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Research and Teaching Fields

Research: Empirical Industrial Organization, Energy, Environmental Economics, Applied Econometrics

Teaching: Empirical Industrial Organization, Energy, Environmental Economics, Applied Econometrics, Financial Economics

Education

Ph.D. candidate in Economics, The University of Arizona (Ph.D. expected May 2012)

M.A. Economics, The University of Arizona, 2009

M.A. Economics, Centro de Investigacion y Docencia Economicas (CIDE), Mexico, 2007

B.S. Mathematics, UMSNH, Mexico, 2005

Research

Working Papers

“Gasoline Taxes and Fuel Economy: A Preference Heterogeneity Approach”, Job market paper, October 2011

Abstract: This paper estimates an equilibrium model for the U.S. car market to measure the value of two policies aimed at reducing gasoline consumption. The first one is the Corporate Average Fuel Economy standard, and the second one is gasoline taxes. We use a structural model that allows for flexible substitution patterns across car models, measures preferences on cost per mile driven, accounts for the problem of endogeneity of prices, and jointly solves for the manufacturers’ optimal responses. The data used include income and miles driven. Counterfactual results show that the welfare loss gross of externality costs from tightening the standard by 10 percent is about two times the cost of increasing net gasoline prices by 10 percent. When accounting for externalities, the two policies may be welfare increasing.

“Intermittency and the Value of Renewable Energy”, with Gautam Gowrisankaran and Stanley Reynolds. NBER Working Paper No. 17086, May 2011

Abstract: This paper develops an empirical approach to estimate the equilibrium value of intermittent renewable energy. We model a system operator who optimizes the amount of generation capacity, operating reserves, and demand curtailment potentially in the presence of large-scale solar capacity. We use generator characteristics, solar output, demand and weather forecast data to estimate parameters for southeastern Arizona. Equilibrium costs of a 20 percent mandate are \$142.2 per MWh of solar generation; unforecastable intermittency accounts for

\$10.3 of this. If the social cost of carbon were \$21/ton this mandate would be welfare neutral if solar capacity costs dropped from \$5/W to \$1.42/W.

Work in Progress

“Dynamics in the Evaluation of Intermittency Costs and Renewable Energy”

“Bayesian Inference for Conditional Average Treatment Effects from a Job Training Program”,
February 2010

“The Effect of Exports on Economic Growth”, 2007, CIDE Mexico

Research Experience

Research Assistant, University of Arizona

Professor Gautam Gowrisankaran, *Fall 2011, Spring 2011, Fall 2010*

Professor Stanley Reynolds, *Spring 2010, Fall 2009*

Research Assistant, CIDE Mexico

Professor David Mayer-Foulkes, *Fall 2006, Spring 2007*

Teaching Experience (Sole Instructor)

The University of Arizona

Global and Financial Economics and Strategies (Bnad301), Summer Session 2011

Global and Financial Economics and Strategies (Bnad301), Winter Session 2010-2011

Global and Financial Economics and Strategies (Bnad301), Summer Session 2010

Global and Financial Economics and Strategies (Bnad301), Winter Session 2009-2010

Principles of Economics (Econ200), Summer Session 2009

Principles of Economics (Econ200), Winter Session 2008-2009

Teaching Experience (Assistantships)

The University of Arizona

Econometrics II (Graduate level), Professor Kei Hirano, *Fall 2010*

Econometrics (Undergraduate level), Professor Anna Breman, *Spring 2009*

Principles of Economics (Undergraduate level), Steve Reff, *Fall 2008*

Principles of Economics (Undergraduate level), Professor Mark Stegeman, *Spring 2008*

Presentations

“Intermittency and the Value of Renewable Energy”,

Economics Seminar, Spring 2011, University of Arizona.

Colorado University Environmental and Economic Resources Workshop, October 2011,
Colorado.

“Gasoline Taxes and Fuel Economy: A Preference Heterogeneity Approach”,

Economics Seminar, Fall 2011, University of Arizona.

Economics Brown Bag Seminar, Fall 2010, University of Arizona.

Honors, Awards, & Fellowships

Steven Manos prize for best second-year paper for “Bayesian Inference for Conditional Average Treatment Effects from a Job Training Program” (2009)

Graduate Tuition and Assistantship, Department of Economics, University of Arizona (2008-present)

Conacyt (Mexico) Graduate Fellowship (2005-2009)

University of Arizona Service

Eller College Professional Admission Interview (interviewer), *Fall 2011*

Arizona Assurance Program (mentor), *2009, 2010, 2011*

Programming Experience

Matlab, Stata, R, Perl, C, GAMS

References

Gautam Gowrisankaran (*Chair*)

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Stanley Reynolds

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John Z. Drabicki (*Teaching reference*)

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Personal Information

Age: 28

Citizenship: Mexican, F-1 visa

Languages: English (fluent), French (proficient), Spanish (native)