Let's Get Fiscal: Extending the Small Macroeconometric Model of the Philippine Economy

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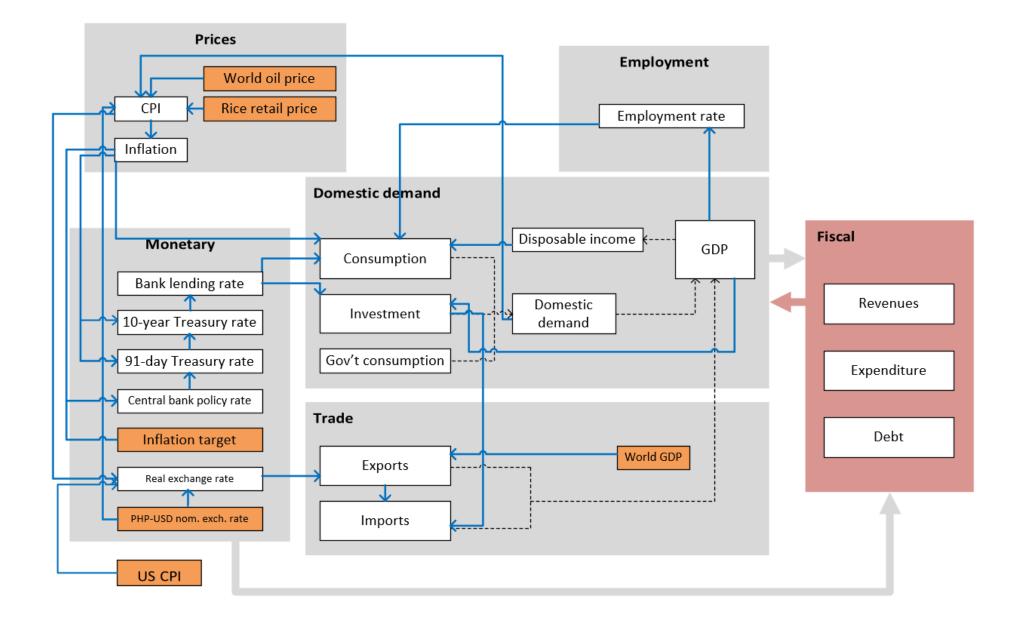
John Paul Corpus

Researcher, BSP Research Academy, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas Former Supervising Research Specialist, Philippine Institute for Development Studies

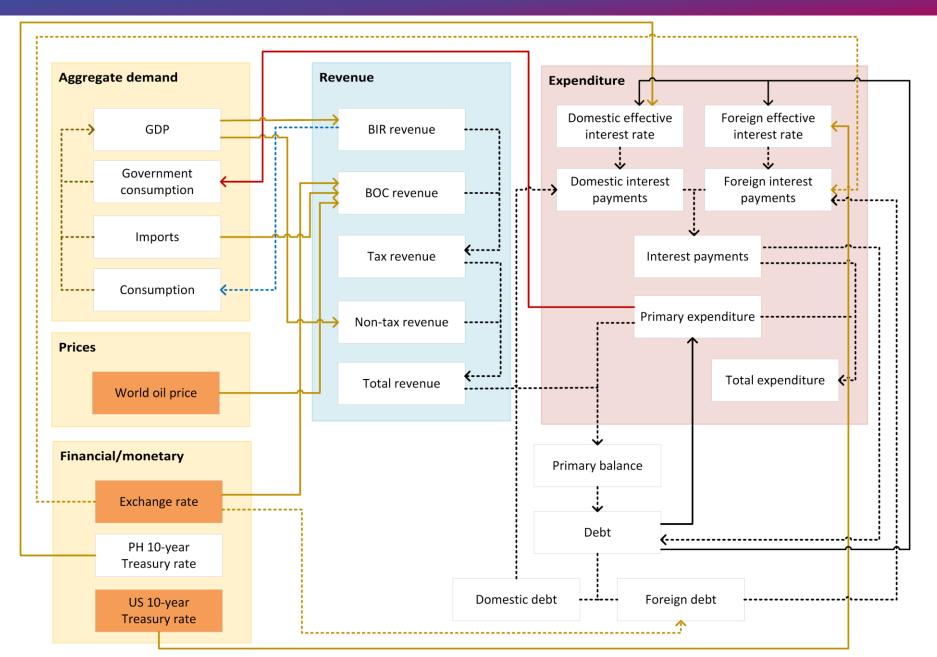
- Extension of small macroeconometric model built in mid-2022 (Debuque-Gonzales & Corpus, 2022, 2023).
- Research gap: Scarcity of working full-system macroeconometric models of the Philippine economy.
- Goal: Macro model for policy analysis with good degree of forecasting power.
- Strategy: Start with small core (demand-side), gradually add features.
- Philosophy: Pragmatic: balance between theoretical rigor and empirical realism.
- Fiscal block added late 2022.
- Key issues: Deficits and debt, then relatedly, rising interest rates, and exchange rate depreciation.

