Ability Tracking, Teacher Discretion and Student's Achievement

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Motivation

- Tracking as a low cost approach to improving students performance is crucial and pervasive(Glewwe and Muralidharan, 2016).
- Tracking regime (tracking time and tracking criteria) varies between countries.
 - ability tracking within school, in the US, China and Canada (Dieterle et al., 2015).
 - tracking across school (vocational or academic track), in Europe.
- Tracking effects on students performance are controversial (Betts, 2011).
 - $\bullet\,$ proponents: more homogeneous group, tailor instruction $\Rightarrow\,$ more effective
 - opponents (de-tracking): mis-classification \Rightarrow aggravates initial differences

- In recent years, lots of work in understanding the determinants of skill formation in children (Heckman and Mosso, 2014).
- Peer composition is as important as teacher quality, class size, and parental involvement as a determinant of student achievement.
- The debate over standardized testing and the mix of standardized measures and discretionary evaluations (Diamond and Persson, 2016).
 - $\bullet\,$ teachers know more about students $\Rightarrow\,$ reduce the effects of "a bad test day"
 - equal criteria \Rightarrow increase fairness in some way

- 1. (Tracking effects) What is the impact of tracking within a school on students' academic performance?
 - $\bullet \ + \ teacher \ discretion$
 - $\bullet \ + \ multiple \ tracking$
- 2. (Skill formation function) How is a student's skill determined at different ages, taking into account innate ability, peer influences, and teacher's instructional level?
- 3. (Policy relevant questions or counterfactual) To achieve the policy goal, how to design an "optimal" tracking rule?
 - tracking frequency
 - tracking time
 - tracking criteria

- 1. (Empirical part) I collect the novel, rich and detailed panel data from a single high school in China, and use the RD design, to evaluate the tracking effects.
- (Theoretical part) I am the first one to develop and estimate a new dynamic skill production model, that simultaneously endogenizes peer effects and teachers' mismatch effects.
- 3. (Policy implications) With the estimated model in hand, I use it to do some counterfactual analysis and simulation.
 - tracking rule (time + criteria)
 - increase/decrease the tracking frequency

Literature Review

Tracking

- Figlio and Page (2002), Fu and Mehta (2018), Duflo, Dupas, and Kremer (2011) (Tracking effects)
- Meghir and Palme (2005), Piopiunik (2014), Dustmann, Puhani, and Schönberg (2017) (Tracking regime)
- Peer effects
 - Epple and Romano (2011), Sacerdote (2011)
- Teacher discretion
 - Diamond and Persson (2016), Apperson, Bueno, and Sass (2016), Lavy and Sand (2018)
- Skill production technology
 - Cunha and Heckman (2007, 2008), Cunha, Heckman, and Schennach (2010), Agostinelli and Wiswall (2016)

	college	tier1 ¹	tier2	tier3
НННН	0.96	0.35	0.56	0.05
LLHH/HHLL	0.89	0.06	0.78	0.11
LLLH/LLHL	0.85	0.02	0.57	0.26
LLLL	0.81	0	0.37	0.42

• After three years, there is a large difference in college and top 1 tier program admission rates between HHHH and LLLL. [unconditional comparison]

¹Highest Quality

	college	tier1(Highest)	tier2	tier3
H***	0.9	0.09	0.58	0.22
L***	0.86	0.06	0.5	0.29
X%	5%	50%	16%	-24%

two students, A and B

- similar entry score, at age 15
- A went to High, and B went to Low track
- A's college entrance excore is 0.3 sd² higher than B's, at age 18

²standard deviation is 93.13, and full credit is 750.

