

Events

January

Cycle Gouvernance et transformations structurelles en Méditerranée - Mardis de la Villa > Tuesday 31st

Amine Ait-Chaalal, Université Catholique de Louvain,
Location: Villa Méditerranée, Marseille
Partenariat AMSE, IMERA, Villa Méditerranée, La Tribune
Organized by Raouf Boucekkine, Yves Doazan

March

Cycle A l'écoute des sciences sociales > Thursday 23rd
Olivier Bargain, Aix-Marseille Université, Greqam-AMSE
Pauvreté, inégalités et emploi: quelles politiques publiques?

Location: Bibliothèque départementale des Bouches-du-Rhône
Organized by Jean Boutier, Yves Doazan

April

Cycle A l'écoute des sciences sociales > Thursday 6th
Marcel Gauchet, EHESS
Location: Bibliothèque départementale des Bouches-du-Rhône
Organized by Jean Boutier, Yves Doazan

May

Globalisation Lecture > Monday 15th
Jérôme Adda, Bocconi University
Marseille, Vieille-Charité, Cinéma Le Miroir
Organized by Yann Bramoullé

Focus

A paper by Yann Bramoullé, Habiba Djebbari and their coauthors runner-up for the prize of the best paper published in the *Journal of Applied Econometrics*

Their paper "Do Peers Affect Student Achievement? Evidence from Canada Using Group Size Variation" (JAE 29:1, January 2014), published with Vincent Boucher and Bernard Fortin, has been selected as the runner up for the Richard Stone Prize in Applied Econometrics 2016 among the papers published in the preceding two volumes of JAE (i.e. 2014 and 2015).

16th JOURNÉES
LOUIS-ANDRÉ
GÉRARD-VARET
JUNE 12-13, 2017
Aix-en-Provence, France

Journées Louis-André Gérard-Varet #16
International conference in Public economics

Keynote speakers
Alan Krueger, Princeton University
Ariel Rubinstein, Tel Aviv University
Martin Weitzmann, Harvard university

Deadline for submissions: **February 1st, 2017**

More details on <https://lagv2017.sciencesconf.org/>

Outline

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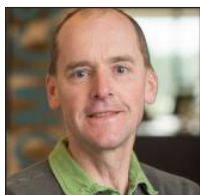
p. 2 AMSE Visitors: Michael Devereux; Jakob Madsen

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- Macroeconomic Imbalances, Financial Stress and Fiscal Vulnerability in the Euro Area Before the Debt Crises: A Market View
- Cognitive Ability and the Effect of Strategic Uncertainty
- Why Do Some Motorbike Riders Wear a Helmet and Others Don't? Evidence from Delhi, India
- The Economic Consequences of Mutual Help in Extended Families

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Michael B. Devereux

Michael B. Devereux is currently a visiting Professor at AMSE. His permanent position is at the University of British Columbia. His research is in the area of International Macroeconomics, Exchange Rates, and International Financial Markets. He has a PhD from Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario. He has held positions at the University of Toronto and Queen's University. From 2003-2013, he was a Bank of Canada Research Fellow. He has had visiting positions at University College Dublin, the Hong Kong Institute for Monetary Research, the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, the International Monetary Fund, the Aix Marseille School of Economics, and the Bank for International Settlements.



He was the recipient of the 2010 John Rea Prize from the Canadian Economic Association, for the economist with the best 5 year track record in Canada. Currently, he is a Senior Advisor at the Globalization and Monetary Policy Institute at the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.



Jakob Madsen

Jakob is a macroeconomist and holds the Xiaokai Yang Chair in Economics. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Social Sciences, was an ARC Professorial Fellow from 2011 to 2015, and is an associate editor of European Economic Review. Jakob was born in Randers, Denmark and holds an M.Ec. from the University of Aarhus, Denmark and a Ph.D.



MONASH
University

from the Australian National University. Since completing his Ph.D. he has held lecturing positions at the University of Southampton,

University of Western Australia and Flinders University and professorial positions at Brunel University, London, and University of Copenhagen. He returned to Australia in 2006 to take up his current position at Monash University.