Model overview

- Blocks: 6
 - Domestic demand
 - Trade
 - Employment
 - Prices
 - Monetary/financial
 - Fiscal
- Equations: 38 (18 behavioral, 20 identities)
- Data: 2002Q1-2019Q4
- Estimation: Autoregressive distributed lag Error correction model (ARDL-ECM)

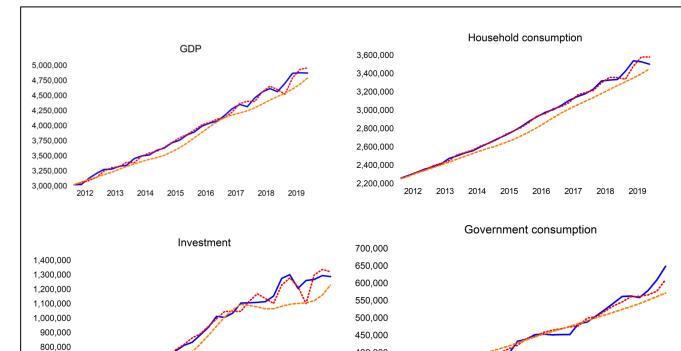


Fiscal block structure



- 2012Q1 2019Q4
- Static and dynamic forecasts
- Forecast accuracy evaluation
 - Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE)
 - Mean Absolute Error (MAE)

In-sample simulations: Aggregate demand



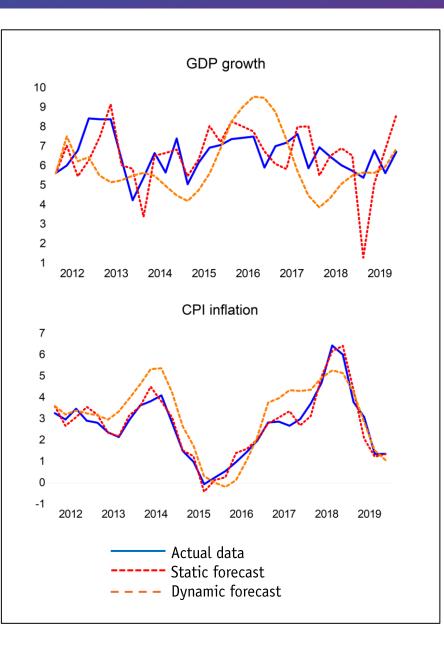
700,000 350,000 600,000 300,000 500,000 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 Net exports -100,000 -200,000 -300,000 -400,000 Actual data -500,000 Static forecast -600,000 2012 2014 2016 2017 2018 2019 Dynamic forecast 2013 2015

400,000

Mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), percent

| | Static forecast | Dynamic forecast |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| GDP | 0.97 | 2.45 |
| Household consumption | 0.60 | 2.39 |
| Investment | 3.20 | 6.06 |
| Gov't consumption | 2.40 | 3.31 |
| Exports | 2.03 | 2.54 |
| Imports | 2.49 | 4.38 |
| Net exports | 9.94 | 14.65 |

