998. Attracted by higher wages, primarily highly educated workers accepted new jobs in Switzerland. Using distance from Switzerland as an instrument for the outflow of workers, I find that incumbent plants reduce their scale of operation in response to the supply shock: both employment and value-added shrink after the labor market integration. Firms reduce their demand for low-skill workers and hire fewer of them while not separating more from them. The effects are concentrated among plants that rely heavily on occupation-specific knowledge. Further evidence suggests that these firms also hire more experienced workers which is consistent with a reduction in the span of control of the remaining higher-skilled employees.