

Four Reproducible Contributions in Development Economics

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Grandfathers and Grandsons

Effects of a Male-Only Change in Pensions

Four
Reproducible
Contribu-
tions in
Development
Economics

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Grandfathers
and
Grandsons

Making the
Next Billion
Demand
Access

Global Value
Chains in
LICs

Motivation

- Income recipient and growth
- Growth and future income
- Grandmothers and Granddaughters:
 - South African pension, including black population
 - eligibility-age differential: women 65, men 60
 - life expectancy significantly lower: large selection bias

Identification Strategy

- Pension change (2010): men 65 \rightarrow 60, to a par
 - still selection bias based on life expectancy
- NIDS: 2008 (pre) & 2011 (post)

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Results

- Income recipient and growth
- Growth and future income

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The Local-Content Effect of google.co.za in Setswana

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Motivation

- Two-Sided Market / Cross-side network effects
- WWW content is hard
- Social media content is easier: Facebook vendor lock-in

Quantifying Content

- using visit counts instead of page counts

Endogeneity

- Maybe Google introduced the interface following increased usage among Setswana speakers?
- Botswana speaks Setswana
- google.co.bw was translated in Setswana
- introduction on google.co.za was a spillover, exogenous
- google.co.za also introduced Xhosa, but not exogenous

Implement trade decomposition procedures in R

- Leontief
- Wang Wei Zhu (2013)

Motivation:

- simplify for end users
- consistent and transparent approach

Additional work:

- gvc package: implement indicators
- Interactive demo: <http://shiny.qua.st/decompR>
- RStudio Add-in: Graphical User Interface (soon)

Global Value Chains in Low Income Countries

TiVa analysis

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Confirming Existing Understanding 1995-2011

- increase in backward linkage: importing 2 export (i2e)
 - i2e grew ~350%
 - i2e share of total exports 17% -> 23%
- Wang Wei Zhu (2013)
 - pure double counting (pdc) as a proxy for GVC length
 - pdc share of total exports rose around 73%

Recent years:

- Recovered from the 2008 slump by 2010

New Developing Country trends

- South East Asia
- Central and South America
- Africa

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Appendix:
Comments

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R package: decomp

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