Inconsistency of Policies and Oil Shocks

Harold Zavarce^a and Luis A. Sosa^b

Central Bank of Venezuela

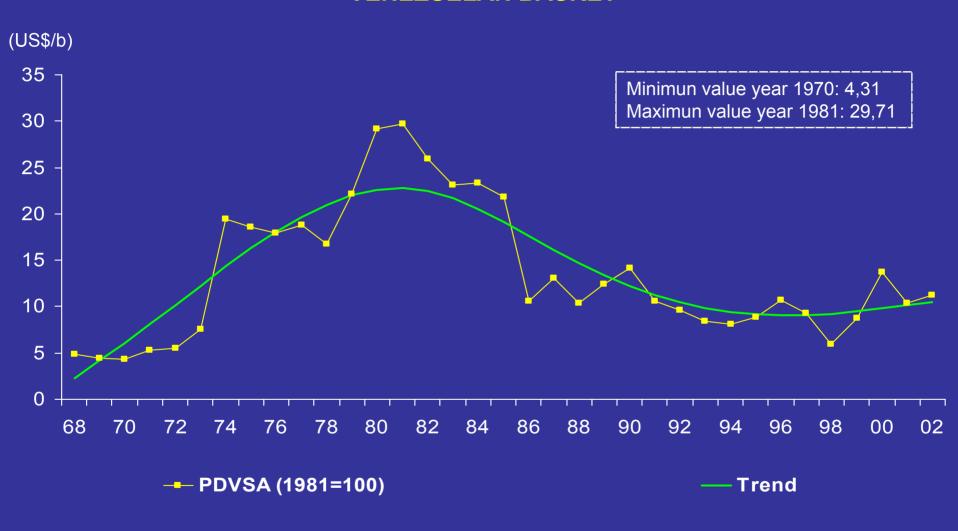
Colorado School of Mines

October 2003

Motivation

- Venezuelan Experience
 - Adverse oil shocks
 - Structural deficits
 - Unstable borrowing
 - Debt restructuring
 - Switching exchange rate regimes
 - High and volatile inflation
 - Free fall in real money balances

OIL PRICES VENEZUELAN BASKET



Note: Adjusted with CPI- USA 1981=100.

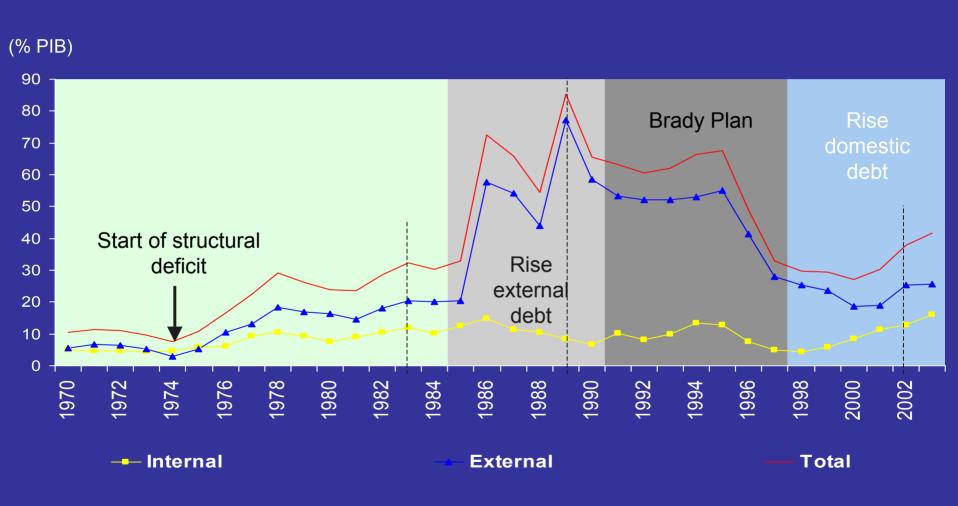
Source: BCV

FISCAL REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE (1950-2001)



Source: FMI.

