

Che Sun

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Education

University of California, Davis

Ph.D. in Economics, Expected 2024

M.A. in Economics, 2019

Binghamton University, State University of New York (SUNY)

B.S. in Economic Analysis and B.A. in Mathematical Sciences, 2018

Research

Fields of Interest

Behavioral Economics, Economics of Education

Work in Progress

Biased Belief Updating and Persistence of Stereotypes, with Anujit Chakraborty

We experimentally study whether gender stereotype affect belief updating on beliefs about others. Subjects perform belief updating tasks in four gender-stereotypical domains (math, sports knowledge, verbal, emotional intelligence) and one gender neutral domain (crosswords). We observe their prior, experimentally assign each subject a noisy but informative signal in each domain, and elicit updated posteriors after they receive each new signal. Comparing their belief updating between gender stereotypical domains and gender neutral domains establishes the effect of gender stereotypes on belief updating. Our design allows for precise estimation of the parameters of the subjects' belief updating rule and a clean structural test against the Bayesian baseline. We contribute to the literature by uncovering a potential channel of stereotype persistence and experimentally identify this channel separately from the other heuristics and biases that result in non-Bayesian updating.

Behavioral Incentive Compatibility of BDM Belief Elicitation

Recent evidence has shown that theoretical incentive compatibility of belief elicitation mechanism doesn't always translate into the lab and revealing incentives might negatively impact truth telling. In this paper, I provide the first experimental evidence on the effect of incentive information on truth telling in the BDM mechanism. The results of the experiment will inform experimenters about necessary considerations in the practical implementation of the BDM mechanism and improve our understanding of its real-world performance. In the experiment, subjects are asked to report their belief about the probability of 4 events which has an objective probability. I elicit subjects' priors and have them perform two rounds of Bayesian updating tasks in each event. I investigate the percentage of truthful reports in each of the treatments and the deviations between actual and Bayesian posteriors to establish the effects of incentives.

Gender Stereotypes and Student Persistence in STEM Majors, with Kalyani Chowdhury and Derek Rury

Diversity in Schools: Immigrants and the Long-Run Outcomes of US-Born Students, with Briana Ballis and Derek Rury

Experience

Teaching Assistant

ECN 151A: Economics of Labor Markets	Summer 2020
ECN 1A: Principles of Microeconomics	Spring 2020
ECN 135: Money and Banking	Winter 2020
ECN 117: Economics of International Immigration	Fall 2019

Research Assistant

California Education Lab Summer 2020 - Present

Activity

Presentations

UC Davis Theory & Behavioral Brown Bag Seminar February and November 2021

Referee

Journal of Human Resources 2020

Other

Organizer of Theory & Behavioral Brown Bag Seminar Series 2020
Executive Vice President of Economics Graduate Student Association 2020 - 2021

Awards and Fellowships

UC Davis Economics Department Graduate Student Research Award	2021
UC Davis Economics Departmental Fellowship	2018-2019
State University of New York (SUNY) Chancellor's Award for Student Excellence	2018
Binghamton University President's Award for Student Excellence	2018
Binghamton University Economics Faculty Award for Excellence in Economics	2018
Binghamton University Award for Excellence in Mathematics	2018
Binghamton University Senior Class of 1986 Award for Student Excellence	2018

References

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