

Financing Rebellion: Piracy as a Rebel Group Funding Strategy

Ursula Daxecker

University of Amsterdam

Brandon Prins

University of Tennessee

Introduction

- Resources and financing of armed conflict
- Latent resource availability vs. actual resource appropriation
- Criminal activity as a direct and dynamic method to produce gains

Resources and conflict

- State-centered
- Rebel-centered

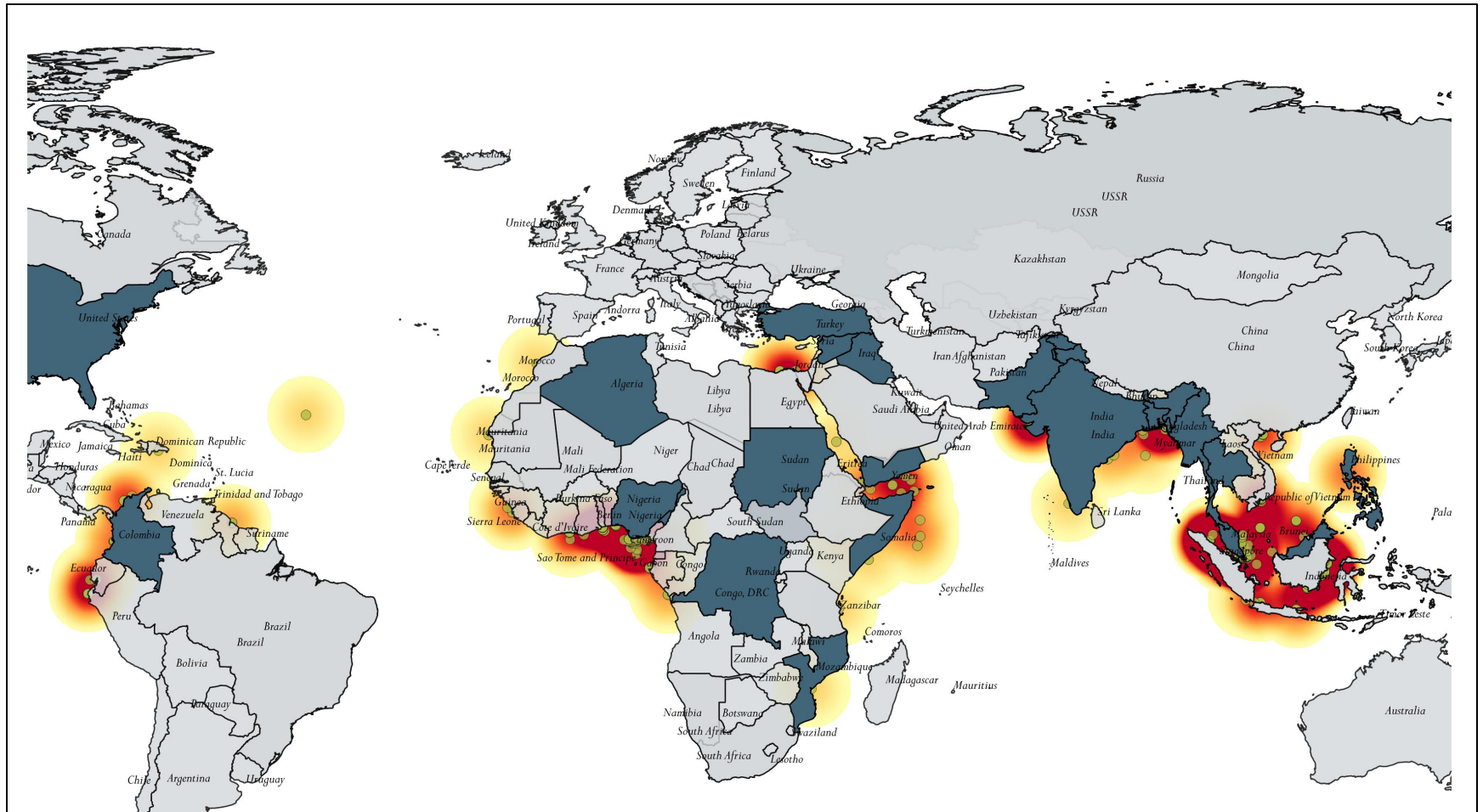
Expectations

- Insurgents as pirates
- Pirate-insurgent shadow networks

Hypotheses

- Hypothesis: *Piracy incidents are expected to increase civil conflict activity.*

