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Education

2012-17 Ph.D. Economics, University College London
2011-12 MRes. Economics, University College London
2004-05 MPhil. Economics with Finance, Cambridge University
1999-02 BSc. Economics, London School of Economics

Research Interests

Empirical Industrial Organisation, Computational Economics, Applied Economics

Scholarships

2011-2015 Advanced Quantitative Methods Scholarship, ESRC
2011-2015 UCL Studentship, ESRC

Professional Experience

2011-15 Economic Advisor, SEEC
2005-11 Consultant, RBB Economics LLP
2002-04 Analyst, London Economics

Teaching Experience

2015-2016 Ph.D. Computational Methods

Working Papers

“Dynamic demand estimation for storable goods”

This paper develops a dynamic discrete-continuous demand model for storable goods - a class of goods that account for a large fraction of grocery expenditures. To estimate and solve the dynamic demand model, we use techniques from: (i) Approximate Dynamic Programming, (ii) large scale dynamic programming in economics, (iii) machine learning, and (iv) statistical computing. The benefits of this approach are three-fold. First, the dynamic demand model is compatible high-dimensional choice sets. Second, it can capture rich inter- and intra-temporal substitution patterns. Third, the dimension reduction strategies do not rely on the idiosyncratic features of the industry being studied. As a result, it can be estimated for any storable good industry. In this paper we apply the model to the UK laundry detergent sector using household level purchase data.

Work in Progress

“The effect of the financial crisis on bank lending to SMEs” joint with Ben Hemingway

In this paper we develop a model of bank lending to small-to-medium enterprises (SMEs). Combining a bi-annual survey of European SME financing decisions with a contemporaneous EU-wide banking conditions survey, we empirically evaluate the determinants of successful loan applications during the financial crisis.

“Storability, addiction and alcohol taxation: the demand for beer” joint with Lars Nesheim

We develop a dynamic demand framework in which consumers can stock alcohol for future consumption and incorporate their price expectations when making purchases. In addition, by including habit formation we allow consumption and purchase decisions to be driven by an individual's proclivity to succumb to the addictive nature of alcohol. Using this dynamic demand framework, we explore the impact on consumption of alcohol price restrictions that limit the depth and frequency of promotional activity.

“Ex-post merger evaluation in industries with price dynamics”

For storable goods, price dynamics are a key component of consumer demand. This paper examines whether a change in industry structure not only impacts on the price level, but also on price dynamics. To this end we conduct an ex-post evaluation of a merger between Heinz and HP - two large UK table sauce manufacturers. Using

the methodology developed by Cheng, Liao and Schorfheide (2015), we investigate whether there were structural changes to a low rank approximation to price dynamics in the UK table sauces industry following the merger.

References

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