

SUMIT SHINDE

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Address: Department of Economics, UCLA, 8283 Bunche Hall, LA, CA 90095

Citizenship: Indian, F1 visa, STEM major

EDUCATION

University of Los Angeles, California

PhD Economics

2017–Present

MA Economics

2017–19

London School of Economics and Political Sciences

MSc Economics

2012–13

University of Sheffield

BSc Economics and Mathematics

2009–12

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Microeconomics, Applied Macroeconomics

RESEARCH

Worker Sorting, Worker Discipline and Development (JMP)

Co-authored with David Atkin & Antoinette Schoar

Abstract: Differences in home versus office work productivity may arise due to a treatment effect of the office or from workers with different productivity levels sorting into office or home work. To quantify these forces we conduct a randomized experiment in the data entry sector in India that exogenously allocates workers to the home or office. We find that the productivity of workers randomly assigned to working from home is 18% lower, two thirds of which manifests itself from the first day of work with the remainder due to quicker learning by office workers over the subsequent weeks. We find negative selection effects for office based work: workers who prefer home-based work are 12% faster and more accurate at baseline. We also find negative selection on treatment: workers who prefer home work are much less productive at home than at the office (27% compared to 13% for worker who prefer the office). These negative selection effects are partially explained by subgroups that might face bigger constraints in selecting into office work, such as people with children or other home care responsibilities as well as poorer households.

Presentations: Remote Work Conference, Stanford (2022); UCLA pro-seminar.

Theory and evidence as drivers of economists opinions regarding the impact of fiscal stimulus.

Co-authored with Edward E. Leamer

2021

A Modern Guide to Philosophy of Economics, Edward Elgar Publishing (non-peer reviewed publication)

Abstract: We explore how the opinions of economists regarding the impact of a fiscal stimulus have evolved over the last century. In describing the evolution of economists opinions, we contrast deductive methods based on words, pictures and math including calibrated models versus inductive methods using data images, tables of statistics and estimated models.

Local Fiscal Spending and Spillovers (work in progress)

Abstract: This paper highlights, when estimating local fiscal multipliers, the importance of accounting for spillover effects. I use a novel high-dimensional estimation technique that imposes singular value sparsity on the spillover network. Considering two distinct fiscal policy changes of defense spending and income tax cuts, it provides evidence for two facts: local fiscal spending changes the output and employment in neighboring geographies. If spillovers are not accounted for, estimates of the local fiscal multipliers tend to be overestimated.

FIELD EXPERIENCE

Senior Research Associate

2014–17

Small Enterprise Finance Centre, IFMR Lead, Chennai, India

- Set up a mock data-entry company providing office & home-based jobs, which hired 423 workers over 2 years
- Conducted two research scoping studies in used/repossessed vehicles resale markets

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Economics Department, UCLA

2018–present

- Econ 103 (Introduction to Econometrics), Econ 1 (Principles of Economics), Econ 41 (Statistics for Economics), Econ 102 (Intermediate Macroeconomics)

Teaching Fellow, UCLA

2020

- As primary instructor designed and taught an undergraduate course attended by 107 students

IT PROFICIENCY & LANGUAGES

IT proficiency Python, R, Stata, MATLAB, L^AT_EX, Eviews & Microsoft Office
Language English, Hindi & Marathi

ACHIEVEMENTS

- UCLA Sambhi Summer Graduate Student Research Fellowship Award for 2020
- Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Award 2019
- Economics Department Graduate Fellowship 2018–22
- K. C. Mahindra Fellowship 2012–13
- Cambridge Commonwealth Trust Scholarship 2012–13
- The Knoop Economics Prize (Most outstanding Economics final year student) 2011–12
- Sir Edward Collingwood prize in probability and statistics
(Best overall performance in the department of Probability and statistics) 2011–12
- The Ede and Ravenscroft Prize (Best academic performance in Social Science faculty) 2009–10

NON-ACADEMIC EMPLOYMENT & ENGAGEMENTS

Co-President, Graduate Economics Association, UCLA

2019–20

- Led the effort to acquire STEM accreditation for the Economics Ph.D. program

Consultant, Chief Minister's Office, Maharashtra, India

2013–14

- Worked on the re-election campaign of Chief Minister of Maharashtra State, India

REFERENCES

David Atkin

Professor of Economics
MIT Department of Economics
atkin@mit.edu

Edward Leamer

Chauncey J. Medberry Chair in Management
Anderson Graduate School of Management, UCLA
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Jonathan Vogel

Professor of Economics
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