

Professor Alexander Zipper

CURRICULUM VITAE

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PERSONAL DATA

Date of Birth	June 21, 1970
Place of Birth	Berlin, Germany
Citizenship	German; Permanent Resident Status in South Africa

CURRENT POSITION

Full Professor, Department of Economics, University of Pretoria, South Africa

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Decision Theory, Game Theory, General Equilibrium Theory under Asymmetric Information, Asset Pricing, Financial Markets and Banking Regulation, Bayesian Learning under Ambiguity, Bounded Rationality

NRF-RATING

Y1 (as of 2010)

ACADEMIC CAREER

02/2010- 08/2011	Research Chair, School of Economics and Business Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, South Africa
2008- 2010	Full Professor, Department of Economics and Econometrics, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
2007- 2008	Lecturer B, Department of Economics, University of Leicester, UK

- 2006-2007 Senior Lecturer, School of Economics, University of Cape Town, South Africa
- 2003-2005 Research Fellow at the *Sonderforschungsbereich 504*, Mannheim, Germany (Chairman: Professor Axel-Börsch Supan)
Participation in the Project: *Strategic Uncertainty in Economic Models*, (Head of the Project: Professor Jürgen Eichberger, University of Heidelberg, Germany).
- 1998-2003 Doctoral Studies in the Graduate Programme “Allocation on Financial Markets” at the Department of Economics, University of Mannheim, Germany
Dissertation (Dr. rer. pol.) *summa cum laude*, Dissertation Title: “*Contributions to the Theory of Solution Concepts for Strategic Games*” Advisor: Professor Martin Hellwig., Second Advisor: Professor Itzhak Gilboa
- 2001 Visiting Scholar at Department of Economics, University College London, United Kingdom (*Marie-Curie-Scholarship*)
- 1997 Master in Economics (“Diplom-Volkswirt”), Humboldt-University of Berlin, Germany, Grade: 1.5 (Best of class), Master thesis on “*The Hotelling Model with a General Cost Function*”

PUBLICATIONS IN BOOKS

- [1] “Divergent probabilistic judgments under Bayesian learning with non-additive beliefs,” chapter in the *Encyclopedia of the Sciences of Learning* (2012) Seel, Norbert M. (Ed.), Springer

PUBLICATIONS IN PEER-REVIEWED JOURNALS

- [1] Zimper, A. (2013) “The minimal confidence levels of Basel capital regulation,” forthcoming in *Journal of Banking Regulation*
- [2] Ludwig, A. and A. Zimper (2013) “A parsimonious model of subjective life expectancy,” forthcoming in *Theory and Decision*
- [3] Ludwig, A. and A. Zimper (2013) “A decision-theoretic model of asset-price underreaction and overreaction to dividend news,” forthcoming in *Annals of Finance*
- [4] Zimper, A. (2013) “The emergence of “fifty-fifty” probability judgments through Bayesian updating under ambiguity,” *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*, **223**, 72-88.
- [5] Zimper, A. (2013) “Optimal liquidity provision through a demand deposit scheme: The Jacklin critique revisited,” *German Economic Review*, **14**, 89-107.

- [6] Schmidt, U. and A. Zimmer (2012) "Explaining the harmonic sequence paradox," *British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology*, **65**, 322-333.
- [7] Zimmer, A. (2012) "Asset pricing in a Lucas fruit-tree economy with the best and worst in mind," *Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control*, **36**, 610-628.
- [8] Zimmer, A. and S. Hassan (2012) "Can industry regulators learn collusion structures from information-efficient asset markets?," *Economics Letters*, **116**, 1-4.
- [9] Seedat, S. and A. Zimmer (2012) "Existence of speculative bubbles when time-horizons are finite," *Economics Bulletin*, **32(1)**, 251-259.
- [10] Danan, E., Guerdjikova, A., and A. Zimmer (2012) "Indecisiveness aversion and preference for commitment," *Theory and Decision*, **72**, 1-13.
- [11] Zimmer, A. (2011) "Do Bayesians learn their way out of ambiguity?," *Decision Analysis*, **8**, 269-285.
- [12] Zimmer, A. (2011) "Re-examining the law of iterated expectations for Choquet decision makers," *Theory and Decision*, **71**, 669-677.
- [13] Zimmer, A. (2010) "A canonical interpretation of propositions as events," *International Journal of Economic Theory*, **6**, 327-339.
- [14] Zimmer, A. (2009) "An epistemic model of an agent who does not reflect on reasoning processes," *Mathematical Social Sciences*, **58**, 290-309.
- [15] Zimmer, A. and A. Ludwig (2009) "On attitude polarization under Bayesian learning with non-additive beliefs," *Journal of Risk and Uncertainty*, **39**, 181-212.
- [16] Zimmer, A. (2009) "Half empty, half full and why we can agree to disagree forever," *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*, **71**, 283-299.
- [17] Zimmer, A. (2008) "Revisiting independence and stochastic dominance for compound lotteries," *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics: Vol. 8: Iss. 1 (Topics)*, Article 12.
- [18] Guerdjikova, A. and A. Zimmer (2008) "Flexibility of choice versus reduction of ambiguity," *Social Choice and Welfare*, **30**, 507-526.
- [19] Schmidt, U. and A. Zimmer (2007) "Security- and potential level preferences with thresholds," *Journal of Mathematical Psychology*, **51**, 279-289.
- [20] Zimmer, A. (2007) "A fixed point characterization of the dominance-solvability of lattice games with strategic substitutes," *International Journal of Game Theory*, **36**, 107-117.
- [21] Zimmer, A. (2007) "Strategic games with security- and potential level players," *Theory and Decision*, **63**, 53-78.
- [22] Zimmer, A. (2006) "Assessing the likelihood of panic-based bank runs," *The B.E. Journal of Theoretical Economics: Vol. 6: Iss. 1 (Contributions)*, Article 9.
- [23] Zimmer, A. (2006) "Uniqueness conditions for strongly point-rationalizable solutions to games with metrizable strategy sets," *Journal of Mathematical Economics*, **42**, 729-751.
- [24] Ludwig, A. and A. Zimmer (2006) "Investment behavior under ambiguity: The case of pessimistic decision makers," *Mathematical Social Sciences*, **52**, 111-130.

