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HA BUI

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EDUCATION

The University of Texas at Austin
Ph.D. in Economics *2018-2024 (Expected)*
Fields: Macroeconomics, International Economics

The University of Texas at Austin
M.A. in Economics *2016-2018*

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam
B.A. in International Economics, *Summa Cum Laude* *2008-2012*

REFERENCES

Olivier Coibion
Malcolm Forsman Centennial Professor
Department of Economics, UT Austin
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Nitya Pandalai-Nayar
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Department of Economics, UT Austin
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Christoph E. Boehm
Assistant Professor
Department of Economics, UT Austin
Phone: +1 (734) 548-1090
Email: cboehm@utexas.edu

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

Graduate School Continuing Fellowship, UT Austin *2022-2023*
NBER Behavioral Macroeconomics Research Boot Camp for Graduate Students *2022*
Stanford Big-Data Initiative in International Macro-Finance, Stanford University *2021*
Graduate Summer Fellowship, Department of Economics, UT Austin *2021, 2022*
Professional Development Award, UT Austin *2020, 2022*
Best Second Year Paper Award, Department of Economics, UT Austin *2020*
Collaborative Research Fellowship, Department of Economics, UT Austin *2020*
Merit-based tuition reduction awards, M.A. in Economics, UT Austin *2016-2018*
Fulbright Scholarship *2016-2018*
South China Sea Research Award for graduate and undergraduate students – Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam *2012*

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Nitya Pandalai-Nayar (UT Austin) *Summer 2022*
Research Assistant for Prof. Olivier Coibion (UT Austin), Prof. Andrei A. Levchenko (University of Michigan), and Prof. Nitya Pandalai-Nayar (UT Austin) *2020-2021*
Research Assistant for Prof. Saroj Bhattarai (UT Austin) *Fall 2020*
Research Assistant for Prof. Olivier Coibion (UT Austin) and Prof. Yuriy Gorodnichenko (UC Berkeley) *2017-2018*
Research Assistant for Prof. Sandra Black (UT Austin) *2017-2018*
Researcher, Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam *2012-2016*
Research Assistant, Institute for Foreign Policy and Strategic Studies, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam *2010-2012*

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Department of Economics, University of Texas at Austin

Macroeconomic Theory, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Olivier Coibion *Fall 2022, Fall 2023*
Macroeconomic Theory, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Christoph Boehm *Spring 2023*
Introduction to Economics, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Dean Showalter *Summer 2022*
International Trade Theory, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Nitya Pandalai-Nayar *Spring 2022*
International Economics (M.A. course), Teaching Assistant for Prof. Shalah Mostashari *Fall 2021*
Time Series (M.A. course), Teaching Assistant for Prof. Anastasia Zervou *Spring 2019, Spring 2020*
Introduction to Econometrics, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Stephen Donald *Fall 2019*
Introduction to Microeconomics, Teaching Assistant for Prof. Helen Schneider *Fall 2018*

Diplomatic Academy of Vietnam, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam

Lecturer, taught International Economics, Macroeconomics, Microeconomics *2012-2016*
Teaching Assistant, Foreign Service Training Center *2011-2012*

WORKING PAPERS

Income Inequality and Variety Inequality
Best Second Year Paper Award 2020, Department of Economics, UT Austin

This paper explores how income inequality leads to different consumption patterns through differences in the spectrum of goods offered by retailers. The hypothesis is that high-inequality regions have a broader base of consumers with different levels of income, so retailers offer more varieties to accommodate demand. Thus, households in these regions enjoy more products and make different consumption choices compared to similar households in low-inequality regions. Using Nielsen scanner data over 2011-2017 at the county level, I find that high-inequality counties have more varieties than low-inequality regions. However, low- and high-income households in more unequal counties consume fewer varieties than similar households in low-inequality areas. Households in high-inequality counties take advantage of more varieties available and switch to consume products that better match their preferences. To explain the mechanism underlying these empirical findings and quantify the welfare impact, I develop a model featuring household's income drawn from a distribution with the same mean but different variances to reflect the region's income inequality, household's utility function with cost of consuming varieties, and firms under monopolistic competition.

Information Frictions and News Media in Global Value Chains
NBER Working Paper 30033, with Zhen Huo, Andrei A. Levchenko, and Nitya Pandalai-Nayar

We introduce information frictions into a tractable quantitative multi-country multi-sector model with global value chains. Producers in a sector do not perfectly observe contemporaneous shocks to other countries and sectors, and their output decisions respond to their idiosyncratic beliefs about worldwide productivity innovations. We discipline agents' information sets with new quarterly data containing the frequencies of country-industry-specific economic news reports by 11 leading newspapers in the G7 plus Spain. Newspapers in each country publish articles on select events in both domestic and partner-country sectors, and not every event is reported worldwide. We show that (i) greater news coverage is associated with smaller GDP forecast errors by professional forecasters; (ii) the dispersion of forecast errors shrinks with higher news coverage; and (iii) sectors more covered in the news exhibit stronger hours growth synchronization, and more so if they trade more with each other. We use these reduced form facts to discipline the key parameters in the new theory—the precision of the vectors of public and private signals about country-sector productivities. We find that (i) imperfect "news" about economic fundamentals can be a quantitatively important source of international fluctuations and (ii) the effects of information frictions are amplified by the global production network. These information frictions appear as correlated labor wedges in standard models without dispersed information.

Industry News and Firms' Expectations

This paper studies the role of industry news in shaping firms' expectations of macroeconomic conditions. Using a U.S. survey of firms' inflation expectations, Coibion et al. (2020) report a large disagreement among firms about future aggregate conditions even though they observe similar aggregate statistics. Andrade et al. (2020) use a survey of French manufacturing firms and document that the firm's industry conditions play an important role in forming firm's aggregate expectations. However, many small and medium-sized firms are unlikely to have access to privileged industry information. Instead, they rely on standard news sources to learn about industry conditions. Therefore, firms' public industry news would have a substantial role in shaping their view of aggregate economic conditions. Using South African firm-level expectation data together with state-of-the-art Natural Language Processing models on a novel dataset of news reports in major South African newspapers and newspapers of South Africa's major trading partners, this paper provides new evidence documenting the role of firms' industry news on forming their expectations about aggregate macroeconomic condition.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Conferences and Seminars

Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting	*2023 (Scheduled)*
Midwest Macro Meetings Fall 2022	*2022*
Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting	*2021*

Other activities

Data Science for All – Women's Summit, Correlation One	*2022*
Web-scraping and Data-cleaning for Research, Kelley School of Business	*2021*

SKILLS

Programs: Eviews, MATLAB, Python, R, Stata
Languages: English (Fluent), Vietnamese (Native)