

# Aggregate Demand and Sovereign Debt Crises

---

Francisco Roldán

New York University

February 2019

# MOTIVATION

- Sovereign debt crises associated with **deep** recessions [▶ More](#)

Output and Consumption for Spain



- Conventional view: low output  $\implies$  high spreads

[▶ Detrended data](#)

[▶ Trade balance](#)

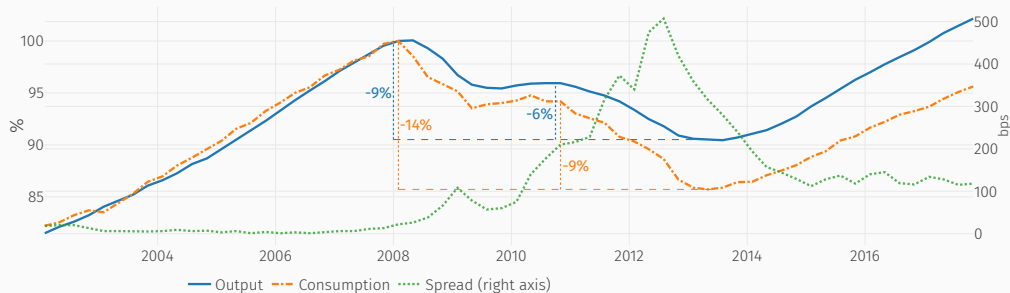
[▶ Low demand?](#)

[▶ Nondurable consumption](#)

# MOTIVATION

- Sovereign debt crises associated with **deep** recessions [▶ More](#)

Output and Consumption for Spain



- Conventional view: low output  $\implies$  high spreads

[▶ Detrended data](#)

[▶ Trade balance](#)

[▶ Low demand?](#)

[▶ Nondurable consumption](#)

# MOTIVATION

- Spain: large output and consumption drops
  - $|\Delta C| > |\Delta Y| \implies$  Saving rate  $\uparrow$  in the crisis
- IVs on Eurozone country-level data show
  1. High spreads **cause** output to fall
  2. High spreads cause consumption to fall **more** than output
- Large literature about costs of sovereign default – silent about costs of default **risk**
  - Agg demand irrelevant with Hand-to-mouth households / Law of One Price
  - Saving rate in the crisis?
  - Consequences?
  - Household sector manages substantial wealth (avg 96% of GDP) [▶ Spanish data](#)
  - Substantial fraction of government debt held by residents [▶ Spanish data](#)

# MOTIVATION

- Spain: large output and consumption drops
  - $|\Delta C| > |\Delta Y| \implies$  Saving rate  $\uparrow$  in the crisis
- IVs on Eurozone country-level data show
  1. High spreads **cause** output to fall
  2. High spreads cause consumption to fall **more** than output
- Large literature about costs of sovereign default – silent about costs of default *risk*
  - Agg demand irrelevant with Hand-to-mouth households / Law of One Price
  - Saving rate in the crisis?
  - Consequences?
  - Household sector manages substantial wealth (avg 96% of GDP) [▶ Spanish data](#)
  - Substantial fraction of government debt held by residents [▶ Spanish data](#)

# MOTIVATION

- Spain: large output and consumption drops
  - $|\Delta C| > |\Delta Y| \implies$  Saving rate  $\uparrow$  in the crisis
- IVs on Eurozone country-level data show
  1. High spreads **cause** output to fall
  2. High spreads cause consumption to fall **more** than output
- Large literature about costs of sovereign default – silent about costs of default **risk**
  - Agg demand irrelevant with Hand-to-mouth households / Law of One Price
  - Saving rate in the crisis?
  - Consequences?
- Household sector manages substantial wealth (avg 96% of GDP) [▶ Spanish data](#)
- Substantial fraction of government debt held by residents [▶ Spanish data](#)

# MOTIVATION

- Spain: large output and consumption drops
  - $|\Delta C| > |\Delta Y| \implies$  Saving rate  $\uparrow$  in the crisis
- IVs on Eurozone country-level data show
  1. High spreads **cause** output to fall
  2. High spreads cause consumption to fall **more** than output
- Large literature about costs of sovereign default – silent about costs of default **risk**
  - Agg demand irrelevant with Hand-to-mouth households / Law of One Price
  - Saving rate in the crisis?
  - Consequences?
  - Household sector manages substantial wealth (avg 96% of GDP) ▶ Spanish data
  - Substantial fraction of government debt held by residents ▶ Spanish data

- I propose a model of sovereign debt **crises**
  - Prominent role for household consumption/savings decision
    - Heterogeneous domestic savers can **choose** to be exposed to government debt
  - Endogenous wealth distribution that interacts with gov't default choice
- Model
  - Defaults create
    - Aggregate income losses ← TFP costs of default
    - Redistributive effects ← Domestic debt holdings
  - Economy looks **riskier** when the default probability increases
    - Default risk **interacts** with precautionary behavior



- I propose a model of sovereign debt **crises**
  - Prominent role for household consumption/savings decision
    - Heterogeneous domestic savers can **choose** to be exposed to government debt
  - Endogenous wealth distribution that interacts with gov't default choice
- Model
  - Defaults create
    - Aggregate income losses ← TFP costs of default
    - Redistributive effects ← Domestic debt holdings
  - Economy looks **riskier** when the default probability increases
    - Default risk **interacts** with precautionary behavior

- I propose a model of sovereign debt **crises**
  - Prominent role for household consumption/savings decision
    - Heterogeneous domestic savers can **choose** to be exposed to government debt
  - Endogenous wealth distribution that interacts with gov't default choice

## How is sovereign risk costly?

**Feedback** loop between spreads and output

$\uparrow \text{Spreads} \implies \downarrow \text{Demand} \implies \downarrow \text{Output}$

- Model
  - Defaults create
    - Aggregate income losses  $\longleftarrow$  TFP costs of default
    - Redistributive effects  $\longleftarrow$  Domestic debt holdings
  - Economy looks **riskier** when the default probability increases
    - Default risk **interacts** with precautionary behavior

## MAIN FINDINGS

---

- Sovereign risk makes the response of output to shocks
  - Nonlinear
  - State-dependent
- Feedback effect explains significant portion of the crisis
  - 20% of output contraction attributable to default
- Large welfare effects
  - Volatility of output and consumption 30% and 120% higher
  - Unemployment twice as large
  - Households would give up 10% of permanent consumption to avoid defaults
- New light on Aguiar-Gopinath facts [▶ More](#)
  - Amplification of negative shocks, demand-driven recessions
  - In downturns volatility of  $C >$  volatility of  $Y$

- **Sovereign risk affecting the supply side through finance**

Neumeyer and Perri (2005), Bocola (2016), Arellano, Bai, and Mihalache (2018), Balke (2017)

- **Domestic debt and default incentives**

Gennaioli, Martin, and Rossi (2014), Mengus (2014), Mallucci (2015), Pérez (2016), D'Erasmus and Mendoza (2016), Ferriere (2016)

- **Sovereign risk and fiscal austerity**

Cuadra, Sánchez, and Sapriza (2010), Romei (2015), Bianchi, Ottonello, and Presno (2016), Anzoategui (2017), Philippon and Roldán (2018)

- **Shocks affecting aggregate demand through redistribution**

Auclert (2017), Eggertsson and Krugman (2012), Korinek and Simsek (2016), ...

- Evidence
- Description of Model
- Model Results
- Simulations
- Crises

# EVIDENCE

---

## MAIN SPECIFICATION

- Regress outcome variable  $Q_{jt}$  on country  $j$ 's spread

$$Q_{jt} = \beta \Delta Spread_{jt} + \gamma X_{jt} + \delta_t + \mu_j + \epsilon_{jt}$$

where  $Q_{jt} = \log Y_{jt}, \log C_{jt}$

- IV strategy (based on Martin and Philippon, 2017)

$$\Delta Spread_{jt} = \underbrace{\phi B_{jo} + \delta_t}_{Z_{jt}} + \eta_{jt}$$

- Data for 11 European countries between 2010Q1 – 2013Q1

Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain

	<i>Dependent variable:</i>			
	$\log Y_{jt}$ (1)	$\log C_{jt}$ (2)	$\log Y_{jt}$ (3)	$\log C_{jt}$ (4)
$\Delta Spread_{jt}$	-0.008*** (0.001)	-0.013*** (0.001)		
$\Delta Spread_{jt}$ (IV)			-0.006** (0.002)	-0.010*** (0.003)
Country + Time FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Observations	143	143	143	143
Adj. $R^2$	0.772	0.784	0.765	0.776

Standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .



