THOMAS EISFELD

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Research Fields

Microeconomic Theory, Industrial Organization, Behavioral and Experimental Economics

Education

PhD in Economics (Joint Degree)	2020 - 2024*
CORE - Center for Operations Research & Econometrics, UCLouvain, Belgium	
ECARES - European Center for Advanced Research in Economics & Statistics, ULB, Belgium	
M.Res. in Economics at UCLouvain, Belgium	2017 - 2019
B.Sc. in Economics and Business Administration at University of Würzburg, Germany	2013 - 2017

References

Johannes Johnen (CORE/LIDAM, UCLouvain) johannes.johnen@uclouvain.be	François Maniquet (CORE/LIDAM, UCLouvain) francois.maniquet@uclouvain.be
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Job Market Paper

Unite and Conquer: Seller Collusion in Multi-Sided Markets

This paper explores theoretically the dynamics of (online) marketplaces. We reveal a strong incentive for platform providers to encourage seller collusion, particularly under specific buyer demand conditions. Surprisingly, higher fees promote seller collusion, reinforcing supply-side pricing coordination. The implications extend to policy, emphasizing the impact of demand shocks and user bases on platform behavior. Also, distinguishing between two-sided and supply-side network effects is crucial for policymakers. Our findings unveil the potential for supra-competitive pricing in the era of price-matching algorithms. We propose an innovative policy solution: adjusting platform fees to counter the adverse effects of such algorithms on competition.

Working Papers

Social (P)references: Testing Peer-Dependent Reference Points

Individual decisions are often thought to be made based solely on personal gain, but recent experimental and empirical evidence challenges this assumption. We present a new model that incorporates social aspects of decision-making under uncertainty, and propose two re-specifications of certainty equivalents for decision-makers with allocational concerns, as they may not be unique. Our research offers insight into the impact of peer effects on individual choices under risk, and we highlight the importance of precise specification of a peer-dependent certainty equivalent. Our findings suggest potential implications for various economic settings. We also test these predictions experimentally.

Work in Progress

Marketplace Information and Seller Collusion in Multi-Sided Markets

Advertising auctions in Multi-Sided Markets (with Robin Ng)

Paying for Peace (with Antoine Germain)

Publications

Scholars and Literati at the Royal Prussian Academy of Sciences (1700-1800) (with D. de la Croix and M. Ganterer), *Repertorium eruditorum totius Europae*, no. 3 (2021): 1–9.

Risikomanagement in finanzwirtschaftlichen Standardlehrbüchern: Disziplinäre Differenzierung oder Integration? (with L. Knoll), ZRFC - Risk, Fraud & Compliance, no. 13(1) (2018): 23-30.

- 2023 CORE Brownbag* (UCLouvain), 34th Stony Brook International Conference on Game Theory (New York), EEA-ESEM 2023 (Barcelona), 50th EARIE Conference (Rome), EARIE Inaugural Summer School (Rome), VfS Annual Conference 2023 (Regensburg), 21st ZEW Conference on the Economics of Information and Communication Technologies (Mannheim), AFREN 3EN Digital Economics Summer School (Avignon), 2023 ESA World Meeting (Lyon), 13th Conference on Economic Design (Girona), Oligo Workshop (Padua), CLEEN Conference (Mannheim), 14th International Conference "Challenges of Europe" (Bol), ENTER Jamboree (Mannheim), Aix-Marseille School of Economics (Marseille)
- 2022 Winter Doctoral Workshop (Brussels), CORE Brownbag (UCLouvain), IRES Internal Seminar (UCLouvain), 5th International Conference Of Development And Economy (Kalamata), ECARES Internal Seminar (Brussels), Summer Doctoral Workshop (UCLouvain), ECORES Summer School (KULeuven), AFREN Digital Economics Summer School (UCLouvain)
- 2021 Winter Doctoral Workshop in Economics (Namur), Competition in Digital Markets Winter School (Barcelona), CORE Internal Seminar (UCLouvain)
- 2020 Doctoral Workshop (Brussels); IWABE Workshop (KULeuven), CORE Seminar (UCLouvain)

Awards, Fellowships and Grants

Teaching Fellow at Economics School of Louvain, UCLouvain	since 2023
FRS-FNRS FRESH grant for Peer-dependent reference points	2020
Excellence of Science grant for Individual Welfare Analysis based on Behavioral Economics	2019
Scholarship, European Commission (Erasmus+)	2016
Winner of the Logistics Competition Award Germany, Hamburg	2010

Research Experience

Co-founder and Manager of the Louvain EconLab (with Professor Amma Panin)	since 2023
Research Fellow at ECARES, ULB	since 2021
Research Fellow at F.R.SFNRS, Belgium	since 2020
Research Fellow at CORE, UCLouvain	since 2019
Research Assistant for Professor David de la Croix at UCLouvain	2018 - 2019

Teaching Experience

Advanced Microeconomics II - Game Theory & Mechanism Design (Graduate)	since 2023
at UCLouvain, TA for Professors François Maniquet and Benoît Decerf	
Data Analysis Boot Camp (Graduate)	since 2023
at UCLouvain, including courses in Data Management, R, Stata and LATEX	
Industrial Organization (Undergrad)	since 2023
at UCLouvain, TA for Professor Paul Belleflamme	

Departmental Services and Other Experiences

Co-organizer of the UCLouvain Economics Seminar	2020 - 2021
Organizer of the Behavioral Industrial Organization Reading Group, UCLouvain	2020 - 2021
Board Member at the CORE Governance Board, UCLouvain	2020 - 2022
Research Analyst (Portfolio Analysis and Private Equity) at TauRes GmbH, Hamburg	2016 - 2017
Board Member & Treasurer at University of Würzburg Stock Exchange Association	2015 - 2017

Computer and Software Skills

Python (oTree, Beautiful Soup, Selenium), ORSEE, R, Stata, HTML, PHP, CSS, JavaScript, SQL, LATEX, Microsoft Office (Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Access)

Languages

German (native), Russian (native), English (C2), French (C2), Portuguese (A1), Spanish (A1)

^{*} planned Updated: September 2023 Thomas Eisfeld