Yuxuan Huang

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Research Fields

- Primary: International Macroeconomics and Finance, Monetary Economics
- Secondary: Applied Econometrics, Digital Economy

Education

Ph.D. in Economics, The George Washington University	expected 2020
M.Phil. in Economics, The George Washington University	2017
BA in Finance & BSc in Statistics (dual degree), South China Agricultural University	2012

Publications

- Balazs Csonto, **Yuxuan Huang**, and Camilo E. Tovar
  "Is Digitalization Driving Domestic Inflation?", IMF Working Paper (Series No. 19/271)
- Yajuan Mao, Shanming Li, **Yuxuan Huang**
  "Macroeconomics, Government Intervention and Asset Price Fluctuation: A Study on Transfer Mechanisms Based on VAR and RVAR Models." Securities Market Herald (August 2014, China)
- Yajuan Mao, **Yuxuan Huang**
  "Community Donations' Effects on Universities' Funding Diversification: Experience from Australia", *JiangSu Science &Technology Information* Vol. 9, 2011

Working Papers

"Reserve Requirement Policy and Interest Rate Spreads" (Job market paper)
"The Choice of Sterilized Intervention Tools"
"Is Digitalization Driving Domestic Inflation?" with Balazs Csonto and Camilo E. Tovar
"Forecasting the USD/CNY Exchange Rate under Different Policy Regimes",
"Are There Borders on the Internet? – International Price Dispersion on eBay"

Research & Professional Experiences

2018 Fund Intern Program (FIP) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)   2018.6 – 2018.8
- o   Worked with Camilo E. Tovar and Balazs Csonto at the IMF on a project analyzing the impact of digitalization on inflations
- o   IMF working paper (No. 19/271): "*Is Digitalization Driving Domestic Inflation?"*

2017 Fund Intern Program (FIP) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF)   2017.6 – 2017.8
- o   Worked with Division Chief of the Macro-Financial Division on two projects analyzing the impact of credit information on firms' employment and access to finance
- o   Constructed dataset and test regressions models using data from Orbis and other databases

Research Assistant at the International Monetary Fund   2017.1 – 2017.5
- o   Assisted on the same project above

Research Fellow at the Internet Association   2016.9 – 2017.5
- o   Collected and analyzed data on the cross-border internet trade markets
- o   Part of the work is published on a report *"A Look at American Digital Export",* 2019

Graphical User Interface (GUI) designer for a Macro-Fiscal Model Project   2015.2-2015.5
- o   Assisted on a financial programming type macro-fiscal model for Argentina (World Bank)
- o   Used VBA programming to construct GUI, visualize and forecast macroeconomic data

Research Assistant at Institute for International Economic Policy   2014.1-2015.7
- o   Worked for Prof. Jay Shambaugh on project study worldwide expenditure switching behaviors
- o   Worked for Prof. Joseph Pelzman on firms merging project
- o   Worked for Prof. Maggie Chen on an FDI related project
- o   Worked for Prof. Sabina Alkire on a poverty measurement project

eBay Policy Scholar Research Program   2013.9-2014.7
- o   Used large online price data sets to analyze international price dispersion online.
- o   Working paper: "*Are There Borders on the Internet?*"

Research Assistant at GWU   2013.1-2014.1
- o   Worked for Prof. Graciela Kaminsky: "*Two Hundred Years of Financial Integration.*"
- o   Collected and analyzed debt issuance data of more than 70 countries across centuries

Co-Principle Researcher   2011.12-2012.6
- o   Analyzed data using time series econometric models (VAR and Restricted RVAR models).
- o   Co-authored two published papers (Funded by National Natural Science Foundation of China).

Teaching Experiences

Lecturer, Elliott School of International Affairs, Columbia College of Art and Science, The George Washington University
- •   Stata Fundamentals (graduate), Fall 2019, Spring 2019
- •   Survey of International Economics, Summer 2016

Teaching Assistant, The George Washington University
- •   Survey of International Economics, Fall 2015 – Spring 2018
- •   Marketing Management, Fall 2013

Conference Presentations

- •   2019   Southern Economics Association (SEA) Annual Meeting – **Presenter**
         "*Reserve Requirement Policy and Interest Rate Spreads*"
- •   2019   Macro-International Finance Seminar, Dept. of Economics, GWU – **Presenter**
- •   2019   Western Economic Association 94th Annual Conference – **Presenter**
         "*Reserve Requirement Policy and Interest Rate Spreads*"
- •   2018   Southern Economics Association (SEA) Annual Meeting– **Presenter/Discussant**
         "*The Choice of Sterilized Intervention Tools*"
- •   2018   International Monetary Fund, Strategy, Policy, and Review Department (SPR) Seminar– **Presenter**,
         "*Is Digitalization Driving Domestic Inflation?*"
- •   2017   SBCA Annual Conference – **Presenter**
         "*Macroeconomic effects of Sterilized Intervention*"
- •   2015   The 21st Federal Forecasters Conference (FFC 2015) – **Presenter**
         "*Forecasting the USD/CNY Exchange Rate under Different Policy Regimes*"
- •   2015   Georgetown Center for Economic Research Biennial Conference – **Presenter**

Skills

- •   Programming and Statistics: Stata / Python/ R / Excel (VBA) /MATLAB (Dynare)
- •   Others: LaTeX (Beamer) / Word, Excel, PowerPoint
- •   Languages: English, Mandarin and Cantonese

Professional Affiliations

- •   American Economic Association, 2017-2019
- •   Research Fellow at the Internet Association. 2016-2017
- •   Member, Research Program of Forecasting, The George Washington University, 2014- 2019
- •   Member, International Institute of Forecasters, 2015 – 2016.
- •   eBay policy scholar, eBay Inc., 2013.9 – 2014.9.

