

BILAL CELIK

March 2017

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name	Bilal CELIK
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN, USA. 2012 – 2017 (Expected)
M.S., Economics, University of Illinois Urbana – Champaign, IL, USA, 2010 – 2012
B. A., International Relations, Ege University, Izmir, Turkey, 2002 – 2007

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Public Economics, Political Economy and Economics of Natural Disasters

WORKING PAPERS

- “Large Natural Disasters and Economic Activity: Evidence from Synthetic Control Approach.” – Job Market Paper
- “Aligned City Mayors and Economic Activity in Coalition and One-Party Governments: Using Night-Time Light Intensity Data for Turkey” with Celeste Carruthers.

WORK in PROGRESS

- “Effects of Time zone Boundaries on Student Success Using U.S. Data.”
- “Effects of Time Zones on Economic Activity”

SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “*Aligned City Mayors and Economic Activity in Coalition and One-Party Governments: Using Night-Time Light Intensity Data for Turkey*”, Midwest Economics Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, April 2016
- “*Aligned City Mayors and Economic Activity in Coalition and One-Party Governments: Using Night-Time Light Intensity Data for Turkey*”, Brown Bag Seminar Series, Department of Economics, University of Tennessee, May, 2015
- “*Natural Disasters and Economic Activity: Using Nighttime Lights*”, Tennessee Empirical Applied Microeconomics Festival (Team-Fest) Department of Economics, University of Tennessee, May, 2016
- “*Natural Disasters and Economic Activity: Using Nighttime Lights*”, Brown Bag Seminar Series, Department of Economics, University of Tennessee, Oct, 2016

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor:

Spring 2015	Introduction to Economics	Econ 201
Spring 2016	Law and Economics	Econ 333
Summer 2016	Intermediate Macroeconomics	Econ 313

Teaching Assistant – Graduate Level:

Fall 2015	Microeconomic Theory – I	Econ 511
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Teaching Assistant – Undergraduate Level:

Fall 2012	Introduction to Economics	Econ 201
Spring 2013	Introduction to Economics	Econ 201
Fall 2014	Introduction to Economics	Econ 201

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Fall 2013	Mark Burton & Larry Bray
Spring 2014	Mark Burton & Larry Bray
Summer 2014	William S. Neilson
Fall 2016	Celeste Carruthers
Spring 2017	Celeste Carruthers

CERTIFICATES

Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching and Learning (CIRTL) – Associates Level

COMPUTING SKILLS

Stata, E-views, Matlab, Maple, Microsoft Office, ArcGIS, Python, Latex, TurningPoint (Clicker Technology)

SCHOLARSHIPS & HONORS

2012 – 2017: University of Tennessee Graduate Assistantship

2008 – 2012: Full scholarship for study abroad from Turkish Ministry of Education

2004 – 2007: Merit Based Financial Funding from municipal services of Izmir, Turkey

2008 – 2009: Language Course, Penn State University, PA, (Government Funded)

In 2002, ranked 57th in Turkey (out of 1,500,000 student), at the nation-wide university entrance examination to enter undergraduate studies.

In 2007, ranked 588th in Turkey (out of 200,000 student) at the nation-wide post graduate education examination to enter graduate studies.

LANGUAGES

Turkish: Mother language

English: Conversational and advanced

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIP

American Economic Association
Midwest Economic Association
UT Turkish Student Association

REFEREE

Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization

PAST MEMBERSHIPS

2005 – 2007: Member of economy club in the Ege University, Turkey
2004 – 2007: Member of international relations club in the Ege University, Turkey

WORK EXPERIENCE

2006 summer internship at Hitit Ceramic in department of export-Import, Usak, Turkey

INTERESTS

Traveling, cycling, fishing, playing a Turkish classical musical instrument (saz), playing tennis, watching football.

THESIS COMMITTEE & REFERENCES

Celeste Carruthers (Advisor)
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LARGE NATURAL DISASTERS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY: EVIDENCE FROM SYNTHETIC CONTROL APPROACH

Abstract

In this paper, I studied the impacts of large natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods and storms have on economic activity. I used nighttime light intensity data as a proxy for economic activity. On a local level, using the data of three large earthquakes within a 200-mile radius from the earthquake's epicenter, I found that when the distance from the epicenter increases, the nighttime light intensity decreases. With a sample restricted to a 50-mile radius after an earthquake, the decrease in nighttime light intensity is more pronounced when the distance from the epicenter increases. By using the synthetic control approach, on a national-level analysis, I found that while three of nine large natural disasters have a positive impact on economic activity, one natural disaster has a negative impact and the other five do not have any significant impact on economic activity. When aggregating all nine large natural disasters, I found a small but positive impact on economic activity of the country in four to five years following the natural disasters. However, this positive impact dissipates after four to five years. Given these statistics, it can be said, rescue, recovery, and rebuilding efforts increase economic activity around a natural disaster zone.

ALIGNED CITY MAYORS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY IN COALITION AND ONE-PARTY GOVERNMENTS: USING NIGHTTIME LIGHT INTENSITY DATA FOR TURKEY

Abstract

Decision makers may have different objectives when allocating a country's resources. In order to secure a spot in government, decision makers in the political party in power might try allocating resources to win more votes in future elections. This study analyzes political favoritism under different government types (i.e., coalition government and one-party government) by using nighttime light intensity as a proxy for economic activity in a region. Results show that during a coalition government era, cities that have mayors whose political party is aligned with one of the political parties in the coalition have more economic activity, while during the one-party government era, cities with aligned mayors have less economic activity. Therefore, I found evidence of political favoritism during coalition government era but not during one party government era.