

# DAVID ALBRECHT (HE/HIM)

📍 Berlin, Germany    ☎ (+49) 17642063450    @ [david.albrecht@pm.me](mailto:david.albrecht@pm.me)  
🌐 [Personal Website](#)    [LinkedIn](#)    [Github](#)

## SUMMARY

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I am a behavioral scientist interested in generating and applying data-driven insights on questions related to economics and decision-making. My research explores 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*  
*Berlin Social Science Center (WZB) - Markets & Choice Research Department*  
*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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**Levent Neyse** ([lneyse@diw.de](mailto:lneyse@diw.de))  
*Berlin Social Science Center (WZB)*  
*German Socio-Economic Panel (SOEP) at German Institute for Economic Research (DIW)*

**Martin Strobel** ([m.strobel@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:m.strobel@maastrichtuniversity.nl))  
*Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics*

**Thomas Meissner** ([t.meissner@maastrichtuniversity.nl](mailto:t.meissner@maastrichtuniversity.nl))  
*Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics*

**Anna Dreber** ([anna.dreber@hhs.se](mailto:anna.dreber@hhs.se))  
*Stockholm School of 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 borrowing.

## **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)

We collect pre-analysis plans and analysis code from 100+ research teams testing hypotheses about the impact of having daughters on attitudes, preferences, and behaviors.

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

### **#ManyLabs-DACH: A Multi-Lab Study across Germany, Austria, and Switzerland** (with Cankut Kuzlukluoğlu, Anna Dreber, Felix Holzmeister, Magnus Johannesson, Levent Neyse)

We collect data from 20+ German-speaking labs and representative (online) samples to assess and quantify population heterogeneity in treatment effects of crowdsourced experimental designs.

### **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.

## **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)

## **PREVIOUS POSITIONS**

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**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.

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)*

## 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*

- Job Market Paper — Hidden Agendas in Small Group Judgment Aggregation

## TEACHING AND TEACHING INNOVATION

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### Maastricht University

2019 - 2023

Economics and Business (BSc International Management)

History of Economic Thought (BA European Studies)

Public Economics (BSc Economics and Business Economics)

Python Data Analysis Workshops (BA Global Studies)

Economic Growth & Institutions (BSc Economics and Business Economics)

Economy Game (BSc Economics and Business Economics & Executive MBA)

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)

## INVOLVEMENT

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### Foodsaver

*Foodsharing Maastricht, Netherlands*

2020 - 2022

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, sustainable growth, effective altruism, bicycles and cycling, triathlon, espresso, cuisine and food production, tailoring, urban gardening, and many more

**Languages:** German (native), English (proficient), Dutch (independent), Italian (basic), French (basic)