CHRISTIAN DANIEL ALEMÁN-PERICÓN

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CURRENT POSITION

2022 - Present	Post Doctoral Fellow, ECARES (Université Libre Bruxelles) Brussels, Belgium Advisors: Paula Gobbi and Bram de Rock

EDUCATION

2018 - 2022	Ph.D. Economics *(Excellent, Cum Laude)*, IDEA-Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain Advisor: Prof. Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis
2020	Ph.D. Visiting Scholar, Dept. of Economics, University of Pennsylvania, USA Visiting Prof. José Víctor Ríos Rull
2016 - 2018	M.Sc. Master in Models and Methods of Quantitative Economics, joint degree Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain Université Paris1 Pantheon Sorbonne, France
2012 - 2015	B.A. Economics, *(Summa Cum Laude)* Universidad Privada Boliviana, Bolivia

FIELDS OF INTEREST

Macroeconomics and Inequality, Family Economics, Growth and Development
My research lies in the field of Family Macroeconomics, where I study the effects of labor market changes on family formation and dissolution.

WORKING PAPERS

"Kramer vs. Kramer. On the importance of Children and Divorce Filings for Understanding Divorce Rates in the USA"

"A Quantitative Theory of the HIV Epidemic: Education, Risky Sex and Asymmetric Learning" (with Daniela Iorio and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

"A Stage-Based Identification of Policy Effects" (with Christopher Busch, Alexander Ludwig and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Evaluating the Effectiveness of Policy Against the Covid-19 Pandemic" (with Christopher Busch, Alexander Ludwig and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

"HIV Diffusion: Evidence from One Million Blood Tests" (with Daniela Iorio and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

"Agricultural Productivity in Bolivia before and after the 2006 reform" (with Sergio Bobka)

PRESENTATIONS

2022	DTMC Workshop on Interactions between Labor and Marriage Markets
2021	Essex-Barcelona Workshop on Labor Economics
2019, 2020, 2021	Macro Club, UAB internal seminar series
2018, 2019	Barcelona School of Economics Ph.D Jamboree

2017	IMF Gender and Macroeconomics Conference, poster presenter
2016	7th Bolivian Conference on Development Economics(BAES)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

2018	Research Internship, Banc Sabadell, Barcelona Spain
2017 (Summer)	Research Internship, Leibniz Institute for Economic Research Halle IWH Germany
2016	Research Internship, Central Bank of Bolivia-Economic Policy Division (BCB-APEC)
2013 - 2015	Research Assitant for Prof. Oscar Molina, Universidad Privada Boliviana

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

2020	Instructor, Statistics II (Undergraduate) Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
2013 - 2015	Teaching Assistant, Microeconomics II (Undergraduate), Universidad Privada Boliviana

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

2018 - 2022	FPI Scholarship from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Innovation Full funding to pursue the PhD in Economics at IDEA, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona and BSE
2016 - 2018	Erasmus Mundus Scholarship: Full funding to pursue Master: Models and Methods of Quantitative Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain and Université Paris1 Pantheon Sorbonne, France
2014	Goethe Institute-Bonn Excellence Scholarship: Full scholarship to participate in an advanced German-Language course in Bonn, Germany
2012-2015	Excellence Scholarship, Universidad Privada Boliviana

COMPUTER SKILLS

MATLAB, Julia (HPC & parallel computing), STATA, LaTeX

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Spanish-Mother Tongue, English-Fluent TOEFLiBT grade:107, German-Fluent, TestDaF Level C1, French-Fluent DELF Level B2, Catalan-Medium, Level B1

CITIZENSHIP: Bolivian

Kramer vs. Kramer. On the importance of Children and Divorce Filings for Understanding Divorce Rates in the USA (Job Market Paper)

I document that approximately 70% of divorce filings in the 1970's were done by wives in the United States. Since then, this figure has experienced a large decline, reaching 56% in 2015. At the same time, divorce rates sharply increased from 1960 until the mid 1980's and have declined since then. I construct a life cycle model of endogenous marriage and unilateral divorce with endogenous labor supply and savings that jointly explains these facts. I use my model to measure the contribution of changes in the gender-wage gap, property division laws and child custody arrangements in explaining the divorce patterns over time. First, the reduction in the gender-wage gap generates two opposing effects. On the one hand, the reduction of the gender-wage gap increases the value of divorce for married women and, on the other hand, unmarried women become more selective in the marriage market thus raising the quality of newly formed matches. Second, children increase the value of divorce for the custodial parent; so a higher probability of getting child custody raises the chances of filing for divorce. Third, a higher share of assets assigned to wives upon divorce can either increase or decrease divorce rates by altering the savings decision of the household. My model accounts for approximately 50 per cent of the decline in divorce filings and 70 per cent of the variation in divorce rates between 1970 and 2015. I find that the decrease in the gender-wage gap and the increase in the probability of getting child custody for men are major drivers behind the changes in divorce rates and in divorce filings, respectively. Importantly, I find that failure to match who files for divorce can lead to opposite counterfactual results.

A Quantitative Theory of the HIV Epidemic: Education, Risky Sex and Asymmetric Learning (with Daniela Iorio and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

Using micro survey data, we show that the relationship between education and the probability of HIV infection is U-shaped (positive-zero-positive) over the course of the epidemic. In contrast, the relationship between education and knowledge about the process of HIV infection follows an inverted U-shaped pattern. We develop a non-stationary quantitative macroeconomic theory with heterogeneous agents that is consistent with these facts. Our theory endogenizes the entire course of the HIV epidemic across its different stages: a pre-HIV epidemic stage; a myopic HIV stage in which agents are not aware of the process of HIV infection; a learning stage in which agents heterogeneously---across education groups---learn about the process of infection; and an anti-retroviral (ARV) stage that modifies the effects of HIV infection on individuals. We show that asymmetric learning is key to reproduce both the micro patterns that we document and the aggregate evolution of the HIV epidemic. In further counterfactual experiments, we assess the effects of an early understanding of the virus and its mode of infection, improvements in the composition of education, the earlier (and universal) adoption of ARVs and the use of PrEP to prevent further spread.

A Stage-Based Identification of Policy Effects (with Christopher Busch, Alexander Ludwig and Raül Santaeulàlia-Llopis)

We develop a novel empirical approach to identify the effectiveness of policies, which we apply to evaluate policies against a pandemic. In the context of the application, the essence of our approach is the insight that epidemic dynamics are best tracked over stages, rather than over time. We use a normalization procedure that makes the pre-policy paths of the epidemic identical across regions. The procedure uncovers regional variation in the stage of the epidemic at the time of policy implementation. This variation delivers clean identification of the policy effect based on the epidemic path of a leading region that serves as a counterfactual for other regions. The application focuses on the nationwide stay-homepolicy enacted in Spain against the Covid-19 pandemic. We find that the policy saved 16.8% of lives relative to the number of deaths that would have occurred had it not been for the policy intervention. Its effectiveness evolves with the epidemic and is larger when implemented at earlier stages.