



The Sixteenth Annual Federal Trade Commission Microeconomics Conference

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PARTICIPANT BIOGRAPHIES

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Steven Berry

Dr. Berry is the David Swensen Professor in the Economics Department at Yale University, specializing in the empirical analysis of markets in equilibrium. He is a winner of the Frisch Medal of the Econometric Society, was elected to be a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2014, and was named the 2017 Distinguished Fellow of the Industrial Organization Society. At Yale, he has served as Department Chair, as Director of Division of Social Sciences and as inaugural Director of the Tobin Center at Yale, a research center focusing on domestic economic policy. He has served as a consultant for governments, policy institutes and the private sector, focusing on questions of antitrust as well as environmental and trade policy. Dr. Berry is also affiliated with the Cowles Foundation at Yale and is a Research Fellow at the NBER.

Aviv Nevo

Aviv Nevo is the Director, Bureau of Economics, FTC on leave from the University of Pennsylvania where he is the George A. Weiss and Lydia Bravo Weiss PIK Professor with appointments in the Wharton School and the Economics Department.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Michael Sinkinson

Michael Sinkinson is an Associate Professor of Economics at the Yale School of Management and specializes in Industrial Organization. He recently completed a year of service on the Council of Economic Advisers, focusing on competition policy and tech policy.

Steve Tadelis

Steve Tadelis is a Professor of Economics, Business and Public Policy and holds the Sarin Chair in Leadership and Strategy at Berkeley-Haas. His research primarily revolves around e-commerce and the economics of the internet.

Financial Disclosure: Part of the research presented was funded by Meta including compensation. In the past three years, Dr. Tadelis received financial compensation from Amazon as an Amazon Scholar.

Heidi Williams

Dr. Heidi Williams is a Professor of Economics at Dartmouth College and the director of science policy at the Institute for Progress, a non-partisan think tank focused on innovation policy.

Disclosure: In the past five years, Dr. Williams -- or research efforts she leads or co-leads, such as J-PAL's Science for Progress Initiative -- has received research support from the Agency Fund, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the Aphorism Foundation, the Carina Fund, Emergent Ventures, the Institute for Progress, the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, Open Philanthropy, the Polynera Fund, Schmidt Futures, and the Smith Richardson Foundation. From 2016-2020, Dr. Williams was a member of the Toulouse Network for Information Technology, a research group funded by Microsoft.

SELECTED PAPERS' PRESENTERS

Brett Hollenbeck

Dr. Hollenbeck is an Associate Professor at UCLA Anderson School of Management. He received his PhD in economics from the University of Texas at Austin in 2014. His research focuses on empirical industrial organization and quantitative marketing. His recent studies have looked at the economics of online reviews and ratings on online platforms and the nature of economies of scale in retail and service industries.

Financial Disclosure: The project received funding from the Morrison Center for Marketing Research.

Diego Jiménez-Hernández

Diego Jiménez Hernández is an economist in the economic research department at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. He is a member of the microeconomics team and conducts research in industrial organization and development economics. Before joining the Fed, he was a postdoctoral researcher at Microsoft Research New England. Jiménez Hernández received a B.A. in economics, and an M.A. in economic theory from ITAM in Mexico, and a Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University. In 2021, Diego received the Citibanamex Prize in Economic Research.

Disclosure: Diego Jiménez-Hernández is a former paid postdoctoral researcher at Microsoft. Mert Demirer is a former paid postdoctoral researcher at Microsoft (a firm active in the cloud market, which this paper studies). Dean Li is a former intern at Microsoft. Sida Peng is a paid employee and minority equity holder at Microsoft.

Benjamin Klopck

Ben Klopck is an Assistant Professor of Economics at Texas A&M University. His main areas of research are in industrial organization and urban economics. He holds a Ph.D. in economics from Stanford University.

Disclosure: The data was shared under a general data-sharing agreement between Stanford and a large payment card network. No monetary compensation was made to any party. The payment card network reviewed and approved the topic of the project when we started but were not allowed to condition the final review on any results (per the DUA), and their final review focused on minimizing the risk of the paper disclosing sensitive consumer information. Mahoney was on leave from Stanford and NBER at the White House in 2022-2023; all his work on this paper was done while he was at Stanford.

