



NEWSLETTER

No. 7
5 July 2012

**Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Collaborative Research Center 649
Spandauer Straße 1
10178 Berlin – Germany**

**Editorial:
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REGULAR RESEARCH SEMINARS

An overview is available at:

<http://sfb649.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/fedc/seminars.php>

ECONOMIC RISK SEMINAR

2 July 2012

Jonathan Halket

(University of Essex)

"Do Households Use Homeownership To Insure Themselves: Evidence Across U.S. Cities"

Location: Spandauer Straße 1 - Room 23

Time: Monday, 2 – 4 p.m.

9 July 2012

Ralf Elsas

(University of Munich)

"From Underleverage to Excess Debt: The Changing Environment of Corporate Debt"

Location: Spandauer Straße 1 - Room 23

Time: Monday, 2 – 4 p.m.

12 July 2012

Fuyu Yang

(University of East Anglia)

"Finding the best predictors for GDP growth in real time"

Location: Spandauer Str. 1 – Room 112

Time: Thursday, 2 – 4 p.m.

SCHUMPETER SEMINAR

Location: Spandauer Str. 1, room 23

Time: every Tuesday, 4 – 6 p.m.

3 July 2012

Andreas Ortman

(University of New South Wales, Sydney)

"Group Incentives or Individual Incentives? A Real-Effort Weak-Link Experiment"

10 July 2012

Miriam Gensowski

(University of Chicago)

"Personality, IQ, and Lifetime Earnings"

WIAS RESEARCH SEMINAR MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS

Location: Weierstrass Institute for Applied Analysis and Stochastics,
Mohrenstraße 39, 10117 Berlin, Erhard-Schmidt-Hörsaal

Time: every Wednesday, 10 – 12 a.m.

4 July 2012

Cecilia Mancini

(University of Florence)

"Spot Volatility Estimation Using Delta Sequences"

REVIEW ABOUT CRC 649 EVENTS

5 – 6 June 2012

Evaluation of the CRC 649

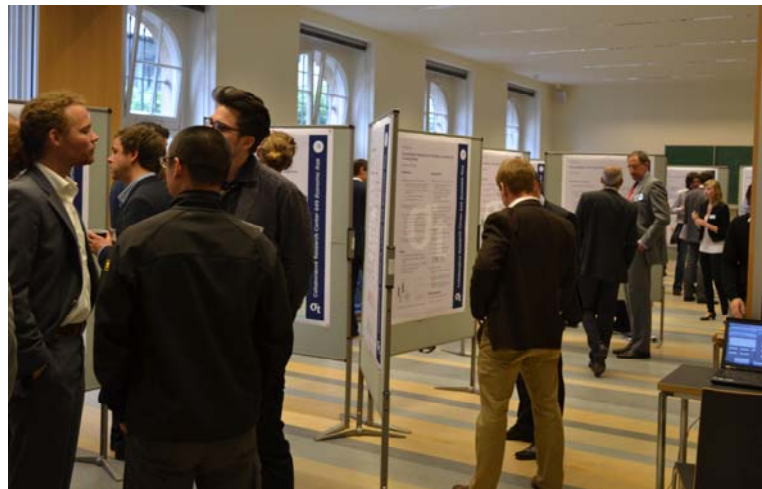


The presentation of CRC 649 projects

The DFG evaluation of the CRC 649 took place on 5 and 6 June in the Heilig-Geist-Chapel in the School of Business and Economics. The president of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Prof. Jan-Hendrik Olbertz, opened the event with some introductory words, followed by a speech of Prof. Wolfgang Härdle in which he gave an overview of the successful work of the CRC 649 in the last 3 years.

Afterwards a wide selection of CRC projects was presented by the project leaders. The audience had the pleasure to listen to themes like "Econometric Modeling of Volatility, Liquidity and Trading Risk", "Statistical Inference Methods for Assessing the Genetic Basis of Risk Preferences", "Weather Risk Management" and "Macroeconomic Risk in Labor and Financial Markets", to name just a few.

At the end of the presentations there was enough time left for the evaluators to discuss several aspects of presented and also not presented projects with project leaders and audience. The lunch break was preceded by a poster session during which all projects presented their posters in order for the evaluators to pose further, more specific questions.



The evaluation of CRC 649 projects

The next day started with a round table discussion, where all the evaluators, project leaders, representatives from the Faculty's Deanship, the president of the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin and heads from external partners could discuss remaining questions and impressions from the day before. Afterwards the evaluators came together in private to decide on their first recommendation.

Like in the evaluation in 2009, the evaluators had a very good impression of the CRC 649. The final outcome will be decided by the DFG in November. (AR)

7 – 8 June 2012

**Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung
„Field Days: Experiments Outside the Laboratory“**

In June, the WZB research unit "Behavior on Markets" hosted the two-day conference "Field Days: Experiments Outside the Laboratory", organized by Dietmar Fehr and Julia Schmid. International senior and junior researchers presented their work on field experiments and discussed how these can inform our understanding of economic behavior as well as the methodological limitations.



