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ACADEMIC POSITIONS

Assistant Professor of Economics, University of Mannheim	2025 –
Research Fellow, LUISS University	2024 – 2025

EDUCATION

PhD in Economics, European University Institute	2019 – 2025
Supervisors: Edouard Challe, Russell Cooper	
Thesis title: Essays on the Macroeconomics of Household Heterogeneity	
Visiting Student, New York University	2022
Host: Simon Gilchrist	
MSc in Economics, Barcelona Graduate School of Economics	2016 – 2017
BSc in Economics, Vienna University of Economics and Business	2012 – 2016
Erasmus Exchange: Nova School of Business and Economics (2014–2015)	

RESEARCH FIELDS

Quantitative Macroeconomics, Household Finance, Income Inequality

WORKING PAPERS

Income Inequality and the Rise of Risky Capital (Job Market Paper)

Abstract: This paper shows that the rise in labor income inequality since the 1980s can jointly explain four prominent macro-finance trends: the rise in the wealth-to-income ratio and the share of risky assets in household portfolios, the decline in the risk-free interest rate, and the stability of the return to capital. I develop an incomplete markets model with endogenous portfolio choice that captures two salient dimensions of cross-sectional household savings heterogeneity: wealth-to-income ratios and risky asset shares are increasing in labor income. I show that higher income inequality raises asset demand, in particular for risky assets, and reallocates capital towards more productive firms, raising aggregate productivity. Whereas both the risk-free and the risky return decrease in response to higher income inequality, the weighted average return remains stable due to portfolio reallocation towards risky capital. The model predictions are validated by cross-country evidence showing that higher income inequality is associated with a larger share of risky assets and lower risk premia.

Marginal Propensities to Consume with Mental Accounting

Abstract: The empirical literature studying marginal propensities to consume (MPCs) has identified a set of puzzles that are difficult to reconcile with traditional theories of consumption behaviour. This paper develops a model of dissaving-averse households, a behavioural feature consistent with mental accounting, that addresses several of these puzzles at once. The model generates low MPCs out of wealth, low MPCs out of income news, and high MPCs out of income gains for households that are not liquidity-constrained. Beyond that, the model also produces asymmetric MPCs, i.e. stronger consumption responses to income losses than to income gains. It does so irrespectively of the household's position in the wealth distribution or the degree of liquidity constraints, which is a distinctive feature of this class of models. In support of this prediction, I provide empirical evidence for the existence of broad-based MPC asymmetries. I show through the lens of a quantitative life-cycle model with mental accounting preferences that asymmetric MPCs dampen the effectiveness of redistributive fiscal policy.

The Macroeconomic Implications of Coholding, with M. Boutros

Abstract: In the U.S., over 25% of households are coholders who simultaneously borrow on credit cards and hold cash. This generates rich marginal distributions of gross positions that underpin the distribution of net wealth often used to calibrate macroeconomic models. We show that, beyond constructing net wealth, gross positions of liquid assets and debt are important determinants of how households consume, save, and repay debt in response to income shocks. We build a model that generates aggregate distributions and household behavior in line with the data, and use it to study the implications of coholding for fiscal and monetary policy.

Domestic Inequality and Global Imbalances, with J. Mazza

Abstract: We study how the within-country distribution of income affects the current account. We document that higher income inequality is associated with higher current account balances, especially in advanced economies. This relation is driven by inequality in the permanent rather than the transitory component of income, and domestic savings rather than investment. We rationalize the empirical findings through a two country heterogeneous agent model with non-homothetic preferences. The model generates increasing demand for savings across the distribution of permanent income, which, under international capital mobility, results in capital flows from unequal to equal countries. We use the model to analyze the effects of redistribution, financial liberalisation and cross-border financial integration.

