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1 Coursework

I am in my third-year of the Economics Ph.D. program at the University of Virginia. I have completed all of my core courses and field courses with a GPA of 3.84. The actual courses are shown below:

Core Courses	Field Courses
Microeconomic Theory (x 3)	Industrial Organization (x 2)
Macroeconomic Theory (x 2)	Public Economics (x 2)
Mathematical Economics (x 2)	Labor Economics (x 2)
Econometric Theory (x 2)	Cross-Section Econometrics (x 1)

The number of semesters are in parentheses.

This semester I have participated in a reading group covering the intersection of Game Theory (from Economics) and Cryptography (from Computer Science) which is organized by Amalia Miller, Denis Nekipelov, and faculty from the Computer Science department. Some of our recent topics have included incentives for firms to price discriminate based on information obtained from internet "cookies" (Acquisti and Varian, 2005) and the economics of firm decisions to engage in internet "spamming" (Rao and Reiley, 2012).

2 Research

I have been working on research projects with the new health insurance marketplaces. I am interested in the competition among insurers, particularly showing the importance of big data or information economies of scope.

Thus far I have completed a summer research paper as part of the UVA program requirements and was one of two recipients of the Snavely Summer Paper Prize for best paper. I studied the entry behavior of insurers in the first year of the marketplaces and found that insurers with more extensive data on consumers from previous claims were most likely to participate and most affected the participation decisions of other insurers.

Now I am working on improving this paper and beginning other related papers as part of my dissertation. I have developed a theoretical model that predicts pricing behavior of insurers when data is crucial and am using prices from the health insurance marketplaces to support the theory with empirics.

I will propose my dissertation next semester, Spring 2015. I expect to graduate two years after that in Spring 2017. My advisers are Amalia Miller and Federico Ciliberto.