A dynamic equilibrium model of commuting, residential and work location choices

Christian Langholz Carstensen 1 Fedor Iskhakov 2 Maria Juul Hansen 1 John Rust 3 Bertel Schjerning 1 UAB, Barcelona, September 2022

¹University of Copenhagen

²Australian National University

³Georgetown University

- A large group of countries are undergoing a process of strong urbanization and spatial concentration of economic activity
- ullet ightarrow increased productivity through agglomeration but...
 - ...rural areas have been declining in terms of population, labor demand and house prices
 - ...urban areas experience large increases in traffic congestion and house prices
 - ullet $\, o$ demographic composition of locations change and increased regional inequalit
- Various policies are considered to ameliorate downsides of this development
- Dynamic effects of such spatial policies not well understood due to the complexity of households' joint choice of employment, work and residential locations and commuting

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We develop a dynamic equilibrium model that simulatenously tracks the following mechanisms:

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We structurally estimate this model

- Danish administrative panel data: lots of heterogeneity and rich dynamics
- Model fits key aspects of data well, incl. house price trends

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We simulate effects on house prices, job mobility, residential sorting and commuting in two counterfactual equilibria:

- 1. 5% increase in supply of housing stock in central Copenhagen
 - Stylized illustration of actually planned policy of constructing the artificial island Lynetteholm which we have analyzed for the Danish Ministry of Transportation
- [FOCUS TODAY] Extended use of telecommuting for highly skilled (HS) workers
 - ullet HS workers workers move out of city o prices drop in center o LS move there
 - Non-employment drops and HS better off while LS indifferent

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Overview

Literature
Model
Estimation
Data
Results
Housing market equilibrium
Counterfactuals
Conclusion

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Data

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Related literature

- GE models of location choice: Buchinsky2014, Ahlfeldtetal2015
- Life-cycle location choice models w/o commuting: KennanWalker2011, oswald2019, Dahl2002 and Tunali2000, diamond2016
- Interactions btw infrastructure, home and work locations: tsivanidis2019, heblich2020, dingel2020, teulings2018, severen2021, chernoff2021, allen2019 and monte2018
- Search models: i.a. manning2017
- WTP for local non-traded amenities: sieg2004, Bayer2016, Kuminoffetal2013

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Data

Results

Housing market equilibrium

Counterfactuals

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Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

$$\max_{\{d_{it}^{rl}, d_{it}^{wl}, h_{it}\}_{t=t_0}^T} \sum_{t=t_0}^T \rho_t(x_{it})^t \mathbb{E}_t \Big[u_t(x_{it}, wl_{it}, rl_{it}, d_{it}^\prime, h_{it}) \Big]$$

Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

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 $d_{it}' = (d_{it}^{rl}, d_{it}^{wl})$ discrete residential/work location decision

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 $d_{it}' = (d_{it}'^l, d_{it}'^w)$ discrete residential/work location decision h_{it} continuous house size decision (in m^2)

Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

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$$d_{it}' = (d_{it}^{rl}, d_{it}^{wl})$$
 discrete residential/work location decision h_{it} continuous house size decision (in m^2) t_0, T household age $(t_0 = 26, T = 76)$

Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

$$\max_{\{d_{it}^{rl}, d_{it}^{wl}, h_{it}\}_{t=t_0}^T} \sum_{t=t_0}^T \frac{\rho_t(x_{it})^t \mathbb{E}_t \left[u_t(x_{it}, wl_{it}, rl_{it}, d_{it}', h_{it}) \right]}$$

$$d_{it}' = (d_{it}'^I, d_{it}'^{WI})$$
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Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

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$$\begin{aligned} d_{it}' &= (d_{it}'^I, d_{it}'') \; \textit{discrete} \; \text{residential/work location decision} \\ h_{it} \; \; \textit{continuous} \; \text{house size decision (in } m^2) \\ t_0, T \; \; \text{household age } (t_0 = 26, T = 76) \\ \rho_t(x_{it}) \; \text{survival probability times discount factor } (\beta = 0.95) \\ u_t(\cdot) \; \; \text{instantaneous utility function} \end{aligned}$$

Individuals solve the following optimization problem:

$$\max_{\substack{\{d_{it}^{rl}, d_{it}^{wl}, h_{it}\}_{t=t_0}^T \\ }} \sum_{t=t_0}^T \rho_t(x_{it})^t \mathbb{E}_t \Big[u_t(x_{it}, \textcolor{red}{wl_{it}}, \textcolor{red}{rl_{it}}, d_{it}', \textcolor{black}{h_{it}}) \Big]$$

 $d_{i\star}' = (d_{i\star}^{rl}, d_{i\star}^{wl})$ discrete residential/work location decision

 h_{it} continuous house size decision (in m^2)

 t_0, T household age ($t_0 = 26, T = 76$)

 $\rho_t(x_{it})$ survival probability times discount factor ($\beta = 0.95$)

 $u_t(\cdot)$ instantaneous utility function

 (wl_{it}, rl_{it}) work and residential location in beginning of t, i.e "decision outcome" component of state

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 x_{it} (time-varying) individual states, $x_{it} = (ms_{it}, cs_{it}, age_{it}, edu_i)$

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 h_{it} continuous house size decision (in m^2)

