Economic Stability and Measurement

New techniques for gathering and analyzing information for monitoring financial and price stability

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Agenda

- Changes in
 - Consumer engagement
 - Data generation
- Economic Measurement
 - Problems
 - Pillars of new measurements

Changes in Consumer Engagement

- The way consumers interact in virtual world
 - Information and Price comparison
 - Loyalty (lack of)
 - Personal goods and services (nano-services)
 - Information Sharing

Two very large changes in pricing behavior...

- Traditional
 - Product Attribute based
 - Value on Price obfuscation
 - Brick and Mortar stores
- Platform
 - Robo-Pricing pricing
 - Value on Data Organization
 - Amazon, Walmart, and Wayfair
 - Typically advertise a pricing strategy
- Quantum Prices
 - Price Clustering pricing
 - Value on Price Discrimination
 - Zara, H&M, Apple, and Ikea
 - Typically advertise prices

Paradigm in the organization of the data

- Start of Surveys?
 - 1400 BC Egypt middle kingdom
 - The Egyptians first used it to accurately divide land into plots for the purpose of taxation.
 - 120 BC
 - Greeks standardized procedures for conducting surveys.
 - 1 AC
 - Herod survey in Judea First evil and questionably manipulated survey of population
- Very useful Paradigm
 - Geography
 Socio-Economic Conditions

Netflix?

• Instead of approximating preferences, lets measure preferences



 People that like these movies might be very different in terms of geography and economic conditions

Netflix: Change in preferences



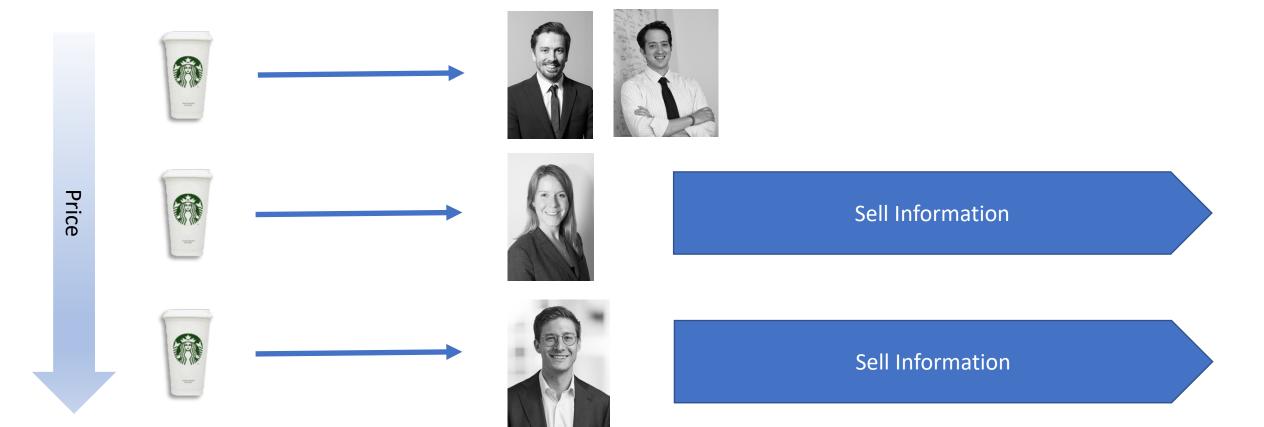




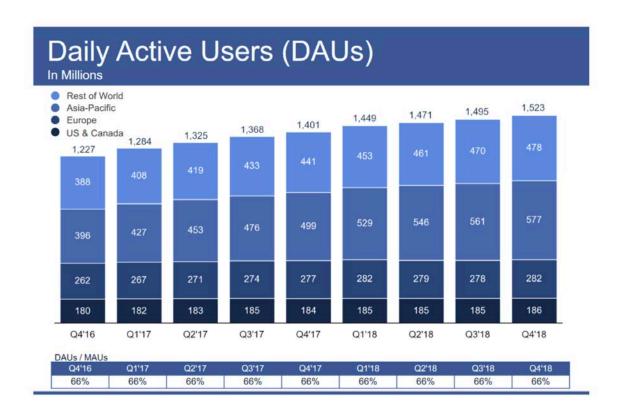


Bundle Products

• Sell the Soda to whom?



