DAVID ALBRECHT (HE/HIM)

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🔗 Personal Website in Linkedin ⃝ Github

SUMMARY

I am a behavioral economist 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 crowdscience approaches, experiments, surveys, structural estimations, Bayesian statistics, and machine learning.

CURRENT POSITION

Postdoctoral Researcher / Research and Lab Coordinator *since Oct 2024*
Berlin Social Science Center (WZB) - Markets & Choice Research Department
Lab^2 - Incubator for replicability, meta- and crowdscience, Prof. Dr. Anna Dreber & Dr. Levent Neyse

EDUCATION

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

Anna Dreber (anna.dreber@hhs.se)
Stockholm School of Economics

Levent Neyse (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)
Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics

Thomas Meissner (t.meissner@maastrichtuniversity.nl)
Maastricht University, Microeconomics & Public Economics

RESEARCH PAPERS

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

#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.

Lab^2 Many Labs study—ML^2 (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

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

Affiliated Researcher (earlier PhD Candidate) - Behavioral Economics   *2019 - 2024*
Maastricht University, The Netherlands
PhD Graduation Feb 2024 - Supervisors: Alexander Brüggen, 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), IGEP Foundation (Gurgaon - IND)

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

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

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

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

Foodsaver

Foodsharing Maastricht, Netherlands *2020 - 2022*
Fight food waste by collecting and redistributing expired, edible food from vendors and retailers.

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

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)