

# For All Papers

- Maggie McMillan:  
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- I made detailed comments on the papers and will send them to the authors.
- Claudia kindly told me I did not have to thoroughly read all the papers but I don't know how to do that and make useful comments!
- Disclaimer: not exactly my line of research.

# (Defining and) Measuring Women's Agency

- The paper is very interesting but long
  - Shorten some of the discussions that are not linked to your empirical work.
  - Motivate better in the introduction – eliminate need for this discussion throughout the paper.
  - Tables at the end and self contained.
- Make clearer from the outset that you divide the analysis into three sections if that is necessary.
- Might make more sense to combine 4&5.
- Tighten empirical work (most interesting to me).

**Table 3. OLS Regressions for “Perceived Freedom of Choice and Control”**

|                      | (1)                  | (2)                  | (3)                  |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Female               | -0.071***<br>(0.010) | -0.076***<br>(0.010) | -0.076***<br>(0.022) |
| Married              | -0.195***<br>(0.011) | 0.045***<br>(0.010)  | 0.045**<br>(0.020)   |
| Education Level      | 0.153***<br>(0.007)  | 0.137***<br>(0.007)  | 0.137***<br>(0.018)  |
| Age                  | 0.003***<br>(0.000)  | -0.002***<br>(0.000) | -0.002*<br>(0.001)   |
| Income Scale         | 0.135***<br>(0.002)  | 0.125***<br>(0.002)  | 0.125***<br>(0.009)  |
| Full-time Employment | 0.096***<br>(0.020)  | 0.045**<br>(0.020)   | 0.045<br>(0.037)     |
| Part-time Employment | 0.115***<br>(0.025)  | -0.007<br>(0.024)    | -0.007<br>(0.045)    |
| Self-employed        | 0.229***<br>(0.024)  | 0.126***<br>(0.023)  | 0.126***<br>(0.045)  |
| Retired              | -0.124***<br>(0.028) | -0.017<br>(0.027)    | -0.017<br>(0.058)    |
| Houswife             | -0.062**<br>(0.024)  | -0.144***<br>(0.023) | -0.144***<br>(0.054) |
| Unemployed           | -0.172***<br>(0.024) | -0.196***<br>(0.023) | -0.196***<br>(0.046) |
| Constant             | 5.987***<br>(0.027)  | 4.794***<br>(0.109)  | 4.794***<br>(0.275)  |
| Observations         | 244,782              | 244,782              | 244,782              |
| R-squared            | 0.029                | 0.122                | 0.122                |

