

# Curriculum Vitae

Maria Grazia Pittau

## Address

- Department of Statistical Science, Sapienza University of Rome, P.le Aldo Moro 5, 00185 Roma;  
E-mail: grazia.pittau@uniroma1.it;  
grazia@stat.columbia.edu;  
Phone: +39 (06) 49910782;  
fax: +39 (06) 4959241

## Personal Information

- Birthday: March 12, 1969.
- Birthplace: Lanusei (NU), Sardinia, Italy.
- Citizenship: Italian.

## Education

- University of St. Andrews (UK), Department of Statistics, visiting student, (September 1998-February 1999).
- Italian Ph.D., Statistics for Economics, Sapienza University of Rome, 1998. Dissertation: “A Multivariate approach to the social and economic development”.
- Laurea summa cum laude, Statistics, Sapienza University of Rome, 1993.

## Positions

- Professor of Economic Statistics, 2017-present.
- Associate Professor, Department of Statistical Sciences, Sapienza University of Rome, 2007-2017.
- Assistant Professor 2000–2007, Department of National Accounting, Sapienza University of Rome.
- Columbia University, Research Fellow, Statistics Department, New York City, November 2005-December 2006.
- Sapienza University of Rome, Research Assistant, Department of National Accounting, March 1999-March 2000.
- ISTAT, National Institute of Statistics, Research Fellow, Rome, 1994-1995.

### **Fellowships and Grants**

- C.N.R. (Italian National Research Center) eight-month fellowship (1998).
- ISTAT, two-year fellowship (1994).
- Iriss visitor under the TMR (Training Mobility Research) Large Scale Facility Program, CEPS/INSTEAD (Center for Population, Poverty and Public Policy Studies-International Network for Studies in Technology, Environment, Alternatives, Development), Differdange, Luxembourg, (February-March 2000, March 2002).
- Visiting Researcher, Institute for Economic Analysis (IAE), Barcelona (April-May 2005).

**Research Interests:** Income distribution, Analysis of inequality, poverty, income mobility and polarization, Nonparametric estimation, Mixture Models, Missing Data, Multilevel Models.

### **Referee Activities:**

#### **Journals:**

Empirical Economics, Journal of Environmental Management, International Tax and Public Finance, Rivista di Politica Economica, Regional Science and Urban Economics, Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics, Journal of Applied Econometrics, Review of Income and Wealth, Science, Journal of Income Distribution, International Regional Science Review, Computational Statistics & Data Analysis, Journal of Applied Statistics, Economic Modeling, Economic Letters, Social Science Research.

**Other academic activities:**

- Scientific representative of the Agreement of cultural and scientific cooperation (in the fields of STATISTICS and APPLIED STATISTICS) between Sapienza University of Rome (Faculty of Statistics) and Columbia University (Statistics Department) in the City of New York, 2009–.
- Member of the Editorial Board, *Journal of Economic Inequality*, 2014–.
- Council Member of the International Association for Research in Income and Wealth, 2014–.
- Member of the scientific committee of the Special IARIW-World Bank Conference on "New Approaches to Defining and Measuring Poverty in a Growing World", Washington, United States, November 7–8, 2019.

**Teaching Preferences:** Nonparametric and Semiparametric Econometrics, Economics of Inequality and Poverty, Multilevel Models.

**Other professional activities:**

- ST Consultant to the World Bank (Poverty & Equity GP - Central Asia), 2015–2020 (TTL Sarosh Sattar and Saida Ismailakhunova).
- ST Consultant to the World Bank (EFI-EAP-POV-Poverty and Equity - Myanmar), 2020 (TTL Emilie Bernadette Perge).
- Scientific Expert of the Research Institute Guglielmo Tagliacarne, 2001–;
- Member of the Scientific Panel on Quality Group of teaching at Sapienza University (Gruppo di Lavoro Qualità e Innovazione della Didattica), 2017–,
- Member of the Advisory Committee on Statistics, Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy (Commissione di Garanzia per l'Informazione Statistica), 2017–2018.

