Lalit Sethia

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Technical Expertise

- **Programming:** Python, R, Stata, SQL, and MATLAB.
- **Data analysis:** Statistical inference, Causal inference and experimental design, Machine/Deep learning methods.

Professional Experience

Doctoral candidate, Department of Economics, Boston University (Aug/2016-present)

- Spearheaded projects in international economics, distilling complex research to formulate and test hypotheses through advanced empirical design and analysis. Organized findings into compelling narratives and presented at conferences.
- Deployed instrumental variable strategy using private data from the World Tourism Organization, revealing high travel costs negatively impact international trade. Developed a novel quantitative model demonstrating a potential increase in trade of 1.3% between EU and China through easy visa access, projecting 0.43% output growth in the EU.
- Gathered unique data on Indian factories to track IT capital and investment. Executed within-industry analysis revealing disproportionate IT spending by large companies. Employed spatial difference-in-difference methodology to disprove geographical barriers' effect on technology diffusion.
- Performed an intent to treat analysis to show that guaranteed employment to adults in a low-income household leads children in the household to substitute the adults in the household enterprise, thereby increasing child labor.
- Innovated industry-level demand risk metric and deployed high-dimensional regression model to discover a robust increase in demand risk with the upstreamness of an industry in the global value chain.
- Collaborated to create novel dataset on international expansions through SEC website scraping. Revealed that serial M&A activity could significantly increase (>50%) market power of US firms.

Teaching fellow, Center for Data Science/Department of Economics, Boston University (2018, Jan/2021-present)

- Designed and delivered lectures for 3+ years to over 500 students, communicating with confidence and clarity.
- Covered topics in probability and statistics, econometric methods, and experimentation and causal inference.
- Introduced programming with Python, creating data pipelines, and implemented classification models including logistic regressions, SVMs, clustering, neural networks, and decision trees with scikit-learn.

Consultant, World Bank, Washington D.C. (Summer 2019)

- Proposed a new measurement of poverty using realistic household demand to account for non-food consumption. Highlighted the relevance of price index with simulations in MATLAB.

Investment Banking analyst/associate, UBS-Verity Knowledge Solutions, India (Jul/2011-Feb/2014)

- Communicated with clients, delivered on tight timelines, coordinated with team members, and mentored juniors.
- Automated the team's comps database update and reduce analyst burden from an entire day to under 3 hours.
- Developed deep knowledge of companies, their pipelines, and regulations across the healthcare sector. Built valuation models including DCFs and company comparables. Created detailed reports with original insights for M&A advisory.

Education

Ph.D. (Economics), Boston University**,** Aug/2016-Sep/2024 (Expected)

- Specialization: International-, Macro-economics; Graduate student fellowship (2016-2022)

M.Sc. (Quantitative Economics), Indian Statistical Institute (New Delhi**,** India), Jul/2014-May/2016

- First class with distinction (76%); Merit scholarship (2015, top 5 position in the cohort).

B.Tech. (Biotechnology), National Institute of Technology (Warangal**,** India)**,** Jul/2007-May/2011

- First class with distinction (8.46/10); Indian Academy of Science—Summer Fellowship (2010)