Prateek Wadhavkar

ECON 0454A

Professor Amanda Gregg

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***Statement of Interests***

I am extremely fascinated by institutions, how they develop over time, their impact on human behavior and their level of durability. I am also interested in learning more about how firms existed before the industrial revolution. How did states and legal systems come into being, how did they operate before the industrial revolution, and how did they influence the way firms exist today? I am also drawn to the topic of international trade before the industrial revolution, and I am eager to explore how local economies became more specialized when trade opened up, and how they were affected when trade ceased.

In addition to my knowledge of econometrics and economic theory (from 210, 211, 250 and 255), I have experience in data cleaning, preparing data visualizations, writing algorithms and basic web design. I am also fluent in several Indian languages, namely Gujarati, Marathi, and Hindi, which could be useful in conducting research on economic issues in India. I have taken several advanced math classes, including real analysis, multivariate calculus and linear algebra, and am currently taking machine learning. I would love to apply as many of these skills as possible in my research. I would also be interested in a paper that employs an econometric model that I have not used before, such as an IV, a regression discontinuity or natural experiment design, or some other exotic model. I aspire to ask compelling questions and discover innovative solutions. I'm excited to embark on this journey and discover what I'll learn along the way.