### Selection of papers presented at seminars and conferences

- 11th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), World Bank and Georgetown University, Washington D.C., luglio 2025; Workshop “Inequalities and Opportunities: Insights into Wealth, Income and Educational Disparities”, DEF, University of Bari, giugno 2025;
- 38th IARIW General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), King’s Business School, King’s College London England, August 26-30, 2024;
- Conference on Equality of Opportunity and Intergenerational Mobility: A Global Perspective University of Bari, June 6-7, 2024, Bari (IT); Tenth Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Aix-Marseille School of Economics (AMSE), Aix-en-Provence, July 2023;
- Special IARIW-World Bank Conference on “New Approaches to Defining and Measuring Poverty in a Growing World”, Washington, United States, November 2019;
- Eighth Meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Paris School of Economics, July 2019;
- IPPA Public Lecture, University of Central Asia, Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, February 2019; Equal Chances International Conference, University of Bari, December 2018;
- XXXV World Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Copenhagen (DK), August 2018; Guest Speaker at the 2018; Gordon Anderson Retirement Symposium (UofT Department of Economics), University of Toronto, May 2018;
- Seventh meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), NYC, July 2017; HBSS World Bank seminar, Washington DC, April 2017; World Bank Conference on “Equity and Development: Ten Years On”, Washington, D.C., October 2016;
- XXXIV World Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Dresden (Germany), August 2016; Sixth meeting of ECINEQ, Lussemburgo, July 2015.
- 24–30 August 2014, 33rd IARIW General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Rotterdam, the Netherlands. “Attitudes towards redistribution of American citizens: a temporal analysis”.
- 5 September 2013, Invited seminar “Income distribution and mixture models: pitfalls and opportunities”, Poverty and Inequality Measurement and Analysis Practice Group (PIMA PG), World Bank, Washington DC, USA.
- 22-24 July 2013, 5th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Bari, Italy. “Has the attitude of US citizens towards redistribution changed overtime?”.
- 5-11 August 2012, 32nd General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Boston, USA. “The Progress and Characteristics of the Poor, Middle and Rich Classes in Urban China: Results from

Partial Definition of Class Membership”. Chair of the session “7B Frameworks for Measuring Poverty and Deprivation” and discussant of the sections “6B: Income Distribution in Middle-Income Countries” (Chair: Francisco Ferreira)” and “8B: Well-Being Over Time ” (Chair: Dirk Van de Gaer).

- July 2011, 4th meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Catania, Italy. “Poverty status probability: A New Approach to Measuring Poverty and the Progress of the Poor”.
- November 2010, 80th Conference of Southern Economic Association (SEA), Atlanta, Georgia. “A Tale of Two Worlds: Willingness to Redistribute in Europe and in the U.S.” and “Partially Identified Poverty Status: A New Approach to Measuring Poverty and the Progress of the Poor”.
- August 2010, 31th General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), St-Gallen, Switzerland. “Completing Sub-National Coverage of National Accounts: An Auxiliary Information Approach” and discussant of the session “Inequality Trends and the Crisis” (Chair: Andrea Brandolini).
- June 2010, Conference in Economics and Finance RCEF, Rimini. “Detecting non-parametrically the number of components of a normal mixture model with an application to the convergence club hypothesis”.
- July 2009, 3rd meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Buenos Aires, Argentina. “Hierarchically modelling country-level disparities in individual preference for redistribution”.
- August 2008, XXXth General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Portorose, Slovenia. “Life satisfaction in the European Union: also a regional matter?”
- May 2008, Research Workshop of Israel Science Foundation on: Income Polarization: Measurement, Determinants and Implications, Jerusalem, Israel. “Mixture Models, Polarization and Convergence Clubs” (invited speaker).
- July 2007, 2nd meeting of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Berlin, Germany. “A dwindling middle class? Italian evidence in the 2000’s”, (with R. Massari and R. Zelli).
- May 2006, Seminars & Colloquia, Econometrics Spring 2006, Department of Economics, University of California Riverside. “Empirical evidence of income dynamics across EU regions”.
- July 2005, Conference of the Society for the Study of Economic Inequality (ECINEQ), Palma de Mallorca, Spain. “Exploring patterns of income polarization using siZer”, (with R. Zelli).
- August 2004, 28th General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Cork, Ireland. “The Changing Shapes of Italian Income Distribution: Evidence and Interpretation”.
- June 2004, 18th General Conference of “European Society for Population Economics (ESPE)”, Bergen, Norway. “Distribution and mobility of wealth of Italian regions”.

