



# Humanities and Social Sciences

## 100 Papers Selection

### Join Us at Osaka University

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 2010 and early 2011. 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](http://www.dma.jim.osaka-u.ac.jp/kg-portal/aspi/RX0011S_E.ASP)

Humanities & Social Sciences .....	37
Science .....	40
Engineering .....	45
Biology .....	55

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

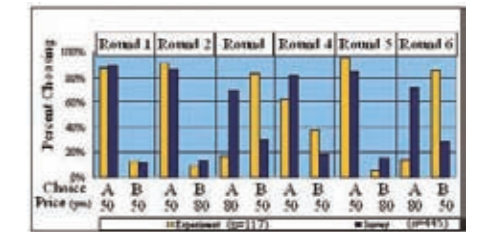
\*90 of 100 selected papers are introduced here. See pages 4 to 35 for the rest (10 Papers Selection).

### Consumer Reaction to Information on Food Additives: Evidence from an Eating Experiment and a Field Survey

**Aoki, K.**; Shen, J.; **Saijo, T.**  
(Institute of Social and Economic Research)

We apply the choice experiment approach under both the laboratory experiment and the field survey to investigate how consumers value a food additive (sodium nitrite) present in ham sandwiches and whether the provision of information about sodium nitrite affects individuals' choice. The results suggest that in both the experiment and the survey, participants don't favor the use of sodium nitrite, per se, regardless of whether or not the detailed information is provided. The willingness to pay values for ham sandwiches without sodium nitrite are estimated to be lower in the experiment and higher in the survey after negative and positive information

is provided, implying that the effect of information provision differs between these two environments.



*Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, 73, 433-438 (2010)

### Information Feedback in a Dynamic Tournament

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

This paper studies the problem of information revelation in a multi-stage tournament where the agents' effort in each stage gives rise to a stochastic performance signal privately observed by the principal. The principal controls the agents' effort incentive through the use of a feedback policy, which transforms his private information into a public announcement. The optimal feedback policy is one that maximizes the agents' expected effort. The paper identifies when the principal should use the no-feedback policy that reveals no information, or the full-feedback policy that reveals all his information.

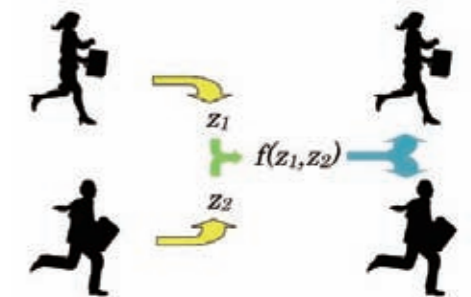


Figure: Feedback policy  $f$  transforms period 1 performance  $(z_1, z_2)$  into public information and influences period 2 efforts.

*Games and Economic Behavior*, 70, 242-260(2010)

### Migration, Skill Formation, and The Wage Structure

**Behrens, K.**; **Sato, Y.**  
(Graduate School of Economics)

This paper analyzes the impacts of migration on the distribution of skills and the wage structure in both the short and the long run. To do so, it develops a framework where workers have heterogeneous skills and where in-migration expands the range of available skills in the economy. In the short run, this expansion leads to productivity gains, which may more than offset the negative endowment effects of a larger labor supply. In the long run, in-migration impacts wages further by altering the workers' incentives to acquire skills, thereby affecting the wage structure indirectly by changing the economy's skill composition.



*Journal of Regional Science*, 51, 5-30 (2011)