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FIELDS

Empirical Macroeconomics, Applied Econometrics, Monetary Economics

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of Southern California, Expected May 2010
Advisor: Professor Roger Moon
M.A., Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, 2004
B.A., Economics, Bocconi University, Milan, 2003

PAPERS

‘Assessing the Importance of Learning Mechanism in the Post WWII US Economy’ (Job Market Paper)

‘Inference for VARs Identified Sign Restrictions’, with M. Lee, H. R. Moon and F. Schorfede.

‘A test for predictability of a small number of nested models’, with K. Hubrich and H. R. Moon.

‘Terms of Trade Shocks and Economic Recovery’, with N. Funke and P. Imam, IMF wp.08/36.

HONORS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Outstanding Teaching Award, USC, 2006
Best Second Year Empirical paper Award USC, 2006
International Summer Field Research Award, USC, 2008
College Graduate Merit Award Scholarship, USC, 2007
Graduate Teaching Assistantship, Department of Economics, USC, 2004-present
Bocconi University Fellowship for study abroad, 2003

EXPERIENCE

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Graduate classes: TA for Professor Hashem Pesaran, Economic and Financial Time Series II, Spring 2008, TA for Professor Dick Easterlin, Economic History and Development, Spring 2008, TA for Professor Michael Raith, Managerial Economics, M.B.A. Class Fall 2005

Undergraduate classes: Head TA Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2009, Spring 2007, TA Forecasting, Fall 2008, Principles of Macroeconomics, Spring 2005, Fall 2005 and Spring 2006, Principles of Microeconomics, Fall 2004

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Dissertation Intern, Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis, Saint Louis, May-Aug 2009
Consultant, European Central Bank, Econometric Modeling Division, Frankfurt, Jul-Sept 2007
Summer Intern, International Monetary Fund, Washington D.C., May-July 2007
Research Assistant, European Central Bank, Econometric Modeling Division, Aug-Dec 2006
Research Assistant, Sant’ Anna School of Advanced Studies, Fall 2003-Spring 2004

SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

- *'Priors from DSGE Models for VARS with Time Varying Coefficients'*:
Applied Econometrics Workshop, Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis, November 6th 2009
USC Econometrics Seminar, Los Angeles, October 29th 2009.
Seminar Series, Federal Reserve Bank of Saint Louis, August 10th 2009.
- *'A test for predictability of a small number of nested models'*:
Western Economic Association, Vancouver, June 29th-July 3rd 2009
USC Econometrics Seminar, Los Angeles, October 24th 2008
Midwest Econometric Group, Lawrence (Kansas), October 17-18th 2008
Forecasting in Rio, Rio de Janeiro, July 29-31st 2008.
- Forecasting and Monetary Policy, Berlin, 23rd-24th March 2009, discussant for 'Real Time Datasets Really Do Make a Difference: Definitional Change, Data Release, and Forecasting', V. Corradi, A. Fernandez, N. R. Swanson.

JOB MARKET PAPER ABSTRACT

“Assessing the Importance of Learning Mechanism in the Post WWII US Economy”

Abstract:

This paper evaluates the impact of the learning mechanism in the U.S postwar data using a vector autoregression with time varying coefficients. In the proposed model the coefficients are assumed to follow a stationary process in which deviations from the unconditional mean are interpreted as learning dynamics. This specification allows us to quantify the contribution of the learning dynamics to the variance of the variables in the vector autoregression.

We use the described methodology to estimate a trivariate time varying parameter Vector autoregression for inflation, GDP growth and federal funds rate. We find that the learning mechanism is non-negligible although its magnitude is sensitive to the choice of the prior.

REFERENCES:

Thesis Committee and References:

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