EVOLUTION OF VENEZUELAN PUBLIC DEBT (1970-2003)

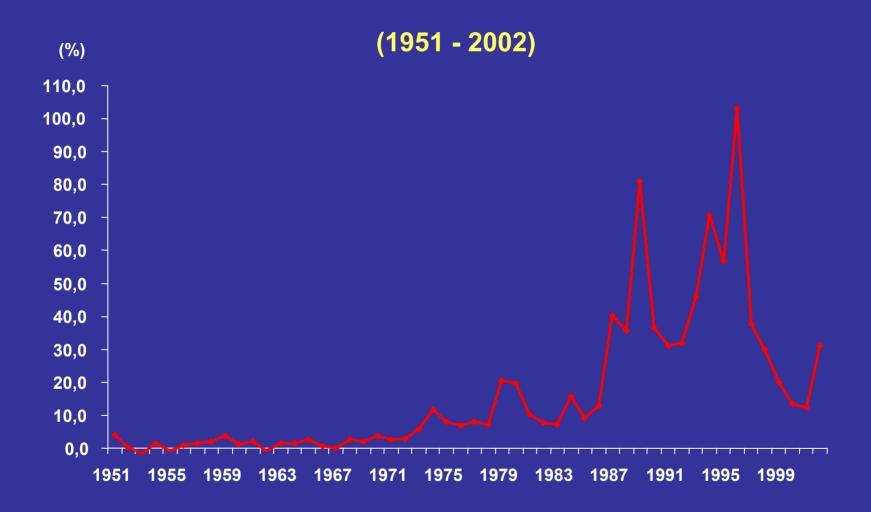


External crisis

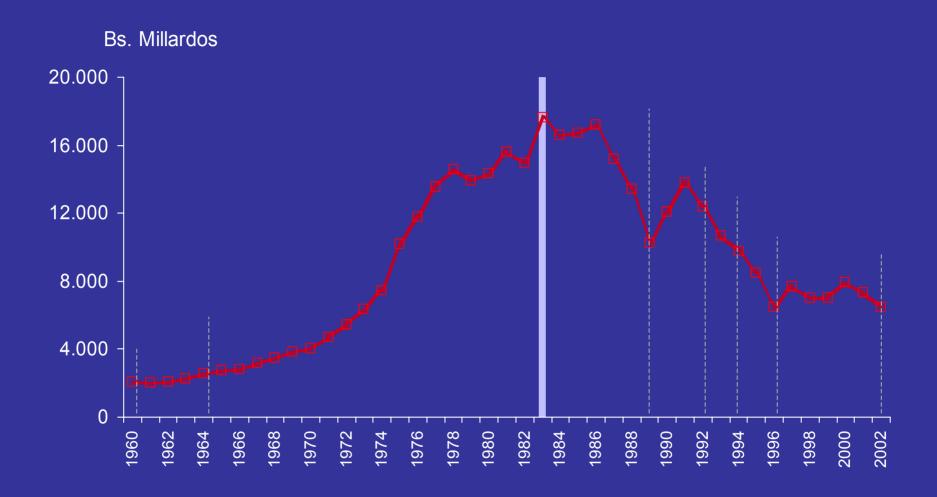
Source: Ministerio de Finanzas, BCV.

1941-1960	Multiple exchange rate system External Crisis (1958-1960)
1960(nov)-1963	Exchange Rate Control (M)
1964-1983 (Feb)	Fixed
1983-1989 (Feb)	External Crisis (1983) Restructuring (1984-1986) Exchange Rate Control (M) External Crisis (1989)
1989-1992 (Sep)	Managed Floating Restructuring (1989-1990)
1992-1994 (April)	Crawling Peg Banking Crisis (Jan 1994)
1994(May-Jun)	Floating Exchange Rate
1994 (Jul) –1996 (April)	Exchange Rate Control (U)
1996 (May-Jun)	Floating Exchange Rate
1996(July) – 2002 (Feb)	Exchange Rate within Crawling Bands Restructuring (1996) External Crisis (2002)
2002 (Feb)- 2003(Jan)	Floating Exchange Rate External Crisis (2002)
2003 (Jan)-today	Exchange Rate Control (U) Restructuring (Jul)

