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Generative AI and Labour Productivity [Working title]

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Motivation:

The rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, especially generative AI, has introduced transformations in the way tasks are performed across various sectors, raising important questions about their broader economic implications. These technologies have the potential to automate or augment a wide range of functions, reshaping workflows and decision-making processes. Many have argued that AI could exert a profound and widespread impact on the economy, influencing productivity growth, labour market dynamics, and organizational structures. In response to these possibilities, a growing body of research has begun to investigate the early effects of generative AI adoption. These studies offer preliminary evidence on how AI tools can affect labour productivity and the reconfiguration of work practices.

Goal:

The aim of this thesis is to examine the existing empirical evidence on the impact of (generative) AI on work productivity, and potentially the labour market and the economy more broadly.

References and Related Literature:

Brynjolfsson, E., Li, D., & Raymond, L. (2025). Generative AI at work. *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, *140*(2), 889–942. https://doi.org/10.1093/qje/qjae044

Hoffmann, M., Boysel, S., Nagle, F., Peng, S., & Xu, K. (2025). Generative AI and the nature of work (Working Paper No. 25–021). Harvard Business School. https://ssrn.com/abstract=5007084

Noy, S., & Zhang, W. (2023). Experimental evidence on the productivity effects of generative artificial intelligence. *Science*, *381*(6654), 187–192. https://doi.org/10.1126/science.adh2586