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Fernando Hoces de la Guardia

Summary

Policy researcher and policy analyst applying causal inference, experimentation, and large-scale data analysis to high-stakes decisions — from national policy at key Government Agencies in Chile to multi-year research programs at UC Berkeley. Expertise using administrative and survey data for quasi-experimental impact evaluations (DD, RDD, PSM) and policy analysis (microsimulations, cost-benefit analysis), with an emphasis on transparency and reproducibility. Proven track record building and leading teams, securing \$2M+ in competitive funding, and translating rigorous evidence into actionable recommendations for agencies including CBO, IADB, and USAID. Actively testing LLM-based tools to scale hypothesis encoding and exploring AI agents for reproducible research pipelines.

Technical Skills

Programming R (expert), Stata, $\text{\LaTeX}$

Methods Causal inference, randomized experiments / A/B testing, difference-in-differences, regression discontinuity, matching, survey design, cost-benefit analysis, microsimulation

Tooling Git / GitHub, RMarkdown / Quarto, Jupyter, reproducible research pipelines

Languages Spanish (native), English (fluent)

Experience

2019–Present **Assistant Project Scientist**, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

- **Co-PI, Publication Bias and Standardization of Results research program:** secured \$880K (FAIR/NHH) to measure and explain under-reporting of results in economics. Designed and ran a randomized experiment with a sample of over 300 teams of academic researchers; built a hypothesis-encoding protocol and led a team of 3 research assistants. Working paper.
- **Open Policy Analysis Initiative (BITSS):** led program embedding open-science methods into government policy analysis. Presented the framework and delivered tailored recommendations to agencies including CBO, IADB, USAID, and Chile's Ministry of Finance. Framework published in *Science & Public Policy*. bitss.org/opa/
- **Social Science Reproduction Platform:** co-designed and oversaw development of a platform to structure and host reproduction reports from researchers worldwide; 300+ reproductions submitted to date (200+ papers, 500+ claims). socialsciencereproduction.org

- 2017–2018 **Postdoctoral Research Fellow**, UC BERKELEY (BITSS)
- Designed and delivered training curriculum (Git/GitHub, pre-registration, dynamic documents, reproducibility, mertonian norms) for hundreds of researchers across multiple countries.
 - Co-authored IDB report on transparent and reproducible research — adopted as guidance for IDB research staff.
- 2011–2012 **Junior Economic Advisor**, MINISTRY OF FINANCE, CHILE
- Produced time-sensitive economic analyses on labor, social, and education policy for the Minister's office; quantified budget impact of national policies informing multi-billion-dollar allocations.
- 2010–2011 **Research Associate**, UNIVERSIDAD DE CHILE, DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
- Impact evaluation of national financial aid program using Regression Discontinuity on administrative records; identified small effects on enrollment and graduation, informing design of follow-up programs.
- 2006–2008 **Economist**, MINISTRY OF PLANNING, CHILE
- Co-led impact evaluation of *Chile Solidario*, the national anti-poverty program, using Difference-in-Differences and matching on administrative + survey data.
 - Produced official poverty and inequality estimates (pre- and post-transfer) used in national reporting.

Education

- 2017 **PhD, Public Policy Analysis**, RAND Graduate School, Santa Monica, CA
- 2010 **M.A., Economics**, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
- 2006 **B.A. & M.A., Economics**, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile

Selected Publications

- 2024 Brodeur, A., *Hoces de la Guardia, F.*, et al. "Reproduction and replication at scale." *Nature Human Behaviour*.
- 2021 *Hoces de la Guardia, F.*, Grant, S., Miguel, E. "A Framework for Open Policy Analysis." *Science & Public Policy*.
- Working *Hoces de la Guardia, F.*, Miguel, E., et al. "Beyond Publication Bias: Characterizing Missing Results in Economics." Latest draft.
- Full list on personal site.

Selected Grants

- 2022 **Co-PI** — FAIR/NHH, Reporting Guidelines & Publication Bias (\$880K)
- 2022 **Co-I** — NIA/NIH, Research Transparency & Reproducibility Training (\$750K)
- 2019 **Co-I** — Arnold Ventures, Computational Reproducibility in Economics (\$500K)
- Fellowships Fulbright (2008–2010); PRGS Doctoral Scholarship

Teaching

- 2022 Introduction to Econometrics, UC Berkeley. Course materials.
- 2019 Environmental Economics & Policy, UC Berkeley
- 2007–2010 Econometrics I, Universidad de Chile (3 terms)