

Peter Birchler

Economics B.Sc. (UZH) — empirical research, data analysis, writing



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EDUCATION

Sept 2022 — expected July 2027
University of Zurich
Completed 2026

B.Sc. in Economics

Bachelor's thesis completed; one remaining course.

Bachelor's Thesis — *Detecting Collusion in Swiss Meat TRQ Auctions*

Compared two structurally identical Swiss import-quota auctions that show persistently divergent price levels, using a Kolmogorov–Smirnov test on the distribution of firms' market-share changes to screen for coordinated bidding. Found no statistical evidence of collusion; the price gap is explained by quota under-fill.

2021
Zurich

Matura

MNG Rämibühl

EXPERIENCE

July — December 2023
University of Fribourg

Tutor & Research Assistant

Faculty of Management, Economics and Social Sciences

Hand-collected archival data for a research project: reviewed *Amtsbücher* from several Swiss cantons and coded the type and title of every legislative change over a 50-year period.

WRITING & RESEARCH

Ongoing

Moderator & Quality Contributor

r/AskEconomics

Write answers and moderate submissions on the largest online community for in-depth economics Q&A.

May 2025
brchlr.ch

Efficiently Assigning Bogey Teams

Mechanism-design analysis of the 2025 Counter-Strike Blast Bounty tournament, where lower-rated teams could pick their opponents. Shows the tournament's own matchmaking rule fails to maximise organiser utility, and derives a mechanism, that does.

March 2025
Substack

Gary's Bad Economics

BirchlerMuesli

Long-form critique of Gary Stevenson's model on wealth inequality and asset prices.

SKILLS & DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE

Methods

Econometrics · statistical screening · data collection and cleaning · technical writing

Software

Python · Stata · R · $\LaTeX$

Competition economics

Cartel and collusion literature, with a focus on empirical detection and screening methods

Trade policy

Swiss and international tariff-rate-quota regimes

Languages

German (native) · English (native) · French (conversational)

Interests

Chess and team-based competitive games · NYT Crosswords, Basketball and Football