### NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

INTRODUCTION

### KATHERINE S. VIRGO

EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC SOCIETY

6-9 October 2022

### NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC EUROPEAN CONFERENCE

## PLENARY PANEL: FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES, CAPITAL MOBILITY AND MONETARY INSTABILITY

Robert Aliber, Gylfi Zoega, Sigridur Benediktsdottir, Edwin Truman

INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC SOCIETY

8 October 2022

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PLENARY PANEL:
FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES, CAPITAL MOBILITY
AND MONETARY INSTABILITY

Chair: Robert Z. Aliber

### NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF JOHN CONNALLY AS SECRETARY OF THE U.S. TREASURY FEBRUARY 1971-JUNE 1972

Chair:

### Robert Z. Aliber

Professor Emeritus of International Economics and Finance at the University of Chicago

OCTOBER 8, 2022

### THE ECONOMIC CONSEQUENCES OF JOHN CONNALLY AS SECRETARY OF THE U.S. TREASURY **FEBRUARY 1971-JUNE 1972**

Robert Z. Aliber

INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC SOCIETY—
WASHINGTON OCTOBER 8, 2022

#### FOCUS OF PRESENTATION

• HAS THE U.S. POLICY OF BENIGN NEGLECT TOWARD FOREIGN PURCHASES OF DOLLAR SECURITIES AND THE PRICE OF THE DOLLAR ADVANCED THE U.S. ABILITY TO ACHIEVE ITS EMPLOYMENT, PRICE LEVEL, AND NATIONAL SECURITY OBJECTIVES?

#### U.S. CHOICES AT CAMP DAVID AUGUST 1971

• U.S. OBJECTIVE—INCREASE THE U.S. TRADE SURPLUS

• MENU—

INCREASE THE U.S. DOLLAR PRICE OF GOLD TO \$100 OR \$140

• OR

CLOSE THE GOLD WINDOW--MOVE TO FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES --

### IF THE MAJOR U.S. TRADING PARTNERS COULD HAVE VOTED

THEY WOULD HAVE VOTED FOR A HIGHER GOLD PRICE BECAUSE THEYT OWNED LARGE AMOUNTS OF GOLD

CLOSING THE GOLD WINDOW WAS A TAX ON THEIR WEALTH

### "GOLDEN AVALANCHE" 1933-34 (AND 1971)

- PRODUCTION OF GOLD INCREASED
   PRIVATE DEMAND FOR GOLD DECLINED
- MONETARY VALUE OF THE GOLD AVAILABLE FOR INCREASES IN
- INTERNATIONAL RESERVE ASSETS SOARED
- U.S. TRADE SURPLUS INCREASED IN RESPONSE TO GOLD INFLOWS

# WHAT WAS THE PREDICTABLE IMPACT OF CLOSING THE GOLD WINDOW ON

LIQUIDITY OF GOLD AS A RESERVE ASSET?

**DEMAND FOR OTHER RESERVE ASSETS?** 

PURCHASES OF DOLLAR SECURITIES AS INTERNATIONAL RESERVES?

### IF THE U.S. DOLLAR PRICE OF GOLD HAD BEEN INCREASED TO \$140

- GOLD PRODUCTION WOULD HAVE INCREASED
- THE MONETARY VALUE OF GOLD PRODUCTION WOULD HAVE SURGED
- THE PRIVATE DEMAND FOR GOLD WOULD HAVE FALLEN
- THE AMOUNT OF GOLD AVAILABLE FOR THE INCREASE IN INTERNATIONAL RESERVE ASSETS WOULD HAVE EXPANDED TENFOLD
- GOLD WOULD HAVE FLOWED TO THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES WOULD HAVE HAD A TRADE SURPLUS

### THE CASE FOR FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES— POSITIVE CLAIMS

- CHANGES IN MARKET PRICES OF CURRENCIES REDUCE NEED FOR CHANGES IN REAL VALUES (EMPLOYMENT, PRICE LEVEL)
- CHANGES IN THE PRICES OF CURRENCIES WOULD BE GRADUAL
- GREATER INSULATION FROM SHOCKS IN TRADING PARTNERS
- FEWER CURRENCY CRISES
- REDUCTION IN DEMAND FOR INTERNATIONAL RESERVE ASSETS

### SCORECARD ON THE POSITIVE CLAIMS

- ZERO RIEN ZILCH
- CROSS BORDER INVESTMENT FLOWS IN A FLEXIBLE CURRENCY ARRANGEMENT ARE THE SOURCE OF MONEATY INSTABILITY

### WHY THE CASE FOR FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES IS INTELLECTUALLY BANKUPT?

- DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE CHANGE IN THE INTEREST RATE DIFFERENTIAL AND THE ANTICIPATED CHANGE IN THE PRICES OF FOREIGN CURRENCIES WILL CHANGE MORE OFTEN AND BY LARGER AMOUNTS WHEN CURRENCISES ARE NOT ANCHORED TO PARITIES
- INVESTOR PURCHASES OF FOREIGN SECURITIES WOULD BE HIGHLY VARIABLE AND LEAD TO CHANGES IN THE MARKET PRICES OF CURRENCIES RELATIVE TO PPP PRICES
- THE CASE FOR FLEXIBLE EXCHANGE RATES IS INTELLECTUALLY BANKRUPT BECAUSE IT IMPLICITLY ASSUMED CROSS BORDER CAPTIAL FLOWS WOULD BE CONSTANT —AND THEY WILL BE MANY TIMES LARGER WHEN CURRENCIES ARE NOT ATTACHED TO PARITIES

### HOW DOES A NATIONAL ECONOMY ADJUST IF ITS CURRENCY IS FREELY FLEXIBLE AND

• 1 IF FOREIGN PURCHASES OF ITS MANUFACTURED GOODS INCREASES?

- 2 IF FOREIGN PURCHASES OF ITS SECURITIES INCREASE (THE COUNTRY'S CAPITAL ACCOUNT SURPLUS INCREASES)?
- ASSUME FOREIGN PURCHASES OF ICELANDIC SECURITES
- INCREASE—ICELAND'S CAPITAL ACCOUNT SURPLUS
- CAN INCREASE ONLY IF ITS CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT
- INCREASES BY THE COMPARABLE AMOUNT

### THE COSTS TO THE UNITED STATES OF A TRADE DEFICIT THAT IS NEARLY 4% OF U.S. GDP

- INFLOW OF FOREIGN SAVINGS DISPLACED U.S. SAVINGS
- LOSS OF THREE MILLION MANUFACTURING JOBS-- MANY HIGH-PAYING

HIGH PRICE OF THE U.S. DOLLAR DEPRESSED ANTICIPATED PROFIT RATE IN THE PRODUCTION OF TRADABLE GOODS—AND U.S. RATE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH

VARIABILITY IN FOREIGN PURCHASES OF U.S. DOLLAR GOODS HAVE LED TO ECONOMIC BOOM AND BUST CYCLE

#### CONCLUSION--COSTS OF BENIGN NEGLECT

- INCREASE IN U.S. INTERNATIONAL INDEBTEDNESS LED TO CONSUMPTION BOOMS
- LOSS OF THRRE MILLION MANUFACTURING JOBS
- SLOWER U.S. RATE OF ECONOMIC GROWTH
- CLOSING THE GOLD WINDOW WAS AN AFFRONT TO MAJOR ALLIES
- THE OVERVALUED DOLLAR LED TO IMPORT BARRIERS, WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN LESS LIKELY TO HAVE BEEN ADOPTED IF THE DOLLAR HAD NOT BEEN OVERVALUED

### NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Government deficits, interest rates and trade imbalances

**Organizer:** 

Gylfi Zoega

University of Iceland Fellow and Senior Lecturer, Birkbeck College, University of London

OCTOBER 8, 2022

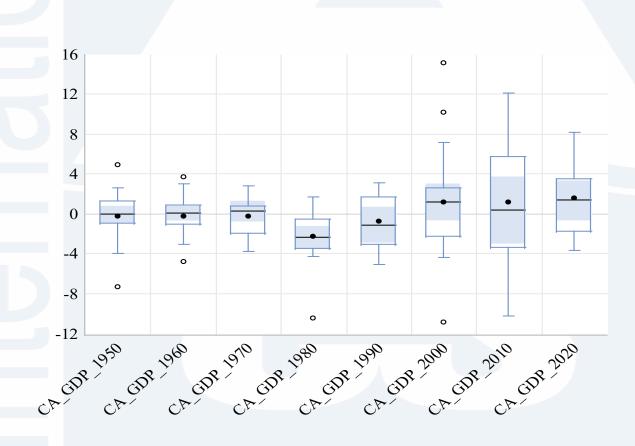
### Government deficits, interest rates and trade imbalances

