

100 Papers Selection

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Each year, many Osaka University researchers publish their research results in scientific papers. The 100 Selected Papers listed here are considered particularly noteworthy. All Osaka University researchers were asked to nominate what they considered to be outstanding papers published between early 2009 and early 2010. From the nominated papers, the Editorial Committee chose 100 for making particularly important contributions to the Humanities and Social Sciences, Science, Engineering or Biology. The titles of the 100 papers are listed by research fields. If you are interested in any of the 100 papers, please contact the authors by e-mail. The e-mail addresses of the researchers are listed on the Osaka University web site.

http://www.dma.jim.osaka-u.ac.jp/kg-portal/aspi/RX0011S_E.ASP

Humanities & Social Sciences	14
Science	20
Engineering	41
Biology	25
Total	100

*Researchers in bold letters are faculty members of Osaka University, and their institutions are indicated in parentheses.

*90 of 100 selected papers are introduced here. See pages 4 to 35 for the rest (10 Papers Selection).

This paper studies a monopoly pricing problem when the seller can choose the timing of a trade with each buyer, and a buyer's valuation of the seller's good is the weighted sum of his and other buyers' private signals. We show that it is optimal for the seller to employ a sequential scheme which trades with one buyer at a time, and hence allows each buyer to observe the outcomes of all preceding transactions. We also identify conditions under which the seller optimally trades with the buyers in the increasing order of the weights they place on other buyers' signals.

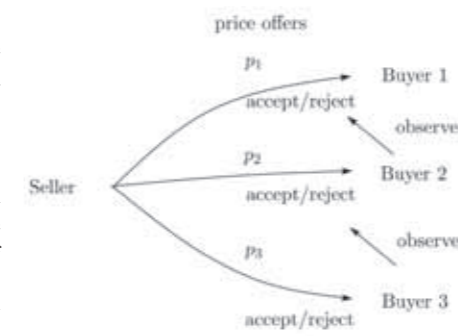


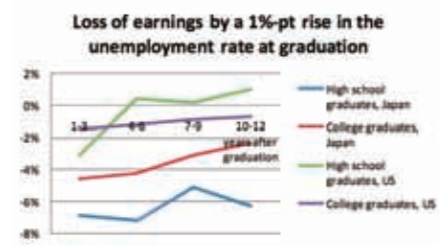
Figure 1: Sequential Trading Scheme

Optimal Sales Schemes against Interdependent Buyers

Aoyagi, M.
(Institute of Social and Economic Research)

American Economic Journal: Microeconomics, 2(1), 150-182 (2010)

We examine effects of entering the labor market during a recession on subsequent employment and earnings for Japanese and American men, using comparable household labor force surveys. We find persistent negative effects of the unemployment rate at graduation for less-educated Japanese men, in contrast to temporary effects for less-educated American men. The school-based hiring system and the dismissal regulation prolong the initial loss of employment opportunities for less-educated Japanese men. The effect on earnings for more-educated groups is also stronger in Japan, although the difference between the two countries is smaller than for less educated groups.



Long-term Effects of a Recession at Labor Market Entry in Japan and the United States

Genda, Y.; **Kondo, A.**; Ohta, S.
(Institute of Social and Economic Research)

The Journal of Human Resources, 45 (1), 157-196 (2010)

This paper explores the ambivalent nature of Japanese attitudes toward English vis-à-vis the Japanese language, followed by a discus-



sion of Japanese efforts in incorporating the concept of English as an International Language (EIL) into their educational system as a solution to this dilemma. A recent move in Japan in both public and private sectors is to promote the use of English, often at the expense of their native language. One practical approach to a mitigation of this dilemma is the teaching of EIL or de-Anglo-Americanized English as a means of expressing indigenous values in international communication. The teaching of EIL in place of Anglo-American English provides a chance of reconciliation between the use of internal and external language resources.

The Teaching of English as an International Language in Japan: An Answer to the Dilemma of Indigenous Values and Global Needs in the Expanding Circle.

Hino, N.
(Graduate School of Language and Culture)

AILA Review, 22, 103-119 (2009)

We theoretically show how habit-forming consumer behaviors are interdependent in a two-country world economy. External indebtedness depends crucially on international differences in habit-adjusted net output less habitual living standard. Consistently with the empirical facts, the habit parameter of a large country is shown to be underestimated, and the current account volatility overestimated, if estimated using a small-country model. Negative income shocks in one country can paradoxically benefit the country and harm the neighbor due to intertemporal terms-of-trade effects. The 'intertemporal immiserizing growth effect'

could occur under reasonable net foreign asset-GDP ratios (see Figure 1).

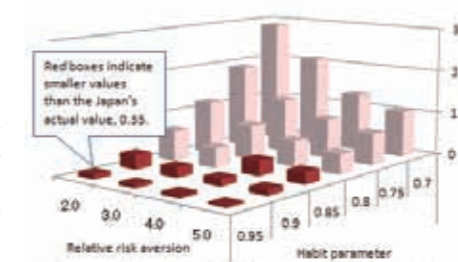


Figure 3. Net foreign asset-GDP ratios required for immiserizing growth effect to occur (Data source: Table 1, Ikeda and Gombi, 2009, p.499).

Habit Formation in an Interdependent World Economy

Ikeda, S.; Gombi, I.
(Institute of Social and Economic Research)

Macroeconomic Dynamics, 13, 477-492 (2009)