Mario D. Molina

1100C A5, Social Science Divison, New York University Abu Dhabi

mdmolina@nyu.edu

www.mariodmolina.com

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APPOINTMENTS

New York University Abu Dhabi
August 2020 - present. Postdoctoral Associate, Social Science Division.

Cornell University
June 2021 - present. Research Fellow, Center for the Study of the Economy and Society.

EDUCATION

Cornell University
2020. Ph.D in Sociology (*Minor in Statistics*)
Dissertation Committee: Michael W. Macy (chair), Victor Nee (co-chair), Filiz Garip, and Martin Wells (Statistics).
2017. M.A., Sociology

Universidad Católica de Chile
2011. M.A., Sociology

Universidad de los Andes, Chile
2009. B.A., Philosophy
2008. B.A., Education

JOB MARKET PAPER

Molina, Mario D.. "To rest on one's laurels: Effectiveness and sustainability of status orders." [Latest version here.](#)

Abstract: Individuals recognized and celebrated by their peers are generally more productive and cooperative, turning status rewards into critical organizational features to motivate individual behavior and build successful collective enterprises. However, a significant limitation of the studies on this topic is that they fail to show whether status attainment can produce sustainable performance and cooperation as status increases. As individuals climb the status ladder, a high social standing may create opportunities for distraction and complacency, rendering status hierarchies ineffective in producing long-term cooperation. To tackle this puzzle, I compare the cooperative behavior of high-status individuals with similar others who are not high-status (i.e., their counterfactuals). I collect the data from a large Q&A online community comprising 130 million contributions and 235 million status changes from 16 million users. The findings uncover the benefits of status for collective efforts by showing that high status motivates cooperation among the most celebrated. Nonetheless, this effect declines over time, revealing that status orders cannot secure collective outcomes effectively in the long run. More generally, this investigation helps us understand the broader structural consequences of social rewards for cooperative behavior.

PUBLICATIONS

Molina, Mario D., Nancy Chau, Amanda Rodewald, and Filiz Garip (2022). ["How to model the weather-migration link: A machine-learning approach to variable selection in the Mexico-U.S. context."](#) *Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies.*

Molina, Mario, Victor Nee, and Hakan Holm (2022). "Cooperation with strangers: Spillover of community norms." *Organization Science*.

Filiz Garip and **Molina, Mario D.** (2021). "Network amplification", chapter 16, pp. 306-320. In *Research Handbook on Analytical Sociology*, Gianluca Manzo (ed.), Massachusetts, USA: Edward Elgar.

Molina, Mario D., Mauricio Bucca, & Michael Macy (2019). "It's not just how the game is played, it's whether you win or lose." *Science Advances*, vol. 5, eaau1156.

Molina, Mario & Filiz Garip (2019). "Machine learning for sociology." *Annual Review of Sociology*, vol. 45.

Molina, Mario (2013), "Unity between Sensibility and Understanding. The Origin of the Critical Problem". Revista de Filosofía, vol. LXIX, 195-213.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Drouhot, Lucas, **Mario D. Molina**, & Filiz Garip. "Integration or fragmentation? Cultural diversity and friendship networks among European adolescents." (*Preparing for submission*)

Occhiutto, Nicholas and **Mario D. Molina**. "The social structure of asset bubbles: The case of the Taxicab medallion in New York City." (*Revising manuscript*)

Asad, Asad L., **Mario D. Molina**, and Neil Lewis, Jr. "Profiles of psychological distress among immigrants in the United States, 2011-2018." (*Data analysis*)

Pan, Rui, **Mario D. Molina**, and Minsu Park. "Status differences and team disruption among K-pop bands using Wikipedia edits." (*Data analysis*)

Makovi, Kinga and **Mario D. Molina**. "How do conservatives and liberals apply fairness principles when they have information about group membership and the structure of economic opportunity?" (*Data analysis*)

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Books (in Spanish)
    Molina, Mario (2012). "The Emergence of Pure Sensibility" . Cuadernos de Anuario Filosófico: Pamplona, Spain.

Book Reviews (in Spanish)
    Jauregui, Claudia. "Sentido Interno y Subjetividad. Un análisis del problema del auto-conocimiento en la filosofía transcendental de I. Kant". *Methodus: International Journal for Modern Philosophy*, n. 4, 2009.
    Maimon, Solomon. "Versuch über die Traszendentalphilosophie". *Methodus: International Journal for Modern Philosophy*, n. 3, 2008.
    Placencia, Luis. "La ontología del espacio en Kant: Un estudio genético-sistemático sobre los fundamentos metodológicos y metafísicos de la teoría del espacio como intuición pura en la 'Estética trascendental' ". *Methodus: International Journal for Modern Philosophy*, n. 2, 2007.

FELLOWSHIPS, AWARDS, AND GRANTS

2022. Reserch Grant for the Project *How do conservatives and liberals apply fairness principles when they have information about group membership and the structure of economic opportunity?* ($10,000). Social Science Division, New York University Abu Dhabi.

