# The Credit Channel of Public Procurement

# Ricardo Duque Gabriel

Federal Reserve Board

**ASSA 2024** 

# Motivation

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# Public procurement accounts for a significant fraction of economic activity:

• 13% of GDP (30% of G) in OECD countries.



# Governments can potentially foster firm growth with this tool

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- Data: assemble new micro database.
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- Identification: award of procurement contracts via public contests.
  - → focus on **competitive** contracts;
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Macro: Does the credit raised by firms mediate the impact of procurement on output?

### At the **firm-level**, public procurement is associated with:

- increase in corporate credit;
  - $\rightarrow \approx 80\%$  of which is accounted for by cash-flow based lending activities.
- decrease in **interest** rates ( $\approx$  expenses);
- increase in credit lines and liquidity → easing credit constraints;
- increase in **investment** and employment for **smaller** firms.

- an increase in regional output by €1.8 → ≈10% explained by the **credit** channel;
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- Regional Multipliers: Nakamura and Steinsson (2014); Aghion et al (2014); Chodorow-Reich (2019); Auerbach et al (2020); Juarros (2021); Gabriel et al (2022); Bird et al (2022)
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**Procurement Contracting in** 

**Portugal and Data** 

# **ELECTRONIC PROCUREMENT IN PORTUGAL IS MANDATORY SINCE 2009**

| Publication date     | 07-06-2022                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|----------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Description          | Concurso Público nº 1030/2022 - Aquisição de desinfetantes - Álcool e Acetona                                                                                                                                    |
| Contracting entities | Centro Hospitalar Universitário do Porto, EPE. (CHP) (508331471)                                                                                                                                                 |
| Contracted entities  | Proclinica.Eq.Pr.Clinicos, Lda (500222665)                                                                                                                                                                       |
| CPVs                 | 33690000-3                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Contract date        | 01-06-2022                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Contract value       | 46.116,48 €                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Execution deadline   | 365 dias                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Execution place      | Portugal, Porto, Porto                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Competing entities   | DIMOR LUSITANA, LDA (500730741), ENZYMATIC, S.A. (510662625), ESTERIPLAS (502020776), PROCLINICA (500222665), PMH.SA (502376899), VWR INTERNATIONAL - MATERIAL DE LABORATÓRIO, SOC. UNIPESSOAL, LDA. (503842770) |

### **Public Procurement:**

→ web scraped 1 million contracts over 2009-2019 including 138,578 public contests.

▶ Procurement as % of GDP

► Procurement by firm size ► Procurement by industry

► Contracts Statistics



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# Annual firm-level and credit registry data:

→ Private non-financial corporations in activity, with total assets above percentile 1 ( $\approx$  €800), and at least 1 paid worker based in Portugal.

Final dataset with 2 million observations with 34,490 winner-year obs.



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→ hiring entity announces the project and the hired entity.

# **Public Contests** (10% of contracts $\approx$ **50% of value**):

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**Assumption:** *ex ante* **no** predictable winner

► Are winners and runner-ups similar?



# Empirical Strategy

$$\frac{\mathsf{Y}_{i,t+h}-\mathsf{Y}_{i,t-1}}{\mathsf{Assets}_{i,t-1}} = \frac{\beta^h}{\mathsf{Assets}_{i,t-1}} + \psi^h \mathsf{Controls}_{i,t-1} + \alpha^h_i + \delta^h_{s,t} + \varepsilon^h_{i,t} \qquad \forall_{h \in \{-3,\dots,3\}}$$

- ullet Award $_{i,t}$ : total amount of procurement announced in year t for firm i
- Control for lagged awards and firm-level variables
- ullet  $\alpha_i$  and  $\delta_{s,t}$  are firm and industry imes year fixed effects
- $100 \times \beta^h$ : elasticity of Y in cents to the award value of a marginal  $\epsilon$ 1 for each h

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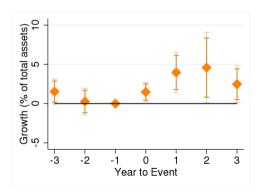
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# Results

### CORPORATE CREDIT INCREASES

Figure 1: Credit response to procurement award

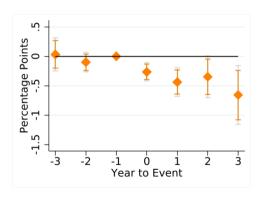






### Interest rates decrease by up to 0.5 p.p.

Figure 3: Interest rates response to procurement award



Notes: average interest rate response proxied by total interest expenses over lagged credit.

#### TAKING STOCK: THE CREDIT SUPPLY CHANNEL OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

## After **winning** a procurement contract:

- credit increases (80% of which is accounted for by firm guarantees);
- (average) interest rates decrease.

# Evidence in favor of **credit supply** driving the response

- firms negotiate new credit lines and increase liquidity;
- smaller (≈ credit constrained) firms react disproportionately more.

