

# JEDEDIAH (JED) SILVER

## Curriculum Vitae

Last updated: July 29, 2024

### Contact Information

The Department of Environmental Economics and Management  
The Robert H. Smith Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Environment  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem  
Herzl 229, Rehovot 7610001  
[jedediah.silver@mail.huji.ac.il](mailto:jedediah.silver@mail.huji.ac.il)  
[jedediahsilver.com](http://jedediahsilver.com)  
+1 (917) 583-0618

### Academic Appointments

Lecturer (equiv. Assistant Professor) (Aug. 2024-)  
The Department of Environmental Economics and Management  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

### Working Papers

#### **“Farm Household Misallocation” (JOB MARKET PAPER)**

Agricultural markets often fail to allocate resources efficiently across farmers in developing countries. However, policymakers require knowledge of which markets fail and how the distortions they generate are correlated. Using data from rural Thailand, I characterize how distortions in land, labor, credit, and insurance markets each contribute to misallocation. I use moments in household consumption and production data to separately identify these distortions and develop a novel method using them to structurally estimate the production function. I find that the efficient allocation would increase aggregate productivity by 31-35% relative to the status quo, while only 15% (7%) gains could be achieved by eliminating financial (input) distortions in isolation. Positive interaction effects from addressing multiple distortions simultaneously account for the remaining 9% TFP gains. Meanwhile, other common methods would produce larger estimates of misallocation and suggest that a financial market intervention would decrease aggregate productivity. Accounting for multiple correlated distortions is therefore crucial for measuring misallocation and designing policies to address it.

### Research in Progress

**“Offering Postharvest Credit to Improve Farmer Welfare”** with E. Ligon  
*Analysis stage: AEA RCT Registry (#AEARCTR-0008022).*

**“Measuring Farm-Household Non-Separability** with E. Ligon  
*Analysis stage*

**“The Impacts of Large-Scale Land Transactions: Evidence from Ethiopia ”** with Y. Admasu, W. Kassie, and S. Walelign  
*Data collection stage*

**“Technology Adoption and the Commercialization of Staple Crops: Evidence from Ugandan Cassava Processing”** with A. Ijala, M. Kato and J. do Nascimento Miguel  
*Pilot stage*

### Publications

Diao, Xinshen, Eduardo Magalhaes, and Jed Silver. “[Cities and rural transformation: A spatial analysis of rural livelihoods in Ghana.](#)” *World Development* 121 (2019): 141–157.

Zilberman, David, Thomas Reardon, Jed Silver, Liang Lu, and Amir Heiman. “[From the laboratory to the consumer: Innovation, supply chain, and adoption with applications to natural resources.](#)” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 119, no. 23 (2022).

<b>Doctoral Studies</b>	University of California, Berkeley		
	PhD, Agricultural and Resource Economics, May 2024		
	DISSERTATION: “Essays on Agricultural Productivity and Consumption Smoothing Under Incomplete Markets”		
	COMMITTEE: Profs. Ethan Ligon (chair), Jeremy Magruder, Edward Miguel		
	PRIMARY FIELD: Development Economics		
	SECONDARY FIELDS: International Economics (Trade), Applied Econometrics		
<b>Prior Education</b>	<b>Tufts University</b>	BA International Relations & English	2013
	<b>UC Berkeley</b>	Graduate Student Researcher (E. Ligon)	2022-23
<b>Prior Employment</b>		Graduate Student Researcher (D. Zilberman)	2020-21
		Graduate Student Researcher (S. Kaur)	2019-20
	<b>International Food Policy Research Institute</b>	Senior Research Assistant Development Strategy and Governance Division	2015-18
	<b>RAISE Uganda</b>	Deputy Director	2013-14
<b>Seminar and Conference Presentations</b>	2024	International Conference on Development Economics, Aix-Marseille School of Economics	
		NOVAfrica Conference on Economic Development, NOVA SBE	
		Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries, Norwegian School of Economics	
		MWIEDC, University of Chicago	
		International Food Policy Research Institute	
		Hebrew University of Jerusalem (Env. Econ & Mgmt.)	
		University of Oklahoma	
	2023	NEUDC Conference, Harvard University	
		1st Annual Macro Development Workshop, Deakin University	
	Earlier	DEVPEC PhD Student Conference, UC Berkeley	
		UC Berkeley Development Lunch	
<b>Teaching</b>	<b>UC Berkeley</b>	<i>International Poverty and Economic Development</i> M. Shah	2024
		<i>Introductory Applied Econometrics</i> , J. Magruder	2020 & 2021
		<i>Case Studies in African Economic Development</i> , E.Miguel	2021
<b>Languages</b>	English (native), Hebrew, Kiswahili, Luo (Lango/Acholi), Spanish (intermediate)		
<b>Grants, Fellowships, and Awards</b>	2023	International Growth Center Pilot Grant (£40,000)	
	2021	STEG Small Projects Grant (£25,000)	
	2020	ATAI Exploratory Grant (\$6,000)	
	2019	Weiss Family Foundation Travel Grant (\$3,200)	
<b>Activities</b>	2020-2022	Student Representative: <a href="#">ARE Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee</a>	
	2021-2022	Small Grants Coordinator: <a href="#">Berkeley Economists for Equity</a>	
	2021	Mentor: <a href="#">Graduate Applications International Network (GAIN)</a>	
	2020-2021	Co-organizer: UC Berkeley Development Lunch	