



Research Talks



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Monday, 24 April 2023, 11:30 – 13:00 / online

Less Casual Causal Inference for Experiments and Longitudinal Data

Julia Rohrer, Leipzig University

Correlation does not imply causation. Thus, causal inference with observational data is frowned upon in many fields of research, and its fundamentals are rarely taught. This is a shame because recent advances in causal inference can also be used to improve analyses of both experimental and longitudinal designs.

In this talk, I will give a brief introduction to directed acyclic graphs for causal inference, followed by a discussion of issues that come up when analysing experimental data (e.g., mediation analysis) and longitudinal data (e.g., control for time-invariant confounders).

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Monday, 15 May 2023, 11:30 – 13:00 / SR4

Guilty by Association: The Risk of Crisis Contagion

Dan Laufer, Victoria University of Wellington

In many cases, companies in an industry view a competitor's misfortunes as a competitive advantage. However, this reaction may be premature. Through guilt by association, customers may link other companies in an industry to a crisis. Therefore, it is of great importance for companies to understand their risk of crisis contagion.

This presentation describes factors that cause a crisis to spill over from one organization to another and also suggests how organizations can protect themselves from crisis contagion. The presentation focuses on a conceptual framework and also describes recent empirical studies on the topic.

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Monday, 19 June 2023, 11:30 – 13:00 / online

Public Service Media under Pressure Challenges and Opportunities of a Societal Institution in Times of Media and Social Change

Annika Sehl, Catholic University of Eichstätt-Ingolstadt

The talk discusses the challenges of public service media (PSM) in times of media and social change. It will present findings from three international comparative empirical studies:

- (1) on right-wing populist attacks on public service media,
- (2) on the accusation of crowding-out of private-sector news providers, and
- (3) on social media strategies of PSM, and will place them in a larger context.

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Monday, 26 June 2023, 11:30 – 13:00 / SR4

Focusing Events and Waves of Attention on Social Media

Annie Waldherr & Nicola Righetti, University of Vienna

While there is a rich body of case studies examining successful instances of hashtag activism, much less is understood about the conditions enabling some events to draw public attention, while others fail. We employ a unique dataset of 1.5 million tweets in response to 797 instances of extrajudicial police killings in the United States to investigate the factors driving the likelihood and size of Twitter attention to these incidents, hereby focusing on characteristics of the victims and the incidents themselves as well as actor groups' involvement and communicative strategies in tweeting about them.

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