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Placement Director: Toru Kitagawa — toru_kitagawa@brown.edu (401) 863-3836
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Primary Fields: Inequality, Demographic Economics, Macroeconomics

Secondary Fields: Economic Growth, Mathematical Economics

Education

Brown University
Ph.D., Economics, expected completion May 2023
M.A., Economics, 2018

University of Helsinki
M.Sc., Mathematics, 2022

University of Groningen
Visiting student (Erasmus), Spring 2015

University of Oulu
M.Sc., Economics, 2016
B.Sc., Economics, 2014

References

Professor David Weil
James and Merryl Tisch Professor of Economics
Department of Economics, Brown University
(401) 863-1754
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Professor Oded Galor
Herbert Goldberger Professor of Economics
Department of Economics, Brown University
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Professor John Friedman
PDBF Distinguished Professor of Economics
Department of Economics, Brown University
(401) 863-9590
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Research Experience	**Research Assistant, Brown University** Professor David Weil, Summers 2018 and 2019 **Research Assistant, University of Oulu** Professor Ilmo Mäenpää, Spring 2016 Professor Rauli Svento, Fall 2015 Professor Mikko Puhakka, Summer 2014
Teaching Experience	**Teaching Assistant, Brown University** Mathematics for Economists (graduate course), Lecturer Alex Poterack, Fall 2018 and Fall 2022 Economic Growth, Professor David Weil, Fall 2021 Essential Mathematics for Economics, Lecturer Alex Poterack, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, and Summer 2021 Economania (Summer course for high school students), Summer 2019 Economic Development, Professor Louis Putterman, Spring 2019 **Teaching Assistant, University of Oulu** Economic Theory II (macro), Professor Mikko Puhakka, Fall 2014 and Fall 2015
Invited Seminars and Conference Presentations	**2022**: PAA Annual Meeting **2021**: Stone Center on Socio-Economic Inequality at City University of New York†, Max Planck Institute for Demographic Research†
Professional Activities	**Referee** Journal of Economic Growth
Awards and Fellowships	**Brown University Merit Dissertation Fellowship** Spring 2022 **James M. and Cathleen D. Stone Wealth and Income Inequality Project Fellowship** Spring 2021 **Stephen R. Ehrlich Fellowship Fund** 2017-2018
Languages and Skills	Finnish (native), English (fluent) Matlab, R, Stata, Python, LaTeX

Working Papers

Job Market Paper 1: *Population Aging, Cohort Replacement, and the Evolution of Income Inequality in the United States* [Latest version]
with Matthias Schief

We study how demographic change affects the evolution of household income inequality in the United States both historically and prospectively. We emphasize the distinct roles of population aging and cohort replacement, and develop a methodology to study their joint compositional effect on income inequality. In the process, we also develop a novel methodology to aggregate sub-population Gini coefficients into a population-

level Gini coefficient based on the principle of maximum entropy. We find that rising income inequality is embodied in birth cohorts born since the mid-20th century and that most of the increase in inequality over the past two decades can be accounted for by demographic change. Furthermore, we predict that demographic change over the next two decades will lead to further increase of the Gini coefficient by one to six percentage points.

Job Market Paper 2: *Subgroup Decomposition of the Gini Coefficient: A New Solution to an Old Problem*
[Latest version]
with Matthias Schief

We study inequality decomposition by population subgroups. We define properties of a satisfactory decomposition and ask what these properties imply for the decomposition of familiar inequality indices. We find that the Gini coefficient, the generalized entropy indices, and the Foster-Shneyerov indices all admit satisfactory decomposition formulas derived from a common set of axioms. While our axiomatic approach recovers the known decomposition formulas for the generalized entropy and the Foster-Shneyerov indices, it leads us to a novel decomposition formula for the Gini coefficient. The decomposition of the Gini coefficient can be easily computed, has both a geometric and an arithmetic intuition, and behaves better compared to existing decomposition formulas for the Gini coefficient.

Work in Progress

On the Determinacy of Equilibrium in a Continuous-time Overlapping Generations Model

Institutional Changes and the Allocation of Talent: Macroeconomic Effects of a School Reform in Finland
with Cosimo Petracchi and Matthias Schief

Tight Bounds for the Gini Coefficient of Composite Populations
with Matthias Schief

[†]Presentation by co-author