

Lecture 11

HANK

Heterogeneous Agent New Keynesian Models

ECO 521: Advanced Macroeconomics I

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HANK: Heterogeneous Agent New Keynesian models

- Combine two workhorses of modern macroeconomics:
 - **New Keynesian models** Gali, Gertler, Woodford
 - **Bewley models** Aiyagari, Bewley, Huggett
- Will present Kaplan-Moll-Violante incarnation, but many others
 - see related literature at end of slides
- Framework for quantitative analysis of aggregate shocks and macroeconomic policy
- **Three building blocks**
 1. Uninsurable idiosyncratic income risk
 2. Nominal price rigidities
 3. Assets with different degrees of liquidity
- **Today:** Transmission mechanism for conventional monetary policy

How monetary policy works in RANK

- Total **consumption response** to a drop in real rates

$$C \text{ response} = \underbrace{\text{direct response to } r}_{>95\%} + \underbrace{\text{indirect effects due to } Y}_{<5\%}$$

- **Direct response is everything**, pure intertemporal substitution

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- **Direct response is everything**, pure intertemporal substitution
- However, data suggest:
 1. **Low** sensitivity of C to r
 2. **Sizable** sensitivity of C to Y
 3. Micro sensitivity vastly **heterogeneous**, depends crucially on household **balance sheets**

How monetary policy works in HANK

- Once matched to micro data, HANK delivers realistic:
 - wealth distribution: small direct effect
 - MPC distribution: large indirect effect (depending on ΔY)

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HANK: <1/3

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- Overall effect depends crucially on fiscal response, unlike in RANK where Ricardian equivalence holds

Why does this difference matter?

Suppose Central Bank wants to stimulate C

RANK view:

- sufficient to influence the path for real rates $\{r_t\}$
- household intertemporal substitution does the rest

HANK view:

- must rely heavily on GE feedbacks to boost hh labor income
- through fiscal policy reaction and/or an investment boom
- responsiveness of C to i is, to a larger extent, **out of CB's control**

Monetary Policy in Benchmark NK Models

Monetary Policy in Benchmark NK Models

Goal:

- Introduce **decomposition** of C response to r change

Setup:

- Prices and wages perfectly rigid = 1, GDP=labor = Y_t
- Households: CRRA(γ), income Y_t , interest rate r_t

$$\Rightarrow C_t(\{r_s, Y_s\}_{s \geq 0})$$

- Monetary policy: sets time path $\{r_t\}_{t \geq 0}$, special case

$$r_t = \rho + e^{-\eta t}(r_0 - \rho), \quad \eta > 0 \quad (*)$$

- **Equilibrium:** $C_t(\{r_s, Y_s\}_{s \geq 0}) = Y_t$
- Overall effect of monetary policy

$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma \eta}$$

Monetary Policy in RANK

- Decompose C response by totally differentiating $C_0(\{r_t, Y_t\}_{t \geq 0})$

$$dC_0 = \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t} dr_t dt}_{\text{direct response to } r} + \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial Y_t} dY_t dt}_{\text{indirect effects due to } Y}$$

- Next slide: to understand, do decomposition in 2-period model
- In special case (*)

$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma \eta} \left[\underbrace{\frac{\eta}{\rho + \eta}}_{\text{direct response to } r} + \underbrace{\frac{\rho}{\rho + \eta}}_{\text{indirect effects due to } Y} \right]$$

- Reasonable parameterizations \Rightarrow very small **indirect** effects, e.g.
 - $\rho = 0.5\%$ quarterly
 - $\eta = 0.5$, i.e. quarterly autocorr $e^{-\eta} = 0.61$

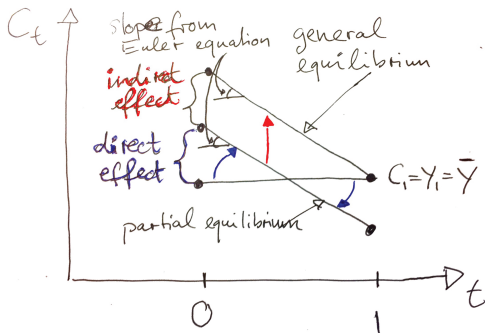
$$\Rightarrow \frac{\eta}{\rho + \eta} = 99\%, \quad \frac{\rho}{\rho + \eta} = 1\%$$

