

Sebastian O. Schneider

Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

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Research Areas

- Experimental and behavioral economics, especially individual decision-making and its consequences with applications in financial as well as development, health, environmental and organizational economic contexts
- Econometric and statistical methods for behavioral research ("Economic Data Science")

Employment

Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods

Senior Research Fellow, Experimental Economics Group of Matthias Sutter

Parental leave/child care (2 days a week)

Bonn (Germany)

since 12/2017

since 12/2022

University of Goettingen

Research Fellow

Goettingen (Germany)

05/2014-11/2017

Education

PhD in Economics

Area: Development Economics and Stochastics; final grade: Summa cum laude

University of Goettingen (Germany)

05/2014-11/2017

Supervision: M. Ibanez (Chair of Behavioral Development Economics, University of Goettingen)

M. Schlather (Chair of Applied Stochastics, University of Mannheim)

Certificate "Applied Statistics and Empirical Methods"

PhD course program for graduates in Statistics, offered by the Centre of Statistics

University of Goettingen (Germany)

05/2014-07/2017

M. Sc. Mathematics in Business and Economics

Major in Stochastics, final grade: 1.3 (scale 1-5, 1 being best)

University of Mannheim (Germany)

08/2011-04/2014

B. Sc. Mathematics in Business and Economics

Major in Mathematical Finance

University of Mannheim (Germany)

08/2008-06/2011

Abitur/A-Levels

Final grade 1.0 (scale 1-6, 1 being best)

Oberndorf am Neckar (Germany)

09/1998-06/2007

Research/List of Publications

Publications in Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Barron K, Harmgart H, Huck S, **Schneider SO**, Sutter M (2023). Discrimination, Narratives and Family History: An Experiment with Jordanian Host and Syrian Refugee Children. **Review of Economics and Statistics** 105(4), 1–9

Revisions for Peer-Reviewed Journals

- Sutter M, Weyland M, Untertrifaller A, Froitzheim M, **Schneider SO** (2023). Financial literacy, experimental preference measures and field behavior – A randomized educational intervention. MPI Working Paper 2023/3. **Revision requested by the Journal of Political Economy (resubmitted)**
- Ibanez M, **Schneider SO** (2023). Income Risk, Precautionary Saving, and Loss Aversion – An Empirical Test. MPI Working Paper 2023/6. **Reject & Resubmit at Management Science (resubmitted)**
- **Schneider SO**, Sutter M (2022). Higher-Order Risk Preferences: New Experimental Measures, Determinants and Field Behavior. IZA Discussion Paper No. 13646. **Revision requested by the American Economic Review (resubmitted)**

Working Papers.....

- Chowdhury S, Schildberg-Hörisch H, **Schneider SO**, Sutter M (2022). Information Provision over the Phone Saves Lives: A Randomized Controlled Trial to Contain COVID-19 in Rural Bangladesh at the Pandemic's Onset. Discussion Papers of the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, 2022/9
- Momsen K, **Schneider SO** (2022). Motivated Reasoning, Information Avoidance and Default Bias. Discussion Papers of the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, 2022/3
- **Schneider SO**, Ibanez M, Riener G (2022). Measuring Utility – An Application to Higher-Order Risk and Saving in Bogota. Working Paper MPI Bonn. Available at sebastianoschneider.com/media/working_paper/SchneiderIbanezRienerMeasuringUtility.pdf
- **Schneider SO**, Schlather M (2021). Rerandomization to Improve Covariate Balance by Minimizing the MSE of a Treatment Effect Estimator. Available at sebastianoschneider.com/media/working_paper/SchneiderSchlatherMinMSE.pdf, replaces earlier version circulated as “A New Approach to Treatment Assignment for One and Multiple Treatment Groups”, Courant Research Centre Discussion Paper 228
- Riener G, **Schneider SO**, Wagner V (2021). Addressing Validity and Generalizability Concerns in Field Experiments. Discussion Papers of the Max Planck Institute for Research on Collective Goods, 2020/16

Work in Progress.....

