

LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS & POLITICAL SCIENCE

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GENDER: Male

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DOCTORAL STUDIES

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics, London School of Economics, 2014 to present
Expected Completion Date: July 2019
Thesis Title: "Essays in Applied Microeconomics"

THESIS ADVISOR AND REFERENCES

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PRE-DOCTORAL STUDIES

2013-2014 MRes in Economics (with distinction), London School of Economics
2012-2013 MSc in Economics (with distinction), London School of Economics
2008-2011 BA in Economics, University of St. Gallen

<u>FIELDS</u>	Primary Field: Applied Microeconomics
	Secondary Fields: Applied Machine Learning, Economics of Crime, Development Economics
<u>TEACHING EXPERIENCE</u>	2015-2018 EC402: Econometrics (for MSc Economics) 2015-2016 EC428: Development and Growth (for MSc Economics) 2014-2015 EC202: Microeconomic Principles II (advanced option for BSc Economics)
<u>RELEVANT POSITIONS</u>	2018-present LSE Academic Mentor 2015-2018 LSE Teaching Fellow 2014-2015 LSE Surgery Tutor (for EC402) 2014-2015 LSE Teaching Assistant
<u>LANGUAGES</u>	English (fluent) German (native) French (basic)
<u>CERTIFICATES, SCHOLARSHIPS, AND FELLOWSHIPS</u>	2015-2018 LSE: Teaching Fellow Since 2016 The Higher Education Academy: Associate Fellow 2016 Postgraduate Certificate in Higher Education (Associate Level) 2014-2015 LSE Research Studentship
<u>COMPLETED PAPER</u>	“Hate Crime after the Brexit Vote: Heterogeneity Analysis based on a Universal Treatment” (Job Market Paper) I investigate the change in hate crime targeting the victim's race or religion after the Brexit vote. The vote represents a public information shock about society's attitude regarding immigrants. My results reveal a substantial and transitory increase in such crime following the vote. The central focus of my analysis is the considerable spatial heterogeneity of this increase. Areas with a greater increase in hate crime are characterized by both a greater immigrant share, and higher income proxies. Differences in unemployment rates do not significantly contribute to the observed variance. More specifically, parsimonious linear prediction models show the shares of recent immigrants and people with formal qualifications as key predictors of the hate crime increase. My findings are consistent with treating the Brexit vote as an update of expected social sanctions to hate offenders. Issues of multiple hypothesis testing and model selection limit the use of classic methods; therefore I apply and adapt recent machine learning methods as well.

RESEARCH IN
PROGRESS

“Dynamically Optimal Treatment Allocation using Reinforcement Learning”
(with Karun Adusumilli and Friedrich Geiecke)

We consider the problem of using experimental or observational data to learn optimal treatment assignment rules for maximizing expected welfare in a dynamic setting. We consider a situation in which the social planner faces budget, capacity and/or time constraints, and only observes applicants sequentially. The constraints, along with the sequential nature of observations, generate inter-temporal trade-offs. We employ reinforcement learning algorithms to estimate an optimal policy function which continually changes the treatment assignment according to the current state variables. The state variables can include budget, time or capacity at any given instant, and the observed characteristics of the applicants.

“Not-For-Profit Firms as a Mean of Market Entry: A Theoretical Analysis”

Several large companies have recently created not-for-profit firms that provide goods specifically targeted at the poor. While this is beneficial for the poor, altruistic motives are not necessarily required. In the suggested mechanism, high-quality producers can signal their quality-type prior to market entry. A possible signal is creating a not-for-profit firm and producing high quality goods for the poor. The essential condition for this signal to be optimal is that the for-profit market is sufficiently large. Growing markets in developing countries lead therefore ceteris paribus to more not-for-profit firms. Low or inexistent quality standards are also fostering not-for-profit firm creation.

“Self-Selection and Ethnical Discrimination in Policing”
(with Tom Kirchmaier)

On average, humans are discriminatory. In policing, many interactions between humans occur, often under tension and pressure. It is moreover a context where being discriminated against is particularly problematic. An inexpensively adjustable policy choice is the amount of freedom in location given to officers. Our hypothesis is that there is a beneficial selection: Those officers who avoid people of a given ethnicity are also those who treat them in a discriminatory fashion or escalate the situation if the interaction is unavoidable. The ongoing analysis uses data on emergency backup calls, GPS data on officers' locations, and shift plans.

INTERVIEW
AVAILABILITY

ASSA Meetings in Atlanta
EEA European Job Market in Naples
RES PhD Meeting in London