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## **FURTHER ANALYSIS**

- Local Projections Difference-in-Differences
- Credit maturity responses
- Non-performing loans response
- Measuring financial constraints
- Further heterogeneous effects
- Firm real effects

# Aggregate Effects

#### AGGREGATE EFFECTS OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

$$\frac{\mathsf{GVA}_{i,t+h} - \mathsf{GVA}_{i,t-1}}{\mathsf{GVA}_{i,t-1}} = \alpha_i^h + \delta_t^h + \beta^h \frac{\mathsf{Proc}_{i,t}}{\mathsf{GVA}_{i,t-1}} + \psi^h \mathsf{Controls}_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t+h}$$

•  $\mathsf{GVA}_{i,t}$  is the gross value added in region i and year t

▶ GVA Aggregation

- ◆ 25 Nuts III regions in Portugal
- aggregate procurement shocks by region where winning **firm's HQ** is located

**Assumption**: there is no correlation between the award allocation and the region's economic cycle (due to the unanticipated location of the winning firm)

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#### **CROSS-SECTIONAL VARIATION IN PROCUREMENT SPENDING**

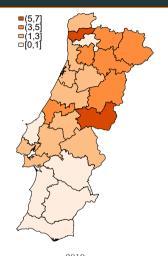


Figure 4:  $\sum_{t=2009}^{2019} \frac{\text{Proc}_{i,t}}{\text{GVA}_{i,t-1}} \times 100$ 

 Public procurement as a percentage of lagged gross value added allocated to regions displays strong crosssectional variation

 Northern regions receive relatively more procurement spending also when looking at absolute or per capita values

# Aggregate Effects

|              | Horizon (Year)    |                   |                   |                   |  |  |  |  |
|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|--|
|              | Impact            | 1 Year            | 2 Years           | 3 Years           |  |  |  |  |
| Proc         | 1.76***<br>(0.46) | 1.75***<br>(0.53) | 2.02***<br>(0.51) | 2.40***<br>(0.66) |  |  |  |  |
| Controls     | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          |  |  |  |  |
| FE           | $\checkmark$      | $\checkmark$      | $\checkmark$      | $\checkmark$      |  |  |  |  |
| Observations | 150               | 150               | 150               | 150               |  |  |  |  |

#### THE CREDIT CHANNEL OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

$$\Delta \text{GVA}_{i,t+h} = \beta^h \text{Proc}_{i,t} + \gamma^h \text{Proc}_{i,t} \times \Delta C_{i,t} + \omega^h \Delta C_{i,t} + \alpha_i + \delta_t + \psi^h \text{Controls}_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t+h}$$

 $\Delta \mathsf{C}_{i,t}$  is the amount of "cash-flow-based credit" change between t-1 and t of procurement winning firms in region i in year t

Assumption: "cash-flow based credit" change is due to winning procurement contracts

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#### THE CREDIT CHANNEL OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT ACCOUNTS FOR 10% OF THE RESPONSE

|               |         | Horizo  | n (Year) |          |  |  |  |  |
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|               | (0.46)  | (0.53)  | (0.51)   | (0.66)   |  |  |  |  |
| Proc          | 1.39*** | 1.51*** | 1.77***  | 2.12***  |  |  |  |  |
|               | (0.35)  | (0.44)  | (0.49)   | (0.62)   |  |  |  |  |
| Proc × Credit | 0.28**  | 0.32**  | 0.30**   | 0.28*    |  |  |  |  |
|               | (0.13)  | (0.15)  | (0.15)   | (0.16)   |  |  |  |  |
| Controls      | √       | √       | √        | <b>√</b> |  |  |  |  |
| FE            | √       | √       | √        |          |  |  |  |  |
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Notes: Increasing the amount of cash-flow-collateralized credit of procurement winning firms by 1% of GVA raises the local procurement multiplier by, approximately, 10%, from 1.39 up to 1.67. The average increase is about 0.5% of GVA.

**Conclusion** 

## Conclusion

# **Public procurement:**

- alleviates credit constraints;
- promotes growth at both the micro and macro level.

# Potential policy implications

- relatively higher marginal effects for credit constrained and smaller firms;
- procurement-fueled credit amplifies fiscal policy effects;
- **location** of government spending **matters** effects are mainly felt at the firm HQ and not at the spending location.

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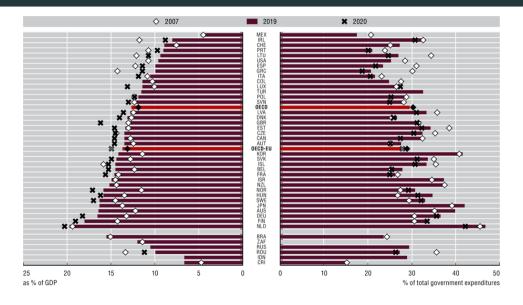
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Appendix

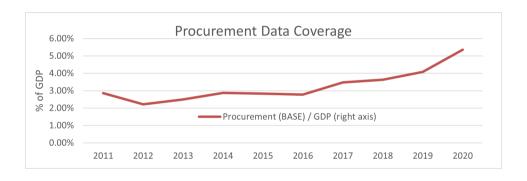
## Public Procurement in OECD Countries





## DECENT COVERAGE OF PROCUREMENT IN PORTUGAL





## Public Contests as important as Direct Awards

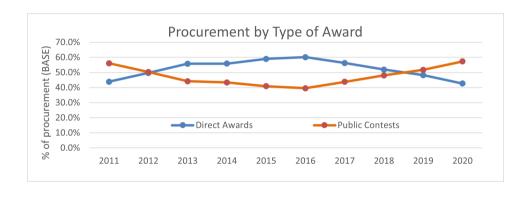




Table 1: Who received procurement contracts in 2019?

| Firm Size | Number | Value |
|-----------|--------|-------|
| Micro     | 28.3%  | 9.9%  |
| Small     | 31.0%  | 21.1% |
| Medium    | 22.7%  | 28.6% |
| Big       | 18.1%  | 40.4% |

Notes: This table presents statistics for the award of public procurement contracts by firm size. Micro firms have at most 10 workers and €2 million in revenues; Small firms up to 50 workers and €10 million; Medium firms up to 250 workers and €50 million in revenues; Big firms comprise all the others.



