

Spring 2020 Highlights

FEBRUARY



PER Mini Course with Serguei Maliar, February 26-27, 2020

In this two-day Mini Course titled "Artificial Intelligence and Deep Learning Solution Methods for Dynamic Economic Models", Professor **David Maliar** (Santa Clara University) discussed techniques for analyzing dynamic economic models (including dep learning networks). The course also showed how to establish functions suitable for deep learning and how to implement AI solution frameworks using Matlab and Python.

MARCH

The 12th Annual Kenneth J. Arrow Lecture, March 5, 2020

This annual lecture in honor of Professor Kenneth J. Arrow (1921-2017), 1972 Nobel Laureate and the Joan Kenney Professor of Economics and Professor of Operations Research at Stanford University, was given by Colin F. Camerer (CalTech), Robert Kirby Professor of Behavioral Economics and Director of the T & C Chen Center for Social and Decision Neuroscience at the California Institute of Technology.

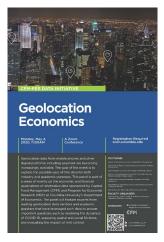
Discussants for this lecture included Karla Hoff, Visiting Professor of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University and former Lead Economist, World Bank; Rosemarie Nagel, Professor at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Research Professor at ICREA and Barcelona School of Economics, Director of BESLAB, Universitat Pompeu Fabra; and Joseph E. Stiglitz, 2001 Nobel Laureate in Economic Sciences, University Professor, Columbia University

Camerer's lecture focused on game theories in which not all agents fully think through what other agents are likely to do. These "cognitive hierarchy" models (including level-k) are consistent with a wide variety of simple and more complex lab and field experiments, some data on neural activity, and have also been usefully applied in basic areas of economics including industrial organization and macroeconomics.



This lecture was co-sponsored by the Center on Global Economic Governance, the Program for Economic Research, and Columbia University Press.

MAY



Geolocation Economics, May 4, 2020

Geolocation data from mobile phones and other digital platforms including payment are becoming increasingly available. The goal of the event is to explore the possible uses of this data for both industry and academic purposes. This panel is part of a series of events on the economic and financial applications of alternative data sponsored by Capital Fund Management (CFM) and Program for Economic Research (PER) at Columbia University's Department of Economics. The panel will feature experts from leading geolocation data vendors and academic speakers that have leveraged such data to answer important questions such as modeling the dynamics of COVID-19, assessing spatial and social frictions, and evaluating the impact of rent control.

This was PER's first digital conference (held via Zoom and YouTube livestream). Over 250 people attended this event virtually from 13 countries.

PER Weekly Visitors



This spring, the Program for Economic Research hosted **Luciano Pomatto** (CalTech) as a Weekly Visitor. Many thanks for this faculty nomination!

PER Faculty Lunch Series

Stephanie Schmitt-Grohe and Martin Uribe, Thursday, March 5, 2020





We hope you enjoyed the semester with us and look forward to welcoming you to more events and activities this fall.