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Personal:

Citizenship: India, USA Permanent Resident
Marital Status: Married
Date of Birth: March 29, 1977
Gender: Male

Education:

Ph.D., Economics, University of Houston (expected) May 2008
M.A., Economics, University of Houston May 2005
M.A., Economics, Delhi School of Economics July 2002
B.A. (Honors), Economics, University of Delhi July 2000

Fields of Interest:

Primary Field: International Macroeconomics
Secondary Fields: Trade, Development Economics, and Political Economy

Dissertation:

“Essays on International Financial Integration”
Sponsor: Professor Bent E. Sørensen

Research

Experience:

Research Assistant to Professor Adriana Kugler 2003-2004
Research Assistant to Professor Bent E. Sørensen 2004-2005
Research Assistant to Professor Bent E. Sørensen
and Professor Sebnem Kalemli-Ozcan 2005-2006

Teaching

Experience:

Teaching Fellow, Department of Economics: Sole course teaching responsibility

Principles of Macroeconomics Fall 2005, 2006, 2007
Principles of Microeconomics Spring 2007
Intermediate Macroeconomics Summer 2007

Other

Relevant

Experience:

Research Assistant, Institute for Human Development
New Delhi, India. May 2002-August 2003

Fellowships, Honors, and Awards:

Graduate Tuition Fellowship 2003-2008
Cullen Memorial Graduate Fellowship 2003-2005
Jhamandas Watulmull Fund Scholarship 2004

Research Papers:

“Financial Globalization, Capital Account Liberalization and Risk Sharing”

(Job Market Paper)

Abstract:

Conventional wisdom suggests that countries that are financially integrated should be better insured against macroeconomic risk. In this paper, I study whether international risk sharing has improved with greater financial integration during the period 1973-2003. Using panel data regressions, I demonstrate that risk sharing improves with greater financial integration for industrial countries, especially during the globalization period. However, developing countries do not show any discernible pattern in risk sharing. Emerging economies, which accounted for a huge share of capital flows in the recent past, show only a marginal change in risk sharing. Capital flows come in different types such as portfolio equity flows, debt flows, foreign direct investment among others and each affects risk sharing differently. I examine the unique role of different types of capital flows in risk sharing and find that risk sharing benefits are higher for industrial countries for each of these components. On the contrary, greater reliance on debt flows appears to have reversed the potential risk sharing gains for the emerging economies.

Research In Progress:

“Trade Liberalization, Capital Account Liberalization and Democracy”

(Joint with Sreenath Majumder, University of Houston)

Long Abstract:

Economic liberalization and democracy are the concepts that refer to individual and collective welfare and freedom respectively. Economic liberalization promotes welfare by more effective use of scarce resources where as democracy promotes freedom by insuring adequate representation in the polity. It is often claimed that both are closely related. We examine the relationship between the extents of economic openness on country's degree of democratization. More specifically, We study whether international trade and financial liberalization fosters democracy. The idea that free trade and capital flows promote economic development and hence democracy goes back to the works of Schumpeter and Hayek. However, modern work remains inconclusive in this regard. Most of the work has been limited to studying the link between trade and democracy. The relationship between financial openness and democracy has got rather scant attention. Any study in this area is seriously impaired by the issues of endogeneity. The previous studies have used various instruments to get around this problem. We use the difference-in-differences estimation to study the impact of economic liberalization on democracy. The preliminary results suggest that trade openness promotes democracy. The impact of financial liberalization is not as conclusive as trade openness but still points in the same direction. We also consider the sequence of liberalization and examine whether enacting one or the other liberalization first has any specific impact on the degree of democracy. The results remain inconclusive in this regard.

Presentations:

“Trade Openness, Financial Integration and Social Insurance”
Graduate Research Workshop, University of Houston Spring 2006

“Caste, Social Capital and Risk Sharing”
Graduate Research Workshop, University of Houston Fall '06, Spring '07

**Conference
Participation:**

International Financial Integration and Risk Sharing
Federal Reserve Bank, Dallas-Houston Branch, Texas 2004

Texas Econometric Camp X
Lake Conroe, Texas 2005

Texas Monetary Conference
University of Texas, Austin, Texas 2005

Texas Econometrics Camp XI
Huntsville, Texas 2006

**Professional
Affiliations:**

American Economic Association
Southern Economic Association

**Computer
Skills:**

Stata, Win Rats, Gauss, Eviews, LaTeX, MS-office

References:

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**Teaching
Reference:**

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