Table 2: Which industries received procurement contracts in 2019?

|     |                                                                      | 201    | 9     | 2018  |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| CPV | Description                                                          | Number | Value | Value |
| 45  | Construction                                                         | 12.9%  | 42.5% | 32.5% |
| 33  | Medical equipment, pharmaceuticals and personal care products        | 40.1%  | 17.7% | 18.6% |
| 9   | Petroleum products, fuel, electricity and other sources of energy    | 2.2%   | 7.1%  | 6.2%  |
| 79  | Business services: law, marketing, consulting, recruitment, security | 12.3%  | 7.0%  | 5.9%  |
| 90  | Sewage, refuse, cleaning and environmental services                  | 4.0%   | 5.9%  | 4.2%  |
| 72  | IT services: consulting, software development, Internet and support  | 6.4%   | 4.7%  | 3.9%  |
| 34  | Transport equipment and auxiliary products to transportation         | 3.9%   | 4.4%  | 2.5%  |
| 50  | Repair and maintenance services                                      | 8.0%   | 3.9%  | 3.1%  |
| 71  | Architectural, construction, engineering and inspection services     | 7.9%   | 3.7%  | 3.3%  |
| 55  | Hotel, restaurant and retail trade services                          | 2.3%   | 3.1%  | 5.1%  |

Notes: This table presents statistics for the award of public works by firm industry in 2019 and 2018.

## **CONTRACTS SUMMARY STATISTICS**



|                           | Mean    | Std. Dev. | P5  | Median | P95       | Obs     |
|---------------------------|---------|-----------|-----|--------|-----------|---------|
| Public Contests           |         |           |     |        |           |         |
| Award (€)                 | 291,031 | 1,473,640 | 634 | 73,279 | 1,027,066 | 138,578 |
| Duration (Days)           | 348     | 402       | 28  | 257    | 1,095     | 138,578 |
| # Contestants             | 4       | 5.1       | 1   | 1      | 15        | 138,578 |
| Public Contests $(n > 1)$ |         |           |     |        |           |         |
| Award (€)                 | 296,911 | 1,518,677 | 967 | 78,052 | 1,009,989 | 65,202  |
| Duration (Days)           | 353     | 384       | 26  | 245    | 1,095     | 65,202  |
| # Contestants             | 7.6     | 5.8       | 2   | 6      | 19        | 65,202  |
| Direct Awards             |         |           |     |        |           |         |
| Award (€)                 | 35,897  | 425,979   | 154 | 9,700  | 94,030    | 896,654 |
| Duration (Days)           | 181     | 256       | 1   | 60     | 730       | 896,654 |
| # Contestants             | 0.4     | 1.4       | 0   | 0      | 3         | 896,654 |

Notes: Summary statistics of procurement contracts divided by the awarding mechanism type. The first panel displays information for all public contests in my sample. The second panel focuses on public contests for which I can scrape information of at least one other competitor. The last panel displays the summary statistics for directly awarded contracts.

## **SUMMARY STATISTICS**



|                         |        | Pro       | ocuren | nent Firms |        |        |       | No        | Procui | ement Fir | ms    |           |
|-------------------------|--------|-----------|--------|------------|--------|--------|-------|-----------|--------|-----------|-------|-----------|
|                         | Mean   | Std. Dev. | P10    | Median     | P90    | Obs    | Mean  | Std. Dev. | P10    | Median    | P90   | Obs       |
| Total fixed assets      | 14,100 | 248,000   | 11     | 287        | 6,053  | 34,490 | 837   | 45,000    | 0      | 14        | 392   | 3,049,057 |
| Turnover                | 21,600 | 208,000   | 237    | 1,927      | 3,391  | 34,490 | 963   | 17,700    | 15     | 115       | 1,059 | 3,049,057 |
| Liquidity               | 14.7%  | 17.4%     | 0.6%   | 7.7%       | 39.5%  | 34,490 | 19.7% | 30.0%     | 0.5%   | 9.4%      | 57.1% | 3,049,057 |
| Total liabilities       | 16,100 | 205,000   | 111    | 1,052      | 13,200 | 34,490 | 954   | 36,100    | 9      | 86        | 817   | 3,049,057 |
| Employees               | 120    | 577       | 3      | 20         | 169    | 34,490 | 9     | 87        | 1      | 3         | 13    | 3,048,990 |
| Wages per worker        | 21.8   | 16.3      | 9.8    | 17.9       | 37.3   | 34,490 | 12.8  | 11.7      | 5.8    | 10.6      | 21.3  | 3,048,990 |
| Award                   | 405    | 791       | 15     | 50         | 1,015  | 34,490 |       |           |        |           |       |           |
| Total Credit            | 4,401  | 26,300    | 21     | 475        | 7,018  | 27,236 | 472   | 6,381     | 2      | 31        | 477   | 1,659,673 |
| Used Credit             | 2,137  | 12,400    | 1      | 208        | 3,607  | 27,236 | 359   | 4,496     | 0      | 23        | 382   | 1,659,673 |
| Potential Credit        | 2,264  | 15,600    | 3      | 137        | 2,821  | 27,236 | 112   | 3,165     | 0      | 2         | 68    | 1,659,673 |
| Non-performing Credit   | 46     | 1,268     | 0      | 0          | 0.3    | 27,236 | 18    | 8,741     | 0      | 0         | 0.2   | 1,659,673 |
| Real Col. Mortgaged     | 344    | 4,919     | 0      | 0          | 250    | 27,236 | 106   | 1,754     | 0      | 0         | 63    | 1,659,673 |
| Real Col not Mortgaged  | 160    | 2,877     | 0      | 0          | 23     | 27,236 | 32    | 1,542     | 0      | 0         | 3     | 1,659,673 |
| Financial Col.          | 308    | 4,332     | 0      | 0          | 138    | 27,236 | 62    | 2,469     | 0      | 0         | 12    | 1,659,673 |
| Personal guarantee Col. | 865    | 5,268     | 0      | 70         | 1,620  | 27,236 | 153   | 1,569     | 0      | 8         | 190   | 1,659,673 |
| State guarantee Col.    | 182    | 1,155     | 0      | 0          | 416    | 27,236 | 23    | 600       | 0      | 0         | 20    | 1,659,673 |
| Other Col.              | 307    | 3,545     | 0      | 0          | 78     | 27,236 | 36    | 1,361     | 0      | 0         | 0     | 1,659,67  |
| Implicit interest rate  | 7.4%   | 7.4%      | 1.5%   | 4.9%       | 20.6%  | 21,623 | 6.6%  | 6.4%      | 1.0%   | 4.8%      | 13.9% | 1,227,78  |

Notes: This table presents the summary statistics for the key firm level variables in this paper dividing them in firmyear observations when a firm won a public contest vs when a firm lose or did not participate in public contests. All economic variables are in thousand euros. Variables are not winsorized.

