DAKE LI

dakel@princeton.edu | https://dakeli.weebly.com | +1 (609) 937 2990

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY – DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

Placement Officer : Gianluca Violante violante@princeton.edu +1 (609) 258 4003

Office Contact Information
Julis Romo Rabinowitz Building
Princeton University
Princeton, NJ 08544

Home Contact Information
465 Meadow Rd
Apt 11302
Princeton, NJ 08540

Personal Information:
Gender: Male Citizenship: China, People's Republic

Undergraduate Studies:
BA in Economics, Peking University, 2012 - 2016

Graduate Studies:
Princeton University, 2016 - present
Ph.D. Candidate in Economics
Dissertation Title: *"Essays on Estimating Impulse Responses in Macroeconometrics*"
Expected Completion Date: June 2022

References:

Professor Christopher A. Sims
Department of Economics
Princeton University
+1 (609) 258 4033
sims@princeton.edu

Professor Mikkel Plagborg-Møller
Department of Economics
Princeton University
+1 (609) 258 9806
mikkelpm@princeton.edu

Professor Mark W. Watson
Department of Economics
Princeton University
+1 (609) 258 4811
mwatson@princeton.edu

Teaching and Research Fields:
Primary fields: Time Series Econometrics

Secondary fields: Empirical Macroeconomics

Teaching Experience:
Princeton ECO 517: Graduate Econometric Theory I (TA, Fall 2018, Fall 2019, Fall 2020)
Princeton ECO 518: Graduate Econometric Theory II (TA, Spring 2018, Spring 2019, Spring 2020)
Princeton ECO 202: Statistics and Data Analysis for Economics (TA, Fall 2019)

Research Experience and Other Employment:

2018 Princeton University, Research Assistant to Prof. Christopher A. Sims
2019 Princeton University, Research Assistant to Prof. Mikkel Plagborg-Møller

Professional Activities

2019 Macro Financial Modeling Winter Meeting
2021 International Association for Applied Econometrics Annual Conference

Honors, Scholarships, and Fellowships:

2016 - 2021 Princeton Graduate Economics Fellowship
2013 Peking University Academic Excellence Award

Research Papers:

"*Semi-parametric Identification of SVAR Models with Zero Lower Bound*" (Job Market Paper)

The US federal funds rate was frequently constrained at zero after the Great Recession, and Federal Reserve has turned to unconventional monetary policy tools. This paper uses a model of structural vector autoregression with Zero Lower Bound (SVAR-ZLB) to characterize the censored nominal interest rate and the effect of unconventional monetary policy. The existing literature relies on the assumption of zero short-run effect of unconventional monetary policy to identify this model, but this paper examines point identification of this model without the assumption on unconventional monetary policy. First, in the case of classic Gaussian shocks, I explain the known result of no point identification from the new perspective of likelihood. However, in the case of empirically relevant non-Gaussian shocks, this paper proposes a generic semiparametric identification scheme to prove point identification, without relying on the parametric form of the shock distribution. An efficient Bayesian inference routine is designed to facilitate the model estimation in practice.

"Local Projections vs. VARs: Lessons From Thousands of DGPs" (with Mikkel Plagborg-Møller and Christian K. Wolf)

We conduct a simulation study of Local Projection (LP) and Vector Autoregression (VAR) estimators of structural impulse responses across thousands of data generating processes (DGPs), designed to mimic the properties of the universe of U.S. macroeconomic data. Our analysis considers various structural identification schemes and several variants of LP and VAR estimators, and we pay particular attention to the role of the researcher's loss function. A clear bias-variance trade-off emerges: Because our DGPs are not exactly finite-order VAR models, LPs have lower bias than VAR estimators; however, the variance of LPs is substantially higher than that of VARs at intermediate or long horizons. Unless researchers are overwhelmingly concerned with bias, shrinkage via Bayesian VARs or penalized LPs is attractive.

Research Paper in Progress:

"International Evidence on Credit and Economic Activity" (with Christopher A. Sims)

This paper incorporates quarterly macroeconomic data on an international panel into a large Structural Vector Autoregression (SVAR) model, in order to uncover the different causal channels from credit aggregates to future GDP. We find evidence that the shock in the real estate sector mainly contributed to the unusual negative relationship between credit and GDP in the Great Recession.