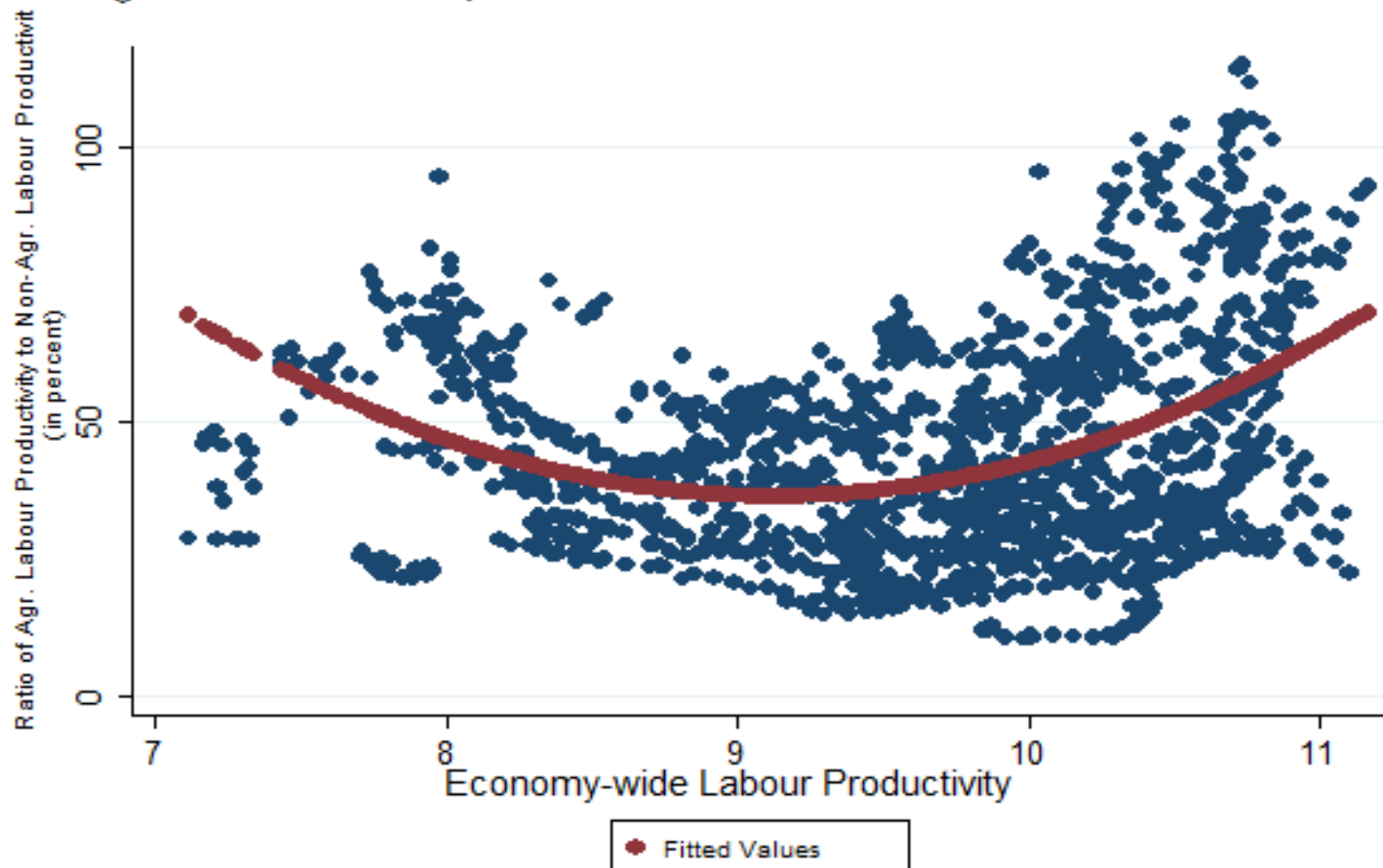
# **Not Your Average Job: Irregular Schedules, Recall Bias, and Farm Labor Measurement in Tanzania**

- Tip: papers with shorter titles get cited more often (& NYAJ how is that relevant?)
- Is agriculture really 'special' in rural areas?
- What happens if you use same methodology to measure productivity in other rural activities?
- In a sense this was Lewis' original hypothesis: eg he talked about traditional and modern activities not agriculture vs the rest.

# Agricultural Productivity Gap is Not Stagnant

(McMillan and Rodrik 2011)

Figure 5. Relationship Between Economy-wide Labor Productivity and Ratio of Agricultural to non-Agricultural Productivity.



