

Neoclassical influences in agent-based literature: A systematic review

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Abstract

Several studies highlight that the method and the object of analysis of Agent-Based models are in various respects in stark contrast to the prevailing neoclassical paradigm and therefore should be included in the traditions of alternative economic thought. In this paper, however, we show that distinctive features of the neoclassical theory can be found in most of the AB literature. Through a systematic review of most cited academic papers published in the period 1996–2019 and dedicated to Agent-Based models, we show that a “neoclassical influence” can be detected in 61% of papers, while only 39% do not have links with the mainstream neoclassical approach. We also note that after the “great recession” started in 2008 the neoclassical influences on AB literature decline to a significant extent.

KEYWORDS

agent-based models, alternative economic thought, complexity, computational economics, heterodox, mainstream, neoclassical approach

JEL CLASSIFICATION

B4, B5, C63, C8

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1 | INTRODUCTION

In the evolution of contemporary economic analysis, the emergence and diffusion of so-called “Agent-Based” (AB) approach has represented a particularly relevant novelty. Over the last few years, several studies have highlighted the innovative aspects of the technique inherent in AB models. It was noted that these analyses not only propose a different method of investigation of economic behavior but suggest innovations in the whole object of economic science. The individual economic agent, her interactions with other agents, the emergence of aggregate behaviors and their feedback on the decisions of individuals, all these aspects are examined by AB models in ways that may have new implications for epistemology, theory, and empirical analysis (Bookstaber, 2017; Borriell & Tesfatsion, 2010; Farmer & Foley, 2009; LeBaron & Tesfatsion, 2008). In light of these innovations, a question therefore arises: can AB models be associated with alternative paradigms of economic theory or they represent only an innovation within the current mainstream approach inspired by the neoclassical paradigm? In this article, we try to answer by highlighting some contrasting elements within the literature on the subject. On the one hand, we show that numerous studies point out that the method and the object of analysis of AB models are in various respects in stark contrast to the prevailing neoclassical approach and therefore should be considered in line with alternative research paradigms. On the other hand, however, we show that the AB technique has found widespread diffusion in articles influenced by the mainstream neoclassical paradigm. In particular, through a systematic review of most cited academic papers published in the last three decades and dedicated to AB models, we measure the percentage of works in which a “neoclassical influence” can be detected and the percentage of studies that do not have links with the neoclassical theory.

Our result, as we shall see, is that a large majority of most cited papers on AB models are influenced by the prevailing neoclassical approach, while only a minority of them do not show a nexus with the dominant theory. In other words, despite several heretical features of AB lines of research, the investigation technique inherent in them has proved to be so flexible to find vast and advantageous applications within the dominant approach. We shall also see, however, that these neoclassical influences in AB studies tend to decline after the so-called “great recession” started in 2008. As we shall argue, these results seem to suggest that AB analysis is a flexible “technique” still seeking a precise place in the debate between alternative research programs in economic theory. Although the epistemological and theoretical collocation of the AB analysis reveals strong elements of contrast with the neoclassical framework in the face of several complementarities with the traditions of critical thinking, the prevailing literature on AB models is strongly influenced by the neoclassical approach.

The article is organized as follows. In section 2 we examine the studies that have explicitly placed AB models in the strand of alternative schools of economic thought. In sections 3 and 4 we define the characteristics of our systematic review of papers dedicated to AB models: methodology, data and definition of the concept of “neoclassical influence”. In sections 5 and 6 we present the results of the review and comment on them. Section 7 concludes.

2 | AGENT-BASED MODELING AND ALTERNATIVE THEORETICAL APPROACHES: A BRIEF OVERVIEW

The 2008 “Great Recession” (IMF, 2012) has challenged the mainstream approach (Buitier, 2009; Mankiw, 2006; Romer, 2016; Solow, 2008, 2010; Stiglitz, 2011; Trichet, 2010) and has led to a surge of interest in alternative lines of research (Blanchard & Brancaccio, 2019). Notably, a growing body of literature has stemmed from the cross-fertilization of AB modeling and heterodox economics (Di Guilmi, 2017).

AB economics uses computer simulation to build models with heterogeneous agents, based on simple behavioral rules and on the interaction between these agents, where the resulting aggregate dynamics and empirical regularities are not known a priori and are not deducible from individual behavior (Gallegati & Kirman, 2012). AB models typically possess the following structure. There is a “taxonomy of agents” (e.g., consumers, households, firms, government, financial institutions, etc.; (LeBaron & Tesfatsion, 2008) which are then given a set of characteristics (e.g. endowments of commodities, income distribution, technology, etc.). The different groups of agents follow simple behavioral rules through which they interact. Their local interactions induce changes in their individual rules through adaptation as well as in the network that governs interaction. Then, some statistical regularity that cannot be inferred from individual behavior emerges from aggregation (self-emerging regularities). This bottom-up emergent behavior allows researchers to understand why certain macro-level regularities emerge and persist in decentralized market economies, despite the absence of top-down centralized coordination (Cogliano & Jiang, 2016).

We are clearly in the presence of a methodology that has more than one affinity with alternative approaches to economic thought. Not surprisingly, there have been attempts in recent years to make explicit a link between these heterodox views and the emerging AB analyses. According to Cogliano and Jiang (2016), the inherent flexibility of AB models makes them an appropriate tool for the questions raised by Classical and Post-Keynesian economists. For example, Cogliano (2013) situates the Classical-Marxian labor theory of value in an AB model. Similarly, Wright (2008, 2011a,b), develops dynamic computational models to study the emergence of Marx’s law of value and its interplay with price and quantity fluctuations and macro dynamics. Further, Cogliano et al. (2016, 2019) use a computational framework to analyze the equilibrium dynamics of exploitation, class, and inequality in accumulation economies with heterogeneous labor, population growth, technical change, and bargaining. In the tradition of Classical economists, Russo (2017) proposes an AB macroeconomic model with social classes and endogenous crises in which business cycles and crises endogenously emerge as a result of the interaction between financial and real factors underlying the process of capitalist production. Yet, Gibson and Setterfield (2018) show how Keynes–Kalecki or structuralist model might benefit from AB microfoundations, without sacrificing traditional macroeconomic themes, such as aggregate demand, animal spirits, and endogenous money. Other contributions have further underlined the alternative nature of the AB analysis, highlighting its differences concerning the prevailing neoclassical approach (Caverzasi & Russo, 2018; Dilaver et al., 2018; Fagiolo & Roventini, 2012; Haldane & Turrell, 2018).

Dosi and Roventini (2017) find several similarities and complementarities between the AB approach and the alternative economic thought rooted in the schemes of the so-called “Italian School” of Classical Political Economy. According to the authors, this school was grounded on a rejection for the two fundamental pillars of mainstream neoclassical economics: maximization at the micro level and equilibrium at aggregate one (quite surprisingly, the authors state that Sraffa’s scheme represents an exception and that Hahn (1982) was probably right in placing it

within a neoclassical framework; this thesis, however, has been rejected by the literature on the subject: among others, see Dumenil and Levy (1985), Garegnani (1990), Kurz and Salvadori (1995), Brancaccio (2010)). The authors note that these typical Classical features are mirrored by several building-blocks of AB models, and they argue that this is especially true for three families of AB macro models: the Schumpeter meeting Keynes (K+S) models, the Complex Adaptive Trivial System (CATS) models, and the EURACE models. Notably, the K+S framework developed in Dosi et al. (2010, 2013, 2015, 2017) models a complex system of imperfect coordination in which the Schumpeterian growth paradigm is merged with Keynesian (demand-related) and Minskian (credit cycle) insights of coordination failures and endogenous fluctuations. The CATS family of models has been developed over a long period, with publications dating back to the early 2000s (Delli Gatti et al., 2003, 2005, 2010; Russo et al., 2007). These models, highly stimulated by the Minskian financial instability theory (Minsky, 1982, 1986), focus on the role of firm heterogeneity and leverage decisions in the transmission and amplification of shocks and position the concept of emergence as an alternative to equilibrium theorizing. The EURACE model (Cincotti et al., 2010; Tegli et al., 2012) was projected to construct an AB model of the European economy. Along the same lines of the K+S and CATS models, EURACE investigates macroeconomic dynamics starting from the study of the micro interactions of heterogeneous, adaptive agents.

