Pandemic-Era Inflation Drivers and Global Spillovers

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The Role of International Trade in the Transmission of Inflationary Pressures during the Recent High Inflation Episode

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This paper

► What?

- * Quantify inflation drivers when economy is hit by different set of shocks
- ullet Key: open economy o allow to study spillovers across countries-sectors

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► Why?

- * Highest inflation of last four decades
- * Characterized by:
 - + Collapse and rebound in domestic demand, GDP and international trade
 - + Consumption substitution across sectors
 - + Labor shortages
- * Requires a model

This paper

- ► How? → Multi-country multi-sector model
 - * Theory: extends Baqaee and Farhi (2022, AER) to an open economy
 - * Segmented factor markets + downward nominal wage rigidity
 - * Allow for a nominal block to tie real shocks to nominal variables
 - \div countries conduct independent monetary policy \to flexible exchange rates
 - * Takes model to the data
 - + 4 Countries: United States, Euro Area, Russia, and China+RoW
 - + 4 Sectors: durables, non-durables, services, and energy (extension to 44 in the paper)
 - + Rich set of shocks: sectoral supply, sectoral demand, aggregate demand and energy shocks
 - + Conduct counterfactuals: what if only supply shocks? ... demand shocks? ... energy shocks?

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 - * Negative aggregate demand shocks: ↓ inflation
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 - * Positive aggregate demand shocks e.g. fiscal stimulus: ↑ inflation
 - * Lower role for sectoral demand shocks but not negligible: \(\ \) inflation
- **2022**
 - * Still strong aggregate demand: ↑ inflation
 - * Sectoral supply shocks started to recede: ↓ inflation
 - * Energy price changes
 - + Higher impact on the euro area but increases inflation everywhere: ↑ inflation

What we find cted'

- International spillovers: larger in euro area than the US.
- ► Model matches well
 - * other aggregate moments: current account to GDP ratio, bilateral exchange rates (qual.)
 - * cross-sectional moments: sector-level prices and wages
- ▶ Role of disaggregation: model with more sectors does better

Related literature

Inflation with sectoral demand and supply shocks: theory and empirics

Closed economy

Baqaee and Farhi (2022), La'O and Tahbaz-Salehi (2022), Rubbo (2022), Afrouzi and Bhattarai (2022), Pasten, Schoenle, and Weber (2020), Ferrante, Graves, and Iacovello (2023), Guerrieri, Lorenzoni, Straub, and Werning (2021, 2022), Lorenzoni and Werning (2023), Blanchard and Bernanke (2023), Gagliardone and Gertler (2023), Benigno and Eggertson (2023), Harding et al (2023), Fornaro and Wolf (2023), Jorda, Liu, Nechio, and Rivera-Reyes (2022), LaBelle and Santacreu (2022), Shapiro (2022), de Soyres, Gaillard, Santacreu, and Moore (2024), Bai et al (2023)

Open economy

di Giovanni, Kalemli-Özcan, Silva, and Yildirim (2021), Amiti, Heise, Karahanan and Sahin (2022), Comin, Johnson, and Jones (2023), Silva (2023), Cuba-Borda et al (2024)

- ▶ Our contribution: a structural GE model to quantify inflation drivers with
 - * global I-O linkages
 - * downward nominal wage rigidity + segmented factor markets
 - * endogenous exchange rates
 - * rich set of shocks and counterfactuals

Outline

- ► Model
- ► Calibration
- ► Results
- ► Conclusion

Model

Inflation in a multi-country multi-sector model

- Open economy extension of Baqaee and Farhi (2022, AER):
 - * Two-period multi-country model (n, m = 1, ..., N)
 - * Multiple sectors $(i, j = 1, \dots, \mathcal{J})$ produce using factors and intermediate inputs
 - * Ricardian households with perfect foresight
 - * Have access to a domestic and a world bond denominated in US dollars
 - * Perfect competition in factors and good markets
 - * Monetary policy is conducted independently in each country
- Frictions:
 - * Downward nominal wage rigidity (in local currency)
 - * Segmented factor markets

