

Ujjwol Paudel

Updated: November 17, 2024

✉ upaudel1@asu.edu
🌐 ujjwolpaudel.github.io

Arizona State University
W. P. Carey School of Business

EDUCATION

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Ph.D., Econometrics & Quantitative Economics, Arizona State University (Expected) | 2021-2025 |
| <i>Interests:</i> Industrial Organization, Labor Economics, Food Economics | |
| <i>Dissertation Chair:</i> Timothy J. Richards | |
| M.S., Mathematics, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zürich (ETHZ, Switzerland) | 2015-2018 |
| B.S., Mathematics, Jacobs University Bremen (Germany) | 2012-2015 |

JOB MARKET PAPER

1. Labor Market Power in the US Food Retailing Industry

Draft coming soon

Abstract. Using 2006-2022 data on US food retailers, I study labor market power by examining gap between worker productivity and wages. First, I analyze how labor market concentration (measured by population density and establishment counts) affects minimum wage impacts on store employment. I find positive employment effects in concentrated markets, suggesting oligopsony power. To test this hypothesis, I estimate labor markdowns using production function methods, revealing how wage-setting power varies by market concentration, time, and firm characteristics. The findings indicate that retailers in concentrated markets maintain larger productivity-wage gaps, allowing them to absorb minimum wage increases while raising employment.

WORKING PAPERS

1. Minimum Wages and Pass-Through (w/ [Timothy J. Richards](#)). 2024.
Revise and Resubmit at American Journal of Agricultural Economics.
[\[Paper\]](#) [\[Slides\]](#)
2. Farmworker Bargaining in US Agricultural Labor Markets (w/ [Timothy J. Richards](#)). 2024.
Revise and Resubmit at Applied Economic Perspectives and Policy.
[\[Paper\]](#) [\[Slides\]](#)
3. Retail Concentration and Wages (w/ [Timothy J. Richards](#) & [Keenan Marchesi](#)). 2024. *Under Review.*
[\[Paper\]](#)
4. Cross-Platforms Merger Effects. 2023.
[\[Paper\]](#)

WORKS IN PROGRESS

1. Supermarket Entry and Labor Markdowns.
2. Food Intentions and Food Outcomes (w/ [Justin Bina](#)).
3. Advertisements and Market Power in Retailing (w/ [Qingxiao Li](#)).

PRESENTATIONS (INCLUDING SCHEDULED)

| | |
|---|------|
| AEA-ASSA | 2025 |
| PhD - Economics Virtual Seminar; ASU; EARIE; ETH Zürich; AAEA | 2024 |
| AAEA; INFORMS Marketing Science | 2023 |

HONORS AND AWARDS

| | |
|---|------------|
| University Graduate Fellowship (USD 2,162), ASU | 2024-2025 |
| 3-Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition Finalist, ASU | Oct 2024 |
| James Sweitzer Memorial Scholarship (USD 5,064), ASU | 2022-2024 |
| Travel grant from Graduate Student Association (USD 1,900), ASU | 2023, 2024 |
| Travel grant from Agricultural & Applied Economics Association (USD 500), AAEA | Jul 2024 |
| Doctoral Consortium Fellow, <i>INFORMS Marketing Science Conference (Miami, Sydney)</i> | 2023, 2024 |
| First place in Social Science Poster Contest , ASU | Nov 2023 |
| Richard S Gordon Scholarship (USD 700), ASU | Fall 2022 |
| Institutional and Behavioral Economics Section Scholarship (USD 500), AAEA | May 2022 |
| University Graduate Fellowship (USD 2,162), ASU | Fall 2021 |
| Scholarship for Master's Studies (CHF 16,000), <i>Vontobel Foundation, Zürich</i> | 2016-2018 |

TEACHING

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Food Supply Networks (Instructor), ASU [Syllabus] [Schedule] [Evaluations] | Spr 2024 |
| Strategic Pricing in Food Markets (TA for Prof. Tim Richards), ASU | Spr 2024 |
| Food Retailing (TA for Prof. Renee Hughner), ASU | 2022-2023 |
| Business Mathematics & Statistics (Instructor), <i>King's College Nepal</i> | 2018-2021 |

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

| | |
|---|-----------|
| President, Graduate Student Org., Morrison School of Agribusiness, ASU | 2024-2025 |
| Participant, USDA Food Prices & Forecasting Workshop | Jul 2024 |
| Twitter/X Manager, International Section of the AAEA | 2022-2023 |
| Participant, Mixtape Causal Inference Sessions | 2022- |
| Participant, Summer School on Experimental Methods, Michigan State University | May 2022 |
| Referee for <i>Canadian Journal of Agricultural Economics</i> | |

REFERENCES

Prof. Timothy J. Richards (Advisor)

Arizona State University

Email: trichards@asu.edu

Prof. Steve Hamilton (Committee Member)

Orfalea College of Business, Cal Poly

Email: shamilto@calpoly.edu

Prof. Nicholas Vreugdenhil (Committee Member)

Arizona State University

Email: nvreugde@asu.edu