

B. HOLT DWYER
ECONOMICS DEPARTMENT
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

PhD Candidate in Economics, University of California San Diego, expected completion June 2025
Committee: Prashant Bharadwaj (Chair), Sam Bazzi, Gordon McCord, Tom Vogl

Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Princeton University, 2015 (Computer Science minor)

FIELDS

Development economics, macroeconomics

REFERENCES

Prashant Bharadwaj	Professor	UCSD Economics	pbharadwaj@ucsd.edu
Sam Bazzi	Professor	UCSD GPS	sbazzi@ucsd.edu

JOB MARKET PAPER

Farming on the Margin: the Green Revolution and Indian Farm Sizes 2024

I investigate the impact of the Green Revolution on the farm size distribution in India. Employing an instrument for the adoption of new high-yielding varieties of staple crops, I find that adoption of high-yielding crop varieties led to increased concentration of farms and farmland in the smallest size category, with no effects on large farms. This contrasts with the predictions of existing models of the farm size distribution, in which an increase in farmland productivity puts downward pressure on sizes across the full range of the distribution. Instead, it suggests that the interaction of inheritance norms with poorly functioning land markets creates a situation in which the farmers on the margin between agriculture and non-agriculture are those managing the smallest farms, and in which their entry and exit decisions do not have effects further up the farm size distribution.

PUBLICATIONS

This is Air: The 'Non-Health' Effects of Air Pollution ARRE, 2022
with Sandra Aguilar-Gomez, Joshua Graff Zivin, and Matthew Neidell

WORKING PAPERS

The Effects of Procurement Contracts on Heterogeneous Firms: Evidence from the United States 2024
with Edoardo Briganti, Victor Sellemi, and Ricardo Duque Gabriel

Whose Woods Are These? 'Maintained' Forest and Enforcement in Indonesia 2024

RESEARCH IN PROGRESS

Decentralizing Development: Structural Transformation Effects of Indonesia's Village Fund 2024
with Wei-Lin Chen

RELEVANT POSITIONS HELD

Senior Research Assistant Federal Reserve Board
June 2015-Aug. 2018

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant for courses including introductory micro and macro, applied time series, public policy, development economics, international trade, health economics, economics of discrimination, data analysis, and the Indian economy. Experience planning and leading discussion sections and exam reviews, grading written work, creating rubrics and grading exams.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Referee at Economic Development and Cultural Change
JMP accepted at Indian Statistical Institute Annual Conference 2024
JMP accepted at Southern Economic Conference in Applied Economics 2024

SOFTWARE SKILLS

Extensive experience in R, Stata, Matlab; proficient with GIS packages in R. Also comfortable coding in Python, SQL.

OTHER INFORMATION

U.S. citizen. Conversational Spanish.