

Elias Bouacida

PhD Candidate

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Placement Officer: David Margolis, david.margolis@psemail.eu

Graduate Administrator: Véronique Guillotin, veronique.guillotin@psemail.eu

Teaching and Research Fields

Primary Field: Experimental Economics

Secondary Field: Decision Theory, Behavioral Economics, Microeconomic Theory

Education

Engineering degree, *Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées* 2009 – 2014

M.Sc. Analysis and Policy in Economics. Master thesis: “The Unambiguous Preference Relation, an application of the Strict Unambiguous Choice Relation and Behavioral Welfare Economics”, *Paris School of Economics, Ecole nationale des ponts et chaussées* 2012 – 2014

Ph.D. in Economics “Preference, Choice and Welfare”, *Paris School of Economics, University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne* (defense expected in June) 2014 – 2019

References

Professor Jean-Marc Tallon
CNRS, Paris School of Economics
jean-marc.tallon@psemail.eu

Professor Daniel Martin
Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University
d-martin@kellogg.northwestern.edu

Professor Stéphane Zuber
CNRS, University Paris 1, Paris School of Economics
stephane.zuber@univ-paris1.fr

Publications

Job Market Paper

Bouacida, E. 2018 “[Eliciting Choice Correspondences](#)”

Most experiments force the choice of a single alternative in each choice set, whereas the theory of choices deals with *choice correspondence*, i.e., assumes that decision makers can choose *sets* of alternatives. In this paper, I introduce a general methodology for identifying choice correspondences experimentally. I allow decision makers to choose several alternatives, provide a small incentive for each alternative chosen, and then randomly select one for payment. I derive the conditions under which the methodology at least partially identifies the choice correspondence, by obtaining supersets and subsets for each choice set. I illustrate the methodology with an experiment, in which subjects chose between four paid tasks. I can retrieve the full choice correspondence for 26% of subjects and bind it for another 46%. Subjects chose sets of size 2 or larger 60% of the time, whereas only 3%

of them always chose singletons. I then show that 46% of all observed choices can be rationalized by complete, reflexive and transitive preferences in my experiment, i.e., verify the Weak Axiom of Revealed Preferences – WARP hereafter. Weakening the classical model, incomplete preferences or just-noticeable difference preferences do not rationalize more choice correspondences. Going beyond WARP, however, I show that complete, reflexive and transitive preferences with menu-dependent choices rationalize 93% of observed choices. Having elicited choice correspondences allows me to conclude that indifference is widespread in the experiment. These results pave the way for exploring various behavioral models with a unified methodology.

Working Paper

Bouacida, E. and Martin, D. 2017 “[Predictive Power in Behavioral Welfare Economics](#)”, R&R at the *Journal of European Economic Association*

When choices appear inconsistent due to behavioral biases, there is a theoretical debate about whether or not it is necessary to impose the structure of a model in order to provide meaningful welfare guidance based on such choices. To address this question empirically, we evaluate the predictive power of the “model-free” and non-parametric approach to welfare analysis proposed by Bernheim and Rangel (2009). In two standard choice settings, we show that for most hypothetical demands, this approach does not offer clear welfare guidance. However, we find that for most observed demands, this approach can be used to make tight predictions, even though these demand functions exhibit inconsistencies. For the experimental choices of Manzini and Mariotti (2010), we show that the welfare guidance provided by these predictions is consistent with delay aversion, even though the guidance provided by revealed preferences is more ambiguous.

Teaching

University Paris Nanterre

Undergraduate TA for first year: Macroeconomics A	2017 – 2019
Undergraduate TA for second year: Microeconomics B	2017 – 2019
Undergraduate TA for third year: Numerical Methods for Economics (Using R)	2017 – 2019

University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne

Undergraduate TA for first year: Microeconomics	2014 – 2015
Undergraduate TA for first year: Mathematics	2015 – 2017
Undergraduate TA for second year: Statistics and Probability	2014 – 2015 and 2016 – 2017

École nationale des ponts et chaussées

Undergraduate TA for third year: Introduction to Economics	2016 – 2017
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University Paris 2 Panthéon Assas

Undergraduate tutor for first year students in Economics	2013 – 2014
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Research Experience

Paris School of Economics

RA for Professors Jean-Marc Tallon, Sujoy Mukerji and Han Ozsoylev.	2017 – 2018
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Referee

Global Development Network and KOICA conference, theme: *Relevance of Korea's experience for developing countries* June 2015

Administrative Duties

Student representative at the Paris School of Economics council 2017 – 2018

President of the master students' association in PSE 2013 – 2014

Conferences and Seminars

Conferences

71st European Meeting of the *Econometric Society* August, 27 – 31, 2018

World Meeting of the *European Sciences Association* June, 27 – July, 1, 2018

Foundations of Utility and Risk 2018 June, 25 – 28, 2018

9th Conference of the *French Association of Experimental Economics* June, 14 – 15, 2018

6th Annual Bounded Rationality in Choice Conference June, 7 – 8, 2018

67th Congress of the *Association Française des Sciences Economiques* May, 14 – 16, 2018

EDP Jamboree (London, England), AFSE (Rennes, France) 2015

Seminars

Seminar of the ERUDITE, *Paris East University* October, 25, 2018

Fellowships, Awards and Grants

Fellowships

ATER fellowship, *University Paris Nanterre* 2017 – 2019

Visiting scholar, *Kellogg, Northwestern University* March – September 2016

Ph.D. fellowship, *University Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne* 2014 – 2017

Grants

Grant from the LabeX OSE, project “Looking for Indecision” 2017

Other skills

Computer programming

Work with: Microsoft Office, Linux, Python, Julia, LaTeX, Markdown, z-Tree, R;

Basis in: C++, Mathematica, Stata, Inquisit Milliseconds.

Languages

French (native speaker), English (proficient), Arabic (reading and good oral understanding), German and Japanese (beginner)