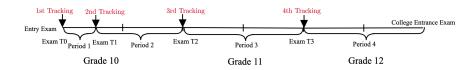
Background and Data Intro

- 1. Education system in China
 - 9 years compulsory education
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- 2. Special tracking rule
 - four tracking over three years
 - teacher discretion

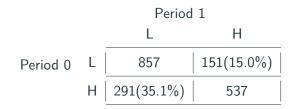
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 - Tracking timeline



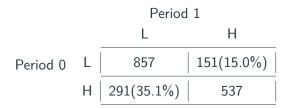
- Individual level panel data (individual class track time)
 - cohort 2017 (age 15 18)
 - class track trajectory
 - test score by subject of student i at class j in time t at period p: $s_{ij,pt}$
 - ▶ $i \in \{1, 2..., 1979\}, j = H \text{ or } L$
 - ▶ $p \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$
 - $t \in \{0, 1, ..., 27\}$: four tracking exams included
 - high school entrance exam score: s_{ij0}
 - characteristics: gender, age, urban/rural

Census 2010 data

Transition Matrix and Class Track Trajectory

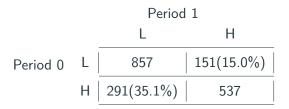


Transition Matrix and Class Track Trajectory



- Tracking decision is made with more informative information.
 - Transition rates decrease over time. other periods

Transition Matrix and Class Track Trajectory



- Tracking decision is made with more informative information.
 - Transition rates decrease over time. other periods
- Lots of persistence, but there are still turnovers
 - HHHH (27.65%) or LLLL (35.58%).
 - About 26.53% students changed once of class track type.
 - 9.35% students changed twice and about 0.89% with class track type HLHL or LHLH.

Empirical Evidence

The First Tracking (Non-discretionary)

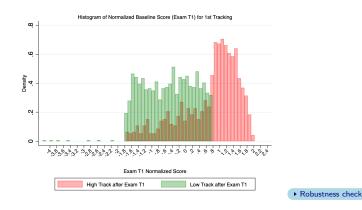
- At the beginning of Grade 10.
- One-side sharp cutoff.

$$Pr(j_1 = H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s_0 > \text{cutoff} \\ p(s_0) & \text{if } s_0 \leq \text{cutoff} \end{cases}$$

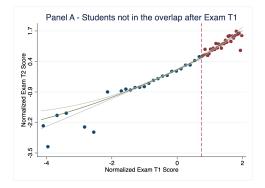
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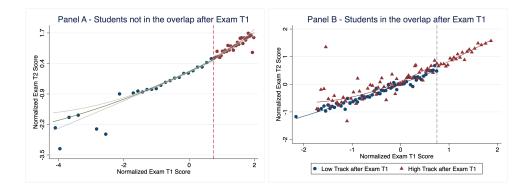
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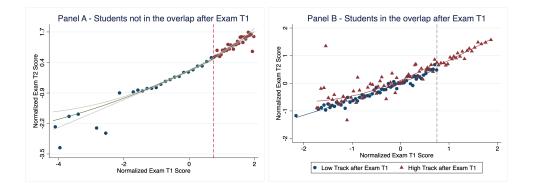
RD Results of the First Tracking



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RD Results of the First Tracking



- No RD effects in first tracking.
- Students who are in high track with lower entry score performs slightly better than in low.

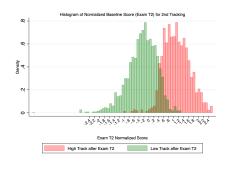
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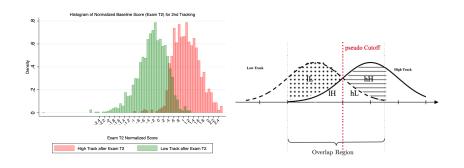
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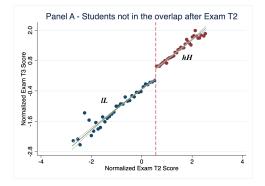


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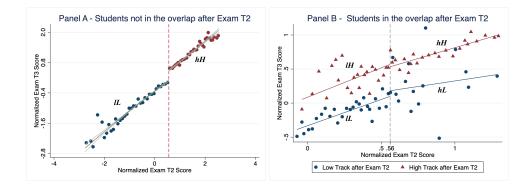




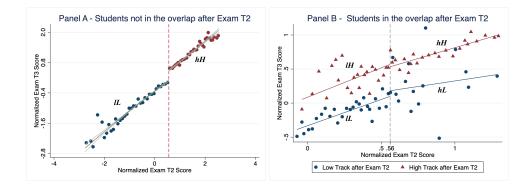
RD Results of the Second Tracking



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RD Results of the Second Tracking



