Arman Khachiyan

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EDUCATION

University of California San Diego — San Diego, CA
Fourth Year Ph.D. student in Department of Economics — *August 2016 – Present*
- Research Focus: Identification and novel measurement around questions of labor supply
- Field: Labor Economics; Overall GPA: 3.5
- TA Positions: Econometrics (regression), Labor (graduate and undergraduate), Education, Public

University of California Berkeley — Berkeley, CA
Bachelor of Arts in Economics with Highest Honors in Economics — *August 2009 – May 2013*
- Minor in Public Policy; Semester abroad in Spring 2012 at Sciences Po University, Paris
- Honors Thesis: *Isolating the School Quality Premium on House Prices*
- Overall GPA: 3.8; Major GPA: 4.0; Quantitative GRE: 170

Non-Degree Courses — *January 2014 – July 2015*
- Real Analysis, Harvard; Graduate Econometrics, MIT; Optimization, Boston University

EXPERIENCE

University of California, San Diego — La Jolla, CA
Graduate Student Researcher — *January 2017 – Present*
- Professor Gordon Hanson, Department of Economics and School of Global Policy and Strategy
  - Using Convolutional Neural Networks to predict changes in economic outcomes using satellite imagery
- Assistant Professor Sally Sadoff, Rady School of Management
  - Studied how charity recipient signalling impacts donor contribution levels

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston − Research Department — Boston, MA
Senior Research Assistant to Senior Economists Anat Bracha and Mary Burke — *July 2013 – July 2016*
- Extensive programming in Stata and LaTeX to support research for academic papers and policy analyses
- Assisted with three policy memos on topics of construction, regional employment, and investment psychology
- Created z-Tree programs and managed experiments in the Harvard Decision Science Laboratory
- Designed and conducted a phone survey asking EITC filers for updates on their financial situation
- Collected and analyzed various public and secured datasets from sources such as BLS, ACS, BEA, SCE, ALP, NBER and NHANES
- Prepared presentations and draft memos for a council of regional business leaders and Boston Fed leadership
- Taught three department training sessions on Stata and LaTeX and served as a resource for these packages

US Bureau of Labor Statistics — San Francisco, CA
Economic Analysis Intern — *July 2012 – May 2013*
- Composed regional press releases including Minimum Wage and Consumer Expenditure reports
- Conducted literature review for research project on demographic differences in education expenditure
- Responded to inquiries about BLS data and methodology, including applications to private contracts

UC Berkeley Department of Economics — Berkeley, CA
Research Apprentice to Professor Stefano DellaVigna — *August 2011 – August 2012*
- Collected and analyzed new data to help Professor DellaVigna develop a project on bias in the news
- Reviewed internal publications for consistency, and outside literature for related research

HONORS AND AWARDS

- UC San Diego: Economics Department Summer Research Fellowship, Super Computer Startup Allocation
- Federal Reserve Bank of Boston: Early promotion to Senior Research Assistant, Excellence Award, Service Quality Award, Spot Award
- UC Berkeley: Highest Honors in Economics Major, Benjamin A. Gilman International Scholarship, Pedrozzi Merit Based Undergraduate Scholarship

Programming

- Advanced in Stata, GIS, LaTeX, R, z-Tree, Excel; Experience with Python, Julia, SAS

COMPLETED RESEARCH PROJECTS

Changing Patterns in Informal Work Participation in the United States 2013-2015

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *November 2014 – July 2016*
- *Objective:* Study refined measures of informal work participation and how the role of such work has changed as formal labor market conditions improved after the Great Recession.
- *Role:* Co-author with major role in writing survey; combined data from two annual surveys in joint models with interactions, to disentangle time trends from shifts in covariate sensitivities; wrote first draft of paper.

Household Inflation Expectations and Consumer Spending: Evidence from Panel Data

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *July 2013 – July 2016*
- *Objective:* Determine if monetary policy intervention to increase inflation expectations would result in higher levels of consumer spending.
- *Role:* Suggested and implemented multiple merge process to maximize the size of a panel dataset combining American Life Panel consumption variables with Survey of Consumer Expectations inflation expectations measures; ran First Differences, Fixed Effects, Poisson, and Zero-Inflated Negative Binomial models on measures of various spending categories.

Misreporting of Weight and Height: Does Location Matter, and Why?

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *July 2013 – July 2016*
- *Objective:* Test for geographic variation in body weight misreporting and relate findings to social norm formation literature.
- *Role:* Gained Special Sworn Status to work with geographically identified National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey microdata in the Cambridge Census Research Data Center; compare models of geographic fixed effects against those with American Community Survey State and County demographic estimates to construct preferred model of social norm formation.

Complexity, Risk Taking and the Financial Crisis: An Experimental Study

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *July 2014 – October 2015*
- *Objective:* Test whether risk-acceptance levels and consistency can be altered by the complexity of a decision. Complexity in this case is defined as a varying number of stages of compound lotteries, as well as different lottery structures.
- *Role:* Contributed to experimental design; created z-Tree program for experiment; managed session in the Harvard Decision Science Laboratory; implemented analysis including random effects and repeated measures ANOVA models.

Rhode Island in the Great Recession: Factors Contributing to its Sharp Downturn and Slow Recovery

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *December 2013 – October 2014*
- *Objective:* Describe specific characteristics of the Rhode Island economy which made the state particularly sensitive to the negative employment impacts of the Great Recession.
- *Role:* Collected and analyzed time series and micro datasets from the BLS, BEA, Census, New York Fed Consumer Credit Panel (Equifax), and CoreLogic; implemented a Bartik employment shock analysis; prepared slides for various community outreach and policy presentation.

Informal Work Activity in the United States: Evidence from Survey Responses

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *November 2013 – October 2014*
- *Objective:* Measure the extent to which informal work opportunities can be used to relieve negative formal labor market conditions.
- *Role:* Contributed questions to first survey instrument to run alongside the Survey of Consumer Expectations; implemented Heckman two-stage regression models to estimate determinants of participation in, and hours devoted to, alternative income generating activities; designed graphics to communicate results.

Nudging Credit Scores in the Field: The Effect of Text Reminders on Creditworthiness in the US

Federal Reserve Bank of Boston   *July 2013 – October 2014*
- *Objective:* Test the effectiveness of credit lending rate information and financial goal reminders on creditworthiness, through a field experiment conducted at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance site in Roxbury, MA.
- *Role:* Developed complex text parsing algorithm to convert 550 pdf format credit reports into an analysis dataset; designed and conducted phone survey asking EITC filers for financial situation update.

Isolating the School Quality Premium on House Prices

UC Berkeley Undergraduate Honors Thesis   *October 2012 – May 2013*
- *Objective:* Determine the housing market premium for quality of public schools in the San Francisco Bay Area.
- *Role:* Geocoded home sale records alongside school district boundaries; used school district boundaries to implement a geographic regression discontinuity design, controlling for continuously changing neighborhood characteristics; paired similar homes near each other and in neighboring school districts. Advisor: Professor Jesse Rothstein.