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Perspectives on productivity and business cycles in Europe

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Acknowledgments

Most of the research in this dissertation is the product of collaborations with other researchers. I would like to thank all of them for the fruitful joint work but I of course assume all responsibility for any remaining errors or omissions. Chapter 2 is largely based on a paper with Jan Jacobs and Ward Romp (see Inklaar, Jacobs and Romp, 2004). Without the many heated discussions and Ward's mathematical and programming skills, this paper would not have been realized. I contributed much of the empirical analysis and drafting of the paper.

Chapter 3 is based on joint projects with Jakob de Haan and Richard Jong-A-Pin. The literature overview and discussion about measuring business cycle synchronization has been drafted by me for a survey about cycle synchronization in the euro area (de Haan, Inklaar and Jong-A-Pin, 2005). The section on synchronization in Europe follows along the lines of earlier work with Jakob de Haan (Inklaar and de Haan, 2001), where I contributed the empirical analysis and part of the drafting. The section on U.S. states is based on de Haan, Inklaar and Sleijpen (2002), where I again contributed much of the empirical work. The remainder of the chapter is mostly based on Inklaar, de Haan and Jong-A-Pin (2005). Richard contributed much of the extreme-bounds analysis results, the least-trimmed squares estimates and the quantile regression results, while Jakob did much of the drafting. The database that was used for the analysis has been constructed by me, with the assistance of Olaf de Groot. The regressions with the main results are also my work.

Chapter 4 is built on databases constructed over the past few years by many people at the Groningen Growth and Development Centre (GGDC) and (in parts) by the National Institute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) in London. My main contribution has been constructing the initial version of the 60-industry database, as well as much of the industry investment data used for growth accounting. The software to analyze these databases is also by my hand. The growth accounts for the total economy as well as updating in recent years are mostly the work of Gerard Ypma and Edwin Stuivenwold (both GGDC).¹⁶⁹ The chapter itself is mostly based on joint work with Bart van Ark (van Ark and Inklaar, 2005). I contributed most of the empirical analysis and considerable parts of the drafting. Chapter 5 is fully my own work (see also Inklaar, 2005). However, just as for Chapter 4, the underlying data are based on the work of many at the GGDC.

¹⁶⁹ The key references for these databases are van Ark *et al.* (2002) for the total economy growth accounts, van Ark *et al.* (2003b) for the first version of the 60-industry database and Inklaar *et al.* (2005) for the industry growth accounts.