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 (time-varying) individual states, $x_{it} = (ms_{it}, cs_{it}, age_{it}, edu_i)$

$$s_{it}$$
 { x_{it} , wl_{it} , rl_{it} }

$$\begin{aligned} u_t(x,d,d^{rl},d^{wl},h) &= \\ \kappa(\mathit{inc},s)\underbrace{\left[\mathit{inc}(s) - \psi_{uc}p^h(d^{rl}) \cdot h\right]}_{\text{consumption}} - \mathit{swcost}_r^p(x) + \underbrace{\phi_{h1}(s)h + \phi_{h2}h^2}_{\text{utility housing}} \\ &+ \mathsf{ttimecost}(x,d) + \mathsf{amenities}(d^{rl}) + u_r \end{aligned}$$

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 $\kappa(\mathit{inc}, \mathsf{s})$ Marginal utility of money (\sim consumption). Depends on income, marital status, age, schooling and year.

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Utility specification

$$u_t(x,d,d^{rl},d^{wl},h) = \\ \kappa(\mathit{inc},s)\underbrace{\left[\mathit{inc}(s) - \psi_{uc}p^h(d^{rl}) \cdot h\right]}_{\text{consumption}} - \mathit{swcost}_r^p(x) + \underbrace{\phi_{h1}(s)h + \phi_{h2}h^2}_{\text{utility housing}}$$

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Functional form

Utility specification

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- $\phi_{h1}(s), \phi_{h2}$ utility from housing depends on marital status, children and age ttimecost depends on travel-time between d^{rl} and d^{wl} and on year amenities depend on regional attributes of residential location, d^{rl}
 - u_r utility of retiring for those eligible (≥ 60)

Functional forms

Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states

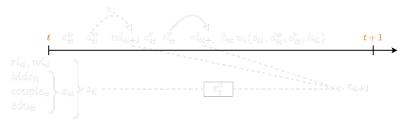


Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states

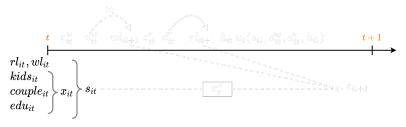
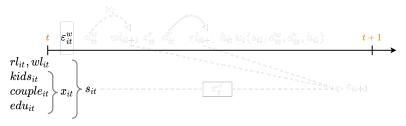
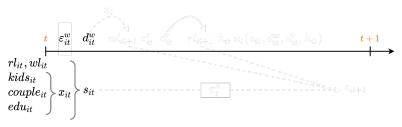


Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



Model is based on Bellman equations whose content is illustrated in the following:

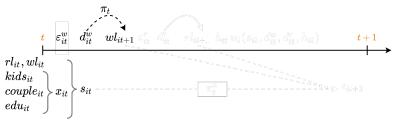
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ullet R regions, $d_{it}^w \in R+1$ (voluntary and involuntary unemployment: ullet)

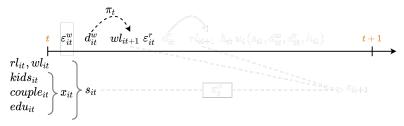
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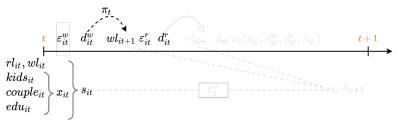
• $\pi_t(d_t^w, wl_t, x_t)$ informs about transition from desired work location to work location outcome

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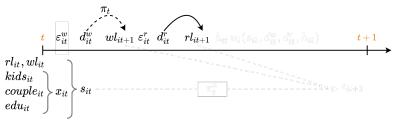
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 $\bullet \ \ d^r_{it} \in R$

Model is based on Pellman equations whose content is illustrated in the following:

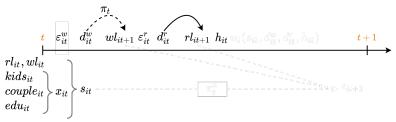
Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



• $d_{it}^r \in R$ and perfect control over residential decision: $d_{it}^r = rl_{it+1}$

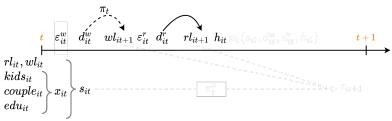
Model is based on Pellman equations whose content is illustrated in the following:

Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



 \bullet No dynamic implications of housing demand \Rightarrow static choice

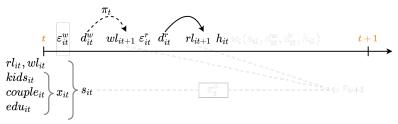
Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



- No dynamic implications of housing demand ⇒ static choice
- \Rightarrow Next period value function $V_{t+1}(x,d,arepsilon)$ independent of h

Model is based on Bellman equations whose content is illustrated in the following:

Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



ullet \Rightarrow Optimal housing demand given by FOC

$$\frac{\partial u_t(\cdot)}{\partial h} = \phi_{h1}(s) + 2\phi_{h2}h - \kappa(s)p^h(d^{rl}) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$h_t^* = \frac{\phi_{h1}(s) - \kappa(s)p^h(d^{rl})}{-2\phi_{h2}}$$

9

Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states

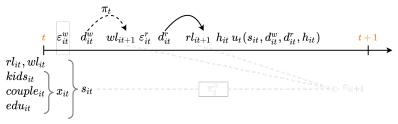
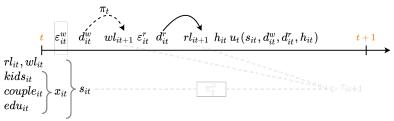


