

Kevin Devereux

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Citizenship Canadian, Irish

Languages English, French

Research Interests Labour Economics
Macroeconomics
Family Economics

Teaching Interests Labour Economics
Empirical Microeconomics
Macroeconomics

Education

2018 PhD, Economics, University of Toronto (2011-2018)

Dissertation: Dynamic Heterogeneous Matching

Committee: Aloysius Siow (supervisor), Laura Turner, Ronald Wolthoff

2011 MA, Economics, Queen's University (2010-2011)

2009 BA, Economics, University of British Columbia (2005-2009)

Selected Awards

SSHRC Fellowship, 2010-2011

Ontario Graduate Scholarship (awarded), 2010-2011, 2011-2012

Queen's University Tri-Council Recognition Recipient Award, 2010-2011

Working Papers

Identifying the Value of Teamwork: Application to Professional Tennis (**job market paper**)

Divorce, Remarriage, and Fertility with On-the-Marriage Search, joint with Laura Turner

Additive and Interactive Fixed Effects in Non-partite Networks, joint with Aloysius Siow

Selection or Productive Returns to Tenure? A Test of Identification Method and Functional Form

Works in Progress

Re-evaluating the RAND Experiment: Bias Correction and Evidence of Time-inconsistent preferences, joint with Mona Balesh Abadi and Farah Omran

Paternity Certainty and Early Childhood Investment: Application to the Semi-monogamous Bari People

Additive and Interactive Fixed Effects in Bipartite Networks: Application to Student-Teacher Matching, joint with Michael Gilraine

Professional Experience

2014-2017: Teaching Assistant and Co-Instructor, Economics of Careers

- Lectured weekly, preparing lectures from reading list
- Co-Instructed with supervisor Aloysius Siow
- Prepared quizzes, midterms, homework assignments, final exams
- Reviewed student resumes, conducted single-blind peer review among students

2011-2017: Teaching Assistant, University of Toronto

- Labour Economics (2015-2017)
- Intermediate Macroeconomics (2011-2015)
- Family Economics (2015)
- Intermediate Microeconomics (2013)
- Game Theory (2011-2013)

2010 - 2011: Teaching Assistant, Queen's University

- Economic History
- Introductory Microeconomics

2009 –2010: Research Assistant, Bank of Canada

- Monetary Policy Studies group, Canadian Economic Analysis Department
- Hands-on empirical research, data cleaning, copyediting

Conference Presentations

Canadian Economics Association, 2012-2017

The Intersection of Econometrics and Applied Micro (Rotman School of Management), 2017

Society for Economic Dynamics, 2014

European Economics Association, 2014

Search and Matching, 2013

Canadian Law and Economics Association, 2012

Refereeing Experience

Review of Economic Studies

References

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Dissertation Abstract

Dynamic Heterogeneous Matching

Identifying the Value of Teamwork: Application to Professional Tennis (*Job market paper*)

Teamwork is a first order concern for any organization bigger than a single individual. This paper provides a novel identification approach to measure value-added from teamwork net of solitary work. Holding constant the assigned task, compare a worker's contribution to output when acting alone versus when working in a team. Define the discrepancy between the two as that worker's value-added due to teamwork. The identification approach is as follows. Identify a worker's net value added to a team by difference-in-differences, observing workers who switch across teams; call this composite skill. The part of composite skill explained by solitary performance is own skill: the common component across solitary and team production. The orthogonal component of composite skill unexplained by solitary performance is team skill: a worker's value-added to a team in excess of own skill. This measures that worker's comparative advantage at teamwork compared to solo work.

The key identification criterion is the observation of a worker's solitary productivity outside the context of any team. Professional men's tennis provides the ideal setting to compare workers' solitary and team skills. Players participate in both singles and doubles categories, with singles providing a clean measurement of a player's own skill. I find that one-quarter of output variation is explained by team value-added, and over one-half of across-team variation. This is robust to a variety of specifications, including nonlinearities in player inputs. Players match positively assortatively by both own skill and team skill dimensions, but do not sort interdimensionally.

Divorce, Remarriage, and Fertility with On-the-Marriage Search (*joint with Laura Turner*)

Even with falling divorce rates, 30 to 40% of new marriages end in divorce. Recent divorcees – especially men but increasingly also women – tend to remarry very quickly. To the extent that marriage provides consumption insurance, and security to undertake costly investments such as raising children, the phenomenon of divorce and rapid remarriage prompts re-examination of the gains to marriage in terms of risk sharing. This paper explores marriage and divorce when individuals can engage in on-the-marriage search. Introducing on-the-marriage search allows us to match the rapid remarriage rates seen in US microdata as well as to explore the connections between infidelity, divorce, and remarriage that have attracted much attention in the sociology literature. In a second-best contracting world, the ability to search on the marriage (OTMS) has ambiguous and potentially important implications for the marriage as a consumption smoothing device and as a platform for making investments in children. We find that allowing for OTMS has variable effects on the first and second moments of consumption for different parts of the population, with women slightly worse off and men slightly better off when OTMS is allowed. Perhaps counterintuitively, OTMS also has a positive effect on fertility because it increases the attractiveness of fertility for men in mediocre marriages.

Selection or Productive Returns to Tenure? A Test of Identification Method and Functional Form

The longer a worker stays at a given job, the higher the wage. Whether this results from job-specific productivity growth or selection has important allocative implications. However, because accumulation of general experience and job specific experience do not vary disjointly within a job match, they are hard to separately identify. These vary disjointly only upon a job switch, upon which time match quality changes unpredictably – introducing bias from match quality effects. Altonji & Shakotko (1987) and Topel (1991) have provided alternate econometric solutions, and remain the state of the art; but they provide very different results. This paper applies both methods to a novel dataset in which the efficacy of their identification assumptions can be tested directly. In the Association of Tennis Professionals dataset, experience and tenure accumulation do vary disjointly within a doubles partnership, as players frequently form temporary matches while their main partner is unavailable. The data are also rich enough to test against the semiparametric functional form. In the current setting, Topel's (1991) first differencing approach fares better. The quadratic functional form is rejected.