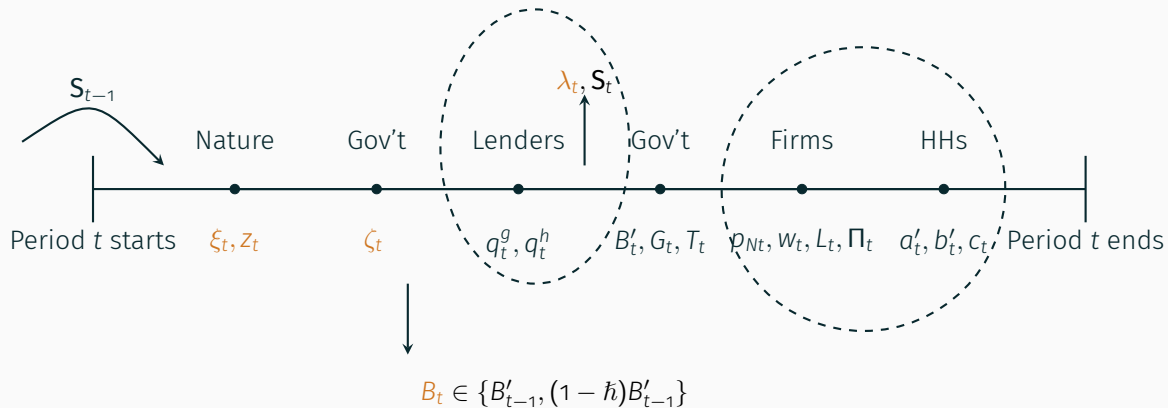
## DESCRIPTION OF MODEL

---

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION

---

- Small open economy with
  - Uninsurable idiosyncratic income risk + Incomplete markets
  - Default risk
  - Nominal rigidities
- Actors:
  - A government
    - Issues long-term debt, purchases goods, decides **repayment**
  - Households
    - Consume, work, save in the gov't **bond** + risk-free **debt**
    - Differ in 'cash' holdings, idiosyncratic income shock
  - Firms
    - Produce the goods with labor, subject to **wage rigidities**
  - Foreigners
    - Lend to the government and to the private sector
    - Price all assets



Decisions within a period  
Dashed ellipses encircle simultaneous decisions

At each  $t$ , the government

- Chooses **repayment**  $h_t \in \{1, 1 - \bar{h}\}$
- Follows fiscal rules for new **issuances**  $B'(S_t)$  and spending  $G(S_t)$ 
  - Can depend on full state:  $(B_t, \lambda_t, \xi_t, \zeta_t, Z_t)$
- Must satisfy its budget constraint

► Fiscal rules

$$\underbrace{q_t^g}_{\text{debt price}} \underbrace{(B'_t - (1 - \rho)B_t)}_{\text{new debt issued}} + \underbrace{T_t}_{\text{lump-sum}} + \underbrace{\tau W_t L_t}_{\text{payroll tax}} = \underbrace{G_t}_{\text{spending}} + \underbrace{\kappa B_t}_{\text{coupon}}$$

→  $T_t$  summarizes a default / austerity tradeoff

Given a government policy  $h(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z'), B'(\mathbf{S}), T(\mathbf{S}, q^g)$ , in a **comp eq'm**

- Risk-neutral foreigners ► General Formulation
- Price all assets

$$q^h(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{1 + r^*}$$

$$q^g(\mathbf{S}) = \frac{1}{1 + r^*} \mathbb{E} \left[ \underbrace{\mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}(1 - \xi')\kappa}_{\text{coupon}} + \underbrace{(1 - \rho)}_{\text{depreciation}} \underbrace{(1 - \hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1 \cap \zeta' \neq 1)})}_{\text{potential haircut}} \underbrace{q^g(\mathbf{S}')}_{\text{resale price}} \mid \mathbf{S} \right]$$

Given a government policy  $h(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z'), B'(\mathbf{S}), T(\mathbf{S}, q^g)$ , in a **comp eq'm**

- Risk-neutral foreigners ► General Formulation
  - Price all assets

$$q^g(\mathbf{S}) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{1+r^*}}_{q^h(\mathbf{S})} \mathbb{E} \left[ \underbrace{\mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}(1-\xi')\kappa}_{\text{coupon}} + \underbrace{(1-\rho)}_{\text{depreciation}} \underbrace{(1-h\mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1\cap\zeta'\neq 1)})}_{\text{potential haircut}} \underbrace{q^g(\mathbf{S}')}_{\text{resale price}} \mid \mathbf{S} \right]$$

- Firms
  - Traded and nontraded goods, CES aggregator, wage rigidities

$$Y_{Nt} = L_{Nt}^{\alpha_N} (1 - \Delta \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)}) \quad Y_{Tt} = z_t L_{Tt}^{\alpha_T} (1 - \Delta \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)}) \quad w_t \geq \bar{w}$$

Given a government policy  $h(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z')$ ,  $B'(\mathbf{S})$ ,  $T(\mathbf{S}, q^g)$ , in a **comp eq'm**

- Risk-neutral foreigners ► General Formulation
  - Price all assets

$$q^g(\mathbf{S}) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{1+r^*}}_{q^h(\mathbf{S})} \mathbb{E} \left[ \underbrace{\mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}(1-\xi')\kappa}_{\text{coupon}} + \underbrace{(1-\rho)}_{\text{depreciation}} \underbrace{(1-\hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1 \cap \zeta' \neq 1)})}_{\text{potential haircut}} \underbrace{q^g(\mathbf{S}')}_{\text{resale price}} \mid \mathbf{S} \right]$$

- Firms
  - Traded and nontraded goods, CES aggregator, wage rigidities

$$Y_{Nt} = L_{Nt}^{\alpha_N} (1 - \Delta \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)}) \quad Y_{Tt} = z_t L_{Tt}^{\alpha_T} (1 - \Delta \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)}) \quad w_t \geq \bar{w}$$

- Households
  - Access to both assets with borrowing limits, inelastic labor supply
- **Approximation:**  $\lambda_t = \log \mathcal{N}(\mu_t, \Sigma_t)$ . So  $\mathbf{S} = (B, \mu, \sigma, \xi, \zeta, z)$

- Given govt's policies, aggregates, and evolution of the state

$$v(\omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S})^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} = \max_{c, a', b'} (1 - \beta) c^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} + \beta \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( v(\underbrace{a' + R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} b'}_{=\omega'}, \epsilon', \mathbf{S}') \right)^{1-\gamma} \middle| \omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S} \right]^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi(1-\gamma)}}$$

$$\text{subject to } p_c(\mathbf{S})c + q^h(\mathbf{S})a' + q^g(\mathbf{S})b' = \omega + \ell(\mathbf{S})\epsilon - T(\mathbf{S})$$

$$\ell(\mathbf{S}) = w(\mathbf{S})L(\mathbf{S})(1 - \tau) + \Pi(\mathbf{S})$$

$$R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} = \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}\kappa + (1 - \rho) (1 - \hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1)(\zeta' \neq 1)}) q^g(\mathbf{S}')$$

$$a' \geq \bar{a}; \quad b' \geq 0$$

$$\mathbf{S}' = \Psi(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z', h')$$

$$\text{Exog LoMs for } (\epsilon, \xi, z); \text{ prob of } h' \text{ given } (\mathbf{S}, \xi', z')$$



- Given govt's policies, aggregates, and evolution of the state

$$v(\omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S})^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} = \max_{c, a', b'} (1 - \beta) c^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} + \beta \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( v(\underbrace{a' + R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} b'}_{=\omega'}, \epsilon', \mathbf{S}') \right)^{1-\gamma} \middle| \omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S} \right]^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi(1-\gamma)}}$$

$$\text{subject to } p_c(\mathbf{S})c + q^h(\mathbf{S})a' + q^g(\mathbf{S})b' = \omega + \ell(\mathbf{S})\epsilon - T(\mathbf{S})$$

$$R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} = \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}\kappa + (1 - \rho) (1 - \hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1)(\zeta' \neq 1)}) q^g(\mathbf{S}')$$

- Skipping steps: in crisis times
  - $\pi \uparrow \implies \mathbb{E}[w'L'] = \pi \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' \neq 1] + (1 - \pi) \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' = 1] \downarrow \leftarrow$  Aggregate effect
  - $q^g \downarrow \implies \omega \downarrow$  for all  $\leftarrow$  Distributional effect
  - $\text{cov}(R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'}, \text{sdf}' | \mathbf{S}) \downarrow \leftarrow$  'Savings technology' effect

- Given govt's policies, aggregates, and evolution of the state

$$v(\omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S})^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} = \max_{c, a', b'} (1 - \beta) c^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} + \beta \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( v(\underbrace{a' + R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} b'}_{=\omega'}, \epsilon', \mathbf{S}') \right)^{1-\gamma} \middle| \omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S} \right]^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi(1-\gamma)}}$$

$$\text{subject to } p_c(\mathbf{S})c + q^h(\mathbf{S})a' + q^g(\mathbf{S})b' = \omega + \ell(\mathbf{S})\epsilon - T(\mathbf{S})$$

$$R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} = \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}\kappa + (1 - \rho) (1 - \hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1)(\zeta' \neq 1)}) q^g(\mathbf{S}')$$

- Skipping steps: in crisis times
  - $\pi \uparrow \implies \mathbb{E}[w'L'] = \pi \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' \neq 1] + (1 - \pi) \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' = 1] \downarrow \leftarrow$  Aggregate effect
  - $q^g \downarrow \implies \omega \downarrow$  for all  $\leftarrow$  Distributional effect
  - $\text{cov}(R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'}, \text{sdf}' | \mathbf{S}) \downarrow \leftarrow$  'Savings technology' effect

- Given govt's policies, aggregates, and evolution of the state

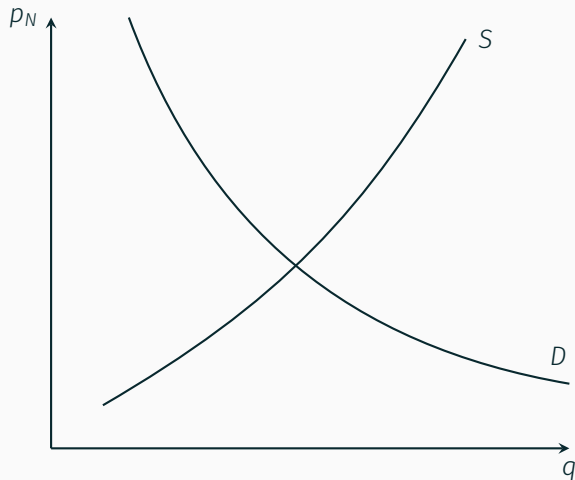
$$v(\omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S})^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} = \max_{c, a', b'} (1 - \beta) c^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi}} + \beta \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( v(\underbrace{a' + R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} b'}_{=\omega'}, \epsilon', \mathbf{S}') \right)^{1-\gamma} \middle| \omega, \epsilon, \mathbf{S} \right]^{\frac{\psi-1}{\psi(1-\gamma)}}$$

$$\text{subject to } p_c(\mathbf{S})c + q^h(\mathbf{S})a' + q^g(\mathbf{S})b' = \omega + \ell(\mathbf{S})\epsilon - T(\mathbf{S})$$

$$R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'} = \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta'=1)}\kappa + (1 - \rho) (1 - \hbar \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta=1)(\zeta' \neq 1)}) q^g(\mathbf{S}')$$