Jakob's research interests are in macroeconomics, endogenous and unified economic growth, the macroeconomics of inequality, history of economic growth, stock and house price valuation, macrofinance, and applied econometrics.

He is a Research Fellow at the National Bureau of Economic Research in Cambridge MA, and at the Center for Economic Policy Research in London, UK. In 2014 he completed a three-year term as the first Director of the Vancouver School of Economics at the University of British Columbia.

During his visit, Michael will work on a number of projects. In one project, joint with AMSE Professor Karine Gente they are developing a framework for international macroeconomic modeling in a DSGE setting which explicitly relies on the network of linkages between heterogeneous financial institutions. It will explore theoretically how financial network structure matters for international business cycle propagation. They will investigate the empirical implications of this framework, and test these against actual observed financial network architecture. Going beyond this, they will look at the welfare implications of alternative financial networks, and identify the socially optimal network. In another project, joint with colleagues from the Bank of Canada, Devereux is developing an empirical model of international trading networks using micro data on the scope and persistence of exporting and importing firm relationships.

Michael is currently living in a rented apartment in Aix en Provence with his wife Katherine Meredith. They are immensely enjoying the appeal of Provence and the very friendly and supportive faculty and staff at AMSE.

Jakob is a visitor at Aix-Marseille University and a fellow of IMéRA over the period 6 September-24 December 2016 and is currently working on the project entitled "Economic Growth and the Origins of Economic Development". In this project he investigates 1) the role of education and science for human development from the pre-industrial period up to today; and 2) the extent to which institutions, culture and human capital have been the underlying forces for economic growth and development. Furthermore, Jakob is working on the macroeconomics of inequality focussing on economic growth theories and Piketty's laws of inequality in the long run. He also taught a PhD course on "The Macroeconomics of Long-Run Economic Growth and Inequality" in October-November. Jakob has thoroughly enjoyed his stay at Aix-Marseille University and is looking forward to further interaction and collaboration with staff and students.



Director of Publication: Alain Trannoy
 Editor: Yann Bramoullé
 Paper version: Yves Doazan
 On line version: Grégory Cornu



Research Highlights

Liberalism and Chinese Economic Development. Perspectives from Europe and Asia

Edited by **Gilles Campagnolo**, York & London: Routledge, 2016.

Research program

The LIBEAC (Liberalism In Between Europe And China) project aims at studying the interaction between liberalism and Chinese recent economic development, also examining China's neighbors and relationships with Europe. It is funded by the European Commission as an FP7/PEOPLE-International Research Staff Exchange Scheme to foster the emergence of multidisciplinary and multicultural research networks.

LIBEAC sheds light on challenging issues framing Europe's evolving partnership with China: economic development, political freedom and human rights. It elucidates China's recent concerns about slowing growth and transition to an innovation economy. With G. Campagnolo (CNRS/AMSE) as its Global Coordinator, LIBEAC involves 8 institutions from France, Italy, the UK, Czech Republic, China (Beijing U., Tsinghua U.) and Japan (Hokkaido U.). Individual experts from Korea, Taiwan and Russia joined the program and contributed to the book, LIBEAC's main deliverable. The project also publishes individual papers in international journals (English, French, Japanese and Chinese, the languages of the LIBEAC website), and was presented in the Chinese press (Chinese Social Sciences Today) at its start in 2013.

The book's contributions

In 2015, China applied to the WTO to be recognized as a market economy. The application was rejected on the grounds that China lacks key liberal elements regarded as integral parts of a market economy. One reaction was to regard liberalism as a Western Ideology, since some structural correlation is often assumed between economic and political liberalism, or capitalism and democracy. This is consistent with the assumption that the more developed the economy in a country is, the freer its inhabitants. Yet is this really the way liberalism works? This historical and philosophical issue parallels the central theoretical and contemporary issue of whether economic development along capitalist lines is long-term sustainable without a socio-political liberal framework.

