Jonghyun Park

Department of Economics
Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA

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Education

Virginia Tech — 2022–2027 (expected)
Ph.D. candidate in Economics — Blacksburg, VA

Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology (KAIST) — 2022
M.S. in Management Engineering — South Korea

Kyung Hee University — 2020
B.A. in Political Science and International Relations — South Korea

Research Interests

Network Theory; Game Theory; Industrial Organization; Mathematical Economics

Teaching Interests

Microeconomic Theory; Game Theory; Industrial Organization; Mathematical Economics

Job Market Paper

Recursive Bayesian Compression and False Certainty

Abstract. A fully Bayesian learner carries forward the complete joint posterior over a state with two components. We study a learner who instead stores only the posterior distribution of each component separately. Before each new signal, she reconstructs a joint belief by treating the two stored distributions as independent, applies Bayes' rule to that reconstructed belief, and again stores only the resulting marginals. Thus every signal is observed and every update is Bayesian, but the relationship between the two state components created by earlier observations is discarded before later evidence is processed. We show that this recursive use of marginal records can produce false certainty. We show the possible convergence set under this recursive learning. The learner can converge to a state that fits the true signal distribution better than every alternative obtained by changing only one of its components, even though another state fits the signal distribution better overall. We also characterize exactly when marginal records lose no information needed for future learning. Starting from any prior, recursive marginal learning reproduces full Bayesian learning after every finite signal history if and only if, for each signal realization, its likelihood is the product of one positive term depending only on the first component and another depending only on the second.

Working Papers

Finite Communication and the Nonmonotone Value of Network Mixing

Information Overload under Rational Learning
(with Sudipta Sarangi and Hector Tzavellas)

Free Disposal with Costly Access
(with Sudipta Sarangi and Hector Tzavellas)

Learning Networks
(with Promit K. Chaudhuri, Sudipta Sarangi, and Hector Tzavellas)

Work in Progress

A Citizen Candidate Model with Public Funding
(with Euncheol Shin)

Teaching Experience

Instructor, Virginia Tech Summers 2024, 2025
Microeconomic Theory

Teaching Assistant, Virginia Tech
Principles of Macroeconomics; Principles of Microeconomics;
Microeconomic Theory; Games and Behavior

Honors and Awards

Best Third Year Paper Award, Virginia Tech	2025
Rising Star Award, Virginia Tech	2024
Superiority Scholarship, Kyung Hee University	2017

Presentations

KAIST	August 2026
Korean Economic Review International Conference	June 2026
Asia Meeting-China, Hong Kong	June 2026
11th Annual Conference on Network Science in Economics	April 2026
Southern Economic Association 95th Annual Meeting	November 2025
10th Network Science in Economics Conference	April 2025
Midwest International Theory Conference	March 2025
Eastern Economic Association Conference	February 2025

Skills

Programming: Python, R, MATLAB, Mathematica
Languages: English (fluent), Korean (native)

References

Sudipta Sarangi *(Co-chair)*
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Hector Tzavellas *(Co-chair)*
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Matthew Kovach
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Eric Bahel
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