

# DAVID ALBRECHT (HE/HIM)

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🌐 Personal Website    in LinkedIn    GitHub

## SUMMARY

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I am a behavioral economist with professional experience in consulting, interested in generating and applying data-driven insights on questions related to economics and decision-making. In my research, I explore topics such as economic preferences and group behavior using meta- and crowdsourcing approaches, experiments, surveys, structural estimations, Bayesian statistics, and machine learning.

## CURRENT POSITION

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**Postdoctoral Researcher / Research and Lab Coordinator** *since Oct 2024*

*WZB - Berlin Social Science Center - Markets & Choice*

*Lab<sup>2</sup> - Incubator for replicability, meta- and crowdsourcing, Prof. Dr. Anna Dreber & Dr. Levent Neyse*

## EDUCATION

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**PhD in Human Decisions & Policy Design (Economics)** *2019 - 2024*

*Maastricht University, Netherlands*

**M.Sc. in Economics and Management Science (MEMS)** *2014 - 2017*

*Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany*

**Thesis:** *Probability Perception in Decision Making under Risk*

**B.A. in Economics and Sociology** *2011 - 2014*

*Georg August University, Göttingen, Germany*

## REFERENCES

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**Anna Dreber Almenberg** (anna.dreber (at) hhs.se)

*Stockholm School of Economics*

**Levent Neyse** (lneyse (at) diw.de)

*Social Science Center Berlin (WZB)*

*German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) at German Institute for Economic Research (DIW)*

**Martin Strobel** (m.strobel (at) maastrichtuniversity.nl)

*Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics*

**Thomas Meissner** (t.meissner (at) maastrichtuniversity.nl)

*Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics*

## RESEARCH PAPERS

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**Mitigating manipulation in committees: Just let them talk! Job Market Paper**

I analyze how the format of interaction and threats of manipulation influence the accuracy and trustworthiness of judgments derived in small groups such as expert committees or project teams.

### **Debt Aversion: Theory and Measurement** (with Thomas Meissner)

We propose a formal model incorporating debt aversion as a genuine domain of preferences and use a novel experiment to jointly estimate debt aversion with preferences over time, risk, and losses.

### **The Debt Aversion Survey Module: An experimentally validated tool to measure individual debt aversion** (with Thomas Meissner)

We develop an experimentally validated, short and easy-to-use survey module for measuring individual preferences towards saving and borrowing, as if elicited through an incentivized experiment.

## **ONGOING RESEARCH**

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### **#ManyDaughters: Multi-Analyst Project Exploring the Effect of Daughters on Preferences and Behaviors** (with Aurélien Baillon, Anna Dreber, Frank M. Fossen Felix Holzmeister, Taisuke Imai, Magnus Johannesson, Levent Neyse, Séverine Toussaert, Yifan Yang)

Research teams submit a pre-analysis plan and analysis code to test four hypotheses about the impact of having daughters on attitudes, preferences, and behaviors.

### **Lab<sup>2</sup> Many Labs study—ML<sup>2</sup>** (with Aurélien Baillon, Anna Dreber, Felix Holzmeister, Taisuke Imai, Magnus Johannesson, Levent Neyse and Severine Toussaert)

We collect data from 50+ labs to provide high-powered tests of key methodological issues in experimental economics, estimate heterogeneity in treatment effects, and replicate seminal findings.

### **Debt aversion among German households** (with Thomas Meissner)

We investigate the relation of individual debt attitudes to other socio-economic characteristics and its predictive power for real-world behavior based on a German representative sample.

### **Expanding Moral Wiggle Room: A Large-Scale Online Replication and the Role of Moral Context** (with Hande Erkut, Jakob Möller, Levent Neyse)

We replicate and extend the influential research on "moral wiggle room" demonstrating how reduced transparency in dictator games enables self-interested behavior through willful ignorance.

