

ANDREA SZABO

Economics Department, University of Houston

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Employment

- 2017 – Associate Professor (with tenure), Economics Department, University of Houston
- 2010 – 2017 Assistant Professor, Economics Department, University of Houston
- 2003 – 2005 Research Assistant, Economics Department, Harvard University
- 2002 – 2005 Researcher, Research Institute of Economics and Enterprises of the Hungarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Education

- 2010 Ph.D. in Economics, University of Minnesota
Dissertation committee: Amil Petrin, Patrick Bajari, Thomas Holmes, Christopher Timmins
- 2002 MSc in Economics and Finance, Budapest University of Economics
Rajk College for Advanced Studies, member 1998-2002

Research and Teaching fields

Industrial Organization, Development Economics

Publications

- [1] A. Szabó (2015): “The Value of Free Water: Analyzing South Africa’s Free Basic Water Policy,” *Econometrica*, 83(5), 1913–1961.
- [2] A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2015): “Reducing Nonpayment for Public Utilities: Experimental Evidence from South Africa,” *Journal of Development Economics* 117, 20-31.
- [3] A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2017): “Choice and Happiness in South Africa,” *Economics Letters* 155, 28-30.
- [4] A. Szabó (2018): “Measuring Firm-level Inefficiencies in the Ghanaian Manufacturing Sector,” *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 66, 447-487.
- [5] G. Ujhelyi, S. Chatterjee, and A. Szabó (2021): “None Of The Above: Protest Voting in the World’s Largest Democracy,” *Journal of the European Economic Association*, 19(3), 1936-1979.
- [6] A. Szabó and V.Phham (2022): “Net Neutrality and Consumer Demand in the Video On-demand Market,” *Information Economics and Policy*, 61, 1-20.
- [7] A. Szabó and G. Ujhelyi (2024): “National Parks and Economic Development,” *Journal of Public Economics* 232, 105073.

Working papers

- [8] “Do Parties and Voters Disagree? An Equilibrium Analysis of Candidate Selection in India” (with Arvind Magesan and Gergely Ujhelyi), Conditionally accepted at *Econometrica*.
- [9] “Bundling to Save: Analyzing package size choices in South African grocery stores”
- [10] “Evaluating Industry Impacts and Externalities of the US National Park System” (with Gergely Ujhelyi)
- [11] “Family Financing and Aggregate Manufacturing Productivity in Ghana” (with Gergely Ujhelyi)
- [12] “Job Search Through Weak and Strong Ties: Theory and Evidence from Indonesia” (with Tolga Umut Kuzubas)

Teaching

U of Houston: *Managerial Economics* (undergrad., Fall 2025), *Applied Econometrics* (undergrad., Fall 2015, Fall 2016, Fall 2017, Spring 2018, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Spring 2020, Spring 2021, Fall 2022, Spring 2024, Spring 2025, Fall 2025), *Econometrics* (undergrad., Fall 2010, Fall 2011, Spring 2013), *Introduction to Economic Research* (undergrad. Fall 2023), *Empirical Industrial Organization* (graduate, Spring 2013, Spring 2015, Spring 2017, Fall 2017, Spring 2019, Spring 2021, Spring 2023, Spring 2025), *Industrial Organization* (undergrad., Fall 2013, Spring 2014, Spring 2017, Spring 2019, Fall 2019, Spring 2022, Spring 2023, Spring 2024, Fall 2025), *Intermediate Microeconomics* (undergrad., Fall 2014, Spring 2016)

U of Minnesota: *Principles of Microeconomics* (2005-2010), *Principles of Macroeconomics* (2006)

