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EDUCATION

Ph.D. in Applied Economics, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, 2020 (Expected)
Dissertation Committee: James D. Dana (Chair), John E. Kwoka, Imke C. Reimers
M.A. in Applied Economics, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, 2014
B.A. in Applied Mathematics; minor in Economics, Xiamen University, Fujian, China, 2011

FIELDS OF INTERESTS

Research: Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconomics, E-commercial Economics, Health Economics, Transportation Economics

Teaching: Microeconomics, Macroeconomics, Statistics, Econometrics, Calculus

RESEARCH

“The Welfare Effects of Summary Information: Taobao’s Golden Seller Certification”,
with Pinshuo Wang (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: Consumer-based rating systems and reputation signals have been main sources of information on product quality and seller performance in online markets. However, it is time consuming to sifting through all the information. This raises an important question: if someone has evaluated all the reviews, summarized all the available information and compiled it into a simple badge, will consumers value such easily accessible information in decision making? This paper studies the valuation of Golden Seller certification, a badge that conveys such summary information, using data collected from the smart phone markets on Taobao. We use a structural model to evaluate the overall effects of the Golden Seller certification on consumer welfare and seller profits. Our results reveal that the Golden Sellers charge a relatively lower price, but have a significant higher sales volume. Additionally, our demand estimation and counterfactual simulation suggest that consumer welfare improves because of the new information as well as the added convenience and accessibility of the existing information conveyed in the badge. Meanwhile, Golden Sellers, or high-quality sellers, benefit from the certification substantially while the other sellers are only slightly worse off. These results suggest that the certification enhances market efficiency and expands market.

“Price and Quality Effects of Code Sharing Agreements: Evidence from United Airlines/US Airways”

Abstract: Past studies of airline alliance have focused on price effects, while very limited empirical evidence was shown on the service quality. This paper investigates the price and quality effects of the codesharing agreements between United Airlines (UA) and US Airways (US) on ticket level. Using a difference-in-difference-in-difference model, this study finds that market fares in UA/US codesharing markets on average decrease relative to the non-codesharing markets. Further, there is an incremental negative effect on codesharing tickets, which is mainly driven by the virtual codeshare. However, the evidence on service quality in terms of connection is very interesting. The quality in UA/US codesharing markets on average declines relative to the non-codesharing markets. Moreover, regardless of the codesharing type, the alliance has a significantly negative effect on service quality. The passengers of traditional codeshared flights are harmed most by the alliance due to both relatively higher market fare and a longer distance traveled.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Research Assistant, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 2014-2019

- Assisted Professor Catalina Herrera Almanza in various research topics in development economics that focuses on resilience to natural disasters, maternal and children's health.
- Main tasks include conducting literature review, collecting data from household surveys and public databases, performing quantitative analysis using various statistical software, and documenting findings.

Teaching Assistant, Northeastern University, Boston, MA 2015-2017

- Development Economics, Gender and Development, Statistics for Economics, The Principle of Microeconomics, Senior Economics Seminar
- Guided students through data collection and data analysis to develop their own projects, participated in the assessment process, and supervised group discussions in class and advised on students' presentation skills

Teaching Assistant, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 2015 & 2016

- Quantitative Methods in Economics and Business, Introduction to Econometrics
- Prepared answer keys to assignments and examinations, invigilated examinations, graded problem sets and examinations

NON-ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

Instructor, Elite Education, Vancouver, Canada 2018-2019

- AP Microeconomics, AP Macroeconomics, Statistics, and Calculus
- Presented lectures, designed homework and exams, and helped students prepare AP tests.

Research Assistant, Broadleaf Consulting, Vancouver, Canada

2018

- Main tasks include collecting and summarizing data, literature review, and helping evaluate community-based projects focusing on health issues.

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

Ph.D. Fellowship, Northeastern University, 2014-2017

School Scholarship, Xiamen University, 2010 & 2011

SKILLS

Language skills: Mandarin (native), English (professional working proficiency)

Computer skills: proficient with Stata, experience with GIS, Java, Python, SPSS

REFERENCES

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