Broadly, my research explores the effects of global economic integration between developed and developing countries. My first and second research papers explore the impact of international trade and foreign direct investment (FDI) on technology transfer and innovation. A third paper examines the impact of remittances on the human capital accumulation of recipient families. The objective of my research is to provide insights into how developing countries can best take advantage of globalization.

My first paper, *Treaties and Knowledge Flow: An Analysis Using the Gravity Equation*, focuses on international technology transfer from large developed countries to the rest of the world. It provides micro-foundations for a gravity-like equation of international knowledge flows. The empirical section uses data on patent citations to examine the impact of bilateral tax treaties, trade agreements and bilateral investment treaties on international knowledge diffusion. The results suggest that tax treaties significantly increase technology transfer while trade agreements and investment treaties do not have a significant effect.

My job market paper, *North-South Trade Liberalization and Innovation: Evidence From NAFTA*, focuses on the specific case of NAFTA and its impact on the innovative output of Mexican industries. NAFTA could have affected innovation through knowledge diffusion and by altering the incentives for innovation through access to larger markets and increased import competition. This paper uses data on patent grants as a proxy for innovation and industry variation in tariff protection prior to NAFTA as a source of plausibly exogenous variation in exposure to NAFTA. It evaluates whether industries that underwent large tariff reductions experienced a larger increase in patent rates post-NAFTA than industries which did not experience similar tariff reductions. I find that a one percentage point decrease in import tariffs increases patent rates between 16%-25%. The results also suggest that imports of intermediate inputs is an important driver of the effect for local firms. I find that tariff reductions on exports only play a significant role for patents owned by subsidiaries of U.S. multinationals operating in Mexico.

A third paper, *The Impact of Remittances on Mexican Families*, will examine the effect of remittances on the health and education of recipient families. I plan on using data on the U.S.-Mexico remittance corridors in conjunction with the Mexican Family Life Survey dataset (MxFLS). This is a longitudinal database which provides information on socioeconomic, demographic and health characteristics of a surveyed subset of the population. I will use unanticipated variation in the business cycles of the immigrant’s resident state as a proxy for the potentially endogenous remittances. The objective is to better understand whether the substantial flow in remittances from the U.S. to Mexico is being translated into human capital accumulation for recipient family members, or simply used to increase basic consumption.