

# Charles D. Sprenger

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CONTACT INFORMATION **Office**  
Baxter 301b  
California Institute of Technology  
sprenger@caltech.edu

ACADEMIC POSITIONS **California Institute of Technology**, Pasadena, CA  
Professor of Economics. July 2020-

**University of California, San Diego**, La Jolla, CA  
Full Professor, Rady School of Management. July 2019-June 2020  
Full Professor, Department of Economics. July 2019-June 2020  
Associate Professor, Rady School of Management. January 2015-July 2019  
Associate Professor, Department of Economics. January 2015-July 2019

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA  
Assistant Professor of Economics. July 2011-December 2014

EDUCATION **University of California, San Diego**, La Jolla, CA  
Ph.D., Economics, 2007-2011  
Thesis Title: *Essays in Time and Risk*

**University College London**, London, UK  
M.Sc., Economics, 2004-2005

**Stanford University**, Stanford, CA  
B.A., Economics, 1999-2002

FIELDS Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics

PUBLICATIONS “On the Empirical Validity of Cumulative Prospect Theory: Experimental Evidence of Rank-Independent Probaility Weighting” (with Doug Bernheim), *Econometrica*, 2020, 88(4), 1363-1409.

“Dynamic Inconsistency in Food Choice: Experimental Evidence from Two Food Deserts” (with Sally Sadoff and Anya Samek), *Review of Economic Studies*, 2020, 87(4), 1954-1988.

“Toward an Understanding of the Development of Time Preferences: Evidence from Field Experiments” (with James Andreoni, Anya Samek, Kevin Sokal, Michael Kuhn, and John List), *Journal of Public Economics*, 2019, 177.

“Randomizing Endowments: An Experimental Study of Rational Expectations and Reference-Dependent Preferences” (with Lorenz Goette and Annette Harms), *American Economic Journal - Microeconomics*, 2019, 11(1), 185-207

“Reference-Dependent Preferences” (with Ted O’Donoghue) *Handbook of Behavioral Economics: Applications and Foundations*, 2018, Volume 1, 1-77.

“The Limits of Expectations-Based Reference Dependence” (with Uri Gneezy, Lorenz Goette, and Florian Zimmermann), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2017, 15(4), 861-876.

“An Endowment Effect for Risk: Experimental Tests of Stochastic Reference Points,” *Journal of Political Economy*, 2015, 123(6), 1456-1499.

“Working Over Time: Dynamic Inconsistency in Real Effort Tasks” (with Ned Augenblick and Muriel Niederle), *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 2015, 130(3), 1067-1115.

“Measuring Time Preferences: A Comparison of Experimental Methods” (with James Andreoni and Michael Kuhn), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2015, 116, 451-454.

“Judging Experimental Evidence on Dynamic Inconsistency,” *American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings*, 2015, 105(5), 280-285.

“Temporal Stability of Time Preferences” (with Stephan Meier), *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 2015, 97(2), 273-286.

“Violence and Risk Preferences: Experimental Evidence from Afghanistan” (with Michael Callen, Mohammad Isaqzadeh, and James Long), *American Economic Review*, 2014, 104(1), 123-148.

“Discounting Financial Literacy: Time Preferences and Participation in Financial Education Programs” (with Stephan Meier), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2013, 95, 159-174.

“Estimating Time Preferences from Convex Budgets” (with James Andreoni), *American Economic Review*, 2012, 102(7), 3333-3356.

“Risk Preferences Are Not Time Preferences” (with James Andreoni), *American Economic Review*, 2012, 102(7), 3357-3376.

“Time Discounting Predicts Creditworthiness” (with Stephan Meier), *Psychological Science*, 2012, 23(1), 56-58.

“Present-Biased Preferences and Credit Card Borrowing” (with Stephan Meier). *American Economic Journal - Applied Economics*, 2010, 2(1), 193-210.

“Credit Card Debt and Payment Use” (with Joanna Stavins). *Financial Services Review*, 2010, 19(1), 17-36.

RESEARCH PAPERS “Tailoring Intertemporal Incentives: An Application to Polio Vaccination Drives in Pakistan” (with James Andreoni, Michael Callen, Karrar Jaffar, and Yasir Khan). *R&R Journal of the European Economic Association*

“Prospect Theory Revisited: Non-parametric Tests of S-Shaped Probability Weighting” Formerly “Uncertainty Equivalents: Testing the Limits of the Independence Axiom” (with James Andreoni), NBER w17342. *R&R Experimental Economics*

“Taxes and Procrastination: Evidence from Boston Tax-Filers” (with Seung-Keun Martinez and Stephan Meier).

