

Job Market and Beyond

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Preparing for Job Market

- Job Market Paper
- Skills: Writing, presentation, interviews (next 3 slides)
- Pipeline
- Ability to explain job market paper in 1 minute, 5 minutes
- Why should the paper be cited?
- What are the skills you would bring to the department that hires you? This should be clear from the job market paper
- Small details matter (visit of school preparation, presentation preparation, dinner questions, prepare for a long day when you visit a department)

- Writing is important
- Write in direct way and do not be afraid to use “I”
- In many cultures we use “we” when in fact there is only one person writing, this just creates confusion
- Use direct prose and verbs and short sentences
- Do not say “This paper is about the consequences of lower wealth on stock market participation”
- How about “I study how lower wealth affects stock market participation”
- There is an excellent book I recommend: Economical Writing by Deirdre N McCloskey

- Practice your presentation and make sure it fits in time frame with ability to answer questions
- Fine to finish early a presentation, no harm in that
- Have energy in your presentation
- Be attentive to questions and say so when you don't know the answer and will have to think about something a bit more
- Practice your presentation: yes, practice makes perfect

- Be succinct
- Ask clarifying questions if you don't understand something
- There are a lot of idiosyncratic risks in getting or not getting a flyout
- Take a look at the CV of those interviewing you if you have that information. That can avoid obvious questions and can help you in expecting what might be asked

Importance of job market

- Applying for jobs is not just a process of finding a job
- It is a process of being introduced to a profession that does not know you
- The more people you meet (and make a good impression on) the better
- For future job prospects
- For future publications
- For future co-authorships

Types of job market paper

- Structural vs less structural papers
- Differences in the two approaches
- Either way, idea is key
- You should be able to explain what you are doing in a short sentence
- Many abstracts are less than 100 words for a reason

After getting a job

- Important to participate in life of your department
- For example, if department organizes an annual conference, you should really participate
- Seminar organization is a good way to get to know people
- Writing referee reports on time and good quality is good etiquette

Referee Reports

- Prepare (at least) 2 documents: reply to referee(s) and reply to editor
- Give comments and suggestion serious thought.
- Respond to **all** comments
- Address the comments and question in the paper and make a reference to those in your reply. These may include: new data; new methods; new text (you do not have to empirically address every single point)
- If you disagree with some point, or think it's tangential, distracting, or simply beyond the scope of the paper, you can also say so! Ultimately it is your paper!

Online References for Job Market Advice

- David Laibson (Harvard) tips:
https://economics.harvard.edu/files/economics/files/david_laibson_tips_0.pdf
- John Cochrane writing tips (now includes a Chinese translation): <https://www.johnhcochrane.com/research-all/writing-tips-for-phd-students>
- John Cawley's detailed advice (81 pages) on job market process (includes also links to John Cochrane's advice for writing): <https://www.aeaweb.org/content/file?id=869>

- Job market paper
- Idea
- Implementation
- Writing
- Presentation
- Explanation
- Small market and therefore memory matters