Monetary Policy in the News: Communication Pass-Through and Inflation Expectations, with F. De Fiore, A. Maurin and D. Sandri

Abstract: We analyse the media's role in channelling information about the Fed's monetary policy stance to the public. Using LLMs, we find a tight correspondence between FOMC communication and media coverage, although with significant variation over time. The communication pass-through weakened during the ZLB period and improved with the introduction of press conferences, which now exert strong influence on the media. Media coverage affects households' inflation expectations, particularly when inflation is high and volatile, while we do not detect a direct impact of FOMC communication. This underscores the media's crucial function in channelling central banks' communication to the public.

WORK IN PROGRESS

Decomposing Cross-Country Trends in Income Inequality, with J. Mazza

Equity Duration and Monetary Policy Transmission, with J. Graeb

PUBLICATIONS

The Reliability of Equilibrium Exchange Rate Models: A Forecasting Perspective, with M. Ca'Zorzi, A. Cap and M. Rubaszek, International Journal of Central Banking, 2022

POLICY PUBLICATIONS

Services Trade Liberalisation and Global Imbalances: A Critical Review of the Empirical Evidence, with G. Georgiadis, ECB Economic Bulletin Box, Vol. 5, 2019

EMPLOYMENT

Senior Associate – Bank for International Settlements	2023
Research Analyst – European Central Bank (DG-I, IPA)	2019 – 2021
Trainee – European Central Bank (DG-I, IPA)	2018 – 2019
Policy Assistant/Trainee – European Commission (DG-ECFIN)	2017 – 2018
Research Assistant – Banco Sabadell (Macro/Financial Markets Research)	2017
Intern – i5invest (Corporate Development and Mergers & Acquisitions)	2016
Intern – Raiffeisen Bank International (Mergers & Acquisitions)	2015 – 2016
Research Assistant – WU Institute for International Economics	2015
Intern – UBS (Data & Document Management, Accounting)	2015

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

PhD level – European University Institute	
Macroeconomics II (New Keynesian) – Teaching Assistant for Edouard Challe	2023
Advanced Monetary Economics – Teaching Assistant for Edouard Challe	2023
Econometrics III (Time Series Analysis) – Teaching Assistant for Jesus Bueren	2021, 2023
Graduate level – LUISS University	
Asset Pricing – Teaching Assistant for Nicola Borri	2024

PRESENTATIONS

2025: Bank of Italy, Dallas FED, Bank of Canada, WU, NHH, NOVA, University of Mannheim, BIS, CUNEF, Bank of England, BdF-EUI Joint European Workshop, T2M

2024: ECB-IPA Economic Meeting, London E1 Workshop in Quantitative Macroeconomics, RIEF Doctoral Meetings, Oslo Macro Meetings, EEA-ESEM Congress, CEBRA, PSE Macro Workshop, EWM of the Econometric Society

2023: ECB-IPA Economic Meeting, Vigo Workshop on Dynamic Macroeconomics, EEA-ESEM Congress, Naples School of Economics PhD and Post-Doctoral Workshop

2022: Behavioural Macroeconomics Workshop, MMF, CEPR European Conference on Household Finance, VPDE PhD Workshop, NOeG Winter Workshop

2021: International Symposium on Forecasting

DISCUSSIONS

Financial Intermediation Research Society Conference	2024
“Financial and Total Wealth Inequality with Declining Interest Rates” <i>by Daniel Greenwald, Matteo Leombroni, Hanno Lustig and Stijn Van Nieuwerburgh</i>	

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Vilfredo Pareto Prize for the Best Doctoral Thesis in Economics, EUI	2025
US department visiting grant, EUI	2022
PhD Scholarship, Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research	2019 – 2022
WU Top League, Honours programme, Vienna University of Economics and Business	2014 – 2015
Erasmus Scholarship, European Commission	2014
National Merit Scholarship, Austrian Government	2013, 2014

OTHER

Languages:

English (fluent), German (fluent), Croatian (fluent), Spanish (intermediate), Italian (basic)

Software:

Matlab, Stata, Julia, Python, Latex