

# How Much Rationality Does the Model Assume?

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How much rationality do we assume in the model of slack:

- Households maximize utility subject to budget constraint  $\rightarrow$  households do the best they can given their income / wealth.
- Households take as given & therefore anticipate the price of services  $\rightarrow$  prices follow price norms that are by definition understood & followed by everybody
- Households take as given market tightness & therefore anticipate correct market

tightness  $\rightarrow$  a lot of rationality required w/ heterogeneous agents  $\rightarrow$  can introduce statistical agency instead -

( $\hookrightarrow$  If government announces tightness  $x$ , and households max. utility given  $x$ , then  $x$  will be realized

$\rightarrow$  | Statistical agency | government provides correct forecast (which is their objective)

$\rightarrow$  households do best they can b/c they use correct  $x$