2019. Research Travel Grant for Dissertation project. ($2,000). Graduate School, Cornell University.

2018. Seed Grant for the Project *The co-evolution of ingroup favoritism and group structure in online communities* ($1,500). Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University.

2016. Research Grant for the Project *Talent, Circumstances, or Luck? An Experimental Approach to the Study of Beliefs about Inequality and Fairness.* ($3,000). Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University.

2015. Seed Grant for the Project *Legitimation or Differential Perception? An Experimental Approach to the Study of Beliefs about Inequality.* ($1,500). Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University.

2013-2017. Fellowship for Doctoral Studies in the United States. Fulbright.

2013-2017. Chile's National Fellowship for Doctoral Studies abroad. Becas Chile, Conicyt.

2010-2011. Fellowship for Master Studies in Chile. Fundacion Volcan Calbuco.

2007. Hochschulwinterkurs. University Winter Course in Germany for Foreign Students (at Leipzig Universitaet). Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst (DAAD).

ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND INTERNSHIPS

Princeton University
2021. Summer Institute in Computational Social Science (Summer).

Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research
2021. Topics in Digital and Computational Demography (Fall). *Declined.*

Santa Fe Institute
2019. Advanced Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science (Summer).
2017. Graduate Workshop in Computational Social Science (Summer).

Facebook
2018. Research Scientist in the Demography and Survey Sciences team (Summer).

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Cornell University
2018-2020. Research Assistant to Prof. Filiz Garip. Department of Sociology.
2017-2019. Research Assistant to Prof. Victor Nee. Department of Sociology.

Universidad Católica de Chile
2012-2013 Research Assistant to Prof. Florencia Torche. Department of Sociology.

Universidad de los Andes
2007-2009. Research Assistant to Prof. Hugo Herrera. Department of Philosophy.

PRESENTATIONS (SELECTED)

"To rest on one's laurels: Effectivenes and sustainability of status orders."
   Max Planck Insitute for Demographic Research, Rostock (2022). *Invited* (scheduled).

"Cooperation with strangers: Spillover of community norms."
   Center for Behavioral Institutional Design (C-BID), New York University Abu Dhabi (2021).

"Machine Learning for Sociology."
   German Centre for Higher Education Research and Science Studies (DZHW) (2021). *Invited.*

"Resting on your laurels? Status dynamics and individual performance in a large online community."
   American Sociological Association (ASA), Annual Meeting (2021).

"How to model the weather-migration link: A machine-learning approach to variable selection in the Mexico-U.S. context."

United Nations (2020). *Invited*
Advanced Statistics, Ph.D. course, Sociology Deparment, Cornell University (2020). *Invited.*

"Cooperation with strangers: Spillover of community norms."
Economic Sociology Colloquium Series, CSES, Cornell University (2020).

"Resting on your laurels? Status dynamics and individual performance in a large online community."
GWCSS Alumni Conference, Santa Fe Institute (2019).
Inequality Discussion Group, Center for the Study of Inequality, Cornell University (2019).

"It's not just how the game is played, it's whether you win or lose."
American Sociological Association (ASA), Annual Meeting (2018).
Population Association of America (PAA), Annual Meeting (2018).
Conference on Digital Experimentation, MIT (2016).

"Can Group Level Norms Help Predict Future Attitudes?"
International Network of Analytical Sociologists, INAS, Harvard University (2015).
Sunbelt Conference, INSNA, Annual Meeting (2015).

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer
2012-2013. *Social Ethics.* Department of Sociology, Universidad Católica.
2010. *Modern Philosophical Thought.* Department of Communication and Media, Universidad de los Andes (Chile).

Teaching Assistant
2019. *Introduction to Economic Sociology.* Department of Sociology, Cornell University.
2011. *Social Research Laboratory I* (Master level). Department of Sociology, Universidad Catolica.
2011. *Methods and Techniques for Social Research.* Department of Sociology, Universidad Católica.
2008. *Philosophical Thinking.* Department of Law, Universidad Andrés Bello.
2007. *Philosophical Anthropology.* Department of Business and Administration, Universidad de los Andes (Santiago, Chile).
2004. *Contemporary Philosophy.* Department of Philosophy, Universidad de los Andes (Chile).
2003. *Philosophical Anthropology.* Department of Business and Administration, Universidad de los Andes (Chile).

High School Teacher
2008-2010. *Teacher in Philosophy* (part-time job). Colegio Cordillera de las Condes.
2005-2009. *Teacher in Philosophy* (part-time job). Colegio Arrayanes.

REVIEWER

American Sociological Review, Sociological Science, Social Forces, Sociological Methodology, Demography, Social Science Research, Sociological Forum, Political Analysis, Plos One, Economic Modelling, Cities, AERA Open.

PROGRAMMING SKILLS

Python, R, LaTeX, Git, Unix, Stata.