In recent years, further contributions have resulted from an overlap between the AB modeling approaches and the Post-Keynesian Stock-Flow Consistent (SFC) models (Caverzasi & Russo, 2018; Di Guilmi, 2017). In their pioneering work, Caiani et al. (2016) note that most AB models, are not SFC and thus show an accounting inconsistency likely to affect the patterns of consumption, investment, savings, credit, and other macroeconomic variables. The authors take inspiration from the traditional SFC models (Caverzasi & Godin, 2015; Godley, 1997; Godley & Lavoie, 2007; Godley & Zezza, 2006; Nikiforos & Zezza, 2017; Passarella, 2012), to overcome these drawbacks and develop a consistent decentralized AB-SFC model. Since then, AB models framed in an SFC account structure, have been mostly used to study monetary and fiscal policy transmission (Caiani et al., 2018; Schasfoort et al., 2017), income inequality (Botta et al., 2019; Caiani et al., 2019; Cardaci & Saraceno, 2019; Russo et al., 2016; Willis, 2015), financial markets (Botta et al., 2020; Mazzocchetti et al., 2018; Riccetti et al., 2016, 2018), institutions and labor dynamics (Caiani et al., 2020; Dosi et al., 2018), climate change (Lamperti et al., 2018; Monasterolo & Raberto, 2018, 2019; Ponta et al., 2018).

The fact that AB methods are advantageous for heterodox schools of thought does not mean that AB methods are then necessarily heterodox themselves. Some papers simply highlight affinities between the AB approach and the traditions of critical thinking without claiming to place it in them. However, it is equally evident that relevant contributions in the literature explicitly position the AB approach in the context of alternative lines of research and underline its antagonism to the dominant neoclassical view. Yet these elements do not seem sufficient for a definitive collocation of the AB approach in the context of alternative schools. As we shall see, in the literature there are numerous works that in more or less explicit terms establish a precise connection between the AB models and the neoclassical paradigm. The need, therefore, arises to discern and quantify AB analyses that can be framed in the prevailing approach and those that are far from it. This will be the intent of the systematic review presented in the next sections.

3 | A REVIEW ON THE “NEOCLASSICAL INFLUENCE” IN AB MODELS: METHODOLOGY AND DATA

The following review aims to classify the contributions on AB models into two categories: those in which a “neoclassical influence” can be traced and those in which this “influence” is not recognized. In this section, we shortly discuss the method of data collection and describe the sample of papers included in the review. Our systematic review methodology draws on guidelines proposed by the Centre for Reviews and dissemination of the University of York (CRD, 2009), which reflects best practices in systematic reviews registered with Campbell and Cochrane Collaborations.

We made our initial selection of studies through a comprehensive search in the *Web of Science* database (on the choice of this database, see Xiao & Watson, 2017). We started the literature search by using the keywords “agent based”. The outcome of this preliminary selection was 29444 articles. We then decided to delimit the search only to peer-reviewed papers published in the “Economics” *Web of Science* category. We also decided to select only papers written in English and published during the period 1996–2019. The reasoning for the choice of 1996 as a cutoff point is based on the output of our search in the *Web of Science* which returns no papers published before 1996. Our paper search stopped in August 2020. Using the above-described selection criteria, we ended up having 1043 papers. We then ranked these 1043 papers by the number of total citations and selected the first 100 papers most cited (about this criterion of selection, see: CRD, 2009; Xiao & Watson, 2017).

We then went through all these papers one by one and read the full text to determine possible “neoclassical influences” in terms of the criteria we will describe in the next paragraph. We filtered out some papers that cannot be classified as either neoclassical or alternative for the following reasons: the paper quotes the words “agent based” in the abstract or in the keywords although in the main text there are no other references to AB models; the paper discusses only technical issues, without clear reference to theoretical bases. After carefully evaluating the content of all papers in the database, we ended up having 90 papers none of which was published in the period 1996–1999¹. Therefore, in our study, we refer to a timespan going from 2000 to 2019. The list of papers is reported in the Appendix and also marked with an asterisk (*) in the bibliography. This is the set of papers based on which we carry out the review.

The choice of delimiting the analysis to the hundred most-cited papers follows the methodology based on the guidelines of the Center for Reviews and dissemination of the University of York (CRD, 2009). These 100 most cited papers collect 6584 citations, 54% of total citations of the AB papers in the whole sample of 1043 papers. Our decision to examine only the most cited papers is not accidental: it focuses on the objective of studying the influences of the neoclassical paradigm precisely on the AB analyzes prevalent in literature. It should be noted that the surveys on the top 100 most-cited papers are increasingly used to focus the investigation on the most influential works on a specific topic (Ahmad et al., 2020), on literature belonging to different fields (Van Noorden et al., 2014), or on a specific method (Liu et al., 2013). We follow this last strand of research to analyze how and to what extent the neoclassical paradigm has influenced the landmark papers on AB modeling. An evaluation of whether and to what extent the choice to focus only on the most cited papers has an impact on the precise quantification of the papers in which there is a neoclassical influence remains open and the theme will be subject to future analysis. However, we have reason to believe that the main results reached by this work may find some confirmation even

¹ It should be noted that among the 1043 papers returned by our search in the *Web of Science*, only two papers were published in the period 1996–1999.

by analyzing larger samples of literature. Indeed, it is interesting to note that the selection of 100 most cited papers is in many ways representative of a much larger population of papers dedicated to AB models. If we compare the ranking of the 10 most prolific authors in the whole sample of 1043 papers with the first ten authors most present in the 100 most cited works, we read the same names. Ordered: Mauro Gallegati, Andrea Roventini, Giovanni Dosi, Shu-Heng Chen, Alberto Russo, Silvano Cincotti, Herbert Dawid, Mauro Napoletano, Marco Raberto, Andrea Teglio. The same holds, for the journals, countries/regions, research areas, and organizations: the most representative in the 1043 papers sample are also the most present in the first 100 most cited papers. Finally, we have also repeated the experiment with different samples obtained by adding further keywords to “agent based”. For example, by using “agent based” AND “wage” OR “profit” OR “*employment” OR “GDP” OR “growth” OR “macro*” OR “general equilibrium”, the outcome is 3225 articles, from which it is possible again to select the 100 most cited peer-reviewed papers published in English and in the “Economics” Web of Science category. As we will see in section 5, by inspecting these alternative samples we get results in line with the original experiment.

4 | A DEFINITION OF NEOCLASSICAL “INFLUENCE” ON AB MODELS

Once the sample of papers examined has been defined, it is necessary to clarify how we distinguish between studies on AB models in which a neoclassical influence is found and studies in which this influence is not detected.

The comparisons between the neoclassical approach and the AB models usually focus on their different analyses of human behavior, with the neoclassical models based on optimizing rationality and the AB analyses inspired by “bounded rationality” proposed by Simon and his successors (Kahneman, 2003; Simon, 1955, 1979). This difference is usually considered so irreducible as to cause an inexorable antagonism between the two approaches (Gallegati & Kirman, 2012). Yet, as we will see, despite this undoubted epistemological opposition between the two approaches, there have been attempts to consider the latter to be incorporated into the former (Hahn, 1975) and nowadays there is a large literature dedicated to AB models that are permeated by neoclassical influences.

