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EDUCATION

University of Houston

Ph.D. Candidate, Economics, 2018 – present (Expected May 2024)

M.A., Economics, 2021

University of Dhaka

M.S.S., Economics, 2016

B.S.S., Economics, 2015

References:**Professor German Cubas (Chair)**

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FIELDS OF
INTEREST

Macroeconomics, Inequality, Environmental and Energy Economics, and Public Finance

WORKING
PAPERS**“Commuting, Home Utilities, and Production: The Distributional Effects of Energy Price Shocks”** *Job Market Paper* ([Link](#))

Abstract: Energy price shocks are large and persistent relative to other price shocks. How do these shocks affect households across different income groups? Using the Consumer Expenditure Survey (CEX), I document a negative relationship between household income and the expenditure share on energy for both commuting and residential utilities. Households in the lowest income quintile spend 12.5% of their budget on energy, while the highest spend 7.8%. To quantify the welfare effects of an energy price shock across income groups, I develop a heterogeneous-agent incomplete market model featuring non-homothetic consumption preferences, costs of commuting to work, and energy as a factor of production for non-energy goods, taking energy price as exogenous. A calibrated version of the model successfully reproduces many salient features of the United States data, including the cross-sectional distribution of income, wealth, and expenditure shares on energy consumption for both commuting and residential utilities. The quantitative analysis finds that a one-standard-deviation inflationary energy price shock results in disproportionate welfare losses across income groups, with the lowest income quintile facing losses four times greater than those of the highest on impact. The model also provides new insights into the influence of work-from-home opportunities and targeted transfer programs on shock impacts.

PUBLICATIONS	<p>“Progressive Income Taxation and Consumption Baskets of Rich and Poor” (Link) <i>Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control</i>, December 2023, 157: 104758</p> <p>Abstract: In this paper, I analyze the implications of differences in consumption baskets across income groups to evaluate the effects of redistributive taxation on efficiency and inequality. To this end, I develop a static multi-sector general equilibrium model incorporating a parametric tax function, non-homothetic consumption preferences, and endogenous labor supply, with varying compositions of skilled and unskilled labor in production across sectors. A calibrated version of the model captures the cross-sectional differences in the compositions of households’ consumption baskets in the United States. I find that considering the differences in consumption baskets between high- and low-income households leads to a lower optimal choice of income tax progressivity compared to the conventional approach that ignores this feature of the data.</p>
WORK IN PROGRESS	<p>“The Distributional and Aggregate Effects of Carbon Taxes” (with German Cubas, Mark Robinson, and Pedro Silos)</p>
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	<p><i>Instructor at the University of Houston:</i> Principles of Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Summer 2021, Spring 2023 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Spring 2022</p> <p><i>Teaching Assistant at the University of Houston:</i> Energy Economics (Undergraduate), Fall 2018 Money & Banking (Undergraduate), Spring 2019 Intermediate Microeconomics (Undergraduate), Fall 2019 – Spring 2021 Intermediate Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Fall 2021 Principles of Microeconomics (Undergraduate), Fall 2022 Principles of Macroeconomics (Undergraduate), Fall 2023</p>
RESEARCH EXPERIENCE	<p>University of Houston, Research Assistant for Professor German Cubas, Summer 2021</p>
COMPUTER SKILLS	<p>Programming Languages: Fortran, MATLAB, Python Statistical Software: R, Stata Others: L^AT_EX</p>
AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS	<p>Cullen Fellowship Travel Grant, University of Houston, 2022 Dr. Walter J. Primeaux Jr. and Natalie A. Primeaux Scholarship, University of Houston, 2022 <i>(awarded to the 4th year Economics Ph.D. students who have made remarkable progress on their dissertations)</i> Best Presentation at the Economics Graduate Student Workshop, University of Houston, 2021 Graduate Tuition Fellowship, University of Houston, 2018 – present</p>
CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS	<p>2023: Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting; Texas Macro Job Candidate Conference 2022: Midwest Macroeconomics Meeting; Latin American Meeting of the Econometric Society (online); Economics Graduate Student Conference of Washington University in St. Louis; Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society in China (online); Society for Computational Economics Annual Meeting 2021: Southern Economic Association Annual Meeting</p>

PERSONAL

Citizenship: Bangladesh

Visa: U.S. (F-1)

Languages: Bengali (Native), English (Fluent)