

# MATTHEW BACKUS

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*website*

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## CURRENT APPOINTMENTS

- Assistant Professor, Haas School of Business, UC Berkeley, 2022 –
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, UC Berkeley, 2022 –
- Research Affiliate, Centre for Economic and Policy Research, 2019 –
- Faculty Research Fellow, National Bureau of Economic Research, 2016 –

## PRIOR APPOINTMENTS

- Philip H. Geier Jr. Associate Professor, Economics, Columbia GSB, 2019 – 2022
- Assistant Professor, Economics, Columbia Graduate School of Business, 2015 – 2019
- Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Cornell University, 2013 – 2015
- Postdoctoral Scholar, eBay Research Labs, 2012 – 2013

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. Economics, University of Michigan, 2012
- M.A. Economics, University of Toronto, 2006
- B.A. Economics and Philosophy, American University, 2003

## PUBLICATIONS

- **Expectation, Disappointment, and Exit: Evidence on Reference Point Formation from an Online Marketplace**  
with Thomas Blake, Dimitriy Masterov, and Steven Tadelis  
*Journal of the European Economic Association*, Vol. 20, Issue 1, February 2022, pp. 116 – 149
- **Common Ownership in America: 1980–2017**  
with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson  
*AEJ: Microeconomics*, Vol. 13 Issue 3, August 2021, pp. 273 – 308  
AEJ Best Paper Award
- **Why is Productivity Correlated with Competition?**  
*Econometrica*, Vol. 88 Issue 6, November 2020, pp. 2415 – 2444  
EARIE 2014 YEEA, 9th Paul Geroski Prize for Most Significant Policy Contribution
- **I Don't Know**  
with Andrew Little  
*American Political Science Review*, Vol. 114 Issue 3, August 2020, pp. 724 – 743
- **Sequential Bargaining in the Field: Evidence from Millions of Online Bargaining Interactions**  
with Thomas Blake, Brad Larsen, and Steven Tadelis  
*Quarterly Journal of Economics*, Vol. 135 Issue 3, August 2020, pp. 1319 – 1361
- **Theory and Measurement of Common Ownership**  
with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson  
*American Economic Review P&P*, Vol. 110 Issue 5, May 2020, pp. 557 – 560
- **The Empirical Content of Cheap-Talk Signaling: An Application to Bargaining**  
with Tom Blake and Steven Tadelis  
*Journal of Political Economy*, Vol. 127 Issue 4, August 2019, pp. 1599 – 1628

- **Is Sniping a Problem in Online Auction Markets?**  
with Tom Blake, Dimitriy Masterov, and Steven Tadelis  
*Proceedings of the 24th ACM International World Wide Web Conference*, 2015
- **Search Costs and Equilibrium Price Dispersion in Auction Markets**  
with Joseph Podwol and Henry Schneider  
*European Economic Review*, Vol. 71, November 2014, pp. 173 – 192

#### WORKING PAPERS

- **Common Ownership and Competition in the Ready-to-Eat Cereal Industry**  
with Chris Conlon and Michael Sinkinson  
*Econometrica*, revise and resubmit
- **Dynamic Demand Estimation in Auction Markets**  
with Greg Lewis  
*Review of Economic Studies*, accepted.
- **Communication, Learning, and Bargaining Breakdown: An Empirical Analysis**  
with Thomas Blake, Jett Pettus, and Steven Tadelis  
*EC'21*, extended abstract  
*Management Science*, accepted

#### RECENT AND UPCOMING TALKS

- 2023–2024: Peder Sather Conference on Industrial Organization, Northwestern Kellogg, University of Arizona, WEIA Annual Meetings
- 2022–2023: Microsoft Research, UBC Summer IO Conference, UCLA
- 2021–2022: Bilkent University, Bonn, Chicago Booth Applied Economics, Temple University, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, University of Cambridge Judge Business School

#### GRANTS

- “Bilateral Bargaining through the Lens of Big Data” (with Brad Larsen, Matt Taddy, and Steven Tadelis)  
National Science Foundation Grant, SES – 1629060  
Award Amount: \$403,036  
Award Duration: September 2016 – August 2021
- “Dynamic Auction Markets” (with Greg Lewis)  
National Science Foundation Grant, SES – 1463810  
Award Amount: \$131,156  
Award Duration: September 2014 – August 2018
- “Consumer Surplus and Distributional Concerns” (with Jett Pettus)  
Alfred P. Sloan Foundation Grant, G-2021-16988  
Award Amount: \$357,127  
Award Duration: January 2022 – December 2024

#### TEACHING

- Berkeley EWMBA/MBA 217: Antitrust, Spring 2023
- Berkeley ECON 220B: Industrial Organization (graduate), Spring 2023
- Berkeley PHDBA 297T: Industrial Organization (graduate), Spring 2022
- Berkeley MBA 201A: Economics for Business Decision Making (MBA), Fall 2021, 2022
- Columbia GR6254: Industrial Organization II (graduate), Spring 2020, Fall 2020
- Columbia B6200: Managerial Economics (MBA), Fall 2016, 2017, 2018
- Columbia B5200: Managerial Economics (EMBA), Fall 2015, 2016, 2017
- Columbia B8260: Market Design (MBA), Spring 2020, 2021
- Wharton MGEC611/612: Microeconomics for Managers, Fall 2000

- Cornell ECON 7510: Industrial Organization (graduate), Fall 2013, 2014
- Cornell ECON 4610: Industrial Organization (undergraduate), Fall 2013, 2014

## SERVICE

- Interactive Online IO Seminar Organizer, Summer 2020
- Co-organizer: BEET Conference 2018
- Research Assistant Coordinator, Columbia GSB Economics, 2017 – 2021
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia GSB Management, 2017
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia GSB Economics, 2016 – 2019
- Junior Faculty Recruiting Committee, Columbia Department of Economics, 2020
- IO Seminar Organizer, Columbia, 2016 – 2021
- TheWebConf Program Committee, 2018 – 2021
- IIOC Program Committee, 2017 – 2022
- AdAuction16 Program Committee, 2016
- Graduate Admissions Committee, Cornell, 2014 – 2015
- IO Seminar Organizer, Cornell, 2013 – 2015
- Placement Committee, Cornell, 2013 – 2014
- ACM: EC Program Committee, 2013, 2014, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2022
- ACM: EC Senior Program Committee, 2020
- SIOE Program Committee, 2020

## OUTSIDE ACTIVITIES

- Board of Directors, Feminist Press, 2019 – (Treasurer, 2021 –)
- Consulting Researcher, eBay Research Labs, 2013 –

## ADDITIONAL

- Schwabacher Fellowship, Berkeley Haas, 2022 – 2023
- Mentor Ambassador, iMentor 2017 – 2020
- CES Dissertation Mentorship, US Census Bureau, 2011 – 2012
- Visiting Fellow, Harvard University, 2008 – 2009
- Special Sworn Status, US Census Bureau, 2007 –
- CSCS IDEAS-IGERT NSF Fellowship, University of Michigan, 2007 – 2011
- Doctoral Stream Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2005 – 2006
- Golden Shovel Award, Trinity Prep Debate, 1999

Last updated August 1, 2023.