

Valentin Lindlacher

Munich Graduate School of Economics

www.lindlacher.com [VLindlacher](https://twitter.com/VLindlacher)

Primary Field: Regional Economics
Secondary Fields: Development Economics, Political Economy
Research Topics: Digital Infrastructure, Local Economic Growth, Electoral Turnout

| | | | |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|---|
| Contact | Valentin Lindlacher ifo Institute Poschingerstr. 5 81679 München +49 (0) 89 9224 1383 lindlacher@ifo.de | Placement Director | Davide Cantoni LMU Munich Ludwigstr. 33/IV 80539 München +49 (0) 89 2180 6260 davide.cantoni@econ.lmu.de |
|----------------|---|---------------------------|---|

REFERENCES

| | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| Oliver Falck ifo Institute Poschingerstr. 5 81679 München +49 (0) 89 9224 1370 falck@ifo.de | Niklas Potrafke ifo Institute Poschingerstr. 5 81679 München +49 (0) 89 9224 1319 potrafke@ifo.de | Lukasz Grzybowski Telecom ParisTech 19 place Marguerite Perey 91120 Palaiseau +33 (0) 1 75 31 98 93 lukasz.grzybowski@telecom-paris.fr | Florian Englmaier LMU Munich Kaulbachstraße 45 80539 München +49 (0) 89 2180 5642 florian.englmaier@econ.lmu.de |
|---|--|--|--|

EDUCATION

| | | |
|-------------|--|------------|
| 2017 – 2022 | Ph.D. Economics | LMU Munich |
| 2014 – 2016 | M.Sc. Mathematical Finance & Actuarial Science | TU Munich |
| 2012 – 2015 | B.A. Political Science | LMU Munich |
| 2011 – 2014 | B.Sc. Mathematics | TU Munich |

RESEARCH VISITS

Sep – Oct 2021 Telecom ParisTech, Economics and Social Sciences Dep. Host: Lukasz Grzybowski

JOB MARKET PAPER

Digital Infrastructure and Local Economic Growth: Early Internet in Sub-Saharan Africa (with Moritz Goldbeck) [[latest version](#)]

Does Internet availability at basic speeds foster local economic growth in developing countries? We analyze 220 towns in 10 Sub-Saharan African (SSA) countries in the early 2000s and measure local economic growth of towns using nighttime light satellite data. In a difference-in-differences setting, we exploit quasi-random variation in Internet availability induced by sub-marine cable arrivals. Our findings show that basic Internet availability leads to about two percentage points higher economic growth of SSA towns in the years after connection compared to similar but later connected towns. This result seems to be driven mainly by per capita productivity growth and only to a small extent by migration into connected towns. Moreover, Internet availability is accompanied by a shift from agriculture to manufacturing in regional employment shares.

PUBLICATIONS

Is High-Speed Internet an Infrastructure of General Interest? *Information Economics and Policy* (2021), Vol. 56:3. [[link to publication](#)]

OTHER WORKING PAPERS

No Surprises, Please: Voting Costs and Electoral Turnout (with Jean-Victor Alipour) [[latest version](#)]

We study how exogenous shocks to voting costs affect electoral turnout. Individuals whose polling place is relocated experience changes to their voting costs due to altered distance (transportation effect) and unfamiliarity with the new polling location (search effect). Using precinct-level data on eight elections in Munich (Germany), we find that polling place relocations reduce turnout by .46 percentage points (p.p.) on average: in-person voting declines by .75 p.p. and is only partly compensated by an .29 p.p. increase in mail-in voting. However, the turnout drop appears transitory as mail-in votes balance the decline in in-person votes in subsequent elections. This finding suggests inattentiveness to relocations, causing individuals to miss the deadline for requesting mail-in ballots. Some inattentive voters switch to nonvoting today but revert to mail-in voting in ensuing elections. The pattern is consistent with rational choice models of voting and incompatible with the hypothesis that voting is habit forming.

