

Fabrizio Erbetta

BIO AND EDUCATION

Fabrizio Erbetta received his classical maturity certificate in 1993 at the High School Liceo-Ginnasio d'Adda di Varallo Sesia (VC) with mark 56/60. He graduated in Economics at the University of Piemonte Orientale "A. Avogadro" in 1998 with mark 110/110 cum laude (thesis title "The impact of privatization on technical efficiency: an empirical analysis using Data Envelopment Analysis"). In 2001 he received a Master in Finance at the Coripe Piemonte. He was a visiting fellow at the Warwick Business School in 2005. His research has been published in peer-reviewed scientific journals internationally.

UNIVERSITY CAREER

2015-	Associate Professor, Università del Piemonte Orientale
2004-2015	Assistant Professor, Università del Piemonte Orientale
2001-2003	Research fellow, Ceris-CNR Turin

SCIENTIFIC POSITIONS

2012-	Member of the Editorial Board of the "International Journal of Applied Management Science"
2004-	Member of the research group of the research center Hermes (Higher Education and Research on Mobility Regulation and the Economics of Local Services)

MAIN FIELDS OF INTEREST

1. Economies of scale and scope and efficiency in Local Public Services
2. Sustainability and environment
3. Family business
4. Tourism and travel agencies

CURRENT ISSUES OF RESEARCH

1. The scale and scope economies and efficiency in Local Public Services

This issue of research aims to measure the economies of scale and scope in the provision of essential public services such as water, gas and electricity. They represent the technological characteristics of service supply and the information about these features is a useful support in the network configuration decisions. This theme also aims to measure the degree of operational efficiency, which is useful for the purpose of tariff regulation by regulatory Authority.

2. Sustainability and environment: the case of the management of Municipal Solid Waste service

This issue of research aims to investigate the technological characteristics of the collection and disposal of municipal solid waste (economies of scale, scope and density). A special focus is dedicated to the impact on costs and profits of the introduction of environmentally friendly methods such as the door-to-door collection. In the same area of interest attention is paid to the link between operative efficiency and the social phenomenon of corruption.

3. The efficiency of family firms

This issue of research aims to provide an empirical test of the differentials of efficiency between family and non-family Italian firms using, unlike previous studies, a relative performance measurement approach known as Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA). This methodology is premised on the logic of benchmarking and, as such, is consistent with the theoretical foundations of agency theory, which is often mentioned in studies on family business.

4. Strategic decisions of travel agencies

This issue of research aims to deepen the conditions of efficiency of the Italian travel agents. The analysis is carried out using Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) enriched with bootstrapping techniques. The efficiency scores are related to some characteristics of the agents, such as the percentage of revenues from incoming/outgoing streams or the participation in networks.

5. Configuration of passenger transport industry

This issue of research aims analysing the economies of scale and scope in the provision of passenger transport services, using a database of operators active in the urban and intercity transport as well as in coach renting industry. The analysis is carried out through the econometric estimation of a composite cost function, which allows to have unbiased estimates of scope economies in the presence of zero output.

6. Configuration of passenger transport industry

This issue of research aims to investigate the extent of the economic and non-economic (social) costs associated with a power outage through a choice experiment methodology. In particular, unlike previous studies, the analysis will measure the willingness to accept the interruption through appropriate discounts on the bill rather than the willingness to pay to avoid it.

7. Impact of the diffusion of renewable sources on the performance of companies operating in the electricity supply chain

Renewable energy sources (RES) have environmental benefits but involve issues of intermittency and limited programmability. The research aims to measure the impact that the penetration of RES exerts on the operating efficiency of the traditional producers. At the implementation level, we intend to also consider the effect due to the mechanisms of demand response, which can mitigate the problems associated with intermittency.

TOP FIVE PAPERS

1. Abrate G., Erbetta F., Fraquelli G., Vannoni D., 2015, "*The costs of corruption in the Italian solid waste industry*", Industrial and Corporate Change, 24(2), pp. 439-465
2. Erbetta F., Menozzi A., Corbetta G., Fraquelli G., 2013, "*Assessing family firm performance using frontier analysis techniques: Evidence from Italian manufacturing industries*", Journal of Family Business Strategy, 4(2), pp. 106-117
3. Abrate G., Erbetta F., Fraquelli G., Vannoni D., 2012, "*The Costs of Disposal and Recycling: An Application to Italian Municipal Solid Waste Services*", Regional Studies, 48(5), pp. 896-909
4. Abrate G., Erbetta F., Fraquelli G., 2011, "*Public utility planning and cost efficiency in a decentralized regulation context: the case of the Italian integrated water service*", Journal of Productivity Analysis, 35(3), pp. 227-242
5. Erbetta F., Rappuoli L., 2008, "*Optimal Scale in the Italian Gas Distribution Industry using Data Envelopment Analysis*", OMEGA - The International Journal of Management Science, 36(2), pp. 325-336

AWARDS

1. Best Paper Regional Studies Association Annual Conference 2015 with the paper "Business innovation and waste management sustainability: the case of door-to-door collection" (with Graziano Abrate, Clementina Bruno e Giovanni Fraquelli)
2. Sele d'Oro Award 2012 with the paper "Drivers of Regional Efficiency Differentials in Italy: Technical Inefficiency or Allocative Distortions?" (with Carmelo Petraglia)
3. AIDEA Young Researchers Award 2008 with the paper "Corporate governance e performance d'impresa: evidenza empirica nelle imprese di pubblica utilità italiane" (with Anna Menozzi)
4. Wicksell Prize – European Public Choice Society (E.P.C.S.) 2002 with the paper "Does the run-up of privatisation work as an effective incentive mechanism? Preliminary findings from a sample of Italian firms"