**Edito Serge Garcia and Agnès Gramain**

*IDEX, I-Site, ITI: tyranny or opportunity?*

The institutional landscape of research is in a state of constant turmoil. Major programs, accompanied by sources of attractive funds, follow one upon one another in a distribution across the national territory whose pattern is often obscure, and according to a schedule that is unpredictable, except to say that it shows a virtually systematic disconnect with the academic plans of the laboratories and their associated human resources. After the IDEX, the I-Site, the TIGA, etc., for the University of Strasbourg here come the Interdisciplinary Thematic Institutes (ITI). This forced march raises questions about BETA’s strategy to integrate these institutes, given that at the same in Lorraine there is serious thought about the future of the I-Site "Lorraine University of Excellence" (LUE), which, if renewed, will bring together the three LabEx of the University of Lorraine, all to be renewed this year. The moment is propitious to try to draw some lessons from the insertion of the laboratory on the Lorraine site, and in particular from its links with LUE.

The LUE has been built on six societal challenges, at least four of which concern us: the sustainable management of natural resources, energy transition, health and aging, and trust in the digital world. These challenges are being met by various programs (LabEx, the IMPACT and D3S projects, etc.) in which members of BETA are strongly engaged. The word "interdisciplinarity" is on everyone’s lips. Our colleagues are seemingly discovering the interest of the human and social sciences in research, economists are outrageously courted, and there is a constant flow of proposals for (voluntary) management responsibilities in all these new structures.

What to think? Contractualized tyranny, haste, lack of academic strategy and burnout are the first things that come to mind in the face of this tidal wave of requests. Yet we nevertheless believe that this might also be an excellent opportunity to restore economics and management back to the center of academic thought by redefining research questions for ourselves, driven by long-term projects, and drawing on the experience of other disciplines to promote research that is more effective, thus gaining an entrée into certain scientific journals (Nature, Science, etc.) that have been rather disinclined to carry the voice of SHS. It’s up to us to make a firm declaration of our list of priorities!

Serge Garcia and Agnès Gramain, Deputy directors of BETA
Our Guest’s Message: Rabah Amir
Award recipient 2017, Gutenberg Chair
Professor of economics, University of Iowa

My first visit to the University of Strasbourg was to give a seminar presentation in the early 1990s at the old BETA on Blvd d’Anvers. This was also during the first year I spent at CORE in Belgium. It was there that I first met Rodolphe Dos Santos, who kindly invited me for a seminar at BETA.

I ended up spending a total of six productive years at CORE, a period during which I went to Strasbourg several times every year, as a visiting professor, for teaching in the Bachelor’s and Master’s programs, and for a few conferences. I thus joined a group of Belgian colleagues at CORE in regularly traveling between Europe’s two capitals for academic reasons, making sure we did not overlap with the European Parliament members. During these weekly visits, I got to know the other members of the department, found it a friendly and welcoming place, and learned to feel at home in Strasbourg. I also regularly enjoyed visiting the rest of Alsace, with its beautiful villages, as well as the nearby Black Forest and the Palatinate areas of Germany. I recall being struck at first sight by the beauty and the charm of Strasbourg, and by how the architectural splendors of its different layers of history co-exist side by side. I left CORE in 2004 for a position at the University of Arizona, where I spent the next nine years. I maintained my visits to the University of Strasbourg on a regular basis, and I continue to come with nearly the same frequency to this very day. Two major events took place last year.

