

JAN DAVID BAKKER

CONTACT	Bocconi University, Department of Economics Via Röntgen 1, 20136 Milan, Italy	<i>Email:</i> jan.bakker@unibocconi.it
EMPLOYMENT	Assistant Professor , Bocconi University	2021 -
PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS	Research Associate , Centre for Economic Performance Research Associate , Institute for Fiscal Studies	2019 - 2019 -
EDUCATION	DPhil in Economics , University of Oxford (University College) MPhil in Economics , University of Oxford (Nuffield College) BSc in International Economics , Eberhard Karls University Tübingen Visiting Student, University of Michigan	2016 - 2019 2013 - 2015 2009 - 2013 2012 - 2013
RESEARCH INTERESTS	International Trade, Economic Geography, Urban Economics, Development Economics	
HONORS, GRANTS AND AWARDS	CEP Research Grant (£10,000) UCL Harvesting Research Grants (£1,000) WTO Essay Award for Young Economists Kraks Fond Prize for Best Student Paper at the 8th European Meeting of the UEA Best Paper Award at the 17th Annual GEP/CEPR Post-graduate conference Best Paper Award at the 18th RIEF Doctoral Meeting Oxford Chellgren Graduate Scholarship and ESRC Studentship Fellowship of the German Academic Exchange Service Fellowship of the German National Academic Foundation	2020 2020 2019 2018 2018 2018 2016 - 2018 2014 - 2015 2009 - 2015
PAST EMPLOYMENT	Post-Doctoral Research Fellow, University College London Senior Expert, LSE Consulting Trainee, European Central Bank Research Assistant, Centre for Economic Performance Visiting Researcher, Santa Fe Institute Visiting Researcher, Institute for New Economic Thinking, Oxford Martin School Research Assistant, Eberhard Karls University Tübingen Volunteer, German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Auroville Int. e.V.	2019 - 2021 2018, 2020 2015 - 2016 2016 - 2019 2013 2013 2010 - 2012 2008 - 2009
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	London School of Economics Global Market Economics (TA for Andy Bernard and Emily Blanchard, Executive MPA) University of Oxford (St. Catherine's College) Introduction to Macroeconomics (Tutorial Fellow, undergraduate) Eberhard Karls University Tübingen Public Economics (TA, undergraduate) Intermediate Macroeconomics (TA, undergraduate) Intermediate Microeconomics (TA, undergraduate) Introduction to Economics (TA, undergraduate)	2018/19, 2019/20 2016/17 2010 - 2012
REFEREEING	Econometrica, Economic Journal, Journal of Urban Economics, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, World Economy	

PRESENTATIONS **2021** (including scheduled): Aarhus University, Bocconi University, ECARES (ULB), ESSEC Business School, Paris Trade Seminar, Queen Mary University of London, Universidad EAFIT, University of Amsterdam, University of Bielefeld, University of Bristol, University of Surrey,
2020: London School of Economics, University College London, UEA Virtual Meeting, City University of London
2019: Oxford, 9th European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, London School of Economics, European Trade Study Group, 14th American Meeting of the Urban Economics Association.
2018: London School of Economics, Oxford, Düsseldorf, Tinbergen Institute Annual Conference, 18th RIEF Doctoral Meeting, 8th European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association, 17th Annual GEP/CEPR Post-graduate conference, Royal Economic Society Symposium for Junior Researchers.
2017: Oxford, Royal Economic Society Annual Conference, Economic Geography and International Trade Research Meeting (EGIT).
2016: Ifo Dresden Workshop “Regional Economics”.
2013: Graduate Workshop at INET Annual Conference, IPE Undergraduate Research Conference.

