

## Horizontal and Vertical Advice in School Matching

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This talk is motivated by the idea that economic mechanisms should be tested in the environments in which they are used in the real world as well as in the environment posited by theory. For example, in school matching parents whose children are currently in the match receive advice not only from their friends who are experiencing the match with them (horizontal advice) but also their predecessors who participated in the recent past (vertical advice). This talk presents the results of two experimental papers that investigate the impact of these two types of advice on the functioning of two commonly used matching mechanisms: the Boston and Gale-Shapley mechanisms. We find that both types of advice can have dramatic effects on the efficiency of these mechanisms as well as the strategies employed by the participants.