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Temporary Layoffs, Loss-of-Recall, and Cyclical Unemployment Dynamics

Mark Gertler[1], Christopher Huckfeldt[2], Antonella Trigari[3]

[1]New York University, NBER
[2]Federal Reserve Board
[3]Bocconi University, CEPR, and IGIER

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What We Do (1/2)

- Document the contribution of temporary layoffs (TL) to unemployment dynamics, from 1978 onwards
- Study contribution of “loss-of-recall” to the cyclicality of unemployment
- Develop model of unemployment fluctuations that distinguishes between temporary and permanent separations . . .

What We Do (2/2)

- Model has two types of unemployment:
  - Jobless unemployment (JL): search for new job
  - Temporary-layoff unemployment (TL): wait for recall

  Worker in u_{TL} moves to u_{JL} if prior job is destroyed (i.e., loss-of-recall)

- Calibrate model to dynamics of jobless and temporary-layoff unemployment using CPS, 1979-2019

- Adapt the model to study the Covid-19 labor market

Why We Do It (1/2)

Revisit recessionary impact of temporary layoffs

- Stabilizing “direct” effect: due to recall hiring
  - Workers in u_{TL} return to work faster than workers in u_{JL}
  - Thus, TL’s are stabilizing relative to permanent separations
  - Traditional view

- Destabilizing “indirect” effect: due to loss-of-recall
  - Workers in u_{TL} may lose their recall option and move to u_{JL}
  - They do so at a higher rate during recessions
  - We estimate $u_{JL\text{-from-}TL}$ to be countercyclical and highly volatile
  - Contributes to countercyclical duration dependence

Note: recall and loss-of-recall are endogenous and thus *policy-dependent*

Why We Do It (2/2)

- Onset of Covid-19 pandemic: surge of temporary layoffs
  - First month: 15% of employed workers move to u_{TL}
  - u_{TL} remains persistently high thereafter (across all sectors)
- Fiscal response: Paycheck Protection Program (PPP)
  - Forgivable loans for firms to recall workers
  - \$953-billion program— larger than 2009 Recovery Act
- What role did PPP play in shaping employment recovery?
  - What is the no-PPP counterfactual? Requires structural model
- Our findings: Large monthly reductions in u_{JL} due to PPP
  - $\approx$ 2 p.p. in short-run, $\geq$ 1 p.p. thru May 2021
  - Achieved by preventing loss-of-recall

Plan

- Empirics of temporary-layoff unemployment and loss-of-recall
- Model (three stocks, five flows)
- Model evaluation

and then

- Application to Covid-19 Recession

Empirics of Temporary-Layoff Unemployment & Loss-of-Recall

Empirics of Loss-of-Recall

1. u_{TL} comprises just 1/8 of total unemployment (u)

Table: Total (U), jobless (JL), and temporary-layoff (TL) unemployment, 1978–2019

	$U =$ $JL + TL$	JL	TL
mean(x)	6.2	5.4	0.8
std(x)/std(Y)	8.5	8.6	9.7
corr(x, Y)	-0.86	-0.82	-0.87

For second and third row, series are taken as (1) quarterly averages of seasonally adjusted monthly series, (2) logged, (3) HP-filtered with smoothing parameter 1600

Empirics of Loss-of-Recall

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2. But look at flows: E-to-TL's account for 1/3 of all separations to u

Table: Gross worker flows, 1978–2019

	To			
From	*E*	*TL*	*JL*	*N*
E	0.955	0.005	0.011	0.029
TL	0.435	0.245	0.191	0.129
JL	0.244	0.022	0.475	0.259
N	0.043	0.001	0.027	0.929

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Pr(TL-to-E) $>$ Pr(JL-to-E) due to recall

Recall hazards from SIPP

Empirics of Loss-of-Recall

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2. But look at flows: E-to-TL's account for 1/3 of all separations to u
3. And, JL-from-TL's return to employment at substantially lower rate

Table: Transitions from JL, TL, and JL-from-TL, 1978–2019

	X	Pr(X to E)
(*a*)	JL	0.244
(*b*)	TL	0.420
(*c*)	JL (TL distr.)	0.213
(*d*)	TL−JL	0.264

Note: Transition probabilities not adjusted for time aggregation.

▸ + controls for unemployment duration

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4. E-to-TL's are particularly important during recessions:

Table: Cyclical properties, gross worker flows

	$p_{E,TL}$	$p_{E,JL}$	$p_{TL,E}$	$p_{JL,E}$	$p_{TL,JL}$
std(x)/std(Y)	11.325	5.257	6.266	6.650	10.119
corr(x, Y)	−0.494	−0.683	0.620	0.784	−0.301

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   - 4.3 More workers move from u_{TL} to u_{JL} (loss-of-recall)

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Direct effect: $p_{E,TL} \uparrow \;\&\; p_{TL,E} \downarrow \Rightarrow u_{TL} \uparrow$

Indirect effect: $p_{E,TL} \uparrow \;\&\; p_{TL,JL} \uparrow \Rightarrow u_{JL\text{-from-}TL} \uparrow$

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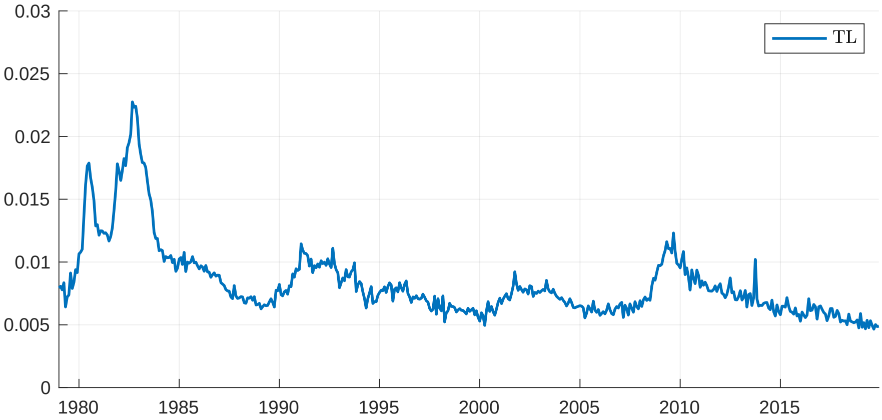
   4.1 More employed workers are put on TL
   4.2 Fewer workers from u_{TL} are recalled to employment
   4.3 More workers move from u_{TL} to u_{JL} (loss-of-recall)
5. We develop methods to estimate the *indirect effect*, i.e. JL-from-TL

