# Charles D. Sprenger

Positions

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California Institute of Technology

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ACADEMIC California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, CA

Position Professor of Economics. July 2020-

Prior Academic University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA, January 2015-July 2020

Stanford University, Stanford, CA, 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 "Distinguishing Common Ratio Preferences from Common Ratio Effects: An Experiment Using Paired Valuation Tasks" (with Christina McGranaghan, Kirby Nielsen, Ted O'Donoghue, and Jason Somerville). American Economic Review, 2024, 114(2), 307-347.

"On the Empirical Validity of Cumulative Prospect Theory: A Response to the Wakker Commentaries" (with Doug Bernheim), Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, 2023, 107.

"Using Preference Estimates to Customize Incentives: An Application to Polio Vaccination Drives in Pakistan" (with James Andreoni, Michael Callen, Karrar Jaffar, and Yasir Khan), *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 2023, 21(4), 1428-1477.

"Procrastination in the Field: Evidence from Tax Filing" (with Seung-Keun Martinez and Stephan Meier), Journal of the European Economic Association, 2023, 21(3), 1119-1153.

"Robustness of Rank-Independence in Risky Choice" (with Doug Bernheim and Rebecca Royer), American Economic Review, Papers and Proceedings, 2022, 112, 415-420.

"Intertemporal Choice Experiments and Large Stakes Behavior" (with Diego Aycinena, Szabolcs Blazsek, and Lucas Rentschler), *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, 2022, 196, 484-500.

- "On the Empirical Validity of Cumulative Prospect Theory: Experimental Evidence of Rank-Independent Probability 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.
- "Risk Preferences Are Not Time Preferences: Reply" (with James Andreoni), American Economic Review, 2015, 105(7), 2287-2293.
- "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 Eco-

nomic 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

"De Gustibus and Disputes About Reference Dependence" (with Pol Campos-Mercade, Lorenz Goette, Thomas Graeber, and Alex Kellogg). Conditionally Accepted, The Review of Economic Studies

"Connecting Ellsberg and Allais Paradoxes" (with Jack Adeney, Po Hyun Sung, and Yu-Hsiang Wang)

"Connecting Common Ratio and Common Consequence Preferences" (with Christina McGranaghan, Kirby Nielsen, Ted O'Donoghue, and Jason Somerville)

"When Are Decisions Improvable? An Evaluation of Diagnostic Methods" (with B. Douglas Bernheim, Aldo Lucia, and Kirby Nielsen)

"Changing the Cost of Procrastination: A Field Experiment on Health Insurance Enrollment" (with Anya Samek and Seung-Keun Martinez)

# 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.

### Professional Activities

Caltech Service: Executive Officer of Social Sciences, 2022-Present.

Editorial Service: Board of Editors: American Economic Review, 2017-2022. Associate Editor: Journal of the European Economic Association, 2016-2022. Associate Editor: Quantitative Economics, 2019-2022. Associate Editor: Journal of Economic Perspectives: 2019-2022. 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.

## 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.