- Skipping steps: in crisis times
  - $\pi \uparrow \implies \mathbb{E}[w'L'] = \pi \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' \neq 1] + (1 - \pi) \mathbb{E}[w'L'|\zeta' = 1] \downarrow \leftarrow$  Aggregate effect
  - $q^g \downarrow \implies \omega \downarrow$  for all  $\leftarrow$  Distributional effect
  - $\text{cov}(R_{\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{S}'}, \text{sdf}' \mid \mathbf{S}) \downarrow \leftarrow$  'Savings technology' effect

# AGGREGATE DEMAND

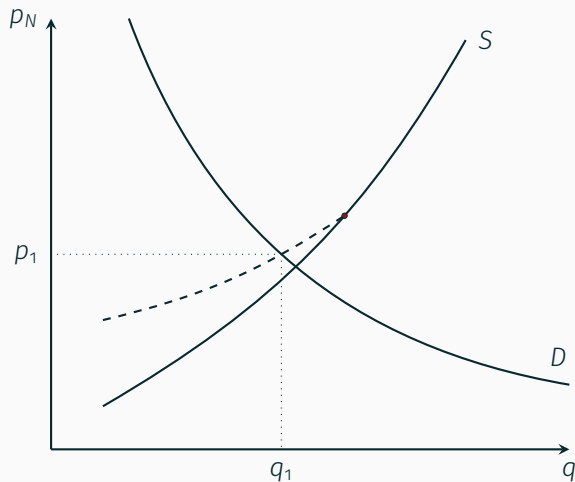


$$Y_N^d = C\varpi \left( \frac{p_N}{p_C} \right)^{-\eta} + \frac{\vartheta_N}{p_N} G$$

$$Y_N^s = L_N^{\alpha_N} (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)} \Delta)$$

$$L_N^d = \left( \alpha_N \frac{p_N}{w} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha_N}}$$

# AGGREGATE DEMAND

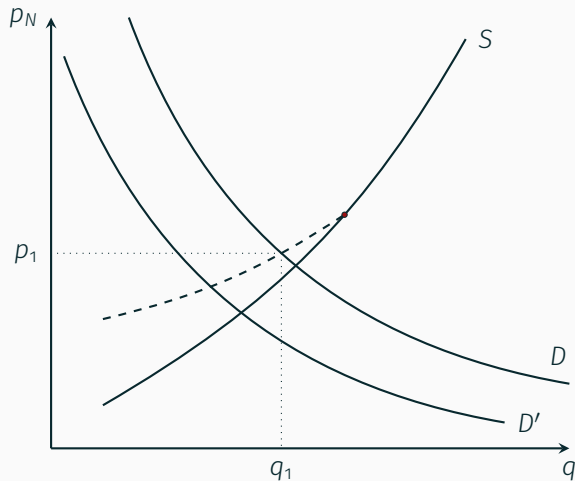


$$Y_N^d = C\varpi \left( \frac{p_N}{p_C} \right)^{-\eta} + \frac{\vartheta_N}{p_N} G$$

$$Y_N^s = L_N^{\alpha_N} (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)} \Delta)$$

$$L_N^d = \left( \alpha_N \frac{p_N}{\max\{w, \bar{w}\}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha_N}}$$

# AGGREGATE DEMAND



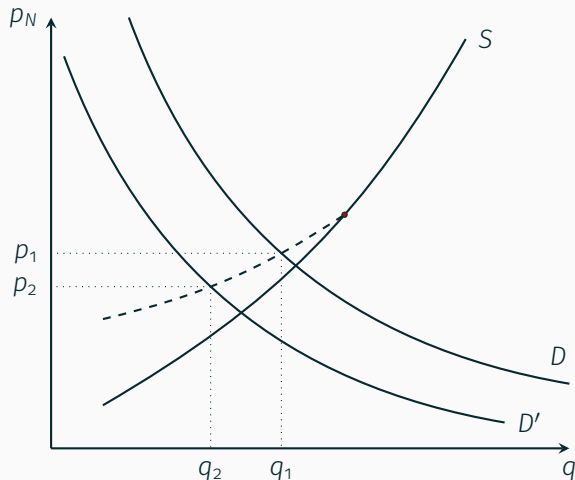
$$Y_N^d = C\varpi \left( \frac{p_N}{p_C} \right)^{-\eta} + \frac{\vartheta_N}{p_N} G$$

$$Y_N^s = L_N^{\alpha_N} (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)} \Delta)$$

$$L_N^d = \left( \alpha_N \frac{p_N}{\max\{w, \bar{w}\}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha_N}}$$

$$\bullet C \downarrow \implies p_N \downarrow \implies w \downarrow$$

# AGGREGATE DEMAND



$$Y_N^d = C\varpi \left( \frac{p_N}{p_C} \right)^{-\eta} + \frac{\vartheta_N}{p_N} G$$

$$Y_N^s = L_N^{\alpha_N} (1 - \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta \neq 1)} \Delta)$$

$$L_N^d = \left( \alpha_N \frac{p_N}{\max\{w, \bar{w}\}} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha_N}}$$

- $C \downarrow \implies p_N \downarrow \implies w \downarrow$
- Wage rigidity creates price stickiness

- $B'_t$  and  $G_t$  are given functions of  $S_t$
- Default / Repayment is an optimal **choice**
  - Utilitarian objective

$$\mathcal{W}(S) = \int v(s, S) d\lambda_S(s)$$

- In period  $t$ , observe  $S_{t-1}$  and  $(\xi_t, z_t)$
- Gov't understands  $S_t = \Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t)$  [▶ Distribution](#)
- Default iff

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t \neq 1))}_{v \text{ under def}} - \underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t = 1))}_{v \text{ under rep}} \geq \sigma_g \xi_t^{\text{def}}$$

where  $\xi_t^{\text{def}} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$



- $B'_t$  and  $G_t$  are given functions of  $S_t$
- Default / Repayment is an optimal **choice**
  - Utilitarian objective

$$\mathcal{W}(S) = \int v(s, S) d\lambda_S(s)$$

- **But  $B_t, \zeta_t$  are part of  $S_t$ !**
- Gov't understands  $S_t = \Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, Z_t, \zeta_t)$  ► Distribution
- Default iff

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, Z_t, \zeta_t \neq 1))}_{v \text{ under def}} - \underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, Z_t, \zeta_t = 1))}_{v \text{ under rep}} \geq \sigma_g \xi_t^{\text{def}}$$

where  $\xi_t^{\text{def}} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

- $B'_t$  and  $G_t$  are given functions of  $S_t$
- Default / Repayment is an optimal **choice**
  - Utilitarian objective

$$\mathcal{W}(S) = \int v(s, S) d\lambda_S(s)$$

- In period  $t$ , observe  $S_{t-1}$  and  $(\xi_t, z_t)$
- Gov't understands  $S_t = \Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t)$  [▶ Distribution](#)
- Default iff

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t \neq 1))}_{v \text{ under def}} - \underbrace{\mathcal{W}(\Psi(S_{t-1}, \xi_t, z_t, \zeta_t = 1))}_{v \text{ under rep}} \geq \sigma_g \xi_t^{\text{def}}$$

where  $\xi_t^{\text{def}} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

## Definition

Given fiscal rules  $B'(\mathbf{S}), G(\mathbf{S})$ , an *equilibrium* consists of

► Algorithm

- A government policy  $h'(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z'), T(\mathbf{S})$
- Policy functions  $\{\phi_a, \phi_b, \phi_c\}(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{S})$
- Prices  $p_C(\mathbf{S}), p_N(\mathbf{S}), w(\mathbf{S}), q^g(\mathbf{S})$ . Quantities  $L_N(\mathbf{S}), L_T(\mathbf{S}), \Pi(\mathbf{S}), T(\mathbf{S})$
- Laws of motion  $\mu'(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z'; h), \sigma'(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z'; h)$

such that

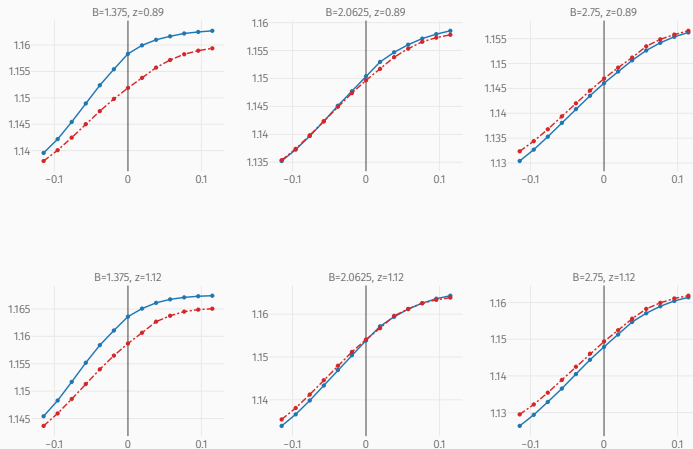
- The policy functions solve the household's problem
- The laws of motion are consistent with the policy functions
- Firms maximize profits,  $w(\mathbf{S}) \geq \bar{w}$ , markets clear
- $h'$  maximizes  $\mathcal{W}(\Psi(\mathbf{S}, \xi', z', \cdot))$  for gov't, taxes respect budget constraint.

