

Nataliya Gimpelson

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Education

Ph.D. in Economics, University of Rochester	2017-2024 (expected)
MA in Economics, University of Rochester	2017-2018
B.Sc. in Economics, Higher School of Economics (with Honors)	2013-2017

Research Fields

Macroeconomics, Labor Economics

Working Papers

“Disentangling the Roles of Preferences and Shocks in Labor Supply”

“Inferring Changes in Technology from Labor Share and Workweek of Capital”

Work in Progress

“Growing Up with Unemployed Mother: Implications for Labor Market Outcomes”

with Paulo Lins

Working Experience

Research Assistant to Mark Bils, University of Rochester

- contributed to Comment on “Shocks, Institutions, and Secular Changes in Employment of Older Individuals” for NBER Macroeconomics Annual 2021
- RA for “Who are the Hand-to-Mouth?” by Mark Aguiar, Mark Bils and Corina Boar
R&R Review of Economic Studies

International Center for Studying Institutions and Development, Higher School of Economics, 2015-2017

Research Assistant to Fabian Slonimczyk, Higher School of Economics

Teaching Experience

Teaching Assistant, University of Rochester:

· **Intermediate Macroeconomics (ECO209 Undergraduate)**,
Instructor: Hamid Firooz, Mark Bills (2019, 2020, 2021)

· **Intermediate Macroeconomics Honors (ECO209H Undergraduate)**,
Instructor: Hamid Firooz (Fall 2020, Fall 2021)

· **Topics in Microeconomic Theory (ECO208 Undergraduate)**,
Instructor: Steven Landsburg (Spring 2019)

Fellowships, Scholarships and Awards

Summer Research Grant (2018), University of Rochester

Graduate Fellowship and Tuition Scholarship (2018-2022), University of Rochester

McKenzie Fellowship and Tuition Scholarship (2017-2018), University of Rochester

Prize-winner of "Best students' research papers" competition (2017), Higher School of Economics

Merit-based Tuition Scholarship (2013-2017), Higher School of Economics

Skills

Computational: Stata, Matlab, R

Languages: English (Fluent), Russian (Native), French (Basic)

References

Professor Mark Bills (advisor)

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Professor Yan Bai

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Professor Lisa Kahn

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Selected Abstracts

“Disentangling the Roles of Preferences and Shocks in Labor Supply”

Much of the employment variation remains unexplained after accounting for wages, assets, and other observable characteristics. The residual variation can be driven by heterogeneity in preferences (e.g. disutility of labor and bequest motives) or by employment constraints (e.g. inability to find a job). Disentangling the two forces is important for policy but difficult to do in practice. I argue that retirement decisions provide valuable information about underlying preferences and earlier labor market behavior, since it is an observed choice which is affected by preferences but not by employment constraints. I calibrate a life-cycle model with endogenous retirement decision to German SOEP data. I find that considerable heterogeneity in bequest motives and slight heterogeneity in disutility of labor is needed to explain correlations between retirement hazard and assets. However, if workers are on their labor supply curves, this preference heterogeneity implies that those who work more during the working life will retire later. In the data I see the opposite: working more earlier in life is associated with retiring earlier. To account for this, I consider a model where workers can be pushed off their labor supply curves, e.g. through shocks to labor market constraints. Adding these shocks into the model brings the correlation between work history and retirement in line with the data, while preference heterogeneity allows to match relationship between retirement decisions and assets. This suggests that role of preference heterogeneity is muted earlier in life. Moreover, I find that labor market constraints explain half of total variation in employment at 30-50 years old.

“Inferring Changes in Technology from Labor Share and Workweek of Capital”

In this paper I propose a new way to identify changes in capital bias and returns to scale in the US manufacturing sectors from 1974 to 2004. This strategy is based on the observed movements in sector-level labor share and workweek of capital. I set up a cost-minimization problem of a firm with endogenous workweek and show that while labor share and workweek respond to changes in relative price of capital and capital bias with the same magnitude, workweek is much more responsive to changes in returns to scale than labor share. Since in the data labor share and workweek are not perfectly correlated, the model suggests that there is scope for changes in returns to scale. I show that the returns to scale indeed have been changing over time in many sectors, and that the changes have been heterogeneous ranging from 18% increase in metals sector to 8% decrease in dairy sector. Moreover, these changes appear to be positively correlated with changes in capital bias. This implies that there have been massive and heterogeneous changes in technology over time.