Business Cycles in an Oil Economy Lessons from Norway

Drago Bergholt*,[†] and Vegard H. Larsen*

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^TCorresponding author: Drago.Bergholt@Norges-Bank.no

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^{*}Norges Bank. The views expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Norges Bank.

Research questions

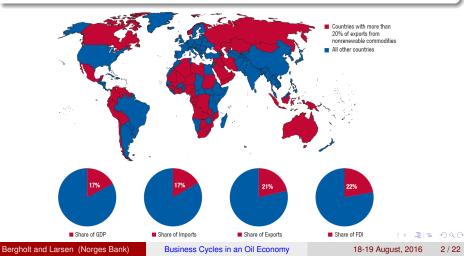
(a) How important are ToT (oil) shocks for resource economies?

(b) What are the main transmission channels at play?

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Agenda

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- Estimate two-country DSGE model with endogenous oil price
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- Alternative (complementary) identification approach
- Structural assessment of a range of shocks and transmission channels

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Contributions to existing literature

- Alternative (complementary) identification approach
- Structural assessment of a range of shocks and transmission channels
- Main findings
 - Propagation to oil rather than oil shocks are key
 - Business cycles amplified by supply chains but dampened by fiscal regime (SWF and spending rule)

Related literature

Business cycles in open economies

• Adolfson et al. (2007, 2008), Christiano et al. (2011), Jacob and Peersman (2013), Justiniano and Preston (2010)

Oil and macro – DSGEs

- Bodenstein et al. (2011), Bodenstein and Guerrieri (2012), Kormilitsina (2011)
- Nakov and Pescatori (2010a,b), Peersman and Stevens (2013), Pieschacon (2012)

Oil and macro – VARs

- Baumeister and Peersman (2013), Kilian and Murphy (2012), Kilian (2009)
- Bjørnland and Thorsrud (2014), Charnavoki and Dolado (2014), Dungey et al. (2014), Peersman and Van Robays (2012)

A small VAR

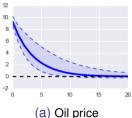
The model:

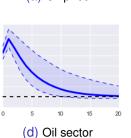
$$\begin{split} A_0 \tilde{y}_t &= \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} A_j \tilde{y}_{t-j} + B \varepsilon_t, \quad \tilde{y}_t = \begin{bmatrix} y_t^* & p_{o,t}^* & e_t & y_{o,t} & y_{m,t} & y_{s,t} \end{bmatrix}', \\ \varepsilon_t \text{ iid } N(0,1), \quad B \text{ diagonal} \end{split}$$

Assumptions:

- (i) Cholesky on international block ($A_{0,12} = 0$)
- (ii) Norway does not affect international economy (A₀ and A_j lower block triangular)
- Spillover to Norwegian block freely estimated

International oil price shock





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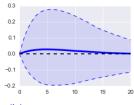
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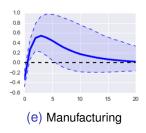
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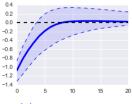
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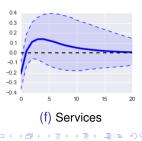


(b) International output





(c) Exchange rate

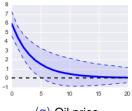


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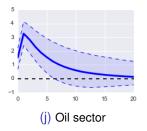
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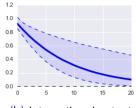
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International activity shock

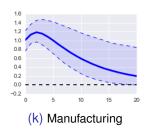


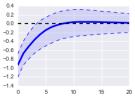
(g) Oil price



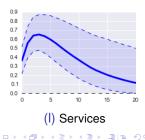


(h) International output





(i) Exchange rate



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Lessons ("stylized facts")

Postive oil and activity shocks abroad are associated with

- Positive spillover to Mainland Norway
- Exchange rate *appreciates* after both shocks
- Stronger responses in oil than non-oil sectors

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Open questions:

- What are the underlying structural shocks?
- What are the main transmission channels?

