

CURRICULUM VITAE

Astrid Loretta Ayala Castellanos

PERSONAL DATA

Place of birth: Guatemala City, Guatemala
 Nationality: Guatemalan
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EMPLOYMENT

2014 - School of Business, **Francisco Marroquin University**, Guatemala

- Director of the Legal Master (LL.M.) in Finance program
- Co-director of the Guatemalan Econometric Study Group (GESG)

STUDIES

PhD in Economics (Summa Cum Laude), University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

- Thesis title: *Three Essays on Real and Nominal Macroeconomic Variables in Latin America*
- Supervisors: Luis Albérico Gil-Alana (University of Navarra) and Juncal Cuñado (University of Navarra)

Master of Economics and Finance (MEF), University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

- Thesis title: *The relationship between the economic value added and the market value of the equity*
- Supervisor: Rocío Sánchez Mangas (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid)

Master of Economics and Finance (Magna Cum Laude), Francisco Marroquin University, Guatemala

- Thesis title: Genesis and crisis of moral principles in contemporaneous Western society from a Freudian psychoanalytic perspective.
- Supervisor: Wenceslao Giménez-Bonet (Francisco Marroquin University)

Master in Business Administration (Summa Cum Laude), Francisco Marroquin University, Guatemala

Public Accountant and Auditor (Summa Cum Laude), Francisco Marroquin University, Guatemala

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Art Market** (economic value of art, art market analysis, art entrepreneurship)
- **Quantitative Macroeconomics** (economic growth, trade cycle, public finances, economic convergence, unemployment, currency exchange rate, comparative economics, capital markets and the real economy).
- **Financial Econometrics** (distribution of returns, volatility models).
- Specific topics of applied econometrics (dynamic conditional score models, copulas, state space models, non-stationary time series, structural breaks, unit root tests, fractional integration).

PUBLICATIONS

- Several contributions to the literature on **dynamic conditional score models (DCS)**. See the following web page: <http://www.gasmodel.com/gaspapers.htm> (please search "Ayala" on this website).
- (P21) Blazsek, S., and Licht, A., Ayala, A., Su-Ping Liu (2024). Core inflation rate for China and the ASEAN-10 countries: Smoothed signal for score-driven local level plus scale models. **Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics**, <https://doi.org/10.1515/snnde-2023-0042>.
- (P20) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Licht, A. (2024) Score function scaling for QAR plus Beta-t-EGARCH: An empirical application to the S&P 500. **Applied Economics**, <https://doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2023.2208335>.