- Positive RD effects indicate that test score is not the only tracking criteria.
- Students with type *lH* performed much better than in low track.
- Exclusion of students in the overlap makes the effects under-estimated. RD results

Model and Identification Issues

Empirical observation

- 1. RD results from the first tracking
- 2. blurred tracking criteria, lower turnover rate overtime
- 3. class track trajectory and academic performance evolution

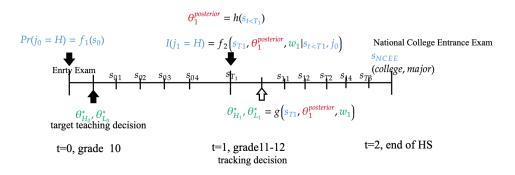
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Model feature

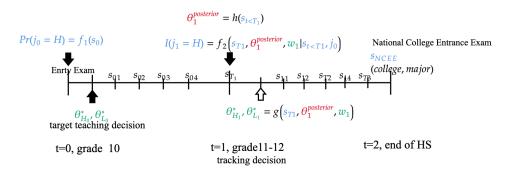
- 1. + peer effects, + teacher's target teaching level decision
- 2. teacher learning about students' ability and using discretionary tracking criteria
- 3. dynamic skill formation function

Timeline



Notation:

Timeline



Notation:

- $\theta_1^{posterior}$: teacher's posterior belief of students ability at period 1
- w_1 : weight on the posterior belief in second tracking criteria
- $\theta_{H_0}^*, \theta_{L_0}^*, \theta_{H_1}^*, \theta_{L_1}^*$: target teaching level set by teachers in period 0, and period 1

parameters data unobservables

There are three stages in this model.

 Stage 0 (grade 10): School allocates students to different tracks based on s₀. Teachers choose s^{*}_{j0} to maximize their expected payoff at the end of period 1. (Enrollment) There are three stages in this model.

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- Stage 2 (end of HS): Students take the National College Entrance Exam, apply for the college and find a job.

parameters data unobservables

Skill Formation Function

The framework follows the approach in (Cunha, Heckman, and Schennach, 2010) and (Agostinelli and Wiswall, 2016), adding peer effects and mismatch from $ln\theta^*$.

$$ln\theta_{i,t+1} = lnA_t + \overbrace{\gamma_{1,t}ln\theta_{i,t}}^{\text{self productive}} + \overbrace{\gamma_{2,t}ln\theta_{-i,t}}^{\text{peer effect}} - \underbrace{-\gamma_{3,t}|ln\theta_t^* - ln\theta_{i,t}|}_{\text{teacher effect}} + \eta_{i,t}$$
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(1)

 lnA_t : TFP term

 $\eta_{i,t}:$ production shock including students' efforts, parental inputs etc, i.i.d. and $\perp\!\!\!\perp ln\theta_{i,t}$

 $ln\theta_{i,t}$: student *i*'s ability at time *t*

 $ln\theta_{-i,t}$: average peer's ability, $ln\theta_{-i,t} = (\sum_{j=1}^{N} ln\theta_{j,t} - ln\theta_{i,t})/(N-1)$, N is class size

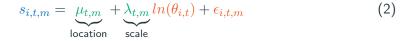
 $ln\theta_t^*$: teachers' target teaching level

parameters data unobservables • Justification

Measurement Function of $ln(\theta)$

$$s_{i,t,m} = \underbrace{\mu_{t,m}}_{\text{location}} + \underbrace{\lambda_{t,m}}_{\text{scale}} ln(\theta_{i,t}) + \epsilon_{i,t,m}$$
(2)

Measurement Function of $ln(\theta)$



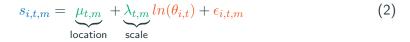
 $\mu_{t,m}$: base score of measure m when no knowldege of m