# PROCUREMENT SAMPLE DECOMPOSITION



| Step | Description                                                 | Observations |
|------|-------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| 0    | Web scraped contracts                                       | 1,035,232    |
| 1    | Keep public contests                                        | 138,578      |
| 2    | Keep positive awards                                        | 137,858      |
| 3    | Keep contracts with solely one winner                       | 134,993      |
| 4    | Collapse same year awards                                   | 44,919       |
| 5    | Merge with Portuguese credit registry                       | 38,431       |
| 6    | Keep private non-financial corporations                     | 37,980       |
| 7    | Keep only non-liquidated firms                              | 37,906       |
| 8    | Keep only firms with lagged total assets above p1 (€827.28) | 37,829       |
| 9    | Keep only firms with available information on lagged assets | 36,575       |
| 10   | Keep only firms with at least one paid employee             | 34,490       |

## ARE WINNERS AND RUNNER-UPS REALLY SIMILAR? YES!



|                        | Wini      | iers    | Los       | ers     |        |       |
|------------------------|-----------|---------|-----------|---------|--------|-------|
|                        | Mean      | Median  | Mean      | Median  | T-test | Obs   |
| Firm Balance Sheet     |           |         |           |         |        |       |
| Assets                 | € 240,000 | € 4,466 | € 198,000 | € 4,172 | 0.08   | 6,136 |
| Sales                  | € 199,000 | € 4,790 | € 156,000 | € 4,127 | 0.19   | 6,136 |
| Value Added            | € 35,800  | € 1,208 | € 34,300  | € 1,129 | 0.74   | 6,136 |
| Employees              | 312       | 31      | 328       | 30      | 0.54   | 6,134 |
| Firm Age               | 24        | 20      | 23        | 20      | 0.52   | 6,136 |
| Liquidity              | 13.8%     | 6.6%    | 13.8%     | 6.9%    | 0.67   | 6,136 |
| Total Hours Worked     | 552,628   | 54,208  | 575,205   | 51,072  | 0.92   | 6,094 |
| Liabilities            | € 188,000 | € 2,503 | € 159,000 | € 2,320 | 0.10   | 6,136 |
| Firm Credit Info       |           |         |           |         |        |       |
| Total available credit | € 12,800  | € 807.7 | € 16,100  | € 696.7 | 0.42   | 4,200 |
| Total used credit      | € 7,649   | € 296.1 | € 11,100  | € 256.2 | 0.36   | 4,200 |
| Total potential credit | € 5,118   | € 295.1 | € 5,065   | € 246.5 | 0.96   | 4,200 |
| Short maturity credit  | € 3,452   | € 42.1  | € 5,492   | € 43.8  | 0.35   | 4,200 |
| Long maturity credit   | € 4,196   | € 138.0 | € 5,582   | € 118.8 | 0.47   | 4,200 |

Notes: This table compares characteristics of firms in (thousands of euros) that either won (winners) or lost (losers) public contests for government procurement contracts. The panel is based on the firm level data on public contests contracts with exactly 2 contestants at the year before the contract award. The table reports number of observations, mean, median, and the p-value of the two-sample t-test for whether the difference on each characteristic between the winner and the loser for each contest is equal to zero. Firm level variables are not winsorized.

## **CONDITIONAL RANDOM ASSIGNMENT TEST WITHIN PUBLIC CONTESTS**



Lagged Firm Characteristics
F-statistic 2.3
P-value 0.21

| Don var Winner           | T-Statistic |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Dep. var: Winner $z,j,t$ | 1-Statistic |
| Assets                   | 1.71*       |
| Sales                    | 0.84        |
| Value Added              | 0.56        |
| Employees                | 0.02        |
| Liquidity                | 0.36        |
| Total Hours              | 1.01        |
| Liabilities              | -1.42       |
| Total Credit             | -0.60       |
| R-squared                | 0.5789      |



Apply a **nearest neighbor matching algorithm** to find the best counterfactual from the participant pool with j firms for each contract with the **smallest Mahalanobis distance**:

$$d(i,j) = \sqrt{(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)\Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j)}$$

Estimate a local projections **difference-in-differences** at the contract level z (Dube et al. 2022):

$$\frac{y_{z,i,t+k} - y_{z,i,t-1}}{y_{z,i,t-1}} = \beta^k \mathcal{I}(Winner_{z,i,t}) + \alpha_z^k + \delta_t^k + \gamma_j^k \mathbf{X}_{z,i,t-1} + \epsilon_{z,i,t}^k \quad \text{for } k \in \{-3, ..., 3\}$$



