MAX SCHNIDMAN
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Education	**University of Virginia**	**2019 to 2025 (Expected)**
	Ph.D. Economics	
	University of Virginia	**2019 to 2020**
	MA, Economics	
	Hamilton College	**2010 to 2014**
	BA, Economics and Philosophy (both Honors), Summa Cum Laude	

Fields

Primary: Industrial Organization, Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics
Secondary: Digital Economics, Economics of AI, Economics of Music

Job Market Paper

[Playing to the Algorithm: How Spotify's Recommendations Shape Music Production](#)

I examine how recommender systems have shaped music production over the last decade. Using a structural model of the recorded music industry, I analyze consumer behavior, platform recommendations, and rightsholder release decisions. I estimate a fixed cost of $80 thousand for songs entering Spotify's Top 200. Counterfactual analysis shows that with randomized recommendations, fewer songs enter the market, reducing consumer welfare by 4%. The songs that do enter would be 8 seconds longer on average and more heterogeneous in length. While recommender systems have reduced overall variety in music, they have enabled additional entry and increased consumer welfare.

Publications

"[Reproducibility in Management Science](#)," *Management Science* (Member of the Management Science Reproducibility Collaboration)

Papers in Progress

"Coordination and the Return on Capital" with Federico Ciliberto and Alon Eizenberg
"Distributing the Windfall from Transformative Technologies" with Anton Korinek
"TikTok Trends and Spotify Spillovers" with Tsolmon Otgon and Bella Jamiyan
"The Role of Business Models on Media Bias" with Jenna Blochowicz
"Demand Estimation for Novice Art on Digital Platforms" with Ishita Chakraborty and Sharmistha Sikdar

Teaching Experience	Instructor:	
	Econ 3010: Intermediate Microeconomics, University of Virginia	2023
	Teaching Assistant:	
	Econ 4444: AI and the Future of Work, University of Virginia	2024
	Econ 3110: Mathematical Microeconomics, University of Virginia	2023
	Econ 4720: Econometric Methods, University of Virginia	2021 to 2022
	Econ 3720: Intro to Econometrics, University of Virginia	2020
Research & Professional Experience	Research Assistant:	
	Professors Simon Anderson and Özlem Bedre-Defolie	2021 to 2024
	Professor Anton Korinek	2022 to 2023
	Professor Amalia Miller	2020 to 2021
	Postal Regulatory Commission, Economist	2015 to 2019
	Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, Economic Research Assistant	2014 to 2015

Seminars & Conferences	Southern Economic Association	November 2024
	Cornerstone Research and UMD	May 2024
	Quantitative Collaborative, University of Virginia	May 2024, May 2023
	Economics Research Colloquium, University of Virginia	May 2024
	Research Computing Exhibition, University of Virginia	April 2024
	NBER Digitization Tutorial/Workshop on Digital Economics	March 2023

Fellowships, Grants, & Awards	Bankard Pre-Doctoral Fellowship ($20,000), University of Virginia	2024
	Raven Society Scholarship ($2,000), University of Virginia	2024
	Department of Economics Travel Grant ($500), Steer Fund, University of Virginia	2024, 2023
	Graduate Student Council Research Grant ($500), University of Virginia	2023
	Department of Economics Data Grant ($250), Steer Fund, University of Virginia	2023
	University-Wide Graduate Teaching Award, University of Virginia (Nominated)	2022
	Snavely Graduate Teaching Award ($500), University of Virginia	2022, 2021

Academic Service	Referee Service:	
	Journal of Law and Economics	2024
	Professional Service:	
	Futures Initiative Working Group, University of Virginia	2024
	President, Graduate Student Council, University of Virginia	2023 to 2024
	Organizer & Session Chair, Economics Research Colloquium, University of Virginia	2023
	Finance Committee Chair, Graduate Student Council, University of Virginia	2020 to 2023

Affiliations & Certifications	Raven Society, University of Virginia	2024
	Tomorrow's Professor Today Certification, University of Virginia	2023
	Quantitative Collaborative Graduate Fellow, University of Virginia	2023
	Phi Beta Kappa, Hamilton College	2013

Languages	English (native), German (intermediate)

Software Skills	Python, R, MATLAB, STATA

References

Professor Federico Ciliberto
ciliberto@virginia.edu

Professor Simon Anderson
Sa9w@virginia.edu

Professor Julie Holland Mortimer
juliemortimer@virginia.edu

Professor Anton Korinek
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