Facebook



Advertising Revenue by User Geography In Millions \$16,640 Rest of World Asia-Pacific Europe US & Canada \$13,539 \$13,038 \$12,779 \$11,795 \$2,406 \$10,142 \$2,048 \$4,087 \$9,164 \$2,080 \$8.629 \$947 \$7,857 \$832 \$1,749 \$3,266 \$3,196 \$3,247 \$776 \$2.992 \$2,434 \$2,209 \$2,025 \$1,869 \$8,246 \$6,547 \$6,271 \$6,137 \$5,559 \$4,912 \$4,435 \$4,450 \$3,851 Q4'16 Q1'17 Q2'17 Q3'17 Q4'17 Q1'18 Q2'18 Q3'18 Revenue by user geography is geographically apportioned based on our estimation of the geographic location of our users when they perform a revenue-diamating activity. This allocation differs from our revenue dissipgregated by geography disclosure in our condensed consolidated financial statements where revenue is disaggregated by geography based on the billing address of our customer. facebook

Facebook Profits

on these prices

• Profits from:



Inflation does not include the value of information

All goods, services and measures are affected

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

No Cash Needed At This Cafe. Students Pay The Tab With Their Personal Data

September 29, 2018 · 7:37 AM ET

CHAIEL SCHAFFEL

ROM Public's



At Shiru Cafe in Providence, R.I., students "pay" for coffee, but not with money. Chaiel Schaffel /Rhode Island Public Radio Inflation?

GDP?

Productivity?

