

CEO BEHAVIOR AND FIRM PERFORMANCE

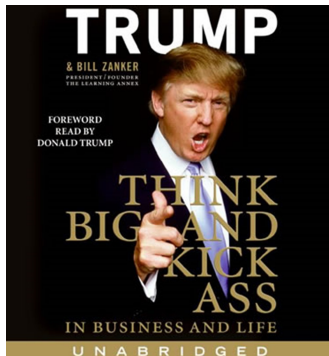
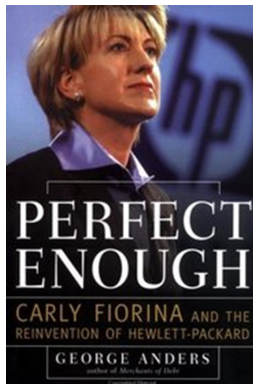
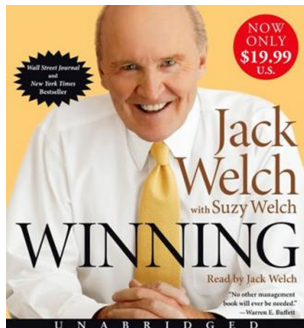
Oriana Bandiera (LSE), Stephen Hansen (Pompeu Fabra), Andrea Prat (Columbia), Raffaella Sadun (Harvard)

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Do CEOs CREATE VALUE?

- Large debate on role of CEOs (Bertrand 2009)
 - Origin of compensation increase? (Frydman-Jenter 2010)
 - Rent extraction (Bertrand-Mullainathan 2001) vs marginal product of better CEOs (Gabaix-Landier 2008, Tervio 2008)
 - Effectiveness of the CEO selection process (Khurana 2002)
 - Lack of accountability (Bebchuk 2009)
- Evidence that the identity of the CEO affects firm performance
 - Bertrand-Schoar (2003)
 - Bennedsen et al. (2007)
 - Kaplan et al (2012)
- But what is the channel?

CEO BEHAVIOR?



RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- Comprehensive information on behavior of statistically meaningful sample of CEOs
- Matching model of CEO behavior types to firm types
- Combine CEO behavior data with information on firms (especially performance)

ACTIVITY ANALYSIS

- Mintzberg (1973) observed five CEOs for a week
 - Types of CEOs
 - Lessons of effectiveness of leaders
- Kotter (1999): 15 general managers
- Here: Extend exercise to a larger number of CEO (1100+)
 - Brazil, France, Germany, India, UK, US
 - Daily interaction with CEO/PA
 - Detailed activity list with: duration, planning, location, breadth, focus, participants.

CHALLENGES

1. **Dimensionality**: Millions of possible activities (eg 30-mins conf call planned 4 weeks ago with finance, marketing, and an investor).
2. **Endogeneity**: Horse-and-Jockey problem between CEO behavior and firm performance

CHALLENGES

1. **Dimensionality:** Millions of possible activities (eg 30-mins conf call planned 4 weeks ago with finance, marketing, and an investor).
Proposed solution: Dimensionality reduction through unsupervised learning – orthogonal to performance.
2. **Endogeneity:** Horse-and-Jockey problem between CEO behavior and firm performance
Proposed solution: Matching model with frictions. Use CEO tenure and evolution of performance within same company.

- Two types of CEOs
- Simple CEO type strongly associated with firm performance ($>10\%$)
- Effect of CEO type on performance 2/3 years after CEO is hired
- CEO type \neq management practices
- Consistent with matching model with a scarce CEO type and an abundant CEO type

LITERATURE

- CEO activity analysis
 - Mintzberg (1973 – 5 CEOs), Kotter (1999 – 15 MDs), Luthans (1988 – 44 middle managers)
 - Aggregate, survey based (McKinsey 2013)
- Top Management Team theory (Hambrick-Mason 1984)
- CEO value added: Bertrand-Schoar (2003), Bennedsen et al (2007), Kaplan et al (2012), Mullins-Schoar
- Specific behaviors: Malmendier and Tate (2009)
- Management practices: Bloom-VanReenen (2007)

