



GESY

Governance and The Efficiency of Economic Systems

Newsletter

Sonderforschungsbereich Transregio 15 • A cooperation of: FU Berlin • HU Berlin • Universität Bonn • Universität Mannheim • ZEW Mannheim • LMU München

Newsletter No. 2

February 2012

Please note: The SFB TR 15 Newsletter will be prepared and published by the SFB TR 15 office in Munich from now on.

Contact: Tina Brinkmann, sfb-tr15@vwl.uni-muenchen.de.

SFB/TR 15 Seminars

Berlin		
Date	Speaker (Institution)	Title
December 12	Dino Gerardi, Collegio Carlo Alberto	"The Role of Commitment in Bilateral Trade"
December 19	Jacob Goeree, Uni Zürich	"A Geometric Approach to Mechanism Design (with Alexey Kushnir)"
January 2	Anke Kessler, Simon Fraser University, Vancouver	"Ideologues: Explaining Partisanship and Persistence in Politics (and Elsewhere)"
January 9	Felix Vardy, Berkeley	"Demand for Slant: How Abstention Shapes Voters' Choice of News Media."
January 16	Felix Bierbrauer, Uni Köln	"Mechanism Design and Intentions"
January 23	Philipp Kirchner, Berlin	"Assortative Matching and the Size of the Firm" (joint with Jan Eeckhout)
Bonn		
Date	Speaker (Institution)	Title
January 17	Iwan Bos, Maastricht University	"Explicit versus Tacit Collusion: A Theory of Cartel Formation"
January 19	Petr Sedláček, University of Amsterdam	"Firm age, business cycles and aggregate labor market dynamics"
January 24	Jens-Uwe Franck, University of Munich and Patrick Andreoli-Versbach, University of Munich	"Forensic Application of Economic Evidence: Detecting Tacit Coordinations in Oligopolistic Markets"
January 26	Matthew Rabin, University of California	"Rational Observational Learning"
January 31	Doron Teichman, Hebrew University of Jerusalem	"Reference Points and Contractual Choices: An Empirical Examination"
February 7	Carl Christian von Weizsäcker, MPI Bonn	"tba"

Mannheim		
Date	Speaker (Institution)	Title
October 4	Guido Friebel, Goethe University of Frankfurt	"The Costs and Benefits of Multi-tasking"
October 11	Gregory Crawford, University of Warwick	"The Welfare Effects of Monopoly Quality Choice: Evidence from Cable Television Markets"
October 18	Jakub Kastl, Stanford University	"The 2007 Subprime Market Crisis in the EURO Area Through the Lens of ECB Repo Auctions"
October 25	Alon Eizenberg, Hebrew University	"Upstream Innovation and Product Variety in the U.S. Home PC Market"
November 8	Sergei Kovbasyuk, Toulouse School of Economics	"Optimal Certification Design "
November 15	Daniel Sturm, LSE	"The Economics of Density: Evidence from the Berlin Wall"
November 22	Philippe Février, ENSAE	"Nonparametric identification using group theory"
November 29	Pierre Dubois, Toulouse School of Economics	"Price and brand competition between differentiated retailers: A structural econometric model"
December 6	Daniel Krähmer, University of Bonn	"The benefits of sequential screening"

External Research Visits, Lectures and Seminars of SFB/TR 15 Members

A7 (Strausz/Wolfstetter)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Roland Strausz	The Benefits of Sequential Screening, Oxford University, United Kingdom	January 31
A8 (Rady)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Sven Rady	presented his paper "Strongly Symmetric Equilibria in Bandit Games" (joint with Nicolas Klein and Johannes Hörner), Frankfurt University	January 17