Households in Country *n***: Inter-temporal Problem**

$$\max_{\{C_{n,o},C_{n,1},F_{n,o},B_{n,o}\}} (1-\beta_{n,o}) \frac{C_{n,o}^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} + \beta_{n,o} \frac{C_{n,1}^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma}$$
s.t.
$$P_{n,o}C_{n,o} + B_{n,o} + \mathcal{E}_{n,o}F_{n,o} \leq \sum_{i} (W_{ni,o}L_{ni,o} + R_{ni,o}K_{ni,o}),$$

$$P_{n,1}C_{n,1} \leq \mathcal{E}_{n,1} \sum_{i} (W_{ni,1}L_{ni,1} + R_{ni,1}K_{ni,1}) + (1+i_{n,o})B_{n,o} + \mathcal{E}_{n,1}(1+i_{US,o})F_{n,o},$$

- \triangleright B_n : domestic bond denominated in local currency. Traded domestically.
- $ightharpoonup F_n$: world bond denominated in US dollars. Internationally traded.
- \triangleright \mathcal{E}_n : exchange rate between country n and the US (lcu per dollar)
- \triangleright i_n : domestic interest rate
- $ightharpoonup i_{US}$: US interest rate

Households in Country "n": Intertemporal Optimality

Optimality conditions

$$\phi_{n,o} \frac{C_{n,o}^{-\sigma}}{P_{n,o}} = \frac{C_{n,1}^{-\sigma} (1 + i_{n,o})}{P_{n,1}}$$
(Euler Equation)
$$(1 + i_{n,o}) = (1 + i_{US,o}) \frac{\mathcal{E}_{n,1}}{\mathcal{E}_{n,o}}$$
(Interest Parity Condition)

- ► X: steady-state value. o present where shocks happen, 1 future.
- $ightharpoonup \hat{X}_t = X_t/X$: deviation from steady-state.
- From now on, assume future variables are at steady state and $\sigma = 1$.

Monetary policy and exchange rates

World expenditure (in US dollars) is endogenous

$$\widehat{E}_{W,o}^{\$} = \frac{1}{(1+i_{US,o})} \sum_{n} \alpha_{n} \widehat{\phi}_{n,o}; \qquad \alpha_{n} = \left(P_{n} C_{n} / \mathcal{E}_{n}\right) / \sum_{m} P_{m} C_{m} / \mathcal{E}_{m}$$

Bilateral exchange rates depend only on stance of domestic monetary policies

$$\frac{\mathcal{E}_{n,o}}{\bar{\mathcal{E}}_n} = \frac{(1+i_{US,o})}{(1+i_{n,o})}$$

 \blacktriangleright We use data on E_n and $1 + i_{n,0}$ to back out discount factor changes

$$\hat{\phi}_{n,o} = \widehat{E}_{n,o}(1+i_{n,o})$$

Disaggregated Consumption

► Consumption bundle consists of country-specific sectoral consumption bundles:

$$C_n = \prod_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} C_{n,j}^{\Omega_{n,j}^{\mathcal{C}}}, \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \Omega_{n,j}^{\mathcal{C}} = 1$$

► Country-specific sectoral consumption bundles: Armington aggregator

$$C_{n,j} = \left[\sum_{m=1}^{C} (\Omega_{n,mj}^{CB})^{\frac{1}{\xi^{c}}} C_{n,mj}^{\frac{\xi^{c}-1}{\xi^{c}}}\right]^{\frac{\xi^{c}}{\xi^{c}-1}}, \quad \sum_{m=1}^{N} \Omega_{n,mj}^{CB} = 1$$

Disaggregated Production

Sectors produce combining factors (value-added) and intermediate bundle.