The first is that I was awarded the Gutenberg Chair, a two-year grant that funds my stays in Strasbourg over several months each year. This allows me to spend much more time in Strasbourg. The second is that BETA is hosting the 20th Public Economics Conference in July 2019, entitled PET 2019, a major and stimulating event that will bring about 350 speakers from all over the world to Strasbourg for 4 days. In terms of research, the first project I completed while visiting Strasbourg was joint work with Isabelle Maret, and was about per-unit taxation in a monopoly. Ultimately published in Annales d’Economie et de Statistique in 2004, this paper was first presented at the PET Conference in Paris in 2002, the first time that this conference took place in France (at the Université de Paris I). A few years later, we finished a second project on a Stackelberg pricing game in a supply chain, also co-authored with Thierry Leiber. This paper ended up as an article published in International Journal of Economic Theory. After some work on Research and Development in Industrial Organization, we started a project on Environmental Economics. This is quite a new area for both of us, and we recently finished an article on a monopolist’s joint decision of price and environmental quality, presently under revision. We currently have a second project under way on research and development in green technologies.

Prizes and awards

The prize for the best research paper has been awarded to Blaise Gnimassoun at the African economic conference 2018 (Kigali, Rwanda, December 3-5, 2018) for his presentation entitled "Regional Integration: Do intra-African trade and Migration improve income in Africa?".

The Sarton Medal for Economics and Management has been awarded to Claude Diebolt on March 6, 2019 during a ceremony at the University of Ghent. On this occasion, Claude gave a lecture entitled: "We are Ninjas: how economic history has infiltrated economics".
Abstract. This paper examines the effect of persistence in product and process innovations on the employment dynamics of a representative sample of Spanish manufacturing firms observed over more than 20 years. We build a conceptual framework that links innovation, its persistence, and different trajectories of employment growth. This framework suggests that firms might show different responses in terms of their employment growth and its persistence depending on the degree of persistence in their product and process innovations. We construct a synthetic indicator of innovation persistence at the firm-level and link this indicator to different employment trajectories. We find that persistence in product innovation affects both employment growth and the sustainability of job creation over time significantly, whilst persistence in process innovation does not play any relevant role. Also, the positive effect of persistence in product innovation is particularly strong for SMEs. The evidence we provide supports the notion that product innovation is more effective in spurring sustained employment growth when carried out systematically.


Abstract. It is generally believed that individuals imitate others to gain status, minimise regret or simply ameliorate their performance. Psychology provides a complementary explanation: imitation becomes appealing when agents have little faith in their abilities. We investigate the extent to which self-efficacy beliefs affect agents’ propensities to imitate others. We propose an experimental task, which is a modified version of the two-armed bandit. We measure participants’ self-assessed self-efficacy, then study individual learning. Subsequently, we measure how individuals use the information they gather observing a randomly selected group leader. We find that, in stable environments, a 1% increase in individual self-efficacy reduces the propensity to imitate others by 3%.


Abstract. We provide necessary and sufficient conditions to detect local bifurcations of three and four-dimensional dynamical systems in continuous time. We characterize not only the bifurcations of codimension one but also those of codimension two. For the sake of completeness, we give also the non-degeneracy conditions for each bifurcation. The added value of our methodology rests on its generality. To illustrate the tractability of our approach, we provide two analytical applications of dimension three and four to environmental economics, complemented with numerical simulations.


Abstract. We propose a unified framework bridging the gap between team and competition issues in price and quantity games, played by producers of either substitutes or complements, when information is imperfect and dispersed. We reconsider the social value of private and public information in this context and compare the outcomes of the two types of games in terms of equilibrium and social welfare. By parting with full cooperation, the competition motive fitted into the payoffs introduces a strategy distortion and, when information is dispersed, an informational distortion, both increasing with the intensity of competition. The former affects the response to the expected value of the fundamental, and the latter translates into an inefficiently low (high) weight on public information under strategic complementarity (substitutability).

Contrary to the latter, which vanishes in the absence of the competition motive, the former is eliminated, under strategic complementarity and dispersed information, at some positive strength of the competition motive, decreasing with the information quality. This disparity creates a trade-off between the minimization of each distortion. As to the social value of public information, it is always positive, while that of private information may be negative, again under strategic complementarity, if competition is intense and the quality of private information relatively poor. Finally, it is more profitable to play under strategic substitutability, except possibly for an intermediate range of the intensity of competition if the quality of private information is again relatively poor.


