

Dynamical Systems, Business Cycles and the Impact of Major Natural Hazards

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P. Dumas (CIRAD), **S. Hallegatte** (World Bank) & J.-Ch. Hourcade (CIRED);
L. Sella (CNR-IRCrES, Torino) & **G. Vivaldo** (IMT, Lucca)



ENS



Please visit these sites for more info.

<https://dept.atmos.ucla.edu/tcd/>, <http://www.environnement.ens.fr/>
& https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Michael_Ghil

Motivation

- ◆ Coupled **climate** and **socio-economic** modeling
- ◆ Coordinating EU project on extreme events
 - in the **geosciences** and the **socio-economic** sciences
- ◆ Novel tools for both **data analysis** and **modeling**
 - **SSA-MTM Toolkit** for time series analysis
 - key tools for **nonlinear** and **random dynamics**
 - combined **modeling** and **data studies**

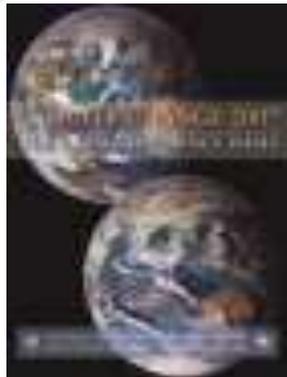
Motivation – I

- ◆ Major cost in lives & goods of floods & other extremes
- ◆ Cost of reconstruction & infrastructure renewal



Motivation – II

- ◆ **The IPCC process:** Assessment Reports (AR1–AR5)
- ◆ **3 working groups:** various sources of uncertainties
 - Physical Science Basis
 - Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability
 - Mitigation of Climate Change



- ◆ **Physical and socio-economic modeling**
 - **separate** vs. **coupled**
- ◆ **Ethics and policy issues**

What is macroeconomics?

- ◆ **Economic subdisciplines**

- macroeconomics: national or regional economy **as a whole**
- microeconomics: **individual** households and firms
- econometrics: **methodology** of both macro- & microeconomics

- ◆ **Macroeconomic variables and indicators**

- gross domestic product (**GDP**) – produit intérieur brut (**PIB**)
- production, demand
- capital, profits (gross, net)
- price level, wages
- unemployment rate, number of employed workers
- liquid assets (of banks, companies)
- consumption, investment, stock

N. B. Some of these are in physical units, others are monetary;
some are observable (time series), some are not

Outline

A. Endogenous business cycle (EnBC) model

- sawtooth-shaped business cycles, 5–6-year period
- impact of natural hazards
- vulnerability paradox → fluctuation-dissipation relation

B. U.S. macroeconomic indicators

- methodology: singular-spectrum analysis (SSA) + multi-channel SSA (M-SSA)
- BEA data confirm the vulnerability paradox

C. EU & World data – work in progress

- Italy, Netherlands and UK data, correlations with USA
- 100 countries representing all economic regions
- commonalities and differences

D. Concluding remarks & bibliography

The need for models with endogenous dynamics

“The currently prevailing paradigm, namely that financial markets tend towards equilibrium, is both false and misleading; our current troubles can be largely attributed to the fact that the international financial system has been developed on the basis of that paradigm.”

George Soros,

The New Paradigm for Financial Markets:

The Credit Crisis of 2008 and What It Means,

BBS, PublicAffairs, New York, 2008

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A tale of two theories: the “real” cycle and the endogenous cycle theories

- *In the real cycle theory, business cycles and economic fluctuations arise from exogenous “real” (i.e. not monetary) shocks, like changes in productivity or in energy prices, or from fiscal shocks.*

Aside from these exogenous shocks, the economic system is stable: all markets are at equilibrium, and there is no involuntary unemployment. Deviations from equilibrium are damped more or less rapidly. Acting on the economy, therefore (e.g., recovery policies), is not useful.

- *In endogenous business cycle (EBC) models, cyclical behavior originates from endogenous instabilities in the economic system.*

Several instabilities have been proposed:

- profitability-investment instability
- delays in investment
- income distribution

Acting on the economy can, therefore, have positive effects, by stabilizing it or by shifting its mean state.

The blessings of interdisciplinarity



♥ **John M. Keynes's home in Bloomsbury**

photos M.G., May 2008

♥ **Photo with lover
Duncan Grant**



Garden

The Strachey family were at the heart of the Bloomsbury Group and various members of the family lived at No. 41 Gordon Square from 1919-1956. They included Lytton's cousin, John St Lo Strachey, proprietor and editor of the Spectator, and Lytton's brother, James Strachey (psychoanalyst and author), who together with his wife Alix Sargent-Florence translated Sigmund Freud's work into English. Dora Carrington, artist and life long friend of Lytton Strachey, also lived at No. 41 Gordon Square from 1920 to 1923. The social life of the circle revolved around the London and country houses of its various members and friends. The lifestyle of some of the set seemed outrageous to outsiders, mainly because of their many love affairs with partners seeming to move from one person to another. The group continued until the 1940s when it lost its cohesion following deaths of key members. After the Second World War Bloomsbury became less and less residential. Today most of the buildings in Gordon and Woburn Square house academic activities of colleges of the University.

Both Gordon Square and Woburn Square Gardens were restored in 2006 by the University of London with financial assistance from the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund, English Heritage and The Wolfson Foundation.

Lytton Strachey and Virginia Woolf in 1923
(Woolf's Book Room, Smith College Northampton MA, USA)

Duncan Grant and Maynard Keynes in 1912 (see Archive 2003)

Olive Bell at No. 41, Gordon Square in 1924 (see Archive 2003)

Virginia Bell in around 1923
at the house the family bought at the Bloomsbury Group in Square (see Archive 2003)

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NEDyM (Non-equilibrium Dynamic Model)

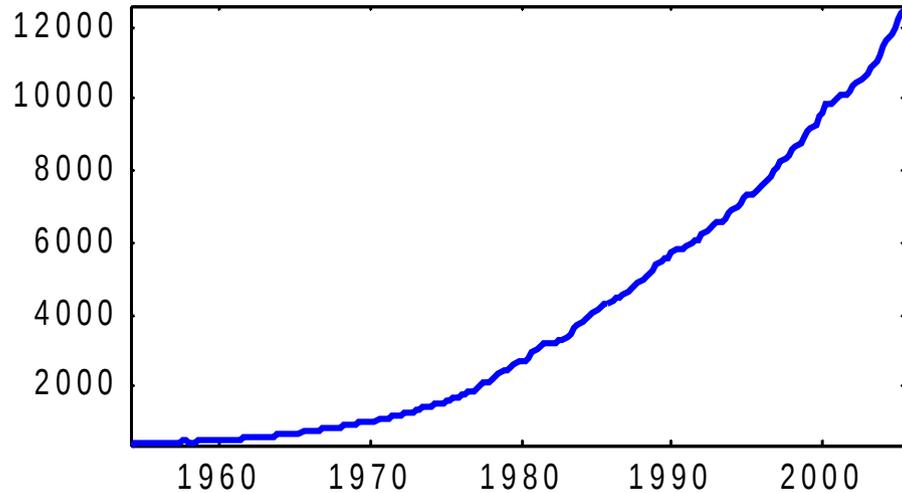
- Represents an economy with one producer, one consumer, one goods that is used both to consume and invest.
- Based on the Solow (1956) model, in which all equilibrium constraints are replaced by dynamic relationships that involve adjustment delays.
- The NEDyM equilibrium is neo-classical and identical to that in the original Solow model. If the parameters are changing slowly, NEDyM has the same trajectories as the Solow model.
- Because of market adjustment delays, NEDyM model dynamics exhibits Keynesian features, with transient trajectory segments, in response to shocks.
- **NEDyM possesses endogenous business cycles!**

Hallegatte, Ghil, Dumas & Hourcade (*J. Econ. Behavior & Org.*, 2008)

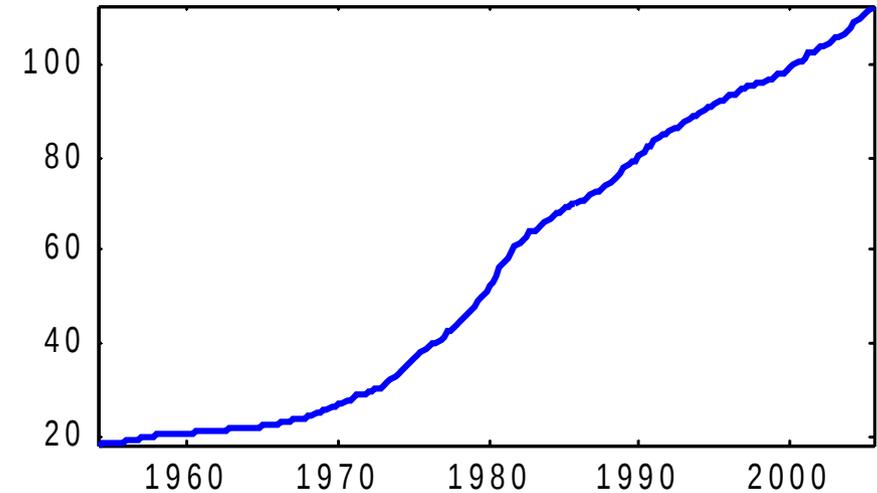
Macroeconomic time series

Macroeconomic indicators of the U.S.

