# Valentin Marchal

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## Education

**Sciences Po** 2020–
*PhD Candidate* *Paris*
- Thesis title: "Essays on Rational Bubbles"
- Supervisor: Stéphane Guibaud, Thesis Committee: Nicolas Coeurdacier and Jeanne Commault
- Visiting PhD Student at Pompeu Fabra University, Sponsors: Alberto Martin and Jaume Ventura (Spring 2024)

**Pompeu Fabra University** Spring 2024
*Visiting PhD Student* *Barcelona*
- Sponsors: Alberto Martin and Jaume Ventura

**Sciences Po** 2018–2020
*Master in Economics - Summa Cum Laude* *Paris*
- Master's thesis: "Safety Traps in Open-Economy" under the supervision of Nicolas Coeurdacier

**Sciences Po and Université de Lorraine** 2015–2018
*Double degree: BA in Social Sciences (Cum Laude) and Economics (Mention Bien)* *Nancy*
- Exchange year at the University of Mannheim

**Lycée Jeanne d'Arc** 2012–2015
*Abibac: Obtainment of the French and German high school diploma* *Nancy*

## Selected Work in Progress

### A Scrooge McDuck Theory of Wealth Dynamics - Job Market Paper

This paper introduces insatiable utility from wealth to jointly explain the rise in the wealth-to-output ratio and investment stagnation in advanced economies as a consequence of increasing top income inequality. These preferences induce an upper bound on optimal consumption, which binds asymptotically for high-income agents. Labelled *Scrooge McDuck*, they hold a portion of their wealth purely for its own sake, with all returns reinvested. This pushes asset prices above fundamental value. A uniquely determined rational bubble exists, which crowds out investment and grows at a rate that exceeds that of the economy. Its price diverges over time, driving a persistent rise in wealth inequality. Introducing a redistributive tax can shift the economy from a bubbly to a non-bubbly equilibrium. Quantitatively, a 1.5 percent wealth tax in the U.S. raises capital by removing the bubble-induced crowding-out effect. The tax is both growth-enhancing and redistributive, breaking the standard efficiency–redistribution trade-off.

### Rational Bubbles and Productivity Shocks: Theoretical Insights for Ecological Transition

This paper investigates how negative productivity shocks influence the valuation of rational bubbles within an OLG framework. Two channels are identified: i) a productivity decline reduces output, potentially lowering savings and bubble demand, and ii) by decreasing the rate of return, it reduces bubble growth rate, enabling a higher valuation. Overall, a negative productivity shock will lead to a lower bubble valuation when the substitution effect dominates the income effect in agents' saving decisions. This framework is applied to ecological transition policies, which constraints production and acts as negative productivity shocks. The potential decline in rational bubble valuation following their announcement is referred to as a *stranded rational bubble*. As in the stranded assets literature, this setting reveals a trade-off between implementing a fast transition and minimizing the extent of stranded bubbles.

## Seminars and Conferences

**2025**: EEA Congress, University of Bordeaux; PhD Seminar, CREST; Finance PhD Workshop (discussant), Dauphine; Doctoral Workshop on Quantitative Dynamic Economics, Universy of Konstanz; MMF PhD Conference, University of Loughborough; AFSE Annual Congress, ENS Paris-Saclay; Doctorissimes Conference, PSE; MMF Annual Conference, University of Reading; Friday Seminar, Sciences Po

**2024**: PhD Jamboree, BSE; International Lunch Seminar, CREI; Doctoral Conference, Ruhr Graduate School in Economics; Friday Seminar, Sciences Po

## Teaching

**International Finance and Trade** 2020–2025
*Sciences Po, Undergrade course* *Reims*
- Instructor of two to three classes each year
- Lecturer: Nicolas Coeurdacier and Thierry Mayer

**Macro-history** Fall 2023
*Sciences Po, Master course* *Paris*
- Teaching Assistant to Paul Bouscasse and Moritz Schularick

**Producer Theory** Spring 2020
*Université Paris Descartes, Undergrade course* *Malakoff*
- Instructor of two classes
- Lecturer: Marie-Hélène Jeanneret-Crettez

**Economic Information Analysis** Fall 2019
*Université Paris Descartes, Undergrade course* *Malakoff*
- Instructor of two classes
- Lecturer: Sébastien Cochinard

## Languages & Computer skills

**Languages**: French (Native), English (Fluent), German (Fluent), Spanish (Beginner)

**Computer Skills**: Julia, LaTeX, R, Microsoft Office