

A GCEP Masterclass

Empirical Models of Differentiated Products

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December 7-8, 2015

This course considers the identification and estimation of models of market equilibrium with differentiated products, including applications to various policy-relevant markets. Most real-world markets feature differentiated products, in reputation and service quality if not in explicit product characteristics. Examples include private markets for physically differentiated goods (automobiles) and markets for various media products (newspapers), as well as for partially privatized and highly regulated goods (such as education in many countries). In the course, we consider how data can reveal demand and cost parameters, including recent results on formal identification. We go on to discuss theoretical, practical and computational aspects of estimation. While many of the models condition on the set of products being offered, we also consider models with endogenous products characteristics, such as location, type and quality of the product. Empirical applications feature policy relevant markets like health, media and education, as well as classic applications to antitrust analysis.

Location

Georgetown University School of Continuing Studies, 640 Massachusetts Ave NW, Washington DC 20001

Program**Day One: Monday, December 7, 2015**

- 10:00 – 10:30am *Registration and Coffee*
- 10:30 – 12:45pm **Session 1:** Introduction, Examples and Broad Ideas
(Coffee Break 11:30-11:45)
- 12:45 – 2:00pm *Lunch*
- 2:00 – 4:15pm **Session 2:** Identification and Estimation of Differentiated Products Demand and Supply
(Coffee Break 3:00-3:15)

Day Two: Tuesday, December 8, 2015

- 10 – 10:30am *Coffee*
- 10:30 – 12:45pm **Session 3:** Models with Endogenous Product Characteristics
(Coffee Break 11:30-11:45)
- 12:45 – 2:00pm *Lunch*
- 2:00 – 4:15pm **Session 4:** Example Applications to Policy Relevant Markets: Anti-trust, Health, Media and Education
(Coffee Break 3:00-3:15)