Emerging Market Growth: A Post-Crisis Assessment

Arvind Subramanian

Dennis Weatherstone Senior Fellow, Peterson Institute for International Economics and

Center for Global Development

The Growth Dialogue and G-24 Conference on New Challenges to Growth and Productivity September 25, 2013

Lamenting the Unlamentworthy: The External Environment

"Convergence with a Vengeance" here to stay

 Convergence has little to do with external environment (capital and commodities) or where it does (trade) environment is benign

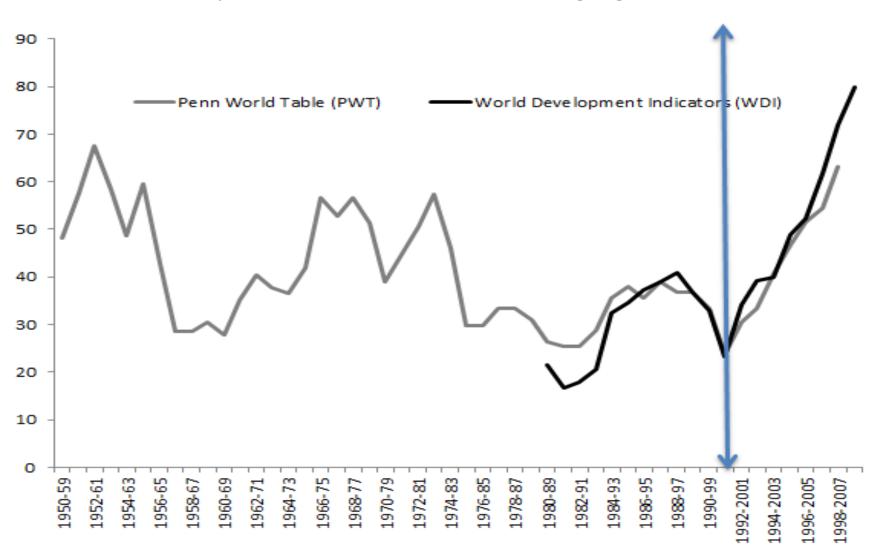
 Emerging markets must focus less on external environment and recognize that growth and productivity is in their own hands

Convergence with a Vengeance: Magnitude

	1870-1960	1960-2000	2000-2011	2008-2012
Data Source	Maddison	Penn World Tables	World Development Indicators	World Economic Outlook ³
U.S. Growth Rate of GDP per capita	1.7%	2.47%	0.65%	0.02%
World Growth Rate of GDP per capita	1.3%	2.75%	2.28%	1.73%
Number of developing countries where growth exceeds US growth ¹	2	21	80	78
BROADENING Percentage of developing countries where growth exceeds the US	5.3%	29.2%	89.9%	83.9%
ACCELERATION Average excess over US growth ²	0.02%	1.53%	2.94%	3.03%
Total number of non-oil, non-small developing countries in sample	38	72	89	93

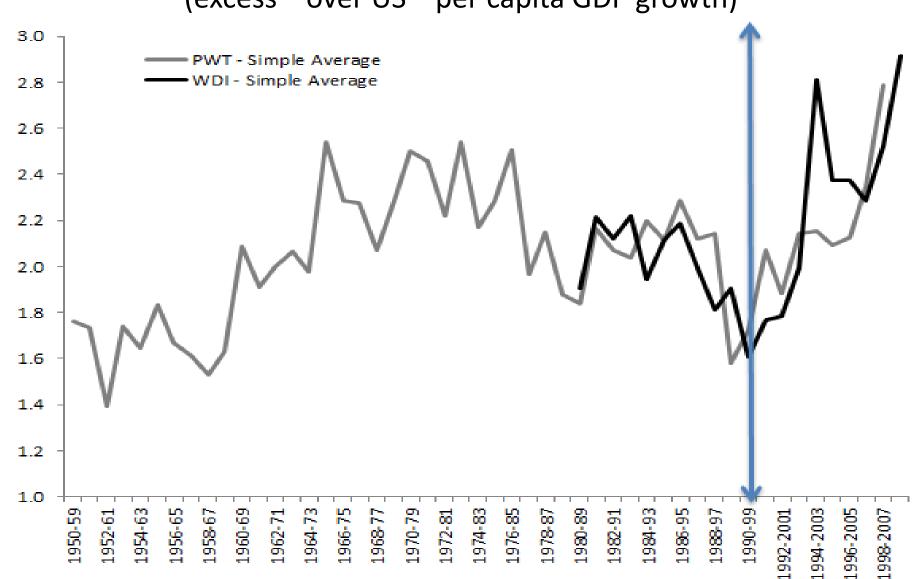
Convergence here to Stay: Timing

(percent of countries converging)



