The Impact of Baggage Fees on Passenger Demand, Airfares, and Airline Operations in the US

by

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The Hong Kong Polytechnic University

Abstract:
The talk explores the impact of baggage fees on passenger demand, airfares and airline operations in the United States. Fees for a first or second checked bag were first imposed by American Airlines on US domestic flights in 2008. Other major carriers followed suit, with the exception of Southwest Airlines, which still does not assess fees for (two) checked bags and JetBlue Airways, which only began imposing fees in 2015. Using these holdout carriers for comparison purposes, the analysis shows how demand and pricing have adjusted for the fee-charging and no-fee carriers. Moreover, models are estimated to demonstrate demand shifts among the carriers on competitive routes, and to show how the fees have impacted operational performance.

Bio:
Martin Dresner is Professor of Logistics and Transportation at the R.H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland. He received his Ph.D. in Policy Analysis from the University of British Columbia. Dresner has published over 80 papers in refereed journals, with research focusing on two broad areas, air transport economics and supply chain management. Professionally, he is President of the Air Transport Research Society (ATRS) and former president of the Transportation and Public Utilities Group (TPUG) of the Allied Social Sciences Association, and of the Transportation Research Forum (TRF).

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All are welcome!