

Wint Myat Thu

Department of Economics
The University of Arizona
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EDUCATION

University of Arizona

Ph.D. in Economics

Committee: Derek Lemoine (chair), Ashley Langer, Mo Xiao, Stanley Reynolds

Tucson, AZ

2019-2024 (expected)

Sewanee: University of the South

B.A. in Economics, minors in Mathematics & International Studies

Phi Beta Kappa, summa cum laude

Sewanee, TN

2015-2019

FIELDS

Environmental & Energy Economics, Natural Resource Economics, Applied Microeconomics

JOB MARKET PAPER

“Relieving Midstream Constraints in Natural Gas Flaring”

Flaring releases carbon dioxide, methane, and other toxic air pollutants that are harmful to the environment and human health. Natural gas extracted from the ground cannot be sold in the markets unless there is sufficient capacity to process the gas. I theoretically derive a subsidy to offset the flaring damages that stem from insufficient processing capacity. The subsidy depends on the economic relationship between capacity and flaring, which I quantify using an instrumental variable model and new data from North Dakota. I find that processing capacity bottlenecks are indeed an important driver of flaring. I estimate that on average, each gas plant requires an ex-ante capacity subsidy of \$396 per thousand cubic feet to ensure that flaring emissions remain at the socially optimal levels. Back of the envelope calculations suggest that the subsidy would have reduced flaring by 1.4 billion cubic feet across the state, offsetting roughly \$5 million in flaring damages per year.

OTHER PAPERS

“The Effect of Emissions Information Disclosure on the Upstream Natural Gas Industry”

“The Option Value of Irreversible Investment in Oil Drilling”

“Administrative and Citizen Responses to Chinese Pollution: A Spatial Analysis” with [Scott Wilson](#) and Anran Xu

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

- University of Arizona** Tucson, AZ, USA
Research Assistant for Professor [Derek Lemoine](#) 2021 - current
- Sewanee: University of the South** Sewanee, TN, USA
Summer Researcher supervised by Professor [Anne Duffee](#) 2019
– Studied topics in continuous-time stochastic dynamic optimization.
- Sewanee: University of the South** Sewanee, TN, USA
Research Assistant for Professor [Scott Wilson](#) 2017 - 2019
– Studied environmental governance and water pollution in Chinese provinces.
- Sewanee-Nanjing University Water Pollution Study** Nanjing, China
Freeman Foundation Research Fellow 2018
– Collected water samples from rivers, lakes, and streams, and tested the level of nutrients. Conducted surveys on citizens' perception of government water pollution control efforts in Nanjing and Wuxi. Interviewed environmental GONGOs and NGOs in Beijing and Wuxi.
- Myanmar Center for Responsible Business** Yangon, Myanmar
Research Intern 2015
– Calculated transparency index scores based on environmental and employment policies of top 100 taxpayer firms in Myanmar. Contributed to the publication of '[Transparency in Myanmar Enterprises Report 2015](#)'.

GRANTS & AWARDS

- GPSC Research Fund (\$1500)
University of Arizona 2022
- George W. Coleman Grant (\$2000)
University of Arizona 2022
- Roots for Resilience Scholarship (\$7000)
University of Arizona 2021
- Kayden Scholarship for Graduate Studies in Economics (\$500)
University of the South 2019
- Freeman Foundation Student Fellowship
University of the South 2018
- McCrady Prize for Best Undergraduate Research in Social Sciences
University of the South 2018
- Summer Research Grant (\$3000 per year, \$9000 total)
University of the South 2017–2019
- International Honors Scholarship (full tuition, room & board for 4 years of undergraduate studies)
University of the South 2015–2019

TEACHING

- **Sole Instructor of Record** at the University of Arizona 2021, 2023
ECON 373: Environmental & Energy Economics
ECON 200: Principles of Economics

- **Teaching Assistant** at the University of Arizona 2019-2024
ECON 338: Law & Economics
ECON 330: Macroeconomics and Global Institutions
ECON 150: Climate Science and Economics
ECON 200: Principles of Economics
- **Teaching Assistant** at University of the South 2017-2019
STATS 204: Statistical Analysis
ECON 305: Macroeconomic Theory

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023: CSQIEP Workshop, AZ ENREE Workshop, Southern Economic Association 93rd Annual Meeting (scheduled)

PROGRAMMING

R, Stata, Git, ArcGIS Pro, HPC

LANGUAGES

English, Burmese, Japanese (elementary proficiency)

REFERENCES

Derek Lemoine

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- Professor of Economics
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Teaching Reference: John Drabicki

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