

Shunsuke Matsuno

PhD Candidate · Columbia Business School

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Education

Columbia Business School

Ph.D. in Accounting

2021 - 2026 (*Expected*)

New York, U.S.

The University of Tokyo

M.A. in Management (Accounting Group)

2019 - 2021

Tokyo, Japan

The University of Tokyo

B.A. in Economics

2015 - 2019

Tokyo, Japan

Research

Interests

Financial reporting and disclosure; information in financial markets; organizational economics with applications to managerial accounting; auditing

Job Market Paper

The Gatekeeping Expert's Dilemma

Shunsuke Matsuno

Abstract. Gatekeepers do not directly control agents and hold only veto power. Instead, they influence agents through communication. Their expertise helps agents' decisions, while veto power disciplines them. However, they face a dilemma: transparent communication may enable agents to game standards. How can gatekeeping experts effectively influence agents without losing leverage? The paper studies this question in the context of financial auditing, where an expert auditor decides whether to accept a manager's financial report. I show that strategic vagueness is the key: by revealing just enough to prevent the manager from inflating the report, the auditor guides the manager while preserving leverage. This theoretical lens provides a novel rationale for why auditors predominantly accept clients' financial reporting. Comparative statics reveals that greater gatekeeper independence or expertise may dampen communication. This paper contributes to our understanding of how gatekeepers function from an informational perspective.

Working Papers

(†Presented by coauthor)

Mandatory vs. Voluntary Disclosure in the Dynamic Market for Lemons (2024) [link]

Cyrus Aghamolla and Shunsuke Matsuno

[R&R at Review of Financial Studies](#)

- Presented at: Hawaii Accounting Research Conference[†], Columbia University, AES Winter Retreat[†], AES Annual Conference, Burton Accounting Conference[†]
- Media mention: Duke FinReg Blog [link]

Disclosure, Signaling, and First-Mover (Dis)advantage (2024) [link]

Shunsuke Matsuno

- Presented at: Hawaii Accounting Research Conference, Columbia University, Duke University Accounting Theory Summer School, Junior Accounting Theory Conference

Conformity and Leadership in Organizations (2025) [link]

Shunsuke Matsuno

- Presented at: Columbia Theory Conference, Hawaii Accounting Research Conference, Kobe University Kanematsu Seminar, Zurich Accounting Research Workshop, AES Annual Conference

Strategic Patenting Under Financial Reporting Mandates (2025)

Li Azinovic-Yang, Yue Chen, Shunsuke Matsuno, Sunho Yoo

- Presented at: Zurich Accounting Research Workshop[†], CUHK[†], EAA[†], Columbia University[†]

Work in Progress

PCAOB Inspections, Dynamic Enforcement, and Deterrent Effect: Evidence from Structural Estimation

Lisa Liu & Shunsuke Matsuno

- Presented at: 2024 PCAOB/TAR Registered Reports Conference[†]

Teaching

Earnings Quality & Fundamental Analysis (Instructor: Jonathan Glover) *Spring 2025*

Teaching Assistant

Financial Planning & Analysis (Instructor: Tim Baldenius) *Springs, 2023-2025*

Teaching Assistant

Accounting for Consultants (Instructor: Tim Baldenius) *Springs, 2023-2025*

Teaching Assistant

Financial Planning & Analysis (Instructor: Igor Vaysman) *Summer 2024*

Teaching Assistant

Presentations

Hawaii Accounting Research Conference; Kobe University; Zurich Accounting Research Workshop; AES Annual Conference; Columbia University *2025*

Hawaii Accounting Research Conference (Discussant and Presenter); AES Annual Conference; Junior Accounting Theory Conference; Duke University Accounting Theory Summer School; Columbia University *2024*

Academic Service

Ad-Hoc Referee

Management Science (Accounting, Sustainability), Hawaii Accounting Research Conference

Research Positions

Research Assistant for Prof. Laura Doval *Summer 2023*

Research Assistant for Prof. Giorgia Piacentino *Spring 2022*

Honors & Awards

Kanematsu Prize, RIEB, Kobe University	2025
The Bernstein Center for Leadership and Ethics Doctoral Research Grants	2024
The Nakajima Foundation Scholarship	2021-2026
Columbia Business School Doctoral Fellowship	2021-2026
JSPS Research Fellowship for Young Scientists, DC1	2021
World-Leading Innovative Graduate Study of Advanced Economics Fellow	2020-2021
Distinguished Undergraduate Thesis Award	2019

Others

Passed Japanese CPA exam	2018
Part-time Auditor at Ernst & Young Japan	2018-2021
Language: Japanese (native)	

References

Jonathan Glover (Chair)

Columbia University
George O. May Professor
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Tim Baldenius

Columbia University
Paul M. Montrone Professor
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Ilan Guttman

New York University
Professor and the Peter
Drucker Faculty Fellow
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