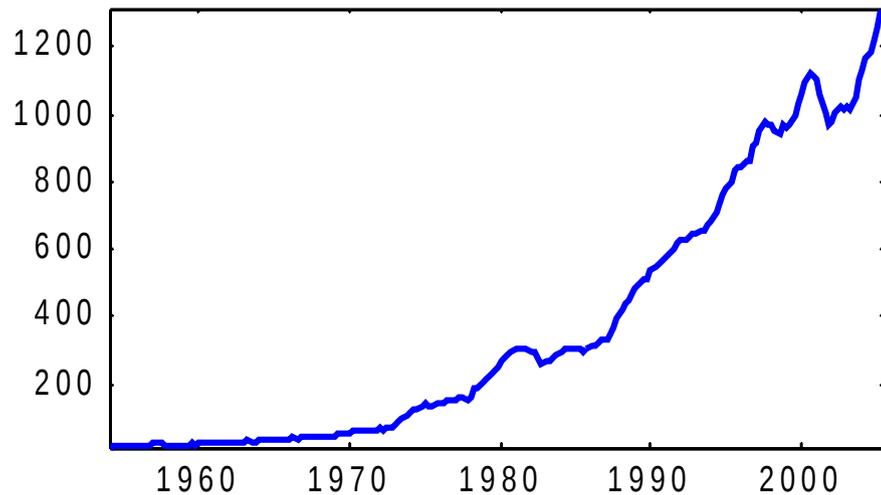
GDP



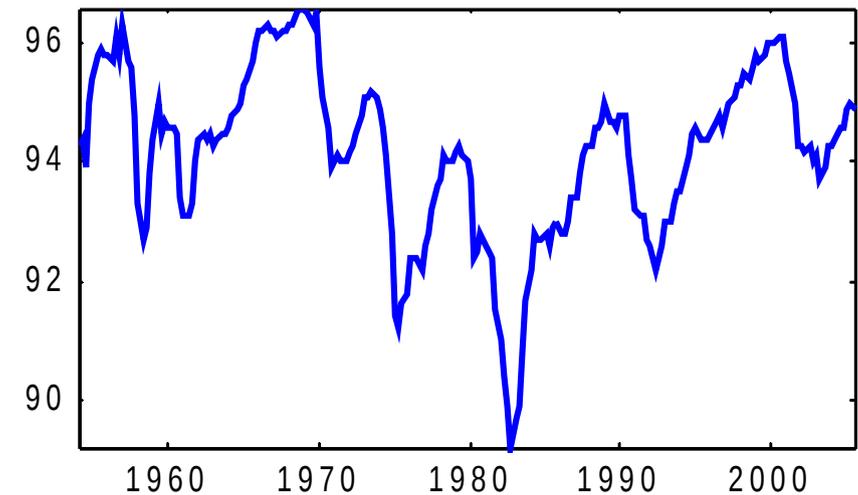
Price



Exports

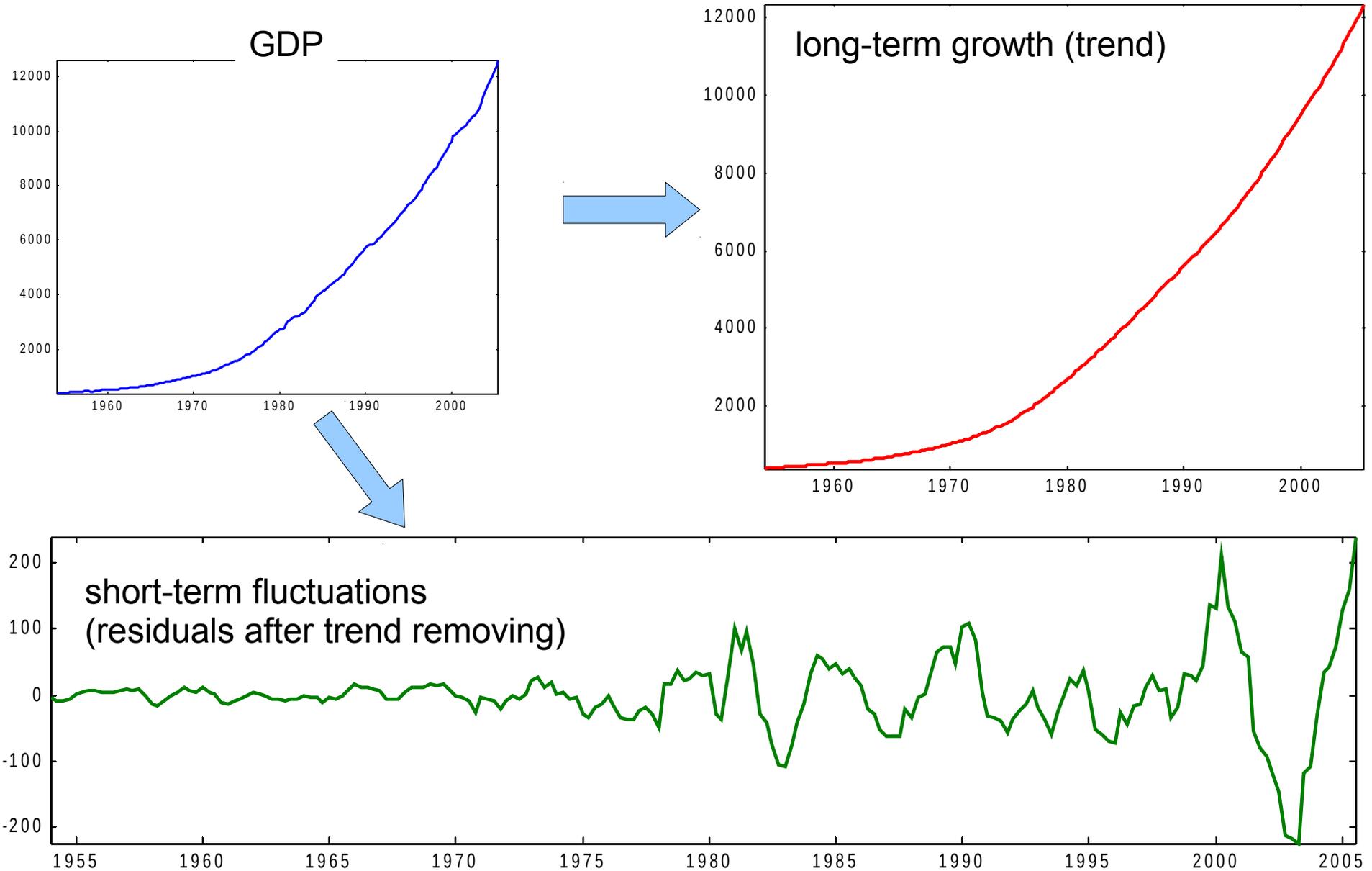


Employment

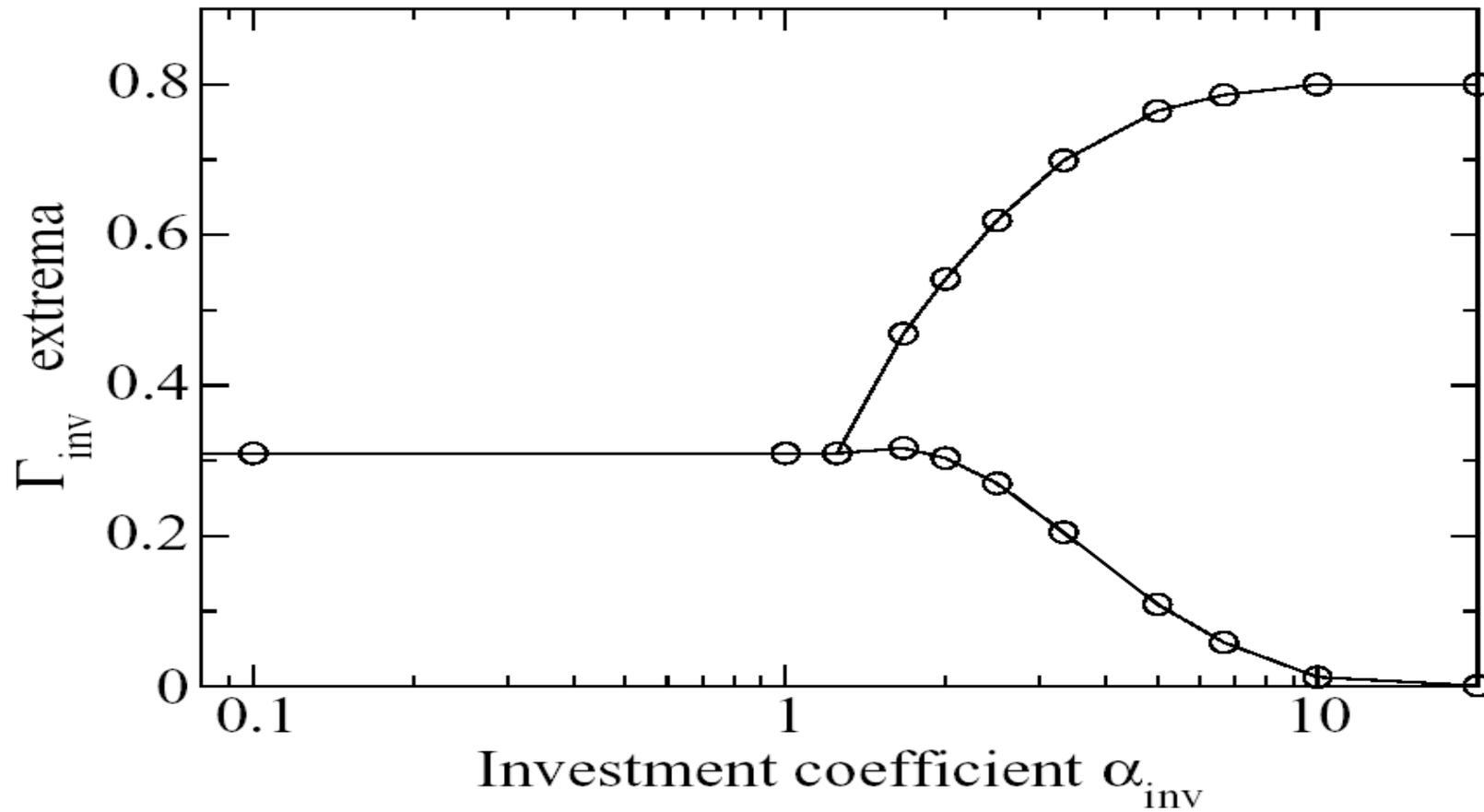


Macroeconomic modeling

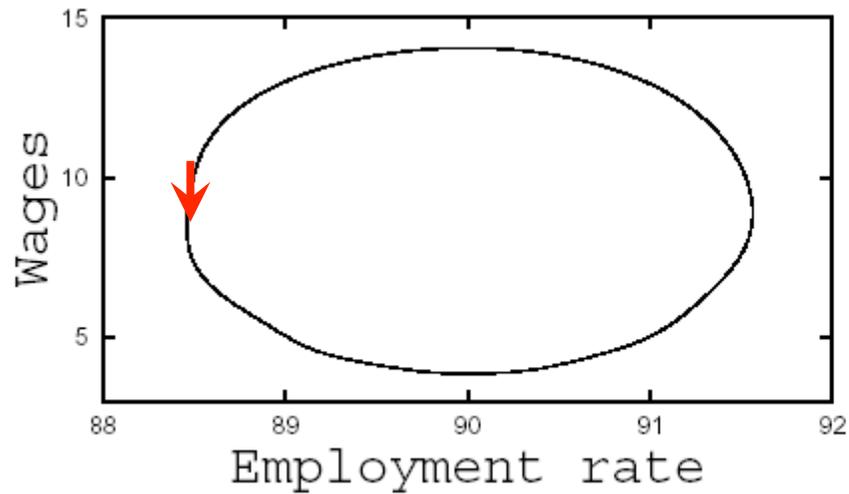
