



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. 3

March 2012

SFB/TR 15 Seminars

Berlin		
Date	Speaker (Institution)	Title
February 6	Kai A. Konrad (MPI München)	Evolutionarily stable in-group favouritism and out-group spite in intergroup conflict
February 13	Georg Nöldeke (University Basel)	Stable Marriage and Search Frictions
Mannheim		
Date	Speaker (Institution)	Title
March 6	Achim Wambach (Universität Köln)	Profitable contract menus in competitive insurance markets with adverse selection
March 30	Jean-Francois Houde (University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA)	Price competition and concentration in search markets: Empirical evidence from mortgage lending

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

A2 (Konrad)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Kai A. Konrad	Future Architecture of the Euro, DIW Berlin, Germany	January 27
Kai A. Konrad	Evolutionarily stable in-group favouritism and out-group spite in intergroup conflict, Verein für Socialpolitik, Köln, Germany	February 10
A4 (Schmidt)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Klaus Schmidt	You Owe Me, Universitat Autònoma of Barcelona	March 27
Joachim Winter	Plan selection in Medicare Part D: Evidence from administrative data, Annual Meeting of the American Economic Association, Chicago, IL, USA	January 7
Joachim Winter	The effects of World War II on economic and health outcomes across Europe, University of Cologne, Germany	January 25
Joachim Winter	Institute for Fiscal Studies, London, UK	March 7 - 9
Joachim Winter	Schaeffer Health Policy Center, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA	March 12 - 28
A7 (Strausz/Wolfstetter)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Roland Strausz	Ausschuß Industrieökonomik - Tagung 2012, Munich, Germany (talk: "Benefits of Sequential Screening")	February 23

B7 (Marin)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Dalia Marin (joint with Francesca Fabbri (B7))	What Explains the Rise of CEO Pay in Germany?, Economic Policy Seminar at Bruegel, Brussels, Belgium	February 2
C5 (Nocke)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Volker Nocke	Globalization and Multiproduct Firms (Research Seminar, Bundesbank, Frankfurt/Main)	March 9
Volker Nocke	Vertical Integration, Foreclosure and Multilateral Relations (Inaugural Conference of the Leibniz Science Campus, Mannheim)	March 29-30
C9 (Schmidt-Dengler/von Thadden)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Andras Niedermayer	Assessing the Performance of Simple Contracts Empirically: The Case of Percentage Fees (International Industrial Organization Conference, Arlington, VA, USA)	March 16-18
Andras Niedermayer	Concordia University (host: Artyom Shneyerov, topic: Search Platforms)	March 19-April 15

New Discussion Papers

A4 (Schmidt)		
Name	Title	Number
Joachim Winter (joint with Stefan Vetter (A4), Florian Heiss (NA), Daniel McFadden (NA))	<p>Risk attitudes and Medicare Part D enrollment decisions</p> <p>Abstract: The new Medicare Part D program provides prescription drug coverage for older Americans through highly subsidized and tightly regulated plans offered by private insurance firms. For most eligible individuals without coverage from other sources, obtaining Part D coverage would be rational, but it requires active enrollment and plan choice decisions. We investigate if non-enrollment in Medicare Part D can partly be explained by risk aversion. Data are taken from a national online survey conducted just after the introduction Part D. The survey included a context-free and a context-related hypothetical lottery to measure an individual's attitude towards risk. Respondents who are risk tolerant according to these measures were significantly less likely to enroll in Part D. We also illustrate that hypothetical choice questions designed to elicit risk attitudes are subject to reference-point effects. Even minor differences in the priming of respondents can result in potentially misleading conclusions about the role of risk aversion in the insurance decisions.</p> <p>Keywords: Risk aversion, Medicare Part D, heterogeneous preferences, insurance demand, survey design JEL classification: D03, D81, H51, I1, 2012</p>	373

B4 (Kräkel)		
Name	Title	Number
Petra Nieken (joint with Patrick Schmitz (NA))	<p>Repeated moral hazard and contracts with memory: A laboratory experiment</p> <p>Abstract: This paper reports data from a laboratory experiment on two-period moral hazard problems. The findings corroborate the contract-theoretic insight that even though the periods are technologically unrelated, due to incentive considerations principals can benefit from offering long-term contracts that exhibit memory.</p> <p><i>Keywords:</i> Repeated moral hazard; Sequential hidden actions; Laboratory experiment <i>JEL classification:</i> D82, J33; 2012</p>	372

Publications

A4 (Schmidt)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Joachim Winter (joint with Christian Traxler (NA))	Survey evidence on conditional norm enforcement, European Journal of Political Economy	2012
A7 (Strausz/Wolfstetter)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Roland Strausz	Mediated Contracts and Mechanism Design, Journal of Economic Theory, accepted for publication	2012
Roland Strausz (joint with Daniel Krämer A5)	Comments to Correlated information, mechanism design and informational rents [J. Econ. Theory 123 (2) (2005) 210-217]", Journal of Economic Theory, 146, 2159-2164	2011
B4 (Kräkel)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Petra Nieken (joint with Patrick Schmitz (NA))	Repeated moral hazard and contracts with memory: A laboratory experiment, Games and Economic Behavior, forthcoming, Peer-reviewed: yes, Kind of outlet: Scientific journals	2012
C2 (Harhoff/Peitz)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Dietmar Harhoff (joint with Marc Gruber (NA), Karin Hoisl (NA))	Knowledge Recombination across Technological Boundaries: Scientists vs. Engineers", in: Management Science (accepted for publication)	February 2012

New/Leaving Staff

A1 (Bester/Tröger)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Johannes Münster	Is leaving project A1 and will take up a position as associate professor at the University of Cologne, Germany	March 1

B7 (Marin)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Francesca Fabbri	Is leaving project B7 and has taken a position as Senior Lecturer at the Norwich Business School (University of East Anglia), London, UK	January 1
C2 (Harhoff/Peitz)		
Name	Topic	Dates
Georg von Graevenitz	Is leaving project C2 and has taken a position as Senior Lecturer at the Norwich Business School (University of East Anglia), London, UK	January 1

Visitors

A8 (Rady)		
Name	Speaker (Institution)	Date
Godfrey Keller	University of Oxford, UK	February 21 - 25

Miscellaneous

A4 (Schmidt)		
Name	Topic	Date
Johannes Maier	Successfully completed his PhD dissertation on "Behavior under Risk and in Social Dilemmas: Theoretical and Experimental Approaches"	January 30
Klaus Schmidt	Member of the scientific advisory board of the Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology	February 7

SFB/TR 15. Speaker: Prof. Dr. Klaus M. Schmidt. Editorial: Tina Brinkmann, University of Munich, Ludwigstraße 28, 80539 München. URL: <http://www.sfbtr15.de>, phone +49 89 2180 3405, fax +49 89 2180 3510, e-mail: sfb-tr15@vwl.lmu.de. Editorial deadline for SFB/TR 15 newsletter No. 4: Friday, March 30th, 2012