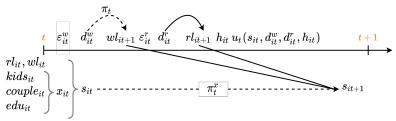
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- Substituting expression of optimal housing demand into the utility function defined above, we obtain the *indirect utility function* $u(s_{it}, w_{it+1}, rl_{it+1})$
- Pure discrete choice model conditional on housing demand

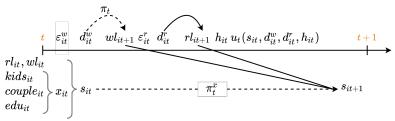
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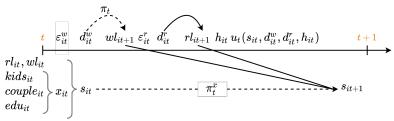
• Location states transition as a deterministic function of decisions

Figure 1: Timeline of decisions and states



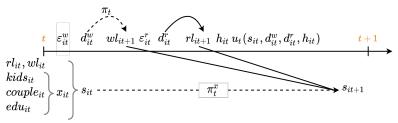
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- Location states transition as a deterministic function of decisions
- edu; is time-constant
- Non-location states:

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- Location states transition as a deterministic function of decisions
- edu; is time-constant
- Non-location states:

$$(cs_{it+1}, ms_{it+1}) \sim \mu_{cs,ms}(\cdot|cs_t, ms_t, edu, age_t) \equiv \pi^{\mathsf{x}}(x_t, x_{t+1}) \tag{1}$$

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Estimation strategy

We estimate the model sequentially in three separate steps:

- 1. Estimate the parameters governing the pre-tax income equations, income tax system and transition probabilities of children and marital status
- 2. Estimate a reduced form housing demand equation
- 3. Estimate the remaining structural parameters by maximum likelihood applying the parameters obtained in 1) and 2) conditional on house prices

We solve the model via backwards induction for each evaluation of the likelihood function

On top of this comes an equilibrium solver in the counterfactual simulations.

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We use full population Danish administrative panel data and focus estimation on the period 2000-2004 and 2009-2013

• Exclude years around housing boom in financial crisis. No attempt to model temporary price hike during this period

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We observe and exploit the following data

• Each individual's choice $d_{i,t} \equiv \{rl_{i,t+1}, wl_{i,t+1}, h_{i,t+1}\}$ and state $s_{i,t}$ on an annual basis

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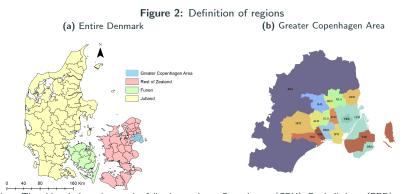
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Regional definition



Note: The abbreviations denote the following regions: Copenhagen (CPH), Frederiksberg (FRB), Ballerup (BAL), Broendby (BRO), Dragoer (DRA), Gentofte (GEN), Gladsaxe (GLA), Glostrup (GLO), Herlev (HEV), Albertslund (ALB), Hvidovre (HVI), Hoeje-Taastrup (HOT), Roedovre (ROD), Ishoej (ISH), Taarnby (TAR), Vallensbaek (VAL), rest of Zealand (ZEA). Figure 2b only displays subset of ZEA.

Overview

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Model

Estimation

Data

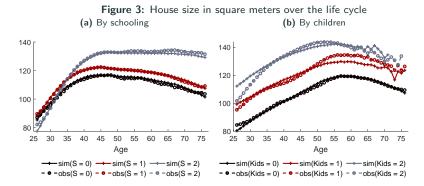
Results

Housing market equilibrium

Counterfactuals

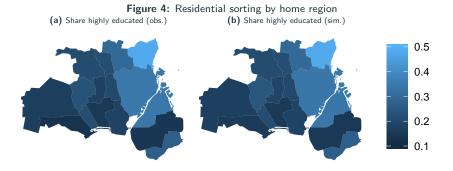
Conclusion

Model fit: Housing demand



- Clear demographic differences in housing demand over the life cycle
- The reduced form model captures the crucial dependence between household composition and housing demand and difference over the life cycle
- Though some challenges capturing differences in demand at the beginning of the life cycle

Model fit: Spatial educational sorting

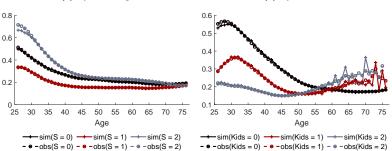


Residential sorting driven mainly by:

- Regional variation in house prices and regional-specific amenities
- Individual differences in housing demand
- Individual differences in marginal utility of money (main channel of educational sorting)
- Distance to local labor markets

Model fit: Sorting over the life cycle

Figure 5: Share living in Copenhagen over the life cycle
(a) By schooling
(b) By children



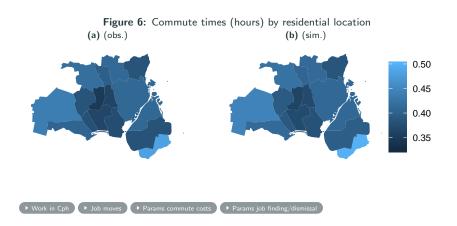
- Only for the youngest cohorts a slight under-prediction
- Reason: not modelling educational choice. Poorer fit only evident for highly-educated