- (P19) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Licht, A. (2024) Signal Smoothing for Score-Driven Models: A Linear Approach, **Communications in Statistics – Simulation and Computation**, <https://doi.org/10.1080/03610918.2022.2032165>.
- (P18) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Licht, A. (2023) Volatility forecasting using quasi-score-driven models with an application to the coronavirus pandemic. **Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics**, <https://doi.org/10.1515/sn-de-2022-0085>.
- (P17) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Licht, A. (2023) Comparison of Score-Driven Equity-Gold Portfolios During the COVID-19 Pandemic Using Model Confidence Sets. **Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics**, <https://doi.org/10.1515/sn-de-2022-0107>
- (P16) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Escribano, A. (2023) Anticipating extreme losses using score-driven shape filters. **Studies in Nonlinear Dynamics & Econometrics**, <https://doi.org/10.1515/sn-de-2021-0102>
- (P15) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and Licht, A. (2021) Score-driven stochastic seasonality of the Russian rouble: An application case study for the period of 1999 to 2020, **Empirical Economics**, 62: 2179–2203. <http://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s00181-021-02103-6>
- (P14) Ayala, A., and Blazsek, S. (2020) Score-driven panel data models of the capital structure of US firms. **Applied Economics Letters**, 28 (19): 1666–1670. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2020.1845293>
- (P13) Ayala, A., and Blazsek, S. (2019) Score-driven models of stochastic seasonality in location and scale: An application case study of the Indian rupee to USD exchange rate. **Applied Economics**, 51 (37): 4083–4103. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2019.1588952>
- (P12) Ayala, A., and Blazsek, S. (2019) Score-driven currency exchange rate seasonality as applied to the Guatemalan Quetzal/US Dollar. **Journal of the Spanish Economic Association (SERIEs)**. 10 (1): 65–92. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s13209-018-0186-0>
- (P11) Ayala, A., and Blazsek, S. (2018) Score-driven copula models for portfolios of two risky assets, **The European Journal of Finance** 24 (18): 1861–1884. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1351847X.2018.1464488>
- (P10) Ayala, A. and Blazsek, S. (2018) Equity market neutral hedge funds and the stock market: an application of score-driven copula models. **Applied Economics**. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2018.1440062>
- (P9) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., Cuñado, J., Gil-Alana, L. (2016). Regime-switching purchasing power parity in Latin America: Monte Carlo unit root tests with dynamic conditional score, **Applied Economics**, 48 (29): 2675–2696. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2015.1128076>
- (P8) Ayala, A. and Blazsek, S. (2014). Fiscal sustainability of Eurozone governments: An empirical review of the past decade, **Review of European Studies**, 6 (1): 143–150. <http://dx.doi.org/10.5539/res.v6n1p143>
- (P7) Ayala, A. and Blazsek, S. (2014). Contagion of sovereign debt in the Eurozone, **Theoretical Economics Letters**, 4 (1): 98–109. <http://dx.doi.org/10.4236/tel.2014.41016>
- (P6) Ayala, A. and Blazsek, S.A. (2013). Structural breaks in public finances in Central and Eastern European countries, **Economic Systems**, 37 (1): 45–60. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.ecosys.2012.06.004>
- (P5) Ayala, A., Cuñado, J. and Gil-Alana, L. (2013). Real Convergence: Empirical Evidence for Latin America, **Applied Economics**, 45 (22): 3220–3229. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00036846.2012.703317>
- (P4) Ayala, A., Cuñado, J. and Gil-Alana, L. (2012). Real convergence in Latin America: a fractionally integrated approach, **Applied Financial Economics**, 22 (20): 1713–1717. <https://doi.org/10.1080/09603107.2012.674204>
- (P3) Ayala, A., Cuñado, J. and Gil-Alana, L. (2012). Unemployment Hysteresis: Empirical Evidence for Latin America, **Journal of Applied Economics**, 15 (2): 213–233. [https://doi.org/10.1016/S1514-0326\(12\)60010-5](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1514-0326(12)60010-5)
- (P2) Ayala, A. and Blazsek, S. (2012). How has the financial crisis affected the fiscal convergence of Central and Eastern Europe to the Eurozone? **Applied Economics Letters**, 19 (5): 471–476. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13504851.2011.583212>
- (P1) Ibarra, G. and Ayala, A. (2006). A market proposal for auditing the financial statements of public companies, **Journal of Management for Value**, 1 (2).

BOOKS, BOOKS CHAPTERS

- (C1) Ayala, A., Blazsek, S., and González, R. B. (2015). Default risk of sovereign debt in Central America. In: Nigel Finch (Ed.), **Emerging Markets and Sovereign Risk** (pp. 18–44). ISBN 978-1-137-45065-4, Palgrave Macmillan.

- (B1) Ayala, Astrid (2011). **Génesis y crisis de los principios morales de la sociedad occidental contemporánea desde la perspectiva del psicoanálisis freudiano**. ISBN 978-3-8465-6329-8, Editorial Académica Española.

