



Education	University of California San Diego – Ph.D. Economics, 2021-2027 (expected) Committee: Emanuel Vespa (co-chair), Isabel Treviño (co-chair), Marta Serra-Garcia, Denish Shishkin Central European University, Austria – M.A. Economics, <i>summa cum laude</i> , 2021 Nazarbayev University, Kazakhstan – B.A. Economics, <i>magna cum laude</i> , 2019
Research Fields	Primary: Experimental Economics, Behavioral Economics Secondary: Microeconomic Theory, Development Economics
Working Papers	“Mental Models, Social Learning and Statistical Discrimination: A Laboratory Study” Behavioral biases in decision-making are widespread and often persist even in the presence of feedback that is diagnostic of optimal behavior. Using a laboratory experiment, I examine whether exposure to others’ decisions can correct initial misconceptions and facilitate learning in a worker hiring task where deviations from the theoretical benchmark arise from neglecting an informative signal. I show that exposure to optimal behavior substantially improves decision quality, while exposure to suboptimal choices has a weak negative effect. The analysis reveals substantial heterogeneity in learning beyond exposure: roughly one-third of subjects mechanically replicate observed choices and revert to suboptimal behavior once exposure ends, another third maintain improved performance only when the task environment remains unchanged, and the remaining third exhibit deeper learning that transfers to a related task with altered primitives. These findings highlight the dual role of social learning: while it can enhance decision-making, it can also generate imitation that fails to generalize beyond the observed context.
Published Papers	“Beliefs, Information Sharing, and Mental Health Care Use Among University Students” (Alisher Batmanov, Idaliya Grigoryeva, Bruno Calderón, Roberto González and Alejandro Guardiola) <i>Journal of Development Economics (forthcoming)</i> This paper investigates the role of beliefs and stigma in shaping students’ use of professional mental health services at a large private university in Mexico, where supply-side barriers are minimal and services are readily accessible. In a survey experiment with 680 students, we find that nearly 50% of students in distress do not receive professional mental health support despite a high level of awareness and perceived effectiveness, constituting a substantial treatment gap. We document stigmatized beliefs and misconceptions correlated with the treatment gap. As three-quarters of students incorrectly believe that those in distress perform worse academically and that the majority of students going to therapy are in severe distress, we implement an information intervention to correct these beliefs. We find that it increases students’ sharing of on-campus mental health resources with peers and encourages them to recommend these resources when advising a friend in distress. Interestingly, we find that it lowers respondents’ willingness to pay for private therapy at the end of the intervention. Yet, this effect does not translate into a long-run reduction in self-reported therapy use six months after the experiment, with prior therapy users showing increased off-campus take-up.
Work in Progress	“Learning to Ignore Irrelevant Contingencies: An Experiment” (Alisher Batmanov, Jeongbin Kim and Emanuel Vespa) “Experiment on Narratives and Information in Persuasion” (Alisher Batmanov and Bridget Galaty) “Descriptive Simplicity in Strategyproof Matching Mechanisms”
Other Published Papers	“Mass Reproducibility and Replicability: A New Hope” (meta paper with Abel Brodeur, Derek Mikola, Nikolai Cook, et al.), <i>Nature (forthcoming)</i>

Relevant Positions	Experimental laboratory manager at UCSD Economics Laboratory (<i>EconLab</i>), 2025-Present UCSD Undergraduate-Graduate Economic Research Lab Mentor, 2023-Present Research Assistant for Prof. Kaufmann, Central European University, 2020
Teaching at UC San Diego	Intermediate Econometrics (Econ-120B), course instructor, Fall 2025 Intermediate Microeconomics (Econ-100A), course instructor, Summer 2025 Intermediate Econometrics (Econ-120B), course instructor, Summer 2024 Experiments in Firms, TA for Prof. Sadoff, Prof. Samek and Prof. Fragiadakis, 2024-2025 Microeconomics Principles, TA for Prof. Famulari, 2024 Intermediate Microeconomics, TA for Prof. Grigoryan, 2024 Game Theory, TA for Prof. Watson and Prof. Shishkin, 2023-2024 Behavioral Economics, TA for Prof. Treviño, 2023 Econometrics (Econ-220B, PhD level), TA for Prof. Ma, 2023
Conference Presentations	Southwest Economic Theory Conference (SWET), <i>Loyola Marymount University</i> , 2026* Behavioral Economics Annual Meeting (BEAM), <i>UC Berkeley</i> , 2025 (participant) Economic Science Association (ESA) North American Meeting, <i>Tucson AZ</i> , 2025 Los Angeles Experiments (LAX) Conference, <i>UC Los Angeles</i> , 2025 (participant) Behavioral & Experimental Economics Student Conference, <i>UC Santa Barbara</i> , 2025 Advances with Field Experiments (AFE) Conference, <i>University of Chicago</i> , 2025 American Economic Association CSQIEP Mentoring Conference, <i>Chicago</i> , 2025 Economic Science Association (ESA) North American Meeting, <i>Columbus OH</i> , 2024 Behavioral & Experimental Economics Student Conference, <i>Caltech</i> , 2023-2024 Los Angeles Experiments (LAX) Conference, <i>Caltech</i> , 2024 (* for scheduled)
Schools & Workshops	Rady Spring School in Behavioral Economics, <i>UC San Diego</i> , 2026 Chicago School in Experimental Economics (CSEE), <i>University of Chicago</i> , 2025 Learning, Computational and Bayesian Methods in Experimental Economics, <i>Purdue</i> , 2024 CTESS Summer Institute in Theory-Based Experiments, <i>Caltech</i> , 2023
Research Grants	The Weiss Fund for Research in Development Economics, 2023-2024 UC-Mexico Alianza Short-Term Research Stay in Mexico, 2024 Institute for Humane Studies - Conference Accelerator Grant, 2024 Foundation of Budapest Research Grant, Central European University, 2021
Fellowships & Awards	Diversity Research Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2024 Regents and Summer Research Fellowship, UC San Diego, 2021-2022 Peter Hangartner Prize and Fellowship, Central European University, 2021 Outstanding Student in Economics Award, Nazarbayev University, 2019
Refereeing	<i>Games and Economic Behavior</i> , <i>Journal of Development Economics</i>
Languages	Kazakh (native), English (fluent), Russian (fluent)
Software skills	Python, Stata, Matlab, Julia, oTree, JavaScript