Mariana Piaia Abreu

https://piaiaabreu.github.io/

EXPERIENCE

• Secretariat of Economic Development, State of São Paulo

São Paulo, SP, Brazil

May 2025 - Present

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Director for Productivity Enhancement

- **FACILITA SP** Program dedicated to improving the business environment by reducing regulatory complexity, accelerating permitting processes, and fostering municipal adherence to national standards of economic freedom.
- Regulatory Simplification: Designing and implementing regulatory road-maps to strengthen institutional efficiency and promote entrepreneurship.
- Municipal Partnerships Supporting municipalities in adopting business-friendly policies and improving local economic governance.
- **Public-Private Coordination** Coordinating public-private dialogue and providing technical guidance to translate regulatory challenges into actionable solutions.

• Consultant

São Paulo, SP, Brazil

Independent Consultant

Sep. 2020 - Present

- Complex systems analysis for actionable solutions: Work includes evaluating voting patterns in elections and among incumbent legislators, examining the impact of tax reforms and regulatory changes, and assessing fiscal incentives on various sectors, helping clients anticipate and adapt to policy shifts effectively.
- Millenium Institute: Index of Bureaucracy (2023, 2024, 2025) and Country Risk Index (2024, 2025), with Adam Smith Center for Economic Freedom, Florida International University.

• Students For Liberty

Washington, DC, United States

 $Researcher\ Manager$

Jan. 2023 - May 2025

- Learn Liberty and The Invisible Lens YouTube Channels: Conducted research exploring principles of freedom, prosperity in society, and the intersection of political ideas with pop culture in movies, music, and sports, connecting these expressions to real-world applications and understanding.
- Cryptocurrency Freedom Index: A tool to evaluate and compare how different countries regulate cryptocurrencies in four critical areas—taxation, anti-money laundering (AML/CFT), consumer protection, and licensing. This project aims to inform policymakers, businesses, and researchers about how regulation shapes the adoption and economic impact of cryptocurrencies globally.

• Ibmec-SP

São Paulo, SP, Brazil

Aug. 2021 - July 2024

Titular Professor

- Course (Economics): Dynamic Macroeconomics, Open Macroeconomics, Macroeconomics I and II; Macroeconomics and National Accounts, Free Market Economic Thought.
- Research: Coordination of the Public Policy Group; Co-ordination of the Study Group in Economics, Politics and Society; Member of the Applied Macroeconomics Research Group.

• Universidade Presbiteriana Mackenzie

São Paulo, SP, Brazil

Assistant Professor

Aug. 2018 - July 2022

- Course (Economics): Macroeconomics I, Macroeconomics II, Open Macroeconomics, Microeconomics III, Economic Policies, Economic Analysis, Advanced Topics in Economic Theory (Economic Complexity).
- Courses (Business Management): Macroeconomics and Contemporary Economics; Market Environment and Economic Indicators; Entrepreneurship.

• Mackenzie Center for Economic Freedom

São Paulo, SP, Brazil

Associate Researcher

Aug. 2018 - July 2022

- Research Grant (Leader): Cycles of interventionism in Brazil: 1989-2019, funded by Atlas Network (USA), Jan. 2019 June 2022; Brazilian Capital Market Ownership Structure: An Analysis of Complex Networks, MackPesquisa, Feb. 2020 Mar. 2021.
- Research Grant (Member): Economic rationality of corruption uncovered by the car wash: an analysis inspired by the combined perspective of the Public Choice Theory and the Austrian School of Economics, MackPesquisa, Feb. 2019 Mar. 2021.

• Federation of Industries of the State of Santa Catarina

Florianópolis, SC, Brazil Jan. 2018 – July 2018

Researcher

- Reports: Preparation of regular reports (CAGED, RAIS, Economic Activity, Expectations, Inflation) and technical briefings for directors and presidency.
- Research: Leader of the research "Missing Links in the Industry of Santa Catarina", which identified the structural gaps in production chains, based on the methodology of economic complexity, helping in the elaboration of public policies aimed at the development and competitiveness of the region.

• Mises Institue

Auburn, AL, United States

Visiting Researcher (Fellowship in Residence)

May. 2016 - Aug. 2015

• Reserach: Development of research on production structure, deindustrialization, and complexity of the Brazilian economy, from the perspective of the Austrian School.

EDUCATION

• Universidade Federal Fluminense

Niterói, RJ, Brazil

Doctor of Economics

Feb. 2014 - June 2018

- Area of Concentration: Quantitative Methods.
- o Dissertation: A Complexidade da estrutura produtiva e financeira: uma análise de redes para o Brasil.
- Doctoral Exchange Program: Università Delgi Studi di Milano-Bicocca, Department of Statistics and Quantitative Methods, Mar. 2017 – Oct. 2017.
- Scholarship: Scholarship by the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES).

• Universiade Federal de Viçosa

Viçosa, MG, Brazil

Master of Economics

Jan. 2012 - June 2014

- Area of Concentration: Economic Development and Public Policy.
- o Thesis: Encadeamentos em rede na economia: um estudo aplicado sobre a estrutura econômica brasileira.
- o Graduate Tutor: Macroeconomics, Mar. 2013 Jul. 2013.
- Scholarship: Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Education Personnel (CAPES).