- Heterogeneity in Effort Provision: Evidence from a Lab-in-the-field Experiment, with Z. Bašić, S. Bortolotti, D. Salicath, S. Schmidt, and M. Sutter. Draft in preparation
- Social Norms, Political Polarization, and Vaccination Behavior: Evidence from a Survey Experiment in Turkey, with M. Kaba, M Koyuncu, and M. Sutter. Draft in preparation
- oTree: Ready-made Apps for Elicitation of Higher-Order Risk Preferences in the Spirit of Deck & Schlesinger (2010), Ebert & Wiesen (2014), and Schneider, Ibanez & Riener (2022). Draft in preparation
- Evaluation of an Intervention to Shape Higher-Order Risk Preferences, Healthy and Environmentally Friendly Behavior in Adolescents, with L. Breitkopf, H. Schildberg-Hörisch and M. Sutter. Analysis ongoing
- Spatial Patterns in Preferences, with M. Puente Beccar, H. Schildberg-Hörisch and M. Sutter. Analysis ongoing
- Higher-Order Risk Preferences, Financial Decision-Making, Sustainable Consumption, and Addiction – Evidence from the General German Population (SOEP), with S. Trautmann and S. Riedmiller. Data collection ongoing
- An Intervention to Increase Activity Among Adolescents: The Role of Economic Preferences, with S. Czermak and C. Zoller. Data collection completed

Software.....

- **Schneider SO**, Baldini G (2021a). Software for Elicitation of Higher-Order Risk Preferences (in Python for use with oTree); available via gitlab.gwdg.de/portal.sschne1/horp-otree-apps
Show-case/demo: horp-otree-apps.sebastianoschneider.com/
- **Schneider SO** (2021a). R Package for Estimating Utility Curves and Higher-Order Risk Preferences from Utility Points According to Schneider et al. (2022); available via CRAN: [CRAN: CRAN.R-project.org/package=utilityFunctionTools](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=utilityFunctionTools), package name 'utilityFunctionTools'
- **Schneider SO**, Baldini G (2021b). Software Package for Treatment Assignment for One And Multiple Treatment Groups (R package); available via CRAN: [CRAN: CRAN.R-project.org/package=minMSE](https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=minMSE), package name 'minMSE'
- **Schneider SO** (2021b). MINMSE: Stata Module to Create Balanced Groups for Treatment in Experiments with one or Several Treatment Arms (Stata ado-package). Statistical Software Components S458939, Boston College Department of Economics. Available via RePEc: ideas.repec.org/c/boc/bocode/s458939.html

Dissertation.....

- **Schneider SO** (2017). Advances and Applications of Experimental Measures to Test Behavioral Saving Theories and a Method to Increase Efficiency in Binary and Multiple Treatment Assignment; available at <http://hdl.handle.net/11858/00-1735-0000-002E-E306-0>

Grants, Scholarships, Awards and Successful Proposals

2021-2024	Project grant and scholarship (€40,000, project number 32-09/20, single PI), Daimler and Benz Foundation: "Introducing and evaluating app-based campaigns to prevent smartphone addiction and improve mental health among adolescents"
2020, 2023	Project grant/fee waiver (€30,164, money equivalent, estimated), SOEP at DIW, Berlin: "(Repeated) Measurement of Higher-Order Risk Preferences in the SOEP-Innovation Sample" in 2020 and 2023. Selection of my method to elicit higher-order risk preferences (Schneider et al., 2021) for free implementation in the innovation sample of the German Socio-Economic Panel including data collection. (Estimation based on equivalent implementation in Bangladesh plus fee for representative samples as charged by Prolific)
2021-2023	Project grant (€854,490, Sachbeihilfe SCHI 1377/1-2), German National Science Foundation (DFG), grantee Hannah Schildberg-Hörisch: "Towards a better understanding of the development of non-cognitive skills in children: The role of parents, social environment and exogenous shocks". Initiation of and cooperation partner in the sub-projects "Evaluation of an intervention to shape higher-order risk preferences, healthy and environmentally friendly behavior in adolescents" and "Spatial patterns in preferences"
2015-2017	PhD Scholarship (€45,950, project title "Mathematics and development economics"), Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) via Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft (Foundation of German Business, merit scholarship)
2011-2012	Bronnbacher Stipendium, Kulturkreis der dt. Wirtschaft im BDI (Association of Arts and Culture of the German Economy at the Federation of German Industries) and Univ. Mannheim
2009-2010	Tuition fee waiver ("Gebührenstipendium", merit scholarship), University of Mannheim
2009-2014	Study grant, Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft (merit scholarship)
2007	Award for outstanding social commitment, Gymnasium am Rosenberg, Oberndorf am Neckar

