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Education

The University of Chicago
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Thesis: “*Essays on Rental Housing Markets and the Socio-Economic Mobility of Low-Income Households*”
Expected Completion Date: June 2019

B.Sc., Mathematics, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 2013

M.Sc., Econometrics and Mathematical Economics, London School of Economics, 2011

B.Sc., Econometrics and Operations Research, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, 2010

References

Professor Magne Mogstad (Co-Chair)
The University of Chicago
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Professor Azeem Shaikh (Co-Chair)
The University of Chicago
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Professor Ali Hortaçsu
The University of Chicago
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Teaching and Research Fields

Primary fields: Labor Economics, Public Economics

Secondary field: Applied Econometrics

Teaching Experience

2016, '17, '18	Economics Research Experience (undergraduate), Becker Friedman Institute, Lecturer
2015, 2016	Introduction to Econometrics, Honors (undergraduate), University of Chicago, Lecturer
2015	Big Data (MBA), Booth School of Business, Teaching Assistant for Matt Taddy
2014, 2015	Healthcare Analytics (MBA), Booth School of Business, Teaching Assistant for Dan Adelman
2015	Analysis of Microeconomic Data (PhD), Harris School of Public Policy, Teaching Assistant for Dan Black
2014	Strategy and Structure: Markets and Organizations (MBA), Booth School of Business, Teaching Assistant for Johan Chu

- 2014 Econometrics A (undergraduate), University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Azeem Shaikh
- 2014 Introduction to Econometrics, Honors (undergraduate), University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Alexander Mackay
- 2013 Elements of Economic Analysis I, Honors (undergraduate), University of Chicago, Teaching Assistant for Victor Lima
- 2012 Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate), Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Teaching Assistant for Siem Jan Koopman

Research Experience and Other Employment

- 2015 – 2017 Research assistant to Azeem Shaikh
- 2013 Research assistant to Ali Hortaçsu
- 2009 – 2012 Research assistant to Siem Jan Koopman

Research Grants

- 2018 Becker Friedman Institute Data Acquisition Grant
- 2018 University of Chicago Dept. of Economics Travel Grant
- 2018 National Science Foundation, sub-award for “Evictions: Causes, Consequences, and Institutions” (SES-1757112)
- 2017 University of Chicago Dept. of Economics Data Acquisition Grant
- 2016 Kreisman Initiative on Housing Law and Policy grant, with John Eric Humphries and Daniel Tannenbaum
- 2016 Spencer Foundation Small Grant, with John Eric Humphries and Daniel Tannenbaum
- 2016 Laura and John Arnold Foundation “Using Linked Data to Advance Evidence-Based Policymaking” grant, with John Eric Humphries and Daniel Tannenbaum
- 2015 University of Chicago Division of the Social Sciences Long-Term Research Grant

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

- 2017 University of Chicago Reid Dissertation Fellowship
- 2013 University of Chicago Rosen Memorial Fellowship
- 2012 Fulbright Foundation Scholarship
- 2012 VSBFonds Scholarship
- 2012 Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Scholarship
- 2012 Dr. Hendrik Muller Vaderlandsch Fonds Scholarship
- 2010 Dutch Ministry of Education, Culture and Science: Huygens Scholarship (full tuition and stipend for the London School of Economics)

Professional Activities

Referee:

Journal of Political Economy

Conference and Seminar Presentations:

- 2018 Society of Labor Economists’ Annual Meeting (SOLE); Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam Labor Economics Seminar
- 2017 Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries in the Social Sciences (University of Chicago)

2016 Market Design Perspectives on Inequality Conference, Human Capital and Economic Opportunity Global Working Group (University of Chicago)

Conference and Workshop Organization:

2017, 2018 Crossing Disciplinary Boundaries in the Social Sciences (University of Chicago)

2016, 2017 Empirics and Methods in Economics (University of Chicago & Northwestern University)

2015–2017 Econometrics Working Group (University of Chicago)

2015–2017 Applied Microeconomics Working Group (University of Chicago)

Affiliations:

European Matching in Practice network

Data Clearance:

Statistics Netherlands (Centraal Bureau voor de Statistiek), U.S. Census Bureau Special Sworn Status

Service to the Division:

Dean's Advisory Council, University of Chicago Social Sciences Division (2016, 2017)

Research Papers

“The Socio-Economic Consequences of Housing Assistance” (JMP)