$$\begin{split} \min_{\{\forall \mathsf{A}_{ni},\mathsf{M}_{ni}\}} \mathsf{P}_{ni}^{\mathsf{VA}} \forall \mathsf{A}_{ni} + \mathsf{P}_{ni}^{\mathsf{M}} \mathsf{Z}_{ni} \\ \text{s.t.} \\ \mathsf{Y}_{ni} = \mathsf{A}_{ni} \left[(\Omega_{ni,\mathsf{VA}}^{\mathsf{Y}})^{\frac{1}{\theta}} \mathsf{VA}_{ni}^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}} + (\Omega_{ni,\mathsf{Z}}^{\mathsf{Y}})^{\frac{1}{\theta}} \mathsf{Z}_{ni}^{\frac{\theta-1}{\theta}} \right]^{\frac{\theta}{\theta-1}} \quad \text{with} \quad \Omega_{ni,\mathsf{VA}}^{\mathsf{Y}} + \Omega_{ni,\mathsf{Z}}^{\mathsf{Y}} = \mathbf{1} \end{split}$$

▶ Value-added bundle is composed of Labor and Capital:

$$\mathsf{VA}_{ni} = \left[(\Omega^{\mathsf{VA}}_{ni,L})^{\frac{1}{\eta}} (L_{ni})^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} + (\Omega^{\mathsf{VA}}_{ni,K})^{\frac{1}{\eta}} (\bar{K}_{ni})^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} \right]^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}} \quad \text{with} \quad \Omega^{\mathsf{VA}}_{ni,L} + \Omega^{\mathsf{VA}}_{ni,K} = 1$$

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Intermediate goods' aggregation

▶ Intermediate bundle consists of country specific sectoral bundles:

$$Z_{ni} = \left[\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} (\Omega_{ni,j}^{\mathsf{Z}})^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} X_{ni,j}^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \Omega_{ni,j}^{\mathsf{Z}} = 1$$

Country-specific sectoral bundles: Armington aggregator

$$X_{n,j} = \left[\sum_{m=1}^{\mathcal{N}} (\Omega_{n,mj}^{X})^{\frac{1}{\xi_{j}^{s}}} X_{n,mj}^{\frac{\xi_{j}^{s}-1}{\xi_{j}^{s}}}\right]^{\frac{\xi_{j}^{s}}{\xi_{j}^{s}-1}} \quad \text{with} \quad \sum_{m=1}^{\mathcal{N}} \Omega_{n,mj}^{X} = 1$$

► Goods market clearing (as consumption or intermediate goods)

$$Y_{ni} = \sum_{m=1}^{N} (X_{m,ni} + C_{m,ni})$$
 for each country-sector n, i

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Segmented labor markets:

$$W_{ni}^{\$} \ge \frac{\overline{W}_{ni}}{\mathcal{E}_n}, \quad \overline{L}_{ni} \ge L_{ni}, \qquad (\overline{L}_{ni} - L_{ni}) \left(W_{ni}^{\$} - \frac{\overline{W}_{ni}}{\mathcal{E}_n}\right) = 0 \quad \text{for each country-sector } n, i$$

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- ▶ Segmented capital markets: *no* price rigidities $\rightarrow K_{ni} = \bar{K}_{ni}$
- Asset Markets clear: $\sum_{n} F_{n,t} = 0$, $B_{n,t} = 0$
 - * $F_{n,t}$, allows for endogenous current account/trade balance movements



Calibration

Parameters

- ► Calibrate the model with ICIO 2018 Table from OECD
 - * Final use shares
 - * Input shares
 - * Value added shares
 - * Expenditure shares
 - * Allow for initial trade imbalances

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 - * Final use shares
 - * Input shares
 - * Value added shares
 - * Expenditure shares
 - * Allow for initial trade imbalances
- Elasticities: p-complementarities
 - * Between value added and intermediate inputs: $\theta = 0.6$ (Atalay, 2017; Carvalho et. al, 2021)
 - * Between labor and capital: $\eta = 0.6$
 - * Among intermediates: $\varepsilon = 0.2$
 - * Cross-country Armington: $\xi^{s} = \xi^{c} = 0.6$
 - * more configurations in the paper