Teaching, Workshops and Supervision

SS '23	Experimental Approaches in Behavioral Health Economics (lecture in the context of the BEHnet summer school on behavioral health economics), Erasmus Center for Health Economics Research, University of Rotterdam
SS '23	Advanced Behavioral Economics/Econometrics for Behavioral Economists (weekly lecture and exercise session, Research Master/PhD level), University of Cologne
SS '22	Machine Learning for Behavioral Research (five-unit block course (summer school), lecture and exercise session, PhD level), International Max Planck Research School 'BeSmart'
WS '21/'22	Statistical Training (one-semester practical offered by the Chair of Statistics (T. Kneib), project partner & team advisor, Master level), University of Goettingen
SS '21	Advanced Behavioral Economics/Econometrics for Behavioral Economists (weekly lecture and exercise session, Research Master/PhD level), University of Cologne
SS '21	Experimental Design (two-days block course (summer school), lecture and exercise session, PhD level), International Max Planck Research School 'BeSmart'
WS '17/'18	Advanced Microeconomics (weekly tutorial, Master level), University of Goettingen
SS '17, SS '16	Structural Estimation for Risk and Time Preferences (two-days block course, lecture and exercise session, PhD/Master Level), University of Goettingen
Supervision	Master's theses: Carsten Dolle ("Using spatial models to explain non-cognitive skills", Co-supervision with T. Kneib, Chair of Statistics, University of Goettingen, 2022); Sonia Triviño ("Saving for the old age: an analysis under prospect theory", Co-supervision with M. Ibanez, Chair of Development Economics, University of Goettingen, 2015)

Conferences, Workshops and Invited Talks (since 2017)

2023	M-BEPS, Maastricht NHH/MPI Workshop on Behavioral Economics (online) University of Amsterdam SAFE/Goethe University Frankfurt
2022	University of Regensburg University of Duesseldorf European Meeting of the Econometric Society, Milan Foundations of Utility and Risk, Gent CSAE (Centre for the Study of African Economies, University of Oxford) Conference (online)
2021	Conference on Experimental Insights from Behavioral Economics on Covid-19, JHU Hopkins Business of Health Initiative (HBHI) and LSE Department of Psychological and Behavioural Science (online) International Conference on Globalization and Development, Goettingen (online) UC Santa Barbara/MPI Workshop on Behavioral Economics (online) UC San Diego/MPI Workshop on Behavioral Economics (online) iHEA (International Health Economics Association) World Congress (online) EEA (European Economic Association) World Congress (online) WZB/MPI Workshop on Behavioral Economics (online) ZEW/Uni Mannheim Experimental Seminar (online, invited)
2020	NBER Development Economics Meeting (online) GEA (German Economic Association, VfS) Annual Conference, Cologne (online) World Meeting of the Econometric Society, Milan (online) 7th Workshop in Behavioral and Experimental Health Economics, Innsbruck
2019	Brown Bag Seminar, UC Santa Barbara North-American ESA Meeting and Workshop on Experiments with Children, Los Angeles Nordic Conference on Behavioral and Experimental Economics, Kiel European ESA Meeting, Dijon Workshop Behavioral Insights in Development and Peace Building, Goettingen TIBER, Tilburg Brown Bag Seminar, University of Mainz M-BEPS, Maastricht IMEBESS, Utrecht
2018	MPI/CREED Workshop, Bonn Foundations of Utility and Risk, York Experimental Finance Conference, Heidelberg M-BEES, Maastricht Symposium on Economic Experiments in Developing Countries (SEEDec), Wageningen Inaugural Conference, Experimental Economics Group, MPI Bonn, Bonn International Conference on Globalization and Development, Goettingen German Probability and Statistics Days, Freiburg
2017	Development Lunch Seminar, UC Berkeley North-American ESA Meeting, Richmond (VA)

