FRANCESCO RUGGIERI

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Office Contact Information

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Education

University of Chicago, Postdoctoral Scholar (prior to the academic job market)   *2024-present*

University of Chicago, Ph.D. Economics   *2024*

London School of Economics and Political Science, M.Sc. Economics   *2016*

Università Bocconi, B.Sc. Economics and Social Sciences   *2015*

References

Professor Michael Greenstone
University of Chicago
Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics
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Professor Magne Mogstad
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Professor Alexander Torgovitsky
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Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics
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Professor Eric Zwick
University of Chicago
Booth School of Business
ezwick@chicagobooth.edu

Research and Teaching Fields

Primary:	Public Finance, Urban Economics
Secondary:	Applied Microeconometrics, Labor Economics

Working Papers

A Spatial Theory of Overlapping Local Governments

Abstract: *Local governments in the United States are vertically differentiated. A typical location is served by multiple overlapping jurisdictions that share property tax base and specialize in the provision of one or more local public goods. This paper evaluates the implications of such vertical differentiation for the equilibrium levels of government spending, property tax rates, and household welfare. I propose a spatial theory of overlapping jurisdictions in which residents collectively determine the local mix of expenditures and taxes. Because fiscal policy capitalizes into housing prices and all jurisdictions draw revenue from housing, the cost of raising expenditures in a location is implicitly shared with other coexisting jurisdictions. In equilibrium, this induces higher levels of government spending, higher property tax rates, and lower household welfare compared to scenarios in which jurisdictions are vertically coterminous or only horizontally differentiated.*

Dynamic Regression Discontinuity: A Within-Design Approach

Abstract: *I propose a novel argument to point identify economically interpretable intertemporal treatment effects in dynamic regression discontinuity designs (RDDs). Specifically, I develop a dynamic potential outcomes model and specialize two assumptions of the difference-in-differences literature, the no anticipation and common trends restrictions, to point identify cutoff-specific impulse responses. The estimand associated with each target parameter can be expressed as the sum of two static RDD outcome contrasts, thereby allowing for estimation via standard local polynomial tools. I leverage a limited path independence assumption to reduce the dimensionality of the problem.*

The Geography of the U.S. Property Tax

Abstract: *I construct a novel, granular georeferenced dataset on the universe of local governments in the United States and their property tax rates from the early 2000s to 2022. Using this dataset, I present new descriptive insights on the geography of the property tax. First, property tax rates exhibit substantial variation within states, surpassing that of any other local tax. Second, rates are higher in locations where a greater number of jurisdictions overlap and thus share tax base. Third, rates are higher in areas with larger dispersion in property values and greater racial and ethnic heterogeneity. Fourth, new local taxing jurisdictions are more likely to be formed in locations where the distribution of income is more even and dispersion in housing values is lower.*

Awards, Scholarships, and Grants

Metcalf Summer Internship Program Grant ($6,320), Becker Friedman Institute for Economics	*2024*
C.V. Starr Scholarship, University of Chicago Department of Economics	*2023–2024*
Wayne C. Booth Graduate Student Prize for Excellence in Teaching, University of Chicago	*2023*
C. Lowell Harriss Dissertation Fellowship, Lincoln Institute of Land Policy	*2023*
Metcalf Summer Internship Program Grant ($20,000), Becker Friedman Institute for Economics	*2023*
Progress of Ideas Grant ($7,500), Robert Schalkenbach Foundation	*2023*
Data Acquisition Grant ($3,000), University of Chicago Department of Economics	*2022*
Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award, University of Chicago Department of Economics	*2021*
Neubauer Fellowship, University of Chicago	*2018–2023*
Social Sciences Division Fellowship, University of Chicago	*2018–2023*
Teaching Award for Excellent Feedback and Communication, London School of Economics	*2016*

Teaching Experience

University of Chicago

Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	Lecturer	*Winter 2022*
Econometrics (undergraduate)	Lecturer	*Spring 2021*
Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Torgovitsky	*Winter 2021*
Applied Microeconometrics (graduate)	TA for Prof. Torgovitsky	*Autumn 2020*
Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Hull	*Spring 2020*
Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Torgovitsky	*Winter 2020*
Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Dr. Roark	*Autumn 2019*

London School of Economics and Political Science

Microeconomic Principles (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Eyster	*Lent 2016*

Research Experience

Research Assistant for Prof. Greenstone, University of Chicago	*2019–2021*
Research Assistant for Prof. Zwick, University of Chicago	*2019–2020*
Research Professional, Princeton University Department of Economics	*2018*
Research Professional, University of Chicago Booth School of Business	*2016–2018*

Professional Service

University of Chicago, Department of Economics

Organizer of the Chicago Causal Inference Student Conference	*2024*
Co-organizer of the Student Applied Microeconomics Lunch	*2021–2023*
Organizer of the Difference-in-Differences Reading Group	*2022*
Cohort representative in the Graduate Student Liaison	*2020–2021*
Co-organizer of the Empirics and Methods in Economics Conference (EMCON)	*2020*
Organizer of the Structural Econometrics Reading Group	*2020*

Refereeing Activity

American Economic Review, European Economic Review, Journal of Public Economics

Additional Information

Citizenship	Italy
Programming Skills	Matlab, R, Stata
Languages	Italian (Native), English (Fluent), French (Good)