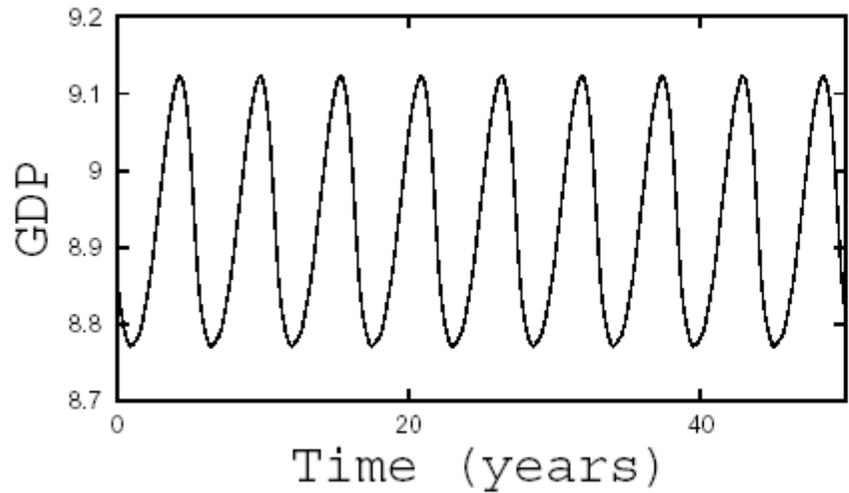
Two main areas of research



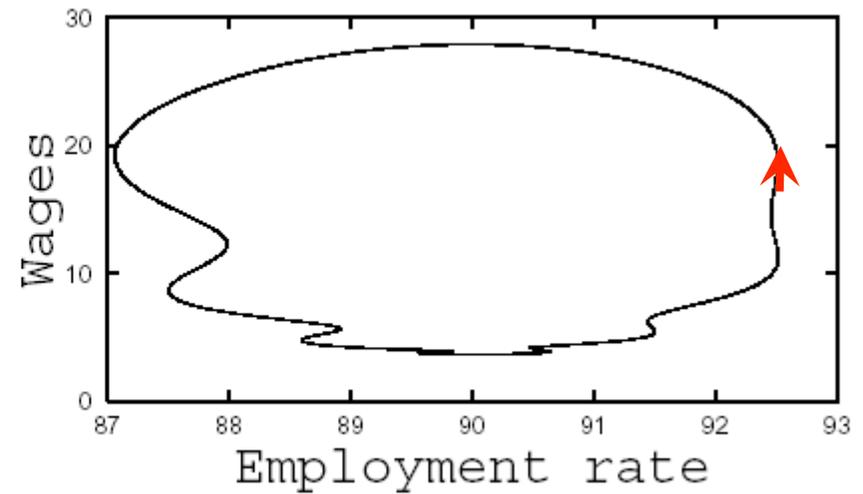
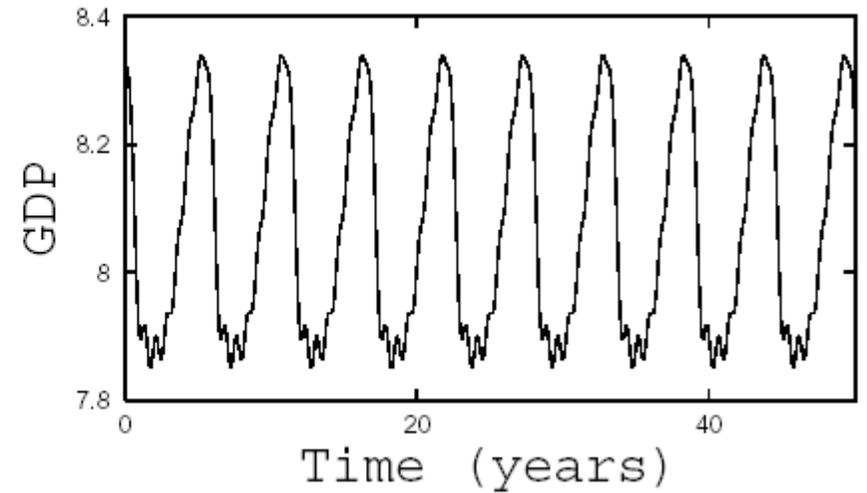
Hopf bifurcation from stable equilibrium to a limit cycle (“business cycle”)