ROADMAP

1. Data
2. Types
3. Matching Model
4. Results

EXECUTIVE TIME USE PROJECT

- Collected in two waves (2011 and 2013) from a random sample of private and public manufacturing firms in Orbis:
 - Brazil, France, Germany, India, UK, US
- Team of 40 analysts and 5 managers based in London and Mumbai with two tasks:
 - Cold call CEOs
 - Randomly selected week
 - Collect detailed information on all activities lasting more than 15 minutes (via PA or CEO), in exchange of personalized time use analysis

EXAMPLE

ACTUAL AGENDA			
Tuesday			
On Tuesday, at what time did the Executive START working? Please consider all work-related activities (e.g. calls from home, breakfast meetings).		09:30 AM ▾	
On Tuesday, at what time did the Executive FINISH working? Please consider all work-related activities (e.g. calls from home, dinner meetings).		09:15 PM ▾	
Please enter all activities lasting more than 15 minutes for Tuesday. You can report up to 15 activities if necessary.			
Activity 1:	Preparing daily schedule/HQ/alone	Start Time:	09:30 AM ▾
Activity 2:	Checking MIS from Finance dept./HQ/alone	End Time:	10:00 AM ▾
Activity 3:	meeting / HQ/ consultant	Start Time:	10:00 AM ▾
Activity 4:	Emails/ HQ/ alone	End Time:	10:30 AM ▾
Activity 5:	Phonecall/ HQ/ Deputy CFO	Start Time:	12:00 PM ▾
Activity 6:	Emails/ HQ/ alone	End Time:	12:30 PM ▾
Activity 7:	Lunch/ HQ/ Executives	Start Time:	12:30 PM ▾
Activity 8:	Meeting/ HQ/ Business Head (Drill)	End Time:	01:15 PM ▾
Activity 9:	Phonecall/HQ/Marketing Head	Start Time:	01:15 PM ▾
Activity 10:	Phonecall/ HQ/ Customer	End Time:	01:30 PM ▾
Activity 11:	Increment Meeting/ HQ/HR Head	Start Time:	01:30 PM ▾
Activity 12:	Meeting for grading people/ HQ/ Finance Head	End Time:	02:30 PM ▾
Activity 13:	Phonecall / HQ / Manufacturing Head	Start Time:	02:30 PM ▾
Activity 14:	Emails/ HQ/ alone	End Time:	02:45 PM ▾
Activity 15:	Phonecall/HQ/ Marketing Head (South & west)	Start Time:	03:15 PM ▾
		End Time:	03:30 PM ▾
		Start Time:	03:30 PM ▾
		End Time:	04:00 PM ▾
		Start Time:	04:00 PM ▾
		End Time:	04:30 PM ▾
		Start Time:	04:30 PM ▾
		End Time:	06:00 PM ▾
		Start Time:	06:00 PM ▾
		End Time:	07:00 PM ▾
		Start Time:	07:00 PM ▾
		End Time:	07:45 PM ▾
Checked by supervisor?		Jardev ▾	

EXAMPLE

Activity 1: <div style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>		Type <input type="text"/>	
Start Time <input type="text"/>		When was the activity scheduled in agenda? <input type="text"/>	
End Time <input type="text"/>		Who participated in the activity, excluding the Executive? (check all that apply) People employed by firm INSIDERS <input type="checkbox"/> People not employed by firm OUTSIDERS <input type="checkbox"/>	
If unscheduled, was the activity undertaken due to an emergency? <input type="text"/>		What type of INSIDERS participated in the activity? (i.e. people employed by the firm)	
Did the activity take place inside the firm and/or HQ? <input type="text"/>		What type of OUTSIDERS participated in the activity? (i.e. people NOT employed by the firm)	
Where did the activity take place, relative to HQ? <input type="text"/>		Finance <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Communication <input type="checkbox"/> Production/Logistics <input type="checkbox"/> Strategy <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources <input type="checkbox"/> Business Unit Directors <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>	Clients <input type="checkbox"/> Suppliers <input type="checkbox"/> Banks <input type="checkbox"/> Investors <input type="checkbox"/> Lawyers <input type="checkbox"/> Management <input type="checkbox"/> Consultants <input type="checkbox"/> Politicians <input type="checkbox"/> Government Officials <input type="checkbox"/> Journalists <input type="checkbox"/> Unions <input type="checkbox"/> Competitors <input type="checkbox"/> Others <input type="checkbox"/>
How many people were present at the activity, excluding the Executive? <input type="text"/>		If "Others", specify: <input type="text"/>	If "Others", specify: <input type="text"/>

Data has 1,115 CEOs who perform 43,233 separate activities.