DINAMICS OF INFLATION

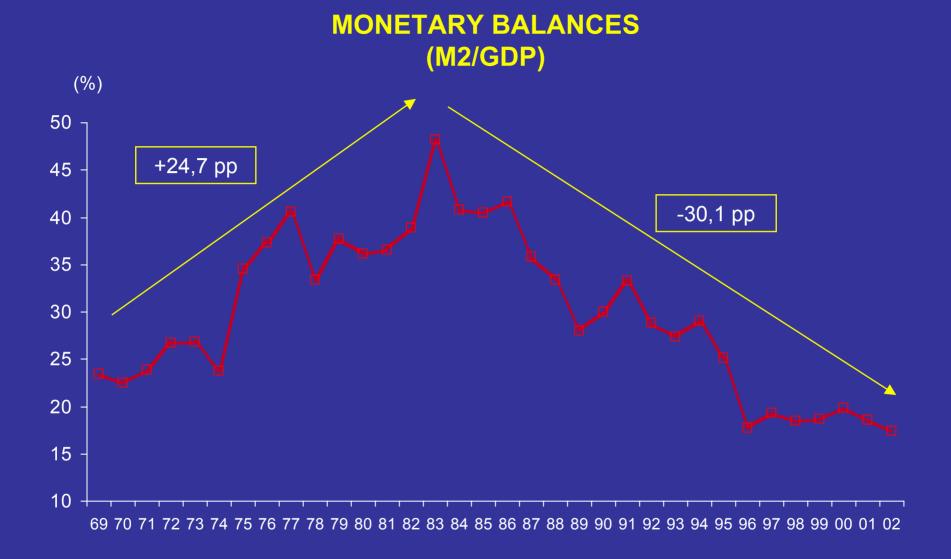


REAL MONETARY BALANCES



---- Abandom of Exchange Rate regime

Source: BCV.



Source: BCV.

Objective

- To analyze the inconsistency between monetary policy programs and a given fiscal policy for an oil economy
 - Permanent oil revenue reductions
 - Fiscal corrections are not implemented
 - Intermediate monetary policy variable maintained at original level
 - Inflation, debt, and real money balances

Literature Review

- Sargent and Wallace (1981), Leviatan (1984), Drazen (1985)
 - Unpleasant monetarist arithmetic
- Auernheimer (1987)
 - Failure of inconsistent stabilization programs based on exchange rate or monetary anchors
- Zavarce (1998)
 - Policy inconsistency for a peg with exchange rate control

The Model

- Two goods
 - X (state property)
 - Y (private property)
- Internationally traded without restrictions at given prices
 - Xg not consumed within the country
 - $P = EP_v$

The Model

- The government cum central bank net debtor, b
- The private sector net creditor, a
- The government and the private sector can lend and borrow at international markets at a rate r
- $r = r(\Omega, r^*) = r^* + \Psi(\Omega)$

The Government and the Central Bank

$$g-T-X_g\frac{P_g}{P_y}\frac{EP_y}{P}+br=b$$

primary deficit

$$\frac{M}{P} = m \mu = m \pi$$

$$b = d + br(r^*, \Omega) - \mu m$$

Households

$$\max_{\{c(t),m(t)\}} \int_{0}^{\infty} [u(c) + v(m)]e^{-\rho t} dt$$

$$w = a + m$$

$$a(0) \qquad \text{is given}$$

$$\lim_{t\to\infty} we^{-rt} = 0$$

Balance of Payments

Country's net debt:

$$\Omega \equiv b - a$$

balance trade deficit

net interest payments

Inconsistency, Sustainability, and Solvency

Transversality condition:

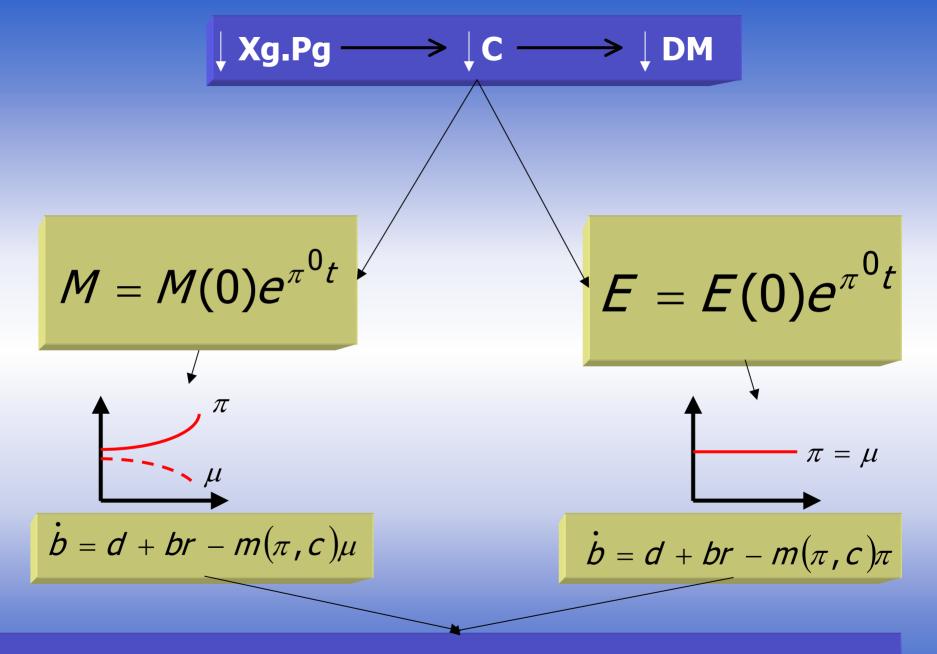
$$\lim_{t \to \infty} e^{\int_0^t r(r^*, \Omega) dz} b(t) = 0$$

Maximum sustainable debt:

$$b(\bar{t}) = \max b = \frac{1}{\rho} \left[\max_{\pi} (\pi l(\tilde{c}, \pi + \rho)) - d \right]$$

$$\widetilde{b} = \frac{\mu \ \widetilde{m} - d}{\rho} = \frac{\pi \ \widetilde{m} - d}{\rho}$$

Results



Debt intolerance and abandonment of exchange rate regime

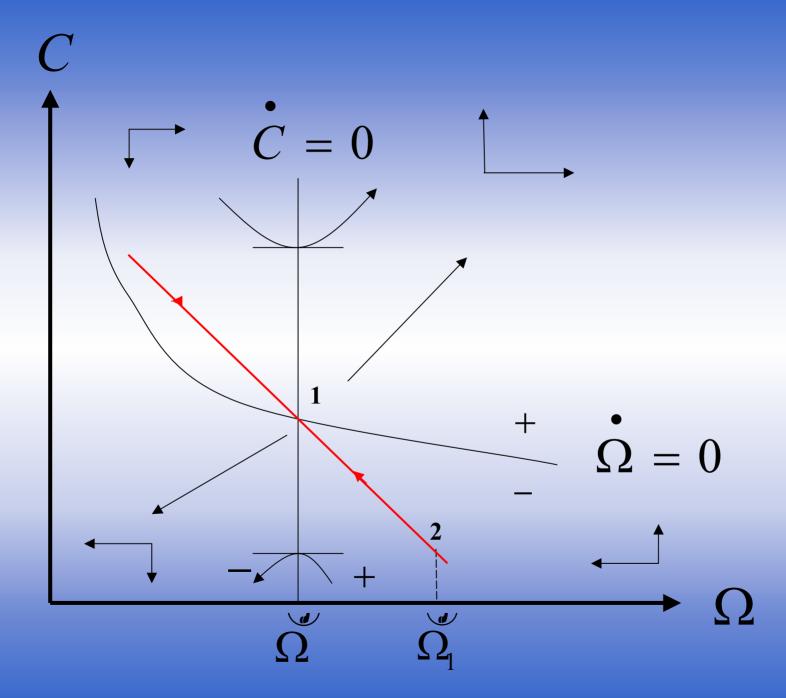
Solution to the Model

Euler's equation for consumption:

$$\stackrel{u'}{=} \left[\rho - r \left(r^*, \Omega \right) \right]$$

Country's net debt path:

$$\mathbf{\Omega} = (c + g - y - X_g P_g) + \Omega r(r^*, \Omega)$$



Intermediate Variable: Exchange Rate

Exchange rate rule

Inflation

Demand for money

Path of real money balances

Public indebtedness

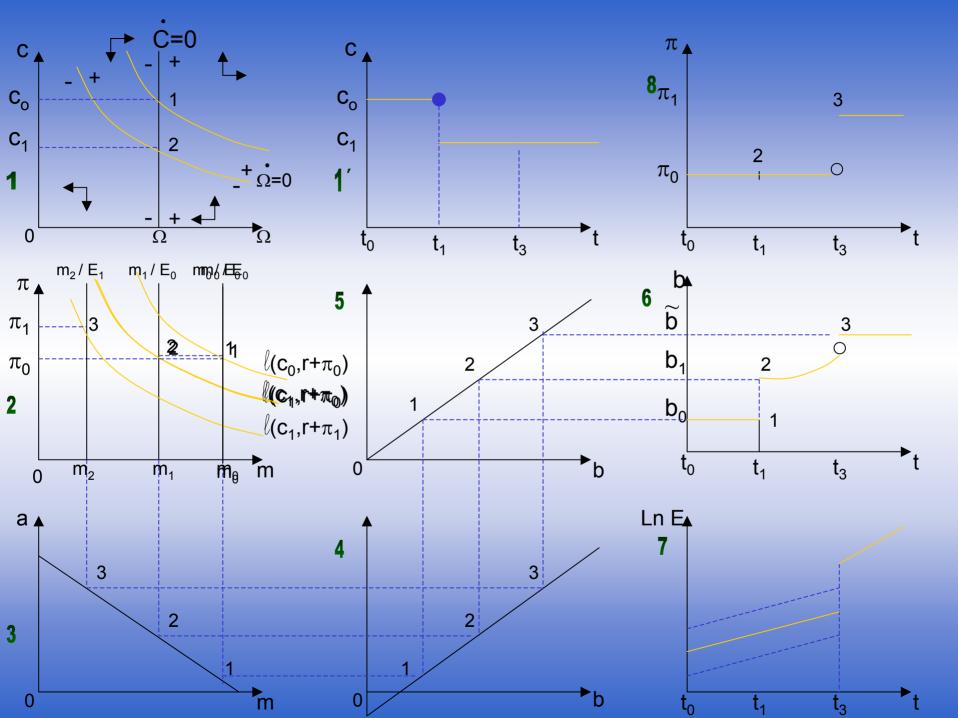
$$E(t) = E(0)e^{\pi t}$$

$$\pi = \frac{E}{E}$$

$$v'(m) = u'(c)[r(r^*, \Omega) + \pi]$$

$$n = 0$$

$$b = d + br(r^*, \Omega) - \pi m$$



Intermediate Variable: Monetary Rule

Monetary Rule

$$M(t)=M(0)e^{\mu t}$$

Inflation

$$\pi = \frac{v'(m)}{u'(c)} - r$$

Path of real money balances

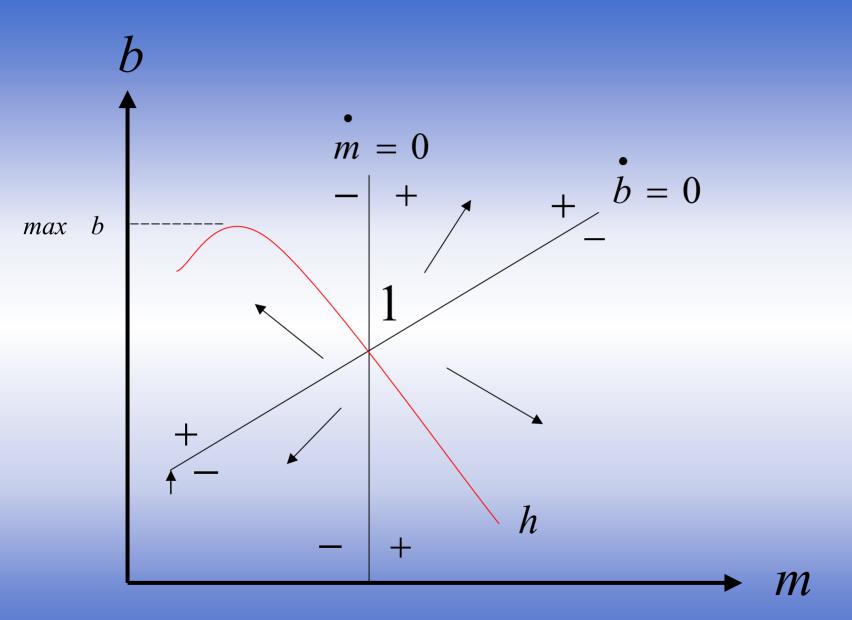
$$m = m \left[\mu + r - \frac{v'(m)}{u'(c)} \right]$$