“A Stream of Prospects or a Prospect of Streams: On the Evaluation of Intertemporal Risks” (with

James Andreoni and Paul Feldman).

“Sources and Heterogeneity of Reference Dependence” (with Lorenz Goette, Thomas Graeber, and Alex Kellogg).

“Intertemporal Choice Experiments and Large Stakes Behavior” (with Diego Aycinena, Szabolcs Blazsek, and Lucas Rentschler).

“Measuring Ambiguity Aversion: Experimental Tests of Subjective Expected Utility” (with James Andreoni and Tobias Schmidt).

OTHER  
PUBLICATIONS

“Risk Preferences Are Not Time Preferences: Reply” (with James Andreoni), *American Economic Review*, 2015, 105(7), 2287-2293.

“Review: Individuals and Identity in Economics by John B. Davis”, *Journal of Economic Literature*, 2011, 49(4), 1250-1251.

HONORS, GRANTS  
AND AWARDS

Sloan Foundation Fellowship, 2016-2018.

Distinguished CESifo Affiliate (Behavioral Economics), 2012.

National Science Foundation Grant #SES-1145911, “The Impact of Trauma on Economic Preferences” (PIs: Andreoni, Berman, Sprenger) \$101,000, 2011.

National Science Foundation Dissertation Improvement Grant #SES-1024683, “Uncertainty Equivalents,” (PI: Andreoni, Co-PI: Sprenger) \$20,000, 2010.

UCSD Economics Granger Prize, 2010.

UCSD Economics Graduate Summer Research Award, 2008-2010.

UCSD Economics Graduate Teaching Assistant Award, 2008.

UCSD Regents Scholar, 2007.

UCL Graduate Open Scholar, 2005.

PRESENTATIONS

2017: American Social Science Association Annual Meeting, Michigan, Stanford, Loyola Marymount, UPitt, Econometric Society European Meetings, Yale SOM, MIT, Harvard Business School, KU Leuven, Stockholm School of Economics.

2016: ITAM, Princeton, Pomona, UC Berkeley Haas, Autònoma Barcelona, Pompeu Fabra, Amsterdam, Bonn, UC Berkeley, Caltech, Tel Aviv Colloquium Conference on Behavioral Economics, Rome Junior Micro Conference.

2015: American Social Science Association Annual Meeting, New York University, Harvard University, Case Western Reserve University, Cornell, Simon Fraser, Behavioral Economics Annual Meeting, Western Economic Association International, Wharton, Edinburgh, Stirling, Caltech, International Food Policy Research Institute, Berkeley Center for Effective Government Action.

2014: University of Wisconsin. Network for Integrated Behavioral Science Spring Workshop (plenary). University of Southern California Behavioral and Experimental Workshop. Taiwan Symposium on Neuroscience and Behavioral Economics. Stanford Institute for Highschool Teachers. Princeton University. Chicago Booth. Massachusetts Institute of Technology. UC Berkeley.

PROFESSIONAL  
ACTIVITIES

**Editorial Service:** Board of Editors: *American Economic Review*, 2017-Present. Associate Editor: *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2016-Present. Associate Editor: *Quantitative Economics*, 2019-Present. Associate Editor: *Management Science*, 2014-?. Co-Editor: *Journal of Public Economics Special Edition Celebrating 25 Years of Warm Glow*, 2014.

**Journal Referee:** *American Economic Review*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Economic Inquiry*,

Games and Economic Behavior, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Management Science, Experimental Economics. Journal of Economic Psychology, Journal of the European Economic Association, Econometrica, Berkeley Electronic Press, Journal of Political Economy, American Economic Journal - Applied Economics, Journal of Labor Economics, Theory and Decision, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Review of Economic Studies. Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Economic Theory.

**Academic Service:** Organizer: 2017 Economic Science Association World Meetings. Organizer: 2013 Economic Science Association North America Regional Meetings, Santa Cruz. Junior Advisory Board: Science of Philanthropy Initiative. Segment Organizer: 2012-2014 Stanford Institute for Theoretical Economics - Experimental Economics. Reviewer: National Science Foundation. Organizer: 2012-2014 Bay Area Behavioral and Experimental Economics Workshop.

**Organizational Affiliations:** Economic Science Association. American Economic Association. Econometric Society. CESifo Research Network. International Growth Centre.

RELEVANT  
POSITIONS HELD

Research Associate, Federal Reserve Bank of Boston – Center for Behavioral Economics, 2005-2007.  
University Instructor (Peace Corps), Université d'Abomey - Calavi, Cotonou, Bénin, 2002-2004.