- June 2003, 17th General Conference of “European Society for Population Economics (ESPE)”, New York University, New York, US. “Trends in Income Distribution in Italy: A Non-Parametric and a Semi-Parametric Analysis”.
- August 2002, 27th General Conference of the “International Association for Research in Income and Wealth” (IARIW), Djurhamn, Svezia. “Income dynamics across EU regions: empirical evidence from kernel estimation”.
- June 2002, International Workshop on “Income Distribution and Welfare”, Bocconi University, Milan Italy. “Testing for Changing Shapes of Income Distribution: Italian Evidence in the 1990s From Kernel Density Estimates”.
- March 2002, Seminar in the the Centre d’Etudes de Populations, de Pauvret et de Politiques Socio Economiques; CEPS/ISTEAD, Differdange, Luxembourg. “Stability of household income in European countries in the 1990’s”.

### Journal articles

1. “Educational divide among US voters: A nationwide trend?” (con R. Zelli, F. Politano), *Spatial Economic Analysis*, DOI - 10.1080/17421772.2025.2542786.
2. “Inference for deprivation profiles in a binary setting” (con R. Zelli, P.L.Conti), *Journal of Econometrics*, Volume 249, Part B, 2025, 106000.
3. “A measurement scale for material deprivation: A model-based approach” (con A. Farcomeni, R. Zelli, S. Viviani), *Review of Income and Wealth*, 2025, 71(1), e12716.
4. “Inference for deprivation profiles in a binary setting”, (with P.L. Conti and R. Zelli), Vol. 249, Part B, May 2025.
5. “Mixture models and poverty measurement”, (with G. Anderson and R. Zelli), in Jacques Silber (Edited by) *Research Handbook on Measuring Poverty and Deprivation*, Chapter 16, 171–179, Edward Elgar Publishing, 2023.
6. “Anchoring measurement of the middle-income class to subjective evaluation” (with R. Zelli). *The Review of Income and Wealth*, Vol. 69, 1, 60–75, 2023.
7. “Non-monetary Dimensions of Poverty in the Kyrgyz Republic” (with Saida Ismailakhunova, and Roberto Zelli), Poverty Assessment Background Note, The World Bank, June 2022.
8. “Poverty and Vulnerability in the Kyrgyz Republic: Assessing Trends, Drivers, and Challenges” (in collaboration with Saida Ismailakhunova and other autors), World Bank. 2022. Poverty and vulnerability in the Kyrgyz Republic: Assessing trends, drivers, and challenges. Washington, D.C.: World Bank Group.
9. “Modeling Household Poverty Status Using Repeated Cross-sectional Surveys” (with R. Zelli and S. Ismailakhunova), in S. Bandyopadhyay (Edited by) *Research on Economic Inequality: Poverty, Inequality and Shocks*, Vol 29, 57-76, Emerald Publishing Limited, 2022.
10. “Editor’s Introduction” (with D. Joliffe and J. Gibson), *The Review of Income and Wealth*, (2022), 68(S2):5261–5263, 2022.

