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Personal

United States Citizen.

Education

Ph.D. Economics, Duke University, expected May 2018.

COMMITTEE: Peter Arcidiacono, Patrick Bayer, Allan Collard-Wexler, Daniel Xu

M.S. Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2011.

B.A. Mathematics, Summa Cum Laude, 2007.

Fields

Industrial Organization, Applied Microeconomics, Firm Dynamics

Working Papers

"Adaptation or Death? Bookstore Chains Meet Online Competition" (Job Market Paper)

Using confidential, establishment-level Census data, I investigate the effects that the diffusion of online competition has on the changing equilibrium market structure amongst brick-and-mortar bookstores. I find that the diffusion of e-commerce significantly dampened the growth of large, multistore chains in the book retail industry. Furthermore, bookstores that were the most insulated from online competition are precisely the stores that sell a wide array of products outside of books, such as food, gift card, and clothing. Although increased online competition has spurred growth in non-book product variety across physical bookstores, the largest chains continue to have less non-book presence compared to single-unit and regional chains. I estimate a dynamic oligopoly model of entry, exit and product repositioning decisions. The model is used to quantify how much producer surplus the large chains will claw back from competing stores in a counterfactual world without online competition.

"Do Merger Opportunities Spur Hard Drive Firms to Innovate More?"

The hard disk drive industry has been called the extreme sport of the technology industry by many insiders. Despite the series of mergers and consolidations which industry insiders speculate would soften competition and raise the returns to R & D, there is no discernable increase in storage capacity growth rate, a main innovation outcome measure. To tease apart the effects that the expectation of mergers and possible decline in R & D productivity have on innovation outcome, I construct and estimate a model of investment behavior with endogenous mergers.

Publications

"Semilocal Formal Fibers of Principal Prime Ideals" (with J. Chatlos, B. Simanek, N. Watson), *Journal of Commutative Algebra* 4 (2012), no. 3, 369-385

Presentations

"Adaptation or Death? Bookstore Chains Meet Online Competition", Census RDC Annual Research Conference, UCLA, September 2017.

"Does Online Competition Dampen the Growth of Chains? Evidence from Bookstore Retail", Center for Economic Studies, US Census Bureau, November 2016.

"Rise of Chains Meets Online Competition: A Tale of Two Forces in Bookstore Retail", Annual Federal Statistical Research Data Center Conference, Texas A & M University, September 2016.

"Do Merger Opportunities Spur Hard Drive Firms to Innovate More?", Cornell economics IO group meeting, Cornell University, November 2015.

Teaching and Research Experiences

Duke University, Teaching Assistant, Spring 2017.

Applied Econometrics in Microeconomics (Econ 613)

Duke University, Research Assistant for Allan Collard-Wexler, 2014 - 2016

Duke University, Research Assistant for Peter Arcidiacono, 2013 - 2014

Boston University, Counselor at Program in Math for Young Scientists, Summer 2007

Work Experience

NERA Economic Consulting, Analyst, 2012-2012.

Awards and Honors

Summer Research Fellowship, Duke University, 2017

National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship (Awarded for the Study of Mathematics), 2007-2010

Kieval Prize for Outstanding Senior Mathematics Major(s), Cornell University, 2007