In order to correctly define what we mean by “neoclassical influence”, it is appropriate to clear the field of some misunderstandings that are often found in the attempts to define the neoclassical paradigm (on the concept of “paradigm” in economic theory, see among others: Blaug, 1976). In this regard, it is necessary to start from a canonical definition: “neoclassical” is defined as a theory for which an economic system can be fully described by the following set of exogenous variables: economic agents preferences measured in terms of utility, the endowments of scarce resources and the production sets of firms. Furthermore, all agents operate in perfect competition and therefore treat prices parametrically. Finally, all agents are rational in the sense that, given their preferences and known prices, they will choose the optimal action for them (Hahn, 1982). Under given conditions, this theory makes it possible to establish the existence of an equilibrium in which relative prices and functional income distribution are indices of the relative scarcity of the supply of resources concerning the respective demands, where supply and demand are obtained by maximizations of profit or utility under the constraint of scarce resources. Therefore, starting from exogenous elements such as the utility of economic agents and the scarcity of resources and going through constrained optimizations, this theory simultaneously determines quantity and income

on the one hand and prices and distribution on the other. This equilibrium, among other things, has the typical characteristics of optimality in the sense of Pareto.

The above definition refers to the neoclassical general equilibrium in its various versions: traditional long-term (Wicksell, 1898), temporary (Hicks, 1939), intertemporal (Arrow & Debreu, 1954), stochastic (Kydland & Prescott, 1982), and their variants. However, the same definition is also related to those analyses that do not have all the requirements of the neoclassical general equilibrium, but preserve some of its crucial starting points such as the utility of agents or the scarcity of resources, and in any case, they take this equilibrium as an ideal reference point.

A typical case is the standard neoclassical growth model, which replicates at the macroeconomic level the characteristics of the general neoclassical equilibrium, with one exception: not all the agents are rational in the sense of neoclassical theory. Firms solve a single-period optimization problem but households allocate income between present and future consumption according to a merely given propensity to save and without any reference to utility maximization (Solow, 1956). Further cases are those analyses which contemplate non-competitive markets, institutional constraints, information asymmetries, irrational behaviors and any sort of “imperfections” which inevitably determine different results from the general neoclassical equilibrium, but take the latter as an ideal point of reference also for guiding policy decisions (among the countless examples in this sense, see: Akerlof, 1976; Greenwald & Stiglitz, 1988; Stiglitz, 1987). In some cases, even, the purpose of these analyses consists precisely in measuring the distance between the actual equilibrium caused by the “imperfections” in the economic system and the ideal equilibrium that would be obtained from the original neoclassical model (see, among many others: Thaler, 2016). In essence, all these analyses suggest that reality is imperfect compared to the general neoclassical equilibrium, but the latter still represents an ideal towards which the economy would tend in the absence of imperfections or towards which it should approach thanks to policy action. Moreover, as also recognized by some of their proponents, these lines of investigation maintain an explicit link with the neoclassical general equilibrium and with its macroeconomic declinations. Suffice it to note that many of these analyses arose from the intent to accept the assumptions of the so-called new macroeconomics of neoclassical inspiration, including the hypothesis of rational expectations, but adding imperfections that lead the economy to different results (Greenwald & Stiglitz, 1987). For all these reasons, these analyses have been correctly placed within a line of research called “imperfektionist”, which is considered internal to the neoclassical tradition (Eatwell et al., 2015).

We can therefore state that a neoclassical influence can be seen both in the models that replicate the general neoclassical equilibrium, and in those “imperfektionist” analyses that do not have all the requirements of the neoclassical general equilibrium but preserve some of its crucial assumptions such as a set of exogenous variables formed by the utility of agents or the scarcity of resources, and in any case, they take this equilibrium as an ideal reference point.

This definition of the neoclassical approach is rooted in the traditions of critical economic thinking (Eatwell & Milgate, 1983; Garegnani, 1990; Graziani, 2003; Pasinetti, 2000) and includes the most recent developments in the contemporary mainstream versions of the neoclassical theory (Blanchard & Fischer, 1989; Blanchard et al., 2020). Without ever denying the variety of research methods in economics (Dow, 2007), this definition of neoclassical influence can help to establish a precise dividing line capable of allowing a comparative approach with alternative research programs (Blanchard & Brancaccio, 2019; Brancaccio & Saraceno, 2017; on the comparative approach, see also Dutt, 1990, 2017).

In light of this general definition, we can explain the terms in which we will classify the AB analyses examined in this review and verify whether there is any neoclassical influence in them

or not. In this sense, we will speak about a general “Neoclassical Influence” (NI, hereafter) when we do not specify the kind of influence analyzed. Then, we will analyze two subsets of papers within the NI group. We will speak of “Neoclassical Influence type 1” (NI1, hereafter) in those studies on AB models in which there is a reference to the general neoclassical equilibrium and the related equilibrium prices understood more or less explicitly as indices of relative scarcity of the given endowments of resources, and where this equilibrium is either actually achieved or represents an ideal reference term. Instead, we will speak of “Neoclassical Influence type 2” (NI2, hereafter) in those works on AB models which, being characterized by partial equilibrium analyzes or for any other reason, do not directly recall a general neoclassical equilibrium and the related scarcity of resources but contain elements that clearly refer to it, such as utility maximization of at least some economic agents. We could say, in summary, that the two groups can be distinguished by examining the different sets of exogenous variables: NI1 which includes the preferences of individuals expressed in terms of utility, while NI2 also includes scarce resources and determines prices as indicators of relative scarcity. Compared to the alternative approaches, both of these neoclassical influences mark a break. With a difference between one and the other, however. Alternative theoretical approaches totally reject the determination of prices as indices of the relative scarcity of resources concerning the corresponding demands. Instead, in the critical literature, some opening to the possibility of making explicit the preferences of economic agents in terms of utility functions has been made, albeit for explanatory purposes only and rejecting the related elements of neoclassical analysis, such as maximization in terms of optimal use of scarce resources and methodological individualism (Pasinetti, 1983).

Clearly, a paper can be included simultaneously in both groups of neoclassical influence types 1 and 2. In our sample, all the partial equilibrium studies fall only into the NI2 group. On the other hand, all the papers belonging to the NI2 class are included also in the NI2 group: in other words, NI1 is a subsample of NI2. This last result is not taken for granted, since there may be models that determine prices and distribution in terms of relative scarcity but make no mention of utility functions (the canonical example is Solow, 1956).

Finally, we will define “No Neoclassical” influence (NN, hereafter) in the case of all studies on AB models that do not have any of these influences, neither in a strong nor in a weak sense. After excluding any sort of neoclassical influence, we shall not go further in the examination of this group: here we do not aim to establish to what extent these analyses can be specifically linked to alternative approaches. However, the absence of neoclassical influences and the explicit criticism of the dominant paradigm necessarily place this group of papers in the context of those lines of research characterized by an alternative theoretical view of a capitalist economy and of the mechanisms that determine prices and functional distribution of income. In particular, the AB models without neoclassical influences are compatible with the alternative traditions of economic research that determine quantities and income on the one hand and prices and distribution on the other in a radically different way compared to the neoclassical approach. Typical examples come from the tradition of critical thinking sometimes referred to as the theory of production (see, among many others: Foley et al., 2019; Kurz & Salvadori, 1995; Pasinetti, 1977 from a monetary theory of production perspective, see: Graziani, 2003). It is important to clarify that the crucial difference between the neoclassical approach and the theory of production does not regard rationality: although this last approach usually refuses methodological individualism, it can contemplate rational and even optimizing behavior, too. The fundamental difference with respect to neoclassical analyses is that in this alternative theory quantity and income, and prices and distribution result from the so-called conditions of “reproduction” of the economic system, given the technology and the power relations between social classes. More specifically, this alternative approach

does not consider the utility of agents or scarcity of resources among the set of exogenous data. Rather, it usually starts from the exogenous levels of a distributive variable, of the autonomous components of effective demand in the sense of Keynes and the composition of effectual demand in the sense of Smith, and has the peculiarity of determining prices and the other distributive variable at a stage of analysis other than that which determines quantities and income. This is a clear watershed with respect to neoclassical analyses, which start from exogenous levels of agents' preferences measured in terms of utility and/or scarce endowments of resources, and which determine quantity, income, prices, and distribution simultaneously.