11. “Covariate-modulated rectangular latent Markov models with an unknown number of regime profiles” (with A. Russo, A. Farcomeni, and R. Zelli), *Statistical Modelling*, first published online November 16, 2022, doi: 10.1177/1471082X221127732.
12. “On unit free assessment of the extent of multilateral distributional variation” (with G. Anderson, O. Linton, Y. J. Whang and R. Zelli). *The Econometrics Journal*, vol. 24, issue 3, pp 502–518, 2021.
13. “On multidimensional poverty rankings of binary attributes” (with V. Peragine, E. Savaglio, and S. Vannucci). *Journal of Public Economic Theory*, Vol. 23, Issue 2, pp 199–401, 2021.
14. “Measuring the Progress of Equality of Educational Opportunity in Absence of Cardinal Comparability”, (with G. Anderson and R. Zelli), *Metron*, vol. 78, 155–174, 2020.
15. “Multidimensional nation wellbeing, more equal yet more polarized: an analysis of the progress of human development since 1990” ( with G. Anderson, A. Farcomeni and R. Zelli), *Journal of Economic Development*, vol. 44, issue 1, 1–22, 2019.
16. “More unequal yet more alike, the changing patterns of family formation, generational mobility and household income inequality in China: a counter-factual analysis” (with Gordon Anderson and Tongtong Hao), *The Journal of Economic Inequality*, vol. 17, Issue 3, pp 359–378, 2019.
17. “A dynamic inhomogeneous latent state model for measuring material deprivation” (with F. Dotto, A. Farcomeni and R. Zelli), *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society - Series A*, vol 182, part 4, 2019.
18. “Rectangular latent Markov models for time-specific clustering, with an analysis of the well being of nations” (with G. Anderson, A. Farcomeni, R. Zelli), *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society - Series C*, vol 182 , part 4, 2019.
19. “Income Inequality, Cohesiveness and Commonality in the Euro Area: A Semi-parametric Boundary-free Analysis” (with G. Anderson, R. Zelli and and J. Thomas), *Econometrics*, Special Issue on Econometrics of Inequality, vol.6, issue 2, 15, 2018.
20. “At the roots of Gini’s transvariation: extracts from ‘Il concetto di transvariazione e le sue prime applicazioni’ ” (with R. Zelli), *Metron*, vol.75, issue 2, 127–140, 2017.
21. “Assessing the convergence and the mobility of nations without artificially specified class boundaries” (with G. Anderson, R. Zelli), *Journal of Economic Growth*, vol.21, issue 3, 283–304, 2016.
22. “A new approach to measuring and studying the characteristics of class membership: Examining poverty, inequality and polarization in urban China” (with G. Anderson, A. Farcomeni, R. Zelli), *Journal of Econometrics*, vol. 191, issue 2, 348–359, 2016.
23. “Has the attitude of US citizens towards redistribution changed over time?”, (with A. Farcomeni and R. Zelli), in press, *Economic Modelling*, vol. 52 (part B), 714–724, 2016.
24. “Measuring Changes of the Russian Middle Class Between 1992 and 2008: A Non-Parametric Distributional Analysis”, (with Zoya Nissanov), *Empirical Economics*, vol. 50(2), 503–530, 2016.

25. “Evidence of convergence clubs using mixture models”, (with R. Zelli and R. Massari), *Econometric Reviews*, vol.35, issue 7, 1317–1342, 2016.
26. “The ”Make-up” of a regression coefficient: gender gaps in the European Labor Market, (with R. Zelli and S. Yitzhaki), *The Review of Income and Wealth*, series 61, n.3, 401–421, 2015.
27. “Poverty status probability: a new approach to measuring poverty and the progress of the poor”, (with G. Anderson and R. Zelli), *Journal of Economic Inequality*, **12**, 4, 469–488, 2014.
28. “Hierarchical modeling of disparities in preferences for redistribution”, (with R. Massari and R. Zelli), *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, **75**, 4, 556–584, 2013.
29. “Measures of poverty and inequality in the countries and regions of EU” (with T. Longford, R. Zelli and R. Massari), *Journal of Applied Statistics*, **39**, 7, 1557–1576, 2012.
30. “Does regional cost-of-living reshuffle Italian income distribution?” (with R. Massari and R. Zelli), *Modern Economy*, **2**, 259–265, 2011.
31. “Mixture Models, Convergence Clubs and Polarization”, (with P. Johnson and R. Zelli), *Review of Income and Wealth*, vol. 56, n. 1, 2010.
32. “Economic disparities and life satisfaction in European regions” (with R. Zelli and A. Gelman), *Social Indicators Research*, vol.96, n.2, 2010.
33. “A dwindling middle class? Italian evidence in the 2000’s”, (with R. Massari and R. Zelli), *Journal of Economic Inequality*, vol.7, n.4, 2009.
34. “A weakly informative default prior distribution for logistic and other regression models”, (with A. Gelman, A. Jakulin and YS Su), *Annals of Applied Statistics*, Vol. 2, n. 4, 2008.
35. “Exploring patterns of income polarization using siZer” (with R. Zelli), *Journal of Quantitative Economics*, **5**, 101–111, 2007.
36. “Stability of household income in European countries in the 1990”, (with N. T. Longford), *Computational Statistics & Data Analysis*, **51**, 1364–1383, 2006.
37. “Trends in Income Distribution in Italy: A Non-Parametric and a Semi-Parametric Analysis” (with R. Zelli), *Journal of Income Distribution*, **15**, 90–118, 2006.
38. “Empirical Evidence of Income Dynamics Across EU Regions” (with R. Zelli), *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, **21**, 605–628, 2006.
39. “Fitting Regional Income Distributions in the European Union”, 2005, *Oxford Bulletin of Economics and Statistics*, **67**, 2, 135–161, 2005.
40. “Testing for the changes in the shape of income distribution: Italian evidence in the 1990s from kernel density estimates (with R. Zelli), *Empirical Economics*, **29**, 2, 415–430, 2004.
41. “Regional Empirics for Economic Disparities in Italy: 1951-2001” (with G.M. Giorgi and R. Zelli), *Estadistica*, special issue on Income Distribution, Lorenz curve, Inequality and Poverty (Guest Editor Camilo Dagum), **55**, 271–293, 2003.

