

**NEWSLETTER 2018-21****CALENDAR:****IOS Seminar**

Konstantin Kazenin (Russian Presidential Academy of National Economy and Public Administration/RANEPA, Institute for Applied Economic Research):

Fertility in post-Soviet countries: timing differences and their possible origins

Tuesday, October 9

13:30–15:00

WiOS 109 (Landshuter Str. 4)

Departmental Seminar

Ulrich Müller (Princeton University):
Inference for the mean

Special Date and Room

Thursday, October 11

16:30–18:00

R 008

ABSTRACTS:**IOS Seminar**

Konstantin Kazenin

Fertility in post-Soviet countries: timing differences and their possible origins

Abstract: An increase of fertility took place in almost all post-Soviet countries in the recent 10-15 years. However, those countries differed rather sharply in fertility timing trends during the increase. In some countries, proportion of the input of elder ages (25+) in TFR has grown, whereas in others no significant shift towards elder fertility was witnessed and the proportion of age groups 15-19 and 20-24 in total fertility remained at least as high as 10-15 years ago. Using different data sources, it is demonstrated that the input of the elder ages is not growing almost exclusively in those post-Soviet countries where Muslim population is the majority. Two kinds of additional evidence for relevance of Islam/Christian distinction for the timing trends are adduced. First, I consider fertility timing among a large Christian minority in a post-Soviet country where Muslim population is the majority (ethnic Russians in Kazakhstan) and in a large Muslim minority in a post-Soviet country where Christian population is the majority (indigenous peoples of North Caucasus, Russia). It is shown that the two minorities follow their co-believers in other post-Soviet countries rather than the country of residence in timing trends. Second, our own survey data are considered from an area of southern Russia inhabited predominantly by Muslims, which point to a significant negative relation of personal religiosity of a woman and her age at first birth. I discuss social and economic consequences of the 'early motherhood' in the post-Soviet countries where it is observed.

Departmental Seminar

Ulrich Müller

Inference for the mean

Abstract: Consider inference about the mean of a population with finite variance, based on an i.i.d. sample. The usual t-statistic yields correct inference in large samples, but heavy tails induce poor small sample behavior. This paper combines extreme value theory for the smallest and largest observations with a normal approximation for the t-statistic of a truncated sample to obtain more accurate inference. This alternative approximation is shown to provide a refinement over the standard normal approximation to the full sample t-statistic under more than two but less than three moments, while the bootstrap does not. Small sample simulations suggest substantial size improvements over the bootstrap.

TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS:

On August 29, **Tobias Hartl** presented his paper "*Macroeconomic Forecasting with Fractional Factor Models*" at the European Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society in Cologne.

On August 29, **Johannes Moser** presented his paper "*Hypothetical Thinking and the Winner's Curse: An Experimental Investigation*" at the European Summer Meeting of the Econometric Society in Cologne.

On September 4, **Johannes Moser** presented his paper "*Hypothetical Thinking and the Winner's Curse: An Experimental Investigation*" at the 2018 annual meeting of the German Economic Association (Verein für Socialpolitik) in Freiburg.

On September 3, **Michael Eichenseer** presented his paper "Leadership in a Dynamic Public Goods Game: An Experimental Study" (joint with Johannes Moser) at the 2018 annual meeting of the German Economic Association (Verein für Socialpolitik) in Freiburg.

On September 13, **Tobias Hartl** presented his paper "*Macroeconomic Forecasting with Fractional Factor Models*" at the Statistische Woche in Linz.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE:

On September 2, **Andreas Roider** organized a workshop "Economic consultancies as Potential Employers" at the annual meeting of the German Economic Association (Verein für Socialpolitik) in Freiburg.

NEW AND LEAVING STAFF



On October 1, **Fabian Kindermann** has taken up the position of W3 chair of the Economics of the Public Sector. Previously, he held a position as assistant professor at the University of Bonn. He replaces Professor Wolfgang Buchholz who retired on September 30, 2018.



On September 1, **Michael Heyna** started as a new Ph.D. student at the chair of Lutz Arnold. He obtained a bachelor and a master's in economics from the University of Regensburg (with a focus on international trade). After his master's degree he worked as a program manager at Zollner Elektronik AG, Cham.



On October 1, **Nicole Lechermann** started as a new Ph.D. student at the chair of Rolf Tschernig. She studied economics at the University of Regensburg and the University of Leicester with a focus on empirical economics and financial markets.



On October 1, **Johanna Röhrs** started as a new Ph.D student at the chair of Fabian Kindermann. She obtained a bachelor in international economics from the University of Tübingen and a master in economics (with a focus on macroeconomics and public economics) from the University of Bonn.

Dr. Nathan Carroll, chair of Andreas Roider, left the Department of Economics at the end of the summer term 2018. Since September 15, he works as a data consultant at Dymatrix Consulting Group, Stuttgart.

Richard Fassler, chair of Lutz Arnold, left the Department of Economics at the end of the summer term 2018.

We gratefully acknowledge financial support of the Departmental Seminar by the Regensburger Universitätsstiftung Hans Vielberth.

REGENSBURGER UNIVERSITÄTS
STIFTUNG
HANS VIELBERTH

RegensburgEconNews

Newsletter of the Institute of Economics and Econometrics, University of Regensburg

To subscribe to / unsubscribe from this newsletter, please go to <https://www-mailman.uni-regensburg.de/mailman/listinfo/regensburgeconnews> or send an email to econ.news@ur.de

Editorial deadline for Newsletter No. 2018-22:
Wednesday, October 10 – 11 am

FAKULTÄT FÜR
WIRTSCHAFTSWISSENSCHAFTEN

INSTITUT FÜR
VOLKSWIRTSCHAFTSLEHRE UND
ÖKONOMETRIE

Universitätsstraße 31 ▪ 93040 Regensburg

Newsletter-Redaktion: Martina Kraus-Pietsch

Telefon: +49 941 943-2710

Fax: +49 941 943-2734

E-Mail: econ.news@ur.de

Internet: www-economics.ur.de

Bildnachweis: http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Regensburg_08_2006.jpg