

# Analytic Policy Function Iteration<sup>†</sup>

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## ABSTRACT

We propose an approach to solving and analyzing linear rational expectations models with general information frictions. Our approach is built upon policy function iterations in the frequency domain. We develop the theoretical framework of this approach using rational approximation, analytic continuation, and discrete Fourier transform. Conditional expectations, which are difficult to evaluate in the time domain, can be calculated efficiently in the frequency domain. We provide the numerical implementation accompanied by a flexible object-oriented toolbox. We demonstrate the efficiency and accuracy of our method by studying four models in macroeconomics and finance that feature asymmetric information sets, endogenous signals, and higher-order expectations.

*Keywords:* Endogenous information; Policy function iteration; Frequency-domain methods; Higher-order expectations.

*JEL Classification:* C6, D8, E3, G1

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# 1 Introduction

Incorporating information frictions in dynamic general equilibrium models has produced fruitful results that shed light on a wide range of questions in macroeconomics and finance [Angeletos and Lian (2016)]. Despite the progress made so far, solving dynamic models with endogenous information frictions remains a daunting task. To address this challenge, this article proposes a frequency-domain method of solving and characterizing macroeconomic and finance models with endogenous information frictions.

The presence of endogenous information is inevitable in most macroeconomic models with rational expectations. Households and firms form expectations conditional on endogenous economic conditions, whose decisions, in turn, impact the state of the economy. In models of the financial market, learning from endogenous asset prices is also an indispensable ingredient as these prices aggregate information. Another notion of information endogeneity emerges in disciplined bounded rationality models, such as rational inattention models, where the choice of information structure is endogenous.

While endogenous information constitutes an essential ingredient of the general equilibrium (GE) feedback mechanism between expectations and economic outcomes that produces propagation, persistence, and volatility [e.g., Angeletos and Lian (2018), Chahrour and Gaballo (2019)], it also complicates the model solution significantly. In models with endogenous information, an information fixed point exists between agents' perceived law of motion of the economy (including endogenous variables such as prices) and the actual law of motion, based on agents' actions and conditional expectations using the endogenous signals. The underlying GE effect, operating through the lens of endogenous learning, creates equilibria that in general admit no finite-state representation.<sup>1</sup>

The complication is exacerbated in the environment of information heterogeneity. When an agent's view about economic fundamentals differs from that of other agents, the "forecasting the forecasts of others" problem gives rise to the role of higher-order expectations (HOEs) in shaping model dynamics. The recursion of HOEs implies that agents need to form an infinite order of expectations about what others believe when making decisions. When agents are not learning from endogenous variables, Huo and Takayama (2018) show that HOEs are tractable, and the model equilibrium permits a finite-state representation in the time domain. Therefore, the greatest challenge to solving and analyzing the model arises when information is both endogenous and heterogeneous.

The key contribution of this paper is to develop an analytic policy function iteration (APFI)

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<sup>1</sup>Makarov and Rytchkov (2012) first illustrate this point in an asset pricing model. Models with endogenous information may admit finite-state representation when the signal structure is "square" with equal numbers of signals and innovations. The finite-state representation is defined in the time series sense that the equilibrium variables follow a finite-order VARMA process.

method to address the challenge directly. We use a simple asset pricing model of Singleton (1987) to demonstrate the basic idea of our method (Section 2). We circumvent the issue with infinite-state representation in the time domain by treating the frequency domain as the appropriate state space.<sup>2</sup> Our idea is straightforward and analogous to the classical method used to solve dynamic programming problems in the time domain. However, the mathematical foundation and numerical implementation of our approach differ substantially from standard policy function iterations.

We first provide three theorems that establish the theoretical foundation for the APFI method (Section 3). The first theorem characterizes the basis for functional approximations in the frequency domain. We use the set of rational functions to approximate the true equilibrium solution. The functional form of the solution within each iteration is known (as rational analytic functions). We show that any linear stationary equilibrium can be approximated arbitrarily well by a VARMA( $p, q$ ) process. The second theorem uses the theory of analytic continuation to construct the appropriate state-space grid in the real unit interval  $(-1, 1)$ . We apply the theory of the convergence of analytic functions to establish a convergence criterion for our algorithm. The third theorem constructs a fast and efficient method of computing conditional expectations in the frequency domain, which are typically hard to evaluate in the time domain. Specifically, we apply the discrete Fourier transform to compute conditional expectations under different information sets.

We then establish the baseline APFI algorithm along with numerical details that facilitate the computation (Section 4). Admittedly, frequency-domain methods have not been widely adopted by macroeconomists. To minimize the user’s fixed cost, we provide a handy MATLAB-based, object-oriented toolbox called “z-Tran” that implements these procedures, serving as the paper’s second contribution.<sup>3</sup> This toolbox encapsulates all required frequency-domain methods via a user-friendly interface. An applied user can quickly input the model’s linearized equilibrium conditions into the canonical form of the baseline APFI algorithm and test the model implications. We also allow experienced users to call each routine in the toolbox independently and modify the baseline APFI algorithm whenever appropriate.

The existing frequency-domain method is powerful in deriving analytical characterization of the equilibrium [e.g., Whiteman (1983), Tan and Walker (2015), and Huo and Takayama (2018)]. However, it also faces limitations due to the cumbersome symbolic algebra involved in the procedure. The APFI framework circumvents these limitations. With numerical efficiency and stability, it extends the applicability of existing methods from characterizing small, illustrative

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<sup>2</sup>The frequency-domain approach solves and analyzes model equilibrium in the space of analytic functions. Early contributions include Hansen and Sargent (1980), Whiteman (1983, 1985), and Taub (1989), and more recent developments include Kasa (2000), Kasa, Walker and Whiteman (2014), Acharya (2014), Tan and Walker (2015), Huo and Takayama (2018), Rondina and Walker (2018), Miao, Wu and Young (2021b), and Al-Sadoon (2018, 2020), among others.

<sup>3</sup>The toolbox is publicly available, free of charge, at <https://github.com/econdojo/ztran>.

models to solving large, quantitative dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) models with general information frictions. The APFI framework is also flexible in the choice of information structure, as our canonical representation nests nearly all examples considered in the literature, including full information, imperfect (exogenous or endogenous) information, and heterogeneous (dispersed or hierarchical) information.

In related research, Huo and Takayama (2018) characterize the analytical solution to incomplete-information models by applying the state-space method to obtain the Wold fundamental representation in the frequency domain. While Huo and Takayama (2018) focus primarily on exogenous information, our APFI approach is designed mainly for models with endogenous information where the signal process per se does not admit an exact VARMA representation. It is also suitable for models whose explicit solutions from algebraic derivation become infeasible.<sup>4</sup> In this sense, our APFI framework complements the approach of Huo and Takayama (2018) and the two methods agree when information is exogenous.

Another influential work by Nimark (2017) develops a state-space method of solving dynamic models of dispersed information. His method truncates the (potentially) infinite-dimensional state vector of HOEs to a finite order and is widely adopted in the literature. One limitation of the truncation approach arises when agents in the model face asymmetric information frictions. That is, different groups of agents face ex-ante distinct information structures. In this case, the truncation strategy no longer works due to the explosion of cross-expectations among groups. Another limitation of the truncation approach emerges when the time series structure of the primitive model extends beyond the simple AR(1) recursion so that pinning down a suitable state space becomes tricky. In contrast, the APFI framework is not constrained by these limitations and works well for models with general information frictions.<sup>5</sup>

In summary, the APFI framework is particularly useful for solving dynamic models with endogenous signals and substantial information heterogeneity. We demonstrate the reliability and flexibility of our method by applying it to study three macroeconomic models (Section 5). The first example solves a prototypical New Keynesian DSGE model similar to Melosi (2017). We highlight the sensitivity of model solutions to incomplete-information firms' endogenous signals. We then augment this DSGE model with a fiscal sector that features primary surplus and gov-

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<sup>4</sup>In the extension of the paper, Huo and Takayama (2018) also propose a numerical algorithm to solve the endogenous information case. Unlike our method that iterates on the policy function values, their method makes a conjecture of the parametric VARMA form and iterates on the VARMA coefficients, which requires lengthy algebra in evaluating the expectations and a non-trivial procedure for updating the VARMA orders.

<sup>5</sup>Our paper is also related to several recent papers that attempt to bridge the gap between incomplete-information models and their full-information counterparts by constructing an isomorphism between the two. The key ingredient in this approach is to introduce certain forms of distortions or wedges so that the incomplete-information economies are equivalent to the modified complete-information economies. Examples in this line of research include Chahrour and Ulbricht (2018) and Angeletos and Huo (2021). While these papers concentrate on the theoretical insight from the indirect mapping and its qualitative implications, our paper adopts a direct computational approach emphasizing the information endogeneity.

ernment debt and introduce incomplete-information households. We showcase four distinct fiscal effects of the primary surplus shock by allowing firms and households to observe differential, non-nested, and endogenous information. Our results provide new insight into how fiscal policy affects inflation.

The second example considers a HANK-type model of Angeletos and Huo (2021) with endogenous wealth distribution and incomplete information. We modify their original model by allowing different groups of households to be endowed with asymmetric, endogenous information sets. We examine how such asymmetric information frictions interact with the group heterogeneity and shape the model dynamics. To the best of our knowledge, the extension of introducing distinct, endogenous information frictions to different sectors (groups) of the economy is novel, which highlights the flexibility of our methodology.

Our baseline APFI algorithm requires an invertibility condition on the non-expectational block of the model system. Moreover, it cannot handle models with random walk dynamics. In the last application, we consider such a dispersed-information RBC model from Graham and Wright (2010). The model features non-stationarity and multiple equilibria, and it does not satisfy the invertibility condition. To circumvent the limitations of the baseline APFI algorithm, we design three extended APFI algorithms to solve this model. We also conduct a numerical experiment that compares the performance of our algorithms with the time-domain truncation method, which demonstrates the comparative advantages of the APFI framework in terms of accuracy, flexibility, and initial conjecture choice.

## 2 A Simple Model

We use a simple asset pricing model to illustrate the basic idea of our methodology. We also discuss its advantages vis-à-vis other popular frequency-domain and time-domain approaches.

### 2.1 Environment

The model environment follows Singleton (1987). There are two assets in the market: a stock with stochastic dividend payment  $d_t$  and a risk-free one-period bond with constant gross return  $R > 1$ . The stock is in zero fixed supply. A continuum of short-lived traders indexed by  $i \in [0, 1]$  allocate their wealth optimally between these two assets to maximize their constant absolute risk aversion utilities. It is well-known that the equilibrium condition for the (cum-dividend) stock price  $p_t$  is given by

$$p_t = \beta \bar{\mathbb{E}}_t p_{t+1} + d_t \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\bar{\mathbb{E}}_t(\cdot) = \int_0^1 \mathbb{E}_{i,t}(\cdot) di$  is the cross-sectional average expectation operator at time  $t$  and  $\beta = 1/R$  defines the constant discount factor.

The market fundamental or the dividend is unobservable to traders when they trade. Suppose the exogenous dividend  $d_t$  is a covariance-stationary process driven by a persistent AR(1) shock and a transitory shock

$$d_t = e_t + \eta_t = \frac{1}{1 - \rho L} \varepsilon_t + \eta_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2), \quad \eta_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\eta^2) \quad (2.2)$$

where  $L$  is the lag operator,  $L^k \varepsilon_t = \varepsilon_{t-k}$ , and  $0 < \rho < 1$ . During each period every trader receives a private signal  $s_{i,t}$  on the persistent fundamental innovation  $\varepsilon_t$

$$s_{i,t} = \varepsilon_t + \nu_{i,t}, \quad \nu_{i,t} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\nu^2) \quad (2.3)$$

The noise component  $\nu_{i,t}$  is *i.i.d.* across traders  $i$  and over time  $t$ . These idiosyncratic noises are dispersed in the sense that

$$\int_0^1 \nu_{i,t} di \equiv 0 \quad (2.4)$$

The innovations  $(\varepsilon_t, \nu_{i,t}, \eta_t)$  are uncorrelated at all leads and lags.

Trader  $i$ 's information set is defined as  $\Omega_{i,t} = s_i^t \vee p^t$ , where  $s_i^t \equiv \{s_{i,t}, s_{i,t-1}, \dots\}$ ,  $p^t \equiv \{p_t, p_{t-1}, \dots\}$ , and  $\vee$  denotes the smallest closed subspace generated by the history of exogenous signals and endogenous prices. The conditional expectation operator  $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}(\cdot)$  refers to trader  $i$ 's individual expectation, i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}(\cdot) = \mathbb{E}[\cdot | \Omega_{i,t}]$ . We restrict our attention to the symmetric equilibrium in which all traders behave according to the same linear decision rule.

## 2.2 Frequency-Domain Preliminaries

We characterize the linear covariance-stationary equilibrium price using polynomials in the lag operator  $L$

$$p_t = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k L^k \varepsilon_t + \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k L^k \eta_t \equiv A(L) \varepsilon_t + B(L) \eta_t, \quad (2.5)$$

where  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  are square-summable sequences of coefficients, i.e.,  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |A_k|^2 < \infty$  and  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |B_k|^2 < \infty$ . The conjecture is valid as any causal covariance-stationary equilibrium process has a (one-sided) infinite-order moving average representation, i.e., an  $\text{MA}(\infty)$  representation. The economic interpretation of  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  is straightforward—they measure the  $k$ -period-ahead impulse response of the asset price to a one unit increase in the structural innovations, which must converge to zero over time by stationarity.

Solving for the infinite sequences of impulse responses  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  in the time do-

main is a daunting task. Instead, we adopt the frequency-domain approach. The basic idea of frequency-domain methods is to transform the problem by replacing the lag operator  $L$  with a complex-valued variable  $z$ . We then solve an equivalent yet simpler problem of searching for the analytic functions  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  in the complex plane

$$A(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} A_k z^k, \quad B(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k z^k, \quad z \in \mathbb{D} \quad (2.6)$$

where  $\mathbb{D}$  denotes the open unit disk  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$  and  $\mathbb{C}$  denotes the complex plane. The functions  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  are called the  $z$ -transforms of  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ , and they encode the whole impulse response sequences. These functions completely summarize the covariogram and hence the second moment properties of  $\{p_t\}$  via the covariance-generating function  $S_p(z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}(p_t p_{t-k}) z^k = \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2 A(z) A(z^{-1}) + \sigma_{\eta}^2 B(z) B(z^{-1})$ .

Formally, the equivalence between the two representations is established by the Riesz-Fischer theorem, which states that there exists an isometrically isomorphic mapping from the space of one-sided, square-summable sequences to the Hardy space of analytic functions  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .<sup>6</sup> Therefore, solving for the sequences  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  in (2.5) amounts to solving for the functions  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . We refer interested readers to Online Appendix S1 for more technical details.

In practice, the  $\text{MA}(\infty)$  process (2.5) can be approximated arbitrarily well by an autoregressive moving-average process of finite orders  $p$  and  $q$ , i.e.,  $\text{ARMA}(p, q)$ . For example, if we shut down the transitory shock  $\eta_t$ , the equilibrium asset price can be approximated as  $D(L)p_t = N(L)\varepsilon_t$ , where  $D(L) \equiv 1 - \sum_{k=1}^p D_k L^k$  and  $N(L) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^q N_k L^k$ . The polynomials  $D(L)$  and  $N(L)$  share no common factors. When the approximation is exact, we have the relation  $A(L) = D(L)^{-1}N(L)$  and the equilibrium admits a finite-order ARMA representation. In the frequency domain, ARMA processes are identified as rational functions (i.e., ratios of two polynomial functions).

We offer two geometric interpretations of the connection between the frequency domain's analytic functions and the time domain's impulse response functions. First, suppose the analytic function under consideration is rational. In this case, its geometric properties are completely summarized by the order and location of its poles (roots of the denominator) and zeros (roots of the numerator). The pole-zero plot, which is used extensively in the signal processing literature [e.g., Oppenheim, Willsky and Young (1983)], determines the behavior of impulse responses in the time domain. For example, the causal-stationarity of the impulse responses corresponds to poles located outside the unit circle. Given causal-stationarity, the existence of zeros and

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<sup>6</sup> $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  is a Hilbert space of analytic functions in the open unit disk with square integrability on the boundary. There is a one-to-one mapping between  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and the Lebesgue space  $\mathbf{L}^2(\mathbb{T})$ , where  $\mathbb{T}$  denotes the unit circle  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ . Here we use a less well-known version of the Riesz-Fischer theorem to focus on the causal equilibrium with one-sided MA representation. See Rudin (1987) and Lindquist and Picci (2015) for textbook treatments. Isometric isomorphism is defined as bijective mappings that preserve distance.

multiple poles implies non-monotonic and hump-shaped dynamics, and the existence of negative poles implies oscillatory behavior.<sup>7</sup> We summarize these patterns in Figure 1 using three simple examples.

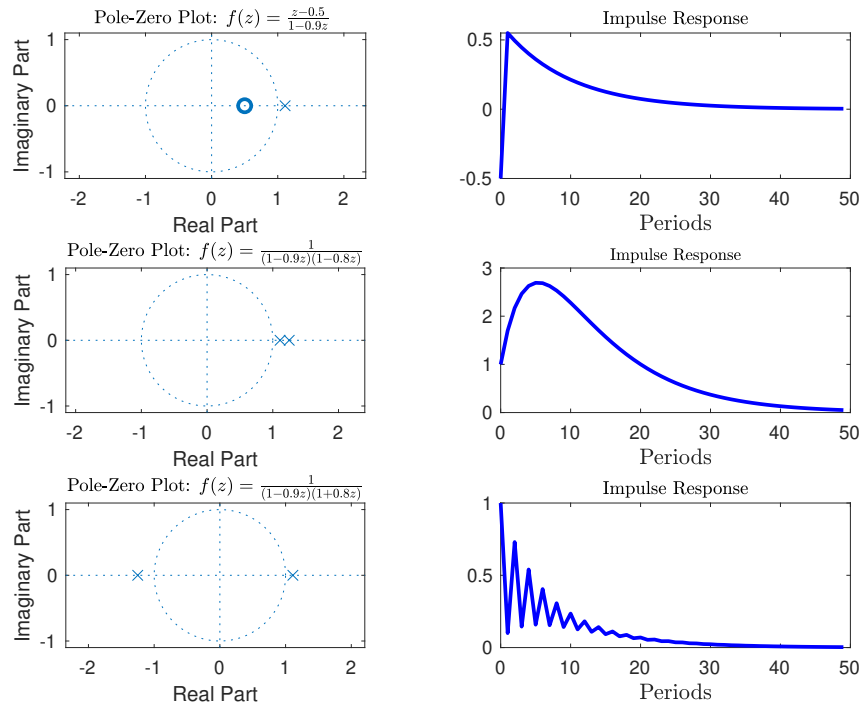


Figure 1: The upper panel plots the case where a zero from MA(1) creates non-monotonic dynamics; the middle panel plots the case where two poles from AR(2) create hump-shaped dynamics; the lower panel plots the case where a negative pole from AR(2) creates oscillatory dynamics.

Second, for a more general class of analytic functions, the sequences of impulse responses  $\{A_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  and  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  correspond to the Laurent series expansions of the analytic functions  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . In this region, the Taylor series coincides with the Laurent series so the impulse responses are linked to the derivatives of analytic functions at the origin ( $z = 0$ ):  $A_k = \frac{A^{(k)}(0)}{k!}$ ,  $B_k = \frac{B^{(k)}(0)}{k!}$ , where  $A^{(k)}(\cdot)$  and  $B^{(k)}(\cdot)$  denote the  $k$ -th order derivatives. Therefore, the dynamic behavior in the time domain is connected to the local smoothness property of analytic functions around the origin. For example, the non-rational function  $\log(1 + \rho z)$  with  $|\rho| < 1$  admits the following Taylor series expansion  $\log(1 + \rho z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^{n+1} \rho^n}{n} z^n$ , which produces oscillatory dynamics with alternating signs.

<sup>7</sup>This interpretation shares the same spirit of Rondina and Walker (2018) where endogenous non-invertibility in the signal process creates waves of optimism and pessimism. The resulting dynamics display oscillatory and hump-shaped patterns.



## 2.3 APFI Approach

The individual expectation  $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}p_{t+1}$  is measurable with respect to investor  $i$ 's signal set. Therefore, we conjecture that the signal representation of the individual expectation is given by  $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}p_{t+1} = F_s(L)s_{i,t} + F_p(L)p_t$ , where the lag polynomials  $F_s(L)$  and  $F_p(L)$  are yet to be determined in the equilibrium. Using (2.5) and the signal representation for  $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}p_{t+1}$ , we can express the equilibrium condition (2.1) as

$$A(L)\varepsilon_t + B(L)\eta_t = \beta [F_s(L)\varepsilon_t + F_p(L)p_t] + \frac{1}{1 - \rho L}\varepsilon_t + \eta_t$$

where the idiosyncratic innovations  $\nu_{i,t}$  are washed out by aggregation (2.4). Using the method of undetermined coefficients to match the polynomials associated with each exogenous innovation, we obtain

$$A(z) = \beta [F_s(A(z), B(z)) + F_p(A(z), B(z))A(z)] + \frac{1}{1 - \rho z} \quad (2.7)$$

$$B(z) = \beta F_p(A(z), B(z))B(z) + 1 \quad (2.8)$$

where we apply the  $z$ -transform to replace the lag operator  $L$  with the complex variable  $z$ .

(2.7)–(2.8) is a system of functional equations in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .  $F_s(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $F_p(\cdot, \cdot)$  are operators of analytic functions originated from evaluating conditional expectations in the frequency domain. Since information is endogenous, they are nonlinear in  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ . The exact functional forms for  $F_s(\cdot, \cdot)$  and  $F_p(\cdot, \cdot)$  are derived in Online Appendix S4. As Makarov and Rytchkov (2012) and Huo and Takayama (2018) point out, the underlying system admits no finite-state representation in general and therefore closed-form solutions are not feasible. In other words, the equilibrium values of  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  do not correspond to the  $z$ -transform of exact finite-order ARMA processes.

Standard frequency-domain approaches are inherently analytical, which require complicated exploration of the analyticity properties of  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ . More importantly, they cannot handle the case when closed-form solutions become unavailable due to information endogeneity. Instead, we advocate a simple iterative approach to solve for the analytic functions  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ , which we call analytic policy function iteration (APFI). Motivated by the classic projection methods in the time domain [see, e.g., Judd (1998)], the centerpiece of our approach is the fit of a basis function to the numeric values of  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  over a discretized set of grid points in the complex plane. In this way, we transform the system of nonlinear functional equations (2.7)–(2.8) into a system of linear algebraic equations.

To fix the idea, suppose  $\eta_t = 0, \forall t$ . Then, we project the true solution of  $A(z)$  onto the space

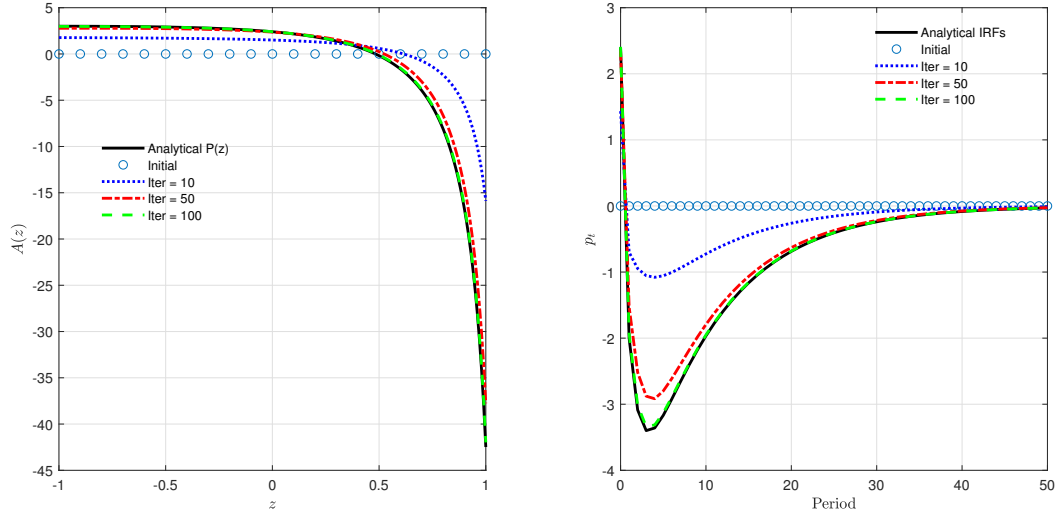


Figure 2: Analytic policy functions  $A_k(z)$  (left panel) and implied impulse responses of  $p_t$  to  $\varepsilon_0 = 1$  (right panel). Parameter values are fixed at:  $\beta = 0.98$ ,  $\rho = 0.9$ ,  $\gamma = 1.5$ ,  $\sigma_\varepsilon = 1$ , and  $\sigma_\nu = 3$ .

of rational functions

$$A(z) \approx \frac{N_0 + N_1 z + \dots + N_q z^q}{1 - D_1 z - \dots - D_p z^p}, \quad z \in \mathbb{D} \quad (2.9)$$

with a finite number  $(p + q + 1)$  of real-valued coefficients  $\{D_1, \dots, D_p\}$  and  $\{N_0, N_1, \dots, N_q\}$ . The choice of rational functions (ARMA processes) as the basis function is natural. The class of ARMA processes serves as the cornerstone for approximating covariance-stationary time series. More importantly, rational functions are vital in numerical evaluations of expectational variables via the Wiener-Hopf optimal prediction formula, as will be shown below.

In our numerical algorithm, we iterate on the function values of  $A(z)$  over a properly chosen set of grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . At each iteration, these function values  $\{A(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  are used to perform the projection. For example, if  $A(z)$  is indeed rational, the projection amounts to solving a linear (collocation) equation. In this case, the ARMA coefficients resulting from the projection fully characterize the behavior of  $A(z)$  on  $\mathbb{D}$ . Meanwhile, there is no need to study the analyticity of  $A(z)$ , which involves heavy algebraic work.<sup>8</sup> We iterate this procedure until the set of function values  $\{A(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  converges.

To illustrate the accuracy of our method, we consider a special case of the simple model with closed-form solution. In this case, we shut down the transitory shock  $\eta_t$  and model the persistent

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<sup>8</sup>In the existing literature, analyticity requires that potential poles (i.e., singular points at which  $A(z)$  are not analytic) of  $A(z)$  inside the unit circle be removed via lengthy algebraic procedures.

shock as an ARMA(1,1) process  $d_t = \rho d_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t - \gamma \varepsilon_{t-1}$  with  $0 < \rho < 1$  and  $\gamma \neq 0$ .<sup>9</sup> Figure 2 compares the exact solution  $A(z)$  with the approximated ones  $A_k(z)$ , where  $k$  stands for the number of iterations. The left panel shows  $A_k(z)$  quickly converges to the true policy function  $A(z)$  in the frequency domain. The right panel plots the convergence of the implied impulse response function in the time domain. In Online Appendix S4 we show the convergence result for the more general case.

## 2.4 Comparison with Existing Approaches

An essential difference between our approach and the conventional ARMA approximation techniques is that our policy function iteration targets the finite set of function value  $\{A(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ , while the rational function only serves as an intermediate tool to facilitate the computation. Therefore, we do not have to worry about the exact ARMA form in updating the candidate solution.

The symbolic nature of the existing frequency-domain strategies entails heavy algebraic work even for small-scale models (like the above example). In contrast, our projection method is entirely numerical and thus computationally efficient, even for high-dimensional DSGE models. In particular, the policy function iteration features only one state variable (i.e.,  $z$ ) regardless of the model size. Therefore, it does not suffer from the curse of dimensionality.

By truncating the infinite dimension of higher-order expectations (HOEs), Nimark (2017) proposes a state-space approach to compute the approximated equilibrium with endogenous information. Compared to this approach, our APFI method delivers more flexibility. First, a truncated VAR(1) representation of the HOE-augmented state space may become unavailable. This problem appears in many models with endogenous state variables (e.g., capital), non-invertible ARMA shocks (i.e., confounding dynamics), or non-diminishing HOEs (e.g., (2.4) does not hold). Second, when agents' information structures are ex-ante different, the truncation approach becomes infeasible due to the explosion of cross-expectations in the state space. On such occasions, our approach is more suitable. Lastly, the number of unknown parameters involved in the APFI method is significantly smaller than the truncation approach, where the entire transition matrix needs to be solved.

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<sup>9</sup>Rondina and Walker (2018) derive the analytical solution as

$$p_t = \underbrace{\frac{1}{L - \beta} \left[ L D(L) - \beta D(\beta) \frac{h(L)}{h(\beta)} \right]}_{A(L)} \varepsilon_t, \quad D(L) = \frac{1 - \gamma L}{1 - \rho L}, \quad h(L) = \psi \theta + (1 - \psi) \frac{\theta - L}{1 - \theta L}$$

where  $\theta \in (-1, 1)$  and  $\beta$  are the only two distinct solutions inside the unit circle of the equation  $zD(z)h(\beta) - \beta D(\beta)h(z) = 0$  and  $\psi = \sigma_\varepsilon^2 / (\sigma_\nu^2 + \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$ . It can be shown when such a  $\theta$  exists,  $p_t$  follows an ARMA(2,2) process satisfying  $A(\theta) = 0$ .

### 3 Theoretical Framework

This section establishes the theoretical foundation of our method. Section 3.1 constructs a canonical form for a general class of dynamic incomplete-information models, which will be used in our baseline numerical algorithm. In Section 3.2, we provide three theorems that characterize the key ingredients in the APFI framework. The appendix contains the proof of the theorems in this section.

#### 3.1 Canonical Representation

We study a class of linear or linearized rational expectations models with general information structures. We cast the set of model equilibrium conditions into the following system of  $n_x$  linear expectational difference equations

$$\sum_{k=0}^l A_k y_{t-k} + \sum_{k=0}^h B_k \mathbb{E}_t y_{t+k} = \mathbf{0}_{n_x \times 1} \quad (3.1)$$

where the model variables  $y_t$  and their coefficient matrices  $(A_k, B_k)$  are partitioned as

$$y_t \equiv \begin{bmatrix} x_t \\ a_t \\ s_t \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_k \equiv \begin{bmatrix} A_k^x & A_k^a & A_k^s \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_k \equiv \begin{bmatrix} B_k^x & B_k^a & B_k^s \end{bmatrix}$$

and  $\mathbf{0}_{n_x \times 1}$  is a  $n_x \times 1$  vector of zeros. The model system (3.1) comprises a non-expectational block (i.e., “ $A$ ” block) and an expectational block (i.e., “ $B$ ” block).<sup>10</sup>  $\mathbb{E}_t(\cdot)$  is a generalized mathematical expectation operator conditional on certain information sets at time  $t$ , as will be explained below. Our formulation adopts the timing convention that a variable is dated  $t$  if it is realized at  $t$ , so there is no need to specify which elements of  $y_t$  are predetermined; the structure of the coefficient matrices  $\{A_k\}$  automatically pins down the list of predetermined variables. For example, if the current capital stock  $k_t$  is predetermined (i.e., realized at  $t - 1$ ), then it will be treated as a  $t - 1$  variable.

There are three types of model variables. First,  $s_t$  is a  $n_s \times 1$  vector of exogenous shocks with  $n_x \times n_s$  coefficient matrices  $\{A_k^s, B_k^s\}$ . It follows a covariance-stationary VARMA( $p_s, q_s$ ) process

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<sup>10</sup>It is necessary to include both the  $A_0$  and  $B_0$  coefficient matrices in (3.1) because the nowcast  $\mathbb{E}_t y_t$  does not necessarily equal its realization  $y_t$  under certain type of information structure. For such an example, see the dispersed information version of the Phillips curve in Online Appendix S5. Another reason is that some elements of  $y_t$  pertain to agents’ own decisions and hence are measurable with respect to their information sets. In the computer program, however, these variables are not explicitly included in the agents’ signal sets used in computing expectations. Therefore, the user needs to associate them only with the  $A_0$  coefficient matrix (i.e., outside the expectation operator) to avoid any measurability issue caused by the computer.

driven by exogenous innovations

$$s_t = \sum_{k=1}^{p_s} C_k^s s_{t-k} + \sum_{k=0}^{q_s} D_k^s \epsilon_{t-k}, \quad \epsilon_t \sim \mathbb{N}(\mathbf{0}_{n_\epsilon \times 1}, \Sigma_\epsilon) \quad (3.2)$$

where  $\{C_k^s, D_k^s\}$  are  $n_s \times n_s$  and  $n_s \times n_\epsilon$  coefficient matrices, respectively.<sup>11</sup>  $\epsilon_t$  is a  $n_\epsilon \times 1$  vector of *i.i.d.* Gaussian innovations with positive definite covariance matrix  $\Sigma_\epsilon > 0$ . It contains both individual and aggregate innovations, which are allowed to be arbitrarily correlated. In particular, the individual innovations satisfy the law of large numbers. Second,  $x_t$  is a  $n_x \times 1$  vector of endogenous variables with  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $\{A_k^x, B_k^x\}$ . It contains both individual choices and aggregate outcomes. While individual choices in  $x_t$  may depend on all innovations in  $\epsilon_t$ , aggregate outcomes in  $x_t$  only respond to aggregate innovations in  $\epsilon_t$ . Lastly,  $a_t = \int_0^1 x_t di$  is the aggregation of  $x_t$  across a continuum of agents indexed by  $i \in [0, 1]$  with  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $\{A_k^a, B_k^a\}$ . Specifically,  $a_t$  corresponds to the component of  $x_t$  with respect to the aggregate innovations. As an illustrative example, Online Appendix S4 shows how to cast the simple model of Section 2 into the canonical form (3.1)–(3.2).

### 3.1.1 Expectational Block and Information Structure

The canonical form (3.1)–(3.2) allows for a flexible specification of the model environment and its information structure. The model economy supported by the system (3.1) consists of a continuum of agents with constant measure. Each agent is subject to three types of shocks: (i) economy-wide aggregate shocks that affect all agents; (ii) group-specific shocks that only affect a particular group or type of agents with non-zero measure; and (iii) idiosyncratic shocks that satisfy the law of large numbers. While the first two types of shocks affect aggregate dynamics, the third type washes out upon aggregation.