▶ Marital status

► Moving

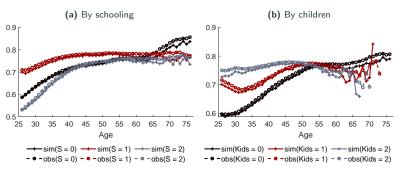
Params moving costs

Model fit: Commuting across space



Model fit: Commute time over the life cycle





- Model captures shorter commute by highly educated as they can afford housing close to dense labor markets
- Above age 60 harder to explain the strong selection among working individuals at that age

▶ Marital status

Literature			
Model			
Estimation			
Data			
Results			
Housing market equilibri	um		
Counterfactuals			
Conclusion			

Demand and supply of housing

• Equilibrium prices, P^h : adjust so total expected demand $D_t(rl, P^h)$ for housing measured in square meters equals the (inelastic) supply $S_t(rl)$ in each residential region

Demand and supply of housing

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$$S_t(rl) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} h_{it} 1(rl_{it} = rl)(1 - ms_{it}/2)$$

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• Expected housing demand $D_t(rl, P^h)$: population average of housing demand weighted by choice probabilities of either staying or moving to region rl at the end of period t.

$$D_t(rl, P^h) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} h(rl, x_{it}; P^h(rl)) \Pi_t(rl|wl_{it+1}, rl_{it}, x_{it}; P^h) (1 - ms_{it}/2),$$

where $\Pi_t(rl|w_{it+1}, rl_{it}, x_{it}; P^h)$ is the choice probability that individuals in state $s_{it} = (w_{it+1}, rl_{it}, x_{it})$ choose to live in region rl, given the vector of regional house prices, P^h

Equilibrium house prices

To compute the housing market equilibrium, P^h is set to solve

$$S_t(1) = D_t(1, P^h)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$S_t(R) = D_t(R, P^h)$$

where

- $P^h = (P^h(1), ..., P^h(R))$ s the *R*-dimensional vector of regional square meter prices in each residential region $rl = \{1, ..., R\}$
- S_t(rI) the inelastic, exogenously fixed supply of total square meters of housing in region rI
- $D_t(rl, P^h)$ is the demand for available square meters of housing in region rl
- We can easily solve the R equilibrium equations with R unknowns using Newton's Method.

Empirical vs. model equilibrium prices

Figure 8: Observed and predicted equilibrium house prices per m^2 (b) All regions, 2013 (a) Selected regions, 2000-2004 and 2009-2013 0.32 | 0.3 0.3 0.28 0.28 Prices 100.000 DKK pr m2 (model) 0.26 brices, 100.000 DKK pr m² 0.27 0.28 0.28 0.18 0.19 0.26 0.22 0.2 0.18 0.16 0.14 0.12 0.12 ZEA 0.2 2001 2002 2003 2004 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 0.15 0.25 0.3 Prices, 100.000 DKK pr m2 (observed) Year

▶ Baseline fit

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Model

Estimation

Data

Results

Housing market equilibrium

Counterfactuals

Conclusion

Lowering commute time by 50% for highly-educated

Table 1: Counterfactual II: % change of home and work locations by schooling (2013)

	$rI(s_0)$	$wI(s_0)$	$rl(s_1)$	$wl(s_1)$	$rl(s_2)$	$wl(s_2)$
Center of CPH	3.77	0.44	4.52	0.39	-10.79	3.95
West of CPH	3.46	0.05	4.13	0.01	-13.23	-0.41
North of CPH	7.31	-0.06	7.51	-0.05	-9.62	-0.21
East of CPH	2.08	-0.11	4.81	-0.51	-10.40	1.07
${\sf RestOfZealand}$	-3.95	-0.44	-3.09	-0.76	11.69	7.64
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- Easier for highly educated to keep high-paying jobs in city centre while living in attractive suburban areas
- Lower-income households better chance to reside closer to dense labor markets
- All regions more mixed on sociodemographics

Lowering commute time by 50% for highly-educated

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 Highly-educated more likely to work in Cph and RoZ as they only have to commute half of the week

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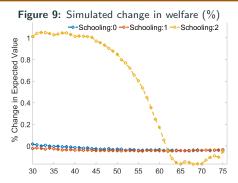
- Highly-educated more likely to work in Cph and RoZ as they only have to commute half of the week
- Main part of extra workers in RoZ come from reduction in non-employment
- Less educated only slight increase in tendency to work in more urbanized areas

Table 2: Counterfactual II: % change in equilibrium prices 2009-2013

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Center of CPH	-0.53	-1.01	-1.35	-1.64	-1.95
West of CPH	-0.36	-0.64	-0.93	-1.15	-1.60
North of CPH	-0.57	-1.08	-1.46	-1.58	-1.75
East of CPH	-0.06	-0.10	-0.79	-1.04	-1.66
RestOfZealand	0.79	1.55	2.08	2.45	3.03

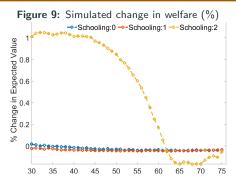
- Dynamic model → Gradual changes in prices
- \bullet Lower demand for living in Cph for highly-educated \to prices fall by 0.53% immediately
- Over time prices lower by 1.6-2.0% in the GCA while higher by 3.0% in RoZ
- ullet ightarrow affordable for lower-income hhs to live in GCA