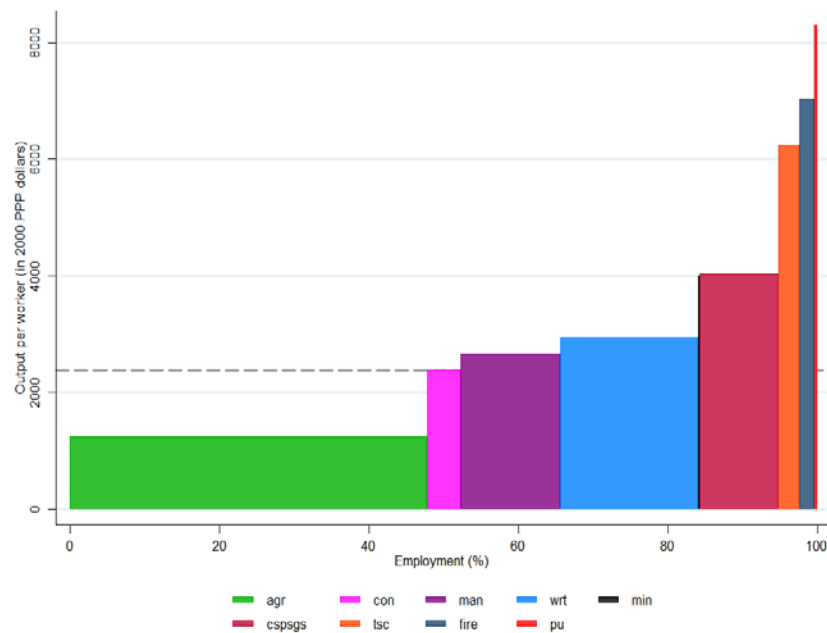
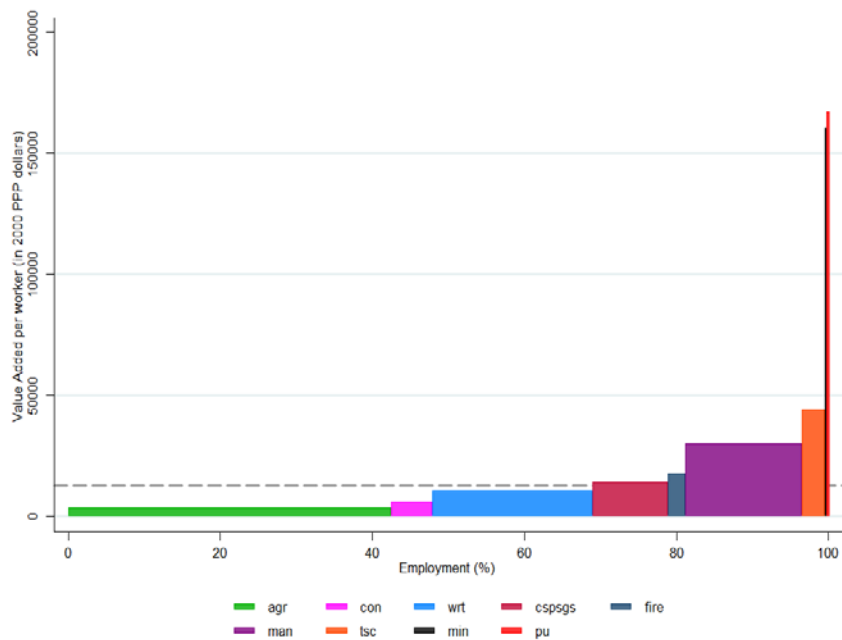
Note: Economy-wide labor productivity shown on the horizontal axis. Ratio of agricultural productivity to non-agricultural productivity (in percent) shown on vertical axis. Full panel.

