

Experimental Economics Research by Louis Putterman

Putterman has been designing, carrying out, and analyzing experiments at Brown since 1999, with funding from a Salomon Research Grant, the MacArthur Foundation Preferences and Norms Network, the National Science Foundation, and the Alex C. Walker Foundation.

Together with Toby Page, Putterman designed a series of experiments using the Voluntary Contributions Mechanism or Public Goods Game protocol. This has led to a large number of published papers and papers in process, some with recent Brown Ph.D. students Olivier Bochet, Bulent Unel, Matthias Cinyabuguma, Arhan Ertan, and Umut Ones. For more on this set of projects, see [Page and Putterman on Cooperation](#).

Putterman has done experimental research with Professor Avner Ben-Ner of the Industrial Relations Center at the Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota. Having first worked on dictator games experiments and a reciprocity study, they are currently completing a series of experiments on the determinants of trusting and trustworthiness which were funded by the Russell Sage Foundation. For information and links to their papers, see [Ben-Ner and Putterman](#).

Another series of experiments conducted by Putterman at Brown studies [preferences on the distribution and redistribution of income](#). It was funded by the Alex C. Walker Foundation and the Steven Rattner and P. Maureen White Foundation.

Recently, he has undertaken joint projects with other researchers, including a study of choice of institutions to govern cooperation with Jean-Robert Tyran of the University of Copenhagen, and a study of [willingness to pay for monitoring](#) in a team effort problem, with Stefan Grosse and Bettina Rockenbach of the University of Erfurt.

Putterman also conducts research on economic development, growth, and the economy of China. For his homepage, click [here](#).