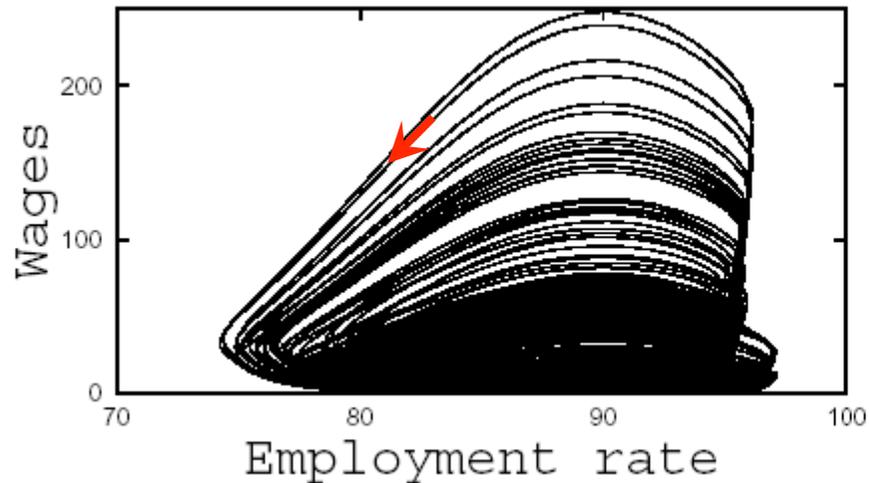
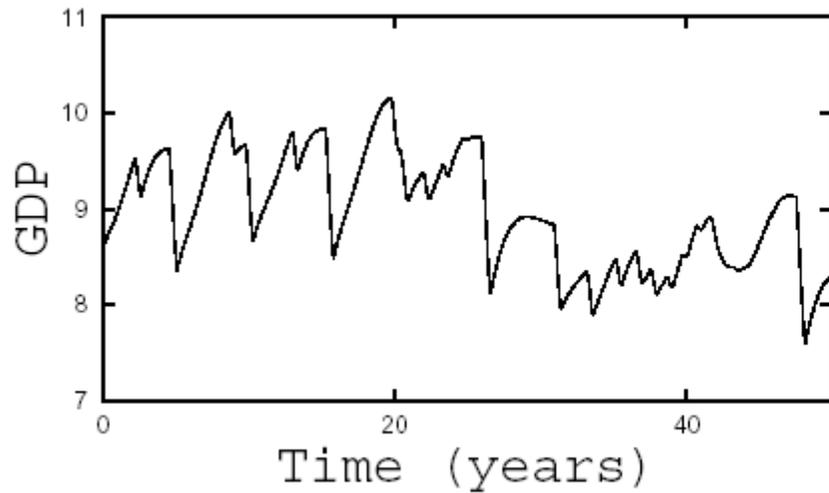
$\alpha_{inv} = 1.7$: purely periodic behavior (limit cycle)



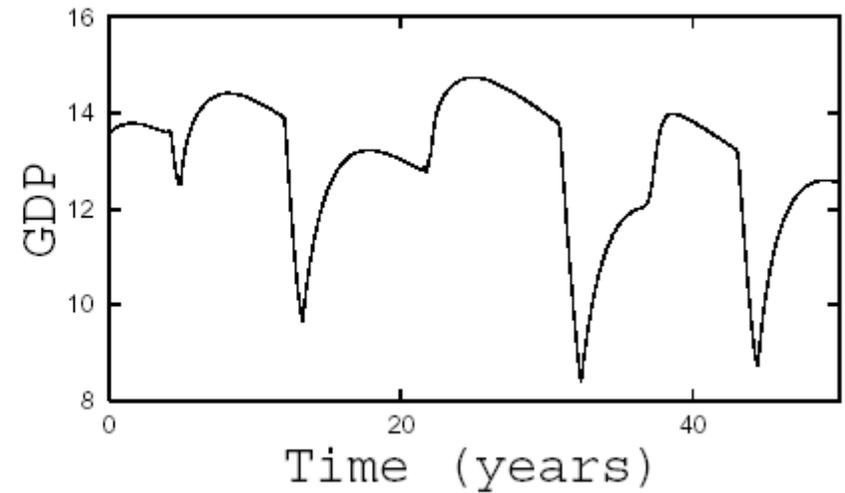
$\alpha_{inv} = 2.5$: transition to chaos (irregular behavior)



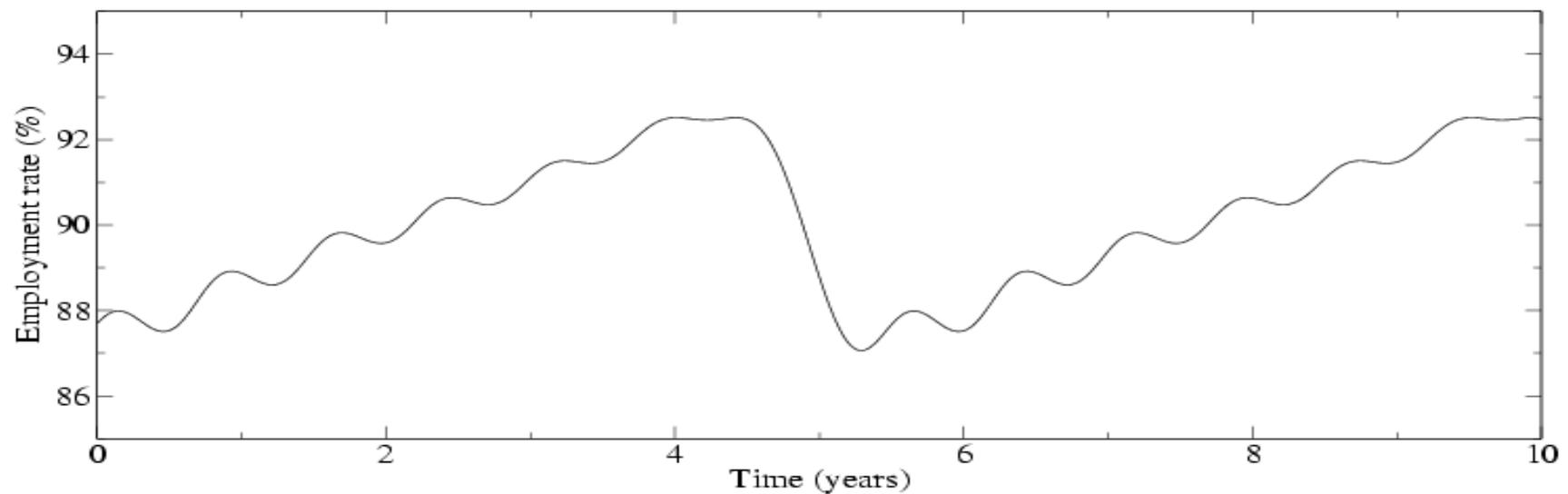
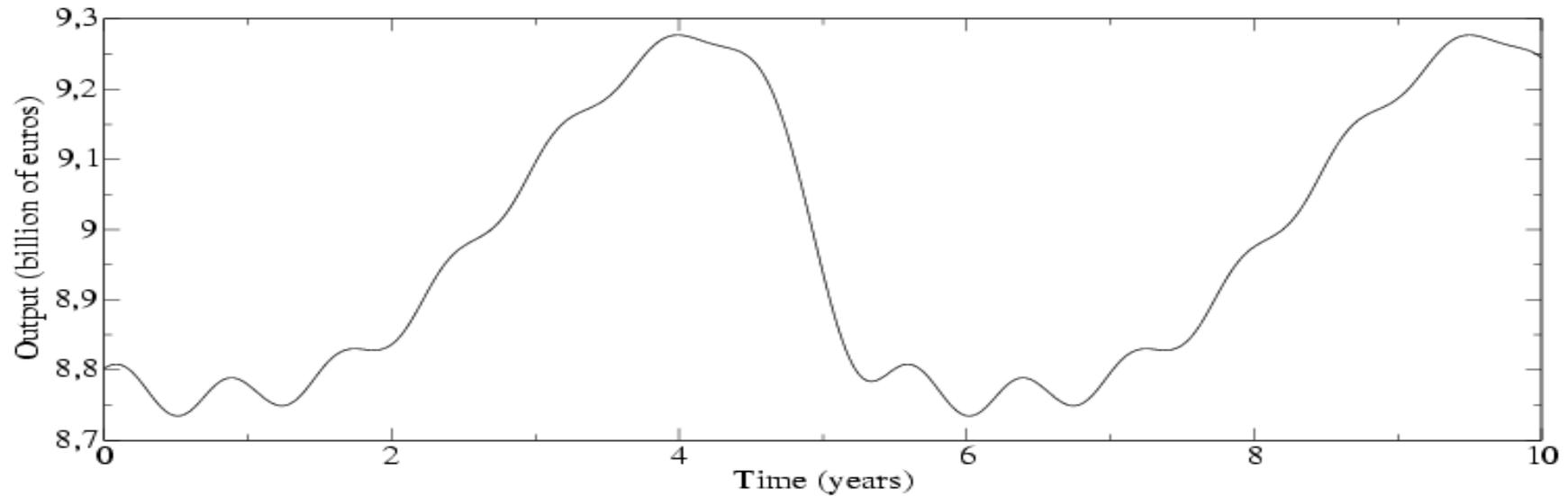
$\alpha_{inv} = 10$: irregular orbit
(kinky torus)



