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May 2021 Newsletter

This is a monthly newsletter of updates from OpenRG Experts.
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Don Boyd
Don is Co-Director of the State and Local Government Finance Project at Rockefeller College, SUNY Albany, and a consultant, Open Source Policy Center.

- Updated and extended work on optimization routines to apportion microdata tax records to states and Congressional Districts.
- Completed final round of edits for report on Understanding the Impact of the Low Interest Rate Environment on the Retirement System, prepared with Yimeng Yin; to be released soon.
- Prepared draft report on public pension challenges and potential options for the city of San Jose, with Gang Chen and Yimeng Yin.
- Participated in roundtable on public pension accounting standards organized by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB).

Jason DeBacker
Jason is an Associate Professor of economics at the University of South Carolina and a core maintainer of the open source models Cost-of-Capital-Calculator, Tax-Calculator, and OG–USA, which model business taxes and macroeconomic effects of tax policy, respectively.

- Began role as a maintainer of Tax-Calculator.
- Completed advisement of two PhD students, two undergraduate honors students, one high school senior, and two 3rd year papers by U of SC Economics PhD students.
- PSL Demo Day presentation on using and deploying Jupyter Books for project documentation.

Anderson Frailey

Anderson is an economics PhD student at the University of Virginia and a core maintainer of the open source [TaxData](#), [Tax-Calculator](#), and [Tax-Brain](#) projects.

- Began role as a maintainer of [Tax-Calculator](#).

Max Ghenis

Max is President of the UBI Center and a core maintainer of the open source [microdf](#) project.

- Co-authored a [paper](#) simulating a budget-neutral universal basic income in the UK, jointly with the UBI Center and the Social Liberal Forum. Discussed the research on a [panel](#) with UK policymakers about UBI and the Liberal Democrats.
- Published an [op-ed](#) in The Hill about cash assistance in the American Rescue Plan.

Jonathan Pycroft

Jon is an economic modeler and public finance economist based in Seville, Spain. He has experience building and working with computable general equilibrium models, overlapping generations models, and microsimulation models of tax and pension policies in Europe and Africa.

- Produced microsimulation analysis of tax reforms and interactions between microsimulation and macroeconomic models for an EU project looking into distributional impact assessment.
- Worked on the calibration for [OG-UK](#).