As can be seen, the choice of exogenous variables represents a relevant criterion for assessing whether and to what extent an analytical model can be included in one or another research tradition (Brancaccio, 2010; Dobb, 1973; Kurz & Salvadori, 1995). Of course, looking only at exogenous variables would be insufficient and could sometimes be misleading. Just as an example, think of Blanchard's famous standard textbook model, in which the markup is an exogenous variable. At first glance, one would be led to believe that this model considers functional distribution as an exogenous variable, and then it cannot fit into the mainstream neoclassical tradition. But on closer examination, it turns out that Blanchard himself considers the exogenous markup a mere simplification, destined for more advanced stages of the analysis to be replaced by the usual neoclassical mechanisms for determining functional distribution (Blanchard et al., 2020; Brancaccio & Saraceno, 2017). For these reasons, during our investigation of the papers dedicated to AB models, we classified them by carrying out a double check: (1) in the first instance, we observed the exogenous variables of the models, to verify if they contained at least one of the groups of exogenous typical of the neoclassical theory, such as agent preferences measured by utility functions or scarce resource endowments; (2) in the second instance, we evaluated the overall logic of the models to make sure that the first classification criterion had not misled us. It is interesting to note that the first classification criterion was almost always confirmed by the second criterion.

Without ever denying the variety of research approaches in economics (Dow, 2007), this method of identifying a neoclassical influence is rooted in the traditions of critical economic thinking (Eatwell & Milgate, 1983; Garegnani, 1990; Graziani, 2003; Pasinetti, 2000) and includes the most recent developments in the contemporary mainstream versions of the neoclassical theory (Blanchard & Fischer, 1989). In our view, it can help to establish a precise line of demarcation capable of allowing a distinction between papers more or less implicitly linked to the mainstream tradition and papers that, on the other hand, maybe compatible with alternative research programs (on this demarcation see: Blanchard & Brancaccio, 2019; Dutt, 1990, 2017).

5 | RESULTS OF THE REVIEW

In this section, we show the results of our review of the papers dedicated to AB models and their classification based on the links with the neoclassical approach detected in them. As above mentioned, our final sample of 90 papers does not include contributions published before 2000. Thus, our attention here is focused only on the last two decades 2000–2009 and 2010–2019. The chart in Figure 1 (left) plots the cumulative frequencies for the two groups of papers: “neoclassical influence” (NI) and “no neoclassical” influence (NN). In the last observation year, the total sum of contributions for each class is shown. As already mentioned, within the NI group we also distinguish papers that show neoclassical influence type 1 (NI1) and neoclassical influence type 2 (NI2). The number of papers influenced by the neoclassical approach NI is 55, which corresponds to 61% of the whole sample. Within this group, the papers NI1 and NI2 are 17 (i.e. 19%) and 38 (i.e. 42%),

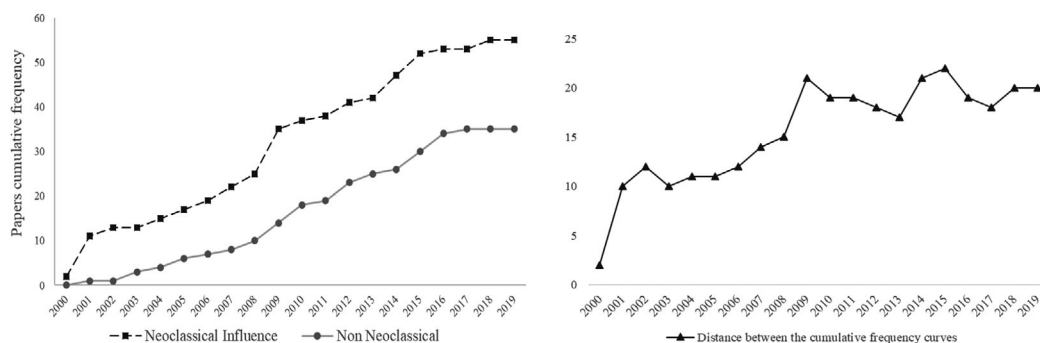


FIGURE 1 Papers cumulative frequency (left) and cumulative frequencies curves' distance (right)

respectively. The contributions not overtly affected by the neoclassical paradigm and thus classified in the field of “no neoclassical” influence (NN) are in a proven minority: 35 in total, i.e. 39% of the sample.

By inspecting the left panel in Figure 1, we note a clear and wide gap over the entire period of observations between the cumulative frequency curves of the NI and NN papers. However, after 2008 the NN literature booms, and the respective cumulative frequency curve rises sharply. At the same time, NI literature undergoes a sudden slowdown and the cumulated frequency curve becomes progressively flatter. As a result, starting from 2009, the gap between the two curves tends to remain constant over time². The two curves seem to move in parallel until the last year of observation. The different curves behavior during the two decades is even more clear in the chart on the right side of Figure 1 which depicts the distance between the curves year by year. During the period 2000–2009, the distance increases progressively passing from two papers of difference up to the peak of 21 reached in 2009. From 2009 onwards, the distance between the two curves becomes almost constant and oscillates in a range of 4 papers of difference. Summing up the papers published in the periods 2000–2009 and 2010–2019 we find that in the first decade 35 NI and 14 NN papers have been published, while in the second decade the NI and NN papers are 20 and 21 respectively.

Figure 2 compares the evolution over time of the shares of papers and citations in the groups NI1, NI2, and NN, respectively. Looking at the entire twenty-year period 2000–2019, the prevalence of studies in which a neoclassical influence is recognized is evident: the NI group counts 61% of the papers. Over the two decades, the gap between citations is even more pronounced, with the NI group collecting 68% of citations. However, dividing the twenty years into two decades, in the last period there has been a clear decline in the share of papers in the NI group, which goes from 72% in 2000–2009 to 49% in 2010–2019. Regarding the evolution of citations over time, even in this case, we see a decline from 82% to 64% of the NI share, which however is less pronounced than the decline of NI papers. Overall, in the last year of observation, the number of citations of the papers belonging to the NN group is still far from that of the NI group, respectively 2211 and 4373. By looking at the shares of papers and citations among the three groups we find that the share of

² Between 2008 and 2009 the cumulative frequency curve of NI papers shows a sharp increase. At first glance, this may appear to be an impact of the 2008 crisis on the publication of NI papers. However, among the 10 NI papers published between 2008 and 2009, only one refers to the 2008 crisis. This is not surprising as in our study we only consider published articles. Considering that on average the economics publishing process consumes about two years (Ellison, 2002), to verify the impact of the 2008 crisis we should look at the papers published after 2009.

