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Curriculum Vitae

Alexander K. Karaivanov

CONTACT INFORMATION

Department of Economics
Simon Fraser University
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EMPLOYMENT

2009 – Present Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University
2003 – 2009 Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University
2000 – 2002 Lecturer, Department of Economics, University of Chicago
1997 – 2003 Research Assistant to D. Gale Johnson, Jaume Ventura, Robert Townsend
1999 – 2002 Teaching Assistant, Department of Economics, University of Chicago

Other professional affiliations

2011 – Present Associate Editor, Journal of Development Economics

EDUCATION

Aug. 2003 Ph.D. Economics, University of Chicago
PhD fields: Growth and development, Finance, Money and banking
PhD thesis: “Financial Contracts and Occupational Choice”
Thesis committee: Robert M. Townsend (chair), Philip J. Reny, Maitreesh Ghatak
June 1999 M.A. Economics, University of Chicago
July 1997 B.A. Economics (honors), Sofia University, Bulgaria
Aug. 1997 B.A. Business Administration, Hogeschool van Utrecht, The Netherlands

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Development, applied microeconomic theory, applied contract theory, public economics

RESEARCH

Journal articles

“Distinguishing Limited Liability from Moral Hazard in a Model of Entrepreneurship”, *Journal of Political Economy*, 144(1), pp. 104-144, 2006 (with A. Paulson and R. Townsend)
“Pareto Improving Lotteries and Voluntary Public Goods Provision”, *The B.E. Journals of Theoretical Economics (Topics)*, vol. 6(1), article 9, 2006
“Wealth Inequality and Collective Action”, *Journal of Public Economics*, 91(9), pp. 1843-74, 2007 (with P. Bardhan and M. Ghatak)
“Can A Raise in Your Wage Make You Worse Off? A Public Goods Perspective”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 84(1), pp. 551-71, 2007 (with S. Ghosh)

“A Case for Bundling Public Goods Contributions”, *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, 9(3), pp. 425-51, 2007 (with S. Ghosh and M. Oak)

“Understanding Optimal Criminal Networks”, *Global Crime*, 10(1), pp. 41-65, 2009 (with S. Easton)

“Heterogeneity, Returns to Scale, and Collective Action”, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, 42(2), pp. 771-807, 2009

“Learning by Doing vs. Learning from Others in a Principal-Agent Model”, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control* 34(10), pp. 1967-92, 2010 (with J. Arifovic)

“Financial Constraints and Occupational Choice in Thai Villages”, *Journal of Development Economics*, 97(2), pp. 201-20, 2012

Refereed book chapters

“Inequality and Collective Action”, ch. 3 in J-M. Baland, P. Bardhan, and S. Bowles (eds.), *Inequality, Collective Action and Environmental Sustainability*, Princeton University Press, 2006 (with P. Bardhan and M. Ghatak)

“Social Learning in a Model of Adverse Selection”, in D. West, G. Dow, and A. Eckert (eds.) *Industrial Organization, Trade, and Social Interaction: Essays in Honour of B. Curtis Eaton*, University of Toronto Press, 2010 (with J. Arifovic)

Other publications

“Distinguishing Limited Liability from Moral Hazard in a Model of Entrepreneurship” (reprint), ch. 5 in T. Beck (ed.) *Entrepreneurship in Developing Countries*, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2009 (with A. Paulson and R. Townsend)

“Understanding Optimal Criminal Networks” (reprint), in M. Bouchard and C. Wilkins (eds.) *Illegal Markets and the Economics of Organized Crime*, Routledge, 2010 (with S. Easton)

Papers submitted for publication

“Dynamic Financial Constraints: Distinguishing Mechanism Design from Exogenously Incomplete Regimes” (with R. Townsend), revise and re-submit requested, *Econometrica*

“Dynamic Optimal Insurance and Lack of Commitment” (with F. Martin), minor revisions requested, *Review of Economic Dynamics*

“Contractual Structure in Agriculture with Endogenous Matching” (with M. Ghatak)

Working papers and work in progress

“No Bank, One Bank, Several Banks: Does it matter for investment?” (with S. Ruano, J. Saurina, R. Townsend), circulated as *Bank of Spain Working Paper 1003*

“Moral Hazard and Lack of Commitment in Dynamic Economies”, (with F. Martin), in progress

“Distinguishing Across Models of International Capital Flows” (with M. Wright), in progress

“A Friend in Need is a Friend Indeed? Theory and Evidence on the (Dis)Advantages of Family Loans” (with A. Kessler and I. Livshits), in progress

