

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

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GENDER: M

CITIZENSHIP: Italian

PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES:

2013-2015 MRes in Economics, London School of Economics
2010-2013 MSc in Economics, Bocconi University, Summa cum Laude
2007-2010 BA in Economics, Bocconi University, Summa cum Laude

DOCTORAL STUDIES: London School of Economics

DATES: September 2015 - present

THESIS TITLE: "Essays in Applied Econometrics"

EXPECTED COMPLETION DATE: Summer 2019

THESIS ADVISOR AND REFERENCES:

Alan Manning (Advisor)
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University of Sussex
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DESIRED TEACHING AND RESEARCH:

Primary Fields: Labor Economics

Secondary Fields: Public Economics

TEACHING EXPERIENCE:

2018 Public Economics (EC325), Undergraduate School, LSE
2017-2018 Introductory Course in Statistics (EC400), Graduate School, LSE
2017-2018 Dissertation Tutor for MSc Management, Graduate School, LSE
2017-2018 Stata Introductory Course for MSc Management, Graduate School, LSE
2015-2018 Stata Introductory Course for MSc Economics, Graduate School, LSE
2015-2017 Problems in Applied Econometrics (EC333), Undergraduate School, LSE
Highly Commended for Sharing Subject Knowledge, Student Led Teaching Award

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD:

2014-2018 Research Assistant, Centre for Economic Performance, London School of Economics
2012-2013 Research Assistant, IGIER Research Centre, Bocconi
2011 Internship at the European Commission, Ecfm (European Neighborhood Policies), Brussels, Belgium

LANGUAGES

Italian (Native) English (Fluent)

HONORS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS:

2016 Student led teaching award "Sharing Subject Knowledge"; Highly Commended
2013-2017 ESRC Doctoral Training Centre Studentship, Economic and Social Research Council
2013 Winner of Neodemos and the Young". Award for best article by young author for the [article](#) "The Grey future of BRICs"
2007 Award for Excellence in High School Exams, Ministry of Education and Science

COMPLETED PAPERS:

Job Market Paper:

The Medium-Term Effects of Unemployment Benefits - [link](#)

Although there is an extensive literature on the short-term effects of unemployment benefits, little is known about their medium-term implications. In this paper I use rich and novel administrative data to study the effects of potential benefit duration on aggregate outcomes over 4 years after layoff. I implement a regression discontinuity design exploiting a discontinuous 4 months jump in potential benefit duration at 50 years of age-at-layoff. I find that longer potential benefit duration leads to a longer period on unemployment benefits and in not employment, by 8 weeks and 6.2 weeks respectively. I also find positive, but small and often not significant, effects on first job quality with a small increase in the probability of finding a permanent contract. In the medium run, however, workers with longer potential benefit duration spend only 2 additional weeks in not employment and show small labor income losses. This is driven by a higher employment probability in the period following the first reemployment, which compensate for the longer time spent to find a job. Estimates are robust to a wide set of robustness

checks and a placebo check further supports my identification strategy. Results suggest that workers coming from smaller firms and losing a permanent contract are the ones most negatively affected by longer potential benefit duration. These findings are important from a policy perspective as they suggest that classical measures of the cost of unemployment benefits tend to overestimate the negative externalities of potential benefit duration.

Colocation and Knowledge Diffusion: Evidence from Million Dollar Plants (with Christian Fons-Rosen and Katalin Szemeredi) – Cep Discussion Paper n. 1447 - [link](#)

Foreign Direct Investments represent an important component in modern economies and the estimation of their effects is crucial from a policy perspective. In this paper, we exploit the entry of large corporations into U.S. counties to analyze the effect of plant opening on knowledge spillovers to local inventors. We use a difference-in-differences identification strategy exploiting information on the revealed ranking of locations for large plants in the US. We find that patents of the entering firms are 68% more likely to be cited in the winning counties relative to the losing counties after entry. Patent, firm and receiving county characteristics play an important role in the local knowledge diffusion. However, we do not find that the new plants lead to higher patent production. This is confirmed by a variety of research output measures. This suggests that the firm patent pool is substituting other patents without increasing the overall innovation output.