► Market Clearing

## MODEL RESULTS

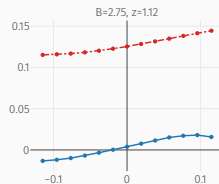
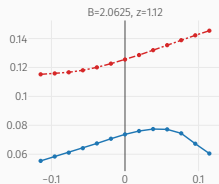
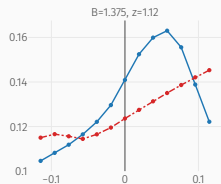
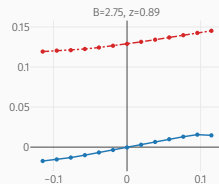
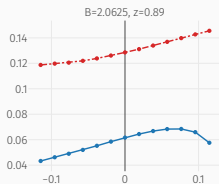
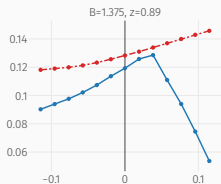
---

# OBJECTIVE FUNCTION



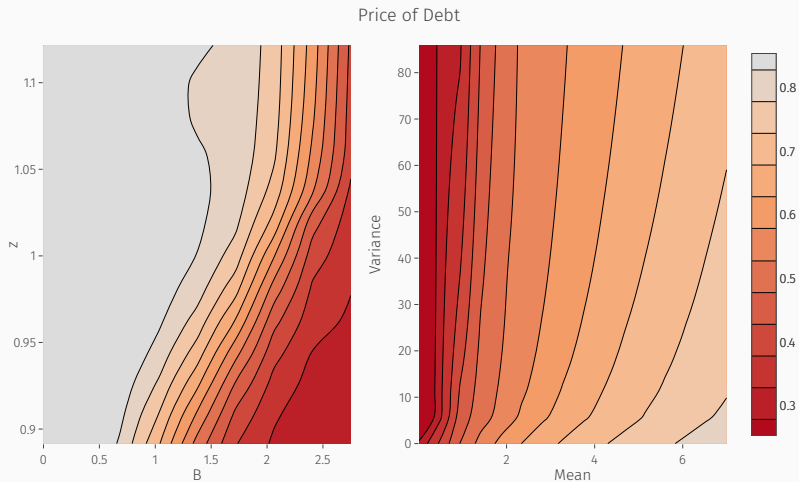
Anticipated objective function  
Blue: repayment, red: default

# TRANSFERS



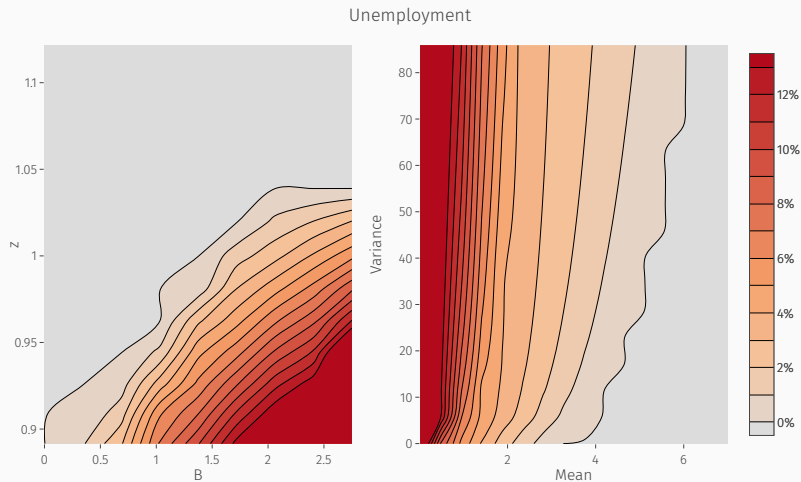
Transfers  
Blue: repayment, red: default

# PRICE OF DEBT



Model: Benchmark

# UNEMPLOYMENT





# SIMULATIONS

---

# CALIBRATION

Description	Parameter	Value	Source
Risk-free rate	$r^*$	4% ann.	Anzoategui (2017)
Haircut in case of default	$\bar{h}$	50%	Philippon and Roldán (2018)
TFP loss in case of default	$\Delta$	10%	Philippon and Roldán (2018)
Share of nontraded in prod	$\varpi$	0.74	Anzoategui (2017)
Share of nontraded in $G$	$\vartheta_N$	88%	Anzoategui (2017)
Idiosyncratic income	$\rho_\epsilon, \sigma_\epsilon$	(0.978, 0.022)	D'Erasmus and Mendoza (2016)
Internally calibrated		Target (Spain)	
Discount rate of HHs	$1/\beta - 1$	4.46% ann.	Moments in Table 1
Risk aversion	$\gamma$	14.3	Moments in Table 1
Progressivity of tax schedule	$\tau$	19.4%	Moments in Table 1
Wage minimum	$\bar{w}$	1.15	Moments in Table 1
TFP process	$\rho_z, \sigma_z$	(0.886, 0.0371)	Moments in Table 1
Mean risk premium	$\bar{\xi}$	1.39%	Moments in Table 1
Risk premium AR(1)	$\rho_\xi, \sigma_\xi$	(0.948, 0.00195)	Moments in Table 1

## CALIBRATION (CONT'D)

Target	Model	Data
AR(1) coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.994	0.966
Std coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.0399	0.0129
AR(1) coef $\log(C_t)$	0.998	0.962
Std coef $\log(C_t)$	0.0157	0.0166
AR(1) coef spread	0.987	0.967
Std coef spread	0.064	0.103
Avg Debt-to-GDP	72.8%	64.6%
Std Debt-to-GDP	17.4%	23.5%
Avg unemployment	17.4%	15.9%
Std unemployment	8.65%	6.09%
Median dom holdings	53.6%	56.5%
Avg wealth-to-GDP	56.8%	94.5%

All data from Eurostat 2000Q1:2017Q4, except private consumption from OECD 2000Q1:2017Q4, domestic holdings from Banco de España, 2004Q1:2017Q4

Table 1: Model Fit

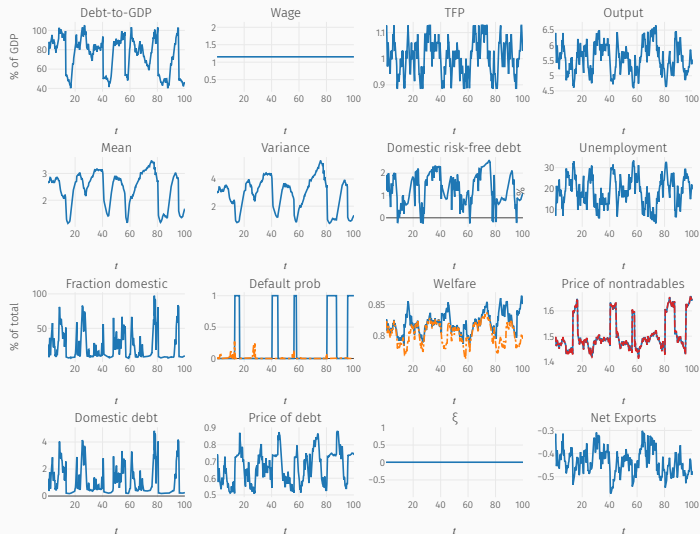
## CALIBRATION (CONT'D)

Target	Model	Data
AR(1) coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.994	0.966
Std coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.0399	0.0129
AR(1) coef $\log(C_t)$	0.998	0.962
Std coef $\log(C_t)$	0.0157	0.0166
AR(1) coef spread	0.987	0.967
Std coef spread	0.064	0.103
Avg Debt-to-GDP	72.8%	64.6%
Std Debt-to-GDP	17.4%	23.5%
Avg unemployment	17.4%	15.9%
Std unemployment	8.65%	6.09%
Median dom holdings	53.6%	56.5%
Avg wealth-to-GDP	56.8%	94.5%

All data from Eurostat 2000Q1:2017Q4, except private consumption from OECD 2000Q1:2017Q4, domestic holdings from Banco de España, 2004Q1:2017Q4

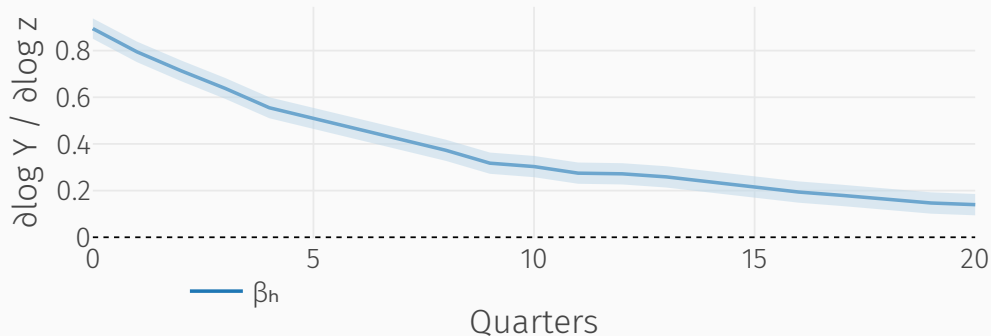
Table 1: Model Fit

# SIMULATED PATHS



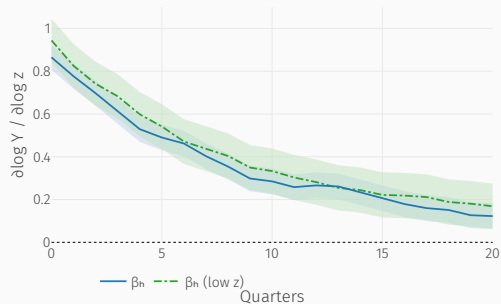
## AMPLIFICATION OF TFP SHOCKS

$$\log Y_{t+h} = \alpha + \beta_h \log \epsilon_t^z + \eta_{t+h}$$

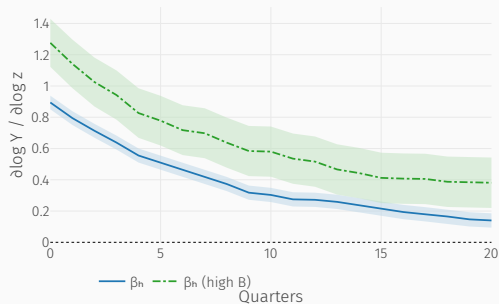


Response of Output to a TFP shock

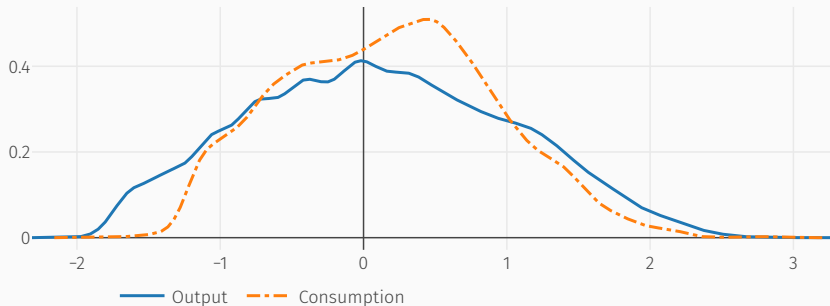
## AMPLIFICATION OF TFP SHOCKS (CONT'D)