Gylfi Zoega University of Iceland

The 94th International Atlantic Economic Conference Washington, D.C., 6-9 October 2022

- This paper explores the size and causes of trade imbalances within the group of developed countries.
  - Australia, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the U.K. and the U.S.
  - ➤ Jordà-Schularick-Taylor Macrohistory Database (https://www.macrohistory.net/database/)

#### Increasing current account surpluses and deficits after 1980



#### Two possible explanations

#### Two possible explanations

- Divergent economic policies
  - > Fiscal policy twin-deficits
  - Monetary policy
- Capital flows after the collapse of Bretton Woods
  - > Previous lecture by Bob Aliber

#### Principal components analysis

#### **Current account surpluses**

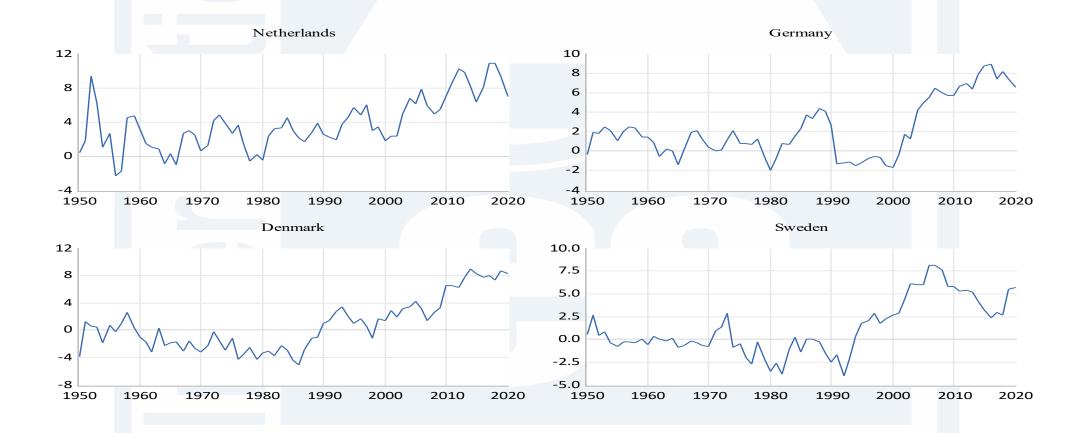
				Cumulative
Number	Value	Difference	Proportion	Value
PC1	6.48	3.42	0.36	6.48
PC2	3.06	0.78	0.17	9.54
PC3	2.28	1.06	0.13	11.81
PC4	1.22	0.22	0.07	13.03

Variable	PC 1	PC 2	PC 3	PC 4
Australia	-0.17	0.20	0.03	0.52
Belgium	0.14	-0.13	0.44	-0.27
Canada	0.20	-0.32	0.04	0.31
Denmark	0.28	0.31	0.06	0.09
Finland	0.21	-0.28	0.17	0.38
France	0.02	-0.27	0.40	0.05
Germany	0.22	0.39	-0.18	0.03
Ireland	0.07	0.04	0.41	-0.36
Italy	-0.07	0.18	0.47	0.27
Japan	0.26	0.03	0.11	-0.08
Netherlar	0.27	0.29	-0.02	0.07
Norway	0.34	-0.04	-0.07	0.06
Portugal	-0.17	0.34	0.29	-0.06
Spain	-0.15	0.35	0.27	0.18
Sweden	0.33	0.06	-0.01	0.27
Switzerla	0.34	0.00	0.11	-0.07
U.K.	-0.25	-0.28	0.06	0.24
U.S.	-0.36	0.08	0.02	0.02

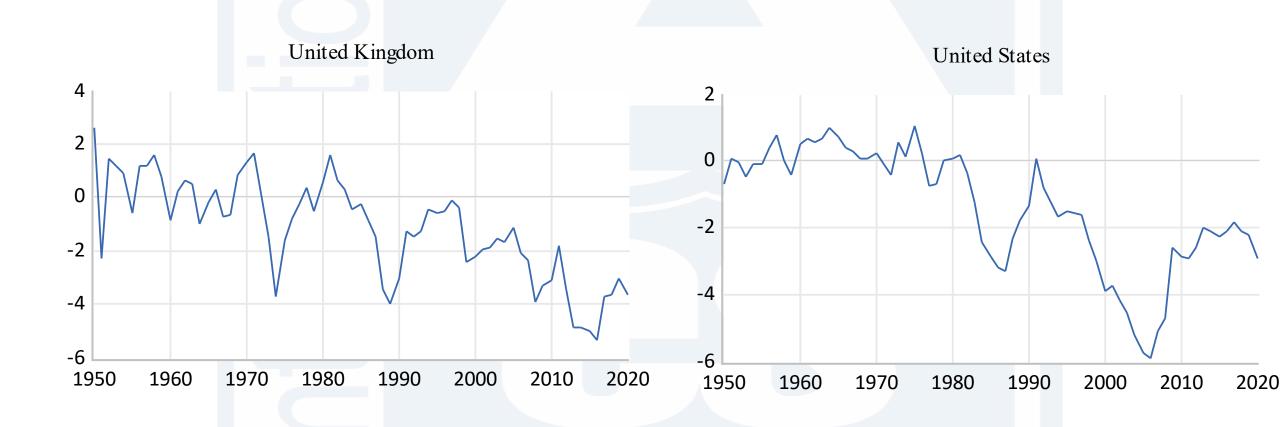
First PC for current account



#### **Current account surplus countries**



#### **Current account deficit countries**

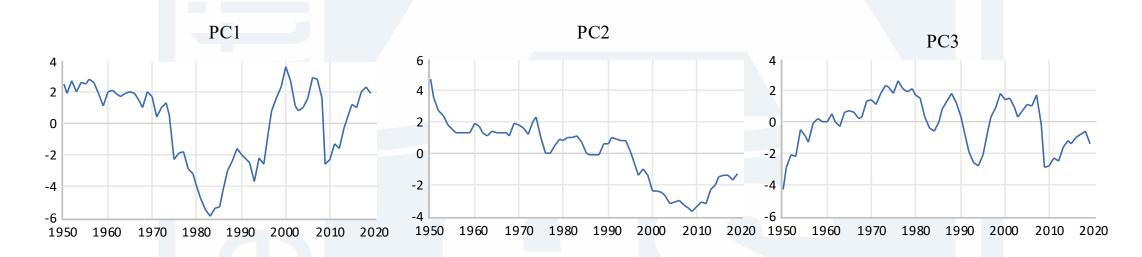


### Government budget surpluses

				Cumulative	Cumulative
Number	Value	Difference	Proportion	Value	Proportion
1	6.50	2.76	0.36	6.50	0.36
2	3.74	1.27	0.21	10.24	0.57
3	2.46	1.18	0.14	12.70	0.71
4	1.29	0.21	0.07	13.99	0.78

Variable	PC 1	PC 2	PC 3	PC 4
Australia	0.09	-0.25	0.39	0.09
Belgium	0.31	-0.23	-0.11	-0.15
Canada	0.34	-0.19	0.05	-0.11
Denmark	0.14	-0.23	0.32	0.19
Finland	-0.07	-0.19	0.36	0.30
France	0.01	0.23	0.47	0.13
Germany	0.22	0.14	-0.27	0.32
Ireland	0.34	-0.08	0.06	-0.22
Italy	0.33	-0.10	-0.21	-0.08
Japan	0.16	0.41	-0.08	0.08
Netherlands	0.28	0.11	-0.08	-0.03
Norway	0.14	-0.44	-0.03	0.07
Portugal	0.32	0.19	-0.11	0.03
Spain	0.30	0.15	0.25	-0.04
Sweden	0.30	-0.18	0.06	0.22
Switzerland	0.11	0.09	-0.19	0.73
U.K.	0.04	0.43	0.30	0.00
U.S.	0.26	0.21	0.21	-0.25

