

Frederik Roose Øvlisen

“Essays in Bounded Rationality and Strategic Interaction”

This PhD thesis presents five essays on bounded rationality and strategic interaction. The common theme of the five papers is that real people, i.e. people with limited ability to compute and reason, do not behave like game theorists suggest in some strategic situations. The thesis presents investigations into the extent and the determinants of deviations from standard game-theoretic predictions in controlled experiments and provides potential explanations for these deviations by referring to notions of bounded rationality. The specific questions addressed in the essays cover a broad range from how education relates to strategic uncertainty and bounded rationality, how increasing the number of options available for players affects behaviour, and how incentives induced by the strategic properties – i.e. how the action of other players affect your optimal decision – shape decisions. In the essays, I also study how disequilibrium and failure to coordinate actions can be induced by irrelevant information, so-called sunspots, and how it can be mitigated by collective action.

Det vil være muligt før forsvaret at rekvirere en kopi af afhandlingen ved henvendelse til Informationen (26.0.20), Økonomisk Institut.