This paper analyzes the effect of Europe's largest public housing program on socio-economic outcomes for low-income households. Using lotteries for housing units in the Netherlands and data linking national registers to application choices, I show that the average move into public housing negatively affects labor market outcomes and proxies for neighborhood quality, and increases public assistance receipt. However, consistent with a model of labor supply responses to conditional in-kind transfers, average impacts miss substantial heterogeneity both across neighborhoods and, within neighborhood, across recipients. Moves into high-income neighborhoods generate positive effects, which are driven by ‘upward’ moves made by individuals previously living in low- or middle-income neighborhoods. Lateral and ‘downward’ moves have the opposite effect. To evaluate whether these results generalize to non-recipients, I develop a model of application behavior that utilizes panel data on application choices and exploits variation induced by the housing allocation mechanism. Using the model, I recover the distribution of heterogeneity that drives selection into and returns from lotteries, and estimate that selection on gains is limited. This suggests that targeting public housing in high-income neighborhoods based on observable characteristics can increase economic self-sufficiency.

“Does Eviction Cause Poverty? Quasi-Experimental Evidence from Cook County, IL” (with John Eric Humphries, Nicholas Mader, and Daniel Tannenbaum)

In Cook County, IL, more than 32,000 eviction cases appear before the circuit court every year, the majority involving tenants from the poorest areas in Chicago. Influential research, based on high-quality surveys and ethnographic work, suggests that eviction may not only be a symptom of poverty but may, in fact, cause or exacerbate poverty by contributing to circumstances that are adverse to economic mobility. Yet households facing eviction are likely to have recently faced negative economic shocks, which makes establishing the proposed causal relationship difficult. This paper proposes a quasi-experimental design for evaluating the causal impact of eviction on employment, earnings, public assistance receipt, financial distress, and children's schooling outcomes. Using over 700,000 eviction case histories, our research design leverages Cook County's random assignment of eviction court cases to judges, where some judges are more lenient than others. This provides a source of exogenous variation,

allowing us to study the effect of eviction on a wide range of short- and long-run household outcomes associated with poverty.

“School Choice with Unequal Outside Options” (with Mohammad Akbarpour)

Students with identical valuations for public schools but unequal outside options have different opportunity costs of revealing their preferences. Consequently, manipulable mechanisms need not resolve conflicting preferences in a Pareto-improving manner. We show that when they do not, welfare improvements for students with outside options come at the expense of students without outside options. This result strengthens the argument that strategy-proof mechanisms “level the playing field.” Our model predicts that students without outside options are more likely to strategize, consistent with recent findings in empirical studies of education markets.

Book Chapter

“Public Housing Allocation: Mechanics of Redistribution-in-Kind” (for *Fair by Design: Economic Design Responses to Inequality*, eds. Scott Kominers and Alex Teytelboym, Oxford University Press)

Research Papers in Progress

“Choice and Welfare in Rationing Goods by Waitlist: An Empirical Analysis of Housing Allocation”

Waitlists are often used as rationing devices for government-provided goods. For heterogeneous goods, wait lists can be combined with choice procedures for matching goods to potential recipients. These procedures determine both *which* goods people receive, and *when* they receive them, implying a trade-off between quickly allocating to those with high disutility from waiting and using willingness-to-wait as a signal of (unobserved) valuation. In this paper, I study a setting where public housing applicants periodically report their preferences over available housing units, and ties are broken based on wait time. A simple model shows that congestion externalities from individuals with low disutility from waiting can cause inefficiencies that can be mitigated by limiting agents' ability to choose among housing units. Using a dynamic model of application and acceptance behavior, I estimate preferences over neighborhood and housing characteristics, quantify the cost of congestion to different groups among applicants, and draw lessons from the ex-post evaluation of three policy changes that attempted to limit congestion.

“Creating the Educated Class: Measuring the Multigenerational Impacts of Need-Based Scholarships” (with Bas van der Klaauw) – *in data-collection phase*

Can access to post-secondary education increase intergenerational mobility and economic prosperity of multiple future generations? Using historical public education archives from the Netherlands, combined with genealogical records and administrative data, this project will trace how post-secondary education for children of low-income families affected the educational attainment and earnings of their children and grandchildren. We study a period in which financial aid schemes were introduced with the aim of increasing participation in higher education, after which college enrollment increased substantially. Using selection procedures that generated exogenous variation in the receipt of financial aid, we analyze whether cost-benefit analyses of public financial aid schemes have overlooked an important element by omitting intergenerational effects.