

MATTHEW BACKUS

backus@berkeley.edu
website

CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley, 2022 –
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, UC Berkeley, 2022 –
- Research Affiliate, Centre for Economic and Policy Research, 2019 –
- Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2016 –

PRIOR APPOINTMENTS

- Philip H. Geier Jr. Associate Professor, Economics, Columbia GSB, 2019 – 2022
- Assistant Professor, Economics, Columbia Graduate School of Business, 2015 – 2019
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Cornell University, 2013 – 2015
- Postdoctoral Scholar, eBay Research Labs, 2012 – 2013

EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan, 2012
- M.A. Economics, University of Toronto, 2006
- B.A. Economics and Philosophy, American University, 2003

PUBLICATIONS

- **Expectation, Disappointment, and Exit: Evidence on Reference Point Formation from an Online Marketplace**
(with Thomas Blake, Dimitriy Masterov, and Steven Tadelis)
Journal of the European Economic Association, Vol. 20, Issue 1, February 2022, pp. 116 – 149
- **Common Ownership in America: 1980–2017**
(with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson)
AEJ: Microeconomics, Vol. 13 Issue 3, August 2021, pp. 273 – 308
- **Why is Productivity Correlated with Competition?**
Econometrica, Vol. 88 Issue 6, November 2020, pp. 2415–2444
(EARIE 2014 YEEA, 9th Paul Geroski Prize for Most Significant Policy Contribution)
- **I Don't Know**
(with Andrew Little)
American Political Science Review, Vol. 114 Issue 3, August 2020, pp. 724 – 743
- **Sequential Bargaining in the Field: Evidence from Millions of Online Bargaining Interactions**
(with Thomas Blake, Brad Larsen, and Steven Tadelis)
Quarterly Journal of Economics, Vol. 135 Issue 3, August 2020, pp. 1319 – 1361
- **Theory and Measurement of Common Ownership**
(with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson)
American Economic Review P&P, Vol. 110 Issue 5, May 2020, pp. 557 – 560
- **The Empirical Content of Cheap-Talk Signaling: An Application to Bargaining**
(with Tom Blake and Steven Tadelis)
Journal of Political Economy, Vol. 127 Issue 4, August 2019, pp. 1599 – 1628
- **Is Sniping a Problem in Online Auction Markets?**
(with Tom Blake, Dimitriy Masterov, and Steven Tadelis)
Proceedings of the 24th ACM International World Wide Web Conference, 2015

- **Search Costs and Equilibrium Price Dispersion in Auction Markets**
(with Joseph Podwol and Henry Schneider)
European Economic Review, Vol. 71, November 2014, pp. 173 – 192

WORKING PAPERS

- **Dynamic Demand Estimation in Auction Markets**
(with Greg Lewis)
Review of Economic Studies, revise and resubmit
- **Common Ownership and Competition in the Ready-to-Eat Cereal Industry**
(with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson)
Econometrica, revise and resubmit
- **Communication and Bargaining Breakdown: An Empirical Analysis**
(with Thomas Blake, Jett Pettus, and Steven Tadelis)
EC'21, forthcoming extended abstract

RECENT AND UPCOMING TALKS

- 2021–2022: Bilkent University, Bonn, Chicago Booth Applied Economics, Temple University, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, University of Cambridge Judge Business School, University of Sydney
- 2020–2021: Bates-White Antitrust Conference, Berkeley, Berkeley Haas, Berlin Applied Micro Seminar, CIREQ Applied Workshop, HKUST, Linz University, Toulouse Digital Economics
- 2019–2020: APIOC (invited), EARIE (invited), Penn, UT Austin Finance

GRANTS

- National Science Foundation Grant, SES – 1629060, “Bilateral Bargaining through the Lens of Big Data”
(with Brad Larsen, Matt Taddy, and Steven Tadelis)
Award Amount: \$403,036.
Award Duration: September 2016 – August 2021.
- National Science Foundation Grant, SES – 1463810, “Dynamic Auction Markets”
(with Greg Lewis)
Award Amount: \$131,156.
Award Duration: September 2014 – August 2018.
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant, G-2021-16988 “Consumer Surplus and Distributional Concerns”
(with Jett Pettus)
Award Amount: \$357,127.
Award Duration: January 2022 – December 2024

TEACHING

- Berkeley PHDBA 297T: Industrial Organization (graduate), Spring 2022
- Berkeley MBA 201A: Economics for Business Decision Making (MBA), Fall 2021
- Columbia GR6254: Industrial Organization II (graduate), Spring 2020, Fall 2020
- Columbia B6200: Managerial Economics (MBA), Fall 2016, 2017, 2018
- Columbia B5200: Managerial Economics (EMBA), Fall 2015, 2016, 2017
- Columbia B8260: Market Design (MBA), Spring 2020, 2021
- Wharton MGEC611/612: Microeconomics for Managers, Fall 2000
- Cornell ECON 7510: Industrial Organization (graduate), Fall 2013, 2014
- Cornell ECON 4610: Industrial Organization (undergraduate), Fall 2013, 2014

SERVICE

- Interactive Online IO Seminar Organizer, Summer 2020

- Co-organizer: BEET Conference 2018
- Research Assistant Coordinator, Columbia GSB Economics, 2017 – 2021
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia GSB Management, 2017
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia GSB Economics, 2016 – 2019
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia Department of Economics, 2020
- IO Seminar Organizer, Columbia, 2016 – 2021
- TheWebConf Program Committee, 2018 – 2021
- IIOC Program Committee, 2017 – 2022
- AdAuction16 Program Committee, 2016
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Cornell, 2014 – 2015
- IO Seminar Organizer, Cornell, 2013 – 2015
- Placement Committee, Cornell, 2013 – 2014
- ACM: EC Program Committee, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022
- ACM: EC Senior Program Committee, 2020
- SIOE Program Committee, 2020

OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

- Board of Directors, Feminist Press, 2019 – (Treasurer, 2021 –)
- Consulting Researcher, eBay Research Labs, 2013 –

MISCELLANY

- Mentor Ambassador, iMentor 2017 – 2020
- CES Dissertation Mentorship, US Census Bureau, 2011 – 2012
- Visiting Fellow, Harvard University, 2008 – 2009
- Special Sworn Status, US Census Bureau, 2007 –
- CSCS IDEAS-IGERT NSF Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2007 – 2011
- Doctoral Stream Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2005 – 2006
- Golden Shovel Award, Trinity Prep Debate, 1999