

(Last updated: June 27, 2024)

Naoki Yago

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Personal Information:

Citizenship: Japan and the United States
Date of Birth: May 26, 1994

Education:

2020-present	PhD Student in Economics, The University of Cambridge Supervisor: Vasco Carvalho
2020	MPhil in Economic Research, The University of Cambridge Supervisor: Charles Brendon (Pass with distinction)
2019	M.A. in Economics, The University of Tokyo Supervisor: Tomoyuki Nakajima
2017	B.A. in Economics, The University of Tokyo Supervisor: Yasuhiro Omori

Research Fields:

Macroeconomics, International Macro and Finance, Monetary Economics, and Macro-Finance

Working Papers:

Monetary and Exchange Rate Policies in a Global Economy

This paper characterizes an optimal targeting rule for foreign exchange intervention (FXI) in a general two-country New Keynesian model with currency market segmentation. On the one hand, optimal FXI improves consumption risk-sharing and eliminates the uncovered interest rate parity. On the other hand, it deviates from risk-sharing and leans against exchange rate depreciation and inflation particularly driven by Fed interest hikes. Intervention against the Fed alleviates local monetary tightening pressure, allowing countries to insulate themselves from US monetary spillover and improve monetary independence. The result breaks down the conventional open-economy dichotomy that monetary policy and FXI should separately address inflation-output and risk-sharing.

Intervening against the Fed (submitted)

Joint with Alexander Rodnyansky (Cambridge) and Yannick Timmer (FRB)
Cambridge Working Paper in Economics, No. 2357

By identifying unexpected foreign exchange intervention (FXI) through deviations from estimated FXI rules, we study the interaction between US monetary policy surprises and FXI for exchange rates and stock prices across firms. We find that, without intervention, an unexpected Fed funds rate hike depreciates local currencies and decreases the stock price of firms, especially those whose debt is disproportionately denominated in US Dollars, consistent with the Global Financial Cycle literature. However, if central banks counteract by selling the US Dollar, the US monetary shock has a limited effect on the exchange rate and stock prices even for firms with US Dollar debt. These results suggest that FXI is a successful tool in muting the impact of the Global Financial Cycle.

Financial Market Globalization and Asset Price Bubbles

Cambridge Working Paper in Economics, No. 2167

We construct a two-country model of rational bubbles with asymmetric degrees of financial development. We show that whether financial globalization gives rise to bubbles crucially depends on the levels of financial development in the two countries. In economies with either developed or underdeveloped financial market relative to the foreign one, bubbles cannot arise under financial autarky but they can arise under financial globalization. Moreover, unlike previous literature, bubbles in sufficiently well-developed financial markets lead to welfare losses in other countries.

Work in Progress:

FX Intervention, CIP and UIP Deviations

Joint with Mai Chi Dao, Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas, and Rui Mano (IMF)

Featured in the keynote speech by Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas at the International Macroeconomics and Finance Programme Annual Meeting 2023

Professional Experience:

2023 International Monetary Fund, PhD Fund Internship Program

Teaching Assistantship:

2022-23 Teaching Assistant, Advanced Macroeconomics I (MPhil + PhD coursework),
Instructor: Florin Bilbiie, The University of Cambridge
Latest teaching evaluation: 4.6/5.0

2018 Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomics I (Undergraduate),
Instructor: Tsutomu Watanabe, The University of Tokyo

2018 Teaching Assistant, Macroeconomics II (Undergraduate),
Instructor: Tomoyuki Nakajima, The University of Tokyo

2018 Instructor, Math Camp for Graduate Students, The University of Tokyo

Research Assistantship:

2018 Research Assistant, “Cyclical Part-time Employment in an Estimated new Keynesian Model with Search Frictions,” by Toshihiko Mukoyama, Mototsugu Shintani, and Kazuhiro Teramoto

2017 Research Assistant, “Disequilibrium Dynamics of the Monetary Economy: A Micro-Founded Synthesis of the Wicksellian Theory of Cumulative Process and the Keynesian Theory of Effective Demand,” by Katsuhito Iwai

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2022- PhD award for Keynes Fund, The University of Cambridge

2021 Honourable mention for the best student paper award in finance, The University of Cambridge

2021-23 CERF PhD Studentship, The University of Cambridge

2020 St Edmund’s College Prize, St Edmund’s College

2019- The Nakajima Foundation Overseas Scholarship, The Nakajima Foundation

2019 Grant-in-Aid for Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (No. 19J21111),
Japan Society for the Promotion of Science

2019 Research Fellowship for Young Scientists (DC1), Japan Society for the
Promotion of Science

Seminar and Conference Presentations:

* Presentation by co-author. † Poster session. Includes scheduled conference.

2024 AEA Annual Meeting, San Antonio†; 2nd ERS-CEPR Workshop on Macroeconomic Policy in Emerging Markets*; 5th Emerging Market Macroeconomics Workshop, University of Poitiers; Joint BIS, BoE, ECB and IMF Spillover Conference; North American Meeting of Econometric Society, Vanderbilt University; EEA Annual Congress, Erasmus School of Economics; MMF PhD Conference, University of Surrey; MMF Annual Conference, University of Manchester; Doctoral Workshop on Quantitative Dynamic Economics, Aix-Marseille School of Economics; Workshop for Young Macroeconomists,

- Hitotsubashi University; Global Currencies Conference, Banque de France; University of Cape Town*; University of Cambridge PhD Macro Workshop and JBS Lunch Seminar
- 2023 AEA Annual Meeting, New Orleans†; New York Fed 2nd Annual International Roles of the U.S. Dollar Conference; 9th BdF-BoE-BdI International Macroeconomics Workshop; EEA Annual Congress, Barcelona School of Economics; Econometric Society Asian Meeting, Tsinghua University (online); MMF Annual Conference, University of Portsmouth; Workshop on Empirical Macroeconomics, Ghent University†; SED Annual Meeting, Cartagena*; 1st Annual Conference of the Banco Central do Brazil*; IMIM Seminar; IMF; Federal Reserve Board; University of Cambridge JBS Lunch Seminar and CERF Cavalcade
- 2022 Workshop on Empirical Macroeconomics, Ghent University (online)†
- 2020 EEA Annual Congress, Rotterdam (online); Econometric Society World Congress, Bocconi University (online)
- 2019 Econometric Society Australasia Meeting, Perth; Japanese Economic Association Spring Meeting, Musashi University†; University of Tokyo Macroeconomics Workshop

Languages:

English (fluent), Japanese (native)

Skills:

MATLAB, Dynare, Python, Stata, Eviews

Extracurricular Activities:

- 2019- St Edmund's College Music Society, recipient of Instrumental Award
- 2013-19 The University of Tokyo Piano Society
- 2013-14 The University of Tokyo English Speaking Society, Debate Section
Awarded five times, including:
1st team prize, Meiji Freshman Debate Tournament 2013
3rd team prize, Japan National Debate Tournament 2014

Naoki Yago

References:

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