Restructure data so that 15 minute time block is unit of analysis: e.g. repeat one hour activity four times.

This ensures that characteristics of time use that tend to appear in short (long) activities are not over-represented (under-represented) in style estimates.

Yields 225,721 observations, or over 56,000 hours of CEO time

FEATURES

We characterize each time unit according to five separate features:

1. *Type* broadly describes the kind of activity. E.g. “Business Meal”, “Meeting”, etc.
2. *Duration* describes how long the activity lasts: “15 Min.”, “30 Min.”, “1 Hr.”, and “More than 1 Hr.”.
3. *Planned* indicates whether the activity was planned in advance by the CEO.
4. *One-on-One* indicates whether the activity involves an interaction with just one other person or more than one other person.
5. *Functions* describes the functions of those involved in the activity (besides the CEO). Feature is subset of all functions present.
 - 5.1 *Inside functions*, e.g. “Finance”, “Commercial Group”, “Production”
 - 5.2 *Outside functions*, e.g. “Clients”, “Suppliers”, “Consultants”, etc.

COMBINING FEATURES

We describe each time block as a combination of each separate feature.
Examples:

1. meeting + 1hrplus + planned + two_plus_ppl + {production}
2. meeting + 30m + unplanned + one_ppl + {marketing}
3. meeting + 1hrplus + unplanned + two_plus_ppl + {marketing, production}
4. public event + 1hrplus + planned + two_plus_ppl + {clients, suppliers, competitors}

4,253 unique combinations in the data.

BEHAVIOR AND DIMENSIONALITY REDUCTION

The large number of combinations makes it difficult to include all of them in a regression.

But we also don't want to arbitrarily exclude potentially important dimensions of variation.

Problem is that *ex ante* we have no way of knowing which dimensions are important.

We adopt an algorithmic approach that projects the high-dimensional feature space onto a lower-dimensional type space → Latent Dirichlet Allocation (Blei, Ng, Jordan 2003).

STATISTICAL MODEL

DEFINITION

A management behavior s is a distribution β^s over the set of combinations.

- Let there be S different behaviors.
- Any combination can have positive probability within any behavior.
- The same combination typically has different probabilities across behaviors.
- By allowing combinations, we admit arbitrary covariance patterns among individual features within behaviors. E.g. planning and activity length.

DEFINITION

A CEO i is a type θ_i , a distribution over set of behaviors.

- Each unit of time assigned behavior s drawn independently from θ_i .
- CEOs are individual-specific combinations of behaviors.

INTERPRETATION

We adopt a model with $S = 2$: minimal model with unobservable heterogeneity.

A CEO type is $\theta_i \in [0, 1]$.

Each unit of i 's time is has distribution over activities given by

$$\beta_i = \theta_i \beta^1 + (1 - \theta_i) \beta^0.$$

A pure type 1 (0) has $\theta_i = 1$ ($= 0$), and always adopts behavior β^1 (β^0).

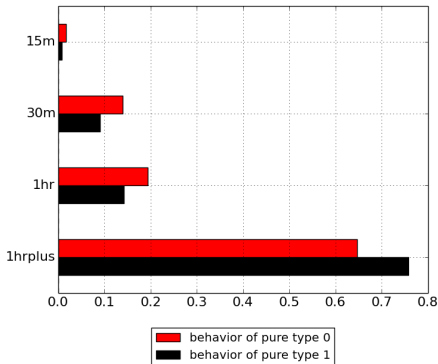
Our model allows CEOs to lie on a continuum in between these pure types \rightarrow mixed-membership rather than mixture model.

We use a Bayesian approach, and assign Dirichlet priors to β^s and θ_i .

