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EDUCATION

- **September 2014 - Summer 2020 (Expected):** Ph.D in Economics, University of Montreal, QC, Canada
- **2011-2014:** M. Sc. in Statistics and Economics, National School of Statistics and Applied Economics (ENSEA), Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire - *Bachelor in Economics (Comparative Evaluation, Quebec Immigration Ministry)*.

FIELDS OF INTEREST

- **Primary:** Labor economics, Macroeconomics
- **Secondary:** Development Economics

EXPERIENCE

Research

- **August-September 2019:** Visiting Student, University of Washington-Seattle
- **Summer 2018:** Research Assistant for Prof [Baris Kaymak](#) (University of Montreal) on Bank Data numerization and processing, University of Montreal.
- **Sept-December 2015:** Macroeconomics and applied economics reading group, supervised by Baris Kaymak & [Markus Poschke](#) (McGill University)
- **August-October 2013:** Dissertation Internship, Office of the Minister of Mines and Industry, Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire.-Project - *Optimization of land allocation: Designing a procedure to process applications in industrial lots.*

Teaching

- Lecturer of Economics and Globalization - ECN 1700 (undergraduate), 2017-2018, University of Montreal ; Lecturer of Introduction to Macroeconomics online - ECN 1050D (undergraduate), Winter 2017, University de Montreal.
- Teaching Assistant of Quantitative Methods (PhD level), Elements of Macroeconomics (Master level), Macroeconomic Theory, Principles of Economics (both undergraduate), University of Montreal

FELLOWSHIPS AND AWARDS

- **2019-2020:** Ph.D. Grant, J.W McConnell Family Foundation Chair in American Studies, University of Montreal
- **2019:** CIREQ Travel Grant
- **Since August 2014:** PhD Fellowship, CIREQ & Department of Economics, University of Montreal
- **2014-2016:** Tuition-fee Waiver Scholarship, School of Graduate Studies, University of Montreal
- **2002-2014:** Excellence Scholarship, Government of Cote d'Ivoire.

CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS

- Southwestern Social Science Association-2019 Annual Meeting in San Diego (Accepted), University of Washington Lunch Seminar, Seattle Washington, ACEA's 47th Annual Conference in Moncton, 53rd Annual Conference of Canadian Economics Association, Banff, Alberta, CIREQ Lunch Seminar, 59th Congress-Société Canadienne de Science Économique, Quebec City, Quebec, Canada, 15th CIREQ Conference, University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada, 14th CIREQ Conference, University of Montreal, Montreal, Canada (2018)

REFERENCES

- **Baris Kaymak** : Associate Professor, University of Montreal
baris.kaymak@umontreal.ca , +1(514)-343-7979
- **Rachel Heath** : Associate Professor, University of Washington
rmheath@uw.edu, +1 (206)-543-5796
- **Andriana Bellou** : Associate Professor, University of Montreal
andriana.bellou@umontreal.ca, +1 (514)-343-5960

RESEARCH PROJECTS

• WORKING PAPERS

1. **Breaking down first job from Start to End: Information matters**

[*Draft available upon request*] [Slides](#)

I study how information issues, affect workers outcomes on their very first job. While first job is important for one's whole career, uncertainty about productive skills is at its highest for fresh graduates. I investigate on entry in and exit out of first job after completing school, in a situation where the market cannot objectively observe workers productive abilities. To do so, I model hires, layoffs and quits in a setup of employer learning: true productivity is not observed, prior signals of it (like schooling) are available, performance measures (noisy ex-post signals of productivity) are observed over time. The model delivers that prior signals are important for hires and survival on first job. Separations, and especially layoffs, which are detrimental for workers subsequent job opportunities, are noise-driven in short run. Survival models estimated on US data grant credit to the hypothesis that updates to market perceptions of workers explain the instant risk of being laidoff. Workers are selected into first employment based on schooling but selecting out based on ability; learning happened in between. Quits result suggest that evolution in workers human capital and bargaining power drive quit decision. Because layoffs are detrimental to workers' subsequent job opportunities, my results provide insights for labour policies as subsidizing employment trial periods to help workers escape the noisy phase of job relationships and reduce separations that would not happen if productivity was observed.

2. **Immigration Shock and Sustainable Debt** with Guy Arnold Djolaud (PhD Candidate, McGill University) [*Draft available upon request*] [Slides](#)

A descriptive analysis of OCDE data suggest that a positive relationship exists between the population share of seniors and public debt as percentage of GDP. This fact points to the relevance of population structure for public finance management. Because Immigration can deeply modify a country's population structure, we propose and assess a Dynamic Stochastic General Equilibrium model to study how immigration affects sustainable debt, and factor of production prices. We build on Mendoza (2016), adding consumer heterogeneity, death risk, skills and labor efficiency, life cycle with inactivity life periods, and social security transfers. The immigration shock we consider features a temporary 20% increase of

each age population with the skilled immigrants being less efficient than skilled residents and unskilled immigrants more efficient than unskilled residents. Immigrants fertility is also higher. Simulating such a shock, sustainable debt, which is the level of debt a country can afford based on its primary balance, is always above what it is in absence of immigration. Indeed, with the entry of immigrants, the government taxation revenue increases more than outlays. This results from the fact that the biggest part of government transfers occurs during retirement period, for immigrants that survived until retirement only, while taxation on labor occurs during the working life where survival probability are the highest. Results on factors of production prices are driven by the population dynamics. The wage and interest rate are driven by the stock of labor right after the shock has happened and by the stock of capital later on.

Macro.

- **WORK IN PROGRESS**

1. **Kids First: Homeownership and Child Achievement** [*Draft coming soon*]

Homeownership is perceived as a life goal for most people. Still, the way it affect the wellbeing is not always obvious. The oswald hypothesis for instance, states that unemployment rate is generally high in countries with high homeownership rate; indeed, owning a house might limit employment mobility. If employment is affected, a lot of other aspects of human wellbeing become at risk. This study looks at one outcome that is presumably important to people that invest in ownership: children achievement. Existing studies on that topic do not provide a full consensus on whether homeownership enhance children outcomes, mainly because of selection issue: being homeowner is a decision and households that make such a choice might be particular, especially regarding their propensity to invest in their children. I propose a conceptual framework showing how homeownership may affect kids outcomes, and a sibling fixed-effects estimation that is robust to homeownership not being random. Therefore, the study delivers causal effects of homeownership on a long term outcome: kids graduation from high school.

2. **Measuring Gender Wage Inequality: A Machine Learning Approach (with Lucienne Talba)**