The generalized expectation operator  $\mathbb{E}_t(\cdot)$  that appears in (3.1) allows for heterogeneous conditional expectations. That is, every time a variable in  $y_t$  appears in the expectational block of (3.1), its expectation is allowed to be associated with a different information set. To understand this feature more precisely, suppose there are  $M$  types of expectations involved in the system. Then (3.1) can be expanded as

$$\sum_{k=0}^l A_k y_{t-k} + \sum_{m=1}^M \sum_{k=0}^h B_{m,k} \mathbb{E}_{m,t} y_{t+k} = \mathbf{0}_{n_x \times 1} \quad (3.3)$$

where we partition the original “ $B$ ” coefficient matrices in (3.1) into a set of sparse matrices.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup>The VARMA( $p_s, q_s$ ) process (3.2) is covariance-stationary if and only if  $\det(\mathbf{I}_{n_s} - \sum_{k=1}^{p_s} C_k^s z^k) \neq 0$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ , where  $\det$  denotes the determinant operator and  $\mathbf{I}_{n_s}$  is a  $n_s \times n_s$  identity matrix.

<sup>12</sup>We thank an anonymous referee for suggesting this compact representation.

The types of expectations are embedded in the index  $m = 1, 2, \dots, M$ , including individual expectations with respect to different information sets as well as group expectations when information is homogeneous within each group but heterogeneous across groups. The information set for each  $\mathbb{E}_{m,t}$ , denoted by  $\Omega_{m,t}$ , consists of the smallest closed subspace generated by the history of *exogenous* signals  $s_{m,\Omega}^t \equiv \{s_{m,\Omega,t}, s_{m,\Omega,t-1}, \dots\}$  and that of *endogenous* signals  $x_{m,\Omega}^t \equiv \{x_{m,\Omega,t}, x_{m,\Omega,t-1}, \dots\}$ , denoted by  $\Omega_{m,t} = s_{m,\Omega}^t \vee x_{m,\Omega}^t$ . These two types of signals are defined as subsets of exogenous shocks and endogenous variables, respectively, i.e.,  $s_{m,\Omega,t} \subseteq s_t$  and  $x_{m,\Omega,t} \subseteq x_t$ .

In addition,  $\mathbb{E}_{m,t}$  in (3.3) may refer to composite expectation operators defined as linear combinations of individual expectations about a variable in  $y_t$ . Some examples include (i) economy-wide average expectations, (ii) group or type-specific average expectations, and (iii) finite combinations of individual expectations. For simplicity, in the discussion that follows, we focus on the first two types of compositions.

In our numerical toolbox, we adopt the reductive representation (3.1) to lower the user’s input cost. Instead of supplying a set of sparse matrices, the user will simply specify the information set for each equation in the system that involves expectations. Online Appendix S3 provides a user guide on this specification as well as the use of dummy variables in handling the case of multiple types of expectations in the same equation.

Altogether, our canonical form can accommodate models with four different types of information structure. The first type (termed as I.0) refers to the “imperfect, homogeneous information” in which agents are equipped with the same signal set  $\Omega_t$ . The second type (termed as I.1) refers to the “dispersed information”, where the signal structures are ex-ante identical, but idiosyncratic (mean zero) realizations imply that individual-level expectations are ex-post different and all noises aggregate to zero. The third type (termed as I.2) considers the “asymmetric information” in which the signal structures are not ex-ante identical, but expectations are common within groups. This type of information structure precludes purely idiosyncratic noises so that  $\Omega_{i,m,t} = \Omega_{m,t}$  for any agent  $i$  in group  $m$ . The fourth type (termed as I.3) considers the “asymmetric, dispersed information”, where the signal sets are different across groups, and idiosyncratic (mean-zero) realizations cause dispersion within groups.

Table 1 summarizes the types of information structure along with the corresponding examples from the literature. While the time-domain truncation algorithm of Nimark (2017) focuses primarily on the dispersed information setup (I.1), our framework has broader applicability and covers most models in the literature.<sup>13</sup>

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<sup>13</sup>The limitation of Nimark (2017) lies in the explosion of cross-expectations in the state space whenever information is “asymmetric” as defined above.

Information Structure	Literature Example
I.0 (imperfect, homogeneous)	Blanchard, L’Huillier and Lorenzoni (2013); Chahrour and Jurado (2018)
I.1 (dispersed)	Graham and Wright (2010); Nimark (2008, 2017); Melosi (2017); Adams (2021)
I.2 (asymmetric)	Barsky and Sims (2012); Kasa, Walker and Whiteman (2014); Tang (2015); Kohlhas (2019)
I.3 (asymmetric, dispersed)	HANK model of Angeletos and Huo (2021) (see Section 5.2)

Table 1: Summary of information structures. Nimark (2008) and Melosi (2017) consider two types/groups of agents: households and firms. Households are equipped with full information while firms are subject to dispersed information. The aggregation of expectations involves only group average among firms.

### 3.1.2 Frequency-Domain Equilibrium

Now we derive the equilibrium fixed point of the model system (3.1) in the frequency domain. For clarity of exhibition, we assume the expectational block is equipped with only one information set  $\Omega_t$  (i.e., I.0). All results derived herein can be easily generalized to more complicated information structures I.1–I.3.

We work with the VMA( $\infty$ ) representation of the model variables

$$y_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_t \\ a_t \\ s_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma^x(L) \\ \Gamma^a(L) \\ \Gamma^s(L) \end{bmatrix} \epsilon_t \equiv \Gamma^y(L) \epsilon_t, \quad \Gamma^y(L) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \Gamma_k^y L^k \quad (3.4)$$

in the vector space spanned by the history of structural innovations  $\epsilon^t \equiv \{\epsilon_t, \epsilon_{t-1}, \dots\}$ . Some remarks about (3.4) are in order. First, the equilibrium solution is defined as  $x_t = \Gamma^x(L) \epsilon_t$ , which is a matrix generalization of (2.5). In particular,  $\Gamma^x(L)$  is a  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  matrix of lag polynomials with the  $(i, j)$ -th element in  $\Gamma_k^x$  measuring exactly the impulse response of the  $i$ -th variable in  $x_{t+k}$  to the  $j$ -th innovation in  $\epsilon_t$ . Second, given the solution  $\Gamma^x(L)$ , its aggregation  $\Gamma^a(L)$  can be obtained by nullifying those columns of  $\Gamma^x(L)$  corresponding to the idiosyncratic components in  $\epsilon_t$ . Third, the shock representation  $\Gamma^s(L)$  can be computed directly from its VARMA form (3.2).

As in Section 2, we implement the  $z$ -transform of  $\Gamma^x(L)$  to obtain its functional equivalent in the frequency domain  $\Gamma^x(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  denotes the generalization of the univariate Hardy space for  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  matrix of analytic functions, with each element  $\Gamma_{(i,j)}^x(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .<sup>14</sup> The

<sup>14</sup>Such a multivariate generalization is trivial using the Hilbert-Schmidt (trace) norm. See Lindquist and Picci (2015).

second moment properties of  $\{x_t\}$  are fully characterized by its spectral density function  $S_x(\cdot)$ , defined as

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \Gamma^x(e^{-i\omega}) \Sigma_\epsilon \Gamma^x(e^{i\omega})', \quad \omega \in [-\pi, \pi] \quad (3.5)$$

where  $\omega$  denotes the frequency and  $i^2 = -1$ . (3.5) is a special case of the covariance-generating function evaluated on the unit circle (with normalization). Similarly, we can obtain the  $z$ -transforms  $\Gamma^a(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\Gamma^s(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_s \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Collectively, it follows that  $\Gamma^y(z) = [\Gamma^x(z)', \Gamma^a(z)', \Gamma^s(z)']' \in \mathbf{H}_{(2n_x+n_s) \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .

We collect the endogenous and exogenous signals to derive the information set as

$$\Omega_t = \begin{bmatrix} x_{\Omega,t} \\ s_{\Omega,t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Gamma^{x\Omega}(\mathbf{L}) \\ \Gamma^{s\Omega}(\mathbf{L}) \end{bmatrix} \epsilon_t \equiv \Gamma^\Omega(\mathbf{L}) \epsilon_t \quad (3.6)$$

where  $\Gamma^{x\Omega}(\mathbf{L})$  is a sub-block matrix of  $\Gamma^x(\mathbf{L})$  corresponding to the endogenous signals,  $\Gamma^{s\Omega}(\mathbf{L})$  is a sub-block matrix of  $\Gamma^s(\mathbf{L})$  corresponding to the exogenous signals, and  $\Gamma^\Omega(\mathbf{L})$  is the VMA( $\infty$ ) representation of the information set. We then compute the conditional expectations in the frequency domain using the celebrated Wiener-Hopf optimal prediction formula

$$\mathbb{E}[y_{t+k}|\Omega^t] = \underbrace{\left[ \mathbf{L}^{-k} \Gamma^y(\mathbf{L}) \Sigma_\epsilon \Gamma^\Omega(\mathbf{L}^{-1})' \left( \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(\mathbf{L}^{-1})' \right)^{-1} \right]_+}_{F_k(\Gamma^y(\mathbf{L}))} \Sigma_u^{-1} \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(\mathbf{L})^{-1} \Omega_t, \quad \forall k \quad (3.7)$$

where the annihilation operator  $[\cdot]_+$  removes the negative-power part of the function expressed in terms of its series expansion, and  $F_k(\Gamma^y(\mathbf{L}))$  is the signal VMA( $\infty$ ) representation of  $\mathbb{E}[y_{t+k}|\Omega^t]$ . The information set admits the Wold fundamental representation  $\Omega_t = \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(\mathbf{L}) u_t$ , where  $u_t$  is a vector *i.i.d.* innovation process with covariance matrix  $\Sigma_u$ .<sup>15</sup> In Online Appendix S2, we provide computational methods for finding the analytic function  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)$  via factorization techniques of (3.5).

The annihilation operator  $[\cdot]_+$  is a linear operator in the space of analytic functions. Therefore, it is straightforward to generalize (3.7) to the expectation of discounted future sum

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \beta^k \mathbb{E}[y_{t+k}|\Omega^t] = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\mathbf{L}}{\mathbf{L} - \beta} \Gamma^y(\mathbf{L}) \Sigma_\epsilon \Gamma^\Omega(\mathbf{L}^{-1})' \left( \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(\mathbf{L}^{-1})' \right)^{-1} \right]_+}_{F_k(\Gamma^y(\mathbf{L}), \beta)} \Sigma_u^{-1} \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(\mathbf{L})^{-1} \Omega_t, \quad (3.8)$$

where  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  is the discount rate. Formula (3.8) is useful in many economic applications. For example, Section 5.2 illustrates how our numerical toolbox can handle the type of expectations

<sup>15</sup>We can always orthogonalize  $u_t$  by performing eigen-decomposition of  $\Sigma_u$ .



in (3.8).

Substituting (3.4), (3.6), and (3.7) into (3.1) and applying the  $z$ -transform yield a system of functional equations in the unknown policy functions  $\Gamma^y(z)$

$$\sum_{k=0}^l A_k z^k \Gamma^y(z) + \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Gamma^y(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) = 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{D} \quad (3.9)$$

(3.9) is a restatement of the equilibrium condition in the space of analytic functions  $\mathbf{H}_{(2n_x+n_s) \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , from which we derive a fixed-point condition used in our iterative algorithm.

## 3.2 Foundation

We solve the functional equations (3.9) using a projection method that fits the function values  $\Gamma^x(z_j)$  over a discretized set of grid points in the open unit disk,  $z_j \in \mathbb{D}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ . Like other global solution methods, the projection performance hinges on the choice of an appropriate basis function. In our iterative framework, we approximate  $\Gamma^x(z)$  using a VARMA( $p_x, q_x$ ) process

$$x_t \approx \sum_{k=1}^{p_x} C_k^x x_{t-k} + \sum_{k=0}^{q_x} D_k^x \epsilon_{t-k} \quad (3.10)$$

or equivalently, a rational function in the frequency domain

$$\Gamma^x(z) \approx C^x(z)^{-1} D^x(z), \quad C^x(z) \equiv I_{n_x} - \sum_{k=1}^{p_x} C_k^x z^k, \quad D^x(z) \equiv \sum_{k=0}^{q_x} D_k^x z^k \quad (3.11)$$

where  $\{C_k^x, D_k^x\}$  are  $n_x \times n_x$  and  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  coefficient matrices, respectively. When the objective function  $\Gamma^x(z)$  is rational, e.g., in the exogenous information case, the approximation is exact in theory.

The classical idea of approximating analytic functions using rational functions dates back to the Runge theorem [see, e.g., Rudin (1987)]. However, our objective here is more involved as we are solving for analytic functions in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  that correspond to sequences of square-summable impulse responses. Thus, the approximation accuracy needs to be established under the appropriate norm related to covariance-stationarity. To this end, we establish the following theorem on the denseness condition of rational functions in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  that justifies our approximation.

**Theorem 3.1** (Denseness of Rational Functions). *Define the set of  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  matrices of rational analytic functions that correspond to VARMA( $p, q$ ) processes as  $\mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$ , where each element of*

$\mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$  is of the form

$$\mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}^{(m,n)} := \left\{ c^{(m,n)} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^q (1 - b_j^{(m,n)} z)}{\prod_{i=1}^p (1 - a_i^{(m,n)} z)} : a_i^{(m,n)}, b_j^{(m,n)}, c^{(m,n)} \in \mathbb{C}, |a_i^{(m,n)}| < 1, \forall i, j \right\}$$

for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, n_x$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots, n_\epsilon$ . Then  $\bigcup_{p,q \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$  is dense in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .

It follows from Theorem 3.1 that the set of rational analytic functions is dense in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . The key implication of this result is that one can always use a set of VARMA( $p, q$ ) processes to replicate any covariance-stationary equilibrium dynamics. In the mean squared sense, the approximation can achieve arbitrary accuracy, provided that the underlying (true) equilibrium process is not too persistent or too close to having a unit root.

Next, we construct the appropriate state-space grid of points  $z_j \in \mathbb{D}$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , in the open unit disk. We choose the grid points within the real subset  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1) \subset \mathbb{D}$ . By placing  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$  in the unit interval, we bypass the significant complication of handling complex numbers in the numerical algorithm that could compromise accuracy. However, two questions naturally arise from this restriction. First, is a solution to the functional equation (3.9) restricted to  $\mathbb{U}$  a legitimate covariance-stationary equilibrium of the model? Second, does the projection of the function values of  $\Gamma^x(z)$  defined on  $\mathbb{U}$  deliver an accurate approximation to the true function, which is defined on the bigger set  $\mathbb{D}$ ? To address these questions, we establish the following theorem using the theory of analytical continuation and the theory of convergence of analytic functions.

**Theorem 3.2** (Analytic Continuation and Convergence Criterion). *Suppose  $\Psi^x(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and let  $\Psi^y(z) = [\Psi^x(z)', \Psi^a(z)', \Gamma^s(z)']'$  satisfy*

$$\sum_{k=0}^l A_k z^k \Psi^y(z) + \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Psi(z)) \Psi^\Omega(z) = 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{U} = (-1, 1) \quad (3.12)$$

with  $\Psi^\Omega(z) = [\Psi^{x\Omega}(z)', \Gamma^{s\Omega}(z)']'$  for a given selection of endogenous and exogenous signals. Then a stationary equilibrium exists for model (3.1) and is given by  $\Gamma^x(z) = \Psi^x(z)$ . More generally, let  $\Gamma^x(z)$  be any analytic function in the Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . If there exists an analytic function  $\Psi^x(z)$  such that  $\Psi^x(z) = \Gamma^x(z)$  for all  $z \in (-1, 1)$ , then  $\Gamma^x = \Psi^x$  on the entire open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . Finally, if a sequence of rational functions  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  converges pointwise in  $\mathbb{U}$  to a function  $\Gamma^x(z)$ , then  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = 0$ .

The first part of Theorem 3.2 states that the analytic continuation of the solution to (3.12) is the solution to the analytic continuation of the functional equation (3.12), which is (3.9). Therefore, solving the equation over the grid from  $\mathbb{U}$  is sufficient to deliver the model equilibrium. This result is analogous to the law of permanence of functional equations. By the uniqueness of

the analytic continuation, an immediate implication is that if (3.12) has a unique solution, the model admits a unique equilibrium. In our numerical algorithm, the policy function values within each iteration emerge from rational functions. By the second part of Theorem 3.2, the projection based on  $\mathbb{U}$  delivers an accurate reconstruction of the original policy function defined on  $\mathbb{D}$ . More importantly, when iterations on the finite vector  $\{\Gamma^x(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  converge in the pointwise manner, we find the fixed point of the functional equations in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . This result is ensured by the last part of Theorem 3.2, which establishes a convergence criterion for our numerical algorithm.

In our APFI framework, we compute expectational variables using the Wiener-Hopf optimal prediction formula, which requires computing the annihilation operator  $[\cdot]_+$  for the function

$$\Theta(z) \equiv z^{-k} \Gamma^x(z) \Sigma_\epsilon \Gamma^\Omega(z^{-1})' \left( \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1} \quad (3.13)$$

Without loss of generality, we assume now that  $\Theta(z)$  is univariate but all analyses contained here continue to apply to the case of matrix-valued function. By inspection,  $\Theta(z)$  is not analytic in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  due to the cross-spectral density term. Future expectations also induce poles at  $z = 0$ . Elementary complex analysis indicates that  $\Theta(z)$  has different power (Laurent) series expansions in different regions of convergence (ROC) inside  $\mathbb{D}$ . Different ROCs are partitioned as annuli centered at the origin ( $z = 0$ ) according to the positions of singularities (poles) on the complex plane.<sup>16</sup> Given an annulus  $R_1 < |z| < R_2$  with  $0 < |R_1| < |R_2| < 1$ , we can define its two-sided Laurent series expansion and the corresponding annihilation as

$$\Theta(z) = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \Theta_k z^k, \quad [\Theta(z)]_+ = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \Theta_k z^k$$

Then the questions we face are: what is the appropriate region to perform the annihilation in computing the Wiener-Hopf prediction, and how do we calculate the annihilation? The following theorem provides the answers to these questions.

**Theorem 3.3** (Annihilation). *Suppose  $\Gamma^x(z)$  is rational and the Wold fundamental function (spectral factor)  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)$  is invertible on the closed unit disk, i.e.,  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)^{-1}$  is analytic on the closed unit disk.<sup>17</sup> Then the coefficient matrices  $\{\Theta_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  in the annihilation of  $\Theta(z)$  in (3.13) are given by the inverse discrete time Fourier transform (IDTFT) around the unit circle  $\mathbb{T} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| =$*

<sup>16</sup>The open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  is a special annulus  $0 \leq |z| < 1$  with the exception that  $z = 0$  is in the region of analyticity. One can also define the annulus of ROC that does not center at 0; however, in any particular ROC in which  $\Theta(z)$  is analytic, its Laurent series expansion is unique.

<sup>17</sup>The imposition of invertibility is slightly stronger than the Wold fundamentality as analyticity is required on the unit circle. See Forni, Gambetti and Sala (2019).

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$$\Theta_k = \left[ \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \Theta(z) z^{-k} \frac{dz}{z} \right], \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (3.14)$$

where  $\oint$  denotes the (counterclockwise) contour integral. For any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that

$$\Theta_N(z) = \sum_{k=-N/2}^{N/2-1} \Theta_k z^k, \quad \|\Theta_N(z) - \Theta(z)\|_{L^2} < \epsilon$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{L^2}$  denotes the  $L^2$  norm on  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ . The positive part of the coefficient matrices  $\{\Theta_k\}_{k=0}^{N/2-1}$  can be approximated via the inverse discrete Fourier transform (IDFT)

$$\Theta_k \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \Theta \left( \exp \left( -i \frac{2\pi n}{N} \right) \right) \exp \left( i \frac{2\pi n}{N} k \right), \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, N/2 - 1 \quad (3.15)$$

We treat the signal as exogenous with a rational function representation during each algorithm iteration, even when information is endogenous. In this case, it is easy to show the resulting solution  $\Gamma^x(z)$  is also rational, and the first part of Theorem 3.3 implies that the annihilation should be computed in the ROC that includes the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$ . This result is connected to the derivation of the Wiener-Hopf formula. Therefore, we compute the annihilation coefficient matrices using the IDTFT formula (3.14).

The second part of Theorem 3.3 considers the numerical approximation of the annihilated function  $[\Theta(z)]_+$ , which is an infinite series. To this end, we first approximate the original analytic function on the unit circle using the two-sided finite partial sum  $\Theta_N(z)$ . The approximation can be made arbitrarily accurate with increasing order  $N$  by the Riesz-Fischer theorem. We then compute the positive part of this partial sum using the IDFT formula (3.15). IDFT is a classical method of computing the inverse Fourier transform with superior numerical efficiency. In particular, we have used the fact that  $\Theta(z)$  can be evaluated at evenly-spaced points on the unit circle indexed by different frequencies  $\omega_n = 2\pi n/N$ ,  $n = 0, 1, \dots, N-1$ , using formula (3.13).

The standard way of computing the annihilated function  $[\Theta(z)]_+$  in the literature follows Hansen and Sargent (1980). This method characterizes the annihilated function as the difference between the original function and the principal part of its Laurent series expansion around the singularities inside the unit circle. It provides the closed-form expression for the annihilation. Using the residue theorem from complex analysis, one can compute the coefficients associated with the principal part. Since the residue theorem formula uses the values of endogenous functions

at the singularities, these functional constants are yet to be determined in the equilibrium. The solution of these intertwined constants then determines the equilibrium existence and uniqueness. Tan and Walker (2015) and Huo and Takayama (2018) generalize this formula to the multivariate case with higher-order (repeated) singularities.

The existing approach incurs a significant amount of symbolic algebra, including lengthy partial fraction simplifications. The equilibrium determination procedure (“roots counting”) is also non-trivial [Tan and Walker (2015)]. Such a procedure is infeasible in models with endogenous information since the pole structure of  $\Theta(z)$  is not designated ex-ante but endogenous and changes across iterations. In medium or large-scale models, such a method also leads to an algebraic nightmare. In contrast, the discrete Fourier transform method we develop here addresses the underlying problem by sidestepping the functional approach and the equilibrium determination procedure; it uses the IDFT technique to achieve fast and algorithmic computation. This method also connects well with our overall APFI strategy—transforming functional operations into numerical evaluations.

We emphasize that there is one restriction in Theorem 3.3: the forecasting objective cannot have any unit root (i.e., display any random walk property); otherwise, the Riesz-Fischer theorem fails, and the computation is theoretically invalid. Therefore, our baseline APFI algorithm only handles stationary equilibrium systems.

## 4 Baseline Algorithm

Based on the theoretical framework, we propose the baseline APFI algorithm as follows. According to Theorem 3.1, we begin with a conjecture about the as-yet-unknown matrix of rational functions  $\Gamma^x(\cdot)$  in (3.11). This initial set of policy functions for  $x_t$  is then used along with Theorem 3.3 to calculate the expectational variables  $\{\mathbb{E}_t x_{t+k}\}_{k=0}^h$  in (3.1). Next, we obtain an updated set of policy functions for  $x_t$  by solving the functional equations (3.9). By Theorem 3.2, it suffices to solve for the values of  $\Gamma^x(z)$  over a discretized set of grid points on the open unit interval. Evaluating (3.9) at these nodes transforms the functional equations into simpler systems of linear algebraic equations. If the distance between the guess and updated policy values is less than a pre-specified criterion, the policy functions have converged to the equilibrium according to Theorem 3.2. Otherwise, we set the updated policy functions as a new guess and repeat the iterations until convergence.

### 4.1 Implementation

Without loss of generality, we make two simplifying assumptions about our canonical form. These assumptions ease the exposition but do not affect any of the results presented in this section.

First, we eliminate the aggregation variables  $a_t$  whose properties are completely summarized by the endogenous variables  $x_t$ . From (3.9) we expand the functional fixed-point condition as

$$\sum_{k=0}^l A_k^x z^k \Gamma^x(z) + \sum_{k=0}^l A_k^s z^k \Gamma^s(z) + \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Gamma^y(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) = 0, \quad z \in \mathbb{D} \quad (4.1)$$

where  $\Gamma^y(z) = [\Gamma^x(z)', \Gamma^s(z)']'$ . Second, we do not distinguish between individual and aggregate variables in equilibrium so that a priori each element in  $x_t$  is allowed to depend on all elements in  $\epsilon_t$ .

The baseline APFI algorithm operates under the following regularity condition.

**Assumption 4.1** (Regularity). *The full-information version of the simplified model system (4.1) admits a covariance-stationary solution. Let  $A^x(z) = \sum_{k=0}^l A_k^x z^k$ . The finite-order polynomial matrix function  $A^x(z)$  is invertible on the closed unit disk  $\mathbb{D} \cup \mathbb{T}$ , i.e., its determinant polynomial  $\det A^x(z)$  has no root inside the closed unit circle. If  $l = 1$ , the invertibility condition requires that the matrix  $(A_0^x)^{-1} A_1^x$  has spectral radius smaller than 1, i.e., the absolute value of its eigenvalues are all smaller than unity.*<sup>18</sup>

The stationarity assumption on the full-information solution rules out non-stationarity originating from the model's primitive structure. This restriction is necessary since our baseline APFI algorithm, which is based on the canonical form, cannot handle non-stationary solutions such as random walk equilibria (see the discussion in Section 3.2). Suppose the model admits a stationary solution under full information. In this case, its solution under incomplete information is also likely to be stationary since information frictions generally lead to dampened and sluggish dynamics compared to the full-information case. The regularity condition in Assumption 4.1 holds for a wide range of models, including those with endogenous physical states (see Section 5.1 and 5.2). When  $l = 0$  (i.e., no predetermined variables), the invertibility assumption is automatically satisfied.

Assumption 4.1 ensures that our baseline APFI algorithm induces a well-defined (nonlinear) operator  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D}) \mapsto \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , and (4.1) becomes the fixed point of the algorithm operator

$$\Gamma^x(z) = \mathcal{A}(\Gamma^x(z)) \equiv -A^x(z)^{-1} A^s(z) \Gamma^s(z) - A^x(z)^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Gamma^y(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) \right) \quad (4.2)$$

where  $A^s(z) = \sum_{k=0}^l A_k^s z^k$ . In Proposition 2 of the appendix, we show that with additional restrictions the operator  $\mathcal{A}$  is stable (i.e., non-explosive) everywhere. We now describe the

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<sup>18</sup>If  $A_0^x$  is singular, we compute the pseudo inverse  $(A_0^x)^+$  instead. To compute  $(A_0^x)^+$ , let the singular value decomposition of  $A_0^x$  be given by  $A_0^x = USV'$ , where the matrices  $U$  and  $V$  satisfy  $U'U = V'V = \mathbf{I}$  but are not necessarily square, and  $S$  is a square and diagonal matrix with non-zero entries. Then  $(A_0^x)^+ = VS^{-1}U'$ .

algorithm implementation as follows.

**Algorithm 4.2** (Baseline APFI). Given Assumption 4.1, the baseline APFI algorithm is summarized by a sequence of easily implementable steps as follows:

1. **Initialization.** Discretize the state space  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1)$  into  $N$  grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ . For simplicity, we let  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$  be evenly spaced on  $\mathbb{U}$ . Set the initial policy function values  $\{\Gamma^x(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ .
2. **Projection.** Fit the  $z$ -transform of the VARMA( $p_x, q_x$ ) representation for  $x_t$  in (3.11) to the set of data points  $\{(z_j, \Gamma^x(z_j))\}_{j=1}^N$ , i.e.,

$$C^x(z_j)^{-1}D^x(z_j) = \Gamma^x(z_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (4.3)$$

and obtain the VARMA coefficient matrices  $\{C_1^x, \dots, C_{p_x}^x\}$  and  $\{D_0^x, D_1^x, \dots, D_{q_x}^x\}$ .

3. **Evaluation.** For each node  $z_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , evaluate the  $z$ -transforms of expectational variables  $\{F_k(\Gamma^y(z_j))\Gamma^\Omega(z_j)\}_{k=0}^h$  in (4.1) based on the information set (3.6), the Wiener-Hopf formula (3.7), and the fitted policy functions  $\Gamma^x(z) = C^x(z)^{-1}D^x(z)$  in step 2.
4. **Updating.** For each node  $z_j$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , compute the updated policy function value  $\hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j)$  implied by (4.1) via solving the following systems of linear algebraic equations

$$A^x(z_j)\hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j) = -A^s(z_j)\Gamma^s(z_j) - \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Gamma^y(z_j))\Gamma^\Omega(z_j) \quad (4.4)$$

where the right hand side is known by step 3. Note that systems derived from even small-scale models may have singular matrix  $A^x(z_j)$ , so that multiplying through (4.4) by  $A^x(z_j)^{-1}$  to obtain  $\hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j)$  is not possible. Instead, we multiply through (4.4) by the pseudo inverse of  $A^x(z_j)$ .

5. **Recursion.** If the relative distance between the guess and updated policy function values is smaller than a pre-specified criterion  $\epsilon$ , i.e.,

$$\max_{z_1, \dots, z_N} \frac{\|\Gamma^x(z_j) - \hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j)\|}{\|\Gamma^x(z_j)\|} < \epsilon$$

where  $\|\cdot\|$  denotes some matrix norm, then stop and treat  $\{\hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  as the true policy function values. Otherwise, set  $\Gamma^x(z_j) = \hat{\Gamma}^x(z_j)$ ,  $j = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , and go back to step 2.

A distinct advantage of Algorithm 4.2, as we discussed in Section 2.3, is that the iteration centers around the vector of function values  $\{(z_j, \Gamma^x(z_j))\}_{j=1}^N$  rather than any particular VARMA



parameterization of the true solution. On the other hand, the method of VARMA fitting only serves as an auxiliary tool to facilitate the computation.<sup>19</sup> This approach is different from Sargent (1991) and Huo and Takayama (2018) in that we sidestep the procedure of characterizing the updated VARMA parameterization, which greatly simplifies the computation.

During each iteration of Algorithm 4.2, we solve the model as if agents take the signal structure as an exogenous VARMA process. The resulting data points  $\{(z_j, \Gamma^x(z_j))\}_{j=1}^N$  then correspond to rational functions even though the true equilibrium solution under endogenous information may not be rational. In this case, theoretically there exist finite orders  $(p_x, q_x)$  such that  $C^x(z)^{-1}D^x(z) = \Gamma^x(z)$  for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ . Practically, we fix the orders  $(p_x, q_x)$  across all iterations of Algorithm 4.2. We find that  $(p_x, q_x) = (10, 10)$  are sufficient for most economic applications, though we recommend setting  $(p_x, q_x) = (5, 5)$  for small systems. Online Appendix S2 provides computation details of the VARMA fitting method. In our MATLAB toolbox, we also allow for automatic order reduction whenever the fitted VARMA process is non-stationary. This optional feature can be useful for models with non-stationary equilibria, such as the Graham and Wright (2010) model discussed in Section 5.3. We discuss this option in Online Appendix S3.

## 4.2 Equilibrium Existence and Multiplicity

In Proposition 3 of the appendix, we establish the equilibrium existence and uniqueness for the simplified model system (4.1) under exogenous information. The driving force behind the uniqueness result is that when information is exogenous (including the full-information case), the frequency-domain expectations operators become linear. In this case, the variances of higher-order average expectations are diminishing and bounded by those of lower-order average expectations. When information is endogenous, on the other hand, these operators are in general highly nonlinear. Therefore, one can no longer apply the volatility bounds conditioning on two distinct endogenous information sets. In this case, it is difficult to provide a general characterization for the equilibrium existence and uniqueness.<sup>20</sup>

Endogenous information may create multiple equilibria. When learning from endogenous signals is associated with non-fundamental shocks, self-fulfilling sentiment equilibria can arise as in Acharya, Benhabib and Huo (2021). Multiplicity may also emerge when endogenous signals contain non-invertible (confounding) moving-average components as in Rondina and Walker

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<sup>19</sup>As shown in Online Appendix S2, we cast the signal process in a VARMA parametric form to derive its Wold representation using the state-space method.

<sup>20</sup>From a technical point of view, constructing a closed, bounded, and convex self-mapping for  $\mathcal{A}$  on the subset of the unbounded space  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  is challenging. Thus, powerful tools like the Schauder-Tychonoff fixed-point theorem cannot be applied. On the other hand, bounded subsets in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  are normal families in the Montel space of analytic functions, as implied by the Montel theorem. Therefore, one can show that under the given assumptions,  $\mathcal{A}$  defines a compact operator with respect to the topology of uniform convergence on compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ . However, compactness does not hold in general with respect to the norm topology.



(2018).<sup>21</sup> In section 5.3 we provide an example in which multiple equilibria appear as a result of the interaction between the model’s primitive structure and its confounding dynamics. Due to the iterative nature, our baseline APFI algorithm does not select among multiple equilibria and may converge to different equilibria depending on the initial conjecture. There is also no guarantee that the baseline APFI algorithm can find an equilibrium if it exists. The selection of equilibria is possible when prior knowledge of the equilibrium structure is available. In a related paper, Adams (2021) studies a class of dispersed-information models under information structure I.1. He characterizes the uniqueness of a “stable” equilibrium class that satisfies the local contraction property within a certain neighborhood. The uniqueness condition in his paper is characterized by the operator norm of the Fréchet derivative of the signal polynomial in the space of Laurent (Toeplitz) operators.

### 4.3 Extensions

While we present the baseline algorithm based on the simplified system (4.1), our MATLAB toolbox implements the algorithm using the general system (3.1) and such an extension is straightforward. When  $x_t$  contains both individual choices  $x_{1t}$  and aggregate outcomes  $x_{2t}$ , and  $\epsilon_t$  contains both individual innovations  $\epsilon_{1t}$  and aggregate innovations  $\epsilon_{2t}$ , we partition the VMA( $\infty$ ) representation (3.11) conformably as

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} x_{1t} \\ x_{2t} \end{bmatrix}}_{x_t} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma_{11}^x(L) & \Gamma_{12}^x(L) \\ \mathbf{0} & \Gamma_{22}^x(L) \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma^x(L)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_{1t} \\ \epsilon_{2t} \end{bmatrix}}_{\epsilon_t}.$$

We then solve for the updated policy functions  $\Gamma_{11}^x(z)$  and  $[\Gamma_{12}^x(z)', \Gamma_{22}^x(z)']'$  in two separate blocks in step 4 of Algorithm 4.2.

