

Research Fields: economics of education · labor economics · applied microeconomics

CONTACT INFO

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CURRENT POSITION

London School of Economics
Centre for Economic Performance, Education and Skills Programme
Postdoctoral Research Economist

since sept. 2023

EDUCATION

Sciences Po Paris

Ph.D. Economics

sept. 2019 - nov. 2023

Supervisor: Pierre-Philippe Combes

Committee: Pierre Cahuc, Gabrielle Fack, Lindsey Macmillan, and Roland Rathelot

Visiting: University College London, sponsored by Lindsey Macmillan

spring 2022

Paris School of Economics

Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair

PhD Research Fellow, sponsored by Julien Grenet and Luc Behaghel

2022 - 2023

Sciences Po Paris

M.Res. Economics

2015 - 2017

King's College London

B.Sc. Political Economy

Exchange program: University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

2012 - 2015

spring 2014

REFERENCES

Pierre Cahuc

Professor of Economics
Department of Economics
Sciences Po Paris
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Lindsey Macmillan

Professor of Economics
Institute of Education
University College London
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Pierre-Philippe Combes

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JOB MARKET PAPER

Older Schoolmate Spillovers on Higher Education Choices

(latest version)

with Nagui Bechichi

Abstract: How do students choose where to apply to higher education? Answering this question is important because the returns to higher education differ greatly across majors and institutions. This paper examines a previously overlooked factor shaping these choices: the high school environment. Specifically, we analyze how students' applications and enrollments are influenced by the higher education trajectory of recent graduates from their high school. Exploiting random admission cutoffs in France's centralized admission system, we compare high schools where older schoolmates were marginally admitted versus rejected from specific degrees (subject-institution combination). Our findings reveal significant older schoolmate spillovers: students are 6 percentage points (+19%) more likely to apply to, and 2 percentage points (+45%) more likely to enroll in the same degree as a marginally enrolled older schoolmate. These effects are large, corresponding to roughly 45% of spillovers across siblings. We find both teacher influence and homophily/role model effects mediate these cross-cohort spillovers. Lastly, we quantify the extent to which exposure to high-achieving older schoolmates affects the socioeconomic gap in top degree applications and find that equalizing this exposure would narrow the gap by around 10%. These results demonstrate how inequalities in higher education can be perpetuated or mitigated through high school peer networks.

PEER-REVIEWED PUBLICATIONS

Intergenerational Income Mobility in France: A Comparative and Geographic Analysis [\(link\)](#)

Journal of Public Economics, 2023.

[\(VoxEU column\)](#)

with Louis Sirugue

Abstract: We provide new estimates of intergenerational income mobility in France for children born in the 1970s using rich administrative data. Since parents incomes are not observed, we employ a two-sample two-stage least squares estimation. We show, using the Panel Study of Income Dynamics, that this method slightly underestimates rank-based measures of intergenerational persistence. Our results suggest France is characterized by a strong persistence relative to other developed countries. 9.7% of children born to parents in the bottom 20% reach the top 20% in adulthood, four times less than children from the top 20%. We uncover substantial spatial variations in intergenerational mobility across departments, and a positive relationship between geographic mobility and intergenerational upward mobility. The expected income rank of individuals from the bottom of the parent income distribution who moved towards high-income departments is around the same as the expected income rank of individuals from the 75th percentile who stayed in their childhood department.

WORKING PAPERS

Beyond the Enrolment Gap: Financial Barriers and High-Achieving, Low-Income Students Persistence in Higher Education [\(latest version\)](#)

Under review

Abstract: Little is known about what influences high-achieving, low-income students persistence in higher education, despite extensive work on their enrolment decision. This paper investigates the role of credit constraints. Using exhaustive administrative data for France, I estimate the impact of automatically granting generous additional aid to enrolled high-achieving, low-income students. Eligibility is communicated too late to affect initial enrolment, allowing me to recover the pure effect on the intensive margin. I find this aid had precisely estimated null effects on persistence, graduation, and did not induce switches to higher quality degrees. This suggests high-achieving students may be less sensitive to financial aid than their lower performing peers.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Higher Education Mismatch: Causes and Consequences

