

# Abstract

The dissertation is a compilation of three empirical papers on the effects of financial development. In the first paper, we examine finance's effect on long-term economic growth using Bayesian model averaging to address model uncertainty. Our global sample findings indicate that the efficiency of financial intermediation is robustly related to long-term growth. The second and third papers investigate the determinants of wealth and income inequality, capturing various economic, financial, political, institutional, and geographical factors. We reveal that finance plays a considerable role in shaping both distributions.