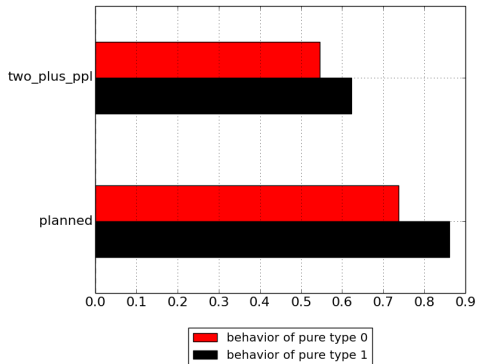
Estimate posterior distributions for β^s and θ_i with Gibbs sampling (Griffiths and Steyvers).

Easiest to interpret behaviors of pure types in terms of marginal distributions over individual features.

BEHAVIORAL DIFFERENCES I



(A) Duration



(B) Meeting Size and Planning

FIGURE: Basic Differences

BEHAVIORAL DIFFERENCES II

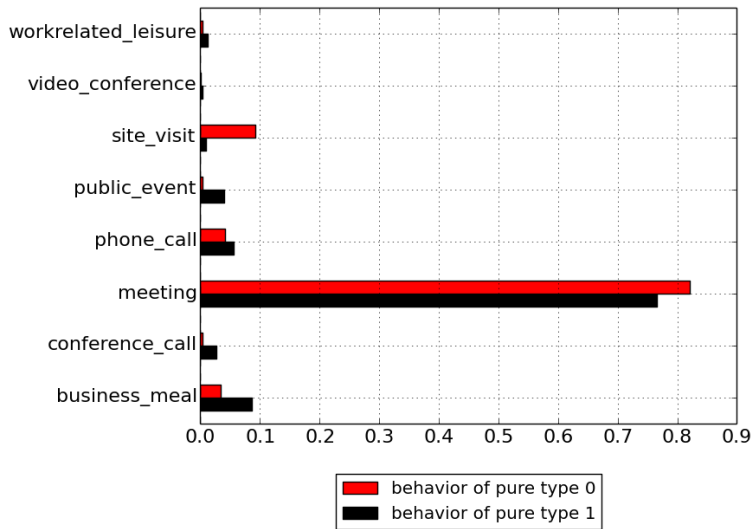
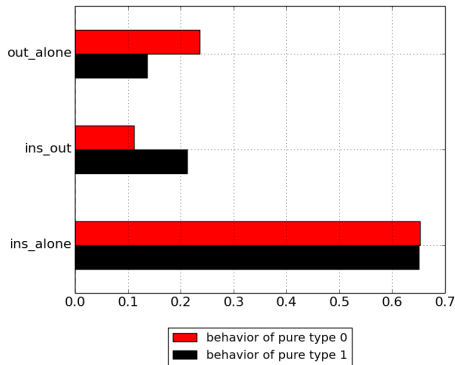
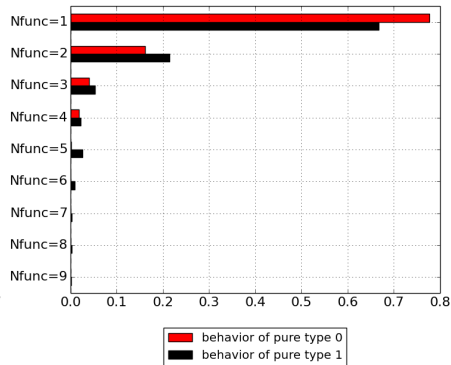


