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Office Contact Information

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Education

University of Chicago, Ph.D. Economics (expected 2027) *2021–present*

University of Chicago, M.A. Economics *2021–2022*

Brown University, Sc.B. Applied Mathematics–Economics *2015–2019*

References

Professor Michael Greenstone (Chair)
University of Chicago
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Professor Manasi Deshpande
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Professor Fiona Burlig
University of Chicago
Harris School of Public Policy
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Professor Michael Kremer
University of Chicago
Kenneth C. Griffin Department of Economics
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Research and Teaching Fields

Primary:	Development Economics, Public Economics
Secondary:	Environmental Economics, Econometrics

Job Market Paper

The Social Value of Bed Nets: Evidence from over 800 Bed Net Distribution Campaigns in sub-Saharan Africa

Abstract: *Mass distribution campaigns of insecticide-treated bed nets (ITNs) have been and remain a primary tool in the fight against malaria in sub-Saharan Africa, yet evaluating their effects outside clinical settings has been challenging due to a lack of data on their timing and coverage. I hand-collect data on more than 800 mass ITN distribution campaigns and, exploiting variation in the timing of initial distributions, provide the first comprehensive evidence of their effects "as delivered". Using an event study design, I estimate that campaigns increased household-level net ownership by 16.8 percentage points and reduced child mortality by 7.2%. These results imply a per-net mortality effect 3.6 times larger than results from seminal RCTs. I separately gather data on sharp eligibility cutoffs within campaigns, providing within-village variation in net distribution. Using a regression discontinuity design, this*

geographically granular variation provides evidence that the larger per-net benefits of campaigns are due to spillovers: while ITNs directly protect the individual, they also help to slow local transmission, an effect which epidemiological theory predicts will be much larger in the partial-coverage settings where campaigns occur than the near-full-coverage settings induced by leading cluster-randomized controlled trials. Back-of-the-envelope calculations suggest that valuing ITNs using leading RCT estimates—as the WHO and leading private funders do—understates the value of initial sub-Saharan African mass ITN distribution campaigns by $177 billion.

Working Papers

The Burden of Flood Risk: Evidence from Odisha (with Fiona Burlig and Anant Sudarshan), Under review

Abstract: *Floods are enormously harmful, but their economic costs may extend well beyond direct damages. We develop a method for measuring the economic costs of flood risk, combining both damages from realized floods and the persistent return gap from living in a high-risk environment. We implement it among smallholder farmers in Odisha, India. Otherwise similar high-risk villages have 43% lower expected returns than nearby low-risk villages. Expected losses from realized floods account for only roughly half of this gap; the remainder comes from reduced returns across all seasons. Focusing on realized damages alone substantially understates the economic burden of flood risk.*

Does the Community Reinvestment Act Improve Consumers' Access to Credit? (with Jacob Conway and Matthew Plosser)

Abstract: *We study the impact of the Community Reinvestment Act on access to consumer credit since 1999 using an individual-level panel and three identification strategies: a regression discontinuity design centered on a CRA-eligibility cutoff, a comparison of neighboring census blocks, and an event study of changes in eligibility. We find that all three strategies rule out a significant effect on consumer borrowing, partly explained by a shift in mortgages from non-banks to banks in need of CRA-eligible mortgages; the results underscore the pitfalls of a circumscribed regulatory regime.*

Work in Progress

Incentives for Flood Adaptation: Experimental Evidence from Odisha (with Fiona Burlig and Anant Sudarshan)

Awards, Scholarships, and Grants

Institute for Climate and Sustainable Growth Research Grant (with Fiona Burlig and Anant Sudarshan, $150,000) *2024*

Becker Friedman Institute Research Grant (with Fiona Burlig and Anant Sudarshan, $38,000) *2024*

Teaching Experience

Accelerated Mathematics in Economics (graduate)	Instructor	*Summer 2024*
Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Evan Rose	*Spring 2024*
Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Melissa Tartari	*Winter 2024*
Honors Econometrics (undergraduate)	TA for Prof. Evan Rose	*Spring 2023*

Research Experience and Other Employment

Research Assistant for Michael Kremer, Development Innovation Lab, University of Chicago *2021–2026*

Research Affiliate, Data, Policy and Innovation Centre, University of Chicago and State of Odisha *2024*

Research Assistant for Fiona Burlig and Eyal Frank, Harris School of Public Policy, University of Chicago *2022*

Senior Research Analyst, Federal Reserve Bank of New York *2019–2021*

Additional Information

Citizenship	United States
Programming Skills	Stata, R, Python, Julia, SQL, GIS