

# A Macro-Finance model with Realistic Crisis Dynamics\*

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## Abstract

What causes deep recessions and slow recovery? I revisit this question and develop a macro-finance model that quantitatively matches the salient empirical features of financial crises such as a large drop in the output, a high risk premium, reduced financial intermediation, and a long duration of economic distress. The model has leveraged intermediaries with stochastic productivity and state-dependent exit rate that governs the transition in and out of crises. A model without these two features suffers from a trade-off between the amplification and persistence of crises. I show that my model resolves this tension and generates realistic crisis dynamics.

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# 1 Introduction

It is well known that recessions are marked by high equity risk premium, low investment rate, and a low output. The great recession of 2007-2008 emphasized the importance that the financial intermediaries play in propagating shocks to the real economy. Since then, there has been a growing literature with the leverage of intermediaries as a key factor in moving the asset prices and the real economy.<sup>1</sup> Recessions that feature a sharp decrease (increase) in the investment rate and output (risk premium) also feature a sharp increase in the leverage of BHCs. While the intermediaries take a central role in the recent macro-finance literature, the financial constraints that they face are of particular importance (see, example, [Brunnermeier and Sannikov \(2014\)](#) (BS2014 henceforth), [He and Krishnamurthy \(2013\)](#), [Di Tella \(2017\)](#) etc.). In these models, the financial constraints bind only in certain times which lead to non-linearity in the asset prices. In normal times, the financial markets facilitate capital allocation to the most productive agents. In such states, the intermediaries are sufficiently capitalized and premium on the risky asset is low. In bad times, financial constraints bind and the capital gets misallocated to the less productive agents, who do not value capital as much. This leads to a deterioration of intermediary balance sheet and pushes the system into crisis region where the premium on risky asset shoots up. These models explain a high risk premium in the crisis periods but the contribution has largely been qualitative with the exception of [Maxted \(2020\)](#) and [Krishnamurthy and Li \(2020\)](#).<sup>2</sup>

The contribution of this paper is two-fold. First, I build an overlapping-generation incomplete-market asset pricing model with stochastic productivity and state-dependent exit of the experts that occasionally generates capital misallocation and fire-sales. I solve the model using a novel deep learning based numerical method that encodes the economic information as regularizers.<sup>3</sup> This methodology, as shown in the companion paper [Gopalakrishna \(2021\)](#), is scalable and can be applied to similar high dimensional problems. The fluctuating productivity of experts is a crucial driver of systemic instability along with the capital shocks. In addition, I introduce state-dependent exit of

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<sup>1</sup>See, for example, [Brunnermeier and Sannikov \(2014\)](#), [He and Krishnamurthy \(2013\)](#), [Di Tella \(2017\)](#), [Adrian, Etula and Muir \(2014\)](#), [Phelan \(2016\)](#), [Moreira and Savov \(2017\)](#), etc.

<sup>2</sup>[Gertler, Kiyotaki and Prestipino \(2020\)](#) incorporates bank run into a standard New Keynesian model that explains financial crisis quantitatively. However, they focus on matching a specific crisis episode- the great recession of 2008.

<sup>3</sup>Regularizer is a commonly used tool in machine learning to reduce overfitting. See [Glorot and Bengio \(2010\)](#) for details.

experts as a parsimonious way of capturing bank defaults. The data from Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) shows that a total of 297 banks failed in the period 2009-2010 in the United States, which is a strikingly large number compared to 25 bank failures in the 7 years that preceded the crisis, and 23 bank failures between 2015-2020. Similarly, when measured by default volume, around 80% of the Moody's rated issuers defaults in the year 2008 came from the financial institutions.<sup>4</sup> Figure (1) shows the evolution of bank failures from 2001 till 2020. Both in terms of the count and the default volume, bank failures during the Great recession were far greater than the other years. While a lot of non-financial institutions failed too during the Great recession, the fact that 80% of Moody's issuer default in terms of volume came from financial institutions alone indicates that the intermediaries default to a large extent particularly during financial crises. I capture this empirical phenomenon through a state-dependent exit rate of experts.

The second contribution is quantification of my model to dissect the mechanisms of financial crisis. To this end, I show that a simpler model with constant productivity and no exit of intermediaries, which reduces to Brunnermeier and Sannikov (2016) (BS2016 henceforth), suffers from a tension between the *amplification* and the *persistence* of financial crises. In particular, there is a trade-off between the conditional risk premium and the duration of crisis.<sup>5</sup> During bad times, premium on the risky asset shoots up due to capital misallocation and fire-sale. The leveraged experts earn the higher conditional risk premium allowing them to rebuild sufficient wealth and recover quickly from the crisis. Such a fast rebound is at odds with the data since recessions are empirically long lasting. Auxiliary features of the model that generate longer crises necessarily attenuate the conditional risk premium (i.e., amplification gets dampened). This is because crises tend to be long when the experts recapitalize slowly, which can only happen when the risk premium that the experts earn is low in the model. To give a concrete example, when the simpler model is calibrated to generate a realistic 18 month duration of crisis, the model implied conditional risk premium is 2%, which is much lower than the em-

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<sup>4</sup>Source for bank failures: <https://www.fdic.gov/bank/historical/bank/>, and Moody's Corporate Default and Recovery Rates, 1920-2008. Financial institutions include Bank holding companies, Real estate and insurance companies. The list of banks include only those that are insured by the FDIC. Failure of investment banks such as Lehman Brothers in 2008 are not included.

<sup>5</sup>Another interesting trade-off that emerges from this simpler model is between the unconditional risk premium and the probability of crisis. This is explored in detail in Section 3.

pirically observed premium of 25%.<sup>6</sup> On the other hand, when the model is calibrated to generate a realistic conditional risk premium of 25%, the model implied average duration of crisis is 5 months, well short of 18 month crisis duration observed in the data. The model with stochastic productivity and state-dependent exit rate resolves this tension and provides reasonable crisis dynamics along three key dimensions: a) *crisis likelihood*, that represents the occupation time of the economy in crisis state, b) *amplification*, that represents a large conditional risk premium and low output, and c) *persistence*, that represents slow recovery from crisis. When the economy is in stochastic steady state, all capital is held by the experts, and risk premium is low. A negative shock to the level of capital also decreases the productivity of experts, increasing the frequency of crisis by exerting a downward pressure on the wealth share of experts. Once the wealth share falls below an endogenous crisis threshold, amplification mechanism is triggered generating a large risk premium and low output. The model implies 8% probability of crisis, matching the empirical value of 7% from [Reinhart and Rogoff \(2009\)](#). In this crisis state, the rate at which the experts exit and become households is high, reflecting large empirical bank bankruptcies, reducing the proportion of agents who manage capital more productively. This force has a dominating impact on the experts wealth compared to the effect coming from increased risk premium, and pushes the economy deeper into crisis. The productivity eventually mean reverts, and the economy reaches a point where the increased productivity dominates the exit effect, helping the economy climb out of crisis. The speed of mean reversion in the productivity is low, forcing the system to spend a long amount of time in distress before the increase in productivity ends the gloomy phase. The model implies a crisis duration of 17 months, close to the empirical value of 18 months from the NBER recessionary cycle data. At normalcy, all capital in the economy is held by intermediaries again, the financial amplification channel is shut down, where the exit rate is small. Thus, the twin forces of stochastic productivity and exit matches the empirical moments on all three categories, bringing the model closer to data.

The model is solved using a deep learning based numerical algorithm that takes advantage of the universal approximation theorem by [Hornik, Stinchcombe and White](#)

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<sup>6</sup>See Table (3) in Section 3 for the estimated conditional risk premium. The average contraction period from NBER website is around 18 months. Source: <https://www.nber.org/cycles.html>. This is a conservative measure compared to around 3 years peak to trough period reported in [Muir \(2017\)](#).

(1989), which states that a neural network with one hidden layer can approximate any Borel measurable function. This method is scalable since it alleviates the curse of dimensionality that plagues the finite-difference schemes in higher dimensions. The main difficulty that arises from the grid-based solutions such as finite-difference schemes is the combination of an explosion in the number of grid points and the need for a reduced time step size as the dimensions grow large. My solution side-steps these limitations since it is mesh-free.<sup>7</sup> This algorithm dominates the finite-difference method used in BS2016, Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre (2018), etc., since it has the advantage of being easier in scaling to higher dimensions.<sup>8</sup> The companion paper Gopalakrishna (2021) discusses the algorithm in detail and applies it to similar problems with the number of dimensions as high as five.

