Shekhar Mittal

110 Westwood Plaza, C-525 Entrepreneurs Hall Los Angeles, CA - 90095-1481, USA

☎ 734-780-1120 ✉ shekhar.mittal.2017@anderson.ucla.edu ☞ http://shekhar.me

EDUCATION

University of California, Los Angeles, **Anderson School of Management**	SEPTEMBER 2013 – CURRENT

Ph.D., Global Economics and Management
Areas of Interest: Political Economy, Development, India, Public Finance.

University of Chicago, **Harris School of Public Policy**	SEPTEMBER 2011 – JUNE 2013

Awards: Dean's Scholarship (2011-2013), J.N. Tata Scholar (2011), K.C. Mahindra Scholar (2011)

Delhi University, **Delhi College of Engineering**, New Delhi, India	AUGUST 2003 – JUNE 2007

Bachelor of Engineering in *Computer Engineering*, *First Division*

RESEARCH

Ongoing

Where's Value? Using VAT data to Improve Compliance	MAY 2015 ONWARDS

with Professor Aprajit Mahajan

Information Provision and Participatory Budgeting: Mohalla Sabhas in Delhi	OCTOBER 2015 ONWARDS

with Professor Aprajit Mahajan, Stefano Fiorin

Past Experience

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Romain Wacziarg	SUMMER 2013, SUMMER 2015

Anderson School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles
Cultural distances using World Values Survey
- Developed multiple indices to measure cultural distance across countries, using the World Values Survey data.
- Measured the correlation between cultural and genetic distance across countries.

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Paola Giuliano	SUMMER 2015

Anderson School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Edward Leamer	JULY 2013 – SEPTEMBER 2013

Anderson School of Management, University of California, Los Angeles
Estimated extreme coefficients of 2^k regressions
- Implemented possible methods to efficiently determine extreme coefficients of 2^k regressions.
- Developed efficient techniques to identify all the orthants of 2^k regression coefficients.

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Marianne Bertrand	APRIL 2012 – JUNE 2013

Booth School of Business, University of Chicago
Evaluation of Right to Public Service Schemes
- Travelled to Karnataka to understand the design and implementation of the Right to Public Services Act. Interacted with all the government level stakeholders and visited various government offices.
- Developed and piloted a survey questionnaire which captured the experience and perception of citizens who availed the services that are covered under the Act.
- Undertook a field trip to Bihar, India to understand the time-use of district magistrates and to understand the bureaucratic setup at the district level.

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Pablo Montagnes   April 2012 – December 2012
[Harris School of Public Policy](), University of Chicago
Effect of name order in senate roll call voting pattern.
- Using combined fixed effects at the senator level and at the congress level, evaluated the impact of alphabetical order of the senators' last names on Senate roll call.
- Wrote Perl scripts to extract senate and house roll-call data starting from 1940 into a analyzable data set.

Graduate Research Assistant to Professor Pablo Montagnes   January 2012 – March 2012
[Harris School of Public Policy](), University of Chicago
Understanding voting patterns for simultaneous elections in a given year at the precinct level
- Designed a Stata program that extracts information from the Cook County precinct level election results into a user-friendly data set.
- Wrote Stata programs to clean and analyze data.

Graduate Research Assistant to A. Rupa Datta, Vice President and Senior Fellow   October 2011 – March 2012
[National Opinion Research Centre]() at the University of Chicago
National Survey of Early Care and Education
- Managed the IRB approval process for all the school districts from which the survey intended to interview early care providers.

Research Grants

- International Growth Centre (IGC) Research Grant (£50,830). Project: "Where's Value? Using VAT data to Improve Compliance"
- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Governance Initiative Pilot Study Research Grant ($49,050). Project: "Information Provision and Participatory Budgeting: Mohalla Sabhas in Delhi"
- Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL) Governance Initiative Travel Grant ($5,000). Project: "Improving Public Service via the Ballot Box: Evidence from Delhi"

Writing

- *Short Paper:* "Distance as an instrument for measuring centralized control in government schools", December 2012.
  Summary: The paper shows that the quality and outcomes of a government school deteriorate as the distance of a government school from district headquarters increases. This effect is absent in private schools which tend to be decentralized.
- *Research Design as part of course-work:* "Indian Politics: The Criminals beget Criminals Effect", May 2012.
  Summary: I create a research design that uses regression discontinuity design to prove that when the incumbent in Indian elections is a criminal, and the opposition party thinks that there is a high probability of the election being close, the opposition party also tends to nominate a criminal. [Link]()
- *Policy Memo:* "Reservation in Private Schools under the Right to Education Act: Model for Implementation", Shekhar Mittal and Parth J Shah, December 2010.
  Summary: The memo suggests a model for effective implementation of a specific provision under the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009. [Link]()

Teaching

UCLA Anderson: Teaching Assistant - Managerial Economics (MBA, 2014-2015, 2015-2016, 2016-17), International Studies: India (MBA, 2015-16), and Impact Creation, Analysis and Evaluation (MBA, 2016-17).

Professional Experience

Senior Campaign Associate, *Centre for Civil Society*, New Delhi, India	July 2010 – June 2011
Program Manager and Platform Engineer, *Praja*, Bangalore, India	August 2009 – June 2010
Software Engineer, *Cisco Systems*, Bangalore, India	July 2007 – July 2009

Skills

Highly Proficient: Stata, Drupal, C, Emacs, Linux (Ubuntu)
Proficient: MySQL, R, Python
Experienced: Matlab, Latex, Perl, HTML, CSS
Certifications: Machine Learning Foundations: A Case Study Approach (Coursera), Machine Learning: Regression (Coursera), Machine Learning: Classification (Coursera), Machine Learning: Clustering & Retrieval (Coursera),

Personal

Citizenship: Indian
Languages: Hindi (native), English (highly proficient)

References

- **Romain Wacziarg, Professor of Economics**
  Anderson School of Management, UCLA
  110 Westwood Plaza,o C-510 Entrepreneurs Hall
  Los Angeles, CA - 90095-1481
  wacziarg@ucla.edu

- **Aprajit Mahajan, Associate Professor**
  Dept. of ARE, UC Berkeley
  219 Giannini Hall
  Berkeley, CA 94720-3310
  aprajit@gmail.com