TIMOTHY HUNT

timothy.hunt@nuffield.ox.ac.uk

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Economics of ageing, intra-family interaction and competition, economics of housing, social insurance

EDUCATION

PhD (DPhil) Candidate in Economics *2022-*
University of Oxford - Nuffield College
Supervisors: Hamish Low, Abi Adams, Romuald Méango
Thesis Title: *Household Decisions Over the Life Cycle*

MPhil in Economics, Distinction *2020-2022*
University of Oxford - Nuffield College
Supervisor: Ian Jewitt
Thesis Title: *The distributional consequences of social care reform in England*
MPhil Prize (*proxime accesit*) for best exam performance in first-year exams

BA Philosophy, Politics and Economics, First Class *2017-2020*
University of Oxford - Balliol College
Hicks/Webb Medley Prize for best exam performance in Economics

RESEARCH PAPERS

Sharing the caring? Dynamic interaction between siblings in the provision of care to parents
Working paper (2025), submitted to JEEA
Abstract: Adult daughters provide nearly three times as many hours of care to elderly parents as adult sons do. I analyse the role of strategic interaction between siblings in exacerbating this gap in care provision. To do so, I build and estimate a dynamic discrete-choice game in which siblings make location, work and care choices. I find that the opportunity for strategic play increases gender differences in caring responsibilities. Sons in particular strategically shirk providing care as they believe their sibling is relatively likely to provide care in their absence. Counterfactual experiments show that if siblings instead took care, location and work choices independently then the gender care gap would be around 31% smaller. Also, I find that unobserved preference differences between sons and daughters are far more important in driving the gender care gap than observed differences in wages.

Where's my pension gone? Labour supply effects of mistakes in retirement planning
Working paper (2025)
Abstract: I analyse how agents respond to realising mistakes in their retirement planning using a reform to the state pension age for women in the UK. This reform raised the age at which women could start receiving their public pension by several years. However, many women were not aware that this reform had been put in place, leading them to have mistaken beliefs about when they would be able to start receiving their pension. I first document the correlates of mistaken beliefs using data from the English Longitudinal Study of Ageing (ELSA) and present descriptive evidence suggesting an increase in labour supply after people realise they were mistaken about their pensions. I then build a life-cycle model of consumption and labour supply around retirement, where agents face a cost of cognitive effort of paying attention to reforms to the pension system, and I estimate the model by matching data moments from ELSA for the cohorts of affected women. I find that mistaken beliefs about the reform cost agents £1148 on average, with notable heterogeneity by demographics, and that agents in the model significantly increase labour supply once they realise their mistakes.

Long-term care policy and housing market efficiency
Working paper (2025)

Abstract: In many countries government policy on funding long-term care for older people incentivises holding housing wealth over financial wealth through exempting housing wealth from the test for means-tested government support with long-term care costs (a "homestead exemption"). I analyse the degree to which such exemptions distort the housing demand of older people and the effects on younger people through the housing market using the UK as my setting. I build and estimate an overlapping generations model of the housing market where multiple generations trade houses over the course of their life cycles while facing income, longevity and health risk. By comparing housing market steady states with and without the homestead exemption, I find that a budget-balanced removal of the homestead exemption would reduce house prices by 23% and increase welfare by an equivalent of a £422 annual increase in consumption per household. The main beneficiaries are those with less housing wealth in the initial steady state, whereas those who lose out most are those with long-term care problems and more inherited wealth in the initial steady state.

Childcare, elder care and the gender care gap
Work in progress (joint with Dianne McWilliam, University of Michigan)

Abstract: We evaluate the effect of policies to encourage fathers to take paternity leave on their care provision to the elderly parents later in life using reforms to the German parental leave system.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant: PSID Life Cycle project *Summer 2025*
PI: Hamish Low (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago)

Research Assistant: Empirical Justice project *Summer 2025*
PI: Abi Adams (Northwestern University)

Research Assistant: Marriage Market project *Spring 2025*
PI: Alison Andrew (University of Oxford)

Contributor: REAL Demand Unit Social Care Pathfinder *Spring 2025*
PI: Sasha Shepperd (Health Foundation)

Research Assistant: Monopsony and Flexible Work project *Spring 2024*
PI: Tom Waters (IFS)

Research Assistant: GARP and Parallelisation project *Summer 2023*
PI: Ian Crawford (University of Oxford)

Research Assistant: UKRI Funding project *Autumn 2022*
PI: Hamish Low (Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago)

Research Assistant: Populism and the Economy project *Summer 2021*
PI: Manuel Funke (Institute for the World Economy, Kiel)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Lecturer in Economics *2022-*
Balliol College, University of Oxford

Tutor: Quantitative Economics (undergraduate) *2025*
Course Convenor: James Duffy (University of Oxford)

Tutor: Introductory Macroeconomics (undergraduate) *2025*
Course Convenor: Michael McMahon (University of Oxford)

Tutor: Introductory Microeconomics (undergraduate) *2022-*
Course Convenor: Ian Crawford (University of Oxford)

Tutor: Introductory Probability & Statistics (undergraduate) *2022-*
Course Convenor: Ian Crawford (University of Oxford)

Tutor: Microeconomics (undergraduate) *2022-*
Course Convenor: Miguel Ballester (University of Oxford)

ACADEMIC VISITS

University of Michigan *Aug-Dec 2024*
Visiting: Ana Reynoso (University of Michigan)

REFEREEING WORK

Journal of Human Resources *2025-*

Oxford Economic Papers *2024-*

SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES

Software	Python, R, MATLAB, Fortran, Stata
Languages	English (native), Spanish (proficient, studying for C1 certificate), Welsh (proficient), French (intermediate)
Nationality	UK, Malta