The simpler benchmark model with constant productivity and no exit is similar in spirit to BS2016 but there is an overlapping generation of agents (OLG) with recursive preference. The assumption of OLG offers a non-degenerate stationary distribution of the state variable (Cârleanu and Panageas (2015)), while recursive preference helps with obtaining realistic asset pricing moments.<sup>9</sup> I quantify this benchmark model, similar in spirit to He and Krishnamurthy (2019) (HK2019 henceforth) and Krishnamurthy and Li (2020) but with notable differences. The model that I consider has both the households and the experts consuming by solving an infinite horizon optimization problem, whereas, in HK2019 the experts do not consume and solve a myopic optimization problem. Both models feature non-linear asset prices arising due to occasionally binding financial intermediary constraints. However, the transition from the normal to the crisis state is smooth in HK2019. On the contrary, the model that I consider, similar to BS2016, features an endogenous jump in the risk prices that reflects the fact that periods prior to financial crises are typically calm with an exceedingly low risk premium (Baron and Xiong (2017)) and rises dramatically once the crisis period begins. The endogenous jump in the model is caused by the fire-sale effect where the experts sell capital to the households who have a lower valuation of the capital due to their lower productivity rate. The effect of fire sales on the asset markets is crucial in times of distress, as is em-

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<sup>7</sup>I rely on Tensor-flow, a deep learning library developed by Google Brain, that computes the numerical derivatives efficiently.

<sup>8</sup>Appendix C.4.1 shows that the solution obtained from this algorithm matches the solution from the finite difference method when applied to a simpler model with one state variable. I also demonstrate how one can modify a few lines of code and jump from a solving a low to a high dimensional state space problem.

<sup>9</sup>The OLG assumption provides a non-degenerate distribution even when there is no discount rate heterogeneity.

phasized in [Kiyotaki and Moore \(1997\)](#), [Shleifer and Vishny \(2011\)](#), and [Kurlat \(2018\)](#). Importantly, due to the endogenous jump, the point in the state space at which the financial crisis occurs is well-defined. In models where the transition is smooth, one has to rely on an exogenously defined threshold at which the system enters the crisis region. [Krishnamurthy and Li \(2020\)](#) considers the model with an endogenous jump similar to this paper but focuses on matching credit spreads across several financial crisis episodes with an emphasis on the pre-crisis froth in credit markets. While the agents in their model have log utility with the capital subjected to Brownian and Poisson shocks, I consider a recursive utility function and focus on matching a broader set of macroeconomic and asset pricing moments such as the intermediary leverage patterns, the risk-free rate, the equity risk premium, the investment rate, the GDP growth rate, the probability and duration of crisis among others. Recursive utility has the advantage of separating the risk aversion from the IES ([Bansal and Yaron \(2004\)](#)) and also helps with obtaining better asset pricing moments. [Maxted \(2020\)](#) analyzes a quantitative model of financial intermediation and sentiment, similar to [Krishnamurthy and Li \(2020\)](#) where intermediaries do not consume and have mean-variance preferences over their reputation.

Models of intermediary asset pricing highlight the *persistence* and the *amplification* of shocks caused by the leveraged agents. A measure of persistence and amplification is the duration of crisis and conditional risk premium, respectively. The quantification of the benchmark model reveals two key trade-offs. First, there is a tension between the unconditional risk premium and probability of crisis. A high level of risk aversion means that the experts earn a large risk premium in the stochastic steady state. Small negative shocks to the capital do not cause enough deterioration in their net worth to hit the crisis boundary, thereby diminishing the probability of crisis. Second, conditional on being in crisis, there is a tension between the risk premium and duration of crisis. This is because risk premium spikes as soon as the system enters crisis state, enabling the experts to gain wealth quickly and revert to the normal regime leading to fast recovery. With larger values of risk aversion, the experts build wealth even faster through a higher risk premium, resulting in a quicker reversion to the normal state. This poses a direct challenge to the heterogeneous agent models with leveraged agents that are calibrated with high risk aversion, since larger risk aversion levels mechanically imply a

lower probability and duration of crisis.<sup>10</sup> The benchmark model has its strengths in capturing non-linearity of the asset prices, the output growth, and the leverage patterns of intermediaries. The biggest weaknesses are the inability to jointly generate a realistic duration of crisis and risk premium, and sufficient variation in the risk prices.<sup>11</sup> The richer model with stochastic productivity and state-dependent exit rate of the experts generates reasonable asset pricing and crisis moments. Embedding these two features that have empirical support brings the model closer to the data in important aspects.

**Related Literature** This paper relates to several strands of the literature. On the modeling front, it is most closely related to BS2016 who introduce a continuous time macro-finance model based on capital misallocation and fire-sales. It fits within a large body of intermediary based asset pricing models such as BS2014, [He and Krishnamurthy \(2013\)](#), [Di Tella \(2017\)](#), [Adrian and Boyarchenko \(2012\)](#), [Moreira and Savov \(2017\)](#), etc. While BS2014 assume risk neutral agents with an exogenous interest rate, the agents in BS2016 are risk averse with CRRA utility function, and the risk free rate is endogenous. The capital misallocation in BS2016 occurs due to bad shocks and the subsequent fire-sale effect. [Moll \(2014\)](#) analyses a model where the inability of the productive agents to lever up due to collateral constraints causes the capital misallocation.

The empirical evidence for intermediary-based asset pricing highlights the role that the banks and the hedge funds play in pricing assets ([He, Kelly and Manela \(2017\)](#), and [Adrian, Etula and Muir \(2014\)](#)). While these papers provide a theory based on the intermediary leverage as a motivation for empirical findings, the literature that tightly tests the ability of general equilibrium asset pricing models with financial frictions to match the data is sparse. Two related papers that attempt to fill the gap are [Muir \(2017\)](#), and HK2019. However, the experts in their model do not consume and solve a myopic optimization problem, whereas, in my model both the households and the experts consume a fraction of the total output by solving an infinite horizon optimization problem. While HK2019 focus on matching the non-linearity of their model with the data and consider an exogenously defined probability of crisis, the goal of this paper goes beyond matching just the non-linearity, and deals with an endogenous crisis boundary- a

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<sup>10</sup>It is common in asset pricing literature to assume a high risk aversion. See, for example [Gârleanu and Panageas \(2015\)](#), who set risk aversion of leveraged agents equal to 10.

<sup>11</sup>Since the q-theory result tightly ties the investment rate to the capital price, a low model implied volatility of price translates to a low variation in the investment rate too.



slightly more daunting task since there is one less degree of freedom. In this regard, this paper comes closer to [Krishnamurthy and Li \(2020\)](#) who attempt to match the pre-crisis froth in the credit market through a Bayesian learning model. [Muir \(2017\)](#) analyses risk premia during downturns for a large panel of countries and finds that financial crises are crucial in understanding the variation in risk premium. Also, the intermediary based asset pricing model is shown to fare better compared to the consumption based representative agent models with long run risk ([Bansal and Yaron \(2004\)](#)), habit ([Campbell and Cochrane \(1999\)](#)), and rare disaster ([Barro \(2006\)](#)) features. This paper also relates to [Khorrami \(2016\)](#), who shows that the implied cost of entry to participate in the stock market is as large as 90% of the wealth of the agents. Another interpretation of this result is that the costs of risk concentration is unreasonably large to match the empirically observed level of risk premium. While he focuses on a limited asset market participation model with costly entry, my model features capital misallocation with stochastic productivity that is calibrated to match both the amplification as well as the duration of crisis in the data. [Bigio and D’Avernas \(2021\)](#) build a risk capacity based model with information asymmetries to explain slow recovery from financial crisis. The state-dependent exit of experts in this paper relates to [Eisfeldt, Lustig and Zhang \(2017\)](#) who introduce endogenous entry and exit of participants in complex asset markets.<sup>12</sup>

[Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre \(2018\)](#) provide a framework that nests several models based on financial frictions. Even though the frictions prevent the economy from achieving a first-best outcome, their model features a dynamically complete market since the households can hedge their risk exposures through the derivative market. Their contribution is largely to provide qualitative insights by comparing different nested models, whereas, this paper is guided by quantitative analysis. While they consider a multi-dimensional problem with auxiliary shocks to the volatility and the long run growth, my model has stochastic productivity and exit rate of experts. More importantly, I conduct extensive simulations to test the model performance in matching a broader set of the macroeconomic and the asset pricing moments. My model assumes that the productivity of experts is a function of its size (wealth share of experts) which holds empirical relevance ([Hughes, Mester and Moon \(2001\)](#), [Feng and Serletis \(2010\)](#)). I consider a parsimonious way to capture bank defaults through an exogenous exit rate of experts

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<sup>12</sup>In [Eisfeldt, Lustig and Zhang \(2017\)](#), the decision to enter and exit is endogenous and hence the agents solve an optimal stopping time problem. In this paper, the exit rate is assumed to be state-dependent.



which complements a large literature on the endogenous bank runs and defaults ([Gorton and Ordoñez \(2014\)](#), [Gertler, Kiyotaki and Prestipino \(2020\)](#), [Li \(2020\)](#)).