FIGURE: Type of Activity

BEHAVIORAL DIFFERENCES III



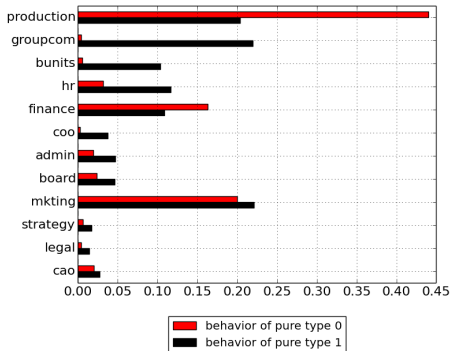
(A) Inside vs Outside Functions



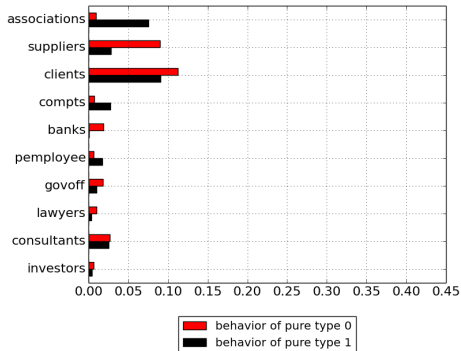
(B) Number of Functions

FIGURE: Aggregate Function Differences

BEHAVIORAL DIFFERENCES IV



(A) Inside Functions



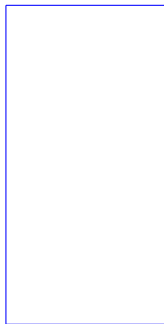
(B) Outside Functions

FIGURE: Detailed Function Differences

CEO-FIRM MATCHING MODEL

- Different types of CEOs and Firms. If a firm is run by the right type of CEO, productivity is higher
- Some CEO types may be more abundant
- CEO screening is imperfect (Khurana 2002)
- Dismissing CEOs is difficult (Bebchuk 2009)

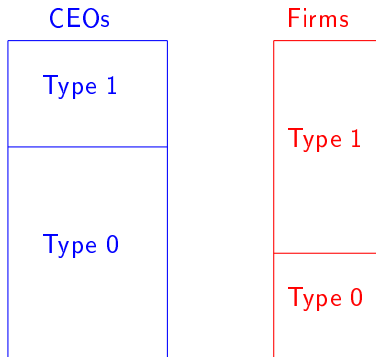
CEOs



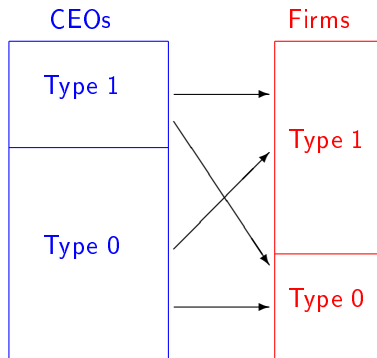
Firms



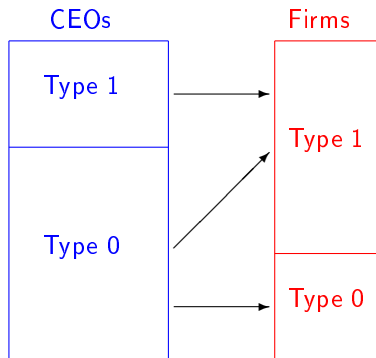
- Mass of firms: 1
- Mass of CEOs: $m > 1$



- Share of Type 1 CEOs: γ
- Share of Type 1 Firms: $\phi > 1$
- Type 1 CEOs are scarce
- Firm productivity is 1 if CEO type = Firm type and zero if it is mismatched



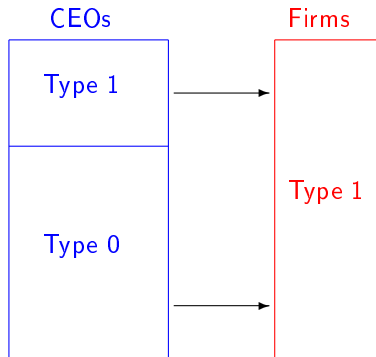
- CEOs submit applications to a job market
- They declare their type
- Firms process applications sequentially at cost c and can detect liars with probability $\rho \in (0, 1)$



PROPOSITION

In equilibrium:

- *All scarce-type CEOs are correctly matched;*
- *Some abundant-type CEOs are mismatched;*
- *The average productivity of firms run by abundant-type CEOs is lower than that of firms run by scarce-type*



COROLLARY

If all firms are Type 1:

- *All scarce-type CEOs are correctly matched;*
- *All abundant-type CEOs are mismatched;*
- *The average productivity of firms run by abundant-type CEOs is lower than that of firms run by scarce-type*