The collective volume addresses several key questions: How was liberalism introduced in the period following the founding of the Chinese Republic (1910s-1930s)? (Part I) Was Western philosophy, in all its diversity, adopted/adapted? Or is it fundamentally incompatible with Chinese culture/organization? Is potential liberalization a push towards individualization in the Chinese cultural sphere (including neighboring cultures)? (Part II). Can liberalism live up to its universalistic ambition, and can it be embraced by China, even in law and politics? (Part III). How is trade

influenced in the long term by liberal principles creeping into legislation, politics, social life? The book provides conceptual tools to reach an answer within a Chinese environment, both Confucian and firmly ruled by the Chinese Communist Party. The underlying tension among these factors makes the book's analysis uniquely wide-ranging.

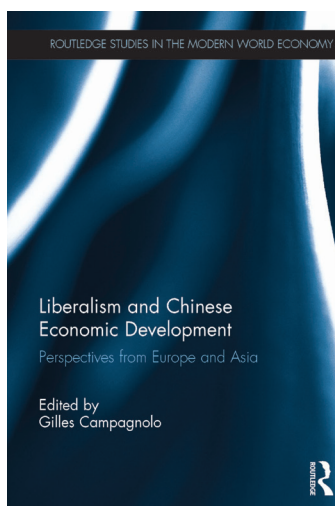
Research process

Our group is interdisciplinary and intercultural. We study an ideology that claims (and tends) to be universal – in contrast to nationalistic myths or class dogmas. Liberal ideas can be followed by any human mind, no matter where. However, whether or not they are adopted depends on the very different environments in different civilizations. As researchers from various backgrounds, we are able to reveal the diverse potential meanings of liberalism. We share a common goal of unveiling past, present and future opportunities for East Asian liberalization. And some believe major features can be added to the process of liberal ideology, going from the sources of liberal thought to well beyond traditional Western views.

Future research

LIBEAC ends in 2016. Many questions remain, for instance on Chinese leadership. We continue to investigate (neo)-liberalism in cross-level terms between Europe and East Asia. Our objective is neither to praise nor to criticize, but to understand how the ideology was introduced to various audiences with varying accuracy. We are seeking to identify fundamentals and to judge its achievements – the 2016 thematic issue of *Review of Economic Philosophy* is also devoted to “neoliberalism(s)”.

East Asian cases make us aware that the recent liberalism can no longer be limited to imports from the West. The adoption/adaption process by East Asian scholars that applied to Western philosophers yesterday and now applies to thinkers like Rawls, Hayek, Beck or Habermas needs to be clarified. Economic philosophy is already shedding light on this topic in China, in Korea and in Japan as well, and the future will see further contributions.



Short Biography

Gilles Campagnolo

Gilles Campagnolo has been a CNRS directeur de recherches at AMSE since 2013. He obtained his PhD in 2001 from Paris 1 Sorbonne University. He entered CNRS in 2002 in AMU's philosophy unit (until 2012).

He regularly visits foreign institutions in the US, Europe (Germany, Italy) and East Asia (Japan, China, Korea). He focuses on economic philosophy, the sources and dissemination of liberalism in the process of modernization. He is co-Chief Editor of the *Review of Economic Philosophy*.

Research Highlights

Macroeconomic Imbalances, Financial Stress and Fiscal Vulnerability in the Euro Area Before the Debt Crises: A Market View

Gilles Dufrénot, Karine Gente, Frédia Monsia,
Journal of International Money and Finance,
2016, 67, 123–146.

The research program

In 2011, after the recent European debt crises, the European Commission set up a scoreboard of indicators defining the “Macroeconomic Imbalance Procedure” (MIP), intended as an early warning system alerting policymakers to the build-up of macroeconomic imbalances. The variables defining the MIP are designed to allow early detection of fiscal stress in the euro zone countries. Our paper reviews the history of this early warning system to determine its efficiency.