For large shocks



For indebted economies



Ergodic Densities for Normalized Output and Consumption

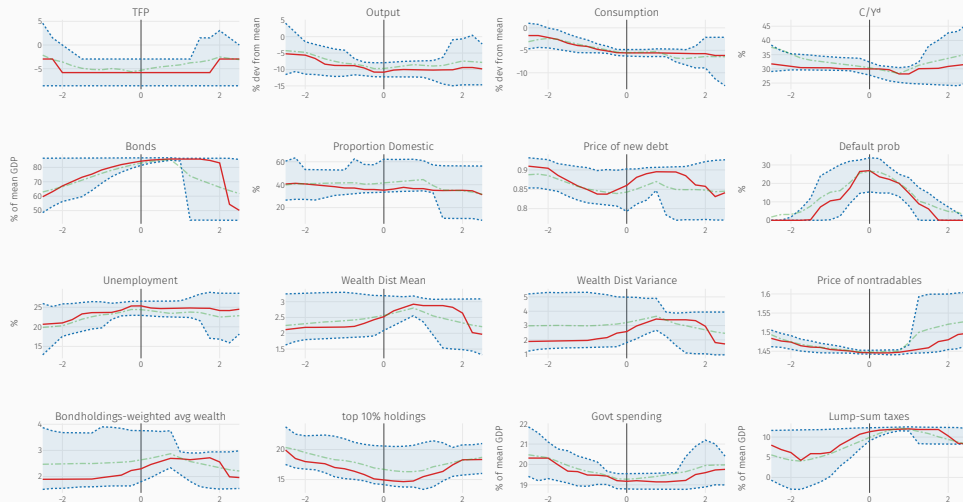


# CRISES

---

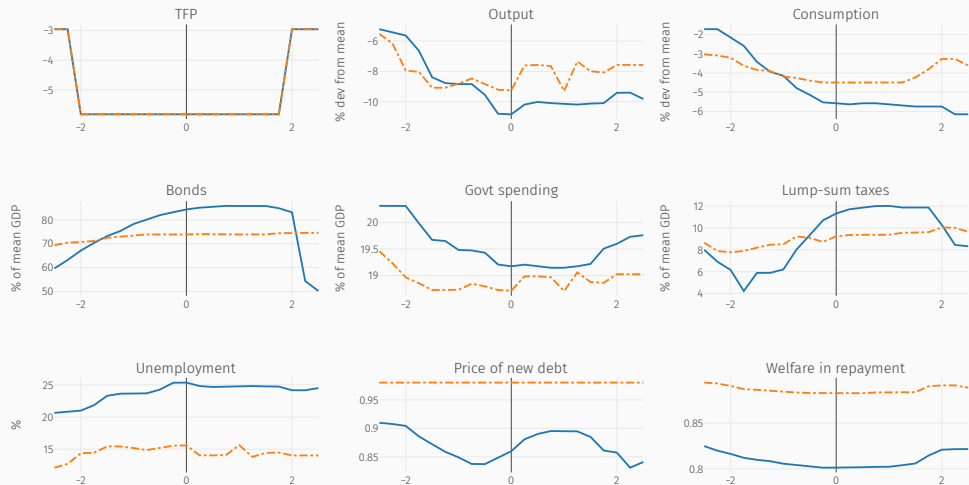
Simulate model economy for 4000 years

- Record all episodes of
  - i.* High spreads for 7 quarters
  - ii.* Default
- Take 2-year windows around each
  - Left with 178 defaults ( $\sim 4.5\%$  annual freq)
- Compute distribution of endogenous variables around them



Red: Median, Shaded blue: [0.25, 0.75] percentiles, Dashed green: Mean

# SIMULATED DATA – NO DEFAULT BENCHMARK



Blue: Benchmark, Dashed orange: No default

Target	Benchmark	No default
AR(1) coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.994	0.998
Std coef $\log(Y_t)$	0.0399	0.0306
AR(1) coef $\log(C_t)$	0.998	0.998
Std coef $\log(C_t)$	0.0157	0.00699
AR(1) coef spread	0.987	1
Std coef spread	0.064	0.000471
Avg Debt-to-GDP	72.8%	57.5%
Std Debt-to-GDP	17.4%	24.5%
Avg unemployment	17.4%	8.27%
Std unemployment	8.65%	7.13%
Median dom holdings	53.6%	130%
Avg wealth-to-GDP	56.8%	93.3%

Table 2: Models

- Compare episodes of high spreads in simulated data against
  - No TFP costs of default ← shuts down aggregate income losses
    - $\Delta = 0$
  - 'Meaningless' default ← shuts down redistributive wealth effects
    - Keep paying coupons in default + no haircut
- Notions of **potential** output
- Difference is amplification through **extra** precautionary behavior
  - Different benchmarks emphasize different channels

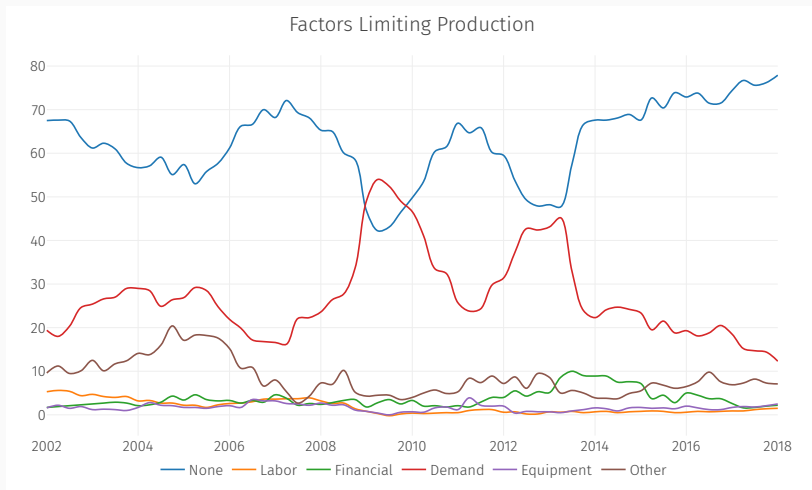
## CONCLUDING REMARKS

---

- Interested in **interaction** of
  - Default risk
  - Precautionary behavior
- + implications for **amplification** of shocks
- Channel helps explain severity of Eurozone debt crisis
  - Default risk creates high **volatility** of consumption and unemployment
  - Large welfare **costs** of sovereign risk – up to 10% of permanent consumption
- Key:
  - Aggregate + redistributive wealth effects if default
  - Agents take precautions against those
  - Timing flips usual MPC / transfer argument

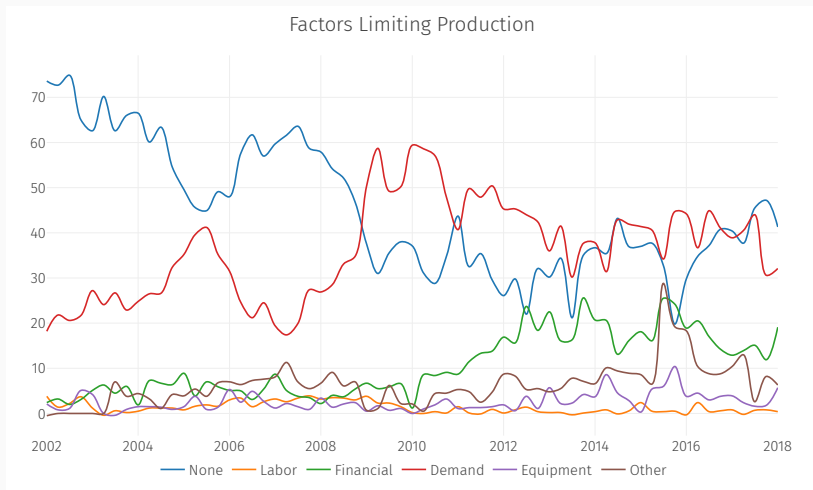






Italian firms' self-reported limits to production

Source: Eurostat

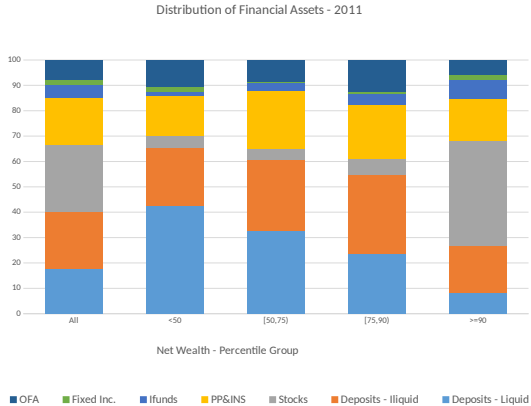


Greek firms' self-reported limits to production

Source: Eurostat

# HOUSEHOLD SURVEY

- Companion paper: dom exp to Spanish sovereign risk [◀ Back](#)



# MEASURING EXPOSURES TO SOVEREIGN DEBT - BANKS

Measure exposure based on Philippon and Salord (2017)

- study European banks resolutions in Cyprus
- average total recapitalization need was around 17.4% of assets
- private investors provided 33% of need via loss in equity (91%), junior debt (53%) and senior debt (14%)
- remaining 2/3 came from government intervention

→ assumed not possible in Spain!

