

HANK

Heterogeneous Agent New Keynesian Models

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Princeton Initiative 2016

HANK: Heterogeneous Agent New Keynesian models

- 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**

Literature and contribution

Combine two workhorses of modern macroeconomics:

- **New Keynesian models** Galí, Gertler, Woodford
- **Bewley models** Aiyagari, Bewley, Huggett

Closest existing work:

1. New Keynesian models with limited heterogeneity

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

- micro-foundation of spender-saver behavior

2. Bewley models with sticky prices

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

- assets with different liquidity Kaplan-Violante
- new view of individual earnings risk Guvenen-Karahan-Ozkan-Song
- **Continuous time** approach Achdou-Han-Lasry-Lions-Moll

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
-

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

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

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- Γ : income from firm ownership
- no housing – see working paper

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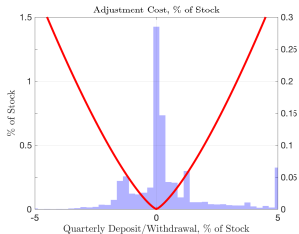
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Households

- 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



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

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

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

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

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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

Solution Method (from Achdou-Han-Lasry-Lions-Moll)

- Solving het. agent model = solving PDEs
 1. **Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman** equation for individual choices
 2. **Kolmogorov Forward** equation for evolution of distribution
- Many well-developed methods for analyzing and solving these
 - simple but powerful: **finite difference method**
 - codes: <http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject.htm>
- Apparatus is very **general**: applies to **any** heterogeneous agent model with continuum of atomistic agents
 1. heterogeneous households (Aiyagari, Bewley, Huggett,...)
 2. heterogeneous producers (Hopenhayn,...)
- can be extended to handle aggregate shocks (Krusell-Smith,...)

Computational Advantages relative to Discrete Time

1. **Borrowing constraints** only show up in **boundary conditions**
 - FOCs always hold with “=”
2. **“Tomorrow is today”**
 - FOCs are “static”, compute by hand: $c^{-\gamma} = V_b(a, b, y)$
3. **Sparsity**
 - solving Bellman, distribution = inverting matrix
 - but matrices very sparse (“tridiagonal”)
 - reason: continuous time \Rightarrow one step left or one step right
4. **Two birds with one stone**
 - tight link between solving (HJB) and (KF) for distribution
 - matrix in discrete (KF) is **transpose** of matrix in discrete (HJB)
 - reason: diff. operator in (KF) is **adjoint** of operator in (HJB)

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)
 - **Illiquid** (equity, housing)

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 - Nature of earnings risk affects household portfolio

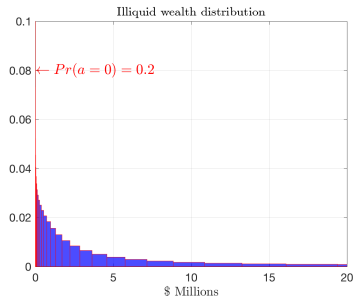
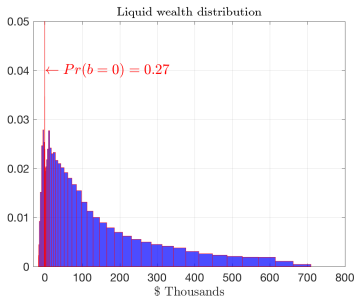
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 - Match mean liquid/illiquid wealth and fraction HtM

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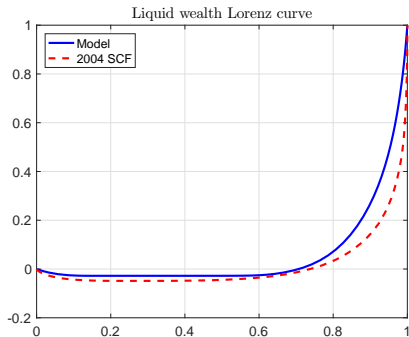
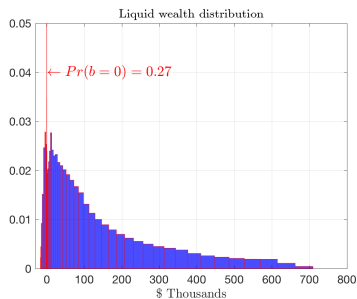
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3. **Adjustment cost** function and discount rate ▶ adj cost function
 - Match mean liquid/illiquid wealth and fraction HtM
 - Production side: **standard calibration** of NK models
 - Standard separable preferences: $u(c, \ell) = \log c - \frac{1}{2}\ell^2$

