Mannheim seminar takeaways

# Top Questions

1. Did you include childcare in the computation of housework hours?
2. Where do the gains from marriage come in the model?
3. Are there complementarities in the housework time aggregator?
4. How does the housework time for married couples compares to that of singles? Is there some normalization?
5. Why are gains of marriage equalized? Shouldn’t an increase in the sex ratio cause the share of the marriage gains of women to increase?
6. What is the role that plays in the determination of housework time allocation?

# Individual feedback

* Minchul Yum
  + Have the means of the distribution of match quality draws depend on an underlying ability instead of depending on the observed education/skill level. The logic is that in 1990 there may have been a lot of high ability women that did not have high school/college degrees, but would have them in 2010
  + Look for differences in motherhood among skill levels, this may drive some of the differences in labor supply. Completed fertility may be the same (due to one child policy), but the timing of births may not.
* Efi Adamopoulou
  + Think about how I’m going to sell myself in the job market. Try not to limit myself to be seeing as a pure “family guy”, could also do labor
    - Mention that the skills I have developed transfer well to labor research
  + Come up with policy implications, some people might want to see that
  + Mention explicitly that I’m mobile when applying to faraway places
  + Present at Cemfi, need Nezih Guner’s input
  + Send paper for reading once is ready
* Michele Tertilt
  + Need to differentiate more from Xiaodi’s paper, add something else
  + Cite Wang appropriately, make sure his contribution is fully acknowledged
  + Did not like the bargaining, see question 5
  + Did not like when I say that some people argue that childcare is part leisure. I shot myself in the foot by saying I didn’t include childcare as housework when in fact I did
  + Did not like when I said that the threat point is divorce. Said the threat point is not marrying
* Anne Hannoush
  + Don’t mention divorce in the presentation, as people have their own ideas as to what that means, and are better prepared to accept marriage been an absorbing state and the possibility of divorce not existing
  + Organize the results better. The simulations as they stand are confusing. A decomposition exercise would be the best way of making people understand the results and the workings of the model
  + Make list of top 30 questions I get, and prepare answers for them
  + Think about what would change by incorporating age into the model. Check paper by Corinne Low
* Andreas Guylas
  + Introduction is not tight
  + Broaden the intro to make it more appealing
  + Why should people care about the decline in female labor supply, from a normative perspective
  + Make sure people understand which things are important and which are not
  + Again do decompositions. Ideas:
    - Keep marital sorting constant and change the Pareto weights
    - Keep Pareto weights constant and change marital sorting
  + Implications for the hourly-weighted gender wage ratio
  + Address what is driving things
* Sena Coskun
  + Try to prevent questions in the first 5-10 minutes by being very clear and stating things that are easy to follow and not controversial/convoluted
  + I failed to reveal main message at the beginning
  + State a hypothesis
  + Push in a direction since the beginning, don’t let people stray and start thinking about things that are not important for the paper
  + Check the effect of on household decisions
* Husnu Dalgic
  + Don’t say anything controversial in a JM talk!
* Lei Li
  + For the sex ratio, the best thing would be to look at the 2010 census. The sex ratio by age should be public
  + Check again for weights for the CNHS
  + CHIP is better for wages
  + Paper by Suquin Ge in the Journal of the European Economic Association for a detailed decomposition of wages

# Summary

* Know the model! Need to know exactly what every parameter does, why things behave the way they behave
* Need to improve the presentation of results a lot! A decomposition seems the best approach, as suggested by Anne and Andreas
* Revise some of the data as suggested by Lei
* Improve the introduction. This will be easier to do once I have firm results