In the solving routine of our toolbox, `solve.m`, we offer a comprehensive list of options that help tailor the implementation of Algorithm 4.2 to a specific problem at hand. These options include the initial guess of the policy functions, the convergence criterion, the minimal and maximal numbers of iterations, the VARMA fitting orders, the number of grid points in the discrete Fourier transform, and the updating step size. We find these options valuable in terms of improving the stability and efficiency of our method. The user only needs to express the model in our canonical form and specify the model’s information and variable structures—an effort no more complicated than using the DYNARE software. We discuss these implementation details in Online Appendix S3. As will be shown in the next section, the toolbox also allows the user to go

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<sup>21</sup>Consider an endogenous signal of the form  $p_t = P(L)(L - \lambda)$ , where the confounding dynamics is indexed by  $|\lambda| < 1$  and  $P(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Multiple equilibria exist when (i) more than one value of  $\lambda$  satisfies the equilibrium restrictions or (ii) there are multiple non-invertible roots in the solution representation of  $p_t$ .

beyond the canonical form and call each routine independently when, for example, Assumption 4.1 does not hold.<sup>22</sup>

## 5 Applications

We provide three macroeconomic models to demonstrate the use of our APFI algorithm and its accuracy, applicability, and flexibility. The first example is a New Keynesian DSGE model with a predetermined physical state and features learning from policies as in Melosi (2017). The second example is the HANK model of Angeletos and Huo (2021). In terms of using the canonical form of our baseline APFI framework, the two examples are similar in that they both feature predetermined variables, and we consider asymmetric and endogenous information sets among agents. In addition, the HANK example allows for endogenous wealth distribution. As a step-by-step user guide, Online Appendix S5 and S6 demonstrate how to cast these models into the canonical form used in our baseline APFI algorithm.

In the final example, we consider the dispersed-information RBC model of Graham and Wright (2010) that violates the regularity condition in Assumption 4.1 and features non-stationary and multiple equilibria. We developed three extended APFI algorithms to solve this model. We also compare their computation performance with the time-domain truncation approach and the closed-form solution. Online Appendix S7 provides detailed documentation on these algorithms along with a user guide for customized coding using our toolbox’s individual routines. Unless stated otherwise, all lower case variables in this section have been log-linearized around their steady states.

### 5.1 DSGE Model with Learning from Policy

#### 5.1.1 Learning from Monetary Policy

The model features a representative household, a continuum of monopolistic competitive intermediate goods firms with Calvo (1983) pricing, a final goods firm, and a monetary authority. Following Melosi (2017), we first assume the household is equipped with full information while the intermediate firms are subject to dispersed information. Melosi (2017) introduces measurement

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<sup>22</sup>When Assumption 4.1 is violated, the baseline APFI algorithm can still be applied by recasting the fixed point condition (4.1) as

$$A_0 \Gamma^x(z) = - \sum_{k=1}^l A_k^x z^k \Gamma^x(z) - \sum_{k=0}^l A_k^s z^k \Gamma^s(z) - \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Gamma^y(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}$$

Iteration based on the above condition is well-defined and may converge to a stationary solution if the expectational block anchors the explosive behavior in the non-expectational block. However, in practice, the baseline APFI algorithm can be ill-behaved and unstable under this circumstance.

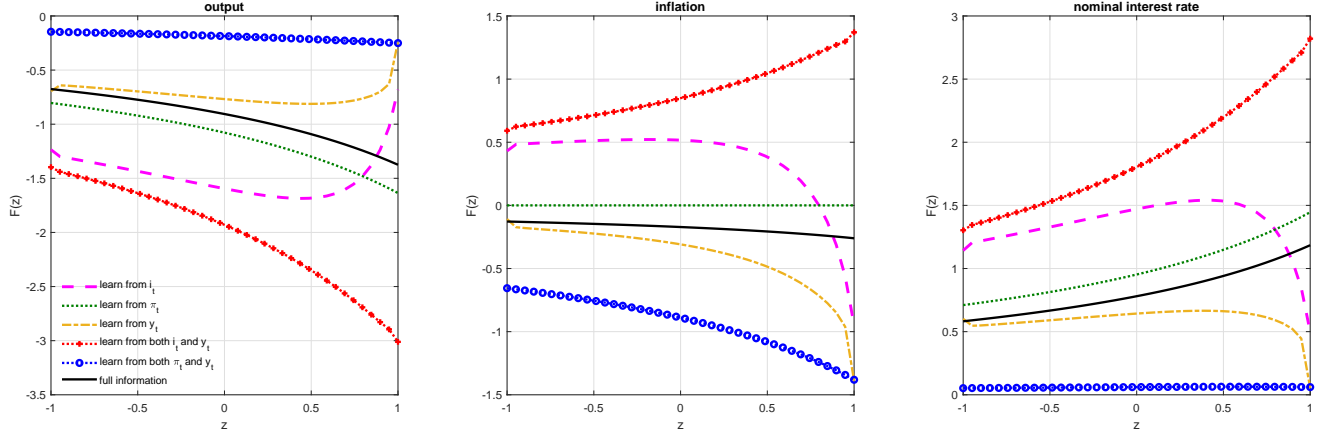


Figure 3: Analytic policy functions to monetary authority’s inflation measurement error shock. Parameter values follow Melosi (2017).

error shocks for both inflation  $\pi_t$  and output  $y_t$  in the monetary policy rule and highlights the signaling effects of monetary policy. A crucial assumption in his analysis is that the intermediate firms only learn from a single endogenous variable—the nominal interest rate  $i_t$ .

This example serves two purposes. First, we illustrate converting a model solution from its analytic function in the frequency domain to its impulse response function in the time domain. Second, our results yield further insights on the sensitivity of the model solution to firms’ information sets. Here we consider several different information settings, allowing firms to either learn from  $i_t$ ,  $\pi_t$ , and  $y_t$  each only, from both  $i_t$  and  $\pi_t$ , and from both  $\pi_t$  and  $y_t$ . We also consider the full information case as a benchmark.<sup>23</sup> Alternative information sets can be easily specified in our MATLAB toolbox by changing a few lines of code. Online Appendix S5 contains the formal model setup.

Figure 3 plots the analytic policy functions of output, inflation, and nominal interest rate to the inflation measurement error shock in the frequency domain under alternative information sets. Different information sets yield strikingly different policy functions (i.e., model solutions). For example, when firms are only learning from  $i_t$  as in Melosi (2017), the analytic policy function of inflation has a zero (root) inside the open interval  $(-1, 1)$ . In contrast, when firms learn from other endogenous variables, the analytic policy functions are either identically zero or have no zeros in  $(-1, 1)$ .

Figure 4 converts the above analytic policy functions to the impulse response functions in the time domain. When firms are only learning from  $i_t$ , the impulse responses of output, inflation, and nominal interest rate to a positive inflation measurement error shock are all hump-shaped, and the inflation response features a price puzzle—a monetary tightening raises the initial price level. By stark contrast, both the prize puzzle and the hump disappear when firms are equipped with

<sup>23</sup>When intermediate firms are learning from all three endogenous variables (i.e.,  $i_t$ ,  $\pi_t$ , and  $y_t$ ), the model solution becomes indistinguishable from the full-information solution.

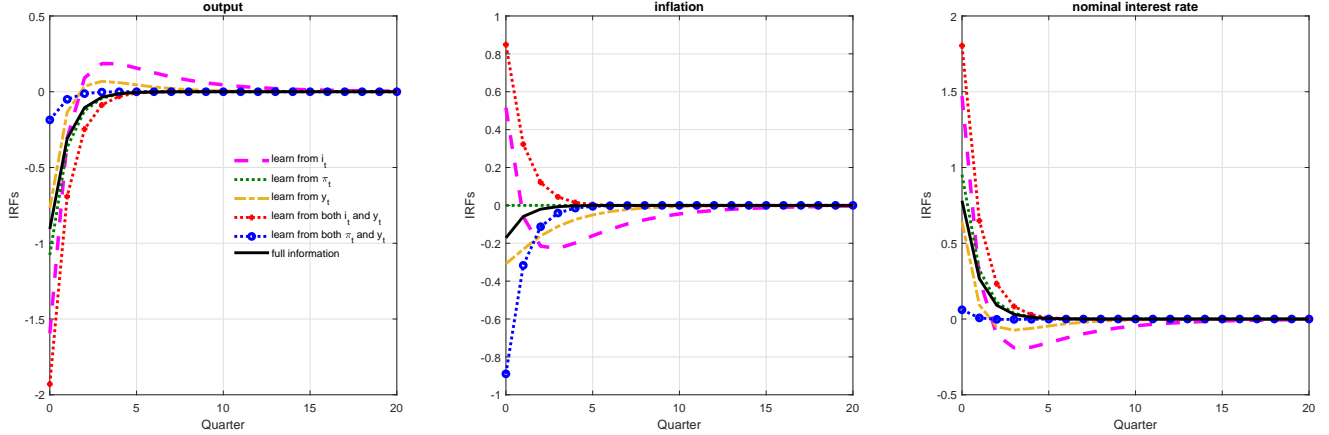


Figure 4: Impulse responses to a positive, one standard deviation inflation measurement error shock. Parameter values follow Melosi (2017).

full information. The hump-shaped impulse responses to a contractionary monetary shock is a universal finding that is robust to many identification schemes [see, e.g., Christiano, Eichenbaum and Evans (1999)]. While a thorough investigation of the impacts of different information sets is beyond the scope of this paper, our results suggest that information frictions may be as important as many other commonly used real and nominal rigidities in determining a DSGE model’s empirical performance.

### 5.1.2 Learning from Fiscal Policy

The recent COVID-19 pandemic has been a substantial shock to the U.S. economy. In response to the significant public health and economic crisis, the federal government has conducted a series of fiscal expansions. The unprecedented large-scale fiscal stimulus, however, raises concerns about its impact on inflation. In a recent article, Larry Summers (2021) warned that the fiscal stimulus “will set off inflation pressures of a kind we have not seen in a generation”. One day later, Paul Krugman (2021) took a different approach and argued that “even a very hot economy only leads to modest inflationary overheating”. We offer novel insight into this ongoing debate by considering how fiscal policy affects inflation under various information structures. We also use this example to demonstrate how the APFI framework handles multiple types of incomplete information sets.

We first augment the dispersed-information DSGE model of Section 5.1.1 by a simple fiscal sector. The fiscal authority imposes lump-sum net taxes  $T_t$  and issues one-period nominal bond  $B_t$ . Let  $B_t/P_t$  denote the real debt where  $P_t$  is the price level. The fiscal authority’s primary surplus is defined by  $S_t = T_t - G_t$ . We assume there is no government spending, i.e.,  $G_t \equiv 0$ .

The government's flow budget constraint is given by

$$\frac{1}{R_t} \frac{B_t}{P_t} + S_t = \frac{B_{t-1}}{P_t} \quad (5.1)$$

To close the fiscal sector, we adopt a simple rule for the primary surplus. Let  $s_t, b_t$  denote log-deviations of  $S_t, B_t/P_t$  from their steady state values. The fiscal rule is of the form

$$s_t = \gamma b_{t-1} + \xi_{s,t}, \quad \xi_{s,t} = \rho_s \xi_{s,t-1} + \eta_t^s, \quad \eta_t^s \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_s^2) \quad (5.2)$$

where the parameter  $\gamma$  governs how aggressively the primary surplus responds to the lagged debt.

Let the parameter  $\phi_\pi$  govern the responsiveness of nominal interest rate  $R_t$  to inflation  $\pi_t$ . Our subsequent analysis focuses on the active monetary ( $\phi_\pi > 1$ ) and passive fiscal ( $\gamma > 1$ ) policy regime [see Leeper (1991)], which implies a Ricardian fiscal policy under full information. In particular, given lump-sum taxation, the impulse responses of output to fiscal innovations (i.e.,  $\eta_t^s$ ) are trivially zero. Moreover, once we shut down all non-policy shocks, inflation is a purely monetary phenomenon. As the impulse responses of inflation to  $\eta_t^s$  are also zero, changes in the size of government debt  $b_t$  have no impact on inflation.

The dispersed-information DSGE model of Section 5.1.1 permits incomplete-information firms. We enrich the analysis here by allowing for an incomplete-information representative household as well. Furthermore, we allow households and firms to observe differential, non-nested, and endogenous information. To the best of our knowledge, the extension of introducing incomplete information to both the supply and demand sides is a novel contribution to the literature. It also highlights the flexibility of our methodology and numerical toolbox.

We maintain the key message of Melosi (2017) that policy variables can serve as endogenous signals to the private sector. There are three policy variables—the nominal interest rate  $i_t$ , the primary surplus  $s_t$ , and the real debt  $b_t$ . To focus on the implications of the fiscal signals, we include the history of  $i_t$  in both the household's and firms' information sets. We consider four cases where only one fiscal variable (either  $s_t$  or  $b_t$ ) enters either the representative household's or the intermediate firms' incomplete information sets.<sup>24</sup> That is,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 1: } \mathcal{I}_t^{HH} &= \{i_{t-j} : j \geq 0\}, & \mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm} &= \{i_{t-j}, s_{t-j}, a_{t-j}^i : j \geq 0\} \\ \text{Case 2: } \mathcal{I}_t^{HH} &= \{i_{t-j} : j \geq 0\}, & \mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm} &= \{i_{t-j}, b_{t-j}, a_{t-j}^i : j \geq 0\} \\ \text{Case 3: } \mathcal{I}_t^{HH} &= \{i_{t-j}, s_{t-j} : j \geq 0\}, & \mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm} &= \{i_{t-j}, a_{t-j}^i : j \geq 0\} \\ \text{Case 4: } \mathcal{I}_t^{HH} &= \{i_{t-j}, b_{t-j} : j \geq 0\}, & \mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm} &= \{i_{t-j}, a_{t-j}^i : j \geq 0\} \end{aligned}$$

<sup>24</sup>If neither primary surplus  $s_t$  nor real debt  $b_t$  enters the households' and firms' information sets, then the Ricardian equivalence of fiscal policy still holds. On the other hand, if primary surplus enters one private sector's information set while real debt enters the other private sector's information set, the fiscal impulse responses are quantitatively small, indicating small deviations from the Ricardian fiscal policy.

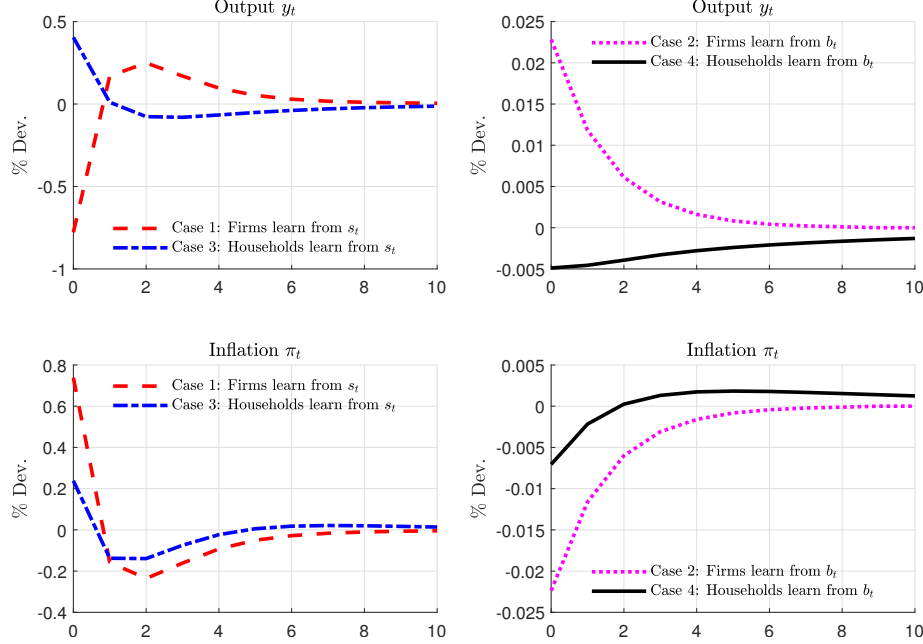


Figure 5: Impulse responses (% deviations) of output and inflation to one standard deviation decrease in the primary surplus shock (i.e.,  $\eta_0^s = -\sigma_s$ ) under different information environments. Non-fiscal parameter values follow Melosi (2017). Fiscal parameter values follow the high-pass posterior estimates of Tan (2019).

These cases can be easily specified in our toolbox by letting various variables enter different agents' information sets.

It is worth noting that when a fiscal variable enters the household's information set (i.e., Case 3 and Case 4), the two private sectors' information sets become non-nested. That is,  $\mathcal{I}_t^{HH} \not\subset \mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm}$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{t,i}^{Firm} \not\subset \mathcal{I}_t^{HH}$ . Non-nested information sets further complicate the issue of higher-order expectations (HOEs). Since

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Case 1 and 2: } & \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} \pi_t = \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_t = \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_t \\ \text{Case 3 and 4: } & \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} \pi_t \neq \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_t \neq \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_t, \end{aligned}$$

non-nested information sets introduce additional HOEs. Time-domain methodologies require the inclusion of a large number of HOEs to form a suitable state space. A direct consequence of non-nested information sets is that time-domain methods will suffer from the curse of dimensionality even more. More importantly, the underlying law of motion for HOEs may not take the simple VAR(1) form as typically postulated in the existing time-domain methods [see, e.g., Nimark (2008)].

Figure 5 plots the impulse responses of output  $y_t$  and inflation  $\pi_t$  to one standard deviation decrease in the primary surplus shock (i.e.,  $\eta_0^s = -\sigma_s$ ). Different information sets generate qualitatively different initial responses of output and inflation at  $t = 0$ . Compared to the full-

information model, both output and inflation display non-trivial responses in all cases. The fiscal shock could either expand or contract the real output and be either inflationary or deflationary. Why are the impacts of fiscal shocks qualitatively different under incomplete information? Besides the conventional roles of policy instruments, these policy variables also serve as endogenous signals that reveal the economic fundamentals. Different perceived fundamentals affect the private sectors' expectation formation and decision making, thereby generating strikingly different impulse responses.

Comparing the left and right panels of Figure 5 suggests that the fiscal impacts also differ quantitatively. The most undesirable case may be Case 1, where output drops the most on impact, and inflation increases significantly. These effects quickly reverse themselves in the subsequent periods. Interestingly, under the current parameterization, both output and inflation deviate little from zero as long as one private sector (either the household or firms) learns from the real debt  $b_t$ . Since the real value of government debt must be equal to the present value of current and expected future primary surpluses, knowing the history of real debt provides the private sector with much information about the history of primary surpluses. As one private sector nearly figures out the fiscal shock, the resulting fiscal impacts deviate little from its full-information, Ricardian benchmark through the general equilibrium effect, even though the other private sector pays no attention to  $b_t$ .

## 5.2 HANK Model with Incomplete Information

Next we consider the incomplete-information heterogeneous agent New Keynesian (HANK) model of Angeletos and Huo (2021) with endogenous wealth distribution. This model features consumer heterogeneities in business cycle exposure and marginal propensity to consume (MPC). There are two groups of consumers, indexed by  $g = \{1, 2\}$  with respective mass  $\pi_g = 0.5$ . Let  $w_g$  denote the survival rate of individuals of each group in each period, and  $\phi_g$  denote the exposure to business cycles. The (log) income of group  $g$  is  $y_{g,t} = \phi_g y_t$ , where  $\phi_g \geq 0$  is the elasticity of group  $g$ 's income with respect to the aggregate income (i.e., output) and  $\pi_1 \phi_1 + \pi_2 \phi_2 = 1$ . The MPC of each group is given by  $1 - \beta w_g$ . In the model,  $w_1 < w_2$  and  $\phi_1 > \phi_2$ . Consequently, group 1 consumers are subject to both high cyclical exposure and high MPC. The formal model setup is contained in Online Appendix S6.

Denote the group-level consumption and saving as  $c_{g,t}$  and  $s_{g,t}$ , respectively.<sup>25</sup> As shown in Online Appendix S6, the group level consumption can be expressed as

$$c_{g,t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} - \beta w_g \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j \bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[r_{t+j}] + (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j \bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[y_{t+j}] \quad (5.3)$$

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<sup>25</sup>The lower case variable  $s_{g,t}$  stands for the ratio between the group saving level  $S_{g,t}$  and the natural level of output  $Y^*$  (i.e.,  $s_{g,t} = \frac{S_{g,t}}{Y^*}$ ) as the steady state value of  $S_{g,t}$  is zero.

where  $\bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[\cdot]$  is the average expectation of group  $g$  at time  $t$ , and  $r_t$  is the unobserved (log) real interest rate subject to exogenous shocks. Each individual  $i$  in either group  $g$  forms expectations  $\mathbb{E}_{i,g;t}[\cdot]$  conditional on a private, noisy signal on the real interest rate. The group level budget constraint is

$$c_{g,t} + s_{g,t} = \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} + \phi_g y_t \quad (5.4)$$

and the market clearing condition requires

$$\pi_1 s_{1,t} + \pi_2 s_{2,t} = 0 \quad (5.5)$$

The saving pair  $(s_{1,t}, s_{2,t})$  defines the endogenous wealth distribution among groups in the economy. In the majority of their analysis, Angeletos and Huo (2021) impose a sequence of fiscal transfers to undo any wealth inequality triggered by the interest rate shocks so that  $s_{g,t} \equiv 0$ . They then provide intuitions on why allowing endogenous wealth dynamics adds persistence to the aggregate output in response to the interest rate shocks.

The HANK model serves three purposes. First, as a practical guide, we illustrate how to introduce dummy variables to map the equilibrium condition (5.3), which involves an infinite sum of expectations, into the canonical form. Infinite sums of expectations frequently appear in incomplete-information models with an infinite number of agents and higher-order expectations. Second, we offer additional insight into the extra persistence due to endogenous wealth distribution. Third, we illustrate the robustness of the results by introducing an asymmetric, endogenous signal.

To begin with, define

$$x_{i,g;t} = \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j r_{t+j}, \quad z_{i,g;t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j y_{t+j}$$

Since the law of iterated expectations applies to individual expectations  $\bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[\cdot]$ , Online Appendix S6 shows we can rewrite the dummy variables  $x_{i,g;t}, z_{i,g;t}$  recursively as

$$x_{i,g;t} = \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} [r_t] + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [x_{i,g;t+1}] \quad (5.6)$$

$$z_{i,g;t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} [y_t] + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [z_{i,g;t+1}] \quad (5.7)$$

Using the two dummy variables, the equilibrium condition (5.3) can be expressed as

$$c_{g,t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} - \int_{[0,1]} x_{i,g;t} di + \int_{[0,1]} z_{i,g;t} di \quad (5.8)$$

One can then map (5.4)–(5.8) into the canonical form and solve the model using our toolbox.



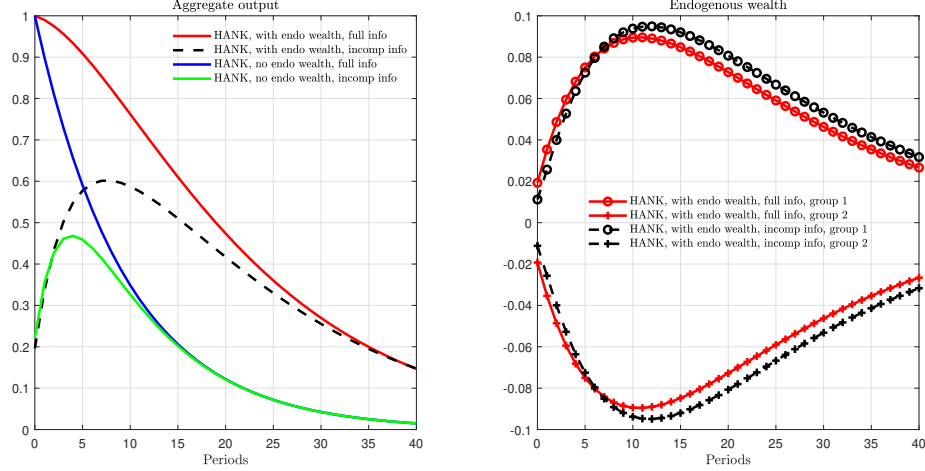


Figure 6: Impulse responses of aggregate output (left panel) and endogenous wealth (right panel) to a negative real interest rate shock. The shock magnitude is normalized so that the full information response of aggregate output on impact equals to 1. Parameter values follow Angeletos and Huo (2021).

Figure 6 plots the impulse responses of the aggregate output and the endogenous wealth distribution to a negative real interest rate shock under both full and incomplete information. Interestingly, while there is a significant distinction between the impulse responses of the aggregate output (i.e., monotone vs. hump-shaped), the wealth distributions display similar patterns between the full-information and the incomplete-information models. We also consider the case of eliminating the endogenous wealth inequality. Consistent with Angeletos and Huo (2021), the impulse responses of the aggregate output are much more persistent when the endogenous wealth inequality is allowed under both full and incomplete information.

Online Appendix S6 shows that when the wealth inequality is allowed, the aggregate output follows

$$y_t = \frac{1}{1 - \theta L} \left[ \pi_1(1 - w_1 L) \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,1;t} - x_{i,1;t}) di + \pi_2(1 - w_2 L) \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,2;t} - x_{i,2;t}) di \right] \quad (5.9)$$

where  $\theta = \pi_1 \phi_1 w_1 + \pi_2 \phi_2 w_2 < 1$ . In contrast, when there is no wealth inequality, the aggregate output is given by

$$y_t = \pi_1 \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,1;t} - x_{i,1;t}) di + \pi_2 \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,2;t} - x_{i,2;t}) di \quad (5.10)$$

Without endogenous wealth, (5.10) defines the aggregate demand of the economy as a dynamic network among the two groups of consumers. Comparing (5.9) with (5.10) indicates additional autoregressive and moving-average terms arise when the wealth inequality is allowed, both of which contribute to the higher persistence of the aggregate output.

We now enrich the HANK model by introducing a noisy private signal  $m_{i,g;t}$  on the endogenous

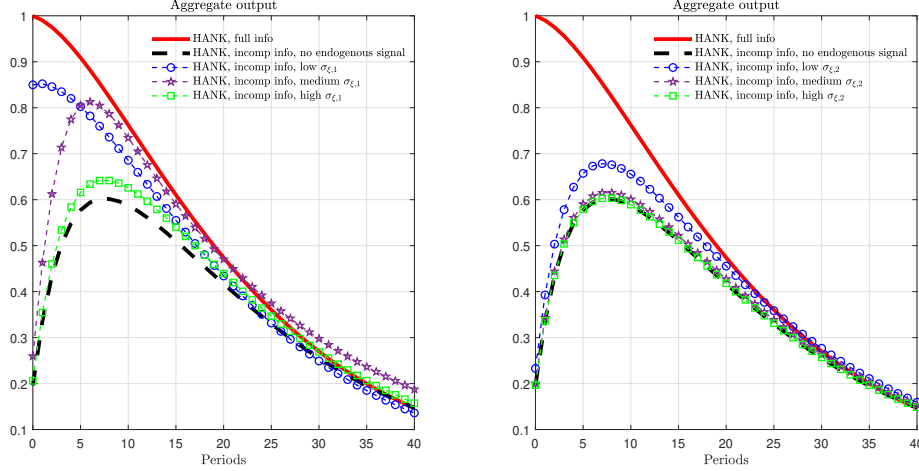


Figure 7: Impulse responses of aggregate output to a negative real interest rate shock. The shock magnitude is normalized so that the full information response on impact equals to 1. Parameter values other than  $\sigma_{\xi,g}$  follow Angeletos and Huo (2021).

aggregate output  $y_t$ .<sup>26</sup> The group-specific signal  $m_{i,g;t}$  is of the form

$$m_{i,g;t} = y_t + \xi_{i,g;t}, \quad \xi_{i,g;t} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_{\xi,g}^2) \quad (5.11)$$

We assume only one group receives such a signal. While Angeletos and Huo (2021) mainly focus on symmetric and exogenous information, we allow asymmetric and endogenous information, and focus on how such an information setting impacts the aggregate output dynamics. Figure 7 plots the impulse responses of  $y_t$  when either group 1 (left panel) or group 2 (right panel) receives the endogenous signal  $m_{i,g;t}$ . We vary  $\sigma_{\xi,g}$  and consider an  $m_{i,g;t}$  with a high, medium, and low precision.<sup>27</sup> Figure 7 also plots the two benchmark cases where both groups are equipped with either full information or symmetric, exogenous information. All models considered in Figure 7 allow for endogenous wealth distribution.

Comparing the left and right panels of Figure 7 indicates that information asymmetry matters in shaping the aggregate dynamics. Providing group 1 with a precise endogenous signal (i.e., low  $\sigma_{\xi,1}$ ) yields a monotone impulse response that is quite similar to its full-information counterpart.<sup>28</sup> In contrast, providing group 2 with the same signal (i.e., low  $\sigma_{\xi,2}$ ) generates a hump-shaped impulse response. When the magnitude of  $\sigma_{\xi,2}$  is medium or high, the impulse responses are

<sup>26</sup>In the toolbox, we also include the customized solution code for the HANK model that does not rely on the canonical form. In that example, we instead consider a noisy, group-specific aggregate signal. The discounted infinite future sum of expectations can be handled directly by a separate routine. The results are similar.

<sup>27</sup>Let  $\sigma^f(y_t)$  denote the unconditional standard deviation of the aggregate output in the full-information HANK model with endogenous saving. We pick low, medium, and high values of  $\sigma_{\xi,g}$  such that  $\sigma_{\xi,g}/\sigma^f(y_t) \in \{0.01, 0.25, 1\}$ .

<sup>28</sup>Increasing  $\sigma_{\xi,1}$  from low to medium value generates a pronounced hump-shaped response. Interestingly, the impulse response under-shoots initially but then over-shoots its counterpart under full information. Angeletos, Huo and Sastry (2020) emphasize a similar pattern found in surveys of macroeconomic expectations.

indistinguishable from its incomplete-information counterpart with symmetric and exogenous signals.

These results suggest the endogenous signal  $m_{i,2,t}$  about the aggregate output  $y_t$  does not change the behavior of group 2 individuals much when it is not precise enough. In the extreme case of  $\phi_2 = 0$  so that the income of group 2 individuals is not subject to business cycle fluctuations, the last term in (5.3) vanishes and the group level consumption  $c_{2,t}$  does not depend on  $y_t$  explicitly. The signal  $m_{i,2,t}$  is still useful to group 2 individuals as it contains information about the interest rate shock through  $y_t$ . Nevertheless, such a signaling channel only manifests when  $\sigma_{\xi,2}$  is small enough. When  $\sigma_{\xi,2}$  is relatively large, the pattern of the impulse responses in Figure 7 supports rational inattention of group 2 individuals.

On the other hand, group 1 individuals are subject to both high MPC and high cyclical exposure. The combined features imply a volatile group level consumption  $c_{1,t}$ . Such a positive correlation between MPC and cyclical exposure also suggests group 1 individuals should pay close attention to business cycle conditions if allowed. If we interpret the negative interest rate shock as a result of an expansionary monetary policy and the existence of  $m_{i,1,t}$  due to imperfect central bank communication, Figure 7 suggests the monetary policy effects depend crucially on (i) whether group 1 individuals are learning from  $m_{i,1,t}$ , and (ii) whether the communication is effective (i.e., a small  $\sigma_{\xi,1}$ ).

### 5.3 Beyond the Canonical Form and Baseline Algorithm

In the last example, we study an island-type stochastic growth model with dispersed information in Graham and Wright (2010). This model features non-stationarity and multiple equilibria. We go beyond the canonical form and demonstrate how the user can tailor a model-specific APFI algorithm. There are a large number of islands in the economy. Identical households and firms live on each island  $i$ , and are subject to unobservable aggregate and idiosyncratic productivity shocks denoted as  $a_t$  and  $z_{it}$ , respectively. Both shocks follow AR(1) processes. Households consume a single good  $c_{it}$ , supply labor  $n_{it}$  to local firms, and save in terms of the physical capital  $k_{it}$ . Households lease capital at the rental rate  $r_{kt}$  to firms on different islands in a centralized capital market, while labor markets are segmented on each island (i.e., labor is immobile). Households and firms on each island share dispersed information about the unobserved state of the economy (i.e., aggregate and idiosyncratic productivity shocks and the aggregate capital). The information set on each island contains two signals: (i) an island-specific wage signal that is informationally equivalent to an exogenous signal as the sum of the aggregate and idiosyncratic productivity shocks, i.e.,  $s_{wt} = a_t + z_{it}$ ; (ii) the endogenous rental rate of capital  $r_{kt}$ .

Under the parameter calibration in Graham and Wright (2010), the model's equilibrium system does not satisfy the invertibility condition in Assumption 4.1. On the other hand, the number of signals in the model equals the number of unobserved exogenous shocks, and the (endogenous)

capital rental rate signal displays confounding dynamics. As such, we solve and characterize the closed-form equilibrium using the frequency-domain techniques similar to Rondina and Walker (2018). The closed-form characterization shows that the full-information and the incomplete-information models cannot be fully stationary. Two possible equilibria are stationary at the aggregate level. The first equilibrium (Equilibrium 1) features a unit root in the idiosyncratic consumption and capital. The second equilibrium (Equilibrium 2) features an explosive process for the idiosyncratic capital. Graham and Wright (2010) focused on the exploration of Equilibrium 1. We refer readers to Online Appendix S7 for the formal model setup and complete characterization of the model solution.

The underlying irregularities impose substantial challenges to numerical computation. In this regard, we reduce the model's equilibrium system into a two-equation system.

$$\begin{cases} c_{it} = \mathbb{E}_{it} [c_{it+1} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))r_{kt+1}] \\ Q(L)r_{kt} = P_a(L)a_t - P_c(L)c_t \end{cases} \quad (5.12)$$

which consists of the individual Euler equation and a relation between the capital rental rate and the aggregate consumption. The individual expectation is conditional on the information set  $X_{it} = \{r_{k,t-j}, s_{w,t-j} : j \geq 0\}$ . The  $P_a(L)$ ,  $P_c(L)$ , and  $Q(L)$  defined in (S7.14)–(S7.16) of Online Appendix S7 are first-order exogenous lag polynomials associated with the model's primitive parameters. Non-invertibility appears in the second equation of (5.12) as the roots of  $Q(z)$  and  $P_c(z)$  are all inside the unit circle.<sup>29</sup> Without further restrictions, a well-defined stationary process for  $c_t$  could lead to non-stationarity in  $r_{kt}$  and vice versa. This problem is independent of the model's information structure and creates numerical instability in an iterative algorithm. In Online Appendix S7 we discuss the origin and implications of the non-invertibility problem in more details.