Model matches key feature of U.S. wealth distribution



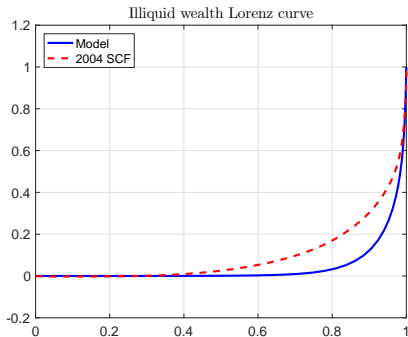
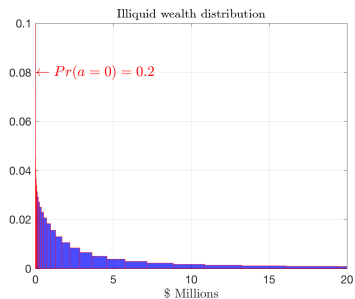
	Data	Model
Mean illiquid assets (rel to GDP)	2.920	2.920
Mean liquid assets (rel to GDP)	0.260	0.268
Poor hand-to-mouth	10%	9%
Wealthy hand-to-mouth	20%	18%

Wealth distributions: Liquid wealth



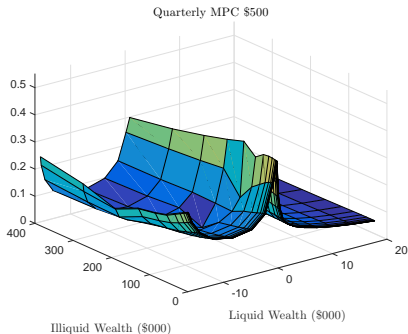
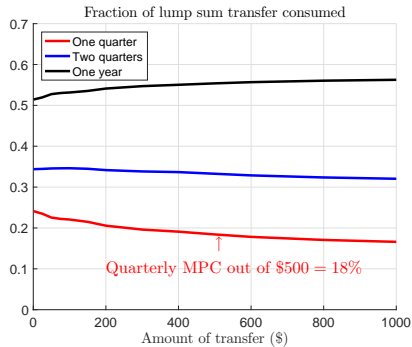
- Top 10% share: SCF 2004: 86%, Model: 73%
- Top 1% share: SCF 2004: 47%, Model: 16%
- Gini coefficient: SCF 2004: 0.98, Model: 0.85

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)	0.5	
ψ Disutility of labor	27	Av. hours worked equal to 1/3
ρ Discount rate (pa)	4.7%	Internally calibrated
Production		
ε Demand elasticity	10	Profit share 10 %
α Capital share	0.33	
δ Depreciation rate (p.a.)	10%	
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)	0.075	40% hh with net govt transfer
\bar{g} Govt debt to annual GDP	0.26	government budget constraint
Monetary Policy		
ϕ Taylor rule coefficient	1.25	
r^b Steady state real liquid return (pa)	2%	
Housing		
r^h Net housing return (pa)	1.5%	Kaplan and Violante (2014)
Illiquid Assets		
r^a Illiquid asset return (pa)	6.5%	Equilibrium outcome
Borrowing		
r^{borr} Borrowing rate (pa)	8.4%	Internally calibrated
\underline{b} Borrowing limit	-0.42	1 \times quarterly labor inc

Results

Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

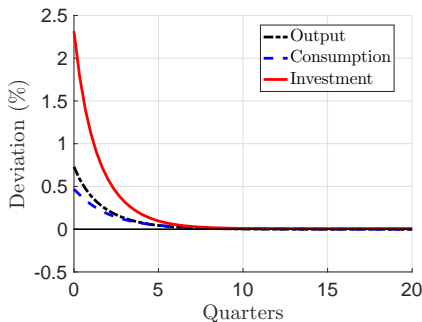
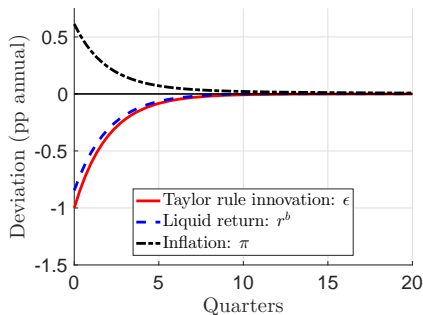
Innovation $\epsilon < 0$ to the Taylor rule: $i = \bar{r}^b + \phi\pi + \epsilon$