## **CONTRIBUTION TO CROWDSCIENCE PROJECTS**

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### **Examining the generalizability of research findings from archival data** (Andrew Delios, Elena Giulia Clemente, Tao Wu, Hongbin Tan, Yong Wang, Michael Gordon, Domenico Viganola, Zhaowei Chen, Anna Dreber, Magnus Johannesson, Thomas Pfeiffer, Eric Luis Uhlmann)

**Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2022**

**Social norms and honest behavior across countries** (led by Filippos Exadaktylos)

## PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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### Research Visits

Technische Universität Berlin, Germany - Host Prof. Dr. Frank Heinemann *Oct 2023*  
UC San Diego - Rady School of Management, USA - Host Uri Gneezy *Sep 2022 - Jan 2023*

### Academic Presentations

Berlin Social Science Center Markets & Choice Seminar *2025*  
UM Behavioral Insights Center Research Retreat *2023*  
ESA Job Market Seminar Series  
ESA Europe Meeting Exeter  
EEA ESEM Meeting Barcelona  
Maastricht Behavioral Economics Symposium  
IAREP SABE Annual Meeting Nice  
  
ESA North America Meeting Santa Barbara *2022*  
UC San Diego Theoretical & Behavioral Economics Seminar  
UC San Diego Graduate Student Research Seminar  
Maastricht University Interdisciplinary Seminar of Behavioral Sciences – Theory and Empirics  
Maastricht University BEElab meeting  
  
ESA Global Conference (online) *2021*  
EADM Subjective Probability, Utility and Decision Making Conference (online)  
Maastricht Behavioral Economics Symposium  
Lyon-Maastricht Behavioral Workshop (online)  
Maastricht University MU-CEN Seminar  
  
Maastricht University Behavioral and Experimental Economics Reading Group *2020*

### Seminar Organization

Maastricht University Interdisciplinary Seminar of Behavioral Sciences *2022 - 2024*

### Refereeing

Journal of Political Economy Microeconomics, Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics

## AWARDS, GRANTS & RESEARCH FUNDING

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Maastricht University - GSBE International Travel Grant (€3000) *2022*  
• Research visit - Rady School of Management at UC San Diego  
Maastricht University - GSBE Grant for Primary Data Collection (€7200) *2021*  
• Hidden Agendas in Small Group Judgment Aggregation

## TEACHING AND TEACHING INNOVATION

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Maastricht University *2019 - 2023*  
• Economics and Business, History of Economic Thought, Public Economics, Data Workshops (Python), Economy Game, Economy Game for MBA, Growth & Institutions  
• Economy Game 2.0: Develop a double auction market tool in oTree (Python, JavaScript, and HTML) to facilitate experience-based education on markets and their economic implications.

## PREVIOUS POSITIONS

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**Affiliated Researcher (earlier PhD Candidate) - Behavioral Economics** 2019 - 2024  
*Maastricht University, The Netherlands*  
*PhD Graduation Feb 2024 - Supervisors: Alexander Brüggem, Martin Strobel, and Thomas Meissner*

**Senior Consultant (earlier Consultant)** 2017 - 2019  
*BwConsulting GmbH, Berlin, Germany*

- Solved managerial and economic challenges of the German Ministry of Defence by applying good project and change management practices to a major organizational area of ~35 000 employees.
- Implemented a goal-oriented system of strategic development and program management.
- Lead-authored papers on behavioral insights for strategic decisions and robotic process automation.

**Research Associate (20h/week)** 2015 - 2016  
*NERA Economic Consulting, Berlin, Germany*

- Supported competition economics and energy practice case work in data management and analysis, damage quantification, and market share calculation workflows.

**Various internships in Economic and Management Consulting** 2014 - 2017  
*FehrAdvice & Partners AG (Zurich - CHE), Deutsche Bahn Management Consulting (Berlin - GER), IGEF Foundation (Gurgaon - IND)*

## INVOLVEMENT

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**Foodsaver** 2020 - 2022  
*Foodsharing Maastricht, Netherlands*

- Fight food waste by collecting and redistributing expired, edible food from vendors and retailers.

## SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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**Technical:** MS Office, R, LaTeX, oTree, zTree, Python, Stata, Mata, ORSEE, GitHub, PostgreSQL

**Soft Skills:** Lead projects, present to various audiences, experimental research, academic teaching

**Fields of Interest:** Behavioral Science, Data Analysis, Effective Altruism, Sustainable Growth, Bicycles and Cycling, Espresso, Cuisine and Food Production, Tailoring, Urban Gardening, and many more

**Languages:** German (native), English (C2), Dutch (B2), Italian (B1), French (A2)