

# Peter A. Malaspina

222 Old Fayetteville Rd. Apt. D-201  
Carrboro, NC 27510  
Email: malaspin@email.unc.edu  
Phone: 919-357-2285  
URL: www.unc.edu/~malaspin

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Department of Economics  
107 Gardner Hall, CB#3305  
Chapel Hill, NC 27599  
\*United States Citizen

## Education

- Ph.D, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Spring 2010 (Expected)
- B.A., Mathematics and Economics, Vassar College, Spring 2003

## Research Focus

- Game Theory, Industrial Organization, Law and Economics, Intellectual Property, Contracts

## Research Papers

### **Predatory Delays in Patent Litigation**

- Job-Market Paper

**Abstract:** This paper explores theoretical motives for predatory patent holder behavior. We develop a signaling model where the timing of litigation against an initial act of infringement transmits information about a patent holder's private expectations of litigation awards. We find a tension between two reputation effects: deterrence and luring. Patent holders with sufficiently high award expectations will exhibit predatory behavior by delaying litigation to lure infringers. At the same time, other patent holders will litigate quickly to deter additional acts of infringement. We demonstrate that the predatory behavior in our model is not prohibited by current patent law.

### **Estimating the Welfare Gains from User Generated Content**

- Working paper with Dr. David Molin (Compass Lexecon)

**Abstract:** This paper examines the welfare implications of user generated content platforms such as YouTube, Print-on-Demand (POD), and Facebook. We extend the theoretical model in Molin (2009) to allow demand and price to depend on the author's choice of publishing technology, and identify a set of books sold on Amazon.com for which the author's revenue can be easily computed. We use this data to parameterize a model of author entry and then estimate the welfare gains of authors and consumers from Print-on-Demand technology. We then extend this analysis to other user generated content markets.

### **Sympathy and Steel: A Dual Approach to Battling Terrorist Organizations**

- Work in progress with Justin Contat (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

**Abstract:** This paper analyzes a dynamic struggle between a superpower, terrorist organization, and a host nation. The superpower's initial uncertainty about the terrorist's connection to a host nation will affect the superpower's approach to confronting terrorism. The superpower must allocate effort between direct military against the terrorist group and diplomacy with the host nation. Over time the superpower's optimal strategy will evolve as they update their beliefs about the strength of the terrorists' ties to the host nation. We find that when the superpower's initial information is unreliable, they are more likely to attack the terrorist group in early rounds.

## Teaching Experience

- Instructor, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- Classes taught, Summer 2006 to Present:
  - Public Policy Towards Business
  - Intermediate Microeconomic Theory
  - Applied Microeconomic Theory
  - Introduction to Economics
- **52%** of students indicated that I was one of the best teachers they ever had at UNC, worthy of a teaching award.

## Work Experience

- Research Intern to Dr. Derrick Neiderman, 2006-09
  - Found scholarly references for content for the book "*Number Freak*".
  - Provided feedback on content and graphics.
  - Play tested the game "*36 cube*".
- Research Assistant to Dr. Paul Rhode, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, 2004-05
  - Collected and organized data about North American slave productivity
  - Worked with historical documents found in the Carolina Special Collections.
- Summer Intern, Fundworks, Summer 2001
  - Assisted with the updating of "Investing From Scratch"
  - Summarized transcripts of interviews with fund managers

## Skills

- **Word Processing:** Microsoft Word, Scientific Word
- **Visual:** PowerPoint, Adobe, GIMP, INKSCAPE
- **Math and Statistics:** Excel, Maple, STATA
- **Programming:** C++, FORTRAN
- **Other:** Microsoft Access, Sound Forge, ACID

## Fellowships

- Department research and teaching fellowship, University of North Carolina, 2004 to 2009
- Wills fellowship, Vassar College, 2006

## References

### Dr. Peter Norman (Advisor)

Economics Department, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Email: normanp@email.unc.edu, Phone: 919-966-3250

### Dr. Gary Biglaiser

Economics Department, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill  
Email: gbiglais@email.unc.edu, Phone: 919-966-4884

### Dr. Tracy Lewis

Economics Department, Fuqua Business School, Duke University  
Email: tracyl@duke.edu, Phone: 919-660-7983