# So Rural Dwellers Are Not So Poor?

Thailand: 2002

Output Based Measure of Productivity

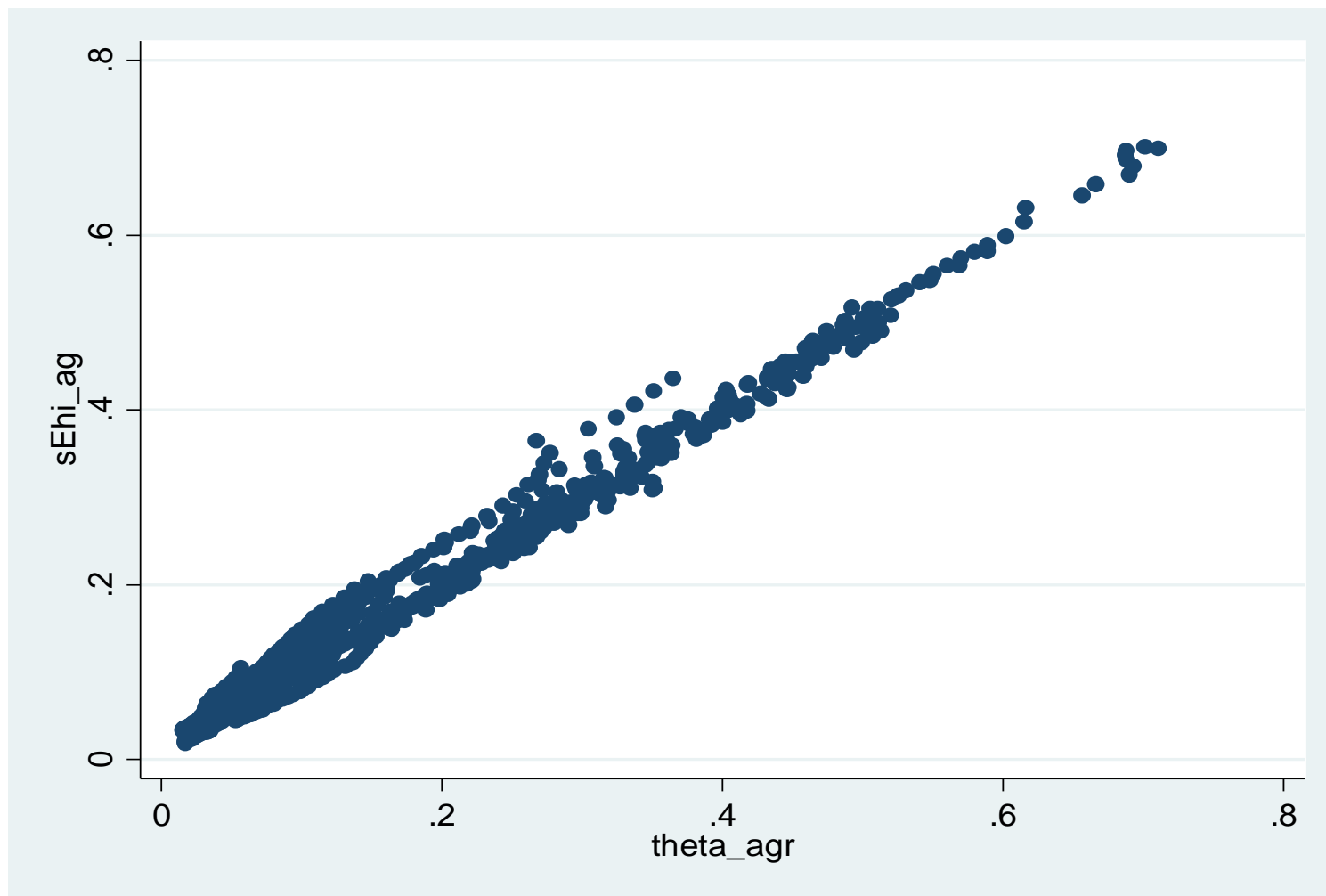
Consumption Based Measure of Productivity



Source: Author's calculations using the I2D2 Database.



# Correlation Between Hours Worked and Employment Share in Agriculture: 29 Countries





# Bottom Line

- Results are interesting and important.
- But please be careful about interpretation.
- They highlight the need for a better understanding of economic activity in rural areas.
- But there is no way that they overturn the results regarding the low productivity of subsistence agriculture (and you do not need to say that for the paper to be useful).



# Measuring Time Use in Developing Countries

- Compares three methodologies for measuring time use in developed and developing countries.
- Very clear and to the point but lacks motivation.
- More interesting: bring in examples of how this type of information has been used in the developed world and how it could be used for policy in the developing world.
- Is this a grant proposal? 'To advance the field of measuring time, we propose to rigorously compare a number of different innovations.'

# Measuring Employment in Developing Countries

- Well organized, easy to read.
- Results are not surprising: answers to labor market survey questions by the self-employed are most sensitive to survey design.
- To me, the most important questions are:
  - The cost effectiveness of implementing surveys with a shorter recall period but on a more frequent basis and;
  - What can you say about our understanding of labor markets in Ghana based on what you found?