Motivated by this model's theoretical and numerical irregularities, we develop three variants of the baseline APFI algorithm beyond the canonical form. These algorithms are designed to solve the system (5.12), which is sufficient to characterize the entire model solution. The first algorithm (Algorithm 1) employs the signal representation of the solution to eliminate the non-invertibility problem. For Equilibrium 1 with a random walk, we adopt a first-differencing strategy. The second algorithm (Algorithm 2) expands conditional expectations using the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula and iterates on the functions representing the endogenous signal along with its Wold representation. The third algorithm (Algorithm 3) imposes a functional form restriction for the solution and updates the iteration based on the Euler equation errors, ensuring stationarity during the iteration process. In some of these extended APFI algorithms, we utilize knowledge

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<sup>29</sup>If one of the roots of  $Q(z)$  and  $P_c(z)$  are outside the unit circle, then rearranging the order of variables could eliminate the non-invertibility problem.

Performance	Extended APFI			Time-Domain
Statistics	Algorithm 1	Algorithm 2	Algorithm 3	Truncation
<b>PI Equilibrium 1</b>				
Computation time	6.3691(s)	1.2587(s)	N/A	0.3818(s)
Convergence criterion	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	N/A	$10^{-5}$
Initial conjecture	Generic	Generic	N/A	Restrictive
<b>PI Equilibrium 2</b>				
Computation time	21.6737(s)	0.8898(s)	531.4262(s)	N/A
Convergence criterion	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	N/A
Initial conjecture	Generic	Generic	Generic	N/A

Table 2: Statistics of computation performance. N/A denotes the case where the algorithm is not applicable. “Generic” initial conjecture means the initial function values can be set to simple guess, including  $0$ ,  $\frac{1}{(1-\rho_a)z}$ ,  $-z$ , where  $\rho_a$  is the shock persistence. On the other hand, “restrictive” initial conjecture means the convergence and stability of the algorithm are highly sensitive to the initial guess.

about the theoretical properties of the model’s equilibrium to impose restrictions on the solution form and the functional constants associated with agents’ conditional expectations. Such prior knowledge includes the stationarity property of the two equilibria and the structure of the full-information solution.<sup>30</sup>

We conducted a comparison exercise using our APFI algorithms and the time-domain truncation algorithm used in Graham and Wright (2010).<sup>31</sup> In contrast to the time-domain method, we find that the extended APFI algorithms are, in general, slower but more accurate and robust to initial conjectures. Unlike the time-domain approach, our APFI algorithms can also compute different types of equilibria that this model admits. We summarize the computation performance of these algorithms in Table 2. The performance statistics include computing time (in seconds), convergence criterion, and initial conjecture. We report the statistics for the computation of two incomplete-information (PI) equilibria: Equilibrium 1 and Equilibrium 2. We also report the statistics for the time-domain truncation method of Nimark (2017) that is used in Graham and Wright (2010).<sup>32</sup>

<sup>30</sup>If there is no unit root in the system, Algorithm 1 based on the signal representation requires no additional restrictions. See Algorithm S7.8 in Online Appendix S7.

<sup>31</sup>We are grateful to Liam Graham and Stephen Wright for sharing their original code with us for completing this exercise.

<sup>32</sup>The numerical experiment is conducted on a laptop with Intel® Core™ i5-4600U CPU (2 cores, 4 threads), 2.40GHz, RAM 8.00Gb. We run the code on Matlab R2019b platform using individual routines contained in our toolbox. For each statistic, we run the algorithm ten times and calculate the average performance. We use the same parameter setting as in Graham and Wright (2010) except that we set the steady-state growth rate to  $g = 0$  in each algorithm. However, all results remain valid when we set  $g > 0$ . In the toolbox, we also include the code for solving the full-information equilibrium, and its numerical performance is similar to the PI case.

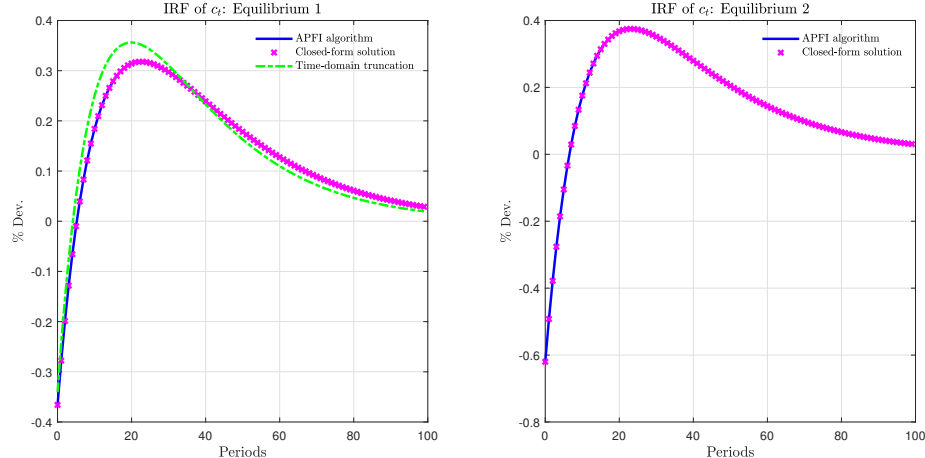


Figure 8: Comparison of frequency-domain and time-domain numerical solutions with closed-form solution under incomplete information.

As Table 2 suggests, the APFI algorithms turn out to be slower than the time-domain truncation method. This is not surprising considering the amount of algebra involved in the latter approach. The APFI algorithms, on the other hand, entail a series of intermediate steps (e.g., finding the rational approximation, computing the Wold spectral factorization, and evaluating the annihilation operator), which are performed by the individual routines in our toolbox. Among all, Algorithm 3 requires the most significant amount of algebraic work and hence is the slowest. However, various options can be applied to improve the speed of our APFI algorithms further, including reducing the grid points on the state space, adopting more delicate initial guesses, reducing the number of points for the discrete Fourier transform, and reducing the orders of VARMA( $p, q$ ) approximation. In Online Appendix S7 we provide some helpful coding pointers that guide these implementation details.

Compared to the performance on speed, we believe the accuracy, stability, and flexibility of an algorithm are equally important. In these regards, the APFI algorithms demonstrate superior advantages. The left panel of Figure 8 plots the impulse response of the aggregate consumption in PI Equilibrium 1 under different APFI algorithms, the closed-form solution, and that under the time-domain algorithm. The APFI algorithms lead to a highly accurate solution virtually identical to the true solution. On the other hand, the time-domain algorithm used by Graham and Wright (2010) yields a substantial numerical error, which remains large even if we increase the order of higher-order expectations in the state space. In addition, we identify and compute the PI Equilibrium 2, which displays a qualitatively similar solution. Quantitatively, the two equilibria are sufficiently different. The right panel of Figure 8 plots the impulse response of the aggregate consumption in Equilibrium 2 under the APFI algorithms and the true solution. Again, our algorithms demonstrate superb accuracy. Finally, all three APFI algorithms are robust to different initial conjectures as generic initial guesses lead to stable convergence. This

robustness is in sharp contrast to the time-domain approach, whose convergence is sensitive to the initial guess.<sup>33</sup>

The dynamic responses in Figure 8 demonstrate high persistence even when the shock persistence is only moderate (0.9). The impulse response sequences (i.e.,  $MA(\infty)$  coefficients of the solution) do not vanish even after 100 periods. This observation implies that the MA truncation methods such as in Lorenzoni (2009) and more recently in Adams (2021) may become less efficient as the required truncation length and the number of unknown coefficients that need to be solved are enormous.

## 6 Concluding Remarks

We have developed a unified framework for solving and analyzing dynamic macroeconomic and finance models of incomplete information. In particular, we propose a policy function iteration method based on the frequency-domain techniques and provide a handy numerical toolbox that implements our method. We also demonstrate the applicability and flexibility of this framework using several economic examples. We believe the tools developed in this paper can be useful in addressing many potential research questions. Extending our methodology to continuous-time models or even to nonlinear models will also be important future directions.

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<sup>33</sup>In the code of Graham and Wright (2010), they first compute a “pseudo model” and then use the resulting solution as an initial guess. However, their algorithm convergence is vulnerable to other simpler initial guesses.

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## Appendix

### Proof of Theorems

This section presents the proof of three theorems in the main text.

#### Proof of Theorem 3.1

We start with a subset of  $\bigcup_{p,q \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$  that corresponds to VARMA( $k, k-1$ ) processes. In particular, define the set of  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  matrices of proper rational analytic functions that correspond to VARMA( $k, k-1$ ) processes as  $\mathbf{R}_k$ , where each element of  $\mathbf{R}_k$  is of the form

$$\mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)} := \left\{ c^{(m,n)} \frac{\prod_{j=1}^{k-1} (1 - b_j^{(m,n)} z)}{\prod_{i=1}^k (1 - a_i^{(m,n)} z)} : a_i^{(m,n)}, b_j^{(m,n)}, c^{(m,n)} \in \mathbb{C}, |a_i^{(m,n)}| < 1, \forall i, j \right\}$$

for  $m = 1, 2, \dots, n_x$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots, n_\epsilon$ . We will first show that  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k$  is dense in the normed vector space  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and then extend the result to  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{Q}_k$ .

By definition,  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k$  is dense in the normed vector space  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  if for any  $\epsilon > 0$  and any matrix  $K(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , there exists an element  $J(z) \in \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k$  such that

$$\|K(z) - J(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2} = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \text{tr} \{ [K(z) - J(z)] [K(z) - J(z)]^* \} \frac{dz}{z} \right)^{1/2} \leq \epsilon$$

where  $*$  denotes conjugate transpose, and  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  is the matrix trace operator. We proceed the proof in three steps.

**Step 1:** We first show that each matrix element,  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)}$ , is dense in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Fix an element  $(m, n)$ , the proof of this step is constructive. Consider a sequence of complex numbers  $\{\theta_k\}_{k=0}^\infty$  on the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} |\theta_k| = 0$ . It is immediate that

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - |\theta_k|) = \infty \tag{1}$$

Then we apply the Gram-Schmidt procedure to construct an orthonormal basis in the Hilbert space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . In particular, consider a set of functions  $\{\mathcal{H}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  given by

$$\mathcal{H}_k(z) = \frac{1}{1 - \theta_k z}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N}$$

The first element can be normalized as

$$\mathcal{B}_0(z) = \frac{\mathcal{H}_0(z)}{\|\mathcal{H}_0(z)\|} = \frac{\sqrt{1-|\theta_0|^2}}{1-\theta_0 z}$$

which simply characterizes an AR(1) process with unit variance (or norm). Next, we recursively define

$$\mathcal{W}_k(z) = \mathcal{H}_k(z) - \sum_{h=0}^{k-1} \langle \mathcal{H}_k(z), \mathcal{B}_h(z) \rangle \mathcal{B}_h(z), \quad \mathcal{B}_k(z) = \frac{\mathcal{W}_k(z)}{\|\mathcal{W}_k(z)\|}$$

where the inner product is defined as

$$\langle \mathcal{H}_k(z), \mathcal{B}_h(z) \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \mathcal{H}_k(e^{-i\omega}) \overline{\mathcal{B}_h(e^{-i\omega})} d\omega$$

Note that the choice of  $\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}$  is not unique, provided the underlying ARMA process is not too persistent (i.e.,  $\theta_k$  is not too close to unity).

The above recursion yields the following formula for  $\{\mathcal{B}_n(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$

$$\mathcal{B}_k(z) = \left( \frac{\sqrt{1-|\theta_k|^2}}{1-\theta_k z} \right) \prod_{h=0}^{k-1} \frac{z-\theta_h}{1-\theta_h z}, \quad k \in \mathbb{N} \quad (2)$$

By inspection, it is easy to see that  $\mathcal{B}_k(z) \in \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)}$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus,

$$\text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}}) \subseteq \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)} \quad (3)$$

as  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)}$  is a linear subspace of  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  that is closed under finitely many linear combinations.

Therefore, (3) implies that it suffices to show  $\text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}})$  is dense in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Basic Hilbert space theory ensures that  $\text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}})$  is dense if and only if there is no function  $f(z) \neq 0$  in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  such that  $\langle f(z), g(z) \rangle = 0$  for all  $g(z) \in \text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}})$ . We prove this statement by contradiction. Suppose there exists  $f(z) \neq 0$  such that it is orthogonal to every element in  $\text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}})$ . Then we can have

$$\langle f(z), \mathcal{B}_0(z) \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} f(z) \overline{\mathcal{B}_0(z)} \frac{dz}{z} = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} f(z) \left( \sqrt{1-|\theta_0|^2} \right) \frac{z}{z-\theta_0} \frac{dz}{z} = 0 \quad (4)$$

By Morera's Theorem and Cauchy Integral Theorem, (4) holds if and only if  $f(z)$  has a zero at  $z = \bar{\theta}_0$ . Continuing this argument, we know that  $f(z)$  has zeros at a sequence of points

$\{\bar{\theta}_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  inside the unit circle. Since  $f(z)$  is analytic inside the unit circle, by Theorem 2.3 and its corollary of Duren (2000), we have  $f(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - |\bar{\theta}_k|) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (1 - |\theta_k|) < \infty$$

which leads to an immediate contradiction to (1). Therefore,  $\text{span}(\{\mathcal{B}_k(z)\}_{k \in \mathbb{N}})$  and hence  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)}$  are dense in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Since our choice of  $(m, n)$  is arbitrary, the argument extends to all elements of the matrices in the set  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k$ .

**Step 2:** Given step 1, the second step is straightforward. Fix a  $K(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . For each  $m = 1, 2, \dots, n_x$  and  $n = 1, 2, \dots, n_\epsilon$ , pick a function  $g^{(m,n)}(z) \in \bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k^{(m,n)}$  such that

$$\|g^{(m,n)}(z) - K^{(m,n)}(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq \frac{\epsilon}{n_x n_\epsilon}.$$

This can be done by the denseness proved in step 1. Define  $J(z)$  such that  $J^{(m,n)}(z) = g^{(m,n)}(z), \forall m, n$ . Then it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \text{tr} \{ [K(z) - J(z)] [K(z) - J(z)]^* \} \frac{dz}{z} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \sum_{m=1}^{n_x} \sum_{n=1}^{n_\epsilon} \left| J^{(m,n)}(z) - K^{(m,n)}(z) \right|^2 \frac{dz}{z} \right)^{1/2} \\ & = \left( \sum_{m=1}^{n_x} \sum_{n=1}^{n_\epsilon} \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\mathbb{T}} \left| J^{(m,n)}(z) - K^{(m,n)}(z) \right|^2 \frac{dz}{z} \right)^{1/2} = \left( \sum_{m=1}^{n_x} \sum_{n=1}^{n_\epsilon} \|J^{(m,n)}(z) - K^{(m,n)}(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ & \leq \sum_{m=1}^{n_x} \sum_{n=1}^{n_\epsilon} \sqrt{\|J^{(m,n)}(z) - K^{(m,n)}(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}^2} \\ & \leq \frac{\epsilon}{n_x n_\epsilon} (n_x n_\epsilon) \\ & = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

where the first inequality comes from the classical arithmetic inequality.

**Step 3:** By definition,  $\bigcup_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{R}_k \subset \bigcup_{p,q \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$ . Therefore,  $\bigcup_{p,q \in \mathbb{N}} \mathbf{Q}_{(p,q)}$  is dense in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .<sup>1</sup> The proof is then complete.

## Proof of Theorem 3.2

We break the proof of the theorem in three parts.

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<sup>1</sup>In fact, any VARMA( $p, q$ ) process can be written as a VARMA( $k, k-1$ ) process by setting the appropriate coefficient matrices to zero. The refinement of the basis functions to VARMA( $k, k-1$ ) processes is needed for models whose solution forms are restricted in order to integrate our APFI method with other algorithms. See the rational inattention example of Miao, Wu and Young (2021a).

**Part 1:** First, we notice that  $\mathbb{D}$  is open, connected sets in the complex domain such that  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1) \subset \mathbb{D}$  is open. By definition,  $\Psi^y(z)$  is analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$ ; therefore,  $\Psi^y(z)$  is the unique analytic continuation of  $\Psi^y(z)$ ,  $z \in \mathbb{U}$  to the entire open unit disk.

Next, we rewrite (3.12) as

$$A_0 \Psi^y(z) = \mathcal{T}(\Psi^y(z)), \quad z \in \mathbb{U} = (-1, 1), \quad (5)$$

where  $\mathcal{T} \equiv -\sum_{k=1}^l A_k z^k \Psi^y(z) - \sum_{k=0}^h B_k F_k(\Psi^y(z)) \Psi^\Omega(z)$ . The first part of  $\mathcal{T}$  is analytic and  $\|z^k \Psi^y(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = \|\Psi^y(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ , since  $z^k$  is merely the shift operator. The Wiener-Hopf operator is defined as

$$F_k(\Psi^y(z)) = \left[ z^{-k} \Psi^y(z) \Sigma_\epsilon \Gamma^\Omega(z^{-1})' \left( \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1} \right]_+ \Sigma_u^{-1} \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)^{-1}$$

It is easy to show that the annihilation operator  $[\cdot]_+$  is linear and the resulting function is analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$  (see e.g. Hansen and Sargent (1980) and the proof of the next theorem). The fundamental spectral factor  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)^{-1}$  is also analytic in  $\mathbb{D}$  by invertibility. Hence,  $F_k(\Psi^y(z))$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi^y(z))$  are analytic functions in the entire open unit disk since analyticity is preserved under sum and product.

Since both the LHS and RHS of (5) are analytic functions in  $\mathbb{D}$  and (5) holds in the open subset  $\mathbb{U} \subset \mathbb{D}$ , we have

$$A_0 \Psi^y(z) = \mathcal{T}(\Psi^y(z)), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}, \quad (6)$$

by the uniqueness of analytic continuation (Rudin (1987), Corollary of Theorem 10.18). Moreover,  $A_0 \Psi^y(z)$  and  $\mathcal{T}(\Psi^y(z))$  have the same unique Laurent series expansion in the annulus  $0 \leq |z| < 1$  (i.e.,  $\mathbb{D}$ ). Since  $\Psi^y(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{(2n_x+n_s) \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , by the Riesz-Fischner theorem the Laurent series are square-summable (Theorem 17.12 of Rudin (1987)). Therefore, the MA( $\infty$ ) representation  $\Psi^x(L) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \Psi_n^x L^n$  is a covariance-stationary equilibrium for model (3.1).

**Part 2:** The statement is standard implication of the uniqueness of the analytic continuation and hence proof is omitted.

**Part 3:** The proof on the convergence criteria is much more involved since analytic continuation does not extend to limit in general. Therefore we adopt a different approach that requires some results in complex analysis. Let  $(\mathbb{C}^{n_x \times n_\epsilon}, \|\cdot\|_{hs})$  denote the set of  $n_x \times n_\epsilon$  dimensional complex matrices equipped with the Hilbert-Schmidt matrix norm, which is the underlying field for matrix functions  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Since every finite dimensional normed vector space is Banach and satisfies the Heine-Borel theorem, it induces a complete metric space denoted by  $(\mathbb{C}^{g \times k}, d_{hs})$ .<sup>2</sup> Clearly,  $\|\cdot\|_{hs}$  is a matrix generalization of the univariate modulus  $|\cdot|$ .

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<sup>2</sup>We pick the (Euclidean) H-S norm for convenience as all norms on  $\mathbb{C}^{g \times k}$  are equivalent.

**Step 1:** First, note the each element in sequence  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  is rational. Therefore, by Theorem S1.4, they have no poles (and are analytic) on the closed unit disk  $\mathbb{T} \cup \mathbb{D}$ . Moreover, they are bounded analytic functions in the sense

$$\sup_{z \in \mathbb{D}} \|\Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} \leq \sup_{|z|=1} \|\Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} = M_n < \infty, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$$

for some  $M_n > 0$ . The first inequality follows from the Maximum Modulus Principle. Therefore,  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^\infty(\mathbb{D})$ . Define  $M = \sup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \{M_n\} < \infty$ . Then it is clear that the sequence  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is uniformly bounded on every compact subsets of  $\mathbb{D}$ , i.e., for every compact set  $G \subset \mathbb{D}$  and for all  $\Gamma_n^x(z)$  and  $z \in G$ , we have

$$\|\Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} \leq M, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

**Step 2:** Next, we state the following lemma which is crucial for our proof.

**Lemma 1 (Vitali).** *Let  $f_n$  be a sequence of analytic functions on a domain  $D$  that is uniformly bounded on each compact subset of  $D$ . Then the functions  $f_n$  converge to  $f$  uniformly on compact subsets of  $D$  if and only if there is a set of points  $A$ , such that  $A$  has a point of accumulation in  $D$  and  $f_n$  converge pointwise on  $A$ .*

The proof of this theorem uses the celebrated Montel's theorem and can be found in Beliaev (2019), Theorem 2.11.<sup>3</sup> Now let  $D = \mathbb{D}$  and  $A = \mathbb{U}$ , it is clear that  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges uniformly to  $\Gamma^x(z)$  on each compact subset of  $\mathbb{D}$ .

**Step 3:** We prove the statement  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = 0$ . Consider a family of compact sets  $\{\bar{D}_r\}_{0 \leq r < 1}$ , where  $\bar{D}_r$  denotes the closed disk centered at the origin, with radius  $0 \leq r < 1$ . Fix a  $r$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then we can pick  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  such that for all  $n \geq n_0$ ,

$$\sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{ds} < \epsilon$$

by the uniform convergence property. Now pick  $m, n \geq n_0$ , and define a family of parameterized integral operator  $\Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma_m^x(z), r)$  indexed by  $r$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma_m^x(z), r) &= \left\{ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \text{tr} \left\{ \left[ \Gamma_n^x(re^{it}) - \Gamma_m^x(re^{it}) \right] \left[ \Gamma_n^x(re^{it}) - \Gamma_m^x(re^{it}) \right]^* \right\} dt \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\leq \left\{ \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \left| \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{ds} \right|^2 dt \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} = \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{ds} \end{aligned}$$

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<sup>3</sup>For more background details on the Montel space of analytic functions, we refer readers to Chapter VII of Conway (1978) and Chapter 2 of Beliaev (2019).



where the first inequality follows from the monotonicity of the Lebesgue integrals and the fact that  $\sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs}$  is a constant function. Using the triangle inequality and the property of supremum

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma_m^x(z), r) &\leq \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{ds} \\ &= \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z) + \Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} \\ &\leq \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z)\|_{hs} + \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Note that (7) holds for all  $m, n \geq n_0$ . Now take the limit  $m \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma_m^x(z), r) &= \Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \Gamma_m^x(z), r) \\ &\leq \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma_m^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z)\|_{hs} + \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

where the first equality interchanges the integration with limit under uniform convergence. By Lemma A.1, the first term on the RHS of the inequality vanishes; hence, (8) implies that

$$\Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z), r) \leq \sup_{z \in \bar{D}_r} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{hs} < \epsilon \quad (9)$$

Since (9) holds for all  $0 \leq r < 1$ , we take the radial limit  $r \rightarrow 1$ ,

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \Delta(\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z), r) = \|\Gamma_n^x(z) - \Gamma^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} < \epsilon$$

where the first equality follows from Remark 17.8 of Rudin (1987). Now since our choices of  $n_0$  and  $n$  are arbitrary, we have proven the statement:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\Gamma^x(z) - \Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = 0$$

By the Cauchy completeness of  $\mathbf{H}^2$  space, we know that  $\Gamma^x(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Our proof is now complete.

### Proof of Theorem 3.3

First, consider the conditional expectation  $\hat{x}_{t+k} = \mathbb{E}[x_{t+k} | \Omega^t]$  in its innovation representation

$$\hat{x}_{t+k} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} H_k L^k \Omega_t = H(L) \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(L) u_t \quad (10)$$

By covariance-stationarity,  $H(z)\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Since  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)$  is an outer (i.e., invertible) function, it follows that  $H(z)$  is analytic on  $\mathbb{D}$  by the properties of analytic functions.<sup>4</sup>

Next, we derive the region of convergence (ROC) for  $\Theta(z)$  through the construction of the Wiener-Hopf filter. In particular, we show such ROC contains the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$  under our assumptions. Note that the optimal filter satisfies the following orthogonality condition

$$\mathbb{E}[(x_{t+k} - \hat{x}_{t+k})\Omega_{t-j}] = 0, \quad \forall k, j \in \mathbb{N} \quad (11)$$

in the inner-product space of random variables. Substitute (10) into (11) to obtain

$$R_{x\Omega}(k+j) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} H_i R_\Omega(j-i), \quad \forall k, j \in \mathbb{N} \quad (12)$$

where  $R_{x\Omega}(\cdot)$  and  $R_\Omega(\cdot)$  are cross and auto-covariance functions, respectively. Since  $\Gamma^x(z)$  and  $\Gamma^\Omega(z)$  are rational analytic functions on  $\mathbb{T}$  by Theorem S1.4, the implied covariance generating functions

$$S_{x\Omega}(z) = \Gamma^x(z)\Sigma_\epsilon\Gamma^\Omega(z^{-1})' = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} R_{x\Omega}(k)z^k \quad (13)$$

$$S_\Omega(z) = \Gamma^\Omega(z)\Sigma_\epsilon\Gamma^\Omega(z^{-1})' = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} R_\Omega(k)z^k \quad (14)$$

are rational with the property that  $\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |R_{x\Omega}(k)| < \infty$  and  $\sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |R_\Omega(k)| < \infty$ . Geometrically, these functions possess a finite number of poles located inside and outside the unit circle, which are determined by  $\Gamma^x(z)$  and  $\Gamma^\Omega(z)$ . Then we can pick a small  $\epsilon > 0$  such that within the annulus  $\mathbb{A}_1 = \{z : |1 - \epsilon| < |z| < 1/|1 - \epsilon|\}$ , (13) and (14) converge and hence are well-defined. This procedure can simply be done by taking the intersection of the ROCs for  $S_{x\Omega}(z)$  and  $S_\Omega(z)$  that contain the unit circle.

Now define a sequence  $\{G_j\}_{j=-\infty}^{\infty}$  by

$$G_j = R_{x\Omega}(k+j) - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} H_i R_\Omega(j-i), \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (15)$$

By (12),  $G_j = 0$  for  $j \geq 0$ . We can also extend the sequence  $\{H_i\}_{i=0}^{\infty}$  by letting  $H_i = 0$  for  $i < 0$ . Then taking the two-sided  $z$ -transform on both sides of (15), we can obtain

$$G(z) = z^{-k}S_{x\Omega}(z) - H(z)S_\Omega(z) \quad (16)$$

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<sup>4</sup>The Hardy space, however, is not closed under multiplication.

where we have applied the convolution theorem of  $z$ -transform. (16) is well-defined in the region  $\mathbb{A}_2 = \mathbb{A}_1 \cap \mathbb{D} = \{z : |1 - \epsilon| < |z| < 1\}$ . Using the canonical spectral factorization  $S_\Omega(z) = \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z)\tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z^{-1})'$ , we can rewrite (16) as

$$G(z) \left( \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1} = z^{-k} S_{x\Omega}(z) \left( \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1} - H(z) \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z)$$

Within the region  $\mathbb{A}_2$ ,  $G(z) \left( \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1}$  has only negative power terms by the invertibility of the fundamental spectral factor, while  $H(z)\tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z)$  has only positive power terms. Therefore, taking the annihilation  $[\cdot]_+$  of the above equation yields

$$0 = \left[ z^{-k} S_{x\Omega}(z) \left( \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z^{-1})' \right)^{-1} \right]_+ - H(z) \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z)$$

which gives the Wiener-Hopf optimal prediction formula

$$H(z) = [\Theta(z)]_+ \tilde{\Gamma}_\Omega(z)^{-1}$$

By construction  $\Theta(z)$  is rational. Moreover, it does not have any pole on the unit circle. In other words,  $\Theta(z)$  has the same Laurent series expansion in the region  $\mathbb{A}_3 = \{z : |1 - \epsilon| < |z| \leq 1\}$  as in  $\mathbb{A}_2$ . Therefore, we can apply the inverse discrete time Fourier transform to compute the coefficients of positive power terms. Finally, since  $\Theta(z)$  is a rational analytic function on  $\mathbb{T}$ ,  $\Theta(z) \in L^2(\mathbb{T})$  and its inverse Fourier coefficients are absolutely-summable (and hence square-summable). The approximation accuracy follows directly from Theorem S1.3.

## Properties of the Baseline Algorithm

**Proposition 2** (Boundedness). *Suppose Assumption 4.1 holds for the simplified model system (4.1), where the expectational block is associated with either (i) a particular information set  $\Omega_t$  (I.0) or (ii) information structure I.1, and the structural innovations are orthonormal, i.e.,  $\Sigma_\epsilon = I$ . Then  $\mathcal{A} : \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D}) \mapsto \mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  is a nonlinear, locally bounded operator that maps a bounded subset of  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  to another bounded subset. If in addition,*

$$\sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1} B_k\|_{\mathbf{H}^\infty} = \sum_{k=0}^h \sup_{|z|=1} \sigma_{\max}(A^x(z)^{-1} B_k) < 1 \quad (17)$$

where  $\mathbf{H}^\infty$  is defined in the space of (essentially) bounded analytic functions and  $\sigma_{\max}$  refers to the largest singular value of the matrix. Then for any given initial conjecture  $\Gamma_0^x(z)$ , the sequence  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n=0}^\infty$  induced by  $\mathcal{A}$  is bounded (non-explosive).

The  $\mathbf{H}^\infty$  norm is used extensively in the signal processing and control theory literature and can be computed conveniently in MATLAB. The assumption of orthonormality is not restrictive because the fixed point conditions (4.1) and (4.2) can always be rewritten in terms of orthonormal innovations. Specifically, if we perform the (unitary) eigen-decomposition for  $\Sigma_\epsilon = UDU'$  with  $U$  being unitary and  $D$  being diagonal and multiply the structural innovations in  $\Gamma^s(z)$ ,  $\Gamma^y(z)$ , and  $\Gamma^\Omega(z)$  by  $M = U\sqrt{D}$ , then the fixed point condition can be defined in terms of orthonormal innovations. The solution  $\Gamma^x(z)$  to the normalized system is equivalent to the solution with respect to the original structural innovations up to a transformation by  $M^{-1}$ .

## Proof of Proposition 2

We first consider the case where the expectational block contains a particular information set  $\Omega_t$ . Expanding (4.2) to obtain

$$\Gamma^x(z) = \mathcal{A}(\Gamma^x(z)) \equiv -A^x(z)^{-1}A^s(z)\Gamma^s(z) - A^x(z)^{-1}\left(\sum_{k=0}^h B_k^x F_k(\Gamma^x(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z) + B_k^s F_k(\Gamma^s(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)\right) \quad (18)$$

By Assumption 4.1,  $A^x(z)^{-1}$  is a rational, bounded analytic function in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_x}^\infty$ . By Conway (1990, p. 28, Theorem 1.5) and Lindquist and Picci (2015, Theorem 4.3.3 (Bochner-Chandrasekharan) and Proposition B.2.4), the left multiplication by  $A^x(z)^{-1}$  defines a bounded, linear operator in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2$  with operator norm

$$\|A^x(z)^{-1}\|_{op} = \|A^x(z)^{-1}\|_{H^\infty} = \sup_{|z|=1} \sigma_{\max}(A^x(z)^{-1})$$

Now consider a bounded set in  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and an element  $\Gamma^x(z)$  in it. It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathcal{A}(\Gamma^x(z))\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} &\leq \|A^x(z)^{-1}A^s(z)\Gamma^s(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} + \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^x\|_{op} \|F_k(\Gamma^x(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \\ &\quad + \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^s\|_{op} \|F_k(\Gamma^s(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \end{aligned}$$

where we have used the triangular inequality and the bounded linear operators defined by  $A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^x$  and  $A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^s$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, h$ . The first term on the right hand side is purely exogenous and bounded. Without loss of generality, let  $N = \|A^x(z)^{-1}A^s(z)\Gamma^s(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ . Define  $W(\Gamma^x(z)) = F_0(\Gamma^x(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)$ , which is associated with the innovation representation for the conditional expectation of the vector-valued process  $x_t$ . By the spectral theory of time series, the

covariance matrix of  $\mathbb{E}_t x_t$  is given by the inverse Fourier transform of the spectral density<sup>5</sup>

$$\Sigma_{Ex} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f_{Ex}(\omega) d\omega = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} W(\omega) W^*(\omega) d\omega$$

Taking the trace operator on both sides of the equation leads to the sum of variances

$$tr(\Sigma_{Ex}) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} tr(W(\omega) W^*(\omega)) d\omega \leq tr(\Sigma_x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} tr(\Gamma^x(\omega) \Gamma^{x,*}(\omega)) d\omega \quad (19)$$

where  $\Sigma_x$  is the covariance matrix of  $x_t$ , and the inequality follows from the variance bounds of higher-order expectations. That is, for the entire vector of model variables  $y_t$ , we have

$$var(\bar{\mathbb{E}}_t^{(k)}(y_t)) \leq var(\bar{\mathbb{E}}_t^{(k-1)}(y_t)) \leq \dots \leq var(\bar{\mathbb{E}}_t^{(1)}(y_t)) \leq var(\mathbb{E}_t(y_t)) \leq var(y_t), \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N} \quad (20)$$

where  $\bar{\mathbb{E}}_t^{(k)}(y_t)$  denotes the  $k$ -th order average expectation over the entire economy.  $\leq$  is defined as entry-wise inequality over vectors. The last inequality follows from the orthogonality condition of individual conditional expectations, and the remaining inequalities follow from the fact that idiosyncratic shocks vanish due to the law of large numbers.

Since  $x_t$  is covariance-stationary, the inequality in (19) applies to expectations of future realizations  $\{L^{-k}x_t\}_{k=1}^h$ . Taking square roots on both sides of the inequality in (19), we obtain the norm inequality:  $\|F_k(\Gamma^x(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq \|\Gamma^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, h$ . A similar argument shows that  $\|F_k(\Gamma^s(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq \|\Gamma^s(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, h$ . Therefore,

$$\|\mathcal{A}(\Gamma^x(z))\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq N + \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^x\|_{op} \|\Gamma^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} + \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^s\|_{op} \|\Gamma^s(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$$

is bounded. The last component in the inequality is again exogenous, and we define  $R = \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^s\|_{op} \|\Gamma^s(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ .

Next, we notice that  $\|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^x\|_{op} \leq \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k\|_{op}$  since the maximum singular value of the sub-matrix is bounded by the original matrix for every  $|z| = 1$  and  $k = 0, 1, \dots, h$ . Therefore, if (17) holds, let  $\alpha \equiv \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1}B_k^x\|_{op} < 1$ . Now take an initial conjecture  $\Gamma_0^x(z)$ . The sequence  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n=0}^\infty$  induced by  $\mathcal{A}$  admits the bound

$$\|\Gamma_n^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = \|\mathcal{A}(\Gamma_{n-1}^x(z))\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \alpha^k (N + R) + \alpha^n \|\Gamma_0^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$$

Since  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ ,  $R > 0$ , and  $N > 0$ , the sequence  $\{\Gamma_n^x(z)\}_{n=0}^\infty$  is bounded above by  $\frac{1}{1-\alpha}(N + R)$ .

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<sup>5</sup>By Rozanov (1967, Sec 1.9), the processes  $x_t$  and  $\mathbb{E}_t x_t$  have absolutely continuous spectral measures with well-defined spectral densities.

$R) + \|\Gamma_0^x(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$ . Under the more general information structure I.1, elements in  $\{B_k\}_{k=0}^h$  is allowed to be associated with expectations conditional on distinct information sets. However, for each information set, the variance bound inequalities (19) and (20) still hold. Therefore, using the representation (3.3) it is easy to show that the results we have proved remain valid. This completes the proof.

**Proposition 3** (Contraction Mapping). *Suppose the information structure is exogenous and the assumptions in Proposition 2 hold (in particular, condition (17)). Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a contraction mapping and there exists a unique fixed point for the simplified model system (4.1).*

### Proof of Proposition 3

We first consider the case where the expectational block contains only one information set  $\Omega_t$ . When information is exogenous, by the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula (3.7) and the variance bound inequality (19),  $F_k(\Gamma^x(z))\Gamma^\Omega(z)$  defines a linear bounded operator for  $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, h$ . The linearity follows from the fact that the annihilation operator  $[\cdot]_+$  is linear and that information is purely exogenous. Next, we show that under (17),  $\mathcal{A}$  is a contraction. Take two functions  $f(z)$  and  $g(z)$  in the space  $\mathbf{H}_{n_x \times n_\epsilon}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . By (18),

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{A}(f - g)(z) &= A^x(z)^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^h B_k^x F_k(g(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) - \sum_{k=0}^h B_k^x F_k(f(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) \right) \\ &= A^x(z)^{-1} \left( \sum_{k=0}^h B_k^x F_k(g(z) - f(z)) \Gamma^\Omega(z) \right) \end{aligned}$$

where the terms associated with exogenous shocks and their expectations drop out due to exogenous information. The second equality comes from the linearity of the expectation operator. Then it follows that

$$\|\mathcal{A}(f - g)(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} \leq \sum_{k=0}^h \|A^x(z)^{-1} B_k^x\|_{op} \|(f - g)(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = \alpha \|(f - g)(z)\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$$

where  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  is defined in the proof of Proposition 2. Therefore,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a contraction and there is a unique fixed point for (4.1). Using the representation (3.3), the proof for more general types of information structure is similar and hence omitted.

# Online Supplementary Appendix

Zhao Han, Fei Tan, and Jieran Wu

## Appendix S1 Mathematical Preliminaries

Throughout the paper we work in the space of analytic functions that correspond to the  $\text{MA}(\infty)$  representation of causal covariance-stationary processes. A function  $f$  of the complex variable  $z$  is analytic (or holomorphic) in an open set if it is complex differentiable at each point in that set. The basic idea of frequency-domain methods is to transform the problem of solving for a square-summable sequence of MA coefficients into an equivalent but simpler problem of solving for an analytic function in the Hardy space. To define such space, let  $\mathbb{C}$  denote the complex plane,  $\mathbb{T}$  the unit circle  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| = 1\}$ , and  $\mathbb{D}$  the open unit disk  $\{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ .

**Definition S1.1** (Hardy Space). The Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  consists of the analytic functions  $f$  on the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying

$$\|f\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |f(re^{i\omega})|^2 d\omega \right)^{1/2} < \infty$$

where  $i^2 = -1$  and  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}$  defines a norm on  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ .

*Remark.* The Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  can be viewed as a closed vector subspace of the complex  $L^2$  space on the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$ , denoted by  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ . This connection is provided by the fact that the radial limit

$$\tilde{g}(e^{i\omega}) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} g(re^{i\omega}), \quad \forall g \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$$

exists for almost every  $\omega \in [-\pi, \pi]$ . The function  $\tilde{g}$  belongs to the space  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$  and one has that

$$\|g\|_{\mathbf{H}^2} = \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2} = \left( \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} |\tilde{g}(e^{i\omega})|^2 d\omega \right)^{1/2} < \infty$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_{L^2}$  defines a norm on  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$ .

Denoting by  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{T})$  the vector subspace of  $L^2(\mathbb{T})$  consisting of all limit functions  $\tilde{g}$  when  $g$  varies in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , the following theorem characterizes the functions in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{T})$  in terms of their Fourier coefficients.

**Theorem S1.2** (Katznelson (1976)). *Let  $f$  be an integrable function on the unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$ . Then  $f \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{T})$  if and only if  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{T})$  and  $\hat{f}_k = 0$  for all  $k < 0$ , where  $\hat{f}_k$  is the Fourier coefficient of  $f$ , i.e.,*

$$\hat{f}_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(e^{-i\omega}) e^{i\omega k} d\omega, \quad k = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots$$

Suppose that  $\tilde{g} \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{T})$  has Fourier coefficients  $\{a_k\}_{k=-\infty}^{\infty}$  with  $a_k = 0$  for all  $k < 0$ . Then by the Parseval's relation, we have  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |a_k|^2 = \|\tilde{g}\|_{L^2}^2 < \infty$  so that the sequence  $\{a_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  is square-summable. Now define the function

$$g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k z^k, \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{D}$$

which is analytic on the open unit disk. The next theorem ensures  $g \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , giving rise to a particularly simple characterization of  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  in terms of power series coefficients that vanish for all terms with negative powers. Together with Theorem S1.2, we have established a bijection between  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{T})$ .

**Theorem S1.3** (Riesz-Fischer). *Let  $f$  be an analytic function on the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$  with its Laurent expansion given by*

$$f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} b_k z^k, \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{D}$$

*Then  $f \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |b_k|^2 < \infty$ . Moreover, the function  $f$  and the sequence  $\{b_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  satisfy the Parseval's relation  $\|f\|_{\mathbf{H}^2}^2 = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} |b_k|^2$ .*

*Remark.* The function  $f$  is called the  $z$ -transform of the sequence  $\{b_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ . Given  $f$ ,  $\{b_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  can be recovered conveniently from the inversion formula

$$b_k = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(e^{-i\omega}) e^{i\omega k} d\omega, \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Theorem S1.3 gives an equivalent definition of the Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  as the class of analytic functions that correspond to the  $z$ -transform of square-summable sequences. Therefore, solving for the sequence  $\{b_k\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  amounts to solving for a function  $f(z)$  in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . See Katznelson (1976) for a proof of the theorem.

Finally, we characterize a class of rational polynomial functions that are analytic inside the unit disk, which is the workhorse in our framework.



**Theorem S1.4** (Rational Function). *A rational function  $f(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if  $f(z)$  is analytic on the closed unit disk (i.e., it has no poles for  $|z| \leq 1$ ). Moreover, a  $n \times n$  matrix of rational polynomials  $F(L)$  is Wold fundamental if and only if its  $z$ -transform,  $F(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{n \times n}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , satisfies the property that  $\det F(z) = 0$  has no roots (zeros) inside the unit circle, i.e.,  $F(z)$  is outer.*

*Remark.* Here  $\mathbf{H}_{n \times n}^2(\mathbb{D})$  denotes the matrix-valued Hardy space. The definition of this space along with the proof of Theorem S1.4 is contained in Theorem 4.6.11 of Lindquist and Picci (2015).

## Appendix S2 Computation Details

### S2.1 VARMA Fitting

Recall that we implement the projection step of Algorithm 4.2 by evaluating the  $z$ -transform identity  $C^x(z)^{-1}D^x(z) = \Gamma^x(z)$  at the grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$

$$(I - C_1^x z_j - \cdots - C_{p_x}^x z_j^{p_x})^{-1}(D_0^x + D_1^x z_j + \cdots + D_{q_x}^x z_j^{q_x}) = \Gamma^x(z_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (\text{S2.1})$$

where  $I$  denotes an identity matrix with conformable dimensions. Stacking the equations in (S2.1) leads to the following linear equation systems

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \Gamma^x(z_1)' & \cdots & z_1^{p_x} \Gamma^x(z_1)' & I & z_1 I & \cdots & z_1^{q_x} I \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_N \Gamma^x(z_N)' & \cdots & z_N^{p_x} \Gamma^x(z_N)' & I & z_N I & \cdots & z_N^{q_x} I \end{bmatrix}}_{\Pi_0} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C_1^{x'} \\ \vdots \\ C_{p_x}^{x'} \\ D_0^{x'} \\ D_1^{x'} \\ \vdots \\ D_{q_x}^{x'} \end{bmatrix}}_{\Phi} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \Gamma^x(z_1)' \\ \vdots \\ \Gamma^x(z_N)' \end{bmatrix}}_{\Pi_1} \quad (\text{S2.2})$$

where we have stacked the VARMA coefficient matrices in  $\Phi$ . To solve the linear systems (S2.2), let the singular value decompositions of  $\Pi_0$  and  $\Pi_1$  be given by  $\Pi_0 = U_0 S_0 V_0'$  and  $\Pi_1 = U_1 S_1 V_1'$ , where  $U_0, U_1, V_0, V_1$  are unitary matrices, and matrices  $S_0$  and  $S_1$  are square and diagonal with non-zero entries. Then we can obtain  $\Phi = V_0 S_0^{-1} U_0' \Pi_1$ . If  $\Pi_0$  has full column rank, the solution is uniquely determined by the least-square “regression” as  $\Phi = (\Pi_0' \Pi_0)^{-1} \Pi_0' \Pi_1$ .

## S2.2 Spectral Factorization and Wold Representation

In the evaluation step of Algorithm 4.2, we compute expectational variables using the Wiener-Hopf optimal prediction formula (3.7). The computation involves finding the Wold fundamental representation of the signal

$$\Omega_t = \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(L)u_t$$

We assume  $\Omega_t$  is full rank, i.e. it has no redundant signal. The fundamental innovation process  $u_t$  is i.i.d and has the same dimension of the signal,  $n_e + n_s$ . It follows that  $u^t \equiv \{u_t, u_{t-1}, \dots\}$  generates the same space or information set as  $\Omega^t$  does. In our general model where the number of shocks is larger than the the number of signals,  $n_\epsilon > n_e + n_s$ , the structural innovation  $\epsilon_t$  cannot be fundamental.

To derive the Wold representation, it suffices to solve the following spectral factorization problem,

$$\Gamma^\Omega(z)\Sigma_\epsilon\Gamma^\Omega(z^{-1})' = S_\Omega(z) = \tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)\Sigma_u\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z^{-1})'$$

The properties of the Wold fundamental processes are fully characterized by the function  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z) \in \mathbf{H}_{(n_e+n_s) \times (n_e+n_s)}^2(\mathbb{D})$ , sometimes referred as the outer spectral factor. As mentioned in Theorem S1.4, one prominent feature of the outer spectral factor is its invertibility in the sense that  $\tilde{\Gamma}^\Omega(z)$  is outer (fundamental) only if its determinant has no zeros in the open unit disk  $\mathbb{D}$ . Miao, Wu and Young (2021b) provides a detailed discussion of the relation between the inner-outer functions and the spectral factorization that yields the Wold fundamentality.

In our APFI algorithm, we adopt the state-space method proposed in Hamilton (1994) and recently applied in Huo and Takayama (2018) to facilitate fast and algorithmic computation of this step. Without loss of generality, we drop the superscript  $(x, s, \Omega)$  for coefficient matrices  $(C, D)$  and the VARMA orders  $(p, q)$  for simplicity.

Within each iteration, we rewrite the signal's VARMA( $p, q$ ) representation as

$$\Omega_t = \sum_{k=1}^r C_k \Omega_{t-k} + \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} D_k \epsilon_{t-k} \tag{S2.3}$$

where  $r = \max(p, q + 1)$ ,  $C_k = \mathbf{0}$  if  $k > p$ , and  $D_k = \mathbf{0}$  if  $k > q$ . Then (S2.3) admits the following

state space form

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \xi_{1,t} \\ \xi_{2,t} \\ \vdots \\ \xi_{r-1,t} \\ \xi_{r,t} \end{bmatrix}}_{\xi_t} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} C_1 & I & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ C_2 & 0 & I & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ C_{r-1} & 0 & 0 & \cdots & I \\ C_r & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_F \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \xi_{1,t-1} \\ \xi_{2,t-1} \\ \vdots \\ \xi_{r-1,t-1} \\ \xi_{r,t-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\xi_{t-1}} + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} D_0 \\ D_1 \\ \vdots \\ D_{r-2} \\ D_{r-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{v_t} \epsilon_t, \quad v_t \sim \mathbb{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_v) \quad (\text{S2.4})$$

$$\Omega_t = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} I & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_H \xi_t \quad (\text{S2.5})$$

where the transition equation (S2.4) describes the evolution of the (latent) state variables  $\xi_t$  driven by the exogenous innovations  $v_t$ , and the measurement equation (S2.5) links the observable signals  $\Omega_t$  to the state variables  $\xi_t$ . Based on the state space form (S2.4)–(S2.5), the Kalman filter recursively calculates the linear projection of  $\xi_{t+1}$  conditional on the history of  $s_t$ , i.e.,  $\xi_{t+1|t} = \mathbb{P}[\xi_{t+1}|s^t]$ . Let  $P_{t+1|t}$  denote the mean squared error (MSE) matrix associated with this forecast. The following proposition provides a practical method for finding the signal's Wold representation.

**Proposition S2.1** (Steady-State Kalman Filter). *The sequence of MSE matrices  $\{P_{t+1|t}\}_{t=1}^T$  calculated by the Kalman filter converges as  $T \rightarrow \infty$  to a steady-state matrix  $P$  satisfying*

$$FPF' - P - FPH'(HPH')^{-1}HPF' + \Sigma_v = \mathbf{0} \quad (\text{S2.6})$$

Define the steady-state Kalman gain matrix as  $K = FPH'(HPH')^{-1}$ . Then the signal's Wold fundamental representation is given by

$$\Omega_t = \underbrace{[I + H(I - FL)^{-1}KL]}_{\tilde{\Gamma}^{\Omega(L)}} u_t, \quad u_t \sim \mathbb{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_u) \quad (\text{S2.7})$$

where  $\Sigma_u = HPH'$ .

The limiting matrix  $P$  serves as an essential input for constructing the Wold representation (S2.7). Practically, it can be obtained by solving the discrete-time algebraic Riccati equation (S2.6). Proposition S2.1 requires that all eigenvalues of  $F$  be inside the unit circle. This condition is satisfied here because the reciprocals of these eigenvalues solve  $\det(I - \sum_{k=1}^p C_k z^k) = 0$ , which has all roots outside the unit circle by covariance stationarity. See Hamilton (1994) for a proof of the proposition.

In addition to the state-space method presented above, Miao, Wu and Young (2021b) develops a two-step procedure of solving for the spectral factorization, which leads to a closed-form characterization for low-dimensional signal systems. Unfortunately, this approach requires substantial work in symbolic matrix algebra and in finding the roots of complex polynomial equations. A distinct feature of this method is that it is suitable for factorizing non-rational spectral densities as well. More generally, finding the Wold representation, or equivalently solving for the canonical inner-outer spectral factorization has been an important subject in the study of linear stochastic system [Lindquist and Picci (2015)], and we refer the readers to Janashia, Lagvilava and Ephremidze (2011) and Sayed and Kailath (2001) for a literature review of this field.

## Appendix S3 Practical Guide

We provide a toolbox of numerical routines called z-Tran that implements Algorithm 4.2 (analytic policy function iteration) presented in the main text. The toolbox is publicly available, free of charge, at <https://github.com/econdojo/ztran>. All of the routines are coded in MATLAB as object-oriented programs. However, z-Tran does not require the users to have any prior knowledge of object-oriented programming, such as the meanings of technical terms like “class”, “method”, “property”, etc. Indeed, it is quite intuitive to use as the users will quickly realize when running our demo code.

The toolbox consists of two classes defined under the “classes” folder: @varma (for **varma** class) and ztran (for **ztran** class). The class definition file **varma.m** encapsulates the properties and methods of a VARMA object:

- **AR**—a cell array property that stores the VAR coefficient matrices of a VARMA process.
- **MA**—a cell array property that stores the VMA coefficient matrices of a VARMA process.
- **irf.m**—a method that computes the impulse response function of a VARMA process.
- **ss.m**—a method that represents a VARMA process in the state space form.
- **eval.m**—a method that evaluates the  $z$ -transform of a VARMA process at given values of  $z$ .
- **fit.m**—a method that fits the  $z$ -transform of a VARMA process to a set of analytic function values. To call this method in customized coding, the user needs to prefix its class name, i.e., **varma.fit**.
- **plus.m**—a method that combines two VARMA processes with the same innovations.

- **wh.m**—a method that evaluates the  $z$ -transform of the Wiener-Hopf formula at given values of  $z$ . When its second input **h** is a non-negative integer, the method computes the **h**-step-ahead expectation; when **h** is a discount factor in  $(0, 1)$ , the method computes the infinite future sum of expectations with discount factor **h**.

If the users wish to write their own codes, they only need to call the individual routines from the **varma** class as usual functions in MATLAB.

The class definition file **ztran.m** encapsulates the properties and methods of a model object:

- **Ax**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $A_k^x$  in (3.1).
- **Aa**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $A_k^a$  in (3.1).
- **As**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_s$  coefficient matrices  $A_k^s$  in (3.1).
- **Bx**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $B_k^x$  in (3.1).
- **Ba**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_x$  coefficient matrices  $B_k^a$  in (3.1).
- **Bs**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_x \times n_s$  coefficient matrices  $B_k^s$  in (3.1).
- **C**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_s \times n_s$  coefficient matrices  $C_k^s$  in (3.2).
- **D**—a cell array property that stores the  $n_s \times n_\epsilon$  coefficient matrices  $D_k^s$  in (3.2).
- **V**—a property that stores the  $n_\epsilon \times n_\epsilon$  variance-covariance matrix for  $\epsilon_t$ , i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}[\epsilon_t \epsilon_t'] = \Sigma_\epsilon$ .
- **agg**—a cell array property with two elements that define the aggregate variables and innovations:
  - **agg{1}** collects the indices of aggregate outcomes in  $x_t$ . The remaining variables in  $x_t$  will be treated as individual choices.
  - **agg{2}** collects the indices of aggregate innovations in  $\epsilon_t$ . The remaining variables in  $\epsilon_t$  will be treated as individual innovations.
- **sig**—a cell array property with four columns that define the conditional expectation operator  $\mathbb{E}[\cdot|\Omega_t]$  within each expectational equation:
  - **sig{k,1}** stores the model equation index for the  $k$ -th expectational equation.
  - **sig{k,2}** collects the indices of those variables in  $x_t$  that enter  $\Omega_t$  as endogenous signals for the  $k$ -th expectational equation.
  - **sig{k,3}** collects the indices of those shocks in  $s_t$  that enter  $\Omega_t$  as exogenous signals for the  $k$ -th expectational equation.

- `sig{k,4}` is a logical value that imposes, for the  $k$ -th expectational equation, average expectation if it is true and individual expectation otherwise.

When an equation contains multiple types of expectations, e.g.,

$$\mathbb{E}_{1,t}a_t + \mathbb{E}_{2,t}b_t = 0 \quad (\text{S3.1})$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_{1,t}(\cdot)$  and  $\mathbb{E}_{2,t}(\cdot)$  are two expectations formed under different information sets, we can always get (S3.1) into the canonical form by introducing a dummy variable  $c_t = \mathbb{E}_{2,t}b_t$  and rewriting (S3.1) as

$$\mathbb{E}_{1,t}a_t + c_t = 0 \quad (\text{S3.2})$$

$$c_t - \mathbb{E}_{2,t}b_t = 0 \quad (\text{S3.3})$$

We then define the information set for each of (S3.2) and (S3.3) in the `sig` property.

- `apf`—a cell array property with two elements that define the analytic policy function:
  - `apf{1}` is a  $n_z \times 1$  vector of grid points that defines the discretized state space for  $z$ . To achieve stable numerical performance, it suffices to confine the points to  $(-1, 1)$ .
  - `apf{2}` is a  $n_x \times n_\epsilon \times n_z$  array whose  $(i, j, k)$ -th element stores the  $z$ -transform of the  $i$ -th variable in  $x_t$  with respect to the  $j$ -th innovation in  $\epsilon_t$  evaluated at the  $k$ -th point in `apf{1}`.
- `sol`—a property that stores the solution for  $x_t$  as a VARMA object.
- `retcode`—a property that stores the return code with diagnostic information:
  - 0 indicates that the algorithm has converged and the resulting analytic policy function is a solution.
  - 1 indicates that the algorithm has converged but the resulting analytic policy function is not a solution.
  - 2 indicates that the algorithm has not converged.
- `solve.m`—a method that approximates the solution for  $x_t$  via a covariance-stationary VARMA process (3.10) and returns the updated model object to the user.

The method `solve.m` requires the model object from the user. It also admits several optional inputs to allow for more flexibility. Like MATLAB built-in functions, each optional input enters `solve.m` as a string-value pair:

- ‘**apf**’—initial guess for the model property **apf**. The default setting is zero function defined over 50 evenly spaced points in  $[-0.99, 0.99]$ .
- ‘**nit**’—a cell array with three elements. The first and second elements specify the minimum and maximum numbers of iterations, respectively. The third element specifies every several iterations to display relevant information. The default setting is  $\{10, 1000, 0\}$ .
- ‘**crit**’—convergence criterion. The default setting is  $10^{-5}$ .
- ‘**arma**’—a cell array with three elements. The first and second elements specify the autoregressive and moving average orders, respectively, in fitting matrix of rational functions. The third element is a logical value: if it is true, **fit.m** will perform automatic order reduction when the fitted VARMA process is non-stationary; otherwise, **fit.m** will fix the orders of the VARMA approximation for all iterations. The default setting is  $\{5, 5, \text{false}\}$ , but for large systems we recommend using  $\{10, 10, \text{false}\}$ .
- ‘**dft**’—number of grid points in discrete Fourier transform. The default setting is 1000. For persistent systems (e.g., close to having unit roots) we recommend using 5000.
- ‘**step**’—step size of analytic policy function update. The default setting is 1.

The “m” folder contains the following set of functions that are called by the main program:

- **cholmod.m**—a function that performs the modified Cholesky decomposition to avoid matrix singularity.
- **svdc.m**—a function that performs the singular value decomposition in the form of Section 4.

To initialize z-Tran, set MATLAB directory to the toolbox’s master folder and call **startup** at the command line, which will display the general information about z-Tran and add all relevant folders to MATLAB search path. The “examples” folder contains the following subfolders of user files for solving the models considered in the main text:

- **Ex1\_asset**—solves the asset pricing model in Section 2.
- **Ex2\_dsge**—solves the DSGE model in Section 5.1.
- **Ex3\_hank**—solves the HANK model in Section 5.2.
- **Ex4\_rbc**—solves the RBC model in Section 5.3.

## Appendix S4 Asset Pricing Model

We evaluate expectations in the frequency domain and derive the equilibrium fixed point. The signal representation can be written in matrix form as

$$\Omega_{it} = \begin{bmatrix} s_{it} \\ p_t \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{1-\rho L} & 1 & 0 \\ A(L) & 0 & B(L) \end{bmatrix}}_{\Gamma(L)} \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_t \\ \nu_{it} \\ \eta_t \end{bmatrix} = \tilde{\Gamma}(L)u_t$$

where  $\tilde{\Gamma}(L)u_t$  denotes the Wold fundamental representation of the signal and  $u_t$  is a vector of *i.i.d.* process with identity covariance matrix. Intuitively,  $u_t$  generates an equivalent amount of information as the signal and we use it to form the optimal prediction. Formally,  $u_t$  serves as the standard orthonormal basis that spans the subspace generated by the signal. Given the signal's Wold representation, expectations can be evaluated using the Wiener-Kolmogorov (W-K) optimal prediction formula

$$F(A(z), B(z)) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} F_s(z) & F_p(z) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z^{-1}e_2\tilde{\Gamma}(z) \end{bmatrix}_+ \tilde{\Gamma}(z)^{-1} \quad (\text{S4.1})$$

where  $e_2 = [0, 1]$  and the “annihilation operator”  $[\cdot]_+$  removes the negative powers part of the function  $z^{-1}e_2\tilde{\Gamma}(z)$  expressed in terms of its series expansion.

To facilitate the exposition, we adopt the spectral factorization method of Miao, Wu and Young (2021b) (Appendix S3.1) to derive the analytical form of  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z)$

$$\tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z)) = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_w \frac{z-\lambda}{1-\rho z} & 0 \\ \frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_w} \frac{A(z)z}{(1-\lambda z)} & \frac{1}{\sigma_w} \frac{M(z)}{1-\lambda z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{h^2}{1+h^2}} & \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+h^2}} \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{1+h^2}} & -\sqrt{\frac{h^2}{1+h^2}} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1-\lambda z}{z-\lambda} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S4.2})$$

where the new function  $M(z)$  in (S4.2) is given implicitly by the equation

$$M(z)M(z^{-1}) = (1-\rho z)(1-\rho z^{-1}) \left[ \sigma_\epsilon^2 \sigma_\nu^2 A(z)A(z^{-1}) + \sigma_\eta^2 \sigma_\nu^2 B(z)B(z^{-1}) \right] + B(z)B(z^{-1})\sigma_\eta^2 \sigma_\epsilon^2 \quad (\text{S4.3})$$

and the constants are defined as

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{2\rho} \left( 1 + \tau + \rho^2 - \sqrt{\tau^2 + 2\tau + 2\tau\rho^2 + 1 - 2\rho^2 + \rho^4} \right) \in (0, \rho),$$



$$\tau = \frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2}{\sigma_\nu^2}, \quad \sigma_w^2 = \frac{\rho\sigma_\nu^2}{\lambda}, \quad h = \frac{\sigma_\epsilon^2 A(\lambda)\lambda}{M(\lambda)}$$

Combining (2.7)–(2.8) with (S4.1)–(S4.3) leads to the following frequency-domain equilibrium fixed point

$$A(z) = \beta \left\{ \left[ z^{-1} e_2 \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z)) \right]_+ \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z))^{-1} e'_1 + \left[ z^{-1} e_2 \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z)) \right]_+ \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z))^{-1} e'_2 A(z) \right\} + \frac{1}{1 - \rho z} \quad (\text{S4.4})$$

$$B(z) = \beta \left[ z^{-1} e_2 \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z)) \right]_+ \tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z))^{-1} e'_2 B(z) + 1; \quad (\text{S4.5})$$

(S4.4)–(S4.5) is a system of nonlinear functional equations in the space of analytic functions  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  that admits no closed-form solutions.<sup>1</sup>

We cast the model equations (2.1)–(2.3) into the canonical form by setting

$$\begin{aligned} x_t &= p_t, \quad s_t = \begin{bmatrix} d_t \\ s_{it} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \epsilon_t = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_t \\ \nu_{it} \\ \eta_t \end{bmatrix}, \\ A_0^x &= 1, \quad A_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1^x = -\beta, \\ C_1^s &= \begin{bmatrix} \rho & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D_1^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & -\rho \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_\epsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\epsilon^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_\nu^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_\eta^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

where  $l = 0$ ,  $h = 1$ ,  $n_x = 1$ ,  $n_s = 2$ ,  $n_\epsilon = 3$ , and  $p_s = q_s = 1$ . Moreover,  $x_t$  is an aggregate variable that enters the information set as an endogenous signal; the second element of  $s_t$  enters the information set as an exogenous signal; and the first and third elements of  $\epsilon_t$  are aggregate innovations. Finally, the conditional expectation for this single-equation model is taken in the market average sense. The selection of signals from  $s_t$  or  $x_t$ , the distinction between individual and aggregate components in  $x_t$  or  $\epsilon_t$ , as well as the distinction between individual and average expectations, can be specified flexibly in our MATLAB toolbox.

Figure S.1 demonstrates the convergence of the analytic policy functions  $A_k(z)$  and  $B_k(z)$  in the frequency domain (left panels), where  $k$  stands for the number of iterations. For illustration, we plot  $A_k(z)$  and  $B_k(z)$  for  $k = 0, 10, 30, 50$ . We also plot the convergence of the implied impulse response functions in the time domain (right panels). The impulse response of  $p_t$  to a persistent

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<sup>1</sup>The origin of this problem comes from the Wold fundamental representation  $\tilde{\Gamma}(A(z), B(z))$ , which is a highly nonlinear transformation of  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ . In fact, a finite-state representation is possible only if the right hand side of (S4.4)–(S4.5) is an “affine” transformation of the form  $\alpha(z)A(z) + \gamma(z)$  for some exogenous rational functions  $\alpha(z)$  and  $\gamma(z)$ . Such rare exceptions exist if there are equal numbers of signals and exogenous innovations, or if the information is purely exogenous so that  $\tilde{\Gamma}(z)$  is independent of endogenous variables.

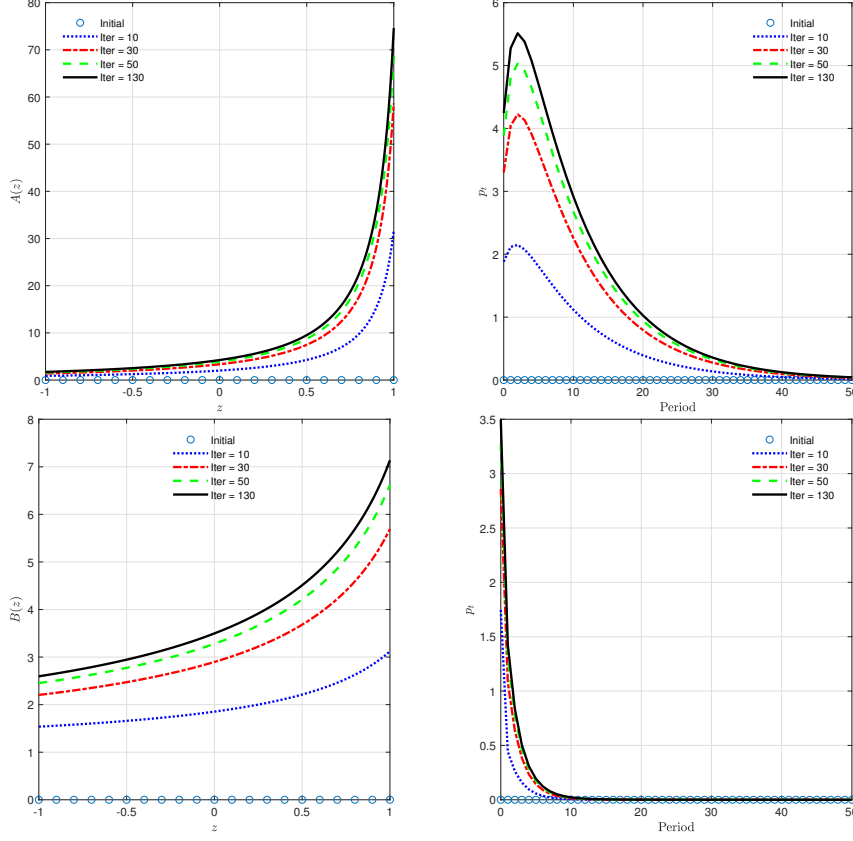


Figure S.1: Analytic policy functions  $A_k(z)$  (upper left),  $B_k(z)$  (bottom left) and implied impulse responses of  $p_t$  to  $\epsilon_0 = 1$  (upper right),  $\eta_0 = 1$  (bottom right). Parameter values are fixed at:  $\beta = 0.98$ ,  $\rho = 0.9$ ,  $\sigma_\epsilon = 1$ ,  $\sigma_\eta = 2$ , and  $\sigma_\nu = 3$ .

shock (i.e.,  $\epsilon_0 = 1$ ) is hump-shaped while that of  $p_t$  to an *i.i.d.* shock (i.e.,  $\eta_0 = 1$ ) is persistent.

## Appendix S5 DSGE Model

The DSGE model of Section 5.1 features a representative household, a continuum of monopolistic competitive intermediate goods firms with staggered price setting à la Calvo (1983), a final goods firm, and the monetary authority.

### S5.1 New Keynesian Phillips Curve

We first consider the monopolistic competitive firm's pricing problem and derive a New Keynesian Phillips curve (NKPC). There are a continuum of individual firms, indexed by  $i \in [0, 1]$ . Denote  $\theta$  the price stickiness. During each period, there is a constant probability  $(1 - \theta)$  that a firm can reset its price to maximize its current market value of profits generated while that price remains effective. Using the lower case variables to denote the log deviations from their non-

stochastic steady states, the optimal price for firm  $i$  who can re-optimize at period  $t$  is given by the discounted sum of its own current and expected future nominal marginal costs

$$p_{t,i}^* = (1 - \beta\theta) \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta\theta)^j (p_{t+j} + mc_{t+j,i}) \quad (\text{S5.1})$$

where  $\beta$  is the firm's discount factor,  $p_t$  is the aggregate price level, and  $mc_{t,i}$  is firm  $i$ 's real marginal cost at time  $t$ . The individual firm's rational expectations operator,  $E_{t,i}^{Firm}$ , is conditional on its information set  $\Omega_{t,i}$ , which will be specified below.

We assume the firm-level real marginal cost  $mc_{t,i}$  is observable to firm  $i$  when the individual firm is forming expectations at time  $t$ . Along with the law of iterated expectations that holds with respect to each individual firm's expectation operator, that is,  $E_{t,i}^{Firm}(\cdot) = E_{t,i}^{Firm} E_{t+1,i}^{Firm}(\cdot)$  for all  $i \in [0, 1]$ , the individual firm's optimal price setting equation (S5.1) can be rewritten as

$$p_{t,i}^* = (1 - \beta\theta) (\mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} p_t + mc_{t,i}) + \beta\theta \mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} p_{t+1,i}^* \quad (\text{S5.2})$$

where we assume the current aggregate price level  $p_t$  hasn't been realized when firms are forming period- $t$  expectations so that the  $\mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm} p_t$  term appears in (S5.2). This timing assumption is not crucial. We purposely choose this assumption so that a dummy variable  $\pi_t^{lag} = \pi_{t-1}$  is needed when mapping (S5.2) into our canonical form. Aggregate price level  $p_t$  realizes after firms solve (S5.2) and is the weighted average between firms who cannot re-optimize and firms who re-optimize their prices

$$p_t = \theta p_{t-1} + (1 - \theta) \int p_{t,i}^* di \quad (\text{S5.3})$$

Inflation is defined as  $\pi_t = p_t - p_{t-1}$ .

