Jonathan E. Becker

Department of Economics
University of Wisconsin–Madison
1180 Observatory Drive, Rm 7230
Madison, WI 53706

Phone: 816–401–1739
Email: jebecker3@wisc.edu

Education

University of Wisconsin–Madison – Ph.D. in Economics (Expected May 2023)
Research Fields: Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconomics

University of Wisconsin–Madison – M.A. in Economics (2019)
University of Missouri–Columbia – B.S. in Mathematics and Physics (2017)

Research Experience

University of Wisconsin–Madison
Ph.D. Student Fall 2017—Present

- Analyzed data on the U.S. mortgage market at every stage from origination to securitization
- Matched mortgages across eight different data sources to create a unique dataset tracking mortgages from origination through repayment
- Used machine learning methods to flexibly estimate the sale and securitization decisions of mortgage lenders
- Used survival models to estimate loan survival and cash flows to mortgage servicers
- Collaborated with researchers in multiple departments across multiple projects
- Scraped over one million listings from a firearms platform to build a dataset of secondary market firearm prices

Research Assistant for Kenneth Hendricks *Fall 2020 – Present*

- Modeled tract-level oil production and bids using Gaussian process regressions
- Mined government publications for historical data on oil and gas production
- Tested for common values and asymmetric information in mortgage auctions using a variety of parametric and non-parametric models

Project Assistant for Christopher Sullivan *Summer 2019*

- Estimated consumer demand in the market for beer using random coefficient nested logit models
- Cleaned data on airline markets and estimated demand for airline tickets with nested logit models

University of Missouri
Undergraduate Researcher for Gavin King *Spring 2015–Spring 2017*

- Imaged ribosomes using a commercial atomic force microscope
- Built a finite elements model of elecromagnetic backscattering in atomic force microscopy

Skills

Programming Languages: Python, Stata, MATLAB
Datasets: Home Mortgage Disclosure Act loan data, agency residential mortgage backed securities data, CoreLogic mortgage/MLS/property data

Research Papers

Working Papers
"Adverse Selection into Wholesale Mortgage Auctions", Job Market Paper
"Asymmetric Information and the Supply Chain of Mortgages: The Case of Ginnie Mae Loans", (with Ken Hendricks, Jean-François Houde, and Diwakar Raisingh)
"Markets for Firearms" (with Elise Marifian)
"Network Externalities in Patent Citation Networks"

Teaching Experience

University of Wisconsin–Madison

- ECON 713: Microeconomic Theory II (Ph.D. Level), Lones Smith & Marzena Rostek, Spring 2020
- ECON 100: Economic Approach to Current Issues, Professor Christopher Sullivan, Fall 2019
- ECON 521: Game Theory and Economic Analysis, Professor David Hansen, Spring 2019
- ECON 522: Law and Economics, Daniel Quint, Fall 2018
- ECON 101: Principles of Microeconomics, David Johnson, Fall 2017

University of Missouri

- Money and Banking, Lloyd Thomas, Spring 2017

Awards and Service

Awards

- Juli Plant Grainger Summer Research Fellowship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Summer 2019, Summer 2020
- Juli Plant Grainger Teaching Assistant Scholarship, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Fall 2018, Spring 2020
- Newell S. Gingrich Scholarship, University of Missouri, 2015-2017
- O.M. Stewart Undergraduate Research Scholarship, University of Missouri, 2015
- Millard Maienthal Memorial Scholarship, University of Missouri, 2014-2015

Service

- Technology Officer, Wisconsin Economics Graduate Organization, 2018 – 2021
- Intern (University of Missouri, Civic Leaders Internship Program), MO Division of Energy, 2017