

Pavel Kocourek

Mercator School of Management, University of Duisburg–Essen
pavel.kocourek@uni-due.de · pkocourek.com · ORCID · Google Scholar

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 Analysis; Nonlinear Analysis; Financial Mathematics).
- 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: Measurement and Aggregation

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

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).