Lastly, this paper also relates to the literature on global solution methods for heterogeneous agent models using continuous time machinery (see [Achdou et al. \(2014b\)](#) for an overview). The assumption that the agents can consume and invest continuously in response to their instantaneous change in wealth not only greatly simplifies the computation, it also reflects the reality that people do not take these decisions only at the end of a quarter. Another advantage of the continuous-time method is the analytical tractability of equilibrium prices up-to a coupled or decoupled system of partial differential equations. [Achdou et al. \(2014a\)](#), [BS2016](#), and [Fernández-Villaverde, Hurtado and Nuno \(2020\)](#) offer a solution technique involving implicit scheme with up-winding to solve the PDEs that ensures faster convergence. [D’Avernas and Vandeweyer \(2019\)](#) document that finite difference methods are difficult to implement in higher dimensions not only because of the curse of dimensionality but also due to the difficulty in preserving the monotonicity of the finite difference scheme. They offer a solution method based on [Bonnans, Ottenwaelter and Zidani \(2004\)](#) that involves rotating the state space and finding the right direction to approximate the cross partial derivatives such that the monotonicity of the scheme is preserved. With the advancements in machine learning, recent papers have turned to neural network to solve equilibrium models. [Duarte \(2017\)](#) considers a method based on deep learning to solve asset pricing problems in high dimensions. [Fernández-Villaverde, Hurtado and Nuno \(2020\)](#) solves for the high dimensional law of motion of households using a deep neural network.<sup>13</sup> The algorithm proposed in this paper is similar in spirit but also incorporates prior information from the crisis boundary as regularizers and is particularly geared towards solving heterogeneous agent incomplete market problems with capital misallocation and *endogenous* jump in prices. It also seeks inspiration from active machine learning where the algorithm learns to sample points from the state space in an informed manner. To the best of my knowledge, this is the first paper to apply a deep learning based algorithm to solve such type of a model.

The paper is organized as follows. Section 2 introduces the model. Section 3 presents

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<sup>13</sup>There is a substantial literature on the deep-learning techniques to solve PDEs in Applied Mathematics, which I cover in the companion paper [Gopalakrishna \(2021\)](#). For the application of deep learning techniques to solve discrete time DSGE models, see [Azinovic, Gaegauf and Scheidegger \(2019\)](#).

the benchmark model and quantifies it to shed light on the tension between the amplification and the persistence of crises. Section 4 shows that the model with stochastic productivity and exit rate of experts resolves the tension and brings the model closer to the data. Section 5 concludes. The proofs and details on numerical methodology can be found in Online Appendix B.

## 2 Model

In this section, I present a heterogeneous agent model with stochastic productivity and state-dependent exit rate of the experts. There is an infinite horizon economy with a continuum of agents, who are of two types: Household ( $\mathbb{H}$ ) and Expert ( $\mathbb{E}$ ). The aggregate capital in the economy is denoted by  $K_t$ , where  $t \in [0, \infty)$  denotes time. Within each group, the agents are identical and hence we can index the representative household and the expert by  $h \in \mathbb{H}$  and  $e \in \mathbb{E}$  respectively.<sup>14</sup> The experts can issue risk-free debt, and obtain a higher return to holding capital as they are more productive than the households. The friction is such that the experts have to retain at least some amount of equity on their balance sheet. In the absence of this friction, it is desirable for the experts to hold all capital as they are more productive users. Also, the agents are precluded from shorting the risky capital. The production technology can be written as

$$y_{j,t} = a_{j,t} k_{j,t} \quad j \in \{e, h\} \quad (1)$$

where the capital evolves as<sup>15</sup>

$$\frac{dk_{j,t}}{k_{j,t}} = (\Phi(\iota_{j,t}) - \delta)dt + \sigma dZ_t^k \quad (2)$$

with  $\iota_{j,t}$  as the investment rate, and  $\{Z_t \in \mathbb{R}; \mathcal{F}_t, \Omega\}$  is the standard Brownian motions representing the aggregate uncertainty in  $(\Omega, \mathbb{P}, \mathcal{F})$ . The parameter  $\sigma$  denotes the exogenous volatility of capital process. The investment function  $\Phi(\cdot)$  is concave and captures the decreasing returns to scale, and  $\delta$  is the depreciation rate of capital. As in BS2016,  $\Phi(\cdot)$  captures the technological illiquidity. The depreciation rate is the same for both the

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<sup>14</sup>This is also due to the homogeneity of preferences of agents within each group as explained later.

<sup>15</sup>Note that  $k_{j,t}$  is the capital held by agent  $j$ .

households and the experts. I assume that the investment cost function takes the logarithmic form<sup>16</sup>  $\Phi(\iota) = \frac{\log(\kappa\iota+1)}{\kappa}$  where  $\kappa$  is the adjustment cost parameter that controls the elasticity of the investment technology. I assume that the productivity of the experts is governed by the following stochastic differential equation

$$da_{e,t} = \pi(\hat{a}_e - a_{e,t})dt + \underbrace{\nu(\bar{a}_e - a_{e,t})(a_{e,t} - \underline{a}_e)}_{\sigma_{ae,t}} dZ_t^a \quad (3)$$

where the Brownian shock  $dZ_t^a$  has a correlation  $\varphi dt$  with the Brownian shock  $dZ_t^k$  with  $\varphi > 0$ . That is, the expert productivity follows an Ornstein–Uhlenbeck process with stochastic volatility such that it moves between a lower level  $\underline{a}_e$  and an upper level  $\bar{a}_e$  with a persistence parameter  $\pi$  and mean  $\hat{a}_e \in (\underline{a}_e, \bar{a}_e)$ . Since  $a_h < \underline{a}_e < \bar{a}_e$ , the productivity of the experts is always higher than that of the households even though it fluctuates between  $\underline{a}_e$  and  $\bar{a}_e$ .<sup>17</sup> The capital prices  $q_t$  follows

$$\frac{dq_t}{q_t} = \mu_t^q dt + \sigma_t^{q,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a$$

The return process for each type of agent is given by  $dR_{j,t} = \frac{d(q_t k_{j,t})}{q_t k_{j,t}} + \frac{(a_{j,t} - \iota_{j,t})k_{j,t}}{q_t k_{j,t}} dt$  where the first component on the R.H.S is capital gain, and the second component is dividend yield. Note that the dividends are agent specific due to different productivity rate, and possibly due to different investment rate.<sup>18</sup> Applying Ito's lemma, we get

$$dR_{j,t} = \underbrace{\left( \mu_t^q + \Phi(\iota_{j,t}) - \delta + \sigma \sigma_t^{q,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_t^{q,a} + \frac{a_{j,t} - \iota_{j,t}}{q_t} \right)}_{\mu_{j,t}^R} dt + (\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma) dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a \quad (4)$$

The aggregate output in the economy is given by  $y_t = A_t K_t$ , where  $K_t = \int_{\mathbb{E} \cup \mathbb{H}} k_{j,t} dj$ , and  $A_t$  is the aggregate dividend that satisfies

$$A_t = \int_{\mathbb{E} \cup \mathbb{H}} a_{j,t} \frac{k_{j,t}}{K_t} dj$$

<sup>16</sup>This is a valid investment cost function since  $\Phi(0) = 0$ ,  $\Phi' > 0$ , and  $\Phi'' \leq 0$ .

<sup>17</sup>I denote  $(a_{j,t}; j \in \{e, h\})$  to have concise notation but it is to be understood that  $a_{h,t}$  is just a constant  $a_h$ , whereas  $a_{e,t}$  follows equation (3).

