ARMAND KAPLLANI

CONTACT INFORMATION

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RESEARCH INTERESTS

Applied Econometrics, Applied Microeconomics, Partial Identification, & Social Networks.

EDUCATION

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Ph.D., Economics, May 2022

- Thesis: *Essays in Partial Identification.*
- Committee: Dr. Hector H. Sandoval, Dr. Richard Romano, Dr. Scott Kostyshak, Dr. Zhifeng Gao

M.A., Economics, 2018

University of Texas at Arlington, Arlington, TX

M.A., Economics, 2014

University of New York in Tirana, Tirana, Albania

B.S., Finance, 2007 (Honors)

JOB MARKET PAPER

Partial Identification with Covariates

Abstract: The missing outcome problem is a pervasive problem in economics that arises in many situations and hinders the researcher's ability to recover the population moments. The literature primarily focuses on the identifying power of shape restrictions which can be invoked in empirical studies in order to identify the statistics of interest. In this paper, we propose a novel approach of partial identification that does not rely on shape restrictions but instead explores the variation of the covariates in the sample. We illustrate our approach using the Index of Consumer Sentiment where the missing outcome problem resulted from the substitution of landlines with cellphones in telephone surveys. We construct sharp bounds on the Index of Consumer Sentiment and provide conditions under which the bounds are informative.

WORKING PAPERS

Partial Identification of Centrality Measures

Abstract: The missing link problem in social and economic networks arises when the researcher fails to observe some of the links in the network. Failing to address this problem can result in centrality measures that fail to capture important information in the network. Centrality measures are bounded by definition and in this paper we propose a partial identification approach in order to improve the upper bound of centrality measures by taking into consideration the missing link problem. To identify the missing links we estimate a network formation model with interdependent preferences.

Undercoverage and Partial Identification in Telephone Surveys with an Application to Consumer Confidence (with Hector H. Sandoval)

Abstract: Undercoverage occurs when population members do not appear in the sample frame. For instance, the substitution of landlines with cellphones that took place in the last two decades increased the undercovered population in telephone surveys because survey practices tended to exclude cellphones. This undercoverage problem is related to the identification problem with incomplete information studied by Manski (2009). This paper shows how to construct an identification region a la Manski to assess the extent of the undercoverage problem for a population mean and for the coverage error considered in the survey research literature; and it shows that the widths of both regions are the same. The identification region considers all the possible values that the mean of the undercovered population can take and provides a neat summary of the potential extent of the coverage error. We illustrate the approach using two indices of consumer confidence during the period 2003-2018.

Estimation of Nonlinear-in-Means Models

Abstract: Linear-in-means models, first proposed by Manski (1993), are used in modeling social interactions. Manski shows that identification of the endogenous, contextual, and correlated effects is not possible when we condition on individual member characteristics to identify the groups. Different from Manski we use a nonlinear linear-in-means model to identify the main effects under several very mild conditions and estimate our model using a GMM approach.

Teaching Experience

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

- Course Instructor
  - ECO 4934: **Econometrics**; Fall (2020, 2021) Spring (2021, 2022)
  - ECO 3101: **Intermediate Micro**; Fall (2019)
  - **PhD Math Camp**; Summer (2018)
- Teaching Assistant to Prof. Hector Sandoval
  - ECO7427: **Econometric Methods II**; Spring (2020)
- Teaching Assistant to Prof. Jonathan Adams
  - ECO4934: **Economic Growth**; Fall (2018, 2019), Summer (2019), Spring (2019, 2020)
  - ECO5207: **Macroeconomic Analysis**; Fall (2019), Spring (2020)

Research Experience

University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

- Research Assistant to Prof. Chunrong Ai, Summer 2016 - Spring 2018
- Research Assistant to Prof. Jonathan Adams, Fall 2018 - Spring 2019

Conferences

- Southern Economic Association (2017, 2020) [Presentation]
- ASSA (2017, 2019)

Working Experience

Analysis Group, Boston MA: Associate Intern, June 14 - Aug 6, 2021

Description: Designed and implemented data-intensive analysis and build economic models in healthcare industry. Coded in Stata complex sensitivity analysis of the economic models in order to provide the client with different counterfactuals. Prepared data in Stata for one litigation case and provided an in-depth econometric analysis of the models.

Fellowships & Honors and Awards

Graduate Student Assistantship, Department of Economics, University of Florida

Graduate Student Scholarship, Department of Economics, University of Texas at Arlington

Highest Honors, University of New York in Tirana

Statistical/ Programmig Languages

R, Python, MATLAB, Stata, & LaTeX.

Professional Memberships

American Economic Association

Southern Economic Association

Foreign Languages

Albanian (native), English (excellent), Italian (excellent), Greek (excellent), & Spanish (intermediate)

References

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