

## Dynamical Systems Seminar

**Date.** September 21, 14h30

**Place.** Room M031

**Speaker.** Abdelrahim Mousa<sup>1</sup> (LIAAD-INESC Porto LA & Mathematics Department, FCUP)

**Title.** Dynamics of Human Decisions

**Abstract.** We study a dichotomous decision model, where individuals can make the decision yes or no and can influence the decisions of others. We characterize all decisions that form Nash equilibria. Taking into account the way individuals influence the decisions of others, we construct the decision tilings where the axes reflect the personal preferences of the individuals for making the decision yes or no. These tilings characterize geometrically all the pure and mixed Nash equilibria. We show, in these tilings, that Nash equilibria form degenerated hystereses with respect to the replicator dynamics, with the property that the pure Nash equilibria are asymptotically stable and the strict mixed equilibria are unstable. These hystereses can help to explain the sudden appearance of social, political and economic crises. We observe the existence of limit cycles for the replicator dynamics associated to situations where the individuals keep changing their decisions along time, but exhibiting a periodic repetition in their decisions.

**Remark.** Coffee with the speaker is served after the talk (15h30 - 16h00)

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<sup>1</sup>Ph.D. Student of *Mathematics and Applications* at the Mathematics Department of the University of Porto, under the supervision of Prof. Alberto Pinto.