




GRANT R. McDERMOTT

I am an economist, recently returned to the private sector after an extended period in academia. My interests are a mix of environmental, tech, and data science topics.

contact gmc@amazon.com 
[@grantmcdermott](https://www.github.com/grantmcdermott) 
www.grantmcdermott.com 

employment Principal Economist, Amazon, 2022–Present.

academic Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Oregon, 2017–2023.
Postdoctoral Scholar, University of California Santa Barbara, 2015–2017.

education Ph.D., Economics, Norwegian School of Economics, 2015.
M.Sc., Economics & Business Administration, Norwegian School of Economics, 2011.
M.Sc., International Management, CEMS, 2011.
B.Com. (Hons.), Economics, University of Cape Town, 2005.
B.Bus.Sc., Marketing, University of Cape Town, 2004.

research

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- “Skeptic priors and climate consensus.” *Climatic Change*, 166 (1), 1–23, 2021.
- “Alternate explanations for the blue paradox do not withstand statistical scrutiny.” With K.C. Meng, G.G. McDonald, and C.J. Costello. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 115 (52) E12124–E12125, 26 December 2018.
- “The blue paradox: Preemptive overfishing in marine reserves.” With K.C. Meng, G.G. McDonald, and C.J. Costello. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 116 (12) 5319–5325, 19 March 2019.
- “Protecting marine mammals, turtles and birds by rebuilding global fisheries.” With M.G. Burgess, B. Owashi, L.E. Peavey, T. Clavelle, D. Ovando, B.P. Wallace, R.L. Lewison, S.D. Gaines, and C.J. Costello. *Science*, 359(6381), 1255–1258, 16 March 2018.
- “Five rules for pragmatic blue growth.” With M.G. Burgess, M. Clemence, S.D. Gaines, and C.J. Costello. *Marine Policy*, 87(2018) 331–339, January 2018.
- “Resolving Disputes over Ocean Calamities.” With M.G. Burgess. *BioScience*, 65(12), 1115–1116, 1 December 2015.
- “Electricity Prices, River Temperatures and Cooling Water Scarcity.” With Ø.A. Nilsen. *Land Economics*, 90(1), 131–148, 1 February 2014.

WORKING PAPERS

- “Labor reallocation and remote work during COVID-19: Evidence from GitHub.” With B. Hansen. *NBER Working Paper w29598*.
- “Hydro power. Market might.”
- “The value of mass information: Search in the Google era.” With C.J. Costello and M.B. Ward.
- “The economic and environmental impact of modern piracy on global shipping.” With R. Molina and G.G. McDonald.

REPORT CHAPTERS

“South Africa Compliance Analysis.” With J. Morrissey and D. Mendelsohn, in “Governing Global Climate Change: St Petersburg Compliance Report for the ‘G8 Plus Five’ Countries”, M. Banda and J. Langille (eds.), G8 Final Compliance Report 2007, Oxford: G8 Research Group Oxford, 1 June 2007. xiii + 190 pp.

“The Current Status of the EPWP (Infrastructure) in the Western Cape.” With A. McCord, K. Adonis and L. Van Dongen. Prepared for the Western Cape Provincial Treasury & Department of Transport And Public Works CAPE. Public Works Research Project, SALDRU, UCT, 24 March 2006.

talks

- 2022 Microsoft Research
- 2021 Electronic Health Economics Colloquium, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Monash University
- 2020 Allied Social Science Association (ASSA) meetings; Reed College; Triangle Resource and Environmental Economics (TREE) seminar
- 2018 University of Hawaii at Manoa; UCSB Occasional Workshop; Oregon Institute of Marine Biology
- 2017 UCSB Occasional Workshop; Oregon State University; Association of Environmental and Resource Economists (AERE) Summer Conference (pre-conference workshop)
- 2016 AERE Summer Conference
- 2015 Econometric Applications in Climatology Workshop
- 2014 World Congress of Environmental and Resource Economists (WCERE)
- 2013 Nordic Econometric Meeting (NEM); Bergen Economics of Energy & Environment Research (BEEER)
- 2012 Norwegian National Research School in Business Economics & Administration (NFB) conference; International Energy Workshop; BEEER
- 2011 NEM

grants

- UO Data Science Initiative (co-PI with Ed Rubin), 2019
- CenSES (Research Council of Norway, #209697), 2018
- Professor Wilhelm Keilhaus Memorial Fund, 2014–2015
- Norges Bank fund for economic research, 2014–2015
- NHH PhD Research Scholarship, 2011–2015
- Norwegian Government Scholarship, 2009–2011

teaching

- Ph.D. Data Science for Economists (EC 607), Data Science Fundamentals (U Mannheim)
- M.Sc. Big Data in Economics (EC 510)
- B.Sc. Environmental Economics (EC 434/534), Intermediate Microeconomic Theory (EC 311)

service

REFEREEING

Energy Economics; Energy Policy; Land Economics; Journal of Econometrics, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management; Marine Policy; Natural Resource Modeling; Nature Sustainability; Scandinavian Journal of Economics, Water Resources Research

CONFERENCES

TWEEDS organising committee (tweeds.io)

SOFTWARE

Co-maintainer of the CRAN Econometrics Task View (cran.r-project.org/view=Econometrics)

RECRUITMENT

UO junior faculty search (2017/18)

prior

- 2017 Lotic Labs, *Consultant*, United States
- 2009 NKC Independent Economists, *Economist*, South Africa
- 2008 Millennium Cycle for Change, *Expedition member*, Cairo to Cape Town
- 2007 IBM Global Financing, *Field sales executive*, United Kingdom
- 2006 South Africa Labour Development Research Unit, *Researcher*, South Africa

software

R, SQL, Julia, Python, Spark, Stata, Git, Bash, and some JavaScript. Very familiar with cloud-based platforms for handling and analysing big data (including various AWS and GCP product suites).

LAST UPDATED: NOVEMBER 2023