→ remaining need comes from senior debt and depositors

## MEASURING EXPOSURES TO SOVEREIGN DEBT - DEPOSITS

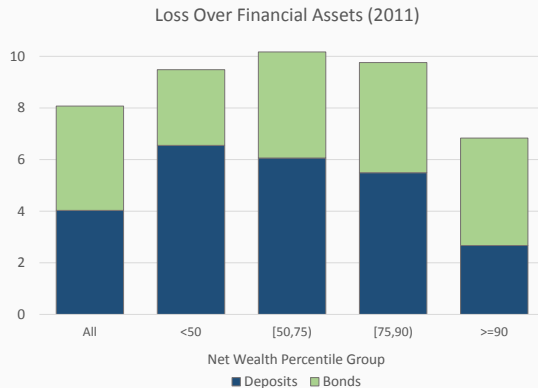
Work with different scenarios of loss on deposits:

Scenario	SD Loss	Dep. Loss
Extreme	25%	14%
Mild	50%	10%
Conservative	75%	5%

**Table 3:** Expected losses on deposits

- Assume a 50% haircut on public debt that triggers a bank crisis
- Loss for depositors of 10%
- Overall, public debt and bank crisis would induce a fall of between 8% and 10% of financial assets

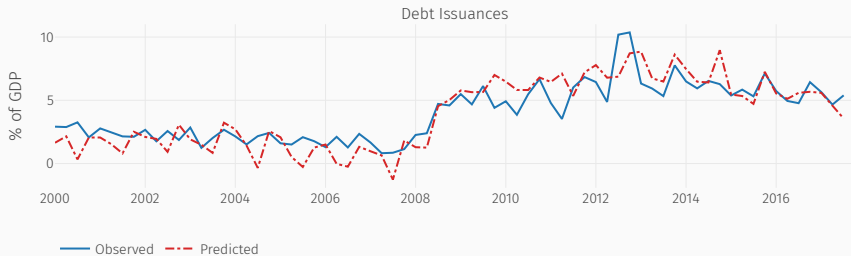
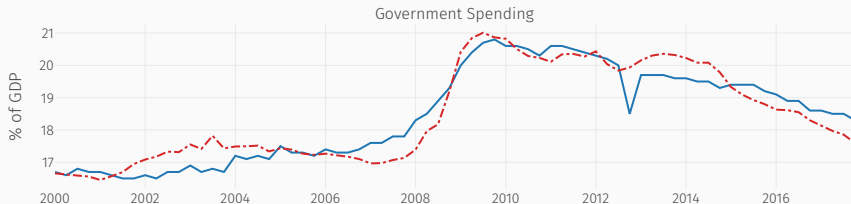
- Companion paper: dom exp to Spanish sovereign risk [▶ More](#)
- Pension funds, mutual funds, insurance – perfect passthrough
- Deposits – more complicated
  - Philippon and Salord (2017): bank resolutions in Cyprus [▶ Details](#)



	$G_t/Y_t$		$(B'_t - (1 - \rho)B_t)/Y_t$	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Unemployment <sub>t</sub>	0.031 (0.039)	0.073*** (0.015)	0.334** (0.158)	0.346*** (0.059)
Unemployment <sub>t</sub> <sup>2</sup>	0.002 (0.001)		0.0001 (0.006)	
$B_t/Y_t$	0.010* (0.005)	-0.017*** (0.002)	-0.010 (0.020)	0.009 (0.007)
$(B_t/Y_t)^2$	-0.0002*** (0.00004)		0.0001 (0.0001)	
Net Exports <sub>t</sub>	0.009 (0.019)	0.007 (0.012)	0.046 (0.075)	0.019 (0.046)
Net Exports <sub>t</sub> <sup>2</sup>	-0.0001 (0.001)		-0.001 (0.003)	
Mean FE	20.675	21.085	1.079	0.571
Country + Time FE	✓	✓	✓	✓
Observations	968	968	957	957
Adj. $R^2$	0.904	0.901	0.697	0.698

Standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .

# FISCAL RULES (CONT'D)

[◀ BACK](#)



# EVOLUTION OF THE DISTRIBUTION

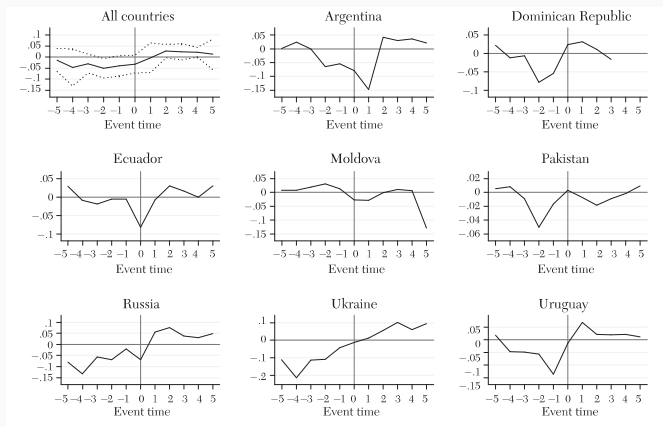
The **law of motion** for  $\lambda$

- Policy functions  $\phi_a, \phi_b$  at  $\mathbf{S}_t$  determine assets at  $t + 1$
- After seeing  $z_{t+1}$ , the government decides **repayment**
- At  $\mathbf{S}_{t+1}$ , relationship between  $q^g(\mathbf{S}_{t+1})$ ,  $R_b(\mathbf{S}_{t+1})$ ,  $\mu_{t+1}$ ,  $\sigma_{t+1}$

$$R_b(\mathbf{S}_{t+1}) = \mathbb{I}_{(\zeta_{t+1}=1)}\kappa + (1 - \rho)q^g(\mathbf{S}_{t+1})$$

$$\int \omega d\lambda_{t+1} = \int \phi_a(\mathbf{S}_t) + R_b(\mathbf{S}_{t+1})\phi_b(\mathbf{S}_t) d\lambda_t$$

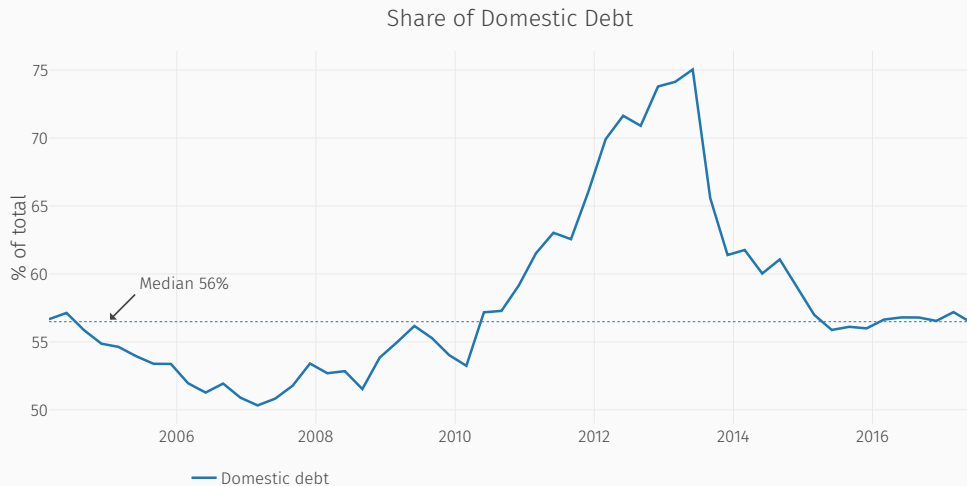
$$\int \omega^2 d\lambda_{t+1} = \int (\phi_a(\mathbf{S}_t) + R_b(\mathbf{S}_{t+1})\phi_b(\mathbf{S}_t))^2 d\lambda_t$$



Defaults and output growth

Source: Panizza, Sturzenegger, and Zettelmeyer (2009)

# SHARE OF DOMESTIC DEBT

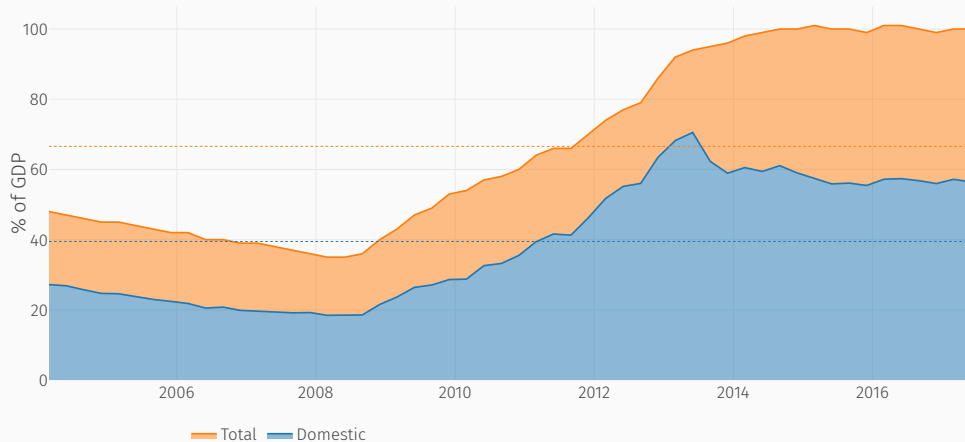
[◀ BACK](#)

Source: Morelli and Roldán (2018) on Banco de España

# SHARE OF DOMESTIC DEBT

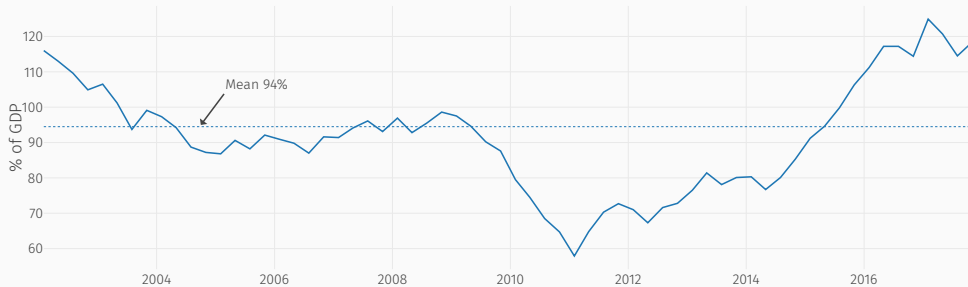
[◀ BACK](#)

