

JAVIER BONCOMPTE

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PhD(c) Economics, University College London

Research Fields: Industrial Organization, Applied Econometrics

EDUCATION

PhD Economics , University College London	2026*
Msc Economics , University College London (<i>Distinction</i>)	2020
Msc Systems Engineering , Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (PUC) (<i>Distinction</i>)	2014
Bachelor in Transport Engineering , Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (PUC)	2014

REFERENCES

Lars Nesheim University College London l.nesheim@ucl.ac.uk	Joao Granja University College London joao.granja@ucl.ac.uk	Pierre Dubois Toulouse School of Economics pierre.dubois@tse-fr.eu
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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Research Associate Institute for Fiscal Studies	2024 - * <i>London, UK</i>
Adjunct Professor School of Engineering, Pontifical Catholic University	2015 - 2018 <i>Santiago, Chile</i>

INDUSTRY POSITIONS

Data Science Lead Tottus - <i>Major Multi-National Supermarket in South America.</i>	2018 - 2019 <i>Lima, Peru; Santiago, Chile</i>
Founder Ganemos.cl - <i>First online business intelligence platform for political campaigns in Chile.</i>	2017 - 2018 <i>Santiago, Chile</i>
Advisor to the Vice Minister Ministry of Transportation, Government of Chile.	2015 - 2017 <i>Santiago, Chile</i>

JOB MARKET PAPER

Shaping more than prices: Corrective Taxes with Product Reformulation

What are the impacts of corrective taxes when firms can reformulate products to avoid them? I develop a model of product reformulation to study equilibrium responses to the 2018 UK Soft Drinks Industry Levy, a multi-tiered tax targeting excessive sugar content. The model isolates the role of reformulation by using interactive fixed effects to account for multiple endogenous unobserved product characteristics and time-varying aggregated preferences. I find the levy reduced sugar sales by 22% and led firms to reformulate more than one-third of products, cutting average sugar content by 40% while lowering product quality, differentiation and tax liabilities. The model enables counterfactual simulations that revert products to their pre-reformulation characteristics, showing that reformulation reduced sugar intake relative to a no-tax baseline but also limited the tax's ability to further curb consumption. Larger firms reformulate a greater share of their products and protect profits more effectively than smaller ones. Reformulation benefits nearly all consumers, with gains concentrated among lower-income households and modest losses at the top. My results show product responses are first-order for welfare and harm reduction, and that multi-tier taxes leverage them more effectively than the non-tiered taxes commonly applied to sugar-sweetened beverages.

WORKING PAPERS

Customer Upgrading, Relational Frictions and Exporter Growth With Oscar Perelló

The Diffusion of Tracking Technologies and the Online Advertising Market
With Simeon Duckworth, Giuseppe Forte, and Lars Nesheim

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Stone PhD Scholarship (£15.000)	2024
Stone Centre	<i>United Kingdom</i>
Small Grant program (£22.000 - Co-principal investigator)	2023
International Growth Center	<i>United Kingdom</i>
Chevening Scholarship (£41.000)	2019
British Foreign and Commonwealth Office	<i>United Kingdom</i>
Departmental Grant for reviewing the Economics curriculum	2018
School of Engineering, Pontifical Catholic University	<i>Santiago, Chile</i>
Ranked in the top tier in the Biannual Teaching Assessment	2017
School of Engineering, Pontifical Catholic University	<i>Santiago, Chile</i>

CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

European Association for Research in Industrial Economics Annual Conference	Valencia, Spain	2025
Econometric Society World Congress	Seul, Korea	2025
Western Economics Association International 100th Annual Conference	San Francisco, USA	2025
Centre for Competition Policy (CCP) 2025 Annual Conference	London, United Kingdom	2025
IFS Kantar Workshop	London, United Kingdom	2025
Research Institute for Development, Growth and Economics (RIDGE) Forum	Lima, Perú	2025
UAI Seminar	Santiago, Chile	2025
Bristol Econometrics Seminar	Bristol, United Kingdom	2024
NBER Entrepreneurship Research Boot Camp	Boston, USA	2023
UAB ENTER Research Seminar	Barcelona, Spain	2023
IFS/UCL/LSE IO Seminar (Co-organizer)	London, United Kingdom	2023

TEACHING

Mathematics for Economists (Masters & Undergraduates)	UCL	2022-2025
Industrial Organization (Undergraduate)	UCL	2022-2023
Introduction to Economics (Undergraduate)	PUC	2015-2018
Industrial Organization (Executives)	PUC	2015

SOFTWARE

PyInteractiveFixefEffects (*Python Package for Interactive Fixed Effects Estimators*) - [PIP Package](#)
CORE Econ Digital Capsule (*Interactive Lecture on Inflation*)

SKILLS

Statistical software	Python, Stata, Matlab, R, Jupyter
Machine learning libraries	Transformers (HF), TensorFlow, PyTorch, JAX
Mathematical programming	SymPy, SciPy, Biogeme, AMPL, GLPK, CUDA
General programming	Javascript, HTML5, PHP, Java
Business Intelligence	Tableau, PowerBi, Voila

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Citizenship Chile and Spain