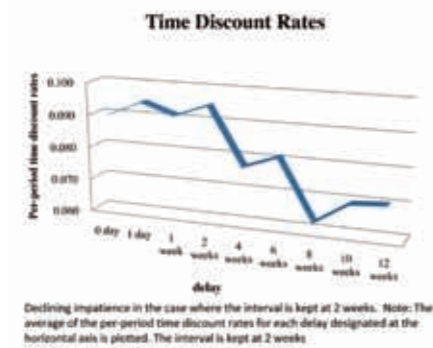


Time Discounting: Declining Impatience and Interval Effect

Kinari, Y.; *Ohtake, F.*^{*1}; *Tsutsui, Y.*^{*2}
^{*1}(Institute of Social and Economic Research)
^{*2}(Graduate School of Economics)

Journal of Risk and Uncertainty, 39,
87-112 (2009)



Decision-making is time consistent if the per-period time discount rate is constant over time. Many experiments in economics and psychology, however, have found declining impatience in that the per-period time discount rate of the immediate future is higher than that of the distant future. Most studies have not distinguished delays from intervals, so that whether the declining impatience really holds has been an open question. We conducted an experiment that explicitly distinguishes between them, and confirmed it at short delay such as less than an 8-week delay. This implies that people make dynamically inconsistent plans.

Old Grandmothers Provide Essential Care to Their Young Granddaughters in a Free-Ranging Group of Japanese Monkeys (*Macaca fuscata*)

Nakamichi, M.; *Onishi, K.*; Yamada, K
 (Graduate School of Human Sciences)

Primates, 51, 171-174 (2009)

The present study reports 2 cases in which old grandmothers without dependent offspring of their own provided essential care to their young granddaughters in a free-ranging group of Japanese monkeys. In the first case, a 24-year-old grandmother provided essential care for the survival of her 2-month-old granddaughter for a period of at least 6 days during which the mother had temporarily disappeared from the group. In the second case, a 14-month-old granddaughter began sucking on her 23-year-old grandmother within 6 weeks after her mother gave birth to a younger sibling, and the grandmother exhibited various patterns of maternal behavior toward her granddaughter.



Growth and Unemployment in an OLG Economy with Public Pensions

Ono, T.
 (Graduate School of Economics)

Journal of Population Economics, 23,
737-767(2010)

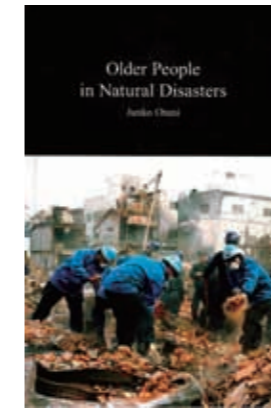
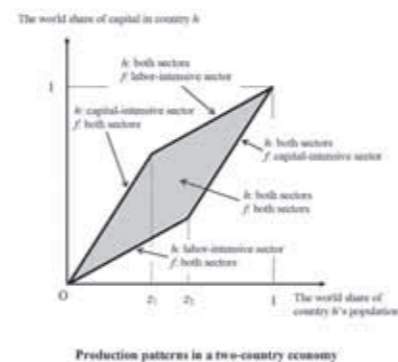
This paper develops an overlapping generations model including (1) a productive externality as an engine of endogenous growth and (2) wage setting by trade unions as the cause of unemployment. Within this framework, the paper considers growth and unemployment affected by public pensions under the following two types of pension system: the proportionate pension system where only the contributors, that is, the employed, receive pensions, and the lump-sum pension system where both the employed and the unemployed receive pensions. It is shown that public pensions create a trade-off between growth and employment in the former system, whereas they produce no trade-off in the latter.

Time Patience and Specialization Patterns in the Presence of Asset Trade

Ono, Y.; Shibata, A.
 (Institute of Social and Economic Research)

Journal of Money, Credit and Banking,
42 (1), 93-112(2010)

Specialization patterns in an open-economy two-sector growth model with endogenous capital accumulation are examined in the presence of free international lending and borrowing. Without free international lending and borrowing it is known that, whereas the less (time-)patient country decumulates real capital, the more patient country accumulates real capital and eventually specializes in a capital-intensive industry. However, free trade of international financial assets causes a dramatic change in long-run specialization patterns. The less patient country may well specialize in the capital-intensive industry and the more patient country in the labor-intensive industry. The world population share and the steady-state capital share of each country play a crucial role in the determination of specialization patterns.