<sup>18</sup>It turns out that the optimal investment rate is the same for both types of agent since it depends on the capital price and the adjustment cost parameter  $\kappa$ . For now, I assume that the investment rate is agent specific and show later in (13) that it is the same for all agents.

Let the capital share held by the expert sector be denoted by

$$\psi_t := \frac{\int_{\mathbb{E}} k_{j,t} dj}{\int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} k_{j,t} dj}$$

The experts and the households trade capital and the experts face a skin-in-the-game constraint that forces them to retain at least a fraction  $\underline{\chi} \in [0,1]$  of the equity on their balance sheet. The agents can also trade in the risk free security that pays a return  $r_t$  that is determined in the equilibrium. The stochastic discount factor (SDF) process for each type of agent is given by

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_t dt - \zeta_{j,t}^k dZ_t^k - \zeta_{j,t}^a dZ_t^a \quad (5)$$

where  $\zeta_{j,t}^k$  and  $\zeta_{j,t}^a$  are the prices of risk for the shocks  $dZ_t^k$  and  $dZ_t^a$  respectively.

**Preferences and equilibrium** I assume that the agents have recursive utility with IES=1. That is, the utility is given by

$$U_{j,t} = E_t \left[ \int_t^\infty f(c_{j,s}, U_{j,s}) ds \right]$$

with

$$f(c_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = (1 - \gamma) \rho U_{j,t} \left( \log(c_{j,t}) - \frac{1}{1 - \gamma} \log((1 - \gamma) U_{j,t}) \right) \quad (6)$$

where  $\gamma$  and  $\rho$  are the risk aversion and the discount rate coefficients respectively. Following [Gârleanu and Panageas \(2015\)](#), I assume that some agents are born and die at each time instant with a probability  $\lambda_d$ . Let  $\bar{z}$  and  $1 - \bar{z}$  denote the proportion of the experts and the households that are born at each instant respectively. The death risk is not measurable under the filtration generated by the Brownian process  $\mathcal{F}_t$  and the agents do not have bequest motives. Hence, once the agents die, the wealth is pooled and distributed on a pro-rata basis. As a result of the death risk, the rate of time preference parameter  $\rho$  can be thought of as inclusive of the death rate  $\lambda_d$ . I abstract away from the insurance markets to hedge the death risk, similar to [Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre \(2018\)](#) for simplicity. I assume that at each time instant  $dt$ , a fraction  $\tau_t dt$  of the experts become households, where  $\tau_t$  is state-dependent. This transition will be taken into ac-

count in the optimization problem of the agents.<sup>19</sup> This assumption is a parsimonious way to capture bank failures, which are particularly high during financial crises as seen in Figure (1). The experts optimize by maximizing their utility functions, subject to the wealth constraints starting from some initial wealth  $w_{e,0}$ .<sup>20</sup> Let  $\tau'$  denote the time that the experts exit and become households, that is exponentially distributed with the rate  $\tau_t$ . They solve

$$\begin{aligned} U_{e,t} = \sup_{c_{e,t}, k_{e,t}, \chi_{e,t}} E_t \left[ \int_t^{\tau'} f(c_{e,s}, U_{e,s}) ds + U_{h,\tau'} \right] \\ \text{s.t. } \frac{dw_{e,t}}{w_{e,t}} = \left( r_t - \frac{c_{e,t}}{w_{e,t}} + \frac{q_t k_{e,t}}{w_{e,t}} (\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t - (1 - \chi_{e,t}) \epsilon_{h,t}) \right) dt \\ + \sigma_{w_{e,t}} \left( (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a \right) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where  $\frac{q_t k_{e,t}}{w_{e,t}}$  and  $\chi_{e,t}$  denote the fraction of wealth invested in capital, and the experts' inside equity share respectively. The experts obtain a continuation utility of  $U_{h,\tau'}$  starting from the time of transition into households. While the experts obtain an expected excess return of  $\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t$  by investing in the risky asset, they have to pay the outside equity investors  $(1 - \chi_{e,t}) \epsilon_{h,t}$ , where  $\epsilon_{h,t}$  is the premium demanded by the households defined in equation (12). Thus, the latter component is netted out from the total expected return from the capital investment. The skin-in-the game constraint implies that the experts choose  $\chi_{e,t} \in [\underline{\chi}, 1]$ . On the other hand, the households do not issue outside equity implying that  $\chi_{h,t} = 1$  always. I write  $\chi_{e,t}$  simply as  $\chi_t$  for notational convenience henceforth. The households solve

$$\begin{aligned} U_{h,t} = \sup_{c_{h,t}, k_{h,t}} E_t \left[ \int_t^\infty f(c_{h,s}, U_{h,s}) ds \right] \\ \text{s.t. } \frac{dw_{h,t}}{w_{h,t}} = \left( r_t - \frac{c_{h,t}}{w_{h,t}} + \frac{q_t k_{h,t}}{w_{h,t}} (\mu_{h,t}^R - r_t) \right) dt + \sigma_{w_{h,t}} \left( (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a \right) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

<sup>19</sup>Gomez (2019) uses a similar assumption that applies to the leveraged wealthy households, and in Di Tella (2017), a similar exit rate is applied to the intermediaries to generate a non-degenerate stationary distribution. However, they do not model the exit rate as state-dependent. The functional form of  $\tau_t$  is provided later in (22), after constructing of the state space.

<sup>20</sup>Note that since all agents within the same group are identical, the wealth equation is presented for the aggregated agents. For wealth dynamics of individual agent within the group, see Appendix B.1.2.

The diffusion terms of the wealth equation are given by

$$\sigma_{w_e,t} = \frac{q_t k_{e,t}}{w_{e,t}} \chi_t \quad (9)$$

$$\sigma_{w_h,t} = \frac{q_t k_{h,t}}{w_{h,t}} + (1 - \chi_t) \frac{q_t k_{e,t}}{w_{h,t}} \quad (10)$$

The experts retain a fraction  $\chi_t$  of risk in their balance sheet and hence the fraction of capital invested in the diffusion terms are multiplied by this quantity. The households receive the remaining risk that enters in the second part of equation (10). The households face a no-shorting constraint  $k_{h,t} \geq 0$ . I define

$$\epsilon_{e,t} := \zeta_{e,t}^k (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{e,t}^a \sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\zeta_{e,t}^a (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{e,t}^k \sigma_t^{q,a}) \quad (11)$$

$$\epsilon_{h,t} := \zeta_{h,t}^k (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{h,t}^a \sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\zeta_{h,t}^a (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{h,t}^k \sigma_t^{q,a}) \quad (12)$$

There are two prices of risk for each type of the agent:  $\zeta_{j,t}^k$  and  $\zeta_{j,t}^a$ , corresponding to the capital shock and the productivity shock respectively. That is, by borrowing in the risk free market at a rate  $r_t$  and investing in the risky capital, they obtain the prices of risk  $\zeta_{j,t}^k$  and  $\zeta_{j,t}^a$ . The exit rate of experts do not enter in the individual wealth equation, but it appears in the evolution of aggregated experts wealth as shown in Appendix B.1.2. There are in fact an infinite number of agents in the economy but each individual in type  $\mathbb{E}$  and  $\mathbb{H}$  are identical, hence they have the same preferences. Therefore, one can seek an equilibrium in which all agents in the same group take the same policy decisions. For completeness, I present the full version of the equilibrium first.

