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PLACEMENT DIRECTORS

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EDUCATION

Ph.D. Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, expected May 2024
M.A. Economics, Sabanci University, Turkey, 2018
B.A. Economics, Minor in Psychology, Sabanci University, Turkey, 2016

FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION

Primary: Microeconomic Theory, Behavioral Economics
Secondary: Experimental Economics

DISSERTATION

Essays on the Cognitive Foundations of Economics
Committee: Prof. Yusufcan Masatlioglu (Chair), Prof. Emel Filiz-Ozbay, Prof. Erkut Ozbay

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Revealed Attention and Memory", with Yusufcan Masatlioglu

Abstract: We study how the allocation of attention to different options and the accessibility of options from memory affect decision making. To distinguish between attention and memory, we propose a two-stage stochastic consideration set formation process. An alternative enters the decision maker's consideration set if it is investigated in the initial attention stage and it is remembered in the subsequent recall stage. In the initial attention stage, the decision maker investigates each available alternative with some alternative-specific probability. In the recall stage, the decision maker recalls each alternative that she investigated in the attention stage with some probability. The probability of recalling an alternative depends on the memorability of the alternative and its position in the order of investigation in the attention stage. Investigating an alternative more recently enhances the probability of recalling it. The decision maker chooses the option that maximizes her preference relation over her consideration set. Under an assumption on the distribution of the investigation of alternatives, we provide testable implications and show that the revealed preference, attention parameters and memory parameters can be uniquely identified from observable repeated choices.

OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS

"Stochastic Choice with Limited Memory", **Journal of Economic Theory**, 205, 105548, 2022

Abstract: We model a decision maker who observes available alternatives according to a list and stochastically forgets some alternatives. Each time the decision maker observes an item in the list, she recalls previous alternatives with some probability, conditional on those alternatives being recalled until this point. The decision maker maximizes a preference relation over the set of alternatives she can recall. We show that if every available alternative is chosen with strictly positive probability, the preference order and the list order must coincide in any limited memory representation. Under the full support assumption, the preference ordering, the list ordering, and the memory parameters are uniquely identified up to the ranking of the two least preferred alternatives. We provide conditions on observable choice probabilities that characterize the model under the full support assumption. We then apply our model to study the pricing problem of a monopolist who faces consumers with limited memory. We show that when the probability of forgetting is high, the monopolist is better off charging a lower price than the optimal price in the perfect memory case.

"Revealing Unobserved Price Discounts", with Yusufcan Masatlioglu, work in progress

Abstract: Price data is subject to measurement error due to temporary promotions, coupon usage by consumers or bargaining between consumers and sellers. Even when detailed data on transaction prices are available, prices of not purchased alternatives may not be recorded by the dataset, making counterfactual analysis difficult. In this paper, we study consumer behavior when the transaction prices are subject to such variations that are not captured by the data. We show that the weak axiom of revealed preference may lead to erroneous conclusions about violations of utility maximization and incorrectly measure consumer preferences if unobserved price variations are ignored.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Instructor, University of Maryland, Game Theory, Spring 2020, Summer 2020, Fall 2020, Spring 2021, Summer 2021, Winter 2022
Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Math Camp (core graduate), Summer 2022, Summer 2023
Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Game Theory, Fall 2019, Fall 2021
Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Advanced Microeconomics, Spring 2022
Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Intermediate Microeconomics, Spring 2019, Spring 2022, Spring 2023
Teaching Assistant, University of Maryland, Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2018, Fall 2022
Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University, Econometrics (core graduate), Spring 2018
Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University, Microeconomics, Fall 2017
Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University, Games and Strategies, Spring 2017
Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University, Statistical Modeling, Fall 2016
Teaching Assistant, Sabanci University, Calculus I, Fall 2015

RESEARCH AND RELEVANT WORK EXPERIENCE

Summer Associate, The Brattle Group, Washington D.C., June-August 2023
Summer Ph.D. Intern, Power Auctions, Washington D.C., June-August 2020
Undergraduate Research Intern for Prof. André Blais, Université de Montréal, June-September 2015

GRANTS AND AWARDS

Institute for Humane Studies, Publication Accelerator Grant, 2023
BSOS Dean's Research Initiative Travel Award, 2023
Hakan Orbay Research Award for Ph.D. Students, First Place, 2022
BSOS Dean's Research Initiative Travel Award, 2022
Jacob K. Goldhaber Travel Grant, 2022

University of Maryland Economics Department Third Year Paper Prize, First Place, 2021
Merit Scholarship, Sabanci University, 2012-2018

CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2023: US Naval Academy, Georgetown University (scheduled)
2022: New York University Theory Lunch, Bounded Rationality in Choice Conference, Women in Economic Theory Conference, Sabanci University Department of Economics, Sabanci Business School
2018: 38th Bosphorus Workshop on Economic Design

WORKSHOP PARTICIPATION

2022: Sloan-Nomis Summer School on the Cognitive Foundations of Economic Behavior

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Referee for *Journal of Economic Theory*

LANGUAGES

Turkish (native), English (fluent)

COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Stata, R

REFERENCES

Prof. Yusufcan Masatlioglu	University of Maryland	yusufcan@umd.edu	(301) 405-3527
Prof. Erkut Ozbay	University of Maryland	ozbay@umd.edu	(301) 405-3481
Prof. Emel Filiz-Ozbay	University of Maryland	efozbay@umd.edu	(301) 405-3474