Counterfactual: increased access to telecommuting - welfare effects



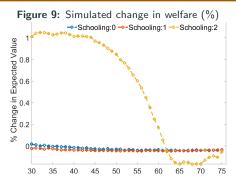
 Highly-educated better off: access to high-paying jobs in Cph without paying high house prices for this access

Counterfactual: increased access to telecommuting - welfare effects



- Highly-educated better off: access to high-paying jobs in Cph without paying high house prices for this access
- \bullet As they age, their marginal utility of money declines \to welfare effects drops to 0 around retirement
- ullet At retirement-eligible age: most not working o no benefit of telecommuting but facing increased house prices in their popular regions

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- ullet As they age, their marginal utility of money declines o welfare effects drops to 0 around retirement
- ullet At retirement-eligible age: most not working o no benefit of telecommuting but facing increased house prices in their popular regions
- $\bullet~\approx 0$ welfare effect for less educated: gain from lower commute times, but only by paying higher house prices

Conclusion

Conclusion

- Dynamic equilibrium model of joint home and work location decisions as well as housing demand for individuals
- Focused on the Greater Copenhagen Area in Denmark and analyzed the counterfactual effects of encouraging more telecommuting for highly educated
- Provides understanding of how location and movement patterns are driven by cost of living and commuting and are very heterogeneous
- ullet Counterfactual: highly educated move out of the city to peripheral regions o consume larger homes at a reduced price
- ullet \to freed up space in the center \to lower educated people could afford living closer by their jobs in the new equilibrium
- Reducing commute times allows locations to become more specialized in either jobs or residence
- Welfare gains positive in total, but unequally distributed across household types with higher educated being better off and lower educated indifferent

Appendix: Bellman equations

Appendix: Functional forms

Appendix: Econometrics

Appendix: Model fits

Appendix: Model parameters

The residential choice

Let EV' be the ex ante expected value of residence r, ... but conditional on the employment location outcome wl' ... and before learning about the residential location shocks $\epsilon'(d')$.

 EV^r is given by the usual log-sum formula

$$\begin{split} &EV'(wl,rl,wl',x) = \\ &\sigma_r \log \left(\sum_{d'} \exp\{[u(wl,rl,wl',d^r,x) + \beta EV(wl',d^r,x)]/\sigma_r\} \right). \end{split}$$

Residence location choice probabilities are given by logit formulas

$$P^{r}(d^{r}|wl,rl,wl',x) = \frac{\exp\{[u(wl,rl,wl',d^{r},x) + \beta EV(wl',d^{r},x)]/\sigma_{r}\}}{\sum_{d^{r}} \exp\{[u(wl,rl,wl',d^{r},x) + \beta EV(wl',d^{r},x)]/\sigma_{r}\}}.$$

1 Timeline

The work location choice

Let EV^w(wl, rl, x) be the ex ante expected value of location (wl, rl)
 ...before learning about the work location shocks ε^w(d^w)
 ...and the outcome of the job search process

$$EV^{w}(wl_{t}, rl_{t}, x) = \sigma_{w} \log \left(\sum_{d^{w}} \exp \left\{ v^{w}(wl, rl, x, d^{w}) / \sigma_{w} \right\} \right).$$

 v^w(wl, rl, x, d^w) is the expected choice-specific value corresponding to the particular choice of job location d^w.

$$v^{w}(wl,rl,x,d^{w}) = \sum_{wl} \pi(d^{w},wl,x,wl) EV^{r}(wl,rl,wl,x).$$

- $\pi(d^w, wl, x, wl')$ governs how job search location d^w translates into the realized one wl'
- The work location choice probabilities are given by logit formulas

$$P^{w}(d^{w}|wl,rl,x) = \frac{\exp\{v^{w}(wl,rl,x,d^{w})/\sigma_{w}\}}{\sum_{d^{w}} \exp\{v^{w}(wl,rl,x,d^{w})/\sigma_{w}\}}.$$

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Utility function

Parsimonious utility function:

$$u = u_m + u_r + u_h + \underbrace{amenities - swcost_r^p - ttimecost}_{,}$$
 (2)

- *u_m*: *monetary utility* (disposable income net of housing expenditures)
- u_r : utility of retirement for the eligible individuals (t > 60)
- u_h: housing utility obtained from the utilization of a chosen home size
- amenities: regional-specific attractiveness of housing options
- swcost_r: psychological costs of changing the location of residence
- ttimecost: cost of commuting between the chosen locations of work and residence





Housing demand

Quadratic utility of housing

$$u_m + u_h = \kappa(inc_t)(inc_t - hcost_t) + \Phi(x_t)h_{t+1} + \frac{1}{2}\phi_{h2} h_{t+1}^2,$$

where $\phi_{h2} < 0$ (diminishing returns to house size)

