



BONN ECON NEWS

FACHBEREICH WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS January 24 – 28, 2022

Tuesday, Jan 25 2022

Applied Micro / CRC TR 224 / Workshop, in Co-operation with briq

16:00 CET, via Zoom, details below

Flavio Cunha, Rice Univ.

“An Evaluation of the Alief Independent School District Jump Start Program: Using a Model to Recover Mechanisms from an RCT”

Wednesday, Jan 26, 2022

Micro Workshop BGSE

12:00 CET, via Zoom, details below

Simon Block, BGSE

“Voting on the Taxation of (Carbon) Emissions”

Finance and Insurance / CRC TR 224 / ECONtribute Seminar

14:45 CET, via Zoom, details below

Matthew Backus, Univ. of Columbia

“Common Ownership and Competition in the Ready-To-Eat Cereal Industry”

Macro/Econometrics/Finance (MEF) Seminar
In Co-operation with UCL

via Zoom, details below

tba

Micro Theory Seminar

16:30 CET, via Zoom, details below

Sara Shahanaghi, Columbia Univ.

“Competition and Errors in Breaking News”

Thursday, Jan 27, 2022

Bonn MacroHistory Seminar

16:00 CET, via Zoom, details below

Gyözö Gyöngyösi, Leibniz Institute for Financial Research (SAFE)

“The Anatomy of Consumption in a Household Foreign Currency Debt Crisis”

Friday, Jan 28, 2022

YEP Seminar ECONtribute

13:00 CET, via Zoom, details below

Saskia Opitz, Univ. Cologne

tba

BGSE Applied Micro Workshop

13:00 CET, via Zoom, details below

Andrea Amelio, BGSE

“Can Information be Too Much? Source Selection and Beliefs”

BGSE Applied Micro Workshop

14:30 CET, via Zoom, details below

Lenard Paul Simon, Jakob Wegmann, BGSE

„Withheld from Working More? Withholding Taxes and Female Labour Supply”

Applied Micro / CRC TR 224 Workshop, in Co-operation with brig

Flavio Cunha, Rice Univ.

“An Evaluation of the Alief Independent School District Jump Start Program: Using a Model to Recover Mechanisms from an RCT”

(with Andrea Salvati, Ken Wolpin)

Abstract

Recent research shows that the substantial differences in school readiness observed at the beginning of Kindergarten across socio-economic groups are partly due to disparities in children’s early environment quality. Consistent with a wide range of data, theory suggests that early interventions that target malleable, fundamental skills during sensitive periods of development in early childhood could help close these gaps. Empirical evidence shows that small-scale parenting interventions implemented by high-quality staff can improve parental investments and boost child development. Evidence about the impact of large-scale parenting interventions is more mixed. This paper reports the evaluation of a parenting intervention developed and implemented by the Alief Independent School District in Texas. The intervention’s goal is to encourage and train parents to teach their children foundational skills for Pre-K. The results of a randomized controlled trial based on three yearly cohorts show that the program impacted parental investments and child development as measured by two different tests of school readiness. We go beyond reporting program impacts by building and estimating a model of parental choice of input levels. Our model allows for a production function of knowledge that features individual-specific coefficients that capture parental inputs’ marginal productivity. We find that the model estimates validate the mechanism we posit for the program’s impact.

Zoom Seminar, Zoom URL TBA via mailing list

Micro Workshop BGSE

Simon Block, BGSE

“Voting on the Taxation of (Carbon) Emissions”

Abstract

We introduce a model of strategic voting on the taxation of emissions that impose a negative externality on the population of voters. A defining feature of the model is that the negative effect of emissions on utility varies between voters. Each voter’s optimal voting decision depends on the expected reduction in emissions induced by the tax policy and an expected transfer. We study the choice of a policy maker who aims to reduce total emissions but whose proposed tax policy will only be implemented if it passes a popular vote. In particular, we study the question under which circumstances it is more desirable to use tax revenues for abatement, and when it is better to redistribute the revenues to voters.

Zoom: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/96045476214?pwd=VjkvMUowVDFBeHovZmtxYVExb0d2dz09>

Finance and Insurance / CRC TR 224 / ECONtribute Seminar

Matthew Backus, Univ. of Columbia

“Common Ownership and Competition in the Ready-To-Eat Cereal Industry”
(with Christopher Conlon, Michael Sinkinson)

Abstract

Models of firm conduct are the cornerstone of both theoretical and empirical work in industrial organization. A recent contribution (Berry and Haile, 2014) has suggested the use of exclusion restrictions to test alternative conduct models. We propose a pairwise testing procedure based on this idea and show that the power of the test to discriminate between models is tied to the formulation of those restrictions as moments and how they reflect the nonlinearity of equilibrium markups. We apply this test to the ready-to-eat cereal market using detailed scanner and consumer data to evaluate the “common ownership” hypothesis, which has received significant attention. Although we show that the potential magnitude of common ownership effects would be large, our test finds that standard own-firm profit maximization is more consistent with the data.

