REGENSBURGECONNEWS

NEWSLETTER 2020-28

CALENDAR:

PhD Seminar
Nicolas Apfel (University Regensburg):
Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering for Selecting Valid Instrumental Variables

Friday, Dec 11
10:00-11:30
Zoom-meeting

IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)
Olga Popova (IOS Regensburg):
Double-edged sword: Persistent effects of Communism on life satisfaction in Eastern Europe

Tuesday, Dec 15
13:30-15:00
Zoom-meeting

Economic and Social History Seminar
Steve Koerner (Victoria, Kanada):
Where did it all go wrong? The Decline of the British Motorcycle Manufacturing, 1935-1975

special day, special time
Tuesday, Dec 15
17:00-18:30
Zoom-meeting

ABSTRACTS AND FURTHER INFORMATION:

PhD Seminar
Nicolas Apfel:
Agglomerative Hierarchical Clustering for Selecting Valid Instrumental Variables

Abstract: We propose an instrumental variable (IV) selection procedure which combines the agglomerative hierarchical clustering method and the Hansen-Sargan overidentification test for selecting valid instruments for IV estimation from a large set of candidate instruments. Some of the instruments may be invalid in the sense that they may fail the exclusion restriction. We show that under the plurality rule, our method can achieve oracle selection and estimation results. Compared to the previous IV selection methods, our method has the advantages that it can deal with the weak instruments problem effectively and can be easily extended to settings where there are multiple endogenous regressors and heterogenous treatment effects. We conduct Monte Carlo simulations to examine the performance of our method, and compare it with two existing methods, the Hard Thresholding method (HT) and the Confidence Interval method (CIM). The simulation results show that our method achieves oracle selection and estimation results in both single and multiple endogenous regressors settings in large samples when all the instruments are strong. Also, our method works well when some of the candidate instruments are weak, outperforming HT and CIM. We apply our method to the estimation of the effect of immigration on wages in the US.

Info:
Zoom Link: https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/86953229621?pwd=Umc2MGltc3RlS2k4UHRqMzdSNWVLUT09

IOS/UR Seminar (Prof. Frensch)
Olga Popova:
Double-edged sword: Persistent effects of Communism on life satisfaction in Eastern Europe

Abstract: Communism was a two-edged sword for those trusted by the former regime. Communist party members and their relatives enjoyed status, privileges, and connections. At the same time, secret police informants were coerced to work clandestinely and gather compromising materials about friends, colleagues, and neighbors. After the fall of Communism, CEE countries and the Baltics exposed informants and regime collaborators, while most of the FSU countries have not done so. Using the 2016Life in Transition Survey, we examine the long-term consequences of connections to the communist regime for satisfaction in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the former Soviet Union (FSU). In the FSU, we find that individuals with connections to the former Communist party are more satisfied, but those who themselves served as informants to the secret police or had relatives coerced to do that are less satisfied with their lives than those without such connections. The life satisfaction premium for being associated with the former Communist party is, on average, equivalent to monthly household income. At the same time, the costs of being an informant are equivalent to two monthly household incomes. The opposite holds in the CEE and Baltics, There, former Communist party connections negatively influence present-day life satisfaction, and this loss is equivalent to a third of monthly income, but secret service informant ties do not matter. We also empirically test channels that may explain those effects. The findings underscore that the Communist party connections have a persistent but differential effect on life satisfaction.

Info:
Zoom Link: https://ios-regensburg-de.zoom.us/j/83802913971
Meeting ID: 838 0291 3971

Economic and Social History Seminar

Steve Koerner:

Where did it all go wrong? The Decline of the British Motorcycle Manufacturing, 1935-1975

There is no Abstract for this seminar

Info:

Zoom Link: https://uni-regensburg.zoom.us/j/86948625967?pwd=ZXRHeXVjV3BVZTBheWtkemxianRvdz09

Meeting ID: 869 4862 5967

Password: 468730

SAVE THE DATE:

Berufungsvorträge für die Tenure-Track Professur

Wirtschaftspsychologie und -ethik

Dr. Yilong Xu (Universität Heidelberg)
„Does mining fuel bubbles? An experimental study on cryptocurrency markets"
Dienstag, 15. Dezember 2020, 09.15 – 10.15 Uhr

Dr. Vojtech Bartos (Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München)
„Psychological Effects of Poverty on Time Preferences"
Dienstag, 15. Dezember 2020, 13.30 – 14.30 Uhr

Dr. Jan Gogoll (Bavarian Institute for Digital Transformation)
„Experiments in ethics – Using the counter game in political philosophy and digitization research"
Dienstag, 15. Dezember 2020, 15.15 – 16.15 Uhr

Alicia von Schenk (Goethe Universität Frankfurt)
„The Economics and Ethics of Artificial Intelligence"
Donnerstag, 17. Dezember 2020, 09.15 – 10.15 Uhr

JProf. Dr. Florian Engl (Universität zu Köln)
„Causal Responsibility Attribution: Theory and Experimental Evidence"
Donnerstag, 17. Dezember 2020, 13.30 – 14.30 Uhr

JProf. Dr. Sabrina Jeworrek (Otto-von-Guericke Universität Magdeburg)
„The good news about bad news: Information about past organizational failure and its impact on worker productivity"
Donnerstag, 17. Dezember 2020, 15.15 – 16.15 Uhr

WICHTIG:
Alle Vorträge finden über das Online-Konferenz-Tool Zoom statt. Für die Teilnahme ist eine Registrierung mit einer gültigen Email-Adresse der Universität Regensburg zwingend erforderlich. Bei Problemen und Rückfragen wenden Sie sich bitte an fabian.kindermann@ur.de.

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INSTITUT FÜR VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND ÖKONOMETRIE

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Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2020-29: Wednesday, December 16 – 11 am

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