▸ Estimation equations

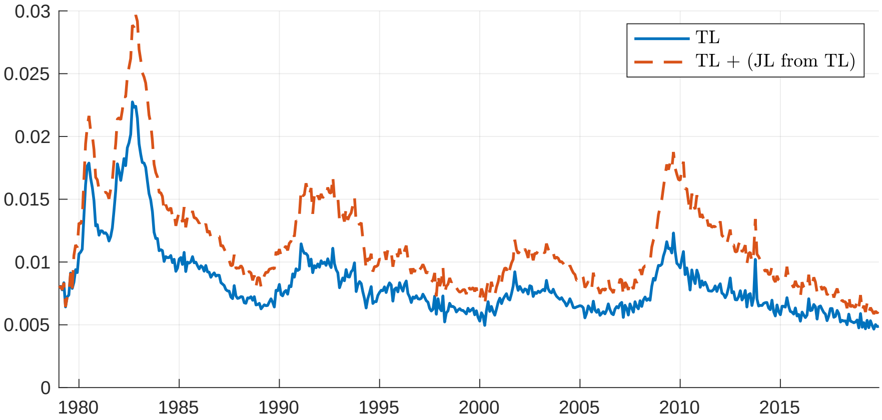
$$\text{Direct effect: } p_{E,TL} \uparrow \;\&\; p_{TL,E} \downarrow \;\Rightarrow\; u_{TL} \uparrow$$

$$\text{Indirect effect: } p_{E,TL} \uparrow \;\&\; p_{TL,JL} \uparrow \;\Rightarrow\; u_{JL\text{-from-}TL} \uparrow$$

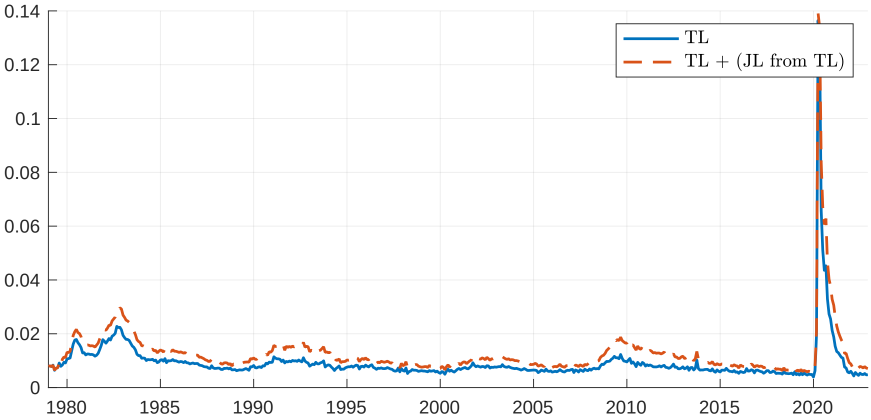
Temporary-Layoff Unemployment u_{TL}: 1979-2019



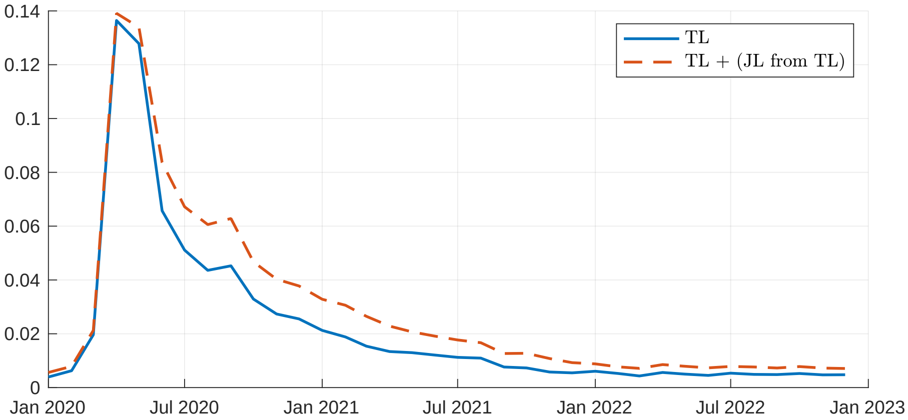
Temporary-Layoff Unemployment u_{TL} + "u_{JL} from u_{TL}": 1979-2019



Temporary-Layoff Unemployment u_{TL} + "u_{JL} from u_{TL}": 1979+

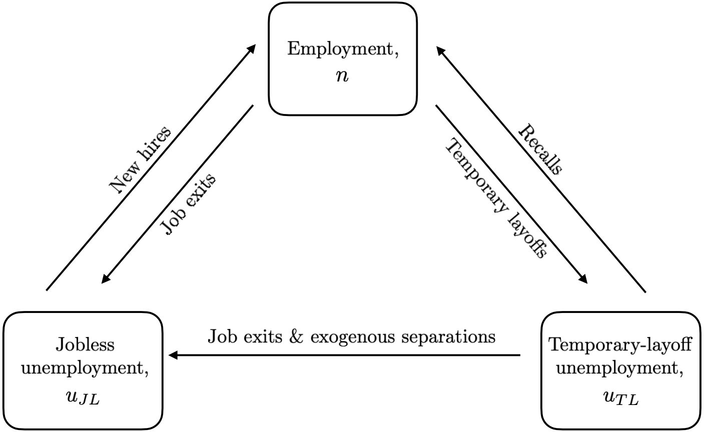


Temporary-Layoff Unemployment u_{TL} + “u_{JL} from u_{TL}”: 2020+



Model

Model



Employment,
n
New hires
Job exits
Recalls
Temporary layoffs
Jobless
unemployment,
u_{JL}
Job exits & exogenous separations
Temporary-layoff
unemployment,
u_{TL}

