

PLINIO DIAS BICALHO

Boston University ◊ Department of Economics ◊ 270 Bay State Road, Boston, MA 02215, USA

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

International Trade, Macroeconomics, Public Economics, Political Economy, Machine Learning

EDUCATION

Boston University 2020-2026

Ph.D. in Economics

Fields: Macroeconomics, International Trade, and Public Finance

Thesis: “Three Essays on Fiscal Policy”

University of California, San Diego 2016-2020

B.A., *highest distinction*, in Economics [Major GPA 3.90/4.0]

B.S., *cum laude*, in Applied Mathematics [Major GPA 3.97/4.0]

PAPERS

Working Papers

[Quantifying the Macroeconomic Effects of Tax Competition: the Brazilian “Fiscal War”](#) [JMP]

[The Costs of Running a Minority Government](#)

Work in Progress

Measuring Political Uncertainty: Implications for Sovereign Bond Spreads

Which Firms Benefit from Industrial Policy? (with Juan Ignacio Jacoubian)

Mercosur, Special Economic Zones, and Trade Policy (with Juan Ignacio Jacoubian)

Divided Governments (with Benjamin Marx, Vincent Pons, Vincent Rollet)

HONORS AND PRIZES

[Rosenstein-Rodan Prize](#) 2025

Best Research Paper in Development Economics, Boston University

Best Second Year Paper Award 2022

Boston University

Dean’s Fellowship 2020

Full PhD scholarship for the Economics PhD program, Boston University

[Seymour Harris Award](#) 2020

Most Outstanding Graduating Economics Student, University of California San Diego

Honors in Economics 2020

Completed honors requirements in economic theory, University of California San Diego

WORK EXPERIENCE

Instructor

Econometric Analysis 2024

Teaching Fellow

Principles of Macroeconomics 2022-2024

Intermediate Macroeconomics I 2024

Intermediate Econometrics I 2022-2023

Econometric Analysis 2023

Research Fellow

Prof. Tarek Hassan, Boston University 2021-2022

Prof. Sam Bazzi, Boston University 2021

Research Assistant

Prof. Claudio Labanca, Monash University 2018-2020

Prof. Alejandro Nakab, University of California, San Diego 2019

Prof. Mark Muendler, University of California, San Diego 2018

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Organizer, Boston University Macro Reading Group 2021–2023

SEMINARS AND CONFERENCES

2024 Greenline Macro Meeting (BU, BC)

PROGRAMMING LANGUAGES

Python, R, Stata, MATLAB, Java, SQL

PERSONAL DATA

Citizenship: Brazilian (F1)

Birth date: January 20th, 1998

Languages: English, Portuguese; Spanish; German

INTERESTS

[Chess] Elo: 1714 Rapid, 1667 Blitz (November 2025)

[Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu] 3 years

[Olympic weightlifting] PRs: Snatch - 165 lbs; Clean - 275 lbs

[South American Literature and Films]

REFERENCES

David Lagakos

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