Studying the Effect of Natural Disasters on Economic Activity:

A first Approach using Night-Time Luminosity Data

Cameron, M. Rosales, V. Westermann, J.P.

June 30, 2017



June 30, 2017

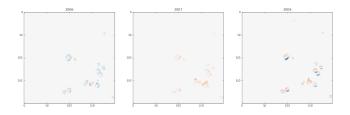
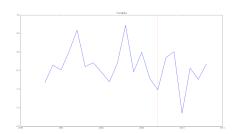


Figure: Absolute change in luminosity in Tocopilla



Figure: Absolute change in luminosity in Maule



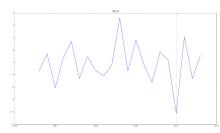


Figure: Tocopilla and Maule Luminosity Sum Time Series



Figure: Fukushima Luminosity Delta around Tsunami Occurance

Modelling Earthquake Impact Linearly Decaying with Distance

Disco vs. Luminosity

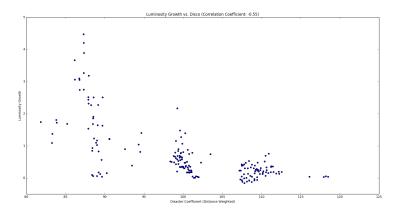


Figure: Luminosity Growth 1992-2013 plotted against a linearly decaying disaster coefficient for 150×150 image sections.

Cameron, M., Rosales, V., Westermann, J.P. Studying the Effect of Natural Disasters on I

June 30, 2017 6 / 12

Modelling Earthquake Impact based on Institutional Reports

Earthquake Lag Coefficients

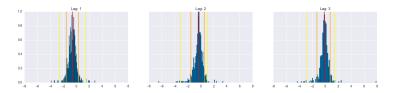


Figure: Distribution of Lag Coefficients for Earthquakes in Vector Autoregression Models per City with 95th and 99th Percentiles

Modelling Earthquake Impact based on Institutional Reports

Earthquake Lag Coefficients

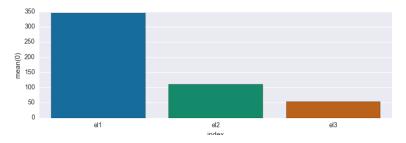


Figure: Count of the most impactful earthquake lag coefficient across all cities

Panel Model

Region Series

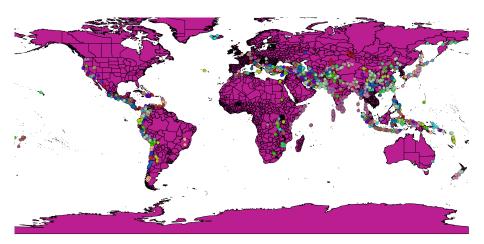


Figure: Administrative regions and earthquakes

Panel Model

Section Series

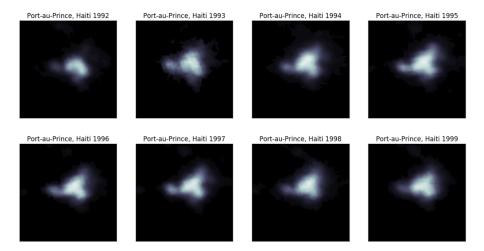


Figure: 50x50 pixel atellite image cutout of Port-au-Prince, Haiti

Dynamic Panel Model with Fixed Effects

Formula

$$y_{i,t} - y_{i,t-1} = \alpha_i + \beta_t + \gamma(y_{i,t-1} - y_{i,t-2}) + \delta EQ_{i,t} + \eta EQ_{i,t-1} + \epsilon_{i,t}$$

June 30, 2017 11 / 12

City-level Dynamic Panel Regression

Table 3: Regression using cities data, separated by geographic regions (all the events)

	World	E. Asia &	Europe &	LA &	ME & N	North	South	Sub-Saharan
		Pacific	C. Asia	Caribbean	Africa	America	Asia	Africa
lum_gr_1	-0.400**	-0.427**	-0.410**	-0.387**	-0.271**	-0.445**	-0.317**	-0.359**
	(-415.58)	(-160.80)	(-290.78)	(-162.52)	(-23.47)	(-138.06)	(-88.81)	(-66.85)
eq	-0.00772	0.0135	-0.0285	-0.0313**	0.0114	0.0103	0.0217	-0.0492
	(-0.86)	(0.50)	(-1.37)	(-2.51)	(0.12)	(0.25)	(0.85)	(-0.42)
eq_1	-0.00386	0.00274	-0.00375	-0.00698	-0.0213	0.0370	-0.0107	-0.136
	(-0.43)	(0.10)	(-0.18)	(-0.56)	(-0.22)	(0.96)	(-0.40)	(-1.16)
Observations	798844	104184	373310	116333	6977	71460	64807	26164

^{*} p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

Table 1: Regression using regional data, separated by geographic regions (all the earthquakes) World E. Asia & LA & ME & N North Sub-Saharan Europe & South

		Pacific	C. Asia	Caribbean	Africa	America	Asia	Africa
lum_gr_1	-0.344**	-0.369**	-0.378**	-0.344**	-0.168**	-0.479**	-0.233**	-0.301**
	(-113.60)	(-47.16)	(-85.28)	(-42.27)	(-14.67)	(-25.88)	(-13.16)	(-35.62)
eq1	0.00957	0.00313	0.0249	-0.00331	0.0107	-0.0139	0.0400	0.0352
_	(1.15)	(0.18)	(1.60)	(-0.26)	(0.94)	(-0.22)	(1.10)	(0.46)
eq1_1	0.000435	-0.0253	0.00323	-0.00384	0.00661	-0.0171	0.0694*	0.0677
	(0.05)	(-1.39)	(0.21)	(-0.30)	(0.57)	(-0.28)	(1.88)	(0.96)
Obs.	86126	13337	37588	11089	7481	2215	2621	11795
t statistics in	parentheses							