Model

Starting point: RBC model with search and matching

- Perfect consumption insurance
- Wage rigidity via staggered Nash wage bargaining

Key variations:

- Endog. separations into temporary-layoff unemp.
- Recall hiring from temporary-layoff unemployment
- Endogenous separations into jobless unemployment
  - Allow for temporary paycuts: avoid inefficient separations
  - Permanent sep. triggers $u_{TL} \rightarrow u_{JL}$ for some workers
- Hiring from jobless unemployment

Details of Model

- Unemployed are either in
  - JL: Searching for work in a DMP-style matching market
  - TL: Waiting for recall or loss-of-recall ‣ Searchers, Matching and Recalls
- Firms, w/ CRS technology in labor and capital, draws cost shocks
  - Worker-specific overhead costs $\Rightarrow$ separations to TL
  - Overhead costs to entire firm $\Rightarrow$ separations to JL and JL-from-TL

    ‣ Firms & Overhead Costs
- After separations: firms rent capital, hire from JL, and recall from TL
  - Separate hiring costs: recalls less expensive than new hiring

    ‣ Timing ‣ Hiring and recalls ‣ Temporary Layoffs ‣ Firm Exits
- Base wages set via staggered Nash bargaining
  - But temporary paycuts avoid inefficient exit ‣ Workers Problem ‣ Nash Bargaining

Model Evaluation

Calibration

- Calibrate model to match standard labor market stocks and flows…
  - Plus characteristics of temporary layoff, recall, and loss-of-recall
- Nested, two-stage estimation of 18 parameters
  - Inner loop: long-run moments
  - Outer loop: business cycle features

Assigned Parameters | Estimated Parameters - Inner Loop | Estimated Parameters - Outer Loop

- Where we tie our hands:
  - Not a small-surplus calibration
  - Wage rigidity to match evidence on contract duration
  - Temporary paycuts can undo wage rigidity
- Model does well!

Stocks & Wages | Flows | Loss-of-Recall

Application to the Covid-19 Recession

Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession

- Introduce two shocks:
  - "Lockdown" shocks: workers move to lockdown-TL (MIT shock)
  - Persistent shocks to effective TFP w/ each wave (social distancing)
- Add two parameters specific to workers on lockdown-TL:
  - Allow for different recall cost (vs. regular-TL)
  - Allow for different rate for loss-of-recall (vs. regular-TL)
- Treatment of PPP:
  - Direct factor payment subsidy, à la Kaplan, Moll, Violante (2020)
  - Pre-announcement: program is unexpected
  - Post-announcement: availability of funds is known
- Estimate shocks & parameters to match stocks & flows Details Estimates
  - Model does well! Stocks, model vs. data Flows, model vs. data

No-PPP Counterfactual

Q: What did PPP do?

- Keep decision rules, parameters, and shocks, but remove PPP

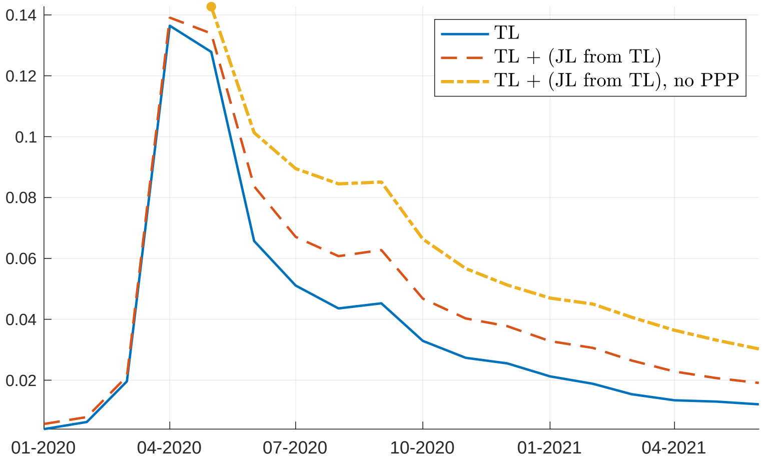
A: Saved a lot of worker/job matches!

- Average monthly employment gains of $\approx$ 2.14 p.p. in first 6 months
- Doubled cumulative number of recalls over the same period
- Achieved through reduction of loss-of-recall

Stocks, no-PPP counterfactual

Flows, no-PPP counterfactual

Counterfactual: JL-from-TL without PPP



Conclusion

Concluding Remarks

Three Directions for Further Work

1. Match-specific capital
   - Recalls preserve match-specific capital
   - Thus, interesting to consider heterogenous match quality
2. Reallocation
   - Evidence that smaller firms benefited more from PPP
   - PPP might have hindered efficient reallocation
3. Employment policies in the EA
   - EA has similar labor market institutions to “US-TL” (but recorded as emp)
   - Similarly aggressive policies to stabilize “EA-TL”
   - A rose by another name?

Supplementary Slides

Estimating JL-from-TL

- Use accumulation equations:

$$u_{JL\text{-from-}TL,t} = \sum_{j=0}^{T} e'_{JL} x_{t-j-1,t}$$

  where $x_{t-j-1,t}$ is the distribution of workers at time t whose last exit from employment was for u_{TL} at time $t-j-1$, s.t.

$$x_{t-m,t-j} = \tilde{P}_t x_{t-m,t-j-1}$$
$$x_{t-m,t-m} = e_{TL} \cdot (n^E_{t-m-1} \cdot p^{E,TL}_{t-m})$$

- Relatively small: $u_{JL\text{-from-}TL}$ is 40% of u_{TL}
- Highly volatile: twice as volatile as total unemployment, $16\times$ as GDP

Model: Full Slides

Searchers, Matching and Recalls

- Jobless unemployment (DMP matching market)
  - New hires m from JL unemployment

$$m = \sigma_m (u_{JL})^{\sigma} (v)^{1-\sigma}$$

  - Job finding and job filling probabilities p and q, hiring rate x

$$p = \frac{m}{u_{JL}}, \quad q = \frac{m}{v}, \quad x = \frac{m}{\mathcal{F} n}$$

- Temporary-layoff unemployment
  - Recalls m_r from TL unemp., recall probability p_r, recall hiring rate x_r

$$m_r = p_r u_{TL}, \quad x_r = \frac{m_r}{\mathcal{F} n}$$

  - Workers in $TL \rightarrow JL$ w/ prob. $1 - \rho_r$ or if firm exits, w/ prob. $1 - \mathcal{G}$

Firms (or plants, shifts, production units, etc.)