**Definition 2.1.** A competitive equilibrium is a set of aggregate stochastic processes adapted to the filtration generated by the Brownian motions  $Z_t^k$  and  $Z_t^a$ . Given an initial distribution of wealth between the experts and households, the processes are prices  $(q_t, r_t)$ , policy functions  $(c_{j,t}, \iota_{j,t}, \psi_t; j \in \{e, h\})$  and net worth  $(w_{j,t}; j \in \{e, h\})$ , such that

- Capital market clears:  $\int_{\mathbb{H}} (1 - \psi_t) K_t dj + \int_{\mathbb{E}} \psi_t K_t dj = \int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} k_{j,t} dj \quad \forall t$
- Goods market clear:  $\int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} c_{j,t} dj = \int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} (a_{j,t} - \iota_{j,t}) k_{j,t} dj \quad \forall t$
- $\int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} w_{j,t} dj = \int_{\mathbb{H} \cup \mathbb{E}} q_t k_{j,t} dj \quad \forall t$

**Asset pricing conditions** The equilibrium conditions map the optimal consumption, the investment, the capital share, and the capital price to the history of Brownian shocks  $Z_t^k$  and  $Z_t^a$  through the state variables  $(z_t, a_{e,t})$ . The agents choose the optimal investment rate by maximizing their return to holding the capital. That is,  $\iota_{j,t}$  solves<sup>21</sup>

$$\max_{\iota_{j,t}} \Phi(\iota_{j,t}) - \frac{\iota_{j,t}}{q_t}$$

The optimal investment rate is obtained as

$$\iota_{j,t}^* = \frac{q_t - 1}{\kappa} \quad (13)$$

The investment rate is the same for both types of the agents since it depends only on  $q_t$ . This is a standard ‘q-theory’ result which implies a tight relation between the price of capital and the investment rate. Thus, the growth rate of the economy is endogenously determined by the investment rate through the capital price. A higher price increases the investment rate, and causes a hike in the growth rate of output (since  $\Phi'(\cdot) > 0$ ). The asset pricing relationship for the experts is given by<sup>22</sup>

$$\frac{a_{e,t} - \iota_t}{q_t} + \Phi(\iota_t) - \delta + \mu_t^q + \sigma \sigma_t^{q,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_t^{q,a} - r_t = \chi_t \epsilon_{e,t} + (1 - \chi_t) \epsilon_{h,t} \quad (14)$$

where  $\epsilon_{j,t}$  is defined in (11) and (12). The experts will issue maximum allowed equity  $\underline{\chi}$  if the premium demanded by them is higher than that demanded by the households. The pricing condition of the households is given by

$$\frac{a_h - \iota_t}{q_t} + \Phi(\iota_t) - \delta + \mu_t^q + \sigma \sigma_t^{q,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_t^{q,a} - r_t \leq \epsilon_{h,t} \quad (15)$$

where the equality holds if  $\psi_t < 1$ . We can combine (14) and (15) and write the asset pricing condition as

$$\frac{a_{e,t} - a_h}{q_t} \geq \chi_t (\epsilon_{e,t} - \epsilon_{h,t}) \quad (16)$$

$$\min\{\chi_t - \underline{\chi}, \epsilon_{e,t} - \epsilon_{h,t}\} = 0 \quad (17)$$

<sup>21</sup>Note that the only component in the expected return that contains investment rate is  $\Phi(\iota_{j,t}) - \frac{\iota_{j,t}}{q_t}$ .

<sup>22</sup>This can be shown using a Martingale argument. See Appendix B.1.1 for the proof.



Equation (16) holds with equality if  $\psi_t < 1$ . Equation (17) states that whenever the risk premium of the experts is larger than that of the households, the experts issue maximum outside equity (i.e.,  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$ ). When the experts are wealthy enough such that the constraint is no longer binding, the risk premium becomes equal. I solve for the decentralized Markov equilibrium by summarizing the system in terms of two state variables: wealth share of the experts denoted by  $z_t$ , and the productivity of the experts  $a_{e,t}$ .<sup>23</sup> The wealth share is defined as

$$z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t} \in (0, 1)$$

where  $W_{e,t} = \int_{\mathbb{E}} w_{j,t} dj$ . Moving forward, I write  $X_{h,t}$  and  $X_{e,t}$  to denote the aggregated quantities  $\int_{\mathbb{H}} x_{j,t} dj$  and  $\int_{\mathbb{E}} x_{j,t} dj$  respectively and characterize the model with a representative household and expert.<sup>24</sup>

**Proposition 1.** *The law of motion of the wealth share of experts is given by*

$$\frac{dz_t}{z_t} = \mu_t^z dt + \sigma_t^{z,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{z,a} dZ_t^a \quad (18)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_t^z &= \frac{a_{e,t} - l_t}{q_t} - \frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} + \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) \left( (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) (\hat{\zeta}_{e,t}^1 - (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})) + \sigma_t^{q,a} (\hat{\zeta}_{e,t}^2 - \sigma_t^{q,a}) - 2\varphi(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) \sigma_t^{q,a} \right) \\ &\quad + (1 - \chi_t) \left( (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) (\hat{\zeta}_{e,t}^1 - \hat{\zeta}_{h,t}^1) + \sigma_t^{q,a} (\hat{\zeta}_{e,t}^2 - \hat{\zeta}_{h,t}^2) \right) + \frac{\lambda_d}{z_t} (\bar{z} - z_t) - \tau(a_{e,t}, z_t) \\ \hat{\zeta}_{j,t}^1 &= \zeta_{j,t}^k + \varphi \zeta_{j,t}^a; \quad j \in \{e, h\} \\ \hat{\zeta}_{j,t}^2 &= \zeta_{j,t}^a + \varphi \zeta_{j,t}^k; \quad j \in \{e, h\} \\ \sigma_t^{z,k} &= \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) \\ \sigma_t^{z,a} &= \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) \sigma_t^{q,a} \end{aligned}$$

Proof: See Appendix B.1.2.

The parameters  $\lambda_d$  and  $\bar{z}$  denote the death rate and mean proportion of experts in the economy respectively at each time instant. The exit rate  $\tau_t$  enters the drift of the

<sup>23</sup>All relevant objects scale with the capital  $K_t$  and hence we can summarize the economy in just two state variables.

<sup>24</sup>That is, since each agent within their respective group are identical, solving for the aggregate agent policies are enough.

wealth share.

## 2.1 Model solution

The solution method is reminiscent of the value function iteration with an inner static loop to solve for the equilibrium quantities  $(\chi_t, \psi_t, q_t, \sigma_t^{q,k}, \sigma_t^{q,a})$  using a Newton-Raphson method, and an outer static loop to solve for the value functions  $J_{j,t}$  using a deep neural network architecture. The first step starts from a time  $T$  and solves for the equilibrium policies from the value function that is set to take an arbitrary value. This is analogous to ‘policy improvement’ in the reinforcement learning literature. In the second step, the neural network solves for the value function taking the policies computed in first step as given, which is then used to update the policies in the subsequent step. This corresponds to the ‘policy evaluation’ in the language of reinforcement learning.<sup>25</sup> The two-step procedure is performed repeatedly until the value function converges. I present and discuss the equilibrium policies and relegate the methodological details to Appendix B.1.5.

*Static decisions and HJB equations:* The value function is given by  $U_{j,t}$  and the HJB for optimization problem (7) can be written as

$$\sup_{C_{j,t}, K_{j,t}} f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) + E[dU_{j,t}] = 0 \quad (19)$$

Homothetic preferences imply that the value function is of the form

$$U_{j,t} = \frac{(J_{j,t}(z_t, a_{e,t})K_t)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}$$

with the process for the stochastic opportunity set defined as

$$\frac{dJ_{j,t}}{J_{j,t}} = \mu_{j,t}^J dt + \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a} dZ_t^a \quad (20)$$

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<sup>25</sup>While there are similarities between the value function iteration and reinforcement learning, the state space in my model is known ahead. A large part of the reinforcement learning deals with exploring new state space which is not relevant for the setup considered in this paper.

The aggregate wealth dynamics of the experts is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} = & \left( r_t - \frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} + \frac{q_t K_t}{W_{e,t}} \epsilon_{e,t} - \lambda_d + \frac{\tilde{n} \lambda_d}{z_t} - \tau(z_t, a_{e,t}) \right) dt \\ & + \chi_{e,t} \frac{q_t K_t}{W_{e,t}} (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) dZ_t^k + \chi_{e,t} \frac{q_t K_t}{W_{e,t}} \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The terms involving  $\lambda_d$  are due to the birth and death, and  $\tau(z_t, a_{e,t})$  is the state dependent exit rate. I assume the following function for the exit rate.

$$\tau(z_t, a_{e,t}) = \begin{cases} \tau_c & \text{if } z_t < z^*(a_{e,t}) \\ \tau_n & \text{if } z_t \geq z^*(a_{e,t}) \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

where  $z^*(a_{e,t})$  is the endogenous threshold at which capital gets misallocated and economy is in crisis, and  $(\tau_c, \tau_n)$  are parameters calibrated to the observed bank default rates.