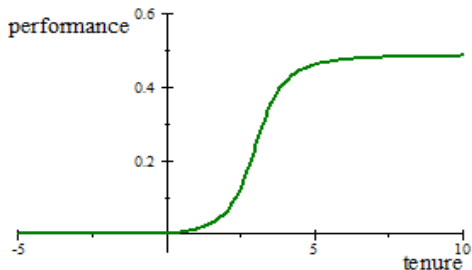
CEO-FIRM MATCHING MODEL: DYNAMICS

- Suppose a new CEO affects productivity gradually

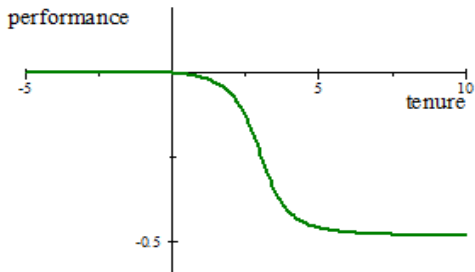
$$y_t = w_f + (1 - \alpha_t) x_{fc}^{\text{old}} + \alpha_t x_{fc}^{\text{new}},$$

- Consider a sample of firms for which: (i) we know the type of the current CEO; (ii) we do not know the firm type; (iii) we do not know the type of the previous CEO

- Suppose the current CEO belongs to the **scarce type** (hence we know it's a match).
- The previous CEO may have belonged to the scarce type (match) or the abundant type (mismatch).



- Suppose the current CEO belongs to the **abundant type** (hence we know it's a mismatch with some probability).
- If it is a match, it was a match with the previous CEO. If it is a mismatch, it might have been a match with the previous CEO.



ESTIMATION EXERCISE

- Cross-section of CEOs and firms.
- We observe the types of CEOs at a given time as well as the performance of their firms over the years before and after the CEO started
- We do not observe the type of the firm (nor the distribution of firm types) and the type of the previous CEO
- We do not know which CEO type is scarce and which is abundant.
- Within the matching model, we can tell which type of CEO is relatively scarce and which type is relatively abundant.
- (Alternative stories...)

THE HORSE, NOT THE JOCKEY?



- We observe the performance of CEO/Firm pairs and the type of CEOs. Our story is that firms may end up with the wrong type of CEO and that hurts performance/.
- Reverse Causality stories:
 - Firms with different performance levels hire different CEO types (OR have CEOs/PAs who answer our survey in different ways)
 - When a firm's performance changes, the firm fires its CEO and hires a new one with a different type
 - When a firm predicts that its performance will change, it fires its CEO and hires a new one with a different type (two years before the change)

Table 1: Summary Statistics

Variable	N	Mean	Median	Standard Deviation
CEO type	1055	0.35	0.25	0.33
Total Hours Recorded	1055	51.99	51.25	11.08
Total hours Worked	1055	41.44	41.00	10.02
Number of days worked in the week	1055	5.36	5.00	0.68
CEO age	1050	51.00	52.00	8.49
CEO gender	1055	0.96	1.00	0.18
CEO has college degree	1055	0.92	1.00	0.27
CEO has MBA	1055	0.54	1.00	0.50
CEO tenure in post	1052	10.41	7.00	9.59
CEO tenure in firm	1051	17.25	16.00	11.56
CEO has studied abroad	1055	0.48	0.00	0.50
CEO has appointments in other firms	1055	0.26	0.00	0.44
Multinational firm	1055	0.24	0.00	0.43
Employment	1054	1275.47	300.00	6497.72
Number of CEO direct reports	1055	7.76	7.00	3.70
COO exists	1055	0.32	0.00	0.46

