Pavel Kocourek

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Research Interests

Game Theory · Dynamic Games · Information Economics · Industrial Organization · Decision-Making Under Uncertainty · Bounded Rationality · Information Processing · AI Safety and Governance

Academic Employment

2023–2026	Postdoctoral Fellow at University of Duisburg–Essen. Project: Eugen Kovac's DFG funded *"Timing Games: Theory and Applications."*
2019–2022	Postdoctoral Fellow at CERGE–EI. Project: Jakub Steiner's ERC funded *"Behavioral Implications of Information Processing."*

Education

2011–2019	Ph.D. in Economics, New York University. Supervisor: Ennio Stacchetti. Thesis Title: *Revealing Private Information in a Patent Race.*
2010–2011	M.A. in Macroeconomic Policy and Financial Markets, Barcelona GSE.
2008–2010	M.Sc. in Financial Optimization, National Sun Yat-sen University (Courses on Convex Programming; Nonlinear Optimization; Stochastic Processes).
2005–2008	B.A. in Applied Mathematics, University of West Bohemia.

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships

2020, 2022	Teaching Fellowship, CERGE–EI Foundation.
2011–2016	MacCracken Scholarship, NYU.
2010–2011	La Caixa Scholarship, Barcelona GSE.
2008–2010	Taiwan Government Scholarship, NSYSU.
2005	Silver Medal, 46th IMO (International Mathematical Olympiad, details).
2003	Bronze Medal, 44th IMO.

Continuing Education

AI Safety Fellowships

2026	Supervised Program for Alignment Research (SPAR), Race Dynamics Group, mentored by Katja Grace (AI Impacts). 3-month fellowship; formal modeling of competitive dynamics in AI development and incentives for safety investment.

AI Safety Coursework

2026	Technical AI Safety Course (details), *BlueDot Impact*. 6–week program; certificate.
2025	AGI Strategy Course (details), *BlueDot Impact*. 5–week program; certificate.
2025	AI Safety, Ethics, and Society Course (AISES), *Center for AI Safety* (CAIS). 12–week program; certificate.

Other

2025	Summer School on Socioeconomic Opportunity and Inequality (details), Stone Center & YES. 24 hours; directors: Steven Durlauf, Ruben Enikolopov; certificate.
2020	Teaching Principles and Practices for Economics Course, Teaching Fellows. 30 hours; certificate.

Publications in Economics

Risk Perception
with Nick Netzer, Arthur Robson, and Jakub Steiner
Journal of the European Economic Association 23(4), 1309–1349, 2025. [DOI] [paper]

Boundedly Rational Demand
with Jakub Steiner and Colin Stewart
Theoretical Economics 19(4), 1415–1442, 2024. [DOI] [paper]

Publications in Mathematics

Fixed point theorems and ergodic theorems for nonlinear mappings in Banach spaces
with Wataru Takahashi and Jen-Chih Yao
Advances in Mathematical Economics 14, 67–87, 2011. [DOI] [paper]

Weak and strong convergence theorems for generalized hybrid nonself-mappings in Hilbert spaces
with Wataru Takahashi and Jen-Chih Yao
J. Nonlinear Convex Analysis 12(3), 453–470, 2011. [paper]

Fixed point theorems and weak convergence theorems for generalized hybrid mappings in Hilbert spaces
with Wataru Takahashi and Jen-Chih Yao
Taiwanese Journal of Mathematics 14(6), 2497–2511, 2010. [DOI] [paper]

An elementary new proof of the determination of a convex function by its subdifferential
Optimization 59(8), 1231–1233, 2010. [DOI] [paper]

Working Papers

Revealing Private Information in a Patent Race
with Eugen Kovac
[paper]

Work in Progress

Secrecy vs. Patenting in Innovation Races
with Eugen Kovac

Frontier AI Lab Competition and Model Release Decisions

Mentored Projects (SAIGE)

Convergence or Divergence? The Future of Frontier AI Capabilities and Implications for Catastrophic Risk

Economic Decision-Making Under Deep Uncertainty About AI's Trajectory
co-mentored with Wim Howson Creutzberg

Teaching Experience

2026   Facilitator, AI Safety Fundamentals (Atlas Curriculum), AI Safety Collab.
       Led weekly discussion groups on AI capabilities, risks, strategies, and governance.

2025   M.A. Preparatory Microeconomics, American University of Armenia (AUA).
       B.A. Intermediate Microeconomics, AUA.

2024   Ph.D. Preparatory Math, University of Duisburg–Essen.
       M.A. Advanced Industrial Organization, University of Duisburg–Essen.

2022	Ph.D. Preparatory Mathematics, Center for Economic Research and Graduate Education – Economics Institute (CERGE–EI).
	B.A. Applied Economics and Decision Under Uncertainty, School of Advanced Studies (SAS), University of Tyumen (UTMN).
2020	B.A. Microeconomics and Game Theory, SAS, UTMN.
2020–2021	Ph.D. Preparatory Microeconomics, CERGE–EI.
2015, 2017	Teaching Assistant for Ph.D. Math for Economists, Graduate School of Arts and Science (GSAS), New York University (NYU).
2013–2018	Teaching Assistant for B.A. courses in Microeconomics and Econometrics, GSAS, NYU and Stern School of Business, NYU.

Technical Skills

Programming: Python, MATLAB; Formal methods: Lean 4; Agent-assisted editing: Cursor.

Languages

English (fluent), Czech (native), Spanish (advanced), German (beginner), Dutch (beginner).

Refereeing

Ad hoc referee: Review of Economic Studies; American Economic Review; Demonstratio Mathematica; Numerical Functional Analysis and Optimization.

Conference and Workshop Presentations

2025	Armenian Economic Association XV Annual Meetings; YES Summer School; 52nd Annual Conference of EARIE (Valencia).
2024	GAMES 2024 (Beijing); EEA 2024 (Rotterdam); Workshop on Timing Games (Bielefeld).
2023	Oligo Workshop 2023 (Padova); 13th Conference on Economic Design (Girona); 18th European Meeting on Game Theory (Messina).
2022	Young Economists' Meeting (Brno); Seminar presentation at University of Duisburg–Essen.
2020	EEA 2020 (Virtual); GAMES 2020 (Budapest).