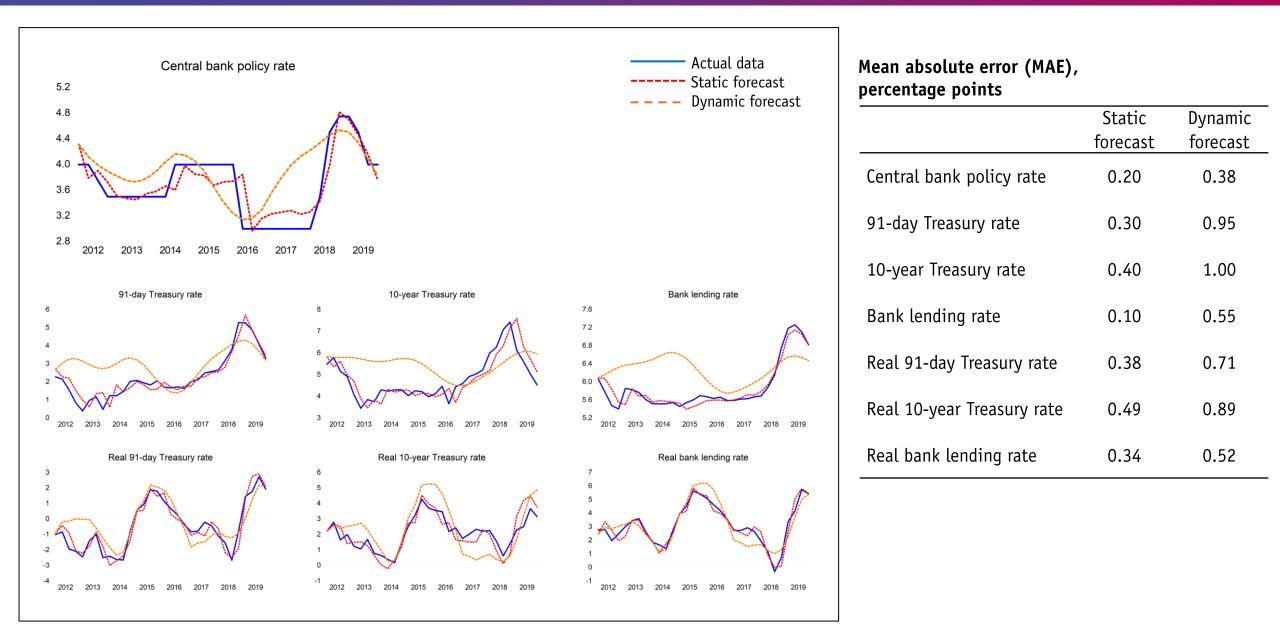
In-sample simulations: GDP growth and inflation rate



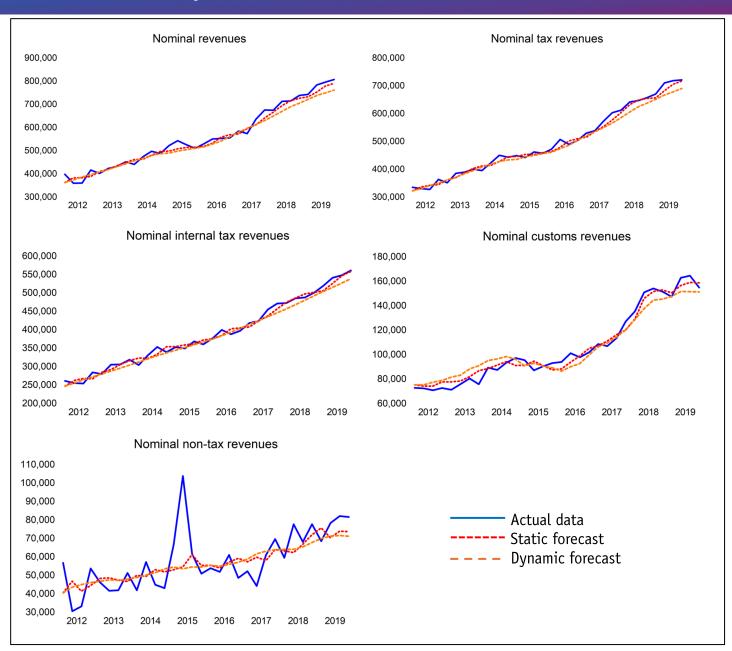
Mean absolute error (MAE), percentage points

| | Static forecast | Dynamic forecast |
|---------------|-----------------|------------------|
| GDP growth | 1.03 | 1.34 |
| CPI inflation | 0.30 | 0.72 |