- Firms are “large”, i.e., hire a continuum of workers
  - Firm, or establishment, or assembly line, etc.
- CRS technology

$$y = zk^{\alpha}(\mathcal{F}n)^{1-\alpha}$$

  - $n \equiv$ beginning of period employment
  - $\mathcal{F} \equiv$ fraction of workers not on temporary layoff
- Given CRS technology, firm decisions scale independent

Overhead Costs: Temporary versus Permanent Layoffs

$\gamma \equiv$ *i.i.d.* firm-specific cost shock

$\vartheta \equiv$ *i.i.d.* worker-specific cost shock

- Non-exiting firms ($\gamma < \gamma^*$) pay overhead costs to operate:

$$\varsigma(\gamma, \vartheta^*)n = \left[\varsigma_\gamma \gamma + \varsigma_\vartheta \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)\right] n$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) = \Pr\{\vartheta \leq \vartheta^*\} \qquad \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*) = \Pr\{\gamma \leq \gamma^*\}$$

- Temporary layoffs: each worker draws ϑ
  - Workers w/ $\vartheta \geq \vartheta^*$ (endog. thresh.) go on temporary layoff
- Permanent layoffs: firms draw γ
  - Firm operates if $\gamma < \gamma^*$ (endog. thresh.); otherwise exits

Timing of Events

1. Firm enters period with stock of workers n
2. Aggregate shock revealed
3. Firms and workers bargain over base wages w
4. Firms assigns $1 - \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)$ workers to temporary layoff
5. Firm-specific shock γ revealed
   - If $\gamma \geq \gamma^* \rightarrow$ firm exits, employed workers move to u_{JL}
     - Firm's workers in u_{TL} move to u_{JL}
   - If $\gamma < \gamma^* \rightarrow$ firm continues
     - Rents capital and produces output
     - Hires workers from u_{JL}, recalls workers from u_{TL}
     - Possibility of temporary paycuts, i.e. remitted wages $\omega < w$

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Solve backwards

Firm Problem (at non-exiting firms w/ TL policy ϑ^*)

$$J(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s}) = \max_{x,x_r,\check{k}} \Big\{ z\check{k}^{\alpha}\left[\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\right]^{1-\alpha} - \omega\left(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s}\right)\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) - r\check{k}$$
$$- \big(\iota(x)\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) + \iota_r(x_r)\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\big) - \varsigma(\vartheta^*,\gamma)$$
$$+ \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\left(1 + x + x_r\right)\mathbb{E}\Big\{\Lambda(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{s}')\mathcal{J}\left(w',\mathbf{s}'\right)|, w, \mathbf{s}\Big\}\Big\}$$

with

$$\varsigma(\gamma,\vartheta^*) = \varsigma_\gamma\gamma + \varsigma_\vartheta\int^{\vartheta^*}\vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$$

$$\iota(x) = \chi x + \frac{\kappa}{2}\left(x-\tilde{x}\right)^2, \quad \iota_r(x_r) = \chi x_r + \frac{\kappa_r}{2}\left(x_r-\tilde{x}_r\right)^2$$

$$\mathcal{J}(w,\mathbf{s}) = \max_{\vartheta^*}\int^{\gamma^*} J(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s})d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$$

Hiring and Recall (at non-exiting firms w/ TL policy ϑ^*)

- FOC's for hiring and recall:

$$\chi + \kappa \left(x - \tilde{x} \right) = \mathbb{E}\left\{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \mathcal{J}\left(w', \mathbf{s}' \right) | w, \mathbf{s} \right\} \qquad \text{(Optimal hiring)}$$

$$\chi + \kappa_r \left(x_r - \tilde{x}_r \right) = \mathbb{E}\left\{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \mathcal{J}\left(w', \mathbf{s}' \right) | w, \mathbf{s} \right\} \qquad \text{(Optimal recall)}$$

- Calibrated model (and data):

$$\frac{\chi}{\underbrace{\kappa_r \cdot x_r}_{\text{Recall elasticity}}} > \frac{\chi}{\underbrace{\kappa \cdot x}_{\text{New hire elasticity}}}$$

- Relation of $\{x, x_r\}$ to job-finding/recall probabilities $\{p, p_r\}$:

$$x = \frac{p u_{JL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) n}, \qquad x_r = \frac{p_r u_{TL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) n}$$

Temporary Layoffs

- Firm must pay overhead costs to continue to operate:

$$\varsigma(\gamma, \vartheta^*) = \varsigma_\gamma \gamma + \varsigma_\vartheta \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$$

- FOC for optimal ϑ determines TL threshold ϑ^*:

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s}) + \varsigma_\gamma \Gamma + \varsigma_\vartheta \mathcal{G}\left(\gamma^*\right) \Theta}_{\text{Expected job value net of period overhead costs}} = \underbrace{\varsigma_\vartheta \vartheta^* \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) \mathcal{G}\left(\gamma^*\right)}_{\text{Marginal overhead costs}}$$

  - $\mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s}) \equiv$ expected job value
  - $\Gamma \equiv \int^{\gamma^*} \gamma d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$
  - $\Theta \equiv \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$

Firm Exits

- Given cost shock γ and base wage w, allow temp. paycuts to avoid exit
- Shutdown threshold γ^* solves $J\left(\underline{w}, \gamma^*, \mathbf{s}\right) = 0$
  - $J\left(w, \gamma, \mathbf{s}\right) \equiv$ job value
  - $\underline{w} \equiv$ reservation wage
- Paycut threshold $\gamma^\dagger \in (0, \gamma^*)$ solves $J(w, \gamma^\dagger, \mathbf{s}) = 0$
  - Paycut wage keeps zero firm surplus for $\gamma \in (\gamma^\dagger, \gamma^*)$
- Firm's active labor force $+$ workers on *TL* go to *JL* upon exit

