

TSVETANA SPASOVA

Personal Data

Faculty of Business and Economics Phone: +41 78 863 69 98
University of Basel E-mail: tsvetana.spasova@gmail.com
Peter Merian-Weg 6 Homepage: <https://sites.google.com/site/tsvetanaspasova1/>
4002 Basel, Switzerland Citizenship: Bulgaria

Research Fields

Econometrics, Microeconomics, Income Distribution & Inequality, International Economics

Education

2016 **PhD in Economics, University of Basel, Switzerland**
2010 **MSc in Financial Mathematics, University of Kaiserslautern, Germany**
2007 **BSc in Mathematics, University of Kaiserslautern, Germany**

Research Visits

Spring 2017 **University of California, Berkeley and the Center for Equitable Growth, USA**
Spring 2015 **University of Oxford, Nuffield College and the Institute for New Economic Thinking at the Oxford Martin School, United Kingdom**
Summer 2010 **KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden**

Research Experience

2017 - 2018 **University of Basel, Switzerland**
Research Fellow
2016 - 2017 Postdoctoral Researcher
2010 - 2016 Research Assistant for Professor Christian Kleiber
Bank for International Settlements, Monetary and Economic Department, Switzerland
2015 - 2017 Research Intern (part-time)
Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics & German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence, Germany
2007 - 2010 Student Research Assistant (part-time)

Research Papers

“Estimating Income Distributions From Grouped Data: A Minimum Quantile Distance Approach” (Working Paper)
“Financial Openness and Inequality”, with Stefan Avdjiev (Working Paper)
“Regional Income Distribution in the European Union: A Parametric Approach” (Work in Progress)
“Decomposing Inequality Across Income Classes in Europe” (Work in Progress)

Teaching Experience

2013 - 2016 Introduction to R, University of Basel (Lecturer)
2011 - 2016 Introduction to Econometrics, University of Basel (Teaching Assistant)
2011 - 2015 Time Series Analysis I & II, University of Basel (Teaching Assistant)

Scholarships & Awards

| | |
|-------------|--|
| 2017 | Basler Kantonalbank Scholarship for research visit to the University of California, Berkeley |
| 2016 | Grant of the WWZ Forum, FV-48 (for 12 Months), University of Basel |
| 2015 | The Econometric Society Travel Grant; Basler Kantonalbank Scholarship for research visits |
| 2014 | European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) Grant |
| 2013 | Swiss Foundation for Research in Social Sciences (FORS) Scholarship |
| 2012 - 2013 | Selected Participant in the Woman into Industry (WIN) Program of Novartis |
| 2011 | Selected Participant in the Global Perspectives Program |

Presentations at Scientific Conferences and Seminars

| | |
|------|---|
| 2017 | 73rd Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Tokyo, Japan; Dynamics, Economic Growth and International Trade (DEGIT) - XXII Conference, Paris, France; Poverty Reduction, Equity and Growth Network (PEGNet) Conference, Zurich, Switzerland |
| 2016 | 72nd Annual Congress of the International Institute of Public Finance, Lake Tahoe, Nevada, USA; Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics, Lugano, Switzerland; Conference on The Dynamics of Inequalities and their Perception (DynIPer), Marseille, France |
| 2015 | 11th World Congress of the Econometric Society, Montréal, Canada; 6th Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Luxembourg; Annual Congress of the Swiss Society of Economics and Statistics, Basel, Switzerland; Graduate Research Seminar, Nuffield College, University of Oxford, United Kingdom |
| 2014 | Conference on Crises and the Distribution, Berlin, Germany; European Consortium for Sociological Research (ECSR) Conference, Berlin, Germany; Annual Meeting of the Austrian Economic Association (NOeG), Vienna, Austria |

Other Experience

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 2014 - 2016 | Max Geldner Foundation Committee Representative |
| 2011 - 2013 | Public Relations and Fundraising for the Calcutta Project Basel |

Other Skills

| | |
|--------------|---|
| Programming: | R & RStudio, Stata, L ^A T _E X, Microsoft Office |
| Languages: | Fluent in Bulgarian, English and German |

References

Prof. Christian Kleiber

Professor of Econometrics and Statistics
Faculty of Business and Economics
University of Basel
Peter Merian-Weg 6
4002 Basel
Switzerland
+41 61 207 33 67
christian.kleiber@unibas.ch

Prof. Kurt Schmidheiny

Professor of Applied Econometrics
Faculty of Business and Economics
University of Basel
Peter Merian-Weg 6
4002 Basel
Switzerland
+41 61 207 33 72
kurt.schmidheiny@unibas.ch

Stefan Avdjiev

Senior Economist and Deputy
Head of International Banking
and Financial Statistics
Bank for International Settlements
Centralbahnplatz 2
4002 Basel, Switzerland
+41 61 280 81 48
stefan.avdjiev@bis.org

“Estimating Income Distributions From Grouped Data: A Minimum Quantile Distance Approach”

We suggest a novel application of the minimum quantile distance approach for estimating income distributions from grouped data. Employing the Dagum distribution, we apply the suggested method to 30 European countries. Due to the fact that we also have representative microdata sets for all of the observed countries, we are able to compare our parametric estimates directly with estimates from the corresponding more informative and elaborate microdata sets. Our parametric estimates are very close to their counterparts computed directly from the microdata sets.

“Financial Openness and Inequality”, with Stefan Avdjiev

Although there is a large body of literature on the link between trade openness and inequality, there is little empirical research on the relationship between external financial openness and inequality. In this paper, we attempt to fill this gap in the literature by conducting an empirical examination of the link between Gini-based inequality measures and key measures of financial openness for a sample of 47 countries between 1991 and 2010. We find that in emerging market economies the impact of external financial openness on inequality varies considerably over time. An increase in a country’s external liabilities is associated with an initial rise and a subsequent fall in inequality. The main driver of this pattern appears to be foreign direct investment, whose estimated impact exhibits a very similar dynamics, in line with existing theoretical predictions. Meanwhile, the estimated impact of external financial openness on inequality in advanced economies tends to be considerably smaller than in emerging market economies.