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

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Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

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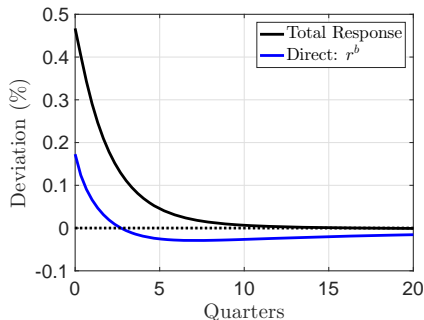
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✓

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

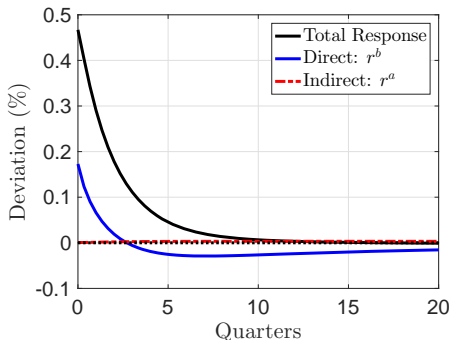


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Portfolio reallocation effect from $r^a - r^b \uparrow$

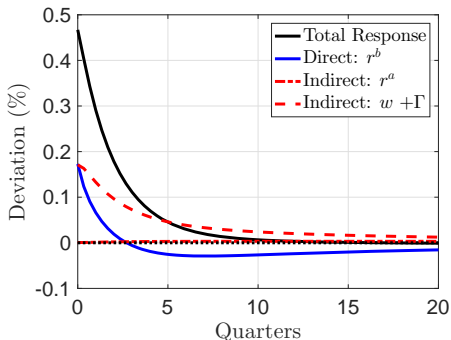


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Labor demand channel from $w \uparrow$

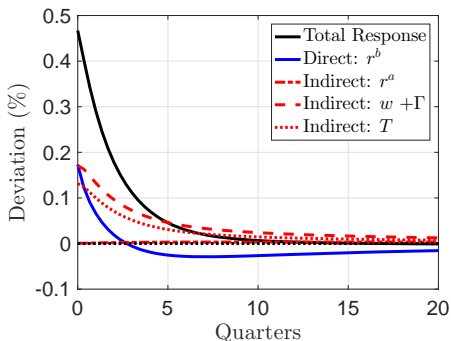


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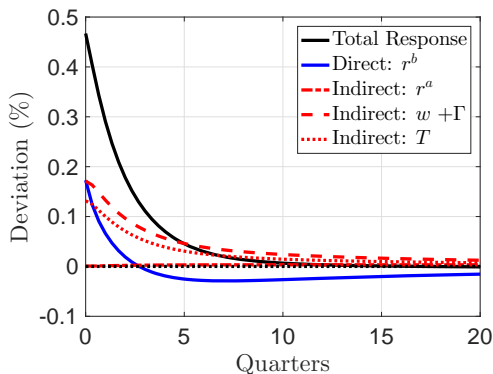
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Fiscal adjustment: $T \uparrow$ in response to \downarrow in interest payments on B