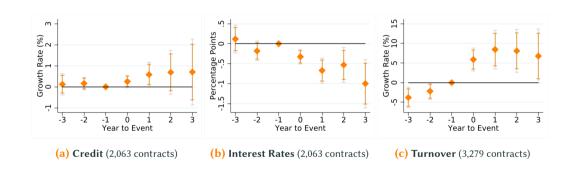
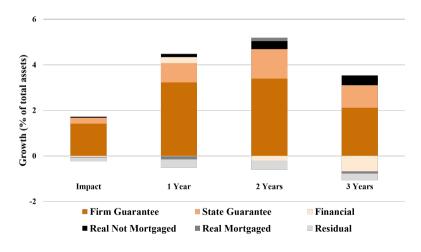


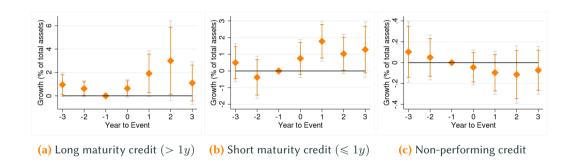


Figure 6: Credit increase by collateral type



#### CREDIT MATURITY OF NEW LOANS AND NON-PERFORMING CREDIT





## Measuring Financial Constraints



Firms typically classified as constrained do not actually behave as if they were constrained (Farre-Mensa and Ljunqvist, 2016)  $\rightarrow$  try different proxies for financial constraints. More constrained firms are usually:

- smaller
- younger
- less liquid
- more leveraged
- and have less (no) credit lines

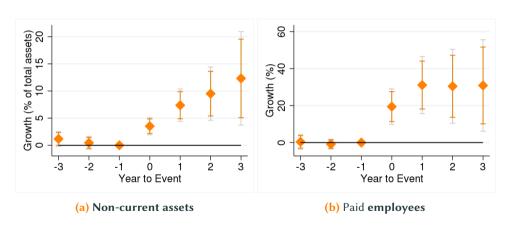
# FURTHER HETEROGENEOUS EFFECTS ON CORPORATE CREDIT



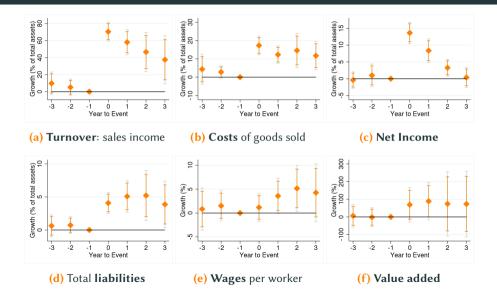
|                    |                   |                   |                   | Cr                | edit Grow         | rth               |                 |                   |                            |
|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------------|----------------------------|
|                    | (1)               | (2)               | (3)               | (4)               | (5)               | (6)               | (7)             | (8)               | (9)                        |
| Award              | 5.47***<br>(1.97) | 4.12***<br>(1.33) | 2.34***<br>(0.74) | 4.01***<br>(1.56) | 4.58***<br>(1.56) | 2.16***<br>(0.82) | 8.95<br>(6.41)  | 5.03***<br>(1.67) | 3.65** <sup>*</sup> (1.35) |
| Panel A: Financial | l Constrai        | ints              |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×Old               | -3.75**<br>(1.80) |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×Big               |                   | -1.66**<br>(0.81) |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×No Credit Lines   |                   |                   | 1.00***<br>(0.28) |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×High Liquidity    |                   |                   |                   | -0.20<br>(1.56)   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×High Leverage     |                   |                   |                   |                   | -1.23<br>(1.39)   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| Panel B: Other Ch  | aracteris         | tics              |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   |                            |
| ×Long Contract     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   | 1.79**<br>(0.83)  |                 |                   |                            |
| ×High Proc Rev     |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   | , ,               | -4.65<br>(6.46) |                   |                            |
| ×High Prod         |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 | -1.86<br>(1.33)   |                            |
| ×New Winner        |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                   |                 |                   | 0.43<br>(0.79)             |
| Controls           | ✓.                | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>        | <b>√</b>          | <b>√</b>                   |
| FE<br>Observations | √<br>27,229       | √<br>27,229       | √<br>27,229       | √<br>27,229       | √<br>27,228       | √<br>27,229       | √<br>27,229     | √<br>26,620       | √<br>27,229                |



Figure 8: Investment and employment responses to procurement award







## **FURTHER ANALYSIS**



- Importance of credit to investment response
- Static heterogeneous effects
- Dynamic heterogeneous effects

#### The interaction of award and credit is more correlated to investment $^{()}$



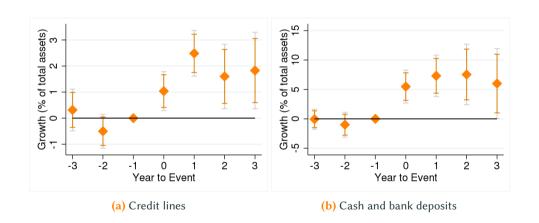
 $\Delta \mathsf{Inv}_{i,t+1} = \beta_1 \mathsf{Award}_{i,t} + \beta_2 \Delta \mathsf{Credit}_{i,t} + \beta_3 \mathsf{Award}_{i,t} \times \Delta \mathsf{Credit}_{i,t} + \psi \mathsf{Controls}_{i,t-1} + \alpha_i + \delta_{s,t} + \varepsilon_{i,t}$ 

|                      | Firm Investment |               |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-----------------|---------------|--|--|--|
|                      | (Baseline)      | (Interaction) |  |  |  |
| Award                | 7.39***         | 1.83          |  |  |  |
|                      | (1.32)          | (1.17)        |  |  |  |
| <b>Credit Growth</b> |                 | 0.25          |  |  |  |
|                      |                 | (0.16)        |  |  |  |
| Interaction          |                 | 0.76***       |  |  |  |
|                      |                 | (0.25)        |  |  |  |
| Observations         | 30,487          | 27,229        |  |  |  |

Notes: Column (Baseline) was obtained by estimating the baseline specification and column (Interaction) by adding an additional control variable of credit growth from t to t+1 and its interaction with the award value as described above.