$\alpha_{inv} = 20$: very asymmetric
business cycle
(relaxation oscillation)



Endogenous dynamics: an alternative explanation for business cycles



Endogenous business cycles (EnBCs) in NEDyM

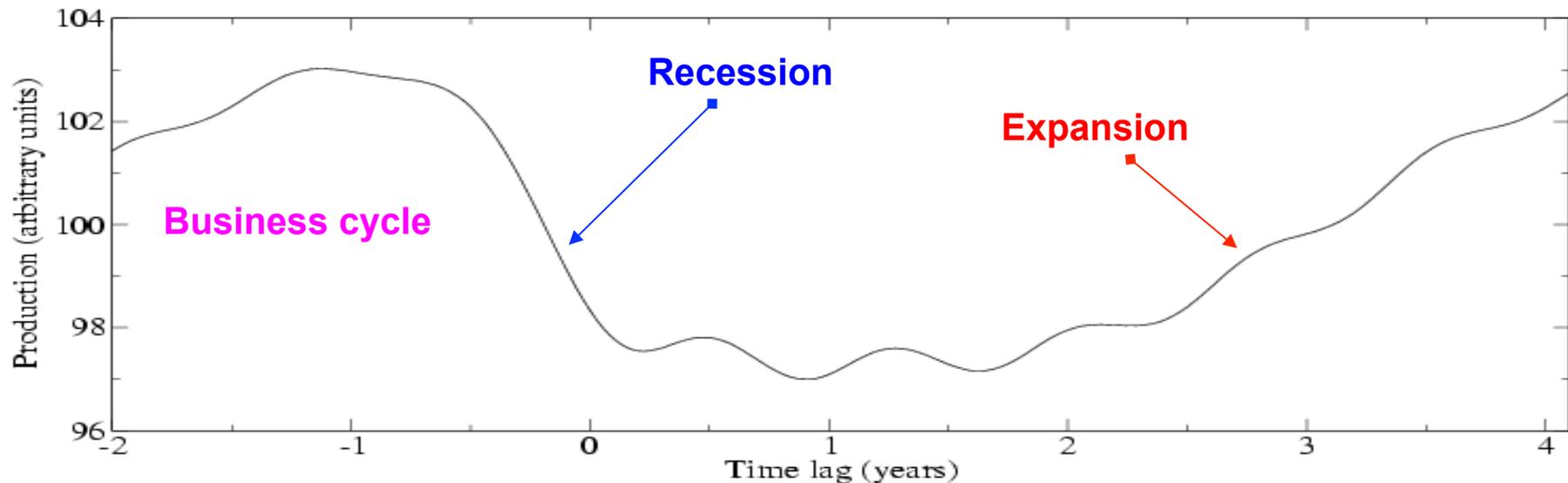
- Business cycles originate from the profit–investment relationship (oscillations with a 5–6-year period) – Fukuyama (1989–92)?!

higher profits => more investments => larger demand => higher profits

- Business cycles are limited in amplitude by three processes:
 - increase in labor costs when employment is high;
 - constraints in production and the consequent inflation in goods prices when demand increases too rapidly;
 - financial constraints on investment.
- EnBC models need to be calibrated and validated
 - harder than for real business cycle models (RBCs):
fast and slow processes =>
need a better definition of the business cycles =>
study of BEA & NBER data!

Catastrophes and the state of the economy – I

A vulnerability paradox: When does a disaster cause greater **long-term damage** to an economy, during its **expansion phase** or during a **recession**?

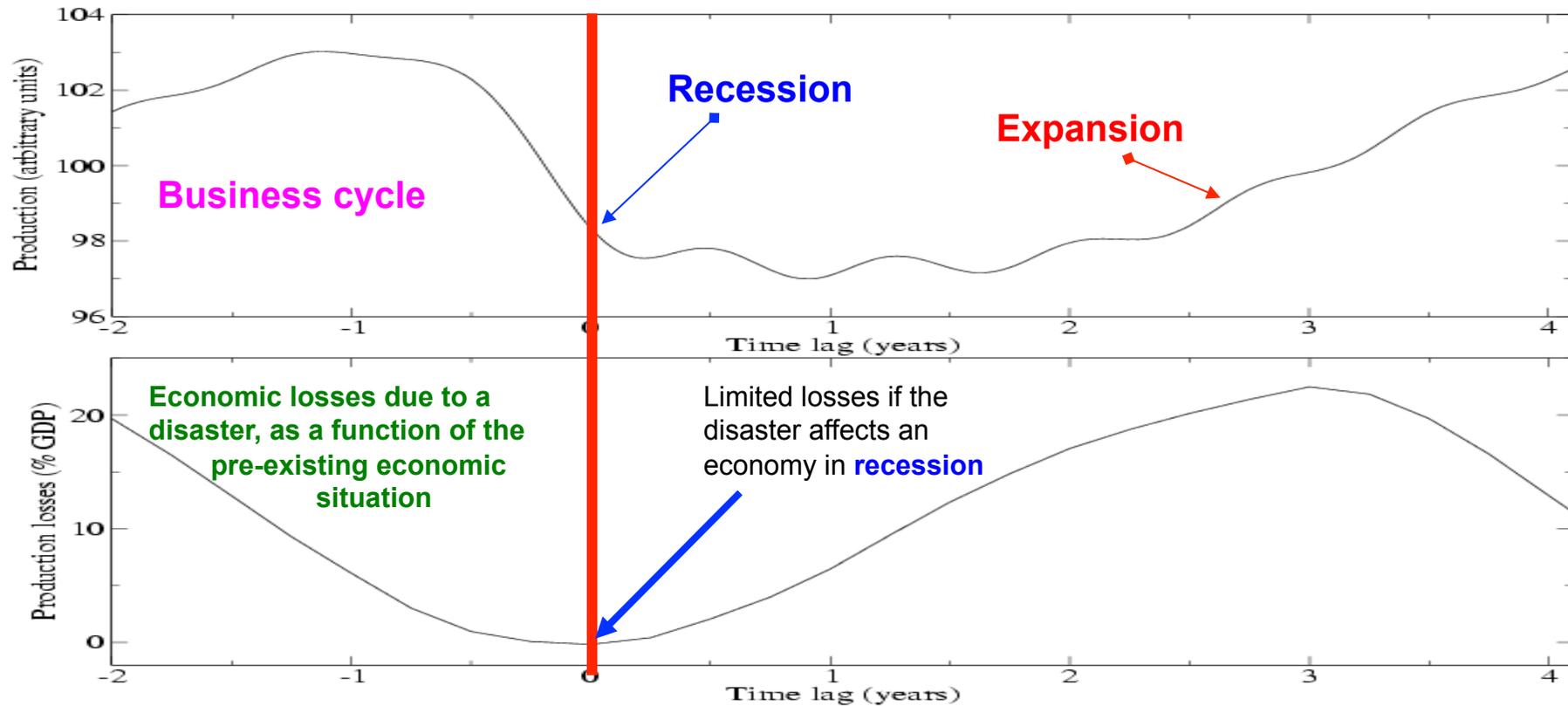


Hallegatte & Ghil, 2008, *Ecol. Econ.*, 68, 582–592, [doi:10.1016/j.ecolecon.2008.05.022](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ecolecon.2008.05.022)