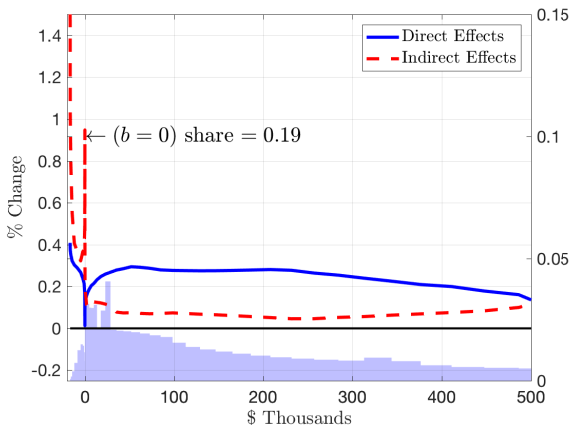


Transmission of monetary policy shock to C

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

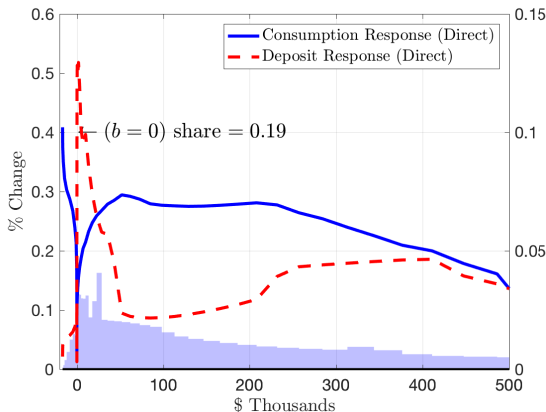


Monetary transmission across liquid wealth distribution



- 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	<i>B^g</i> 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: 90%	RANK: 10%
HANK: 2/3	HANK: 1/3

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- 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?

Monetary transmission in RANK and HANK

$$\Delta C = \begin{array}{l} \text{direct response to } r \\ \text{RANK: 90\%} \\ \text{HANK: 2/3} \end{array} + \begin{array}{l} \text{indirect GE response} \\ \text{RANK: 10\%} \\ \text{HANK: 1/3} \end{array}$$

- 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

Numerical Solution of HJB Equations

Finite Difference Methods

- See <http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject.htm>
- Explain using neoclassical growth model, easily generalized to heterogeneous agent models

$$\rho v(k) = \max_c u(c) + v'(k)(F(k) - \delta k - c)$$

- Functional forms

$$u(c) = \frac{c^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma}, \quad F(k) = k^\alpha$$

- Use **finite difference method**
 - Two MATLAB codes

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

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

Barles-Souganidis

- There is a well-developed theory for numerical solution of HJB equation using finite difference methods
- Key paper: Barles and Souganidis (1991), “Convergence of approximation schemes for fully nonlinear second order equations”
<https://www.dropbox.com/s/vhw5qqrczw3dvw3/barles-souganidis.pdf?dl=0>
- **Result:** finite difference scheme “converges” to unique viscosity solution under three conditions
 1. monotonicity
 2. consistency
 3. stability
- Good reference: Tourin (2013), “An Introduction to Finite Difference Methods for PDEs in Finance.”

Finite Difference Approximations to $v'(k_i)$

- Approximate $v(k)$ at l discrete points in the state space, $k_i, i = 1, \dots, l$. Denote distance between grid points by Δk .
- Shorthand notation

$$v_i = v(k_i)$$

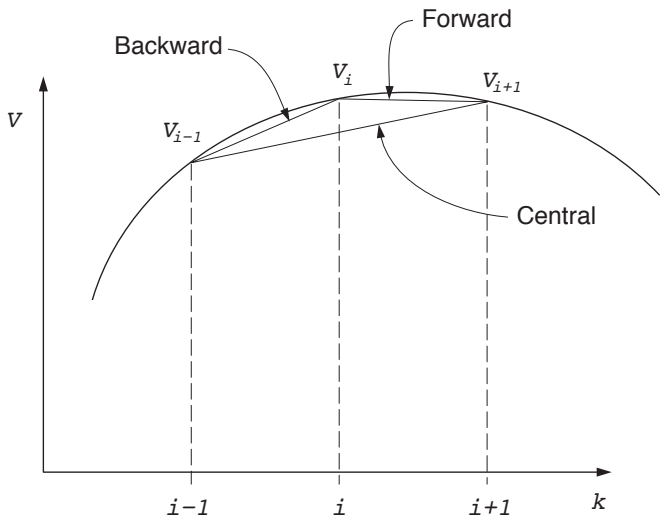
- Need to approximate $v'(k_i)$.
- Three different possibilities:

$$v'(k_i) \approx \frac{v_i - v_{i-1}}{\Delta k} = v'_{i,B} \quad \text{backward difference}$$

$$v'(k_i) \approx \frac{v_{i+1} - v_i}{\Delta k} = v'_{i,F} \quad \text{forward difference}$$

$$v'(k_i) \approx \frac{v_{i+1} - v_{i-1}}{2\Delta k} = v'_{i,C} \quad \text{central difference}$$

Finite Difference Approximations to $v'(k_i)$



Finite Difference Approximation

FD approximation to HJB is

$$\rho v_i = u(c_i) + v_i' [F(k_i) - \delta k_i - c_i] \quad (*)$$

where $c_i = (u')^{-1}(v_i')$, and v_i' is one of backward, forward, central FD approximations.