# PROCUREMENT AWARDS INCREASE ACCESS TO CREDIT AND FIRM LIQUIDITY





# HETEROGENEOUS CREDIT ELASTICITIES TO PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AWARDS



|              | Credit Growth |              |              |              |  |  |  |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|--|
|              | Impact        | 1 Year       | 2 Years      | 3 Years      |  |  |  |
| Award        | 1.48**        | 3.97***      | 4.59**       | 2.47**       |  |  |  |
|              | (0.62)        | (1.32)       | (2.29)       | (1.19)       |  |  |  |
| ×Small       | 2.05**        | 5.47***      | 8.46***      | 5.24**       |  |  |  |
|              | (0.98)        | (1.97)       | (3.20)       | (2.63)       |  |  |  |
| $\times$ Big | 0.57**        | 1.72*        | 0.72         | - 0.30       |  |  |  |
|              | (0.24)        | (0.95)       | (0.82)       | (0.68)       |  |  |  |
| HAC p-value  | 0.08          | 0.04         | 0.01         | 0.02         |  |  |  |
| Controls     | ✓             | ✓            | ✓            | <b>√</b>     |  |  |  |
| FE           | $\checkmark$  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |
| Observations | 34,490        | 27,229       | 19,973       | 13,367       |  |  |  |

# FURTHER HETEROGENEOUS EFFECTS OF INVESTMENT



|                    |           |          |         | Fir     | m Investme | ent     |          |         |          |
|--------------------|-----------|----------|---------|---------|------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|                    | (1)       | (2)      | (3)     | (4)     | (5)        | (6)     | (7)      | (8)     | (9)      |
| Award              | 10.78***  | 8.84***  | 7.16*** | 7.66*** | 12.97**    | 8.75*** | 41.10*** | 9.46*** | 6.35***  |
|                    | (2.67)    | (1.90)   | (1.49)  | (2.03)  | (19.10)    | (3.27)  | (3.02)   | (1.97)  | (2.35)   |
| Panel A: Financial | Constrair | nts      |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×Old               | -5.06***  |          |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
|                    | (2.60)    |          |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×Big               |           | -3.82*** |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
|                    |           | (1.34)   |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×No Credit Lines   |           |          | 0.59    |         |            |         |          |         |          |
|                    |           |          | (0.73)  |         |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×High Liquidity    |           |          |         | -0.24   |            |         |          |         |          |
|                    |           |          |         | (3.28)  |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×High Leverage     |           |          |         |         | -7.33***   |         |          |         |          |
|                    |           |          |         |         | (2.74)     |         |          |         |          |
| Panel B: Other Mi  | crofounda | tions    |         |         |            |         |          |         |          |
| ×Long Contract     |           |          |         |         |            | 6.30    |          |         |          |
|                    |           |          |         |         |            | (4.56)  |          |         |          |
| ×High Proc Rev     |           |          |         |         |            | , ,     | -31.43   |         |          |
|                    |           |          |         |         |            |         | (19.07)  |         |          |
| ×High Prod         |           |          |         |         |            |         |          | -0.23   |          |
|                    |           |          |         |         |            |         |          | (2.51)  |          |
| ×New Winner        |           |          |         |         |            |         |          |         | 1.20     |
|                    |           |          |         |         |            |         |          |         | (0.82)   |
| Controls           | ✓         | ✓        | ✓       | ✓       | ✓          | ✓       | ✓        | ✓       | ✓        |
| FE                 | ✓         | ✓        | ✓       | ✓       | ✓          | ✓       | ✓        | ✓       | <b>✓</b> |
| Observations       | 30,487    | 30,487   | 30,487  | 28,046  | 30,486     | 30,487  | 30,487   | 29,479  | 30,487   |

# DYNAMIC HETEROGENEOUS EFFECTS



|                                 | Investment        |                   |                   |                    |                    | Employment         |                     |                    |  |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--|
|                                 | Impact            | 1 Year            | 2 Years           | 3 Years            | Impact             | 1 Year             | 2 Years             | 3 Years            |  |
| Panel A: Baselin                | e Specifica       | tion              |                   |                    |                    |                    |                     |                    |  |
| Elasticity                      | 3.52***<br>(0.82) | 7.39***<br>(1.32) | 9.51***<br>(2.50) | 12.32***<br>(4.40) | 19.42***<br>(4.93) | 31.10***<br>(7.89) | 30.44***<br>(10.19) | 30.88**<br>(12.63) |  |
| Panel B: Small v                | ersus Big F       | irms              |                   |                    |                    |                    |                     |                    |  |
| Small Firms                     | 4.34***<br>(1.83) | 9.22**<br>(4.69)  | 10.46**<br>(5.20) | 11.17*<br>(6.66)   | 22.12***<br>(8.75) | 35.27**<br>(17.71) | 36.45*<br>(19.33)   | 36.98*<br>(20.67)  |  |
| Big Firms                       | 1.50*<br>(0.89)   | 1.23<br>(1.38)    | 0.50<br>(1.47)    | - 0.05<br>(1.96)   | 3.94***<br>(1.76)  | 4.50*<br>(2.44)    | 2.27<br>(2.31)      | 1.80<br>(1.12)     |  |
| HAC p-value                     | 0.09              | 0.04              | 0.01              | 0.00               | 0.05               | 0.02               | 0.01                | 0.01               |  |
| Controls and FE<br>Observations | √<br>38,819       | √<br>30,487       | √<br>25,803       | √<br>19,964        | √<br>38,819        | √<br>30,487        | √<br>25,803         | √<br>19,964        |  |

