



## 13. HANK-SAM

Adv. Macro: Heterogenous Agent Models

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Jeppe Druedahl

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# **Introduction**

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- **From RANK to HANK:**
  1. Income effects more important relative to substitution effects
  2. Cash-flows more important relative to relative prices
- **Central:** High MPCs
  - I. Idiosyncratic risk + incomplete markets →
  - II. Precautionary saving and liquidity constraint →
  - III. Concave consumption function → high MPCs

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  - **SAM:** Search-And-Matching labor market
- New:** *Endogenous fluctuations in idiosyncratic risk*

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- **SAM:** Search-And-Matching labor market

**New:** *Endogenous fluctuations in idiosyncratic risk*
- **Today:**

GEModelTools: Model description of HANK-SAM  
Broer, Druedahl, Harmenberg and Öberg:  
2024: »Stimulus effects of common fiscal policies«  
2025: »The Unemployment-Risk Channel in Business-Cycle Fluctuations«

**HANK-SAM**

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# Overview

- **Intermediate producers:**
  1. Hire and fire in search-and-matching labor market
  2. Sell homogeneous good at price  $p_t^X$ .
- **Wholesale price-setters:**
  1. Set prices in monopolistic competition subject to adjustment costs
  2. Pay out dividends
- Final producers: Aggregate to final good
- **Government:**
  1. Pay transfers and unemployment insurance
  2. Collect taxes and issues debt
- **Central bank:** Sets nominal interest rate
- **Households:** Consume and save

# Equilibrium dynamics

1. **Incomplete markets:** Unemployment risk → demand

Complete markets / representative agent:

Only total income matters

2. **Sticky prices:** Demand → profitability

3. **Frictional labor market:** Profitability → unemployment risk

# Household problem

$$v_t(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) = \max_{c_{it}, a_{it}} \frac{c_{it}^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} + \beta_i \mathbb{E}_t [v_{t+1}(\beta_i, u_{it+1}, a_{it})]$$

s.t.  $a_{it} + c_{it} = (1 + r_t)a_{it-1} + (1 - \tau_t)y_t(u_{it}) + \text{div}_t + \text{transfer}_t$

$$a_{it} \geq 0$$

1. **Dividends and government transfers:**  $\text{div}_t$  and  $\text{transfer}_t$
2. **Real wage:**  $w_{ss}$
3. **Income tax:**  $\tau_t$
4. **Separation rate** for employed:  $\delta_{ss}$
5. **Job-finding rate** for unemployed:  $\lambda_t^{u,s} s(u_{it-1})$   
(where  $s(u_{it-1})$  is exogenous search effectiveness)
6. **US-style duration-dependent UI system:**
  - a) High replacement rate  $\bar{\phi}$ , first  $\bar{u}$  months
  - b) Low replacement rate  $\underline{\phi}$ , after  $\bar{u}$  months

# Income process

- Income is

$$y_{it}(u_{it}) = w_{ss} \cdot \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u_{it} = 0 \\ \bar{\phi}UI_{it} + (1 - UI_{it})\underline{\phi} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where the share of the month with UI is

$$UI_{it} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u_{it} = 0 \\ 1 & \text{else if } u_{it} < \bar{u} \\ 0 & \text{else if } u_{it} > \bar{u} + 1 \\ \bar{u} - (u_{it} - 1) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- Note: Hereby  $\bar{u}$  becomes a continuous variable.

# Transition probabilities

- Beginning-of-period value function:

$$\underline{v}_t(\beta_i, u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) = \mathbb{E}[v_t(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) \mid u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}]$$

- Grid:  $u_{it} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \#_u - 1\}$
- Employed with  $u_{it-1} = 0$ :  $u_{it} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with prob. } 1 - \delta_{ss} \\ 1 & \text{with prob. } \delta_{ss} \end{cases}$
- Unemployed with  $u_{it-1} = 1$ :

$$u_{it} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with prob. } \lambda_t^{u,s} s(u_{it-1}) \\ u_{it-1} + 1 & \text{with prob. } 1 - \lambda_t^{u,s} s(u_{it-1}) \end{cases}$$

Trick:  $u_{it} = \min \{u_{it-1} + 1, \#_u - 1\}$

- All unemployed search:  $s(u_{it-1}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } u_{it-1} = 0 \\ 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$