Quantum Prices

Diego Aparicio Roberto Rigobon

UNIQLO











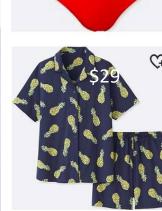


















ZARA























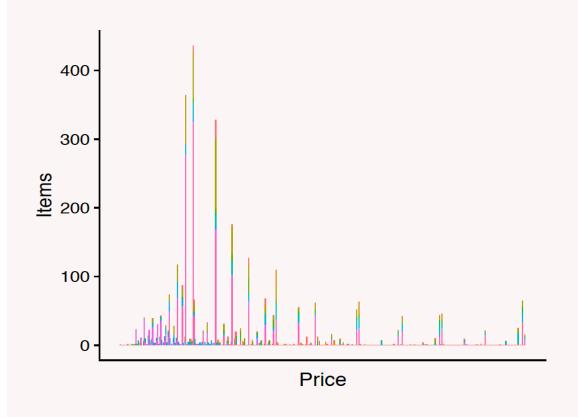








Price Clustering

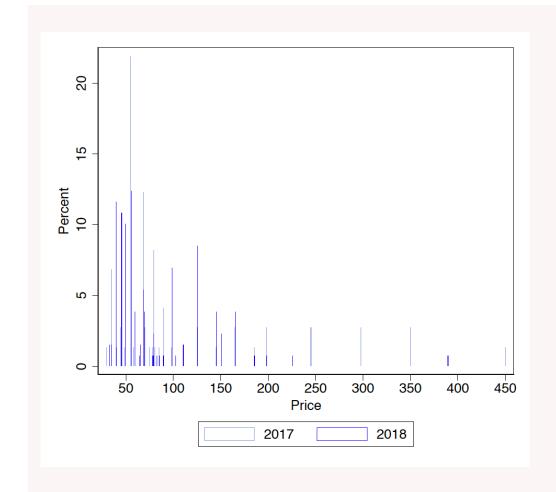


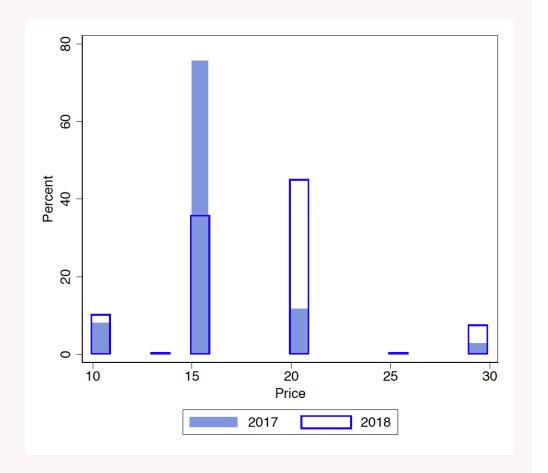
400 Items 200 Price

Ralph Lauren

Uniqlo

Inflation Dynamics





Ralph Lauren

Uniqlo

Data generation processes and Data gathering

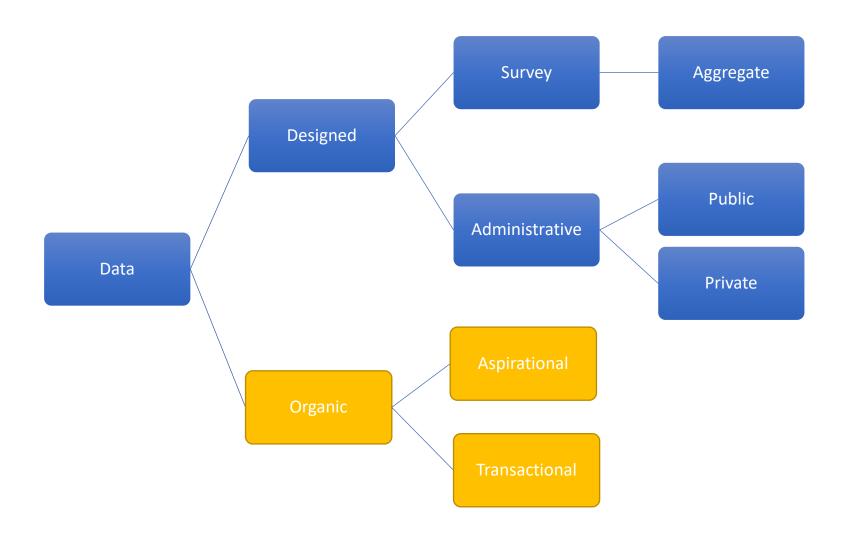
- New sources of data
 - Digital documentation of transactions with a service or manufacturing process
 - Credit card transaction, retail sales scanner data
 - Data from social network communication
 - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram
 - Data transmitted from software agents within mobile devices
 - GPS
 - Data from the internet of things
 - e-commerce: Web pages, price aggregators
 - Utility meter data, sensor data for traffic, air, water, soil quality
 - Biometric data
 - DNA
 - Human communication digital data
 - Emails, blogs, text
 - Digital video data

Evolution in Data Sources

| | Surveys | Administrative | Big Data |
|---------------|--|---|---|
| Objective | Predetermined Question | Internal Performance Evaluation | Activity DocumentationIndividual CharacterizationBlending |
| Data | Targeted DataStructured | Non-targetedStructured | Non-targetedNon-structured |
| Relevance | Representative | Somewhat Representative | Not Representative |
| Curation | Well studied | Well studied | Not clear |
| Cost | Extremely Costly | Costly | Cheap |
| Privacy | Protected in the design | Sensitivity embedded in the data itself | Sensitivity from the inferences that can be made from the data |
| Intrusiveness | Extremely intrusive | Intrusive | Non-intrusive |