The Decomposition in a Two-Period Model

- Just to understand, consider even simpler two-period model
 - households solve

$$\max_{C_0, C_1} U(C_0) + \beta U(C_1) \quad \text{s.t.} \quad C_0 + \frac{C_0}{1+r} = Y_0 + \frac{Y_1}{1+r}$$

- market clearing $C_0 = Y_0, C_1 = Y_1$; long-run anchoring $Y_1 = \bar{Y}$
- monetary policy: **drop r** from $\beta(1+r) = 1$ to $\beta(1+r) < 1$



What if some households are hand-to-mouth?

- “Spender-saver” or Two-Agent New Keynesian (TANK) model
- Fraction Λ are HtM “spenders”: $C_t^{SP} = Y_t$
- Decomposition in special case (*)

$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma\eta} \left[\underbrace{(1 - \Lambda) \frac{\eta}{\rho + \eta}}_{\text{direct response to } r} + \underbrace{(1 - \Lambda) \frac{\rho}{\rho + \eta} + \Lambda}_{\text{indirect effects due to } Y} \right].$$

- \Rightarrow indirect effects $\approx \Lambda = 20\text{-}30\%$

What if there are assets in positive supply?

- Govt issues debt B to households sector
- Fall in r_t implies a fall in interest payments of $(r_t - \rho) B$
- Fraction λ^T of income gains transferred to spenders
- Initial consumption response in special case (*)

$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma\eta} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda^T B}{1 - \lambda \bar{Y}}}_{\text{fiscal redistribution channel}} .$$

- Interaction between non-Ricardian households and debt in positive net supply matters for overall effect of monetary policy

HANK

Building blocks

Households

- Face uninsured idiosyncratic labor income risk
- Consume and supply labor
- Hold two assets: liquid and illiquid

Firms

- Monopolistically competitive intermediate-good producers
- Quadratic price adjustment costs à la Rotemberg (1982)

Government

- Issues liquid debt, spends, taxes

Monetary Authority

- Sets nominal rate on liquid assets based on a Taylor rule

Households

$$\max_{\{c_t, \ell_t\}_{t \geq 0}} \mathbb{E}_0 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\rho+\lambda)t} u(c_t, \ell_t) dt \quad \text{s.t.}$$
$$\dot{b}_t = r^b(b_t)b_t + w z_t \ell_t - c_t$$

$z_t =$ some Markov process

$$b_t \geq -\underline{b}$$

- c_t : non-durable consumption
- b_t : liquid assets
- z_t : individual productivity
- ℓ_t : hours worked
-

Households

$$\max_{\{c_t, \ell_t, d_t\}_{t \geq 0}} \mathbb{E}_0 \int_0^{\infty} e^{-(\rho+\lambda)t} u(c_t, \ell_t) dt \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$\dot{b}_t = r^b(b_t)b_t + w z_t \ell_t - d_t - \chi(d_t, a_t) - c_t$$

$$\dot{a}_t = r^a a_t + d_t$$

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- \tilde{T} : income tax/transfer
- Γ : income from firm ownership
- no housing – see working paper

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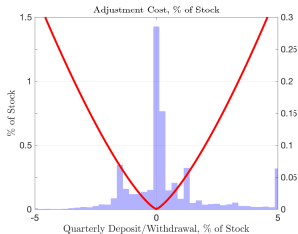
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Households

- Adjustment cost function

$$\chi(d, a) = \chi_0 |d| + \chi_1 \left| \frac{d}{\max\{a, \underline{a}\}} \right|^{\chi_2} \max\{a, \underline{a}\}$$

- Linear component implies inaction region
- Convex component implies finite deposit rates



Households

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- Linear component implies inaction region
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- Recursive solution of hh problem consists of:
 1. consumption policy function $c(a, b, z; w, r^a, r^b)$
 2. deposit policy function $d(a, b, z; w, r^a, r^b)$
 3. labor supply policy function $\ell(a, b, z; w, r^a, r^b)$ \Rightarrow joint distribution of households $\mu(da, db, dz; w, r^a, r^b)$