- [25] Zimper, A. (2006) “A note on the equivalence of rationalizability concepts in generalized nice games,” *International Game Theory Review*, **8**, 669-674.
- [26] Ludwig, A. and A. Zimper (2006) “Rational expectations and ambiguity: A comment on Abel (2002),” *Economics Bulletin*, **4(2)**, 1-15.
- [27] Zimper, A. (2005) “Equivalence between best responses and undominated strategies: A generalization from finite to compact strategy sets,” *Economics Bulletin*, **3(7)**, 1-6.

REFEREE FOR

African Journal of Business Management
American Economic Review
American Journal of Political Science
B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis & Policy
British Journal of Mathematical and Statistical Psychology
Econometrica
Economic Modelling
Economic Theory
Economics Bulletin
Games and Economic Behavior
Insurance: Mathematics and Economics
International Review of Economics and Finance
Journal of Banking and Finance
Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization
Journal of Economic Dynamics and Control
Journal of Economic Surveys
Journal of Empirical Finance
Journal of Evolutionary Economics
Journal of Risk and Uncertainty
Psychological Review
South African Journal of Economics
South African Journal of Management and Economic Sciences
Synthese
Theory and Decision

SELECTED RESEARCH GRANTS

- 2010 Netspar Research Grant of Euro 10,000 for research project “On the Role of Biased Survival Beliefs in a Structural Life-Cycle Model,” joint with Alex Ludwig and Max Gronneck
- 2010 NRF research grant of ZAR 40,000
- Recipient of 2007 Steven H. Sandell Grant US\$ 40,000 (Centre for Retirement Research at Boston College) for the research project “Life-Cycle Consumption and Savings: On

the Interactions Between Mortality Risk, the Notion of Death, and Dynamically Inconsistent Household Behavior,” joint with Alexander Ludwig

ORGANIZATION OF WORKSHOPS

- 2010 Organizer of ERSA (Economic Research South Africa) Workshop on “Financial Contract Theory” with Roman Inderst, hosted by Wits University
- 2009 Organizer of Workshop on “General Equilibrium Theory” with Larry Blume, hosted by the University of Johannesburg
- 2009 Co-Organizer of ERSA Workshop on “Dynamic Macroeconomics” with Alex Ludwig, hosted by Wits University joint with the University of Johannesburg (South Africa)
- 2007 Co-Organizer of ERSA Workshop on “Corporate Control and the Theory of the Firm” with Klaus Ritzberger, hosted by the University of KwazuluNatal, Durban (South Africa)
- 2007 Co-Organizer of ERSA Workshop on “Corporate Control and the Theory of the Firm” with Klaus Ritzberger, hosted by the University of KwazuluNatal, Durban
- 2006 Organizer and Co-presenter of ERSA Workshop on Decision Theory with Ani Guerdjikova, hosted by the University of Cape Town (South Africa)
- 2005 Co-Organizer of Workshop on Risk, Utility and Decision (RUD 2005), hosted by the University of Heidelberg (Germany)

PhD Supervision of

Mrs Aylit Romm (completed)

TEACHING

- Advanced Microeconomics I & II (Masters & PhD level, University of Pretoria 2012)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Masters level, University of the Witwatersrand 2011)
- EconTheory I (Financial Economics Masters Programme, University of Johannesburg 2011)
- Applied Microeconomics (Honours level, University of the Witwatersrand 2010)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Masters level, University of the Witwatersrand 2010)
- EconTheory I (Financial Economics Masters Programme, University of Johannesburg 2010)

- Game Theory, Decision Theory, and Asset Pricing (Financial Economics Masters Programme, University of Johannesburg 2009)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Masters level, University of the Witwatersrand 2009)
- Game and Decision Theory (Masters level, University of Johannesburg 2008)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Masters level, University of the Witwatersrand 2008)
- Use of Mathematics in Economics (Undergraduate level, University of Leicester 2007)
- Probabilities & Probability Distributions (Undergraduate level, University of Leicester 2007)
- Mathematical Methods (PhD level, University of Cape Town 2007)
- Advanced Microeconomics (Masters level, University of Cape Town 2006)
- Mathematical Methods (PhD level, University of Cape Town 2006)

List of Referees



Name: Professor Dr. Alexander Ludwig

Position: Professor at University of Cologne, Germany

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Name: Professor Dr. Ulrich Schmidt

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Name: Professor Itzhak Gilboa, Ph.D.

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Germany

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Studies, Vienna, Austria

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