 \Rightarrow Need a richer, structural model to analyze these questions

The model (Bergholt and Seneca, 2015)

- Two countries: SOE commodity exporter, ROW
- Manufacturing, service and oil industries in both countries
- Intersectoral network \Rightarrow international propagation of shocks

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- Core model
 - Wage/price rigidities, monopolistic competition
 - Habits and investment adjustment costs
 - LCP and incomplete exchange rate pass-through
 - Imperfect international risk sharing, premium associated with NFA position

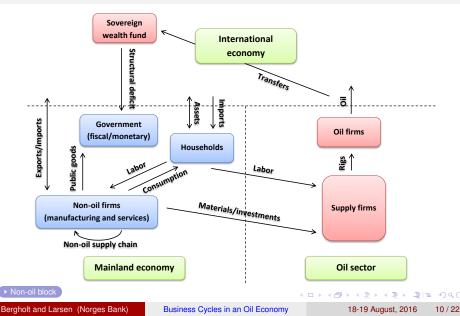
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SOE:

- Oil sector and Mainland Norway
- Mainland Norway linked to oil via supply chain
- Fiscal policy: tax revenues, sovereign wealth fund, fiscal spending rule
- Active monetary policy (Taylor rule)

A bird's eye view



Oil extraction firms

Discounted stream of cash flows

$$\mathbb{E}_{t} \sum_{s=t}^{\infty} \mathcal{Z}_{t,s} \left[\mathcal{S}_{t} \boldsymbol{P}_{ro,t}^{*} \boldsymbol{O}_{t} - \boldsymbol{P}_{ro,t}^{Y} \boldsymbol{a}(\boldsymbol{U}_{o,t}) \boldsymbol{F}_{O,t} - \boldsymbol{P}_{ro,t}^{Y} \boldsymbol{I}_{O,t} \right]$$

Production technology

$$O_t = Z_{O,t} Q_O^{1-\alpha_o} \bar{F}_{O,t}^{\alpha_o}$$

 $\bar{F}_{O,t} = U_{O,t}F_{O,t}$ is active rigs and $U_{O,t}$ is the utilization rate • Rig investments

$$F_{O,t+1} = (1 - \delta_o) F_{O,t} + Z_{F,t} \left[1 - \Psi \left(\frac{I_{O,t}}{I_{O,t-1}} \right) \right] I_{O,t}$$

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- Oil supply
 - Short run utilization of existing rigs, long run investment in new rigs
 - Entire expected oil price path matters rather than current price
 - Breaks contemporaneous link between prices and activity

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The domestic oil supply schedule

• Log-linearized optimality conditions:

Supply:
$$s_t + p_{ro,t}^* + o_t - u_{o,t} = rmc_{o,t}$$
Marginal cost: $rmc_{o,t} = p_{ro,t}^y + \gamma_u u_{o,t} + f_{o,t}$ Production: $o_t = z_{o,t} + \alpha_o (u_{o,t} + f_{o,t})$

• Combining these, we get the supply schedule:

$$o_{t} = \eta_{o}^{s} \left(s_{t} + p_{ro,t}^{*} \right) - \eta_{o}^{s} p_{ro,t}^{y} + \eta_{o}^{s} \gamma_{u} f_{o,t} + \eta_{o}^{s} \frac{1 + \gamma_{u}}{\alpha_{o}} Z_{o,t}$$

 $\eta_o^s = \frac{\alpha_o}{1 + \gamma_u - \alpha_o} \in [0, 1]$ is the supply elasticity.

Government

Management of government's oil revenues

Tax revenues:
$$TR_t^o = \tau_o \Pi_{o,t}$$

GPFG: $SWF_t = (1 - \rho_o) R_{t-1}^* \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t-1}} \Pi_t^{-1} SWF_{t-1} + TR_t^o$
Budget deficit: $SBD_t = \rho_o R_{t-1}^* \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t-1}} \Pi_t^{-1} SWF_{t-1}$

- Public budget: $P_{r,t}^{g}G_{t} D_{t} = T_{t} R_{t-1}D_{t-1}\Pi_{t}^{-1} + SBD_{t}$
- Public spending: $G_t = G$ ("economic state_t")
- Monetary policy: $R_t = R$ ("economic state_t")

Estimation

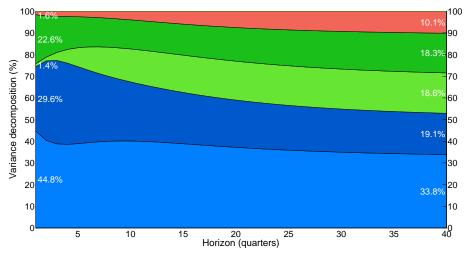
• Data: Norway and EU28, 2000Q1-2014Q4

- Standard macro variables: manufacturing and services value added, aggregate private consumption, investment, wage and price inflation (y-on-y), interest rate, exchange rate
- Oil variables: output, investments, Brent price

Estimation

- Bayesian inference: RWMH \Rightarrow posterior distribution of parameters & macro moments
- 18 observables, Kalman filter for remaining variables
- Model fit: reasonable for most variables, but ...
 - ... understates oil price volatility and persistence
 - ... overstates domestic consumption volatility and persistence
 - ... tension between oil price and oil investments

What drives the business cycle in Mainland Norway?