Firms

Representative competitive **final goods** producer:

$$Y = \left(\int_0^1 y_j^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} dj \right)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}} \Rightarrow y_j = \left(\frac{p_j}{P} \right)^{-\varepsilon} Y$$

Monopolistically competitive **intermediate goods** producers:

- Technology: $y_j = Z k_j^\alpha n_j^{1-\alpha} \Rightarrow m = \frac{1}{Z} \left(\frac{r}{\alpha} \right)^\alpha \left(\frac{w}{1-\alpha} \right)^{1-\alpha}$
- Set prices subject to **quadratic adjustment costs**:

$$\Theta \left(\frac{\dot{p}}{p} \right) = \frac{\theta}{2} \left(\frac{\dot{p}}{p} \right)^2 Y$$

Exact **NK Phillips curve** – see Lecture 2 for derivation

$$\left(r^a - \frac{\dot{Y}}{Y} \right) \pi = \frac{\varepsilon}{\theta} (m - \bar{m}) + \dot{\pi}, \quad \bar{m} = \frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}$$

Determination of illiquid return, distribution of profits

- Illiquid assets = part **capital**, part **equity**

$$a = k + qs$$

- k : capital, pays return $r - \delta$
- s : shares, price q , pay dividends $\omega\Pi = \omega(1 - m)Y$

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- Arbitrage:

$$\frac{\omega\Pi + q}{q} = r - \delta := r^a$$

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- Remaining $(1 - \omega)\Pi$? Scaled lump-sum transfer to hh's:

$$\Gamma = (1 - \omega) \frac{Z}{\bar{Z}} \Pi$$

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- Set $\omega = \alpha$ (capital share) \Rightarrow **neutralize countercyclical markups**

$$\text{total illiquid flow} = rK + \omega\Pi = \alpha mY + \omega(1 - m)Y = \alpha Y$$

$$\text{total liquid flow} = wL + (1 - \omega)\Pi = (1 - \alpha)Y$$

Monetary authority and government

- Taylor rule

$$i = \bar{r}^b + \phi\pi + \epsilon, \quad \phi > 1$$

with $r^b := i - \pi$ (Fisher equation), $\epsilon =$ innovation (“MIT shock”)

- Progressive tax on labor income:

$$\tilde{T}(wz\ell + \Gamma) = -T + \tau \times (wz\ell + \Gamma)$$

- Government budget constraint (in steady state)

$$G - r^b B^g = \int \tilde{T} d\mu$$

- Transition? Ricardian equivalence fails \Rightarrow this matters!

Summary of market clearing conditions

- Liquid asset market

$$B^h + B^g = 0$$

- Illiquid asset market

$$A = K + q$$

- Labor market

$$N = \int z\ell(a, b, z)d\mu$$

- Goods market:

$$Y = C + I + G + \chi + \Theta + \text{borrowing costs}$$

Solution Method

How to “upwind” with two endogenous states

- For simplicity, ignore income risk $z \equiv 1$. HJB equation

$$\rho v(a, b) = \max_c u(c) + v_b(a, b)(w + r^b b - d - \chi(d, a) - c) \\ + v_a(a, b)(d + r^a a)$$

- Again for simplicity, assume $\chi(d, a) = \left(\frac{d}{a}\right)^2 a$: FOC for d

$$(1 + \chi_d(d, a))v_b(a, b) = v_a(a, b) \quad \Rightarrow \quad d = \left(\frac{v_a(a, b)}{v_b(a, b)} - 1\right) a$$

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- Applying standard upwind scheme

$$\rho v_{i,j} = u(c_{i,j}) + \frac{v_{i+1,j} - v_{i,j}}{\Delta b} (s_{i,j}^b)^+ + \frac{v_{i,j} - v_{i-1,j}}{\Delta b} (s_{i,j}^b)^+ \\ + \frac{v_{i,j+1} - v_{i,j}}{\Delta a} (s_{i,j}^a)^+ + \frac{v_{i,j} - v_{i,j-1}}{\Delta a} (s_{i,j}^a)^-$$

where e.g. $s_{i,j}^b = w + r^b b_i - d_{i,j} - \chi(d_{i,j}, a_j) - c_{i,j}$

- **Hard:** $d_{i,j}$ depends on forward/backward choice for v_b, v_a

How to “upwind” with two endogenous states

- Convenient trick: “splitting the drift”

