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CURRENT POSITION

Frederick S. Addy Distinguished Professor of Economics
Michigan State University
August 2022-Present

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Director, Centro de Investigación Económica, ITAM. June 2019 – July 2022
Visiting Researcher (National Fellow), Hoover, Stanford University. August 2017 – July 2018
Full Professor, Centro de Investigación Económica, ITAM. June 2017
Assistant Professor, Centro de Investigación Económica, ITAM. August 2009

EDUCATION

STANFORD UNIVERSITY Feb. 2007
PhD in Economics

ITAM (Instituto Tecnológico Autónomo de México) Jun. 2001
BA in Economics

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Credit Markets and Financial Inclusion
- Development Economics
- Courts
- Civic Education, Corruption and Democracy

PUBLISHED AND FORTHCOMING PEER-REVIEWED PAPERS

- "Information and Bargaining through Agents: Experimental Evidence from Mexico's Labor Courts", with J. Sadka and C. Woodruff, Review of Economic Studies, February 2024.
- "The Impact of a Private Supplement to Public Health Care: The Mexico Diabetes Experiment", with A. Bronsoler and J. Gruber. Review of Economic Studies, March 2024.
- "Sequential Banking Externalities", with G. DiGiorgi and A. Drenik. American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, 2023.
- "Voting with One's Neighbors: Evidence from Migration within Mexico", with F. Finan and A. Simpson. Journal of Public Economics, October 2021

- "Assortative Matching of Exporters and Importers", with Y. Sugita and K. Teshima. Review of Economics and Statistics, June 2021.
- "The Effectiveness of Sin Food Taxes: Evidence from Mexico", with A. Aguilar and E. Gutierrez. Journal of Health Economics, 2021
- "How Debit Cards Enable the Poor to Save More", with P. Bachas, P. Gertler, S. Higgins, Journal of Finance, 2021
- "The Quality of Vote Tallies: Causes and Consequences", with C. Challu and A. Simpser, American Political Science Review, 2020.
- "Borrowing on the Wrong Card: Evidence from Mexico", with A. Ponce and G. Zamarripa. American Economic Review, 2017
- "Are Information Disclosures Effective?", with A. Elizondo and E. Laguna. American Economic Journal: Economic Policy, 2017
- "On the Distributive Costs of Drug-Related Homicides", with N. Ajzenman and S. Galiani. Journal of Law and Economics, 2015.
- "Entry Regulation and Firm Start-Ups: Evidence from Mexico", with E. Piedra and D. Kaplan. Journal of Public Economics, 2011.
- "Comparing Open and Sealed Bid Auctions: Theory and Evidence from Timber Auctions", with S. Athey and J. Levin. Quarterly Journal of Economics, 2011.

WORKING PAPERS

In the review process:

- "Expanding Financial Access Via Credit Cards: Evidence from Mexico", with S. Castellanos, A. Mahajan, D. Jimenez, R&R at the Review of Economic Studies.
- "Should Your Government Sell You Goods? Evidence from the Milk Market in Mexico", with D. Jimenez, reject and resubmit American Economic Review.
- "The Long-Term Effects of Temporary Incentives to Save: Results Field Experiment in Mexico", with P. Gertler, S. Higgins, and A. Scott, R&R at the Journal of Finance
- "The role of equal status in prejudice reduction via interpersonal contact", with K. Greene, E. Rossiter, A. Simpser. R&R Nature Human Behavior
- "Autonomy and Specificity in Agricultural Technology Adoption: Evidence from Mexico", with C. Corral, X. Giné and A. Mahajan.
- "The Limits of Self-commitment and Private Paternalism", with C. McIntosh, I. Meza, J. Sadka, F. DeTraglia.
- "Spatial competition and retail pricing in the newly deregulated Mexican gasoline market", with L. Davis and S. McRae.

Work in progress:

- "The Influence of Historical Narrative on Individual and National Identity", with B. Krause, M. Kremer, E. Rivera.
- "Improving Labor Courts: Fighting Corruption with Competition", with E. DalBo, F. Finan, J. Sadka
- "Democracy Corrupted", with E. Rivera and S. Jha.

- Sadka, Seira, Woodruff. “Lawyer quality and information”
- "Protecting Democracy: Promoting Civic Values at Scale", with A. Simpser

PUBLISHED NON PEER REVIEWED PAPERS

- "Digital Financial Services Go a Long Way: Transaction Costs and Financial Inclusion" with P. Bachas, P. Gertler, S. Higgins. *American Economic Review P&P*, 108, May 2018.
- Consideraciones sobre la Evolución y retos del Sistema de Ahorro para el Retiro”, M. García Huitrón. Fundef.
- "Retos para el cobro del impuesto sobre la renta en la economía digital", with E. Pineda and A. Rasteletti.