Catastrophes and the state of the economy – II

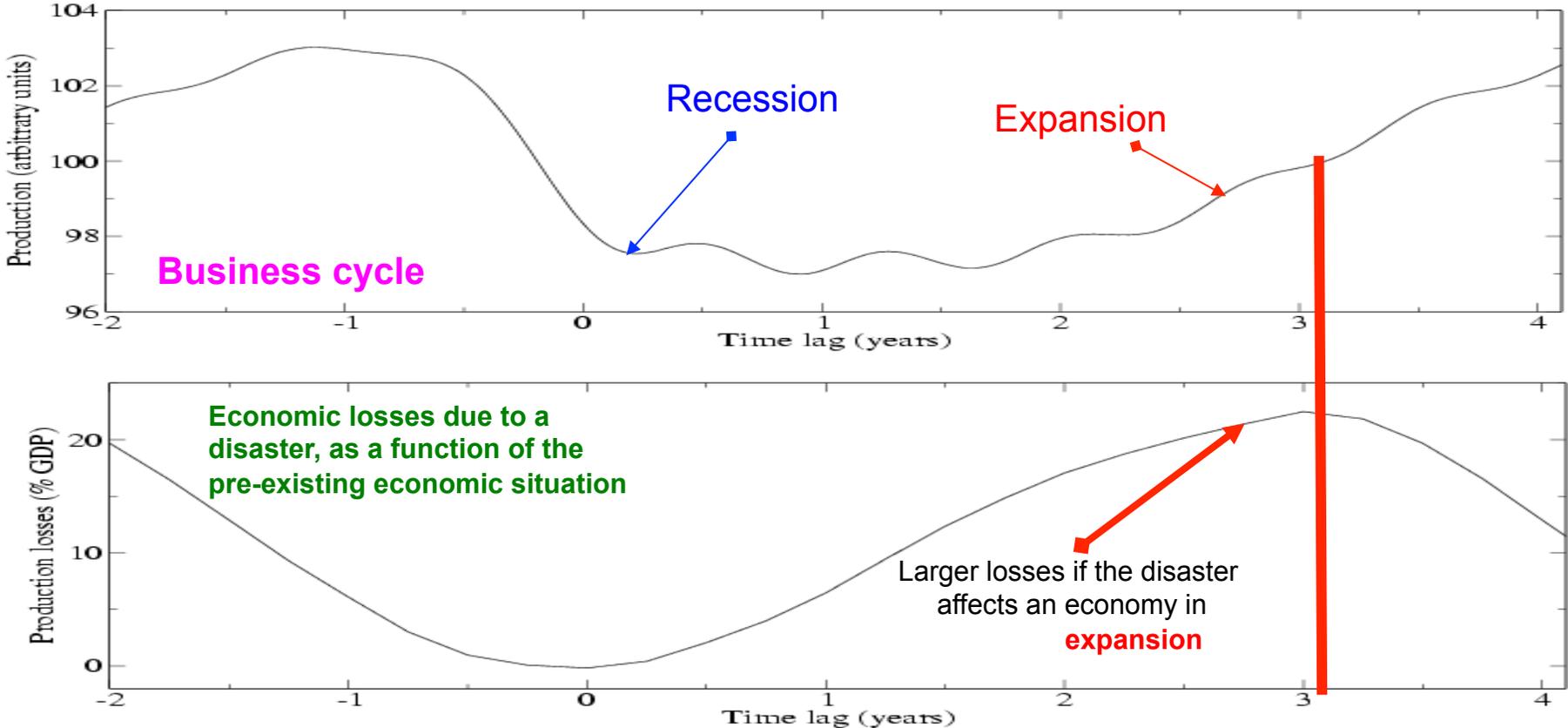
A vulnerability paradox:

A disaster that affects an economy during its recession phase...



Catastrophes and the state of the economy – III

... causes **fewer** long-term damages than if it occurs during an **expansion!**



Long-term averaged GDP losses due to natural disasters(*)

Calibration	Economic dynamics	Mean GDP losses (% of baseline GDP)
No investment flexibility $\alpha_{inv} = 0$	Stable equilibrium	0.15%
Low investment flexibility $\alpha_{inv} = 1.0$	Stable equilibrium	0.01%
High investment flexibility $\alpha_{inv} = 2.5$	Endogenous business cycle	0.12%

(*) calibrated on the disasters that impacted the EU in the last 30 years (Hallegatte, Hourcade & Dumas, 2007; Munich-Re, 2004)

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Singular Spectrum Analysis (SSA) – I

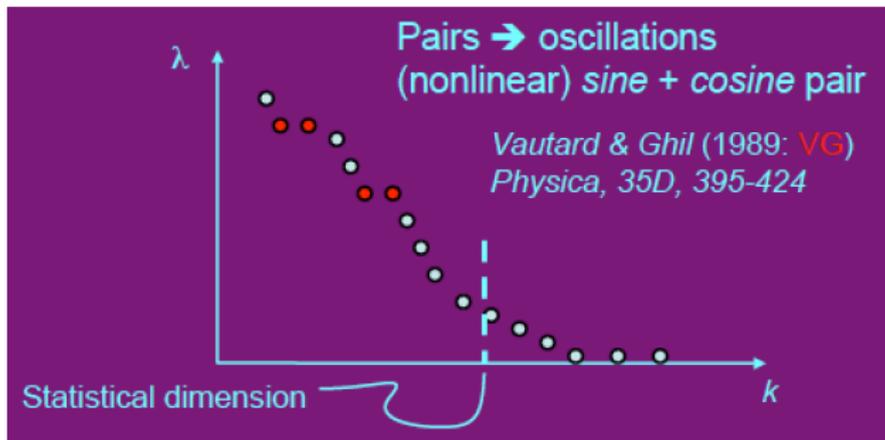
Spatial EOFs (PCA)

Temporal EOFs (SSA)

	Expansion	
$\Phi(t, x) = \sum_k \mathbf{a}_k(t) \mathbf{e}_k(x)$		$\mathbf{X}(t, s) = \sum_k \mathbf{a}_k(t) \mathbf{e}_k(s)$
	Covariance	
$\mathbf{C}_\Phi(x, y) = \langle \Phi(t, x) \Phi(t, y) \rangle_t$		$\mathbf{C}_X(s, u) = \langle \mathbf{X}(t) \mathbf{X}(t + s - u) \rangle_t$
	Eigendecomposition	
$\mathbf{C}_\Phi \mathbf{e}_k = \lambda_k \mathbf{e}_k$		$\mathbf{C}_X \mathbf{e}_k = \lambda_k \mathbf{e}_k$
	Eigenelements	
$\mathbf{e}_k(x)$ x – space		$\mathbf{e}_k(s)$ s – time lag
		λ_k pairs \rightarrow oscillations (<i>nonlinear</i>) sine + cosine pair

- ▶ Colebrook (1978); Weare & Nastrom (1982); Broomhead & King (1986; **BK**); Fraedrich (1986); Vautard & Ghil (1989; **VG**).
- ▶ **BK + VG**: Analogy between Mañé-Takens embedding and the Wiener-Khinchin theorem.

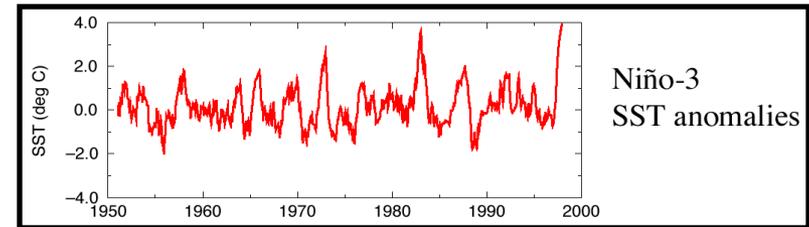
Singular Spectrum Analysis (SSA) – II



- ▶ Truncation of the expansion to the S leading EOFs
 \Rightarrow data-adaptive filter.
- ▶ Nearly equal eigenvalues \Rightarrow nonlinear, anharmonic oscillation.

Singular Spectrum Analysis (SSA)

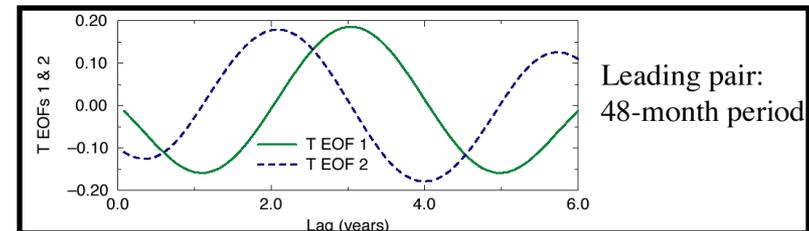
Time series



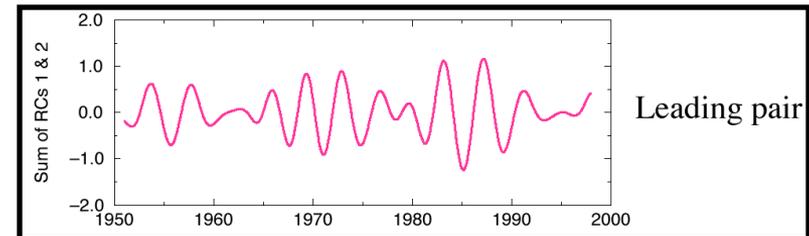
SSA decomposes (geophysical & other)
time series into

Temporal EOFs (T-EOFs) and
Temporal Principal Components (T-PCs),
based on the series' lag-covariance matrix

T-EOFs



RCs



Selected parts of the series can be
reconstructed, via

Reconstructed Components (RCs)

- SSA is good at isolating oscillatory behavior via paired eigenelements.
- SSA tends to lump signals that are longer-term than the window into
 - one or two trend components.

