

Geoffrey Kocks

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Education

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Candidate for Ph.D. in Economics

Cambridge, MA • 2020-present

Brown University, 4.0/4.0 GPA; *Magna cum laude*

Bachelor of Science with Honors in Applied Mathematics-Economics

Bachelor of Arts in Hispanic Studies

Providence, RI • 2014-2018

Publications

1. Polyakova, M., **Kocks, G.**, Udalova, V., & Finkelstein, A. (2020). Initial economic damage from the COVID-19 pandemic in the United States is more widespread across ages and geographies than initial mortality impacts. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 117(45), 27934-27939.
2. Polyakova, M., Udalova, V., **Kocks, G.**, Genadek, K., Finlay, K., & Finkelstein, A. N. (2021). Racial Disparities In Excess All-Cause Mortality During The Early COVID-19 Pandemic Varied Substantially Across States. *Health Affairs*, 40(2), 307-316.

Research Experience

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Research Assistant to Professor Parag Pathak

Cambridge, MA • December 2020-present

- Provided research assistance on projects related to the implications of admissions procedures in Boston public charter schools.
- Implemented optimization algorithms in Python to estimate discrete choice models from application data.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Pre-doctoral Fellow to Professor Amy Finkelstein

Cambridge, MA • June 2018-August 2020

- Provided research assistance on projects related to the impact of current location on life expectancy, the role of patient-based and place-based factors in hazardous opioid prescribing, and the design of home health care program allocation.

Brown University

Research Assistant to Professor Emily Oster

Providence, RI • June 2016-May 2018

- Provided research assistance on projects related to vaccination behavior and household dietary changes.
- Publication: "After a Debacle, How California Became a Role Model on Measles" (with Emily Oster). *New York Times*. January 2018.

Brown University

Economics Honors Thesis

Providence, RI/Havana, Cuba • May 2018

- Evaluated the impact of tourism increases in Cuba on land use for local food production, using satellite data on ArcGIS to quantify agricultural land area in high-density tourism areas.
- Received a **Voss Fellowship** for field work in Havana, and supervised data collection by undergraduate research assistants.

University of Chicago

Research Fellow at Open Source Macroeconomics Lab, Becker Friedman Institute

Chicago, IL • Summer 2017

- Selected and received full funding for a seven week graduate-level program in computational macroeconomics.
- Received training in advanced analysis and linear algebra, Python and C++ coding techniques for optimization and high speed computing, and the implementation of macroeconomic models and structural estimation techniques in Python

Teaching Experience

Harvard University

Teaching Assistant

Cambridge, MA • September 2021-December 2021

- GenEd 1079: Why is there no Cure for Health? (Fall 2021; Prof. David Cutler)

Brown University

Teaching Assistant

Providence, RI • September 2017-May 2018

- APMA 1650: Statistical Inference (Spring 2017, Spring 2018; Prof. Daniel Sanz-Alonso)
- ECON 1620: Introduction to Econometrics (Fall 2017, Fall 2018; Prof. Adam McCloskey)
- MUSC 0021J: Stephen Sondheim and the American Musical (Fall 2017) - course developer

Service and Volunteering

- Reviewer: *AER: Insights*
- Graduate Student Mentor: Application Assistance and Mentoring Program, MIT, 2020-present
- Undergraduate Advisor: Presidential Scholars Program, Brown University, 2017-2018
- In-Class Math Tutor: Central High School and Hope High School, Providence Public Schools, 2015-2017

Awards and Honors

- National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship, 2022
- NBER Pre-Doctoral Fellowship in Aging and Health Economics, 2022
- AER: Insights, Excellence in Refereeing Award, 2022
- Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching, Fall 2021
- MIT Castle Krob Fellow, 2020-2022
- Samuel Lamport Prize for Outstanding Honors Thesis in Economics, 2018
- Phi Beta Kappa, 2018
- Fichter Prize for Outstanding Graduate in Hispanic Studies, 2018
- Voss Undergraduate Research Fellowship: Institute at Brown for Environment and Society, 2017
- Undergraduate Research and Teaching Award: Brown University, 2016
- Outstanding Winner: Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling, 2016

Languages and Technical Skills

Technical: Python, Stata, Matlab, R, SAS, remote sensing, and ArcGIS

Languages: English (native) and Spanish (professional proficiency)