RECOGNITIONS

- Winner of the 1st place Banamex Prize, 2021 (the Top Prize in Economics in Mexico with Ari Bronsoler and Jonathan Gruber). The Banamex Prize is the highest economics prize in Mexico, with blind submissions and hundreds of applications.
- Winner of the 2nd place Banamex Prize, 2021 (with Shaun McRae and Lucas Davis).
- Winner of the 1st place Banamex Prize, 2020 (with Diego Jimenez).
- Winner of the 1st place Banamex Prize, 2019 (with Giacomo DiGiorgi and Andres Drenik)
- Winner of the 1st place Banamex Prize, 2015 (with Yoichi Sugita and Kensuke Teshima)
- Winner of the Victor Urquidi Prize 2019 for the Best Research Paper in Economics about Mexico (the paper on Labor Courts with J. Sadka and C. Woodruff)
- Recipient of the Tinker Fellowship, Stanford CLAS, 2018
- Recipient of the Hoover National Fellowship, Stanford University, 2017-2018
- Simonsen Lecture Invited Lecture LACEA/LAMES 2017 (best Latin American economist under 40)
- Winner of the 1st place Banamex Prize, 2015 (the Top Prize in Economics in Mexico)
- Winner of ITAM’s Academic Merit Award, 2015
- Member of MIT-Jameel Poverty Action Lab 2010 (first invited member in Mexico)
- Invited researcher Columbia University, 2015
- Invited researcher Sci-Po, Paris, 2013

GRANTS

- World Bank grant, 2023, \$30,000, with B. Bushong, C. Coral, X. Gine, A. Mahajan,
- Fund for Innovation in Development, 1,015,889 USD (895,980 Euros), 2021. With J. Sadka.
- Development Impact Ventures, 715,000 USD, 2021. With J. Sadka.
- Wellspring fund 160,000 USD, 2021. With A. Simpser
- JOBs initiative, JPAL, 58,000 USD, 2020. With C. Woodruff and J. Sadka
- Eli Lilly and Company: 1.2 million USD, 2018. With A. Bronsoler and J. Gruber.
- Economic Development Initiative: “Improving the Effectiveness of Labor Courts Through Information and Conciliation”, 22,000 GBP, 2017. With J. Sadka and C. Woodruff.
- Governance Initiative JPAL “Improving Labor Courts: the Effects of Publicly Provided Lawyers and Statistical Information”: 167,700 USD, 2018. With J. Sadka and C. Woodruff.

- Economic Development Initiative “Improving Labor Courts: the Effect of Publicly Provided Lawyers and Information”. 108,700 GBP, 2018. With J. Sadka and C. Woodruff.
- Government Partnership Initiative, “Statistical information and lawsuit settlement.”: 76,500 USD, 2017. With J. Sadka and C. Woodruff.
- Conacyt and ITAM Centro de Energía y Recursos Naturales: ~2 million MX, 2017. With S. McRae.
- BASIS-USAID-3ie-WB Grant for research on Technology Adoption in Agriculture: 800,000 usd. 2013-2017. With C. Corral, A. Mahajan, X. Gine, and C. Corral.
- Government Partnership Initiative (GPI) “Expert advice vs. statistical information: effects on settlement rates in labor disputes”: 49,500 USD, 2015. With J. Sadka.
- Oxford University “Study of Dispute Settlement”: 26,000 GBP, 2017. With J. Sadka and C. Woodruff.
- JPAL Governance Initiative Grant, 2014 (300,000 usd, returned)
- Yale-IPA SME Research Grant, 2014 (15,000 usd), with C. Serrano.

REFeree-EDITORIAL WORK

- Former member of the editorial board of El Trimestre Económico, Mexico’s top ranked economics journal.
- American Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, AEA Applied, AEA Policy, Review of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Political Economy, Econometrica, Trimestre Económico, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Health Economics, Economic Journal.

RESEARCH GROUPS

- MIT Jameel Poverty Action Lab Affiliate (<http://www.povertyactionlab.org>). First member in Mexico.

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

In México:

- Advisor to the Undersecretary of the Treasury
Adjunt General Director
México, Secretaría de Hacienda Nov. 2007-Nov. 2008
- Advisor to the Secretary of Economics
General Director (main economic advisor to the minister)
México, Secretaría de Economía Dec. 2008-Jun. 2009
- Visiting Researcher
Banco de México Jun. 2013- Jun 2014

In the United States:

- Consultant Jun. 2006-Ago. 2007
World Bank IFC Doing Business Project
- Consultant Feb. 2007-Nov. 2007
World Bank IFC Enterprise Analysis Unit