# Timo Schenk

*PhD Candidate at the Amsterdam School of Economics*

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## EDUCATION

**University of Amsterdam** PhD student in Economics, since 2020

**Tinbergen Institute** MPhil in Economics, 2018-2020 (cum laude)

**University of Mannheim** BSc in Economics, 2014-2017 (distinction)

**University of Warwick** visiting student, 2016

## RESEARCH

**Interests**

causal inference, econometric theory, statistics, policy evaluation

**Work in Progress**

*Bias Reduction Properties of Synthetic Control Estimators in Multifactor Error Models* (MPhil Thesis)

I study bias reduction properties of Synthetic Control (SC) estimators in settings in which both time fixed effects estimation and difference-in-differences estimation are biased. I assume a multifactor error model in which the treatment assignment depends on unobserved unit-specific characteristics. I show how the SC estimator (Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller, 2010) and the demeaned SC estimator (Ferman and Pinto, 2019) reduce the bias under balancing conditions on the confounding characteristics. Monte Carlo evidence suggests that their finite sample performance depends on sufficient penalization of the weight estimation. I revisit the study on the effect of the German reunification (Abadie, Diamond, and Hainmueller, 2015) as an empirical application.

**Presentations**

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| 2021 | PhD Lunch Seminar of Economics and Business Department, University of Amsterdam |
| 2020 | Virtual Brown Bag Seminar of the UvA-Econometrics group, University of Amsterdam |

## Teaching Experience

**University of Amsterdam (since 2020)**

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| Master | Advanced Econometrics 1, Financial Econometrics |
| Bachelor | Thesis supervision, Empirical Project |

**Tinbergen Institute (2019-2020)**

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| Master/PhD | Measure Theory and Asymptotic Statistics, Microeconomics 3: Information and Contract Theory |

**University of Mannheim (2015-2017)**

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| Bachelor | Microeconomics A, Statistics 1, Calculus and Linear Algebra A, Introductory Mathematics |

## Relevant Experience

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| 2017 - 2018 | Research Assistant for Prof. Dr. Markus Frölich, University of Mannheim |
| 2017 - 2018 | Junior Research Manager, C4ED – Centre for Evaluation and Development |
| | Project: Impact Evaluation of the "Health and Nutrition Conditional Cash Transfers" program in Pakistan, jointly with the Worldbank |

## Other

**Programming** R, LaTeX, Python, STATA, Matlab, Git

**Languages** German, English, Dutch

**Volleyball** player, trainer, coach, referee, member of the technical and financial comittee of my club

Last updated: June 19, 2021