## Spanish Government Debt



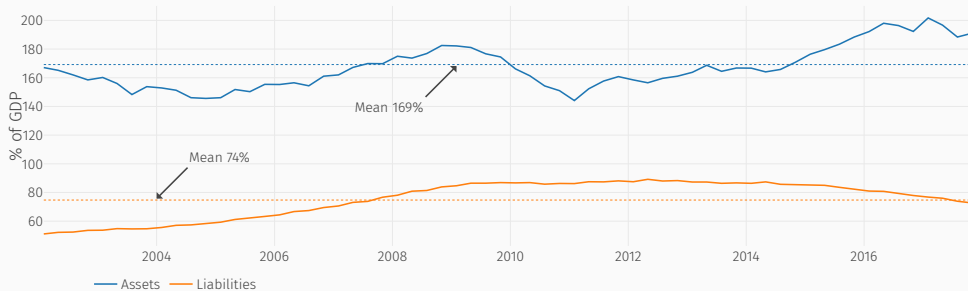
Source: Morelli and Roldán (2018) on Banco de España  
Dotted lines are sample averages

Net Worth of Spanish Households



Source: Eurostat  
Dotted lines are sample averages

## Net Worth of Spanish Households



Source: Eurostat  
Dotted lines are sample averages

## GENERAL SDF OF FOREIGNERS

- If risk-averse foreigners

$$q_t^h = \frac{1}{1+r^*} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \left( \frac{C_{t+1}^f}{C_t^f} \right)^{-\gamma_f} \right]$$
$$q_t^g = \frac{1}{1+r^*} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \left( \frac{C_{t+1}^f}{C_t^f} \right)^{-\gamma_f} R_{t,t+1}^b \right]$$

where  $R_{t,t+1}^b = \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta_{t+1}=1)} \tilde{\kappa} + (1-\rho)(1-\tilde{\kappa} \mathbb{1}_{(\zeta_t=1 \cap \zeta_{t+1} \neq 1)}) q_{t+1}^g$

- Reduces to risk-neutral if

$$\text{cov} \left( \left( \frac{C_{t+1}^f}{C_t^f} \right)^{-\gamma_f}, R_{t,t+1}^b \right) = 0$$

# SOLUTION METHOD

- Guess a policy for the government
  - Guess a law of motion for the distribution
    - Compute  $q^g(\mathbf{S}), q^h$  from lenders' sdf.
    - Compute  $w, L_N, L_T, \Pi, T$  as functions of  $(\mathbf{S}, p_N)$
    - Guess a relative price of nontraded goods  $p_N$ 
      - Solve the household's problem at  $(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{S}, p_N)$
      - Check market clearing for nontraded goods.
    - Iterate until  $p_N(\mathbf{S})$  converges
  - Iterate until the law of motion converges
- Iterate on the government's policy



	Unemployment <sub>jt</sub>			Saving rate <sub>jt</sub>		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Spread <sub>jt</sub>	1.381*** (0.064)			0.461*** (0.097)		
Spread <sub>jt</sub> (IV)		2.372*** (0.826)	1.951** (0.896)		1.634 (1.186)	2.048 (1.515)
Spread Non-fin <sub>jt</sub>		−0.172 (0.297)	−0.450 (0.306)		0.654 (0.628)	0.832 (0.626)
Spread Fin <sub>jt</sub>		−0.364 (0.530)	0.076 (0.601)		−0.265 (0.666)	−0.595 (0.901)
$B_{jt}/Y_{jt}$			0.040*** (0.012)			−0.035 (0.035)
Model	OLS	IV	IV	OLS	IV	IV
Country FE	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Quad Time Trend	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Observations	968	304	304	569	179	179
Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	0.731	0.715	0.713	0.450	0.420	0.398

Standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .

Gilchrist-Mojon (2017) indices of corporate spreads for FRA, DEU, ITA, ESP. 2000Q1 – 2017Q4

- Three markets need to clear

$$Y_{Nt} = C_{Nt} + \frac{\vartheta_N}{p_{Nt}} G_t$$

$$Y_{Tt} = C_{Tt} + (1 - \vartheta_N) G_t - \mathbf{NFI}_t$$

$$(L_{Nt} + L_{Tt} - 1)(w_t - \gamma w_{t-1}) = 0$$

where net foreign inflows are

$$\mathbf{NFI}_t = \int \left( \omega - q_t^h \phi_a - q_t^g \phi_b \right) d\lambda_t - \kappa B_{t-1} + q_t^g (B_t - (1 - \rho) B_{t-1})$$

	<i>Dependent variable <math>Q_{jt}</math>:</i>							
	$\log Y_{jt}$				$\log C_{jt}$			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
$\text{Spread}_{jt}$	$-0.011^{***}$ (0.003)				$-0.011^{***}$ (0.002)			
$\text{Spread}_{jt} \text{ (IV)}$		$-0.048^{**}$ (0.019)	$-0.031$ (0.023)	$-0.031$ (0.024)		$-0.088^{***}$ (0.022)	$-0.035^{**}$ (0.017)	$-0.035^{**}$ (0.016)
$R_{jt}^h$			$0.054^{***}$ (0.010)	$0.049^{***}$ (0.011)			$0.004$ (0.007)	$-0.009$ (0.007)
$R_{jt}^s$				$0.013$ (0.046)				$0.036$ (0.031)
Model	OLS	IV	IV	IV	OLS	IV	IV	IV
Country + Time FE	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Observations	968	968	540	540	968	968	540	540
Adj. $R^2$	0.995	0.994	0.997	0.997	0.997	0.993	0.999	0.999

Standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .

ECB borrowing rates for AUT, BEL, DEU, ESP, FRA, IRL, ITA, NLD, PRT. 2003Q1 – 2017Q4

Dependent variable  $Q_{jt}$

					(7)	(8)
$Spread_{jt}$						
$Spread_{jt} \text{ (IV)}$					0.035** (0.017)	-0.035** (0.016)
$R_{jt}^h$					0.004 (0.007)	-0.009 (0.007)
$R_{jt}^s$						0.036 (0.031)
Model					IV	IV
Country + Time FE					✓	✓
Observations					540	540
Adj. $R^2$					0.999	0.999

What if *Spreads* affect  $Q$  through  $W$ ?

... if  $W \perp\!\!\!\perp U \mid S, Q$

Standard errors in parentheses. \*\*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*  $p < 0.05$ , \*  $p < 0.1$ .

ECB borrowing rates for AUT, BEL, DEU, ESP, FRA, IRL, ITA, NLD, PRT. 2003Q1 – 2017Q4

# THE CYCLE IS THE TREND

[◀ BACK TO MOTIVATION](#)[◀ BACK TO EVIDENCE](#)

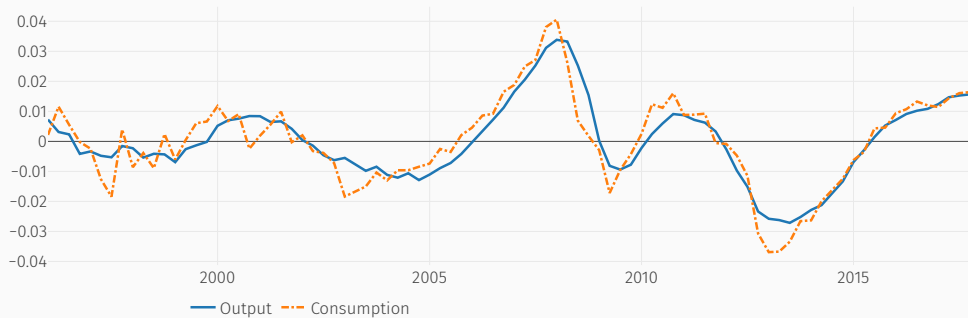
	$\sigma(C)$	$\sigma(Y)$	$\sigma(C)/\sigma(Y)$	$\sigma(C)/\sigma(Y)$ (AG)
Austria	0.716	0.782	0.916	0.870
Belgium	0.556	0.795	0.700	0.810
Denmark	1.047	1.178	0.889	1.190
Finland	1.278	1.957	0.653	0.940
France	0.780	0.773	1.009	—
Germany	0.692	0.867	0.799	—
Ireland	3.140	3.680	0.853	—
Italy	1.165	0.978	1.191	—
Netherlands	1.726	1.244	1.388	1.070
Portugal	1.827	1.576	1.160	1.020
Spain	1.901	1.396	1.362	1.110

HP filtered data with  $\lambda = 1600$ . Std deviations in %.

