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Fields	Research: Environmental and Energy Economics, Industrial Organization Teaching: Environmental and Energy Economics, Industrial Organization, Econometrics
Education	Ph.D., Economics, Northwestern University (anticipated) 2024 Committee: Mar Reguant (Chair), Gaston Illanes, Robert Porter, Vivek Bhattacharya M.A., Economics, Northwestern University 2021 M.A., Economics, Universidad de Chile 2017 B.Sc.Eng., Industrial Engineering, Universidad de Chile 2015
Fellowships & Awards	Dissertation University Fellowship, Northwestern University 2023-2024 Distinguished Teaching Assistant Award, Northwestern University 2020-2021 University Fellowship, Northwestern University 2018-2023 National Masters Degree Fellowship, Chilean Ministry of Education 2015-2017
Teaching Experience	Teaching Assistant, Northwestern University 2019-2023 Industrial Organization (graduate), Energy Economics (undergrad), Applied Econometrics (undergrad) Teaching Assistant, Universidad de Chile 2013-2016 Econometrics (graduate), Statistics (undergrad), Finance II (undergrad), Marketing (undergrad)
Research Experience	Research Assistant, Professor Gaston Illanes, Northwestern University 2021-2023 Research Assistant, Professor Mar Reguant, Northwestern University 2021 Research Assistant, Professor Carlos Noton, Universidad de Chile 2017 Research Assistant, Professor Juan Escobar, Universidad de Chile 2016 Research Assistant, Professor Marcelo Olivares, Universidad de Chile 2015-2016
Other Experience	Summer Intern, Chilean Antitrust Agency 2016
Job Market Paper	<p>“Natural gas to complement solar intermittency: Long-run consequences of policy interventions” with Jingyuan Wang</p> <p><i>Abstract:</i> Natural gas has become a pivotal technology in the energy transition, as it can complement renewable generation at a lower emission rate compared to alternative fossil fuels. In countries with scarce natural gas reserves, firms might exhibit insufficient import levels relative to governmental preferences. In this paper, we study several policies designed to incentivize larger natural gas orders and examine their impact on long-term renewable entry. Our research is conducted in Chile, a notable player in the adoption of solar energy, which implemented a novel policy to encourage the procurement of natural gas. We find that, even though the policy displaces coal usage, it simultaneously increases natural gas imports to such an extent that it counterbalances its positive effects on emissions, with a</p>

net pollution cost of \$20 million per year. The removal of this policy would not only result in a short-term reduction in emissions but also stimulate increased solar energy adoption in the long run by 10%. Among the policies we examined, the implementation of a carbon price emerges as one of the best choices, as it elevates natural gas imports, lowers emissions in the short run by \$191 million annually, and maximizes solar energy entry in the long term by 54%.

Working papers

“Beyond the impossible: Steering consumers away from beef”

Abstract: The effect of meat consumption on the environment is well-documented, yet little is known about the effect of policies targeting environmentally harmful food choices. I build a structural model of the demand for meat which allows me to study consumer responses to three different policies: a 50% reduction of beef products on retail shelves, an environmental tax reflecting the environmental costs of food products, and advertisements for plant-based products that increase consumers’ valuation of them. I also analyze the supply side to estimate how prices would change in equilibrium under these counterfactual scenarios. I find that imposing restrictions on beef products alone does not achieve a significant reduction in emissions. The consumer welfare loss is larger than the environmental gains, and its benefits can be easily matched with a small tax instead. Conversely, the tax and an increment on plant-based products’ valuations prove to be more effective in reducing emissions. However, the burden of the tax policy is born disproportionately by underprivileged consumers. The environmental benefits of the tax come mainly from consumers switching to poultry and pork products. Therefore, a policy that subsidizes these types of meat products while taxing beef might achieve more progressive results.

Work in progress

“The effects of environmental regulation on firm competitiveness: The Porter Hypothesis under the lens”

Abstract: Although posed in 1991, the Porter Hypothesis is still open for debate: can environmental regulation often enhance firm competitiveness? A usual challenge that arises when trying to address this question comes from imprecise measures of treated and untreated groups. For instance, the Clean Air Act poses a vague definition of emitter vs non-emitter, requiring researchers to set thresholds to differentiate between treated and untreated plants. In this paper, we study a green tax implemented in Chile in 2017. We collected data, both before and after 2017, on plant emissions and tax payments and merged it with the Government’s Annual Manufacturing Survey. The tax has outstanding variability, targeting specific pollutants and applying only to plants with power exceeding 50 MW. Moreover, tax rates vary based on the plants’ locations. By exploiting several sources of discontinuity in the data, our aim is to identify the impacts of environmental regulation on productivity and employment across diverse industry sectors.

Invited workshops

Berkeley/Sloan Summer School in Environmental and Energy Economics,
University of California, Berkeley

2020

Programming

Matlab, Python, Julia, Stata, R, QGIS (basic)

Languages

English (fluent), Spanish (native), Portuguese (basic)

References

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