Two complications:

1. which FD approximation to use? “Upwind scheme”
2. (*) is extremely non-linear, need to solve iteratively: “explicit” vs. “implicit method”

My strategy for next few slides:

- what works
- slides on my website: why it works (Barles-Souganidis)

Which FD Approximation?

- Which of these you use is **extremely important**
- Best solution: use so-called “**upwind scheme.**” Rough idea:
 - **forward** difference whenever drift of state variable **positive**
 - **backward** difference whenever drift of state variable **negative**

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 - **forward** difference whenever drift of state variable **positive**
 - **backward** difference whenever drift of state variable **negative**
- In our example: define

$$s_{i,F} = F(k_i) - \delta k_i - (u')^{-1}(v'_{i,F}), \quad s_{i,B} = F(k_i) - \delta k_i - (u')^{-1}(v'_{i,B})$$

- Approximate derivative as follows

$$v'_i = v'_{i,F} \mathbf{1}_{\{s_{i,F} > 0\}} + v'_{i,B} \mathbf{1}_{\{s_{i,B} < 0\}} + \bar{v}'_i \mathbf{1}_{\{s_{i,F} < 0 < s_{i,B}\}}$$

where $\mathbf{1}_{\{.\}}$ is indicator function, and $\bar{v}'_i = u'(F(k_i) - \delta k_i)$.

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where $\mathbf{1}_{\{\cdot\}}$ is indicator function, and $\bar{v}'_i = u'(F(k_i) - \delta k_i)$.

- Where does \bar{v}'_i term come from? Answer:
 - since v is concave, $v'_{i,F} < v'_{i,B}$ (see figure) $\Rightarrow s_{i,F} < s_{i,B}$
 - if $s'_{i,F} < 0 < s'_{i,B}$, set $s_i = 0 \Rightarrow v'(k_i) = u'(F(k_i) - \delta k_i)$, i.e. we're at a steady state.

Sparsity

- Discretized HJB equation is

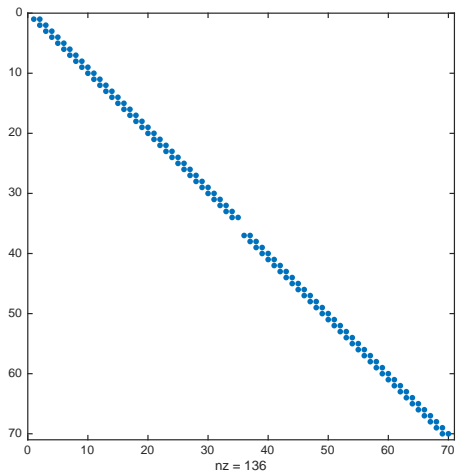
$$\rho v_i = u(c_i) + \frac{v_{i+1} - v_i}{\Delta k} s_{i,F}^+ + \frac{v_i - v_{i-1}}{\Delta k} s_{i,B}^-$$

- Notation: for any x , $x^+ = \max\{x, 0\}$ and $x^- = \min\{x, 0\}$
- Can write this in matrix notation

$$\rho \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{A} \mathbf{v}$$

where \mathbf{A} is $l \times l$ (l = no of grid points) and looks like...