The paper pursues two aims. The first is to argue that the foundation of Marx’s theory of capitalist exploitation is to be found, not in the labour theory of value, but rather in the contract of employment, the legal frame of the capital-labour relation. The second is to suggest that the partial externalisation of the reproduction cost of labour power has been an important source of relative surplus value, along with the productivity increase, emphasised by Marx, in the industries supplying wage goods.


Abstract Departing from the observation that neutral experts are increasingly appointed by courts, this paper investigates the incentives of courts to appoint experts, and the interactions between the judge’s and the expert’s efforts to discover the truth about a given case. Judges seek to make correct decisions and may choose to appoint experts in order to do so. Experts are assumed to be guided by both reputational and truth-finding motives. We highlight the determinants of the judge’s and the expert’s effort levels and of the judge’s decisions whether to appoint an expert. We find that the expert’s effort is decreasing in the judge’s effort, which implies potential free-riding from the judge. Moreover, we find that the judge’s effort is generally suboptimal, and they might resort to an expert appraisal too frequently, thereby contributing to increased court congestion and higher costs for society. Our results therefore suggest that, under conditions that we discuss, it may be socially beneficial to apply a principle of proportionality to the use of expert testimony, depending on the complexity of the case.
**Portrait of a PhD**

**Intellectual Property Today: What Are its Economic and Moral Functions?**

Interview with Rémy Guichardaz, BETA PhD graduate 2018, by Kenza Bousedra, 1st year doctoral student at BETA.

**Hello, could you introduce yourself?**

Hello, my name is Rémy Guichardaz, I am a doctor in economics and more specifically in the history of economic thought. I did my thesis under the direction of Herrade Igersheim and Julien Pénin at BETA in Strasbourg. I defended my thesis in December 2018.

**Did you do your master’s degree in Strasbourg? If not, why did you choose to come here?**

I did the greater part of my studies at the IEP Strasbourg. Obtaining a Master’s degree in science has two stages: a first year of pre-specialization at the IEP and a second year to obtain the Master’s degree in a specific discipline at the IEP or faculty.

As such, I first oriented my thought in a rather legal direction, doing the first year of the Master’s in Economic Law of the European Union, public law and public economics. I then joined the Faculty of Economics in the second year of my Master’s degree, where I concentrated on the topics of economics and innovation management.

**What was the objective of your doctoral thesis?**

My thesis is at intersection of several disciplines. It is above all a thesis in the history of economic thought and economic philosophy, but it also has an innovation dimension since its object is related to intellectual property, patents and copyrights. My thesis topic therefore encompasses the economic philosophy, ethics and issues related to the innovation economy. The main idea is to determine whether the object of intellectual property (especially copyrights and patents) can only be approached through the prism of economics and utilitarian theory. In other words, the question is whether intellectual property rights are only intended to create more intangible wealth, or if they also reflect ethical issues. My thesis invites us to ask different questions. For example, should authors be paid regardless of whether it encourages them to create more wealth? Are moral rights (rights to the integrity and authorship of the work) useful to society? Is there an ethical dimension to these rights? My thesis is based on reflections that go beyond the purely economic analysis of copyright and patents.

**What were your main results? Any surprises?**

My research has shown that intellectual property rights cannot be reduced to their economic function, that is, to the creation of immaterial goods in the economy. Intellectual property also has political and ethical functions that should be taken into account in the analysis. In short, intellectual property is not just a utilitarian cost-benefit calculation.

These theoretical results have been confirmed empirically via an experimental economics protocol. The result of the experiment I conducted is surprising in the sense in that it broadly sustains certain of our initial intuitions. The hypothesis formulated is that an ethical or deontological justification of intellectual property leads to the privileging not of a rigid, "proprietary" and long-term conception of intellectual property, as some jurists and philosophers suggest, but of a more specific vision that is flexible and short-lived. In fact, in laboratory test individuals prefer flexible intellectual property of short duration. From this point of view, the theoretical results are fairly well confirmed by the empirical results.