Workers (1/2)

- Value of work

$$V(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s}) = \omega\left(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s}\right) + \mathbb{E}\left\{\Lambda\left(\mathbf{s},\mathbf{s}'\right)\mathcal{V}(w',\mathbf{s}')|w,\mathbf{s}\right\},$$

with

$$\mathcal{V}(w,\mathbf{s}) = \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\left[\int^{\gamma^*} V\left(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s}\right)d\mathcal{G}(\gamma) + \left(1-\mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)\right)U_{JL}(\mathbf{s})\right] + \left(1-\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\right)\mathcal{U}_{TL}(w,\mathbf{s})$$

where

- $U_{JL}(\mathbf{s})$ is the value of jobless unemployment
- $\mathcal{U}_{TL}$ is the expected value of temporary-layoff unemployment
- $\omega(w,\gamma,\mathbf{s})$ are remitted wages

Workers (2/2)

- Value of jobless unemployment

$$U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}) = b + \mathbb{E}\left\{\Lambda\left(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}'\right)\left[p\bar{V}_x\left(\mathbf{s}'\right) + \left(1-p\right)U_{JL}\left(\mathbf{s}'\right)\right]|\mathbf{s}\right\}$$

where $\bar{V}_x$ is the expected value of being a new hire

- Value of temporary-layoff unemployment

$$\begin{aligned} U_{TL}(w, \mathbf{s}) = b + \mathbb{E}\{\Lambda\left(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}'\right)[p_r\mathcal{V}\left(w', \mathbf{s}'\right) \\ + \left(1-p_r\right)\rho_r\mathcal{U}_{TL}\left(w', \mathbf{s}'\right) \\ + \ \left(1-p_r\right)\left(1-\rho_r\right)U_{JL}\left(\mathbf{s}'\right)]\,|w, \mathbf{s}\}\,. \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\mathcal{U}_{TL}(w, \mathbf{s}) = \mathcal{G}\left(\gamma^*\right)U_{TL}\left(w, \mathbf{s}\right) + \left(1-\mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)\right)U_{JL}\left(\mathbf{s}\right).$$

Staggered Nash Wage Bargaining

- Each period, probability $1 - \lambda$ of renegotiating base wage
- Parties bargain over surpluses prior to realization of γ
  - Worker surplus: $\mathcal{H}(w, \mathbf{s}) \equiv \mathcal{V}(w, \mathbf{s}) - U_{JL}(\mathbf{s})$
  - Firm surplus: $\mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s}) \equiv \max_{\vartheta^*} \int^{\gamma^*} J(w, \mathbf{s}) d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$
- Contract wage w^* solves

$$\max_{w^*} \mathcal{H}(w, \mathbf{s})^{\eta} \mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s})^{1-\eta}$$

subject to

$$w' = \begin{cases} w \text{ with probability } \lambda \\ w^{*\prime} \text{ with probability } 1 - \lambda \end{cases}$$

and to wage cut policy

Model Evaluation: Full Slides

Calibration: Assigned Parameters

Parameter values		
Discount factor	β	$0.997 = 0.99^{1/3}$
Autoregressive parameter, LP	ρ_z	$0.99^{1/3}$
Standard deviation, LP	σ_z	0.007
Elasticity of matches to searchers	σ	0.5
Bargaining power parameter	η	0.5
Matching function constant	σ_m	1.0
Renegotiation frequency	λ	$8/9$ (3 quarters)

Calibration: Estimated Parameters (inner loop)

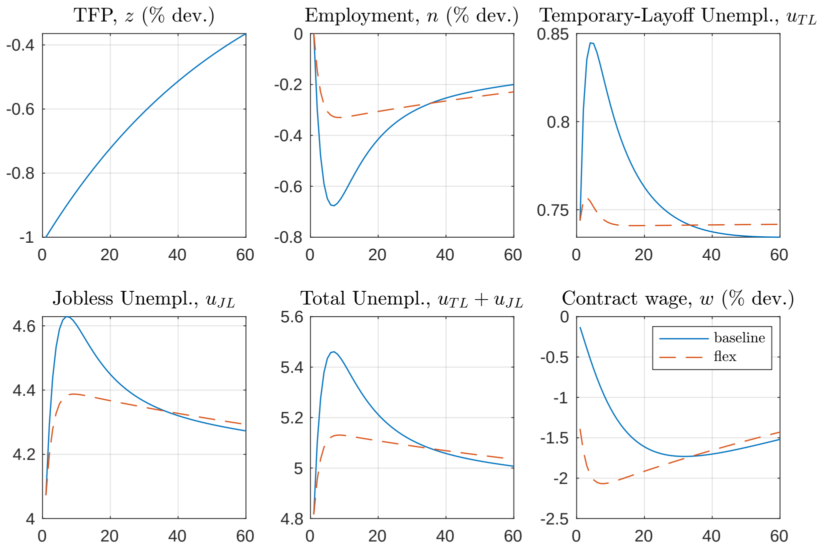
Parameter	Description	Value	Target
χ	Scale, hiring costs	1.1779	Average *JL*-to-*E* rate (0.303)
$\varsigma_{\vartheta} \cdot e^{\mu_{\vartheta}}$	Scale, overhead costs, worker	1.8260	Average *E*-to-*TL* rate (0.005)
$\varsigma_{\gamma} \cdot e^{\mu_{\gamma}}$	Scale, overhead costs, firm	0.3599	Average *E*-to-*JL* rate (0.011)
$1 - \rho_r$	Loss of recall rate	0.3858	Average *TL*-to-*JL* rate (0.207)
b	Flow value of unemp.	0.9834	Rel. flow value non-work (0.71)

Calibration: Estimated Parameters (outer loop)

