

ITALO MORAIS SANTOS

PERSONAL INFORMATION

NAME: Italo Morais Santos
PLACE OF BIRTH: Fortaleza, Brazil
PHONE: +1 217 200 6768
EMAIL: italomoraisanto@boisestate.edu
ADDRESS: Department of Economics, College of Business and Economics
1910 University Dr., Boise, ID 83725

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Macroeconomics, Bayesian Econometrics, Monetary Economics.

EDUCATION

2016 – 2023 PH.D. Economics
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

2015 – 2016 M.S. Economics
Federal University of Ceará

2010 – 2014 B.S. Economics
Federal University of Ceará

WORK EXPERIENCE

Fall 2023 Visiting Assistant Professor
- Present Boise State University

JOB MARKET PAPER

"Towards Robust Local Projections" In this paper, I present a novel algorithm for conducting Bayesian inference on structural impulse responses using instrumental variables that are subject to measurement noise. My approach enables researchers to quantify the amount of noise contamination in the instrument and assess a necessary condition for the validity of the exclusion restriction. I apply this Bayesian Two-Stage LP method to analyze marginal income tax shocks and high-frequency monetary policy instruments, estimating their respective structural impulse responses. The results show that the narrative approach plays a crucial role in constructing tax instruments, while monetary policy instruments exhibit significant noise contamination.

PUBLICATIONS

"The impact of monetary policy shocks—Do not rule out central bank information effects or economic news." *with Sebastian Laumer. Economics Letters, 237.* This paper reassesses the effects of monetary policy and central bank information shocks, incorporating economic news using an SVAR model. It finds stronger and more enduring economic impacts from monetary policy shocks, while central bank information shocks have weaker effects, though persistent financial impacts highlight the need to consider both in policy decisions.

WORKING PAPERS

"Signal Processing Monetary Policy Surprises". *with Sebastian Laumer*. Monetary policy surprises defined as the variation in financial variables around FOMC meetings is a common source of identification for monetary policy shocks in empirical macroeconomics. It's well known such measures are contaminated by central bank information effects, high-frequency fluctuation in financial markets, and more. In this paper, we seek to fully characterize this excess noise by searching for optimal predictors of monetary policy surprises in teal-book variables and measures of economic news. We find that even after controlling for new releases, revisions in unemployment forecasts and the CPI releases still drive monetary policy surprises.

"On The Empirics of Optimal Tax policy Under Parameter Uncertainty." I study optimal tax policy when policymakers need to estimate and draw inferences regarding structural parameters from data. I show the standard practice is not valid in finite sample and demonstrate that using the policymaker welfare function as the loss function can be used to provide a Bayesian alternative in the finite sample case.

WORKING PROJECTS

The Dynamic Macroeconomic Impact of Pension Spending: Evidence from Brazil I provide new estimates of the government spending multiplier in the Brazilian economy from 1990-2020 using pension reforms to construct a government spending instrument. According to my early results, the multiplier in Brazil is positive and between 0.7 and 1.8.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Fall 2023 - Present	Intermediate Macroeconomics Undergraduate Level Boise State University
Spring 2024 - Present	International Economics Undergraduate Level Boise State University
Fall 2023 - Present	Principles of Macroeconomics Undergraduate Level Boise State University
Fall 2021 - Spring 2022	Economic Forecasting Advanced Undergraduate Level University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Summer 2021	Summer Research Award University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Fall 2016 - Spring 2023	Economics Department Graduate Fellowship University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Spring 2016	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Master's Degree Federal University of Ceará
Fall 2014	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Bachelor's Degree Federal University of Ceará
2012	Best Research Paper, Program of Tutorial Education Federal University of Ceará

OTHER SERVICES

Referee Reports Quarterly Review of Economics and Finance (2)

TECHNICAL SKILLS AND LANGUAGES

Programming R, Matlab, SQL
Languages Portuguese (Native), English (Fluent)

REFERENCES

Marcelo Cunha Madeiros University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	marcelom@illinois.edu David Kinley Hall, 1407 W Gregory Dr Urbana, IL 61801 United States
Professor Mark Daniel Bernhardt University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	danber@illinois.edu David Kinley Hall, 1407 W Gregory Dr Urbana, IL 61801 United States
Greg Howard University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	glhoward@illinois.edu David Kinley Hall, 1407 W Gregory Dr Urbana, IL 61801 United States