

Matthias Lang

Presentation Title

Mechanism Design with Narratives

Abstract

Individuals use narratives as rationales or justifications to make their claims more convincing. I provide a general framework for partial verifiability based on narratives in which the revelation principle holds. Narratives give many reasons and arguments. The receiver derives the message's meaning by aggregating these reasons; she knows for few reasons whether they support the sender's claims. Therefore, the receiver detects misreports with positive probability. Considering mechanism design as an example, I prove that narratives are powerful enough to implement efficient trade in the canonical setting of bilateral trade. Narratives are flexible and allow for different degrees of partial verifiability.

Keywords

Narrative; Communication; Partial Verifiability; Mechanism Design; Bilateral Trade

Affiliation

LMU Munich