



Fachbereich VWL / Department of Economics

EconNewsletter

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JULY 9 – JULY 13, 2018

NEWSLETTER 2018-17

SEMINAR CALENDAR

HCHE Research Seminar

Prof. Hendrik Schmitz, Universität Paderborn:
Health shocks and cognitive decline in older ages

Monday July 9
16:30-18:00
R. 4011 (Esplanade 36)

PhD Seminar

Christian Düben, Universität Hamburg:
Population, Light, and the Size Distribution of Cities

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

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Hong Hwang, National Taiwan University:
*Price versus Quantity Competition in a Mixed Duopoly:
A General Analysis*

Thursday July 12
17:15–18:45
R. 0029 (VMP 5)

Research Seminar “Labour Economics”

- no seminar -

Forschungsseminar “Quantitative Wirtschaftsforschung“

- no seminar -

Hamburg Lectures on Law & Economics

- no seminar -

ABSTRACTS

PhD Seminar

Christian Düben, Universität Hamburg:

Population, Light, and the Size Distribution of Cities

Abstract:

Big cities benefit from pooling people, ideas and investment, but also suffer from negative externalities. The number of big and small cities in a country can have important economic implications. In our research we unlock new data sources to identify domestic city size distributions and derive determinants of cross-country variation in distributional patterns. In particular, we extract agglomerations from geo-spatial population and satellite based nighttime lights data via a globally consistent identification scheme. Our resulting dataset contains 13,844 cities with more than 50,000 inhabitants in 183 countries. Apart from a cross-sectional perspective we employ the panel dimension of the data from 1992 to 2013 to shed light on growth patterns and the evolving influence of geographical and institutional determinants.

Research Seminar “Microeconomics”

Hong Hwang, National Taiwan University:

Price versus Quantity Competition in a Mixed Duopoly: A General Analysis

Abstract:

This paper investigates social welfare in a mixed duopoly with partial privatization. It is found that the welfare ranking between Cournot and Bertrand competition is ambiguous, depending on the degree of privatization of the public firm. Specifically, social welfare is higher under Bertrand than Cournot competition if the degree of privatization is low or high. The ranking is reversed if the degree of the privatization falls in the middle range. Furthermore, if the two firms are allowed to take asymmetric competition strategies, social welfare is the highest if the public firm with partial privatization chooses price whereas the private firm chooses quantity as their competition strategies. These results are sharply different from those appeared in the mixed duopoly literature.

ACTIVITIES OF DEPARTMENT MEMBERS

New Publications

- **Gundlach, E., Svendsen, G.T. (2018)**, "How do high and low levels of social trust affect the long-run performance of poor economies?", *Journal of International Development*, forthcoming.
- **Paldam, M., Gundlach, E. (2018)**, "Jumps into democracy: integrating the short and long run in the Democratic Transition.", *Kyklos*, forthcoming.

The next EconNewsletter will be published on Monday, July 16, 2018.

Editorial deadline: Friday, July 13, 2018.

EconNewsletter

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