Benjamin Bushong

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Department of Economics
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Academic Positions

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics at Michigan State University	2017 –
Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Economics at Harvard University	2014 – 2017
Visiting Scholar, NOM Unit at Harvard Business School	2014 – 2017

Research

Publications

Bushong, B., and T. Gagnon-Bartsch. "Failures in Forecasting: An Experiment on Interpersonal Projection Bias." *Management Science*, forthcoming.

Bushong, B., and T. Gagnon-Bartsch "Reference Dependence and Attribution Bias: Evidence from Real-Effort Experiments." *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, 2023, 15(2):271-308.

Gagnon-Bartsch, T. , and B. Bushong. "Learning With Misattribution of Reference Dependence." *Journal of Economic Theory*, 2022, 203: 105473.

Nadav, K. B. Bushong and J. Leveau. "It's the Economy, Stupid: Applying (Micro)economic Principles to Microbiome Science." *mSystems*, 2022, 7(1):e.

Bushong, B., M. Rabin, and J. Schwartzstein. "A Model of Relative Thinking." *Review of Economic Studies*, 2021, 88(1):162-191.

Hutcherson, C., B. Bushong, and A. Rangel. "A Neurocomputational Model of Altruistic Choice and Its Implications." *Neuron*, 2015, 87:451-462.

Bushong, B., L.M. King, C. Camerer, and A. Rangel. "Pavlovian Processes in Consumer Choice: The Physical Presence of a Good Increases Willingness-to-Pay." *American Economic Review*, 2010, 100:1-18.

Working Papers

"Heterogeneous Tastes and Social (Mis)Learning" (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch)

"Risk and Loss Attitudes Vary Across Domains", submitted.

Works in Progress

"Autonomy and Adherence to Expert Advice: Evidence from the Field and Lab" (with Xavier Giné, Aprajit Mahajan, and Enrique Seira)

"Misunderstanding What Makes Other People Happy" (with Matthew Rabin)

"The Person or the Situation? Projection Bias and Inference about Others" (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch and Jeongbin Kim)

"Testing for Implicit Statistical Biases" (with Ned Augenblick)

"Understanding (Biased) Beliefs amongst Breast Cancer Patients" (with Daniel Isaac)

"Risk and Relative Thinking" (with Matthew Rabin and Joshua Schwartzstein)

Education

California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

Ph.D., Social Science (Economics), June 2013

Thesis: *Essays in Behavioral and Neuroeconomics*

(Co)advisors: Matthew Rabin and Antonio Rangel

Teaching

Michigan State University

Psychology and Economics: Theory and Applications (graduate course)	Fall 2022
Behavioral Economics (undergraduate course)	2017 –
Data Analytics for Social Scientists (undergraduate course)	2019 –

Grants and Awards

Grants

Co-Principal Investigator (with Francisca Alba), "Information and Beliefs about Expected EITC Refunds", Michigan Applied Public Policy Research Program, Administered by Michigan State University, $30,000, 2023–2024

Co-Principal Investigator (with Xavier Gine, Aprajit Mahajan, and Enrique Seira), "Does Autonomy Improve Adherence to Expert Advice?", World Bank, Administered by Michigan State University, $30,000, 2023–2024

Co-Principal Investigator (with Tristan Gagnon-Bartsch), "Learning with Misattribution of Reference Dependence", Foundations for Human Behavior Initiative, Administered by Harvard University, $5000, 2016–2017

Principal Investigator, "Using Machine Learning to Understand Sexual Assault within the U.S. Army", Department of Defense, Administered by the Army Analytics Group Research Facilitation Laboratory, $325,055.38, 2014–2016

Awards

Marylin Addy Teacher Scholar, MSU Department of Economics	2022 – 2024
Faculty Teaching Innovation Award, MSU College of Social Science	2022
Fulbright Senior Specialist	2019 – 2022
National Science Foundation IGERT Fellowship	2009 – 2013
Invited Visiting Scholar, Center for Behavioral Economics, NUS	2013

Invited Visiting Scholar, University of California, Berkeley	2010 – 2011
Russell Sage Behavioral Economics Summer Institute	2010
Shaaf Fellowship for Research in Neuroscience	2008 – 2009
Project Compassion Fellowship, Stanford University	2008

Invited Talks

Since 2017, alphabetical: Auro University, Boston College, Boston University School of Management, Caltech, Chapman University, Cornell University, Econometric Society, Harvard Business School, Harvard University, London School of Economics, Maharaja Sayajirao University, Middlebury College, Michigan State University, Norwegian School of Economics (NHH), Purdue University, Stanford University, SITE Experimental Economics, Texas A&M University, UCSD Rady School of Management, University of Calgary, University of Michigan, University of Nottingham, University of Oregon, University of Tennessee, Veer Narmad South Gujarat University

Professional Service

Editorial Service: Associate Editor, Economic Inquiry   2023 –

Referee Service: Science, Nature, American Economic Review, AER: Insights, Econometrica, Review of Economic Studies, Quarterly Journal of Economics, AEJ: Applied, AEJ: Microeconomics, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Games and Economic Behavior, International Economic Review, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Public Economics, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Journal of Economic Psychology, Management Science, RAND Journal of Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Sage ONE, Scandinavian Journal of Economics