

MARCO STENBORG PETTERSON

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BROWN UNIVERSITY

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Contact Information

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Personal Information

Born February 19, 1991, Male, Italian and Swedish citizen.
Languages: Italian (native), Swedish (native), English (fluent), German (intermediate)

Undergraduate Studies

BA in International Economics and Finance, Bocconi University (*Summa cum Laude*) 2013

Graduate Studies

MA in Economics, Brown University 2017
MSc in Economics and Social Sciences, Bocconi University (*Summa cum Laude*) 2016

Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Thesis Title: "Essays in Applied Econometrics"
Expected Completion Date: May 2022

References

Professor Jesse M. Shapiro
Department of Economics
Brown University
jesse_shapiro_1@brown.edu

Professor Andriy Norets
Department of Economics
Brown University
andriy_norets@brown.edu

Professor Neil Thakral
Department of Economics
Brown University
neil_thakral@brown.edu

Teaching and Research Fields

Primary field: Applied Econometrics

Secondary fields: Industrial Organization and Behavioral Economics

Teaching Experience

Spring 2020	Economics of Mass Media, TA for Professor Jesse M. Shapiro
Summer 2019	Econometrics and Statistics, Pre-college Summer Program
Spring 2019	Economics of Mass Media, TA for Professor Jesse M. Shapiro
Fall 2018	Designing Internet Marketplaces TA for Professor Bobak Pakzad-Hurson
Summer 2018	Behavioral Economics and Game Theory, Pre-college Summer Program

Spring 2018 Designing Internet Marketplaces TA for Professor Bobak Pakzad-Hurson
 Fall 2017 Graduate Level Mathematics for Economics, TA for Professor Alex Poterack

Research Experience and Other Employment

2018-2021 Brown University, Research Assistant for Professors Jesse M. Shapiro, Andriy Norets, and Emily Oster
 2013-2016 Bocconi University, Research Assistant for Professors Marco Ottaviani and Martin Dufwenberg
 Summer 2014 Citigroup, Summer Analyst TMT Team in Investment Banking

Professional Activities

2019,2020,2021 Econometrics Lunch Seminar Presentation, Brown University
 2021 Applied Micro Lunch Seminar Presentation, Brown University
 2019 NBER-NSF SBIES Conference Poster Session
 2018-2019 Organizer Econometrics Lunch Seminar, Brown University

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2020 Brown University, Merit Dissertation Fellowship
 2020 Brown University, Teaching Award
 2019 Brown University, Best Third Year Paper Prize
 2018 Brown University, Distinction in Second Year Field Exam
 2016-Present Brown University, PhD Scholarship
 2013-2016 Bocconi University, IGIER Visiting Student

Research Papers

“Estimation of a Latent Reference Point: Method and Application to NYC Taxi Drivers” (Job Market Paper)
I use a dynamic discrete choice model with a latent variable to flexibly estimate reference-dependent utility models. The structure and evolution of the reference point are estimated directly from observational data. I apply the model to the daily labor-supply choices of NYC taxi drivers and use a Bayesian estimation approach. I find that rational expectations are an important determinant of the reference point but do not fully explain its evolution. The reference point adjusts asymmetrically, responding more to positive income shocks than to negative ones. The reference point also has an important transitory component: a shock to the reference point dissipates within hours. I use the estimated model to analyze the welfare effects of a guaranteed hourly wage floor for gig economy workers.

“Bounds on a Slope from Size Restrictions on Economic Shocks” (w/ Jesse M. Shapiro and David Seim)
(R&R, AEJ: Microeconomics)

We study the problem of learning about the slope of a linear relationship between an outcome (e.g., quantity) and an input (e.g., price) when the outcome is subject to time-varying, unobserved economic shocks. We show that restrictions on the size of the economic shocks are informative for the magnitude of the slope. We argue that such restrictions are reasonable in some economic situations. We illustrate with an application to the demand and supply of food grains.

“Nonparametric Bayesian Conditional Density Models based on Orthogonal Polynomials” (w/ Andriy Norets)

The paper considers a nonparametric Bayesian model for conditional densities. The model considered is a mixture of orthogonal polynomials with a prior on the number of components. The use of orthogonal polynomials allows for a great deal of flexibility in applications while maintaining useful approximation properties. We provide the posterior contraction rate in the case of Legendre polynomials. The algorithm proposed allows for cross-dimensional moves, allowing it to choose the optimal number of terms in the series expansion conditional on a penalty parameter. We also provide Monte Carlo simulations that show how well the model approximates known distributions also in finite sample situations.