

## **TRAN HOANG PHUONG LINH**

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Department of Economics

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### **PLACEMENT DIRECTORS**

Prof. Rui Castro [rui.castro@mcgill.ca](mailto:rui.castro@mcgill.ca) (514) 398-1226

Prof. John W Galbraith [john.galbraith@mcgill.ca](mailto:john.galbraith@mcgill.ca) (514) 398-5167

### **EDUCATION**

Ph.D. Economics, McGill University, Canada, expected May 2026

B.A. (Honours) Economics and Econometrics, University of Queensland, Australia, 2019

### **FIELDS OF SPECIALIZATION**

Primary: Applied Econometrics

Secondary: Central Banks and Their Policies, Computational Techniques

### **DISSERTATION**

*Essays on Central Bank Communications with Textual Analysis.*

Committee: Prof. John W Galbraith, Prof. Francisco Ruge-Murcia.

### **JOB MARKET PAPER**

“Central Bank Communication in Time of Crisis: Different Aspects of Linguistic Complexity”

Central banks' communication strategies can change to fit the need to be clearer or to retain more flexibility. For example, they may wish to stimulate the economy with a clear indication that interest rates will be kept low for an extended period. At the same time, this can restrict their freedom to make future decisions appropriately, to deal with the unexpected. In this context, textual complexity can reflect an intentional effort to avoid overly rigid commitments, allowing central banks to maintain flexibility while still communicating policy direction. These trade-offs can vary according to economic conditions, especially during crisis versus normal times. This paper utilizes natural language tools to examine the textual complexity of policy statements from various central banks to derive not only conventional measurements of textual properties such as readability, but also other features, including abstractness, informativeness, and disunity. We find patterns showing that complexity intensifies during extremely low-growth periods or when economic stimulus is needed. Furthermore, the results reveal significant geographic variation, with differences driven more by regional context than by language. There is also evidence that statements targeting households and firms are far from negligible, underscoring the importance of communicating effectively with the general public. By mapping these patterns, the study provides a deeper understanding of how central banks adapt their communication strategy in times of crisis, contributing to the broader investigation of central bank communication and credibility.

### **OTHER RESEARCH PAPERS**

“Deliberation and Policy Outcomes: Evidence from the FOMC,” with Francisco Ruge-Murcia and Alessandro Riboni, work in progress

“Regulation Complexity Measurements: Methods and Patterns across Time and Industry”, work in progress

“Applied Causal Inference using Identification Robust Confidence Sets Under Sparsity”, 2019, Honours Thesis, School of Economics, The University of Queensland

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Teaching Assistant, Econometrics (graduate), McGill University, Fall 2021– Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant, Quantitative Methods (graduate), McGill University, Fall 2021, Fall 2022 and Fall 2023

Teaching Assistant, Applied Cross-Sectional Methods (graduate), McGill University, Winter 2024

Teaching Assistant, Economic Statistics (undergraduate), McGill University, Fall 2024 – Winter 2025

Teaching Assistant, Introduction to Econometrics (undergraduate), University of Queensland, 2018–2019

## RESEARCH AND WORK EXPERIENCE

ML Reproducibility Challenge, Prof. Siamak Ravanbakhsh, Fall 2021

Research Assistant, Prof. Renuka Mahadeva, University of Queensland, Jul-Oct 2018

Research Assistant, Working as a Casual SRN (Student Relations Network) Crew member, Sept-Nov 2018

CIREQ Lunch Seminar presenter, 2023-2025.

Online competition, Black Friday sales prediction, Big Mart sale prediction, HR analytics, Feedback Prize - English Language Learning (Evaluating language knowledge of ELL students from grades 8-12)

## GRANTS AND AWARDS

Graduate Funding, McGill University Department of Economics

FitzGerald scholarship for Bachelor of Economics (Honour), 2019

Vietnam Undergraduate Scholarship at The School of Economics - The University of Queensland.

## CONFERENCE AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

2023-2025: CIREQ Lunch Seminar presenter, 2026: CIREQ Weekly PhD Student Research Workshop (scheduled).

## LANGUAGES

English (fluent), Vietnamese (native), French (beginner)

## COMPUTATIONAL SKILLS

Python (highly proficient), MATLAB, Stata (Proficient), R, EViews, HTML, C++

## REFERENCES

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