Convergence here to Stay: Timing

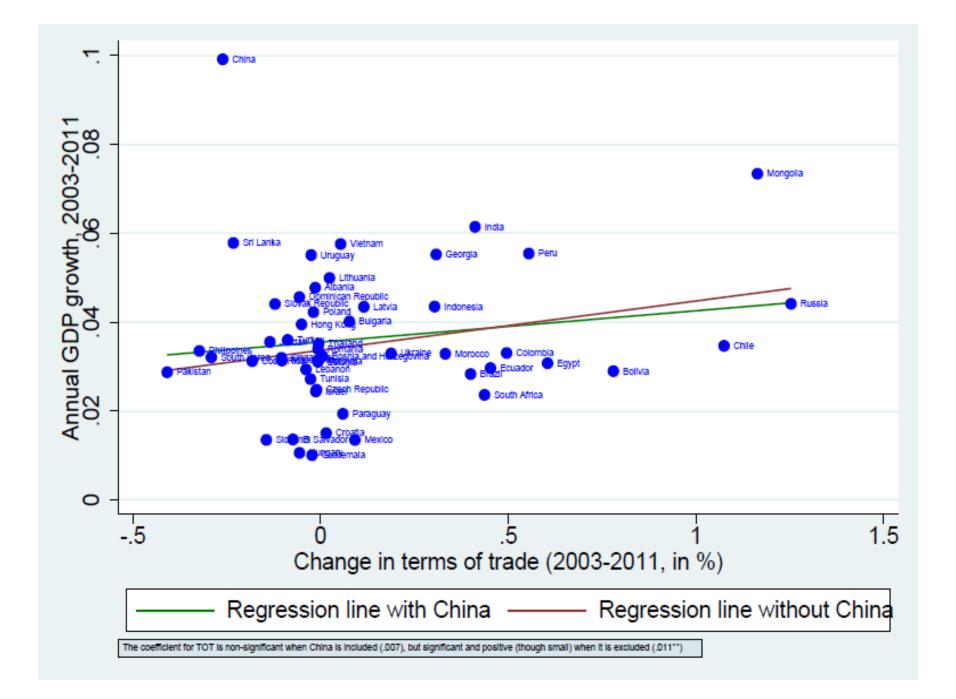
(excess—over US—per capita GDP growth)



Growth and Commodities

 Less than half of non-OECD countries are net primary exporters

 Unsurprising, correlation between growth and TOT changes in emerging markets weak

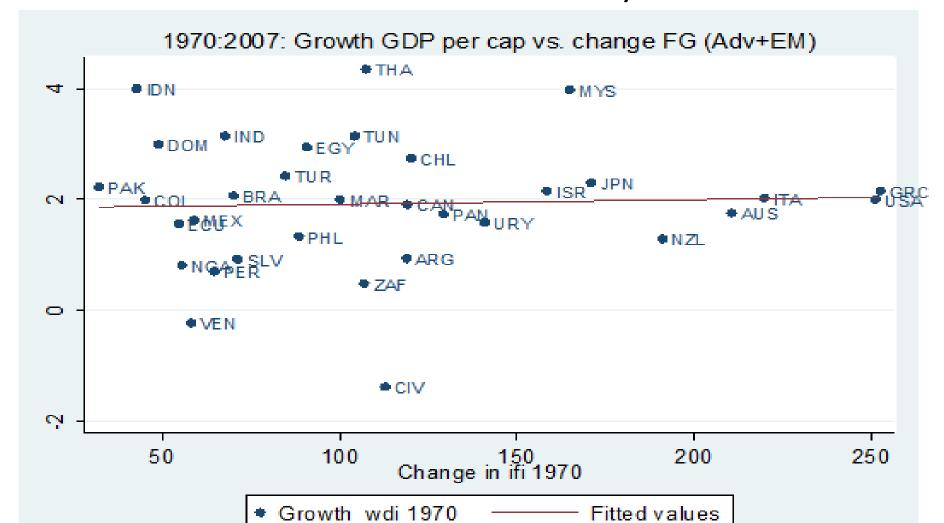


Growth and Commodities

- Less than half of non-OECD countries are net primary exporters
- Unsurprising, correlation between growth and TOT changes in emerging markets weak
- When was commodity-boom based growth good growth or sustained growth except in rare and strong institutional environments (Chile)?
- Reforms seldom happen during commodity booms