The economy-wide marginal cost  $mc_t$  follows some known, but unobservable process. To preserve an analytical solution, we assume  $mc_t$  is driven by a single shock  $\varepsilon_t$  and follows an ARMA(1, 1) process

$$mc_t = F(L)\varepsilon_t = \frac{1 - \gamma L}{1 - \rho L} \varepsilon_t, \quad \varepsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2) \quad (\text{S5.4})$$

where  $\gamma \neq 0$  and  $0 < \rho < 1$ . Han, Ma and Mao (2019) shows that the equilibrium inflation is of the form  $\pi_t = \Pi(L)\varepsilon_t$  where

$$\Pi(L) = \frac{(1 - \beta\theta)(1 - \theta)}{\theta} \left[ \frac{L F(L) - \beta F(\beta)}{L - \beta} - \frac{\lambda F(\lambda) - \beta F(\beta)}{\lambda - \beta} \right] + \Phi \frac{\lambda - L}{1 - \lambda L}$$

$\Phi$  is an endogenously determined constant, and detailed derivations are available upon request.

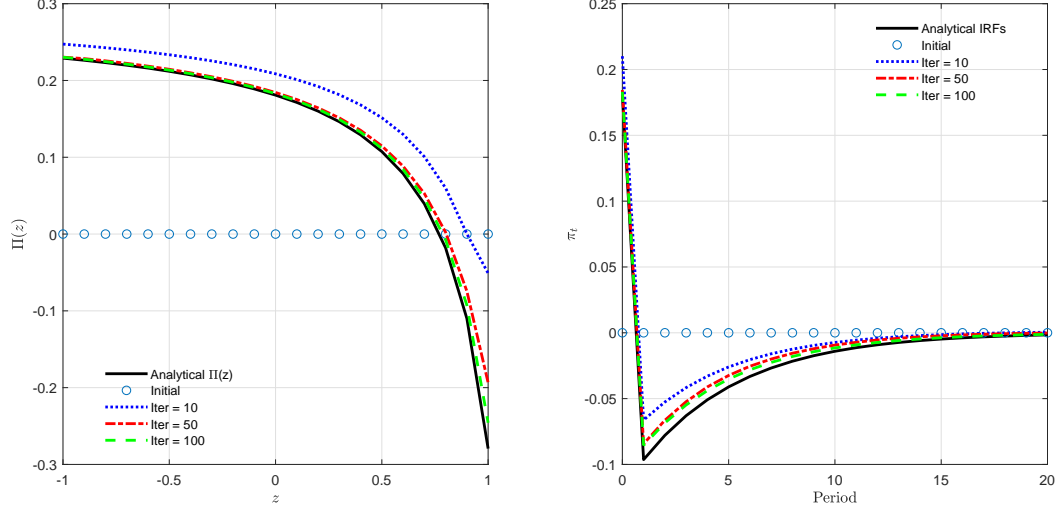


Figure S.2: Analytic policy functions  $\Pi_k(z)$  (left panel) and implied impulse responses of  $\pi_t$  to  $\varepsilon_0 = 1$  (right panel). Parameter values are fixed at:  $\beta = 0.98$ ,  $\theta = 0.6$ ,  $\rho = 0.8$ ,  $\gamma = 0.9$ ,  $\sigma_\varepsilon = 1$ , and  $\sigma_\nu = 0.3$ .

Figure S.2 shows the convergence of the analytic policy functions  $\Pi_k(z)$  to the true closed-form solution in the frequency domain as well as the convergence of the implied impulse response functions in the time domain. Notice that inflation initially increases to a positive marginal cost shock, i.e., there is a price puzzle. The price puzzle has been documented in a large empirical literature and dates back to Sims (1992).

## S5.2 Full Model

The representative household derives utility from private consumption  $C_t$  and disutility from labor supply  $N_t$ . The representative household maximizes the intertemporal utility function

$$\mathbb{E}_0^{HH} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \left( \frac{C_t^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} - \frac{N_t^{1+\kappa}}{1+\kappa} \right)$$

where  $\beta \in (0, 1)$  is the time discount factor,  $\gamma$  measures the constant relative risk aversion,  $1/\kappa$  is the Frisch elasticity of labor supply, and  $\mathbb{E}_0^{HH}$  denotes the household's rational expectations operator. During each period, households receive real wage  $W_t N_t$  and lump-sum nominal profits  $D_t$  from the intermediate firms she owns. Households spend income on consumption  $C_t$  and buy one-period, risk-free bonds  $B_t$ . Consumption is in the form of final goods. The household's budget constraint is given by

$$P_t C_t + B_t = P_t W_t N_t + R_{t-1} B_{t-1} + D_t$$

where  $P_t$  is the aggregate price level and  $R_t$  is the nominal interest rate.

The final good is a Dixit-Stiglitz aggregate of a continuum of intermediate goods using the technology

$$Y_t = \left( \int_0^1 Y_t(i)^{\frac{\nu-1}{\nu}} di \right)^{\frac{\nu}{\nu-1}}$$

where  $\nu$  is the elasticity of substitution. The type- $i$  intermediate goods  $Y_t(i)$  can be produced by the monopolistic competitive intermediate firm  $i$ . The production function for firm  $i$  is

$$Y_t(i) = A_{t,i} N_t(i) \quad (\text{S5.5})$$

where  $N_t(i)$  is the labor input and  $A_{t,i}$  is the firm-specific productivity. The labor productivity  $A_{t,i}$  (in logarithm) has two components: an aggregate component that is common among all intermediate firms and an idiosyncratic component. That is,

$$\ln A_{t,i} = u_t^a + \varepsilon_{t,i}, \quad \varepsilon_{t,i} \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_{\varepsilon,i}^2) \quad (\text{S5.6})$$

where the aggregate productivity  $u_t^a$  follows a persistent AR(1) process

$$u_t^a = \rho_a u_{t-1}^a + \varepsilon_t^a, \quad \varepsilon_t^a \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_{\varepsilon}^2) \quad (\text{S5.7})$$

To close the model, we need to specify a policy rule for nominal interest rate. Following Melosi (2017), monetary policy follows a Taylor-type rule

$$\frac{R_t}{R} = \left( \frac{\tilde{\Pi}_t}{\Pi} \right)^{\phi_{\pi}} \left( \frac{\tilde{Y}_t}{Y} \right)^{\phi_y} \exp(\xi_{m,t}) \quad (\text{S5.8})$$

where  $\tilde{\Pi}_t$  and  $\tilde{Y}_t$  are the central bank's judgment of  $\Pi_t$  and  $Y_t$  at the pre-production stage of period  $t$  when it has to set the interest rate  $R_t$  and  $\phi_{\pi}, \phi_y > 0$  are the responsive coefficients. The central bank's measurement errors for inflation and output both follow an AR(1) process. That is, define  $\xi_{\pi,t} = \ln \tilde{\Pi}_t - \ln \Pi_t$  and  $\xi_{y,t} = \ln \tilde{Y}_t - \ln Y_t$ , then we have

$$\xi_{\pi,t} = \rho_{\pi} \xi_{\pi,t-1} + \eta_t^{\pi}, \quad \eta_t^{\pi} \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_{\pi}^2) \quad (\text{S5.9})$$

$$\xi_{y,t} = \rho_y \xi_{y,t-1} + \eta_t^y, \quad \eta_t^y \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_y^2) \quad (\text{S5.10})$$

To capture interest rate smoothing, the monetary policy shock  $\xi_{m,t}$  also follows an AR(1) process

$$\xi_{m,t} = \rho_m \xi_{m,t-1} + \eta_t^m, \quad \eta_t^m \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_m^2) \quad (\text{S5.11})$$

We again let lowercase letters denote log deviations from steady state values of the correspond-

ing capital letters, with the exception of nominal interest rate where we use  $i_t = \ln(R_t/R)$ . In equilibrium, the household's intertemporal Euler equation (i.e., the IS equation) is given by

$$y_t = \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} y_{t+1} - \frac{1}{\gamma} (i_t - \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_{t+1}) \quad (\text{S5.12})$$

The household's intratemporal Euler equation is given by

$$n_t = \frac{1}{\kappa} (w_t - \gamma y_t) \quad (\text{S5.13})$$

It follows that the real marginal cost of island  $i$ 's intermediate firms is  $w_t - a_{t,i} = \kappa n_t + \gamma y_t - a_{t,i}$ . The individual firm's optimal price setting is given by (S5.2). In equilibrium,  $y_t = a_t + n_t$ . This concludes the DSGE model's environment and equilibrium.

### S5.3 Canonical Representation

First, define the  $6 \times 1$  vector of endogenous variables  $x_t = [y_t, \pi_t, i_t, s_t, b_t, z_{t,i}]'$ . The following log-linearized equations constitute the equilibrium system

$$\begin{aligned} \text{IS Equation: } y_t &= \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} y_{t+1} - \frac{1}{\gamma} (i_t - \mathbb{E}_t^{HH} \pi_{t+1}) \\ \text{Monetary Policy: } i_t &= \phi_\pi (\pi_t + \xi_{\pi,t}) + \phi_y (y_t + \xi_{y,t}) + \xi_{m,t} \\ \text{Phillips Curve: } z_{t,i} &= \mathbb{E}_t^{Firm,i} \pi_t + \beta \theta \mathbb{E}_t^{Firm,i} z_{t+1,i} - (1 - \beta \theta) a_{t,i} \\ &\quad - (1 - \beta \theta) \kappa \mathbb{E}_t^{Firm,i} u_t^a + (\kappa + \gamma) (1 - \beta \theta) \mathbb{E}_t^{Firm,i} y_t \\ \text{Price Aggregation: } \pi_t &= (1 - \theta) \int_{[0,1]} z_{t,i} di \\ \text{Fiscal Policy: } s_t &= \gamma_b b_{t-1} + \xi_{s,t} \\ \text{Gov. Budget Constraint: } b_t &= \beta^{-1} (b_{t-1} + i_{t-1} - \pi_t) - (\beta^{-1} - 1) s_t \end{aligned}$$

where we have introduced an auxiliary variable  $z_{t,i} = p_{t,i}^* - p_{t-1}$  to remove the unit root of price levels in the Phillips curve.

Next, define the  $6 \times 1$  vector of exogenous shocks  $s_t = [u_t^a, \xi_{\pi,t}, \xi_{y,t}, \xi_{m,t}, \xi_{s,t}, a_{t,i}]'$ . The following equations provide the law of motion for shock processes

$$\begin{aligned} u_t^a &= \rho_a u_{t-1}^a + \varepsilon_t^a \\ \xi_{\pi,t} &= \rho_\pi \xi_{\pi,t-1} + \eta_t^\pi \\ \xi_{y,t} &= \rho_y \xi_{y,t-1} + \eta_t^y \\ \xi_{m,t} &= \rho_m \xi_{m,t-1} + \eta_t^m \\ \xi_{s,t} &= \rho_s \xi_{s,t-1} + \eta_t^s \end{aligned}$$

$$a_{t,i} = u_t^a + \varepsilon_{t,i}$$

Finally, we map the above system to the canonical form (3.1)–(3.2) as

$$\begin{aligned}
A_0^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & \gamma^{-1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\phi_y & -\phi_\pi & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^{-1} & 0 & \beta^{-1} - 1 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & A_1^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\gamma_b & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1/\beta & 0 & -1/\beta & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
A_0^a &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \theta - 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & A_0^s &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\phi_\pi & -\phi_y & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 - \beta\theta \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
B_0^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (\kappa + \gamma)(\beta\theta - 1) & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, & B_1^x &= \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1/\gamma & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta\theta \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
B_0^s &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ (1 - \beta\theta)\kappa & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
C_1^s &= \begin{bmatrix} \rho_a & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_\pi & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \rho_y & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \rho_m & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \rho_s & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \rho_a \end{bmatrix}, & D_0^s &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \\
D_1^s &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\rho_a \end{bmatrix}, & \Sigma_\epsilon &= \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\epsilon^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_\pi^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_y^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_m^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_s^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_{\epsilon,i}^2 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Sigma_\epsilon$  is the covariance matrix of the  $6 \times 1$  vector of *i.i.d.* Gaussian innovations  $\epsilon_t = [\varepsilon_t^a, \eta_t^\pi, \eta_t^y, \eta_t^m, \eta_t^s, \varepsilon_{t,i}]'$ . Here the aggregate variables are  $[y_t, \pi_t, i_t, s_t, b_t]$ , and the aggregate innovations are  $[u_t^a, \xi_{\pi,t}, \xi_{y,t}, \xi_{m,t}, \xi_{s,t}]$ . The toolbox treats the remaining unspecified variables and innovations as individual. To complete the model input, the user needs to specify the information sets (i.e., signals) under which conditional expectations are defined. There are two types of expectations,  $\mathbb{E}_t^{HH}(\cdot)$  in the IS equation and  $\mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm}(\cdot)$  in the Phillips curve. The main text considers four different cases of information sets. Taking Case I as an example,  $i_t$  is the signal of  $\mathbb{E}_t^{HH}(\cdot)$  in the IS equation, and  $[i_t, s_t, a_{t,i}]$  are the signals of  $\mathbb{E}_{t,i}^{Firm}(\cdot)$  in the Phillips curve. In the toolbox, the user can select aggregate variables, aggregate innovations, and signals by picking up their indices from the endogenous variable list  $x_t$ , the exogenous shock list  $s_t$ , and the shock innovation list  $\epsilon_t$ .

## Appendix S6 HANK Model

### S6.1 Full Model

The model features heterogeneities in business cycle exposure, mortality risk, and incomplete information. There are two groups of consumers, indexed by  $g = \{1, 2\}$  with respective mass  $\pi_g$ . Let  $w_g$  denote the survival rate of individuals in group  $g$ , and  $\phi_g$  denote the cyclical exposure of group  $g$ . We have  $\pi_1\phi_1 + \pi_2\phi_2 = 1$ . Each individual  $i$ , born at time  $\tau$ , is solving the following



consumption-saving problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \max \mathbb{E}_{i,g,\tau;t} \sum_{t=\tau}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^{t-\tau} \log(C_{i,g,\tau;t}) \\ & \text{subject to: } C_{i,g,\tau;t} + S_{i,g,\tau;t} = \frac{R_{t-1}}{w_g} S_{i,g,\tau;t-1} + (Y_t)^{\phi_g}, \quad \forall \tau \geq t \end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta$  is the time discount factor and  $R_t$  is the exogenous real interest rate.

Denote the group level consumption and saving as  $c_{g,t}$  and  $s_{g,t}$ , respectively. Following Angeletos and Huo (2021), the group level consumption can be expressed as

$$c_{g,t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} - \beta w_g \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j \bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[r_{t+j}] + (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j \bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[y_{t+j}] \quad (\text{S6.1})$$

where  $\bar{\mathbb{E}}_{g,t}[\cdot]$  is the average expectation of group  $g$  at time  $t$ . The group level budget constraint is given by

$$c_{g,t} + s_{g,t} = \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} + \phi_g y_t \quad (\text{S6.2})$$

where  $y_t = \pi_1 c_{1,t} + \pi_2 c_{2,t}$  defines the aggregate output. Market clearing imposes

$$\pi_1 s_{1,t} + \pi_2 s_{2,t} = 0 \quad (\text{S6.3})$$

(S6.1)–(S6.3) describe the equilibrium system of the HANK model. We close the model by specifying the real interest rate as an exogenous AR(1) process  $r_t = \rho_r r_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t$ ,  $\varepsilon_t \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$ .

Angeletos and Huo (2021) consider a symmetric and exogenous information setup by letting each individual  $i$  of both groups  $g = \{1, 2\}$  observe a noisy signal on the real interest rate  $r_t$ . Denote the noisy signal

$$s_{i,g,t} = r_t + \eta_{i,g,t}, \quad \eta_{i,g,t} \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_\eta^2) \quad (\text{S6.4})$$

We enrich the analysis by introducing asymmetric information between groups. For illustration, we consider the case where group 1 individuals also receive a noisy signal  $m_{i,1,t}$  on the endogenous aggregate output  $y_t$ . The group 1 specific signal  $m_{i,1,t}$  is of the form

$$m_{i,1,t} = y_t + \xi_{i,1,t}, \quad \xi_{i,1,t} \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_{\xi,1}^2) \quad (\text{S6.5})$$

In what follows, we illustrate how to map the equilibrium system into the canonical form. There are two infinite sums in the group level consumption equilibrium condition (S6.1). To

avoid infinite sums, we introduce two dummy variables defined as

$$x_{i,g;t} = \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j r_{t+j} \quad z_{i,g;t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} (\beta w_g)^j y_{t+j} \quad (\text{S6.6})$$

The dummy variable  $x_{i,g;t}$  can be recursively expressed as

$$x_{i,g;t} = \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} r_t + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [x_{i,g;t+1}] \quad (\text{S6.7})$$

Similarly, we have

$$z_{i,g;t} = (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} y_t + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [z_{i,g;t+1}] \quad (\text{S6.8})$$

Define the  $10 \times 1$  vector of endogenous variables  $x_t = [c_{1,t}, c_{2,t}, s_{1,t}, s_{2,t}, y_t, x_{i,1;t}, x_{i,2;t}, z_{i,1;t}, z_{i,2;t}, m_{i,1;t}]'$ . The following equations define the equilibrium system of the HANK model

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Group-level consumption:} \quad c_{g,t} &= (1 - \beta w_g) \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} - \int_{[0,1]} x_{i,g;t} di + \int_{[0,1]} z_{i,g;t} di \\ \text{Group-level budget constraint:} \quad c_{g,t} + s_{g,t} &= \frac{1}{\beta} s_{g,t-1} + \phi_g y_t \\ \text{Market clearing:} \quad \pi_1 s_{1,t} + \pi_2 s_{2,t} &= 0 \\ \text{Defined dummy } x_{i,g;t}: \quad x_{i,g;t} &= \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} r_t + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [x_{i,g;t+1}] \\ \text{Defined dummy } z_{i,g;t}: \quad z_{i,g;t} &= (1 - \beta w_g) \phi_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t} y_t + \beta w_g \mathbb{E}_{i,g;t+1} [z_{i,g;t+1}] \\ \text{Endogenous signal } m_{i,1;t}: \quad m_{i,1;t} &= y_t + \xi_{i,1;t} \end{aligned}$$

Also, define the  $4 \times 1$  vector of exogenous shocks  $s_t = [r_t, s_{i,1;t}, s_{i,2;t}, \xi_{i,1;t}]'$ . The following equations provide the law of motion for shock processes

$$\begin{aligned} r_t &= \rho_r r_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t \\ s_{i,1;t} &= r_t + \eta_{i,1;t} \\ s_{i,2;t} &= r_t + \eta_{i,2;t} \\ \xi_{i,1;t} &= \xi_{i,1;t} \end{aligned}$$

Now mapping the equilibrium system into the canonical form (3.1) yields

$$A_0^x = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -\phi_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & -\phi_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \pi_1 & \pi_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_1^x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & (\beta w_1 - 1) \frac{1}{\beta} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & (\beta w_2 - 1) \frac{1}{\beta} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\beta} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\frac{1}{\beta} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_0^a &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\beta w_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
B_0^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -(1-\beta w_1)\phi_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -(1-\beta w_2)\phi_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1^x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
C_1^s &= \begin{bmatrix} \rho_r & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \rho_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \rho_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D_1^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\rho_r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\rho_r & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Sigma_\epsilon = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_\epsilon^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_\eta^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_\eta^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_{\xi,1}^2 \end{bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\Sigma_\epsilon$  is the covariance matrix of the  $4 \times 1$  vector of *i.i.d.* Gaussian innovations  $\epsilon_t = [\varepsilon_t, \eta_{i,1;t}, \eta_{i,2;t}, \xi_{i,1;t}]'$ . Here the aggregate variable list is  $[c_{1,t}, c_{2,t}, s_{1,t}, s_{2,t}, y_t]$ . The aggregate innovation list is  $\varepsilon_t$ . The toolbox treats the remaining unspecified variables and innovations as individual. To complete the model input, the user needs to specify the signals under which conditional expectations are defined. There are two group-specific individual expectations  $\mathbb{E}_{i,g;t}$  for  $g = 1, 2$ . For  $\mathbb{E}_{i,1;t}(\cdot)$ , the signals are  $[s_{i,1;t}, m_{i,1;t}]$ . For  $\mathbb{E}_{i,2;t}(\cdot)$ , the signal is  $s_{i,2;t}$ . In the toolbox, the user can select aggregate variables, aggregate innovations, and signals by picking up their indices from the endogenous variable list  $x_t$ , the exogenous shock list  $s_t$ , and the shock innovation list  $\epsilon_t$ .

## S6.2 Simplified System

Combining (S6.1)–(S6.3) to substitute out  $\{c_{g,t}, s_{g,t}\}$  for  $g = \{1, 2\}$ , the resulting equilibrium condition is a single equation that characterizes the dynamics of aggregate output  $y_t$ . The two dummy variables  $x_{i,g;t}, z_{i,g;t}$  are defined as above. Combining (S6.1) and (S6.2) yields

$$\phi_g y_t - s_{g,t} = -w_g s_{g,t-1} + \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,g;t} - x_{i,g;t}) di \quad (\text{S6.9})$$

Given (S6.3) and  $\pi_1 \phi_1 + \pi_2 \phi_2 = 1$ , (S6.9) implies

$$y_t = \pi_1 s_{1,t-1} (w_2 - w_1) + \pi_1 \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,1;t} - x_{i,1;t}) di + \pi_2 \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,2;t} - x_{i,2;t}) di \quad (\text{S6.10})$$

Rewriting (S6.9) using the lag operator  $L$  for  $g = 1$  gives

$$(1 - w_1 L)s_{1,t} = \phi_1 y_t - \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,1,t} - x_{i,1,t}) di \quad (\text{S6.11})$$

Combining (S6.10) and (S6.11) gives

$$y_t = \frac{1}{1 - \theta L} \left[ \pi_1 (1 - w_1 L) \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,1,t} - x_{i,1,t}) di + \pi_2 (1 - w_2 L) \int_{[0,1]} (z_{i,2,t} - x_{i,2,t}) di \right] \quad (\text{S6.12})$$

where  $\theta = \pi_1 \phi_1 w_1 + \pi_2 \phi_2 w_2 < 1$ .

To map the simplified system into the canonical form, we define the  $6 \times 1$  vector of endogenous variables  $x_t = [y_t, x_{i,1,t}, x_{i,2,t}, z_{i,1,t}, z_{i,2,t}, m_{i,1,t}]'$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} A_0^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_1^x = \begin{bmatrix} -\theta & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_0^a = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \pi_1 & \pi_2 & -\pi_1 & -\pi_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ A_1^a &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & -\pi_1 w_1 & -\pi_2 w_2 & \pi_1 w_1 & \pi_2 w_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_0^s = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\beta w_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\ B_0^x &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -(1 - \beta w_1)\phi_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -(1 - \beta w_2)\phi_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad B_1^x = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\beta w_2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -\beta w_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

Define the exogenous shocks  $s_t = [r_t, s_{i,1,t}, s_{i,2,t}, \xi_{i,1,t}]'$ . The shock process and the coefficient matrices  $C_1^s, D_0^s, D_1^s, \Sigma_\epsilon$  remain the same as before. Since we eliminate the group level variables

in this simplified system, the aggregate variable list only contains  $y_t$ . The aggregate innovation list and the signals remain the same as before.

## Appendix S7 Graham-Wright Model

### S7.1 Model Environment

The model environment is identical to Graham and Wright (2010) except that we assume there is a continuum of islands indexed by  $i \in [0, 1]$  in the economy, which does not affect the equilibrium solution. Households on island  $i$  choose consumption  $C_{it}$ , labor  $N_{it}$ , and investment  $I_{it}$  to maximize the expected lifetime utility

$$\mathbb{E}_{it} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \beta^j \left[ \ln C_{it+j} + \theta \frac{(1 - N_{it+j})^{1-\gamma}}{1 - \gamma} \right]$$

subject to the budget constraint

$$R_{kt}K_{it} + W_{it}N_{it} = C_{it} + I_{it}$$

and the capital accumulation  $K_{it+1} = (1 - \delta)K_{it} + I_{it}$ .  $\beta$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\gamma$ , and  $\delta$  are parameters of discount rate, labor disutility, intertemporal elasticity of labour supply, and capital depreciation rate, respectively. The conditional expectation is defined with respect to an information set specified below. Firms on each island  $i$  share the same information with households, and produce a common goods according to the production function

$$Y_{it} = (J_{it})^{1-\alpha} (A_t Z_{it} N_{it})^{\alpha}$$

where  $J_{it}$  is the capital rented by firms. In general,  $J_{it} \neq K_{it}$  since the capital rental market is centralized. The log-deviations of aggregate and idiosyncratic productivity shocks follow AR(1) processes:  $a_t = \rho_a a_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t^a$ ,  $\varepsilon_t^a \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_a^2)$ ,  $z_{it} = \rho_i z_{it-1} + \varepsilon_{it}^z$ ,  $\varepsilon_{it}^z \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_i^2)$ . The idiosyncratic shocks satisfy the law of large numbers:  $\int_0^1 z_{it} di = 0$ . The aggregate resource constraint of the economy is given by

$$Y_t = C_t + I_t$$

where for a model variable  $X_{it}$ , its aggregation is defined as  $X_t = \int_0^1 X_{it} di$ .

## S7.2 Closed-Form Characterization

We log-linearize the model around its deterministic steady state with no growth, which leads to the following system of equilibrium conditions

$$c_{it} = \mathbb{E}_{it} [c_{it+1} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))r_{kt+1}] \quad (\text{S7.1})$$

$$r_{kt} = \alpha(a_t + n_t) - \alpha k_t \quad (\text{S7.2})$$

$$w_{it} = \frac{\alpha - 1}{\alpha} r_{kt} + a_t + z_{it} \quad (\text{S7.3})$$

$$n_{it} = \frac{1 - N}{\gamma N} (w_{it} - c_{it}) \quad (\text{S7.4})$$

$$k_{it+1} = (1 - \delta)k_{it} + \delta i_{it} \quad (\text{S7.5})$$

$$C c_{it} + I i_{it} = R_k K(r_{kt} + k_{it}) + W N(w_{it} + n_{it}) \quad (\text{S7.6})$$

$$a_t = \rho_a a_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t^a, \quad \varepsilon_t^a \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_a^2) \quad (\text{S7.7})$$

$$z_{it} = \rho_i z_{it-1} + \varepsilon_{it}^z, \quad \varepsilon_{it}^z \sim \mathbb{N}(0, \sigma_i^2) \quad (\text{S7.8})$$

where we have eliminated the firm's rental capital  $j_{it}$  via substitution.  $N, W, C, I, R_k, I, K$  are steady state values. The set of model variables that need to be solved are  $\{c_{it}, n_{it}, k_{it}, i_{it}, w_{it}, r_{kt}\}$ , which consist of 4 individual decision (quantity) variables and 2 equilibrium prices. The system also includes 2 exogenous shocks processes for  $a_t$  and  $z_{it}$ . Under incomplete information, households on each island receive two signals<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{cases} r_{kt} = \alpha(a_t + n_t) - \alpha k_t \\ s_{wt} = a_t + z_{it} \end{cases} \quad (\text{S7.9})$$

Our subsequent analysis is based on the parameter calibration of Graham and Wright (2010):  $\beta = 0.99$ ,  $\gamma = 5$ ,  $\alpha = 0.667$ ,  $\delta = 0.025$ ,  $\rho_a = 0.9$ ,  $\rho_i = 0.9$ ,  $\sigma_a = 0.7$ ,  $\sigma_i = 4.9$ . In such a case, the model's equilibrium system does not satisfy the stationarity condition for Algorithm 4.2 because  $\det(A_0 + A_1 z)$  has a root inside the unit circle, or equivalently,  $A_0^{-1} A_1$  has an explosive eigenvalue that is greater than unity. This inside root is associated with the non-invertibility of the non-expectational block of the system (S7.1)–(S7.6). Moreover, the model admits no stationary equilibrium at both aggregate and idiosyncratic levels under incomplete information. To illustrate these features, we reduce the system (S7.1)–(S7.6) by separating its aggregate and idiosyncratic components. In what follows, each individual variable  $m_{it}$  can be written as the sum of its aggregate component  $m_t$  and idiosyncratic component  $m_{it}^z$

$$m_{it} = m_t + m_{it}^z = M_a(L)\varepsilon_{at} + M_i(L)\varepsilon_{it}^z$$

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<sup>2</sup>The wage signal  $w_{it}$  is informationally equivalent to  $s_{w,t}$ . The equivalence derives from (S7.3).

## Aggregate Equilibrium System

First, aggregating (S7.3) and (S7.4), we derive the aggregate wage and labor as

$$w_t = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1} r_{kt} + a_t, \quad n_t = a_N \left( \frac{\alpha}{\alpha - 1} r_{kt} + a_t - c_t \right) \quad (\text{S7.10})$$

where  $a_N \equiv \frac{1-N}{\gamma N}$ . Substitute (S7.10) into (S7.2) to obtain

$$k_t = (1 + a_N) a_t - a_N c_t - \frac{1 + (1 - \alpha) a_N}{\alpha} r_{kt} \quad (\text{S7.11})$$

which expresses the aggregate capital as a stationary linear function of aggregate consumption and aggregate return on capital. Next, define the exogenous constants

$$a_W \equiv \frac{WN}{K} = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} [1 - \beta(1 - \delta)], \quad a_C \equiv \frac{C}{K} = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} [1 - \beta(1 - \delta)] - \delta$$

In the steady state,  $\frac{I}{K} = \delta$  and  $R_k = \beta^{-1} - (1 - \delta)$ . Therefore, aggregate (S7.6) to obtain

$$[1 - \beta(1 - \delta)] (r_{kt} + k_t) + \beta a_W (w_t + n_t) = \beta a_C c_t + \beta \delta i_t$$

Substitute the aggregate law of motion for capital to get

$$[1 - \beta(1 - \delta)] (r_{kt} + k_t) + \beta a_W (w_t + n_t) = \beta a_C c_t + \beta [k_{t+1} - (1 - \delta)k_t]$$

Now use (S7.10) to simplify the algebra

$$k_{t+1} = \frac{\beta(a_C + a_W a_N)}{1 - \beta} c_t + \frac{a_N [1 - \beta(1 - \delta)]}{1 - \beta} r_{kt} - \frac{\beta a_W (1 + a_N)}{1 - \beta} a_t \quad (\text{S7.12})$$

Here we adopt the standard timing convention that  $k_{t+1}$  is a period- $t$  variable, whereas  $k_t$  is a predetermined variable. In other words, we postulate

$$k_{it+1} = k_{t+1} + k_{it+1}^z = K_a(L) \varepsilon_{at} + K_i(L) \varepsilon_{it}^z$$

Note that (S7.12) does not imply the aggregate capital stock has an inside root at  $z = \beta$  because there are also endogenous terms on the right hand side of (S7.12). By (S7.11),  $k_t$  will be stationary if  $c_t$  and  $r_{kt}$  are stationary. Then one can immediately see the stationarity of  $k_{t+1}$  by rewriting (S7.12) as

$$k_t - \beta k_{t+1} = \beta(a_C + a_W a_N) c_t + a_N [1 - \beta(1 - \delta)] r_{kt} - \beta a_W (1 + a_N) a_t$$

Applying the  $z$ -transform to (S7.12) and substituting the resulting equation into (S7.11), we can obtain

$$r_{kt} = \frac{P_a(z)}{Q(z)} a_t - \frac{P_c(z)}{Q(z)} c_t \quad (\text{S7.13})$$

where  $P_a(z)$ ,  $P_c(z)$ , and  $Q(z)$  are first-order polynomial functions given by

$$Q(z) \equiv [1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))]z - \beta[1 + (1 - \alpha)a_N] \quad (\text{S7.14})$$

$$P_a(z) \equiv \alpha(1 + a_N)(z - \beta) + \alpha\beta a_W(1 + a_N)z \quad (\text{S7.15})$$

$$P_c(z) \equiv \alpha a_N(z - \beta) + \alpha\beta(a_C + a_W a_N)z \quad (\text{S7.16})$$

These functions are purely exogenous and determine the time series properties of the equilibrium that are invariant to the information structure. Finally, the aggregate investment is given by

$$i_t = \frac{1}{\delta} [1 - (1 - \delta)L] k_{t+1} \quad (\text{S7.17})$$

### Idiosyncratic Equilibrium System

The idiosyncratic components of (S7.3) and (S7.4) are trivial

$$w_{it}^z = z_{it}, \quad n_{it}^z = a_N(z_{it} - C_{it}^z) \quad (\text{S7.18})$$

where the superscript  $z$  denotes the variable's idiosyncratic component. Substitute (S7.18) into the idiosyncratic components of (S7.19) and (S7.6), we obtain the idiosyncratic component of capital stock<sup>3</sup>

$$(L - \beta)k_{it+1}^z = \beta(a_C + a_W a_N)c_{it}^z - \beta a_W(1 + a_N)z_{it} \quad (\text{S7.19})$$

The idiosyncratic investment is given by

$$i_{it}^z = \frac{1}{\delta} [1 - (1 - \delta)L] k_{it+1}^z \quad (\text{S7.20})$$

By (S7.1), (S7.10), (S7.11), (S7.13), (S7.17), (S7.18), (S7.19), and (S7.20), it suffices to characterize the model equilibrium using two variables, the individual consumption  $c_{it}$  and the aggregate

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<sup>3</sup>Note that the idiosyncratic capital is decoupled from other variables; it is determined by the idiosyncratic consumption, but it does not affect the aggregate equilibrium. A similar argument applies to the idiosyncratic investment.



return of capital  $r_{kt}$ , from the following bivariate system

$$\begin{cases} c_{it} = \mathbb{E}_{it} [c_{it+1} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))r_{kt+1}] \\ r_{kt} = \frac{P_a(L)}{Q(L)}a_t - \frac{P_c(L)}{Q(L)}c_t \end{cases} \quad (\text{S7.21})$$

Once this bivariate system is solved, the rest of the variables  $\{n_{it}, k_{it}, i_{it}, w_{it}\}$  can be solved using the aforementioned equations. In what follows, we refer to (S7.21) as the reduced equilibrium system that will be used in our analytical and numerical approaches.