Selected Honors

- 2016.9   Internet Economy Fellowship at the Internet Association
- 2015-2018   Academic Excellence Graduate Assistantship and Fellowship (GWU)
- 2015.3   2014/2015 Student Forecasting Awards at International Institute of Forecasters
- 2013.9   The eBay Policy Scholar Fellowship
- 2012.5   Excellent Undergraduate Thesis Honor (first place)

References

Jay C. Shambaugh (Chair)
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Henry Terrell (teaching reference)
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Research Paper Abstracts

"Reserve Requirement Policy and Interest Rate Spreads" (Job market paper)

Abstract: *Reserve requirement changes have been a widely employed monetary policy and macroprudential tool in the last decades. Countries may choose this policy, which effectively changes the cost of deposit financing for banks, instead of an interest rate change, to avoid influencing capital flows and exchange rates. Such a nonmarket based policy tool can lead to distortionary macroeconomic effects by changing the relative cost of different financing options. Given both its widespread use and the potential to shape financial market outcomes, understanding its impact is important. This article adds new cross-country empirical evidence of the effects of reserve requirement changes on lending-deposit interest rate spreads based on a country-level panel dataset of 75 countries from 1980 to 2015. Demonstrating the impact on the spread is important as it highlights the impact of reserve requirement policies and how they can shape funding decisions. The theoretical framework indicates that the effects of reserve requirement rate changes on the interest rate spread depend on countries' financial market conditions, such as the level of financial market development. The empirical results show that raising reserve requirements on average widens the lending-deposit interest rate spread. Such impacts are dampened for countries with more developed financial markets. The impacts of reserve requirement changes on the interest rate spread are further confirmed by propensity score matching estimators that address the self-selection bias associated with reserve requirement hikes. The results are robust to different covariate measures and various treatment effect estimators.*

"The Choice of Sterilized Intervention Tools"

Abstract: *In this paper, I propose a new classification method of sterilized intervention tool regimes and construct a new dataset for sterilization regimes for 41 countries over 26 years. The main aim of this research is to provide a sterilization classification framework and compare the different sterilized intervention methods to identify the optimal choice for central banks for conducting sterilized intervention under various economic situations. Multi-logit models with a three-stage choice dependent variable were used to study the sterilized intervention tools choices. The results show that financial openness, financial development, and capital inflow surge scenes seem to be the main factors affecting the choices of different sterilization tools. The fiscal cost of interest payments does not play a critical role in making sterilization decisions.*

"Is Digitalization Driving Domestic Inflation?" (IMF working paper)

Abstract: *Digitalization is transforming the global economy, but little is known about its macroeconomic implications. In this paper, we examine the extent to which digitalization—measured by a new proxy based on IP addresses allocations per country—has influenced inflation dynamics in a sample of 36 advanced and emerging economies over 2000-2017. Phillips curve estimates show that digitalization has a statistically significant negative effect on inflation in the short run. Its economic impact is not large but has increased since 2012. Our estimates suggest that digitalization mainly operates through a cost/competition channel. Principal components and cointegration analysis further suggest digitalization is a key driver of lower structural inflation.*

"Forecasting the USD/CNY Exchange Rate under Different Policy Regimes"
(GW Research Program on Forecasting Working Paper)

Abstract: *The USD/CNY exchange rate exhibits a very different pattern in different periods as it changes wildly from one period to another according to the economic reforms and policies. This paper compares the performance of six different forecasting models of the USD/CNY exchange rate under three different forecast scenarios from 2005-2015. Models are estimated using both ordinary least square and various Bayesian estimation methods. In particular, the article focuses on answering the following questions. (i) Do forecasts performance change when the marketization level changes? (ii) Which model has the best forecast when the regimes change? (iii) Can forecasting robustifications help? The forecast results show that models incorporating economic fundamentals perform better in less regulated periods when the exchange rate can float more freely. For the forecast experiments with breaks in the forecast origin, the exchange rate CVAR model performs the best before robustifications. In most cases, the intercept-correction and double-difference device improve the forecast performance in both dynamic forecasts and one-step forecasts. Different models seem to do well under different forecast scenarios after applying robust devices.*

"Are There Borders on the Internet? ---International Price Dispersion on eBay"

Abstract: *The traditional "border effect" literature finds that political boundaries have a huge impact on the price dispersion across countries. In this paper, an online transaction dataset of 55 countries over nine consecutive years from eBay is used to examine the online border effect. The weighted price dispersion indexes are constructed, and the quantile regression method and the traditional regression method are both applied to estimate the online border effect. The main result indicates that the distance effect on the cross-border price dispersion is not as significant as the offline one, but the border effect still exists online. Common language, currency, and being within the advanced country group in general help reduce the online price dispersion while the online auction mechanism and the power ranking system have positive effects on the price dispersion.*

"Macroeconomics, Government Intervention and Asset Price Fluctuation: A Study on Transfer Mechanisms Based on VAR and RVAR Models" with Yajuan Mao and Shanming Li

Abstract: *Rooted in China's unique institutional and policy environment, the paper comprehensively analyzes the transmission mechanisms between the macroeconomy and the asset price fluctuations of China's housing market and the stock market. It also clarifies the direct influence of the macroeconomy on the price fluctuations of one market, and the indirect influence via another market, namely the spillover effect. Employed with VAR and RVAR models and integrated government intervention factors, the results show that: (1) The government intervention has significant influence on the strong dynamic relationship between China's stock market and housing market; (2) The institutional and policy environment significantly affects outcomes of macroeconomic control over two markets; (3) The direct influence of macroeconomic shocks on the price fluctuations of one market and the indirect influence via another market operate interactively and dynamically. The spillover effect plays an important role in the transmission mechanisms and sometimes is even a dominant position.*