“Social Insurance and Status”, (with B. Xia), in progress

“The Economic Structure of Crime Networks”, (with S. Easton), in progress

“Altruism in the Principal-Agent Model: The Samaritan's Dilemma Revisited” (with S. Ghosh)

“Development Dynamics with Credit Rationing and Occupational Choice”

INVITED SEMINARS AND PRESENTATIONS

2011: Theoretical Research in Development (ThReD) Conference; Savings and Financial Underpinnings of Macro Models Workshop; Vienna Macroeconomics Workshop, “*Distinguishing Across Models of International Capital Flows*”

2010: University of Victoria, “*Dynamic Financial Constraints: Distinguishing Mechanism Design from Exogenously Incomplete Regimes*”; Vienna Macroeconomics Workshop (discussant); University of Saskatchewan, “*No Bank, One Bank, Several Banks: Does it matter for investment?*”; Canadian Econometrics Study Group (discussant)

2009: Vienna Macroeconomics Workshop (discussant)

2008: University of Toulouse Workshop on Risk-Sharing, University of the Thai Chamber of Commerce and University of Chicago “Innovations in Development Theory and Survey Data: Implications for Policy” Conference, “*Enterprise Dynamics and Finance: Distinguishing Mechanism Design from Exogenously Incomplete Markets Models*”

2007: Vienna Macroeconomics Workshop (discussant)

2006: London School of Economics Workshop on Public Organizations, “*A Case for Bundling Public Goods Contributions*”

2005: University of British Columbia, “*Distinguishing Moral Hazard from Limited Liability in a Model of Entrepreneurship*”

2003: The World Bank, SUNY – Buffalo, Georgetown University, Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Swedish Central Bank, McGill University, York University, Simon Fraser University, CERGE-EI, “*Financial Contracts and Occupational Choice*”

2001: University of Chicago Economic Theory Workshop, “*Heterogeneity and Collective Action*”

CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

2011: Computation in Economics and Finance Conference, “*Individual Learning in Principal-Agent Models*”; Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society, “*Distinguishing Across Models of International Capital Flows*”

2010: Canadian Economic Association Conference, “*Distinguishing Across Models of International Capital Flows*”; Society for Economic Dynamics Conference, The Econometric Society World Congress, “*No Bank, One Bank, Several Banks: Does it matter for investment?*”

2009: Association for Public Economic Theory Conference, “*Dynamic Optimal Insurance and Lack of Commitment*”; Society for Economic Dynamics Conference, “*Distinguishing Across Models of International Capital Flows*”; Far-Eastern Meeting of the Econometric Society, “*Formal Financial Sector Access for Older Firms; Does it Matter for Investment?*”; European Meeting of the Econometric Society, “*Enterprise Dynamics and Finance: Distinguishing Mechanism Design from Exogenously Incomplete Markets Models*”

2008: Society for Economic Dynamics Conference, Vienna Macroeconomics Workshop, “*Enterprise Dynamics and Finance: Distinguishing Mechanism Design from Exogenously Incomplete Markets Models*”

2007: Far-Eastern Meeting of the Econometric Society, “*Dynamic Optimal Insurance and Lack of Commitment*”; Canadian Economic Association Conference, “*Economics of Crime Networks*”

2006: Society for Economic Dynamics Conference, “*Evolutionary Learning in a Principal-Agent Model*”; Association for Public Economic Theory Conference, “*A Case for Bundling Public Goods Contributions*”

2005: The Econometric Society World Congress, Canadian Economic Association Conference, “*Can A Raise in Your Wage Make You Worse Off? A Public Goods Perspective*”; Society for Economic Dynamics Conference, “*Firm Entry and Finance: Distinguishing Information Regimes*”; Canadian Public Economics Group Meeting, “*A Case for Bundling Public Goods Contributions?*”

2004: Association for Public Economic Theory Conference, “*Heterogeneity, Returns to Scale, and Collective Action*”

2003: International Conference on Computing in Economics and Finance, “*Financial Contracts and Occupational Choice*”

2002: Northeast Universities Development Consortium Conference, “*Financial Contracts Structure and Occupational Choice*”

