

Sebastian Wai

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Education

- **Purdue University** **West Lafayette, IN**
Ph.D., Economics *2011 – 2017*
 - Advisor: Stephen Martin
 - **Carnegie Mellon University** **Pittsburgh, PA**
B.S., Economics *2007 – 2011*
 - Minor in Mathematical Sciences, Minor in Chinese Studies
 - Tepper College and University Honors, Phi Beta Kappa
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Employment

- **Indiana University, Kelley School of Business** **Bloomington, IN**
Visiting Assistant Professor *2017 –*
Visiting Lecturer *2016 – 2017*
 - Department of Business Economics and Public Policy
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Research Interests

- Industrial organization
 - Intellectual capital and innovation
 - Industrial agglomeration
 - Network industries and platform markets
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Research

- Inventor Mobility, Spillovers, and Trends in the Early Semiconductor Industry (Working Paper)
 - This paper examines the role of inventor mobility to drive innovation spillovers in the early semiconductor industry. I employ newly collected patent data from the under-studied period of 1946–1959 to track inventor movement across firms and regions. I exploit patent assignments to identify inventor moves and test for increased patenting activity for firms on both sides of a move. The data shows increases to patenting after a move on both sides which tapers off over a period of several months. Using the main patent data and a supplementary detailed inventor dataset, I further examine the possible spillover role played by universities. I also use both datasets to discuss the broader patterns in the industry during this period, including overall geographic and hiring trends.
- Software Quality and Backward Compatibility in the Video Game Industry (Working Paper)
 - This paper explores the connection between sales of video game hardware (consoles) and the quality of associated software libraries. I first discuss the industry’s unique features and place among durable goods and platform markets, then turn to data. I also measure the quality of backward compatibility with software designed for previous console generations and its effect on current generation sales. I investigate these links using data on the recently concluded seventh generation of video game consoles (2005–2014). Software quality is measured using aggregated review scores from Metacritic. I find that overall software quality has a significant positive impact on hardware sales, but backward compatibility’s effect is negligible. Consumers are found to be forward-looking, with evidence for both substitution across platforms and across purchase timing.

Teaching Experience

- **Indiana University**

Instructor

Bloomington, IN

2016 –

- Predictive Analytics (MSBA, Online), Summer 2017
- Business Econometrics (Undergraduate), Spring 2017
- Business Econometrics (MBA), Spring 2017
- Business Econometrics (MSBA, Online), Spring 2017
- Predictive Analytics (MSBA, Online), Summer 2016

- **Purdue University**

Instructor

West Lafayette, IN

2013 – 2014

- Industrial Organization (Undergraduate), Fall 2014
Krannert Certificate for Outstanding Teaching
- Industrial Organization (Undergraduate), Summer 2014
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Teaching
- Industrial Organization (Undergraduate), Spring 2014
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Teaching
- Industrial Organization (Undergraduate), Summer 2013
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Teaching

Teaching Assistant

2012 – 2016

- Game Theory (MS, Online), Spring 2016
- Industrial Economics (MS, Online), Fall 2015
- Industrial Organization (Undergraduate, Online), Summer 2015
- Industrial Economics (MS, Online), Spring 2015
- Intermediate Economics I (MS, Online), Fall 2013
- Principles of Economics (Undergraduate), Spring 2012
Krannert Certificate for Distinguished Recitation Teaching

- **Carnegie Mellon University**

Recitation Instructor

Pittsburgh, PA

2009 – 2010

- Principles of Economics (Undergraduate), Fall 2010
- Principles of Economics (Undergraduate), Fall 2009

References

- Stephen Martin
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- John M. Barron
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403 W. State St.
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- Jeff Prince
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