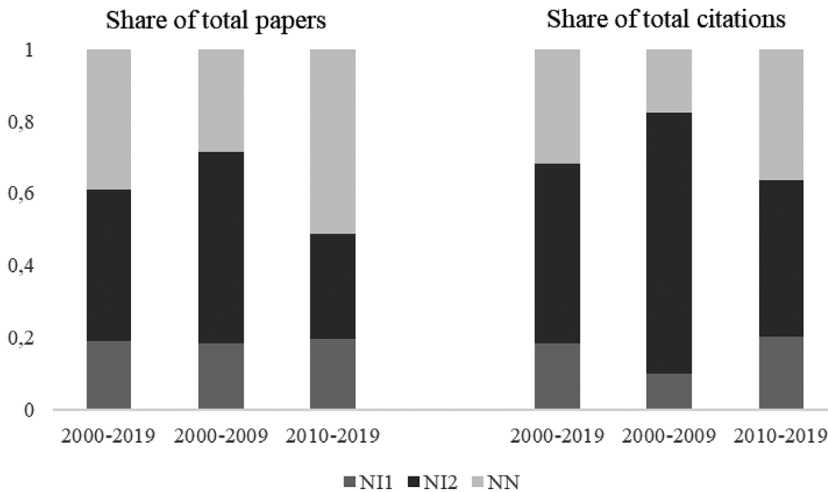


FIGURE 2 Share of total papers (left) and citations (right)

papers belonging to the NI1 group is almost identical during the whole period of observation and the two sub-periods considered, always just below 20%, whereas the NI2 and NN groups show a heterogeneous distribution over time. In the decade 2000–2009 the share of papers included in the NI2 class is 53% of total papers, whereas the NN group accounts for only 28%. In the decade 2010–2019 the percentages are reversed: 29% of papers included in the NI2 group versus 51% of papers in the NN group. As regards the distribution of citations between the groups, this follows a similar trend to the distribution of the number of papers, with some differences due to the rather clear link between the number of citations and years of publication. There is a clear gap between the number of citations collected by the NI2 group and the other two groups. The bars on the right side of Figure 2 show that the predominance of the NI2 is significant during the decade 2000–2009 when the share of citations towards this class of articles represents 72% of the sample. However, the dominance of the NI2 group is eroded in the decade 2010–2019, during which the share of citations towards NN papers increases significantly, passing from 17 to 36% of the total citations.

The trends described in Figure 1 and 2 suggest that the “great recession” started in 2008 (IMF, 2012) may have changed the evolution of scientific research on AB models, attenuating neoclassical influences and accentuating the links with alternative approaches. These findings may provide food for thought for the sociology of scientific knowledge, with particular regard to the relationships between socio-economic changes and the evolution of research agendas. As a further exercise, to assess the impact the economic crisis had on the AB literature, we searched the word “crisis” within our sample of papers. This search returned 18 papers, exactly 20% of the whole sample. Apart from Filatova et al. (2009) and Leijonhufvud (2009), the remaining 16 papers were published in the period 2010–2019 and represent about 40% of the papers published in this decade. This result is quite surprising and tells us that before 2010, economic crises were never mentioned in the most influential papers in the AB literature. Among the 18 papers containing the word “crisis”, 7 are included in the NI group and 11 in the NN group. By analyzing one-by-one these papers, some interesting features emerge. The studies converge in arguing that AB models would be more suitable than conventional macro models in predicting crises. However, in the NI papers, AB models are mainly conceived to investigate what happens “out-of-equilibrium”, during adjustment phases, and to accurately calibrate heterogeneity and the role played by the tail of the distribution

TABLE 1 Citations and impact factor in the systematic review: Descriptive statistics

	<i>Articles in the NI group</i>	<i>Articles in the NN group</i>
Citations		
Obs	55	35
Mean	79.51	63.17
Std. Dev.	67.46	39.97
Median	56	39.40
Min	29	28
Max	374	195
Journal impact factor		
Obs	55	35
Mean	3.35	2.21
Std. Dev.	1.94	1.52
Median	2.76	1.57
Min	0.86	0.29
Max	6.20	5.04

Source: Authors' calculations from a selected sample of papers taken from the Web of Science database.

(Geanakoplos, 2012). In this sense, AB models could be considered as a candidate to complement dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) as the standard tool for macroeconomic analysis (Farmer, 2015). On the other hand, NN papers argue for the necessity to replace the reductionist approach at the heart of mainstream DSGE models (Delli Gatti et al., 2010) and to reformulate the foundations of economics starting from the AB approach (Squazzoni, 2010).

Table 1 reports some descriptive statistics across our two groups of papers and provides further information on the editorial placement of AB literature. The average number of citations is quite different across the subset of articles included in groups NI and NN, respectively 79.51 and 63.17 per each paper. We also report standard deviation, median, minimum and maximum values to yield a better picture of the distribution of citations across our two classes. At first glance, these measures show a different picture for the two groups. The standard deviation suggests that the distribution of citations among the NI papers has a higher variability, whose citations range from 26 to 374. As regards the journal impact factor, descriptive statistics provide a rather clear picture. As was widely expected, contributions belonging to the NI class tend to be published in journals with a higher impact factor. Not surprisingly, the probability of finding an AB paper published in a high impact factor journal is higher if the model includes neoclassical elements. These findings together with citation metrics tell us that in terms of research impact, at the top of AB publications we find articles characterized by a neoclassical influence.

As already mentioned in section 3, we have also repeated the experiment with different samples obtained by using alternative keywords. For example, we have also used “agent based” AND “wage” OR “profit” OR “* employment” OR “GDP” OR “growth” OR “macro *” OR “general equilibrium”. The outcome was 3225 articles, from which we selected again the 100 most cited peer-reviewed papers published in English and in the “Economics” Web of Science category. By inspecting these alternative samples, we get results in line with the original experiment: the percentage of papers in which a “neoclassical influence” is found is in the majority but tends to decline in the last decade. Then, our results do not seem to be affected by sample selection.

6 | INSIDE THE REVIEW: AB MODELING, MAINSTREAM INFLUENCE, AND ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

In this section, we provide a narrative summary of our review. We first describe the main features of the contributions included in the NI and NN groups. Then we draw a general picture of AB literature and discuss similitudes and differences within and across the groups.

As regards the NI group, the subset of NI1 papers is mainly composed of partial equilibrium analyses. These are studies with a rather specific research focus spanning across problems related to mobility, sustainability, asset pricing dynamics, traffic management. Most of the papers in the WNI group are published in interdisciplinary journals such as *Transportation Research*, *Ecological Economics*, *Energy Policy*. Though there are also publications in relevant economic journals such as the *Journal of Economic Behavior & Organization (JEBO)* and *Journal of Economic Dynamics & Control (JEDC)*. As explained before, a common element in the studies included in the NI1 group is that they develop AB models which do not directly recall a general neoclassical equilibrium but contain elements that clearly refer to it, such as utility functions and related typical constrained optimization problems. For example, the model built by Franke and Westerhoff (2012) is framed in the small-scale AB financial market models and is designed to explain the most important stylized facts of financial markets at a daily frequency. Their virtual financial market is populated by two groups of agents, namely the fundamentalists and the chartists, who rely on simple heuristic trading strategies that involve the utility obtained from past capital gains of the two groups. BenDor et al. (2009) analyze the interactions between economic and ecological dynamic systems and their sustainability using an AB model of fishery management. Their modeling approach views fishery industries as the key agents in altering fish stocks by catching fish as a source of income. Fishers are subjected to an economic sustainability condition that is satisfied as long as the marginal revenue of each action is equal to its marginal cost, based on a typical scarce resource allocation problem. Roorda et al. (2010) present an AB microsimulation framework that explicitly represents the diversity of roles and functions that business establishments play in the freight system, how they interact through markets and how both long and short-term interactions between agents are established in the market through contracts. The authors conceptualize a model that includes all the main actors involved in the logistics and supply chains: shippers, receivers, carriers, end consumers. The latter plays a key role since they initiate the demand for commodities that flow through the commodity production system by evaluating and selecting from the potential suppliers. This evaluation is made using a random utility maximization model.