RESEARCH GRANTS

2009 – 2012	SSHRC Standard Research Grant, “ <i>Distinguishing Across Models of Incomplete Markets</i> ”, principal investigator, \$64,000
2006 – 2009	SSHRC Standard Research Grant, “ <i>Financial Market Imperfections: Theory, Estimation, Policy</i> ”, principal investigator, \$60,392
2005 – 2007	SSHRC/SFU Institutional Grant, “ <i>The Economic Structure of Crime Networks</i> ” (with S. Easton), joint investigator, \$5,000
2003 – 2005	President’s Research Grant, Simon Fraser University, \$9,950
2005	SSHRC/SFU Travel Grant, The Econometric Society World Congress, \$1,500
2003 – 2004	New Faculty Start-up Research Grant, Simon Fraser University, \$10,000

TEACHING

Simon Fraser University (2003 – Present)

graduate: Microeconomic Theory I, Theories of Economic Development, Introduction to Mathematical Economics

undergraduate: Intermediate Microeconomic Theory I, Seminar in Economic Development, Economic Development

University of Chicago (2000 – 2002)

graduate: Introduction to Mathematical Methods in Economics (‘math camp’ for incoming PhDs)

undergraduate: Elements of Economic Analysis 2 (intermediate micro), Elements of Economic Analysis 4 (intermediate macro)

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee:

Journals: *Journal of Political Economy*, *American Economic Review*, *Review of Economic Studies*, *Economic Journal*, *International Economic Review*, *Journal of the European Economic Association*, *Journal of Public Economics*, *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, *Journal of Development Economics*, *Canadian Journal of Economics*, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, *Journal of Economics and Management Strategy*, *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, *Economica*, *Economic Inquiry*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, *Economics Letters*, *B.E. Journals of Economics*, *World Development*, *Oxford Economic Papers*, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, *The Economics of Transition*, *Social Choice and Welfare*, *Operations Research*

Research Proposals: *Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada*

Committee member: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Committee 7, 2010/11

Organizer: Brown Bag Seminar, Department of Economics, Simon Fraser University, 2004 – 2009

SUPERVISION OF GRADUATE STUDENTS

PhD Thesis senior supervisor

Xuefei Wang ongoing

PhD Thesis committee member

Pierre Nguimkeu ongoing

Yu Fu ongoing

Georgi Boichev ongoing

Hagen Schwerin ongoing

Bianjun Xia “Essays on time preference anomalies, intertemporal choice, insurance and status”, 2011, Zhejiang University

Mei Dong “Essays on Monetary Economics”, 2009, Bank of Canada

Yi Xue “Essays on Market Microstructure and Financial Econometrics”, 2009, University of International Business and Economics, China

Michael Maschek “Applications of Evolutionary Learning in Macroeconomic Models”, 2005, University of the Fraser Valley

MA Thesis senior supervisor

Jessica Courtney “A New Approach to Rural Electrification”, 2011

Tenzin Yindok “Educational Inequalities Across Social Groups in India”, 2009

Shauna McAulay-Bax “Child Labour in a Transition Economy: Evidence from Albania”, 2008

Pedro Bento “Competition as a Discovery Procedure: Hayek in a Model of Innovations”, 2007

Michael Siemer “Labor Markets and Internal Migration in Developing Countries”, 2007

Tunde Tiponut “The Effects of Globalization on Developing Countries, with Particular Attention to Poverty Levels”, 2007

Kumi Harischandra “Ethnic Diversity and Inequality: A Cross-Country Analysis”, 2007

Xinye Zhang “Performance, Persistence and Survivorship Bias of Canadian Equity Funds 2001-2005”, 2006

Simon Demers “Loyalty, Competence and Exogenous Constraints in Authoritarian Regimes”, 2005

MA Thesis co-supervisor

2011: Celene Chan; 2008: Lindsay Donders, Nikolaus Kasimatis; 2007: Nuowen Deng, 2006: Na Rong; 2005: Kristin Dust, Sultan Orazbayev

FELLOWSHIPS, SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

2002 – 2003 Hewlett Foundation fellowship, PRC and University of Chicago

2001 – 2002 T. W. Schultz Dissertation Fellowship, University of Chicago

1999 Lee Prize for best Money and Banking field paper, University of Chicago

1997 – 2001 University of Chicago full tuition scholarship and stipend

1997 – 2000 International House of Chicago Residential Fellowship

1993 – 1997 Bulgarian government stipend for high academic achievement

1994 – 1995 Atanas Burov Foundation Scholarship, Bulgaria

1993 First reserve, Bulgarian national team for the 34th International Mathematical Olympiad (the six-person team placed 3rd out of 93 participating countries)

April 1992 First prize, Bulgarian national mathematics competition