

CURRICULUM VITAE

MATTHIAS FIRGO

Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO)
Arsenal Objekt 20, 1030 Wien
Austria
E-Mail: matthias.firgo[at]wifo.ac.at
Phone: + 43 (1) 798 2601 – 471
Website: matthias.firgo.wifo.ac.at

Last Update: 27/11/2017

PERSONAL DETAILS

Date and place of birth: January 17, 1984 in Vöcklabruck, Austria
Citizenship: Austrian
Languages: German (native), English (fluent), Spanish (basic)

PAST AND PRESENT POSITIONS

Since 06/2012	<i>Senior Researcher</i> , Department for Structural Change and Regional Development, Austrian Institute of Economic Research (WIFO)
06/2014	<i>Visiting Researcher</i> at Vienna University of Economics and Business (WU)
06/2013	<i>Visiting Researcher</i> at Mendel University Brno
06/2012 – 02/2013	<i>External Lecturer</i> , Institute for Economic Policy and Industrial Economics, WU
10/2008 – 05/2012	<i>Research and Teaching Associate</i> , Institute for Economic Policy and Industrial Economics, WU
06/2008 – 01/2010	<i>Trainer</i> for Economic Simulation Games, bfi Vienna, Vienna Chamber of Labor

EDUCATION

10/2008 – 03/2012	<i>PhD in Economics</i> (Doktorat), WU, passed with distinction, Supervisors: Prof. Christoph Weiss, Prof. Klaus Gugler
-------------------	---

10/2003 – 06/2008 *BSc & MSc in Economics* (Diplom),
WU & University of Illinois

AWARDS & GRANTS

2013 *Edwin-von-Böventer-Prize* awarded by Gesellschaft für
Regionalforschung (German speaking section of the Regional
Science Association International)

2012 Grant for an excellent doctoral thesis, WU

2011-2012 *Ranked top 3 among 700 instructors at ÖH WU ProfCheck*
(provided by the WU students' union), WU

2011 *WU mobility grant* for doctoral students

2010-2012 *City of Vienna Jubiläumsfonds* small grant for WU research
associates, Project: "Pricing with horizontal and vertical product
differentiation"

2010 *Innovative Teaching Award*, WU

2006 *Study abroad scholarships*, WU & Government of Upper Austria

2005, 2006, 2007 *Academic Excellence Scholarship*, WU

PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

Publications in Refereed Journals

[“\(Un\)Related Variety and Employment Growth at the Sub-Regional Level”](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), *Papers in Regional Science*, 2017, doi:10.1111/pirs.12276.

[“Does Having the Right Visitor Mix Do the Job? Applying an Econometric Shift-share Model to Regional Tourism Developments”](#), with Oliver Fritz (WIFO), *The Annals of Regional Science*, 2017, 58(3), 469–490.

[“Network Centrality and Market Prices: Empirical Evidence”](#), with Dieter Pennerstorfer (WIFO) and Christoph Weiss (WU), *Economics Letters*, 2016, 139, 79-83.

[“Centrality and Pricing in Spatially Differentiated Markets: The Case of Gasoline”](#), with Dieter Pennerstorfer (WIFO) and Christoph Weiss (WU), *International Journal of Industrial Organization*, 2015, 40, 81-90.

[“Convergence as a heterogeneous process: what can be learnt about convergence in EMU from regional experiences?”](#), with Peter Huber (WIFO), *Empirica*, 2014, 41(2), 129–151.

Working Papers

["Informal, Formal, or Both? Assessing the Drivers of Home Care Utilization in Austria Using a Simultaneous Decision Framework"](#), with Klaus Nowotny (University of Salzburg & WIFO) and Alexander Braun (Joanneum Research), WIFO Working Paper 533/2017.

["Regional Competitiveness Under New Perspectives"](#), with Karl Aiginger (WIFO), WWWforEurope Policy Paper No. 26, 2015.

["Detecting Collusion in Spatially Differentiated Markets"](#), with Agnes Kügler (WIFO), WIFO Working Paper 479/2014, revise & resubmit at *Regional Science and Urban Economics*.

["What can the EMU's peripheral countries learn from regional growth?"](#), with Karl Aiginger (WIFO) and Peter Huber (WIFO), WWWforEurope Policy Paper No. 7, 2013.

["Unconditional Convergence in Currency Unions: An Analysis of European Regions from 1991 to 2009"](#), with Peter Huber (WIFO), WWWforEurope Policy Paper No. 4, 2013.

Contributions in Collective Volumes

["Regional competitiveness: connecting an old concept with new goals"](#), with Karl Aiginger (WIFO), in Huggins, R., Thompson, P. (eds.): *"Handbook of Regions and Competitiveness"*, Cheltenham, UK: Edward Elgar, 2017, 155-191.