The contributions that fall within the NI2 group deal with various economic issues such as, among others, market power, the dynamics of the labor market, economic convergence, systemic risk, computational finance, climate change, agricultural economics. With respect to the NI1 group, the studies in the NI2 group are more oriented towards conventional economic issues. Indeed, the papers of this group were mainly published in strictly general economics journals such as *American Economic Review (AER)*, *Economic Journal*, *JEBO*, *JEDC*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*, among others. The SNI group includes models such as the one by Happe et al. (2008) where “the optimization problem produces the vector of shadow prices for scarce resources” (Happe, 2004, p. 75) and papers where the neoclassical “competitive market outcome” (Teshfatsion, 2001, p. 421) represents a normative equilibrium benchmark for the model (see among others Zhang, 2011 and Farmer et al., 2015). In some contributions, the neoclassical general equilibrium is not just a normative but even a positive reference. For example, in the AB model developed by Lengnick (2013) “competition drives the economy to a point where prices are set in

such a way that they reflect the true relative scarcity of commodities and hence lead to an efficient allocation of resources. Such an equilibrium is brought about by the interplay of agents although no individual agent even has an idea about what an equilibrium is. The equilibrium is, therefore, an emergent property of the aggregate” (Lengnick, 2013, p. 111). In the same vein, Blake LeBaron, one of the most quoted neoclassical authors of AB models, uses AB simulations to give empirical support to a typical rational expectation neoclassical equilibrium: “for multiagent simulations, the homogeneous agent world is often the appropriate benchmark”. Thus, “the parameters and processes are set to allow for a simple and tractable homogeneous rational expectations equilibrium to exist” (LeBaron, 2001b, p. 234). This paper follows on from other seminal contributions (LeBaron, 2000, 2001a), in which the author explored some of the early works in the area of AB computational finance and provided a guide for researchers interested in building their own AB financial markets. According to LeBaron (2001a, p. 254) AB computational finance is a “new tool for exploring behavior in financial markets that are far from traditional notions of equilibrium” and to push “beyond the restrictions of analytic methods” (LeBaron, 2000, p. 679). However, in guiding future research, the author positively refers to standard neoclassical authors (Beltratti, 1992, 1996; Sargent, 1993) and crucial neoclassical building blocks, like the “well-behaved supply and demand functions” (LeBaron, 2001a, p. 257). The influence of the neoclassical paradigm in a normative sense is even more pronounced in LeBaron (2001b), where the author develops an AB financial market able to “replicate usual rational expectations results” (LeBaron, 2001b, p. 225), in which “agents are represented by well-defined infinite-horizon CRRA preferences with a common discount factor” (LeBaron, 2001b, p. 228) and “subject to the intertemporal budget constraint” (LeBaron, 2001b, p. 229). In line with these studies, the contributions by Chen and Yeh (2001, 2002) are framed in a typical neoclassical theoretical structure and propose the AB approach as a methodology adapt to attack the boundary of what can be handled analytically in a neoclassical model with heterogeneity. In their studies on the artificial stock market, the authors often relate to the dominant approach which represents a benchmark for their models. Notably, the authors aim to demonstrate that AB models are capable of generating neoclassical market efficiency albeit most of the “interacting traders [...] do not believe in the martingale hypothesis (the efficient market hypothesis)” (Chen & Yeh, 2002, p. 237). Their tests show “that some series examined cannot reject a version of the efficient market hypothesis or a version of the rational expectations hypothesis. Thus, we illustrate, to a certain extent, how AB models are capable of replicating some well-known economic behavior empirically” (Chen & Yeh, 2002, p. 237).

Geanakoplos et al. (2012) and Gintis (2007) are among the most relevant studies for our research question. The housing market is at the core of the study by Geanakoplos et al. (2012). This contribution was published in the *AER* in the aftermath of the 2008 crisis and claimed to “bring a new kind of discipline” by introducing the AB approach in “conventional economic analysis” built on “equilibrium models with a representative agent”. The innovation announced by the authors does not escape the neoclassical paradigm since agents’ behavior explicitly follows the traditional neoclassical model designed by Carroll (1997). Gintis (2007) shows even more explicitly how the AB approach can be integrated into a full neoclassical environment developing an AB model of a Walrasian economy. Also in this contribution, the AB approach is not an alternative to the dominant paradigm, rather it is considered as a methodology functional to overcome some analytical limits of standard models: “Agent-based modelling is effective in solving problems involving complex nonlinear dynamics that cannot be handled through standard optimisation techniques” (Gintis, 2007, p. 1281). According to the author, “the Walrasian general equilibrium model is the centre-piece of modern economic theory, but progress in understanding its dynamical properties has been meagre” (Gintis, 2007, p. 1280). Therefore, to fill the gap Gintis (2007) builds an AB model of

a multi-sector Walrasian economy with production and exchange and in which prices are “necessarily ergodic, the long-run historical average price equalling the equilibrium price” (Gintis, 2007, p. 1282).

The group of papers included in the alternative NN class is mainly concerned with macroeconomics issues and mostly focuses on the business cycle, scaling laws and income distribution, fiscal, monetary, and structural policies. In this sense, we note a certain homogeneity with the topics covered by the studies of the SNI group. The same holds for the destination of the articles: the NN contributions were mainly published in *JEBO*, *JEDC*, *Macroeconomic Dynamics*, *Journal of Evolutionary Economics*. In this group, we find several contributions which originate from or are inspired by two families of macro AB models, namely the CATS model proposed by Delli Gatti, Gallegati, and co-authors in Ancona and Milan (Assenza et al., 2015; Caiani et al., 2016; Delli Gatti et al., 2005, 2010; Riccetti et al., 2015; Russo et al., 2007, 2016); the K+S proposed by Dosi, Fagiolo, Roventini and co-authors in Pisa (Dosi et al., 2010, 2013, 2015). Altogether the contributions of these two AB schools (on families and schools of macro AB models see Dawid & Delli Gatti, 2018) account for more than 30% of total NN papers. In some contributions, neoclassical theory and models are used to compare results and assumptions (see for example, Gualdi et al., 2015). However, in no paper of the NN group do we find a “neoclassical influence” in the sense described in section 4.

7 | CONCLUSIONS

According to widespread literature, the method and the object of analysis of AB models are in various respects in stark contrast to the prevailing neoclassical paradigm and therefore should be considered part of the traditions of alternative economic thought. According to this view, AB analyses reveal irreducible elements of contrast with the neoclassical conceptual framework in the face of important complementarities with the traditions of critical thinking. In this regard, it has been observed that AB analysis not only has no need to incorporate the links between production and distribution typical of the neoclassical theory of relative prices (Dosi & Roventini, 2019) but also contradicts the claim to analyze complex emerging interactions between microeconomic behavior and macro-dynamics following the canons of neoclassical methodological individualism (Zahle & Kincaid, 2020). These findings go beyond the usual critique of those macro aggregation criteria that are typical of the neoclassical mainstream approach and seem to indicate that the cases of neoclassical influence in AB analysis are like attempts to mix water with oil: destined to fail for structural reasons.

In this paper, however, we have shown that several typical elements of the neoclassical theory can be found in most of the prevailing AB literature. Our review of 100 most cited academic papers dedicated to AB models and published in the period 1990–2019 shows that in the 61% of papers a “neoclassical influence” can be detected, while only 39% do not show links with the mainstream approach. These neoclassical influences on most cited AB literature are still prevalent today but decline to a significant extent after the so-called “great recession” started in 2008.

The choice of delimiting the analysis to the hundred most-cited papers focuses on the objective of studying the influences of the neoclassical paradigm precisely on the AB analyses prevalent in literature. Based on our first checks, the main results reached by this work seem to find some confirmation even by analyzing larger samples of literature. However, a deeper evaluation of whether and to what extent our citation-based selection has an impact on the precise quantification of neoclassical influence in AB literature remains open. The theme will be subject to future analysis. In

any case, the results of our review seem to be in line with the wide range of studies that examine sociological influences on the research evaluation systems and the related development of different scientific paradigms, with particular reference to what happens in economics (among many others, see: D'Ippoliti, 2021; Fourcade et al., 2015; Hamermesh, 2013; see also: Corsi et al., 2010; Lavoie, 2015).