In-sample simulations: Policy and market interest rates



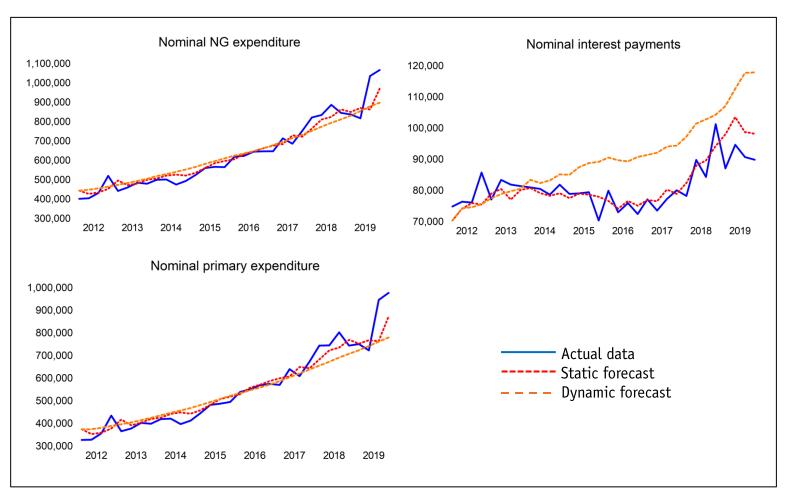
In-sample simulations: Revenues



Mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), percent

| | Static forecast | Dynamic forecast |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| Nominal revenues | 3.04 | 3.73 |
| Nominal tax revenues | 2.34 | 3.01 |
| Nominal internal tax revenues | 2.56 | 2.87 |
| Nominal customs revenues | 4.10 | 6.13 |
| Nominal nontax revenues | 15.07 | 15.10 |

