

Personal Information

Citizenship Turkish (Permanent Resident in Norway)
Date of Birth 11 April 1991
Web Page: cerenay.github.io

Research Interests

Behavioral Economics, Experimental Economics, Self and Social Image, Information Preferences

Employment

10/2020- today Part Time Lecturer at Norwegian School of Economics(NHH), Department of Economics
08/2016- today PhD Research Scholar at Norwegian School of Economics(NHH), Department of Economics, FAIR - The Choice Lab
10/2014-08/2016 Research Assistant at Istanbul University- Faculty of Economics

Education

08/2016 - 12/2020(Expected) PhD in Economics at NHH - Department of Economics, FAIR - The Choice Lab supervised by Erik Øiolf Sørensen (*External supervisor: Pedro Dal Bó*)
01/2019 – 06/2019 Visiting Researcher - Brown University, Department of Economics, USA
Host: Louis Putterman
09/2014 - 07/2016 Master of Arts in Economics, Galatasaray University
Thesis: "A Voting Experiment on Promises and Fairness Perceptions"
09/2009 - 01/2014 Bachelor of Arts in Economics, Hacettepe University
Thesis: Game Theoretical Approach to Tax Evasion and Vickrey-Clark-Groves Mechanism"

Research

Work in Progress **Information Avoidance and Image Concerns in Reciprocal Decisions**

In this paper, I document findings that show people may choose to avoid information about the consequences of a decision when it can signal an undesired characteristics like being selfish or betraying someone's trust. There is a clear pattern of behavior when avoiding information: people who make selfish decisions are more likely to avoid information. This behavior is observed even when the decision is already made and the information cannot change the outcome, particularly when information can show that the decision caused a loss for someone else. This paper contributes to the behavioral and experimental research on information preferences and moral decisions by documenting that decisions may not only be motivated by the desire for certain outcomes but also desire to be regarded as a good person by oneself.

Status: *Working paper in progress - Data collection is completed in October 2018*

Work in Progress **Strategic Curiosity - joint with Katrine B. Nødvedt (NHH) and Joel Berge (NHH)**

This study provides experimental evidence on a novel phenomenon in information preferences: people strategically collect additional non-instrumental information to justify morally questionable decisions. We conduct a virtual dice-rolling experiment in which we vary the extent to which participants can collect additional information before reporting as well as the content of information. We document a tendency to systematically collect more information -be more curious-when tempted to misreport. Curiosity is positively correlated with the size of the lie. Interestingly, neither curiosity nor dishonesty responds to the content of the information as people roll the dice and misreport to the same extent even when information is irrelevant to the decision. Our study provides new insights into how individuals actively shape their information environment in pursuit of self-interest.

Status: *Working paper is in progress - Data collection is completed in August 2019*

Work in Progress **Reasoning Avoidance - joint with Hallgeir Sjøstad (NHH) and Steven Sloman (Brown University)**

This research project aims to investigate individuals' behavior when they are asked to explain a spurious relation between a main event and a side effect which can potentially challenge existing beliefs on the main event in an experimental setup. The main contribution of the present research is showing how causal relations can be misconceived by individuals when they challenge the beliefs and preferences about the main event -policy.

Status: *Pilot data collection is completed in January 2020- Data collection will be completed by December 2020.*

Work in Progress **Self-Image Considerations in the Provision of Helpful Feedback - joint with Stefan Meißner (NHH)**

The goal of the project is to see how individuals view others' self-image concerns and information avoidance decision and is that view affected by the material and ego utility/disutility of the information.

Status: *Working paper is in progress - Data collection is completed in October 2019*

Norwegian School of Economics-Department of Economics

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Work in Progress **An International Collaboration on Social and Moral Psychology of Covid-19 - joint with Jay van Bavel and others**

The goal of this collaboration is to bring together scholars from around the globe to examine psychological factors underlying the attitudes and behavioral intentions related to Covid-19. To date, data from over 44.000 citizens in 67 countries are collected. [Working Paper](#) and [Project website](#)

Pipeline **The effects of Information from Previous Counterparts in Collaboration - joint with Louis Putterman (Brown University) and Kenju Kamei (Durham University)**

In this project we investigate People's willingness to transmit information about their previous counterpart and how much this information can affect collaboration in group settings.

Pipeline **Preferences on the Timing of Information - joint with Marta Serra Garcia (University of California San Diego)**

In this project we aim to investigate people's choice of timing for receiving an unpleasant information about the consequences of a decision. This information could be about the consequences of a decision that may increase one's own benefit while causing negative outcome for others or for oneself like ethical questions when consuming a product or privacy violations while enjoying a service subscription.

Presentations at Conferences and Seminars

- October 2020 BBE Workshop at Humboldt University
- November 2019 Joint PhD Workshop NHH and University of Bergen (NHH Bergen, Norway)
- September 2019 PhD Course with Lise Vesterlund - Identification Through Experiments (NHH, Bergen Norway)
- April 2019 Brown Bag Seminar (Brown University, Sloman Lab, Providence, USA)
- March 2019 Spring School in Behavioral Economics - Poster Session (Rady School of Management, UC San Diego, USA)
- January 2019 Brown Bag Seminar (Brown University, Department of Economics, Providence, USA)
- November 2018 Joint PhD Workshop NHH and University of Bergen (NHH Bergen, Norway)
- June 2018 FAIR Inaugural Conference - Poster Session (NHH, Bergen, Norway)
- June 2016 7th International Conference of the French Association of Experimental Economics (Essec Business School, Cergy, France)

Workshop Attendance

- July 2019 2nd briq Summer School in Behavioral Economics, University of Bonn
- March 2019 Spring School in Behavioral Economics, Rady School of Management, UC San Diego, US

Teaching Assistance

Spring 2020	Behavioral Economics, NHH
Fall 2019	Econometric Techniques, NHH
Fall 2018	Human Capital, Mobility and Diversity in Firms, NHH
Fall 2018	Econometric Techniques, NHH
Spring 2018	Long Term Macroeconomic Analysis, NHH
Fall 2017	Ethics and Diversity in Firms, NHH

Languages

Languages	Turkish (native), English (fluent), Norwegian (intermediate)
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Software and Data Skills

Software and Programming Languages	Github (Version Control), JavaScript (Web Apps), Latex, Mathematica (Analytical Models), oTree (Experiment Programming and Data Collection with Heroku), Python (Data Analysis, Django), R (Data Analysis), Stata(Data Analysis), Subversion (Version Control), zTree (Experiment Programming)
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Academic References

Prof. Erik Øiolf Sørensen	NHH - Department of Economics, FAIR-The Choice Lab, Helleveien 30, 5045, Bergen, Norway erik.sorensen@nhh.no
Prof. Bertil Tungodden	NHH - Department of Economics, FAIR-The Choice Lab, Helleveien 30, 5045, Bergen, Norway bertil.tungodden@nhh.no
Prof. Louis Putterman	Brown University - Department of Economics, 70 Waterman Street, Providence, RI 02912, USA louis_putterman@brown.edu
Prof. Pedro Dal Bó	Brown University - Department of Economics, 70 Waterman Street, Providence, RI 02912, USA pedro_dal_bo@brown.edu