B5 (Eckel/Schnitzer)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Iris Kesternich	Harvard Center for Population and Development Studies (talk: "Long-term effects of WWII on economic and health outcomes across Europe" (joint with Bettina Siflinger, James Smith, Joachim Winter))	December 9
C5 (Nocke)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Volker Nocke	Northwestern University (USA), Host: Michael Whinston, Topic: Dynamic Merger Policy and Dynamic Bargaining (with Michael Whinston and Mark Satterthwaite)	January 3 - February 4
C8 (Falk)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Armin Falk	Gastreferent, Psychobiologisches Kolloquium (Prof. Heinrichs), "Early life-circumstances and preference formation - The case of breastfeeding durations"	January 19
Armin Falk	Konferenz von Handelsblatt und Stifterverband "Ökonomie neu denken", Vortrag: "Neue Spielregeln wirtschaftlichen Handelns - Konsumentensouveränität versus sanfter Paternalismus"	January 23

New Discussion Papers

A7 (Strausz/Wolfstetter)		
Name	Title	Number
Elmar Wolfstetter (joint with Byoung Heon Jun (NA))	<p>Security bid auctions for agency contracts</p> <p>Abstract: A principal uses security bid auctions to award an incentive contract to one among several agents, in the presence of hidden action and hidden information. Securities range from cash to equity and call options. “Steeper” securities are better surplus extractors that narrow the gap between the two highest valuations, yet reduce effort incentives. In view of this trade-off, the generalized equity auction that includes a (possibly negative) cash reward to the winner tends to outperform all other auctions, although it cannot extract the entire surplus and implement efficient effort. Hence, profit sharing emerges without risk aversion or limited liability.</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i> Auctions, agency problems, licensing, innovation, mechanism design <i>JEL Classification:</i> D21, D43, D44, D45, January 2012</p>	371
B5 (Eckel/Schnitzer)		
Name	Title	Number
Dalia Marin	<p>The Theory of the Firm goes Global</p> <p>Abstract: What insights can be gained from bringing the theory of the firm to the global economy? I discuss several new features of the world economy that can be explained by incorporating the theory of the firm into the theory of international trade. Among the new features I discuss are the move to flatter corporate hierarchies and the decentralization of authority in firms, the “war for talent”, the rise of CEO pay in rich countries, organizational convergence across countries, and firm heterogeneity.</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i> International Trade and Organizations, Firm heterogeneity, Organizational convergence, Decentralization in the firm, The rise of CEO pay <i>JEL Classification:</i> F, F23, D21, L22, January 2012</p>	370

Publications

A2 (Konrad)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Kai A. Konrad (joint with Benny Geys (NA), Salmal Qari (NA))	"Patriotism, Taxation and International Mobility", Public Choice, 695-717, forthcoming, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals, Publisher: Springer Science + Business Media	2012
Kai A. Konrad (joint with Salmal Qari (NA))	"The Last Refuge of a Scoundrel? Patriotism and Tax Compliance", Economica, forthcoming, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012
Kai A. Konrad (joint with Dan Kovenock (NA))	"The Lifeboat Problem", European Economic Review, forthcoming, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals, Publisher: Elsevier	2012
Kai A. Konrad (joint with May Elsayyad (NA))	"Fighting Multiple Tax Havens", Journal of International Economics, forthcoming, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012
B4 (Kräkel)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Matthias Kräkel	"Competitive Careers as a Way to Mediocracy", European Journal of Political Economy , 76-87, Peer-reviewed: yes, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012
Matthias Kräkel (joint with Michael Beckmann (NA))	"Internal Rent Seeking, Works Councils, and Optimal Establishment Size", European Economic Review , forthcoming, Peer-reviewed: yes, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012
Petra Nieken (joint with Oliver Gürtler (NA), Johannes Münster (A1))	"Information Policy in Tournaments with Sabotage", Scandinavian Journal of Economics, forthcoming, Peer-reviewed: yes, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012

New/Leaving Staff

A8 (Rady)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Gilbert Spiegel, Piers Trepper	are leaving project A8	December 31
Philipp Strack	is joining project A8	January 1

SFB/TR 15 Newsletter, speaker: Prof. Klaus Schmidt,
editorial deadline for SFB/TR 15 newsletter No. 3: Monday, February 27th, 2012