(Atalay, 2017; Boehm, Flaaen, and Pandalai-Nayar, 2019)

(Raval, 2019; Oberfield and Raval, 2021)

(Boehm, Levchenko and Pandalai-Nayar (2023)

- ► Time period: 2019Q1-2022Q2.
- ► Shocks: all in deviations from 2018Q4 value

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 - 2. Country-level aggregate demand shocks, $\hat{\phi}_{n,o}$
 - + use nominal local currency expenditure changes and interest rates

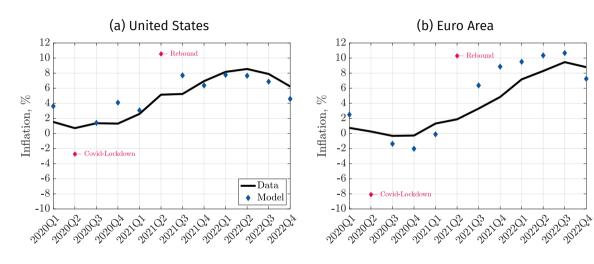
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 - 4. Energy shocks: IMF commodity price index
 - + maps to productivity shock in Russian energy sector in 2022 $\hat{A}_{(Russia, Energy), o}$ (lower bound)

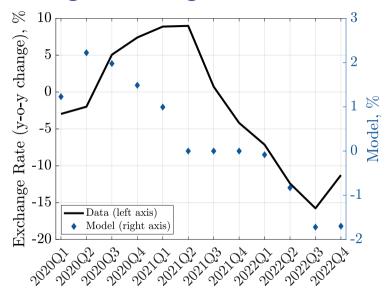
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 - 5. Set country-sector productivity changes to zero, $\hat{A}_{ni,o} = 1$

Aggregate results

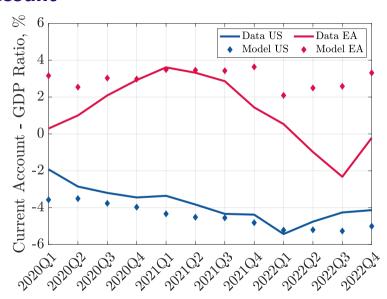
Model with all shocks: headline inflation