The participants of the Field Days 2012

The questions approached were manifold: are electronic reminders effective in disciplining users of public libraries? Does a reduced frequency of public cleaning services lead to more or less littering? Do criminals violate norms more often if their criminal identity is reinforced?

The experimental environments included among others a campus gym, a music festival, and the market for taxi rides in Lima. On the first day of the conference, the presentations dealt with incentives in the workplace covering topics such as goal setting, team work, and the interplay between extrinsic and intrinsic motivation.

The second day started off with a discussion of methodological issues such as selection into experiments and continued with presentations on rule compliance, policy and intervention, and discrimination.



The presentation and discussion at the Field Days 2012

Each presentation was commented on by an assigned discussant, followed by the general discussion. The large variety of questions addressed and well thought out experimental settings showed the range of what field experiments can be used for, and made the conference multifarious and very interesting. About fifty people took part in the conference and debated not only about the presented work but also about field experiments as a tool to further advance our understanding of economic behavior. The conference was funded by the Fritz Thyssen Stiftung and the CRC 649. (JS)

NEWS OF THE PROJECTS

Joachim Gassen (A7) was invited to the "Lunch Seminar" at the University of Graz. He gave a talk entitled "Financial Accounting Regime Choice When Objectives Compete" (joined work with Timo Eisenschink). Furthermore he attended the Financial Reporting Workshop at the University of Naples from 15 to 16 June 2012. He was keynote speaker on "Research Design and Causal Inference in Empirical Accounting Research" at this workshop.

Christoph Mainberger (A11) gave a talk on "Continuous Equilibrium in Affine and Information-Based Capital Asset Pricing Models" at the 7th World Congress of the Bachelier Finance Society in Sydney, Australia.

From 19 to 20 May 2012, **Thorsten Dickhaus (A14)** attended the 3rd WISE-Humboldt Workshop at Xiamen University, China, and gave a talk on "Simultaneous Statistical Inference in Dynamic Factor Models".

Brenda Lopez-Cabrera (B1) visited the Workgroup Financial Mathematics at the Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität (LMU), Mathematics Institute at the Faculty for Mathematics from 20 to 22 June 2012. During that time she was doing research and gave a talk on "The implied market of weather risks."

Nikolaus Hautsch (B8) was an invited speaker at the ECB Conference "Financial Stability: Methodological Advances and Policy Issues" that took place from 14 to 15 June 2012 in Frankfurt/Main and gave a talk on "Financial Network Systemic Risk Contributions". He also attended the "Fifth Annual SoFIE Conference" from 20 to 23 June 2012 in Oxford.

A Joint Seminar Aarhus-Copenhagen-Humboldt 2012 was held from 31 May to 2 June 2012 in Eutin. In this context **Julia Schaumburg (B8)** gave a presentation on "Interactions of Extreme Market and Credit Spread Risks". **Gustav Haitz (B8)** explained his work on "Order book dynamics of high frequency asset price jumps". **Peter Malec (B8)** gave a presentation on "Asymptotically efficient local likelihood estimation of integrated covariance matrices".

Melanie Schienle (B11) presented her paper "Semiparametric Estimation with General Covariates" at the "1st Conference of the International Society for NonParametric Statistics" that took place from 15 to 19 June 2012 in Chalkidiki, Greece.

Michael C. Burda (C7) participated in a panel discussion „Unemployment, inequality and the crisis in Europe“ with Prof. James K. Galbraith (University of Austin at Texas) at the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin on 11 June 2012. From 21 to 22 June 2012 he participated in the XIII. Conference on International Economics" in Granada and held a lecture on "Payroll Taxes, Social Insurance and Business Cycles". He held a lecture on "Payroll Taxes, Social Insurance and Business Cycles" on the Macro/Econometrics/Finance-Seminar at the University of Bonn on 28 June 2012.

Frank Heinemann (C10) organized and lectured (together with Rosemarie Nagel, and John Duffy) the 5th Barcelona LeeX Experimental Summer School in Macroeconomics, from 11 to 15 June 2012. He also participated in organizing the 3rd LeeX International Conference on Theoretical and Experimental Macroeconomics in Barcelona from 18 to June 2012 and gave a talk on "Central Bank Transparency and Cheap Talk as Substitutes for Commitment: Experimental Evidence".

Til Strohsal (C14) attended the 10th INFINITI Conference on International Finance in Dublin from 10 to 12 June and presented his paper "Assessing the Anchoring of Inflation Expectations".

GUESTS OF THE CRC 649

You find a summary about all guests here:
http://sfb649.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/fedc/guests_actual.php

Current Guests of the CRC 649 "Economic Risk":

01.08.2012 –
15.09.2012

Arnold Polanski
University of East Anglia

Project: *Weather and Finance:
Multidimensional Risk Dependence*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



02.07.2012 -
13.07.2012

Milan Basta
University of Economics, Prague

Project: *Wavelet methods of time series
analysis*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



26.06.2012 -
26.09.2012

Julian Runge
HU-WiWi-Institut für Entrepreneurship und
Innovationsmanagement

Project: *Opportunity and necessity
entrepreneurship*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895