New Region, New Chances: Does Moving Regionally for University Shape Later Job Mobility? (with Felix Ehrenfried) *R&R at Regional Studies* [[latest version](#)]

Mobile Phones and Financial Inclusion in Sub-Saharan Africa (with Lukasz Grzybowski and Onkokame Mothobi) *under review* [[latest version](#)]

WORK IN PROGRESS

Digital Infrastructure: Regional Socioeconomic Effects of Mobile Internet (with Moritz Goldbeck)

Mobile Internet and Mental Health (with Moritz Goldbeck and Anna Kerkhof)

PRESENTATIONS

- | | |
|------|---|
| 2021 | Workshop on Political Economy (CESifo), Bolivian Conference on Development Economics (BCDE), North East Universities Development Consortium Conference (NEUDC), Doctoral Workshop L'Association Française de Recherche en Economie Numerique (AFREN), Verein für Socialpolitik (VfS), ifo Dresden Workshop on Regional Economics, Applied Young Economicst Webinar series, Urban Economics Association PhD Student Workshop (UEA), Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Rationality and Competition Summer School (CRC), European Meeting of the Urban Economics Association (UEA), International Workshop: Market Studies and Spatial Economics (HSE), Doctoral Conference Ruhr Graduate School in Economics (RGS) |
| 2020 | World Congress of the Econometric Society (ESWC), Seminar Economic Research South Africa (ERSA), Labour Economists World Conference (EALE/SOLE/AASLE), Meeting on Public Economics (EEP) |
| 2019 | Verein für Socialpolitik (VfS), Italian Society of Public Economics (SIEP), Jornadas de Economia Industrial (JEI), Bavarian Graduate Program in Economics Research Workshop (BGPE) |
| 2018 | European Association for Research in Industrial Economics (EARIE), International Telecommunications Society (ITS), Competition and Innovation Summer School (CISS), Doctoral Workshop "The Economics of Digitization" |

NON-PEER-REVIEWED PUBLISHED WORK (in German)

Ist Deutschland abgeschlagen im Rennen um 5G? (with Oliver Falck), *ifo Schnelldienst*, 2019, 72, Nr. 21 [[link to publication](#)]

Digitalisierung in deutschen Unternehmen: Eine Bestandsaufnahme (with Alexandra Heimisch and Julia Schrickler), *ifo Schnelldienst*, 2017, 70, No. 21 [[link to publication](#)]

TEACHING

| | | |
|-----------|--|--------------------|
| 2021 | Seminar <i>Economics of digital transformation</i> | Teaching Assistant |
| 2020 | Seminar <i>The application of new empirical methods</i> | Teaching Assistant |
| 2019 | Seminar <i>Challenges for regional economic policy</i> | Teaching Assistant |
| 2019 | Seminar <i>Issues and methods of innovation economics</i> | Teaching Assistant |
| 2018–2021 | 6 Bachelor and 1 Master theses | Co-Supervisor |
| 2018 | Seminar <i>Current issues in the economics of innovation</i> | Teaching Assistant |
| 2017–2019 | Tutorial <i>Introduction to Microeconomics</i> | Teaching Assistant |

THIRD-PARTY PROJECTS

| | |
|-----------|--|
| 2020–2021 | Evaluation of the Next Generation Access Programme, Policy evaluation of national state aid for broadband rollout in Germany |
| 2017–2020 | Economics of Innovation in Telecommunications, Thesis promotion |

SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Journal Referee: *Information Economics and Policy*, *Review of Network Economics*

HONOURS AND GRANTS

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 2021– | Member of PILLARS – Pathways to Inclusive Labour Markets by European Commission (European Union’s Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation Programme) |
| 2021–2022 | Granted research proposal for the FIT IN Initiative (Toulouse) |
| 2021 | CESifo Young Ambassador Program for short-term stays |
| 2021 | Seed grant by the Bavarian Institute for Digital Transformation (bidt) |
| 2016 | Award for an excellent academic achievement in the field of economics (TUM) |

WORK EXPERIENCE

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 2017–2022 | Junior Economist, ifo Institute, Munich |
| 2013 | Internship, Hypovereinsbank (UniCredit), Munich |
| 2010–2011 | Voluntary Work, UNESCO commission (program »kulturweit«), Mexico City |

TECHNICAL SKILLS

ArcGIS, QGIS, Stata, R, Python, and \LaTeX

LANGUAGES

German, English, Spanish, and Portuguese

Last updated: October 19, 2021