NEWSLETTER 2024|16

CALENDAR

Departmental Seminar
Mehdi Hosseinkouchack (EBS)

"Self-normalizing Tests Using the Cauchy Distribution"

Mon, June 17
16:00 - 17:15
H 26

Lunch Seminar
Christina Langer (Stanford University)

"The Value of Early Career Skills"

Wed, June 19
12:00 - 13:00
H 26

Economic and Social History Seminar
Rainer Fattmann (Bonn)

"Sonderfall Landwirtschaft? Die Transformation des ostdeutschen Agrarbereichs nach dem Systemwechsel 1989/90"

Wed, June 19
18:00 - 20:15
PT 1.0.6

Departmental Seminar

Mehdi Hosseinkouchack (EBS)

"Self-normalizing Tests Using the Cauchy Distribution"

A testing principle is introduced where the statistic is the ratio of two weighted averages. Upon normalization and orthogonalization the ratio thus converges to the standard Cauchy distribution under the null hypothesis. At the same time a potential nuisance scaling parameter cancels from the ratio without having to be estimated, making these Cauchy tests self-normalizing (scale-invariant). These tests are not directed against specific alternatives but rather belong to the toolkit of general specification testing. Still, assuming specific local alternatives, asymptotic power can be determined since the ratio converges to a non-centered Cauchy distribution. Power crucially hinges on the weighting scheme when computing the weighted averages. We discuss three examples: tests for a Wiener process, for a Brownian bridge, and under long memory. Simulations show that the asymptotic scale-invariance is effective in finite samples, and the Cauchy test has better size control than competing procedures. This comes at the price that the Cauchy test is less powerful than competitors directed against specific alternatives. Finally, we indicate how Cauchy tests can be extended to a multivariate framework of correlated samples, such that the tests are robust with respect to cross-dependence without need to explicitly account for it.

Info:
in person

Lunch Seminar

Christina Langer (Stanford University)

"The Value of Early Career Skills"

Joint work with Simon Wiederhold

We develop novel measures of early-career skills that are more detailed, comprehensive, and labor-market-relevant than existing skill proxies. We exploit that skill requirements of apprenticeships in Germany are codified in state-approved, nationally standardized apprentice-ship plans. These plans provide more than 13,000 different skills and the exact duration of learning each skill. Following workers over their careers in administrative data, we find that cognitive,social, and digital skills acquired during apprenticeship are highly – yet differently – rewarded. We also document rising returns to digital and social skills since the 1990s, with a more moderate increase in returns to cognitive skills.

Info:
in person

Economic and Social History Seminar
Rainer Fattmann (Bonn)

"Sonderfall Landwirtschaft? Die Transformation des ostdeutschen Agrarbereichs nach dem Systemwechsel 1989/90"

Die Transformation der ostdeutschen Wirtschaft und Gesellschaft sowie ihre konfliktreiche Integra-tion in die wirtschaftlichen Strukturen der (alten) Bundesrepublik werden nach wie vor kontrovers diskutiert. Der tiefe Strukturbruch, der sich in den ostdeutschen Bundeslän-dern gerade auch auf dem Lande vollzogen hat, spielt in diesem Zusammenhang eine wichtige Rolle. Die Zahl der in der „sozialistischen Landwirtschaft" der DDR tätigen Erwerbstätigen lag 1989 bei 850.000 Menschen (rund zehn Prozent aller Erwerbstätigen). Dabei waren die land-wirtschaftlichen Betriebe in der DDR nicht nur Erwerbsorte, sondern auch gesellschaftliche und kulturelle Mittelpunkte der Dörfer. Wie gestaltete sich die Privatisierung und Umgestaltung der Landwirtschaftlichen Produktionsgenossen-schaften (LPGen) und Volkseigenen Güter (VEG) im Verlauf und in Folge des Einigungsprozesses?

Info:
in person