

UNIVERSITAT POMPEU FABRA

Office Contact Information

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Personal Information

Citizenship: Australian, French

Undergraduate Studies

Bachelor of Economics, First Class Honours, Australian National University, 2011
Bachelor of Arts (German, Philosophy), Australian National University, 2010

Graduate Studies

PhD Candidate in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, 2015 to present
Thesis Title: “*Essays in the Economics of Migration*”
Expected Completion Date: January 2021
MRes in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, 2015
MSc in Economics, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, 2014

References

Professor Albrecht Glitz
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Professor Ruben Enikolopov
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Professor Christian Fons-Rosen
Office COB2 332, UC Merced
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Teaching and Research Fields

Primary fields: Labour Economics, Economics of Migration
Secondary fields: Applied Econometrics, Development Economics

Teaching Experience

Undergraduate

Autumn, 2013	<i>Macroeconomics II</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Davide Debortoli
Winter, 2014	<i>Statistics</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Eulalia Nualart (in Catalan)
Autumn, 2015	<i>International Economics</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Alessandra Bonfiglioli
Winter, 2016	<i>Economic Organisations, Institutions and Markets</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Benito Aruñada
Autumn, 2016	<i>Probability</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Mireia Besalú (in Catalan)
Winter, 2017	<i>Econometrics III</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Jaume García (in Catalan)
Autumn, 2017	<i>Probability</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Elisa Alòs (in Catalan)
Autumn, 2018	<i>Probability</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Mireia Besalú (in Catalan) <i>Data Analysis</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Libertad González (in Spanish)

Graduate

Spring, 2016 *Survey Methods*, Barcelona GSE, TA to Drs Laura Crespo & Laura Hospido (Masters in Public Policy)

Spring, 2017	<i>Survey Methods</i> , Barcelona GSE, TA to Drs Laura Crespo & Laura Hospido (Masters in Public Policy)
Summer, 2017-2020	<i>Long-term Persistence in Development</i> , UPF, TA to Prof. Luigi Pascali (PhD) <i>Stata Boot Camp</i> , Barcelona GSE (Masters in Economics)

Research Experience and Other Employment

2012	Australian Treasury, Intern
2012-2013	ANU, research assistant for Prof. Peter Drysdale
2014	UPF, research assistant for Prof. Christian Fons-Rosen
2014-2015	UPF, research assistant for Prof. Regis Barnichon

Professional Activities

Referee service	<i>Journal of Comparative Economics</i>
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Honours, Scholarships

2015-2019	UPF Teaching Assistant Scholarship
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Languages

Natural	English (native), French (native), German, Catalan, Spanish
Artificial	Stata/Mata, R, Python, Matlab, Bash

Research Papers

Tipping Points and the Dynamics of Ethnic Segregation Across Industries in Germany

Tipping points in the composition of groups have been argued to explain observed patterns of segregation in residential markets, labour markets, or schools. I use social security data for the period 1990-2010 to study whether such tipping dynamics can explain observed patterns of segregation across industries by ethnicity in Germany. I consider two tests for the existence of tipping points in the composition of local industries' workforces, one based on a regression discontinuity design (RDD) around a candidate tipping point, the other based on a threshold regression that includes an unknown breakpoint. I find only limited support for the existence of tipping dynamics in native employment flows using RDD methods and no evidence when estimating a threshold regression. The RDD evidence is strongest for the period 1990-1995, when immigrant inflows to Germany were largest. Furthermore, my findings suggest that inference methods previously used to test for the existence of tipping points in labour markets may have a tendency to over-reject the null of no tipping points. Taken together, my results may be cause for some scepticism about the existence of tipping points in labour markets.

Workplace segregation and the labour market performance of immigrants

Segregation of immigrants across workplaces has been widely documented, however the consequences of segregation remain subject to conjecture. I use survey data matched to administrative records to study the effect of segregation in an immigrant's first job on her subsequent labour market outcomes. I argue that controlling for the wealth of pre-migration characteristics recorded in my survey data, not typically available in studies of immigrant outcomes, is sufficient to account for selection into high-conational firms. I find that a ten percentage point increase in the share of conationals in an immigrant's first job is associated with a 1.5-2 percentage point lower employment rates in the medium- to longer-term, with the reduction falling most strongly on more educated immigrants. Formal tests show that the results are robust to selection on unobservables. I show that selective return migration systematically associated with the initial conational share is also unlikely to explain the estimated effects, while semi-parametric estimates using variable selection methods show that the results are robust to possible model misspecification in the presence of many covariates. Differences in human capital acquisition do not appear to explain the documented effect, suggesting that it is likely explained by differences in the quality of social network induced by differences in the initial workplace.

Other work in progress*Estimating the causal return to rural-urban migration in Indonesia*

I evaluate the causal return to rural-urban migration using an event study that compares individuals who migrate to the city with their siblings who stay behind. Migration leads to large but transient increases in employment rates, and to more persistent occupational upgrading.

Exploiting worker deaths to estimate the substitutability of immigrants and natives (with Lucas Guichard)