• Universidade Federal de Santa Maria

Santa Maria, RS, Brazil

 $Apr. \ 2007 - Aug. \ 2011$

Bachelor of Economics Science

o Bachelor Thesis: Metodologia Brasileira dos atos de concentração horizontal: Escola Austríaca vs. mainstream.

- Undergraduate Tutor: Econometrics, Aug. 2010 Jul. 2011.
- o Best Bachelor Student in Economics Award: Rio Grande do Sul Economy Council (CORECON-RS), 2011.
- Scholarship: Research Incentive Fund (FIPE/UFSM), Mar. 2009 Feb. 2010.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- CALAIS, P.; MAZZONI, J. F. R.; ABREU, M. P. Contemporary Austrian School as a research program: What can bibliometrics teach us?. *The Review of Austrian Economics*, p. 1-30, 2024.
- PIAIA ABREU, M.; DEL-VECCHIO, R. R.; GRASSI, R. Analysis of the productive structure applying networks: the Brazilian case. *Structural Change and Economic Dynamics*, v. 53, p. 281291, 2020.
- PIAIA ABREU, M.; GRASSI, R.; DEL-VECCHIO, R. R. Structure of control in financial networks: An application to the Brazilian stock market. *Physical A-Statistical Mechanics and its Applications*, v. 522, p. 302-314, 2019.
- ABREU, M. P. Cataláxia: A Escola Austríaca versus o Mainstream. MISES: Interdisciplinary Journal of Philosophy, Law and Economics, v. 2, n. 1, p. 81-98, 2014.

Selected Presentations

- Association of Private Enterprise(APEE) 49th Meeting. Workflows and Roadblocks: Gender Differences in Career Mobility and Occupational Networks in Brazil, Guatemala City, Guatemala, 2025.
- Association of Private Enterprise(APEE) 48th Meeting. Interference and Ownership Networks: State-Owned and Mixed-Owned Enterprises in the Brazilian Stock Market, Las Vegas, United States, 2024 (with RESENDE, P. H.).
- Conference on Complex Systems 2023. Shareholding Interaction Patterns in the Brazilian Stock Market with Higher-Order Assortativity, Salvador, Brazil, 2023 (with RESENDE, P. H.).
- VII Conferência Latino-Americana de História do Pensamento Econômico (Associação Latino-Americana de História do Pensamento Econômico). Estrutura do capital e complexidade: Escola Austríaca em evolução, Curitiba, BraZil, 2019.

- 41st Annual Meeting of the Association for Mathematics Applied to Social and Economic Sciences (AMASES). Structure of Control in Financial Networks: an Application to the Brazilian Stock Market, Cagliari, Italy, 2017 (with GRASSI, R.; DEL-VECCHIO, R. R).
- YSI Europe Convention Trento Festival of Economics. Brazilian Productive Structure: an analysis from complex networks, Trento, Italy, 2017 (with DEL-VECCHIO, R. R.; GRASSI, R.).
- VIII Encontro Nacional de Economia Política (Sociedade Brasileira de Economia Política (SEP). Empreendedora no Pensamento Econômico: a Tradição Austríaca vs. Schumpeter, Belo Horizonte, Brazil, 2013 (with TOYOSHIMA, S. H.).
- XV Encontro de Economia da Região Sul (ANPEC SUL). Teoria de mercado e eficiência: a perspectiva da Escola Austríaca de Economia versus o Mainstream, Porto Alegre, Brazil, 2012 (with FEISTEL, P. R.).

PROJECTS

- Workflows and Roadblocks: Gender Differences in Career Mobility and Occupational Networks in Brazil
 How do gendered workflows and roadblocks shape the distribution of work in Brazil's labor market, and what does this
 reveal about career mobility and opportunities for job transitions? This research investigates the network structure of
 occupational mobility, using RAIS to uncover how gender differences influence pathways between occupations. This study
 sheds light on structural inequalities in the labor market, deepens our understanding of gendered mobility challenges, and
 provides insights into targeted policies to foster a more inclusive, equitable, and dynamic career landscape.
- Analysis of Political Behavior in Brazil using Network Theory: Campaign Donations, Pattern of Voting and Behavior of Representatives Using network theory, we analyze: (i) the structure of donation in electoral campaigns (considering changes in electoral legislation); (ii) the pattern of votes for candidates; (iii) how elected politicians behave in their mandate, analyzing votes in plenary.
- Modifications of the Brazilian productive structure: the economic and the political cycle The complexity of the production structure and the deindustrialization process are recurrent themes in Brazil. The objective is to carry out an analysis not only of the sectoral participation in the GDP, but as an interrelated structure, through the theory of networks. This research also takes into considerations the effects of political cycles.
- Complexity and the Structure of Capital Complex systems are reluctant to be expressed in closed analytic forms. Such systems can be more easily described by their interaction structure. Thus, the theoretical framework of complexity theory and capital theory in complex network models is used for this research.
- Ownership and control: overview and historical analysis of networks in the Brazilian capital market This research seeks, through ownership and control relationships, to analyze the evolution of the Brazilian capital market based on network theory. It assesses the degree to which government institutions are directly or indirectly involved in the control of private companies and how government initiatives can impact the ownership and control structures of Brazilian companies.