SÜMEYYE YILDIZ
sumeyyeyildiz.com
sumeyyeyildiz@ucsb.edu

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

Placement Director: Emanuel Vespa	vespa@ucsb.edu	(805) 893-7309
Graduate Administrator: Mark Patterson	mark.patterson@ucsb.edu	(805) 893-2205

Office Contact Information:
3053 North Hall
University of California
Santa Barbara, CA 93106-9210
Phone: (805) 895-8237

Education:

B.A, Economics, Boğaziçi University, 2009

M.A, Economics, Boğaziçi University, 2011
Dissertation Title: Welfare Implications of Competition in a Vertical Market Structure: A Case of Accumulator Industry

University of California, Santa Barbara, 2014 to present
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Expected Completion Date: June 2020

References:

Professor Peter Rupert
1119 North Hall
(805) 722-0481
peter.rupert@ucsb.edu

Professor Henning Bohn
3016 North Hall
(805) 893-4532
henning.bohn@ucsb.edu

Associate Professor Javier Birchenall
3037 North Hall
(805) 893-5275
javier.birchenall@ucsb.edu

Research Fields:

Primary field: Macroeconomics
Secondary fields: Household Finance, Healthcare, Behavioral Macroeconomics

Teaching Experience:

University of California, Santa Barbara

Winter'15	PSTAT 109 Statistics for Economics
Winter'16, Spring'16	ECON 2 Principles of Economics-Macro
Fall '15-16, Spring'17, Summer'17-18	ECON 101 Intermediate Macroeconomic Theory
Fall'17, Winter'18, Spring'18	ECON 140A Introduction to Econometrics I
Winter'17	ECON 140B Introduction to Econometrics II
Fall'18	ECON 180 International Trade
Winter'19, Fall'19	ECON 181 International Finance

Research Experience:

Boğaziçi University

2013-2014	Research Assistant to Prof. Ahmet Faruk Aysan
2010-2011	Research Assistant to Prof. Ayşe Mumcu and Prof. Fikret Adaman

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2017	Janet A. Alpert Fellowship in Economics
2017	Economics Department Graduate Student Funding
2015-2016	UCSB Economics Department Grant
2010-2011	The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey Scholarship, TUBITAK
2004-2009	KYK Scholarship given to nationwide top 100 students in University Entrance
2004	Ranked 90th in University Entrance Examination (among more than 1.5 million participants)

Research Papers:

"Liquidity Constraints and Healthcare Expenditure" (Job Market Paper)

Increasing healthcare costs are a big concern for the wellbeing of liquidity-constrained households. This paper evaluates the effect of binding liquidity constraints on healthcare spending decisions. Further, the paper compares the effect of liquidity constraints on healthcare expenditure with the effect on the non-health consumption in particular on the food consumption. I extend a standard incomplete markets model with a health capital in the felicity function. Theoretically, I show that households reduce their healthcare expenditure due to the binding liquidity constraints in the current period, whereas expenditure declines in the next period due to the expected binding constraints one period ahead. I use the extended model to test the incidence of binding liquidity constraints with a linearized Euler equation. Empirically, I show that the test of liquidity constraints for healthcare expenditure reveals different implications than a standard test of liquidity constraints for nondurable consumption. In particular, current binding constraints and expected binding constraints lead to the opposite direction of bias when the liquidity constraints are omitted. The resulting overall bias depends on which constraint has a stronger effect. Moreover, the income elasticity of healthcare expenditure varies significantly between asset poor and rich families, more than the elasticity of non-health consumption among wealth quintiles. Altogether, my findings show that the effects of liquidity constraints are heterogeneous across households and across expenditure categories.

"History-Dependent Present Bias"

Liquidity constraints and present-biased preferences are considered as alternative explanations for the non-optimal household decisions especially among the poor. I propose a model where present bias arises endogenously. Time inconsistency arises due to a lasting effect of binding constraints onto the preferences which alter the optimal decision relative to a time-consistent decision maker more than one period even for nondurable goods. The model serves as a micro foundation for the quasi-hyperbolic discounting for the ever-constrained households. The bias factor is updated slowly based on the credit history which results in heterogeneity in the degree of present bias among households.

"Welfare Implications of Competition in a Vertical Market Structure: A Case of Accumulator Industry"

The accumulator industry exhibits a typical example of a vertical market structure, where waste accumulators are collected, then recycled in order to extract lead, which is subsequently used as the main input in the production of new accumulators. Through a theoretical model the thesis analyzes the welfare implications of the extent of competition in such a market structure. It replicates the well-known result that there is an incentive for firms to vertically integrate; yet also shows that enforcing competition is not welfare-enhancing.

Research Papers in Progress:

Testing Liquidity Constraints for Durable Consumption

Health Investment under Time Inconsistency