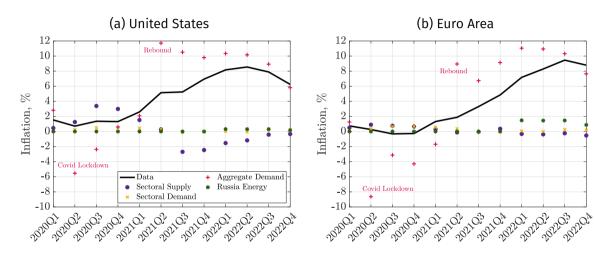
Euro-USD exchange rate changes



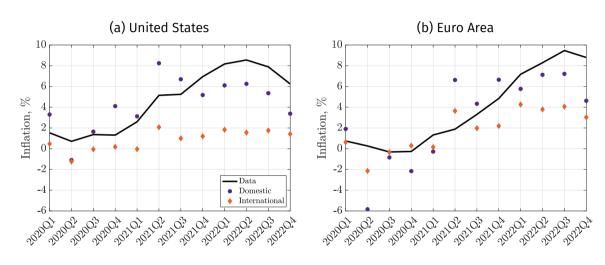
Current account



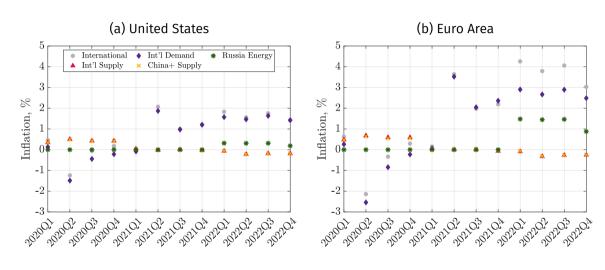
Counterfactuals with single shock



Domestic and international shocks

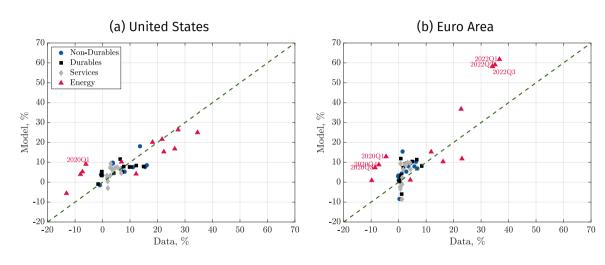


Transmission of international shocks





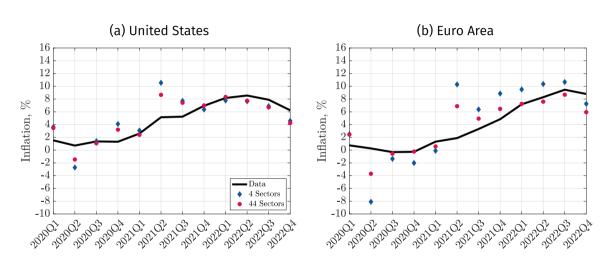
Sectoral prices



us anything?

Does more disaggregation give

YES!



Conclusion

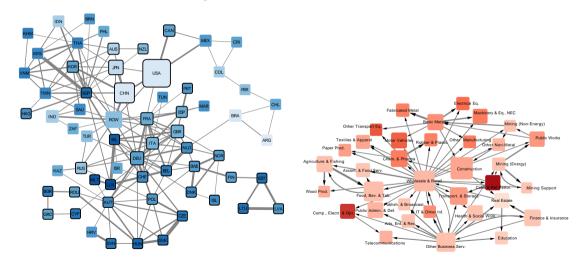
Conclusion

- We develop a model with IO linkages, nominal rigidities and trade across countries
- We use it to study the recent inflationary episode 2020–2022
- Model can match aggregate and sectoral outcomes
- ightharpoonup Provided a set of shocks ightharpoonup useful for policy makers
- ► Takeaway: more about supply-demand imbalances than supply/demand alone.
- Much more work to do!

Thank you!

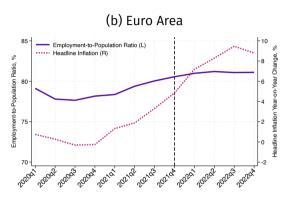
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Importance of Country-Sector Dimension: Production and Trade Network (65 by 44)



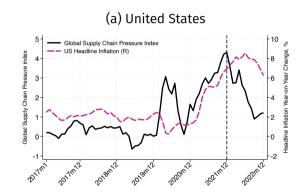
Simultaneous slack and inflation

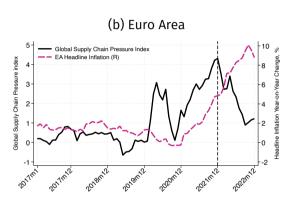




Source: FRED

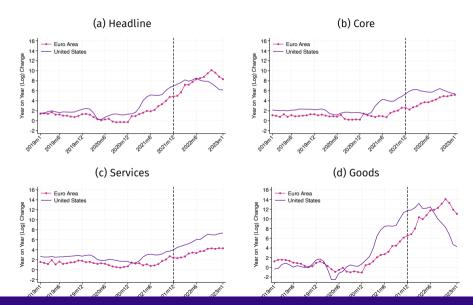
Simultaneous increase in inflation and supply chain pressures





Source: FRBNY, FRED.

Inflation in goods picked up earlier than inflation in services



Calculating Inflation – Auxiliary Matrices

► Industry shares in consumption baskets:

$$\Omega^{CS} \equiv \Omega^{C} \Omega^{CB}$$
.