European ESA Meeting, Vienna
 GEA Annual Conference, Vienna
 Centre for Statistics (ZfS) University of Goettingen, On-site Evaluation, Goettingen
 GEA AEL (Research Group on Development Economics) Annual Conference, Goettingen
 Graduate Seminar Applied Statistics and Econometrics, Goettingen

Research Visits and Stays Abroad

University of Amsterdam (Netherlands), invited by Theo Offerman	05/2023
University of California, Santa Barbara (USA), invited by Gary Charness	10/2019
University of California, Berkeley (USA), invited by Elisabeth Sadoulet	10/2017
Exchange semesters in Nice (France) and Lima (Peru)	2010, 2012

Refereeing & Editorial Services

Refereeing for: *Econometrica*, *Economic Journal*, *European Economic Review*, *Games and Economic Behavior*, *Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Finance*, *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization*, *Management Science*, *Quantitative Economics*

Associate Editor (since 2022): *Frontiers in Behavioral Economics*, Section "Health Behaviors"

Media Appearance

Print	03/2023: Interview for the (German) magazine "Harvard Business Manager" about our study on default options and information avoidance: " Warum Faulheit zu Fehlern führt " ["Why Laziness Leads to Mistakes"]. 08/2022: Article in the (German) newspaper "Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung" about findings from our study to contain Covid-19 in Bangladesh: " Mit dem Callcenter gegen Corona " ["Fighting Covid using call centers"].
TV	05/2021: TV appearance in the (German) TV show "Campus Talks" (in the spirit of TED Talks) on ARD alpha/BR about findings from our study to contain Covid-19 in Bangladesh: " Wie man Menschen dazu bringt, Corona-Maßnahmen zu befolgen " ["How to get people to follow Corona measures"].
Radio/Podcast	03/2021: Interview for the (German) podcast "Die Profis" on radioeins rbb about findings from a study to contain Covid-19 in Bangladesh: " Warum wir uns an Hygieneregeln halten oder nicht " ["Why we do follow hygiene rules or not"]

Experience in Academic and Non-Academic Self-Administration

since 2022	Elected member of the workers' council at the MPI Bonn
WS '21/'22	Member of the recruitment committee at the (Virtual) European Job Market for the 6-year senior research fellow positions at the MPI Bonn
since 2018	Responsible for school contacts and activities at the MPI school day
2018-2020	Recruitment and management of the group's pool of research assistants
2017-2018	Setting up and management of the mobile lab (up to 90 tablets) at the MPI Bonn
2015-2017	Elected group-representative of the local group of fellows of the German Business Foundation in Goettingen-Kassel

Selected Non-Academic Activities

Mannheimer Versicherung AG

Student employee, department for reinsurance

Mannheim (Germany)

09/2013-04/2014

Hannover Re SE

Intern, department for structured reinsurance

Hannover (Germany)

04/2013-06/2013

Deloitte & Touche GmbH

Intern, quant team, financial risk solutions department

Duesseldorf (Germany)

02/2013-03/2013

Additional Qualifications & Competences

Languages.....

German (native), **English** (fluent, C1/C2), **Spanish** (fluent, B2/C1), **French** (fluent, B1/B2)

Software and Programming.....

Python (mostly with oTree), C, PHP, MySQL, R, Stata & Mata, Git, Latex, QGis, SurveyCTO

Lab Management, Management of Experiments.....

Mobile lab setup, oTree server setup (lab-in-the-field and online experiments via Amazon mTurk integration)

Personal Information

Born August 1st, 1987 (Oberndorf am Neckar)

Married, one daughter (born May 9, 2022)