# Aggregation

- **Distributions:**
  1. Beginning-of-period:  $\underline{D}_t$  over  $\beta_i$ ,  $u_{it-1}$  and  $a_{it-1}$
  2. At decision:  $D_t$  over  $\beta_i$ ,  $u_{it}$  and  $a_{it-1}$
- **Stochastic (time-varying) transition matrix:**  $\Pi_{t,z} = \Pi_z(\lambda_t^u)$
- **Deterministic savings policy matrix:**  $\Lambda'_t$
- **Transition steps:**

$$D_t = \Pi'_{t,z} \underline{D}_t$$

$$\underline{D}_{t+1} = \Lambda'_t D_t$$

- **Searchers:**  $S_t = \int s(\beta_i, u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) d\underline{D}_t$
- **Savings:**  $A_t^{hh} = \int a_t^*(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) dD_t$
- **Consumption:**  $C_t^{hh} = \int c_t^*(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) dD_t$

- **Beginning-of-period value function:**

$$\underline{v}_{a,t}(\beta_i, u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) = \mathbb{E}_t [v_{a,t}(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1})] = \mathbb{E}_t [(1 + r_t)c_{it}^{-\sigma}]$$

- **Endogenous grid method:** Vary  $u_{it}$  and  $a_{it}$  to find

$$c_{it} = (\beta \underline{v}_{a,t+1}(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it}))^{-\frac{1}{\sigma}}$$

$$m_{it} = c_{it} + a_{it}$$

- **Consumption:** Use linear interpolation to find

$$c_t^*(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) \text{ with } m_{it} = (1 + r_t)a_{it-1}$$

- **Savings:**  $a^*(u_{it}, a_{it-1}) = (1 + r_t)a_{it-1} - c_t^*(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1})$

# Producers: Hiring and firing

- Job value:

$$V_t^j = p_t^X Z_t - w_{ss} + \beta^{\text{firm}} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ (1 - \delta_{ss}) V_{t+1}^j \right]$$

- Vacancy value:

$$V_t^v = -\kappa + \lambda_t^v V_t^j + (1 - \lambda_t^v)(1 - \delta_{ss}) \beta^{\text{firm}} \mathbb{E}_t [V_{t+1}^v]$$

- Free entry implies

$$V_t^v = 0$$

# Labor market dynamics

- **Labor market tightness** is given by

$$\theta_t = \frac{\text{vacancies}_t}{\text{searchers}_t} = \frac{v_t}{S_t}$$

- **Cobb-Douglas matching function**

$$\text{matches}_t = AS_t^\alpha v_t^{1-\alpha}, \quad \alpha \in (0, 1)$$

implies the job-filling and job-finding rates:

$$\lambda_t^v = \frac{\text{matches}_t}{v_t} = A\theta_t^{-\alpha}$$

$$\lambda_t^{u,s} = \frac{\text{matches}_t}{S_t} = A\theta_t^{1-\alpha}$$

- **Law of motion for unemployment:**

$$u_t = u_{t-1} + \delta_t(1 - u_{t-1}) - \lambda_t^{u,s} S_t$$

# Price setters

- **Intermediate goods price:**  $p_t^X$
- Dixit-Stiglitz **demand curve**  $\Rightarrow$  **Phillips curve** relating marginal cost,  $MC_t = p_t^X$ , and **final goods price inflation**,  $\Pi_t = P_t/P_{t-1}$ ,

$$1 - \epsilon + \epsilon p_t^X = \phi \pi_t (1 + \pi_t) - \phi \beta^{\text{firm}} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \pi_{t+1} (1 + \pi_{t+1}) \frac{Y_{t+1}}{Y_t} \right]$$

with output  $Y_t = Z_t (1 - u_t)$

- **Flexible price limit:**  $\phi \rightarrow 0$
- **Dividends:**

$$\text{div}_t = Y_t - w_t (1 - u_t)$$

- Taylor rule:

$$1 + i_t = (1 + i_{ss}) \left( \frac{1 + \pi_t}{1 + \pi_{ss}} \right)^{\delta_\pi}$$

# Government

- **Unemployment insurance:**  $\Phi_t = w_{ss} \left( \bar{\phi} \text{UI}_t^{hh} + \underline{\phi} \left( u_t - \text{UI}_t^{hh} \right) \right)$
- **Total expenses:**  $X_t = \Phi_t + G_t + \text{transfer}_t$
- **Total taxes:**  $\text{taxes}_t = \tau_t (\Phi_t + w_{ss}(1 - u_t))$
- **Government budget** is

$$q_t B_t = (1 + q_t \delta_q) B_{t-1} + X_t - \text{taxes}_t$$

Long-term debt: Real payment stream is  $1, \delta, \delta^2, \dots$ .

