

# Theory, Identification, and Estimation for Scoring Auctions\*

Makoto HANAZONO<sup>†</sup>, Yohsuke HIROSE<sup>‡</sup>,  
Jun NAKABAYASHI<sup>§</sup> and Masanori TSURUOKA<sup>¶</sup>

August 7, 2020

## Abstract

This paper offers an analytical framework for scoring auctions. We first examine symmetric pure-monotone equilibria in the scoring auction. We then propose a method to semiparametrically identify the joint distribution of the bidder's multidimensional signal from scoring auction data. Our approach allows for a broad class of scoring rules in settings with multidimensional signals. Finally, using our analytical framework, we conduct an empirical experiment to estimate impacts of the change of auction formats and scoring rules. The data on scoring auctions are from public procurement auctions for construction projects in Japan.

---

\*We thank Masaki Aoyagi, Alina Arefeva, Christian Essling, Masahisa Fujita, Chiaki Hara, Fumio Hayashi, Atsushi Kajii, Ronald Harstad, Christian Hellwig, Tong Li, Chi-Hsiang Liu, Hiroshi Ohashi, Janne Tukiainen, and Christine Zulehner for helpful comments. This study has been supported by JSPS KAKENHI (Grant Number 24530195, 26590034, 15H03346, 17KK0067), 2013 Japan Construction Information Center Foundation (JACIC) Research Grant, and the Joint Usage/Research Center at ISER in Osaka University. All remaining errors are our own.

<sup>†</sup>School of Economics, Nagoya University, Chikusa, Nagoya 464-8601, Japan. Email: hanazono@soec.nagoya-u.ac.jp

<sup>‡</sup>Department of Economics, Meiji Gakuin University, 1-2-37 Shirokanedai Minato, Tokyo, 108-8636, Japan. E-mail: yhirose@eco.meijigakuin.ac.jp

<sup>§</sup>Faculty of Economics, Kindai University, Kowakae 3-4-1, Higashi-Osaka, 577-8502, Japan. E-mail: nakabayashi.1@eco.kindai.ac.jp

<sup>¶</sup>Department of Economics, Yokohama National University, 79-3 Tokiwadai, Hodogaya-ku, Yokohama, Kanagawa, 240-8501, Japan. E-mail: matrok0603@gmail.com