Invited Seminars and Conferences

- 2026 Hungarian Society of Economics
- 2025 ITAM
- 2024 University of Michigan
- 2023 Midwest International Development Conference (U of Houston), STATA Texas Empirical Microeconomics Conference (SMU), Industrial Organization Society Meeting (Washington D.C.), North American Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society (UCLA), European Economic Association (Barcelona School of Economics), FPT Education Foundation’s Economics, Business and Management Scientific Conference (Vietnam, FPT University, Keynote talk)
- 2021 U of Chicago
- 2019 2nd Scottish Workshop in Development Economics (Heriot-Watt University)
- 2018 Industrial Organization Society Meeting (Indianapolis), Washington University St. Louis
- 2016 3rd Annual Empirical Microeconomics Workshop (Banff, Canada), NEUDC (MIT)
- 2015 U of Oxford, U of Chicago, Managing Water Demand workshop (London, UK)
- 2014 Workshop on Manufacturing and Economic Development (Harvard), Midwest International Development Conference (U of Minnesota)
- 2013 Yale University, Industrial Organization Society Meeting (Boston)
- 2012 NEUDC (Dartmouth), Financial Systems, Industrial Organization, and Economic Development Workshop (MIT)
- 2011 U of Houston - Rice University

- 2010 U of Calgary, Georgia State University, Texas A&M, NEUDC (MIT), U of Maryland (AREC), U of Houston, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Midwest International Development Conference (U of Minnesota)
- 2009 NEUDC (Tufts University)

Professional affiliations

- 2024- JPAL Invited Researcher
- 2023- Fellow of the Hungarian Society of Economics (Macroeconomics)

Honors and Awards

- 2025 Research Innovation Fund, University of Houston, Economics Department, \$7,500 (with Gergely Ujhelyi)
- 2021 Small Grant, University of Houston \$5,000
- 2021 Research Innovation Fund, University of Houston, Economics Department, \$10,000.
- 2018 Research Progress Grant (with Gergely Ujhelyi), University of Houston, \$4,000
- 2012 Water Research Commission, South Africa, Research Grant (with Gergely Ujhelyi), \$25,000, Small Grant, University of Houston \$3,000
- 2011 Small Grant, University of Houston \$3,000, Grant in Aid, University of Houston \$6,000
- 2010 New Faculty Grant, University of Houston, \$6,000, Startup Research Grant, University of Houston \$30,000
- 2009 CLA Graduate Research Partnership Program Fellowship, University of Minnesota
- 2008 Zoltai Fellowship of the Graduate School, University of Minnesota

Fieldwork and original data collection on developing countries

- 2025 Fielded survey on firm exit in the Ghanaian manufacturing sector
- 2024- Cooperation with Tanesco, Tanzania on research project related to electricity blackouts and solar panel adoption
- 2022- Data collection on the banking sector in Bangladesh using local research assistants
- 2021-22 Fielded two surveys on households' use and inventory of laundry detergent in South Africa
- 2020-22 Cooperation with the city of Cape Town, South Africa on research project related to water pricing and drought
- 2013-19 Cooperation with Unilever, South Africa on research related to the pricing of laundry detergents in grocery stores
- 2013 Fieldwork for project on Happiness in developing countries. Includes: training of surveyors, design and supervision of household survey.
- 2012-13 Randomized field experiment to study the effect of providing information on water consumption among low-income households in South Africa. Includes sampling, training of surveyors, design and supervision of pre and post surveys, design and implementation of intervention in cooperation with local municipal water provider.
- 2012 On-site data collection on the Ghanaian banking sector.
- 2009-11 Fieldwork for project on water pricing in South Africa. Includes on-site data collection from municipal water provider and local governments, training of surveyors, design and supervision of household survey.
- 2009-15 Cooperation with Odi Water, Pretoria, South Africa on research projects related to water pricing and nonpayment issues

Service to the profession

Referee for *AEJ: Applied*, *AEJ: Macroeconomics*, *Applied Economics*, *Ecological Economics*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *Economic Journal*, *Economic Systems*, *European Journal of Law and Economics*, *Journal of African Economies*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Journal of Development Studies*, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, *Journal of Labor Economics*, *Journal of Policy Analysis and Management*, *Journal of Political Economy*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists*, *Journal of Urban Economics*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *RAND Journal of Economics*, *Resource and Energy Economics*, *Review of Economics and Statistics*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Water Resources and Economics*, *Water Resources Research*, *The World Bank Economic Review*

Hungarian translation of “P. Milgrom and J. Roberts: Economics, Organization and Management,” (with Gergely Ujhelyi), 2004.