$$\begin{aligned}\rho v(a, b) = \max_c & u(c) + v_b(a, b)(w + r^b b - c) \\ & + v_b(a, b)(-d - \chi(d, a)) \\ & + v_a(a, b)d \\ & + v_a(a, b)r^a a\end{aligned}$$

and upwind each term separately

- Can check this satisfies Barles-Souganidis monotonicity condition
- For an application, see

http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/two_asset_nonconvex.pdf

http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/two_asset_nonconvex.m

Subroutines

http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/two_asset_nonconvex_cost.m

http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/two_asset_nonconvex_FOC.m

Parameterization

Three key aspects of parameterization

1. Measurement and partition of **asset categories** into: ▶ 50 shades of K
 - **Liquid** (cash, bank accounts + government/corporate bonds)
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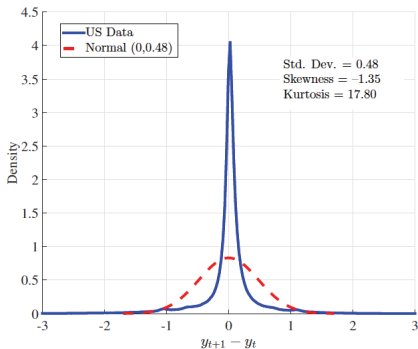
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3. **Adjustment cost** function and discount rate ▶ adj cost function
 - Match mean liquid/illiquid wealth and fraction HtM
 - Production side: **standard calibration** of NK models
 - Standard separable preferences: $u(c, \ell) = \log c - \frac{1}{2}\ell^2$

Continuous time earnings dynamics

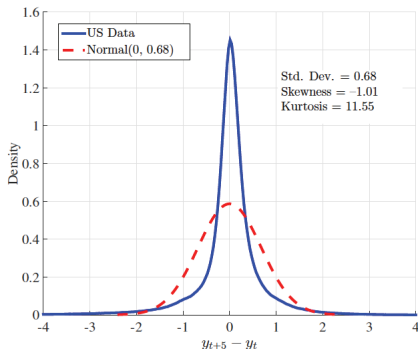
- Literature provides little guidance on statistical models of high frequency earnings dynamics
- **Key challenge:** inferring within-year dynamics from annual data
- **Higher order moments** of annual changes are informative
- Target key moments of one 1-year and 5-year labor earnings growth from SSA data
- Model generates a **thick right tail** for earnings levels

Leptokurtic earnings changes (Güvener et al)

One-year change



Five-year change



Two-component jump-drift process

- Flow earnings ($y = wz\ell$) modeled as sum of two components:

$$\log y_t = y_{1t} + y_{2t}$$

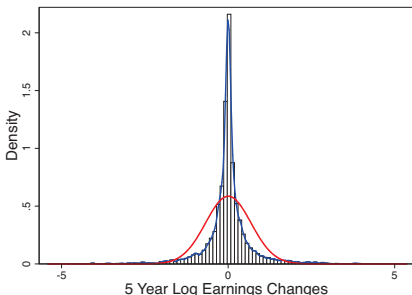
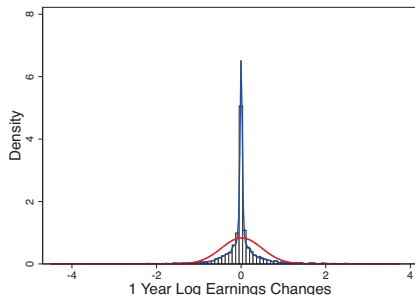
- Each component is a **jump-drift** with:
 - mean-reverting drift: $-\beta y_{it} dt$
 - jumps with arrival rate: λ_i , drawn from $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i)$
- Estimate using SMM **aggregated to annual frequency**
- Choose six parameters to match eight moments:

Model distribution of earnings changes

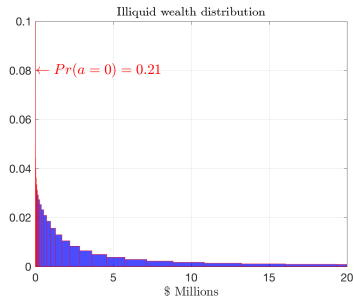
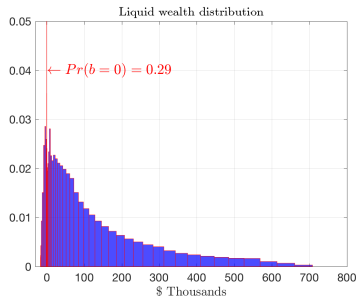
Moment	Data	Model	Moment	Data	Model
Variance: annual log earns	0.70	0.70	Frac 1yr change < 10%	0.54	0.56
Variance: 1yr change	0.23	0.23	Frac 1yr change < 20%	0.71	0.67
Variance: 5yr change	0.46	0.46	Frac 1yr change < 50%	0.86	0.85
Kurtosis: 1yr change	17.8	16.5			
Kurtosis: 5yr change	11.6	12.1			

Transitory component: $\hat{\lambda}_1 = 0.08$, $\hat{\beta}_1 = 0.76$, $\hat{\sigma}_1 = 1.74$

Persistent component: $\hat{\lambda}_2 = 0.007$, $\hat{\beta}_2 = 0.009$, $\hat{\sigma}_2 = 1.53$

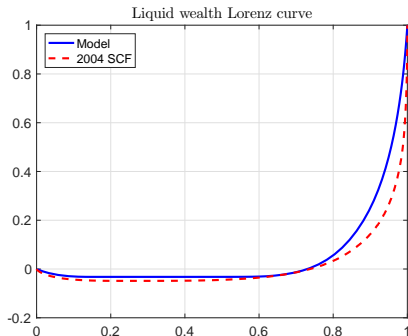
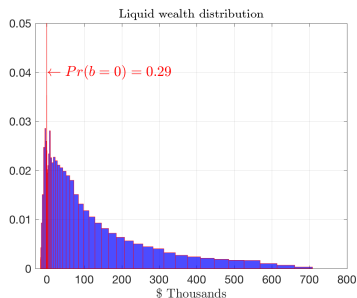


Model matches key feature of U.S. wealth distribution



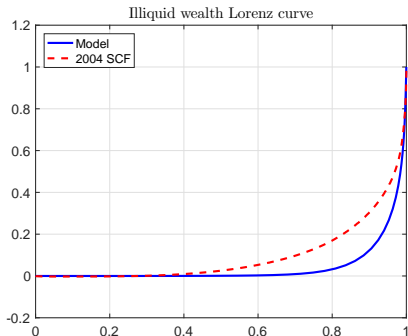
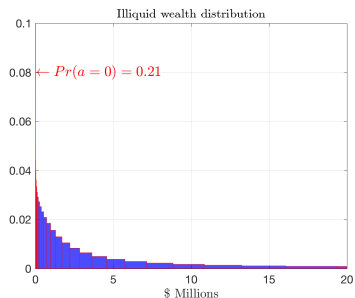
	Data	Model
Mean illiquid assets (rel to GDP)	2.920	2.920
Mean liquid assets (rel to GDP)	0.260	0.268
Poor hand-to-mouth	10%	9%
Wealthy hand-to-mouth	20%	18%

Wealth distributions: Liquid wealth



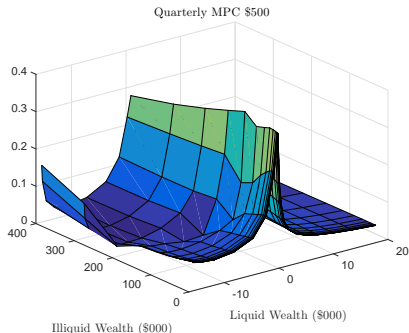
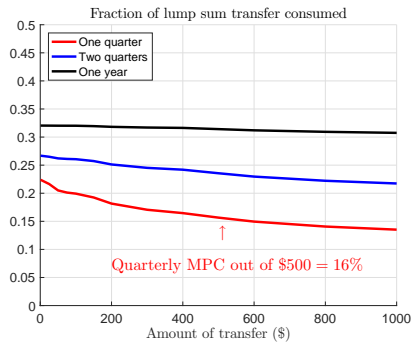
- Top 10% share: SCF 2004: 86%, Model: 73%
- Top 1% share: SCF 2004: 47%, Model: 16%
- Gini coefficient: SCF 2004: 0.98, Model: 0.85

