

The Computerization of Economics
Computers, Programming, and the Internet
in the History of Economics

12-13 May 2022

Venue: Université Paris Est Créteil, Campus centre (room P37, T building)

Day 1 - Thursday, May 12th

09:30-10:00 | Welcome, registration & coffee

10:00-10:30 | **Opening**

Welcome from Emilie Frenkiel, deputy director of the LIPHA research centre
Introductory remarks by the editors of the special issue

10:30-12:00 | **Session 1 – Data, Computers, and Economics**

Chair: Emilie Frenkiel (Université Paris Est Créteil, LIPHA)

Julien Gradoz (Université de Lille, CLERSE) | *Computerization and the Mobilization of Scanner Data by National Statistical Institutes*

Laetitia Lenel (Humboldt University Berlin) | *The Need for Speed. Electronic Computers in Business Forecasting at Mid-Century*

Joseph Tinu (St. Francis De Sales' College, Seminary Hills, Nagpur, India) | *The Role of Digital Household-Level Data and Analytical Software in Reshaping the Development of Labour Research in India*

12:00-13:30 | Lunch break



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D'ÉTUDE DU POLITIQUE HANNAH ARENDT
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13:30-15:00 | Session 2 – **Economists, Computers, and Business**

Chair: Jean-Sébastien Lenfant (Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne, PRISM)

Johanna Gautier-Morin (European University Institute, Florence) | *The Revenge of the Nerds: How Ph.D. Scientists Took Over the Market and Financial Economics*

Edward Nik-Khah (Roanoke College) | *Platforming Economics*

Pedro G. Duarte (INSPER Institute, São Paulo) and **Francesco Sergi** (Université Paris Est Créteil) | *Computer Operators and Software Engineers at Data Resources Inc.: An Oral History (1969-1983)*

15:00-15:30 | Coffee break

15:30-16:30 | Session 3 - **The Computerization of Economics: Oral Histories**

Chair: Marcel Boumans (University of Utrecht)

Cléo Chassonnery-Zaïgouche (University of Cambridge, CRASSH), Pierrick Dechaux (REHPERE), Thomas Delcey (HOPE Center), Dorian Jullien (Université Paris 1, CES), Romain Plassard (Université Paris Dauphine, LEDa), Francesco Sergi (Université Paris Est Créteil, LIPHA) | **Presentation of the History of Economics Society 'New Initiatives' Project: "The Computerization of Economics: Oral Histories"**

20:00 | Conference dinner | Venue TBA

Day 2 - Friday, May 13th

09:00-09:30 | Welcome and coffee

09:30-11:00 | Session 4 - **Computers and their Impact on Scientific Communities**

Chair: Cléo Chassonnery-Zaïgouche (University of Cambridge, CRASSH)

Chung-Tang Cheng (National Taipei University) | *From Computers to Computers: The EDSAC and Cambridge Microeconometricians*

Oliver Beige (Visionary Lab, Vienna) | *An IBM 650 in the Basement of the Business School. A History of Computing and Economics at Carnegie Graduate School of Industrial Administration*

Andrej Svorenčik (Center for the History of Political Economy, Duke University) | *A Tale of Two Laboratories: The Role of Computers in the Emergence of Experimental Economics*

11:00-11:30 | Coffee break



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11:30-13:00 | Session 5 | **Algorithms and Software in Macroeconomics**

Chair: Pierrick Dechaux (REhPERE)

Anelí Bongers, Benedetto Molinari and José L. Torres (Department of Economics, University of Malaga) | *Computers, Programming, and Dynamic General Equilibrium Macroeconomics Modelling*

Béatrice Cherrier (Ecole Polytechnique, CREST), **Aurélien Saidi** (EconomiX, Université Paris Nanterre), and **Francesco Sergi** (LIPHA, UPEC) | *“Write Your Model Almost as You Would on Paper and Dynare Will Take Care of the Rest!”*

13:00-14:15 Lunch break

14:15-15:15 | Session 6 | **Computers and the Epistemology of Economics**

Chair: Sylvie Thoron (Université Paris Est Créteil, LIPHA)

Marc Gaudry (Université de Montréal) | *Seemingly Computer-Driven Choices in Theory, Tools and Documentation of Results: A Few Trends Away from Realism Observed over 60 Years of Transport Economics*

Maria Alejandra Madi (UNICAMP and Center for Pragmatism Studies, Pontificia Universidade Católica de São Paulo) | *Computer Simulations and the Real World: Rethinking the Epistemology of Economics in the Light of Pragmatism*

15:15-15:45 | Coffee break

15:45-16:45 | Session 7 | **Economists, Computers and Government**

Chair: Francesco Sergi (Université Paris Est Créteil, LIPHA)

John Mauro Perdomo Munévar (Universidad Nacional de Colombia) and **Sebastian Enrique Acosta Madiedo Aranzalez** (Universidad Nacional de Colombia) | *Strange in a Stranger's Land: Robert S. McNamara, Computational Methods and Systems Analysis Offices in the U.S. Government*

Narcis Tulbure (Department of Finance, Bucharest University of Economic Studies) | *Disruptions to Plan: Computers, Data, and the Transition from Socialism in Romania*

16:45-17:45 | **Concluding remarks by the editors of the special issue**

Scientific Committee: Marcel Boumans (Utrecht University, School of Economics), Pierrick Dechaux (REHPERE), Cléo Chassonnery-Zaïgouche (University of Cambridge, CRASSH), Francesco Sergi (UPEC, LIPHA)

Local organizers: Hamida Berrahal (Université Paris Est Créteil, LIPHA) and Francesco Sergi.



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