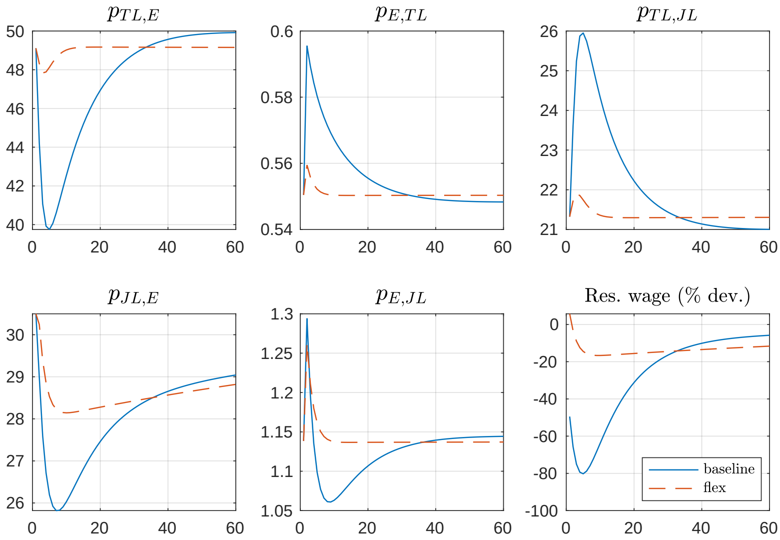
Parameter	Description	Value
$\chi/(\kappa\tilde{x})$	Hiring elasticity, new hires	0.45
$\chi/(\kappa_r\tilde{x}_r)$	Hiring elasticity, recalls	0.94
σ_ϑ	Parameter lognormal $\mathcal{F}$	1.65
σ_γ	Parameter lognormal $\mathcal{G}$	0.37

Moment	Target	Model
SD of hiring rate	3.35	3.32
SD of total separation rate	5.21	4.51
SD of temporary-layoff unemployment, u_{TL}	9.71	9.85
SD of jobless unemployment, u_{JL}	8.57	9.77
SD of hiring rate from u_{JL} relative to u_{TL}	0.47	0.47

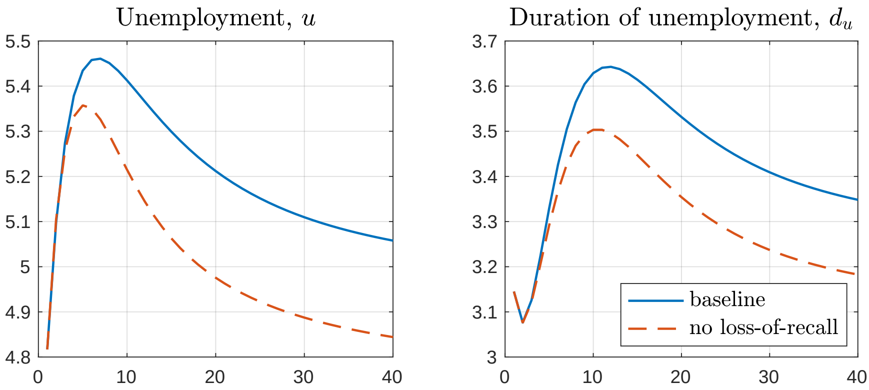
TFP Shock: Employment, Unemployment and Wages



TFP Shock: Transition Probabilities



TFP Shock: Shut off u_{JL} from u_{TL}



- Loss of recall increases response of unemployment and generates duration dependence

Application to Covid-19 Recession: Full Slides

Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession

Introduce series of shocks and two parameters

1. Shocks:
   - "Lockdown" shocks
     - Beginning of period: fraction $1 - \nu$ move to TL unemp
     - Unanticipated (MIT shock)
   - Utilization restrictions on capital and labor
     - Transitory shock at start of pandemic
     - New persistent shock with each Covid wave
   - PPP as factor payment subsidy (as in KMV)
     - PPP 2020: 12.5% of quarterly GDP, most payments May-July 2020
     - PPP 2021: 5.4% of quarterly GDP, most payments Jan-April 2021

Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession, cont.

...

2. Two parameters:
    - (Possibly) reduced recall costs for workers in lockdown

$$\chi x_r + \frac{\kappa_r}{2}\left(x_r - \xi \underbrace{\frac{(1-\phi)u_{TL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)n}}_{\text{Workers on lockdown}} - \tilde{x}_r\right)^2$$

        - $0 \leq \xi \leq 1$
    - Different rate of exog. TL-to-JL for workers on lockdown, $1 - \rho_{r\phi}$

Recession Experiment

- Thus, need to estimate:
  1. Lockdown shocks for each month of pandemic ($+T$)
  2. Size of persistent utilization shock for three waves ($+3$)
  3. Autoregressive parameter of persistent utilization shock ($+1$)
  4. Two model parameters ($+2$)
- Moments to match:
  1. Stocks: $\{u_{TL}, u_{JL}\}_{\tau}$ since onset of pandemic
  2. Gross flows: $\{g_{E,TL},\ g_{TL,E},\ g_{TL,JL}\}_{\tau}$ since onset
  3. Inflows into u_{JL}: March-April 2020 only

Recession Experiment, cont.

