



Laurène Bocognano

Normalienne

Current Situation

2016– **PhD Student in Economics**, *Cultural Transmission and Educational investments with frictions on the labor market*, Supervisor : Bruno Deceuse.

Education

2015–2016 **Master in Economics (2nd Year, Research)**, *University Paris-Saclay*, with honors.

2014–2015 **Master in Economics and Master in Management (1st year)**, *ENS Cachan*, with honors.

2013–2014 **BA in Economics and Management**, *University of Montpellier*, with honors, major.

Research

Research Stay Visiting in Bristol University (October-December 2018)

Research interests Labor Economics, Economics of Education, Public Economics

Work in Progress *Education inequality and social reproduction : parents' aspirations vs labor market returns*

This paper presents a search model with endogenous education where cultural transmission explains a part of social reproduction. We use a static equilibrium unemployment search model with endogenous education. The schooling cost is conditional on parents' education but imperfectly observable by them. Parents (optimally) transmit a work ethic shaping the utility derived from the two possible states : employment and unemployment. In this setting, intergenerational social mobility occurs through parents' aspirations, which are themselves shaped by the labor market state. Social reproduction is driven by two channels : the (noisy) heritability of scholastic ability and the transmission of work ethic. We show that if both a policy on the labor market and a policy on the educational market are able to decrease the role played by work ethic on social reproduction, the labor market policy is way more efficient. Indeed, a 4% drop in non-employment income allows to decrease by 4% the work ethic transmission effect on social reproduction, while it decreases by only 1% with a same-cost policy that decreases the cost of education according to social background. Finally, we show that when parents have 75% chances of knowing the actual ability of their offspring, social reproduction due to cultural transmission is dropped, and inequality decrease as well : for instance, the ratio of unemployment rates between non-educated and educated people goes from 2.17 to 1.60.

Work in Progress *Optimal unemployment insurance with endogenous preferences* (Joint with Bruno Decreuse)

This paper mixes state-dependent utility theory with endogenous preferences to investigate the optimality of unemployment insurance. In our model, individuals assign weights to consumption units in two possible states : work or unemployment. The higher the weight assigned to consumption in the work state, the lower the one assigned to consumption in the unemployment state. These weights shape the magnitude of moral hazard effects while searching for jobs as well as the desire for unemployment insurance. The model can predict that the demand for social insurance remains low despite unemployment exposure is large. In a sufficient statistics approach à la Chetty, we find a new sufficient statistics formula which takes into account the optimality of employment preferences. We show that unemployment insurance is higher than the optimal level in many countries due to high preferences for work, except for the UK, where unemployment insurance is very low.

Work in Progress *PISA tests and the labor market : lessons from a matching model with endogenous schooling* (Joint with Bruno Decreuse)

The PISA survey aims to evaluate educational systems worldwide by testing the skills and knowledge of 15-year-old students through a 2-hour test. Its results are highly publicized and lead to country-specific debates over potential reforms of the educational system. In this paper, we adopt a different perspective and question the contribution of country-specific labor markets to PISA results. We provide an equilibrium search unemployment model where heterogeneous agents self-select into two possible education levels and choose the magnitude of investment at each level. The main outcome of interest is the distribution of efforts at the first education level, which we see as a proxy of the distribution of PISA results. We calibrate this model on labor market and PISA data for a selection of OECD countries. We then proceed to counterfactual analyzes to assess the impact of structural labor market parameters on labor market and educational outcomes.

Master Thesis *Occupational sorting into different sectors : the role of risk aversion* (Supervisor : Pierre Cahuc)

Conferences and Workshops

- 2018 **First chapter**, *EEA-ESEM, LAGV, EALE, JMA, TEPP-CNRS Poster, PhD Workshop on Labour and Family Economics (RHUL)*.
- 2019 **Second chapter (coming)**, *LAGV, CEPET PET, EALE*.

Teaching

Teaching Assistant **Macroeconomics** Undergraduate (1st year), Aix-Marseille University (*January-April 2017, 2018 and 2019*)

Private Tuitions **Mathematics** School and high school (*2010-2013*)

References

PhD Supervisor **Bruno Decreuse**, bruno.decrease@univ-amu.fr.

Host in Bristol **Hélène Turon**, Helene.Turon-Lacarrieu@bristol.ac.uk.

Host in Essex **Carlos Carillo-Tudela**, cocarr@essex.ac.uk.

2nd year defense Jury **Etienne Lehman**, elehmann@u-paris2.fr.

Language and skills

Language French (native), English (fluent), Italian (notions)

Skills Stata, Matlab, L^AT_EX, Pack Office, Python (Ongoing formation) , R (notions)

Hobbies

Volleyball, Photography, Cooking