Teacher Turnover: Does it Matter for Pupil Achievement? (with Steve Gibbons and Shqiponja Telhaj) – Cep Discussion Paper n. 1530 - [link](#)

Recent research has established that teachers matter for student achievements, albeit because of dimensions of ‘teacher quality’ that are largely unexplained. A less closely investigated issue is whether teacher turnover directly harms student academic achievement. In this paper we examine whether teacher turnover affects academic achievement of 16 years-old secondary school students using a unique data set of students and teachers in UK. Our identification comes from year to year variation in teacher turnover within school-subject. Our estimates point at consistently negative but small effects of higher turnover on pupils’ scores. Negative effects are stronger for more disadvantaged and minority students and they are stronger in worse schools. We further show that schools are aware of these effects and try to moderate them by decreasing the teacher burden for new teachers. Results are robust to a wide range of specification and falsification tests. Our findings suggest that although there are costs in moving teachers across schools, these costs are in general contained also thanks to strategic behavior of schools.

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS:

Middle Leaders' Training and School Performance: Evidence from a Programme Intervention in UK (with Shqiponja Telhaj and Katy Theobald)

There is a wide variation of productivity among schools. Leadership is often cited as an important factor in closing the productivity gap and raising school performance. However, there is limited evidence on the effectiveness of training programs for school leaders. In addition, this literature focuses on school leaders while it neglects intermediate managerial positions. This paper attempts to fill this gap in the literature by exploiting a unique secondary school intervention program in England. The program aims to tackle educational disadvantage in state schools by training top and middle managers (deputy headteachers and heads of departments). Using a fuzzy regression discontinuity design on score for admission into training, we investigate whether school middle managers’ training improves student attainment. Our findings suggest that middle leaders training has limited effects on pupils’ outcome.

Happy birthday? Unemployment benefits and Manipulation (with Luca Citino and Killian Russ)

This paper documents strategic delay in layoffs around an age-at-layoff threshold entitling workers to 4 months increase in potential unemployment benefit duration in Italy. Manipulation is quantitatively important and of far-reaching consequences: workers spend 3.4 and 3.1 more months in UI benefit receipt and nonemployment, respectively. Manipulation is most prevalent among female, white-collar, permanent contract workers with long tenure in small firms. Despite the large fiscal cost, we estimate the effective moral hazard cost of manipulation to be modest. By tracing out the counterfactual unemployment hazard of manipulators we show that only a quarter of the benefit duration response is due to moral hazard. Our results highlight the importance of distinguishing between fiscal and economic costs of manipulation in social insurance programs.

Future Research:

Compensating Differentials in the Public Sector (with Esteban Aucejo and Shqiponja Telhaj)

Pay per performance and active labor market policies: realigning the incentives?

The Effect of Supply-Chain Digitalization on Firm Outcomes

The effectiveness of Internationalization policies on firm export (with Alessandro Palma and Francesco Manaresi)

Other Publications:

- 2018 [Gli effetti della durata del sussidio di disoccupazione su tempi e qualità della rioccupazione](#), Social Security (INPS) Annual Report, Part III.
- 2017 [Does Teacher turnover affect young people's academic achievement?](#), with Shqiponja Telhaj and, Steve Gibbons, CentrePiece, Spring 2017
- 2013 [The support of families during the Great Recession](#), Welfare oggi, No. 6
- 2011 [The EU's neighboring economies: coping with new challenges](#), contributes to Thematic issues, European Commission, Occasional Paper 86, Brussels, Directorate General for Economic and Financial Affairs.
- 2011-2018 Various articles in collaboration with several blogs and websites such as [Neodemos](#), [Lavoce.info](#) and [Linkiesta](#)

Service for the Profession:

- 2017 Royal Economic Society Junior Conference, 14 April
- 2015 ESRC - Doctoral Training Centers' Annual Conference, 23-24 March