

Simon Lapointe

Research Interests

Primary Political Economics, Local Governments, Applied Microeconomics
Secondary Applied Econometrics, Experimental Methods

Education

- 2011–now **Ph.D. in Economics**, *University of Fribourg*, Switzerland.
Dissertation title: *Essays on Local Jurisdictions*
Supervisors: Thierry Madiès (University of Fribourg, Switzerland) and
Pierre-Henri Morand (University of Avignon, France)
Expected Completion: 2016
- 2008–2009 **M.Sc. in Economics**, *London School of Economics*, London, UK.
Dissertation title: “The Economics of Secession and Regional Cultural Differences”
- 2004–2008 **B.Sc.Soc. in Economics, with Minor in Mathematics**, *University of Ottawa*, Ottawa, Canada.

Publications in Refereed Journals

“**The Impact of Within-Party and Between-Party Ideological Dispersion on Fiscal Outcomes: Evidence from Swiss Cantonal Parliaments**,” with Tjaša Bjedov and Thierry Madiès, *Public Choice*, vol. 161 no. 1, October 2014

Work in Progress

“**The Role of Diversity in Preferences for Local Jurisdiction Borders: Evidence from Municipal Referendums in Quebec**”

Abstract: This paper contributes to the vast literature on municipal consolidations but, instead of looking directly at mergers, it studies voters' decisions to de-merge from the consolidated municipality. It takes advantage of a large and original dataset of results from referendum on municipal secessions from the Canadian province of Quebec in 2004. Not surprisingly, I find that differences in income and language (a strong indicator of social group in Quebec) between a town and its partners and the consolidated municipality affect the probability that a town will secede. More interesting, however, is that income differences affect the voters' choice much more when language differences are also present. This result is interpreted as the existence of a group loyalty effect; voters more willingly accept sharing a jurisdiction with people with different incomes when they share a common cultural group.
Status: Job Market Paper.

“**Government Priorities in Municipal Mergers: Evidence from Authoritarian Mergers in Quebec**”, with Janne Tukiainen and Tuukka Saarimaa

Status: Work in progress.

“Bidding Wars for Multi-Establishment Firms: An Application of Multi-Unit Auction Theory”, with Pierre-Henri Morand

Status: Working paper in preparation.

“Prior Investment as an Entry Cost in Bidding Wars for Multiple Establishments”, with Pierre-Henri Morand

Status: Working paper in preparation.

“Decentralization and Secession: Experimental Evidence”, with Tjaša Bjedov, Thierry Madiès and Marie-Claire Villeval

Status: Working paper in preparation.

“Within-Party and Between-Party Ideological Polarisation in US States”, with Thierry Madiès and Simon Schnyder

Status: Work in progress.

Conferences and Seminars

- 2015
 - Research Seminar, Toulouse School of Economics, December
 - Meetings of the Association for Public Economic Theory, at the University of Luxembourg, July
 - Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, at Ryerson University (Toronto, Canada), May
 - Spring Meeting of Young Economists, at Ghent University (Belgium), May
 - Political Economy Seminar, at the Institute for Quantitative Social Science (IQSS), Harvard University (Boston, USA), April

- 2014
 - Internal Seminar of the VATT Institute of Economic Research, in Helsinki (Finland), October
 - Annual Meeting of the French Economists' Association, in Lyon (France), June
 - Workshop on “Economic Analysis of Voting”, in Le Havre (France), March

- 2013
 - Scientific Days, University of Avignon, in Avignon (France), November
 - Department Seminar, University of Ottawa, in Ottawa (Canada), September
 - International Meeting of PhD Students, in Thessaloniki (Greece), July
 - PEARL Seminar, University of Fribourg, in Fribourg (Switzerland), June
 - Meetings of the European Public Choice Society, in Zurich (Switzerland), April
 - Sinergia Workshop, University of St. Gallen, in St. Gallen (Switzerland), February

- 2010–2012
 - European School for New Institutional Economics, in Corsica (France), May 2012
 - Annual Meeting of the Canadian Economics Association, in Quebec City (Canada), May 2010

Teaching Experience

- 2011–now Teaching Assistant to Professor Thierry Madiès: International Trade (BA), International Finance (BA), Advanced Topics in Public Finance (MA), Advanced Topics in International Trade and New Economic Geography (MA).
Tasks: Tutorial teaching, supervising students in writing their BA and MA theses, preparing course documents, supervising exams.

Other Academic Activities

- Nov 2015– Feb 2016 Visiting Student, Toulouse School of Economics (France).
Sponsors: Philippe Bontems, Philippe De Donder.
- Mar–Apr 2015 Visiting Student, IQSS, Harvard University (Boston, USA).
Sponsor: Jim Alt.
- Oct. 2014 Visiting Researcher, VATT (Helsinki, Finland).
Sponsor: Janne Tukiainen.
- Jan. 2014 Visiting Student, GREQAM, Aix-Marseille School of Economics (Marseille, France).
Sponsor: Nicolas Gravel.
- Sept. 2013 Visiting Student, University of Ottawa (Ottawa, Canada).
Sponsor: Jean-François Tremblay.
- July 2013 24th Jerusalem Summer School in Economic Theory, organised by Eric Maskin. Theme: Decision-Making, Behavioural Economics.
- May 2012 12th European School on New Institutional Economics, in Corsica (France).

Commissioned Research Reports

- 2011 “The Labour Market and Economic Performance of Canada’s First Nations Reserves: The Effect of Educational Attainment and Remoteness,” with Andrew Sharpe, CSLS Research Report (July 2011)
- 2009 “The Effect of Increasing Aboriginal Educational Attainment on the Labour Force, Output and the Fiscal Balance,” with Andrew Sharpe, Jean-François Arsenault and Fraser Cowan, CSLS Research Report (May 2009)
- 2008 “Apprenticeship Issues and Challenges Facing Canadian Manufacturing Industries,” with Andrew Sharpe and Jean-François Arsenault, CSLS Research Report (February 2008)
- 2007 “The Potential Contribution of Aboriginal Canadians to Labour Force, Employment, Productivity and Output Growth in Canada, 2001–2017,” with Andrew Sharpe and Jean-François Arsenault (November 2007)

Professional Experience

- 2010–2011 **Economic Analyst**, *Parliament of Canada (Research Service)*, Ottawa, Canada.
- 2010 **Economist**, *Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS)*, Ottawa, Canada.
- 2006–2008 **Research Assistant**, *Centre for the Study of Living Standards (CSLS)*, Ottawa, Canada.

Languages

- French Native
English Fluent

Computer skills

- Math. Software Stata, Mathematica, Matlab (beginner), R (beginner), ArcGIS(Beginner), Excel
Other LaTeX, HTML

References

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