SPATIAL COOPERATION AMONG HUMANS: EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

ALBERTO ANTONIONI

ABSTRACT. A pressing issue in biology and social sciences is to explain how cooperation emerges in a population of self-interested individuals. Theoretical models suggest that one such explanation may involve the possibility of changing one's neighborhood by removing and creating connections to others, but this hypothesis has problems when random motion is considered and lacks experimental support. To address this, we have carried out experiments on grids with human subjects playing a Prisoner's Dilemma. Our results highlight the difficulties that mobile agents have to establish a cooperative environment in a spatial setting.

POSTDOCTORAL RESEARCH FELLOW, CARLOS III UNIVERSITY OF MADRID, SPAIN *E-mail address*: alberto.antonioni@gmail.com