Design Organic

Different Types of Data



Billion Prices Project

Everything with Alberto Cavallo

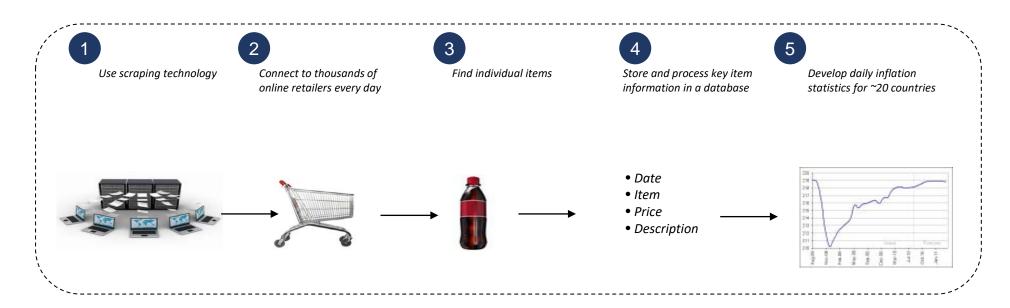
BPP: Countries covered



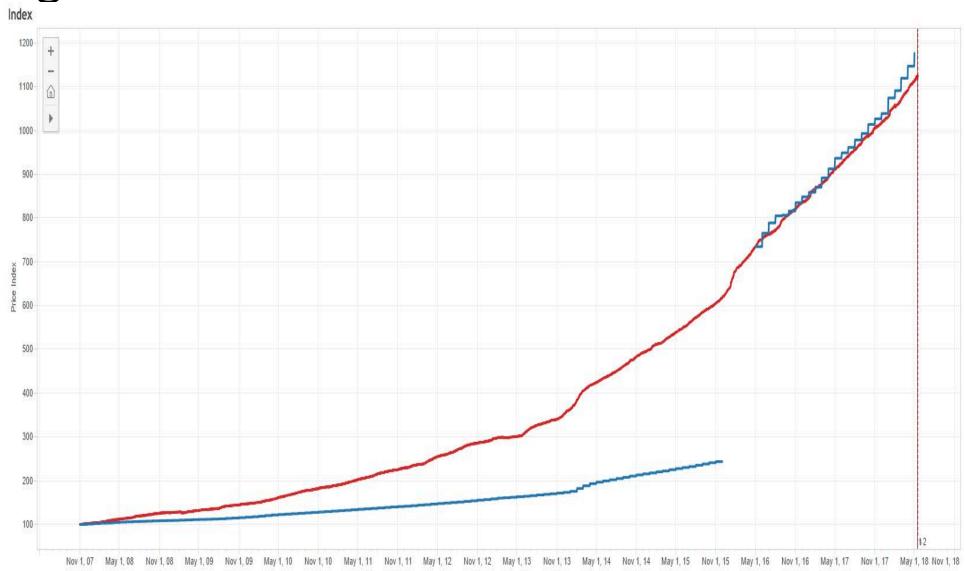
Billion Prices Project

Online Information and Indexes

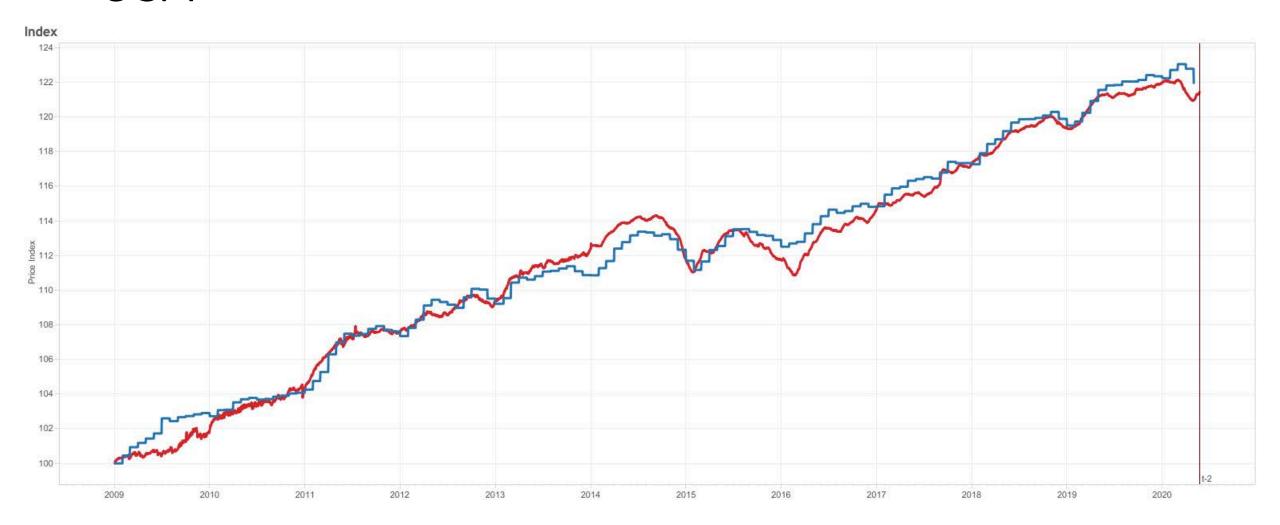
Our Approach to Daily Inflation Statistics