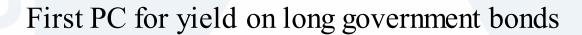
#### Principal components for government surpluses

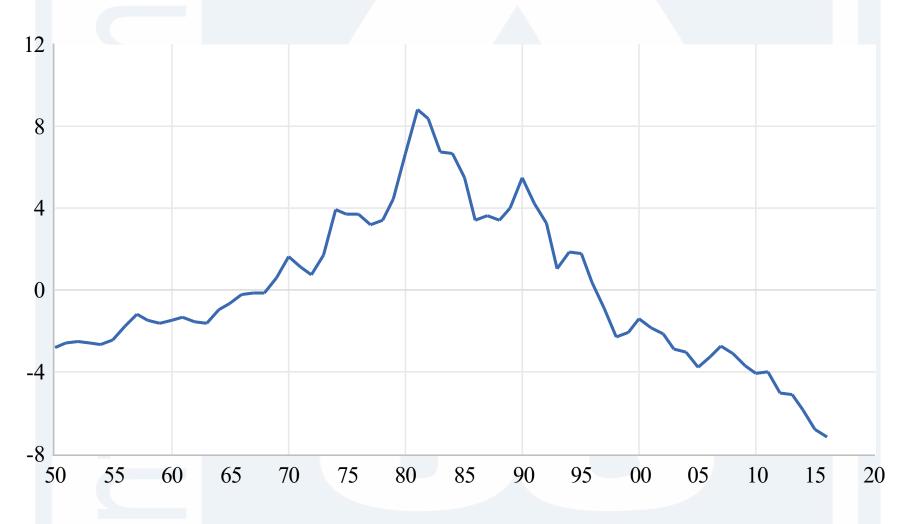


### Yield on long government bonds

				Cumulative	Cumulative
Number	Value	Difference	Proportion	Value	Proportion
1	6.50	2.76	0.36	6.50	0.36
2	3.74	1.27	0.21	10.24	0.57
3	2.46	1.18	0.14	12.70	0.71
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Variable	PC 1	PC 2	PC 3	PC 4
Australia	0.25	-0.22	0.09	0.17
Belgium	0.27	0.02	0.02	-0.09
Canada	0.27	-0.12	-0.08	0.05
Denmark	0.26	0.06	-0.16	-0.37
Finland	0.11	0.47	0.68	0.18
France	0.26	0.10	0.10	-0.27
Germany	0.23	0.34	-0.10	0.21
Italy	0.26	-0.09	0.11	-0.26
Japan	0.19	0.47	0.05	-0.40
Netherlan	0.26	0.08	-0.28	0.04
Norway	0.25	-0.17	0.11	0.33
Portugal	0.23	-0.34	0.19	-0.13
Spain	0.23	-0.28	0.38	0.01
Sweden	0.27	-0.11	0.01	0.21
Switzerlar	0.23	0.27	-0.25	0.52
U.K.	0.25	0.07	-0.33	-0.08
U.S.	0.26	-0.16	-0.12	-0.03





#### **Conclusions**

- > There is a rising gap between current account surpluses and deficits after 1980.
  - The rise cannot be explained by divergent fiscal or monetary policies.
  - The rising gap is consistent with an effect of increased capital flows on trade deficits and surpluses.

### NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

How the flows change when interest rates are normalized:
Risk to economic and financial stability

### Sigríður Benediktsdóttir

Senior Lecturer and Assistant Dean for Undergraduate Education at the Yale Jackson School of Global Affairs

OCTOBER 8, 2022



How the flows change when interest rates are normalized: Risk to economic and financial stability

Sigríður Benediktsdóttir Co-author Soha Ahmed

#### Motivation

- Major Central banks increasing interest rates
- Research on capital flows and risks find that monetary policy stance in major economies has significant effects on capital flows and financial stability
- Interest rate normalization in major economies plays a role in multiple financial crisis in EMEs
  - Asian Financial Crisis, Mexican Banking (peso) crisis ...



### Why are major CB tightening

- Running inflation ...
  - Rates too low during Covid?
  - Supply chain issues
  - Geopolitical situation
- Have to go back to the 80s for inflation in this range...
- ... lessons from EME economic crisis in the 80s and combine that with recent literature on systemic risk and liability flows.

### Road map

- Capital flows and systemic risk, recent literature
- Banking Crisis in the 80s
- Systemic risk now...





# What have we learned

- Goldfajn and Valdes (1995) show how changes in international interest rates and capital inflows are amplified by the intermediating role of banks and how such swings may also ...
  - ... produce an exaggerated business cycle that ends in bank runs and financial and currency crashes
- Calvo (1998) shows with a simple theoretical model how liability inflows cause non-tradable goods to increase in price relative to tradable.
  - ➤ Reversal of liability flows brings about financial and balance of payments crises through the decline in the price of non-tradable good

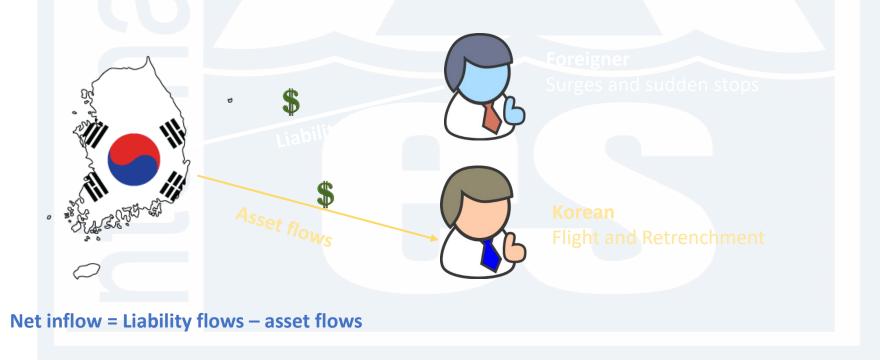


# What have we learned: Capital inflow bonanza (Caballero)

- New
  - Looks at extreme episodes, bonanza.
  - Looks at different components of inflows
- Surges of both portfolio and other inflows increase systemic risk ... not FDI
- Mechanism is both through *increased leverage and asset* price increases.

# What have we learned: Liability v.s. asset flows (Forbes and Warnock)

- New. Foreign and domestic investors can be motivated by *different* factors and respond differently to various policies and shocks.
- Higher probability of a sudden stop if the inflow is "foreign"

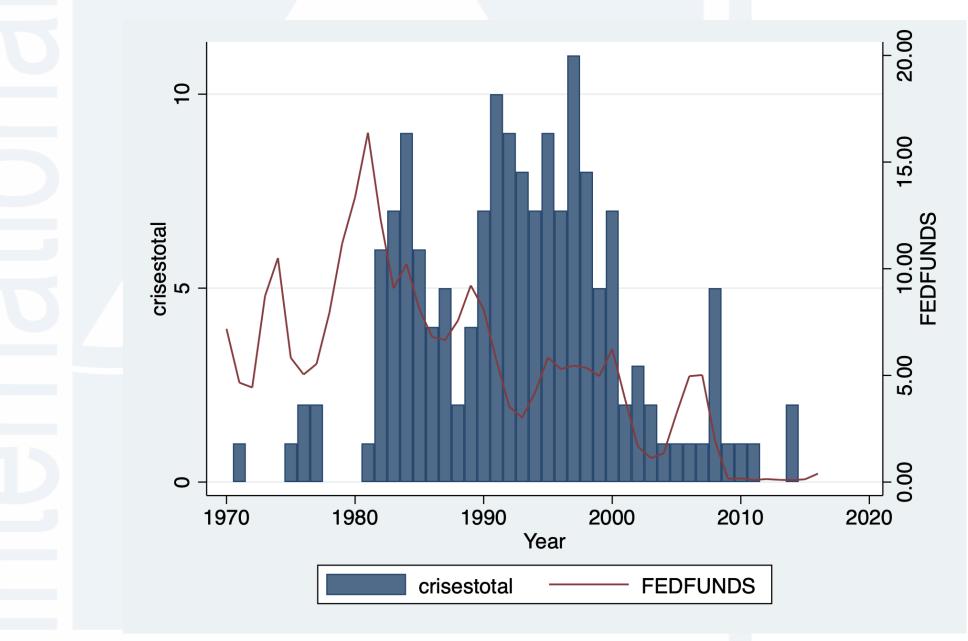


# What have we learned: Push v.s. pull

- Global factors matter more
- Domestic factors may be increasing in importance
- Liability flows that fund household credit through financial intermediation is the main driver behind the negative relationship between leverage and financial and economic cycles (Lukas Diebold and Björn Richter 2021)
  - Foreign funded household leverage growth is an indicator for negative GDP growth 3-4 years hence – stronger if demand driven.







