Hartmut Esser

#### Rational Choice oder Framing?

RCT und MFS als Ansätze zur Erklärung der Befunde aus den Experimenten zu "Cooperation and Punishment in the Contribution to Public Goods" von Ernst Fehr und Simon Gächter (1999)

University of Mannheim Fakulty for Social Sciences Mannheim Centre for European Social Konferenz "Analytische Soziologie: Theorie und Empirische Anwendungen" Venice International University, San Servolo 20 -23 11 2017

### ... a dèjá vu!

#### Fehr and Gintis 2007 (in: Annual Review of SOCIOLOGY)



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## Framing and Priming

## Framing



## Priming



The full (and true) story by Fehr&Gächter 1999 1. Version: No Punishment first



### 2. Version: With Punishment first







Summary

Findings	Explanation RCT	Explanation MFS
1. ca. 50% contribution at start		
2. steady decay of conribution		
3. strong jump up after announcement P		
4. steady rise up to ca. 100%		
5. general pattern for sequences similar		
6. smaller decrease than increase		

### RCT and MFS

Aspects	RCT	MI	FS
Mechanism			
formal axioms			
empirical interpretation			
Opportunities			
Beliefs (p)			
Preferences (U)			
Emotions			
Symbols/cues			
Effect on:			
Utility-function			
Type of Rationality			
Unconditionality			
social situation			
Processes			
Changes: short-term			
long-term			

Aspects	RCT	MI	FS
		as-Modus (PBB)	rc-Modus (RCT*)
Mechanism	Choice	Categorization	
	p*U	$M = f(O^*A^*L^*C)$	
	future	past	
formal axioms	necessary	desirable	
empirical interpretation	by axioms	by measurement	
Opportunities	yes	yes	
Beliefs (p)	yes	yes	
Preferences (U)	yes	yes	
Emotions	(no)	ves	
Symbols/cues	"cheap talk"	"Definition"	
Effect on:	beliefs	beliefs&preferences	
Utility-function	one for all	situation-dependent	
Type of Rationality	fixed	variable	
Unconditionality	no	yes	
social situation	strategic interaction	symbolic interaction	
Processes	Sequences	Sequences	
Changes: short-term	(Bayesian) Learning	Priming/Re-Framing	
long-term	Internalisation	Internalisation	

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formal axioms	necessary	desirable	
empirical interpretation	by axioms	by measureme	Accessibility
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Unconditionality	no	yes	
social situation	strategic interaction	symbolic interaction	
Processes	Sequences	Sequences	
Changes: short-term	Updating beliefs	Activation frames	
long-term	Internalisation	Internalisation	

Theoretical reconstruction

... remember



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2. steady decay of conribution		
3. strong jump up after announcement P		
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5. general pattern for sequences similar		
6. smaller decrease than increase		

Explanations

Finding	Explanation RCT	Explanation MFS
1. ca. 50% contribution at start	EP- and <b>A</b> P-Types	situation not defined and EF-/AF- Types
2. steady decay of conribution	conditional cooperation: updating beliefs (only)	Mis-Match of <b>A</b> -Frame for AF- Types
3. strong jump up after announcement PUN	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Activation of <b>R</b> -Frame with announcement oft WiP-Option
4. steady rise up to ca. 100%	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Increase of match for <b>R</b> -Frame
5. general pattern for sequences similar	same (RCT-)effects in both versions	strong match of <b>R</b> -Frame in both cases
6. smaller decrease than increase		





Finding	Explanation RCT	Explanation MFS
1. ca. 50% contribution at start	EP- and AP-Types	situation not defined and EF-/AF- Types
2. steady decay of conribution	conditional cooperation: updating beliefs (only)	Mis-Match of <b>A</b> -Frame for <b>A</b> F- Types
3. strong jump up after announcement PUN	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Activation of <b>R</b> -Frame with announcement oft WiP-Option
4. steady rise up to ca. 100%	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Increase of match for <b>R</b> -Frame
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Finding	Explanation RCT	Explanation MFS
1. ca. 50% contribution at start	EP- and AP-Types	situation not defined and EF-/AF- Types
2. steady decay of conribution	conditional cooperation: updating beliefs (only)	Mis-Match of A-Frame for AF- Types
3. strong jump up after announcement PUN	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Activation of <b>R</b> -Frame with announcement oft WiP-Option
4. steady rise up to ca. 100%	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Increase of match for <b>R</b> -Frame
5. general pattern for sequences similar	same (RCT-)effects in both versions	strong match of <b>R</b> -Frame in both cases
6. smaller decrease than increase	<b>no</b> explanation	<b>Priming</b> of <b>R</b> -Frame with <b>sequence</b> of cooperation <b>before</b>