The real bond price is  $q_t$ .

- **Tax rule:**

$$\tilde{\tau}_t = \frac{(1 + q_t \delta_q) B_{t-1} + X_t - q_{ss} B_{ss}}{\Phi_t + w_{ss}(1 - u_t)}$$

$$\tau_t = \omega \tilde{\tau}_t + (1 - \omega) \tau_{ss}$$

- **Transfers:**  $\text{transfer}_t = -\text{div}_{ss}$

# Financial markets: No arbitrage

## 1. Pricing of government debt:

$$\frac{1 + \delta_q q_{t+1}}{q_t} = \frac{1 + i_t}{1 + \pi_{t+1}} = 1 + r_{t+1}$$

## 2. Ex post real return:

$$1 + r_t = \begin{cases} \frac{(1+\delta_q q_0)B_{-1}}{A_{-1}^{hh}} & \text{if } t = 0 \\ \frac{1+i_{t-1}}{1+\pi_t} & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

# Market clearing

1. Asset market:  $A_t^{hh} = q_t B_t$
2. Goods market:  $Y_t = C_t^{hh} + G_t$

**Tip:** You should be able to verify Walras' law.

# Shocks, target, unknowns

1. **Shocks:**  $G_t$
2. **Unknowns:**  $p_t^X, V_t^j, v_t, u_t, S_t, \pi_t, \text{UI}_t^{\text{guess}}$
3. **Targets:**
  - 3.1 Error in Job Value
  - 3.2 Error in Vacancy Value
  - 3.3 Error in Law-of-Motion for  $u_t$
  - 3.4 Error in Philips Curve
  - 3.5 Error in Asset Market Clearing
  - 3.6  $u_t = U_t^{hh} = \int 1\{u_{it} > 0\} d\mathcal{D}_t$
  - 3.7  $\text{UI}_t^{\text{guess}} = \text{UI}_t = \int \text{UI}_{it} d\mathcal{D}_t$

# Steady State

1. **Zero inflation:**  $\pi_t = 0$
2. **SAM:** Choose  $A$  and  $\kappa$  to ensure  $\delta_{ss} = 0.02$  and  $\lambda_{u,ss}^s = 0.30$
3. **HANK:** Enforce *asset market clearing*
  - 3.1 Set  $r_{ss}$
  - 3.2 Calculate implied  $A_{ss}^{hh}$
  - 3.3 Adjust  $G_{ss}$  so  $q_{ss}B_{ss} = A_{ss}^{hh}$

# Calibration

1. **Real interest rate:**  $1 + r_t = 1.02^{\frac{1}{12}}$

2. **Households:**  $\sigma = 2.0$

30%:  $\beta_i = \beta^{\text{HtM}} = 0$

60%:  $\beta_i = \beta^{\text{BS}} = 0.94^{\frac{1}{12}}$

10%:  $\beta_i = \beta^{\text{PIH}} = 0.975^{\frac{1}{12}}$

3. **Matching and bargaining:**  $\alpha = 0.60$ ,  $\theta = 0.60$ ,  $w_{ss} = 0.90$

4. **Producers:**  $\beta^{\text{firm}} = 0.975^{\frac{1}{12}}$

5. **Price-setters:**  $\epsilon = 6$  and  $\phi = 600$

6. **Monetary policy:**  $\phi = 1.5$

7. **Government:**

Tax:  $\tau = 0.30$

Debt:  $\delta_q = 1 - \frac{1}{36}$  and  $\omega = 0.05$

UI:  $\bar{\phi} = 0.70$ ,  $\underline{\phi} = 0.40$ , and  $\bar{u} = 6$

# Steady state analysis

In steady state:

1. Look at the consumption functions
2. Look at the distribution of savings
3. Look at how consumption evolves in unemployment

Look at **household Jacobians**

$$d\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{M}^r d\mathbf{r} + \mathbf{M}^\lambda d\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{u,s} + \mathbf{M}^\tau d\boldsymbol{\tau} + \mathbf{M}^\Delta d\boldsymbol{\Delta}$$

where  $\Delta_t = \text{div}_t + \text{transfer}_t$

1. Liquidity effects
2. Precautionary saving effects

# Policy analysis

**Shock:** Consider a 1% shock to government consumption

$$G_t - G_{ss} = 0.80^t \cdot 0.01 \cdot G_{ss}$$

Look at **impulse responses** for:

1. Output
2. Unemployment (risk)
3. Tax rate

**What drives the consumption response?**

1. Interest rate
2. Tax rate
3. Job-finding rate
4. Dividends

*Is the effect from the job-finding rate larger than an equivalent change in income causes by wages? Why?*

## **Stimulus Effects of Common Fiscal Policies**

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# Motivation and question

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- **Resurgence of countercyclical fiscal policy for stabilization**
- **Often:** What's the size of *the* fiscal multiplier to gov. spending?  
Christiano–Eichenbaum–Rebelo (2011); Ramey (2016);  
Auclert–Rognlie–Straub (2024)
- In practice, **policy design varies widely (often transfers)**
  - Households: Cash transfers, UI increases, UI duration extensions
  - Firms: Retention and hiring subsidies
- **Research question**  
*Which fiscal transfer policies are most cost effective?*

# A HA-NK-SAM model

**HA:** Incomplete asset market

**NK:** Pricing frictions in the goods market

**SAM:** Search frictions in the labor market

- **Policy:**

- Fiscal authority finances expenditures through taxes and debt
- Monetary authority follows inflation-targeting Taylor-rule

- **Calibration:**

1. Realistic degree of partial self-insurance
  - ⇒ Matches micro-level consumption profiles during unemployment
2. Realistic hiring-and-firing dynamics
  - ⇒ Matches macro-level dynamics of job-finding and separation rates

# Overview

- **Types of fiscal policy:**
  1. Government consumption,  $G_t$
  2. Universal transfer,  $T_t = \text{transfer}_t$
  3. Higher unemployment benefits,  $\bar{\phi}_t$
  4. Longer unemployment benefit duration,  $\bar{u}_t$
  5. Hiring subsidies,  $hs_t$
  6. Retention subsidies,  $rs_t$
- **Extended model:**
  1. Endogenous separations + sluggish entry
  2. Dividends distributed equally
  3. Decreasing search intensity/efficiency while unemployed
  4. Risk of no unemployment benefits
  5. More detailed calibration
- **Previous paper:** Broer et. al. (2025) in zero-liquidity

# Model summary

- **Notation:**  $\mathbf{x} = [X_0 - X_{ss}, X_1 - X_{ss}, \dots]'$
- **Household policies:**

$$\mathbf{h} = [\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{t}, \bar{\phi}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}]'$$

- **Firm policies:**

$$\mathbf{f} = [\mathbf{hs}, \mathbf{rs}]'$$

- **Income process:**

$$\mathbf{inc} = [\delta, \lambda^u, \mathbf{div}]'$$

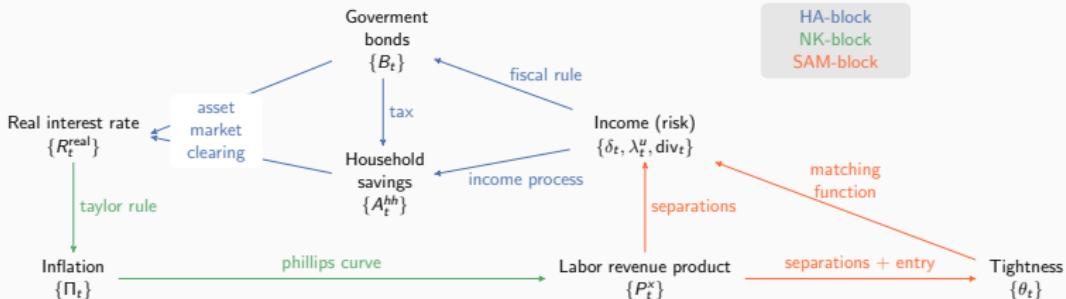
- **Model summary:**

$$\mathbf{r}^{real} = M_{HA}\mathbf{inc} + M_{h,r}\mathbf{h} + M_{f,r}\mathbf{f}, \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{p}^x = M_{NK}\mathbf{r}^{real}, \quad (2)$$

$$\mathbf{inc} = M_{SAM}\mathbf{p}^x + M_{s,inc}\mathbf{f}. \quad (3)$$

# Directed Cycle Graph



# Directed Cycle Process

If there is a unique solution to the system (1)-(3), it is given by

$$\underline{inc} = \underbrace{\mathcal{G}}_{\text{GE}} \times \left( \underbrace{M_{SAM} M_{NK} \underbrace{M_{h,r} \boldsymbol{h}}_{\text{direct}}}_{\text{first round, household transfer policy}} + \underbrace{M_{SAM} M_{NK} \underbrace{M_{f,r} \boldsymbol{f}}_{\text{direct}} + \underbrace{M_{f,inc} \boldsymbol{f}}_{\text{direct}}}_{\text{first round, firm transfer policy}} \right),$$

where  $\mathcal{G}$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{G} = (I - M_{SAM} M_{NK} M_{HA})^{-1}.$$