Before 2012, macroeconomic imbalances had already raised concern among investors in the sovereign bond markets, even though they had not yet been incorporated into the multilateral surveillance mechanism by policymakers. The « markets’ view » of fiscal vulnerabilities differs from that of the policymakers. The latter seek to keep sovereign debt sustainable over a medium-to-long-term horizon. In contrast, the former have short-term goals, focusing on whether governments service their debt on time, whether they face credit or illiquidity risks. This paper suggests that policymakers should judge their fiscal vulnerability by monitoring « market-based » indicators.

The paper’s contribution

First, we interpret fiscal stress as a worsening of the financing conditions in the sovereign bond markets. Second, we use as advanced indicators of fiscal stress both the MIP indicators and financial stress indicators (FSI). MIP indicators include three-year average current account balance, three-year percentage change in the real effective exchange rate, three-year average unemployment rate and private sector debt, among others. They are intended to capture different facets of macroeconomic imbalances (competitiveness, private sector indebtedness, potential bubble in asset markets, fiscal and current account imbalances, etc). In addition, we consider a number of FSI, particularly exposure to tail risk, investors’ perceived risk of default associated with short-term bonds, investors’ trade-off between corporate and sovereign bonds, returns from equity indexes relative to bond prices. This paper seeks to determine which types of financial stress may be associated with higher fiscal vulnerability.

We use two methodologies: the standard non-parametric signals approach and the logit/probit model. The non-parametric signals approach consists in examining i) which variables send a signal prior to a fiscal stress event and ii) the state of the economy and financial markets in which a fiscal distress is triggered. The signals approach is a first step towards obtaining a ranking of the variables likely to foreshadow a fiscal stress. The logit/probit models give information about the marginal effect of a change in a given variable on the probability of fiscal vulnerability.

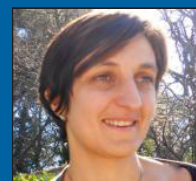
This paper highlights the importance of capturing fiscal vulnerability through investors’ perception of fiscal risk (as reflected by price bond convexity, duration, skewness and kurtosis). Investors seem to be alert to relatively small macroeconomic imbalances. This result is consistent with the so-called “wake-up calls” view, according to which the markets are very sensitive to changes in macro-financial imbalances during times of fiscal vulnerability.

Comparing the best models using FSI variables with models using only the MIP variables leads to drastic changes in the value and significance of some variables. This could mean that regressions using only macro-financial imbalances in the MIP would suffer from omission bias.

Short Biography



Gilles Dufrénot



Karine Gente



Frédia Monsia

Gilles Dufrénot has been a professor of Economics at Aix-Marseille University since 2009. He obtained his PhD in 1995 (University of Paris 12). Before joining AMU, he was maître de conférences at the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, professor at the Universities of Savoie and Paris 12 and advisor for several years to the Commissioner in charge of Economic policies at the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) Commission.

Karine Gente was appointed professor of Economics at Aix-Marseille University in 2016. She completed a PhD at Aix-Marseille University and joined AMU as a maître de conférences in 2001.

Frédia Monsia is a PhD student at Aix-Marseille University. She will complete her PhD in December 2016.

Future Research

This paper indicates that financial stress substantially improves the predictability of fiscal vulnerability. MIP indicators alone should not be considered as leading indicators of changes in the perception of sovereign bond pricing by market participants. This paper thus points to the importance of constructing databases and indicators for the euro zone to provide additional variables that would complement the MIP indicators. The econometric framework could be extended to explore other aspects of the links between market-based variables of short-term fiscal vulnerability, as well as their indicators. Alternatively, other measures of financial distress could be considered. For instance, time-varying and non-linear models would help detect structural instability in the relationships between the endogenous and explanatory variables, for instance those involving investors’ reaction to policy communications and initiatives.

Cognitive Ability and the Effect of Strategic Uncertainty

Nobuyuki Hanaki, Nicolas Jacquemet, Stéphane Luchini and Adam Zylbersztein. *Theory & Decision*, 2016, 81, 101-121.

