Laura Gáti

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Fields

Monetary Economics & Macroeconomics, with special interest in expectations

Education

PhD in Economics, Boston College, USA, Expected 2021.
Master in Economics, Boston College, USA, 2016.
Master in International and Monetary Economics, University of Berne, Switzerland, 2013.
Master in Art History and Curatorial Studies, University of Berne, Switzerland, 2014.
Bachelor in Economics, University of Berne, Switzerland, Major: Economics, Minor: Art History, 2011.

Working Papers

Monetary Policy & Anchored Expectations
- *Optimal Monetary Policy in an Endogenous Gain Learning Model* (Job Market Paper)

Do Long-Horizon Expectations Matter for New Keynesian Models?

Talking in Time - Dynamic Central Bank Communication

ICT-Specific Investment Shocks and Economic Fluctuations
- *Evidence and Theory of a General-Purpose Technology* (with Marco Brianti)

The feeling of the age: A quantitative analysis of the correlation between novelistic and economic sentiment (with Daniella Gáti)

Key Coursework

Advanced Marco: Computation, Estimation & Applications
Monetary Economics II
Time Series Econometrics
International Finance
Empirical Methods in Macro & Finance
Applied Macroeconomics
International Macroeconomics
Applied Econometrics

Research undertaken in AI:

At last year's NBER AI Workshop, I demonstrated the *thematic* side of my interest in AI: the concern for the growth implications of an expanding information and communication technology (ICT) sector. Thus my submission last year outlined the paper *ICT-Specific Investment Shocks and Economic Fluctuations*, which is a quantitative analysis of whether the ICT sector served as a general-purpose technology in the last three decades in the US. As discussed last year at the workshop, the paper first uses a structural VAR approach to document the hump-shaped dynamics of total factor productivity (TFP) following an ICT innovation, and then estimates spillovers from ICT to TFP in two-sector growth model via impulse-response matching.

This year, I would like to emphasize current work that reflects my *methodological* interest in AI. First, my job market paper, *Monetary Policy & Anchored Expectations*, models anchoring expectations by postulating an explicit forecasting behavior of firms and households. While the private sector is currently modeled as using simple recursive least squares schemes, I will do extensions with a more sophisticated private sector that forms forecasts using state-of-the-art machine learning techniques. I expect this to have normative implications because it may reintroduce a sense of optimality to expectation-formation that purely adaptive expectations lack. Thus it has the potential to change the nature of optimal monetary policy.

Lastly, my project *The feeling of the age* employs machine learning techniques in natural language processing to investigate whether literary production in the US is a good predictor of long-run economic fluctuations. We use word embedding and sentiment analysis on a corpus of award-winning novels in the US since 1950 to extract a time series of novelistic sentiment, which we confront with time series of US macro aggregates, both from the real economy as well as from the financial sector.