Department of Economics – Neuroeconomics Seminar

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Computational insights and implications from a model of attentional prioritization during evidence sampling

The idea that behavior results from a dynamic interplay between automatic and controlled processing underlies much of psychology, but has also generated considerable controversy. In this talk, I will describe how a new, computational model of goal-based attentional allocation explains several puzzling features of behavior, from altruism to risky choice to self-regulation. The model provides an alternative explanation for many phenomena previously interpreted as supporting dual process models of choice. However, I also show how some features of the model might be taken as support for specific aspects of dual-process models, providing a way to reconcile conflicting accounts and generating new predictions and insights along the way.