



NEWSLETTER

No. 11

4 November 2013



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

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REGULAR RESEARCH SEMINARS

An overview is available at:

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

ECONOMIC RISK SEMINAR

Location: Spandauer Straße 1 - Room 23
Time: every Monday, 2.00 – 4.00 p.m.

- 11 November 2013 **Valeria D'Amato**
(University College London)
"Dependence into Mortality Data: Projections by Lee Carter Models"
- 25 November 2013 **Ralf Brueggemann**
(Uni Konstanz)
"Projection estimators for structural impulse responses"
- 27 November 2013
Room 21b, 12:00-14:00 **Prof. Chang-Jin Kim**
(Korea University)
"The 'Pile-up Problem' in Trend-Cycle Decomposition of Real GDP: Classical and Bayesian Perspectives"

SCHUMPETER SEMINAR

Location: Spandauer Str. 1, room 23
Time: every Tuesday, 4.00 – 6.00 p.m.

- 15 January 2013 **Oliver Accominotti**
(London School of Economics)
"The Returns to Currency Trading: Evidence from the Interwar Period"

WIAS RESEARCH SEMINAR MATHEMATICAL STATISTICS

Location: Weierstrass Institute for Applied Analysis and Stochastics,
Mohrenstraße 39, 10117 Berlin, Erhard-Schmidt-Hörsaal
Time: every Wednesday, 10.00 a.m. – 12.30 a.m.

- 13 November 2013 **Mathieu Sart**
(Université de Nice Sophia-Antipolis)
"Estimation of the transition density of a Markov chain"

CURRENT EVENTS

More information can be found here:

http://sfb649.wiwi.hu-berlin.de/fedc/events_actual.php

1 – 2 November
2013

Humboldt-Princeton Conference

Location: Princeton

<http://orfe.princeton.edu/conferences/ph13/>

20 November
2013

Jour fixe fall

Location: SPA1, rooms 125, 112, 23

Time: 3 p.m.

For CRC members only

NEWS OF THE CRC

11 – 12 October 2013

Applicable Semiparametrics

The "Applicable Semiparametrics" conference, held in Berlin at the School of Business and Economics at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin from 11 to 12 October 2013, brought together leading experts and practitioners in the fields of non- and semiparametric statistics, econometrics, quantitative economics, as well as applied financial mathematics. More than 100 participants from Europe, USA, Asia and Australia participated at this significant event, from which more than 60 speakers presented about their current research work or practical experience. The following topics were intensively discussed during and after the event: challenges in finance, complex models in non- and semiparametrics, modelling and forecasting financial time series, nonlinear time series analysis, risk management, copula, advances in econometric theory and applications, estimation and variable selection for semiparametric models, semiparametric estimation and inference, weather and energy analysis.



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The symposium was successfully organized by Professor Härdle and his Ladislaus von Bortkiewicz Chair of statistics team: Sigbert Klinke, Maria Osipenko, Andrija Mihoci, Navina Groß, Alexander Ristig and Piotr Majer. Coordination of the individual sessions has been outstandingly done by the session organizers: Ying Chen, Enno Mammen, Matthias Fengler, Christian Hafner, Stefan Trück, Ostap Okhrin, Joel Horowitz, Hua Liang, Ying Fang, Brenda Lopez-Cabrera, Zdenek Hlavka, Stefan Sperlich and Hua Liang. One of the highlights of the event was the dinner that took place at the "Kreuz As" boat during the Festival of light in Berlin. Thanks to the conference, academia and practice received a significant contribution. (AM)

18 October 2013

Hermann Otto Hirschfeld Lecture Series 2013



At this year's Hermann-Otto-Hirschfeld Lecture Series on 18 October Harald Uhlig, Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago, presented "Sharpe Ratios in Macroeconomics and Financial Health Economics". Altogether 53 registered participants coming from 11 different international and domestic institutions came together at the Heilig-Geist Kapelle to attend the lecture. The event has been organized by Prof. Michael C. Burda (C7) and Gökhan Cebiroglu (A11/B8) and is supported by CRC 649 and Wirtschaftswissenschaftliche Gesellschaft of the Humboldt- Universität zu Berlin. (GC)



NEWS OF THE PROJECTS

Roland Strausz (A8) visited the Workshop "on Procurement and Contracts" at the Mannheim University in Bad Homburg from 16 to 18 October 2013. He also went to the Conference "Advances on the Political Economy of conflict and redistribution II" at the WZB Berlin from 28 to 29 October 2013.

Frank Heinemann (C10) is currently visiting the University of New South Wales in Sydney. He gave a talk on "Central Bank Reputation, Transparency, and Cheap Talk as Substitutes for Commitment: Experimental Evidence" in the Experimental Economics Research Seminar on 4 October 2013 and presented his paper "Understanding Financial Crises: the Contribution of Experimental Economics" on 23 October 2013.

Ciril Bosch-Rosa (C10) presented his work in progress "Networks and Credit Rollover" at the Economic Science Association North American Meetings (from 25 to 26 October 2013).

Franziska Schulz (C11) gave a talk on "Forecasting generalized quantiles of electricity demand: A functional data approach" at the "Energy Finance Conference 2013" in Essen from 9 to 11 October 2013.