Finding	Explanation RCT	Explanation MFS
1. ca. 50% contribution at start	EP- and AP-Types	situation not defined and EF-/AF- Types
2. steady decay of conribution	conditional cooperation: updating beliefs (only)	Mis-Match of <b>A</b> -Frame for <b>A</b> F- Types
3. strong jump up after announcement PUN	common knowledge of <b>P</b> with WiP-Option	Activation of <b>R</b> -Frame with announcement oft WiP-Option
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5. general pattern for sequences similar	same (RCT-)effects in both versions	strong match of <b>R</b> -Frame in both cases
6. smaller decrease than increase	?	!

A (separate) Test

... remember



Hypotheses RCT and MFS for changes WiP to NoP for E- and R-Types



Measurement of Types: Contribution in **first** round! Findings





the complete picture



... and also:

Zürich&St.Gallen pooled (Fehr&Gächter 1999 plus Hermann, Thöny and Gächter 2008)



# Why important?

## ... last point:

A **really** ,,General" Theory of (Inter-)Action!

### Integrated AS!

Appendix 1:

F&G and Variants of RCT

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit				
			RCT		MFS	
	Finding	RCT 1.0 (E only)				
1	ca. 50% contribution at start					
2	steady decay of contribution					
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)					
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%					
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)					
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)					

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit			
			RCT	MFS	
	Finding	RCT 1.0 (E only)			
1	ca. 50% contribution at start	refuted			
2	steady decay of contribution	refuted			
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)	refuted			
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%	refuted			
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)	refuted			
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)	refuted			

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit				
			RCT		MI	FS
		RCT 1.0	RCT 2.0			
	Finding	(E only)	(E and A)			
1	ca. 50% contribution at start	refuted	1			
2	steady decay of contribution	refuted	2			
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)	refuted	refuted			
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%	refuted	refuted			
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)	refuted	5			
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)	refuted	refuted			

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit				
			RCT		MFS	
	Finding	RCT 1.0	RCT 2.0	RCT 3.0		
	Finding	(E only)	(E and A)	(E and K)		
1	ca. 50% contribution at start	refuted	1	1		
2	steady decay of contribution	refuted	2	2		
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)	refuted	refuted	3		
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%	refuted	refuted	4		
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)	refuted	5	5		
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)	refuted	refuted	refuted		

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit				
			RCT		MFS	
	Finding	RCT 1.0 (E only)	RCT 2.0 (E and A)	RCT 3.0 (E and R)	as-Modus (PPB)	
1	ca. 50% contribution at start	refuted	1	1	1	
2	steady decay of contribution	refuted	2	2	2	
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)	refuted	refuted	3	3	
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%	refuted	refuted	4	4	
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)	refuted	5	5	5	
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)	refuted	refuted	refuted	6	

		theoretical predictions and empirical fit				
			RCT		MFS	
		RCT 1.0	RCT 2.0	RCT 3.0	as-Modus	rc-Modus
	Finding	(E only)	(E and A)	(E and R)	(PPB)	(RCT*)
1	ca. 50% contribution at start	refuted	1	1	1	(1)
2	steady decay of contribution	refuted	2	2	2	(2)
3	strong jump up for WiP (2)	refuted	refuted	3	3	(3)
4	steady rise up to ca. 100%	refuted	refuted	4	4	(4)
5	similar for WiP(1) and WiP(2)	refuted	5	5	5	(5)
6	small(er) decrease for NoP(2)	refuted	refuted	refuted	6	(6)

Appendix 2:

St. Gallen and Zürich







Appendix 3:

EF- vs. AF-Types Zürich&St.Gallen pooled