Reference: FRED and Luc Laeven and Fabian Valencia (2018)

Country	Start	End	Output loss 1/	Fiscal Costs <sup>2/</sup> (% of GDP)	Increase in public debt 3/	Liquidity support <sup>4/</sup>	Peak NPLs <sup>5/</sup>
Argentina	1980	1982 6/	58.2	55.1	33.1	62.2	9.0
Chile	1981	1985 7/	8.6	42.9	87.9	52.7	35.6
Colombia	1982	1982	47.0	5.0	16.6	7.7	4.1
Ghana	1982	1983	45.3	6.0	15.5	0.1	35.0
Israel	1983	1986	42.7	30.0			
Kenya	1985	1985	23.7		11.0	1.9	
Mexico	1981	1985 7/	26.6		22.6	2.6	
Morocco	1980	1984 7/	21.9		35.6	8.6	
Peru	1983	1983 6/	55.2		14.3	9.7	
Philippines	1983	1986	91.7	3.0	44.8	1.5	19.0
Thailand	1983	1983	24.8	0.7	15.7	2.0	
Turkey	1982	1984	35.0	2.5	12.3	29.3	
Uruguay	1981	1985 7/	38.1	31.2	83.3	18.5	
Average			39.9	19.6	32.7	16.4	20.5

<sup>1/</sup>In percent of GDP. Output losses are computed as the cumulative sum of the differences between actual and trend real GDP over the period [T, T+3], expressed in percent of trend real GDP, with T denoting the starting year of the crisis. The trend is computed by applying an HP filter ( $\lambda$ =100) to the GDP series over [T-20, T-1]. No output losses are reported for crises in transition economies that took place during the period of transition to market economies. 2/F Fiscal costs refer to outlays directly related to the restructuring of the financial sector.

Source: WEO, IFS, IMF Staff reports, IMF Financial Soundness Indicators, Laeven and Valencia (2013), and authors' calculation.

<sup>3/</sup> In percent of GDP. For episodes starting in 2007 and later, the increase in public debt is measured as the change in debt projections, over [T-1, T+3], relative to the pre-crisis debt projections, where T is the starting year of the crisis.

<sup>4/</sup> Liquidity is measured as the ratio of central bank claims on deposit money banks (line 12 in IFS) and liquidity support from the Treasury to total deposits and liabilities to non-residents. Total deposits are computed as the sum of demand deposits (line 24), other deposits (line 25), and liabilities to non-residents (line 26).

<sup>5/</sup> In percent of total loans.

<sup>6/</sup> Credit data missing. For these countries, end dates are based on GDP growth only.

<sup>7/</sup> We truncate the duration of crises at 5 years, starting with the first crisis year.

# Mexico

• The main shock was the decline in oil prices, which fell over half 1981-1986.

• • •

- ... the increase in world interest rates to over 15%, made debt repayment impossible (Oks and van Wijnbergen 1994).
- Very early realization that foreign debt was the destabilizing factor ... "the foreign debt will have to grow at a substantial lower rate than in the recent past." (Ortiz and Serra-Puche 1984)

Table 1

The foreign public debt and nominal interest rates.<sup>a</sup>

Year	Stock $D_t$ (millions of dollars)	Growth rate $(D_t - D_{t-1}/D_{t-1})$	Nominal implicit interest rates, annual average (%)
1960	3.25	6.0	1.15
1961	3.44	6.2	1.23
1962	3.55	3.2	1.81
1963	3.74	6.8	1.77
1964	4.13	9.0	1.81
1965	4.18	1.5	2.23
1966	4.42	5.7	2.84
1967	4.96	12.2	2.99
1968	5.33	7.5	3.74
1969	5.81	9.0	3.81
1970	6.25	7.6	4.64
1971	6.66	6.6	4.60
1972	6.82	2.4	4.71
1973	8.44	23.8	5.24
1974	11.37	34.7	6.21
1975	15.70	38.1	6.57
1976	20.84	32.7	6.33
1977	23.83	14.3	6.47
1978	26.42	10.9	7.66
1979	29.76	12.6	9.71
1980	33.87	13.8	11.68
1981	52.16	54.0	10.50
1982	58.14	11.4	14.45
1983	63.41	9.1	13.08



