Econ 414-3: Economics of Information

Northwestern University, Winter 2021 Time: 11:00-12:50 Tue/Thu Location: zoom Office hours: by appointment

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1 Logistics

Zoom lectures are taxing, so we will divide each 110 minute lecture into two halves:

- 11 to 11:50
- 10 min break
- 12 to 12:50

2 Schedule

2.1 Contracting for information and delegation

- 1. Krishna and Morgan (2008), Goltsman et al. (2009)
- 2. Amador et al. (2006), Amador and Bagwell (2013), Guo (2016)
- 3. Armstrong and Vickers (2010), Frankel (2014)

2.2 Dynamic mechanisms

- 1. Linking incentives: Rubinstein (1979), Jackson and Sonnenschein (2007)
- 2. Optimal mechanisms (I): Athey and Bagwell (2001), Miralles (2012)
- 3. Optimal mechanisms (II): Fernandes and Phelan (2000), Grenadier et al. (2016)

2.3 Information design

- 1. Rayo and Segal (2010), Kamenica and Gentzkow (2011), Alonso and Câmara (2016)
- 2. Privately informed receiver: Kolotilin et al. (2017), Guo and Shmaya (2019a)
- 3. Dynamics: Kremer et al. (2014), Che and Hörner (2017)
- 4. BCE and its applications: Bergemann and Morris (2016b), Bergemann et al. (2015)

2.4 Robust mechanism design

- 1. Worst-case payoff: Carroll (2015), Carroll (2019)
- 2. Worst-case regret: Guo and Shmaya (2019b), Guo and Shmaya (2020)

Requirement

Students are required to read all papers, submit two "referee reports" and make a 50 minute presentation.

References

- Philippe Aghion and Jean Tirole. Formal and real authority in organizations. *Journal of Political Economy*, 105(1):1–29, 1997.
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- Arjada Bardhi and Yingni Guo. Modes of persuasion toward unanimous consent. Theoretical Economics, 13(3):1111–1149, 2018.
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- Alexander Frankel. Aligned delegation. *American Economic Review*, 104(1):66–83, January 2014.
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- Steven R. Grenadier, Andrey Malenko, and Nadya Malenko. Timing decisions in organizations: Communication and authority in a dynamic environment. *American Economic Review*, 106(9):2552–81, September 2016.
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- Ilan Kremer, Yishay Mansour, and Motty Perry. Implementing the 'wisdom of the crowd'. Journal of Political Economy, 122(5):988–1012, 2014.
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