The HJB equation is written as<sup>26</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \left[ \log \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} - \log J_{j,t} + \log(q_t z_{j,t}) \right] + (\Phi(\iota) - \delta) - \frac{\gamma}{2} \sigma^2 + \mu_{j,t}^J - \frac{\gamma}{2} ((\sigma_{j,t}^{J,k})^2 + (\sigma_{j,t}^{J,a})^2) + 2\varphi \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a} \\ + (1 - \gamma)(\sigma \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a}) + 1_{j \in \mathbb{E}} \frac{\tau_t}{1 - \gamma} \left( \left( \frac{J_{j',t}}{J_{j,t}} \right)^{1-\gamma} - 1 \right) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

where the last term on the left hand side is due to exit.<sup>27</sup>

**Proposition 2.** *The optimal consumption policy, and prices of risk are given by*

$$\hat{C}_{j,t} = \rho \quad (24)$$

$$\zeta_{e,t}^k = -(1 - \gamma) \sigma_{e,t}^{J,k} + \sigma_t^{z,k} + \sigma_t^{q,k} + \gamma \sigma \quad (25)$$

$$\zeta_{e,t}^a = -(1 - \gamma) \sigma_{e,t}^{J,a} + \sigma_t^{z,a} + \sigma_t^{q,a} \quad (26)$$

$$\zeta_{h,t}^k = -(1 - \gamma) \sigma_{h,t}^{J,k} - \frac{z_t}{1 - z_t} \sigma_t^{z,k} + \sigma_t^{q,k} + \gamma \sigma \quad (27)$$

$$\zeta_{h,t}^a = -(1 - \gamma) \sigma_{h,t}^{J,a} - \frac{z_t}{1 - z_t} \sigma_t^{z,a} + \sigma_t^{q,a} \quad (28)$$

Proof: See Appendix B.1.3.

<sup>26</sup>The value function is conjectured to be a function of aggregate capital  $K_t$ , instead of the wealth using the relation  $z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t}$ . Hence, the capital share does not enter the HJB equation directly. See Appendix B.1.3 for further details.

<sup>27</sup>The index  $j'$  refers to the other type of agent. That is, for the case of experts,  $j'$  refers to the households. Note that  $z_{j',t}$  equals  $z_t$  in the case of experts and  $1 - z_t$  in the case of households.

The consumption-wealth ratio  $\hat{C}_{j,t}$  is constant and is equal to the discount rate because  $\text{IES}=1$ . The optimal policies are given in terms of the other equilibrium quantities  $(J_{j,t}, \chi_t, \psi_t, q_t)$  which are found by solving for a Markov equilibrium in the state space  $(\mathbf{z}_t \in (0, 1), \mathbf{a}_{e,t} \in (\underline{\mathbf{a}}_e, \mathbf{a}_e))$ .

**Definition 2.2.** A Markov equilibrium in  $(\mathbf{z}_t \in (0, 1), \mathbf{a}_{e,t} \in (\underline{\mathbf{a}}_e, \mathbf{a}_e))$  is a set of adapted processes  $q(z_t, a_{e,t}), r(z_t, a_{e,t}), J_e(z_t, a_{e,t}), J_h(z_t, a_{e,t})$ , policy functions  $\hat{C}_e(z_t, a_{e,t}), \hat{C}_h(z_t, a_{e,t}), \psi(z_t, a_{e,t}), \chi_t(z_t, a_{e,t}), \iota_t(z_t, a_{e,t})$ , and state variables  $\{z_t, a_{e,t}\}$  such that

- $J_{j,t}$  solves the HJB equation and the corresponding policy functions  $\hat{C}_{j,t}, \psi_t$
- Markets clear

$$(\hat{C}_{e,t} z_t + \hat{C}_{h,t} (1 - z_t)) q_t = \psi_t (a_{e,t} - \iota_t) + (1 - \psi_t) (a_h - \iota_t) \quad (29)$$

$$\frac{q_t K_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} z_t + \frac{q_t K_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} (1 - z_t) = 1 \quad (30)$$

- $z_t$  and  $a_{e,t}$  satisfy (18) and (3) respectively

Similar to BS2016, there are three regions in the state space that describe the mechanisms of risk-sharing. In the first region, where  $z_t$  is low, the risk premium of experts is high enough such that condition (16) holds with equality. In this region, the experts issue maximum allowed equity  $\underline{\chi}$  to the households since their risk premium is high. In the second region, the experts hold all capital in the economy. This corresponds to the case when  $\psi = 1$  but the risk premium of experts is still larger than that of households. As a result, they allow maximum allowed equity  $\underline{\chi}_t$ . In the third region, the experts still hold all capital (i.e.,  $\psi = 1$ ) as before, but they now issue outside equity such that  $\epsilon_{e,t} = \epsilon_{h,t}$ . This is the region where the experts are wealthy enough such that the skin-in-the game constraint is no longer binding, and the risk premium of the experts and the households are equal.

**Proposition 3.** *The total return variance is given by*

$$\|\sigma_t^R\|^2 := (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})^2 + (\sigma_t^{q,a})^2 = \frac{\sigma^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_{ae,t}^2}{q_t} \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}}\right)^2}{\left(1 - \frac{1}{q_t} \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} z_t \left(\frac{\psi_t \chi_t}{z_t} - 1\right)\right)^2} \quad (31)$$

Proof. See Appendix B.1.4.

The first term in the numerator on the R.H.S of equation (31) reflects the fundamental volatility while the second term captures the contribution of productivity shocks. There are two effects that drive the total volatility: (a) Since  $\frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} > 0$ , and  $\frac{\psi_t \chi_t}{z_t} \geq 1$  in equilibrium<sup>28</sup> in the crisis region, the denominator contributes towards a higher return volatility than the fundamental volatility  $\sigma$  (b) Since  $\frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} > 0$ , the second part in the numerator adds to the amplification caused by (a). The equations (29), (31), and (16) are used to solve for  $(q_t, \sigma_t^{q,k}, \sigma_t^{q,a}, \chi_t, \psi_t)$ . The remaining equilibrium objects can be obtained from these quantities. Appendix B.1.5 explains the solution steps in detail.

## 2.2 Calibration

The calibration strategy follows the standard procedure in the literature where each model parameter is identified with a moment.

**RBC parameters:** The investment cost parameter is calibrated to generate an investment-capital ratio of 8%. The depreciation rate is chosen to match the average investment rate.<sup>29</sup> The conditional risk premium in the model is determined by the productivity gap between the households and intermediaries. The predictive regression results from (2) estimates the risk premium conditional on crisis to be around 25%. I choose the gap between average expert productivity  $\hat{a}_e$  and  $a_h$  to target a 25% conditional risk premium. The correlation of shocks to level of capital and expert productivity is chosen to be 0.5. This is guided by -0.48 empirical correlation of bank efficiency and log GDP between the period 1996Q1 to 2020Q4.<sup>30</sup>

**Preference parameters:** The discount rate is taken to be 5% from the literature (closer to 4% used in Gertler and Kiyotaki (2010)). Risk aversion parameter  $\gamma$  is chosen to be 7 that targets an unconditional risk premium of 5%. A larger risk aversion parameter implies a higher risk premium implied by the model, but too large a value can reduce the probability of crisis.<sup>31</sup> I find the value of 7 to be a good balance between the unconditional risk premium and the crisis frequency. The death rate is chosen to be 3% meaning that

<sup>28</sup>The quantity  $\frac{\psi_t \chi_t}{z_t}$  is the experts exposure to the investment in risky capital. This quantity is larger than 1 whenever the expected return of experts is greater than that of households, which is the case in crisis region.

<sup>29</sup>The average investment rate in the data is around 14%, with a volatility of 4.7% between the year 1975 to 2015 (He and Krishnamurthy (2019)).

<sup>30</sup>Bank efficiency is measured as the asset-weighted average ratio of non-operating income to cost ratio for bank holding companies in the US. The data is at quarterly frequency from 1984Q1 till 2020Q4.

<sup>31</sup>This tension is explored in detail in Section 3.2.

experts live on average for 37 years.<sup>32</sup> The fraction of new born agents designated as intermediaries is calibrated to 0.1 following Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre (2018).

**Productivity parameters:** The parameter  $\pi$  governs the persistence of productivity, and is chosen to target the duration of crisis. The empirically bank efficiency cycle is highly persistent with an AR(1) correlation coefficient of 0.77. The parameter  $\pi$  is calibrated to generate a persistent productivity process. The volatility parameter  $\nu$  is calibrated such that the variance of simulated productivity process is approximately equal to the empirical bank efficiency variance of 7%.