The research program

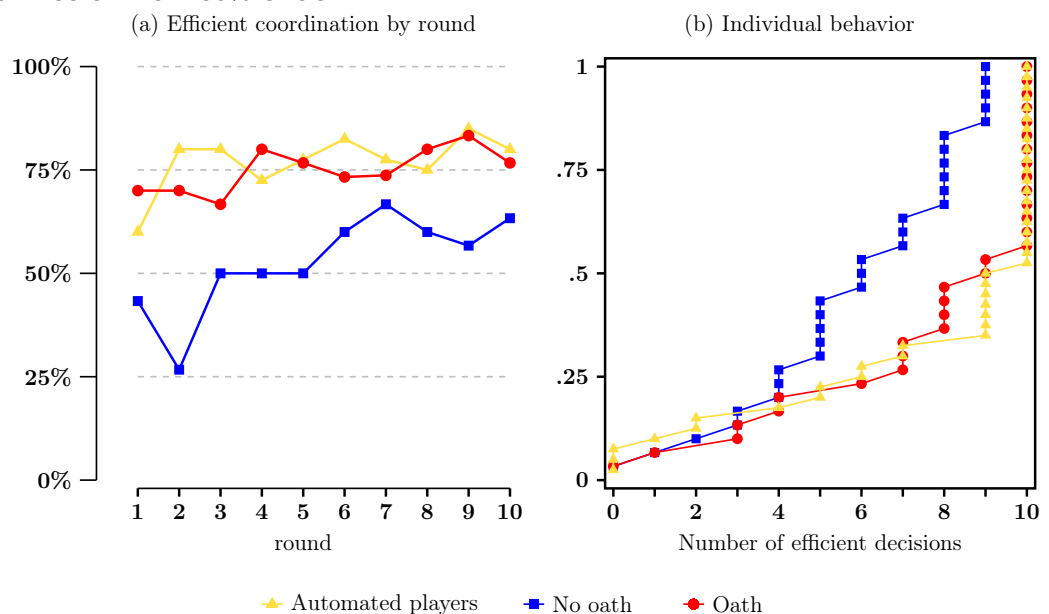
Coordination games provide a useful game-theoretical paradigm for analyzing a wide range of economic phenomena, such as macroeconomic fluctuations, bank runs and speculative currency attacks on financial markets, and commercial production processes. However, because of the multiplicity and the Pareto-rankability of the Nash equilibria in these games, and because decisions are usually made in a state of strategic uncertainty regarding others' behavior, the resulting outcomes may not coincide with the Pareto-Nash equilibrium. This is known as coordination failure. In previous research, we investigated how binding communication (communication under oath) could overcome behavioral failures. Our experiments showed that although binding communication did indeed induce efficient coordination, the coordination was still not 100% efficient. One of our objectives in this research was to understand why.

Paper's contributions

The first aim of this paper is to understand the extent to which deviations from the efficient strategy are due to uncertainty over whether the other players are rational or not, which is called strategic uncertainty. To address this issue, we conducted a set of experiments based on four variations of a classic 2x2 dominance solvable coordination game in which human subjects interact with either other human subjects or a rational computer program. Computerized players are programmed to always choose the dominant strategy and this fact is clearly explained to the subjects. Therefore, subjects interacting with computers do not face any strategic uncertainty, which provides a behavioral benchmark for assessing the effect of strategic uncertainty on behavior in interpersonal interactions. The second objective is to shed light on the relationship between cognitive ability and strategic thinking. In particular, we investigate whether failure to achieve efficiency is more widespread among subjects with low cognitive ability (measured by cognitive ability tests borrowed from psychology) than subjects with high cognitive ability. We show that, without strategic uncertainty, subjects who fail to coordinate efficiently are much more likely to have poor results in cognitive testing.

