78176 - BEHAVIORAL ECONOMICS syllabus

September 11, 2017

Lecture 1: Introduction September 20, 2017

- Preliminaries
 - Information about the course, and the evaluation
- What is behavioral economics?
 - Camerer and Loewenstein (2003)
 - Dhami (2016, Introduction)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.1)
- Framing, anchoring, and preference reversal
 - Ariely et al. (2003)
 - Tversky and Thaler (1990)
 - Tversky and Kahneman (1986)
 - DellaVigna (2009, Sec.4)
 - Dhami (2016, 20.7; Ch.1)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.2-3)

Lecture 2: Decision making under risk September 22, 2017

- Belief formation
 - DellaVigna (2009, Sec.3)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.19)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.5)
- Preferences over risky and uncertain outcomes
 - Kahneman and Tversky (1979)
 - Tversky and Kahneman (1992)
 - Camerer (2003)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.2)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.3)

Lecture 3: Non-standard preferences September 27, 2017

- Reference dependence, loss aversion and endowment effect
 - Kahneman et al. (1991)
 - Plott and Zeiler (2005)
 - Tversky and Kahneman (1991)
 - DellaVigna (2009, Sec.2.2)
 - Genesove and Mayer (2001)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.3)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.2-3)
- Mental accounting
 - Thaler (1999)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.20)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.2)

Lectures 4 & 5: Intertemporal preferences September 29 & October 2, 2017

- $\bullet\,$ Time inconsistency and hyperbolic discounting
 - O'Donoghue and Rabin (1999)
 - Frederick et al. (2002)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.9-11)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.4)
- Applications
 - Thaler and Benartzi (2004)
 - DellaVigna (2009, Sec.2.1)

Lectures 6 & 7: Behavioral game theory October 5 & 18, 2017

- Overview
 - Crawford (1997)
 - Goeree and Holt (2001)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.12-13)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.6)
- Mixed strategies
 - Camerer (2002, Ch.3)
- Dominance solvable games
 - Camerer (2002, Ch.5)
- Learning
 - Camerer (2002, Ch.6)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.14-15)

Lectures 8 & 9: Social preferences October 20 & 23, 2017

- Overview and theoretical approaches
 - Fehr and Schmidt (1999)
 - Rabin (1993)
 - Dhami (2016, Ch.5-6)
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.7)
- Experimental evidence
 - Camerer (2002, Ch.2)
- Applications
 - Gneezy et al. (2010)
 - Falk (2007)

Lecture 10: Criticisms and conclusions October 25, 2017

- Criticisms
 - Levitt and List (2007)
 - Pesendorfer (2006)
- Conclusions
 - Cartwright (2014, Ch.11)

References

- Ariely, D., Loewenstein, G., and Prelec, D. (2003). "Coherent Arbitrariness": Stable Demand Curves Without Stable Preferences. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 118(1):73–106.
- Camerer, C. (2002). Behavioral Game Theory: Experiments on Strategic Interaction. Princeton University Press, Princeton, USA.
- Camerer, C. F. (2003). Prospect theory in the wild: Evidence from the field. In Camerer, C., Loewenstein, G., and Rabin, M., editors, *Advances in Behavioral Economics*, The Roundtable Series in Behavioral Economics, chapter 5, pages 148–161. Princeton University Press.
- Camerer, C. F. and Loewenstein, G. (2003). Behavioral Economics: Past, Present, Future. In Camerer, C., Loewenstein, G., and Rabin, M., editors, Advances in Behavioral Economics, The Roundtable Series in Behavioral Economics, chapter 1, pages 3–51. Princeton University Press.
- Cartwright, E. (2014). Behavioral economics. Routledge, New York, NY, 2nd edition.
- Crawford, V. P. (1997). Theory and Experiment in the Analysis of Strategic Interaction. In Kreps, D. and Wallis, K., editors, Advances in Economics and Econometrics: Theory and Applications: Seventh World Congress, Advances in Economics and Econometrics, chapter 7, pages 207–242. Cambridge University Press.
- DellaVigna, S. (2009). Psychology and economics: Evidence from the field. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 47(2):pp. 315–372.
- Dhami, S. S. (2016). The foundations of behavioral economic analysis. Oxford University Press, Oxford, first edition edition. OCLC: ocn965538720.
- Falk, A. (2007). Gift Exchange in the Field. Econometrica, 75(5):1501–1511.
- Fehr, E. and Schmidt, K. M. (1999). A theory of fairness, competition, and cooperation. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 114(3):pp. 817–868.
- Frederick, S., Loewenstein, G., and O'Donoghue, T. (2002). Time discounting and time preference: A critical review. *Journal of Economic Literature*, 40(2):pp. 351–401.
- Genesove, D. and Mayer, C. (2001). Loss Aversion and Seller Behavior: Evidence from the Housing Market. *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 116(4):pp. 1233–1260.
- Gneezy, A., Gneezy, U., Nelson, L. D., and Brown, A. (2010). Shared Social Responsibility: A Field Experiment in Pay-What-You-Want Pricing and Charitable Giving. *Science*, 329(5989):325–327.
- Goeree, J. K. and Holt, C. A. (2001). Ten little treasures of game theory and ten intuitive contradictions. *The American Economic Review*, 91(5):pp. 1402–1422.
- Kahneman, D., Knetsch, J., and Thaler, R. (1991). The Endowment Effect, Loss Aversion, and Status Quo Bias: Anomalies. *Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 5(1):193–206.
- Kahneman, D. and Tversky, A. (1979). Prospect Theory: An Analysis of Decision under Risk. *Econometrica*, 47(2):263–292.
- Levitt, S. D. and List, J. A. (2007). What Do Laboratory Experiments Measuring Social Preferences Reveal about the Real World? *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 21(2):pp. 153–174.
- O'Donoghue, T. and Rabin, M. (1999). Doing it now or later. *The American Economic Review*, 89(1):pp. 103–124.

- Pesendorfer, W. (2006). Behavioral Economics Comes of Age: A Review Essay on "Advances in Behavioral Economics". *Journal of Economic Literature*, 44(3):pp. 712–721.
- Plott, C. R. and Zeiler, K. (2005). The Willingness to Pay-Willingness to Accept Gap, the "Endowment Effect," Subject Misconceptions, and Experimental Procedures for Eliciting Valuations. *The American Economic Review*, 95(3):pp. 530–545.
- Rabin, M. (1993). Incorporating Fairness into Game Theory and Economics. *The American Economic Review*, 83(5):1281–1302.
- Thaler, R. H. (1999). Mental accounting matters. Journal of Behavioral Decision Making, 12(3):183–206.
- Thaler, R. H. and Benartzi, S. (2004). Save more tomorrowTM: Using behavioral economics to increase employee saving. *Journal of Political Economy*, 112(S1):pp. S164–S187.
- Tversky, A. and Kahneman, D. (1986). Rational Choice and the Framing of Decisions. *The Journal of Business*, 59(s4):S251.
- Tversky, A. and Kahneman, D. (1991). Loss aversion in riskless choice: A reference-dependent model. The Quarterly Journal of Economics, pages 1039–1061.
- Tversky, A. and Kahneman, D. (1992). Advances in Prospect Theory: Cumulative Representation of Uncertainty. *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, 5(4):297–323.
- Tversky, A. and Thaler, R. H. (1990). Anomalies: Preference reversals. *The Journal of Economic Perspectives*, 4(2):pp. 201–211.