

Aaron C. Watt

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Agricultural & Resource Economics
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Education

Ph.D. Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley, 2020-Present.

Dissertation: Consequences of Delegation in Air Quality Regulation

Fields: Environmental, Public Finance, Industrial Organization

M.S. Applied Economics, Oregon State University, 2020.

B.S. Physics, Oregon State University, 2014.

Current Positions

2024-Present Graduate Student Researcher, Meredith Fowlie, ARE, UC Berkeley

Renewable Energy Siting: Energy Production Simulation and Spatial Autoregressive Analysis

Past Positions

2024 Graduate Student Instructor, Meredith Fowlie, ARE, UC Berkeley

The Economics of the Clean Energy Transition

2023 Pollution Policy Analysis Consultant, Resources for the Future (RFF)

Satellite Data Valuables Project

2021–2023 Graduate Research Assistant, Larry Karp, ARE, UC Berkeley

MLE and GMM AR(1) estimators in a model of pollution.

2021–2023 Administrative Assistant, Initiative on Equity in Energy and Environmental Economics,

UC Berkeley, Energy Institute at Haas & Opportunity Lab at Center for Effective Global Action

2020–2021 Graduate Research Assistant, Sofia Villas-Boas, ARE, UC Berkeley

Understanding impacts of COVID policies on small businesses.

2021 Graduate Research Assistant, Eugenie Dugoua & Marion Dumas, London School of Economics

Natural language processing - analyzing the transition to electric in the automotive industry.

Oregon State University, Applied Economics

2018–2022 Graduate Research Assistant, Robin Cross

An application pipeline for satellite imagery access and analysis via computer vision.

2018–2020 Graduate Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Environmental Economics

Oregon State University, Physics

2013–2014 Undergraduate Teaching Assistant, Introduction to the Physics of Electronics

2011–2014 Undergraduate Research Assistant, Janet Tate & David McIntyre

Material Characterization via Spectroscopy and Ellipsometry.

For more information on my contribution to research projects, see my website: <https://acwatt.net/research/>

Other Positions

2020–2021 Event Coordinator, Economists for Equity at Berkeley, UC Berkeley

2015–2018 Support Services Coordinator, Jackson Street Youth Shelter

Programming Experience

Extensive Experience

Python
Julia
Mathematica
Linux/Windows Scripting
Google Earth Engine

Moderate Experience

Stata
R
SQL
Matlab
Amazon Web Services

Some Experience

C++
Go
Google Cloud Services
High-performance Computing Clusters

Professional Activities

Energy Institute at Haas & Opportunity Lab at Center for Effective Global Action

2023-2024 Research Mentor, Initiative on Equity in Energy and Environmental Economics

Agricultural & Resource Economics, UC Berkeley

2023 Organizer, Remote Sensing Working Group

2022-2024 Seminar Organizer, Environment, Resource, and Energy Economics Graduate Seminar

2022-2023 Instructor, 1-day Introduction to Python for Econometrics

2021-2022 Committee Chair; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Committee on Undergraduate Outreach

Research Support

2025, Data Generation Grant, Agricultural & Resource Economics, University of California, Berkeley

"AI Agent-based Permit Search and Data Extraction", \$1,300

2023-2024, Energy Institute at Haas & Opportunity Lab at Center for Effective Global Action

"Optimal Siting of Air Quality Monitors", \$7,500

Publications

Journal Articles

With Kaj A. Overturf, Nathalie Steinhauer, Roberto Molinari, Mikayla E. Wilson, Robin M. Cross, Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Geoffrey R. Williams, Stephanie R. Rogers. "Winter weather predicts honey bee colony loss at the national scale." *Ecological Indicators*, (2022). <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolind.2022.109709>

Working Papers/Works in Progress

"Optimal Pollution Monitor Placement and Regulation under Uncertainty." (2023-2025)

"Monitoring the Monitors: Using Consumer Products to Replace Missing Air Quality Data." (2022-2025)

With Robin M. Cross, Dennis vanEngelsdorp, Anthony Nearman, Karen Rennich, Mikayla Wilson, Nathalie Steinhauer. "Is Colony Collapse Disorder real? Testing and separating worker bee disappearance." (2020-present)

With Robin M. Cross, "Chasing Colony Collapse: Econometric and Machine Learning Methods to Address Biases in US Honey Bee Loss Surveys." (2020)

Last updated: August 14, 2025

<https://acwatt.net/cv/>