# Fiscal multipliers

- **Fiscal multiplier:**

$$\mathcal{M} = \text{cumulative fiscal multiplier} = \frac{\mathbf{1}' \mathbf{y}}{\mathbf{1}' \mathbf{taxes}}.$$

$$\mathbf{taxes} = M_{\text{inc}, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{inc} + M_{h, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{h}$$

- **Household policies 0 and 1:** If same direct PE real interest rate

$$M_{h,r} \mathbf{h}^0 = M_{h,r} \mathbf{h}^1$$

then output and income are the same  $\mathbf{y}^0 = \mathbf{y}^1$  and  $\mathbf{inc}^0 = \mathbf{inc}^1$ .

Differences in taxes are due to direct fiscal costs

$$\mathbf{1}' \mathbf{taxes}^0 - \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{taxes}^1 = \mathbf{1}' M_{h, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{h}^0 - \mathbf{1}' M_{h, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{h}^1,$$

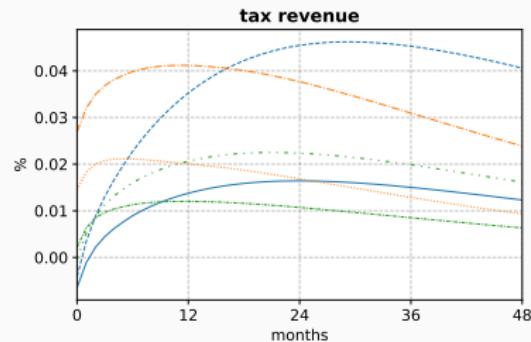
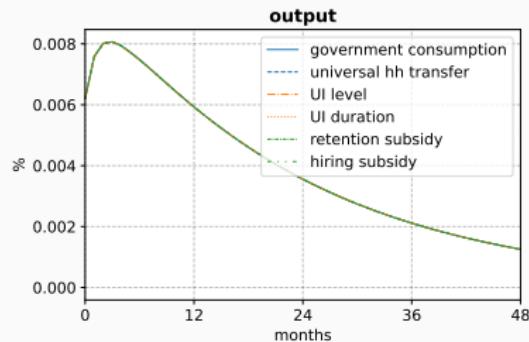
**Fiscal multipliers are ordered by direct fiscal costs:**

$$M_{h^0} \gtrless M_{h^1} \iff \mathbf{1}' M_{h, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{h}^0 \gtrless \mathbf{1}' M_{h, \text{taxes}} \mathbf{h}^1.$$

- **Firm policies:** Same result, but only with representative agent

# Policy experiment

- Experiment: Same output path for different policies.



# Different fiscal multipliers

	G [level]	Household transfers		Firm transfers		
		Transfer	Level	Duration	Retention	Hiring
1. Relative fiscal multiplier	1.0 [0.99]	0.28	0.44	1.03	1.64	0.72
2. Relative tax response	1.00	3.64	2.29	0.97	0.61	1.39
3. PE relative tax response	1.47	4.11	2.77	1.45	0.57	1.56
4. GE relative tax response	-0.47	-0.47	-0.47	-0.47	0.04	-0.17

▪ **Relative fiscal multiplier:**  $\frac{\mathcal{M}_{hj}}{\mathcal{M}_{hG}}$

▪ **Relative tax responses:**  $\frac{1' taxes^j}{1' taxes^G}$

Decomposition for household transfers:

$$taxes^j = M_{inc,taxes} inc^j + M_{h,taxes} h^j$$

$$taxes^{j,PE} = M_{h,taxes} h^j$$

$$taxes^{j,GE} = M_{inc,taxes} inc^j$$

# Determinants of fiscal multipliers

	G [level]	Household transfers		Firm transfers		
		Transfer	Level	Duration	Retention	Hiring
1. Baseline	1.0 [0.99]	0.28	0.44	1.03	1.64	0.72
2. Less sticky prices ( $\phi = 178$ )	1.0 [0.61]	0.30	0.47	1.03	3.43	1.15
3. More reactive mp ( $\delta_\pi = 2$ )	1.0 [0.64]	0.30	0.47	1.03	3.33	1.13
4. Representative agent	1.0 [0.54]	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.92	0.57
5. Fewer HtM (17.4%)	1.0 [0.80]	0.19	0.41	1.11	1.80	0.69
6. More tax financing ( $\omega = 0.10$ )	1.0 [0.84]	0.19	0.40	1.10	1.70	0.67
7. Exo. separations ( $\psi = 0$ )	1.0 [0.13]	0.35	0.52	1.02	1.39	3.38
8. Free entry ( $\xi = \infty$ )	1.0 [0.54]	0.31	0.47	1.03	1.50	1.21
9. Wage rule ( $\eta_e = 0.50$ )	1.0 [0.73]	0.29	0.46	1.03	1.55	0.74
10. 95% of div. to PIH	1.0 [0.82]	0.28	0.43	0.99	0.72	0.16

## **Endogenous search\***

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# Endogenous search

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- **Search decision:**
  1. Discrete search choice:  $s_{it} \in \{0, 1\}$
  2. Search cost:  $\lambda$  if  $s_{it} = 1$
  3. Taste shocks:  $\varepsilon(s_{it}) \sim$  Extreme value (Iskhakov et. al., 2017)
- **Note:** Drop  $\beta_i$  for notational simplicity
- **Warning I:** *This is advanced! Only if time permits.*
- **Warning II:** *Not implemented in GEModelTools*

# Discrete search decision

- Search intensity matter for transition:

$$\underline{v}_t(\beta_i, u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | s_{it}) = \mathbb{E} [v_t(\beta_i, u_{it}, a_{it-1}) | u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}, s_{it}]$$

- Standard logit formula:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{v}_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) &= \max_{s_{it} \in \{0,1\}} \{\underline{v}_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | s_{it}) - \lambda \mathbf{1}_{s_{it}=1} + \sigma_\varepsilon \varepsilon(s_{it})\} \\ &= \sigma_\varepsilon \log \left( \exp \frac{\underline{v}_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | 0)}{\sigma_\varepsilon} + \exp \frac{\underline{v}_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | 1)}{\sigma_\varepsilon} \right)\end{aligned}$$

# Envelope condition

- Choice probabilities:

$$P_t(s | u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) = \frac{\exp \frac{v_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | s)}{\sigma_\xi}}{\sum_{s' \in \{0,1\}} \exp \frac{v_t(u_{it-1}, a_{it-1} | s')}{\sigma_\xi}}$$

- Envelope condition:

$$\begin{aligned}\underline{v}_{a,t}(u_{t-1}, a_{t-1}) &= \sum_{s \in \{0,1\}} P_t(s | u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) \pi_t(u_{it} | u_{it-1}, s) v_{a,t}(u_{it}, a_{it-1}) \\ &= \sum_{s \in \{0,1\}} P_t(s | u_{it-1}, a_{it-1}) \pi_t(u_{it} | u_{it-1}, s) c_t^*(u_{it}, a_{it-1})^{-\sigma}\end{aligned}$$

- Break of *monotonicity*  $\Rightarrow$  FOC still necessary, but not *sufficient*

1. **Normally:** Savings  $\uparrow \Rightarrow$  future consumption  $\uparrow \Rightarrow$  marginal utility  $\downarrow$
2. **Now also:** Future search jump  $\downarrow \Rightarrow$  future income  $\downarrow$   
 $\Rightarrow$  future consumption  $\downarrow \Rightarrow$  marginal utility  $\uparrow$

# Upper envelope for given $z^{i_z}$

1. **Generate candidate points:**  $\forall i_a \in \{0, 1, \dots, \#_a - 1\}$

$$w^{i_a} = \beta \underline{v}_{t+1}(z^{i_z}, a^{i_a})$$

$$c^{i_a} = u'^{-1}(\beta \underline{v}_{a,t+1}(z^{i_z}, a^{i_a}))$$

$$m^{i_a} = a^{i_a} + c^{i_a}$$

$$v^{i_a} = u(c^{i_a}) + w^{i_a}$$

2. **Apply upper-envelope:**  $\forall i_{a-} \in \{0, 1, \dots, \#_a - 1\}$

$$c^*(a^{i_{a-}}) = \max_{j \in \{0, 1, \dots, \#_a - 2\}} u(c^{i_{a-}}) + w^{i_{a-}} \text{ s.t.}$$

$$m^{i_{a-}} = (1 + r_t)a^{i_{a-}} + w_t z^{i_z} \in [m^j, m^{j+1}]$$

$$c^{i_{a-}} = \min \left\{ \text{interp } \{m^{i_a}\} \rightarrow \{c^{i_a}\} \text{ at } m^{i_{a-}}, m^{i_{a-}} \right\}$$

