

DANIEL SPIRO – JOB MARKET CANDIDATE

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Institute for International Economic Studies
Stockholm University
106 91 Stockholm
Sweden

+46 8 16 30 58
daniel.spiro@iies.su.se
<http://people.su.se/~dask4398/>

REFERENCES

Professor John Hassler

Institute for International Economic Studies
Stockholm University
106 91 Stockholm, Sweden
+46 8 16 20 70
john.hassler@iies.su.se

Professor Torsten Persson

Institute for International Economic Studies
Stockholm University
106 91 Stockholm, Sweden
+46 8 16 30 66
torsten.persson@iies.su.se

Professor David Weil

Department of Economics
Brown University
Box B, Providence, RI 02912, USA
+1 401 863 1754
david_weil@brown.edu

EDUCATION

2006 – (May 2012) PhD in Economics, Stockholm University
2009 – 2010 Visiting scholar, Hebrew University in Jerusalem
2003 – 2006 BA in Economics, Stockholm University
1994 – 2000 MA Engineering, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm
1995 – 1996 Group commander, Swedish special forces

ACADEMIC AREAS OF INTEREST

Macroeconomics, Resource and Environmental economics, Political economics.

“Resource extraction, capital accumulation and time horizon” – JOB MARKET PAPER

ABSTRACT: This paper shows that a seemingly simple assumption, that of the time horizon of economic agents, has important consequences when modelling exhaustible resources but hardly makes a difference when modelling capital. It does so by exploring a common observation. Namely, that economic agents have a progressive finite time horizon, meaning that they make a plan over a finite number of years but update this plan on a regular basis. This behaviour can be observed in the business plans of firms, in US social security and in the extraction decisions of natural resource owners. Compared to an infinite horizon assumption, progressive finite time yields virtually identical results when used in a standard model of capital accumulation. However, used in models of natural resources this behaviour has the effect of removing the scarcity consideration of resource owners letting only operating costs and demand determine the extraction rate. This implies that extraction will be non-decreasing and resource prices non-increasing for a long period of time - in line with the last century's trends of a majority of exhaustible resources. A calibration of the model to the oil market yields a price which closely fits the gradually falling real price up until 1998 and the sharply increasing price thereafter.

“The elephant in Hotelling’s room”, with Rob Hart – Forthcoming “Energy Policy”.

“Tragedy of the commons vs the love of variety”, with Johan Gars.

“Optimal forest rotation under climate change”, with Johan Gars.

“An economic analysis of DAB and DVB-H” – EBU Technical Review (2006).

WORK IN PROGRESS

“The distribution of revealed preferences under social pressure”, with Moti Michaeli.

ABSTRACT: This paper analyzes how social pressure affects the distribution of openly declared preferences in societies. By analyzing the interaction between a full spectrum of social pressures on the one hand, and a full spectrum of true preferences on the other hand, we present a broad variety of distributions. Depending on the underlying character of social norms and hidden individual preferences we get distributions including unimodal concentration, bimodal polarization, hypocrisy and alienation. The characteristics of norms and hidden preferences yield intuitive, but non-trivial, interpretations to the results which are matched to cases casually observed in various societies. In particular, we find that in a liberal society unimodality emerges on issues that are characterized by a low tendency to feel cognitive dissonance from deviating from one's true beliefs, versus bimodality in cases where this tendency is high enough. Analogously, in Orthodox societies we find that a low tendency to feel cognitive dissonance from deviating from one's true beliefs may lead to group formation, while a high tendency may result in a situation where the norm is practically maintained by those most opposing it.

“Endogenous institutions and the resource curse”

ABSTRACT: I study how unexpected discoveries or increases in natural resources change the incentives for a political elite to alter institutions. Institutional change is costly and hurts the functioning of the economy in general but facilitates reaping private gains from the resource. It is shown that institutional and economic development depends on the size of the windfall and the level of development at the time. Using data on discoveries and rapid increases of resource intensity I find support for the predictions of the model.

“Gender bias in the courtroom”, with Anne Boschini.

HONORS AND AWARDS

2011	Selected for the European Econometric Society's Winter Meeting for the 16 most promising European job market candidates.
2010 – 2012	Research grant, <i>Handelsbanken's research foundations</i>
2009 – 2010	Hedelius scholarship for studies abroad, <i>Jan Wallander and Tom Hedelius Foundation</i>
2008 – 2011	Travel grants, <i>Stiftelsen Siamons resestipendium, Minerva Institute at Hebrew University, Karin Kocks och Hugo Lindbergs resestipendium.</i>
2006 – 2007	Stipend for PhD studies, <i>Ljungbergs stipendiefond</i>

REFEREEING

Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of Environmental Economics and Management, Resource and Energy Economics.

OTHER RESEARCH RELATED ACTIVITIES

Research paper evaluation and helping faculty with screening/refereeing for journals (including journals like J of Political Economy), conferences and seminars.

The macro-research-group at the IIES.

Chair of the graduate student council in economics.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Master level Macroeconomics, Stockholm U, 2007

Intermediate Macroeconomics, Stockholm U, 2007, 2008, 2009

Energy Policy, Royal Institute of Technology, 2010

Business development and Media technology, Stockholm School of Economics, 2000

Sexual education, Junior high schools in Stockholm, 1998, 1999.

CONFERENCE AND DEPARTMENTAL WORKSHOPS AND SEMINARS

2011 Tel Aviv U; Stockholm School of Economics; Bergen School of Economics; Development Econ conf, Copenhagen U; IIES, Stockholm U.

2010 SITE, Stockholm School of Economics; SURED conf, Switzerland. ENTER annual meeting, Toulouse U.

2009	Hebrew U in Jerusalem; The Beijer Institute, Stockholm.
2008	IIES; Minerva Institute of Economic Growth, Jerusalem.
Pre-2008	WorldDAB general forum, Beijing; DMB symposium, Seoul; EBU Forecast, Geneva; Workshop on media convergence, Geneva; Parliamentary committee on digital radio, Swedish Parliament.

LANGUAGE SKILLS

Swedish (native), Hebrew (native), English (fluent), German (conversational), Spanish (conversational)

OTHER WORK EXPERIENCE

2010	UNCTAD, Geneva. Identifying policy priorities as input for the UN high level conference on sustainable development in Rio 2012
2001 – 2006	Swedish Radio, R&D. Market analysis, advisory on distribution strategies and competition to executive board.
2000 – 2001	Ericsson Business Consulting, Malaysia. Market and consumer analysis, marketing strategies.