

# Motoaki Takahashi

<https://motoakitakahashi.github.io/>

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Citizenship: Japan

## Education

Ph.D. in Economics, the Pennsylvania State University	2017-Present
M.A. in Economics, Hitotsubashi University	2015-2017
B.A. in Economics, the University of Tokyo	2011-2015

## Fields of Interest

Spatial Economics, International Trade

## Working Paper

*"The Aggregate Effects of the Great Black Migration"* (Job Market Paper)

Four million African Americans migrated from the South to the North of the United States between 1940 and 1970. How did it impact aggregate US output and the welfare of cohorts of African Americans? To answer this question, I quantify a dynamic general equilibrium model in which cohorts of African Americans and others migrate across states. I compare the baseline equilibrium matched with the US data from 1940 to 2010 with counterfactual equilibria in which African Americans or others cannot relocate across the North and the South between 1940 and 1970. The mobility of African Americans increased aggregate US output in 1970 by 1 percent and the lifetime welfare of African Americans born in Mississippi in the 1930s by 3 percent. In contrast, the mobility of others did not increase aggregate US output for this period.

## Work in Progress

*"International Trade and Regional Unemployment"*

How does productivity improvement in China affect unemployment across the US states? I develop a many-region model that comprises involuntary unemployment, and quantify it for 30 countries and the 50 US states. The model merges the efficiency wage model of Shapiro and Stiglitz (1984) and a quantitative general equilibrium model of international trade and the spatial economy. In the model, workers shirk rather than contribute to production for the market clearing wage. To prevent shirking, firms set a wage that is higher than the market clearing wage. This causes involuntary unemployment. I take the model to data, and compute the counterfactual of the 5% increase in China's productivity. From the factual to the counterfactual, real wages increase, but unemployment rates also increase in all the US states. States in the heartland have a larger increase in unemployment than states in the west coast. The overall US welfare decreases.

## Presentations

Osaka University	2019
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## Awards and Grants

Project Research Grant, the Institute of Economic Research, Hitotsubashi University, 2×300,000 yen (with Taiji Furusawa, Daiji Kawaguchi, and Kensuke Suzuki).	2021, 2022
Fulbright Scholarship.	2017-2019
Distinguished Senior Thesis Award, Faculty of Economics, the University of Tokyo.	2015

## Research Experience

Research Assistant to Prof. Jonathan Eaton	Summer 2021, 2022
Research Assistant to Prof. David Argente	Summer 2020
Research Assistant to Prof. Makoto Saito	2015-2017
Research Assistant to Prof. Taiji Furusawa	2016-2017

## Teaching Experience

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### *The Pennsylvania State University*

Game Theory (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Andres Aradillas-Lopez	Spring 2021, Spring 2022
The Economics of Auctions and Procurement (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Karl Schurter	Fall 2021
Urban Economics (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Jingting Fan	Fall 2020
Game Theory (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Miaomiao Dong	Spring 2020
Mathematics for Economists (Ph.D), TA for Prof. Miaomiao Dong	Fall 2019
Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Maria Fernandez-Medina	Spring 2019
Mathematics for Economists (Ph.D), TA for Prof. Henrique de Oliveira	Fall 2018
Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Amanda Mandzik	Fall 2017, Spring 2018

### *Hitotsubashi University*

Introduction to Economics (undergraduate), TA for Prof. Kohei Kawaguchi	Spring 2017
Intermediate Macroeconomics (undergraduate and master's), TA for Prof. Makoto Saito	Spring 2016

## Skills

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Language: English, Japanese

Computer: Julia, R, Stata, QGIS,  $\LaTeX$

## References

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### **Prof. Jonathan Eaton** (advisor)

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