

ASHANI AMARASINGHE

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ashaniamarasinghe.github.io

EDUCATION

Monash University, Australia

2016 - 2020

Ph.D (Economics)

Department of Economics

Thesis Title: Essays on Economic Shocks in Networks

Advisors: Professor Paul Raschky, Professor Yves Zenou

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2007 - 2011

Bachelor of Arts (Economics) First Class Honours

Top of the Class

Department of Economics

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

SoDa Laboratories, Monash University, Australia

2020 - Present

Research Fellow

Monash University, Australia

2016 - Present

Teaching Associate

University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

2013 - 2014

Visiting Lecturer

WORKING PAPERS

[Diverting Domestic Turmoil](#) *SoDa Labs Working Paper No.2021-03* (**Revision requested, Journal of Public Economics**)

[Key Players in Economic Development](#) *IZA DP No. 13071* with Roland Hodler, Paul Raschky and Yves Zenou (*Under Review*)

[Conflicts in Spatial Networks](#) *CEPR DP No. 14300* with Paul Raschky, Yves Zenou and Junjie Zhou (*Under Review*)

[Public Sentiments in Times of Terror](#) *SoDa Labs Working Paper No.2021-08* (*Under Review*)

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Quantifying Government Behaviour through Text Analysis

Competing for Attention: The Effect of Talk Radio on Political Polarization, *with Paul Raschky*

Perceived Racism and Labor Supply Decisions, *with David Kreitmeir and Paul Raschky*

Geography, History and the Persistence of Political Attitudes, *with Paul Raschky and Miethy Zaman*

The Diffusion of the Internet, *with Klaus Ackermann, Simon Angus and Paul Raschky*

PRESENTATIONS

2021- Australasian Development Economics Workshop (Scheduled), Workshop on Natural Experiments in History (Scheduled), Annual Conference of the Royal Economic Society, Meeting of the European Public Choice Society

2020 - Applied Young Economist Webinar (AYEW), Oz Virtual Economics Research Seminar (OVERS), Brown Bag Seminar - Monash University

2019 - Monash Business School Doctoral Colloquium, Conflict and Economic Development Workshop - Deakin University, Australian Conference of Economists, Australasian Development Economics Workshop - University of Western Australia

2018 - Annual Conference of the Center for the Study of African Economies - University of Oxford

2017 - Annual Australasian Public Choice Conference - Deakin University, 30th PhD Conference in Economics and Business - University of Melbourne, Summer School in Development Economics - Italian Development Economists Association, Australasian Development Economics Workshop - University of New South Wales

ADMINISTRATIVE RESPONSIBILITIES

2021 - *to date* : Member of the Leadership Board - SoDa Laboratories

2020 - *to date* : Founder and Co-Organizer - [Applied Young Economist Webinar](#)

2020 - *to date* : Organizer - [SoDa Labs Webinar](#)

2019 - *to date* : Co-organizer - SoDa Labs Reading Group

2017 - 2018: Co-organizer - PhD Seminar Series, Department of Economics - Monash University

SCHOLARSHIPS, GRANTS AND AWARDS

2021 - “Quantifying government behaviour through text analysis” Monash Business School ECR Research Grant Scheme (AUD 9,347)

2021 - Monash Business School COVID-19 Disrupted Research Grant Scheme (AUD 9,962), with Paul Raschky

2021 - “Applied Young Economist Webinar Series” Monash-Warwick Alliance Connections Fund (AUD 4,000 & GBP 2,000), with Paul Raschky, Sascha Becker and Ivan Yotzov

2020 - “Purple Letter” for outstanding teaching performance - Monash University

2019 - Australasian Development Economics Workshop Travel Grant

2017 - Australasian Development Economics Workshop Travel Grant

2017 - Monash University CDES Competitive Travel Grant

2016 - Australia Post-graduate Award/ Research Training Program Scholarship

2011 - Professor of Economics Gold Medal for best performance - University of Colombo

2008 - Faculty of Arts Scholarship for best performance - University of Colombo

REFEREEING ACTIVITY

Journals: Economic Modelling ($\times 2$), Empirica, Journal of Asian Economics

Conferences: Reviewer and Discussant at Monash University’s 2021 Doctoral Colloquium

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Stata, ArcGIS, Matlab, L^AT_EX, Microsoft Office

INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

HNB Assurance PLC, Sri Lanka
Investments & Fund Management

2010 - 2015

LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Sinhalese (native)

CITIZENSHIP

Australian and Sri Lankan

REFERENCES

Professor Paul Raschky
Department of Economics
Monash University
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Professor Yves Zenou
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Monash University
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Professor Sascha Becker
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