Figure 1 - Correlation CEO type and TFP over CEO tenure

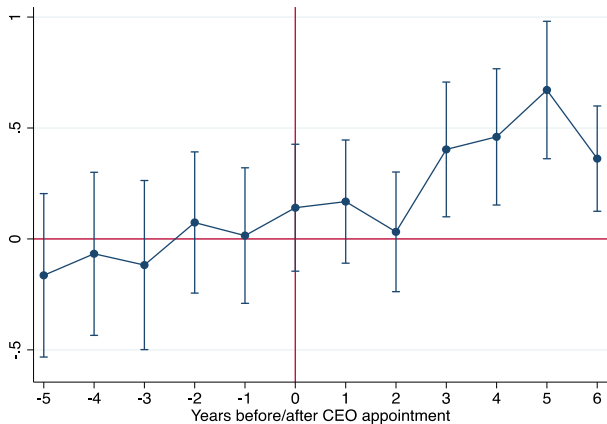


Table 3: CEO Type and Firm Performance - Tenure Regressions

Dependent Variable	(1)	(2)	(3) Log(sales)	(4)	(5)
CEO type	0.246*** (0.092)	0.063 (0.131)	0.049 (0.134)	0.063 (0.120)	
log(employment)	0.578*** (0.038)	0.578*** (0.038)	0.578*** (0.038)	0.578*** (0.038)	0.845*** (0.109)
log(capital)	0.348*** (0.032)	0.348*** (0.032)	0.347*** (0.032)	0.348*** (0.032)	0.098** (0.038)
after CEO appt		-0.205*** (0.079)			
CEO coordinator type*after CEO appt		0.261** (0.131)			
year 0-2 after CEO appt			-0.046 (0.066)		
CEO coordinator type*year 0-2 after CEO appt			0.043 (0.112)		
year 3-6 after CEO appt			-0.256*** (0.089)	-0.237*** (0.075)	-0.062 (0.041)
CEO coordinator type*year 3-over after CEO appt			0.334** (0.151)	0.317** (0.131)	0.123** (0.059)
R-squared	0.874	0.875	0.876	0.876	0.984
Observations	2457	2457	2457	2457	651
Number of firms	591	591	591	591	125
Sample	all	all	all	all	balanced
Controls:					
Year	y	y	y	y	y
Industry	y	y	y	y	y

Table 4: CEO Type, Management and Firm Performance

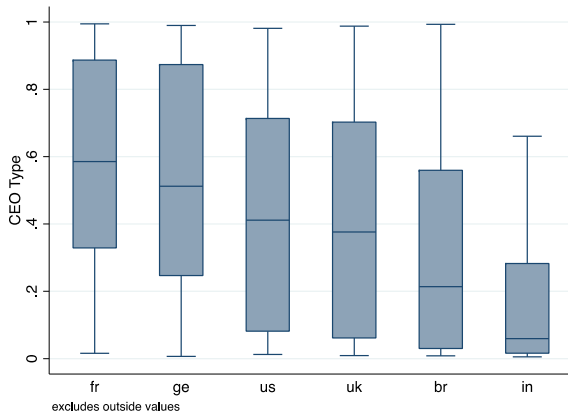
Dependent Variable	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
	CEO coordinator type					Log(sales)		
CEO type						0.581** (0.258)		0.519** (0.254)
Management (z-score)	0.061* (0.031)						0.233*** (0.072)	0.217*** (0.069)
Operations (z-score)		0.069** (0.032)						
Monitoring (z-score)			0.077** (0.032)					
Targets (zscore)				0.018 (0.028)				
People (zscore)					0.045 (0.031)			
log(employment)	0.084** (0.034)	0.090*** (0.034)	0.086*** (0.033)	0.088*** (0.033)	0.082** (0.034)	0.923*** (0.078)	0.873*** (0.067)	0.875*** (0.063)
R-squared	0.135	0.142	0.151	0.110	0.123	0.713	0.723	0.735
Observations	177	177	177	177	177	344	344	344
Number of firms	177	177	177	177	177	120	120	120
Controls:								
Year	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Industry	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Country	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Noise	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y
Cluster	Firm	Firm	Firm	Firm	Firm	Firm	Firm	Firm

Table 5: CEO-Firm Match

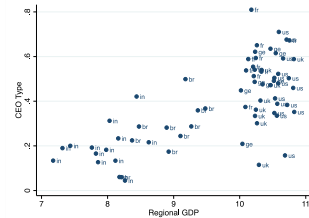
Dependent Variable	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
	CEO type			
firm size	0.052*** (0.008)	0.055*** (0.007)	0.054*** (0.007)	0.056*** (0.007)
task abstraction		0.036*** (0.013)	0.033** (0.013)	
log(CEO age)			-0.003 (0.043)	-0.016 (0.052)
MBA			0.060*** (0.022)	0.067** (0.026)
R-squared	0.229	0.240	0.246	0.250
Observations	1055	1055	1055	1055
Controls:				
Country	y	y	y	y
Noise	y	y	y	y
CEO (mba & age)			y	y
Industry				y
Cluster	Industry	Industry	Industry	Industry