### Full Information Solution

Before discussing the technical difficulties associated with the APFI algorithm, it is useful to derive the closed-form solution to the model using frequency-domain techniques. We begin with the full information (henceforth FI) case and conjecture that

$$c_{it} = C(L)\varepsilon_{it} = C_a(L)\varepsilon_{at} + C_i(L)\varepsilon_{it}^z$$

where  $C(z) = [C_a(z), C_i(z)]$  is  $1 \times 2$  vector of analytic functions. Similarly,

$$r_{kt} = R_k(L)\varepsilon_{it} = \begin{bmatrix} R_k^a(L) & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{at} \\ \varepsilon_{it}^z \end{bmatrix}$$

Applying the  $z$ -transform and the Wiener-Kolmogorov prediction formula under FI, we rewrite the reduced system (S7.21) in the frequency domain

$$\begin{cases} C_a(z) - \frac{C_a(z)}{z} + \frac{C_a(0)}{z} + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))\frac{R_k^a(z)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))\frac{R_k^a(0)}{z} = 0 \\ C_i(z) - \frac{C_i(z)}{z} + \frac{C_i(0)}{z} = 0 \\ R_k^a(z) = \frac{P_a(z)}{Q(z)}\frac{1}{1 - \rho_a z} - \frac{P_c(z)}{Q(z)}C_a(z) \end{cases} \quad (\text{S7.22})$$

or in matrix polynomial form

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} z - 1 & 0 & 1 - \beta(1 - \delta) \\ 0 & z - 1 & 0 \\ P_c(z) & 0 & Q(z) \end{bmatrix}}_{U(z)} \begin{bmatrix} C_a(z) \\ C_i(z) \\ R_k^a(z) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \underbrace{(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^a(0) - C_a(0)}_{\theta_1} \\ - \underbrace{C_i(0)}_{\theta_2} \\ \frac{1}{1 - \rho_a z}P_a(z) \end{bmatrix}}_{V(z)} \quad (\text{S7.23})$$

where the left hand side consists of polynomial functions and endogenous functions, while the right hand side consists of exogenous functions and functional constants.

The matrix system (S7.23) can be solved using standard frequency-domain techniques developed in Tan and Walker (2015) and Huo and Takayama (2018). We summarize the FI solution in the following proposition: the idiosyncratic component of consumption follows a random walk; the idiosyncratic component of capital follows a AR(2) process with a unit root. For brevity, we omit the proof here.

**Proposition S7.1** (FI Solution). *Given the exogenous polynomial functions  $Q(z)$ ,  $P_a(z)$ , and  $P_c(z)$  defined in (S7.14)–(S7.16), there exists a unique equilibrium in the FI model.*

- The idiosyncratic consumption and capital are given by

$$C_i(z) = \frac{a_W(1 + a_N)(1 - \beta)}{(a_C + a_W a_N)(1 - \rho_i \beta)} \frac{1}{1 - z}, \quad K_i(z) = \frac{\beta a_W(1 + a_N)}{1 - \rho_i \beta} \frac{1 - \rho_i}{(1 - z)(1 - \rho_i z)}$$

which are random walk and AR(2) process with a unit root, respectively.

- The aggregate consumption and capital return are characterized by the following ARMA(2, 1) processes

$$\begin{aligned} C_a(z) &= \frac{C_f(z - r_3)}{[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))](1 - \rho_a z)(z - r_1)} \\ R_k^a(z) &= \frac{R_f(z - r_4)}{[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))](1 - \rho_a z)(z - r_1)} \end{aligned}$$

The constant  $C_f$  is the leading coefficient of the exogenous quadratic polynomial equation

$$\text{Num}_{ca}(z) = \frac{(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))P_a(r_2)}{Q(r_2)(1 - \rho_a r_2)} Q(z)(1 - \rho_a z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))P_a(z) = 0$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$  with  $|r_2| < 1$  and one root at  $z = r_3$ . Similarly, the constant  $R_f$  is the leading coefficient of the exogenous quadratic polynomial equation

$$\text{Num}_{rk}(z) = (z - 1)P_a(z) - \frac{(r_2 - 1)P_a(r_2)}{P_c(r_2)(1 - \rho_a r_2)} P_c(z)(1 - \rho_a z) = 0$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$  with  $|r_2| < 1$  and one root at  $z = r_4$ . Finally, the inside root  $z = r_2$  and the outside root  $z = r_1$  with  $|r_1| > 1$  are the two roots of the exogenous quadratic polynomial function

$$\Phi(z) = (z - 1)Q(z) - P_c(z)(1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \quad (\text{S7.24})$$

- Once the equilibrium solutions for  $c_t$  and  $r_{kt}$  are solved, the aggregate capital stock  $k_{t+1}$  is given by (S7.11).

In the FI equilibrium,  $\Phi(z)$  determines the existence and uniqueness of the model solution. Using the Rouché's theorem, it is easy to show that given our parameter restrictions, there are always one root inside the unit circle ( $r_2$ ) and one root outside the unit circle ( $r_1$ ). As will be shown later,  $\Phi(z)$  also determines the equilibrium existence and the autoregressive structure of the model under incomplete information with square information system.

Tan and Walker (2015) propose a space spanning condition for equilibrium uniqueness that relates the number of “free” functional constants to the number of inside roots. In this model, there are two free constants

$$\theta_1 \equiv (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^a(0) - C_a(0), \quad \theta_2 \equiv C_i(0)$$

As Huo and Takayama (2018) document, the functional constants  $R_k^a(0)$  and  $C_a(0)$  enter the system in a linearly dependent way so that the true free constant is the linear combination of the two. Furthermore, the idiosyncratic system is decoupled from the aggregate system under FI in that  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  enter the system separately. Therefore, a unique equilibrium exists in which the two free constants are chosen to eliminate the inside poles at  $z = \beta$  (in the idiosyncratic capital (S7.19)) and  $z = r_2$ , respectively.

## Incomplete Information Solution

The model equilibrium under incomplete information (henceforth PI) is characterized by the square signal system (S7.9). Similar to the FI case, the model in general does not admit a stationary equilibrium in which both the aggregate and idiosyncratic variables are stationary.

Recall the original signal set of the PI model is defined as  $\mathcal{S}_{it} = [r_{kt}, w_{it}]'$ . From (S7.2) and (S7.3), we derive the following equivalent transformation

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha} & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_G \begin{bmatrix} r_{kt} \\ w_{it} \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} r_{kt} \\ a_t + z_{it} \end{bmatrix}}_{X_{it}}$$

Since  $G$  is invertible, we have  $\mathcal{S}_{it} = G^{-1}X_{it}$ . Clearly,  $\mathcal{S}_{it}$  and  $X_{it}$  are spanned by the same fundamental innovation process. It follows that the conditional expectations of any stationary process are the same under both signal representations.

The frequency-domain representation of the transformed signal is

$$X_{it} = \begin{bmatrix} R_k^a(z) & 0 \\ \frac{1}{1-\rho_a z} & \frac{1}{1-\rho_i z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{at} \\ \varepsilon_{it}^z \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} R_k^a(z)\sigma_a & 0 \\ \frac{\sigma_a}{1-\rho_a z} & \frac{\sigma_i}{1-\rho_i z} \end{bmatrix}}_{H(z)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\varepsilon}_{at} \\ \tilde{\varepsilon}_{it}^z \end{bmatrix}}_{\tilde{\varepsilon}_{it}}$$

where  $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{it} = \text{diag}[1/\sigma_a, 1/\sigma_i]\varepsilon_{it}$  is the normalized structural innovation process. After solving the model, we reexpress the solution in terms of the original shock innovations. The following lemma shows there is no redundant information in the signal system.

**Lemma S7.2** (Full Rank Condition). *If  $R_k^a(z) \neq 0$ , the 2-dimensional signal process  $X_{it} = [r_{kt}, a_t + z_{it}]'$  has maximal rank: the rank of its associated spectral density  $f_x(\omega)$  equals its dimension, i.e.,  $\text{rank}(f_x(\omega)) = 2$  for almost all  $\omega \in [-\pi, \pi]$ .*

*Proof.* By inspection and the zeros property of analytic functions,  $R_k^a(z)$  either has a countable number of isolated zeros on the unit circle or equals to a non-zero constant as  $R_k^a(z) \neq 0$ . Therefore,  $\det H(z) = R_k^a(z) \frac{\sigma_a \sigma_i}{1-\rho_i z}$  is non-zero almost surely on the unit circle, and  $H(\omega)$  is of full rank for almost all  $\omega \in [-\pi, \pi]$ . This in turn implies the spectral density  $f_x(\omega) = H(\omega)H^*(\omega)$  is of full rank for almost all  $\omega \in [-\pi, \pi]$  since the product of two full rank square matrices is full rank.  $\square$

Lemma S7.2 ensures that the dimension of the Wold fundamental representation of the signal process equals to 2. Clearly, the signal set  $X_{it}$  features incomplete information if and only if there exists endogenous confounding dynamics in the aggregate capital return signal  $r_{kt}$ . The economic intuition is similar to Rondina and Walker (2018) and Huo and Pedroni (2020). More precisely, the information is incomplete if and only if there exists  $N \geq 1$  non-invertible roots in the aggregate capital return

$$R_k^a(z) \equiv R(z) \prod_{k=1}^N (z - \lambda_k), \quad |\lambda_k| < 1, \quad \forall k \quad (\text{S7.25})$$

where  $R(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  is an outer analytic function. Again, the number of non-invertible roots is at most countable by the zeros property of analytic functions.

Without loss of generality, we restrict our attention to the case of only one endogenous non-invertible root, i.e.

$$R_k^a(z) \equiv R(z)(z - \lambda), \quad |\lambda| < 1 \quad (\text{S7.26})$$

By the complex conjugate theorem, in any equilibrium in which  $R_k^a(z)$  is a rational function,  $\lambda$  must be a real number. (S7.26) implies that the determinant function  $\det H(z) = R(z)(z - \lambda) \frac{\sigma_a \sigma_i}{1-\rho_i z}$

has one inside root at  $z = \lambda$  so that the signal process  $X_{it}$  is non-invertible. We first present the theoretical result of the partial stationarity based on (S7.26), and then extends it to the general case (S7.25) using the Beurling-Blaschke inner-outer factorization theorem. For the numerical methods, we focus only on the computation of equilibria in the class of signal in the form of (S7.26), where the endogenous non-invertible root  $\lambda$  will be part of our solution. We start with the Wold representation of the signal process conditional on  $\lambda$ .

**Lemma S7.3** (Wold Fundamental Representation). *Given  $|\lambda| < 1$  and (S7.26), the Wold fundamental representation of the signal process  $X_{it}$  is given by the matrix analytic function  $\Gamma(z)$  in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$*

$$\Gamma(z) = H(z)V^{-1}B(z), \quad B(z) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1-\lambda z}{z-\lambda} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

The Blaschke matrix  $B(z)$  satisfies the property  $B(z)B(z^{-1})' = I$  and is an inner function.  $V > 0$  is an unitary matrix given by the singular value decomposition  $H(\lambda) = UDV$ , where

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} -a_2\sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}} & a_1\sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}} \\ a_1\sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}} & a_2\sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}} \end{bmatrix},$$

$$a_1 \equiv \frac{\sigma_a}{1 - \rho_a \lambda}, \quad a_2 \equiv \frac{\sigma_i}{1 - \rho_i \lambda}$$

and  $V$  is symmetric so that  $V = V' = V^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* We apply the factorization method in Miao, Wu and Young (2021b, Supplementary Appendix p. 25–31) and omit the algebraic details for brevity.  $\square$

With the Wold fundamental representation  $\Gamma(z)$ , we derive the PI equilibrium fixed point in the frequency domain. The following proposition shows that the model features only partial stationarity.

**Proposition S7.4** (Partial Stationarity). *For any given  $|\lambda| < 1$  such that the endogenous signal admits (S7.26), there exists no stationary equilibrium in which both aggregate and idiosyncratic variables are causal-stationary.*

*Proof.* We first consider the case of  $\lambda \neq 0$ . Notice that the individual consumption  $c_{it}$  is an observable variable as each agent's decision is measurable with respect to the information set. The capital rental rate  $r_{kt}$  is part of signals. Hence, both variables can be written in terms of linear combinations of signals. We then apply the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula and the Wold

representation in Lemma S7.3 to derive the equilibrium fixed point (S7.21) as<sup>4</sup>

$$\begin{cases} C_a(z) = \frac{C_a(z)}{z} - \frac{C_a(0)F_{(1,1)}(z;\lambda) + C_i(0)F_{(2,1)}(z;\lambda)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \frac{R_k^a(z)}{z} + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \frac{R_k^a(0)F_{(1,1)}(z;\lambda)}{z} \\ C_i(z) = \frac{C_i(z)}{z} - \frac{C_a(0)F_{(1,2)}(z;\lambda) + C_i(0)F_{(2,2)}(z;\lambda)}{z} + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \frac{R_k^a(0)F_{(1,2)}(z;\lambda)}{z} \\ R_k^a(z) = \frac{P_a(z)}{Q(z)} \frac{\sigma_a}{1 - \rho_a z} - \frac{P_c(z)}{Q(z)} C_a(z) \end{cases} \quad (\text{S7.27})$$

where the matrix analytic function

$$F(z; \lambda) \equiv V^{-1}B(0)B^{-1}(z)V = \frac{1}{\lambda(1 - \lambda z)} \begin{bmatrix} (1 - \lambda^2)V_2^2 z - (z - \lambda) & V_1 V_2(1 - \lambda^2)z \\ V_1 V_2(1 - \lambda^2)z & (1 - \lambda^2)V_1^2 z - (z - \lambda) \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.28})$$

derives from the Wold fundamental representation that depends only on  $\lambda$ . The constants  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  are functions of  $\lambda$  and given by  $V_1 \equiv a_2 \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}}$ ,  $V_2 \equiv a_1 \sqrt{\frac{1}{a_1^2 + a_2^2}}$ .  $F_{(i,j)}(z; \lambda)$  denotes the  $(i, j)$ th element of  $F(z; \lambda)$ . In matrix form, (S7.27) can be written as

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} z - 1 & 0 & 1 - \beta(1 - \delta) \\ 0 & z - 1 & 0 \\ P_c(z) & 0 & Q(z) \end{bmatrix}}_{U(z)} \begin{bmatrix} C_a(z) \\ C_i(z) \\ R_k^a(z) \end{bmatrix} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} [(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^a(0) - C_a(0)] F_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - C_i(0)F_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda) \\ [(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^a(0) - C_a(0)] F_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda) - C_i(0)F_{(2,2)}(z; \lambda) \\ P_a(z) \frac{\sigma_a}{1 - \rho_a z} \end{bmatrix}}_{V(z)} \quad (\text{S7.29})$$

Comparing (S7.27) and (S7.29) to their FI counterparts (S7.22) and (S7.23), it is clear the autoregressive structure of the model (i.e.,  $U(z)$ ) is the same in both cases due to the square information set. On the other hand, the moving average part of the PI equilibrium is different due to the presence of the matrix function  $F(z; \lambda)$  because the information set is now non-invertible. Since the elements of  $F(z; \lambda)$  contaminate the equations for aggregate and idiosyncratic consumption, the aggregate and idiosyncratic equilibria are now interconnected through the functional constants  $C_a(0)$ ,  $C_i(0)$ ,  $R_k^a(0)$ , and  $F(z; \lambda)$ . However, we notice that the constant  $(1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) R_k^a(0) - C_a(0)$  is always associated with the same function  $F_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda)$  or  $F_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda)$  in the system. It follows that the functional constants  $C_a(0)$  and  $R_k^a(0)$  still enter the system in a linearly dependent way as in the FI case. As such, the number of free constants (i.e.,  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ ) is smaller than the number of inside roots (i.e.,  $z = 1$ ,  $z = \beta$ ,  $z = r_2$ ), and the possible equilibria are only partially stationary. In fact, the FI equilibrium can be viewed as a special case of the

<sup>4</sup>Using the signal representation, the Wiener-Hopf formula reduces to the Wiener-Kolmogorov formula. More specifically,  $\mathbb{E}_{it} c_{it+1} = \frac{\mathbf{S}_c(L) - \mathbf{S}_c(0)\Gamma(0)\Gamma^{-1}(L)}{L} X_{it}$  and  $\mathbb{E}_{it} r_{kt+1} = \frac{\mathbf{e}_1 - \mathbf{e}_1\Gamma(0)\Gamma^{-1}(L)}{L} X_{it}$ , where  $c_{it} = \mathbf{S}_c(L)X_{it}$  is the signal representation and  $\mathbf{e}_1 = [1 \ 0]$ . We first express the fixed point in terms of signals  $X_{it}$ , and then multiply both sides of the system by  $H(L)$  to get (S7.27).

PI equilibria in which  $F(z; \lambda) \equiv I$ .

The underlying argument continues to hold for the case of  $\lambda = 0$ , although the algebra is slightly different. We omit the details for brevity.  $\square$

We can extend the theoretical result in Proposition S7.4 to a more general setup.

**Corollary S7.5.** *For any non-invertible representation in the form of (S7.25), there exists no stationary equilibrium in which both aggregate and idiosyncratic variables are causal-stationary.*

*Proof.* By the Beurling-Blaschke inner-outer factorization theorem (See Miao, Wu and Young (2021b, Supplementary Appendix p. 21, p. 25–29)), the Wold representation is given by

$$\Gamma(z) = H(z) \prod_{k=1}^N (V^k)^{-1} B^k(z)$$

where  $V^k$  and  $B^k(z)$  take the same form as in Lemma S7.3 for noninvertible root  $\lambda_k$ . Then the foregoing analysis remains valid for the general form (S7.25). The only change is the form of the matrix analytic function  $F(z; \lambda)$ , which is now defined as

$$F(z; \{\lambda_k\}_{k=1}^N) = \prod_{k=1}^N (V^k)^{-1} B^k(0) \prod_{k=1}^N (B^k(z))^{-1} V^k$$

However, this change does not introduce any additional free constant as agents still face a square information set and the expectation of  $c_{it+1}$  and  $r_{kt+1}$  involve only the Wiener-Kolmogorov prediction formula. The partial stationarity is preserved.  $\square$

Enlightened by Proposition S7.4, we focus on the computation of equilibria that are stationary at the aggregate level. Under incomplete information, however, there exist two types of stationary aggregate equilibria.

- Equilibrium 1: idiosyncratic consumption and capital feature random walk; aggregate equilibrium is stationary.
- Equilibrium 2: idiosyncratic capital has an explosive root at  $z = \beta$ ; all variables except idiosyncratic capital and investment are stationary.

Clearly, the free constants  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are used to eliminate different unstable roots in the two equilibria. Note that such equilibrium multiplicity is not possible under full information since the idiosyncratic system is decoupled from the aggregate system. Graham and Wright (2010) only compute Equilibrium 1 (which we term “random walk” equilibrium henceforth), but ignore the possibility of multiple equilibria.

Next, we derive the fixed point condition that determines the endogenous non-invertible root  $\lambda$ , and present the closed-form solutions for the two PI equilibria. The solution strategy is similar to Rondina and Walker (2018) in terms of solving the endogenous confounding dynamics. These analytical solutions serve as a useful benchmark for evaluating the performance of our numerical algorithms. To ease the algebra, define the following surrogate functions

$$h(z) = \frac{(z-1)P_a(z)}{P_c(z)}, \quad a(z) = \frac{\sigma_a}{1-\rho_a z}, \quad b(z) = \frac{\sigma_i}{1-\rho_i z}$$

Let  $m_\beta \equiv h(\beta)b(\beta)$  and  $m_r \equiv h(r_2)a(r_2)$ , where  $r_2$  is the inside root of the polynomial function  $\Phi(z)$  defined in (S7.24). We also follow Graham and Wright (2010) and assume that both exogenous shocks have the same persistence:<sup>5</sup>

$$\rho_a = \rho_i = \rho$$

**Proposition S7.6** (Random Walk Equilibrium). *Suppose  $\rho_a = \rho_i = \rho$ . Then in Equilibrium 1, the endogenous non-invertible root  $\lambda$  is non-zero, i.e.,  $|\lambda| < 1$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . In addition, it satisfies the following quartic polynomial equation*

$$\begin{aligned} & \sigma_a(\lambda-1)P_a(\lambda) [(1-\tau_a)(1-\beta\lambda)(r_2-\lambda) + \tau_a(1-r_2\lambda)(\beta-\lambda)] \\ & - P_c(\lambda)(1-\rho\lambda) [m_\beta\tau_b(1-\beta\lambda)(r_2-\lambda) + m_r\tau_a(1-r_2\lambda)(\beta-\lambda)] = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (\text{S7.30})$$

where  $\tau_a = \frac{\sigma_a^2}{\sigma_a^2 + \sigma_i^2}$  and  $\tau_b = \frac{\sigma_a\sigma_i}{\sigma_a^2 + \sigma_i^2}$ . Given  $\lambda$ , let  $f_{(i,j)}(z; \lambda)$  denote the  $(i, j)$ th element of the numerator polynomial function of  $F(z; \lambda)$  in (S7.28). Then the free constants  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 &= \lambda \frac{f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda)m_\beta(1-\lambda\beta) - f_{(2,2)}(\beta; \lambda)m_r(1-\lambda r_2)}{f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(1,2)}(\beta; \lambda) - f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(2,2)}(\beta; \lambda)} \\ \theta_2 &= \lambda \frac{f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda)m_\beta(1-\lambda\beta) - f_{(1,2)}(\beta; \lambda)m_r(1-\lambda r_2)}{f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(1,2)}(\beta; \lambda) - f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(2,2)}(\beta; \lambda)} \end{aligned}$$

The equilibrium solution in terms of the normalized innovations  $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{it}$  corresponding to  $\lambda$  is given by

- The idiosyncratic component of consumption follows an ARMA(2, 1) process with a unit root

$$C_i(z) = \frac{\theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(z; \lambda)}{\lambda(z-1)(1-\lambda z)}$$

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<sup>5</sup>This assumption is non-essential—its sole purpose is to simplify the algebra for the fixed point condition of  $\lambda$ . We also solve the closed-form solution for the case of  $\rho_a \neq \rho_i$ ; in both equilibria, the solution forms are identical to those in Proposition S7.6 and S7.7 presented below, except for the fixed point equation that determines  $\lambda$ .



and the idiosyncratic component of capital follows an ARMA(3, 1) process with a unit root

$$K_i(z) = \frac{K_{if}(z - r_6)}{\lambda(1 - \lambda z)(z - 1)(1 - \rho z)}$$

The constant  $K_{if}$  is the leading coefficient of the quadratic polynomial function

$$Num_{ki}(z) = \beta(a_C + a_W a_N) (\theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(z; \lambda)) (1 - \rho z) - \beta a_W (1 + a_N) \sigma_i (z - 1) \lambda (1 - \lambda z)$$

which has one root inside the unit circle at  $z = \beta$  and one root at  $z = r_6$ .

- The aggregate consumption follows an ARMA(3, 2) process

$$C_a(z) = \frac{C_f(z - r_3)(z - r_4)}{[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))] \lambda(1 - \rho z)(z - r_1)(1 - \lambda z)}$$

where  $r_1$  is an outside root of  $\Phi(z)$  with  $|r_1| > 1$ . The constant  $C_f$  is the leading coefficient of the cubic polynomial function

$$Num_{ca}(z) = Q(z) (\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda)) (1 - \rho z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \sigma_a \lambda P_a(z) (1 - \lambda z)$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$  and two other roots at  $z = r_3$  and  $z = r_4$ .

- The aggregate return of capital follows an ARMA(3, 2) process

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{R_f(z - \lambda)(z - r_5)}{[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))] \lambda(1 - \rho z)(z - r_1)(1 - \lambda z)}$$

The constant  $R_f$  is the leading coefficient of the cubic polynomial function

$$Num_{rk}(z) = \sigma_a \lambda (z - 1) P_a(z) (1 - \lambda z) - P_c(z) (\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda)) (1 - \rho z) \quad (\text{S7.31})$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$ , one inside root at  $z = \lambda$ , and one outside root at  $z = r_5$  with  $|r_5| > 1$ .

*Proof.* We first suppose  $\lambda \neq 0$ . The matrix equation (S7.29) has the solution

$$C_a(z) = \frac{Q(z)(\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda)) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) P_a(z) a(z) \lambda (1 - \lambda z)}{\Phi(z) \lambda (1 - \lambda z)} \quad (\text{S7.32})$$

$$C_i(z) = \frac{\theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(z; \lambda)}{(z - 1) \lambda (1 - \lambda z)} \quad (\text{S7.33})$$

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{(z - 1) P_a(z) a(z) \lambda (1 - \lambda z) - P_c(z) (\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda))}{\Phi(z) \lambda (1 - \lambda z)} \quad (\text{S7.34})$$

Condition on  $\lambda$ , the two constants  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are used to eliminate the poles at  $z = r_2$  in (S7.32), (S7.34), and  $z = \beta$  in (S7.19). Note that at  $z = r_2$ ,  $U(z)$  in (S7.29) loses the rank ( $\det U(z) = (z - 1)\Phi(z)$ ), and the first and third rows of  $U(z)$  are exact multiple of each other. Therefore, evaluating the numerator of (S7.32) or (S7.34) at  $z = r_2$  is equivalent. Without loss of generality, we evaluate the numerator function (S7.34) at  $z = r_2$ , and evaluate the numerator function of (S7.19) (with respect to the normalized innovation) at  $z = \beta$ , using (S7.33). After some algebra, we arrive at a system of linear equations for  $\theta_1, \theta_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda) &= h(r_2)a(r_2)\lambda(1 - \lambda r_2) \\ \theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(\beta; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(\beta; \lambda) &= h(\beta)b(\beta)\lambda(1 - \lambda\beta)\end{aligned}$$

The solution of this linear system gives rise to the expressions of  $\theta_1, \theta_2$  in the proposition as functions of  $\lambda$ . By construction,  $R_k^a(z)$  has a non-invertible root at  $z = \lambda$ . Therefore, we substitute  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  into (S7.34) and evaluate at  $z = \lambda$ , which leads to the fixed point condition for  $\lambda$ . Using the assumption  $\rho_a = \rho_i = \rho$  and the fact that  $V_1^2 + V_2^2 = 1$ ,  $V_1 V_2 = \tau_b$ , and  $\tau_a^2 + \tau_b^2 = \tau_a$ , we obtain the fixed point condition for  $\lambda$  as a quartic polynomial equation (S7.30). We omit the lengthy algebraic details for brevity. (S7.30) may have multiple non-zero inside roots.<sup>6</sup> This is indeed true under the parameterization of Graham and Wright (2010). The fact that more than one value of  $\lambda$  can serve as the endogenous confounding root leads to the possibility of multiple equilibria within the class of Equilibrium 1. However, any value of  $\lambda$  also has to satisfy the condition that the root  $r_5$  of (S7.31) be outside the unit circle; otherwise, it leads to the contradiction of our initial conjecture (S7.26). Once this restriction is imposed, we find that under the parameterization of Graham and Wright (2010) only one value of  $\lambda$  is selected for Equilibrium 1. That is, there exists a unique random walk equilibrium. Once  $\lambda$  is determined, the rest of equilibrium functions can be easily derived as in the Proposition.

Now suppose  $\lambda = 0$ . A similar procedure can be applied to show that this cannot be an equilibrium. Intuitively,  $\lambda = 0$  means that the capital rental rate does not response to aggregate productivity shocks on impact but with a lag. The claim can be invalidated using an argument of contradiction. The proof is now complete.  $\square$

Finally, we characterize the closed-form solution of Equilibrium 2 in a similar fashion. We assume that all exogenous parameters, functions, and roots carry the same definitions as before.

**Proposition S7.7** (Equilibrium 2). *Suppose  $\rho_a = \rho_i = \rho$ . Then in Equilibrium 2, the endogenous non-invertible root  $\lambda$  is non-zero, i.e.,  $|\lambda| < 1$  and  $\lambda \neq 0$ . In addition, it satisfies the following*

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<sup>6</sup>In the proof of Proposition S7.6, we show that by construction, (S7.30) has an inside root at  $z = r_2$ , which is eliminated by the free constants. Here we define the root multiplicity as multiple inside roots other than  $r_2$ .

cubic polynomial equation

$$\sigma_a(\lambda - 1)P_a(\lambda) \left[ (1 - (1 - r_2)\tau_a)\lambda - (r_2 + (1 - r_2)\tau_a) \right] + P_c(\lambda)(1 - \rho\lambda)(1 - r_2\lambda)\tau_a m_r = 0 \quad (\text{S7.35})$$

Given  $\lambda$ , the free constants  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 &= m_r \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda r_2)f_{(2,2)}(1; \lambda)}{f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(2,2)}(1; \lambda) - f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(1,2)}(1; \lambda)} \\ \theta_2 &= m_r \frac{\lambda(1 - \lambda r_2)f_{(1,2)}(1; \lambda)}{f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(2,2)}(1; \lambda) - f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda)f_{(1,2)}(1; \lambda)} \end{aligned}$$

The equilibrium solution in terms of the normalized innovations  $\tilde{\varepsilon}_{it}$  corresponding to  $\lambda$  is given by

- The idiosyncratic component of consumption follows a stationary AR(1) process

$$C_i(z) = \frac{C_{if}}{\lambda(1 - \lambda z)}$$

where  $C_{if}$  is the leading coefficients of the first-order polynomial function

$$Num_{ci}(z) = \theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(z; \lambda)$$

The idiosyncratic component of capital is non-stationary and has an explosive root at  $z = \beta$ .

- The aggregate consumption follows an ARMA(3, 2) process

$$C_a(z) = \frac{C_f(z - r_3)(z - r_4)}{\left[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))\right] \lambda(1 - \rho z)(z - r_1)(1 - \lambda z)}$$

where  $r_1$  is an outside root of  $\Phi(z)$  with  $|r_1| > 1$ . The constant  $C_f$  is the leading coefficient of the cubic polynomial function

$$Num_{ca}(z) = Q(z) (\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda)) (1 - \rho z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))\sigma_a \lambda P_a(z)(1 - \lambda z)$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$ , and two other roots at  $z = r_3$  and  $z = r_4$ .

- The aggregate return of capital follows an ARMA(3, 2) process

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{R_f(z - \lambda)(z - r_5)}{\left[1 + a_N(1 - \alpha\beta(1 - \delta))\right] \lambda(1 - \rho z)(z - r_1)(1 - \lambda z)}$$

The constant  $R_f$  is the leading coefficient of the cubic polynomial function

$$Num_{rk}(z) = \sigma_a \lambda (z - 1) P_a(z) (1 - \lambda z) - P_c(z) (\theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(z; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(z; \lambda)) (1 - \rho z) \quad (\text{S7.36})$$

which has one inside root at  $z = r_2$ , one inside root at  $z = \lambda$ , and one outside root at  $z = r_5$  with  $|r_5| > 1$ .

*Proof.* We adopt the same solution procedure as for Equilibrium 1. The matrix solution (S7.29) remains the same. In Equilibrium 2,  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are used to eliminate  $z = r_2$  in (S7.32), (S7.34), and  $z = 1$  in (S7.33). Evaluating the numerator function of (S7.34) and (S7.33) at  $z = r_2$  and  $z = 1$  yields the system

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_1 f_{(1,1)}(r_2; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,1)}(r_2; \lambda) &= h(r_2) a(r_2) \lambda (1 - \lambda r_2) \\ \theta_1 f_{(1,2)}(\beta; \lambda) - \theta_2 f_{(2,2)}(\beta; \lambda) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

which leads to the solutions for  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  as functions of  $\lambda$ . The rest of the solution procedure is identical to Proposition S7.6: we substitute  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  into (S7.34) and evaluate  $R_k^a(z)$  at  $z = \lambda$ , which leads to the fixed point condition for  $\lambda$  as in (S7.35). Under the parameterization of Graham and Wright (2010), we find that other than  $r_2$ , there is only one (non-zero) inside root to the cubic equation (S7.35). At this value of  $\lambda$ , the function  $R_k^a(z)$  has only one inside root ( $|r_5| > 1$ ). Therefore, Equilibrium 2 is unique. Once  $\lambda$  is determined, the rest of the equilibrium function follow accordingly. The proof is complete.  $\square$

### S7.3 Extended Algorithms

The previous section characterizes the analytical properties of the Graham and Wright (2010) model with closed-form solutions in the frequency domain. Given the theoretical knowledge of this model, we propose three extended algorithms based on the APFI framework. Since the model features partial stationarity and multiple equilibria, we work with the reduced equilibrium system (S7.21).

#### Non-invertibility

In addition to the theoretical irregularities, the model also imposes numerical challenges. The most important numerical challenge comes from the presence of non-invertibility in the non-expectational block of the system (S7.21)

$$r_{kt} = \frac{P_a(z)}{Q(z)} a_t - \frac{P_c(z)}{Q(z)} c_t \quad (\text{S7.37})$$

Under the model's current parameter restriction, the exogenous linear polynomial functions  $Q(z)$  and  $P_c(z)$  have their roots located both inside the unit circle. For any given analytic function  $C(z)$  representing the aggregate consumption, the right hand side of (S7.37) does not guarantee that the aggregate return is stationary, i.e.,  $R_k^a(z)$  may not be in the Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Likewise, for any given analytic function  $R_k^a(z)$  representing the aggregate return of capital, (S7.37) can be rewritten as

$$c_t = \frac{P_a(z)}{P_c(z)} a_t - \frac{Q(z)}{P_c(z)} r_{kt}$$

the right hand side of which does not guarantee that the aggregate consumption is stationary, i.e.,  $C(z)$  may not be in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . In the context of our canonical form, this means there is an inside root (explosive eigenvalue) in the non-expectational block of the equilibrium system. Moreover, such inside roots show up in (S7.37) where no expectational terms can be used to anchor this instability directly.

Several implications of this non-invertibility issue are in order for the numerical computation. First, it creates problems in our iterative algorithm as non-stationarity arises during iterations. Even if we substitute (S7.37) into the Euler equation, the resulting solution may still be non-stationary. Second, this issue is unrelated to the information friction and is present even under full information. Instead, it is related to the presence of endogenous state variables (i.e., capital accumulation process). This can be seen from our derivation of (S7.37), where the lag structure is imposed by the capital process. Third, the non-invertibility problem is a consequence of parameter restrictions. We emphasize that having endogenous states does not necessarily lead to this problem; it arises only when the parameters are restricted in such a way that the inside roots show up. For example, if either of the polynomials  $P_c(z)$  and  $Q(z)$  has roots outside the unit circle, we can arrange the variable order of the canonical form such that the stability condition in Assumption 4.1 is satisfied. Finally, the non-invertibility problem by no means implies non-stationarity of the model, but merely creates “pseudo” non-stationarity in an iterative algorithm.