Michael Lipsitz

Michael Lipsitz is an economist in the Federal Trade Commission's Bureau of Economics. He received his BA from Haverford College in 2009, and his Ph.D. from Boston University in 2017. Prior to joining the FTC, he served as an assistant professor at Miami University. Michael's research examines the impacts of non-compete clauses and their enforceability on a variety of outcomes, including labor markets, entrepreneurship, and innovation.

Simon Mongey

Simon Mongey is a macro- and labor-economist. He received his PhD from NYU in 2017. He is currently a Senior Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, and was previously an Assistant Professor at University of Chicago.

Parker Rogers

Parker Rogers is an Assistant Professor at Indiana University's Kelley School of Business and is currently on leave as a postdoctoral fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research. His research primarily focuses on the impact of regulations on medical innovation and its implications for patient health and well-being.

Kathryn Spier

Kathryn E. Spier is the Domenico De Sole Professor of Law at the Harvard Law School and President Emeritus of the American Law and Economics Association. She received her PhD from MIT in 1989, and her BA in mathematics and economics from Yale in 1985. Before joining the Harvard Law School in 2007, she was for 13 years a professor in the Management and Strategy department at the Kellogg Graduate School of Management at Northwestern University and served as the Richard M. Paget Distinguished Professor. Before that, she served as assistant and associate professor in the Harvard Economics Department. Professor Spier has served as co-editor of the RAND Journal of Economics and associate editor of the American Economic Review, and is a Research Associate in the Law and Economics Group of the National Bureau of Economic Research. She has published extensively in the areas of law and economics and industrial organization. Her areas of interest include the economics of litigation, contracts, tort law, antitrust, and business organization.

Disclosure: I have not received any financial support or in-kind support from any interested party for the research in the above-mentioned article. To my knowledge, no close relative or partner has received any support from an interested party. I do not hold any position with an organization whose policy positions, goals, or financial interests relate to the above-mentioned article. To my knowledge, no close relative or partner holds a position with any relevant organization, either. My coauthor, Xinyu Hua, received a research fund from the Hong Kong Research Grants Council.

Nils Wernerfelt

Nils Wernerfelt is a Donald P. Jacobs Scholar and an incoming Assistant Professor of Marketing at the Kellogg School of Management. Prior to joining Kellogg, he was at Meta for many years, most recently as a Director on the Economics and Policy Research team. He holds a PhD in Economics from MIT and a BA in Mathematics from Harvard.

Disclosure: Robert Moakler is an employee of Meta and owns stock; Nils Wernerfelt was an employee and owned stock while the research was conducted, but is no longer employed by Meta or owns stock. Bradley Shapiro and Anna Tuchman received no financial returns from Meta at any point during or prior to this research from Meta but were granted access to data through a data sharing agreement. Meta had a right to review this research for PII and intellectual property prior to publication. Anna Tuchman's husband has received compensation from Meta through his job at an economic litigation consulting firm.

SELECTED PAPERS' DISCUSSANTS

Matthew Fiedler

Matthew Fiedler is the Joseph A. Pechman Senior Fellow in Economic Studies and a senior fellow with the Brookings Schaeffer Initiative on Health Policy. His research examines a range of topics in health care economics and policy. Prior to joining the Brookings Institution in January 2017, Fiedler served as Chief Economist on the staff of the Council of Economic Advisers, where he oversaw the Council's work on health care policy, including implementation of the Affordable Care Act. Fiedler holds a Ph.D. in economics from Harvard University and a B.A. in mathematics and economics from Swarthmore College.

Samuel Goldberg

Goldberg is an assistant professor of marketing at Stanford Graduate School of Business. His work seeks to better understand the role of privacy, data, and monitoring technologies in markets. He holds a PhD from Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University and undergraduate degrees in economics and physics from Brandeis University. Prior to his PhD, Goldberg served as an associate economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago.

Devesh Raval

Devesh Raval is the Deputy Director overseeing the consumer protection mission of the Federal Trade Commission within the Bureau of Economics. Devesh completed his PhD in economics at the University of Chicago. Before joining the FTC, he was a founding member of the Economics Team at Amazon.com working directly under Chief Economist Pat Bajari as Economist and later Senior Economist. More recently, Devesh was the Victor Kramer Foundation Fellow at Harvard Law School. Devesh's research interests are in productivity, industrial organization, and marketing.

