

# Jonas Markgraf, PhD

Economist

✉ jonas.markgraf@gmail.com  
📱 jmarkgraf.netlify.app/  
🌐 Jonas Markgraf, PhD

## WORK EXPERIENCE

Amazon MAR 2023 – CURRENT  
***Economist II – Prime Video***  
Prime Video Content Analytics.

Zalando SE AUG 2021 – FEB 2023  
***Senior Applied Scientist – Algorithmic Data Products team (Pricing)***  
Leading scientific research on developing new pricing algorithm focusing price elasticities.  
Topics: lead work on experimental and causal ML methods for price elasticity estimation; design, technically implement, and analyze non-standard experiments.

Zalando SE APR 2020 – AUG 2021  
***Senior Applied Scientist – Core Economics team***  
Drove research on key drivers of customer lifetime value to enable strategic investment decisions in Zalando Group.  
Topics: causal inference from observational data; communicated research results to senior management; functioned as interim team of three data scientists and analysts for six months.

University of Oxford – Nuffield College SEP 2018 – SEP 2019  
***Postdoctoral Researcher***  
Conducted quantitative research on wealth inequality as a member of the WEALTHPOL project with Ben Ansell.  
Topics: design of lab and survey experiments; causal inference research using time-series cross-sectional data (TWFE models).

Hertie School SEP 2015 – AUG 2018  
***Research Associate***  
Conducted quantitative research on politically-influenced banking.  
Topics: statistical modeling; compilation of novel granular dataset; causal inference from observational data.

Washington University in St. Louis JAN 2017 – JUN 2017  
***Predoctoral Fellow***  
Visiting Scholar at the Political Science Department of Washington University in St. Louis.

International Trade Centre (UN/WTO) SEP 2014 – SEP 2015  
***Market Analyst***  
Fostering inclusive and sustainable growth and development through trade with a focus on non-tariff measures.  
Topics: coordinated launch and assisted in implementation of a large-scale business survey on non-tariff measures in the EU (conducted in collaboration with the European Commission, DG TRADE).

## EDUCATION

2015 – 2018 **Doctor of Philosophy**  
SUMMA CUM LAUDE (HIGHEST DISTINCTION)  
Political Science  
*Hertie School*

2013 – 2014 **Master of Science**  
International Political Economy  
*London School of Economics*

2009 – 2014 **Bachelor**  
Political Science & Economics  
*Free University Berlin*

## SKILLS

### Methods

- ◇ reduced-form causal inference from observational data (RDD, IV, matching, DiD, synthetic control groups, causal ML)
- ◇ experimental design and impact evaluation (e.g. addressing spillover bias)
- ◇ causal machine learning (causal forests for heterogeneous treatment effects; double/debiased ML)

### Tech stack

- ◇ Python, R, SQL incl BigQuery, Databricks/Spark, AWS S3, Git, LaTeX

### Languages

- ◇ German (mother tongue); English (fluent); French (moderate); Russian (moderate)

## PUBLICATIONS

- [“Borrowing to Self Insure? Credit Access and Support for Redistribution.”](#) (with G. Rosas) Accepted at *The Journal of Politics* [formal model + FE Model + survey experiment]
- [“On Board With Banks: Do Banking Connections Help Politicians Win Elections?”](#) (with G. Rosas), *The Journal of Politics*, 2019, (81) 4, 1357–1370 [i.a. matching techniques]
- [“Backscratching in banks: political cycles in bank manager appointments.”](#), Early View, *Political Science Research and Methods* [event history models]
- [“Electoral Cycles in Bank Lending Explained: The Role of Political Representation in Governing Bodies.”](#) (with T. Stowasser) *working paper* [Difference-in-Difference design]