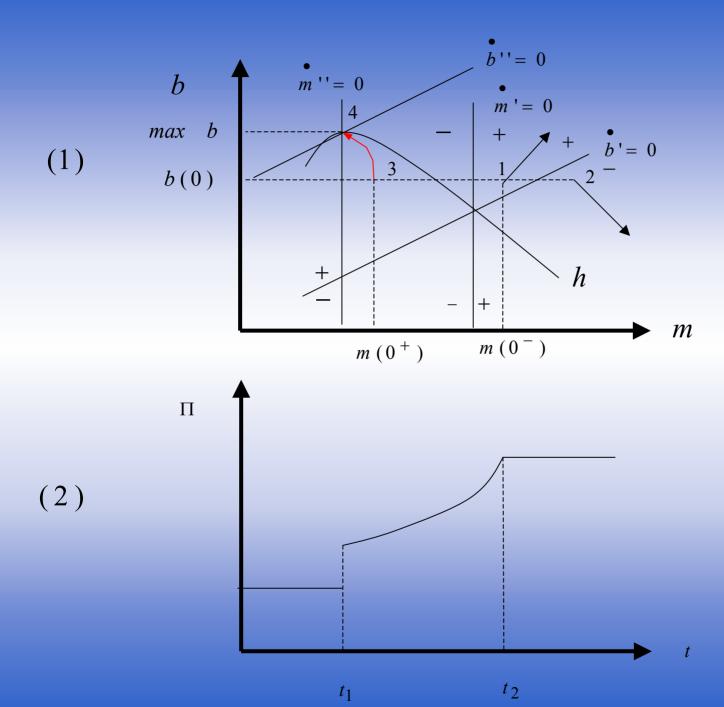
Public indebtedness

$$b = d + br - \mu m$$

h curve

$$b = \frac{1}{r} \left[\left(\frac{v'(m)m}{u'(c)} - mr \right) - d \right]$$





Concluding Remarks

- Ceteris paribus, a permanent oil revenue reduction may lead to higher inflation and greater indebtedness
- Inflation exhibits unstable dynamics under monetary rule

Further Research Topics

- Why does the monetary authority keeps the monetary regime when the economy is hit by a permanent shock to public income?
 - Uncertain timing for fiscal adjustments
 - Fiscal discipline

Further Research Topics

- How is the macroeconomic dynamic under inflation targeting?
- Which regime is Pareto superior?
- Which regime implies the largest transition period?