Visualization of \mathbf{A} (output of `spy(A)` in Matlab)



The matrix \mathbf{A}

- **FD method** approximates process for k with **discrete Poisson process**, \mathbf{A} summarizes Poisson intensities
 - entries in row i :

$$\begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{-\frac{s_{i,B}^-}{\Delta k}}_{\text{inflow}_{i-1} \geq 0} & \underbrace{\frac{s_{i,B}^-}{\Delta k} - \frac{s_{i,F}^+}{\Delta k}}_{\text{outflow}_i \leq 0} & \underbrace{\frac{s_{i,F}^+}{\Delta k}}_{\text{inflow}_{i+1} \geq 0} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{i-1} \\ v_i \\ v_{i+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

- negative diagonals, positive off-diagonals, rows sum to zero:
- tridiagonal matrix, **very sparse**
- \mathbf{A} depends on v (nonlinear problem). Next: iterative method...

Iterative Method

- Idea: Solve FOC for given v^n , update v^{n+1} according to

$$\frac{v_i^{n+1} - v_i^n}{\Delta} + \rho v_i^n = u(c_i^n) + (v^n)'(k_i)(F(k_i) - \delta k_i - c_i^n) \quad (*)$$

- **Algorithm:** Guess $v_i^0, i = 1, \dots, I$ and for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ follow
 1. Compute $(v^n)'(k_i)$ using FD approx. on previous slide.
 2. Compute c^n from $c_i^n = (u')^{-1}[(v^n)'(k_i)]$
 3. Find v^{n+1} from (*).
 4. If v^{n+1} is close enough to v^n : stop. Otherwise, go to step 1.
- See http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/HJB_NGM.m
- Important parameter: Δ = step size, cannot be too large (“CFL condition”).
- Pretty inefficient: I need 5,990 iterations (though quite fast)

Efficiency: Implicit Method

- Efficiency can be improved by using an “implicit method”

$$\frac{v_i^{n+1} - v_i^n}{\Delta} + \rho v_i^{n+1} = u(c_i^n) + (v_i^{n+1})'(k_i)[F(k_i) - \delta k_i - c_i^n]$$

- Each step n involves solving a linear system of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{\Delta}(v^{n+1} - v^n) + \rho v^{n+1} &= u + \mathbf{A}_n v^{n+1} \\ ((\rho + \frac{1}{\Delta})\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{A}_n) v^{n+1} &= u + \frac{1}{\Delta} v^n\end{aligned}$$

- but \mathbf{A}_n is super **sparse** \Rightarrow super fast
- See http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/HJB_NGM_implicit.m

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- but \mathbf{A}_n is super **sparse** \Rightarrow super fast
- See http://www.princeton.edu/~moll/HACTproject/HJB_NGM_implicit.m
- In general: **implicit method preferable** over explicit method
 1. stable **regardless of step size Δ**
 2. need much fewer iterations
 3. can handle many more grid points

Implicit Method: Practical Consideration

- In Matlab, need to explicitly construct **A** as sparse to take advantage of speed gains

- Code has part that looks as follows

```
X = -min(mub,0)/dk;  
Y = -max(muf,0)/dk + min(mub,0)/dk;  
Z = max(muf,0)/dk;
```

- Constructing full matrix – slow

```
for i=2:I-1  
    A(i,i-1) = X(i);  
    A(i,i) = Y(i);  
    A(i,i+1) = Z(i);  
end  
A(1,1)=Y(1); A(1,2) = Z(1);  
A(I,I)=Y(I); A(I,I-1) = X(I);
```

- Constructing sparse matrix – fast

```
A = spdiags(Y,0,I,I)+spdiags(X(2:I),-1,I,I)+spdiags([0;Z(1:I-1)],1,I,I);
```

Intermediate good firm pricing problem

$$\max_{\{p_t\}_{t \geq 0}} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^a t} \left\{ \Pi_t(p_t) - \Theta_t \left(\frac{\dot{p}_t}{p_t} \right) \right\} dt \quad \text{s.t.}$$

$$\Pi(p) = \left(\frac{p}{P} - m \right) \left(\frac{p}{P} \right)^{-\varepsilon} Y$$

$$m = \frac{1}{Z} \left(\frac{r}{\alpha} \right)^{\alpha} \left(\frac{w}{1-\alpha} \right)^{1-\alpha}$$

$$\Theta(\pi) = \frac{\theta}{2} \pi^2 Y$$

Fifty shades of K

	Liquid	Illiquid	Total
Non-productive	Household deposits net of revolving debt Corp & Govt bonds $B^h = 0.26$		0.26
Productive		Indirectly held equity Directly held equity Noncorp bus equity net housing net durables	2.92 K
Total	$-B^g = 0.26$	$A = 2.92$	3.18

