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Political economics in the laboratory

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tinbergen *institute**Political Economics in the Laboratory*

Marcelo Tyszler

Voting is likely the tool most strongly associated with the idea of democratic decisions, be it at national or local elections, decisions within a parliament, committees, juries or even at company boards. In turn, the outcomes of voting processes potentially affect a large constituency. Therefore, understanding voter behavior is of major interest in a variety of fields. In this thesis I approach voter behavior from the perspective of Political Economics. More generally, I address various aspects of individual behavior in the common arena. Specifically, this thesis investigates the impact of information on the extent of strategic voting, explores the motives behind economic voting and applies a similar toolbox to understand contributions to the public good in a non-trivial scenario. This is done using a combination of theoretical (behavioral modeling) and experimental analysis.

Marcelo Tyszler studied Business and Public Administration at the University of São Paulo, Brazil and obtained a Master degree in Public Administration and Government at the Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Brazil. In 2006 he moved to the Netherlands and after graduating in Tinbergen Institute's MPhil programme in 2008 continued his Doctoral studies at the Center for Experimental Economics and Political Decision Making (CREED) of the University of Amsterdam. His research interests include Political Economics, Public Policy and Economic Development, Non-Profit Organizations, Experimental and Behavioral Economics and Bounded Rationality. Currently, Marcelo is a Lecturer at the University of Maastricht.