 $\lambda_{t,m}$: discrimination level of measure m

 $\epsilon_{i,t,m}$: individual measurement error at time t and $E(\epsilon_{i,t,m}) = 0$ for all t, m

m: Chinese, Math, English, Chemistry, Biology and Physics test score

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$$\underbrace{\widetilde{s_{i,t,m}}}_{\text{error contaminated}} = \frac{s_{i,t,m} - \mu_{t,m}}{\lambda_{t,m}} = ln(\theta_{i,t}) + \widetilde{\epsilon_{i,t,m}}$$

parameters data unobservables

Normalization:

$$\underbrace{E(ln(\theta_0)) = 0}_{\text{fix initial latent ability}} \quad \text{and} \quad \underbrace{\lambda_{0,1} = 1}_{\text{normalize scale as } 1} \Rightarrow s_{0,1} = \mu_{0,1} + ln(\theta_0) + \epsilon_{0,1}$$

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$$\underbrace{Cov(\epsilon_{0,m},\epsilon_{0,m'})=0}, \ \text{ for all } m\neq m'$$

uncorrelated measurement error bet various measures

$$\underbrace{Cov(\epsilon_{0,m}, ln(\theta_0)) = 0}$$
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Then
$$\lambda_{0,m} = \frac{Cov(s_{0,m},s_{0,m'})}{Cov(s_{0,1},s_{0,m'})}, \mu_{0,m} = E(s_{0,m})$$
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$$\widetilde{s_{0,m}} = \frac{s_{0,m} - \mu_{0,m}}{\lambda_{0,m}} = \ln(\theta_0) + \widetilde{\epsilon_{0,m}}$$
(3)

parameters data unobservables

Assumption 2: (Production Function Restriction) $\underbrace{lnA_t = 0}_{\text{TFP is 0}}, \underbrace{\gamma_{1,t} + \gamma_{2,t} + \gamma_{3,t} = 1}_{\text{CRTS}}$

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$$s_{1,m} = \mu_{1,m} + \lambda_{1,m} ln\theta_1 + \epsilon_{1,m}$$

= $(\mu_{1,m} + \lambda_{1,m} lnA_0) + \lambda_{1,m} (\gamma_{1,0} ln\theta_0 + \gamma_{2,0} ln\theta_{-0} - \gamma_{3,0} |ln\theta_0^* - ln\theta_0| + \epsilon_{0,m}) + \epsilon_{1,m}$
= $\beta_{0,0} + \beta_{1,0} \widetilde{s_{0,m}} + \beta_{2,0} (\sum_{j=1}^N \widetilde{s_{j,0,m}} - \widetilde{s_{0,m}}) / (N-1) + \beta_{3,0} |ln\theta_0^* - \widetilde{s_{0,m}}| + \pi_{0,m}$
(4)

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Error in variables: $\pi_{0,m} \sim \epsilon_{0,m} \sim \widetilde{s_{0,m}} \Rightarrow IV$ based on multiple measures
Exactly identified system: $(\lambda_{1,m}, \mu_{1,m}, \gamma_{1,0}, \gamma_{2,0}, \gamma_{3,0}) \Rightarrow Assumption 2 + \beta_{0,0} = \mu_{1,m} + \lambda_{1,m} ln A_0 \qquad \beta_{1,0} = \lambda_{1,m} \gamma_{1,0} \\ \beta_{2,0} = \lambda_{1,m} \gamma_{2,0} \qquad \beta_{3,0} = -\lambda_{1,m} \gamma_{3,0}$

Assumption 3: $ln(\theta_0) \sim N(0, \sigma_{\theta_0}^2), \epsilon_m \sim N(0, \sigma_{\epsilon_m}^2)$

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With Bayesian rule, $ln(\theta_0)|\widetilde{s_{0,m_s}}, s = 1, 2, ..., k_0 \sim N(\mu^{pos}, \sigma^{2, pos})$:

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$$\mu^{pos} = \frac{\sigma_{\theta_0}^2}{\frac{\sigma_{\epsilon}^2}{k_0} + \sigma_{\theta_0}^2} \left(\frac{\sum_{s=1}^{k_0} \widetilde{s_{0,m_s}}}{k_0} \right)$$

$$\sigma^{2,pos} = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\theta_0}^2} + \frac{k_0}{\sigma_{\epsilon}^2} \right)^{-1}$$
(5)

parameters data unobservables

Tracking Decision

■ The First Tracking

$$Pr(j_0 = H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s_0 > cutoff^1\\ p(s_0) & \text{if } s_0 \le cutoff^1 \end{cases}$$

