

Chances and risks of data-driven decision making for labour market policy

Michael Lechner, Michael Knaus (AP), Jana Mareckova (AP), Hannah Busshoff (PhD)

General Goal

Assess performance of causal machine learning for decision making in economic policy

Application

Personalized assignment of unemployed to different programs of Swiss ALMP

3 phases (theory & empirical work):

- (i) Estimate individualized effects of different programs (UE's perspective)
- (ii) Optimal allocation: Simulations of different schemes on Swiss data (policy maker's perspective)
- (iii) Implementation in practice (caseworker's perspective)

Connections

- Close collaboration with the stakeholder SECO (Data and potential implementation)

Current Stage of the Project

- Data contract was signed in August 2021 (delayed due to pandemic)
- Code base development and testing
- Literature Review

Helpful Inputs from the NRP Network

- Insights for potential real implementation of the recommendation systems (human-machine interaction)
- Identify alternative fields of applications