# SPAIN IN THE EUROZONE CRISIS

[◀ BACK](#)

Filtered Spanish output and consumption

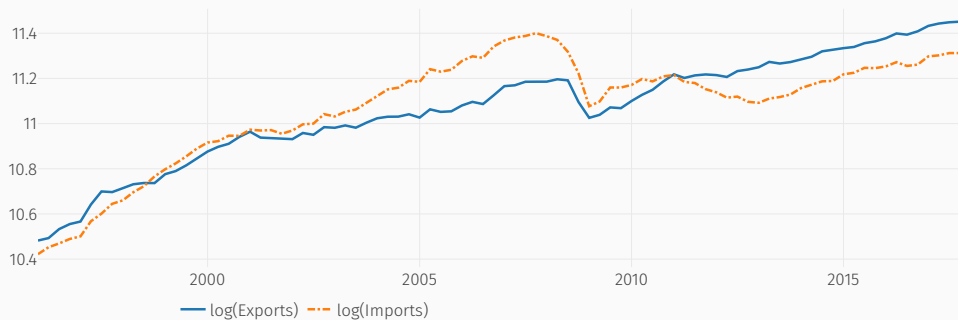


Spain in the 2000s

# SPAIN IN THE EUROZONE CRISIS

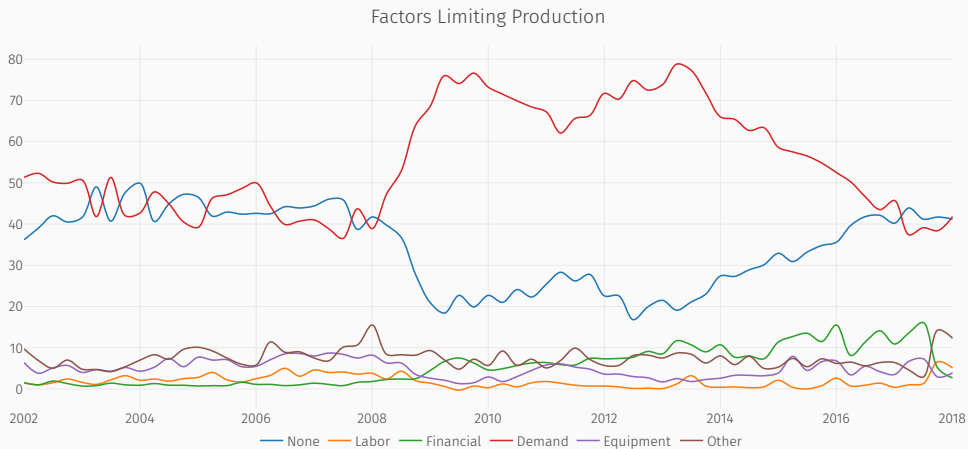
[◀ BACK](#)

Trade balance for Spain



Spain in the 2000s

# LOW DEMAND?

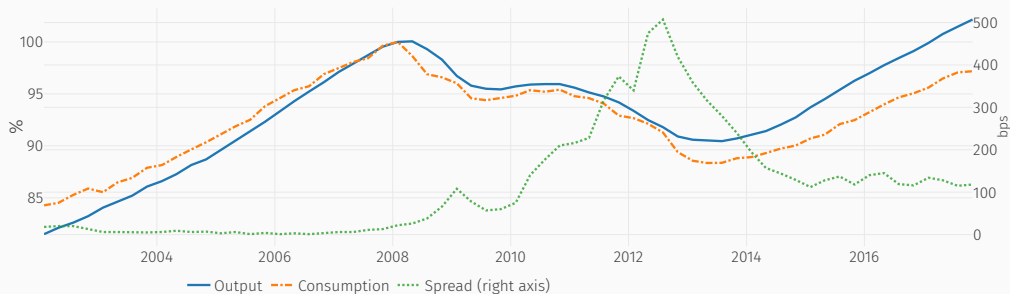
[◀ BACK](#)

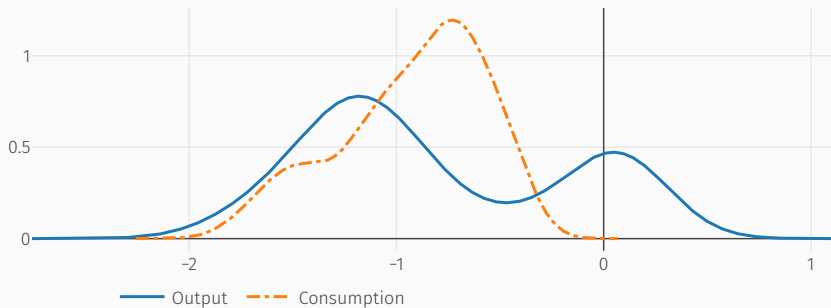
Spanish firms' self-reported limits to production

Source: Eurostat

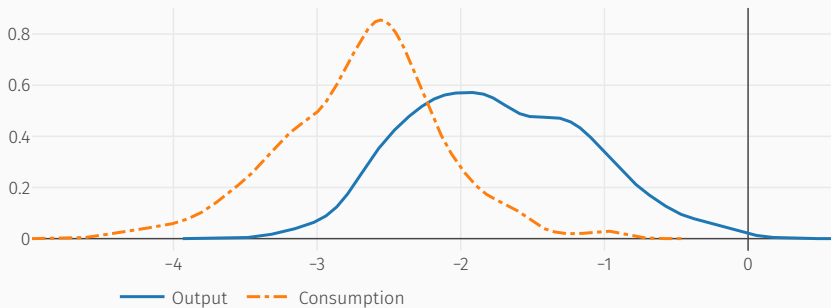


Output and Consumption for Spain

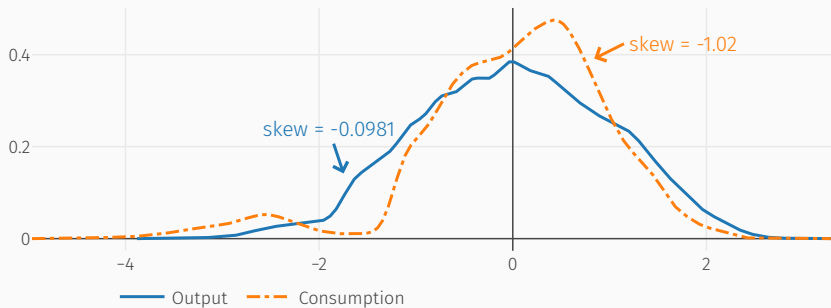




Densities for Output and Consumption during Crises ( $\pi \geq 15\%$ )

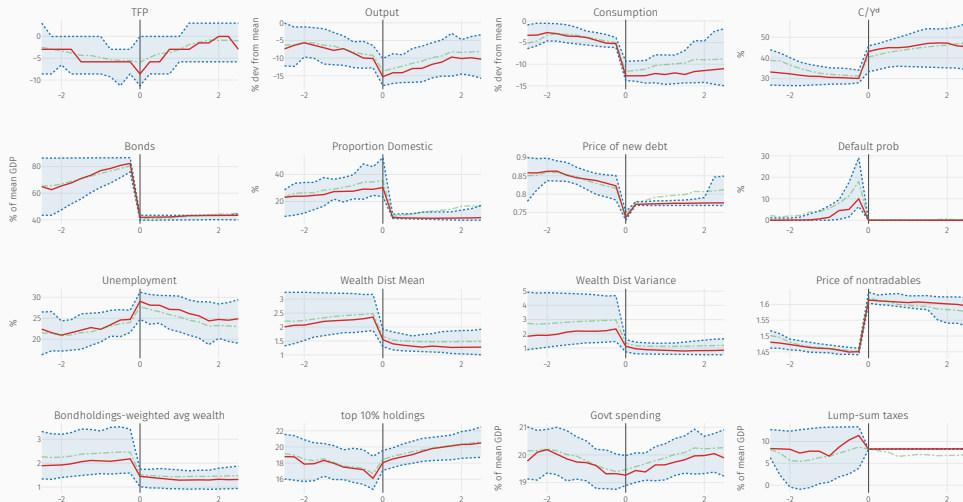


Densities for Output and Consumption during Defaults



Unconditional Ergodic Densities for Output and Consumption

# SIMULATED DATA – DEFAULT EPISODES

[◀ BACK](#)

Red: Median, Shaded blue: [0.25, 0.75] percentiles, Dashed green: Mean

## REFERENCES

---

- ANZOATEGUI, D. (2017): "Sovereign Debt and the Effects of Fiscal Austerity," mimeo, NYU.
- ARELLANO, C., Y. BAI, AND G. MIHALACHE (2018): "Default risk, sectoral reallocation, and persistent recessions," *Journal of International Economics*, 112, 182–199.
- AUCLERT, A. (2017): "Monetary Policy and the Redistribution Channel," Working Paper 23451, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- BALKE, N. (2017): "The Employment Cost of Sovereign Default," mimeo, UCL.
- BIANCHI, J., P. OTTONELLO, AND I. PRESNO (2016): "Unemployment, Sovereign Debt, and Fiscal Policy in a Currency Union," 2016 Meeting Papers 459, Society for Economic Dynamics.
- BOCOLA, L. (2016): "The Pass-Through of Sovereign Risk," *Journal of Political Economy*, 124, 879–926.
- D'ERASMO, P. AND E. G. MENDOZA (2016): "Optimal Domestic (and External) Sovereign Default," Working Paper 22509, National Bureau of Economic Research.
- EGGERTSSON, G. AND P. KRUGMAN (2012): "Debt, Deleveraging, and the Liquidity Trap: a Fisher-Minsky-Koo Approach," *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 1469–1513.
- FERRIERE, A. (2016): "Sovereign default, inequality, and progressive taxation," Working paper, European University Institute.

- GENNAIOLI, N., A. MARTIN, AND S. ROSSI (2014): "Sovereign Default, Domestic Banks, and Financial Institutions," *Journal of Finance*, 69, 819–866.
- KORINEK, A. AND A. SIMSEK (2016): "Liquidity Trap and Excessive Leverage," *American Economic Review*, 106, 699–738.
- MALLUCCI, E. (2015): "Domestic Debt and Sovereign Defaults," International Finance Discussion Papers 1153, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (U.S.).
- MARTIN, P. AND T. PHILIPPON (2017): "Inspecting the Mechanism: Leverage and the Great Recession in the Eurozone," *American Economic Review*, 107, 1904–37.
- MORELLI, J. M. AND F. ROLDÁN (2018): "Distributional Effects in Sovereign Debt Policy," mimeo, NYU.
- NEUMEYER, P. A. AND F. PERRI (2005): "Business cycles in emerging economies: the role of interest rates," *Journal of Monetary Economics*, 52, 345–380.
- PHILIPPON, T. AND F. ROLDÁN (2018): "On the Optimal Speed of Sovereign Deleveraging with Precautionary Savings," *IMF Economic Review*, 66, 375–413.
- PÉREZ, D. (2016): "Sovereign Debt, Domestic Banks and the Provision of Public Liquidity," mimeo, NYU.



ROMEI, F. (2015): “Need for (the Right) Speed: the Timing and Composition of Public Debt Deleveraging,” Economics Working Papers MWP2015/11, European University Institute.

