

JAN DURAS

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Summary

Economist with 20 years of experience in complex data analysis, economic modeling, and forecasting. Highly skilled in econometrics, capable of extracting valuable insights from data, and communicating them effectively. Commanding a strong understanding of economic and revenue forecasting, dedicated to providing improved support for decision makers during the period of unprecedented challenges.

Professional Experience

2022-present **SENIOR ECONOMIST** *Office of Economic and Revenue Forecasts, City of Seattle*

- Develop and employ an error correction model to produce economic forecasts of the Seattle metropolitan area
- Responsible for the forecasts of roughly \$1 billion of the City of Seattle's tax revenue (sales tax, business and occupation tax, payroll expense tax, real estate excise tax)
- Develop a forecasting model for the newly approved JumpStart payroll expense tax, worked on securing access to confidential ESD unemployment insurance data which will inform that forecast
- Undertook a thorough forecast accuracy assessment for employment, personal income, as well as for sales tax, business and occupation tax, real estate excise tax revenues to identify the underlying sources of forecast errors
- Supervise a junior economist on the team

2019-2021 **REGIONAL & POLICY ECONOMIST** *City Budget Office, City of Seattle*

- Developed and employed an error correction model to produce economic forecasts of the Seattle metropolitan area
- Responsible for the forecasts of roughly \$800 million of the City of Seattle's tax revenue (sales tax, business and occupation tax, real estate excise tax)
- Revised the forecasting models: introduced data from new sources, implemented new methods and equation specifications to better account for the impact of COVID-19 pandemic and work from home on economy and tax revenue
- Streamlined and automated time consuming data processing for the forecasting models, freeing up time for further forecast improvements

2015-2019 **ASSISTANT PROFESSOR** *Department of Economics, Texas Tech University*

- Conducted economic research focused on recent developments in U.S. economy and its labor market, including business cycle fluctuations, jobless recoveries and job polarization
- Courses taught: Time Series Econometrics, Economic and Business Forecasting, Macroeconomic Theory and Policy, Intermediate Macroeconomics, Seminar in Economic Policy, Topics in Labor Economics
- Supervised five graduate students

2014-2015 **VISITING ASSISTANT PROFESSOR** *Department of Economics, Penn State University*

- Courses taught: Economics of Public Expenditures, Labor Economics and Labor Markets

2010-2014 **RESEARCH ANALYST** *Research Department, Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis*

- Conducted research on business cycle fluctuations in U.S. labor and product markets
- Applied methods from Bayesian econometrics to estimate models analyzing sources of business cycle fluctuations in employment, unemployment rate, hours worked, sales and inventories

2002-2005 **JUNIOR RESEARCHER** *Institute of Economic Research, Slovak Academy of Sciences*

- Worked on the development of a general equilibrium model used to estimate the economic impacts of Slovak Republic's integration into European Union
- Led a team tasked to develop a small scale econometric error correction model used to forecast main macroeconomic indicators for Slovak Republic

2002-2004 **ECONOMIST** *NIRAS Consulting Engineers and Planners A/S*

- Developed and utilized Microsoft VBA based sector models used to estimate the costs associated with the implementation of European Union's directives for environmental protection

Education

2014	Ph.D. in Economics	University of Minnesota
2013	M.A. in Economics	University of Minnesota
2008	M.A. in Economics	CERGE-EI, Charles University, Czech Republic
2002	M.Sc. in Mathematics	Comenius University, Slovak Republic

Skills

R, EViews, Stata, SQL, Matlab, SAS, GAMS