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Personal Information:

Date of Birth: August 7, 1975 Sex: Female Citizenship: Argentina (Green Card Pending, married to US citizen)

Undergraduate Studies:

A.B., Economics, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina, Valedictorian, 1999

Graduate Studies:

Harvard University, 1999 to present
Thesis Title: "Essays on the Economics of Crises"
Expected Completion Date: June 2005

Thesis Committee and References:

Professor Alberto Alesina
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Professor Francesco Caselli
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Professor David Laibson
Department of Economics
Harvard University
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Teaching and Research Fields:

Primary fields: Macroeconomics, Monetary Theory
Secondary fields: International Trade, Development Economics

Teaching Experience:

Spring 2002-2004	"Macroeconomics" (undergraduate), Harvard University, Head Teaching Fellow for Professors Caselli, Aghion, Basu, and Alesina
Fall 2003	"Economic Growth and Development" (undergraduate), Harvard University, Teaching Fellow for Professor Sala-i-Martin
Summer 2002, 2001	"Development Economics" (graduate), Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina, Visiting Professor
Fall 2001	"Economics of Education" (undergraduate), Harvard University, Teaching Fellow for Professor Hoxby

Spring 1999 “Development Economics” (undergraduate), Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Argentina, Junior Professor

Research Experience:

Summer-Fall 2002	Harvard University, Research Assistant for Professor Caselli
Fall 2001	Harvard University, Research Assistant for Professor Di Tella
Summer 2000	Harvard University, Research Assistant for Professor Jorgenson
Fall 1998-Spring 1999	Institute of Applied Economics, Foundation Banco Empresario, Argentina, Research Associate, directed by Professor Elías

Professional Activities:

Conferences: Conference in Development Economics, Argentina, Discussant, December 2001

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2004-2005	Amalia Lacroze de Fortabat Fellowship, Harvard University
2001-2004	Tuition Grant, Harvard University
Summer 2003	Summer Grant, Graduate Student Council, Harvard University
Summer 2002	Danielian Prize, Economics Department, Harvard University
1999-2002	Graduate Studies Grant, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Economics Department
1999-2001	FOMEC Graduate Studies Fellowship, Argentina
1999	Valedictorian, Universidad Nacional de Tucumán, Economics Department

Research Papers:

“Secondary Currency: An Empirical Analysis” (Job Market Paper) (with David Blackburn)

Many cases exist of multiple currency usage throughout history. As two leading examples, secondary currencies were widespread during both the Great Depression in the United States and the 2002 recession in Argentina. What are the determinants of multiple currency usage and what is the effect on economic activity? We address these issues here empirically, using individual-level surveys collected by the authors in Argentina during 2002 and 2003. The evidence supports the theoretically predicted determinants of secondary currency acceptability put forth in monetary theory. In particular we find that the acceptability of the secondary currency increases when the supply of national currency is low, the relative seigniorage of the secondary currency is low, and the individual trading technologies are less effective. Moreover we find that the acceptability of the secondary currency has real effects on economic activity. Among those who use the secondary currency the monthly gain is more than 15 percent of the average Argentine's monthly income. This effect aggregates to 0.6 percent of GDP. The estimated semi-elasticity between the proportion of population that accepts the secondary currency and GDP is 0.083.

Research Papers in Progress:

“The Differential Effects of Depreciations on Exports” (2004)

This paper empirically investigates the differential effects of real depreciations on exports, both by size of the depreciation and by sector, and I present an explanation for the estimated pattern. Differential effects are defined as significantly different export response elasticities for large real depreciations versus small ones versus real appreciations, faced by different sectors of the economy. These empirical relationships are not currently measured in the literature under a unified framework. Classifying the sectors based on their product differentiation, I find that differentiated sectors have a declining response elasticity of exports for larger depreciations and that homogeneous sectors have a constant response elasticity of exports. I use 4-digit, sector-level bilateral trade data for 100 countries for the period from 1980 to 1997. This evidence helps explain why some countries that experience large depreciations, exporting differentiated products, do not experience a proportional reaction in their exports. A model is developed where differentiated sectors face startup costs, borrowing constraints, and/or informational asymmetries to explain the observed pattern.