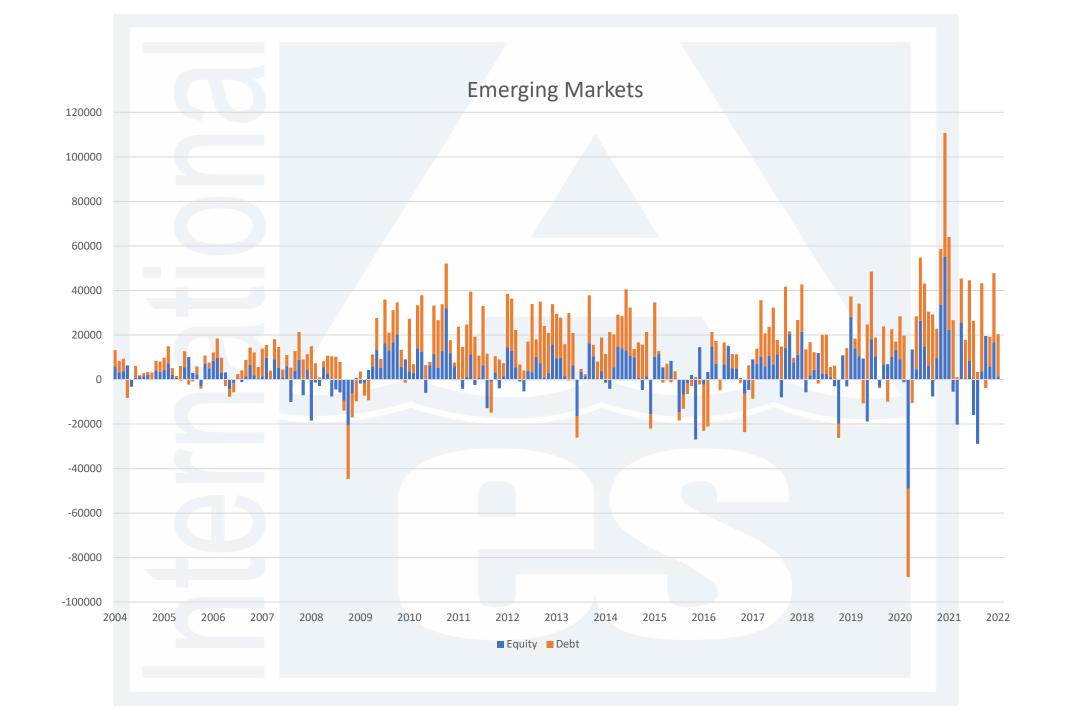
# Chile

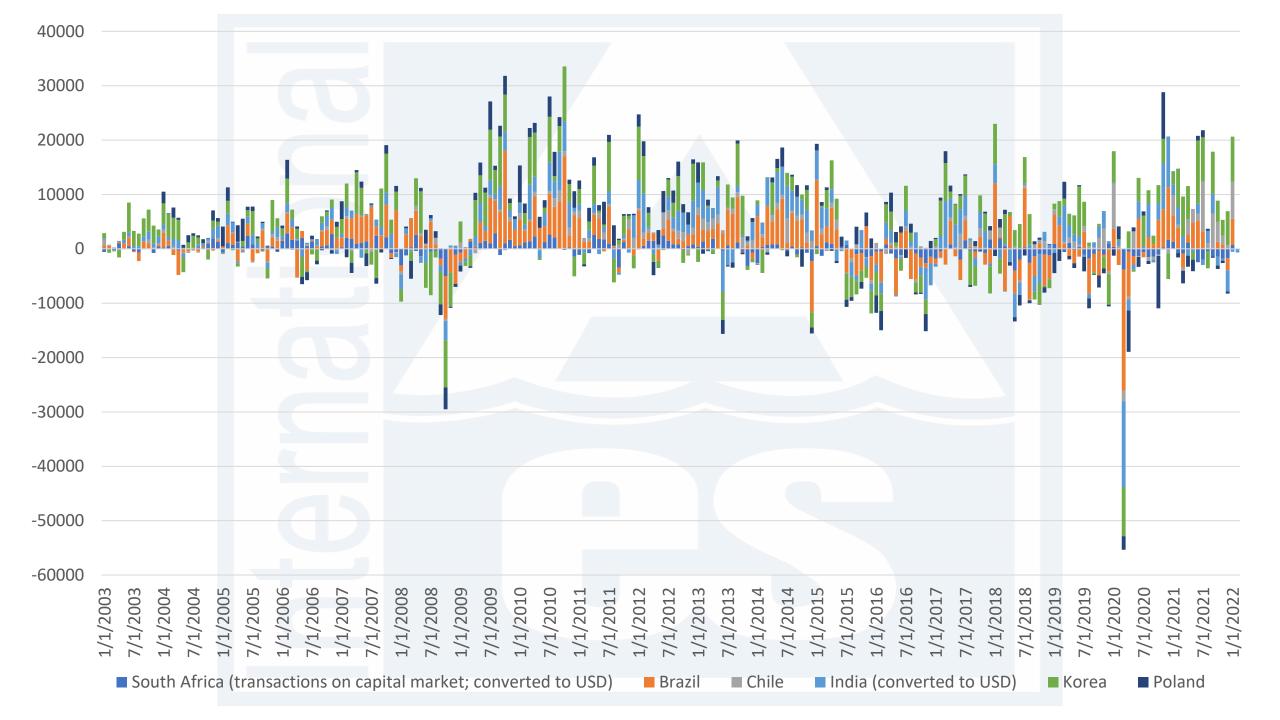
- Economic reform in the 70s to bring increase growth and bring down inflation.
  - Liberalization of the financial system among them eliminating interest rates controls, credit allocation controls, reserve requirements were lowered and banks privatized.
- Credit grew rapidly and foreign borrowing increased significantly.
  - Foreign liabilities went up from 14.4% of total in 1978 to 35.8% of total in 1982.
  - Peso overvaluation current account deficit
- High international interest rates, a world recession, lower copper prices, and an ...
- ... abrupt cut of voluntary foreign credit to Latin America pushed Chile into a costly economic crisis
  - Amplified by among other connected lending which ranged from 12 to 45% of the total loans portfolio.
  - Financial institution liquidation, deposit losses, external debt restructuring
  - Output loss 8.6%

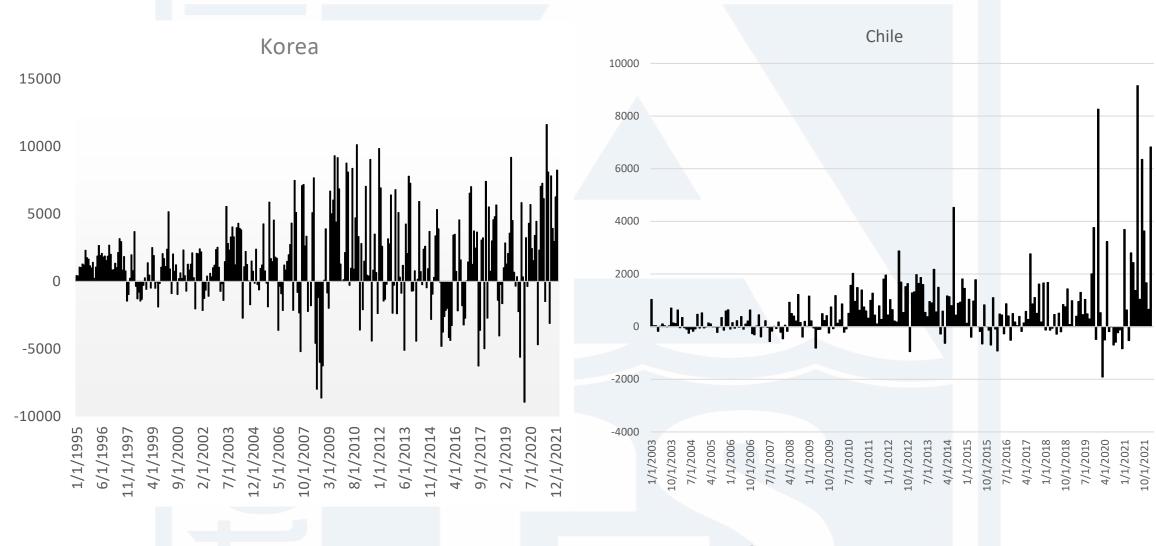
# Lessons learned?

- During the next capital inflow influx in the 90s the Chilean authorities introduced RRs on capital inflows
  - 20 percent of the credit had to be deposited in a non interestbearing account at the central bank and at the end of the holding period (that ranged between 90 days and one year, depending on the term of the credit), the RR was reimbursed in the same currency in which the deposit was made