Note: Forecast error variance decomposition of GDP in Mainland Norway. Calculated at the posterior mean. Shocks are decomposed as follows: Domestic supply shocks (light blue), domestic demand shocks (dark blue), international supply shocks (dark green), and shocks in oil markets (light red). Numbers in white at the left and right hand side are decompositions at the 1 and 40 quarters horizons, respectively.

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Not all oil price "shocks" are alike

	Response of Mainland GDP		
Underlying international shock	Mean	HPD interval	# lags
Oil supply	0.18	(0.13-0.25)	13
Manufacturing productivity	2.51	(0.98-3.82)	4
Service productivity	1.43	(-0.13-2.83)	7
Investment demand	1.46	(0.93-2.05)	8
Consumption demand	0.51	(0.39-0.63)	2
Labor market	1.94	(1.07-2.73)	7
Manufacturing markup	1.39	(0.12-2.65)	3
Service markup	1.20	(0.41-2.00)	6
Monetary policy	0.84	(0.50-1.20)	6

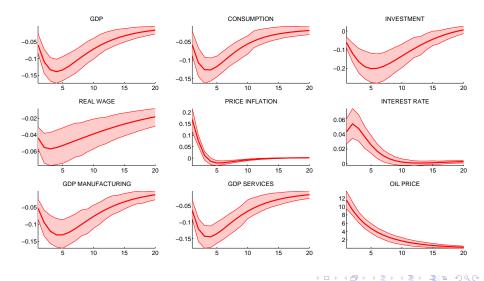
Note: Posterior pass-through from oil price to Mainland GDP. Defined as the peak response of GDP when the oil price increases 10%, conditional on a given shock.

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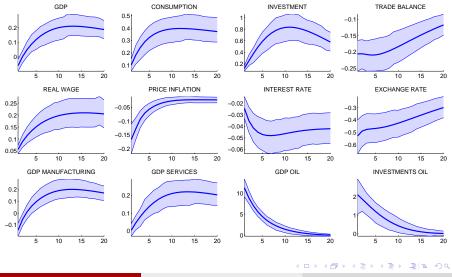
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International oil supply shock



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Domestic spillover

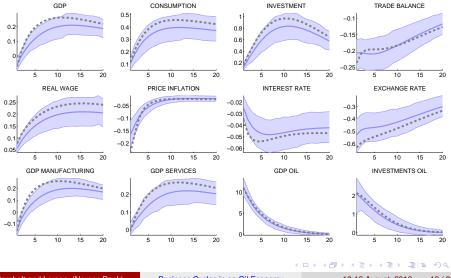


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Counterfactual I: no feedback to world economy

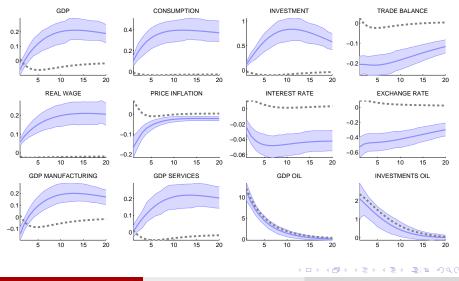


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Counterfactual II: no supply chain

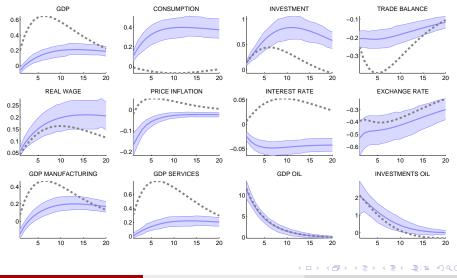


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Counterfactual III: no sovereign wealth fund



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Concluding remarks

What drives the business cycle in a prototype oil economy?

- Estimation of joint dynamics in oil markets, international economy, and Norway
 - Identification based on fully specified DSGE for international economy
 - Structural interpretation

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- Model results
 - Oil shocks not key, but amplification from oil response
 - Elasticities are shock dependent
 - External shocks are (i) amplified due to supply chain, but (ii) dampened due to fiscal regime (SWF and spending rule)

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Left for future research

- Depletion problem (Hotelling, 1931; Pindyck, 1978)
- Policy implications (Catão and Chang, 2013; Hevia and Nicolini, 2013)
- Financial frictions (Alberola and Chang, 2016; Hamann et al. 2016)

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