- Estimate by SMM:
  - T months of pandemic w/ 3 waves
    - $(5 \cdot T + 1)$ moments to match
    - $(T + 6)$ parameters to estimate
  - Overidentified system

Parameter and Shock Estimates

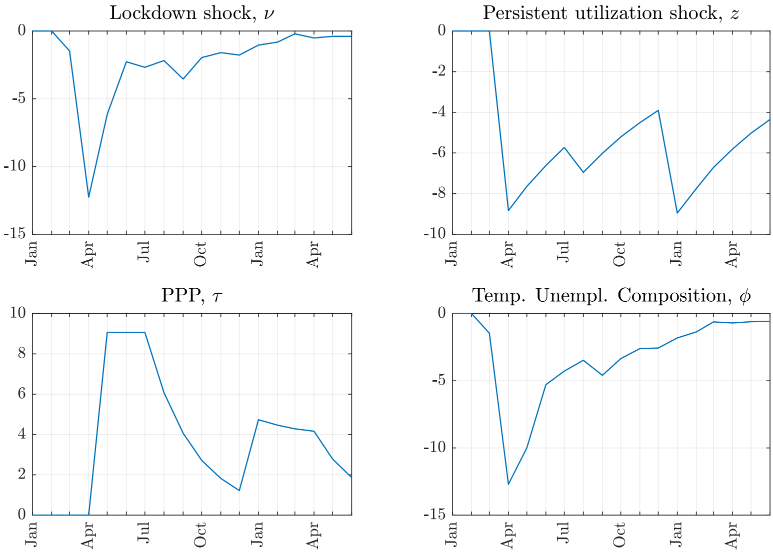
Parameters

Variable	Description	Value
ρ_z	Autoregressive coefficient for persistent utilization shocks	0.866
ξ	Adjustment costs for workers on lockdown	0.499
$1-\rho_{r\phi}$	Probability of exogenous loss of recall for workers in temporary unemployment	0.384

Shocks

Description	Value
Persistent utilization shock, April 2020	-8.83%
Persistent utilization shock, September 2020	-1.99%
Persistent utilization shock, January 2021	-5.58%

Parameter and Shock Estimates, cont.



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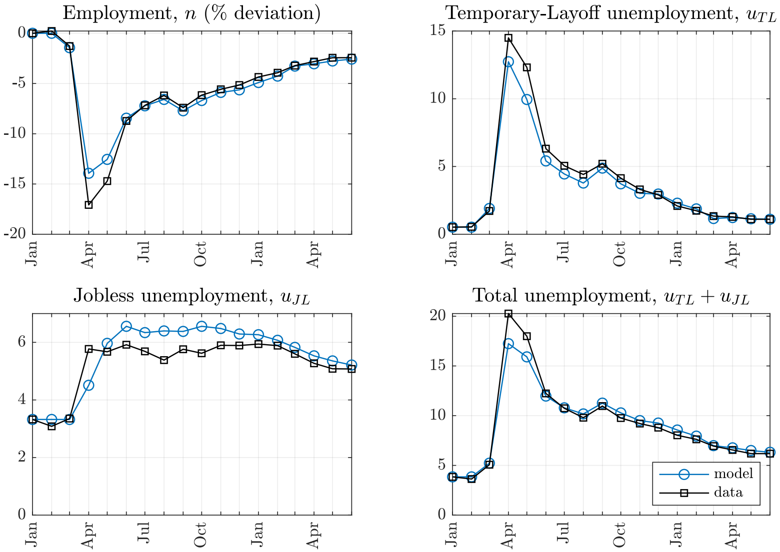
Covid Onset, Stocks



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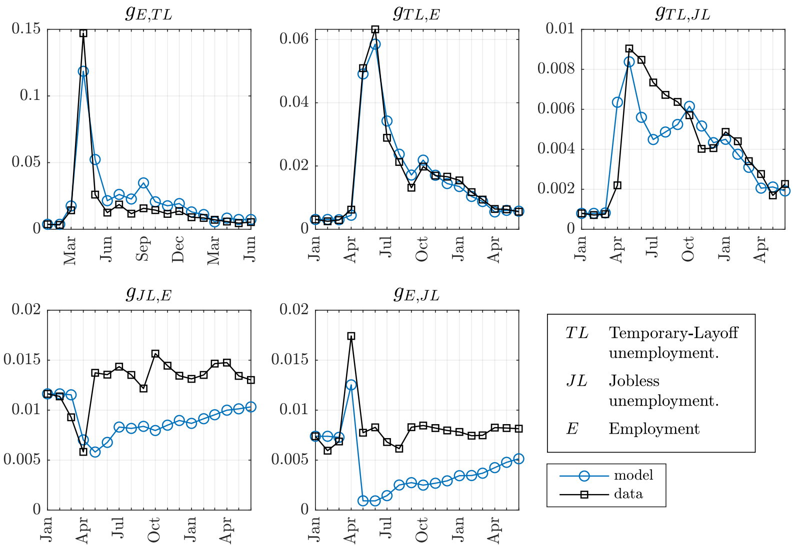
Covid Onset, Gross Flows



TL	Temporary-Layoff unemployment.
JL	Jobless unemployment.
E	Employment

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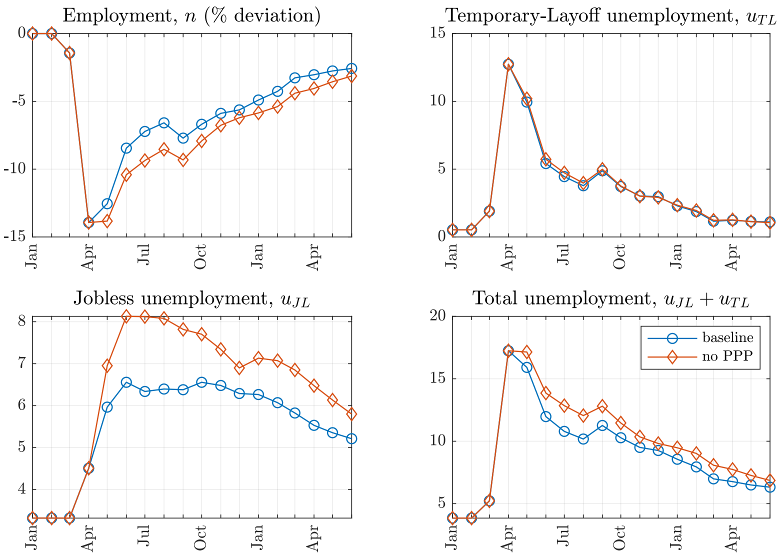
Policy Counterfactual: No PPP, stocks