► Industry to industry flows:

$$\Omega^{SS} \equiv \Omega^Y \Omega^Z \Omega^X.$$

▶ All direct and indirect flows from industry to industry (Leontief Inverse):

$$\Psi = \left[I - \Omega^{SS}\right]^{-1}$$

Factor shares (for all factors, including labor and capital):

$$\Omega^{\mathsf{F}} \equiv \Omega^{\mathsf{Y}} \Omega^{\mathsf{VA}}.$$

1. Prices in dollars $(d \log P^{\$})$:

$$d \log P^{\$} = -\Psi d \log A + \Psi \Omega^{F} d \log W^{\$}$$

2. Country's *n* CPI changes

$$d \log CPI_n = (\Omega_n^{CS})^T d \log P^{LC,n} = d \log \mathcal{E}_n + (\Omega_n^{CS})^T d \log P^{\$}$$

3. Relate factor price f to its factor share at the world level $\Lambda_f = W_f^{\$} L_f / E_W^{\$}$

$$\mathrm{d}\log W_f^\$ = \mathrm{d}\log E_W^\$ + \mathrm{d}\log \Lambda_f - \mathrm{d}\log L_f$$

► CPI changes (where $(\lambda^n)^T = (\Omega_n^{CS})^T \Psi$ and $(\Lambda^n)^T = (\lambda^n)^T \Omega^F$)

$$d \log \mathsf{CPI}_n = \underbrace{d \log E_W^\$}_{\mathsf{World Expenditure}} + \underbrace{d \log \mathcal{E}_n}_{\mathsf{Exchange Rate}} - \underbrace{(\lambda^n)^T d \log A}_{\mathsf{Productivity Shocks}}$$
$$- \underbrace{(\Lambda^n)^T d \log L}_{\mathsf{Factor Changes}} + \underbrace{(\Lambda^n)^T d \log \Lambda}_{\mathsf{D-S Imbalance}}$$

World expenditure: US interest rate and countries intertemporal shifters.

► CPI changes (where $(\lambda^n)^T = (\Omega_n^{CS})^T \Psi$ and $(\Lambda^n)^T = (\lambda^n)^T \Omega^F$)

$$d \log \mathsf{CPI}_n = \underbrace{d \log \mathcal{E}_W^{\$}}_{\mathsf{World Expenditure}} + \underbrace{d \log \mathcal{E}_n}_{\mathsf{Exchange Rate}} - \underbrace{(\lambda^n)^T d \log A}_{\mathsf{Productivity Shocks}}$$
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Exchange rate term: country interest rate relative to the US.

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$$\frac{\mathrm{d} \log \mathsf{CPI}_n = \underbrace{\mathrm{d} \log E_W^\$}_{\mathsf{World Expenditure}} + \underbrace{\mathrm{d} \log \mathcal{E}_n}_{\mathsf{Exchange Rate}} - \underbrace{(\lambda^n)^T \mathrm{d} \log A}_{\mathsf{Productivity Shocks}} }_{\mathsf{Productivity Shocks}}$$

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▶ *Productivity shocks*: Productivity changes weighted by the importance of sector in consumption basket of country *n*.

► CPI changes (where $(\lambda^n)^T = (\Omega_n^{CS})^T \Psi$ and $(\Lambda^n)^T = (\lambda^n)^T \Omega^F$)

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- ► Factor quantity changes: Labor changes weighted by the importance of factor in providing for the consumption basket of country *n*.
 - * An endogenous object due to downward-wage rigidity.

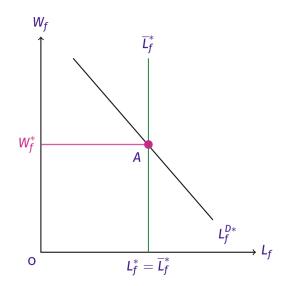
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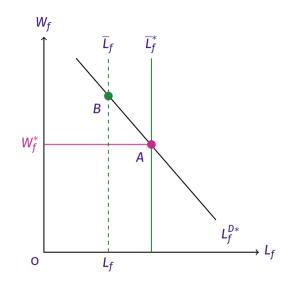
$$- \underbrace{(\Lambda^n)^T \mathrm{d} \log L}_{\mathsf{Factor Changes}} + \underbrace{(\Lambda^n)^T \mathrm{d} \log \Lambda}_{\mathsf{D-S Imbalance}}$$

- Changes in global factor shares and local factor shares.
 - * Endogenous object: integrates changes in demand and supply factors.
 - * Depends on global IO structure and substitution patterns.