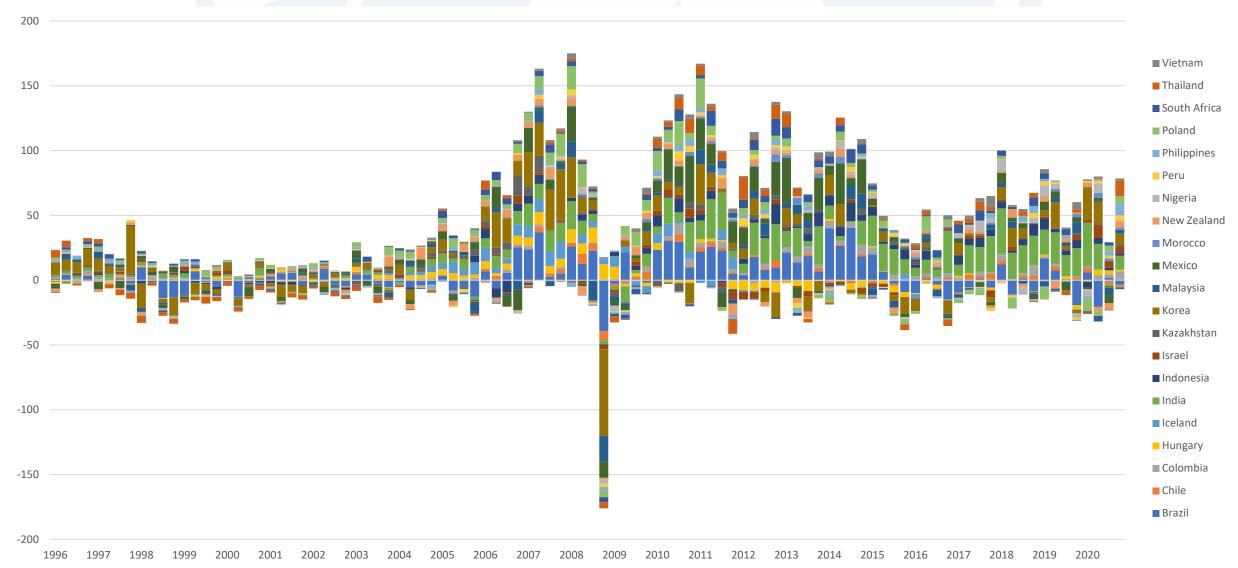


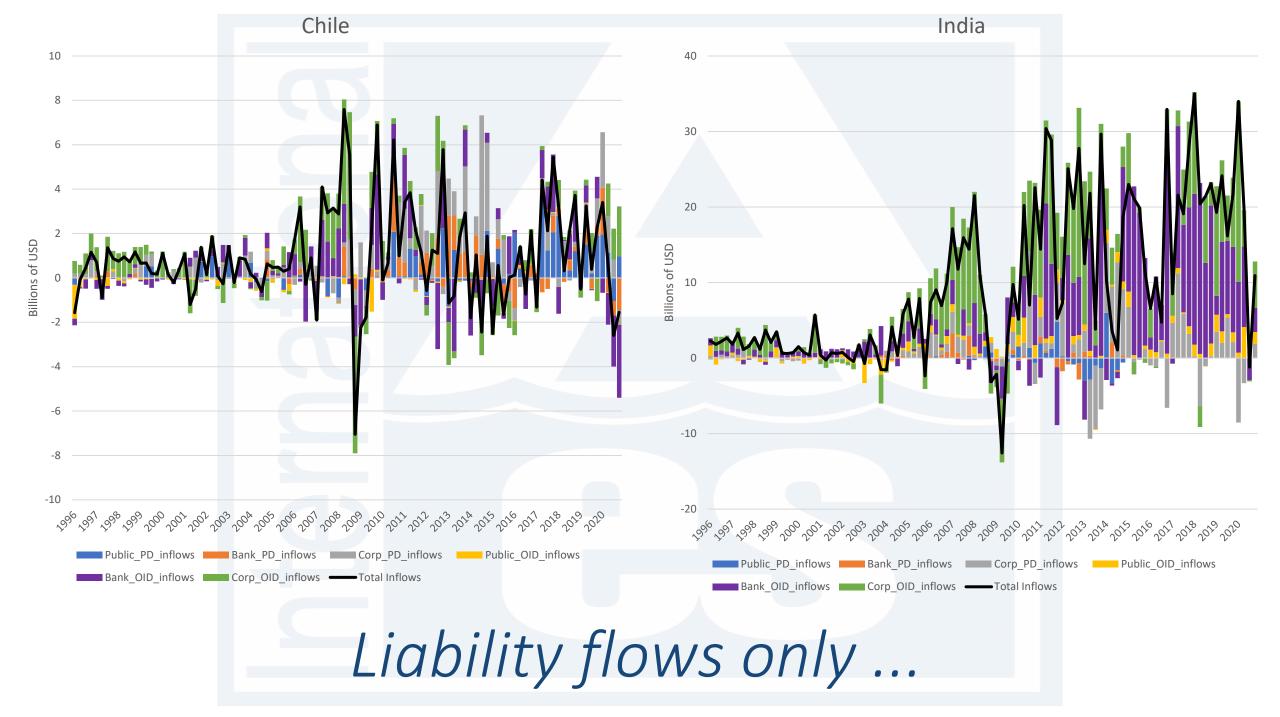




# Debt and equity flows

# Liability flows only

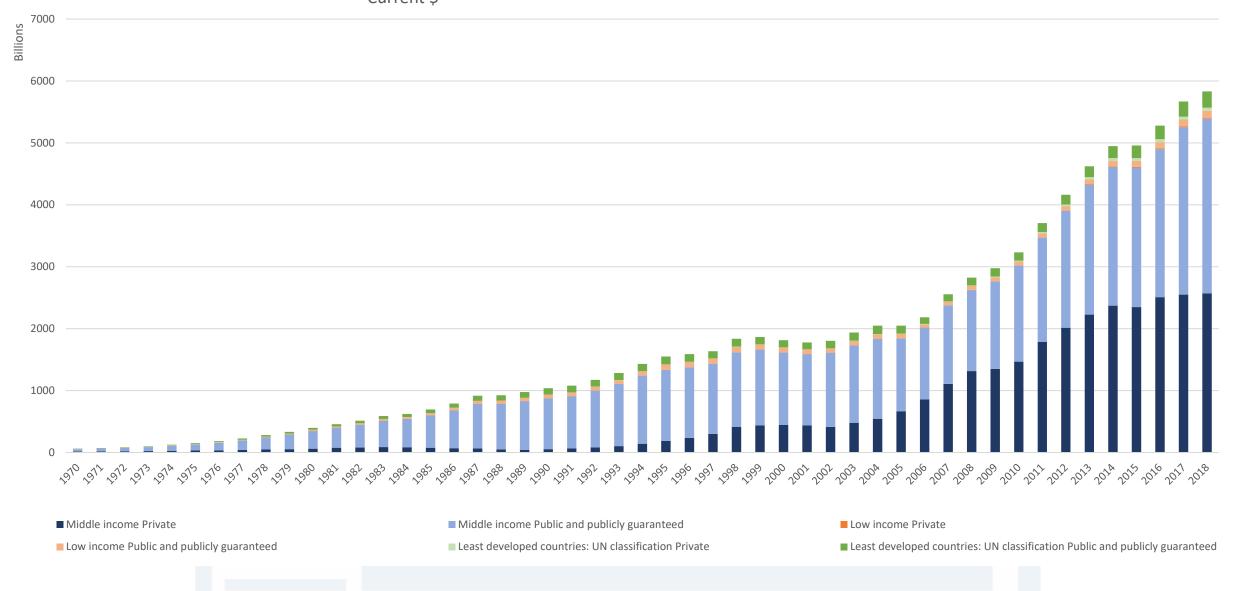




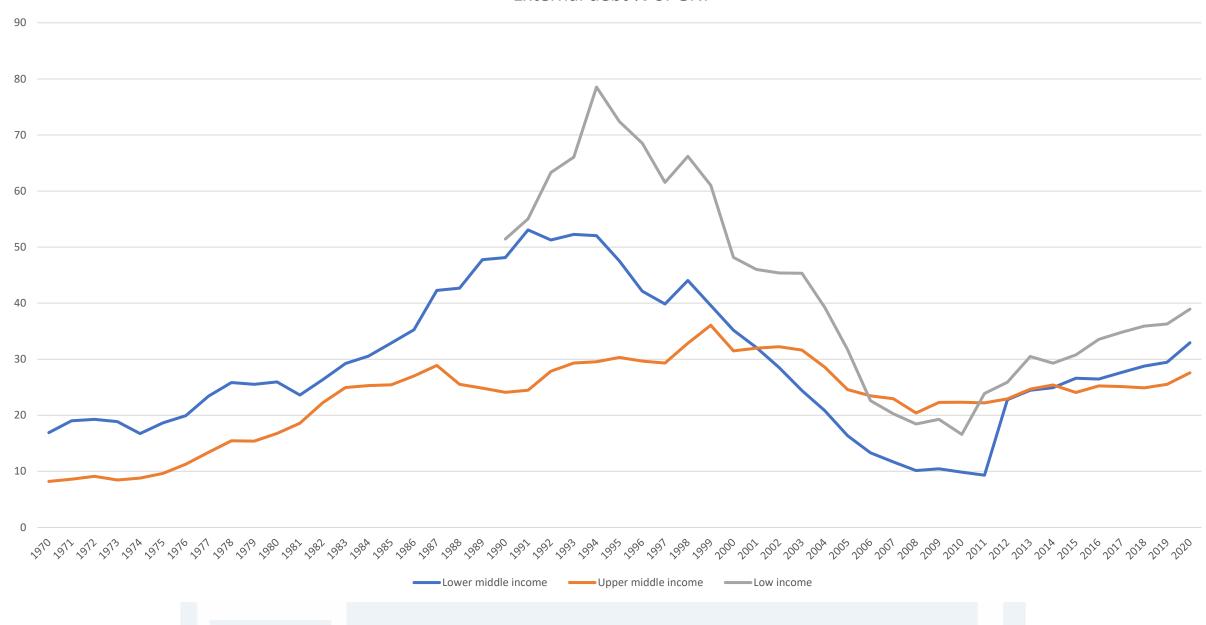


# **External Debt by borrowers**

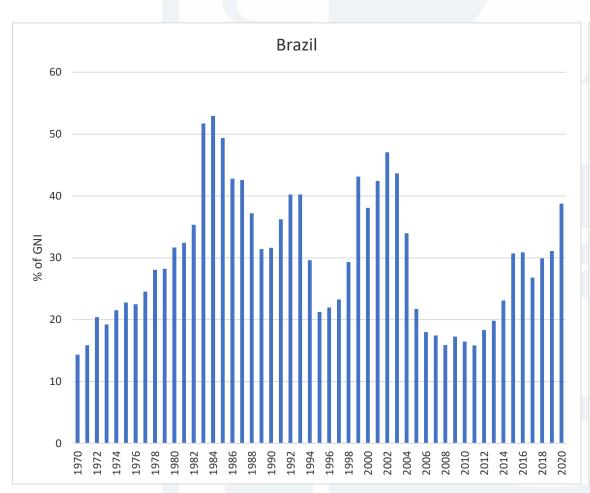
Current \$

