

NEEL SUKHATME

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EDUCATION

Princeton University, Princeton, NJ

- Ph.D. in Economics Expected 2015
- M.A. in Economics 2011

Awards and Activities

- Princeton University Fellowship
- Clarence J. Hicks Memorial Fellowship in Industrial Relations (2014–15)
- Towbes Prize for Outstanding Teaching (2014)
- Richard A. Lester Fellowship for Industrial Relations (2012–13)
- Field Exams: Finance, Labor Economics, Development Economics

Harvard Law School, Cambridge, MA

- J.D., *cum laude* 2005

Awards and Activities

- *Harvard Law Review*, Notes Editor
- John M. Olin Fellow in Law and Economics
- Ames Moot Court Competition, Semifinalist

University of Illinois, Champaign, IL

- B.S. in Computer Engineering, Highest Honors; Minor in Mathematics 2001

Awards and Activities

- National Merit Scholar • Chancellor's Scholar • James Scholar • Leung Scholar • Byrd Scholar
 - History and Physics tutor at Office of Minority Student Affairs
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RESEARCH INTERESTS

- Law and Economics, Applied Microeconomics, Innovation and Entrepreneurship
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JOB MARKET PAPER (submitted for publication)

Who Cares About Patent Term? Cross-Industry Differences in Term Sensitivity (w/Judd Cramer)

- We use a natural experiment — passage of the TRIPS agreement — to measure how industries differentially value patent term. Some of our results support conventional wisdom (patent term is important for pharmaceuticals) and some do not (it also matters for software). Term sensitivity is also highly correlated with patent renewal rates, corroborating an intuitive prediction we formalize in a model: industries that care more about patent term tend to have higher late-term profits.
- Presentations
 - American Law and Economics Assoc. Annual Meeting, Univ. of Chicago Law School (2014)
 - Seventh Annual Conference on Innovation Economics, Northwestern Law School (2014)
 - PatCon4, Univ. of San Diego School of Law (2014)
 - Law and Economics Colloquium, Northwestern Law School (2014)
 - Conference on Empirical Legal Studies, Univ. of Pennsylvania Law School (2013)
 - Midwest Law and Economics Assoc. Conference, Univ. of Illinois College of Law (2013)

IN-PROGRESS RESEARCH

The Monetary Value of Patent Term (w/Judd Cramer)

- This paper measures late-term patent value via equity markets. We perform an event study using TRIPS, which retroactively extended term for already-issued patents obtained in less than three years. We find stock prices increased more for firms who received longer term extensions and confirm our results using an empirical technique known as regression kink design.
- Presentations: Numerous conferences (joint with other patent term paper)

Forum Shopping in Diversity Cases: A Theoretical and Empirical Study

- I develop a formal forum shopping model, which I test on 532,097 federal diversity cases terminating between 1988 and 2011. Confirming one of the model's predictions, I find that parties who litigate outside of their home state settle more often than parties who litigate at home. My results are robust to the inclusion of various fixed effects and other controls.
- Presentations
 - American Law and Economics Assoc. Annual Meeting, Univ. of Chicago Law School (2014)
 - Law-Engaged Graduate Student Seminar, Princeton University (2013)

Managing Uncertainty in Intellectual Property Law

- IP is largely about managing uncertainty, as it creates man-made boundaries between intangible concepts. I examine how IP uses uncertainty as a regulatory tool to further its goals, focusing in particular on patent law's doctrine of equivalents and copyright law's fair use doctrine.
- Presentation: Yale Law School Doctoral Scholarship Conference, Yale Law School (2013)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

Regulatory Monopoly and Differential Pricing in the Market for Patents,

71 WASH. & LEE L. REV. 1855 (2014)

- Presentations:
 - Law and Economics Seminar, Harvard Law School (2014)
 - IP Scholars Conference, UC Berkeley School of Law (2014)

Self-Realizing Inventions and the Utilitarian Foundation of Patent Law,

51 WM. & MARY L. REV. 897 (2009) (w/Alan Devlin)

- Presentation: IP Scholars Conference, Cardozo School of Law (2009)

Note, Making Sense of Hybrid Speech: A New Model for Commercial Speech and Expressive Conduct, 118 HARV. L. REV. 2836 (2005)

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- Princeton University – Assistant in Instruction, The Great Recession (Paul Krugman, Spring 2014)
- Princeton University – Assistant in Instruction, Law and Economics (Tim Leonard, Fall 2010)
- DePaul University College of Law – Adjunct Professor, Law and Economics (Summer 2010)
- Minority Legal Education Resources (Chicago, IL) – Illinois Bar Exam Tutor (Summer 2008)

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

NYU School of Law, Engelberg Center on Innovation Law & Policy, New York, NY AY 2014–15
Visiting Fellow

Spindrop.com, Princeton, NJ 2010–Now
Co-Founder, Patent Counsel, iPhone Programmer

- Co-founder and creator of patented music technology company
- Designed and programmed novel iPhone application implementing this technology
- Prosecuted and manage Spindrop's patent portfolio
- Co-inventor on pending patent applications

Latham & Watkins LLP, San Francisco, CA; Chicago, IL 2006–07; 2008–09
Associate

- Authored briefs and advocated in patent, trademark, securities, class action, and tax cases
- Negotiated settlement for student in IDEA case
- Represented Illinois prisoner in parole hearing
- Generated new business from fast-growing technology company and managed its restructuring

Law Clerk to Hon. Ann Claire Williams, Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, Chicago, IL 2007–08

Law Clerk to Hon. Vaughn R. Walker, U.S. Dist. Court for N.D. Cal., San Francisco, CA 2005–06

Covington & Burling LLP, Washington, DC Summer 2004
• Helped prepare amicus brief in *Hamdan v. Rumsfeld*, a Guantánamo detainee case

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP, Chicago, IL 2001–02
• Prosecuted patent applications and represented companies before U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

MISCELLANEOUS

- Referee for American Law and Economics Review • Climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro • Ran Chicago Marathon • Published on SCOTUSblog • Performed in Harvard-Radcliffe Chorus • Program in C, STATA, and Objective-C (for iPhone) • Volunteer tutor for New Jersey inmates (NJ-STEP program) • Admitted to practice law in California and Illinois and before the U.S. Patent & Trademark Office

REFERENCES

Orley Ashenfelter (Ph.D. advisor)
Joseph Douglas Green 1895 Prof. of Economics
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Steven Shavell
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shavell@law.harvard.edu

Paul Krugman
Prof. of Economics and International Affairs
Princeton University
pkrugman@princeton.edu