**Other parameters:** The exit rate of experts is parameterized by  $\tau_n$  and  $\tau_c$ , that are important in governing the transition in and out of crisis. The baseline rate  $\tau_n$  is set to 5%, comparable to the 6% rate in Li (2020). Empirically, bank default volume is approximately 15 times larger compared to the periods outside crisis.<sup>33</sup> Taking into account a recovery rate of 20%, the exit rate during crisis is around 12 times larger than the normal period, implying a  $\tau_c$  of 60%. Finally, the equity retention threshold is set to be 0.65. This is comparable to the value of 0.5 used in BS2016 and Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre (2018).

Figure (2) presents the equilibrium quantities obtained from the numerical solution. The productivity level has a large effect on the capital price. A lower level of expert productivity implies a lower capital price throughout the state space. The presence of productivity shocks allow the return volatility to be higher than the fundamental volatility even in the normal regime. When the wealth share of the more productive experts is higher, capital is fully held by them. They always operate with leverage in equilibrium and therefore, when a negative shock hits the capital, their net worth decreases disproportionately more than that of the households resulting in a deterioration of their wealth share. When it falls below a threshold  $\{z^*(a_e)\}$ , the system endogenously enters into the crisis region featuring depressed asset prices, and higher asset volatility. The jump in prices occurs due to the fire sales. In the crisis region, experts start selling capital to the households who always value it less. Hence, the capital price has to fall enough for households to purchase it and clear the market. The fall in capital price is

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<sup>32</sup>Gârleanu and Panageas (2015), and Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre (2018) use a value of 2% which is comparable to the value of 3% used in this paper.

<sup>33</sup>This is based on historical data from the FDIC between the year 2001 till 2020. During the period 2008-2011, the total bank default volume is approximately USD 667 billion, whereas outside this period, the total default volume is USD 44 billion.

an inefficiency caused by failure to internalize the pecuniary externality by the agents. This is because each individual in the economy takes prices as given in their respective decision making process. To be more concrete, whenever experts choose not to hold capital, they fail to take into account the fact that the households will be forced to hold it by market clearing. Since the households value capital less, they will demand a higher premium resulting in a fall in the capital price. This feeds-back into the experts balance sheet since they are leveraged, and causes further inefficiency and misallocation of resources. There is a second externality that the experts do not take into consideration, which is the increase in exit rate when the system enters the crisis region. The pricing dynamics is different from the heterogeneous risk aversion literature in complete markets (see [Gârleanu and Panageas \(2015\)](#), for example). With homogeneous productivity and heterogeneous risk aversion, experts will sell capital to household during periods of distress who will demand a higher premium (and lower price) due to their *higher risk aversion*. Although both models feature a drop in prices during the crisis, the change will be gradual in the latter.

The jump in prices due to fire-sale effect can only be explained from the differences in productivity rates in an incomplete market setting and no-shorting constraint. There will be a state space where the experts hold all capital since the risk premium of households is lower than that of the experts. In such states, the households would desire to hold a negative quantity of capital but since shorting is disallowed, they will hold no capital at all. In contrast, if the productivity of households is the same as experts, they will face the same risk premium as experts. Therefore, even if their risk aversion is smaller, they would desire to hold some positive quantity of capital. This makes the transition from the normal to crisis regime smoother.<sup>34</sup>

### 3 Quantitative analysis

In this section, I consider a simpler model without stochastic productivity and exit rate of the experts that will serve as a benchmark model for the quantitative analysis. Through simulation studies, I show that there is a trade-off between the amplification and the persistence of financial crises in this simpler model. While there are many chan-

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<sup>34</sup>This dynamics is present in [Gârleanu and Panageas \(2015\)](#). [Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre \(2018\)](#) offer additional insights for the case of heterogeneous productivity vs heterogeneous risk aversion.



nels that generate this tension, I focus on the risk aversion channel.<sup>35</sup>

### 3.1 Benchmark model

I assume that the productivity rate of both the experts and the households is constant such that  $a_e > a_h$  holds, and the exit rate is zero. With these two simplifications, the model reduces to BS2016 augmented with recursive preference and OLG elements. While the agents have CRRA utility function in BS2016, I assume that they have recursive preference so as to disentangle the risk aversion and the inter-temporal elasticity of substitution. The rest of the assumptions carry over from the stochastic productivity model in Section 2. That is, the output is given by AK technology as in (1), with  $a_e$  and  $a_h$  as the productivity rates of the experts and the households respectively. The evolution of capital is governed by (2) as before. Appendix C.1 presents the model in detail along with the numerical procedure and the solution.

**Comparative statics:** Figure (3) shows the risk premium for the experts along with the stationary density of expert wealth share in the benchmark model.<sup>36</sup> The static comparison from the left hand side figure in (3) reveals that as the risk aversion increases, the premium on the risky capital rises for the experts. The other equilibrium objects such as capital price, return volatility, capital share of experts, drift of wealth share, and volatility of wealth share are shown in Figure (11) in Appendix C.1. Even though the price volatility is lower for higher risk aversion, there is a region in the parameter space where it is much higher than the case of lower risk aversion. That is, with lower risk aversion levels, the endogenous risk is higher but displays a smaller crisis region. Lastly, changes in the market price of risk induced by varying risk aversion translate to vast differences in the drift of the wealth share. This has a direct impact on how the system transitions in and out of the crisis region.

**Stationary distribution:** While Figure (3a) gives us a qualitative description of the economy, the stationary distribution of the wealth share is required to confront the model with the data. The stationary distribution represents the average location of the state variable  $z_t$  in the interval  $[0, 1]$  as  $t \rightarrow \infty$  for any given starting point  $z_0$ . I obtain this

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<sup>35</sup>See Appendix C.3 for details on the skin-in-the-game constraint generating a similar trade-off.

<sup>36</sup>The parameters used for calibration are shown in Table (10) in Appendix C.1.

distribution by numerically simulating the model for 5000 years at monthly frequency. The simulation maps the Brownian shocks  $Z_t^k$  to state variable  $z_t$  which is governed by the law of motion given by equation (62) in Appendix C.1. I repeat the procedure 1000 times and ignore the first 1000 years so that the distribution is not sensitive to the arbitrarily chosen initial value  $z_0$ . I annualize the result and repeat the procedure for different initial values to ensure that the economy has converged. I explain the numerical procedure in detail in Appendix C.2. I assess how well the model captures the salient empirical features of financial crises in the data. I define the crisis moments as follows

1. *Crisis event* is defined as states where the capital is misallocated to the households and skin-in-the game constraints are binding. In this state, risk premium is high, and GDP growth is low, reflecting the empirical nature of financial crisis. This definition is similar to Maxted (2020) who defines crises as states where the capacity constraint is binding. The *amplification* in my model refers to the moments computed when the economy is in crisis state.
2. *Probability of crisis*: The proportion of time that the economy spends in crisis state. Analyzing a large set of advanced economies over several years, Reinhart and Rogoff (2009) estimates this value to be 7% empirically. They define crisis to be recessions with severe banking panics.
3. *Duration of crisis*: The average amount of time in months it takes to recover and revert to the normal state conditioning on entering the crisis state. The average length of contraction cycle from NBER recessionary data is around 18 months. The simulated mean duration of crisis is taken to be the model implied *persistence*.

Figure (3b) plots the stationary distribution of the wealth share for three different risk aversion levels. As the risk aversion increases, the mass of wealth share that lies in the crisis zone diminishes. In fact, it shrinks rather quickly and this result also holds if I allow for heterogeneous risk aversion with the experts being less risk averse. The stationary distribution gives us additional insights that one cannot obtain from studying the comparative static plots. Looking at Figure (3a), it appears as if increasing risk aversion will not have a drastic impact on the frequency of a crisis since the boundary  $z^*$ , the point at which the risk premium jumps and investment rate falls, moves only

slightly to the right.<sup>37</sup> However, higher risk aversion increases the drift of wealth share a lot and pushes the stationary distribution away from the crisis region to a greater extent. Since the experts operate with leverage, a higher price of risk will have a positive effect on their wealth share. From figure (12) in Appendix C.1 that plots the stationary distributions along with the crisis boundary, we can see that the boundary  $z^*$  is far from the stochastic steady state  $\hat{z}$  for higher levels of risk aversion.<sup>38</sup> This means that a much longer sequence of negative shocks are required to push the system into the crisis region.