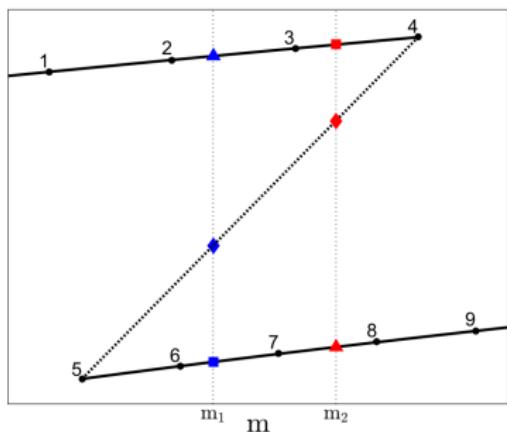
$$a^{i_{a-}} = m^{i_{a-}} - c^{i_{a-}}$$

$$w^{i_{a-}} = \text{interp } \{a^{i_a}\} \rightarrow \{w^{i_a}\} \text{ at } a^{i_{a-}}$$

# Illustration

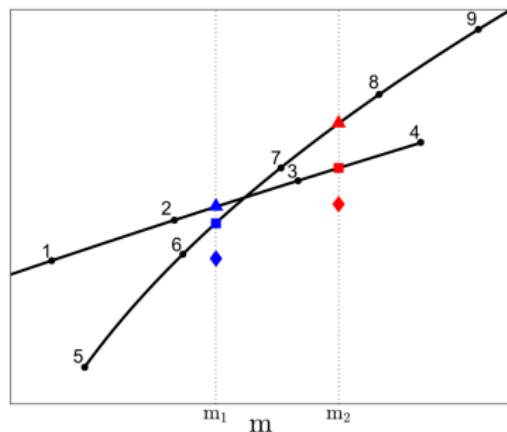
a

Consumption.



b

Value-of-choice.



1. **Numbering:** Different levels of end-of-period assets,  $a^{i_a}$
2. **Problem:** Find the consumption function at  $m_1$  and  $m_2$
3. **Largest value-of-choice:** Denoted by the *triangles*

**Source:** Druedahl and Jørgensen (2017),  $G^2EGM$

# Example

- Beg.-of-period value function:

$$\underline{v}_{t+1}(a_t) = \sqrt{m_{t+1}} + \eta \max \{m_{t+1} - \underline{m}, 0\}$$

where  $m_{t+1} = (1 + r)a_t + 1$

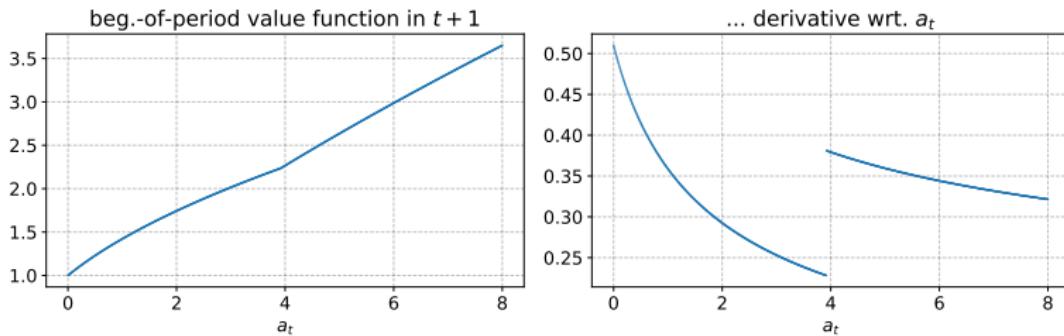
- Derivative:

$$\underline{v}_{a,t+1}(a_t) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + r)m_{t+1}^{-\frac{1}{2}} + (1 + r)\eta \mathbf{1}\{m_{t+1} > \underline{m}\}$$