Argentina



USA

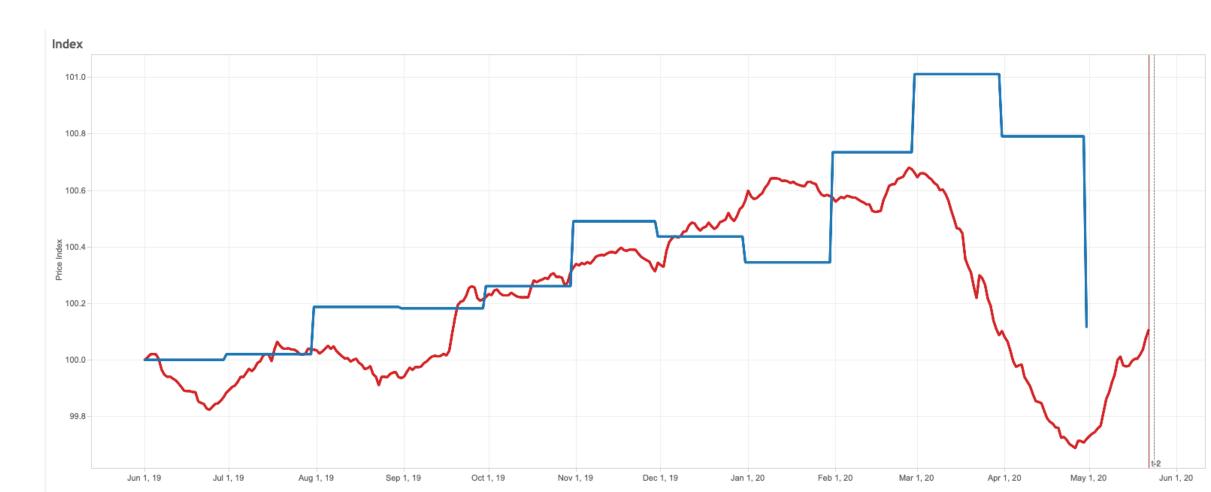


Making Sense of COVID-19's economic cost

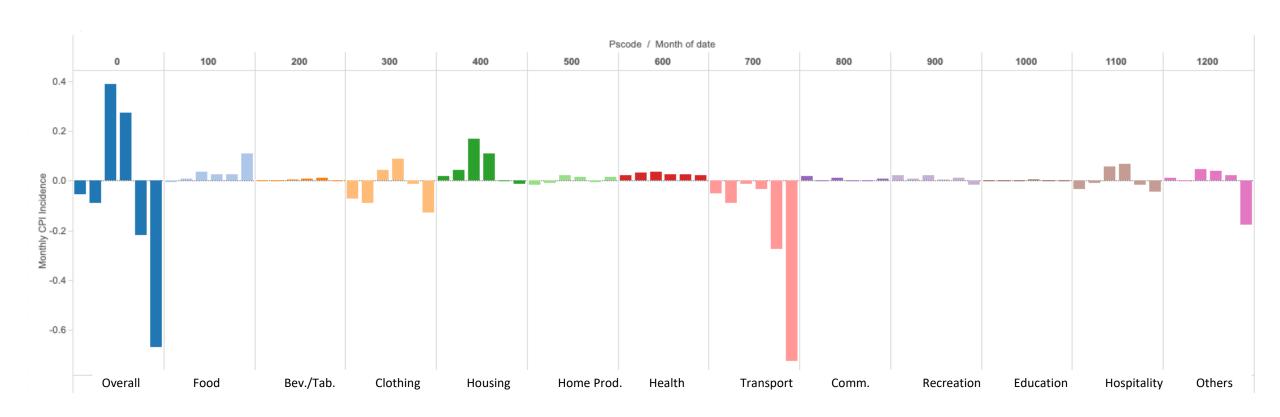
- Impact on
 - Unemployment
 - Wages
 - GDP
 - Inflation
- Massive changes in consumption and production patterns.
 - Are we ready to measure those correctly?
 - How long will the supply shock effects last?