Wealth distributions: Illiquid wealth



- Top 10% share: SCF 2004: 70%, Model: 87%
- Top 1% share: SCF 2004: 33%, Model: 40%
- Gini coefficient: SCF 2004: 0.81, Model: 0.82

Model generates high and heterogeneous MPCs



Description	Value	Target / Source
Preferences		
λ Death rate	1/180	Av. lifespan 45 years
γ Risk aversion	1	
φ Frisch elasticity (GHH)	1	
ρ Discount rate (pa)	4.8%	Internally calibrated
Production		
ε Demand elasticity	10	Profit share 10 %
α Capital share	0.33	
δ Depreciation rate (p.a.)	7%	
θ Price adjustment cost	100	Slope of Phillips curve, $\varepsilon/\theta = 0.1$
Government		
τ Proportional labor tax	0.25	
T Lump sum transfer (rel GDP)	\$6,900	6% of GDP
\bar{g} Govt debt to annual GDP	0.233	government budget constraint
Monetary Policy		
ϕ Taylor rule coefficient	1.25	
r^b Steady state real liquid return (pa)	2%	
Illiquid Assets		
r^a Illiquid asset return (pa)	5.7%	Equilibrium outcome
Borrowing		
r^{borr} Borrowing rate (pa)	7.9%	Internally calibrated
\underline{b} Borrowing limit	\$16,500	$\approx 1 \times$ quarterly labor inc
Adjustment Cost Function		
χ_0 Linear term	0.04383	Internally calibrated
χ_1 Coef on convex term	0.95617	Internally calibrated
χ_2 Power on convex term	1.40176	Internally calibrated
\bar{a} Min a in denominator	\$360	Internally calibrated

Results

Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

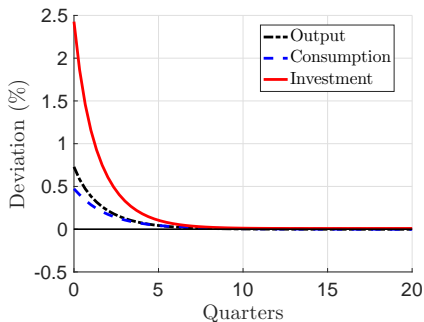
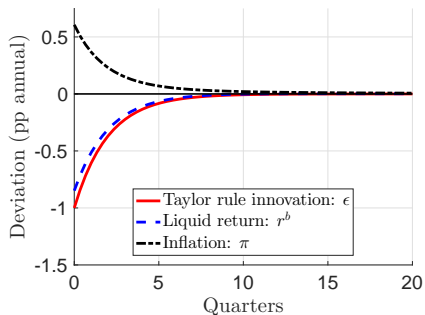
Innovation $\epsilon < 0$ to the Taylor rule: $i = \bar{r}^b + \phi\pi + \epsilon$

- All experiments: $\epsilon_0 = -0.0025$, i.e. -1% annualized

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Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

$$dC_0 = \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^b} dr_t^b dt}_{\text{direct}} + \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \left[\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^a} dr_t^a + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial w_t} dw_t + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial T_t} dT_t \right] dt}_{\text{indirect}}$$

Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

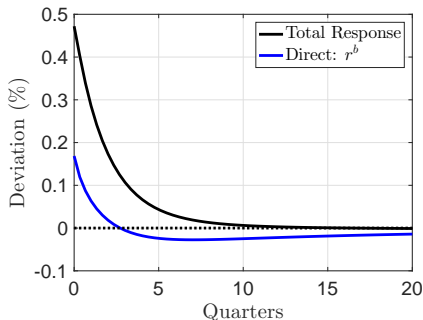
$$dC_0 = \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^b} dr_t^b dt}_{\text{direct}} + \underbrace{\int_0^\infty \left[\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^a} dr_t^a + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial w_t} dw_t + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial T_t} dT_t \right] dt}_{\text{indirect}}$$

Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

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✓

Intertemporal substitution and income effects from $r^b \downarrow$

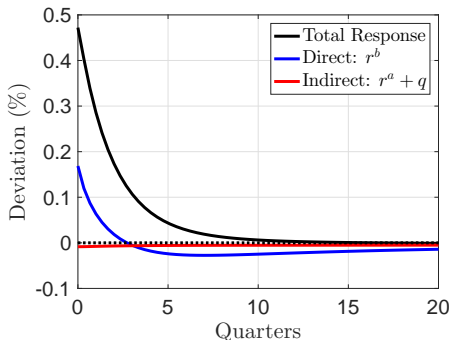


Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

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✓

Portfolio reallocation effect from $r^a - r^b \uparrow$

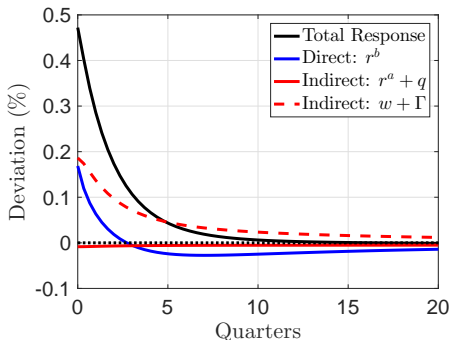


Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

$$dC_0 = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^b} dr_t^b dt + \int_0^{\infty} \left[\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^a} dr_t^a + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial w_t} dw_t + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial T_t} dT_t \right] dt$$



Labor demand channel from $w \uparrow$

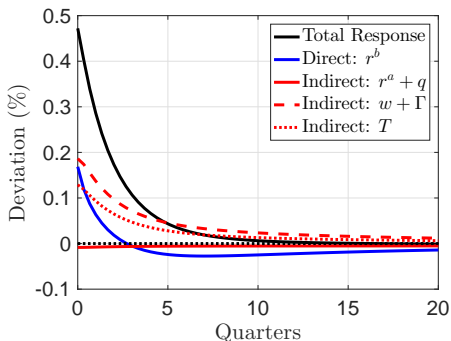


Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

$$dC_0 = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^b} dr_t^b dt + \int_0^{\infty} \left[\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^a} dr_t^a + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial w_t} dw_t + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial T_t} dT_t \right] dt$$

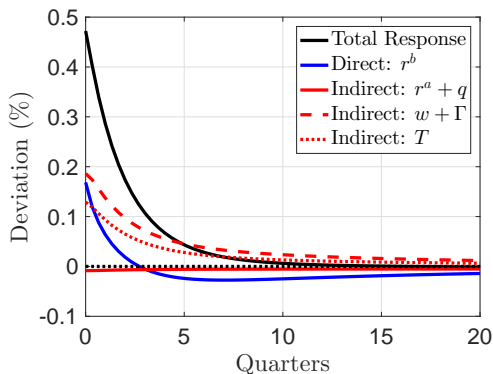
✓

Fiscal adjustment: $T \uparrow$ in response to \downarrow in interest payments on B

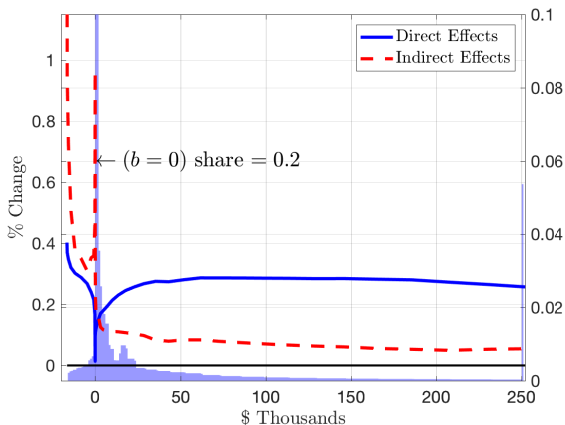


Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

$$dC_0 = \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^b} dr_t^b dt}_{19\%} + \underbrace{\int_0^{\infty} \left[\frac{\partial C_0}{\partial r_t^a} dr_t^a + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial w_t} dw_t + \frac{\partial C_0}{\partial T_t} dT_t \right] dt}_{81\%}$$