Marginal utility of money depends on income, year and x

$$\begin{split} \kappa(\textit{inc}_t) &= \kappa_0 + \sum_{\tilde{y}=1}^{Y} \kappa_{\textit{year},\tilde{y}} \mathbb{1}_{\{\textit{year}=\tilde{y}\}} + \kappa_{\textit{y}} \textit{inc}_t + \kappa_{\textit{ms}} \textit{ms}_t + \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{2} \kappa_{\textit{c},k} \mathbb{1}_{\{\textit{cs}_t=k\}} + \kappa_{\textit{a}} \textit{age}_t + \sum_{j=1}^{2} [(\kappa_{\textit{s},j} + \kappa_{\textit{as},j} \textit{age}_t) \mathbb{1}_{\{\textit{edu}_t=j\}}] \end{split}$$

Housing demand

 $\Phi(x_t)$ allows for heterogeneity in marginal utility of housing

$$\begin{split} \Phi(x_t) &= \phi_0 + \sum_{y=1}^{Y} \phi_{year,y} \mathbb{1}_{\{year=y\}} + \phi_a age_t + \phi_{a2} age_t^2 + \phi_{ms} ms_t \\ &+ \sum_{k=1}^{2} \phi_{c,k} \mathbb{1}_{\{cs_t=k\}} + \sum_{j=1}^{2} \phi_{s,j} \mathbb{1}_{\{edu_t=j\}} + \sum_{n=1}^{R} \phi_{nl} \mathbb{1}_{\{n_{t+1}=n\}}. \end{split}$$

Housing costs are given by

$$hcost_t(rl_{t+1}, h_{t+1}) = \psi_{uc} p^h(rl_{t+1}) h_{t+1},$$

Implied housing demand (linear regression).

$$h_{t+1} = \frac{\kappa(inc_t)\rho^h(rI_{t+1})\psi_{uc} - \Phi(x_t)}{\phi_{h2}}.$$

Regional amenities

Amenities of regions come as a bundle of attributes that each contributes to the experienced utility of a region.

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{amenities}(\textit{rl}_{t+1}) = & (\alpha_0^{\textit{cafe}} + \alpha_a^{\textit{cafe}} \textit{age}_t + \sum_{k=1}^2 \alpha_{c,k}^{\textit{cafe}} \mathbb{1}_{\{\textit{cs}_t = k\}}) \textit{cafes}_{\textit{rl}_{t+1}} \\ & + \sum_{\textit{rl} = 1}^R \alpha_{\textit{rl}} \mathbb{1}_{\{\textit{rl}_{t+1} = \textit{rl}\}} \end{aligned}$$

- We can include a rich set of amenities almost without any additional computational cost associated with solving the model.
- This may require more parameters as number of amenities increases, but the number of parameters in the chosen specification is independent of the number of regions

Job arrival and dismissal

Probability of getting a new job

$$\pi_{t}^{n}(d^{w}, wl, x) = \left[1 + \exp\left(-\left(\beta_{0}^{\pi(n)} + \beta_{a}^{\pi(n)} age + \beta_{g}^{\pi(n)} 1_{wl=g} + \beta_{jobdens}^{\pi(n)} jobdens(d^{w}) + \sum_{k=1}^{2} \left(\beta_{s}^{\pi(n)}(k) 1_{edu=k}\right)\right)\right]^{-1},$$
(3)

Probability of keeping current job

$$\pi^{k}(Wl,x) = \left[1 + \exp\left(-\left(\beta_{0}^{\pi(k)} + \beta_{a}^{\pi(k)} \operatorname{age} + \sum_{k=1}^{2} \left(\beta_{s}^{\pi(k)}(k) \{1_{edu=k}\right)\right)\right)\right]^{-1}.$$
 (4)

◆ Econometrics



Utility cost of moving, $swcost_r^p(x_t)$

The utility cost of moving residence

$$\begin{aligned} swcost_r^{p}(x_t) = & \mathbb{1}_{\{rl_t \neq rl_{t+1}\}} [\gamma_0 + \gamma_a age_t + \sum_{k=1}^2 \gamma_{c,k} \mathbb{1}_{\{cst=k\}} + \gamma_{ms} ms_t \\ & + \sum_{i=1}^2 \gamma_{s,i} \mathbb{1}_{\{edu_t = j\}}] \end{aligned}$$

◆ Econometrics

◀ Utility

Travel time costs

The commuting cost between d^{rl} and d^{wl}

$$ttimecost = (\eta_0 + \sum_{y=1}^{Y} \eta_{year,y} \mathbb{1}_{\{year=y\}}) f^{tt}(rl_{t+1}, wl_{t+1})$$

where

- The f^{tt}(·) function denotes the shortest travel-time by any means of transportation between locations.
- Commute cost are zero when unemployed

Commute cost are assumed to be a function of

- Travel time between the two destinations.
- Year (allowing disutility of commuting to change over time)

Appendix: Bellman equations

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Log-likelihood function

• The MLE is obtained as

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \sum_{t} \{ \log P_{t}^{r}(rl_{it+1} | wl_{it}, rl_{it}, wl_{it+1}, x_{it}; \theta) + \log \sum_{d^{w}} P_{t}^{w}(d^{w} | wl_{it}, rl_{it}, x_{it}; \theta) \pi_{t}(d^{w}, wl_{it}, x_{it}, wl_{it+1}; \theta) \},$$
 (5)

where N is the number of individuals.

 We solve the model via backwards induction for each evaluation of the likelihood function.