**How does one succeed in a PhD? Any advice?**

You have to know how to question yourself without being afraid. It is normal to get fed up sometimes, to feel out of place, but one must be aware that this is part of the challenge of the thesis. Even if this is difficult, we must at all costs avoid comparing ourselves to others, and must keep in mind that everyone has their own approach, their own ambitions and their own research projects. We must stick to our projects, know what we want to show, and know how to assert our own intuitions and our own approaches. Finally, we must know how to organize ourselves and especially take the time to rest, to take a step back.

Rémy Guichardaz is lecturer at IEP Strasbourg

Contact: rguichardaz@unistra

http://www.beta-umr7522.fr/-GUICHARDAZ-Rémy

Interview conducted with the Doctoral School Augustin Cournot/the full interview and more interviews of PhD graduates are available:

http://ed.ecogestion-cournot.unistra.fr/?p=2149
PhD and HDR defenses (October 2018-March 2019)

André SCHMITT
November 29, 2018
Habilitation à diriger des recherches
Advisor: Sandrine Spaeter-Loehrer
"Assessment of financial assets and incentives: Between classical theories and new approaches"

Wafa TOUBI
November 29, 2018
Under the supervision of François Fontaine
“Unemployment Insurance and Employment Stability”

Rémy GUICHARDAZ
December 5, 2018
Under the supervision of Herrade Igersheim and Julien Pénin
“Intellectual property and social justice. Genesis, analysis and experimentation”

Bruno RODRIGUES COEHLO
December 12, 2018
Under the supervision of Bertrand Koebel
“Essays on labour supply and women fertility”

Silâ ÖZEL-OCALAN
December 12, 2018
Under the supervision of Julien Pénin
“University-Industry Interactions: Understanding University Licensing Strategies and Beyond”

Nuria MORATAL-FERRANDO
February 28, 2019
Under the supervision of Sandrine Wolff
“The role of major research infrastructures in scientific creativity”

Important events (October 2018-March 2019)

Scientific conferences

Nancy, October 4, 2018
Workshop “Determinants and Impact Novelty”
Main organizers: Anne Plunket and Marianna Epicoco

Nancy, October 11-12, 2018
3rd annual conference of the French Association of Law and Economics (AFED)

Strasbourg, October 17-18, 2018
2nd BETA-Workshop in Economics of Science and Innovation
Main organizers: Stefano Bianchini, Patrick Lerena, Sofia Patsali

Strasbourg, October 19, 2018
1st BETA Workshop “Beyond patents... towards new data for innovation research in economics”
Main organizers: Patrick Llerena and Julien Pénin

Strasbourg, November 5-9, 2018
Autumn School in Management of Creativity
Main organizers: Patrick Llerena and Nicolas Manisi

Strasbourg, November 8-9, 2018
Workshop Club KCO (Knowledge Communities Observatory)

Nancy, January 28, 2018
Conference “The economic cost of terrorism”
Daniel Mirza, Professor at the University of Tours, Researcher at the LEO, Orléans

Nancy, February 13, 2019
Workshop “Economics and policies of the forest carbon”
Organizers: Sandrine Brêteau-Amores, Miguel Rivière, Sylvain Caurla

Strasbourg, February 28, 2019
18th Conference of economic current issues "Euro zone and monetary and financial challenges: what are the options?"
Denis Beau, first deputy Governor of Banque de France

Strasbourg, Nancy, March 6 and 15, 2019
BETA open house
welcome and presentation of BETA to Job Market’s PhDs

Nancy, March 19, 2019
BETA day

Strasbourg, March 29, 2019,
Workshop “Atelier de Thésée”

Strasbourg, March 29-30, 2019
Workshop “Rawls and the economists”
Co-organised by Herrade Igersheim and Philippe Mongin
New Projects

