

CURRICULUM VITAE

Felix Holub

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Current Position:

Postdoc, GOETHE UNIVERSITY FRANKFURT, since Fall 2021

Education:

Ph.D. (Dr. rer. pol.), Economics, University of Mannheim, 2021
M.Phil., Economics and Finance, CEMFI Madrid, 2015
B.Sc., Economics, Maastricht University, 2013
Visiting Student, Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, 2011

Fields:

Primary: Applied Microeconomics
Secondary: Labor Economics, Environmental Economics, Health Economics

Teaching Experience:

2021	Business Economics II, Master in Management Teaching Assistant for Adrian Hillenbrand
2018 – 2020	Applied Econometrics, Master in Management Teaching Assistant for Sebastian Findeisen and Dominik Schober
2016 – 2017	Principles of Economics, Undergraduate Teaching Assistant for Steffen Habermalz and Martin Peitz

Research Experience and Other Employment:

Winter 2017	Research Assistant for Saverio Simonelli
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Professional Activities:

<u>Presentations</u>	2021: Banco de España; CSEF Naples; Goethe-University Frankfurt; IAEE Annual Conference; Johannes Kepler University Linz; Verein für Socialpolitik Jahrestagung 2020: Annual Conference of the European Association of Environmental and Resource Economists; AURÖ Environmental Economics Young Researcher Workshop; briq (Applied Micro Coffee); CRC TR 224 Conference; EALE-SOLE-AASLE World Conference, University of Stockholm (ENTER) 2019: CRC TR 224 Young Researcher Workshop 2018: Bonn/Mannheim PhD Workshop 2017: European Meeting of the Econometric Society; EALE Conference
<u>Committee Service</u>	2017 – 2019: Speaker of the Doctoral Convent of the Department of Economics, University of Mannheim 2017 – 2019: Ph.D. student representative in the Council of the Department of Economics, University of Mannheim
<u>Referee Service</u>	<i>Economics and Human Biology, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, Journal of Regulatory Economics, Nature Communications, Regional Science and Urban Economics</i>

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2015 – 2017	CDSE Scholarship, German Research Foundation (DFG)
2013 – 2015	CEMFI Scholarship
2012 – 2015	Fellow of the German National Academic Foundation
2010 – 2013	Honors Program Maastricht University

Publication:**“The Effect of Clean Air on Pharmaceutical Expenditures”**

(with Alexander Rohlf, Nicolas Koch, and Nolan Ritter), *Economics Letters*, July 2020, 10922.

Abstract: Airborne emissions are detrimental to health. Low emission zones (LEZs) that restrict pollution-intensive vehicles from entering are popular measures to curb local emissions such as particulate matter. We evaluate how LEZs impact defensive pharmaceutical expenditures. To this end, we use the complete medical histories of 2.7M individuals insured with Germany’s largest public health insurer AOK. We identify causal effects exploiting the quasi-experimental, staggered introduction of LEZs in 49 cities. We find that LEZs reduce annual pharmaceutical expenditures for heart and respiratory diseases by 15.8M€, representing a significant fraction of policy costs.

Working Papers:**“Gender Gaps and the Role of Bosses”**

(with Moritz Drechsel-Grau), *CRC TR 224 Discussion Paper 237*

Abstract: This paper investigates the contribution of managers to gender gaps and analyzes whether the over-representation of men in management positions puts women at a disadvantage. Relying on personnel data from one of the largest European manufacturing firms, we separate out the factors explaining gender gaps. Adjusted pay gaps are positive, which means that men earn more than observationally equivalent women. A significant share of pay gaps can be explained by the sorting of men and women to different managers. More importantly, gender gaps in bonus payments causally depend on the manager's gender. Accounting for worker and manager heterogeneity, bonus gaps are larger when the manager is male. This is driven by the fact that performance ratings are more favorable to men if handed out by a male manager. We present suggestive evidence that the relevance of manager gender for pay gaps is driven by discrimination rather than same-gender complementarities in productivity. However, independent of the root cause of these differences in evaluations by manager gender, the findings imply that a lower number of female managers increases gender gaps and thus constitutes a structural disadvantage for women.

“Urban Air Pollution and Sick Leaves: Evidence from Social Security Data”

(with Laura Hospido and Ulrich Wagner), *Banco de España Working Paper 2041*

Abstract: We estimate the impact of air pollution on labor supply among workers affiliated to Spain’s universal sickness-leave insurance. We find that a 10% reduction in pollution reduces sick leaves by 0.8% of the mean. This effect is larger among workers with pre-existing medical conditions. Our estimates imply that improvements in urban air quality between 2005 and 2014 reduced worker absence by 5.6 million days, saving €0.5 billion in foregone production. We discuss the ramifications of absenteeism and presenteeism when using sick leaves as an outcome for valuing air quality and gauge the impact of such behaviors on our results.

“Killing Prescriptions Softly: Low Emission Zones and Child Health from Birth to School”

(with Hannah Klauber, Nicolas Koch, Nico Pestel, Alexander Rohlf, and Nolan Ritter), *IZA Discussion Paper 14376*

Abstract: We examine the persistence of the impact of early-life exposure to air pollution on children’s health from birth to school enrollment using administrative public health insurance records covering one third of all children in Germany. For identification, we exploit air quality improvements caused by the implementation of Low Emission Zones, a policy imposing driving restrictions on high-emission vehicles. Our results indicate that children exposed to cleaner air around birth require less medication for at least five years. The initially latent health response materializes only gradually in lower medication usage, leaving important but subtle health benefits undetected in common measures of infant health.

Selected work in progress:**“Social Benefits and Private Costs of Driving Restriction Policies: The Impact on Congestion, Pollution and Consumer Spending”**

(with Jose Enrique Galdon-Sanchez, Ricard Gil, and Guillermo Uriz-Uharte)

Abstract: Low Emission Zones are defined areas within a city where driving restrictions are introduced with the aim to reduce pollution, but they may also unintentionally distort consumer spending decisions. By increasing transportation costs to ban-affected areas, driving restrictions could discourage spending in stores of those areas. This paper empirically evaluates the effects of a driving restriction regulation in Madrid, Spain, known as Madrid Central. First, using a difference-in-differences identification strategy, we find an immediate decrease of 19 percent in pollution and of 16 percent in congestion with pollution dropping further once fines were levied. Second, we rely on credit card transaction data to show consumers affected by the regulation reduced their brick-and-mortar spending in the regulated area by 20 percent. Finally, we find suggestive evidence that e-commerce may smooth the impact of changes in transportation costs due to environmental regulations as affected consumers partially substitute their consumption spending from brick-and-mortar to online shopping.

“The Impact of Air Quality on the Productivity of High-Skilled Workers”

(with Beathe Thies)

Abstract: We study how air pollution affects productivity and work patterns among highly skilled tech workers. Using data on coding activity from *GitHub* for a sample of 20,000 software developers across 28 countries during the period 2014-2019, we estimate the causal effect of daily particulate matter $PM_{2.5}$ concentration on activity and choice of tasks. For identification, we employ an instrumental variable approach based on changes in wind direction. Our findings imply that air pollution has negative effects on the number of actions performed, but these effects differ across tasks: While developers produce less code (fewer commits), their activity in interactive tasks is unaffected (comments). Moreover, we find evidence that coders switch to easier tasks in response to higher levels of particulate matter.

Language Skills:

English (fluent), German (native), Spanish (advanced)

Personal:

Born September 22, 1990 in Wiesbaden, German citizen.