#### DISCUSSION ON THE HETEROGENEOUS EFFECTS



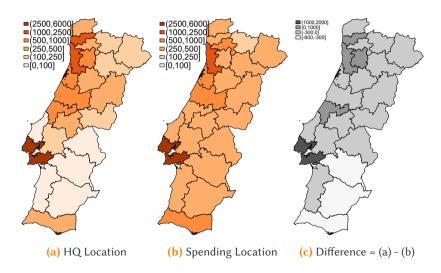
Different investment and credit responses can be rationalized together:

- hard to measure financial constraints (Farre-Mensa and Ljunqvist 2016)
- smaller firms are more credit constrained (Beck et al. 2005)
- financial accelerator hypothesis: they will react more to the same demand shock because they were sub-optimally investing (Bernanke et al. 1996)
- increase in cash flow based lending alleviates constraints

**Aggregation matters** 

#### LOCATION OF SPENDING DIFFERS FROM LOCATION OF ACTUAL PRODUCTION

Figure 11: Differences in procurement spending by aggregation method



### **GDP Decomposition by aggregation method**

$$\frac{\mathsf{GDP}^{c}_{i,t+h} - \mathsf{GDP}^{c}_{i,t-1}}{\mathsf{GDP}_{i,t-1}} = \alpha_i + \delta_t + \beta^h \frac{\mathsf{Proc}^{Agg}_{i,t}}{\mathsf{GDP}_{i,t-1}} + \psi^h \mathbf{X}_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t+h} \quad \mathsf{for} \ \mathsf{Agg} \in \{\mathsf{HQ}; \mathsf{LOC}\}$$

|                                 |                          | HQ Aggregation    |                           |                           | Location Aggregation |                            |                            |                           |  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| Horizon (Year)                  | Impact                   | 1 Year            | 2 Years                   | 3 Years                   | Impact               | 1 Year                     | 2 Years                    | 3 Years                   |  |
| GDP                             | 1.50 <b>**</b><br>(0.73) | 1.42<br>(1.10)    | 1.89<br>(1.49)            | 2.43 <b>**</b><br>(1.22)  | 1.23<br>(0.79)       | 1.29 <b>**</b><br>(0.58)   | 1.78 <b>**</b><br>(0.75)   | 1.83 <b>***</b><br>(0.55) |  |
| Consumption (residual)          | 1.64***<br>(0.61)        | 1.47***<br>(0.52) | 1.91 <b>***</b><br>(0.78) | 1.94 <b>***</b><br>(0.91) | 0.89<br>(0.98)       | 0.77<br>(1.18)             | 3.14 <b>***</b><br>(0.88)  | 2.94***<br>(0.77)         |  |
| Gov. Spending                   | -0.09<br>(0.21)          | -0.03<br>(0.34)   | -0.04 (0.36)              | 0.32<br>(0.41)            | -0.29***<br>(0.09)   | -0.47 <b>***</b><br>(0.16) | -0.47 <b>***</b><br>(0.16) | -0.33 <b>**</b><br>(0.16) |  |
| Investment                      | 1.01**<br>(0.50)         | 1.21**<br>(0.62)  | 1.28 <b>**</b><br>(0.56)  | 1.68 <b>***</b><br>(0.65) | 0.03<br>(0.37)       | 0.19<br>(0.44)             | -0.95<br>(0.59)            | -0.72 (0.61)              |  |
| Net Exports                     | -1.06**<br>(0.50)        | -1.23 (0.89)      | -1.26 (1.03)              | -1.51 <b>*</b><br>(0.90)  | 0.60<br>(0.70)       | 0.79<br>(0.85)             | 0.06<br>(0.72)             | -0.67 (0.64)              |  |
| Controls and FE<br>Observations | √<br>150                 | √<br>150          | √<br>150                  | √<br>150                  | √<br>150             | √<br>150                   | √<br>150                   | √<br>150                  |  |

### SPILLOVER EFFECTS OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT BY AGGREGATION METHOD

$$\frac{\sum_{i} \mathsf{GVA}_{i-w,t+h} - \sum_{i} \mathsf{GVA}_{i-w,t-1}}{\sum_{i} \mathsf{GVA}_{i-w,t-1}} = \alpha_{i} + \delta_{t} + \beta^{h} \frac{\sum_{i} \mathsf{Proc}_{i,t}^{Agg}}{\sum_{i} \mathsf{GVA}_{i-w,t-1}} + \psi^{h} \mathsf{Controls}_{i,t-1} + \varepsilon_{i,t+h} \ \, \text{for Agg} \in \{\mathsf{HQ}; \mathsf{LOC}\}$$

|                                 | HQ Spillover     |                  |                 |                | <b>Location Spillover</b> |            |               |               |
|---------------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------|---------------|---------------|
| Horizon (Year)                  | (0)              | (1)              | (2)             | (3)            | (0)                       | (1)        | (2)           | (3)           |
| Spillover                       | 0.68***<br>(0.2) | 0.75***<br>(0.3) | 0.85**<br>(0.4) | 0.72*<br>(0.4) | 0.25<br>(0.3)             | 0.38 (0.3) | 0.47<br>(0.4) | 0.40<br>(0.5) |
| Controls and FE<br>Observations | √<br>150         | √<br>150         | √<br>150        | √<br>150       | √<br>150                  | √<br>150   | √<br>150      | √<br>150      |

