

Behavioral and Experimental Economics Reading Group

Tilman Fries, Daniel Parra, Sebastian Schweighofer-Kodritsch

Fall 2019

E-mail: tilman.fries@wzb.eu, daniel.parra@wzb.eu, sebastian.kodritsch@gmail.com

Time: Wednesdays 4 - 6 p.m.

Venue: WZB Berlin Room D112/113

Credits: 3 ECTS

Course Description

In this reading group, we will discuss current research in behavioral and experimental economics with a focus on developing own research ideas. Participants are expected to lead the discussion of an article 2-3 times per semester (depending on the number of participants) and are encouraged to relate the discussed papers to their own research and to identify open questions that they might work on in their future research. By joining the reading group, students can commit to read and discuss interesting research each week and benefit from a cooperative environment where we help each other to understand details and to identify the gist of a paper.

Required Materials

- We will discuss recently published work and current working papers. Readings will be communicated in advance. Discussion leaders are encouraged to suggest their own readings.

Prerequisites

The course is primarily aimed at PhD students with an interest in Behavioral Economics.

Course Objectives

The course is meant to give participants an overview of current research in Behavioral and Experimental Economics. By relating to discussions in different sub-fields, participants will get a deeper understanding of the variety of research methods in Behavioral Economics. This should help participants to identify strengths and weaknesses of different approaches, and will further help them to develop ideas for their own research. By emphasizing methodological aspects, we

hope that participants will improve their own research design and will be introduced to new experimental research methods.

Schedule

We will discuss papers related to different topics. Below is a list of suggested papers that can be discussed during the course.

- Augenblick, N. and Rabin, M. (2019). An Experiment on Time Preference and Misprediction in Unpleasant Tasks. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 86(3):941–975.
- Backus, M., Blake, T., and Tadelis, S. (2019). On the Empirical Content of Cheap-Talk Signaling: An Application to Bargaining. *Journal of Political Economy*, 127(4):1599–1628.
- Bartling, B., Weber, R. A., and Yao, L. (2015). Do Markets Erode Social Responsibility? *. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 130(1):219–266.
- Bhaskar, V. and Thomas, C. (2019). Community Enforcement of Trust with Bounded Memory. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 86(3):1010–1032.
- Bohren, J. A., Imas, A., and Rosenberg, M. (2019). The Dynamics of Discrimination: Theory and Evidence. *American Economic Review*, 109(9):3395–3436.
- Carlana, M. (2019). Implicit Stereotypes: Evidence from Teachers' Gender Bias*. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 134(3):1163–1224.
- Che, Y.-K. and Mierendorff, K. (2019). Optimal Dynamic Allocation of Attention. *American Economic Review*, 109(8):2993–3029.
- DellaVigna, S. and Gentzkow, M. (2019). Uniform Pricing in U.S. Retail Chains*. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 134(4):2011–2084.
- Gauriot, R. and Page, L. (2019). Fooled by Performance Randomness: Overrewarding Luck. *The Review of Economics and Statistics*, 101(4):658–666.
- Haggag, K., Pope, D. G., Bryant-Lees, K. B., and Bos, M. W. (2019). Attribution Bias in Consumer Choice. *The Review of Economic Studies*, 86(5):2136–2183.
- Kosse, F., Deckers, T., Pinger, P., Schildberg-Hoerisch, H., and Falk, A. (2019). The Formation of Prosociality: Causal Evidence on the Role of Social Environment. *Journal of Political Economy*.
- Li, S. (2017). Obviously Strategy-Proof Mechanisms. *American Economic Review*, 107(11):3257–3287.
- Martínez-Marquina, A., Niederle, M., and Vespa, E. (2019). Failures in Contingent Reasoning: The Role of Uncertainty. *American Economic Review*, 109(9):3437–3474.
- Sadoff, S., Samek, A., and Sprenger, C. (2019). Dynamic Inconsistency in Food Choice: Experimental Evidence from Two Food Deserts. *The Review of Economic Studies*.

Spiegler, R. (2019). Behavioral Economics and the Atheoretical Style. *American Economic Journal: Microeconomics*, 11(2):173–194.

Toussaert, S. (2018). Eliciting Temptation and Self-Control Through Menu Choices: A Lab Experiment. *Econometrica*, 86(3):859–889.

Zimmermann, F. (2019). The Dynamics of Motivated Beliefs.