



ALFRED-WEBER-INSTITUT FÜR WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN
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Upcoming Seminars

Monday, 17.12.2018

Departmental Seminar

13.30-14.30

AWI 00.010

Peter Martinsson, University of Göteborg

(invited by Florian Diekert)

"Social Information and Donations:
Evidence from the Field"

Monday, 17.12.2018

Workshop on Behavioral and Experimental Finance

AWI 00.010

(invited by Stefan Trautmann)

15.00-16.00

Luba Petersen, Simon Frazer University

"Macroeconomic Literacy and Expectations"

16.00-17.00

David Freeman, Simon Frazer University

"Revealing Naïveté and Sophistication from Procrastination
and Preproperation"

17.00-18.00

Jason Shachat, Durham University

"Measuring Tastes for Equity and Aggregate Wealth Behind
the Veil of Ignorance"

Wednesday, 19.12.2018

Macro & Econometrics Seminar

14.00-15.00

AWI 01.030

Thomas Götz, Deutsche Bundesbank

"Granger Causality Testing in Mixed-Frequency VARs with
Possibly (Co)Integrated Processes"

Departmental Seminar

Peter Martinsson

"Social Information and Donations: Evidence from the Field"

We conducted a field experiment to explore the effects of conformity to a social reference donation versus a comparable, but imposed, suggested donation. Our results show that people respond to the changing social reference. On the other hand, the treatment in which we suggested a donation results in lower shares of people donating, compared to the social reference treatment, and lower conditional donations even compared to the control. We find that people look at their peers as a reference to conform to, but partially reject being confronted with an imposed suggestion on how to behave.

Macro & Econometrics Seminar

Thomas Götz

"Granger Causality Testing in Mixed-Frequency VARs with Possibly (Co)Integrated Processes"

We analyze Granger causality testing in mixed-frequency VARs with possibly (co)integrated time series. It is well known that conducting inference on a set of parameters is dependent on knowing the correct (co)integration order of the processes involved. Corresponding tests are, however, known to often suffer from size distortions and/or a loss of power. Our approach, which boils down to the mixed-frequency analogue of the one by Toda and Yamamoto (1995) or Dolado and Lutkepohl (1996), works for variables that are stationary, integrated of an arbitrary order, or cointegrated. As it only requires an estimation of a mixed-frequency VAR in levels with appropriately adjusted lag length, after which Granger causality tests can be conducted using simple standard Wald test, it is of great practical appeal. We show that the presence of non-stationary and trivially cointegrated highfrequency regressors (Goetz et al., 2013) leads to standard distributions when testing for causality on a parameter subset, without any need to augment the VAR order. Monte Carlo simulations and two applications involving the oil price and consumer prices as well as GDP and industrial production in Germany illustrate our approach.

Talks and Research Visits

Jonas Dovern presented his paper "How Do Firms Form Expectations of Aggregate Growth? New Evidence from a Large-scale Business Survey in Germany" at the ifo Conference on Macroeconomics and Survey Data on December 8 and at the Economics Research Seminar of the University of Bayreuth on December 12.

Ole Monscheuer presented his paper "National Identity and the Integration of Second-generation Immigrants in the U.S." at the 8th Annual Conference on Immigration in OECD Countries in Paris, December 10-11.

Zeno Enders, together with Gernot Müller (Tübingen) and Michael Evers (Hohenheim) organized the "1st HeiTüHo Workshop on International Financial Markets" at the castle Hohentübingen on December 7/8. **David Vespermann** presented the paper "On a European Unemployment Insurance" and **Christopher Zuber** the paper "Revisions to Potential Output Estimates in the EU after the Great Recession". The keynote was delivered by Stephanie Schmitt-Grohé (Columbia University).

Christina Gathmann presented the paper "Evolution of the Wage Structure in East Germany" (joint with Eduard Brüll) at the Research Seminar in Economics of the IWH Halle on December 3.

Yilong Xu was invited to give a talk at the VCEE seminar at the University of Vienna on Nov 25. He presented the paper "Inequality, Fairness, and Social Capital" (with Stefan Trautmann, Dietmar Fehr and Hannes Rau).

Gaspare Tortorici presented the paper "Globalization, Agricultural Markets and Mass Migration" (joint with Rowena Gray and Gaia Narciso) at the 8th EH/tune Workshop on Clashing Generations in Italian Economic History in Siena, November 22-23.

Angelika Müller presented her paper "Democracy and Aid Donorship" (joint with Andreas Fuchs) at the 2018 International Political Economy Conference at MIT, Cambridge, November 2-3. She also presented her paper "Trees and the Grid – Electrification and Timber Consumption in Nigeria" at the Sustainability and Development Conference at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, November 9-11.

John Cruzatti C. presented his single-author paper "Free Trade Agreements: Land Cover and Development at the local level" at the 2018 International Political Economy Conference at MIT, Cambridge, November 2-3.

Christiane Schwieren gave an invited talk at the "Fachtagung Verhaltensökonomie und Familie - Innovative Ansätze zu Vereinbarkeit und Väterbeteiligung" at the Universität Wien and she presented her paper "Social norm perception in economic laboratory experiments: Inexperienced vs experienced participants" (joint work with Robert Schmidt & Alec Sproten) at the economics brownbag at WU Wien.

New Publications

Clive Bell and Susanne van Dillen, "Kinship, Caste, and Health: Illness and Treatment in Upland Orissa", *Journal of Development Studies*, [forthcoming](#).

New and Leaving Staff

Anna Hautmann (Bergheimer Str. 20, room 137) joined the chair of Labor Economics and Political Economy under the supervision of Christina Gathmann in November 2018. She obtained a MSc in Economics from the University of Heidelberg and a BSc in Economics from the University of Regensburg. She studied abroad at the University of St. Petersburg and HSE Moscow. Her main research interests are in the field of Family Economics, Migration and Applied Microeconometrics.



Happy Christmas and a healthy and prosperous 2019

**Editorial deadline for issue 1/2019 of the newsletter:
Wednesday, January 3, 2019, 12 p.m.
newsletter@awi.uni-heidelberg.de**

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please contact the address above.