LEONARDO ELIAS

MIT Sloan Email: lelias@mit.edu
CONTACT 100 Main Street www.leonardo-elias.com
INFORMATION Cambridge, MA, 02142 USA Phone: (617) 460-3476

Citizenship: Argentina

EDUCATION Ph.D. in Financial Economics, MIT Sloan (expected) 2021

M.Sc. in Economics, LSE 2013 B.Sc. in Economics, MIT 2012

FIELDS International Finance, Macroeconomics, Corporate Finance.

JOB MARKET Paper Capital Flows and the Real Effects of Corporate Rollover Risk (draft coming soon)

How do shocks to international capital flows get transmitted to the real economy? In this paper I exploit plausibly exogenous variation in firms' exposure to rollover risk to identify a causal channel. Using a panel of firms across a large number of countries, I show that firms with higher exposure (as measured by the share of long-term debt maturing over the next year) reduce investment 10 percentage points more than non-exposed firms following sudden stops in capital flows. The impact is persistent: exposed firms experience lower investment, lower employment and lower assets than non-exposed firms even three years after the initial shock. In robustness tests I show that the results are specific to sudden stop episodes: they do not hold in periods without sudden stops, and they hold across sudden stop episodes regardless of whether the sudden stop takes place during large economic contractions.

RESEARCH

Long-Run Consumption and Inflation Risks in Stock and Bond Returns

with Fernando Duarte and Marta Szymanowska

We derive a long-run risk model with time-varying inflation non-neutrality and show that it matches a challenging set of moments describing the joint dynamics of stock returns, term structure of nominal bond yields and returns, as well as macroeconomic fundamentals. Furthermore, we match not only more moments than other long-run risk models, but also moments that remained unaddressed in the literature so far, i.e., the volatility of the risk-free rate and of the dividend-price ratio, and the dividend-price ratio ability to predict stock market returns, consumption and dividend growth rates. More importantly, we match this challenging set of moments, while simultaneously holding the risk aversion and elasticity of intertemporal substitution parameters low.

The Corporate Debt-Overhang Channel of Global Credit Cycles (draft coming soon) There is a global financial cycle in credit markets. Plausibly exogenous capital inflows drive boom-bust credit cycles and, more importantly, also drive cyclical changes in issuer credit quality; as credit booms disproportionately affect credit conditions faced by low-quality firms. I show that deterioration in corporate issuer credit quality is a better predictor of a country's subsequent GDP growth than measures of aggregate corporate credit growth. I uncover a corporate balance sheet channel that helps explain why credit booms predict lower GDP growth. Underperformance of low quality firms that lever up, especially during credit booms, explains a significant part of the growth decline. Low quality firms reduce capital expenditures and employment disproportionately more than good quality firms during a credit bust. The results are consistent with a global credit cycle that 'pushes' capital into countries/firms irrespective of their own investment opportunities and repayment capacity.

Global Factors and the Pricing of Sovereign Risk (draft coming soon)

I study the effects of US Macroeconomic surprises on the pricing of sovereign risk of sixty-six countries in the period 2002-2017 using daily CDS data. I find that positive macroeconomic surprises in the US systematically reduce sovereign spreads consistent with the view that global investors price sovereign risk. However, I find that both the size and the sign of the effect depend on the business cycle in the US. During contractionary periods the positive effect of news is greatly reduced, often erased, and sometimes reversed. I also find evidence of asymmetric and non-linear effects. Moreover, I find that country characteristics such as its credit rating, its debt-to-GDP ratio, and measures of economic integration play a crucial role in determining the country's response to US shocks. I discuss potential transmission mechanisms of sovereign distress to the real economy by studying the cross-sectional response of security prices (corporate CDS spreads and stock returns) to global shocks.

ACADEMIC	Research Assistant: Ricardo Caballero	2015 - 2016
EXPERIENCE	Research Assistant: Esther Duflo	2011
	Research Assistant: Dave Donaldson	2011 -2012
	Research Assistant: Joshua Angrist	2009
TEACHING EXPERIENCE	Futures and Options (Master of Finance, MBAs, undergrads) for Deborah Lucas, MIT Sloan	Spring 2020
	Fixed Income Securities (Master of Finance, MBAs, undergrads) for Deborah Lucas, MIT Sloan	Spring 2020
	International Capital Markets (Master of Finance, MBAs, undergrads) for Jonathan Parker, MIT Sloan	Spring 2019
	Finance Theory (Master of Finance) for Leonid Kogan and Simon Gervais, MIT Sloan	Summer 2018
	Financial Management (Executive MBA - Sloan Fellows) for Egor Matveyev, MIT Sloan	Fall 2018

Financial Management (Executive MBA - Sloan Fellows) Summer 2017 for Deborah Lucas and Nittai Bergman, MIT Sloan

Financial Management (Executive MBA - Sloan Fellows) Summer 2016 for Xavier Giroud, MIT Sloan

PROFESSIONAL Banco de Chile, Economic Research Division, Visiting Fellow
EXPERIENCE Inter-American Development Bank, Research Department, Re

Banco de Chile, Economic Research Division , Visiting Fellow 2018
Inter-American Development Bank, Research Department, Research Fellow 2013-2014
Banco de Mexico, Note Issue Planning and Programming Division , Intern 2009

OTHER Software Knowledge: Stata, Matlab, Mathematica, R, Python.

INFORMATION Languages: English (Fluent), Spanish (Native), Italian (Intermediate).

ACADEMIC REFERENCES Adrien Verdelhan Associate Professor

Department of Finance MIT

adrienv@mit.edu

Emil Verner

Class of 1957 Career Development Professor Department of Finance

MIT

everner@mit.edu

Jonathan Parker

Robert C. Merton (1970)

Professor of Financial Economics

Department of Finance

MIT

japarker@mit.edu