

Instructor: Isaac Mbiti, University of Virginia, BREAD, NBER, IZA, JPAL
I will focus more on the papers marked with an asterix (*).

Big Picture

World Development Report 2018

<https://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2018>

Going to a better school?

*Lucas, Adrienne and Isaac Mbiti "Effects of School Quality on Student Achievement: Discontinuity Evidence from Kenya" AEJ Applied 2014

https://lerner.udel.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/lucas_mbiti_2014_secondary.pdf

*Pop- Eleches, Cristian and Miguel Urquiola: Going to a Better school: Effects and Behavioral responses. American Economic Review 2013

[http://www.columbia.edu/~msu2101/Pop-Eleches_Urquiola\(2013\).pdf](http://www.columbia.edu/~msu2101/Pop-Eleches_Urquiola(2013).pdf)

Education Production Function- -Theory and estimation

*Todd, Petra and Kenneth I. Wolpin "On the Specification and Estimating of the Production Function for Cognitive Achievement", *Economic Journal*, Feb, 2003, pp F3-F33.

<https://citeseerx.ist.psu.edu/viewdoc/download?doi=10.1.1.611.9681&rep=rep1&type=pdf>

Measuring Quality - VA models

Koedel, Cory, Kata Mihaly and Jonah E. Rockoff (2015). Value-Added Modeling: A Review. *Economics of Education Review* 47, 180-195.

<https://www0.gsb.columbia.edu/mygsb/faculty/research/pubfiles/11584/value-added.pdf>

Crawford, L, Elks, P. Testing the feasibility of a value-added model of school quality in a low-income country. *Dev Policy Rev.* 2019; 37: 470– 485. <https://doi.org/10.1111/dpr.12371>
(open access)

Some Interventions to improve school Quality– Inputs

School Resources \$\$

Das, Jishnu, Stefan Dercon, James Habyarimana, Pramila Krishnan, Karthik Muralidharan, and Venkatesh Sundararaman. 2013. "School Inputs, Household Substitution, and Test Scores."

American Economic Journal: Applied Economics, 5 (2): 29-57.

[https://econweb.ucsd.edu/~kamurali/papers/Published%20Articles/School%20Inputs%20\(22%20May%202012\).pdf](https://econweb.ucsd.edu/~kamurali/papers/Published%20Articles/School%20Inputs%20(22%20May%202012).pdf)

*Isaac Mbiti, Karthik Muralidharan, Mauricio Romero, Youdi Schipper, Constantine Manda, Rakesh Rajani, Inputs, Incentives, and Complementarities in Education: Experimental Evidence from Tanzania, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 134, Issue 3, August 2019, Pages 1627–1673, <https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjz010> (open access) (**note: focus on the grants discussion**)

Textbooks

Sabarwal, Shwetlena and Evans, David and Marshak, Anastasia, The Permanent Input Hypothesis: The Case of Textbooks and (No) Student Learning in Sierra Leone (September 1, 2014). World Bank Policy Research Working Paper No. 7021, <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/20339>

Teachers

Bietenbeck, Jan, Marc Piopiunik, and Simon Wiederhold. "Africa's Skill Tragedy Does Teachers' Lack of Knowledge Lead to Low Student Performance?." *Journal of Human Resources* 53, no. 3 (2018): 553-578. https://www.janbietenbeck.com/BPW_teacher_knowledge_preprint.pdf

Bold, Tessa, Deon Filmer, Gayle Martin, Ezequiel Molina, Christophe Rockmore, Brian Stacy, Jakob Svensson, and Waly Wane. "What do teachers know and do? Does it matter? Evidence from primary schools in Africa." World Bank Working Paper <https://www.tessabold.com/uploads/7/0/1/0/70101685/wps7956.pdf>

Bold, Tessa, Deon Filmer, Gayle Martin, Ezequiel Molina, Brian Stacy, Christophe Rockmore, Jakob Svensson, and Waly Wane. 2017. "Enrollment without Learning: Teacher Effort, Knowledge, and Skill in Primary Schools in Africa." *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 31 (4): 185-2. <https://www.aeaweb.org/articles?id=10.1257/jep.31.4.185>

Teacher coaching/guides

Benjamin Piper, Stephanie Simmons Zuilkowski, Margaret Dubeck, Evelyn Jepkemei, Simon J. King, Identifying the essential ingredients to literacy and numeracy improvement: Teacher professional development and coaching, student textbooks, and structured teachers' guides, *World Development*, Volume 106, 2018, Pages 324-336, <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2018.01.018>. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0305750X18300287>

Class Size

*Joshua D. Angrist, Victor Lavy, Using Maimonides' Rule to Estimate the Effect of Class Size on Scholastic Achievement, *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Volume 114, Issue 2, May 1999, Pages 533–575, <https://economics.mit.edu/files/8273>

Esther Duflo, Pascaline Dupas, Michael Kremer, "School governance, teacher incentives, and pupil-teacher ratios: Experimental evidence from Kenyan primary schools", *Journal of Public Economics*, Volume 123, 2015, Pages 92-110, https://web.stanford.edu/~pdupas/DDK_ETP.pdf (**note: focus on class size**)

Do parents care about School Quality information?

*Cilliers, Jacobus, Isaac M. Mbiti, and Andrew Zeitlin. "Can Public Rankings Improve School Performance? Evidence from a Nationwide Reform in Tanzania." *Journal of Human Resources* 56, no. 3 (2021): 655-685. muse.jhu.edu/article/798140.

Mizala, A., Romaguera, P., & Urquiola, M. (2007). Socioeconomic status or noise? Tradeoffs in the generation of school quality information. *Journal of Development Economics*, 84, 61–75. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2006.09.003>
[CrossrefWeb of Science@Google Scholar](#)

Mizala, A., & Urquiola, M. (2013). School markets: The impact of information approximating schools' effectiveness. *Journal of Development Economics*, 103, 313–335. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2013.03.003>

Other topics (cut due to time)

Peer Effects

Angrist, Joshua 2014 "The Perils of Peer Effects" *Labour Economics*
<https://economics.mit.edu/files/9800>

Sacerdote, Bruce Peer effects in Education. Handbook Chapter
https://edisciplinas.usp.br/pluginfile.php/4312837/mod_resource/content/0/Cap.%204%20HEE%20-%20Peer%20Effects%20in%20Education.pdf

Duflo, Esther, Pascaline Dupas, and Michael Kremer. 2011. "Peer Effects, Teacher Incentives, and the Impact of Tracking: Evidence from a Randomized Evaluation in Kenya." *American Economic Review*, 101 (5): 1739-74. https://web.stanford.edu/~pdupas/Tracking_rev.pdf
(note: focus on the peer effects only)

Overview Papers

[Improving School Education Outcomes in Developing Countries: Evidence, Knowledge Gaps, and Policy Implications"](https://econweb.ucsd.edu/~kamurali/papers/Published_Book_Chapters/School_Education_Developing_Countries.pdf)
https://econweb.ucsd.edu/~kamurali/papers/Published_Book_Chapters/School_Education_Developing_Countries.pdf

Field experiments in Education

https://econweb.ucsd.edu/~kamurali/papers/Published_Book_Chapters/FEEDC_2017.pdf