Closing Remarks

Fotis Papailias [1][2]

[1] King's College London

[2] Data Analytics for Macro and Finance Research Centre

Advanced Analytics
New Methods and Applications for Macroeconomic Policy
(On the behalf of the scientific committee)

November 5, 2021

What Makes a Great Conference?

(1) Academic Programme

- Number of high-quality papers related to the theme/topic of the conference
- Nowcasting and text analysis
- Machine learning methods in monetary models and policy
- Regulation
- Big data
- Central Banking & Academia

(2) Keynote Speakers and Plenary Sessions

- Top-notch speakers
  - provide an impact
  - change the way we interpret academic as well as non-academic concepts
- Cynthia Rudin (Day 2)
  - Importance of interpretability of machine learning models
- Jesús Fernández-Villaverde (Day 3)
  - Understanding and insights on the use of machine learning in macroeconomics
  - Now essential in central banking and elsewhere

2021. Advanced Analytics: New Methods and Applications for Macroeconomic Policy, 2020. Modelling with Big Data and Machine Learning: Measuring Economic Instability, 2019. Modelling with Big Data and Machine Learning: Interpretability and Model Uncertainty, 2018. Big Data and Machine Learning.

(3) Opportunities to Young Researchers

- Room to early-career colleagues
    - need attention to their work to improve it further
    - need the skills to present in an audience who will repeatedly ask questions
    - make them better scientists
- Large participation of the audience in our poster sessions

(4) Venue & Location

- Pre-COVID19
  - Moorgate Auditorium of the Prudential Regulation Authority, Bank of England
  - Heart of London, comfortable rooms, high quality equipment, ease of access
- Last 2 Years: faced with the following options
  - Give up the idea of the conference, or
  - work harder and even more determined to run our events online without making discounts in quality or duration
  - Technology (Zoom & Whova): organise everything smoothly - contribute to science

(5) Organisation & Conference Staff

- Plan of actions, backup plan (or... plans!!)
- Conference staff were on alert throughout the conference
- Rehearsals and checks with speakers and session chairs - avoid crisis

(6) Conference Participants

- Conference == its audience == YOU!
- Interest showed in each presentation
- Questions and the feedback to our speakers
- One of the biggest events -in terms of participation- that we ever organised

What Makes a Great Conference?

Thanks

- Keynote Speakers: Cynthia Rudin & Jesús Fernández-Villaverde
- Session Speakers and Discussants
- Session Chairs
- Scientific Committee
- Bank of England, ECB and King's College London colleagues
- Andy Blake (CCBS, BoE), George Kapetanios (KCL)
- Maria Brady (CCBS, BoE) and Patsy Faulds (CCBS, BoE)
- **Special thanks** to Andi Joseph (BoE)

Thanks to All of You

- See you again?
- This time, next year
- **Important:** Feedback on the Event - reminder, e-mail

It was a Great Conference!