Future research

Combining results from this paper and another paper, we present in the Figure aggregate and individual behavior in three conditions: the robot condition and two that use communication between players to prevent coordination failures. One involves binding communication (under oath) and one non-binding (cheap talk). The Figure on the left presents the proportion of efficient decisions by round for each condition. The Figure on the right presents the empirical distribution functions (EDF) of the number of efficient decisions taken by each subject. Results show that coordination is more efficient when subjects are under a truth-telling oath. This is true both at aggregate and individual levels (the EDF in the binding communication condition first-order dominates the EDF in the non-binding communication condition). The important result here is that the binding communication condition exhibits a similar level of efficient coordination to that observed in the robot condition, where strategic uncertainty is completely eliminated. This suggests that coordination under oath is effective at removing strategic uncertainty, although it does not address inefficiencies caused by low cognitive ability. In other words, moral and social norms may not be sufficient to counteract bounded rationality. Our future research will be devoted to discovering whether there is a mechanism that might be able to do so.



Short Biography

Stéphane Luchini

Stéphane Luchini has been a CNRS chargé de recherches at GREQAM since 2001. He obtained his PhD in 2000 from Université de la Méditerranée. He was a fellow of the Center for Microeconomics at Cambridge University between March 2009 and January 2010.

He is interested in evaluating public goods using stated preference methods. His main domains of application are health economics, environmental economics and questions of social justice.

Research Highlights

Why Do Some Motorbike Riders Wear a Helmet and Others Don't? Evidence from Delhi, India

Michael Grimm and Carole Treibich, *Transportation Research Part A*, 2016, 88, 318-336.

The broader research program

Nearly 3 400 people die on the world's roads every day. 90% of these fatalities occur in developing countries, mostly in urban areas. Despite these numbers and the tremendously high related costs, road mortality is still a neglected issue in many low- and middle-income countries.

In this paper, we investigate the behaviors of Indian motorbike users. Motorbikes are easily the major component of the urban vehicle fleet in the country, and are involved in a large share of total road accident injuries and fatalities.

We use original data collected among motorbike riders in Delhi during summer 2011. While recent studies have investigated the socioeconomic and psychological determinants of helmet use, we additionally explore the role of risk preference, risk awareness and the interaction between speed and helmet use.

The paper's contribution

This paper seeks to understand what lies behind motorbike riders' behaviors on the road. On the one hand, we look at the relationship between two different safety behaviors: speed and helmet use. On the other hand, we investigate the influence of risk preferences and risk perceptions on the adoption of safe behaviors. We first model the problem theoretically. Relying on the literature on self-insurance and self-protection, we develop a simple model that can be used for comparative static analysis. Based on this analysis, we then derive hypotheses which we test empirically using a representative two-stage randomly sampled household survey implemented in Delhi, the world's fourth largest city.

The results suggest that risk-averse drivers are more likely to wear a helmet. A one standard deviation increase in our risk aversion score (i.e. by 29%) increases the probability of using a helmet on a given trip by 3 percentage points. Although this is not a very strong effect, its cumulative impact over many trips leads to a substantial reduction in the risk of being seriously injured in the event of an accident. We do not find any systematic effect of risk aversion on speed. Both results are consistent with our theoretical model.

Moreover, drivers who show a higher awareness of road risks, for instance because they are more conscious of the health risks from traveling on Delhi's roads, or because they have taken driving lessons, are more likely both to wear a helmet and to speed less. Put differently, a lack of awareness comes with both high speed and no helmet, i.e. the two decisions seem to complement each other. Once risk awareness characteristics are included in the empirical specifications, speed and helmet use appear to be substitutes.

The research process

The absence of microeconomic data on road users' habits led us to design our own questionnaire and collect original data on this topic. The survey was implemented at the end of my first year of PhD studies. I spent four months in Delhi supervising data collection by a local survey firm among 850 motorbike riders and pillion passengers. We collected information on helmet use and speed, degree of risk aversion and risk awareness. In addition, socio-demographic and economic characteristics, insurance coverage details and characteristics of the motorbike used were elicited in the questionnaire.

