

Daphné Skandalis

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Ph.D. dissertation

Primary field: Labor economics, Applied econometrics

Secondary field: Macroeconomics

Host institution: CREST

Principal advisor: Pr. Bruno Crépon

Date of Ph.D.: September 2013 - June 2018 (expected completion)

References

Bruno Crépon

CREST

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Academic visits

2017 - 2018 Visiting Ph.D. student at the University of Zürich

Sponsor: Pr. Josef Zweimüller

2015 - 2017 Visiting Ph.D. student at UC Berkeley

Sponsor: Pr. David Card

Pre-doctoral education

2008 - 2012 Ecole Normale Supérieure, Cachan. Major: Economics

2011 M.S. in Economics at Sorbonne - Paris School of Economics, Paris

2009-2010 Exchange program in with the Humboldt University, Berlin

2009 B.S. in Economics and B.S. in Sociology at Sorbonne University, Paris

Grants and funding

2017-2018 Funding from the University of Zürich (One year)

2016-2017 Visitor Fellowship by UC Berkeley

2016-2017 Ph.D. Fellowship by Crest (One year)

2015-2016 Mobility Grant from Ecodec (Fall semester)

2013-2016 PhD Fellowship by French Ministry of Research (Three years)

2008-2012 Excellence fellowship, École Normale Supérieure de Cachan (Four years)

CV Daphné Skandalis

Job market paper

“Breaking News: Information About Firms’ Hiring Needs Affects the Direction of Job Search”

Abstract: Recent evidence suggests that posted job vacancies provide a poor signal of firms’ hiring needs. For job seekers, this translates into uncertainty about their probability of being hired when they apply to a vacancy. In this paper, I study how job seekers react when media outlets cover the expansion of a specific plant and thereby provide information about the hiring needs of the plant. I use new data about online job applications matched with administrative micro data about job seekers and firms’ vacancies and hires in France during 2014-2016. My empirical strategy exploits the quasi-random timing of media news in the short run. I estimate the impact of news on the applications sent to mentioned plants and the subsequent hiring in a differences-in-differences. I find that news coverage of the expansion of a plant increases its number of applicants by 60% in the following month. Job seekers who apply in reaction to the coverage have a good match quality and live further away than usual applicants. The average distance between applicants’ residence and plants’ location therefore increases by 27%—corresponding to 20km. Plants benefit from the diffusion of information as they hire a sizeable share of their additional applicants. Job seekers use the information to direct their search towards plants which have a relatively high hiring rate. But I also find evidence for displacement effects among job seekers. The inflow of applicants from further away decreases the hiring rate of local job seekers. Overall, these results suggest that low-cost interventions providing information about hiring needs could both improve the matching process and increase geographical mobility.

Work in progress

“Peer Effects of Job Search Assistance Group Treatments: Evidence of a Randomized Field Experiment among Disadvantaged Youths” with Sylvie Blasco (Le Mans), Bruno Crépon (Crest), Arne Uhlenhorff (Crest), Gerard van den Berg (Bristol)

Abstract: This paper analyzes the impact of “search clubs” on job search outcomes of young unemployed workers living in deprived neighborhoods in France. Young job seekers in these areas often have difficulties to find stable jobs and their dropout rate from active labor market programs is high. Search clubs have been designed to address the specific situation of these young workers. They provide intense counseling with collective meetings fostering the interaction among the participants and between the participants and the caseworker. The experiment was conducted in France with about 3600 young unemployed workers in 30 local labor agencies. Individuals were randomly assigned to a search club or to a standard counseling program. Our experimental design generates exogenous variation in club’s composition. It hence allows for the identification of exogenous peer effects of search clubs. Our results suggest a small positive effect of being assigned to a search club on the probability of being employed 6 months after randomization and we find some evidence for effect heterogeneity. Moreover, our results indicate that the group composition is important for the effectiveness of the search club.

“The impact of Unemployment Insurance on job search and job finding using French data” with Ioana Marinescu (U Penn)

This paper explores the impact of the potential duration of unemployment insurance benefits on job finding rate and job search. The negative impact of UI potential duration on job finding rate has been well documented, however little is known about the underlying changes in job search. We use recently available data about online applications made on the French public employment services’ search platform merged with rich administrative individual data. We first document how job search changes over the unemployment spell in terms of intensity and in terms of various dimensions of selectivity (wage, geographical distance etc.). We then use a regression discontinuity design around the threshold in UI around 50 years old in order to estimate the effect of potential duration of UI on unemployment duration and its dynamic effect on job search over the unemployment spell. We finally plan to explore how these effects vary with labor market conditions.

“Labor market congestions and firm's labor demand”, with Benjamin Schoefer (UC Berkeley)

In search and matching models, congestions in the labor market affect both the job finding rate for jobseekers and the job filling rate for firm. However, little is known about the empirical importance of matching frictions in shaping firm's labor demand decisions. This paper aims at measuring the impact of exogenous changes in local labor market's tightness on firm's labor demand. We use data about vacancies collected by French public employment services as well as actual hires in France. In order to isolate the effect of local labor market congestion, we use Bartik instruments.

Presentations

- 2017** Seminar on Labor economics, Nuremberg (forthcoming) ; Conference on Labour Market Policies, Stockholm, Empirical Micro Doctoral Seminar, University of Zürich ; EALE conference, Saint Gallen ; Annual Conference of the European Society for Population Economics, Glasgow ; IZA Summer School, Ammersee ; Internal Macroeconomic seminar, University of Zürich
- 2016** Labor seminar, UC Berkeley (Fall semester); Internal seminar, CREST ; Institute of Research in Labor economics visiting scholar workshop, UC Berkeley ; Labor seminar, UC Berkeley (Spring semester)
- 2015** Institute of Research in Labor economics visiting scholar workshop, UC Berkeley ; IZA Young Scholar Program, Georgetown University ; IZA Youth unemployment Program, Bonn ; Internal seminar, CREST
- 2014** Graduate Student conference, Paris 1 University ; Internal seminar, CREST ; ETEPP Winter School (Poster)

Affiliation

2017 - Research affiliate at IZA

Teaching

- 2014 - 2015 **ENSAE:** Refresher Course Econometrics (Graduate), Econometrics I and Econometrics II (Graduate), Evaluation of Public Policy (Graduate)
- 2013 - 2014 **Paris 1 University:** Introduction to econometrics (Undergraduate), Introduction to econometrics using Stata (Undergraduate), Public finance (Undergraduate)

Policy reports

- “Une évaluation coût-bénéfice de l'externalisation des programmes d'accompagnement renforcé des demandeurs d'emploi”, *Etudes et Recherches - Pôle emploi* (June 2015)
- “Club Jeunes chercheurs d'emploi: Evaluation d'une action pilote”, *Etudes et Recherches - Pôle emploi* (October 2015)

Other academic activities

- 2015** Organize the Institute of Research in Labor economics visiting scholar workshop, UC Berkeley
- 2017** Organize the Junior Seminar, CREST

Previous professional experience

- 2012 - 2013 Research assistant to Pr. Bruno Crépon, CREST
- 2011 - 2012 Research assistant in Macroeconomics modelling, Central Bank of Colombia.
Sponsor: Andres Gonzalez

Other information

Citizenship: French

Language: French (native), English (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), German (Intermediate)