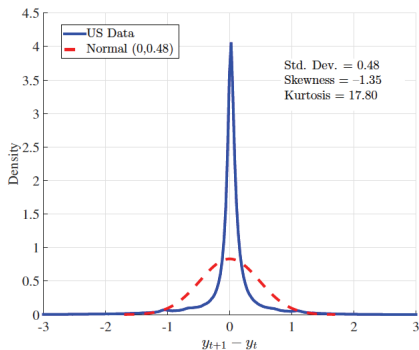
- Quantities are multiples of annual GDP
- Sources: Flow of Funds and SCF 2004
- Working paper: part of housing, durables = unproductive illiquid assets

Continuous time earnings dynamics

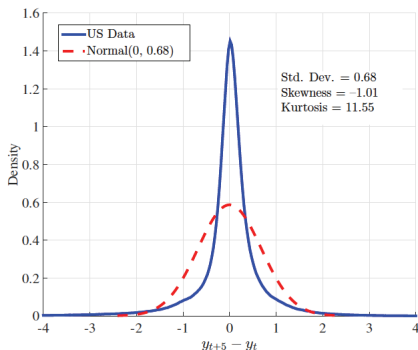
- Literature provides little guidance on statistical models of high frequency earnings dynamics
- **Key challenge:** inferring within-year dynamics from annual data
- **Higher order moments** of annual changes are informative
- Target key moments of one 1-year and 5-year labor earnings growth from SSA 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 ($y = wzl$) modeled as sum of two components:

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

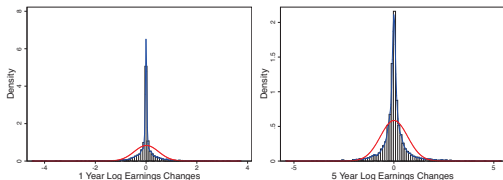
- Each component is a **jump-drift** with:
 - mean-reverting drift: $-\beta y_{it} dt$
 - jumps with arrival rate: λ_i , drawn from $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i)$
- Estimate using SMM **aggregated to annual frequency**
- Choose six parameters to match eight moments:

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



Adjustment cost function calibration

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

- Choose χ_0, χ_1, χ_2 together with:
 - discount rate ρ
 - borrowing intermediation wedge: $\kappa^b = r^{bor} - r^b$

to match five features of the [household wealth](#) distribution

Moment	Data	Model
Mean illiquid assets (rel to GDP)	2.920	2.920
Mean liquid assets (rel to GDP)	0.260	0.263
Poor hand-to-mouth	10%	12%
Wealthy hand-to-mouth	20%	17%
Fraction borrowing	15%	14%

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 $C_0(\{r_t, Y_t\}_{t \geq 0})$

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

- 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 $e^{-\eta} = 0.61$

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

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

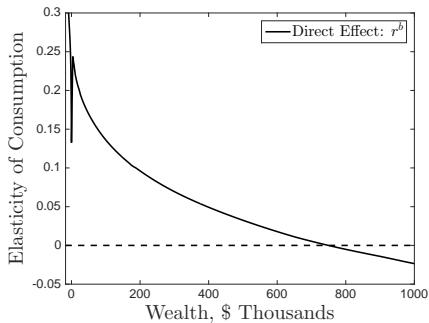
What if there are assets in positive supply?

- 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 (*)

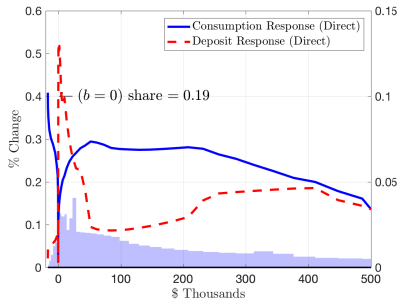
$$-\frac{d \log C_0}{dr_0} = \frac{1}{\gamma\eta} + \underbrace{\frac{\lambda^T B}{1 - \lambda \bar{Y}}}_{\text{fiscal redistribution channel}} .$$

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

Comparison to One-Asset Model



(a) One-Asset Model



(b) Two-Asset Model