

SAMSON M'BOUEKE

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RESEARCH FIELDS

Macroeconomics, International Economics, Time Series Econometrics

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME	Notre Dame, IN, USA
Ph.D. in Economics	May 2025
Dissertation: Essays in International Macroeconomics	
Committee: Joseph P. Kaboski (Chair), Nelson Mark, Robert C. Johnson	
AFRICAN SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS	Abomey-Calavi, Benin
Master's in Mathematics, Economics, and Statistics	2018
ECOLE NATIONALE D'ECONOMIE APPLIQUEE ET DE MANAGEMENT	Cotonou, Benin
Bachelor's in Statistics	2012

JOB MARKET PAPER

"The Importance of Commodity-Price Shocks" 2025

Abstract: This paper analyzes the role of commodity import and export price shocks as a source of business cycle fluctuations in 28 emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs). Assuming that commodity prices are exogenous to these economies, I take both an empirical and a theoretical approach, and examine whether the two can be reconciled. First, I estimate country-specific SVARs and find that commodity import and export price shocks account for, on average, 26–30% of business cycle fluctuations. I then extend Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe's (2018) Importable-Exportable-Nontradable (MXN) model by explicitly introducing commodity import and export prices. Key parameters of this extended model are estimated by matching impulse responses from the country-specific SVARs. The model predicts that, on average, the shocks explain only 2–3% of business cycle fluctuations in the sample economies. Beyond this aggregate disconnect, a country-by-country comparison reveals that the empirical and theoretical models are also disconnected at the country level.

WORKING PAPERS

1. "Impulse Responses by Pseudo-Panel Local Projections: An R Package" 2025
 2. "The Echoes of Conflict: Analyzing the Potential Impacts of the Russia-Ukraine War on Africa" (Upcoming AERC working paper with Daniel Gurara, Dianah Ngui, and Abebe Shimeles) 2025
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SEMINAR/CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

Development Finance Research Workshop, Julis-Rabinowitz Center for Public Policy & Finance, Princeton University Feb 2023

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND Washington, D.C., USA
Summer Intern, Fund Internship Program Jun 2022 – Aug 2022

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME
Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics

Notre Dame, IN, USA
Aug 2019 – Dec 2024

Tutorial Instructor

- Statistics for Economics (Fall 2024: 53 students; Fall 2021: 22 students; Spring 2022: 11 students)
Responsibilities: taught weekly tutorial sessions, held office hours, and graded assignments
Level: Undergraduate

Teaching Assistant

- Econometrics (Spring 2024: 63 students; Fall 2023: 72 students)
- Principles of Microeconomics (Spring 2023: 128 students; Fall 2022: 33 students; Spring 2019: 55 students)
- Principles of Macroeconomics (Spring 2021: 84 students; Fall 2020: 47 students)
- Poverty in the Developing World (Fall 2019: 44 students)
Responsibilities: held office hours, graded assignments and exams
Level: Undergraduate

AFRICAN SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS
Graduate Teaching Assistant

Abomey-Calavi, BENIN
2017-2018

- Macroeconomics (2018: 35 students; 2017: 19 students)
- Introduction to Stata (2018: 40+ students)
Responsibilities: reviewed course materials with students; helped students with home assignments and exam preparation; graded exams; introduced students to the basics of Stata.
Level: Master's

GRANTS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND AWARDS

Graduate Fellowship, Department of Economics, University of Notre Dame	2019-2024
African Economic Research Consortium (AERC) Research Grant (\$20,000)	Dec 2022 – Sept 2023
Pre-doctoral Fellowship, African School of Economics	Sept 2018 – Jul 2019
Masters Scholarship, Centre d'Excellence d'Afrique en Sciences Mathématiques et Applications (CEA-SMA), Benin	2016-2017
Undergraduate Scholarship, Benin Government	2009-2012

SKILLS & LANGUAGES

Languages: English (fluent), French (native), Mina (native), Fon (fluent)
Programming Languages: R, MATLAB, Stata, Python

REFERENCES

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