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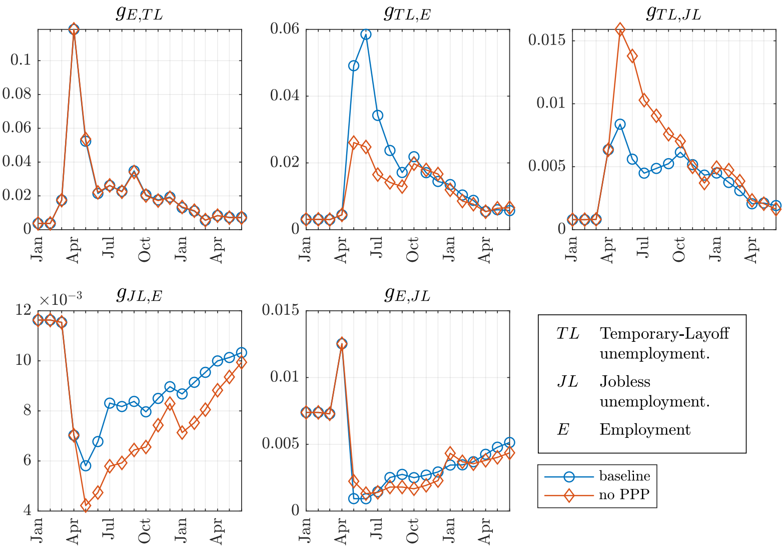
Policy Counterfactual: No PPP, flows



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PPP takeaway

- PPP achieved sizeable employment gains
- Immediate term: May to September 2020
  - Achieved average monthly employment gains of 2.14%
  - Doubled cumulative recalls
- Longer term
  - Smaller persistent employment gains
  - Avg. monthly empl. at least 1% higher through May 2021
- Employment gains came from recalls
  - PPP preserved ties btwn firms and workers in u_{TL}
  - Fulfilled mandate

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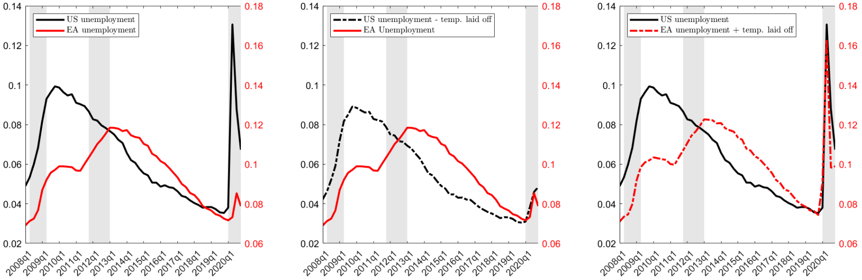
Unemployment during Covid: US vs. EA



- Unemployment measured differently, e.g. temporary laid off workers
- Temporary laid off workers counted among the unemployed in the US and among the employed in the EA
- 2 counterfactual scenarios:
  1. TL counted among the employed also in the US (middle panel)
  2. TL counted among the unemployed also in the EA (right panel)
- But differences exist in TL definitions: more attachment to job in EA

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Recall from TL and PS: Evidence from the SIPP

- Look at EUE spells in 1996+ SIPP w/ U duration $\leq$ 4 months
  - e.g., E-U-E, E-U-U-E, E-U-U-U-E, & E-U-U-U-U-E
- Compute re-employment hazards for recall and new-job-finding, & separately for temporary layoffs (TL) and permanent separations (PS)
- Recall is overwhelmingly concentrated among workers from TL:
  - 76.3% of TL's end in recall (versus a new job)
  - 6.4% of PS's end in recall (versus a new job)

Recall from TL and PS: Evidence from the SIPP

Table: Recall shares from unemployment by reason for job loss

	SIPP panels				
Reason for job loss:	All	1996	2001	2004	2008
Temporary layoff	0.763	0.740	0.754	0.766	0.782
Permanent separation	0.064	0.063	0.068	0.080	0.047

Note: Sample consists of workers moving from employment to unemployment via either permanent separation or temporary layoff who (*i*) return to employment in four months or less, and (*ii*) actively search for all months that they are non-employed (e.g., are unemployed).

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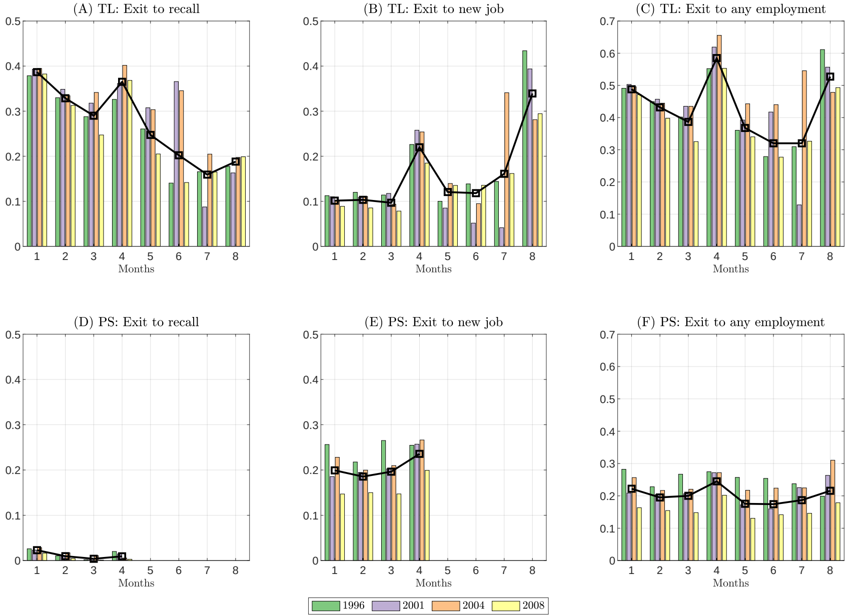
Recall from TL and PS: Evidence from the SIPP



JL-from-TL and controls for unemployment duration

Table: Transitions from JL, TL, and JL-from-TL, 1978–2019

	(a)	*(b)*	*(c)*	*(d)*	*(e)*	*(f)*
X	JL	TL	TL$-$JL	JL, TL distribution	E$-$JL$-$JL	E$-$TL$-$TL
Pr(X to E)	0.245	0.442	0.264	0.213	0.278	0.390

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