„What Can the EMU's Peripheral Countries Learn from Regional Growth“, with Karl Aiginger and Peter Huber (WIFO), in Lacina, L., Rozmahel, P., Rusek, A. (eds.): *Political Economy of Eurozone Crisis: Reforms and their Limits*, Bucovice: Martin Striz Publishing, 2013, 24-70.

Publications in National Journals

["Tertiarisation as an Impediment to Growth? Evidence for the European Regions"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2017, 90(11), 843-854.

["Austria 2025 – Challenges and Macroeconomic Effects of Long-term Care Provision"](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger, Oliver Fritz, Klaus Nowotny, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), and Alexander Braun, *WIFO-Monatsberichte*, (monthly reports), 2017, 90(8), 639-648.

["Accelerated Growth Characterised by a Slight West-South-East Divide. Business Development in the Austrian Länder in 2016"](#), with Philipp Piribauer, Oliver Fritz, Peter Huber, Michael Klien and Dieter Pennerstorfer (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2017, 90(5), 403-423.

["Wissensintensive Unternehmensdienste als Motor des Produktivitätswachstums? Eine theoretische und empirische Bestandsaufnahme"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), *Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft*, 2017, 43(1), 11-39.

["Economic Effects of Digitalisation in Austria"](#), with Michael Peneder, Julia Bock-Schappelwein, Oliver Fritz and Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2017, 90(3), 177-192.

["Low Regional Growth Differentials, Western Bias. Economic Situation in the Länder in 2015"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer, Oliver Fritz, Peter Huber, Michael Klien, Dieter Pennerstorfer, and Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2016, 89(5), 361-382.

[“Wirtschaftsstruktur und regionales \(Beschäftigungs-\)Wachstum. Einige empirische Erkenntnisse zur wachstumsoptimalen Ausrichtung regionaler Strukturpolitik in Österreich“](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), *Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft*, 2016, 42(1), 83-108.

[“Low National Growth Rates Combined with Economic West-East Divide. Business Development in the Austrian Länder in 2014“](#), with Dieter Pennerstorfer, Oliver Fritz, Peter Huber, Michael Klien, Peter Mayerhofer, Stefan Schönfelder, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2015, 88(6), 511-530.

[“Pflegedienstleistungen in Österreich: Quantitative Aspekte des künftigen Bedarfs“](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger (WIFO), *WISO*, 2014, 37(4), 57-73.

[“Ski Networks and their Effects on Pricing in Austrian Skiing Regions“](#), with Agnes Kügler (WU Vienna), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2014, 87(12), 851-862.

[“Status quo and Potentials for the Future of Long-term Care Services in Austria“](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2014, 87(9), 631-642.

[“Development of Public Expenditure on Care Services. Projections for the Austrian Länder“](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2014, 87(9), 643-652.

[„Industrial Regions Enjoy Growth Edge in Stagnant Economy. Business Development in the Austrian Länder in 2013“](#), with Stefan Schönfelder, Oliver Fritz, Peter Huber, Dieter Pennerstorfer, Gerhard Streicher, Michael Weingärtler (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2014, 87(5), 361-381.

[„Strategies of Success for the European Periphery. Insights from Regional Economics for Southern Europe“](#), with Karl Aiginger and Peter Huber (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2013, 86(6), 509-521.

[„Economic Slowdown Dims Growth Throughout Austria. Industrial Regions Lose their Growth Edge“](#), with Oliver Fritz, Peter Huber, Andrea Kunnert, Peter Mayerhofer, Dieter Pennerstorfer, and Stefan Schönfelder (WIFO), *WIFO-Monatsberichte* (monthly reports), 2013, 86(5), 425-446.

Monographs, Research Reports and Other Publications

[“Wirtschaftliche und gesellschaftliche Effekte von Universitäten“](#), with Jürgen Janger, Kathrin Hofmann, Agnes Kügler, Anna Strauss, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), Hans Pechar, WIFO Study for the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy – Universities of Austria, Vienna, 07/2017.

[“Österreich 2025: Pflegvorsorge – Künftiger Finanzierungsaufwand und regionalwirtschaftliche Verflechtungen“](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger, Oliver Fritz and Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), WIFO Study within the "Austria 2025" research program., Vienna, 06/2017.

[“Wirtschaftskonzept Salzburg“](#), with Peter Huber and Michael Klien (WIFO), WIFO Study for the City of Salzburg, Vienna, 05/2017.

[“Österreich im Wandel der Digitalisierung“](#), with Michael Peneder, Julia Bock-Schappelwein, Oliver Fritz, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), WIFO Study for A1 Telekom Austria AG, Vienna 08/2016.