Growth and Capital Flows

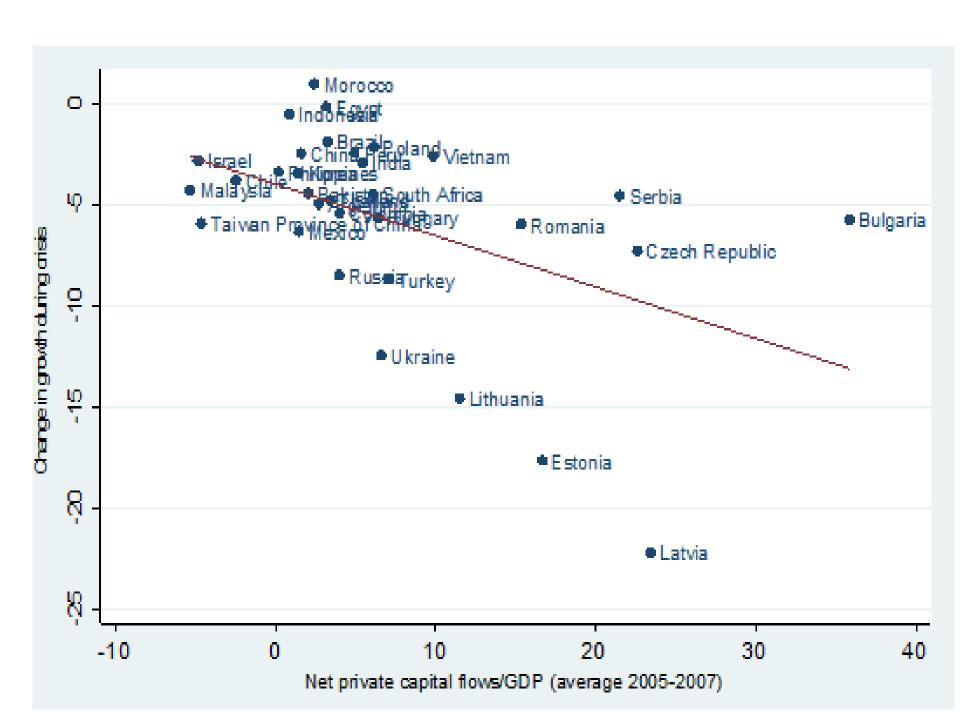
No long run relationship (Rodrik-Subramanian, 2008;
 Jeanne, Subramanian and Williamson, 2012)



Growth and Capital Flows

 No long run relationship (Rodrik and Subramanian, 2008; Jeanne, Subramanian and Williamson, 2012)

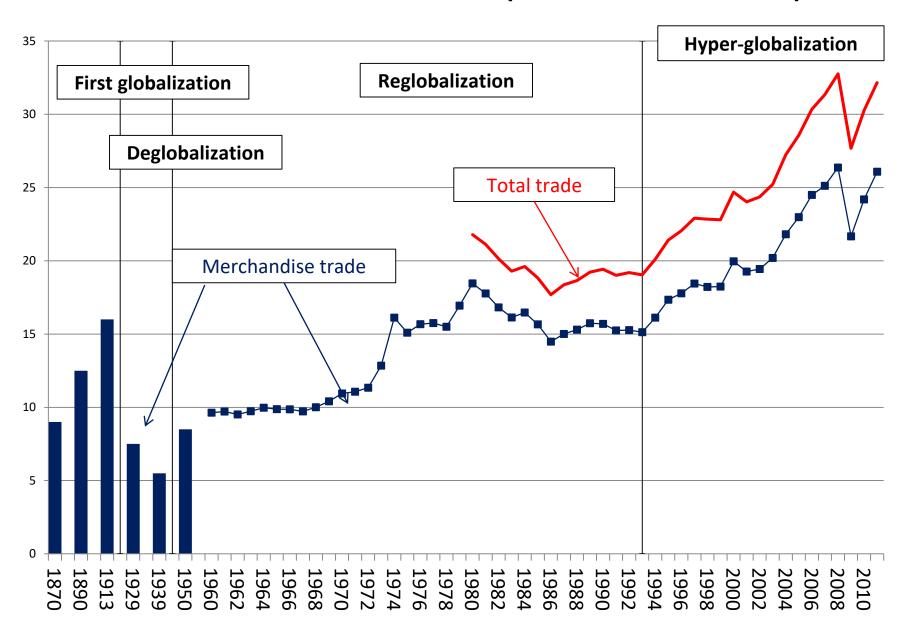
 And crisis-generating potential: Greater the private flows pre-Lehman, sharper the subsequent decline



Growth and Capital Flows

- No long run relationship (Rodrik and Subramanian, 2008; Jeanne, Subramanian and Williamson, 2012)
- And crisis-generating potential: Greater the private flows pre-Lehman, sharper the subsequent decline
- And crisis-generating potential now: Pressures and volatility greater for countries with greater current account deficits

Growth and Trade (Alive and Well)



Policy Messages

- Many domestic challenges ahead: BRIICS
- Some slowdown is convergence-consistent: China
- But misplaced focus on external environment
- Financial integration not forced upon EMEs and questionable benefits
 - The lament for lost capital and the need for export diversification
 - The China example