WORKING PAPERS

- Score-driven equity plus gold portfolios before and during the COVID-19 pandemic models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 1/2022, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2022. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/AYALA-BLAZSEK-LICHT-2022-GESG-WP.pdf>
- A short note on the scaling parameter in score-driven filters (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 3/2022, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2022. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/AYALA-BLAZSEK-LICHT-2022-GESG-WP-3-2022.pdf>
- Optimal Choice of the Scaling Parameters in Score-Driven Filters (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 4/2022, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/BLAZSEK-AYALA-LICHT-2022-GESG-WP-04-2022.pdf>
- Volatility forecasting for the coronavirus pandemic using quasi-score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 2/2021, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2021. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/AYALA-BLAZSEK-LICHT-2021-GESG-WP-2-2021.pdf>
- Optimal signal extraction for score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 1/2021, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2021. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/AYALA-BLAZSEK-LICHT-2021-GESG-WP-2021-01.pdf>
- Dynamic analysis of the capital structure of S&P 500 firms under unconventional monetary policy using score-driven panel data models (with S. Blazsek). Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 3/2020, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2020. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/AYALA-BLAZSEK-2020-GESG-WP-1.pdf>
- Maximum likelihood estimation of score-driven models with dynamic shape parameters: an application to Monte Carlo value-at-risk (with S. Blazsek and A. Escribano). Working Paper 19-12, **University Carlos III of Madrid**, Department of Economics, 2019. <https://e-archivo.uc3m.es/handle/10016/28638>
- Score-driven time series models with dynamic shape: an application to the Standard & Poor's 500 index (with S. Blazsek and A. Escribano). Working Paper 19-05, **University Carlos III of Madrid**, Department of Economics, 2019. <http://hdl.handle.net/10016/28133>
- Score-driven models of local level, seasonality and volatility: an application to the currency exchange rate of Indian rupee to USD (with S. Blazsek), Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 1/2018, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2018. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/AYALA-BLAZSEK-2018-GESG-WP.pdf>
- New score-driven models for trimming and Winsorizing: an application for Guatemalan Quetzal to US Dollar (with S. Blazsek), Guatemalan Econometric Study Group Discussion Paper 2/2017, **Francisco Marroquin University**, School of Business, 2017. <https://en.ufm.edu/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/AYALA-BLAZSEK-2017-UFM-WP.pdf>

CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS, RESEARCH SEMINARS

- Scaling parameters for QAR plus beta-t-EGARCH (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht). **25th Dynamic Econometrics Conference**, Bayes Business School, London, UK, April 2023.
- Anticipating extreme losses using score-driven shape filters (with S. Blazsek and A. Escribano), **Summer Workshop in Economics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences**, August 2022 (online).
- Volatility forecasting for the coronavirus pandemic using quasi-score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht), **World Finance Banking Symposium**, Budapest, December 2021 (online).
- Volatility forecasting for the coronavirus pandemic using quasi-score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht), 2021 **Vietnam Symposium in Banking and Finance**, Hanoi, October 2021 (online).

- Volatility forecasting for the coronavirus pandemic using quasi-score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht), 24th **Dynamic Econometrics Conference**, Timberlake, September 2021 (online).
- Optimal signal extraction for score-driven models (with S. Blazsek and A. Licht), 23rd **Dynamic Econometrics Conference**, Timberlake, March 2021 (online).
- Score-driven models with stochastic seasonality for currency exchange rates (with S. Blazsek), Research Seminar, University of Istmo, Guatemala City, July 2019.
- Score-driven copula models for financial portfolios (with S. Blazsek), Research Seminar, University of Istmo, Guatemala City, November 2018.
- New score-driven models for trimming and Winsorizing: An application for Guatemalan Quetzal to US Dollar, **Annual Economic Research Conference (SIEG), Bank of Guatemala**, Guatemala City, October 2018.
- Endogenous switching vector autoregression: stock market and economic growth dynamics in China, Financial Forecasting, **Oxford-Man Institute - Society for Financial Econometrics (OMI-SoFiE) Financial Econometrics Summer School, University of Oxford**, Oxford, July 2013.
- A dynamic latent-factor panel data model for public debt in the Eurozone, **Hungarian Economic Society Annual Conference**, Budapest, December 2011.
- A dynamic latent-factor panel data model for public debt in the Eurozone, **Macro-Finance Workshop, University of Navarra**, Pamplona, November 2011.

