

Jean-Felix Brouillette

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Education

2024 (expected) **Ph.D. in Economics**, Stanford University
2018 **M.Sc. in Economics**, HEC Montréal
2016 **B.B.A. in Economics**, HEC Montréal

Dissertation Committee

Prof. Peter J. Klenow
Economics Department,
Stanford University
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(650) 725-8169

Prof. Charles I. Jones
Graduate School of Business,
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Prof. Christopher Tonetti
Graduate School of Business,
Stanford University
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Research and Teaching Fields

Primary field: **Macroeconomics**
Secondary field: **Economic growth**

Job Market Paper

“Markups, Firm Scale, and Distorted Economic Growth.” With Mohamad Adhami and Emma Rockall.

We study the consequences of markups for long-run economic growth in a model of firm-driven endogenous technological change. In this framework, differentiated firms engage in monopolistic competition, charge heterogeneous markups, and make forward-looking investments in R&D to improve their process efficiency. Markups distort the scale at which these firms operate and, therefore, affect their incentives to invest in R&D. With dispersion in markups, both the aggregate and cross-firm allocations of such investments are distorted. Using firm-level administrative data from France to discipline our model, we find that correcting the product market distortions induced by markups increases the long-run growth rate of productivity by 1.2 percentage points per year. Nearly 75% of this faster productivity growth can be achieved by simply reallocating R&D resources across firms, revealing that the dispersion in markups, rather than their average level, is more detrimental to economic growth.

Working Papers

“Women Inventors and Economic Growth.”

In 1976, 4% of inventors in the U.S. were women, and by 2020, that fraction had only moved up to 12%. Under the natural assumption that there are no intrinsic differences in inventive potential across genders, the scarcity of women in innovation reveals that the U.S. is missing out on some of its brightest minds. This raises two questions: (1) What are the barriers faced by those “lost” Jennifer Doudnas? and (2) How costly is the resulting misallocation of inventive talent for aggregate productivity and welfare? To tackle those questions, I develop a theory of semi-endogenous growth in which individuals with heterogeneous talent choose between a career in research or production. However, three gendered barriers can deter or prevent women from pursuing their comparative advantage. They may face different forms of discrimination in the labor market, be confronted with higher obstacles to human capital formation or lack the opportunities and role models to become innovators. Interpreting micro-level data on the universe of U.S. inventors through the lens of this framework, I find that the underrepresentation of women in innovation is virtually all due to a lack of exposure to innovation. Women and men inventors are just too similarly productive and educated for distortions operating through selection or human capital to play a prominent role. Taking advantage of the structure of this theory, I find that lifting all barriers to female innovation would increase U.S. income per person by 8.6% in the long run. Accounting for transition dynamics reveals that this policy would be equivalent to permanently raising everyone’s consumption by 2.7%.

“Race and Economic Well-Being in the United States.” With Charles I. Jones and Peter J. Klenow. NBER Working Paper 29539, December 2021.

Teaching Experience

2022	Teaching Assistant , Stanford University Econ 52 (undergrad. macroeconomics) for Prof. Peter J. Klenow <i>Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award</i>
2016–2018	Teaching Assistant , HEC Montréal Math 80816 (grad. econometrics) for Prof. Daniel Parent Econ 20852 (undergrad. macroeconomics) for Prof. Nicolas Vincent Econ 20806 (undergrad. econometrics) for Prof. Benoit Dostie

Relevant Positions

2019–present	Research Assistant , Stanford University for Prof. Peter J. Klenow and Prof. Charles I. Jones
2017–2018	Research Assistant , Northwestern University for Prof. Nicola Persico

Fellowships and Honors

2023	B.F. Haley and E.S. Shaw Fellowship for Economics at SIEPR , Stanford University
2023	George P. Shultz Dissertation Support Fund , Stanford University
2023	“Unlocking Our Potential” Research Scholar , Federal Reserve Board of San Francisco
2022	Outstanding TA Award , Econ 52, Stanford University
2022	Young Scholar , Lindau Nobel Laureate Meetings
2022	Innovation Research Boot Camp , NBER
2018	Graduate Fellowship , Stanford University
2018–2022	Doctoral Fellowship , SSHRC and FRQSC
2016–2018	Master’s Scholarship , SSHRC and FRQSC
2012–2013	National Sprint Canoeing Champion (U20) , Canoe Kayak Canada

Professional Activities

Referee for: *Econometrica*, *American Economic Review: Insights*, *Journal of Political Economy* *Macroeconomics*