42. “Income distribution in Italy: a nonparametric analysis” (with R. Zelli), *Statistical Methods and Applications*, **10**, 1-3, 2001.
43. “Fitting A Fuzzy Consensus Partition to a Set of Partitions to Analyse The Modern Economic Growth Rate Across Countries”, (with M. Vichi), *Journal of Italian Statistical Society*, **9**, 183–198, 2000.

### Articles in Italian

44. “A sensitivity analysis on gender gaps in the Italian labor market” (with R. Zelli and S. Yitzhaki), *Rivista Italiana di Economia, Demografia e Statistica*, vol. XLV, n.2, 2011.
45. “L’Europa delle differenze: l’atteggiamento dei cittadini europei verso le politiche redistributive” (with R. Massari and R. Zelli), *Politica Economica*, vol. 25, n. 3, 2009. In italian.
46. “Metodi non parametrici nell’analisi della distribuzione del reddito: problemi empirici ed aspetti metodologici” (in italian with english summary), (with P.L. Conti and R. Zelli), *Rivista di Politica Economica*, **V-VI**, 195–242, 2006.
47. “Income distribution in Italy during the 90’s: a non parametric analysis”, (La distribuzione del reddito in Italia negli anni ’90: un’analisi non parametrica) (with R. Zelli), on *Studi sulla povertà: problemi di misura e analisi comparative*, (ed. G. Carbonaro), Franco Angeli, Milano, 2002.
48. “Statistical methods for air pollution data: review and applications”, (Metodi di analisi statistica dei dati di qualità dell’aria: rassegna critica e alcune applicazioni), Volume ISTAT, *Metodi e Norme*, Serie B, **30**, 1997.

### Others

49. “Non-sentinel lymph node metastases in breast cancer patients with a positive sentinel lymph node: validation of five nomograms and development of a new predictive model” (with Lombardi A., Maggi S., Lo Russo M., Scopinaro F., Di Stefano D., Tiberi S. and Amanti C.), *Tumori*, **97**, 749–755, 2012.
50. “An optimal design for air pollution monitoring network” (with D. Romano, M. C. Cirillo, R. Coppi), *Environmetrics*, **3**, 1999 .
51. “Consensus Classification for A Set of Multiple Time Series” (with P. D’Urso), on *Classification and Data Analysis*, (eds. M. Vichi and O. Opitz), 11–18, Springer Verlag, Berlin, 1999.

## Research software

52. Arm: Data Analysis Using Regression and Multilevel/Hierarchical Models (written in collaboration with A. Gelman, YS Su, G. Hill, J. Kerman and T. Zheng). Functions in R for processing linear and generalized models:  
[www.cran.r-project.org/src/contrib/Descriptions/arm.html](http://www.cran.r-project.org/src/contrib/Descriptions/arm.html)  
(Published: 20-11-2010)
53. mi: Missing Data Imputation and Model Checking (written in collaboration with A. Gelman, G. Hill, M. Yajima and YS Su). Missing-data imputation and model checking:  
[www.cran.r-project.org/src/contrib/Descriptions/mi.html](http://www.cran.r-project.org/src/contrib/Descriptions/mi.html)  
(Published: 11-11-2010)

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