["Wissensintensive Unternehmensdienste, Wissens-Spillovers und regionales Wachstum. Teilprojekt 3: Zur Standortstruktur von wissensintensiven Unternehmensdiensten – Fakten, Bestimmungsgründe, regionalpolitische Herausforderungen"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), WIFO Study for the Viennese Chamber of Labor (AK Wien) and City of Vienna, Vienna, 06/2016.

["Digital Economy Index \(DESI\) für Oberösterreich. Machbarkeitsstudie"](#), with Kathrin Hranyai, Gerhard Schwarz and Anna Strauss (WIFO), WIFO Study for Business Upper Austria GmbH, Vienna, 03/2016.

["Vierter Bericht zur internationalen Wettbewerbsfähigkeit Wiens"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO) and Stefan Schönfelder (WIFO), WIFO Study for the City of Vienna, Vienna, 02/2016.

["Wissensintensive Unternehmensdienste, Wissens-Spillovers und regionales Wachstum. Teilprojekt 2: Strukturwandel und regionales Wachstum – Wissensintensive Unternehmensdienste als "Wachstumsmotor"?"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), WIFO Study for the Viennese Chamber of Labor (AK Wien) and City of Vienna, Vienna, 10/2015.

["Wissensintensive Unternehmensdienste, Wissens-Spillovers und regionales Wachstum. Teilprojekt 1: Wissens-Spillovers und regionale Entwicklung – welche strukturpolitische Ausrichtung optimiert das Wachstum?"](#), with Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), WIFO Study for the Viennese Chamber of Labor and City of Vienna, Vienna, 06/2015.

["Wirtschaftsstandort Steiermark 2015+"](#), with Oliver Fritz, Peter Mayerhofer (WIFO), Michael Kernitzky, Eric Kirschner, Judith Köberl, Veronika Kulmer, Andreas Niederl, Franz Prettenhalter, Claudia Winkler (Policies Joanneum Research), Johannes Absenger, Simone Harder, Robert Steinegger, Ewald Verhounig (WKO Steiermark), WIFO Study for the Styrian Chamber of Commerce (WKO Steiermark), Vienna, 05/2015.

["Ausbau der stationären Pflege in den Bundesländern. Quantitative und qualitative Effekte des Einsatzes öffentlicher Mittel im Vergleich zur mobilen Pflege"](#), with Ulrike Famira-Mühlberger (WIFO), WIFO Study for the Austrian Länder, Vienna, 06/2014.

["Öko-Jobs in Wien. Bestandsaufnahme und Analyse"](#), with Oliver Fritz, Peter Mayerhofer, Stefan Schönfelder, Niklas Schraml, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), Michaela Friedl-Schafferhans, and Trude Hausegger (prospect Unternehmens-beratung), WIFO Study for the City of Vienna, Vienna, 03/2014.

"Öko-Jobs in Wien. Handlungsempfehlungen", with Oliver Fritz, Peter Mayerhofer, Stefan Schönfelder, Niklas Schraml, Gerhard Streicher (WIFO), Michaela Friedl-Schafferhans, and Trude Hausegger (prospect Unternehmens-beratung), WIFO Study for the City of Vienna, Vienna, 03/2014.

["Südeuropa: Problemzone oder Brücke in die Zukunft. Ein Strategiewechsel ist nötig und möglich"](#), with Karl Aiginger and Peter Huber (WIFO), ÖGfE Policy Brief 7/2013.

„Volkswirtschaftliche Effekte des ORF-Fernsehens: Handlungsempfehlungen, with Oliver Fritz (WIFO) and Gerhard Streicher (Joanneum Research), WIFO study for the Austrian Federal Broadcasting Association (ORF), Vienna, 3/2013.

„Volkswirtschaftliche Effekte des ORF-Fernsehens, with Oliver Fritz (WIFO) and Gerhard Streicher (Joanneum Research), WIFO study for the Austrian Federal Broadcasting Association (ORF), Vienna, 3/2013.

[“Policy Options for the Development of Peripheral Regions and Countries of Europe”](#), with Karl Aiginger and Peter Huber (WIFO), WWForEurope Policy Brief No. 2, 12/2012.

“The Role of Financial Speculation on Markets for Industrial Metals”, with Michael Böheim (WIFO) and Eva Pichler (WU Vienna), Vienna, 08/2012.

[“Centrality and Pricing in Spatially Differentiated Markets”](#), Vienna University of Economics and Business, Doctoral Thesis, 02/2012.

“Nachbarschaftseffekte bei Korruption”, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Diploma Thesis, 06/2008.

Periodical Reports

WIFO Quarterly Regional Business Report for the Austrian Länder (since 08/2012).