Considering our evidence, AB models do not seem to have a precise theoretical connotation. Rather they seem to assume the epistemological features of a pure “technique”: that is, a flexible research methodology that can be useful to handle complex dynamics in whatever theoretical approach, both neoclassical and alternative (Gallegati et al., 2017).

Even if we accept the idea that the prevailing attempts to integrate AB models in the neoclassical field present irreducible contradictions, we are still far from identifying a definitive location for AB analysis. To solve this puzzle, the definition of “neoclassical influence” described above may give some help: it could be considered as a sort of “Althusserian” demarcation line that divides the paradigms of economic theory (Blanchard & Brancaccio, 2019; Brancaccio & Califano, 2018). Those who believe that AB analysis is located in a context other than the neoclassical one, will be able to adequately develop the characteristics of the models devoid of neoclassical influences and perhaps make more explicit their possible links with the alternative traditions in the theory of prices and distribution. In this direction, the still open problem of situating the AB approach on one side or the other of the demarcation line between paradigms could find a possible solution.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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APPENDIX

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Adler et al. (2005)	A multi-agent approach to cooperative traffic management and route guidance	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	89	5,56	4,80	NI1
Alfarano and Milakovic (2009)	Network structure and N-dependence in agent-based herding models	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	36	3,58	1,20	NI2
Antonini et al. (2006)	Discrete choice models of pedestrian walking behavior	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	232	16,07	4,80	NI1
Assenza et al., 2015	Emergent dynamics of a macroeconomic agent based model with capital and credit	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	45	8,67	1,20	NN
Auld and Mohammadian (2012)	Activity planning processes in the Agent-based Dynamic Activity Planning and Travel Scheduling (ADAPTS) model	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	41	5,00	3,99	NN
Balint, T. et al. (2017)	Complexity and the Economics of Climate Change: A Survey and a Look Forward	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	31	9,50	4,48	NN
BenDor et al. (2009)	Ecological and economic sustainability in fishery management: A multi-agent model for understanding competition and cooperation	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	36	3,17	4,48	NI1
Berger (2001)	Agent-based spatial models applied to agriculture: a simulation tool for technology diffusion, resource use changes and policy analysis	AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	315	16,15	2,26	NI2

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Berger and Troost (2014)	Agent-based Modelling of Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Options in Agriculture	JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	49	8,00	2,53	N12
Bieber et al. (2018)	Sustainable planning of the energy-water-food nexus using decision making tools	ENERGY POLICY	33	17,33	5,04	N12
Bower and Bunn (2001)	Experimental analysis of the efficiency of uniform-price versus discriminatory auctions in the England and Wales electricity market	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	83	4,25	1,20	N12
Bower and Bunn (2000)	Model-based comparisons of pool and bilateral markets for electricity	ENERGY JOURNAL	146	7,05	0,95	N12
Brady et al. (2009)	Impacts of Decoupled Agricultural Support on Farm Structure, Biodiversity and Landscape Mosaic: Some EU Results	JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	61	5,25	2,53	N12
Caiani et al. (2016)	Agent based-stock flow consistent macroeconomics: Towards a benchmark model	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	69	16,40	1,20	N11
Cats and Jenelius (2015)	Planning for the unexpected: The value of reserve capacity for public transport network robustness	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	32	6,50	3,99	N11
Chen, S. & Yeh (2001)	Evolving traders and the business school with genetic programming: A new architecture of the agent-based artificial stock market	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	122	6,35	1,20	N12
Chen, S. & Yeh (2002)	On the emergent properties of artificial stock markets: the efficient market hypothesis and the rational expectations hypothesis	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	63	3,37	1,59	N12

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Chen, S. (2012)	Varieties of agents in agent-based computational economics: A historical and an interdisciplinary perspective	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	50	6,22	1,20	NN
Chen, T. et al. (2016)	Operations of a shared, autonomous, electric vehicle fleet: Implications of vehicle & charging infrastructure decisions	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	85	23,40	3,99	NN
Cincotti et al. (2010)	Credit Money and Macroeconomic Instability in the Agent-based Model and Simulator Eurace	ECONOMICS-THE OPEN ACCESS OPEN-ASSESSMENT E-JOURNAL	44	4,73	1,10	NI2
Cong et al. (2014)	Managing ecosystem services for agriculture: Will landscape-scale management pay?	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	52	8,00	4,48	NI2
Dawid et al. (2014)	Economic convergence: Policy implications from a heterogeneous agent model	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	41	6,71	1,20	NI2
de Haan et al. (2009)	How much do incentives affect car purchase? Agent-based microsimulation of consumer choice of new cars-Part II: Forecasting effects of feebates based on energy-efficiency	ENERGY POLICY	48	4,17	5,04	NI1
Delli Gatti et al. (2005)	A new approach to business fluctuations: heterogeneous interacting agents, scaling laws and financial fragility	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	117	8,06	1,59	NN
Delli Gatti et al. (2010)	Complex agent-based macroeconomics: a manifesto for a new paradigm	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC INTERACTION AND COORDINATION	40	4,09	1,57	NN

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
De Vany and Lee (2001)	Quality signals in information cascades and the dynamics of the distribution of motion picture box office revenues	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	42	2,15	1,20	NI2
Dosi et al. (2013)	Income distribution, credit and fiscal policies in an agent-based Keynesian model	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	119	16,88	1,20	NN
Dosi et al. (2015)	Fiscal and monetary policies in complex evolving economies	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	68	13,83	1,20	NN
Dosi et al. (2010)	Schumpeter meeting Keynes: A policy-friendly model of endogenous growth and business cycles	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	195	19,45	1,20	NN
Duffy (2001)	Learning to speculate: Experiments with artificial and real agents	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	54	2,80	1,20	NI2
Eppstein et al. (2011)	An agent-based model to study market penetration of plug-in hybrid electric vehicles	ENERGY POLICY	166	17,70	5,04	NN
Faber et al. (2010)	Exploring domestic micro-cogeneration in the Netherlands: An agent-based demand model for technology diffusion	ENERGY POLICY	32	3,45	5,04	NN
Farmer et al. (2015)	A Third Wave in the Economics of Climate Change	ENVIRONMENTAL & RESOURCE ECONOMICS	50	10,50	2,29	NI2
Farooq et al. (2013)	Simulation based population synthesis	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	51	7,00	4,80	NN

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Filatova et al. (2009)	Land Market Interactions between Heterogeneous Agents in a Heterogeneous Landscape-Tracing the Macro-Scale Effects of Individual Trade-Offs between Environmental Amenities and Disamenities	CANADIAN JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS-REVUE CANADIENNE D'AGROECONOMIE	37	3,17	0,86	NI2
Franke (2009)	Applying the method of simulated moments to estimate a small agent-based asset pricing model	JOURNAL OF EMPIRICAL FINANCE	37	3,25	1,57	NN
Franke and Westerhoff (2012)	Structural stochastic volatility in asset pricing dynamics: Estimation and model contest	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	65	8,00	1,20	NI1
Geanakoplos et al. (2012)	Getting at Systemic Risk via an Agent-Based Model of the Housing Market	AMERICAN ECONOMIC REVIEW	56	7,00	5,56	NI2
Gintis (2007)	The dynamics of general equilibrium	ECONOMIC JOURNAL	51	4,07	2,76	NI2
Gualdi et al. (2015)	Tipping points in macroeconomic agent-based models	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	42	8,00	1,20	NN
Happe et al. (2008)	Does structure matter? The impact of switching the agricultural policy regime on farm structures	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	65	5,31	1,59	NI2
Hassani-Mahmoei and Parris (2012)	Climate change and internal migration patterns in Bangladesh: an agent-based model	ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT ECONOMICS	38	5,00	1,43	NN
Hodgson, GM; Knudsen, T	The complex evolution of a simple traffic convention: the functions and implications of habit	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	72	4,29	1,59	NI1