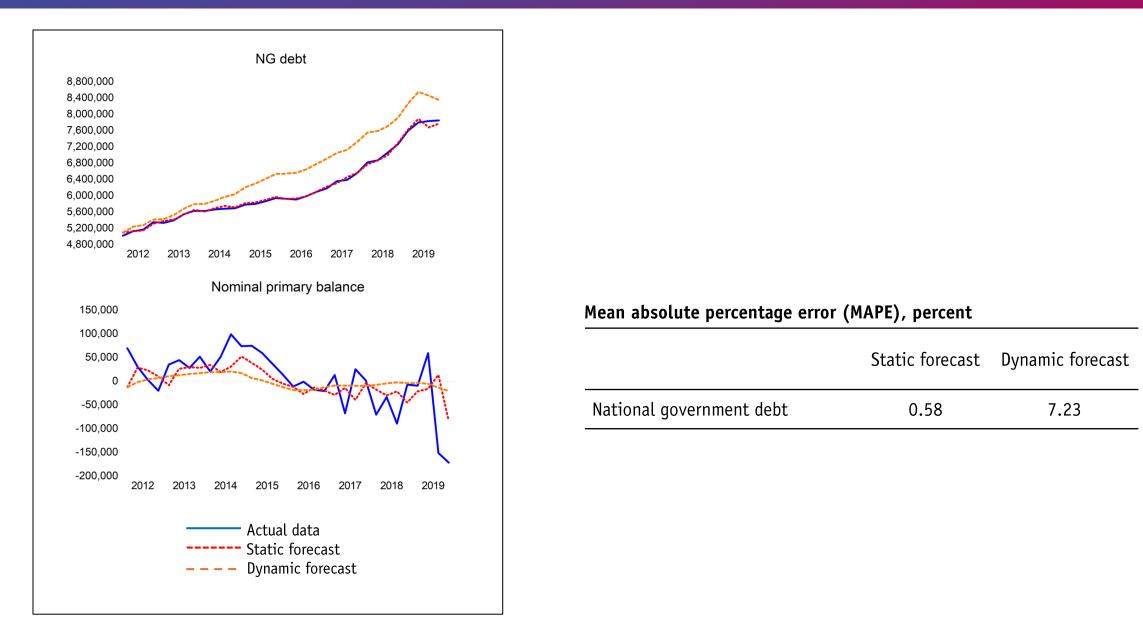
In-sample simulations: Expenditure



Mean absolute percentage error (MAPE), percent

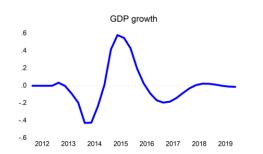
| | Static forecast | Dynamic forecast |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| Nominal NG expenditure | 4.97 | 6.32 |
| Nominal interest payments | 4.19 | 13.46 |
| Nominal primary expenditure | 5.72 | 7.34 |

In-sample simulations: Debt and primary balance

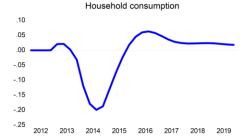


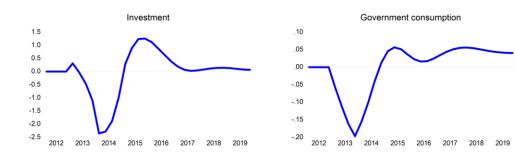
- 1. World oil price shock (20% increase vs. actual world oil price in 2013)
- 2. Primary spending shock (10% increase in primary spending vs. actual primary spending in 2013)
- 3. Exchange rate shock (10% fall in PHP/USD exchange rate vs. actual exchange rate in 2013)

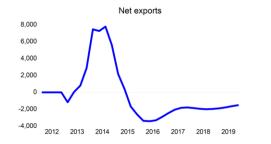
Impact analysis 1: World oil price shock