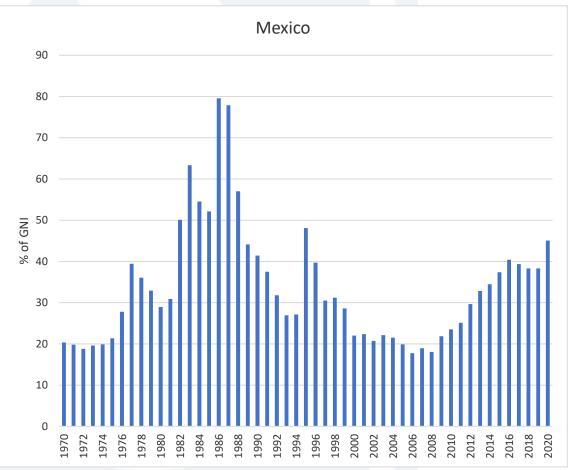


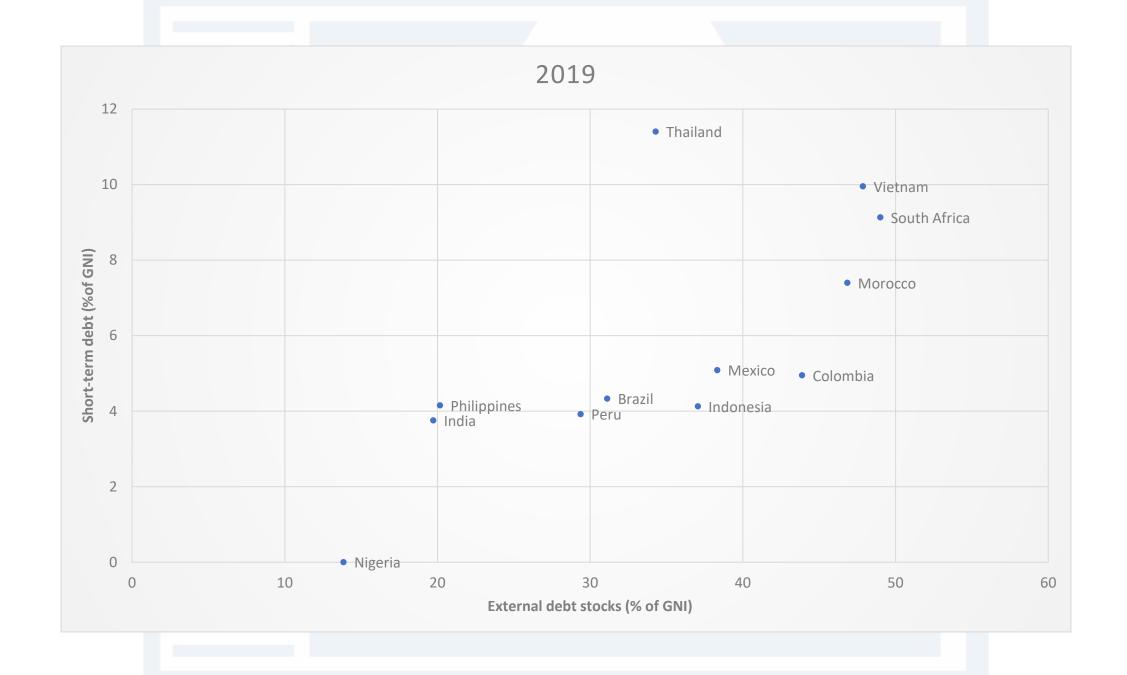




# Externa



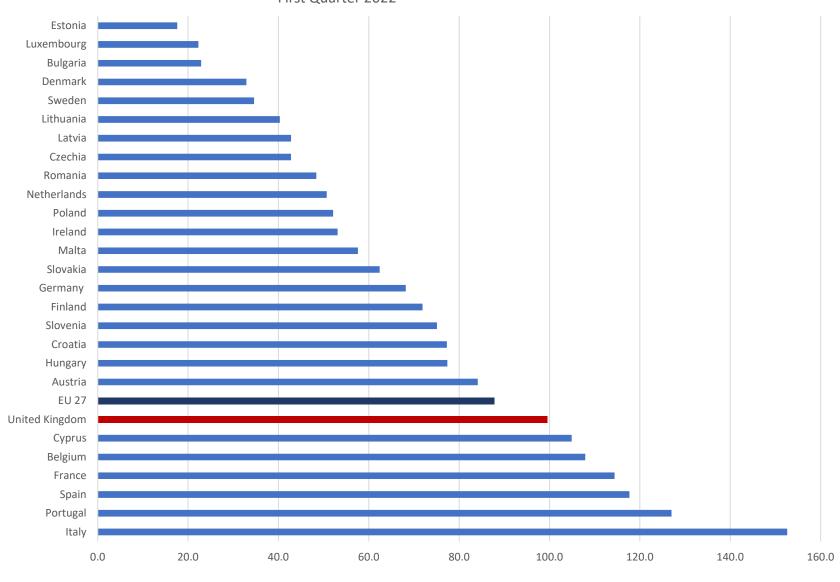




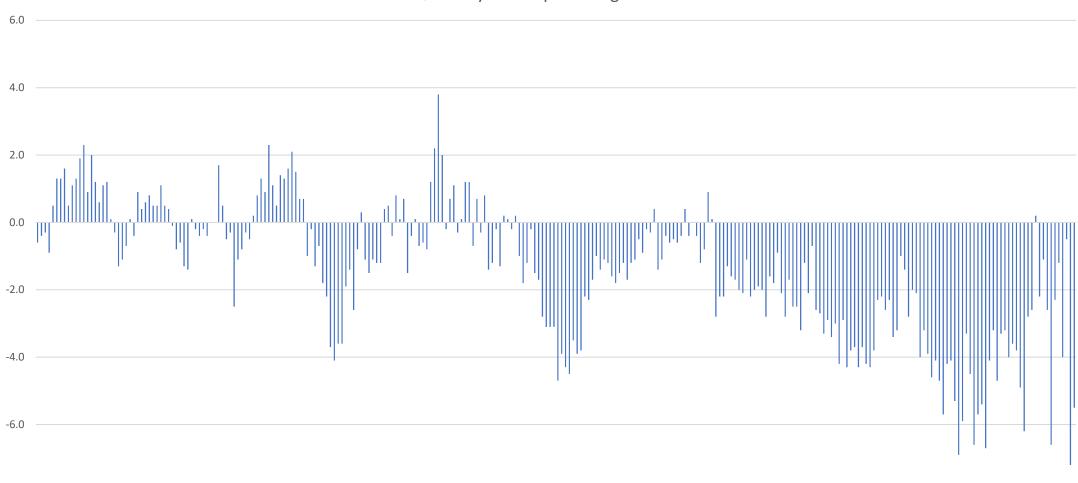
# UK

## Government debt as percentage of GDP

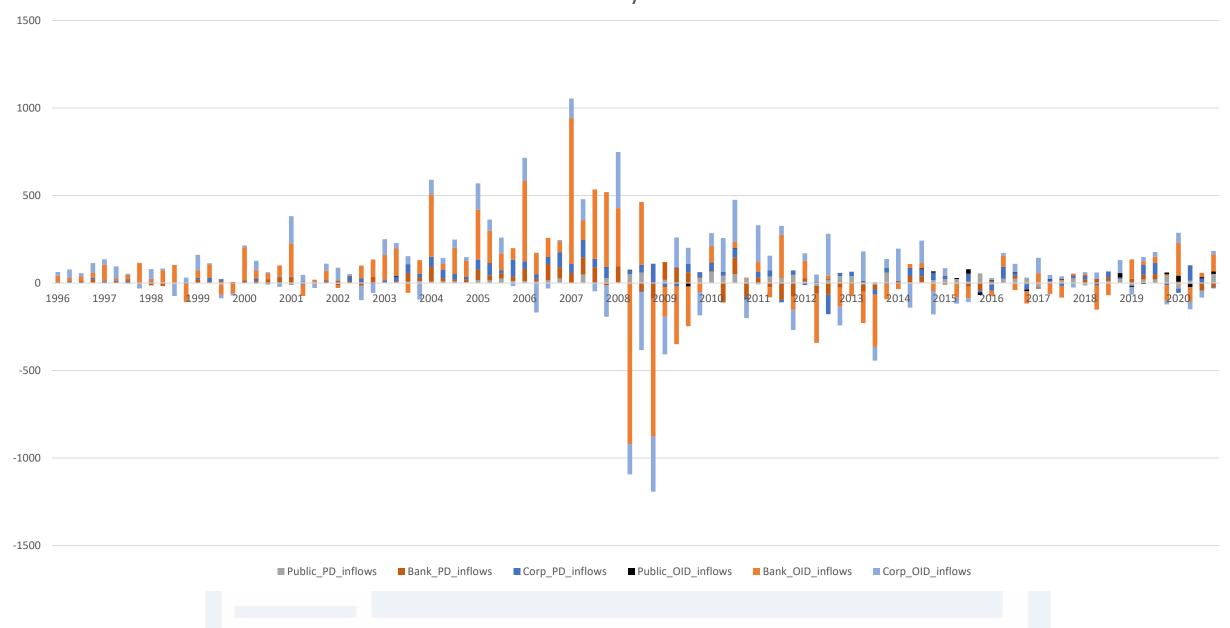