Figure 2: CEO TYPE ACROSS COUNTRIES AND REGIONS

A. CEO Type by country



B. CEO Type by regional GDP per capita



C. CEO Type by regional skills

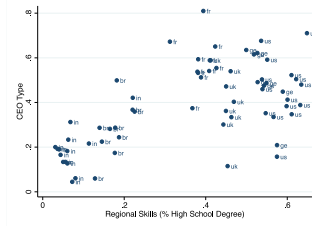
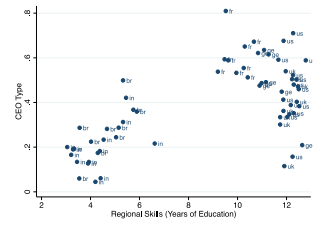


Table 6: CEO and Firm Performance by Region

Dependent Variable			Log(sales)		
CEO type	0.358*** (0.094)	0.548*** (0.141)	1.841** (0.843)	1.110*** (0.367)	0.702*** (0.184)
CEO type* high income country		-0.432** (0.172)			
CEO type*region gdp			-0.158* (0.087)		
CEO type*region skills level				-0.389** (0.170)	-1.149*** (0.423)
region gdp			0.201* (0.103)		
region skills level				0.306 (0.254)	0.716 (0.947)
log(employment)	0.911*** (0.029)	0.912*** (0.029)	0.913*** (0.030)	0.912*** (0.030)	0.913*** (0.030)
R-squared	0.791	0.792	0.792	0.792	0.793
N	1905	1905	1905	1905	1905
Number of firms	712	712	712	712	712
Skill measure				log(years of education)	% pop with high school degree
Controls:					
	Year	y	y	y	y
	Industry	y	y	y	y
	Country	y	y	y	y
	Noise	y	y	y	y
Cluster	Firm	Firm	Region	Region	Region

Figure 3 CEO and Firm Performance by Region

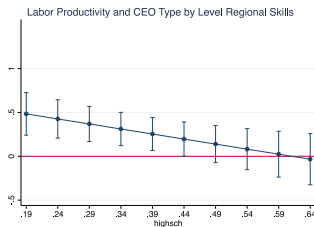
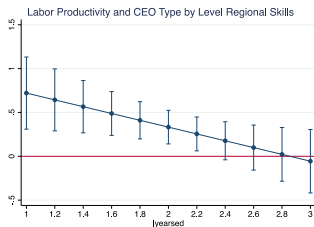
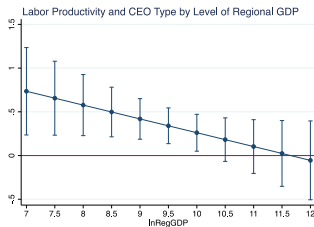


Table 7: CEO-Firm match by region

Dependent Variable	CEO type			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
firm size	0.045*** (0.011)	-0.112 (0.075)	-0.007 (0.036)	0.033* (0.018)
firm size * high income country	0.029* (0.015)			
firm size * region gdp		0.018** (0.008)		
firm size * region skill			0.034** (0.017)	0.088** (0.042)
Region GDP		-0.022 (0.064)		
Region skill			-0.023 (0.134)	0.008 (0.383)
R-squared	0.252	0.260	0.257	0.255
N	1055	1055	1055	1055
Skill measure			log(years of education)	% pop with high school degree
Controls:				
CEO (mba & age)	y	y	y	y
Industry	y	y	y	y
Country	y	y	y	y
Noise	y	y	y	y
Cluster	Firm	Region	Region	Region

CONCLUSIONS

- CEO behavior helps explain firm performance
 - coordinator beats micromanager
- Effect occurs 2/3 years after CEO is hired
- Consistent with mismatch between CEO supply and CEO demand

CONNECTION WITH LEADERSHIP STUDIES

- Benefits of having a coordinator in more complex organizations?
- Bolton et al (2009): two types of leaders. The good type – resolute – is a better coordinator
 - Kaplan et al (2012) traits of successful CEOs
- Mintzberg: Strategy as a process that requires structured communication
- Kotter (1999): Leadership = aligning people
 - Trying to get people to comprehend a vision of an alternative future is also a communications challenge of a completely different magnitude from organizing them to fulfill a short-term plan