

Preface

This dissertation is the result of my PhD research at the University of Bordeaux, officially started in 2013. However, for various reasons¹, the topic changed and I begin this work in early 2015. Looking backward, the premises of this thesis kindled many years ago, when I enrolled in the economic program. As many young fellows, I started out with a futile motivation: to make the world a better place. Years later, after completing this thesis, the futile motivation remains and I still have no idea how to do it. The only way to find out is to move forward.

Doing a thesis is a journey and I would like to express my gratitude to people who have accompanied and helped me along the way.

First and foremost, I would like to thank my main supervisor, Emmanuelle Gabillon, for her steady support, for trusting and guiding me in unconventional terrains. Also, I would like to thank Nicolas Carayol for helpful advice and lessons, for being a fantastic coach even in difficult times.

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It would take a lot space if I have to thank my family and friends here, I will find another place to do it soon.

Last but not least, I am grateful to the members of the jury, who take time and effort to evaluate this dissertation. It's my honor to have them as thesis jury.

¹one of the reasons is probably my laziness, as pointed out by some people. It might be true but hasn't been econometrically proven