ANR Project “DinnAMICS - Demand-Driven Innovation Assessment in Medical and University Eco-Systems”, 2019-2021
Leaders: Stefano Bianchini, André Lorentz, Lorenzo Cassi

DinnAMICS is developed in response to a recognized need of systematic documentation about the indirect, bidirectional, and interactive nature of university-industry interactions. It aims to assess the outcomes of an unusual and unexplored form of interaction, namely public universities’ demand for scientific equipment, materials, and tools. The project combines quantitative and qualitative methods for data collection and analysis, and aims to uncover the structure of eco-systems that can foster the emergence and the diffusion of artificial intelligence (AI) and computer-assisted technologies driven by public demand, and the role that these technologies have for the evolution of firms and industries constituting part of the scientific value chain. The focus is on medical technologies for minimally invasive surgery emerging from long-standing relationships and synergies between users and producers.

ANR Project “NOBEL - Novel business models and mechanisms for the sustainable supply of and payment for forest ecosystem services”, 2019-2021
Leaders: Anne Stenger, Jens Abildtrup

Objectives: The general objectives of NOBEL are to assess the current and future role of marketable and non-marketable forest functions, goods and services (called “forest ecosystem services”, FES) and to develop strategies and mechanisms for their sustainable provision. For this purpose NOBEL will analyse public and private financing mechanisms for the enhanced provision of these forest externalities in Europe, develop options for market-based mechanisms, present best practice examples, and prepare strategies and guidelines for policy-makers in order to implement new mechanisms and to foster the provisioning of ES. The aim is: 1) to develop novel public policies, business models and mechanisms to "internalise" the proven socio-economic value of forest ecosystem services ("externalities") and contribute to their sustainable supply considering the multitude of ecosystem services of European forests; 2) to develop mechanisms for the payment of ecosystem services at the appropriate level of forest management and administration and combine public policy tools with business models in pilot demonstrators.

Participation in a research contract for the International Labour Organization (ILO), January-November 2019
Research team: Anne Bucher, Michèle Forté, Isabelle Terraz, Tiphaine Garat, Nicolas Moizard, Fabienne Tournadre, Maria Liakopoulou
Theme: Justification and Results of Collective Bargaining on Equal Employment in France

International exchanges

**Abroad**

Olivier Damette
Invited researcher, Central Bank of Estonia (November 2018) and University of Poznan (December 2018)
Topic: Taxation of Financial Transactions

Invited researcher, University of Laval, Canada (January 2019)
Topic: Climat-énergie EnR Hydrogène

Sandrine Brêteau-Amores
Invited researcher, University of Freiburg im Brisgau (February 2019)
Topic: to question the relevance of mixing (species and age) as a potential adaptation strategy to address drought and storm-induced forest loss risks

**Home**

Tim Friehe (invited by Yannick Gabuthy)
Professor of Marbourg, University (Germany)

Gauthier Lanot (invited by Bertrand Koebel)
Professeur at Umea School of Business, Economics and Statistics, Umea (Suède)

Aronson Zvi (invited by Francis Munier)
Professor at the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken (New Jersey, USA)
“Mobilizing the social sciences to rethink finance”
Article written by Isabelle Chambost, Marc Lenglet and Yamina Tadjedjine-Fourneyron
The Conversation, October 23, 2018

“The manager of the organizations of the social and solidarity economy, a manager like the others?”
Podcast, Bérangère L. Szostak
France Culture, December 12, 2018

“Higher education: 30 years of reforms, always too many Inequalities”
Article written by Magali Jaoul-Grammare
The Conversation, December 20, 2018

“Teaching finance: the aggiornamento is waiting”
Tribune written by Yamina Tadjedjine-Fourneyron
Le Monde, November 7, 2018

“Euro Faz 20 anos pressionado por incertezas do projeto europeu”
Interview by Olivier Damette, in Portuguese
O Globo Mundo, December 30, 2018

“Tell me the bank (4/4) – The big transformation?”
Yamina Tadjeddine-Fourneyron in Entendez-vous l’Éco?
France Culture, January 31, 2019

