



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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JUNE 27 – JULY 1, 2016

NEWSLETTER 2016-16

SEMINAR CALENDAR

HCHE Research Seminar

Prof. Volker Ulrich, Universität Bayreuth
Value Based Pricing bei Arzneimittel-Innovationen

Monday June 27
16:30-18:00
R. 4011 (Esplanade 36)

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Richard Bluhm, Univ. Hannover:
Top Lights – Bright Spots and Their Contribution to Economic Development

Tuesday June 28
12:15–13:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

PhD Seminar

Luise Görge, University of Hamburg:
Wage earners, home makers, and gender identity. Experimental findings on labour division in couples

Thursday June 30
12:15–13:15
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Eckhard Janeba, Universität Mannheim:
Regulatory Chill and the Effect of Investor State Dispute Settlements

Thursday June 30
17:00–19:00
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

- no seminar -

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

- no seminar -

ABSTRACTS

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

Richard Bluhm, Univ. Hannover:

Top Lights – Bright Spots and Their Contribution to Economic Development

Abstract:

Satellite data on nighttime luminosity are an increasingly popular proxy for economic activity, but their utility for analyzing comparative development across the globe is severely limited by top-coding. The commonly used weather satellites do not accurately capture the brightness of large and densely populated cities. As a result, they severely underestimate differences between urban and rural regions, as well as developed and developing countries. Our main contribution is to propose a new and easy-to-use procedure to correct for top-coding of the nighttime lights data. We show that, like top incomes, top lights are Pareto distributed. On this basis, we derive simple formulas for the top-adjusted spatial Gini coefficient and top-adjusted average light intensity. Furthermore, we develop simulation methods to correct the data at the pixel level. Using the case of Germany for illustration, we show that our correction of about the brightest 2% of lights leads to an increase in the Gini coefficient of about 3 to 5 points. We also analyze corrections for between and within satellite measurement errors to alleviate inter-satellite comparability problems. We present three economic applications to show where the influence of top-coding is most severe.

PhD Seminar

Luise Görge, University of Hamburg:

Wage earners, home makers, and gender identity. Experimental findings on labour division in couples

Abstract:

Traditional labour division in couples, with a male wage earner and a female home maker, remains remarkably persistent in many countries despite women’s increased labour market productivity. I propose a lab experiment to examine the causes of gender patterns in labour division of heterosexual couples that may go beyond the standard ‘comparative advantage specialisation’ model. The aim is to identify other, behavioural mechanisms in couples’ specialisation decision, such as confidence-biases, responsibility aversion, and gender norms. To test for these mechanisms, 140 real heterosexual couples will play a specialisation game, where each individual is randomly assigned to play with their partner or a stranger of the opposite sex. Lab pre-tests indicate: Romantic couples, but not strangers, show a significant willingness to pay for gender identity. Specifically, romantic partners are more likely to forgo efficiency gains that require a non-traditional specialisation (with women as wage earners and men as home makers). These behavioural patterns can be accounted for by introducing gender identity into a simple cooperative model of intra-family time allocation.

*The next EconNewsletter will be published on **Monday, July 4, 2016.***

*Editorial deadline: **Friday, July 1, 2016.***

EconNewsletter

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