WIFO Biannual Regional Business Report for the City of Vienna (since 12/2012).

Invited Presentations and Keynotes

Gesundheit Österreich GmbH, "GÖG-Kolloquium Zukunft Pflegekosten", Vienna, Austria, 10/2017.

Renner-Institut Steiermark – "Herausforderungen der Pflegefinanzierung", Leoben, Austria, 09/2017.

Rechnungshof-Konferenz "Kick-off Prüfungsplanung", Impuls-Referat "Pflege", Vienna, Austria, 06/2017.

DeustoForum Gipuzkoa, Ciclo "Bienestar y Competitividad", Universidad de Deusto, Presentation: "Regional Competitiveness Under New Perspectives", San Sebastian, Spain, 03/2017.

AK Wien: Zur Bedeutung von Wissen und Innovation für Wachstum und Beschäftigung, Presentation: „Wissens-Spillovers und regionale Entwicklung – Welche strukturpolitische Ausrichtung optimiert das Wachstum?“, Vienna, Austria, 03/2016.

AK Oberösterreich Fachtagung – Zukunft der Pflege in den Oberösterreichischen Gemeinden – Vöcklabruck, Austria, Presentation: „Mobile und Stationäre Pflege in den Bundesländern: Präsentation der WIFO Studie“, Vöcklabruck, Austria, 01/2015.

79th Meeting of the board on social, health, and youth issues of the Austrian Association of Towns (Österreichischer Städtebund), Presentation: “Long-term care services: Status quo and projections of public expenditures”, Wiener Neustadt, Austria, 11/2014.

Economics Seminar Mendel University Brno, Presentation: “Spatial Competition among Ski Resorts in Austria”, Brno, Czech Republic, 06/2013.

Ökonomenrunde der RTR, Presentation: „Räumlicher Wettbewerb unter Österreichs Skigebieten“, Vienna, Austria, 10/2012.

Presentations at Conferences and Workshops

RSA Winter Conference 2017, London, UK, 11/2017.

NARSC 2017, Vancouver, Canada, 11/2017.

10th WIFO Regional Economics Workshop & GfR Summer Conference, Vienna, Austria, 09/2017.

Winterseminar der Gesellschaft für Regionalforschung (GfR), Spital am Pyhrn, Austria, 02/2017.

56th ERSА Congress, Vienna, Austria, 08/2016.

Winterseminar der Gesellschaft für Regionalforschung (GfR), Innsbruck/Igls, Austria, 02/2016.

3rd Geography of Innovation Conference, Toulouse, France, 01/2016.

NARSC 2015, Portland, Oregon, USA, 11/2015.

8th WIFO Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Workshop on Regional Economics – Vienna, Austria, 09/2015.

55th ERSА Congress - Lisbon, Portugal, 08/2015.

Winterseminar der Gesellschaft für Regionalforschung (GfR), Innsbruck/Igls, Austria, 02/2015.

1st Austrian Health Economics Association (ATHEA) Conference, Vienna, Austria, 11/2014.

54th ERSА Congress, St.Petersburg, Russia, 08/2014.

Eurozone Future: From Crisis to Stabilization, Reform and Growth, Mendel University, Brno, Czech Republic, 11/2013.

Regional Studies Association Winter Conference 2013, London, UK, 11/2013.

EUROFRAME June Conference 2013 - Warsaw, Poland, 05/2013.

NOeG Meeting 2013, Innsbruck, Austria, 05/2013.

2nd ISW Workshop in Empirical Economics, Innsbruck, Austria, 05/2013.

Winterseminar der Gesellschaft für Regionalforschung (GfR), Matri i.O., Austria, 02/2013.

WWWforEurope Area 5 Meeting, Vienna, Austria, 01/2013.

ISW Workshop in Empirical Economics, Salzburg, Austria, 11/2012.

9th EU-REAL Meeting, Badajoz, Spain, 10/2012.

5th WIFO Geoffrey J.D. Hewings Workshop on Regional Economics, Vienna, Austria, 09/2012.

NOeG Meeting 2012, Vienna, Austria, 05/2012.

EARIE 2011, Stockholm, Sweden, 09/2011.

EBES 2010 Conference, Athens, Athens, Greece, 10/2010.

4th World Conference of the Spatial Econometrics Association, Chicago, USA, 06/2010.

WU Department of Economics Junior Faculty Research Seminar, Vienna, Austria 01/2010.

Refereeing for Scientific Journals

Regional Science and Urban Economics, Regional Studies, Papers in Regional Science, Empirica, Journal of Industry Competition and Trade, Review of Regional Research, Czech Journal of Economics and Finance, Zeitschrift für Wirtschaftsgeographie;