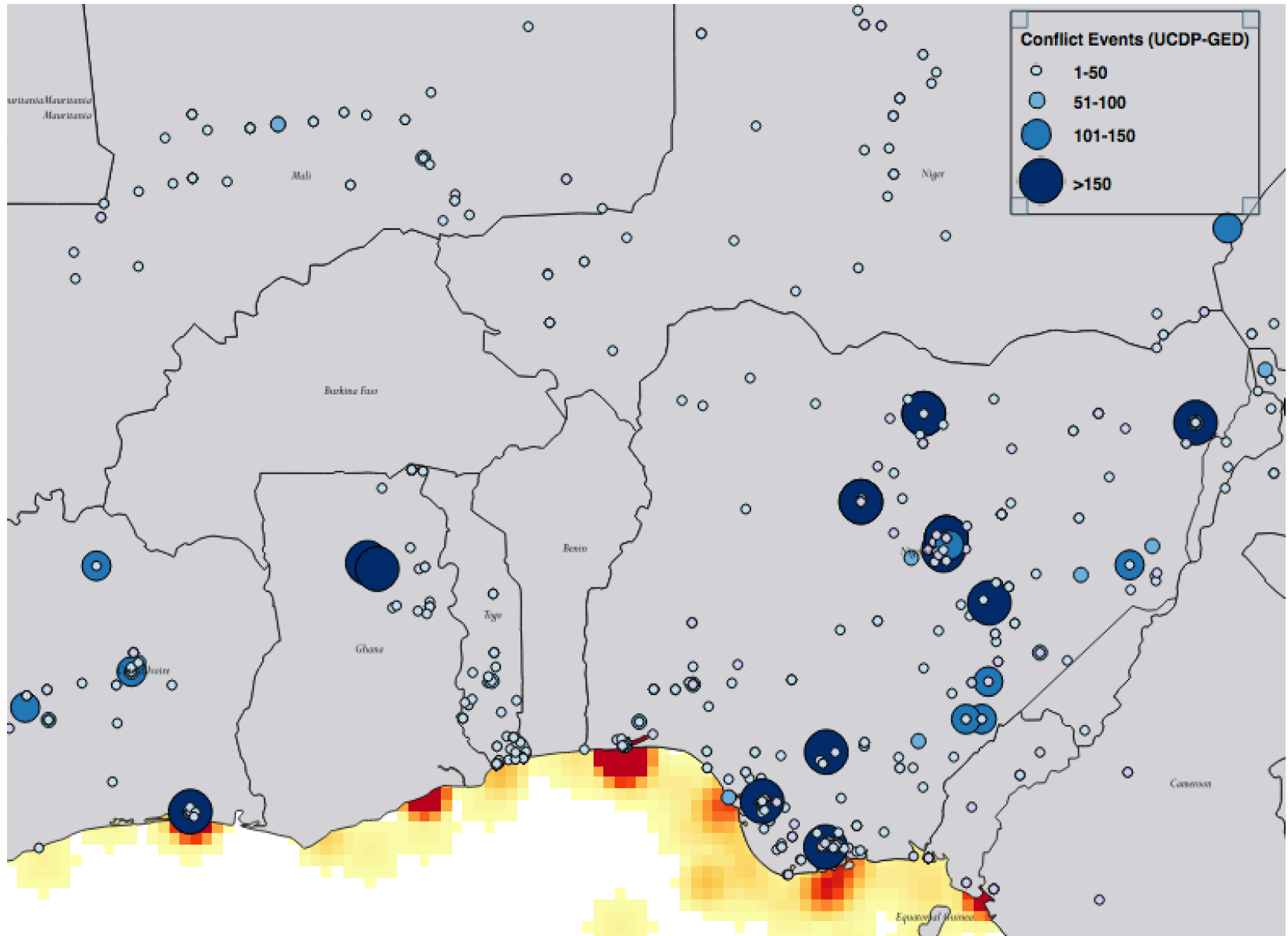
Piracy and Civil Conflicts 2013



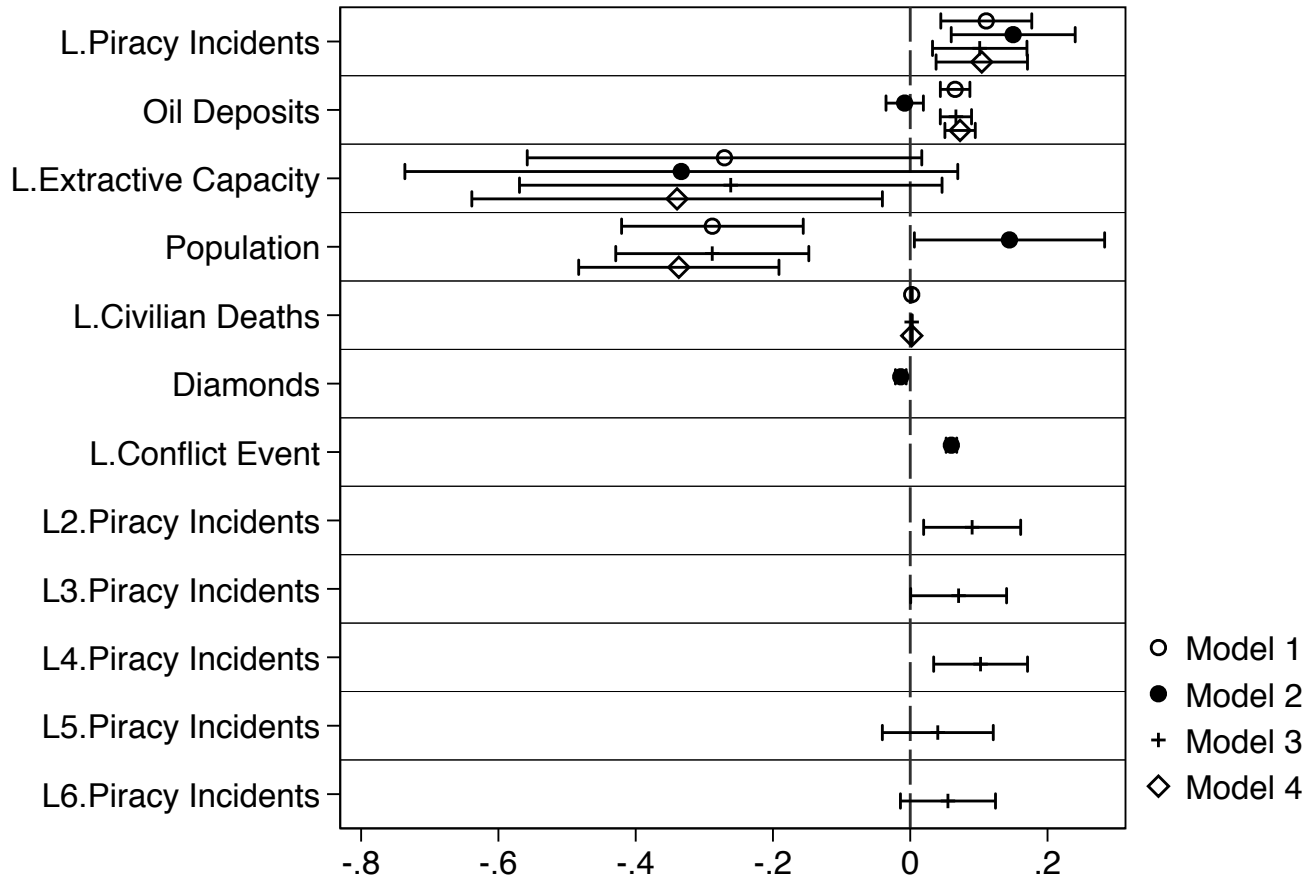
Research Design

- All conflicts in coastal African states 1993-2010
- Unit of analysis conflict-country-month
- DV=Number of UCDP GED conflict events
- IV=Number of piracy incidents
- Controls for natural resources, state capacity, others

Gulf of Guinea 1993-2010



Marginal Effects



Conclusion

- Consistent link between piracy and conflict intensity
- Conditional effects to distinguish state vs. rebel-centered dynamics