CHRISTINA LANGER

Growth Lab Associate at Harvard Kennedy School ⋄ PhD Student in Economics at KU
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RESEARCH INTERESTS/ FOCUS OF STUDY

Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Future of Work

EDUCATION

Growth Lab Associate at Harvard University since 09/2020
Harvard Kennedy School, Center for International Development, Cambridge, USA

Guest Researcher at ifo Institute since 09/2020
Center for Industrial Organization and New Technologies, Munich, Germany

PhD Student in Economics since 06/2018
Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt (KU), Germany
Supervisor: Prof. Simon Wiederhold

Master of Science with Honors in Economics 10/2015 - 03/2018
University of Regensburg, Germany
Master's thesis: Impact of RBTC on Employment Transition Patterns and Wages

Bachelor of Science in Economics 10/2011 - 07/2015
University of Regensburg, Germany

ACADEMIC VISITS

Visiting Research Fellow at Harvard University 02/2020 - 08/2020
Visiting Student, University of Southern Denmark, Odense 08/2016 - 12/2016

RELEVANT COURSEWORK

- Econometric Methods for Applied Research II, Will Dobbie, Harvard University 2021
- Econometric Data Science, Joshua Angrist, MIT - Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2020
- Labor Economics II, David Autor, MIT - Massachusetts Institute of Technology 2020
- Advanced Macroeconomics, Kurt Mitman, Stockholm University 2020
- Advanced Microeconomics, Zvika Neeman, Eitan Berglas School of Economics, Tel-Aviv University 2019
- Machine Learning in Econometrics, Colin Cameron, University of California at Davis 2019
- Advanced Econometrics, Jeffrey M. Wooldridge, Michigan State University 2018

WORK IN PROGRESS

Returns to AI Skills (with Simon Janssen, Markus Nagler, and Simon Wiederhold)

The Economic Impact of Skills – New Evidence from Apprenticeship Plans (with Simon Wiederhold)

Will Working From Home Stick? (with Jean-Victor Alipour and Layla O'Kane)

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

ASSA/AEA (Poster), BGPE Workshop, IAB Young Researchers Brown Bag, 2021
UZH Zurich Friday Lunch Talk Series
Accepted for presentation: EEA, EALE, AEDE

VOLUNTEER WORK AND OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

Cross Harvard Study Group on Future of Work since 01/2021
Leadership Team German American Conference at Harvard since 08/2020

NBER Doctoral Student Workshop on Economics of Artificial Intelligence

Summary of Research Interests – Christina Langer

I am a third-year PhD student at the Catholic University of Eichstaett-Ingolstadt (Germany) and an Associate at the Harvard Kennedy School. Since my master's thesis, I am intrigued by the challenges technological change imposes on workers. This is why I am pursuing a PhD in economics with projects focused on topics related to the "future of work".

In my dissertation, I use online job vacancy data from Burning Glass Technologies (BG) as well as text data from German apprenticeship plans to measure skills and to understand their economic impact on the labor market.

In particular, I recently started a project on "Returns to AI skills" that exploits novel and unique data for Germany. Until now, we know little about the diffusion of AI in firms, the impact of AI adoption on (incumbent) workers, or on the value of AI skills on the labor market. We tackle those gaps and expand on research already done with BG and survey data for the US (e.g., Acemoglu et al., 2020). To do so, my coauthors and I link detailed administrative data on firm characteristics and workers' employment histories from the IAB Institute for Employment Research for almost the whole German workforce that is frequently used in labor economics research to the near universe of online job vacancies from BG. Strengths of our setting are the administrative nature, the richness of the labor market data, and the availability of firm-level information, which allows us to incorporate firm characteristics in our analysis.

This workshop would be a fantastic opportunity for me to engage with other young researchers working on AI-related topics, to learn from experts in the field, to deepen my knowledge of the AI literature, and to sharpen my econometric skills.