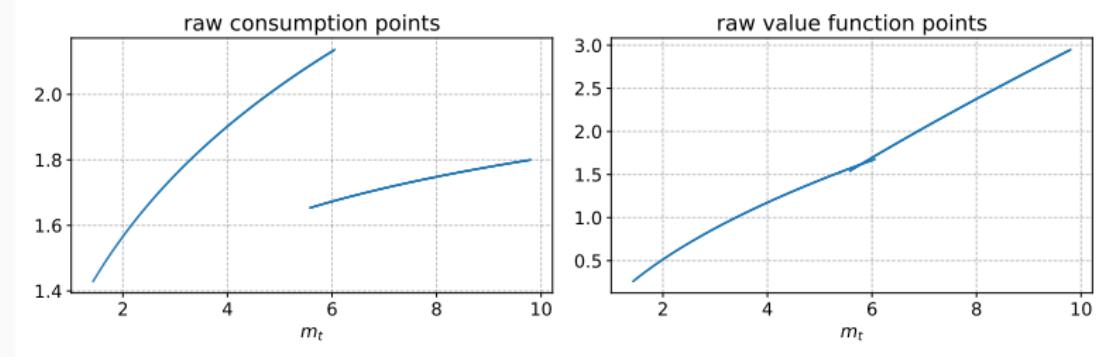
- Budget constraint:

$$a_t + c_t = (1 + r)a_{t-1} + 1$$

# Next-period values

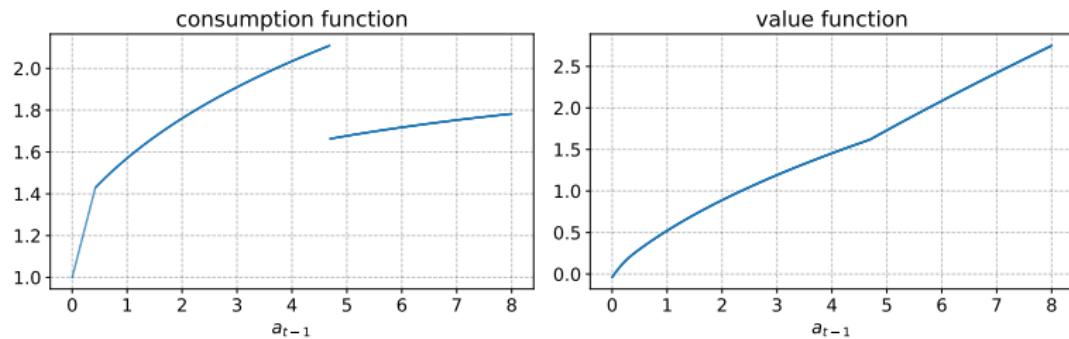


# Raw values of $c^{i_a}$ and $v^{i_a}$



**Problem:** Overlaps  $\Rightarrow$  not a function  $m_t$ !

# Result after upper envelope



# General problem structure

- General problem structure with *nesting*:

$$\bar{v}_t(\bar{x}_t, d_t, e_t, m_t) = \max_{c_t \in [0, m_t]} u(c_t, d_t, e_t) + \beta \underline{v}_{t+1}(\underline{\Gamma}_t(\bar{x}_t, d_t, e_t, a_t))$$

$$\text{with } a_t = m_t - c_t$$

$$v(x_t) = \max_{d_t \in \Omega^d(x_t)} \bar{v}_t(\bar{\Gamma}_t(x_t, d_t))$$

$$\underline{v}_t(\underline{x}_t) = \max_{e_t \in \Omega^e(\underline{x}_t)} \mathbb{E}[v(\Gamma(\underline{x}_t, e_t)) | \underline{x}_t, e_t]$$

- Finding  $c_t$ : EGM with upper envelope can (typically) still be used
- Finding  $d_t$  and  $e_t$ :
  1. Combination of discrete and continuous choices
  2. Typically requires use of numerical optimizer or root-finder
- Druedahl (2021), »A Guide on Solving Non-Convex Consumption-Saving Models« (costly with extra states in  $\bar{v}$ )

## **Summary**

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# Summary

- **HANK-SAM:**

1. More realistic labor market and income process
2. Allow for fluctuations in idiosyncratic risk
3. Laboratory for studying e.g. fiscal policy

- **Solution methods:**

1. Time-varying transition matrix is straightforward
2. (Non-sufficient Euler-equation create serious problems)