Tracking Decision

The First Tracking

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- The Second Tracking
 More Evidence
 - weighted average of the posterior belief of ability (w_1) and tracking exam score $(1-w_1)$

$$Eln(\theta_1)^{adj} = w_1 \mu^{pos} + (1 - w_1) \widetilde{s_{1,m}}$$
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• cutoff is determined by the seats of high track

$$I(j_1 = H) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Eln(\theta_1)^{adj} > cutoff^2 \\ 0 & \text{if } Eln(\theta_1)^{adj} \le cutoff^2 \end{cases}$$

parameters data unobservables

$$\max_{ln\theta_{j,t}^*} EE_{\eta_{j,t}} P(ln\theta_{ij,t+1}) = \max_{ln\theta_{j,t}^*} EE_{\eta_{j,t}} (ln\theta_{ij,t+1})^{\alpha}$$

rational expectation of skill formation function

$$\max_{ln\theta_{j,t}^*} EE_{\eta_{j,t}} P(ln\theta_{ij,t+1}) = \max_{ln\theta_{j,t}^*} EE_{\eta_{j,t}} (ln\theta_{ij,t+1})^{\alpha}$$

- rational expectation of skill formation function
- α : convexity of payoff function ($\alpha = 2$)
- no closed-form solution for $ln\theta_i^*$

$$ln\theta_{j}^{*} \begin{cases} = \overline{ln\theta_{ij,t-1}} & \text{if } \alpha = 1 \\ > \overline{ln\theta_{ij,t-1}} & \text{if } \alpha > 1 \\ < \overline{ln\theta_{ij,t-1}} & \text{if } \alpha \in (0,1) \end{cases}$$

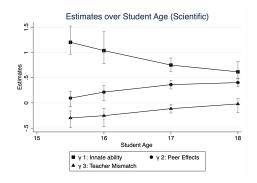
- 1. Two-dimensional skill production technology (γ s) + measurement equation (λ s, μ s)
 - CRTS assumption
 - $\bullet~$ "Guess-and-Verify" + sequential IV regression
 - multiple measures of two-dimension skills over multiple periods

1. Two-dimensional skill production technology (γ s) + measurement equation (λ s, μ s)

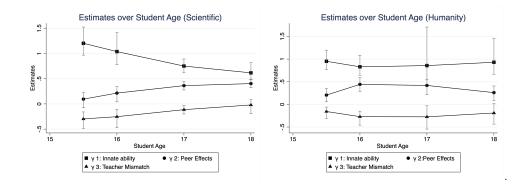
- CRTS assumption
- $\bullet \ "Guess-and-Verify" + sequential \ IV \ regression$
 - multiple measures of two-dimension skills over multiple periods
- 2. Tracking decision (w_1)
 - GMM
 - cross-sectional
 - tracking decision for student i
 - Clustered Bootstrap to get the standard error and confidence interval

Results

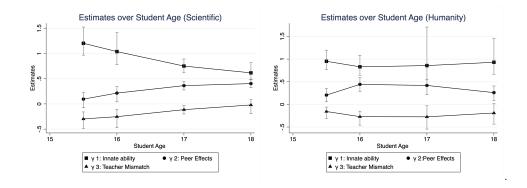
Skill Formation Function Estimation



Skill Formation Function Estimation



Skill Formation Function Estimation



- Coefficients are changing over time.
- Scientific skill formation function is more malleable compared with Humanity.

Teacher's Decision Estimation

	Scientific Skill						
Model	Age 15.5	Age 16	Age 17	Age 18			
Target Teaching	4.336	2.680	3.546	8.452			
Low Track	(0.308)	(0.503)	(0.417)	(1.273)			
	[3.79,5.01]	[2.14,3.95]	[3.01,4.76]	[7.39,9.58]			
Target Teaching	12.336	21.786	24.439	31.076			
High Track	(0.972)	(1.343)	(1.459)	(2.871)			
	[10.76,14.38]	[19.25,25.94]	[21.02,27.34]	[27.18,37.05]			
Weight	0	0.768	0.543	0.362			
		(0.082)	(0.044)	(0.043)			
		[0.65,0.87]	[0.43,0.62]	[0.26,0.41]			

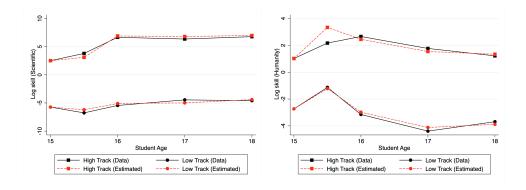
- Teachers adjust target teaching level based on the class composition at each period.
- Estimated target teaching level is higher than the average ability.
- Less weight put on teachers' belief of students' ability when tracking in later periods.

