Lectures on Contests with Complementarities: A tentative syllabus

Instructor: Prof. Sudipta Sarangi, Department of Economics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA 24061-0316.

Email: ssarangi@vt.edu

Dates: `7 June: 2pm - 5:30pm`

`8 June: 9am - 12:30pm`

Content: This mini course on contests will introduce contests with complementarities, that is multibattle contests where winning a specific set of battlefields is important. It will begin by reviewing the literature on the lottery success function with emphasis on multibattle contests. Then it will introduce different forms of contests with complementarities. Throughout we will discuss both theory and experimental investigation of the theory.

Lecture 1: Introduction to contests
Lecture 2: Lottery success function: theory and experiments
Lecture 3: Mutlibattle contests
Lecture 4: Contests with Complementarities: Theory and Experiments
Lecture 5: Contests with Complementarities: Theory and Experiments

Course material: The course will rely on a number of papers some of which are listed below.

- Dechenaux, Emmanuel, Dan Kovenock, and Roman M. Sheremeta. A survey of experimental research on contests, all-pay auctions and tournaments, Experimental Economics, vol. 18, pp. 609-669 (2015)
- Duffy, John and Alexander Matros. Stochastic Asymmetric Blotto games: Some new results. Economics Letters vol. 134(C), pp. 4-8 (2015)
- Duffy, John and Alexander Matros. Stochastic asymmetric Blotto games: An experimental study. Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization vol. 139, pp 88-105 (2017)
- C. Deck, S. Sarangi and M. Wiser, (2017) "An Experimental Investigation of Simultaneous Multi-battle Contests with Complementarities." *Journal of Economic Psychology*, 63, 117-134.
- C. Deck, S. Sarangi and M. Wiser, (2017) "Electoral College: A Multibattle Contest with Complementarities"
- Kovenock, Dan and Brian Roberson. Conflicts with multiple battlefield. CESifo Working Paper, 3165 (2010)
- Kovenock, Dan, Sudipta Sarangi, and Matt Wiser. All-pay 2 ×2 Hex: A multibattle contest with complementarities, International Journal of Game Theory, vol. 44, pp. 571-597 (2015)
- Konrad, Kai A. Strategy and Dynamics in Contests. Oxford University Press. (2009)