Selected References:

Vautard & Ghil (1989, *Physica D*);
Ghil *et al.* (2002, *Rev. Geophys.*) 12/28

Stylized Facts of a Business Cycle – I

Need a more objective, quantitative description of the “typical business cycle.” To do so we use two complementary approaches:

1. synchronization methods from dynamical systems (“chaos”); and
2. Advanced methods of time series analysis (SSA and M-SSA)

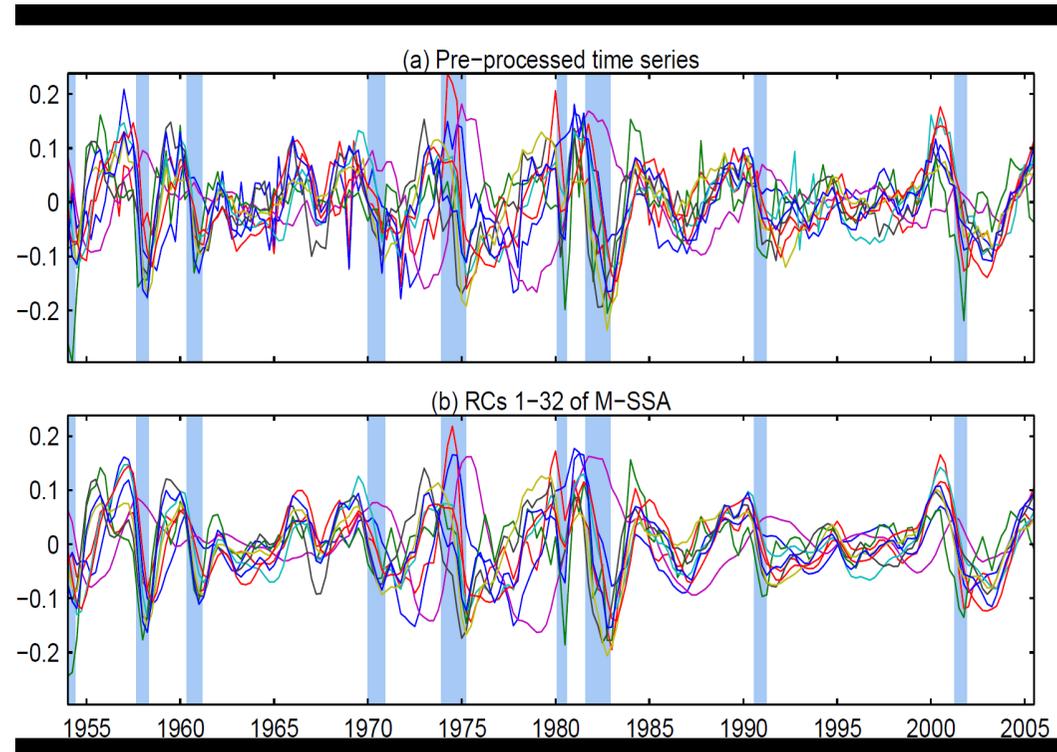
Bureau of Economic Analysis,
www.bea.gov; 1947–2005.

9 variables:

gross domestic product (GDP), investment, consumption, employment rate (in %), price, total wage, imports, exports, and change in private inventories.

Groth, Ghil, Hallegatte and Dumas, submitted

Raw data, detrended and standardized



9-channel SSA ($D = 9$, $M = 24$ quarters)

*Adaptive filtering, via multichannel
singular-spectrum analysis (M-SSA);
vertical shaded bars are NBER-defined recessions*

Stylized Facts of a Business Cycle – III

$$V_{\mathcal{K}}(t) = \frac{\sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} A_k(t)^2}{DM \sum_{k=1} A_k(t)^2}$$

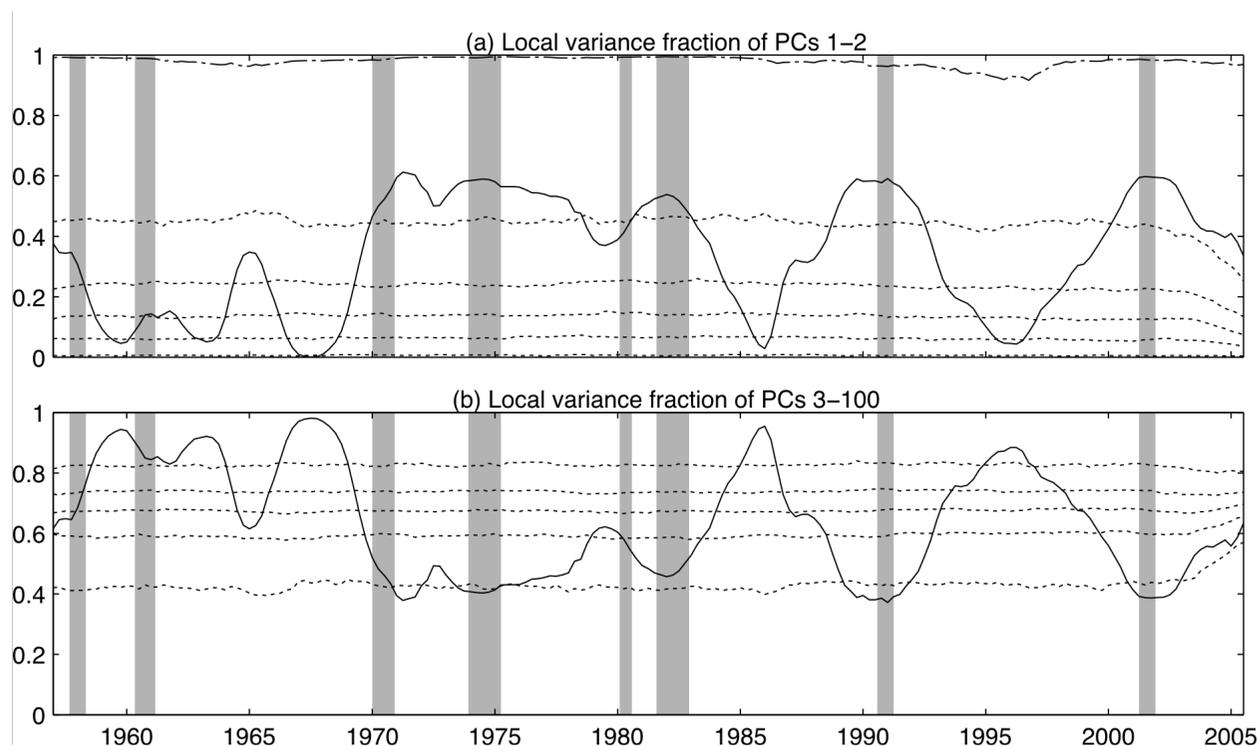
Consider the local variance

fraction $V_{\mathcal{K}}(t)$

with $D = 9$, $M = 100$, and $A_k(t)$ the PCs:

The “signal” fraction
is largest during
the recessions

The “noise” fraction
is largest during
the expansions



Vertical shaded bars are NBER-defined recessions

Groth, Ghil, Hallegatte and Dumas, submitted

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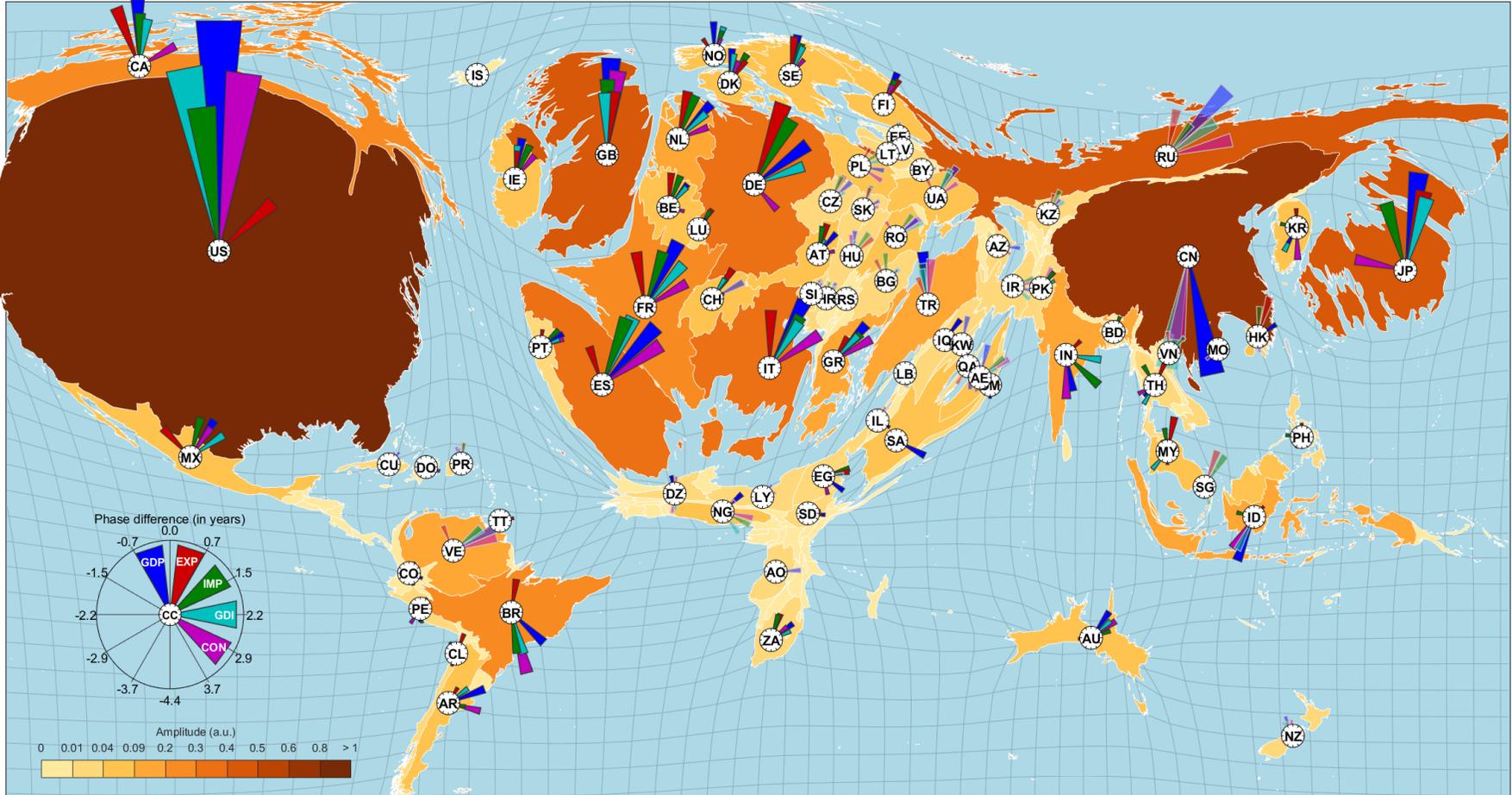
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World Business Cycle

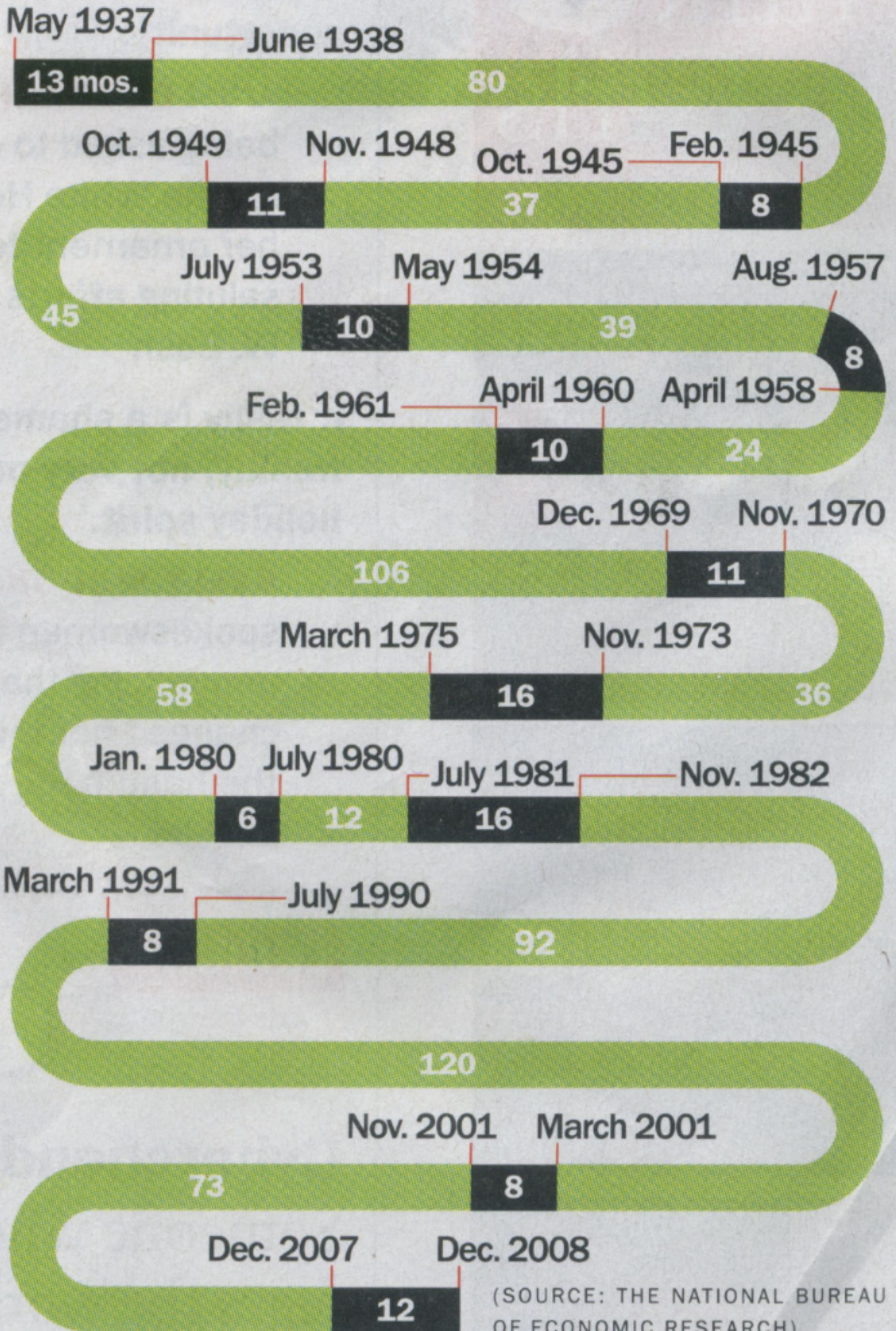


Synchronization of macroeconomic indicators from over 100 countries; mean period = 7–11 years

Recessions and Expansions from the Great Depression to Today

Recession

Expansion



(SOURCE: THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH)

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Conclusions and Outlook

1. **Non-equilibrium models** are alive and well: they exhibit fairly realistic, **endogenous business cycles (EBCs)**: period = 5–6 years, seasaw shape, good phasing of indices.
 1. They also display a **vulnerability paradox**:
 - extreme-event consequences depend on the state of the economy;
 - they are more severe during an expansion than a recession.
 3. This paradox is supported by
 - consequences of **Izmit (Marmara) earthquake, 1999**;
 - reconstruction process after the **2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons in Florida**.
4. **U.S. economic data** (BEA, 1947–2005) tentatively support **a nonlinear fluctuation-dissipation theorem (FDT)** à la Ruelle.
5. Need **a better, quantitative characterization of business cycles**: U.S. + Euro-data, synchronization and spectral methods (A. Groth, L. Sella, G. Vivaldo)
6. Need more detailed, regional and sectorial models: B. Coluzzi, M. G., S.H., and G. Weisbuch are using simplified, **Boolean models to study the economy as a network of businesses** (suppliers and clients, etc.).
7. **Unanticipated consequences** – check! **Further opportunities** – check & check!!

A few references

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Ghil, M., *et al.*, 2002: Advanced spectral methods for climatic time series, *Rev. Geophys.*, **40**(1), pp. 3.1–3.41, doi: [10.1029/2000RG000092](https://doi.org/10.1029/2000RG000092).

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Sella, L., G. Vivaldo, A. Groth, and M. Ghil, 2016: Economic cycles and their synchronization: a comparison of cyclic modes in three European countries, *J. Bus. Cycle Res.*, **12**, 25–48.

The deeper motivations of economic modeling



*“Really, Karl! Can’t I mention the high price of
kohlrabi without getting a manifesto?”*