Measurement Equation Estimation

	Scientific Skill						
	Age 15	Age 15.5	Age 16	Age 17	Age 18		
mu	90.663	78.752	79.979	74.482	67.558		
		(1.188)	(1.350)	(0.829)	(1.618)		
lambda	1	1.933	1.307	1.022	1.034		
		(0.205)	(0.130)	(0.133)	(0.059)		
	Humanity Skill						
mu	84.336	98.978	89.067	96.401	96.617		
		(0.467)	(0.580)	(1.300)	(1.278)		
lambda	1	1.239	1.155	0.982	0.955		
		(0.136)	(0.125)	(0.195)	(0.078)		

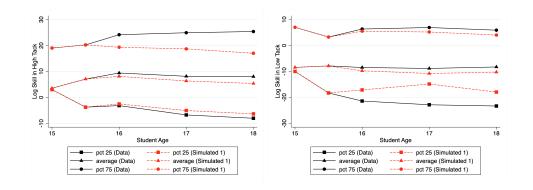
- $\blacksquare \ \mu$ of scientific skill is smaller in later periods.
- Humanity skill measurement is more stable.

Estimated Skill Path



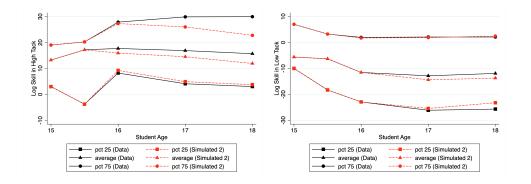
- Skill increased a lot in the first two periods.
- The Humanity skill didn't change much, even decreased.

One-Time Tracking



- Percentile 75 students performed worse, while percentile 25 students did better, and average students did worse in both tracks.
- Inequality decreased, but both track students did worse.

One-Time Discretionary Tracking



Conclusion

- Discretionary tracking decreased the one-time tracking mis-allocation error, increased students' average ability, especially high-ability students, while increased students' inequality.
- Students' skill formation function is changing. Innate ability, peer effects, teachers mismatch play different roles over time.
- Teachers adjust target teaching level based on class composition and their payoff function.
- Scientific skill formation is more malleable than humanity skill.

- Discretionary tracking decreased the one-time tracking mis-allocation error, increased students' average ability, especially high-ability students, while increased students' inequality.
- Students' skill formation function is changing. Innate ability, peer effects, teachers mismatch play different roles over time.
- Teachers adjust target teaching level based on class composition and their payoff function.
- Scientific skill formation is more malleable than humanity skill.
- Exclude the students'/teachers' effort input due to data limitation.
- Constant return to scale assumption of skill formation function.



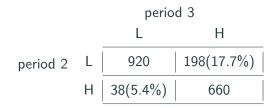
Appendix

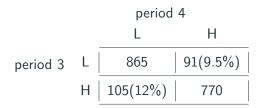
Motivating Example

	college	tier1	tier2	tier3
H***	0.9	0.09	0.58	0.22
L***	0.86	0.06	0.5	0.29
X%	5%	50%	16%	-24%

	college	tier1	tier2	tier3
LLLL	0.81	0	0.39	0.42
LLHH/HHLL	0.89	0.02	0.58	0.28
LHHH/HLLL	0.95	0.08	0.76	0.11
НННН	0.96	0.27	0.66	0.02