WORKING PAPERS

Trade and Agglomeration: Theory and Evidence from France

(previously circulated as: “International Trade and Regional Inequality”)

WTO Essay Award for Young Economists

Kraks Fond prize for Best Student Paper at the 8th European Meeting of the UEA

Best Paper Award at the 17th Annual GEP/CEPR Post-graduate conference

Best Paper Award at the 18th RIEF Doctoral Meeting

Trade openness leads to aggregate welfare gains, but the local effects of trade vary across space. This paper shows that the welfare gains from trade are lower in smaller cities, due to weaker export-specific agglomeration. Using rich micro data from France, I show that firms’ export-to-sales ratio increases with city size, both within and across industries. I develop an open economy economic geography model with heterogeneous firms to rationalize these novel facts: firms jointly choose their location and export behavior in the presence of sectoral differences in factor intensity and external economies of scale in export costs. Within industries, more productive firms sort into larger cities and into exporting, endogenously benefitting from lower export costs. Across industries, more capital-intensive sectors are endogenously more export intensive and overrepresented in larger cities. To quantify the role of export-specific agglomeration forces, I structurally estimate the model: they can account for 1/3 of the differences in export intensity across locations. As a result, counterfactual trade liberalization induces 17% lower welfare gains in bottom size- compared to top size-quartile locations. These results shed new light on the distributional effects of trade openness and help explain the urban-rural divide over protectionist policies.

PUBLICATIONS

Of Mice and Merchants: Connectedness and the Location of Economic Activity in the Iron Age,

(with Stephan Maurer, Jörn-Steffen Pischke and Ferdinand Rauch),

NBER Working Paper No. 24825, July 2018,

accepted at the *Review of Economics and Statistics*

We study the causal relationship between geographic connectedness and development using one of the earliest massive trade expansions: the first systematic crossing of open seas in the Mediterranean during the time of the Phoenicians. We construct a geography based measure of connectedness along the shores of the sea. We relate connectedness to economic activity, which we measure using the presence of archaeological sites. We find an association between better connected locations and archaeological sites during the Iron Age, at a time when sailors began to cross open water routinely on a big scale. We corroborate these findings at world level.

Migration and Urbanisation in Post-Apartheid South Africa,

(with Chris Parsons and Ferdinand Rauch),

World Bank Economic Review, 34 (2020), Pages 509-532

Although Africa has experienced rapid urbanization in recent decades, little is known about the process of urbanization across the continent. This paper exploits a natural experiment, the abolition of South African pass laws, to explore how exogenous population shocks affect the spatial distribution

of economic activity. Under apartheid, black South Africans were severely restricted in their choice of location, and many were forced to live in homelands. Following the abolition of apartheid they were free to migrate. Given a migration cost in distance, a town nearer to the homelands will receive a larger inflow of people than a more distant town following the removal of mobility restrictions. Drawing upon this exogenous variation, this study examines the effect of migration on urbanization in South Africa. While it is found that on average there is no endogenous adjustment of population location to a positive population shock, there is heterogeneity in the results. Cities that start off larger do grow endogenously in the wake of a migration shock, while rural areas that start off small do not respond in the same way. This heterogeneity indicates that population shocks lead to an increase in urban relative to rural populations. Overall, the evidence suggests that exogenous migration shocks can foster urbanization in the medium run.

How Well Do Experience Curves Predict Technological Progress? A Method for Making Distributional Forecasts,

(with Francois Lafond, Aimee Bailey, Dylan Rebois, Rubina Zadourian, Patrick McSharry, Doyne Farmer)

Technological Forecasting & Social Change, 128 (2018), Pages 104-117,

Experience curves are widely used to predict the cost benefits of increasing the deployment of a technology. But how good are such forecasts? Can one predict their accuracy a priori? In this paper we answer these questions by developing a method to make distributional forecasts for experience curves. We test our method using a dataset with proxies for cost and experience for 51 products and technologies and show that it works reasonably well. The framework that we develop helps clarify why the experience curve method often gives similar results to simply assuming that costs decrease exponentially. To illustrate our method we make a distributional forecast for prices of solar photovoltaic modules.

POLICY
REPORTS

Vulnerabilities of Supply Chains Post-Brexit (with N. Datta, J. De Lyon and E. Garnizova),
LSE Consulting, 2020

The impact of Brexit on the UK dairy sector (with N. Datta), LSE Consulting, 2018

OTHER

Software: ArcGIS, Latex, Matlab, Python, Stata

Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), French (basic), Italian (work in progress)

Nationality: German, UK Settled Status