Making Sense of COVID-19's economic cost

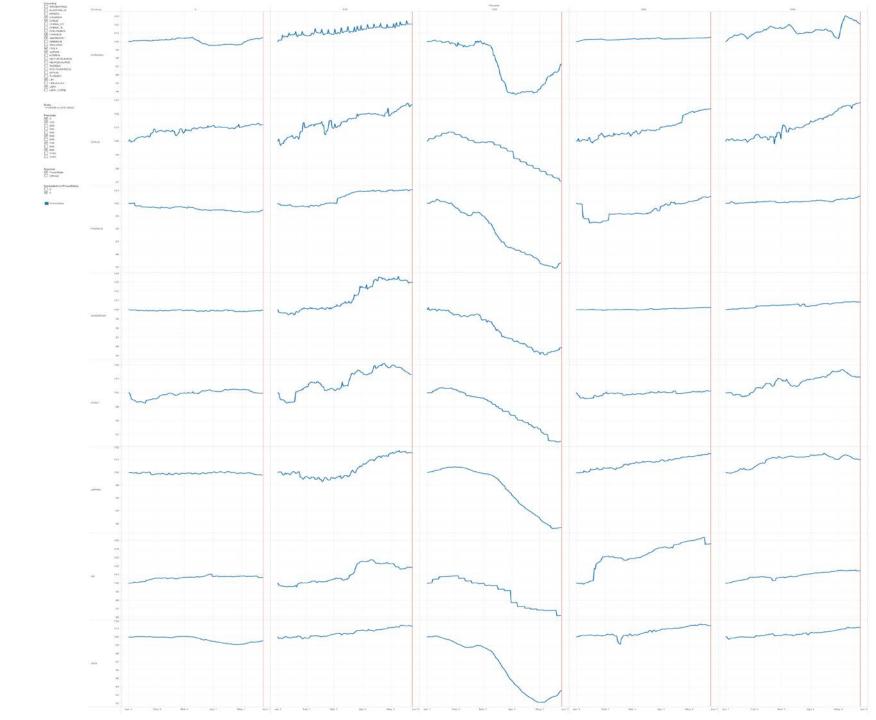
Inflation



Massive changes in relative prices



Different Countries Same patterns!



What is the actual inflation?

- Expenditures share that have gone up
 - Food
 - Housing
 - Home entertainment
 - Home electronic equipment
- Expenditures that have gone down
 - Travel and Hospitality
 - Transportation
 - Entertainment (out of home)

Making decisions

- This is about inflation!
 - One of the best statistics we produce
- Can you imagine our level of ignorance regarding
 - GDP?
 - or household stress?
 - or discrimination and inequality?
 - or the number of people diagnosed with COVID?

Pillars of modern measures

1. Continuous Measurement of process

Timely measures

2. Non-intrusive

Can't rely on surveys – needs electronic forms of data collection

3. Open source

Many could adopt the methodologies

4. Privacy protecting

 Violations of privacy can be significantly harmful, especially when estimating hidden behavior that is morally questionable

5. Imperfect Measurement

 To guarantee the previous 4 characteristics the measures need to be noisy.