GUATEMALAN ECONOMETRIC STUDY GROUP (GESG) RESEARCH SEMINARS

Guatemalan Econometric Study Group (GESG) research seminar presentations at **Francisco Marroquin University** since 2014. See at the link: <https://en.ufm.edu/gesg/research-seminars/>, or in the next section.

- Score-driven time series models with dynamic shape: an application to the Standard & Poor's 500 index, March 2019.
- Score-driven models of local level, seasonality and volatility: an application to the currency exchange rate of Indian rupee to USD, June 2018.
- New score-driven models for trimming and Winsorizing: an application for Guatemalan Quetzal to US Dollar, September 2017.
- Equity market neutral hedge funds and the stock market: an application of score-driven copula models, Agosto 2017.
- Forecast performance of dynamic conditional score copula models, June 2016.
- Regime-switching purchasing power parity in Latin America: Monte Carlo unit root tests with dynamic conditional score, January 2016.
- Default risk of sovereign debt in Central America, November 2014.
- Structural breaks in public finances in Central and Eastern European countries, June 2014.

REFEREE FOR JOURNALS

- Domain Social Sciences and Humanities of the Netherlands Organisation for Scientific Research (NWO, the Dutch research council)
- National Tax Journal
- Applied Financial Economics
- Technological and Economic Development of Economy
- Applied Economics
- Applied Economic Letters
- Latin American Economic Review

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIP

- Journal of New Finance

RESEARCH VISITS

1/2012 Postgraduate Research Visit, University of Navarra, Pamplona

8/2010 Visiting researcher (fiscal convergence of CEE countries), Central Bank of Hungary, Budapest

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2022-2024: Spillover Effects of COVID-19 Pandemic in G20 Countries". Financing organization: Wenzhou Kean University. Main researcher: Su-Ping Liu.
- 2010: Convergence of CEE countries to the Eurozone in the presence of structural changes. Members of the project: Jerome Vandebussche (Deputy Division Chief, IMF), Szabolcs Blazsek (University of Navarra) and Astrid Ayala (Francisco Marroquin University). Financing organization: Central Bank of Hungary.

TEACHING

Francisco Marroquin University (Guatemala and Panama), School of Business and Faculty of Economics

- Microeconomics (MBA, LL.M., and Master in Real Estate Project Management)
- Macroeconomics (MBA, LL.M., Master in Real Estate Project Management, and Master in Finance)
- Valuation (MBA)
- Value Based Management (LL.M.)
- Valuation in an M&A Context (LL.M.)
- Valuation Capstone (LL.M.)
- Corporate Finance (LL.M.)
- Economic Value Added (M.Sc. in Economics and Business)
- Financial Econometrics (Master in Finance)
- Financial Analysis (MBA)
- Budgeting (MBA)
- Wealth Management (MBA)
- Working Capital Management (MBA)
- Financial Statement Analysis in different Industries (MBA)
- MBA Challenge (MBA)
- Financial Accounting (MBA, LL.M. Master in Finance)
- Competition and Entrepreneurship (Master in Economics)
- Financial Principles (Undergraduate program in Law)
- Business Valuation Capstone (Executive Program of Francisco Marroquin University and Tulane University)
- The Art Challenge (CoLab Francisco Marroquin University)

Centro de Estudios Superiores Online de Madrid Manuel Ayau (Spain) www.ommayau.com

- Financial Statement Analysis (Master in Value Investing)
- Accounting and Financial Analysis (Master in Design and Entrepreneurial Development of Cities)
- Introduction to Accounting (Master in Value Investing)

MEMBERSHIPS

- Guatemalan Econometric Study Group (2014-present) (<https://en.ufm.edu/gesg/>)
- The Society for Financial Econometrics (2013-2015) (<http://sofie.stern.nyu.edu/>)

LANGUAGES

- Spanish: Native
- English: Full professional proficiency