Austerity and Student Achievement

with Francesca Foliano, Sandra McNally, and Olmo Silva

Spillover Effects of School Competition: Evidence from England's Academies

with Francesca Foliano, Sandra McNally, and Olmo Silva

Personal Statements and University Admission

with Oliver Cassagneau-Francis and Gill Wyness

PRE-PHD PUBLICATION

Does educational expertise matter for PVCs education? A UK study of PVCs educational background and skills [\(link\)](#)

Journal of Higher Education Policy and Management, 2018.

with Anna Mountford-Zimdars

POLICY REPORTS

Intergenerational income mobility in France: A comparative and geographic analysis 2023

Institut des Politiques Publiques, Note 95, with Louis Sirugue

[\(in english\)](#) [\(in french\)](#)

How does place of origin influence earnings in adulthood? 2020

France Stratégie, Note d'Analyse 91, with Clément Dherbécourt

[\(link\)](#)

Occupational mobility, skills and training needs 2019

OECD Science, Technology and Industry Policy Papers 70, with Nagui Bechichi, Stéphanie Jamet, Robert Grundke and Mariagrazia Squicciarini

[\(link\)](#)

OECD Skills Outlook 2019

OECD, with Nagui Bechichi, Stéphanie Jamet and Andreea Minea-Pic

[\(link\)](#)

PRESENTATIONS

2024: CEP Junior Workshop, Workshop "The Economics of Human Capital" (Padua), SOLE (Portland), CEP Annual Conference, CEPEO Seminar, IWAE (Catanzaro), EALE (Bergen), Sciences Po, PSE Applied Seminar.

2023: Sciences Po, KCL-Collège de France Junior Research Day, PSE Labour Public Seminar, Workshop on Educational choices and transitions in secondary and higher education (PSE), CEP Education Work in Progress Seminar.

2022: UEA (London), Workshop in Economics of Education (PSE), LAGV (Marseille), HCEO-briq Summer School on Socioeconomic Inequality Bonn, ESPE (Calabria), EEA (Milan), Sciences Po PhD Internal Seminar.

2019-2021: Sciences Po PhD Internal Seminar, Sciences Po, SSH Data Week, LIEPP Young Researcher Seminar, Augustin Cournot Doctoral Days (online), AFSE Annual Congress (online), EDP Users Committee, LIEPP Education Policy Seminar, AFSE-DG Trésor Public Policy Evaluation Conference.

TEACHING

Introduction to Econometrics with R 2020 - 2022
Undergraduate (year 2), Lecturer, Sciences Po Paris. (slides)

Public Economics 2022
Executive MPA, Lecturer (online), Sciences Po Paris.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCES

OECD, Junior Economist (Consultant), Department for Education and Skills. 2017 - 2019

France Stratégie, Research Analyst, Social Policy Division. 2017

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Funding call. Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair (PSE) (€3,000) 2024

4th year of Ph.D. funding. Education Policy and Social Mobility Chair (PSE) 2022 - 2023

Program for young researchers in policy evaluation. LIEPP (Sciences Po) (€2,000) 2021

Best masters thesis (co-winner). Sciences Po. 2017

Best performance in BSc Political Economy. Kings College London. 2015

SERVICE

Referee: *Journal of Labor Economics, Journal of Public Economics, Applied Economics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Economics of Education Review, European Association of Young Economists Conference (2024)*

CEP Junior Workshop. 2023-2025
Bi-monthly internal seminar. Co-organiser. London School of Economics

Workshop in economics of education. June 2022
One-day workshop. Co-organiser. Paris School of Economics

Internal PhD Seminar. 2021-2022
Co-organiser. Sciences Po Paris

PhD Breakfasts. 2021-2022
Monthly discussions with faculty. Co-organiser. Sciences Po Paris

PhD Student Rep. 2021-2022
Representative for PhD students in economics. Sciences Po Paris

PERSONAL

Citizenship: France, USA.

Languages: English (Native), French (Native), Italian (Proficient).