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Doctoral Studies University of California, Berkeley
PhD, Agricultural and Resource Economics, Expected completion May 2024
DISSERTATION: “Public Procurement and Firms”

FIELDS: Development Economics, Empirical Industrial Organization, Political Economy

Professor Marco Gonzalez-Navarro
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Prior Education	UC Berkeley	Ph.D.	2024(Expected)
	UC Berkeley	M.S. Degree	2020
	Renmin University of China	B.S. Degree	2018

Job Market Paper **“Corruption in Public Procurement Auctions: Evidence from Collusion between Officers and Firms” (JOB MARKET PAPER)**
Abstract: Public procurement stands out as one of the government’s activities most susceptible to corruption, particularly in developing countries. Although many countries have implemented open auctions to combat corruption, I document that corruption is still widespread even within this type of procurement format. Procurement officers can collaborate with firms to manipulate scoring rules, favoring predetermined winners, while corrupt firms orchestrate non-competitive bids from others to meet minimum bidder requirements. Drawing from extensive data on public procurement auctions in China, I introduce a model-driven statistical tool to detect this specific form of corruption. The findings indicate a corruption rate of approximately 65%. A procurement expert evaluation audit study confirms the test’s validity, revealing a 91% probability that experts identify suspicious scoring rules when the test signals potential corruption. I also link procurement data to comprehensive firm data to examine the distortions caused by corruption. I find that local and state-owned firms, as well as less productive ones, are more favored in corrupt auctions. Lastly, I explore policy implications from the anti-corruption campaign, as well as the counterfactuals by estimating a structural model, concluding that general corruption investigations may be insufficient to address deeply ingrained corrupt practices in the long run whereas implementing anonymous evaluation in call-for-tender files could significantly improve social welfare by eliminating unnecessary rules and introducing more entries.

Publication **“Career incentives of local leaders and crisis response: A case study of COVID-19 lockdowns in China”** with Qingyang Huang, Chang Liu, and Peng Wang, *European Journal of Political Economy* (2022): 102180.

“Impacts of education policies on intergenerational education mobility in China” with Yumei Guo, and Yang Song, *China Economic Review* 55 (2019): 124-142.

“Scale of Land, Enrollment of Cooperatives and Adoption of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles: Evidence from Jilin”(in Chinese) with Shi Zheng, and Zhigang Wang, *Journal of Agrotechnical* (2018): 92-105.

Working Papers	<p>“Unintended Whistleblowers: Detect Procurement Corruption Using A Regression Discontinuity Approach” [Draft upon request]</p> <p>“Imperfect Land Market, Migration Cost, and Resources Reallocation: Evidence from China” with Wei Lin, and Shaoda Wang [Draft upon request]</p> <p>“High Speed Railway and Local Firm Dynamics: Evidence from China” [Draft upon request]</p>	
Working in Progress	<p>“Public Procurement Contracts and Supply Chain” with Wei Lin and Ming Li [Analysis Stage]</p> <p>“Liquidity Constraints, Land Use Externalities, and Environmental Degradation: Evidence from China” [Analysis Stage]</p>	
Other Writings	<p>“What Makes You Hold on to That Old Car? Joint Insights from Machine Learning and Multinomial Logit on Vehicle-level Transaction Decisions” with Ling Jin, Alina Lazar, Caitlin Brown, et al., accepted by <i>Frontiers in Future Transportation</i> (2022)</p> <p>“Gender Gaps in Mode Usage, Vehicle Ownership, and Spatial Mobility When Entering Parenthood: A Life Course Perspective” with Hung-Chia Yang, Ling Jin, et. al. <i>Systems</i> (2023): 11, 314.</p> <p>“Teachers’ Cognitive Ability and Students’ Performance: Evidence from Rural Gansu in China” with Scott Rozelle and Huan Wang</p>	
Prior Employment	<p>Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Graduate Student Researcher</p> <p>UC Berkeley, Graduate Student Researcher (Prof Marco Gonzalez-Navarro)</p> <p>Stanford, Graduate Student Researcher (Prof Scott Rozelle)</p> <p>United Nations Development Program China, Monitoring and Evaluation Intern</p>	<p>2021-2023</p> <p>2020 Summer</p> <p>2019 Summer</p> <p>2017</p>
Teaching	<p>UC Berkeley <i>Development Economics</i>,</p> <p>UC Berkeley <i>Agricultural and Environmental Policy</i>,</p> <p>Renmin University <i>Calculus III</i>,</p>	<p>2020 Spring, 2020 Fall</p> <p>2019 Fall, 2021&2023 Spring</p> <p>2018 Spring</p>
Grants, Fellowships, and Awards	<p>2023 N2PE from the Hewlett Foundation (\$4,500)</p> <p>2022 ARE research funding (\$3,000)</p> <p>2022 SURF-SMART Program Fellowship (\$5,000)</p> <p>2021 George and Violent Homem Fellowship (\$1,000)</p> <p>2020 Outstanding GSI Award</p> <p>2019 ARE Travel Grant (\$1,500)</p>	
Activities	<p>2022 IRLE Undergraduate Research Mentor</p> <p>2022 ARE Admission Committee</p> <p>2021 - 2022 ARE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee</p>	
Conferences Seminars	<p>NEUDC (2023, Harvard); University of Nevada, Reno (2023, Reno); University of San Francisco (2023, SF); Conference on Auctions, Firm Behavior, and Policy (2023, Maine); DEVPEC (2023, CA); The 21st Annual International Industrial Organization Conference (IIOC2023, Washington D.C.)</p>	
Refereeing	<p><i>Journal of Development Economics</i></p>	
Languages	<p>Mandarin (native), English (fluent)</p>	
Program	<p>R, STATA, MATLAB, Python, SQL, QGIS</p>	<p>Last Update: 11/2023</p>