▲Reprinted from *Older People in Natural Disasters*, Junko Otani, with permission from Kyoto University Press, 2010 ISBN 978-4-87698-932-4

This book reports social scientific research on elderly people who are poor and have no functioning family, a group that will be of increasing future concern in Japan and many other countries. The study focuses on elderly people who lost their homes in the 1995 Great Hanshin Earthquake. The research employed a mixed method of qualitative and quantitative approaches and involved media analysis, secondary analysis of public health survey, and ethnographic research at temporary shelters and public reconstruction housing, as well as discourse analysis and case studies with triangulation from the above data sets. The first study to utilize NVivo qualitative research software in Japanese research context. The Chinese edition was published from SMC Publishing, Inc., Taiwan, in 2010.

Older People in Natural Disasters, Junko Otani,
 Kyoto University Press, 2010 ISBN 978-4-87698-932-4

Older People in Natural Disasters

Otani, J.
 (Graduate School of Human Sciences)

*Kyoto University Press and Trans Pacific
 Press (Australia)*, 277 pages (2010)

International Commodity Taxation in the Presence of Unemployment

Moriconi, S.; *Sato, Y.*
 (Graduate School of Economics)

Journal of Public Economics, 93,
939-949 (2009)

In this paper, we evaluate the impact of commodity tax competition on welfare and employment under the destination and origin principles, when the economy suffers from unemployment owing to a binding fixed wage. Our main finding is that commodity taxation causes an employment externality whose signs may be opposite under the two principles. While tax competition leads to inefficient tax rates under both principles, we also prove that the origin principle guarantees lower unemployment and higher welfare when the fixed wage is high. Finally, we show that the employment externality still exists in a standard union model of wage determination.

This paper examines how different education systems affect GDP by influencing the diversity of human capital. It is shown that under a realistic condition, the diversity of human capital induced by income inequality always lowers the GDP of the next period, while the diversity of human capital induced by heterogeneous ability can increase GDP, if the produced intermediate goods are sufficiently substitutable and firms have a large span of control. Hence, public education mitigates the negative effect of income inequality on GDP, while the effects of ability tracking crucially depend on the production structure of the economy.

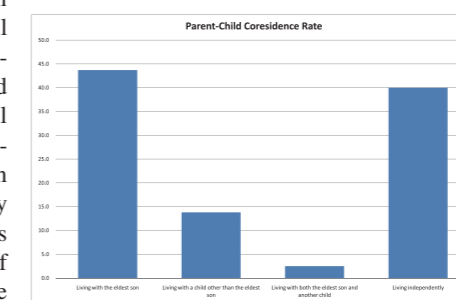
Does the Diversity of Human Capital Increase GDP? A Comparison of Education Systems

Takii, K.; Tanaka, R.
 (Osaka School of International Public Policy)

Journal of Public Economics, 93,
998-1007(2009)

In this paper, we analyze the determinants of the living arrangements (coresidence behavior) of elderly parents and their children (whether elderly parents live with their children, and if so, with which child) in Japan using micro data from the 1998 "National Family Survey (in Japanese, Kazoku ni tsuitemo Zenkoku Chousa)," which was conducted in January 1999 and provided by National Family Research of Japan and the Information Center for Social Science Research on Japan, Institute of Social Science, University of Tokyo (SSJ Data Archive). Our results provide support for all four explanations of coresidence behavior (the selfish life cycle

model, the dynasty model, social norms and traditions, and the altruism model), especially the first three.



Is the Eldest Son Different? The Residential Choice of Siblings in Japan

Wakabayashi, M.; *Horioka, C. Y.*
 (Institute of Social and Economic Research)

Japan and the World Economy, 21,
337-348 (2009)