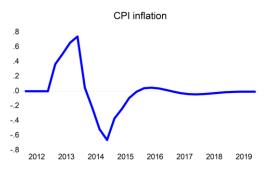
Aggregate demand



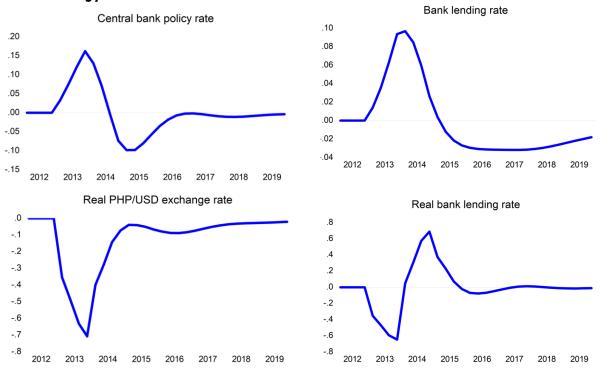




Prices

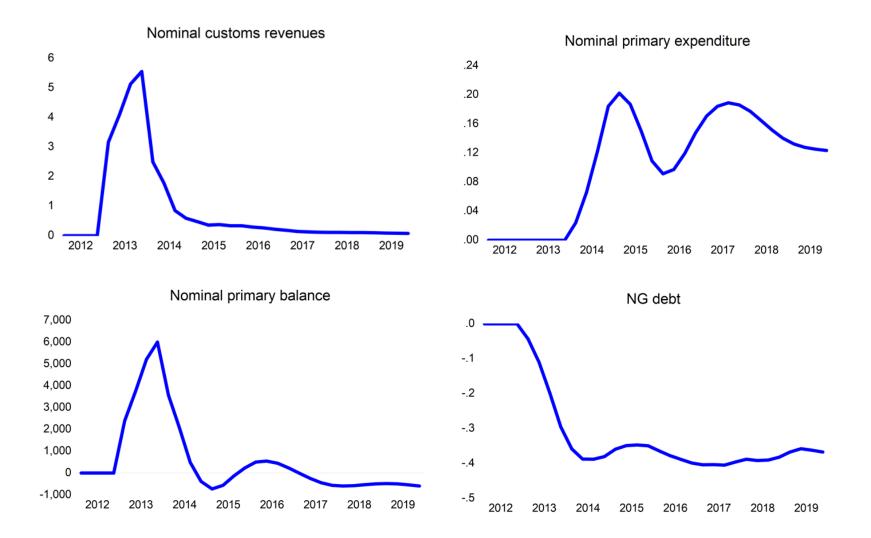


Monetary/financial



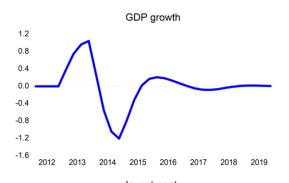
Impact analysis 1: World oil price shock

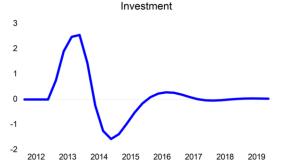
Fiscal

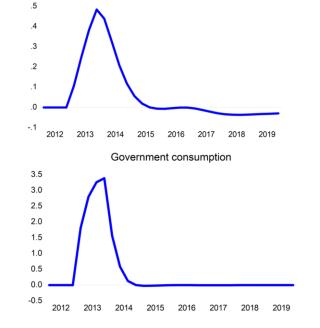


Impact analysis 2: Primary spending shock

Aggregate demand

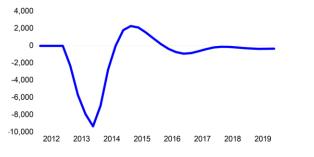






Household consumption

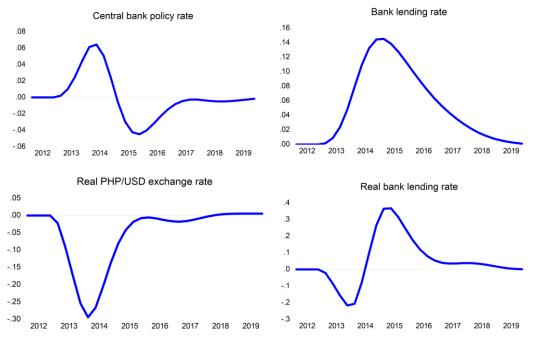
Net exports



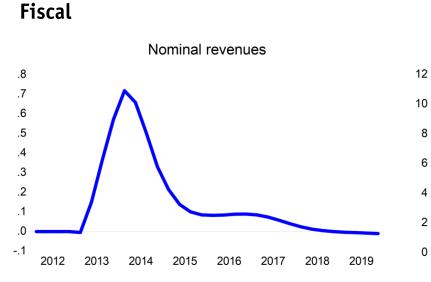
Prices



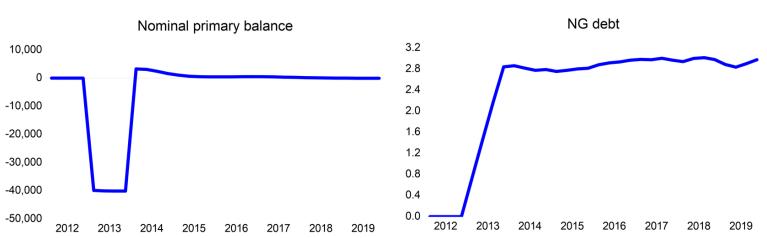
Monetary/financial



Impact analysis 2: Primary spending shock



Nominal primary expenditure



- The addition of a fiscal block to the small model brings us closer to a macroeconometric model that is useful for policy simulation and analysis.
- In-sample forecasts show acceptable levels of forecast accuracy for most variables, though much can still be improved.
- Simulation exercises also show the model's usefulness for analyzing the effects of exogenous shocks and policy changes.
- Next steps for model development can include:
 - Adding a more detailed financial block
 - Modelling the aggregate supply side
 - Strengthening linkages between blocks
 - Incorporating expectations
 - Including key features of the Philippine economy (e.g., remittances, BPOs)

Thank you!