

SADHIKA BAGGA

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EDUCATION

University of Texas at Austin

Ph.D. in Economics

2017-2023 (*Expected*)

M.S. Economics

2019

Fields: Macroeconomics, Labor Economics

Delhi School of Economics

M.A. Economics

2014

University of Delhi

B.A. (Hons.) Economics

2012

WORKING PAPERS

Firm Market Power, Worker Mobility, and Wages in the US Labor Market

A recent body of literature has documented evidence of increasing employer market power in the US. I develop an equilibrium model of the labor market to explain its effect on aggregate outcomes such as wages and job-to-job transitions. I introduce two ingredients to a random search model with on-the-job search: First, there is a finite number of employers who differ in their productivity. Second, employers exert market power by excluding their vacancies from the set of outside offers faced by their employees. The combined effect of both features of the model is to reduce the value of workers outside options, thereby reducing wages and worker mobility in equilibrium. I calibrate the model and evaluate its performance in generating key labor market moments for the US economy. Finally, I examine the central predictions of the model using the publicly available data from the Longitudinal Employer-Household Dynamics (LEHD) and Business Dynamics Statistics (BDS). I document that less competitive labor markets, measured by a lower number of firms per worker, are associated with reduced measures of labor market dynamism and average wages.

Presented: NBER Wage Dynamics in the 21st Century (*scheduled*), Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (*scheduled*), Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco (*scheduled*), SOLE Conference (2022), AEA/ASSA Meetings (2022), NBER Wage Dynamics in the 21st Century (2021), Oxford NuCamp PhD Workshop (2021), Federal Reserve Bank of New York (2021)

Incidence and Evolution of Nominal Wage Rigidity in the US

This paper documents the change in nominal wage rigidity in the US using the 1996-00 and 2008-13 panels of the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP). Using the empirical methodology of Barattieri, Basu and Gottschalk (2014) to correct for measurement errors in self-reported wages, this paper finds evidence of (i) an increase in the frequency of wage adjustment among hourly job-stayers over the two periods, and (ii) conditional on wage adjustments, a higher proportion of wage cuts during the Great Recession relative to the subsequent recovery. These findings are robust when the methodology is applied to salaried workers. They can be seen in light of increasing labor market flexibility in the US over the recent decades.

Presented: UT Austin

WORKS IN PROGRESS

Internal and External Labor Markets and Declining Dynamism
Job Amenity Shocks in the Labor Market (*with Lukas Mann, Aysegül Şahin, Gianluca Violante*)
Measuring u^* across Time and Space (*with Richard Crump, Stefano Eusepi, Aysegül Şahin, Jin Yan*)

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant for Prof. Aysegül Şahin (UT Austin)	<i>2020-2021</i>
Research Assistant for Prof. Stefano Eusepi (UT Austin)	<i>Summer 2020</i>
Research Assistant for Prof. Chris Boehm (UT Austin)	<i>Fall 2019</i>
Research Associate for Prof. Sonalde Desai (NCAER, New Delhi)	<i>2015-17</i>
Research Assistant for Prof. Ashwini Deshpande (Delhi School of Economics)	<i>2014</i>
Research Intern, United Nations ESCAP (New Delhi)	<i>Summer 2013</i>

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant (Department of Economics, UT Austin)	<i>2017-2022</i>
Macroeconomic Theory for Prof. Chris Boehm (Spring 2019, 2022)	
Macroeconomics I (PhD 1st year course) for Prof. Stefano Eusepi (Fall 2019, 2020, 2021)	
International Finance for Prof. Saroj Bhattarai (Spring 2020)	
Microeconomic Theory for Prof. Caroline Thomas (Fall 2018)	
Micro Theory for Business for Prof. John Thompson (Summer 2018, 2019)	
Introduction to Macroeconomics for Prof. Shalah Mostashari (Spring 2018)	
Introduction to Microeconomics for Prof. Thomas Wiseman (Fall 2017)	

FELLOWSHIPS

Dissertation Fellowship, Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis	<i>Scheduled, 2022</i>
Thomas J. Sargent Dissertation Fellowship, Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco	<i>Scheduled, 2022</i>
AEA Summer Fellowship, Federal Reserve Bank of New York	<i>2021</i>
Graduate School Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	<i>2022-23</i>
Professional Development Award, University of Texas at Austin	<i>2020, 22</i>
Graduate Summer Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	<i>2021</i>
Collaborative Research Fellowship with Prof. Stefano Eusepi	<i>Summer 2020</i>
Graduate School Fellowship, University of Texas at Austin	<i>2017-22</i>
Junior Research Fellowship, Govt. of India	<i>2015</i>

REFEREEING

AEJ: Macroeconomics, Review of Economics and Statistics

OTHER

Programs: (Proficient) MATLAB, Stata, (Beginner) Python, R
Languages: English (Fluent), Hindi (Native)
Citizen of India

REFERENCES

Aysegül Şahin

Richard J. Gonzalez Regents Chair in Economics
Department of Economics, University of Texas at Austin
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Andreas I. Mueller

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