

# Xiang "Ivy" LI

Department of Economics  
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<http://lx0413.github.io>

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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.

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

**Sole Instructor**, University of Oregon (Enrollment: 20 - 85)

- EC 370 Money and Banking: Summer 2018, Winter and Fall 2019, Spring 2020 (remote), Spring 2021
- EC 313 Intermediate Macroeconomics: Summer 2019
  - 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 (Enrollment: 16 - 48)

- EC 320 Introduction to Econometrics: Spring 2019
- EC 202 Intro to Macroeconomic Analysis: Spring 2017, Winter 2018
  - 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)**

Department Head, Professor of Economics  
University of Oregon  
(541) 346-6075  
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### **David Evans**

Assistant Professor of Economics  
University of Oregon  
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### **George Evans**

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### **Thien Huu Nguyen**

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