This survey was my first experience of data collection and was punctuated by many challenges and misunderstandings due to cultural barriers. However, the experience was extremely fruitful, both personally and scientifically. Armed with a few words of Hindi and maintaining a constant presence in the field to check each completed questionnaire, we managed to compile an innovative, high quality database.

Future research

In this paper, we highlight the need to design interventions which raise awareness of road risks. In related work using the same database, I explore the expected consequences of helmet non-use in terms of injuries and fines, and their impact on helmet adoption. Expected injuries and fines appear to influence helmet use on long and short trips respectively. Gender- and income-differentiated effects of expectations are found, pointing towards the possible content of future targeted information campaigns. In the Indian context, where the fine for helmet non-use is very small and women are not sanctioned, larger fines and stricter enforcement of traffic laws appear crucial to changing road behavior.



Short Biography

Carole Treibich

Carole Treibich joined the Aix-Marseille School of Economics in 2013 as a fourth year PhD student. She subsequently started her post-doc at AMSE in January 2015.

She obtained her PhD in economics jointly from EHESS and from Erasmus University Rotterdam in 2014.

Research Highlights

The Economic Consequences of Mutual Help in Extended Families

Jean-Marie Baland, Isabelle Bonjean, Catherine Guirkinger, Roberta Ziparo, *Journal of Development Economics*, 2016, 123, 38–56.

The research program

Markets for credit and insurance are often underdeveloped in poor countries, making interpersonal transfers for risk-sharing and redistributive purposes extremely important. Extensive research has sought to identify the fundamental social relationships behind informal agreements, focusing in particular on local networks at the village and the ethnic level. In sub-saharan Africa, traditional systems of mutual help operate mostly within the extended family network. The long-lasting and multiplex nature of family relationships provides a natural setting that enforces such agreements.

These arrangements strongly impact economic outcomes, on the one hand by helping smooth consumption and accumulate human capital and on the other hand, by potentially creating disincentives for effort and investment due to the taxation implicit in the redistributive system.

This paper provides an in-depth analysis of the nature of obligations within these extended families and their implications for economic efficiency.

The paper's contributions

In the paper, we exploit the exogenous variation in the position of respondents in their siblinghood – their relative birth rank – to identify the structure of responsibility in the family. We find that transfers are distributed asymmetrically across the extended family: elder siblings give help to their younger siblings, who reciprocate at a later stage by supporting their elders when they have children. Transfers do not appear only to operate in response to shocks, but seem to be determined by the differing ability to generate revenue at different stages of the life cycle. We interpret this pattern as a generalized system of reciprocal credit within extended families. This interpretation is supported by a theoretical investigation in which, using an overlapping generation model, we identify the conditions under which such arrangements increase the welfare of all participants and affect labor choices.

We then empirically explore the implications of this pattern for employment choices, as well as fertility and education outcomes. We observe that family obligations have strong and systematic effects on labor decisions: recipients of family support reduce their labor participation and their working time. Our estimates indicate that the presence of an older sibling reduces the younger siblings' propensity to work by 13% and to engage in an independent occupation by 10%. The children of these elder siblings partially outweigh these effects, which is consistent with the temporal structure of the transfers. Additionally, as this structure favors younger siblings and the children of elder siblings, we show that these individuals are systematically more educated. Since younger siblings have to reciprocate at the time they have children themselves, they also tend to have less children.

Overall, our analysis sheds new light on the roles of intra-family transfers, looking beyond their redistributive and risk-sharing properties, the main focus of the economic literature. In the specific context of our study, this system of reciprocal credit allows income smoothing over the life-cycle.

The research process

The idea for the study came from performing a deep qualitative analysis of the socio-economic context in Cameroon's western province. We conducted focus groups, informal interviews and small pilots. What clearly emerged was a tension between a well-functioning resource-sharing family system and a feeling of pressure for resource distribution that decreases incentives for individual economic activities. We documented several strategies that respondents were putting in place to 'pretend to be poorer'.

