Explaining Productivity Trends in Canada

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Paper Abstract:
This paper presents trends in productivity growth from the productivity accounts of Statistics Canada. It outlines a number of recent experiments and extensions to the productivity accounts in order to better understand productivity trends in Canada. First, it extends the asset coverage in capital input measure to include natural capital, intangible capital and public infrastructure capital and takes into account the changes in the utilization of capital. Second, it presents a measure of productivity by end products to examine the productivity effect of outsourcing and offshoring. Third, it presents an experimental measure of direct output for health and education sectors to examine productivity performance in those sectors.