Marc Rysman

Marc Rysman is a Professor of Economics and Department Chair at Boston University. Rysman's research focuses on industrial organization and competition, and the related issues of antitrust and regulation. In particular, he specializes in issues of network effects, two-sided markets, standardization, and compatibility. He has worked on a variety of industries, such as telecommunication, payment cards, and consumer electronics. His research is primarily empirical, ranging from studies that are heavily motivated by theory to research that is primarily descriptive. He teaches on industrial organization, econometrics, antitrust, and regulation. He is a former editor of the RAND Journal of Economics and President of the Industrial Organization Society.

Liyan Shi

Liyan Shi is an Assistant Professor of Economics at the Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University. Her research interests are in macroeconomics, firm dynamics, labor economics, and contract theory.

Avner Strulov-Shlain

Avner Strulov-Shlain is Assistant Professor of Marketing and Willard Graham Faculty Scholar at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business. He is a Behavioral Economist, focusing on questions in Quantitative Marketing, Industrial Organization, and Public Economics. His main research focus is on the behavioral economics of firms: How should firms account for behavioral consumers? How do firms respond in practice? Are firms sometimes behavioral too? He obtained his PhD in Economics from the University of California, Berkeley.

Joel Waldfogel

Joel Waldfogel Frederick R. Kappel Chair in Applied Economics at the University of Minnesota's Carlson School of Management and is a research associate of the National Bureau of Economic Research. Before coming to Carlson, Waldfogel was at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School (1997-2010), where he was the Ehrenkranz Family Professor of Business and Public Policy and had served as department chair and associate vice dean. Between 1990 and 1997, he was an assistant and later an associate professor of economics at Yale University. During 2021-2022 he was the Kaminstein Scholar at the US Copyright Office.

Waldfogel's main broad research interests are industrial organization and law and economics. He has conducted empirical studies of price advertising, media markets, the operation of differentiated product markets, and issues related to digital products, including piracy, pricing, revenue sharing, and the effects of digitization on the supply of new products.

Most of his research since 2004 has focused on copyright-related issues. He has published papers on the impact of piracy on the revenue of authorized products in recorded music, motion pictures, and television. Since 2010 he has done research, and has published papers, on the broader impacts of digitization on the supply of new products in creative industries.

He has published over 75 articles in scholarly outlets including the *American Economic Review*, the *Journal of Political Economy*, and the *RAND Journal of Economics*. He has published three books, *The Tyranny of the Market: Why You Can't Always Get What You Want* (Harvard University Press, 2007), *Scroogenomics: Why You Shouldn't Buy Presents for the Holidays* (Princeton University Press, 2009), as well as *Digital Renaissance* (Princeton University Press, 2018). He has also written for Slate. Waldfogel is a coeditor of the Handbook of Media Economics. He also coedited the 2012 Oxford *Handbook of the Digital Economy*. He received an A.B. in economics from Brandeis University in 1984 and a Ph.D. in economics at Stanford University in 1990.

Matthew Weinberg

Matthew Weinberg is an Associate Professor of Economics at The Ohio State University. His research and teaching is concerned with issues related to empirical industrial organization. Among other things, he has examined the price effects of consummated mergers, the coordinated effects of mergers, and the accuracy of merger simulations based on unilateral effects. He received a Ph.D. in economics from Princeton University and a B.S. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

FTC ORGANIZERS

Viola Chen

Dr. Viola Chen is an economist in the Bureau of Economics at the FTC. She works on antitrust matters including merger and non-merger investigations in a wide variety of industries, including branded & generic pharmaceutical drugs, veterinary specialty clinics, and wholesalers of alcoholic beverages. Her research focuses on merger retrospectives. She received her Ph.D. in economics from UCLA.

Will Violette

Dr. William Violette is the FTC Microeconomics Conference organizer alongside Dr. Viola Chen. Dr. Violette is an economist at the Division of Consumer Protection in the FTC's Bureau of Economics, where he works on cases protecting American consumers from unfair and deceptive business practices. His research focuses on the intersection of development economics, consumer protection, and industrial organization. He received his Ph.D. in Economics from Brown University.