◆ Back

Appendix: Bellman equations

Appendix: Functional forms

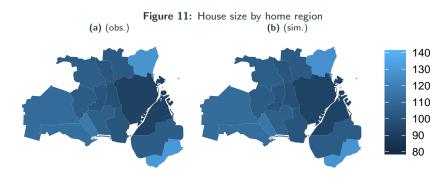
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Figure 10: House size in square meters over the life cycle Age \rightarrow sim(Couple = 0) \rightarrow sim(Couple = 1) - • - obs(Couple = 0) - • - obs(Couple = 1)

Model fit: Housing demand by region





Model fit: Share living in Copenhagen by marital status

Figure 12: Share living in Copenhagen over the life cycle by marital status

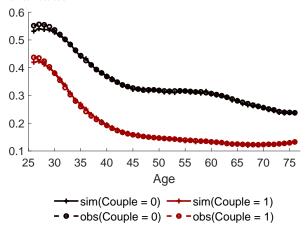


Figure 13: Share moving residential location over the life cycle (a) Overall (b) By marital status (c) By children 0.08 0.06 0.06 0.04 0.02 0.02 50 35 40 45 50 25 30 35 40 Age Age sim(Couple = 0) sim(Couple = 1) sim(Kids = 0) sim(Kids = 1) sim(Kids = 2)

- • -obs(Kids = 0) - • -obs(Kids = 1) - • -obs(Kids = 2)

- • -obs(Couple = 0) - • -obs(Couple = 1)

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0.1 r

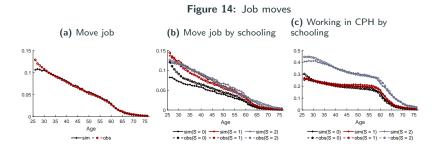
0.08

0.06

0.04

0.02

Model fit: Sorting on workplace over the life cycle



◀ Back

Model fit: Working in Cph by home location

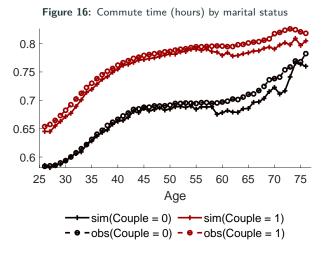
Figure 15: Work in Copenhagen by residential location (a) (obs.) (b) (sim.)







Model fit: Commuting by marital status



Overview

Appendix: Bellman equations

Appendix: Functional forms

Appendix: Econometrics

Appendix: Model fits

Appendix: Model parameters

Model parameters: Housing demand

Table 3: First Stage Parameter Estimates, Reduced form Housing Demand

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Const., $ ilde{\phi}_0$	70.2740	0.16419	428.0
Married, $ ilde{\phi}_{ms}$	27.8578	0.03868	720.2
Children, $\tilde{\phi}_c$ (1)	5.7386	0.05149	111.4
Children, $\tilde{\phi}_c$ (2)	14.6098	0.04911	297.5
Age, $ ilde{\phi}_{a}$	2.1723	0.00348	624.8
$Age^2/1000, \ \tilde{\phi}_{a2}$	-19.1718	0.03074	-623.6
Price pr. sqm, $\tilde{\kappa}_0$	-296.2954	0.91043	-325.4
Price pr. sqm \times Income, $\tilde{\kappa}_{v}$	20.2790	0.07002	289.6
Price pr. sqm \times Age, $\tilde{\kappa}_a$	0.0209	0.00853	2.4
Price pr. sqm \times Age \times Schooling, $\tilde{\kappa}_{a,s}$ (1)	1.0073	0.00476	211.5
Price pr. sqm \times Age \times Schooling, $\tilde{\kappa}_{a,s}$ (2)	2.9563	0.00529	558.4
Price pr. sqm \times Schooling, $\tilde{\kappa}_s$ (1)	-51.7247	0.24317	-212.7
Price pr. sqm \times Schooling, $\tilde{\kappa}_s$ (2)	-95.3167	0.25080	-380.1
Price pr. sqm \times Children, $\tilde{\kappa}_c$ (1)	0.4389	0.29673	1.5
Price pr. sqm \times Children, $\tilde{\kappa}_c$ (2)	13.4067	0.28757	46.6
Price pr. sqm \times Married, $\tilde{\kappa}_{ms}$	-63.4794	0.22117	-287.0

Dependent variable: House size in square meters

Other controls: Regional dummies, $\tilde{\phi}_{\it rl}$ and time effects $\tilde{\phi}_{\it year}$ and $\tilde{\kappa}_{\it year}$

Model parameters: User costs of housing demand curvature

Table 4: User Cost of Housing and Curvature Parameter of Housing Demand

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Coef. on h^2 , $\phi_{h2} \times 1000$	-0.0465	0.00036	-127.4
Baseline user cost of housing, ψ_0	0.0239	0.00024	99.9
Time effect, ψ_{2001}	-0.0052	0.00015	-34.9
Time effect, ψ_{2002}	-0.0045	0.00016	-28.8
Time effect, ψ_{2003}	-0.0063	0.00015	-41.0
Time effect, ψ_{2004}	-0.0090	0.00016	-57.3
Time effect, ψ_{2009}	-0.0035	0.00015	-23.6
Time effect, ψ_{2010}	-0.0076	0.00015	-50.2
Time effect, ψ_{2011}	-0.0089	0.00015	-57.7
Time effect, ψ_{2012}	-0.0088	0.00015	-57.1
Time effect, ψ_{2014}	-0.0110	0.00016	-67.4

Model parameters: Amenities (time-varying)

Table 5: Taste Variation in Regional Amenities

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Taste for cafes and bars, α^{cafe}			
Constant, $lpha_0^{cafe}$	0.0118	0.00005	257.9
Age, α_a^{cafe}	-0.0002	0.00000	-257.5
Children, α_c^{cafe} (1)	-0.0047	0.00005	-97.8
Children, α_c^{cafe} (2)	-0.0074	0.00003	-254.4

Other controls: Regional dummies, $\alpha_{rl_{t+1}}$, shown in online appendix.