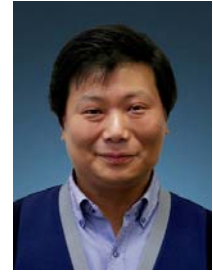


22.06.2012 -
22.09.2012

Kyusang Yu
Konkuk University, Korea

Project: *Joint research on Nonparametric Regression with Stationary and Nonstationary Variables*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



22.06.2012 -
22.09.2012

Hien Pham Thu
DZ Bank

Project: *Central counterparty for OTC derivatives*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895

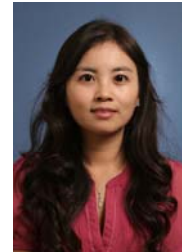


15.06.2012 -
19.07.2012

Shujie Ma
University of California, Riverside

Project: *Simultaneous Variable Selection and Estimation in Semiparametric Model*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 312, phone 2093 5748



13.06.2012 -
13.09.2012

Yi-Hsuan Cathy
Chung Hua University, Taiwan

Project: *Common factors in credit defaults swaps markets*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 312, phone 2093 5748



12.06.2012 –
15.07.2012

Fuyu Yang
University of East Anglia

Project: *Searching for the Best Predictors for GDP Growth*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



11.06.2012 –
10.09.2012

Stefan Gotsche
TU Chemnitz

Project: *Das 4-Momente-CAPM für den deutschen Aktienmarkt*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



11.06.2012 –
20.07.2012

Ngoc Mai Tran
UC Berkeley

Project: *Combinatorics and Statistics*

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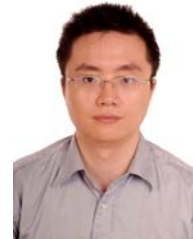


06.06.2012 –
05.07.2012

Wei Cui
Princeton University

Project: *Macroeconomics and Finance*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 312, phone 2093 5748



23.05.2012 -
23.08.2012

Hilke Hollander
University of Oldenburg

Project: *Asset Securitization, Credit Spreads and Bank Risk*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



07.05.2010 -
06.08.2012

Joerg Prokop
University of Oldenburg

Project: *Credit Rating Agencies and Transnational Finance*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895

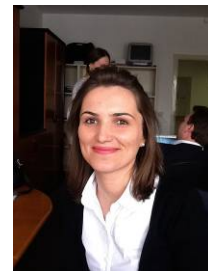


23.04.2012 -
22.07.2012

Ioana Andree Duca
Academy of Economic Studies Bucharest

Project: *Quantifying the Impact of Financial Markets on Macroeconomic Dynamics Using VAR Model and Cointegration Techniques*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 312, phone 2093 5748



16.03.2012 -
31.07.2012

Jessica King
Humboldt Universität Berlin

Project: *Insider Trading*

Spandauer Str. 1, room 318, phone 2093 5895



21.06.2010 -
31.12.2012

Magdalena Tchikov
Freie Universität Berlin

Project: *Empirical analysis of CDS pricings;
Consistency to prevalent pricing models*

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NEW DISCUSSION PAPERS

You find all discussion papers here:

<http://sfb649.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/fedc/discussionPapers.php>

- 2012-041** **Thorsten Dickhaus, Jens Stange**
"Multiple point hypothesis test problems and effective numbers of tests"
- 2012-042** **Enno Mammen, Christoph Rothe, Melanie Schienle**
"Generated Covariates in Nonparametric Estimation: A Short Review."
- 2012-043** **Till Strohsal, Enzo Weber**
"The Signal of Volatility"

PUBLICATIONS

Fiocco, R. (2012):

Competition and regulation with product differentiation.
Journal of Regulatory Economics
DOI: 10.1007/s11149-012-9195-2

CRC STAFF

At this point the Collaborative Research Center 649 "Economic Risk" wants to present Xiaofeng Cao, staff member of project C11 "Weather Risk Management in Agriculture using Weather Derivates" and Jonas Haase, research assistant in the Research Data Center.

Xiaofeng Cao achieved her Master in Statistics from the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2012. Her majors are Statistic Inference and Econometrics and her master thesis is about modeling the water level around German Bight using both time series model and Kriging methods. From 2009 she worked as a student assistant at the Department of Agricultural Economics for project C11. Since April 2012 she has been working as a research assistant at the project C11 Weather Risk Management. Besides, she is interested in learning different sports and enjoys Tennis, Yoga, Bouldering and Inline Skating. (XC)



Jonas Haase received his Diploma degree in Economics from the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin in 2012. His diploma thesis dealt with the effectiveness of active labor market policies during the business cycle. He investigated which types of ALMP show a significant positive impact estimate in times of recession or upswing. During his studies he worked as a student assistant in the Research Data Center (RDC) where he is currently working as Research assistant. In his spare time he likes long distance traveling with his bike, Franco-Belgian comics and photography. (JH)



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The most essential factor is persistence - the determination never to allow your energy or enthusiasm to be dampened by the discouragement that must inevitably come."

James Whitcomb Riley (1849 - 1916)

Please also note that the newsletter is published on the homepage of the CRC 649.

**The CRC 649 – Newsletter is published at the beginning of each month.
Editorial deadline for the eighth Newsletter 2012 is 30.07.2012.**