To cope with the non-invertibility problem, we propose three algorithms that extend beyond the baseline APFI Algorithm 4.2 and the canonical form in our toolbox.

### Algorithm 1: Signal Representation

The first algorithm deviates from the canonical form in that it utilizes the signal rather than innovation representation of the model solution. The key advantage of this algorithm is that we circumvent the non-invertibility problem. The disadvantage is that it cannot handle the case of full information.

We start with Equilibrium 2, which is easier to tackle. We relax the assumption of  $\rho_a = \rho_i = \rho$  and focus on equilibrium with the original innovations  $\varepsilon_{it}$ . Inspecting the Euler equation in the

reduced system (S7.21), we know the individual consumption  $c_{it}$  is purely driven by expectations. Hence, it must admit a signal representation as

$$c_{it} = A(L)(a_t + z_{it}) + B(L)r_{kt}$$

where  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  are analytic functions in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . To solve for  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$ , we first derive the mapping between the signal and innovation representations. The idiosyncratic component of consumption is given by

$$C_i(z) = \frac{A(z)}{1 - \rho_i z} \quad (\text{S7.38})$$

The aggregate component of consumption is given by

$$C_a(z) = \frac{A(z)}{1 - \rho_a z} + B(z)R_k^a(z) \quad (\text{S7.39})$$

Combining (S7.39) with (S7.13), we solve the aggregate innovation representation in terms of the signal representation

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{P_a(z) - A(z)P_c(z)}{(1 - \rho_a z)(Q(z) + P_c(z)B(z))}, \quad C_a(z) = \frac{A(z)Q(z) + B(z)P_a(z)}{(1 - \rho_a z)(Q(z) + P_c(z)B(z))} \quad (\text{S7.40})$$

Appropriate choice of the initial function values of  $A(z)$  and  $B(z)$  allows for a stationary representation of  $c_t$  and  $r_{kt}$  so that the non-invertibility problem is eliminated. The z-Tran toolbox contains the VARMA method `wh.m` that computes the signal representation of the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula, so the rest of the algorithm is standard.

**Algorithm S7.8** (Signal Representation). The first algorithm is summarized by a sequence of easily implementable steps as follows:

- **Initialization.** Discretize the state space  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1)$  into  $N$  grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ . Set the initial policy function values  $\{A(z_j), B(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ .
- **Innovation representation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the function values of  $C_i(z)$ ,  $C_a(z)$ , and  $R_k^a(z)$  according to (S7.38) and (S7.40).
- **Projection.** Fit the  $z$ -transform of the VARMA( $p, q$ ) representation for signal  $X_{it}$  to the set of data points on the state space grid.
- **Expectation evaluation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the signal representation of  $c_{it}$  using (S7.1), the signal structure in the projection step, and the routine `wh.m`. Denote the resulting functions as  $\tilde{A}(z)$  and  $\tilde{B}(z)$ .

- **Updating.** Given step size  $\ell \in [0, 1]$ , compute the updated function values

$$A^+(z) = (1 - \ell)A(z) + \ell\tilde{A}(z), \quad B^+(z) = (1 - \ell)B(z) + \ell\tilde{B}(z)$$

- **Recursion.** Define the vector of analytic functions  $\Gamma_s(z) \equiv [A(z), B(z)]$ . If the relative distance between the guess and updated policy function values is smaller than a pre-specified criterion  $\epsilon$ ,

$$\max_{z_1, \dots, z_N} \frac{\|\Gamma_s^+(z_j) - \Gamma_s(z_j)\|}{\|\Gamma_s(z_j)\|} < \epsilon$$

then stop; otherwise, set  $A(z) = A^+(z)$ ,  $B(z) = B^+(z)$  and repeat steps 2–5.

In Section 5.3 we illustrate the numerical performance of this signal-based algorithm. The initial conjecture that ensures convergence is indeed not restrictive compared to Graham and Wright (2010).

Computing the random walk equilibrium (Equilibrium 1) is much harder. In this case, the idiosyncratic component of consumption  $C_i(z)$  has a unit root  $z = 1$ . This non-stationarity violates the assumption of Theorem 3.3 and hence we cannot apply the discrete Fourier transform to compute the annihilation and conditional expectations. To apply the APFI algorithm, we need to modify the solution target in a way that is similar to the first-differencing method in the time domain.

Specifically, we adopt the same conjecture for the signal representation  $c_{it} = A(L)(a_t + z_{it}) + B(L)r_{kt}$ . If the idiosyncratic consumption follows a random walk process, then by (S7.38)  $A(z)$  must have a unit root  $z = 1$ . Without loss of generality, we define the “first-difference” of the signal representation associated with  $a_t + z_{it}$  as

$$f_A(z) = A(z)(1 - z) \tag{S7.41}$$

where  $f_A(z)$  is fully analytic and represents a stationary process. Next, we can use the same technique in Equilibrium 2 to derive the innovation representation (S7.40), which remains the same. In particular, the aggregate return of capital is given by

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{P_a(z) - A(z)P_c(z)}{(1 - \rho_a z)(Q(z) + P_c(z)B(z))}$$

If  $A(z)$  has a unit root, by inspection the aggregate rental rate is stationary if and only if  $B(z)$  also has a unit root. A simple proof by contradiction can be applied to demonstrate this point.

Therefore, we define the the “first-difference” of the signal representation associated with  $r_{kt}$  as

$$f_B(z) = B(z)(1 - z) \quad (\text{S7.42})$$

where  $f_B(z)$  is fully analytic and represents a stationary process. A notable feature of this first-difference treatment is that  $A(0) = f_A(0)$  and  $B(0) = f_B(0)$ . In other words, the initial response in the  $\text{MA}(\infty)$  expansion of the lag polynomials  $A(L)$  and  $B(L)$  remain the same after first-differencing. We now express the innovation representations in terms of  $f_A(z)$  and  $f_B(z)$

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{P_a(z)(1 - z) - f_A(z)P_c(z)}{(1 - \rho_a z)[Q(z)(1 - z) + P_c(z)f_B(z)]}, \quad C_a(z) = \frac{f_A(z)Q(z) + f_B(z)P_a(z)}{(1 - \rho_a z)[Q(z)(1 - z) + P_c(z)f_B(z)]} \quad (\text{S7.43})$$

To avoid the random walk in computing the expectation, we need to modify the Euler equation by first-differencing. Using the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula and the signal form conjecture for  $c_{it}$ , we write

$$\begin{cases} A(z) = \frac{A(z)}{z} - \frac{\Delta_1(z)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,1}(z) \\ B(z) = \frac{B(z)}{z} - \frac{\Delta_2(z)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,2}(z) \end{cases}$$

where the expectational error  $\Delta(z) \equiv [\Delta_1(z), \Delta_2(z)]$  is defined as  $\Delta(z) = [A(0), B(0)]\Gamma(0)\Gamma^{-1}(z)$ . The function  $R_k^E(z) \equiv [R_k^{E,1}(z), R_k^{E,2}(z)]$  is the innovation representation of the expectation  $\mathbb{E}_{it}[r_{kt+1}]$ . In Equilibrium 1,  $r_{kt}$  is stationary and hence the signal system is stationary. Our z-Tran toolbox can compute these two functions directly, including the Wold matrix function  $\Gamma(z)$ . Now first-differencing the above system gives

$$\begin{cases} (z - 1)A(z) = -\Delta_1(z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,1}(z)z \\ (z - 1)B(z) = -\Delta_2(z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,2}(z)z \end{cases}$$

which leads to the expressions of  $f_A(z)$  and  $f_B(z)$  without random walk non-stationarity

$$\begin{cases} f_A(z) = \Delta_1(z) + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,1}(z)z \\ f_B(z) = \Delta_2(z) + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,2}(z)z \end{cases} \quad (\text{S7.44})$$

The expectational error can be written as  $\Delta(z) = [f_A(0), f_B(0)]\Gamma^{-1}(z)$ . Since we use the state-space method to find the Wold representation, by construction  $\Gamma(0) = I$ .<sup>7</sup>

Given the aggregate return of capital  $R_k^a(z)$  and the resulting signal system, (S7.44) determines

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<sup>7</sup>If other spectral factorization algorithms are used, one just needs to solve for  $[A(0), B(0)]\Gamma(0)$  as a  $1 \times 2$  vector of free constants.



the first-differenced signal representation polynomials  $f_A(z)$  and  $f_B(z)$ , which in turn determines  $R_k^a(z)$  by (S7.43). Therefore, (S7.43) and (S7.44) constitute a fixed point for the endogenous signal  $R_k^a(z)$ , while  $f_A(z)$  and  $f_B(z)$  serve as intermediate steps.

Iterating the fixed point (S7.43) and (S7.44) directly leads to the solutions that are associated with different values of  $\lambda$  defined in our closed-form characterization. But only one solution satisfies the equilibrium criteria stated in Proposition S7.6. In particular, the free constants must also remove the pole at  $z = \beta$  for the idiosyncratic capital  $K_i(z)$  in (S7.19). This condition is clearly not identifiable in the reduced system (S7.21). As such, we must impose extra condition for the free constants to close the model and ensure correct convergence of the iterative algorithm.

Notably, evaluating the right hand side of (S7.19) at  $z = \beta$  and using (S7.38) and (S7.41), we arrive at the following condition

$$f_A(\beta) = \frac{(1 - \beta)P_a(\beta)}{P_c(\beta)} \quad (\text{S7.45})$$

whose function value is determined exogenously.

Finally, we notice that condition (S7.45) is equivalent to the condition that the aggregate return of capital has a non-invertible root at  $z = \beta$  in (S7.43). Our theoretical analysis rules out this possibility ( $\lambda = \beta$ , see the discussion below Proposition S7.6). Therefore, in Equilibrium 1 it must be that the denominator function in (S7.43) also has a root at  $z = \beta$ , which implies that

$$f_B(\beta) = \frac{(\beta - 1)Q(\beta)}{P_c(\beta)} \quad (\text{S7.46})$$

whose function value is again determined exogenously. A important observation is that (S7.45) and (S7.46) imply that the numerator function of  $C_a(z)$  in (S7.43) has a root at  $z = \beta$  as well

$$f_A(\beta)Q(\beta) + f_B(\beta)P_a(\beta) = 0$$

which immediately follows from the last two conditions. Therefore, stationarity is preserved for the aggregate equilibrium. Let  $\Theta = [f_A(0), f_B(0)]'$  be the free-constants. It must satisfy the restriction in matrix form using (S7.44)

$$\begin{bmatrix} f_A(\beta) \\ f_B(\beta) \end{bmatrix} = [\Gamma^{-1}(\beta)]' \Theta + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^E(\beta)' \beta$$

which leads to restriction for  $\Theta$

$$\Theta = \left[ (\Gamma^{-1}(\beta))' \right]^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} f_A(\beta) - \beta(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,1}(\beta) \\ f_B(\beta) - \beta(1 - \beta(1 - \delta))R_k^{E,2}(\beta) \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.47})$$

Now we summarize the APFI algorithm for Equilibrium 1, which iterates on the endogenous signal  $R_k^a(z)$  using (S7.43) and (S7.44) together with the restriction (S7.47).

**Algorithm S7.9** (First-Differenced Iteration of Endogenous Signal). The second algorithm is summarized by a sequence of easily implementable steps as follows:

- **Initialization.** Discretize the state space  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1)$  into  $N$  grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ ,  $z_j \neq \beta$ .<sup>8</sup> Set the initial policy function values  $\{R_k^a(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ . Compute the function values  $f_A(\beta)$  and  $f_B(\beta)$  according to (S7.45) and (S7.46).
- **Projection.** Fit the  $z$ -transform of the VARMA( $p, q$ ) representation for signal  $X_{it}$  to the set of data points on state space grid. Compute the Wold representation  $\{\Gamma(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ . Use the Kalman filter to compute  $\Gamma(\beta)$ .
- **Expectation Evaluation and Signal Representation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the value of the signal representation  $R_k^E(z)$  using the routine `wh.m`. Compute the constant  $\Theta$  according to (S7.47). Compute the first-differenced signal representation  $f_A(z)$  and  $f_B(z)$  according to (S7.44).
- **Innovation Representation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the updated function values for  $\widetilde{C}_a(z)$  and  $\widetilde{R}_k^a(z)$  according to and (S7.43).
- **Updating.** Given step size  $\ell \in [0, 1]$ , compute the updated function value

$$R_k^{a,+}(z) = (1 - \ell)R_k^a(z) + \ell\widetilde{R}_k^a(z)$$

- **Recursion.** If the relative distance between the guess and updated policy function values is smaller than a pre-specified criterion  $\epsilon$ ,

$$\max_{z_1, \dots, z_N} \frac{\|R_k^{a,+}(z_j) - R_k^a(z_j)\|}{\|R_k^a(z_j)\|} < \epsilon$$

then stop; otherwise, set  $R_k^a(z) = R_k^{a,+}(z)$  and repeat steps 2–5.

Compared to Algorithm S7.8, this algorithm centers around iterations on the endogenous signal  $R_k^a(z)$ , which is faster in speed. Alternatively, Algorithm S7.8 can be written in terms of iterations on the innovation functions  $C_i(z)$ ,  $C_a(z)$ ,  $R_k^a(z)$ . Mathematically, the two approaches are equivalent, and the signal representation functions  $A(z)$  ( $f_A(z)$ ) and  $B(z)$  ( $f_B(z)$ ) serve as an intermediate step that circumvents the non-invertibility problem. Of course, the random walk equilibrium computation is more complicated; it requires prior knowledge of the equilibrium

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<sup>8</sup>We eliminate  $z = \beta$  inside the unit circle to avoid  $\frac{0}{0}$  that creates a numerical error.

structure as well as algebraic manipulation that pins down the free constant restrictions. These restrictions are identified outside the reduced equilibrium system (S7.21).

### Algorithm 2: Non-Expectational Iteration

The signal-based Algorithm 1 can be further modified to increase speed. In particular, we write out the expectational terms using the analytical expressions based on the Wiener-Hopf formula. From our analytical solution, the Euler equation can be written in terms of signal polynomials as

$$\begin{bmatrix} A(z) & B(z) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} A(z) & B(z) \end{bmatrix} \Gamma(z) \Gamma^{-1}(z)}{z} - \frac{\begin{bmatrix} A(0) & B(0) \end{bmatrix} \Gamma(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) R_k^E(z)$$

which is similar to our derivation in the last section. Now multiply both sides by  $H(z)$  to convert it to the innovation representation

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_a(z) & C_i(z) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\begin{bmatrix} C_a(z) & C_i(z) \end{bmatrix}}{z} - \frac{\begin{bmatrix} A(0) & B(0) \end{bmatrix} \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z)}{z} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) R_k^E(z) H(z)$$

where we have used the fact that  $\Gamma(0) = I$ . Consider the constant transformation

$$\begin{bmatrix} A(0) & B(0) \end{bmatrix} H(0) H^{-1}(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z) = \begin{bmatrix} C_a(0) & C_i(0) \end{bmatrix} H^{-1}(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z) \quad (\text{S7.48})$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} H(0) H^{-1}(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z) = \begin{bmatrix} R_k^a(0) & 0 \end{bmatrix} H^{-1}(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z) \quad (\text{S7.49})$$

Define the endogenous matrix function related to the signal and Wold representation

$$F(z) \equiv H^{-1}(0) \Gamma^{-1}(z) H(z) \quad (\text{S7.50})$$

which will be the key in our iterative algorithm. Note that  $F(z)$  carries different definitions from  $F(z; \lambda)$  in the closed-form solution. Here we do not specify any functional form conjecture for the endogenous signal. Then we can expand the expectation of aggregate capital return and modify the Euler equation as

$$\begin{bmatrix} C_a(z) \\ C_i(z) \end{bmatrix} (1 - z) = F(z)' \begin{bmatrix} \theta_1 \\ -\theta_2 \end{bmatrix} + (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) \begin{bmatrix} R_k^a(z) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.51})$$

where  $\Lambda = [\theta_1, -\theta_2]'$  follows the same definition as in the analytical solution

$$\theta_1 \equiv (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) R_k^a(0) - C_a(0), \quad \theta_2 \equiv C_i(0)$$

Using the relation (S7.13), we derive the following expressions for the endogenous variables

$$C_a(z) = \frac{[\Lambda' F(z)]_{(1,1)} (1 - \rho_a z) Q(z) - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta)) P_a(z)}{\Phi(z)(1 - \rho_a z)}, \quad C_i(z) = \frac{[\Lambda' F(z)]_{(1,2)}}{z - 1} \quad (\text{S7.52})$$

where  $(i, j)$  denotes the corresponding element in the matrix, and the aggregate capital return is given by

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{(z - 1)P_a(z) - P_c(z)(1 - \rho_a z) [\Lambda' F(z)]_{(1,1)}}{\Phi(z)(1 - \rho_a z)} \quad (\text{S7.53})$$

By inspection of (S7.52) and (S7.53), solving the model boils down to solving the function  $F(z)$  and the constant  $\Lambda$ . Indeed, solving (S7.53) alone is sufficient; it constitutes a fixed point for the endogenous signal  $R_k^a(z)$  as  $F(z)$  is determined by the endogenous signal system. We still need to determine the constant  $\Lambda$  and the restriction on  $\Lambda$  depends on the type of equilibria we consider.

- If we want to solve for the random walk Equilibrium 1, then  $\Lambda$  is set to remove the inside root at  $z = \beta$  in (S7.19), and  $z = r_2$  (inside root of  $\Phi(z)$ ) in (S7.53).<sup>9</sup> This in turn implies the following linear equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_{(1,1)}(r_2) & F_{(2,1)}(r_2) \\ F_{(1,2)}(\beta) & F_{(2,2)}(\beta) \end{bmatrix} \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{(r_2-1)P_a(r_2)}{P_c(r_2)(1-\rho_a r_2)} \\ \frac{(\beta-1)P_a(\beta)}{P_c(\beta)(1-\rho_i \beta)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.54})$$

- If we want to solve for the Equilibrium 2, then  $\Lambda$  is set to remove the inside root at  $z = 1$  in (S7.52), and  $z = r_2$  (inside root of  $\Phi(z)$ ) in (S7.53). This in turn implies the following linear equation

$$\begin{bmatrix} F_{(1,1)}(r_2) & F_{(2,1)}(r_2) \\ F_{(1,2)}(1) & F_{(2,2)}(1) \end{bmatrix} \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{(r_2-1)P_a(r_2)}{P_c(r_2)(1-\rho_a r_2)} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.55})$$

- If we want to solve for the full information equilibrium, it is a special case where  $F(z) = I$

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<sup>9</sup>As we emphasized before,  $\Lambda$  also removes the inside root of  $C_a(z)$  in (S7.52) by linear dependency. That is, the zeros conditions for (S7.52) and (S7.53) at  $z = r_2$  are equivalent.

by definition and hence the constant equation simply becomes

$$\Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{(r_2-1)P_a(r_2)}{P_c(r_2)(1-\rho_a r_2)} \\ \frac{(\beta-1)P_a(\beta)}{P_c(\beta)(1-\rho_i \beta)} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{S7.56})$$

We now summarize the iterative algorithm that solves the fixed point equation for the endogenous signal function  $R_k^a(z)$ ,  $F(z)$ , and the free constant  $\Lambda$ .

**Algorithm S7.10** (Non-Expectational Iteration). The third algorithm is summarized by a sequence of easily implementable steps as follows:

- **Initialization.** Discretize the state space  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1)$  into  $N$  grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ ,  $z \neq r_2$ .<sup>10</sup> Set the initial policy function values  $\{R_k^a(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ .
- **Projection.** Fit the  $z$ -transform of the VARMA( $p, q$ ) representation for signal  $X_{it}$  to the set of data points on state space grid. Compute the Wold representation  $\{\Gamma(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ . Evaluate  $\{F(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  based on (S7.50). Use the VARMA fitting and evaluation routines `fit.m`, `eval.m` to evaluate  $F(z)$  at  $z = 1$ ,  $z = r_2$ , and  $z = \beta$ . If solving for the FI equilibrium, then set  $F(z) = I$ .
- **Constant Restriction.** Solve for  $\Lambda$  using (S7.54) in Equilibrium 1 and (S7.55) in Equilibrium 2. Set  $\Lambda$  by (S7.56) if solving for the FI equilibrium.
- **Innovation Representation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the updated function values for  $\widetilde{R}_k^a(z)$  according to (S7.53).
- **Updating.** Given step size  $\ell \in [0, 1]$ , compute the updated function value

$$R_k^{a,+}(z) = (1 - \ell)R_k^a(z) + \ell\widetilde{R}_k^a(z)$$

- **Recursion.** If the relative distance between the guess and updated policy function values is smaller than a pre-specified criterion  $\epsilon$ ,

$$\max_{z_1, \dots, z_N} \frac{\|R_k^{a,+}(z_j) - R_k^a(z_j)\|}{\|R_k^a(z_j)\|} < \epsilon$$

then stop; otherwise, set  $R_k^a(z) = R_k^{a,+}(z)$  and repeat steps 2–5. After convergence, set  $C_a(z)$  and  $C_i(z)$  according to (S7.52).

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<sup>10</sup>We eliminate  $z = r_2$  inside the unit circle to avoid  $\frac{0}{0}$  in (S7.53) that creates a numerical error.

Algorithm S7.10 is fast and accurate since it skips evaluating the Wiener-Hopf prediction formula using the discrete Fourier transform method. It is also flexible as switching the free constant restrictions among (S7.54)–(S7.56) leads to solutions to different types of equilibrium. The drawback of this algorithm is the algebraic burden as it requires prior knowledge of the analytical solutions. Fortunately, these algebraic derivations can be conducted using standard frequency-domain techniques (see, e.g., Whiteman (1983)), and are considerably simpler than the time-domain counterpart (see, e.g., Nimark (2017)). The free constant restrictions (S7.54)–(S7.56) are also straightforward to derive compared to the tricky condition (S7.47).

### Algorithm 3: Euler Equation Error Iteration

Finally, we present the third algorithm that resolves the non-invertibility and pseudo non-stationarity problem (S7.37). This algorithm only applies to the FI equilibrium without idiosyncratic shocks (no random walk) and PI Equilibrium 2 (no random walk).

We rewrite condition (S7.37) as

$$Q(z)r_{kt} = P_a(z)a_t - P_c(z)c_t \quad (\text{S7.57})$$

Suppose we solve the aggregate capital return in terms of the aggregate consumption function  $C_a(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$ . Then a stationary equilibrium solution exists only if the following condition holds

$$\frac{P_a(r)}{1 - \rho_a r} - P_c(r)C_a(r) = 0, \quad Q(r) = 0 \quad (\text{S7.58})$$

where  $|r| < 1$  is the inside (unstable) root of the exogenous polynomial function  $Q(z)$ . That is, the equilibrium aggregate consumption function must satisfy the restriction (S7.58) so that the inside root  $r$  can be eliminated and the equilibrium capital rental rate becomes stationary. This restriction implies that

$$C_a(r) = \frac{P_a(r)}{(1 - \rho_a r)P_c(r)} \equiv S \quad (\text{S7.59})$$

Here  $S$  is a constant that is determined by the model primitives. Therefore, the equilibrium solution  $C_a(z)$  lies in a restricted subset of the Hardy space  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  that satisfies (S7.58). We characterize this subset as

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f(z) : C_a(z) = a(z - r)f(z) + S; f(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D}); a \in \mathbb{C}\} \quad (\text{S7.60})$$

where  $a$  is a complex number parameter that the user controls, and  $f(z)$  is some analytic function. Therefore, solving the model boils down to solving the function  $f(z)$ . Given  $f(z)$ , the aggregate

return of capital is given by

$$R_k^a(z) = \frac{\frac{P_a(z)}{1-\rho_a z} - P_c(z) [a(z-r)f(z) + S]}{Q(z)} \quad (\text{S7.61})$$

By construction,  $R_k^a(z)$  is stationary and the non-invertibility problem is eliminated.

One issue with this approach is the updating step. That is, given a consumption function  $C_a(z)$  (generated by  $f(z)$ ) and  $C_i(z)$ , (S7.61) leads to a solution for the aggregate return on capital. Then computing the expectations in the Euler equation in (S7.21) leads to an updated solution for  $c_{it}$ . However, the aggregate component of this updated function value  $\widetilde{C}_a(z)$  does not belong to the subset  $\mathcal{H}$  in general. Since  $|r| < 1$ , we cannot solve for the updated value of  $f(z)$  that is stationary.

To overcome this problem, we consider updating the aggregate consumption with the Euler equation error (EE)

$$\widetilde{f}(z) = f(z) + EE_a(z)$$

where  $EE_a(z)$  is the aggregate Euler equation error defined as

$$EE_a(z) = \widetilde{C}_a(z) - C_a(z) = \mathbb{E}_{it} [c_{it+1} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))r_{kt+1}]|_a - C_a(z) \quad (\text{S7.62})$$

$\mathbb{E}_{it} [c_{it+1} - (1 - \beta(1 - \delta))r_{kt+1}]|_a$  refers to the aggregate component of the frequency-domain representation of the expectation terms. The expectations can be computed using the Wiener-Hopf routine in our toolbox. Clearly, when  $f(z)$  converges, the Euler equation error converges to 0 and we arrive at the stationary equilibrium solution. Meanwhile, updating the idiosyncratic consumption is standard.

**Algorithm S7.11** (EE Iteration). The fourth algorithm is summarized by a sequence of easily implementable steps as follows:

- **Initialization.** Discretize the state space  $\mathbb{U} = (-1, 1)$  into  $N$  grid points  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ ,  $z \neq r$ .<sup>11</sup> Set the initial policy function values  $\{f(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$  and  $\{C_i(z_j)\}_{j=1}^N$ .
- **Innovation Representation.** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the function values for  $C_a(z)$  and  $R_k^a(z)$  according to (S7.60) and (S7.61).
- **Projection.** Given step 2, fit the  $z$ -transform of the VARMA( $p, q$ ) representation for signal  $X_{it}$  to the set of data points on state space grid.

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<sup>11</sup>We avoid  $z = r$  inside the unit circle to avoid  $\frac{0}{0}$  in (S7.61) that creates numerical error.

- **Expectation Evaluation** On the state space grid  $\{z_j\}_{j=1}^N$ , compute the innovation representation of  $c_{it}$  using Euler equation (S7.1), the signal structure in step 3, and the routine `wh.m`. The resulting function is denoted  $\widetilde{C}_a(z)$ ,  $\widetilde{C}_i(z)$ . Compute the new function  $\widetilde{f}(z)$  as

$$\widetilde{f}(z) = f(z) + EE_a(z)$$

where  $EE_a(z)$  is defined by (S7.62).

- **Updating.** Given step size  $\ell \in [0, 1]$ , compute the updated function values

$$f^+(z) = (1 - \ell)f(z) + \ell\widetilde{f}(z); \quad C_i^+(z) = (1 - \ell)C_i(z) + \ell\widetilde{C}_i(z)$$

- **Recursion.** Define the vector of analytic functions  $\Gamma_x(z) \equiv [f(z), C_i(z)]$  and let  $\|\cdot\|$  denote the matrix sup norm. If the relative distance between the guess and updated policy function values is smaller than a pre-specified criterion  $\epsilon$ ,

$$\max_{z_1, \dots, z_N} \frac{\|\Gamma_x^+(z_j) - \Gamma_x(z_j)\|}{\|\Gamma_x(z_j)\|} < \epsilon$$

then stop; otherwise, set  $f(z) = f^+(z)$ ,  $C_i(z) = C_i^+(z)$  and repeat step 2–5.

Algorithm S7.11 can handle the FI equilibrium without idiosyncratic shocks and Equilibrium 2 without random walk. The algorithm is robust to different choices of initial guesses and the convergence is stable in this model. However, its speed is relatively slow and the updating criteria by Euler equation error lacks a theoretical foundation. Therefore, there is no guarantee that the algorithm will converge to the solution in more complicated setups. Two generalizations of Algorithm S7.11 are possible. First, if there are  $n$  (distinct) non-invertible roots  $\{q_k\}_{k=1}^n$  such that  $C_a(q_k) = S_k$  for  $k = 1, \dots, n$ , then the restricted subset is defined as

$$\mathcal{H} = \left\{ f(z) : C_a(z) = a \prod_{k=1}^n (z - q_k) f(z) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{S_k}{\prod_{j \neq k} (q_k - q_j)} \prod_{j \neq k} (z - q_j); f(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D}); a \in \mathbb{C} \right\} \quad (\text{S7.63})$$

Second, we can replace the current updating procedure, which uses the Euler equation error, with an orthogonal projection of the updated function  $\widetilde{C}_a(z)$  onto the subspace  $\mathcal{H}$  in (S7.63). That is,

$$\widetilde{f}(z) = \arg \min_{f(z) \in \mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})} \left\| a \prod_{k=1}^n (z - q_k) f(z) + \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{S_k}{\prod_{j \neq k} (q_k - q_j)} \prod_{j \neq k} (z - q_j) - \widetilde{C}_a(z) \right\|_{H^2} \quad (\text{P.1})$$

where the functional projection problem can be further converted into a constrained rational



function approximation problem ( $f(z)$  has no poles on  $\mathbb{D}$ ), or a finite-dimensional matrix semi-definite programming problem. We leave these generalizations for future work.

## S7.4 Pointers on Coding

Based on the coding experience of Graham and Wright (2010) and Angeletos and Huo (2021), we recommend the following steps to solve incomplete information models using an APFI algorithm and our z-Tran toolbox.

### Step 1: Gauge stationarity of the full information model.

For a given model at hand, the first step is to investigate whether the model is stationary or not under full information (FI). The APFI algorithm is designed to compute covariance-stationary equilibrium and cannot handle the unit root directly when using the discrete Fourier transform to approximate the annihilation operator. Understanding the stationarity of the FI model is a good starting point. In many cases, non-stationarity is brought about by the model's economic structure (e.g., the presence of endogenous state), which is independent of the information structure. In fact, incomplete information (PI), especially dispersed information, creates inertia and dampened impulse responses that improve the stationarity of the model. Therefore, if the FI model is stationary, the PI model is in general also stationary.

The stationarity test for the FI model can be implemented using other available algorithms (e.g., the `gensys` program written by Chris Sims). If the canonical form in the z-Tran toolbox is adopted, one needs to be cautious as pseudo non-stationarity can arise even when the regularity condition in Assumption 4.1 is not satisfied. If the FI model is indeed stationary, the user can proceed to Step 2; otherwise, the user is advised to reduce the model system and focus on the stationary equilibrium part. If the unit root persists in the FI and PI equilibria, we suggest using the approaches similar to Algorithm S7.9 and S7.10 of this appendix. Of course, these approaches involve some preliminary algebraic derivations.

### Step 2: Verify the regularity condition in Assumption 4.1.

The next step is to test the potential model stability by checking the regularity condition in Assumption 4.1. While this condition is not global in that it is neither necessary nor sufficient for the baseline APFI algorithm to converge to a stationary solution, it provides a local sufficient condition for stable iteration. That is, the APFI operator in Algorithm 4.2 is well-defined and maps a given function in  $\mathbf{H}^2(\mathbb{D})$  to the same space.

If Algorithm 4.2 holds, the user can proceed to solve the model using our canonical form. Otherwise, the z-Tran toolbox will recast the fixed point iteration such that the APFI operator

is well-defined. When the inside roots (or explosive eigenvalues) are associated with the expectational equations, the canonical form may still converge to the true solution due to the anchoring of expectational terms, but it comes with no performance guarantee.

### **Step 3: Customized coding tips beyond the canonical form.**

If Algorithm 4.2 is violated, the user is advised to adopt the extended APFI algorithms of this appendix. As our sample codes demonstrate, the nature of the general APFI framework and the individual routines of the z-Tran toolbox allow the user to code in almost natural language. The toolbox also allows the user to specify a comprehensive list of options used in an APFI algorithm. Suitable choices of these options can help improve the convergence and stability of the algorithm, especially for customized codes written by the user. In what follows, we provide some pointers on how to specify these options.

- Number and location of grid points: for ill-behaved models with irregularities, we recommend the user to start with a small number of grid points (e.g.,  $N \leq 50$ ), which improves the stability and speed of the code. In addition, the user should avoid points in a region where the division  $\frac{0}{0}$  (due to cancellation of spurious poles, or “Froissart doublets”) can create numerical errors. Of course, this requires some prior knowledge about the model structure using analytical derivations so as to identify the location of spurious poles.
- Initial guess: generally the initial guess for the policy function can be quite flexible, even if the model exhibits irregularities. However, adopting a more accurate initial conjecture with prior knowledge about the zeros and poles of the true solution would certainly improve the stability and speed.
- VARMA orders of fitting: lowering the VARMA fitting orders reduces the numerical errors associated with the VARMA fitting procedure. Since this procedure is performed repeatedly in the APFI algorithm, more accurate fitting improves the stability and speed of the algorithm. The risk of using lower orders is that within each iteration, the true VARMA representation of the policy function values may have higher orders than the maximum specified.
- Expansion points of discrete Fourier transform: increasing the number of expansion points on the unit circle increases the approximation accuracy of conditional expectations and hence improves the stability and convergence of the algorithm. On the other hand, more expansion points (e.g.,  $N \geq 500$ ) increases the computation cost. The user can adjust this option if the stability and convergence of the algorithm becomes a problem.
- Pseudo inverse for matrix inversion: the APFI algorithm involves a number of matrix inversion operations. Instability can occur during iterations due to matrix inversion. We

recommend using the MATLAB pseudo inverse function `pinv` in place of matrix inversion if the code fails to converge smoothly. This option, however, comes at a higher computation cost and thus slows down the algorithm.

- Updating order and step size: like any iterative algorithm, adjusting the update step size is vital for the stability and convergence of the algorithm. If the users write their own customized code without relying on our canonical form, we recommend setting different step sizes for the analytic policy functions representing the decision rules, macroeconomic aggregates, and endogenous signals. This flexible setup allows the user to better monitor the algorithm and make adjustment accordingly. In addition, we recommend first updating the fixed point for endogenous signals and then that for other variables.