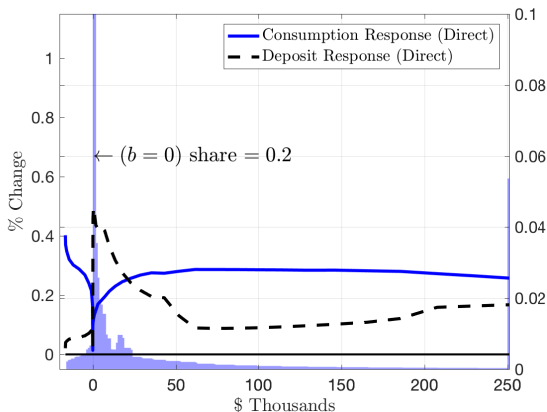


Monetary transmission across liquid wealth distribution



- Total change = c -weighted sum of (direct + indirect) at each b

Why small direct effects?



- Intertemporal substitution: (+) for non-HtM
- Income effect: (-) for rich households
- Portfolio reallocation: (-) for those with low but > 0 liquid wealth

Role of fiscal response in determining total effect

	<i>T</i> adjusts	<i>G</i> adjusts	B^g adjusts
	(1)	(2)	(3)
Elasticity of C_0 to r^b	-2.21	-2.07	-1.48
Share of Direct effects:	19%	22%	46%

- Fiscal response to lower interest payments on debt:
 - *T* adjusts: stimulates AD through MPC of HtM households
 - *G* adjusts: translates 1-1 into AD
 - B^g adjusts: no initial stimulus to AD from fiscal side

Monetary transmission in RANK and HANK

$$\Delta C = \text{direct response to } r \quad + \quad \text{indirect GE response}$$

RANK: 95%	RANK: 5%
HANK: 2/3	HANK: 1/3

- RANK view:
 - High sensitivity of C to r : intertemporal substitution
 - Low sensitivity of C to Y : the RA is a PIH consumer
- HANK view:
 - Low sensitivity to r : income effect of **wealthy** offsets int. subst.
 - High sensitivity to Y : sizable share of **hand-to-mouth** agents

⇒ **Q**: Is Fed **less in control** of C than we thought?
- Work in progress: **perturbation methods** ⇒ estimation, inference

HANK's friends (other papers in this literature)

1. New Keynesian models with limited heterogeneity

Campell-Mankiw, Gali-LopezSalido-Valles, Iacoviello, Bilbiie,
Challe-Matheron-Ragot-Rubio-Ramirez, Broer-Hansen-Krusell-Öberg

2. Bewley models with sticky prices

Oh-Reis, Guerrieri-Lorenzoni, Ravn-Sterk, Gornemann-Kuester-Nakajima,
DenHaan-Rendal-Riegler, Bayer-Luetticke-Pham-Tjaden, McKay-Reis, Wong,
McKay-Nakamura-Steinsson, Huo-RiosRull, Werning, Luetticke, Auclert, Auclert-Rognlie

- Very useful: Werning's "as if" result. In benchmark HANK model
 - direct and indirect effects exactly offset each other
 - overall effect same as in RA model
 - true even though incomplete markets \Rightarrow smaller direct effects
 - same logic as in spender-saver (TANK) model

$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma \eta} \left[\underbrace{(1 - \Lambda) \frac{\eta}{\rho + \eta}}_{\text{direct response to } r} + \underbrace{(1 - \Lambda) \frac{\rho}{\rho + \eta} + \Lambda}_{\text{indirect effects due to } Y} \right].$$

Open Questions

- **Loads left to do!** Just see Janet Yellen's speech:
<http://www.federalreserve.gov/newsevents/speech/yellen20161014a.htm>
 - “the various linkages between heterogeneity and aggregate demand are not yet well understood, either **empirically or theoretically.**”
 - “More broadly, even though the tools of monetary policy are generally not well suited to achieve **distributional** objectives, it is important for policymakers to understand and monitor the effects of macroeconomic developments on different groups within society.”
- Two more or less random examples of great questions:
 1. Does inequality affect level of aggregate consumption/saving?
some progress in Auclert and Rognlie (2016) “Inequality and Aggregate Demand”
 2. How does housing/mortgages affect monetary transmission?
some progress in Hedlund-Karahan-Mitman-Ozkan (2016) “Monetary Policy, Heterogeneity and the Housing Channel”
- Particularly useful: **empirical evidence** but through lens of model