

Department of Economics – Neuroeconomics Seminar

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Shifting Computational Psychiatry from Lab to Life

Computational psychiatry research typically takes a cross-sectional, correlational approach. This is because longitudinal, and treatment-oriented studies are much more challenging to conduct, especially at the scale that is needed to estimate what are likely to be small effects. In this talk, I will describe emergent methods to remedy this and study variation in cognition and symptoms over time and through treatment. I'll discuss novel approaches to studying symptom dynamics as well as recent efforts to gamify and optimise mainstay tasks in computational psychiatry that capture individual differences in model-based planning and metacognition. Finally, I will describe how we might take this approach further, interrogating the validity and reliability of a passively-generated and ubiquitous measure of cognition - the digital questionnaire response time (DQRT) showing its the benefits, clinical correlates as well as some important caveats to this approach.