# FURTHER MACROECONOMIC EFFECTS OF PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

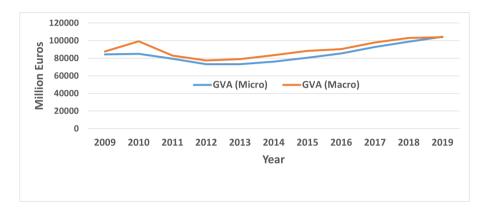
|                 |              | Horizon (Year) |              |              |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|--|--|
|                 | Impact       | 1 Year         | 2 Years      | 3 Years      |  |  |  |  |
| R&D             | 4.42**       | 3.51**         | 6.43***      | 6.05***      |  |  |  |  |
|                 | (1.88)       | (1.55)         | (2.36)       | (2.07)       |  |  |  |  |
| TFP             | 3.40         | 6.58 <b>*</b>  | 5.44***      | 4.43         |  |  |  |  |
|                 | (2.84)       | (3.56)         | (1.96)       | (3.46)       |  |  |  |  |
| Employment      | 0.13         | 0.41           | 1.04         | 2.04*        |  |  |  |  |
|                 | (0.54)       | (0.90)         | (1.18)       | (1.19)       |  |  |  |  |
| Compensation    | 1.24         | 1.69           | 2.42         | 3.86***      |  |  |  |  |
|                 | (0.79)       | (1.22)         | (1.57)       | (1.21)       |  |  |  |  |
| Credit          | 0.24         | 0.18           | 0.29         | 0.35         |  |  |  |  |
|                 | (0.52)       | (0.45)         | (0.48)       | (0.32)       |  |  |  |  |
| Inflation       | -0.01 (0.09) | 0.06<br>(0.13) | -0.07 (0.14) | -0.28 (0.17) |  |  |  |  |
| Controls and FE | √            | √              | √            | √            |  |  |  |  |
| Observations    | 150          | 150            | 150          | 150          |  |  |  |  |

## **FURTHER ANALYSIS**

- State-dependent effects
- Aggregation by spending location

# Aggregating GVA by firm headquarters' location

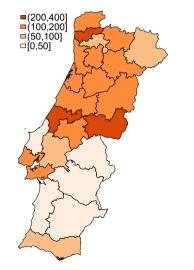




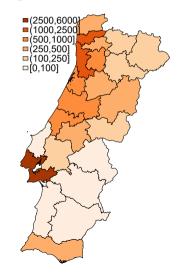
GVA (Macro) = output - intermediate consumption GVA (Micro) = 
$$\sum_i$$
 (sales<sub>i</sub> - production costs<sub>i</sub>)



Figure 12: Procurement (per capita €)



**Figure 13:** Procurement (mio. €)



### AGGREGATE EFFECTS BY SPENDING LOCATION



|              | Horizon (Year) |                  |                  |                   |  |  |  |
|--------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
|              | Impact         | 1 Year           | 2 Years          | 3 Years           |  |  |  |
| Proc         | 1.23<br>(0.79) | 1.29**<br>(0.58) | 1.78**<br>(0.75) | 1.83***<br>(0.55) |  |  |  |
| Controls     | <b>√</b>       | <b>√</b>         | <b>√</b>         | <b>√</b>          |  |  |  |
| FE           | $\checkmark$   | $\checkmark$     | $\checkmark$     | $\checkmark$      |  |  |  |
| Observations | 150            | 150              | 150              | 150               |  |  |  |

# STATE-DEPENDENT RESPONSES



|                                     |         | Horizon (Year) |         |         |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|
|                                     | Impact  | 1 Year         | 2 Years | 3 Years |  |  |  |  |
| Proc                                | 1.76*** | 1.75***        | 2.02*** | 2.40*** |  |  |  |  |
|                                     | (0.46)  | (0.53)         | (0.51)  | (0.66)  |  |  |  |  |
| Proc×Small                          | 1.85*** | 1.78***        | 2.23*** | 2.67*** |  |  |  |  |
|                                     | (0.56)  | (0.58)         | (0.83)  | (0.88)  |  |  |  |  |
| $\mathbf{Proc} \times \mathbf{Big}$ | 1.50**  | 0.82           | 0.51    | 0.47    |  |  |  |  |
|                                     | (0.70)  | (0.75)         | (0.62)  | (0.49)  |  |  |  |  |
| HAC Test                            | 0.80    | 0.43           | 0.09    | 0.05    |  |  |  |  |
| Controls                            | √       | √              | √       | √       |  |  |  |  |
| FE                                  | √       | √              | √       | √       |  |  |  |  |
| Observations                        | 150     | 150            | 150     | 150     |  |  |  |  |

# OTHER STATE-DEPENDENT RESPONSES



|                          | Horizon (Year) |          |          |         |  |  |  |
|--------------------------|----------------|----------|----------|---------|--|--|--|
|                          | Impact         | 1 Year   | 2 Years  | 3 Years |  |  |  |
| Proc×Long                | 0.54           | 0.76     | 1.80**   | 2.45*** |  |  |  |
|                          | (0.54)         | (0.51)   | (0.71)   | (0.83)  |  |  |  |
| <b>Proc</b> ×Short       | 1.54**         | 1.67***  | 1.24**   | 0.97    |  |  |  |
|                          | (0.73)         | (0.63)   | (0.50)   | (0.67)  |  |  |  |
| HAC Test                 | 0.37           | 0.25     | 0.52     | 0.22    |  |  |  |
| Proc×Investment          | 1.80***        | 1.36***  | 1.78***  | 2.15*** |  |  |  |
|                          | (0.62)         | (0.47)   | (0.64)   | (0.76)  |  |  |  |
| <b>Proc</b> ×Consumption | -0.50          | 0.14     | 0.96     | 1.11    |  |  |  |
| -                        | (1.37)         | (0.89)   | (1.66)   | (1.77)  |  |  |  |
| HAC Test                 | 0.24           | 0.27     | 0.67     | 0.65    |  |  |  |
| Controls and FE          | <b>√</b>       | <b>√</b> | <b>√</b> | ✓       |  |  |  |
| Observations             | 150            | 150      | 150      | 150     |  |  |  |