RODIMIRO RODRIGO

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EDUCATION

Georgetown University
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics 2016 – 2022
Research interests: Macroeconomics, Labor Economics, International Trade, Firm Dynamics.
Committee: Toshihiko Mukoyama (main advisor), Adriana Kugler, Mark Huggett, John Rust.

University of Pennsylvania
M.A. in Economics, UPenn fellowship 2011 – 2012

Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México
B.A. in Economics, ITAM scholarship, *Summa Cum Laude* 2006 – 2009

WORKING PAPERS

"Robot Adoption, Organizational Capital and the Productivity Paradox", 2020 (*JMP*).

"U.S. Robots and their Impacts in the Tropics: Evidence from Colombian Labor Markets", with A. Kugler, M. Kugler and L. Ripani, Working Paper N0. 28034, November 2020 (*submitted*).

WORK IN PROGRESS

"Labor Market Power and Informality in Brazil" (*RAIS & PME*), with A. Pineda.

"The Life and Death of Mexican Firms in times of Covid-19" (*IMSS & Google micro-data*), with E. Lopez-Cordova.

"Can Robots Vote? Evidence from Bolsonaro Election", with L. Bouton and F. Campante.

PUBLICATIONS

"Cheating and Incentives: Learning from a Policy Experiment", with C. Martinelli, S. Parker and A. Pérez-Gea. *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy*, 10: 298–325, February 2018 (*highlighted by the AEA*).

"Closing the Achievement Gap on Mathematics: Evidence from a Remedial Program in Mexico City", with E. Gutierrez. *Latin American Economic Review*, 1–30, November 2014.

AWARDS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND GRANTS

2021	*The World Bank*, Research Grant – "The impacts of Covid-19 in Mexican firms".
2016-2021	*Georgetown, Economics Department*, PhD Fellowship; 2019 Summer Dissertation Fellowship.
2019, 2018	*Inter-American Development Bank*, Research Grant – "The Impact of Robots in Latin America".
2018	*Banco de Mexico*, Summer Research Fellowship.
2015	*Colegio de Mexico*, Víctor L. Urquidi - Economics Research Prize 2014, first place.
	Citi-Banamex, Economic Research Prize 2014, honorary mention.
2011	*Citi-Banamex* Prize for Undergraduate Thesis on Economics 2010, second place.

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Boston University - Technology & Policy Research Initiative Seminar 2021 (scheduled), European Economic Association 2021 (scheduled), Georgetown Business School - Strategy Seminar 2021, Trade Seminar 2021; Wharton Innovation Doctoral Symposium 2021; Georgetown Department of Economics - Macro Seminar 2020; Georgetown Business School - Trade Seminar 2019; Southern Economic Association 2018; Banco de Mexico 2018; XX LACEA Meeting 2015, JPAL Matchmaking conference, Paris 2014; Bolivia; NIP-LACEA 2011; COLMEX-IMCO 2011.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Georgetown University, McDonough School of Business, RA to Ferdinando Monte 2019
World Bank, Trade and Competitiveness Global Practice, Consultant 2018
International Labor Office, PI 2016
Ministry of Finance-Mexico, Economic Productivity Unit, *Director for Economic Productivity Policy* 2013 – 2016
Laboratorio de Iniciativas para el Desarrollo A.C. *Co-founder of the Mexican NGO* 2012
Spectron Desarrollo, RA to Susan Parker and Luis Rubalcava 2009 – 2010
Center for Economic Research, ITAM, RA to Sandra Lizarazo and Jose Ma. Da Rocha 2008
Georgetown University, TA: Thesis Tutoring *(Spring 2020)*; Macroeconomics, *(Fall 2019-MBA, Spring 2019-II)*; Econometrics, *(Fall 2018*- graduate; *Spring 2018*-undergraduate*)*; Introduction to Microeconomics *(Fall 2017)*.
Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México, Lecturer – Eco. of Institutions *(2016-graduate)*, TA Micro III *(2006)*.

SKILLS: Advanced proficiency in Stata, Matlab, E-views, R, LaTeX. Spanish (Native), English (Fluent).

Statement of Purposes

This is Rodimiro from Mexico, fifth-year Econ PhD student at Georgetown University. My research agenda focuses on the effects of the adoption of new technologies for firms and workers.

My dissertation revisits the question of why productivity has a delayed reaction after a major technology change with the Fourth Industrial Revolution. Based on event studies, I document that it takes five years after the adoption of a robot to observe economically significant productivity gains in Brazil, what I refer as the productivity paradox of robots. The hypothesis is that firms' organizational capital is technology specific, hence a major technology change will depreciate the stock accumulated, demanding a learning process that can be slow and costly both for the organizations and the aggregate. Combining matched employer-employee dataset and robot adoption administrative data, I provide new establishment-level evidence on labor reorganization and the consequences for organizational capital associated with robots. I estimate a general equilibrium model, where heterogeneous firms decide on hiring production and administrative workers, and accumulate organizational capital, imperfectly transferable across technologies. The model explains the late appearance of productivity gains and the redistribution of workers across tasks observed in the data.

My recent NBER paper, with amazing coauthors, examines the effect of U.S. automation in Colombian workers through two countering forces: reshoring, causing U.S. companies to rather than producing in labor abundant countries opt for machine-intensive production at home, and the increasing demand for inputs in all linked industries.

A natural direction to extend my research agenda is towards studying the effects of another disruptive technology automating processes such as AI. I have followed closely the progress of the literature, and data exploited so far, without doing research in this area. The Workshop on Economics of AI would expose me to the frontier knowledge in the matter, while being a gift to my research agenda by getting me deep into a close but new field right before reaching the Job Market.