

ALY SOMANI

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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy, Economics University of Toronto, Canada Committee: Kory Kroft (supervisor), Gustavo Bobonis	2018 - present
Master of Arts, Economics University of Toronto, Canada	2017
Bachelor of Mathematics, Honours Mathematical Economics University of Waterloo, Canada Degree Honours: With Distinction, Dean's Honours List	2012

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Public economics, labour economics, poverty and inequality

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

- 1. Short and Long Term Effects of Parental Layoffs and Children's Academic Achievement**
This paper investigates the effect of parental layoff on children's academic achievement using administrative data from British Columbia. I explore short-term effects on performance on standardized tests, as well as long-term outcomes like post-secondary enrolment and income.
- 2. Majority Reaction to Minority Representation in Local Government**
This paper studies the racial dynamics in city council elections in California. I find that in cities where a non-white candidate won a close election against a white candidate, compared to cities where the non-white candidate lost, more white candidates enter the race in the next election.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Canadian Research Data Centre Network (CRDCN) Emerging Scholars Grant	2021
Department of Economics PhD Students Research Grant	2021
SSHRC Canada Graduate Scholarship (CGS-D)	2020-2023
Ontario Graduate Scholarship	2016 - 2017, 2019 - 2020
University of Toronto Fellowship	2016 - 2023
University of Waterloo Computational Mathematics upper year scholarship	2009 - 2011
University of Waterloo President's Scholarship of Distinction	2006 - 2007

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant to Prof. Gustavo Bobonis

Jan 2018 – May 2020

Research Assistant to Prof. Natalie Bau

Jun 2017 – Mar 2018

Research Assistant to Prof. Laura Derksen

May 2017 – Dec 2017

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Course Instructor

Summer 2020

ECO220, Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics

Department of Economics, University of Toronto

Teaching Assistant/Head TA

2017-2021

ECO220, Introduction to Data Analysis and Applied Econometrics

Department of Economics, University of Toronto

NON-ACADEMIC WORK EXPERIENCE

Research Analyst

May 2012 – Aug 2017

Sprott Asset Management, Toronto

I developed quantitative analytics using Python and R, and leveraging the firm's SQL database of financial and macroeconomic time series data.

Bibliography for research proposal

- Charles, Kerwin Kofi, and Melvin Stephens Jr. 2004. "Job displacement, disability, and divorce." *Journal of Labor Economics* 22 (2): 489–522.
- Heckman, James, Rodrigo Pinto, and Peter Savelyev. 2013. "Understanding the mechanisms through which an influential early childhood program boosted adult outcomes." *American Economic Review* 103 (6): 2052–86.
- Hilger, Nathaniel G. 2016. "Parental job loss and children's long-term outcomes: evidence from 7 million fathers' layoffs." *American Economic Journal: Applied Economics* 8 (3): 247–83.
- Kaila, Martti, Emily Nix, and Krista Riukula. 2021. "Disparate Impacts of Job Loss by Parental Income and Implications for Intergenerational Mobility." Working paper.
- Kuhn, Andreas, Rafael Lalive, and Josef Zweimüller. 2009. "The public health costs of job loss." *Journal of health economics* 28 (6): 1099–1115.
- Landais, Camille. 2015. "Assessing the welfare effects of unemployment benefits using the regression kink design." *American Economic Journal: Economic Policy* 7 (4): 243–78.
- Oreopoulos, Philip, Marianne Page, and Ann Huff Stevens. 2008. "The intergenerational effects of worker displacement." *Journal of Labor Economics* 26 (3): 455–483.
- Rege, Mari, Kjetil Telle, and Mark Votruba. 2011. "Parental job loss and children's school performance." *The Review of Economic Studies* 78 (4): 1462–1489.
- Stepner, Michael. 2019. "The Insurance Value of Redistributive Taxes and Transfers." Working paper.