Intrigued by this apparently irrational behavior, we decided to conduct systematic data collection to properly measure intra-family obligations and the efficiency gains and losses involved. This allowed us to acquire a unique database intended to shed light on the mechanisms behind mutual help systems in Cameroon.

Within the system, there is an asymmetric and non-monotonic effect of position in the family on the size and directions of transfers, which translate into non-trivial outcomes for the labor market, education and fertility. To pinpoint the mechanisms behind these empirical results, we decided to enrich our analysis with a solid theoretical analysis of the stationary equilibrium of the family transfers.

Future research

The project suggested two avenues for future research. First, focusing on the positive side of the help system, we are planning to study the link between family formation and location (fertility, marriages, migration), sharing of resources and economic development. Second, we intend to theoretically study inefficiency in individual choices due to inconsistency in the level of altruism of individuals: we hypothesize that, because of empathy, the physical presence of the partner changes the usual level of altruism, inducing a level of transfer that is too high from the giver's point of view. Anticipating this, he may want to undertake precautionary actions to avoid distortions.



Short Biography

Roberta Ziparo

Roberta Ziparo joined Aix-Marseille University in 2015 as a maître de conférences.

She obtained her PhD in Economics in 2013 from the University of Namur (Belgium), where she conducted her research within the Center for Research in the Economics of Development (CRED). She was subsequently a post-doctoral fellow at the Paris School of Economics.

“ The statistical approach is necessary to avoid Toynbee’s fallacy : the all-too human tendency to hallucinate grand patterns in complex statistical phenomena and confidently extrapolate them into the future. But if narratives without statistics are blind, statistics without narratives are empty. History is not a screen saver with pretty curves generated by equations; the curves are abstractions over real events involving the decisions of people. ”

“The Better Angels of our Nature”,
Steven Pinker, p.232, Penguin Books, 2011

Recent Publications

Publications published by AMSE researchers, and extracted from RePEc between May 3rd, 2016 and November 2nd, 2016.

- Akay, A.; Bargain, O.; Giulietti, C.; Robalino, J. D.; Zimmermann, K. F. Remittances and relative concerns in rural China. *China Economic Review* **2016**, *37*, 191–207.
- Algan, Y.; Cahuc, P.; Sangnier, M. Trust and the Welfare State: the Twin Peaks Curve. *Economic Journal* **2016**, *126*, 861–883.
- Atlani-Duault, L.; Dozon J-P.; Wilson A.; Delfraissy J-F., Moatti J-P. State humanitarian verticalism versus universal health coverage: a century of French international health assistance revisited. *Lancet* (London, England) **2016**, *387*, 10034, 2250-2262.
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- Becker, R.; Bosi, S.; Van, C.; Seegmuller, T. On existence and bubbles of Ramsey equilibrium with borrowing constraints. *Economic Theory* **2015**, *58*, 329–353.
- Ben Charif, A.; Bouhnik A-D.; Courbière B.; Rey D.; Préau M.; Bendiane M-K.; Peretti-Watel P., Mancini J. Patient Discussion About Sexual Health With Health Care Providers After Cancer-A National Survey. *The Journal of Sexual Medicine* **2016**, *13*, 11, 1686-1694.
- Berardi, N.; Sevestre, P.; Tépat, M.; Vigneron, A. The impact of a “soda tax” on prices: evidence from French micro data. *Applied Economics* **2016**, *48*, 3976–3994.
- Bergeaud, A.; Cette, G.; Lecat, R. Productivity Trends in Advanced Countries between 1890 and 2012. *Review of Income and Wealth* **2016**, *62*, 420–444.
- Bertrand, P.; Lapointe, V. Risk-based strategies: the social responsibility of investment universes does matter. *Annals of Operations Research* **2015**, 1–17.
- Bervoets, S.; Merlin, V. On avoiding vote swapping. *Social Choice and Welfare* **2016**, *46*, 495–509.
- Bosi, S.; Ismael, M.; Venditti, A. Collateral and growth cycles with heterogeneous agents. *Journal of Macroeconomics* **2016**, *48*, 327–350.
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