Model parameters: Amenities (fixed effects)

Table 6: Time-Constant Regional Amenities

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
α_{rl} (1)	-0.0976	0.00045	-219.3
α_{rl} (2)	-0.0827	0.00095	-87.0
α_{rl} (3)	-0.1244	0.00107	-115.8
α_{rl} (4)	-0.2733	0.00207	-131.9
α_{rl} (5)	-0.1956	0.00126	-155.7
α_{rl} (6)	-0.0721	0.00081	-89.4
α_{rl} (7)	-0.1329	0.00127	-104.5
α_{rl} (8)	-0.1086	0.00116	-93.6
α_{rl} (9)	-0.1246	0.00121	-102.7
α_{rl} (10)	-0.0713	0.00088	-81.5
α_{rl} (11)	-0.1310	0.00101	-129.9
α_{rl} (12)	-0.0801	0.00094	-85.3
α_{rl} (13)	-0.1888	0.00139	-135.9
α_{rl} (14)	-0.1037	0.00099	-104.6
α_{rl} (15)	-0.2247	0.00163	-137.8
α_{rl} (16)	-0.0274	0.00127	-21.6

Model parameters: Moving costs

Table 7: Utility Cost of Moving Residence

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Const., γ_0	1.8750	0.00521	360.0
Age, γ_a	0.0579	0.00012	495.1
Children, γ_c (1)	0.4934	0.00382	129.2
Children, γ_c (2)	1.1926	0.00450	265.0
Married, γ_{ms}	-0.0368	0.00291	-12.6
Schooling, γ_s (1)	0.0163	0.00309	5.3
Schooling, γ_s (2)	-0.1803	0.00317	-56.9



Model parameters: Commuting

Table 8: Commute Cost

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Cost of travel time, η_0	0.1789	0.00149	120.3
Time effect, η_{2001} (1)	-0.0014	0.00174	-0.8
Time effect, η_{2002} (2)	-0.0081	0.00178	-4.5
Time effect, η_{2003} (3)	-0.0210	0.00184	-11.4
Time effect, η_{2004} (4)	-0.0451	0.00181	-24.9
Time effect, η_{2009} (5)	0.0406	0.00191	21.2
Time effect, η_{2010} (6)	0.0323	0.00190	17.0
Time effect, η_{2011} (7)	0.0450	0.00194	23.2
Time effect, η_{2012} (8)	0.0484	0.00195	24.8
Time effect, η_{2013} (9)	0.0202	0.00197	10.2

Model parameters: Job arrival and dismissal

Table 9: Job Arrival and Dismissal

	Coeff. Estimates	Standard Error	Z-statistic
Probability of keeping job: $\pi_t^k(wl_t, x_t; \beta^k)$			
Const., $\beta_0^{\pi(keep)}$	0.3066	0.01085	28.3
Age, $\beta_a^{\pi(keep)}$	0.0558	0.00030	186.7
Schooling, $\beta_s^{\pi(keep)}$ (1)	0.9288	0.00536	173.4
Schooling, $\beta_s^{\pi(keep)}$ (2)	1.0818	0.00575	188.0
Probability of new job: $\pi_t^n(d_t^w, wl_t, x_t : \beta^n)$			
Const., $\beta_0^{\pi(new)}$	-1.0998	0.00466	-235.9
Age, $\beta_a^{\pi(\text{new})}$	-0.0431	0.00010	-415.9
Schooling, $\beta_s^{\pi(new)}$ (1)	0.1980	0.00253	78.3
Schooling, $\beta_s^{\pi(new)}$ (2)	0.2264	0.00278	81.5
Job density $\beta_{jobdensity}^{\pi(new)}$	0.2608	0.00045	583.9
Prev. unempl., $\beta_{unemp}^{\pi(new)}$	1.0474	0.00236	443.9

Model parameters: Baseline fit

Table 10: Baseline fit: Change in home and work locations (share by schooling) and equilibrium prices $(100,000\ DKK)$

(data - baseline)	$rl(s_0)$	$rl(s_1)$	$rl(s_2)$	$wI(s_0)$	$wl(s_1)$	$wl(s_2)$	P^{eq}
Center of CPH	0.000	0.006	-0.048	0.003	0.033	-0.009	-0.023
West of CPH	-0.005	-0.003	0.012	0.119	0.120	0.111	0.010
North of CPH	-0.004	0.000	0.006	0.019	0.019	0.007	0.000
East of CPH	0.001	-0.001	0.003	0.024	0.025	0.024	0.004
RestOfZealand	0.008	-0.002	0.027	-0.142	-0.222	-0.170	0.012
Unemployment	-	-	-	-0.024	0.024	0.037	-

∢ Back

