### Jesse Perla

CONTACT Information University of British Columbia

Vancouver School of Economics

6000 Iona Drive

Vancouver, BC, V6T 2E8

Email: jesse.perla@ubc.ca Email: jesseperla@gmail.com

http://jesseperla.com https://github.com/jlperla/

CITIZENSHIP

Canadian, American

Interests

Macroeconomics, Machine Learning, Growth, Macro-Development, Bounded Rationality

Positions

Associate Professor, UBC Vancouver School of Economics

Associate Member, UBC Computer Science

OTHER

Member, UBC Centre for Artificial Intelligence Decision-making and Action (CAIDA)

Affiliations

Faculty Affiliate, UBC Institute of Applied Mathematics Core Faculty, UBC Centre for Computational Social Science

Faculty Affiliate, Stone Center for Wealth Inequality

EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, May 2013

New York University, New York, NY, USA Fields: Macroeconomics, Industrial Organization

Committee: Boyan Jovanovic, Thomas J. Sargent, Jess Benhabib

B.Sc. Applied Mathematics, 1997 Columbia University, New York, NY

Published Papers Equilibrium Imitation and Growth (with Christopher Tonetti)

Journal of Political Economy, 2014

Catch-up and Fall-back through Innovation and Imitation (with Jess Benhabib and Christopher Tonetti)

Journal of Economic Growth, 2014

Equilibrium Technology Diffusion, Trade, and Growth (with Christopher Tonetti and Michael Waugh)

American Economic Review, 2021

Reconciling Models of Diffusion and Innovation: A Theory of the Productivity Distribution

and Technology Frontier (with Jess Benhabib and Christopher Tonetti)

Econometrica, 2021

Eigendecomposition of Tau Matrices and Applications (with Sven-Erik Ekstrom, Carlo Garoni, and

Adam Jozefiak)

Linear Algebra and Its Applications, 2021

Working Papers

A Model of Product Awareness and Industry Life Cycles (with Larent Cavenaile, Murat Celik, and

Pau Roldan-Blanco)

Working Paper, Revision Submitted

Exploiting Symmetry in High-Dimensional Dynamic Programming (with Mahdi Ebrahimi Kahou, Jesus Fernández-Villaverde, and Arnav Sood)

NBER Working Paper

Doubling Down on Debt: Limited Liability as a Financial Friction (with Carolin Pflueger and Michal

Szkup)

NBER Working Paper

Differentiable State-Space Models and Hamiltonian Monte Carlo Estimation (with David Childers, Jesus Fernández-Villaverde, Christopher Rackauckas, and Peifan Wu)

R&R at Journal of Econometrics

Spooky Boundaries at a Distance: Exploring Transversality and Stability with Deep Learning (with Mahdi Ebrahimi Kahou, Jesus Fernández-Villaverde, Sebastian Gomez, and Jan Rosa)

Working Paper

## Works in Progress

Technology Adoption and the The Big Pull (with Michael Peters)

Monopsony or Peer Effects? Disentangling the Importance of Firms in the Labor Market (with Christian Moser and Raffa Saggio)

Cowles Redux: Models and Data through the Prism of Machine Learning (with Jesus Fernández-Villaverde)

Solving Equilibrium Economic Models with Deep Learning (with Jesus Fernández-Villaverde and other collaborators)

## Grants and Awards

Bank of Canada Governor's Award (2021-2022)

SSHRC Insight Grant (2023-2025), \$155,400

Deep learning methods for solving high-dimensional equilibrium models

SSHRC Insight Development Grant (co-applicant 2021-2022), \$58,635

Monopsony or Peer Effects? Disentangling the Importance of Firms in the Labor Market

SSHRC Insight Grant (2018-2021), \$159, 183

Coordination frictions in macro-development: spatial equilibrium, technology traps, and industrial policy

SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2018-2020), \$68,834

Debt Overhang and Over-Investment

SSHRC Insight Development Grant (2015-2017), \$43,000

Why Doesn't Technology Diffuse through Migration?

Hampton Grant (2014-2015), \$22,000

The Growth Dynamics of Innovation, Diffusion, and the Technology Frontier

#### Books

Quantitative Economics with Julia (with Thomas J. Sargent and John Stachurski)

Online textbook: https://julia.quantecon.org/

QuantEcon DataScience (with Chase Coleman, Spencer Lyon, and Collaborators)

Online textbook: https://datascience.quantecon.org/

# SEMINARS, CONFERENCES, AND VISITING

SCHOLAR

2023: Richmond Fed (scheduled), Western (rescheduling)

2022: Bank of Canada, Uppsala, Peking University

2021: AEA, Canadian Macro Study Group, Bank of Canada Fellowship Learning Exchange, Boston

College, Queens, Georgetown, Boston University, UCL

2020: HEC Paris

2019: SED (Organizing Committee), NBER Summer Institute (discussant)

2018: University of Pennsylvania, University of Toronto Rotman, Yale (Cowles Visiting Scholar),

SED (Organizing Committee)

2017: UCSD, Stanford, Philadelphia Fed, Minneapolis Fed (Visiting Scholar), WashU Mini-Conference

on Macro-Development, Minnesota Macro Theory, St. Louis Fed

2016: Simon Fraser University

2015: UC Berkeley, University of Pennsylvania, University of Pennsylvania Wharton, Columbia University, AEA, Cowles Foundation (discussant), Nottingham University Conference on Firm and

Technology Dynamics

2014: San Francisco Federal Reserve, Cowles Foundation (discussant)

2013: UCLA, UCSD, Minnesota

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

ECON622 - Computational Economics with Data Science Applications (graduate)

Created course and moved to approval by the UBC Senate

ECON323 - Quantitative Economic Modeling with Data Science Applications (undergraduate)

Created course and moved to approval by the UBC Senate

ECON302 - Intermediate Macroeconomics (undergraduate)

ECON307 - Honors Intermediate Macroeconomics (undergraduate)

ECON407 - Topics in Macroeconomics (undergraduate) ECON546 - Monetary Theory and Policy (graduate)

SERVICE

University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Computer Lab Committee

Comps Committee Executive Committee

Instructor Recruitment Committee

Recruitment Committee

Bank of Canada Governor's Challenge (Undergrad Team won 1st Place) Centre for Innovative Data in Economics Research (CIDER) Board Member

VSE Director Selection Committee

Computer Science Recruitment Committee

Advisory Committee of the SciML (https://sciml.ai/) organization

STUDENT PLACEMENTS University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada

Colin Caines, Committee Member (Placed at Federal Reserve Board)

João Alfredo Galindo da Fonseca, Committee Member (Placed at Université de Montréal)

Sev Hou, Advisor (Placed at Chinese University of Hong Kong, Shenzhen)

Dongxiao Zhang, Committee Member (Placed at Veeva Systems)

Nadhanael Gemaliel Vimala, Committee Member (Reserve Bank of India)

Mahdi E. Kahou, Supervisor (Placed at Bowdoin College)

Referee

Economic Review, Quarterly Journal of Economics, Journal of Political Economy, Review of Economic Studies, AEJ: Macro, Journal of Economic Growth, Journal of International Economics, International Economic Review, Review of Economic Dynamics, European Economic Review, Journal of Economic Theory, Theoretical Economics, Journal of Development Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Journal of Economic Literature, Macroeconomic Dynamics, Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization

OTHER EXPERIENCE CTO/Founder/Director of Research/Software Engineer at technology firms (1995-2006)