Zoom: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/95735374743?pwd=T3BYbWt1bVZNelkvcDV3SUcxUlkrUT09>

Macro/Econometrics/Finance (MEF) Seminar, in Co-operation with UCL

Please refer to: <https://www.mee.uni-bonn.de/seminars>

Micro Theory Seminar

Sara Shahanaghi, Columbia Univ.

“Competition and Errors in Breaking News”

Abstract

Reporting errors are endemic to breaking news, even though accuracy is prized by consumers. I present a continuous-time model to understand the strategic forces behind such reporting errors. News firms are rewarded for reporting before their competitors, but also for making reports that are credible in the eyes of consumers. Errors occur when firms fake, reporting a story despite lacking evidence. I establish existence and uniqueness of an equilibrium, which is characterized by a system of ordinary differential equations. Errors are driven by both a lack of commitment and by competition. A lack of commitment power gives rise to errors even in the absence of competition: firms are tempted to fake after their credibility has been established, capitalizing on the inability of consumers to detect fake reports. Competition exacerbates faking by engendering a preemptive motive. In addition, competition introduces observational learning, which causes errors to propagate through the market. The equilibrium features rich dynamics. Firms become gradually more credible over time whenever there is a preemptive motive. The increase in credibility rewards firms for taking their time, and thus endogenously mitigates the haste-inducing effects of preemption. A firm’s behavior will also change in response to a rival report. This can take the form of a copycat effect, in which one firm’s report triggers an immediate surge in faking by others.

Zoom: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/96045476214?pwd=VjkuMUowVDFBeHovZmtxYVExb0d2dz09>

Bonn MacroHistory Seminar

Gyözö Gyöngyösi, Leibniz Institute for Financial Research (SAFE)

“The Anatomy of Consumption in a Household Foreign Currency Debt Crisis”

(with Judit Rariga, Emil Verner)

Abstract

This paper studies the consumption response to an increase in the domestic value of foreign currency household debt during a large depreciation. We use detailed consumption survey data that follows households for four years around Hungary’s 2008 currency crisis. We find that, relative to similar local currency debtors, foreign currency debtors reduce consumption approximately one-for-one with increased debt service, suggesting a role for liquidity constraints. We document a variety of margins of adjustment to the shock. Foreign currency debtors reduce both the quantity and quality of expenditures, consistent with nonhomothetic preferences and “flight from quality.” We find no effect on overall household labor supply, consistent with a weak wealth effect on labor supply. However, a small subset of households adjusts labor supply toward foreign income streams. Affected households also boost home production, suggesting a shift in consumption from money-intensive to time-intensive goods .

Zoom: <https://uni-bonn.zoom.us/j/99710470576?pwd=WnZ1b21vbWhuUEtIT0w5NURBNng1Zz09>

Meeting ID: 997 1047 0576

Passcode: 988946

YEP Seminar ECONtribute

Saskia Opitz, Univ. Cologne

tba

BGSE Applied Micro Workshops

Andrea Amelio, BGSE

“Can Information be Too Much? Source Selection and Beliefs”

Abstract

Agents undertaking economic decisions are exposed to an ever-increasing amount of information sources, especially now in what has been defined as the Information Age. In this project, I investigate how the number of information sources impacts agents’ ability to (1) select reliable sources and (2) use their content effectively. To answer this question, I set up an online experiment based on an automata model of decision making and belief updating. The main hypothesis is that cognitively bounded agents may be worse-off when having access to a too large set of information sources, even if larger sets contain sources of higher quality. I find that participants’ source selection performances deteriorate as the amount of available sources increases. Also, *ceteris paribus*, their performance in updating their beliefs using the selected sources worsens. These results may help to guide policy-making decisions, providing evidence on potential externalities of information production.

Lenard Paul Simon, Jakob Wegmann, BGSE

„Withheld from Working More? Withholding Taxes and Female Labour Supply”

Abstract

Most countries use an income tax system with withholding taxes. In such a system, the employer deducts the expected income tax payments as withholding taxes from the monthly pay slip. These payments are then credited against the final income tax liability when the individual is filing their income taxes. In this project, we focus on the withholding tax system for married couples in Germany, which allows the couple to choose from different schedules that result in different withholding tax burdens for each partner. The most commonly chosen schedule shifts part of the withholding tax burden to the female spouse and thereby reduces her monthly net income. Using administrative German tax data, we document the use of withholding tax classes in Germany and propose an empirical strategy to measure its effect on labour supply.

Zoom Seminar, Zoom URL TBA via mailing list

Redaktionsschluss / Deadline
BONN ECON NEWS Jan 31 – Feb 04, 2022
Wednesday, Jan 26, 2022
12:00

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and no text in body.