Feedback on the Brunch “Finance, digital technology, responsibility”
Article written by Yamina Tadjedjine-Fourneyron
Factuel, November 21, 2018

“The role of economy in protecting the environment”
Article written by Magali Jaoul-Grammare, Benjamin Ouvrard and Anne Stenger
Mondes Sociaux, January 7, 2019

“Between climate change and economic growth: very close links”
Article written by Olivier Damette
The Conversation, November 12, 2018

“The crisis of ‘yellow jackets’, the first climate crisis for France?”
Article written by Olivier Damette
The Conversation, December 5, 2018

“The gold rush (3/4): In the gold mines of the African continent?”
Claire Mainguy in Entendez-vous l’Éco?
France Culture, December 5, 2018

Public lectures and Dissemination

Schiltigheim, November 14, 2018
Conference held as part of the University project
“A campaign against misconceptions!”
“Does social assistance cost a great deal of money?”
Speakers: Mathieu Lefebvre and Philippe Gillig

Strasbourg, November 21, 2018
World forum for democracy
“Teach me Europe: parental leave in Europe”
Speaker: Laurène Thil

Nancy, November 21, 2018
Conference of ALMESE association
“Political crisis – What if we reformed the voting method?”
Speaker: Herrade Igersheim

November 29, 2018
Report on the future of the euro zone
Hearing of the ERMEES Team at the French National Assembly

Paris, December 1, 2018
“Vietnam and Globalization: economics and geopolitics - overview and perspectives”
Speaker: Phu Nguyen Van

Nancy, March 9, 2019
Open days for high school students UFR DSEG
“Discover research in economics”
**Campus APT, Nancy**

**PhD and post-doctoral fellows**

**Tristan Amiri**  
“Protection of water sources on the Vittel impluvium: monetary valuation of environmental and social services, and impacts on the local economy”  
Under the supervision of Jens Abiltrup, Serge Garcia and Christophe Klotz (Agrivair)

**Etienne Lorang**  
"Circular economics, recycling and greenhouse gas emissions"(Climate Economics Chair, Paris)  
Under the supervision of Philippe Delacote and Gilles Laforgue (Toulouse Business School)

**Boniface Mbarga**  
"Flood, amenities and choice of residence" (Montpellier, Irstea site)  
Under the supervision of Serge Garcia and Katrin Erdlenbruch (G-Eau, Irstea)

**Campus Carnot, Nancy**

**Researchers**

**Nicolas Doremus**  
Lecturer  
University of Lorraine, Nancy  
Research domains: Causal Inference - Experimental Economics – Decision

**Jaune Vaitkeviciute**  
Lecturer  
University of Lorraine, Nancy  
Research domains: Agricultural Economics and the Environment - Applied Economics

**Campus Strasbourg**

**Researchers**

**Gabriel Smagghue**  
Associate Professor in Economics (contract)  
Faculté des Sciences Economiques et de Gestion de Strasbourg  
Research domains: International Trade - Macroeconomics Microeconomics

**Delegation**

**Benoit Walraevens**  
Associate Professor in Economics  
Full time delegation, February 1st to July 31st, 2019  
Research domains: History of Economic Thought - Economic and Moral Philosophy - Political Economy in the 18th Century - Scottish Enlightenment

**PhD and post-doctoral fellows**

**Dev-Ray Nkounkou**  
“Cross-border trade, new regionalism and spatial inclusion in Central Africa in the Congo River Basin”  
Under the supervision of Claire Mainguy and Francis Kern

**Antoine Port**  
“Evaluation of success factors and socio-economic impacts of public knowledge transfer structures in France”  
Under the supervision of Patrick Llerena

---

*La Lettre du BETA - n°14, April 2019*  
*Publication director: Herrade Igersheim*  
*Layout: Danièle Ludwig*  
*Equipe com of BETA – beta-com@unistra.fr*