

# Benjamin Skrainka

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## Contact

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## Education

- 2006–present **PhD, Economics**, *University College London*, London, *Expected 2010 or 2011*.  
2005–2006 **MSc, Economics**, *University College London*, London, *Distinction (First in class)*.  
1985–1989 **AB, Physics**, *Princeton University*, Princeton, *magna cum laude*.  
2008 **Institute on Computational Economics**, *University of Chicago*, Chicago.

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## References

Dr. Lars P. Nesheim  
Department of Economics  
University College London  
Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT  
e: [l.nesheim@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:l.nesheim@ucl.ac.uk)  
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Department of Economics  
University College London  
Gower Street, London WC1E 6BT  
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Dr. Kenneth L. Judd  
Hoover Institution  
Stanford, CA 94305  
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## Fields of Interest

Industrial Organization, Econometrics, Computational Economics

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## Teaching

- 2010 **Institute on Computational Economics**, *University of Chicago*, for Prof. Kenneth L. Judd.  
2009–2010 **Topics in Industrial Organisation**, *University College London*, for Dr. Lars P. Nesheim.  
2009 **Institute on Computational Economics**, *University of Chicago*, for Prof. Kenneth L. Judd.  
2008–2009 **Money and Banking**, *University College London*, for Dr. Hugh Goodacre.

- 1993–1995 **The Tornado™ Training Workshop**, *Wind River Systems*.
- 1993–1995 **The Tornado™ Device Driver Workshop**, *Wind River Systems*.
- 1989–1990 **Physics 3**, *The California Institute of Technology*, for Mr. Daniel Skelton.
- 1989 **Physics for Poets**, *Princeton University*, for Prof. Robert H. Austin.

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## Industry Experience

- 2004–2005 **Software Engineer**, *Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory*, Berkeley.  
Reengineered Jazz whole genome shotgun assembler.
- 1997–2004 **Software Consultant**, *Self-employed*, San Francisco.  
Developed and delivered security software, bioinformatic databases, and custom software engineering training.
- 1997 **Field Sales Engineer**, *Wind River Systems*, Birmingham.  
Provided field sales support through UK and Benelux.
- 1995–1997 **Software Engineer**, *Wind River Systems*, Alameda.  
Integrated products of strategic partners with Wind River's tools and operating system.
- 1993–1995 **(Senior) Software Engineering Instructor**, *Wind River System*, Alameda.  
Developed and delivered embedded software engineering workshops.
- 1991–1993 **Staff Scientist**, *Systems Applications International*, San Rafael.  
Developed statistical software and analyzed air quality datasets.

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## Honors & Scholarships

- 2006–present **CeMMAP Scholarship**, *The Institute for Fiscal Studies*, London.
- 2009 **Teaching Certificate of Excellence**, *University College London*, London, First Place.
- 2005–2006 **Gaitskell MSc Scholarship**, *University College London*, London.
- 1989–1990 **The Richard P. Feynamn Fellowship**, *The California Institute of Technology*, Pasadena.
- 1989 **The Kusaka Memorial Prize**, *Princeton University*, Princeton, For top score on senior comprehensive exam.
- 1989 **Elected Member of Sigma Xi**, *Princeton University*, Princeton.

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## Conference & Seminar Presentations

The Institute for Fiscal Studies Seminar, London, 2009; Workshop on Computational Financial Economics, Zürich, 2009

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## Publications

Benjamin S. Skrainka and Kenneth L. Judd. High Performance Quadrature Rules: How Numerical Integration Affects a Popular Model of Product Differentiation. *Working Paper*, 2010.

Benjamin S. Skrainka. Infrastructure Externalities and Regional Growth. *MSc Thesis*, 2006.

Benjamin S. Skrainka. The Wave Function of the Universe. *Princeton Undergraduate Thesis*, 1989.

Benjamin S. Skrainka. The Wave Function of the Universe. *Princeton Junior Paper*, 1988.

Benjamin S. Skrainka. Surfaces of Constant York-Time in Friedmann-Schwarschild Lattice Universes. *Princeton Junior Paper*, 1987.

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## Public Service

2007-2009 **Founder & Organizer**, *Industrial Organization Lunch*, University College London.  
Convened and managed IO lunch at University College London.

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## Pro-bono

2000-2002 **Founder & Director**, *The Midway Shelter Bike Criterium Benefit*, Alameda.  
Created and directed nationally-sanctioned bicycle race to benefit a local homeless shelter and promote grass-roots cycling.

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## Computer skills

Languages	C, C++, FORTRAN, MATLAB, Perl, Python, Java	Statistical Packages	R, Stata
Multiprocessing	MPI, Sockets, Condor, Sun Grid Engine	Build	SVN, CVS, Make, Boost Jam
Operating Systems	Linux, Unix, OS/X, VxWorks, Windows	Other	System programming, Boost, C++ Standard Library, MFC

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## Languages

English	<b>Native</b>
French	<b>Intermediate</b>
Russian	<b>Intermediate</b>