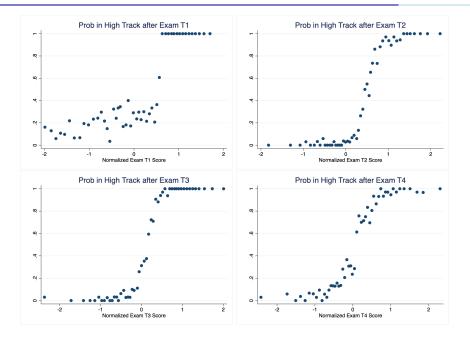
return



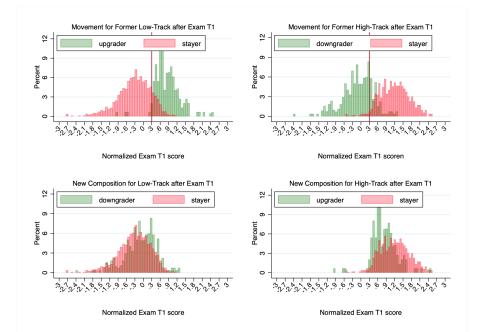


✓ return

Tracking Rule



Class Composition before/after the Second Tracking



First Tracking Criteria Check

$g(\frac{prob_{i,H}}{1 - prob_{i,H}}) =$	$\beta_0 + \beta_1 s_{0ij} +$	$\beta_2 I(urban_i = 1) + \beta_3 I(f$	$female_i = 1) + e_i$
	(1)	(2)	$\beta_{all} - \beta_{overlap}$
VARIABLES	all students	students in the overlap	z-score
s_{0ij}	0.494***	1.714***	-10.590
$I(urban_i = 1)$	(0.0887) 0.625***	(0.0735) 0.553***	0.388
$I(female_i = 1)$	(0.141) -0.185	(0.121) -0.125	-3.223
Constant	(0.126) -1.478***	(0.111) -0.863***	
Observations	(0.145) 1,613	(0.124) 2,207	

Standard errors in parentheses,*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

336/1277 are in high track with lower test score (smaller than cutoff 0.7507), 1044/2493 are in high track, 1449/2493 are in low track. \checkmark return 39/48

	students in the overlap					
	Assigned to low track		Assigned to high track		igh track	
	Ν	mean	sd	Ν	mean	sd
Urban ratio	637	0.642	0.480	557	0.704	0.457
Female ratio	637	0.540	0.499	557	0.490	0.500
Average standardized baseline score	637	-0.407	0.433	557	0.425	0.437
(mean 0, SD 1)						
Average standardized endline score	627	-0.361	0.618	542	0.520	0.626
(mean 0, SD 1)						
Previous section (high track $=1$)	637	0.133	0.340	557	0.871	0.336

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	
VARIABLES	First Tracking	Second Tracking	Third Tracking	Fourth Tracking	
RD_Estimate	-0.0600 (0.0631)	0.496*** (0.0456)	0.448*** (0.0397)	0.388*** (0.0377)	
Observations	4,396	9,761	11,176	17,933	
Standard errors in parentheses					
*** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1					
RD estimates					

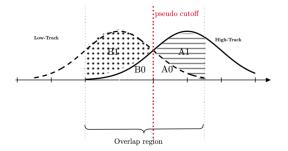
- As time goes on, tracking exam scores become less important, while prior class tracks become more influential in making tracking decision.
- Discretionary tracking in a corrective way.
- predicted residue to show the unexplained parts
- upgraders (higher), downgraders (lower).
- Teacher tailor instruction level High track students performs much better in harder exams.



Treatment Effects Measured from Different Groups

$$s_{ijt} = \beta_0 + \beta_1 I(s_i^b > s_t^{cutoff}) + \beta_2 I(High_{ijt} = 1) + \beta_3 I(s_i^b > s_t^{cutoff}) \times I(High_{ijt} = 1) + controls + \epsilon_{ijt}$$

$$\tag{7}$$



• A0: hL, A1: hH, B0: lH, B1: lL

- $\ \ \, \blacksquare \ \ \, \beta_0: lL, (\beta_0+\beta_1): hL, (\beta_0+\beta_2): lH, (\beta_0+\beta_1+\beta_2+\beta_3): hH$
- controls : s^0 , $I(urban_i = 1)$, $I(female_i = 1)$ when no student FE