Gunda-Alexandra Detmers (C14) presented the paper "How Stale Central Bank Interest Rate Projections Affect Interest Rate Uncertainty" at the annual conference of the Verein für Socialpolitik on 5 September 2013, in Düsseldorf as well as at the conference "Walk the Talk? Challenges for Monetary Policy Actions and Communication in Uncertain Times" at the Balsillie School of International Affairs in Waterloo, Canada on 10 September 2013.



Chen Wenjuan (C14, C15) successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on "Essays on asset prices and macroeconomic fundamentals" on 31 October 2013. Congratulations!

Helmut Lütkepohl (C15) participated in the EUI Alumni Conference in Florence from 11 to 12 October 2013 and gave a presentation on "Comparison of Methods for Constructing Joint Confidence Bands for Impulse Response Functions". He also participated in the Macromodels International Conference in Warsaw, from 21 to 23 October 2013 and gave an invited lecture on "Identifying structural vector autoregressions via changes in volatility".

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":

01.06.2013 – 01.12.2013	<p>Bierey, Martin ESCP Europe</p> <p>Project: <i>Accounting Dissertation</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	
07.01.2013 – 31.12.2013	<p>Biermann, Steffen Universität Duisburg-Essen</p> <p>Project: <i>The accuracy of corporate risk valuation with a capital market theory valid model</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room: 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	

<p>8.03.2013 – 28.02.2014</p>	<p>Dai, Xianhua Wuhan Institute of Technology</p> <p>Project: Nonparametric Techniques in Economics</p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 312 phone: 2093 5748</p>	
<p>01.08.2013 – 31.12.2013</p>	<p>Panov, Maxim Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology</p> <p>Project: <i>Robust Filter for Hidden Markov Models</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	
<p>16.07.2013 – 15.10.2013</p>	<p>Schultz, Mario Europa-Universität-Viadrina</p> <p>Project: Implizite Kapitalkosten</p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	
<p>15.07.2013 – 23.12.2013</p>	<p>Trueck, Stefan Macquarie University</p> <p>Project: <i>How Is Convenience Yield Risk Priced?</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	
<p>19.09.2013 – 19.12.2013</p>	<p>Walther, Ursula HWR Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht</p> <p>Project: <i>Timing Success Explained - The Fallacy of Beating Even Efficient Markets</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	
<p>16.09.2013 – 16.12.2013</p>	<p>Weil, Richard HWR Hochschule für Wirtschaft und Recht</p> <p>Project: <i>The Return Performance to Merger Arbitrage in Germany</i></p> <p>Spandauer Str. 1, room 318 phone: 2093 5895</p>	

NEW DISCUSSION PAPERS

- 2013-045** **Thomas Meissner**
"Intertemporal Consumption and Debt Aversion: An Experimental Study"
- 2013-046** **Rainer Schulz, Martin Wersing, Axel Werwatz**
"Automated Valuation Modelling: A Specification Exercise"
- 2013-047** **Wolfgang Karl Härdle, Ya'acov Ritov, Weining Wang**
"Tie the straps: uniform bootstrap confidence bands for bounded influence curve estimators"

PUBLICATIONS

Giebe, T., Schweinzer, P.

"All-pay-all aspects of political decision making", *Public Choice*.
DOI: 10.1007/s11127-013-0127-1

Ensthaler, L., Giebe T.

"Bayesian Optimal Knapsack Procurement", *European Journal of Operational Research*.
DOI: 10.1016/j.ejor.2013.09.031

CRC STAFF

At this point the Collaborative Research Center 649 "Economic Risk" wants to present Suvi Vasama, staff member of project A8 "The Dynamics of Regulatory Risk" and Laurenz Klipper, member of project A13 "Risk Allocation with Derivatives by Corporations".



Suvi Vasama has been a Research Fellow at the Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin since September 2013. Before coming here, she was a PhD student at the Aalto University in Helsinki where she expects to be awarded her Doctoral Degree later this year. During her doctoral studies, she has visited Northwestern University for the academic year 2010-2011 and Yale University for the academic year 2012-2013. Suvi's research expertise is in microeconomic

theory as well as corporate finance, and she is also interested in various questions of information economics. In her doctoral theses, she examined questions of optimal financial contracting with correlated returns. She also studied questions of optimal capital structure and its implications on the efficiency of firm operations. While continuing her work on the dynamic principal-agent framework, she is planning to extend her work on the implementation of the optimal contract using different kind of securities. In particular, she is interested in the connection between debt heterogeneity and firm credit quality.



Laurenz Klipper finished his diploma at the University of Mannheim. In his diploma thesis he investigated the use of financial derivatives during the Greece Sovereign Debt Crisis. To continue his interest in the investigation of financial markets, he became a member of the BDPEMS and RTG doctoral program in 2011. One year later, he also joined the corporate finance chair of Prof. Tim Adam at the Humboldt-University of Berlin, where he currently works as a research fellow. In his Ph.D thesis, he examines the behavior of fund managers and its consequences on risk and performance.

In his private time, Laurenz is an enthusiastic football and tennis player. During his semester abroad in Buenos Aires, he also became a huge fan of South America, with a particular weakness for Argentinean steaks.

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"The saddest aspect of life right now is that science gathers knowledge faster than society gathers wisdom."

Isaac Asimov (1920-1992)

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 twelfth Newsletter 2013 is 29.11.2013.**