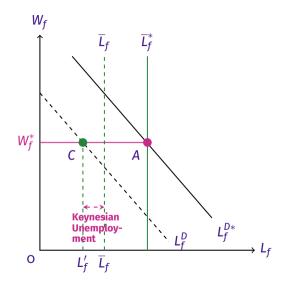
▶ \overline{L}_f : Potential level for factor f. Decrease due to sick workers, shutdowns, etc.



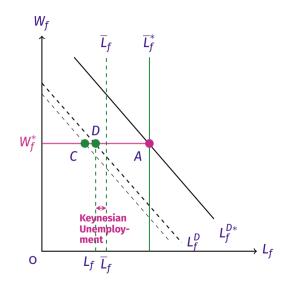
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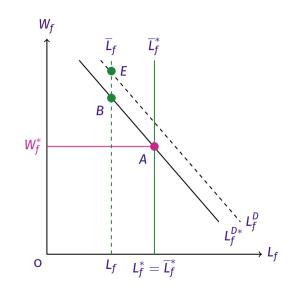
- ▶ \overline{L}_f : Potential level for factor f. Decrease due to sick workers, shutdowns, etc.
- L_f: Equilibrium employment level for factor f
 - * Demand effects+downward wage rigidity ⇒ workers employed might be lower than potential
- ▶ Difference between \overline{L}_f and L_f : Keynesian unemployment



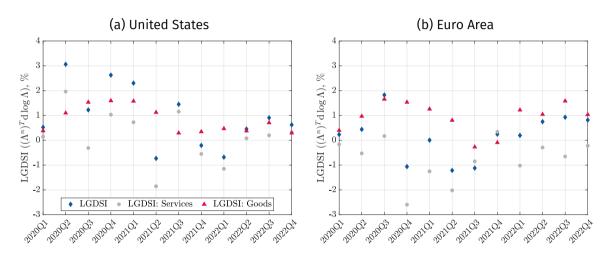
- ▶ \overline{L}_f : Potential level for factor f. Decrease due to sick workers, shutdowns, etc.
- L_f: Equilibrium employment level for factor f
 - * Demand effects+downward wage rigidity ⇒ workers employed might be lower than potential
- ▶ Difference between \overline{L}_f and L_f : Keynesian unemployment
- ► An increase in aggregate demand can decrease Keynesian unemployment.



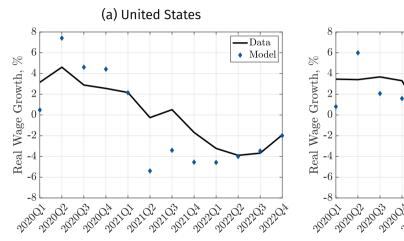
- ▶ \overline{L}_f : Potential level for factor f. Decrease due to sick workers, shutdowns, etc.
- L_f: Equilibrium employment level for factor f
 - * Demand effects+downward wage rigidity ⇒ workers employed might be lower than potential
- ▶ Difference between \overline{L}_f and L_f : Keynesian unemployment
- ► An increase in aggregate demand can decrease Keynesian unemployment.
- During recovery: unemployment gaps are closed (heterogeneous across sectors, may not be back to 2019 but still

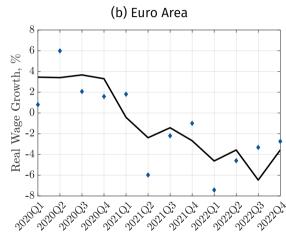


Local-Global Demand-Supply Imbalance



Aggregate real wages





Real wages: cross-section

