

Andrea Matranga

Departament d'Economia i Empresa
Universitat Pompeu Fabra
Ramon Trias Fargas 25-27
Barcelona, 8005
SPAIN

andrea.matranga@upf.edu
Phone +34 68 229 8153
Fax +34 93 542 2533

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Born January 2nd, 1984 in Palermo, Italy.

Nationality Italian

EDUCATION

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain
PhD Candidate in Economics

Sep 2010-present

References

Professor Hans-Joachim Voth
University of Zurich
Schnberggasse 1
CH-8001 Zurich, Switzerland
(+41) 446 345-547, voth@econ.uzh.ch

Professor Oded Galor
Department of Economics
Brown University
Providence, RI 02912, USA
(+01) 401 863-2117, oded.galor@brown.edu

Professor Luigi Pascali
Department of Economics
University of Warwick
CV4 7AL, Coventry, UK
(+44) 247 652-8268, l.pascali@warwick.ac.uk

Professor Davide Cantoni
Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich
Ludwigstr. 33/IV
80539 Munich, Germany
(+49) 892 180-6260, cantoni@lmu.de

Brown University, Providence, RI
Visiting Researcher at Economics Department

Sep 2012-Feb 2013

Toulouse School of Economics, Toulouse, France
M2 - Economic Theory and Econometrics (ECOMATH)

Sep 2009- June 2010

Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain
MAS Economics
MSc Economics

Sep 2008-June 2009
Sep 2006-June 2007

Università Commerciale L. Bocconi, Milan, Italy
Degree in International Economics and Management
Exchange Program at Erasmus University Rotterdam

Sep 2002-Sep 2005
Sep 2004-Dec 2004

Research and Teaching Fields

Primary Fields: Growth, Environmental Economics, Economic History

Secondary Fields: Economic Geography, Cultural Economics

CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

Aug 2009 - World Economic History Congress, Utrecht, The Netherlands Poster Session

Jan 2010 - Economic and Social History Seminar, Nuffield College, Oxford, UK

Feb 2010 - Brown Bag Seminar, Toulouse School of Economics, Toulouse, France

Dec 2010 - Economic and Business History Seminar, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain

Oct 2012 - Santa Clara University Leavey School of Business - Yellow Pad Research Seminar

Oct 2012 - Stanford University - Economics Department Social Science History Series

Nov 2012 - Brown University Joukowsky Institute for Archaeology - Brown Bag Series in Archaeology
Nov 2012 - Brown University Economics Department - Macro Lunch
Feb 2013 - Harvard Economic History Tea
Jun 2013 - World Congress of Cliometrics, Honolulu, Hawaii
May 2014 - Barcelona GSE PhD Jamboree 2014
Sep 2014 - Workshop on Culture and Institutions - Valencia
Oct 2014 - Economic History Workshop - Warwick
Oct 2014 - Economic and Social History Graduate Seminar - Oxford

REFEREEING

European Review of Economic History

TEACHING

2012-2013

1. Microeconomics II

2012-2013

1. International Economics II
2. Economic Development
3. Introductory Macroeconomics

2011-2012

1. Introductory Microeconomics
2. Economia Internacional II

2010-2011

1. Economics of the Labour Market
2. Intermediate Macroeconomics
3. Introductory Economics for Law Students

WORK EXPERIENCE

Sep 2011 to Sep 2012 - Research Officer for *Securities in times of insecurity: Asset return and holdings during political, social and economic crises in Europe, 1900-1950* (ERC Advanced Grant, ERC-2008-ADG-20080318).

Sep 2007 to June 2008 - I was a Junior Analyst with Amplus Italia Srl, a real estate asset management firm based in Milan, Italy. My primary duty was modeling future financial statements for possible investment projects under different assumptions of financing, end value and taxation regime.

LANGUAGES AND COMPUTER SKILLS

English and Italian (native), Spanish (good), French (fair)

Stata, MATLAB, ArcGIS, L^AT_EX

RESEARCH PAPERS

Climate-driven technical change: seasonality and the invention of agriculture (JOB MARKET PAPER)

During the Neolithic Revolution, seven populations independently invented agriculture. In this paper, I argue that this innovation was a response to a large increase in climatic seasonality. Hunter-gatherers in the most affected regions became sedentary in order to store food and smooth their consumption. I present a model capturing the key incentives for adopting agriculture, and I test the resulting predictions against a global panel dataset of climate conditions and Neolithic adoption dates. I find that invention and adoption were both systematically more likely in places with higher seasonality. The findings of this paper imply that seasonality patterns 10,000 years ago were amongst the major determinants of the present day global distribution of crop productivities, ethnic groups, cultural traditions, and political institutions.

What have the romans ever done for us? Aqueduct suitability and the administration of the Empire

The ancient Romans built over a thousand aqueducts throughout the Empire, supplying water for private, agricultural, and manufacturing use. To what extent did the engineering superiority of the Romans promote peaceful relations with their subjects? Provinces with many aqueducts were usually under civilian administration, while provinces with fewer aqueducts were generally administered by the commander of the local legion. To limit the possibility of reverse causality between efficient capital investments and sentiment towards the occupiers, I construct a measure for the usefulness of Roman hydraulic technology, using cross-sectional variation in rainfall and in the availability of natural springs to. I find that provinces with a greater fraction of dry land within 30km of a suitable spring had more aqueducts, and were also more likely to be under civilian administration.

Militarism and the Mongols: the persistent cultural effects of pastoral occupation.

The Mongol Empire was the largest contiguous empire in world history, at the height of its power stretching from China to Turkey. I show that areas that suffered through Mongol rule in the 13th century are still more militaristic today, as evidenced by the answers given by the inhabitants of 273 sub-national regions in the course of the World Value Survey. To address the possibility of endogeneity between differences in pre-existing cultural attitudes, and the decision of Mongols over which areas to occupy, I use distance to the Eurasian Steppe as instrument for invasions by Mongols. The power of the instrument derives from the fact that Mongol warfare was highly livestock-intensive, and all major expeditions had to start from their Steppe homeland. The exclusion restriction is justified by the loss of geopolitical relevance the Steppe suffered after the invention of gunpowder made horse archers obsolete. For the past 500 years, regions closer to the Steppe have been no more likely to suffer invasion than those facing other ecosystems — and yet their inhabitants still bear the cultural scars of distant invaders.