12 / 12

^{*} p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

Table 2: Regression using regional data, separated by geographic regions (using only big earthquakes)

world	E. Asia &	Europe &	LA &	ME & N	North	South	Sub-Sanaran
	Pacific	C. Asia	Caribbean	Africa	America	Asia	Africa
-0.344**	-0.369**	-0.378**	-0.344**	-0.168**	-0.479**	-0.232**	-0.301**
(-113.59)	(-47.16)	(-85.27)	(-42.27)	(-14.64)	(-25.89)	(-13.08)	(-35.64)
-0.00363	-0.0439	0.0190	0.00675	0.0789*	0	0.0471	0.0326
(-0.18)	(-1.02)	(0.41)	(0.23)	(1.65)	(.)	(0.65)	(0.29)
-0.0303	-0.0507	-0.109**	-0.0250	-0.0547	0	0.00537	0.113
(-1.41)	(-1.07)	(-2.37)	(-0.84)	(-1.15)	(.)	(0.07)	(1.02)
86126	13337	37588	11089	7481	2215	2621	11795
	-0.344** (-113.59) -0.00363 (-0.18) -0.0303 (-1.41)	-0.344** -0.369** (-113.59) (-47.16) -0.00363 -0.0439 (-0.18) (-1.02) -0.0303 -0.0507 (-1.41) (-1.07)	Pacific C. Asia -0.344*** -0.369** -0.378** (-113.59) (-47.16) (-85.27) -0.00363 -0.0439 0.0190 (-0.18) (-1.02) (0.41) -0.0303 -0.0507 -0.109** (-1.41) (-1.07) (-2.37)	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$ \begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$

^{*} p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

Table 4: Regression using regional data, separated by income groups (all the events) Lower Middle Upper Middle Low High

	lum_gr	${ m lum_gr}$	${ m lum_gr}$	${ m lum_gr}$
lum_gr_1	-0.293**	-0.335**	-0.335**	-0.410**
	(-27.49)	(-49.95)	(-60.79)	(-89.00)
eq1	0.0989*	-0.0112	0.0141	0.00165
•	(1.65)	(-0.60)	(1.44)	(0.11)
eq1_1	0.105*	-0.0271	-0.00630	0.0258*
• -	(1.75)	(-1.41)	(-0.64)	(1.71)
Observations	7378	18426	24620	35702

^{*} p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

	2011	Donor maragin	oppor madaro	8
	lum_gr	${ m lum_gr}$	${ m lum_gr}$	lum_gr
lum_gr_1	-0.293**	-0.335**	-0.335**	-0.410**
	(-27.48)	(-49.94)	(-60.75)	(-89.00)
eq2	-0.0209	-0.0229	0.0262	-0.0108
	(-0.18)	(-0.54)	(0.93)	(-0.31)
$eq2_1$	-0.0577	0.000736	-0.0974**	0.0545
	(-0.48)	(0.02)	(-3.45)	(1.55)
Observations	7378	18426	24620	35702

^{*} p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

Table 6: Regression using cities data, separated by income groups (all the events) Low Lower Middle Upper Middle High

	$ m lum_gr$	${ m lum_gr}$	${ m lum_gr}$	$ m lum_gr$
lum_gr_1	-0.338**	-0.412**	-0.374**	-0.452**
	(-39.78)	(-197.27)	(-224.92)	(-304.29)
eq	-0.110	0.0249	-0.0147	-0.0618**
	(-1.04)	(1.13)	(-1.03)	(-3.91)
eq_1	-0.0617	-0.00828	-0.00307	-0.000879
	(-0.56)	(-0.37)	(-0.21)	(-0.06)
Observations	10824	171641	272415	308355

Xi Chen and William D. Nordhausn. Using luminosity data as a proxy for economic statistics. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 2010.

t statistics in parentheses * p < 0.10, ** p < 0.05

- Maxim Pinkovskiy and Xavier Sala-i-Martin. Lights, Camera,...Income! Estimating Poverty Using National Accounts, Survey Means, and Lights. NBER WP 19831, 2014.
- VJ enderson, A Storeygard and Weil DN. *Measuring Economic Growth from Outer Space*. American Economic Review, 2011.
- Stelios Michalopoulos and Elias Papaioannou. *Pre-colonial Ethnic Institutions and Contemporary African Development*. Econometrica, 2013 Jan; 81(1): 113–152.
- Chilean Ministry of Planning. *Encuesta Post Terremoto: Principales resultados*. Ministerio de Planificación, 2011.
- George orwich. *Economic lessons of the Kobe earthquake*. Economic development and cultural change, 48(3), 521-542, 2000
- development and cultural change, 48(3), 521-542, 2000

 The Scientific Basis. *Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*.
- 2001

 Eduardo Cavallo and Ilan Noy. The economics of natural disasters: a survey. 2009.

June 30, 2017

12 / 12

Cameron, M., Rosales, V., Westermann, J.P. Studying the Effect of Natural Disasters on I

- Claudio Raddatz. The wrath of God: macroeconomic costs of natural disasters. Washington DC: World Bank, 2009.
- Eduardo Cavallo, et al. Catastrophic natural disasters and economic growth. Review of Economics and Statistics, 95(5), 1549-1561, 2013