Peter Steiglechner

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Key interests ___

Themes Opinion formation, Social Simulation, Complex systems, Climate crisis, Science communication

Methods Mathematical modelling, Agent-based simulation, Data analysis, Visualisation

Current key questions How can mathematical models adequately represent the opinions of people?

How do people react to social influence, and what factors or cognitive biases affect their

perceptions of others?

What are the conditions under which pro-environmental attitudes disseminate in society (despite

or perhaps because of peoples' cognitive biases)?

Academic background _

Ph.D. at Leibniz Centre for Tropical Marine Research (ZMT) Bremen and Constructor

started Jun 2020 University

project: seatrac

research area: the role of cognitive biases in the formation of public opinion patterns

supervisor: Agostino Merico

main collaborators: Deyshawn Moser, Achim Schlüter, Paul E. Smaldino

Master (M.Sc.) Jun 2020 at TU Berlin, KTH Stockholm (double-degree) and ZMT Bremen in Computer Simulations in Science and Engineering (COSSE)

final grade: 1.1 ('very good')

thesis in socio-economic modelling titled 'A spatially explicit agent-based model of human-

resource interaction on Easter Island'

supervisor: Agostino Merico

Master (M.Sc.)

Oct 2018 in **Physics**

final grade: 1.1 ('very good') with distinction

thesis in climate modelling titled 'Estimating global warming from anthropogenic heat emissions

at University of Potsdam and Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK)

- conceptual and numerical modelling approaches' supervisors: Georg Feulner and Maria A. Martin

Bachelor (B.Sc.)

at FAU Erlangen-Nuremberg

Dec 2016 in **Physics**

final grade: 1.2 ('very good') with distinction thesis on simulating the detection of astro-particles

supervisor: Uli Katz

Scientific work

Publications

P. Steiglechner, M.A. Keijzer, P.E. Smaldino, D. Moser, and A. Merico (in preparation). "Noise and opinion dynamics: How ambiguity promotes pro-majority consensus in the presence of confirmation bias.".

P. Steiglechner, P.E. Smaldino, D. Moser, and A. Merico (submitted). "Social identity bias and communication network clustering interact to shape patterns of opinion dynamics".

P. Steiglechner and A. Merico (2022). "Spatio-Temporal Patterns of Deforestation, Settlement, and Land Use on Easter Island Prior to European Arrivals". In: *The Prehistory of Rapa Nui (Easter Island): Towards an Integrative Interdisciplinary Framework.* Ed. by V. Rull and C. Stevenson. Cham: Springer International Publishing, pp. 401–426. ISBN: 978-3-030-91127-0.

DOI: 10.1007/978-3-030-91127-0_16

Scientific conferences

contributed talk at ODCD 2023 in Bremen, Germany

contributed talk at CCS 2022 in Palma, Spain contributed talk at SSC 2022 in Milan, Italy

poster at EGU General Assembly 2019 in Vienna, Austria

poster at DPG Frühjahrstagung 2019 (Environmental Physics Section) in Munich, Germany

Teaching (at university level) _____

Co-supervisor for a master thesis at ZMT on modelling individual decision-making in social contexts (ongoing)

for a master thesis at ZMT on modelling the coral-algae symbiosis under stress (2021)

Teaching assistant for the course 'Modelling and analysis of complex systems' by Agostino Merico at Jacobs

University (2020, 2022) including the preparation and presentation of a lecture on an 'Agent-

based model of the Covid-19 pandemic'

at a winter school on 'Mathematical modelling of ecological and socioeconomic systems' at the

African Institute of Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Senegal (2020, 2022)

for the course 'Theoretical physics 2' by Florian Marquardt at FAU (2015 – 2016)

Further research experience and education _____

Research internships at UC Merced in cognitive sciences and at Santa Fe Institute (2023, three months)

at Imperial College London and Grantham Institute (2016, three months)

publication of a policy briefing paper: 'Novel policy tools to assess the environmental impacts of

air pollutants'

supervisors: Apostolos Voulgarakis and Alyssa Gilbert

Science communication 'Book-a-scientist' – speed-dating with scientists organised by the Leibniz Association (2020,

2021, 2022)

Summer schools BIGSSS-CSS Summer School on social cohesion at University of Groningen (2022)

'PIP Summer school on machine learning' at University of Bremen (2018)

University exchange Erasmus exchange at Imperial College London (2014 –2015)

thesis project on simulating material properties of solar cells

supervisor: N.J. Ekins-Daukes

Relevant skills _

Languages German (native), English (Level C1, fluent), Swedish, Arabic (all beginner)

Programming Python (advanced), R, NetLogo, Julia (all beginner)

Voluntary work in university policy institutions_____

Political and administra-

tive groups

'Fridays for Future' university group at TU Berlin (2019) green university group ('GHG') at FAU (2012 - 2017) student association in physics ('FSI') at FAU (2012 - 2017)

Committee work speaker of 'Campusgrün Bayern', parent organisation of green university groups (2013 – 2014)

student council on faculty level ('FSV') at FAU (2013 $-\ 2014)$

student council on university level ('Konvent') at FAU (2013 – 2014)