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Hunt and Stefan (2007)	Tour-based microsimulation of urban commercial movements	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	96	7.14	4.80	NI2
Kaufmann et al. (2009)	Simulating the diffusion of organic farming practices in two New EU Member States	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	44	4.08	4.48	NN
Kirman and Vriend (2001)	Evolving market structure: An ACE model of price dispersion and loyalty	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	106	5.45	1.20	NN
Klemm et al. (2005)	Globalization, polarization and cultural drift	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	54	3.50	1.20	NN
Klos and Nootboom (2001)	Agent-based computational transaction cost economics	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	45	2.35	1.20	NI2
Kohler et al. (2009)	A transitions model for sustainable mobility	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	102	9.25	4.48	NI1
Kowalska-Pyzalska et al. (2014)	Turning green: Agent-based modeling of the adoption of dynamic electricity tariffs	ENERGY POLICY	36	6.14	5.04	NN
Krupa et al. (2014)	Analysis of a consumer survey on plug-in hybrid electric vehicles	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	94	15.71	3.99	NI1
LeBaron (2000)	Agent-based computational finance: Suggested readings and early research	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	222	10.81	1.20	NI2

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
LeBaron (2001a)	A builder's guide to agent-based financial markets	QUANTITATIVE FINANCE	124	6.40	1.49	NI2
LeBaron (2001b)	Evolution and time horizons in an agent-based stock market	MACROECONOMIC DYNAMICS	80	4.05	0.98	NI2
Leijonhufvud (2009)	Out of the corridor: Keynes and the crisis	CAMBRIDGE JOURNAL OF ECONOMICS	60	5.00	1.72	NN
Lengnick (2013)	Agent-based macroeconomics: A baseline model	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	43	5.50	1.59	NI2
Liedtke (2009)	Principles of micro-behavior commodity transport modeling	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART E-LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION REVIEW	49	4.58	4.69	NI2
Liu and Zhou (2016)	Capacitated transit service network design with boundedly rational agents	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	36	8.60	4.80	NI1
Lu et al. (2009)	The Naming Game in social networks: community formation and consensus engineering	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC INTERACTION AND COORDINATION	50	4.58	1.57	NN
Marshall et al. (2015a)	Applying Dynamic Simulation Modeling Methods in Health Care Delivery Research-The SIMULATE Checklist: Report of the ISPOR Simulation Modeling Emerging Good Practices Task Force	VALUE IN HEALTH	63	12.67	4.75	NI1
Marshall et al. (2015b)	Selecting a Dynamic Simulation Modeling Method for Health Care Delivery Research Part 2: Report of the ISPOR Dynamic Simulation Modeling Emerging Good Practices Task Force	VALUE IN HEALTH	40	8.00	4.75	NI1

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Matthews and Selman (2006)	Landscape as a focus for integrating human and environmental processes	JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS	95	6,53	2,53	NN
Mike and Farmer (2008)	An empirical behavioral model of liquidity and volatility	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	130	10,31	1,20	NN
Mueller and de Haan (2009)	How much do incentives affect car purchase? Agent-based microsimulation of consumer choice of new cars-Part I: Model structure, simulation of bounded rationality, and model validation	ENERGY POLICY	61	5,33	5,04	NII
Padgett et al. (2003)	Economic production as chemistry	INDUSTRIAL AND CORPORATE CHANGE	42	2,33	1,98	NN
Peeta et al. (2005)	Behavior-based analysis of freeway car-truck interactions and related mitigation strategies	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART B-METHODOLOGICAL	43	2,69	4,80	NII
Ponta et al. (2018)	An Agent-based Stock-flow Consistent Model of the Sustainable Transition in the Energy Sector	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	29	12,00	4,48	NII2
Reis (2014)	Analysis of mode choice variables in short-distance intermodal freight transport using an agent-based model	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	40	6,57	3,99	NII
Riccetti et al. (2015)	An agent based decentralized matching macroeconomic model	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC INTERACTION AND COORDINATION	39	7,50	1,57	NN
Roorda et al. (2010)	A conceptual framework for agent-based modelling of logistics services	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART E-LOGISTICS AND TRANSPORTATION REVIEW	100	9,55	4,69	NII

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Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Russo et al. (2007)	Industrial dynamics, fiscal policy and R&D: Evidence from a computational experiment	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	42	3,00	1,59	NN
Russo et al. (2016)	Increasing inequality, consumer credit and financial fragility in an agent based macroeconomic model	JOURNAL OF EVOLUTIONARY ECONOMICS	34	8,40	1,43	NN
Sander et al. (2009)	Economic Evaluation of Influenza Pandemic Mitigation Strategies in the United States Using a Stochastic Microsimulation Transmission Model	VALUE IN HEALTH	74	6,33	4,75	NI1
Scalas et al. (2004)	Anomalous waiting times in high-frequency financial data	QUANTITATIVE FINANCE	51	3,18	1,49	NN
Schreinemachers et al. (2007)	Simulating soil fertility and poverty dynamics in Uganda: A bio-economic multi-agent systems approach	ECOLOGICAL ECONOMICS	43	3,21	4,48	NI2
Schwoon (2006)	Simulating the adoption of fuel cell vehicles	JOURNAL OF EVOLUTIONARY ECONOMICS	64	4,47	1,43	NI2
Sensfuß et al. (2008)	The merit-order effect: A detailed analysis of the price effect of renewable electricity generation on spot market prices in Germany	ENERGY POLICY	374	30,62	5,04	NI2
Seppelcher (2012)	Flexibility Of Wages And Macroeconomic Instability In An Agent-Based Computational Model With Endogenous Money	MACROECONOMIC DYNAMICS	35	4,11	0,98	NN
Silvia and Krause (2016)	Assessing the impact of policy interventions on the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles: An agent-based model	ENERGY POLICY	28	7,40	5,04	NN

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Squazzoni (2010)	The impact of agent-based models in the social sciences after 15 years of incursions	HISTORY OF ECONOMIC IDEAS	40	3,91	0,29	NN
Tang et al. (2015)	Carbon emissions trading scheme exploration in China: A multi-agent-based model	ENERGY POLICY	69	14,17	5,04	N12
Tesfatsion (2001)	Structure, behavior, and market power in an evolutionary labor market with adaptive search	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC DYNAMICS & CONTROL	53	2,65	1,20	N12
Veit et al. (2009)	An agent-based analysis of the German electricity market with transmission capacity constraints	ENERGY POLICY	35	3,17	5,04	N12
Vriend (2002)	Was Hayek an ace?	SOUTHERN ECONOMIC JOURNAL	41	2,26	0,92	N12
Weidlich et al. (2008)	A critical survey of agent-based wholesale electricity market models	ENERGY ECONOMICS	178	14,15	5,20	N12
Westerhoff (2008)	The Use of Agent-Based Financial Market Models to Test the Effectiveness of Regulatory Policies	JAHRBUCHER FÜR NATIONALÖKONOMIE UND STATISTIK	61	4,92	0,66	NN
Zhang, J. (2004)	Residential segregation in an all-integrationist world	JOURNAL OF ECONOMIC BEHAVIOR & ORGANIZATION	73	4,53	1,59	N12
Zhang, J. (2003)	Growing Silicon Valley on a landscape: an agent-based approach to high-tech industrial clusters	JOURNAL OF EVOLUTIONARY ECONOMICS	38	2,17	1,43	NN

(Continues)

Authors	Title	Source Title	Total Citations	Citations Average per Year	Impact Factor	Group
Zhang, J. (2011)	Tipping and Residential Segregation: A Unified Schelling Model	JOURNAL OF REGIONAL SCIENCE	50	5.60	2.09	NI2
Zheng et al. (2012)	A dynamic cordon pricing scheme combining the Macroscopic Fundamental Diagram and an agent-based traffic model	TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH PART A-POLICY AND PRACTICE	78	9.56	3.99	NI2

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