Xiang "Ivy" LI

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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Economics, University of Oregon, OR, USA   *2021 (expected)*

- Dissertation: Essays On High Frequency Macroeconomic Monitoring
- Committee: Jeremy Piger (Chair), George Evans, David Evans, Thien H. Nguyen (Computer Science)
- Fields of Expertise: applied macroeconomics, time-series econometrics, forecasting, textual analysis

M.S., Policy Economics, University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, IL, USA   *2015*

B.S., Economics, University of International Business and Economics, Beijing, China   *2013*

- Economics Honors Program (Minor in Japanese)

RESEARCH

Nowcasting Business Phases with High and Mixed Frequency Data (Work in progress)

- Developed a novel real-time dataset of macroeconomic variables at quarterly, monthly, weekly and daily frequencies.
- Measured the economic activity at daily intervals using dynamic factor models, and measured the probability of expansions and recessions in real time.
- This work elucidated that the use of higher frequency data significantly improves the speed at which expansions and recessions can be identified in U.S. since 1980.

A New High Frequency, News Based, Indicator of Macroeconomic Activity (Work in progress)

- Developed a weekly News-Based Sentiment Index (NBSI) regarding economic conditions based on articles sourced from The Wall Street Journal using dictionary methods.
- Assessed the validity of this developed NBSI by tracking a wide range of monthly macroeconomic activity measures.
- Estimated the usefulness of NBSI in identifying U.S. expansions and recessions in real time.

Is the Response of Economic Output to Monetary Policy Asymmetric in China? (Working paper)

- Estimated monetary policy shocks in China, using a combination of dynamic factors models and factor-augmented vector autoregression.
- Applying local projection methods, I determined that the monetary policy shock has larger impacts on output growth during low-growth states and that monetary policy shock has larger impacts on aggregate price during high-growth states.

Note: the recent revisions of projects can be found on my website, https://lx0413.github.io/research.html

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Sole Instructor, University of Oregon

- EC 370 Money and Banking: Summer 2018 (enrolled: 27), Winter 2019 (enrolled: 85), Fall 2019 (enrolled: 77), Spring 2020 (remote, enrolled: 86), Spring 2021 (forthcoming)
- EC 313 Intermediate Macroeconomics: Summer 2019 (enrolled: 20)
  - Delivered lectures, organized lab and group discussion, and created an inclusive environment where students apply quantitative & graphical skills and economics intuition to understand the evolving real-world issues, news, and events.
  - Held office hours, evaluated students' performance, and assisted students outside of class to achieve personal academic goals.
  - Turned in-person teaching into remote teaching efficiently on short notice and without much guidance, amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - Organized graduate student grading assignments and exams.

Teaching Assistant, University of Oregon

- EC 320 Introduction to Econometrics: Spring 2019 (enrolled: 16, 31)
- EC 202 Intro to Macroeconomic Analysis: Spring 2017 (enrolled: 31, 45, 45, 45), Winter 2018 (enrolled: 33, 46, 48, 48)
  - Taught students how to use Stata to analyze data and identify causal relationships.
  - Led lab discussion and organized group activities.

Note: student experience survey, instructional quality ratings, student comments, and course materials written by R Markdown can be found on my website, https://lxo413.github.io/teaching.html

AWARDS and RECOGNITION

- Graduate Teaching Fellowship, University of Oregon *2016 - 2021*
- Kleinsorge Summer Research Fellowship, University of Oregon *2020*
- Summer Teaching Fellowship, University of Oregon *2018 - 2019*
- Research Assistant to Jonathan Davis, University of Oregon *2019*
- 3rd place, 3-Minute Thesis competition, Grad Research Forum, University of Oregon *2019*
- Research Assistant to Hong Li, Peking University *2013*
- Meritorious Winner, Interdisciplinary Contest in Modeling, Consortium for Mathematics and Its Applications *2012*
- University Scholarship, University of International Business and Economics *2009 - 2010*
- 1st prize, China National English Contest for College Students *2011*
- 3rd prize, China National English Speaking Competition *2011*

PRESENTATIONS and CONFERENCES

- Presented "Nowcasting Business Cycle Phases with High and Mixed Frequency Data"
  - Economics Club, University of Oregon *2020*
  - Macro Group, University of Oregon *2019*
- Presented a Mini Machine Learning course on textual analysis, University of Oregon *2019*
- Participated Google Earth Engine Workshop, Oregon State University *2018*

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Administrative Assistant, Commercial Factoring Expertise Committee of China (CFEC) *2013 - 2014*

- Analyzed data and wrote reports regarding foreign exchange rates, taxation, financing, and legal policy issues that commercial factoring companies in China are facing.
- Cooperated with the Factors Chain International based in Amsterdam to set up education programs in China
- Operated website and independently produced the digital magazine "CFEC Monthly"

TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Programs: R, MATLAB, Python, Git
- Languages: Mandarin, English

PROFESSIONAL REFERENCES

Jeremy Piger (Chair)
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