# Malachy James Gavan

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Graduate Coordinator: Marta Araque		marta.araque@upf.edu	
Education	Ph.D. in Economics Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barce Advisor: Professor Antonio Pent	•	2019 - Present
	M.Res. Economics Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barce	elona, Spain	2018 - 2019
<b>M.Sc. Economics</b> Barcelona School of Economics, Barcelona, Spain			2017 - 2018
	<b>B.Sc. Economics</b> University of Surrey, Guildford,	United Kingdom	2014 - 2017
Research Interests	Game Theory and Mechanism Design		
References	Professor Antonio Penta Advisor ICREA-UPF, BSE, and TSE	<b>Professor Alexande</b> Committee Memb	· ·
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## Job Market Paper

#### **Negotiated Binding Agreements**

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I study the binding agreements that may result from players negotiating over their behaviour in an underlying strategic environment. To do so, I propose a negotiation protocol where, in each round of negotiation, agents make public proposals of the action they will take in the underlying game. The protocol terminates when these proposals are confirmed. Confirmation results in a binding agreement over the action profile and payoffs are the corresponding ones in the underlying game. I study the outcomes of Negotiated Binding Agreements of the negotiation protocol, which is a refinement of Subgame Perfect Equilibrium that I introduce in this context to obtain both credibility and tractability. The main results show that any outcome of the underlying game that is agreed upon must satisfy an *iterative* individual rationality constraint. Additionally, an outcome of the underlying game can be agreed upon if appropriate individual punishments in the underlying game can be found. A full characterisation is provided for two-player games. Finally, to allow for the possibility that agents make binding agreements over how they will negotiate, I extend the solution concept to allow for cooperative agreements within the negotiation game. Generalisations of the main results hold and refine the set of agreement outcomes.

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## Other Working Papers

#### **Safe Implementation**

(with A. Penta, submitted)

We introduce Safe Implementation, a notion of implementation that adds to the standard requirements the restriction that deviations from the baseline solution concept induce outcomes that are acceptable. The primitives of Safe Implementation therefore include both a Social Choice Correspondence, as standard, and an Acceptability Correspondence, each mapping every state of the world to a subset of allocations. This framework generalizes standard notions of implementation, and can accommodate a variety of considerations, including robustness concerns with respect to mistakes in play, model misspecification, behavioral considerations, state-dependent feasibility restrictions, limited commitment, etc. We provide results both for general solution concepts and for the case in which agents' interaction is modelled by Nash Equilibrium. In the latter case, we identify necessary and sufficient conditions (namely, Comonotonicity and safety-no veto) that restrict the joint behavior of the Social Choice and Acceptability Correspondences. These conditions are more stringent than Maskin's (1978), but coincide with them when the safety requirements are vacuous. We also show that these conditions are quite permissive in important economic applications, such as environments with single-crossing preferences and in problems of efficient allocation of indivisible goods, but also that Safe Implementation can be very demanding in environments with 'rich' preferences, regardless of the underlying solution concept.

#### Weak Coalitional Equilibrium: Existence and Overlapping Coalitions (submitted

I consider Ray and Vohra (1997)'s Coalitional Equilibrium and show the methodological advantage of taking the notion of "an improvement for a group" to mean that there is a joint action of the group that induces a strict improvement in utility for all its members. This is opposed to assuming no agent in the group is worse off while one is strictly better off. I show that, when this interpretation is taken, the sufficient conditions for existence of Ray and Vohra (1997)'s Coalitional Equilibrium can be weakened. I do so by showing that the existence of Coalitional Equilibrium is implied by the existence of a Nash Equilibrium of an auxiliary game. Further to this, I show that the proof of existence can be extended to a generalisation of the concept, where groups may overlap but do not necessarily include the grand coalition.

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Prog	res	S

## Grand Coalition Rationalizability and Undominated Correlated Equilibria

(with P. Ennuschat) (with M. Ptashkina)

### **Efficient Tariffs under Strategic Side Payments**

Seminars, Conferences, and Summer Schools

#### **Presentations**

European Winter Meeting of the Econometric Society
Asian School in Economic Theory
33<sup>rd</sup> Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory
2022 Conference on Mechanism and Institution Design\*
International Conference Game Theory and Applications\*
The 12<sup>th</sup> Conference on Economic Design
Internal Microeconomics Seminar
Student Seminar

Attendance

BSE Ph.D. Jamboree

31st Jerusalem Advanced School in Economic Theory\* (\*online, †discussant)

Berlin School of Economics, 2022 NUS \ The Econometric Society, 2022

Stony Brook University, 2022

NUS, 2022

St. Petersburg State University, 2022

University of Padova, 2022 UPF, 2022

UPF, 2021, 2022

BSE, 2020\*, 2021\*,†, 2022

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Probability and S  Masters Level, Inst  Universitat Por  Topics in Microe  Undergraduate Level  Andreu Mas-Coleli  Mathematics for	Ph.D. Level, Instructors: Piotr Zwiernik (2019, 2020) and Alexander Frug (2021), Practical Sessions and Lectures on				
Masters Level, Inst Universitat Por Topics in Microe Undergraduate Level Andreu Mas-Colelle Mathematics for					
Universitat Por Topics in Microe Undergraduate Le Andreu Mas-Coleli Mathematics for	Statistics Brush-Up	2020, 2021, 2022			
Topics in Microe Undergraduate Le Andreu Mas-Colell Mathematics for	Masters Level, Instructor: Christian Brownlees, Practical Sessions				
Undergraduate Le Andreu Mas-Coleli Mathematics for	Universitat Pompeu Fabra				
Andreu Mas-Coleli Mathematics for	conomic Theory	2019			
Mathematics for	Undergraduate Level, Main Instructor: Francesco Cerigioni, Other Instructors: Jose Apestaguia, Alexander Frug,				
	Andreu Mas-Colell, Massimo Motta, Rosemarie Nagel, Experimental Sessions and Lectures on Risk				
Ph.D. Level, Instru	Economics and Finance	2019, 2020			
	ctor: Piotr Zwiernik, Practical Sessions				
Game Theory an	d Design of Institutions	2020, 2022			
Undergraduate Lev	Undergraduate Level, with Antonio Penta, Practical Sessions and Lectures on Bayesian Games (2022)				
Honours, Best Teaching	oy a Graduate Student at UPF	2021 - 2022			
Awards, and equally split with a	Zoel Martín Vilató				
Scholarships UPF M.Res. Tu	ition Fee Waiver	2018			
BSE Merit Base	d Scholarship	2017			
Academic and UPF Student Se	minar Co-Organiser	2020 - 2021			
Departmental with Andrea Sy					
Services UPF Microecon	omics Reading Group Co-Organiser	2020 - 2021			
with Evangelia Spo	ıntidaki Kyriazi				
Skills IT: LATEX, TikZ, I	LyX, MATLAB, Mathematica				

Languages: English (Native), Spanish (Basic), British Sign Language (Basic)