

April 29, 2017

**University of Neuchâtel
Faculty of Business and Economics
Institute of Economic Research**

I am writing to apply for the post-doctoral position in Applied Economics at the Institute of Economic Research of the Faculty of Business and Economics of the University of Neuchâtel.

I am an economist with a strong interest in macroeconometric issues, especially in Energy Economics. The research topics that I have recently worked on include i) Applied time series econometrics; ii) Analysis and forecasts of macroeconomic variables (especially in the euro area and Spain); iii) Effects of oil price shocks on macroeconomic variables and iv) **R** programming language. The findings of these research have served as a basis for papers that have been accepted for publication in peer-reviewed journals.

I have worked for twelve years as a Research Analyst at University Carlos III de Madrid, applying different time series techniques in the analysis and forecasts of macroeconomic variables, including Bottom-Up procedures in hierarchical structures. In such capacity, I was in charge of designing and implementing econometric models, as well as of writing periodical reports in Spanish and English.

As you can see on my resume, I have received a bachelor's and master degrees in economics from the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, and doctorate degree in economics from the Universidad de Salamanca. My thesis work contributes to better understand the effects of oil price changes on consumer and industrial prices in the euro area and its main economies. It shows the relevance of assuming oil prices as an exogenous variable, supporting the use of ARIMA models, transfer functions and restricted vector autoregressive models. This methodology allows us to forecast oil price under different scenarios and to assess the risk of deflation. Furthermore, the resulting analysis shows that the effect of oil price changes on inflation does not come from higher industrial costs but rather depend on the reaction of consumers.

Based on my previous research, I am currently working in two issues: (i) investigating the (negative) time-varying relationship between oil price changes and exchange rates in the euro area, and (ii) evaluating the sensitivity of inflation in the 19 euro area members to alternative scenarios about future oil price and the consequences of the common monetary policy on inflation convergence and price competitiveness.

In short, I enjoy to investigate with data, in particular, describe data through models, using two main tools: econometric techniques (ARIMA, transfer function, VAR, Smoothing, Bayesian analysis, etc.) and **R** programming language (reproducible research). I consider that the final step should be twofold: (i) pre-

pare clear and affordable presentations of the results and (ii) submit the results to peer-reviewed journals.

I have attached for your review my resume, one published paper (chapter 3 of my thesis work) and two references. I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

César Castro Rozo
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