### Quarterly BoP as percentage of GDP

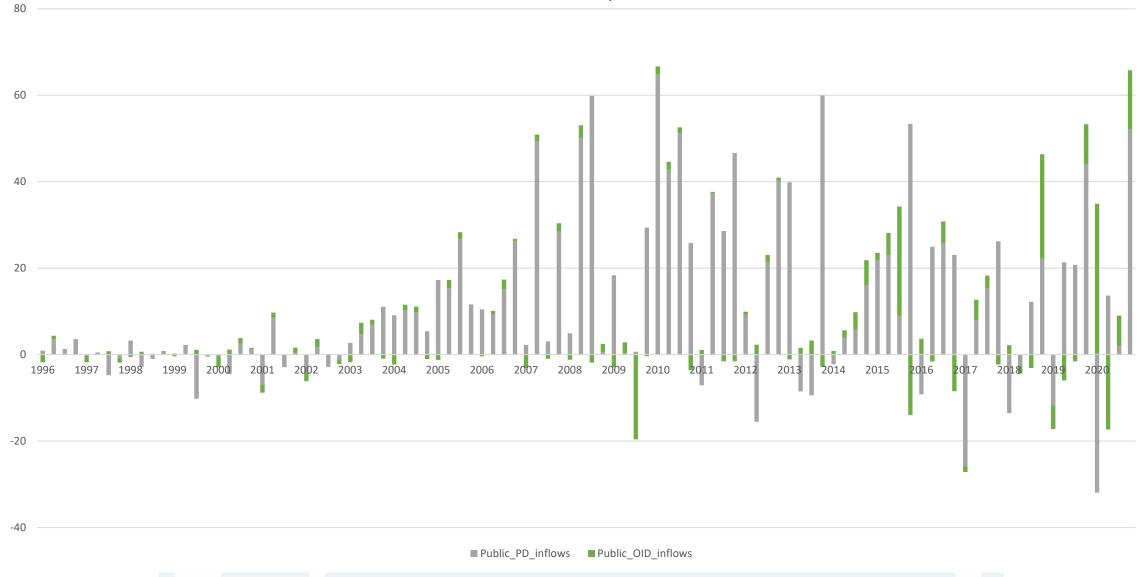


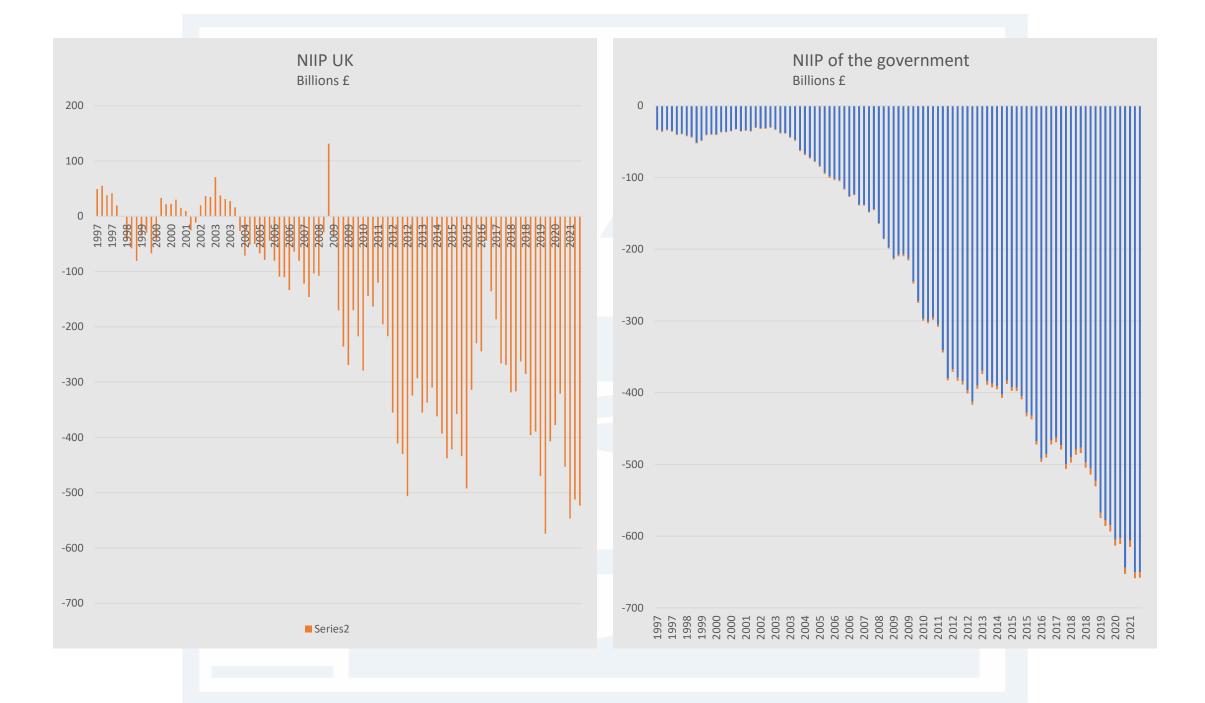
# Liability flows UK





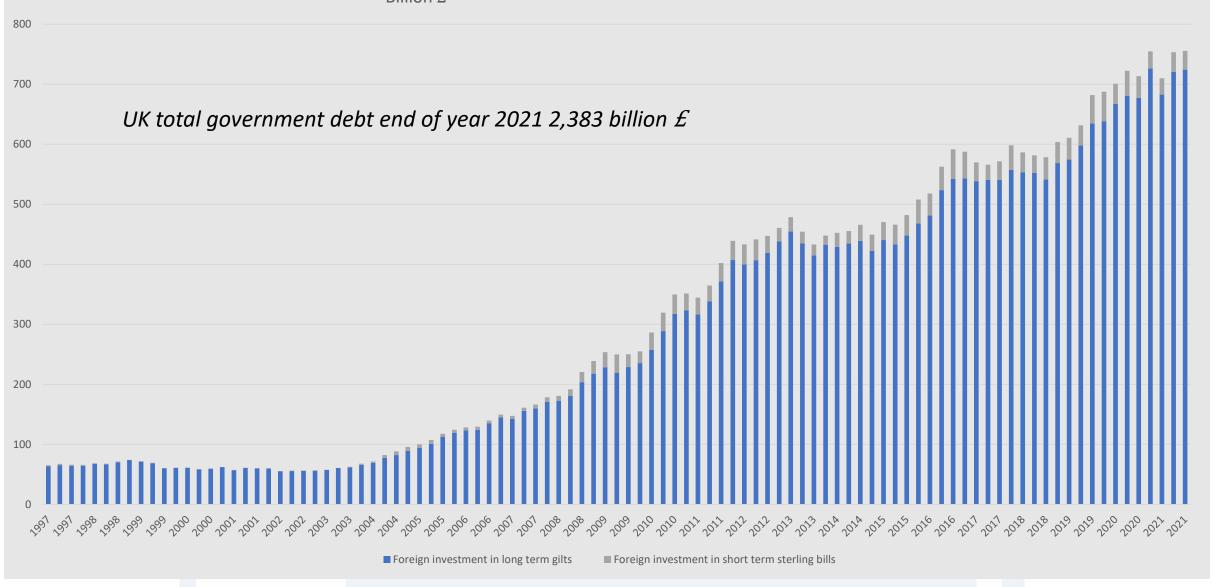
### Public liability flows



















# NINETY-FOURTH INTERNATIONAL ATLANTIC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE



6-9 October 2022

