

Curriculum Vitae
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APPOINTMENT

2022 **London School of Economics and Political Science (UK)**
Assistant Professor in Finance

EDUCATION

2016 – 2022 **Columbia University, Columbia Business School (USA)**
PhD in Finance and Economics
MPhil in Finance and Economics (GPA 9.3 out of 10)

2018 – 2020 **MIT, Economics Department and Governance Lab (Kenya and Online)**
Courses in Development Economics

2012 – 2015 **European Business School (Germany)**
BSc in General Management (Top 2%)

2014 **National University of Singapore (Singapore)**
Exchange Semester

Other GMAT 770 (Top 1%)

RESEARCH INTEREST

Finance and Development, Household Finance, Banking, Corporate Finance

JOB MARKET PAPER

Bank Presence and Health

This paper examines whether more bank presence in underserved areas can improve households' health. I utilize a policy of the Reserve Bank of India from 2005, applying a regression discontinuity design. Five years after the policy introduction, treatment districts have 27 more branches than control districts, corresponding to around 239,000 new savings accounts and 258 million USD in credit. This improved financial access in treatment districts positively impacts health. Six years after the policy, households are 19 percentage points less likely to suffer from a non-chronic illness in a given month. Chronic diseases remain unaffected. Examining this natural experiment allows to study the impact of a comprehensive range of financial services over a large scale and long duration.

PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 AEA, Boulder Summer Conference in Consumer Financial Decision Making, CEPR Advanced Forum for Financial Economics, Financial Intermediation Research Society, German Center for Development Research, Imperial College Business School, NTU Singapore, NUS Singapore, Queen Mary University, Rome Junior Finance Conference, SAET Paris, SFS Cavalcade, University of Manchester Economics Department
- 2022 AFA Poster Session, Bocconi University Finance Department, City University of London Economics Department, Cornell University Finance Group, European Economics Association Meeting, Emerging Scholars in Banking and Finance Conference, FMA, GRAFSI Zurich, HEC Paris Finance Department, Household Finance Workshop Frankfurt, IESE Business School Finance Department, IFS-UCL-LSE/STICERD Development Economics work-in-progress seminar, John Hopkins SAIS, Northwestern University Kellogg Finance Department, London School of Economics and Political Science Finance Department, NOVAFRICA Conference on Economic Development, NYU Abu Dhabi Economics Department, Rice University Jonas Graduate School of Business Finance Department, University of Oklahoma Finance Department, University of Southern California Marshall School of Business Finance Department, University of Texas Austin McCombs School of Business Finance Department, Washington University Olin Business School Finance Department, Webinar Series for Finance and Development (WEFIDEV), World Bank DRG
- 2021 Applied Young Economist Webinar (AYEW), CEPR European Conference on Household Finance, Columbia Development Economics Seminar, Columbia Finance Seminar, Development and Political Economics SF Bay Area PhD Student Conference (DevPEC), European Finance Association (EFA) Doctoral Tutorial, IIM Calcutta-NYU Stern India Research Conference, International Conference on Globalization and Development (GlaD), Macro Finance Society Workshop PhD Session, London Business School Transatlantic Doctoral Conference
- 2020 Columbia Finance Seminar, NEUDC, Universitat Pompeu Fabra Webinar Series in Finance and Development (WEFIDEV)

WORKING PAPERS

Peer Effects in Deposit Markets

Co-author Naz Koont (Columbia)
Stage [Paper available](#)

We provide first empirical evidence that consumer peer effects matter for banks' deposit demand. Using a novel measure that depicts for each county how exposed peers are to a specific bank in a given year, we tightly identify the causal effect of peer exposure on deposit demand through a fixed effects identification strategy. We address key empirical challenges such as time-invariant homophily. We find that a one percent increase in a bank's peer exposure leads to a 0.05 percent increase in deposit market share. This effect has become stronger over time with the rise of the internet and social media, which facilitate cross-county communication. Peer exposure is especially relevant for smaller banks and customers that have access to the internet.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Health Insurance Subsidies and Asymmetric Information

Randomized controlled trial

With Lorenzo Casaburi (University of Zurich) and Jack Willis (Columbia)

Leveraging Community Knowledge For Credit Distribution

Randomized controlled trial

With Lasse Brune (Kellogg), Dean Karlan (Kellogg), and Chris Udry (Kellogg)

Anti-Poverty Interventions Going Green

Randomized controlled trial

With Jennifer Alix-Garcia (Oregon), Lasse Brune (Kellogg), Dean Karlan (Kellogg), and Halefom Nigus (Kellogg)

From Profit to Purpose: Firms as Private Providers of Public Goods

With Lucie Gadenne (Queen Mary) and Noémie Pinardon-Touati (Columbia)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

2023	USD 30,000 research grant (Columbia University)
2022	USD 3,000,000 randomized controlled trial (private donor)
2022	USD 1,162,000 randomized controlled trial (private donor)
2021	USD 900,000 randomized controlled trial (private donor)
2021	PhD Student Prize. CEPR European Conference on Household Finance
2021	Research Grant. Wheeler Institute for Business and Development
2020	Research Grant. Jerome A. Chazen Institute for Global Business
2020	Research Grant. Bernstein Center for Leadership and Ethics
2020	Best Paper Award. 4th Year PhD Competition, Columbia University
2016	Doctoral Fellowship. Columbia University

REFEREE ACTIVITIES

Journal of Finance, Review of Financial Studies, Review of Finance, Journal of the European Economic Association

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE CO-ORGANIZER

[WEFIDEV \(Webinar for Finance and Development\)](#) (since June 2023), London Junior Finance Conference 2023

PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEMBER

WFA 2024, SFS Cavalcade 2024, SFS Cavalcade 2023, 18th Annual Conference on Corporate Finance Washington University 2022, FMA Global Conference in the Middle East 2022, SAFE Household Finance Conference 2023

DISCUSSIONS

Microequity and Mutuality (Cardaro et al., 2022), Acquisitions, Management, and Efficiency in Rwanda's Coffee Industry (Macchiavello and Morjaria, 2022), Refinancing Inequality During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Agarwal et al., 2022), Safety Nets, Credit, and Investment: Evidence from a Guaranteed Income Program (Ghosh & Vats, 2023), Privacy Regulation and Fintech Lending (Doerr et al., 2023)

AFFILIATIONS

Center for Development Economics and Policy (CDEP), Columbia University

TEACHING

Alternative Investments (FM230, Undergraduate Course LSE)
Corporate Finance (FM213, Undergraduate Course LSE)
Capital Markets and Investments (TA, MBA Course Columbia University)