Treatment Effects Measured from Different Groups

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
VARIABLES	all Periods	all Periods	all Periods	all Periods
$I(s_i^b > s_t^{cutoff})$	0.133***	0.140***	0.0373**	0.0434**
	(0.0274)	(0.0273)	(0.0184)	(0.0184)
$I(High_{ijt} = 1)$	0.0694*	0.111***	0.165***	0.163***
	(0.0379)	(0.0261)	(0.0182)	(0.0184)
$I(s_i^b > s_t^{cutoff}) \times I(High_{ijt} = 1)$	0.113***	0.106***	-0.0758***	-0.0702***
	(0.0429)	(0.0397)	(0.0244)	(0.0241)
Constant	-0.119***	-0.00865	-0.0948***	-0.136***
	(0.0140)	(0.0217)	(0.0111)	(0.0498)
$\beta_0(lL)$	-0.119	-0.00865	-0.0948	-0.136
$\beta_0 + \beta_1(hL)$	0.014	0.13135	-0.0575	-0.0926
$\beta_0 + \beta_2(lH)$	-0.0496	0.1024	0.0702	0.027
$\beta_0 + \beta_1 + \beta_2 + \beta_3(hH)$	0.1964	0.3484	0.0317	0.0004
Observations	28,223	28,223	28,216	28,216
R-squared	0.521	0.538	0.680	0.680
Student FE	NO	NO	YES	YES
Period FE	NO	YES	NO	YES
	. I she she she	0.01 **		

Robust standard errors in parentheses, *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

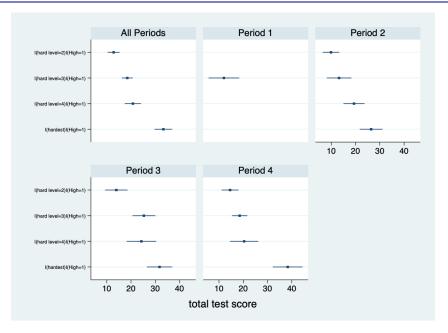
• lH > hH > hL > lL after including student FE

$$s_{ijt} = \beta_0 + \sum_{h=2}^{5} \beta_h I(hardlevel = h)I(High = 1) + ExamFE + controls + \epsilon_{ijt}$$
(8)

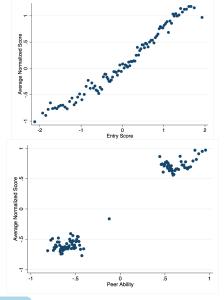
- Difficult level: the standard deviation of the raw test score
- level 5 is the hardest
- Students in High track perform better in harder exams.

• controls: raw entry score, $I(urban_i = 1)$, $I(female_i = 1)$

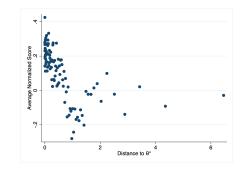
Target Teaching Level (β_h)



Correlation of Test Score vs Peers, Teachers, Initial Ability



- 1. higher entry score, higher exam score
- 2. higher peers ability, higher exam score
- 3. longer distance to $\theta^*,$ lower exam score



Prob of being in High Measured from Observable

 $Pr(High_{i,p} = 1) = F(\beta_0 + \beta_1 I(High_{i,p-1}) + \beta_2 s_{ij,p-1} + \beta_3 I(urban_i = 1))$

	(1)	(2)	(3)
VARIABLES	2nd tracking	3rd tracking	4th tracking
$s_{ij,p-1}$	6.482***	5.911***	2.664***
571	(1.181)	(1.365)	(0.512)
$I(High_{ij,p-1} = 1)$	1.373***	1.691***	2.229***
571	(0.288)	(0.380)	(0.236)
$I(urban_i = 1)$	0.519*	-0.221	0.433*
	(0.302)	(0.318)	(0.247)
Constant	-4.131***	-1.054***	-1.723***
	(0.668)	(0.299)	(0.242)
Observations	282	226	484

Standard errors in parentheses, *** p<0.01, ** p<0.05, * p<0.1

where F is the cdf of Logit distribution.

Tracking exam score is becoming less important in later tracking decision.

Previous class track is becoming **more** important in later tracking decision.

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