

TOMMASO BIGHELLI

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EDUCATION

Halle Institute for Economic Research (IWH) & Friedrich Schiller University Jena PhD in Economics. Supervisors: Javier Miranda, Matthias Mertens Dissertation: "Essays on Firms and Market Performance"	10/2019-present
Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) , MRes Economics	2017-2019
Sapienza University of Rome , MSc Economics	2015-2017
Sapienza University of Rome , BSc. Economics	2012-2015

RESEARCH FIELDS

Firm-Dynamics, Productivity, Factor Reallocation, Structural Change

RESEARCH

Job Market Paper: The contribution of declining corporate taxes to deindustrialization

Is declining corporate taxation contributing to the declining manufacturing share of the economy observed in all the advanced countries? This article argues the answer is yes.

I combine administrative firm-level data of Germany with 8,000 local tax changes for identification. Changes in local taxation cause changes in local manufacturing share on the same sign. Firm-level results reveal this is due to firms in service sector being more elastic to tax shock than firms in manufacturing. With these evidence in mind, I calibrate a two-sectors heterogeneous agents firm-dynamic model to show that a long-run corporate tax cut contributes to sectoral reallocation from manufacturing to service.

Publication:

European Firm Concentration and Aggregate Productivity

with F. di Mauro (CompNet), M. Melitz (Harvard), M. Mertens (IWH)

Journal of the European Economic Association. Volume 21 – Issue 2, April 2023

This paper derives a European Herfindahl–Hirschman concentration index from 15 micro-aggregated country datasets. In the last decade, European concentration rose due to a reallocation of economic activity toward large and concentrated industries. Over the same period, productivity gains from an increasing allocative efficiency of the European market accounted for 50% of European productivity growth while markups stayed constant. Using country-industry variation, we show that changes in concentration are positively associated with changes in productivity and allocative efficiency. This holds across most sectors and countries and supports the notion that rising concentration in Europe reflects a more efficient market environment rather than weak competition and rising market power.

Working Papers:

Competition and portfolio concentration in the lending market

with P. Eccles (Bank of England), submitted

Work in Progress:

M&A and Product Reallocation

with Mirja Hälbig (IWH)

The rise in international service trade and firm-dynamics

with Kyle Handley (UCSD) and Javier Miranda (IWH)

How to measure product energy intensity using machine-learning techniques

POLICY WORK (SELECTED):

Cross-Country Evidence on the allocation of Covid-19 subsidies and consequences for Productivity, with T. Lalinsky (Bank of Slovakia) and J. Vanhala (Bank of Finland),

Journal of Japanese and International Economies Volume 68, June 2023.

Covid-19 government support may have not been as unproductively distributed as feared, with F. di Mauro (CompNet) and T. Lalinsky (Bank of Slovakia), *VoxEU*, August 2021

Covid and Productivity one year after: what did surprise us?, with S. Infrerra (Queen Mary), F. di Mauro (CompNet) and C. Syverson (Chicago Booth), *CompNet Policy Brief*, February 2021

Increasing Market concentration in Europe is more likely to be a sign of strength than a cause for concern, with F. di Mauro (CompNet), M. Melitz (Harvard) and M. Mertens (IWH), *VoxEU*, October 2020

2020 CompNet Firm Productivity Report, CompNet (2020)

RELEVANT POSITIONS:

2023	University College London , Research Visit (host: V. Sterk)
2022	Bank of England , Visiting PhD Researcher
2021-present	Deutsche Bundesbank , Guest Researcher
2019-present	CompNet , Researcher
2019	Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) , Research Assistant for E. Vella
2017	Autonomous University of Barcelona (UAB) , Visiting Student (host: L. Gambetti)
2016	Sapienza University of Rome , Research Assistant for F. Nucci

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS AND INVITED SEMINARS:

2023	AMEF (University of Macedonia), Applied Economics Conference (Universitat de Castiglia-La Mancia), Conference of European Studies (KOF, ETH Zurich), Kent University, German Council of Economic Experts, Deutsche Bundesbank, INFER (University of Valencia), Bank of England
2022	Bank of England, NBER-CEPR-TCER TRIO Conference on Covid-19 and the Macroeconomy (University of Tokyo), Halle Institute for Economic Research
2021	University of Kent, CAED (University of Coimbra), CompNet Annual Conference (Banque de France), Verein für Socialpolitik (University of Resensburg), INFER (Lisbon School of Economics), EARIE (NHH Norwegian School of Economics), EEA-ESEM (University of Copenhagen), SED (University of Minnesota), PEJ (Catolica Business School Porto), IAAE (Erasmus University of Rotterdam), Queen Mary University London, CGDE (Halle Institute for Economic Research)
2020	Halle Institute for Economic Research

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR ORGANIZATION:

2022	CompNet ProdTalks
2021	CompNet ProdTalks ; CompNet – Banque de France Annual Conference Firm-dynamics, factors reallocation and organization of production in the context of COVID-19
2020	Conference on Sustainable development, firm performance and competitiveness policies in small open economies (CompNet- National Bank of Slovakia)

DATA DEVELOPMENT:

CompNet Dataset 9th Vintage (2023), 8th Vintage (2021) and 7th Vintage (2020)

Coverage: 23 European Countries, 1999-2021

Indicators: Labor, Productivity, Market Power, Trade, Finance

Approach: micro-aggregated indicators based on firm-level data

OTHER:

Referee Service: Economics of Innovation and New Technology, Applied Economics, Journal of Productivity Analysis

Summer Schools: Advanced Econometrics (Bavarian GPE; instructor: J. Wooldridge; 2021); Research on Productivity and Trade (Tinbergen Institute; instructors: E. Bartelsman, J. Van Biesebroeck, J. De Loecker)

Languages: Italian (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), German (basic)

Software: Stata, Matlab, Latex, R, Python (basic)

GRE (2017): Q: 164, V: 157, A: 3.5

Activities: Travelling, cooking, hiking, bachata dancing

REFERENCES:

Javier Miranda (supervisor)

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FS University Jena

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Marc Melitz

Full Professor

Harvard University

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