**Comparison to Data** While the crisis is well defined and endogenously determined in the model, defining the crisis episodes in the data is a challenge. Reinhart and Rogoff (2009) determine the frequency of crisis states to be around 7% for the advanced economy. This figure is much lower than the 29% percentage NBER recessionary periods from year 1874 till today.<sup>39</sup> The stark difference in the frequency between Reinhart and Rogoff (2009) and NBER data is due to the fact that in the former, recessionary periods need to feature severe banking panic to qualify as financial crises. This relates to the findings by Muir (2017) and Gorton and Ordoñez (2020) that not all recessions are financial crisis episodes. Muir (2017) finds that the risk premium is higher during financial crises than recessions, where a financial crisis occurs when the wealth share of intermediaries deteriorate sufficiently, just like in the model considered in this paper. HK2019 argue that the past decade in the US featured roughly three financial crisis periods. I take the probability of being in the crisis period as 7% for the purpose of quantitative calibration. For each  $z_t$  simulated from the discretized version of its dynamics, the equilibrium quantities are computed using the mapping given by the equilibrium functions.<sup>40</sup> Following this, various model-implied moments are computed and compared to the data as will be explained. Since the empirical risk premium is not observed, I estimate its mean and volatility using return forecasting regression (32).

$$R_{t+1}^e = a + \beta * D_t/P_t + \beta_{rec} * 1_{Rec} * D_t/P_t + \beta_{fin} * 1_{fin} * D_t/P_t + \epsilon_t \quad (32)$$

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<sup>37</sup>The point  $z^*$  denotes the point at which the experts start fire selling the capital to the households, and is defined to be the crisis boundary. Formally,  $z^* = \sup\{z_t \mid \psi_t < 1\}$  where  $\psi_t$  is the share of capital held by the experts.

<sup>38</sup>The stochastic steady state can be defined as  $\hat{z} := \{z_t : \mu_t^z(z_t) = 0\}$ .

<sup>39</sup>The percentage of NBER recessionary periods since the beginning of Federal Reserve (1914) is around 20%.

<sup>40</sup>See Appendix C.2.5 for details.

I split the NBER recessionary periods into crisis (financial recession) and non-crisis (non-financial recession) periods based on the definition of [Reinhart and Rogoff \(2009\)](#). I then run predictive regressions with dividend yield ( $D_t/P_t$ ) as the regressor and 1-year ahead stock returns as the dependent variable. Regression (I) in Table (2) uses just the dividend yield as regressor and the regressions (II), and (III) include a dummy for non-financial recession and financial crisis respectively. The dividend yield and stock return data are from Robert Shiller's website. I use monthly frequency from years 1945 till 2021. The indicator functions  $1_{Rec}$ , and  $1_{fin}$  take a value 1 in months of NBER non-financial recession and financial recession respectively. The dummy variable corresponding to the financial crisis is positive and statistically significant as seen in Table (2).<sup>41</sup> The R-squared value is also higher controlling for recession and financial crises indicating a better predictive power. This confirms the finding in [Muir \(2017\)](#) that the risk premium is much higher during financial crises and the predictive power is improved by conditioning on the recessionary periods. I take the fitted value from regression (III) in Table (2) and compute the standard deviation to obtain the volatility of the risk premium.

### 3.2 Tension between amplification and persistence of crises

A trade-off between the amplification and the persistence of financial crises arises in the benchmark model. One such channel that generates this trade-off is the risk aversion of the agents. The level of amplification required to match the empirical asset pricing moments leads to two related problems. First, the probability of a crisis implied by the model with high risk aversion becomes too small to reconcile with the data. Second, and more importantly, higher the amplification, less persistent the crises episodes implied by the model. I first explain the trade-off between the risk premium and the probability of crisis, and then explain how a higher amplification (conditional risk premium) can be attained only at the cost of a lower persistence.

Figure (4) plots the unconditional risk premium, the volatility of risk premium, and the probability of crisis. With a risk aversion equal to 1, the parameters in Table (10) lead to 7.8% probability of crisis. The unconditional mean risk premium is around 1.7%. One way to obtain even higher risk premium is by pumping up the risk aversion. However,

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<sup>41</sup>This finding is robust to using different time periods such as 1871-2018 (time since Shiller's data is available), and 1914-2018 (since the start of Federal Reserve).

increasing the risk aversion leads to the probability of crisis declining rapidly. As the values in Table (3) suggest, to obtain an empirically observed unconditional risk premium of 7.5%, the risk aversion has to be around 20. For this high level of risk aversion, the economy almost never enters into the crisis state. The reason is that a higher risk premium increases the wealth share of experts in the stochastic steady state and therefore, a series of large negative shocks is required for the wealth share to diminish enough and push the system into the crisis zone. The model implied standard deviation of the risk premium is 3.1% (see column 5 of Table (3)) which occurs solely due to the non-linearity in the model between the normal and the crisis regime. The point is that while the comparative static plots in Figure (3) feature large risk premium in some regions of the state space, if the dynamics of the model is such that these regions are barely reached, then the model cannot match the high risk premium in the data.

The persistence of financial crises is as much an important empirical phenomenon as the amplification. A direct measure of persistence is the duration. Fixing the model implied frequency of crisis at 7%, the average length of the crisis that the model can generate is around 6 months, which is much shorter than observed in the data. While there is disagreement regarding the empirical length of crises in the literature, the consensus is that it is larger than eight months.<sup>42</sup> Figure (5) plots the frequency distribution of the crisis length observed in the model. Most of the mass lies in periods less than 5 months and a crisis length of more than 10 months is probabilistically very small. The reason for this is that the only shocks in the model are Brownian, whose increments are i.i.d normal. Hence, a negative shock that impairs the expert wealth share is on average followed by a positive shock that restores the lost wealth quickly. This is the case despite the model featuring leveraged experts. To be more concrete, imagine that the system has just entered the crisis period following a series of negative shocks. The capital price and investment are lower and put a downward pressure on the net worth of intermediaries. However, the risk premium is higher and as the intermediaries operate with leverage, they earn more since they hold a larger proportion of risky capital. The latter effect is larger than the former and makes the drift of the wealth share high enough to push the system back to the normal regime. When risk aversion is higher, the risk premium effect is even larger resulting in the average length of the crisis to fall even more. In other

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<sup>42</sup>See [He and Krishnamurthy \(2013\)](#), [Muir \(2017\)](#) for example.

words, a larger risk aversion creates higher amplification but dampens the persistence. Figure (5) shows the average length of crisis for different values of risk aversion. As the risk aversion increases, the mass of crisis length that lies in the range 1-2 months increases. As for the mass of crisis length that lies above 2 months, the opposite is true. This indicates that crises periods are far too infrequent in the model when the agents are more risk averse. The dynamics explained above corroborates with this observation.

This tension between the persistence and the amplification is robust to the choices of any parameter values and utility functions. In the case of CRRA utility, and recursive utility with non-unitary IES, the consumption-wealth ratio is time varying and affects the drift of the wealth share in addition to the risk premium, capital price, and investment. However, the effect of the risk premium highly dominates the other effects and hence this tension is pervasive for more general preferences as well.<sup>43</sup> There are also other channels through which this tension becomes evident. In Appendix C.3, I show that decreasing the skin-in-the-game constraint leads to a more amplified crisis, but reduces the persistence. When the experts are constrained to keep a larger (smaller) fraction of the equity on their balance sheet, the risk premium becomes larger (smaller) in the crisis state, which increases (decreases) the wealth share of the experts leading to a quick (late) recovery. This indicates that the tension observed is not a matter of calibration. Regardless of how one calibrates the model to generate a high amplification to the extent that is observed in the data, the high risk premium in the amplified crisis state causes the experts to repair their balance sheets by quickly building sufficient capital, thereby failing to match the prolonged crisis that we see in the data.

*Other moments:* Figure (4) presents the data moments that the model aims to match along with the methodology to compute them. The benchmark model delivers an unconditional average GDP growth rate of around 2.3% and an investment rate of 6%. An important measure of model success is its ability to capture the observed non-linearity in the data. The GDP growth rate conditional on being in crisis region is around -8%. The empirical annualized GDP growth rate during the third quarter of 2008 was -8.2%. In this respect, the model captures the non-linearity quite well. However, the drop in investment rate implied by the model during the crisis is not sufficient to reconcile with

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<sup>43</sup>I experiment with log, CRRA, recursive utility with IES=1, and recursive utility with IES different from 1. Appendix C.1 solves the benchmark model with these utility functions using the finite difference up-winding scheme. The results from simulation studies for the case of all utility functions are not included in the paper but they display the same tension between the persistence and the amplification that is explained in the paper.

the data. The private investment rate fell by 8% during the third quarter of 2008 whereas the model implied investment rate conditional on being in the crisis is 4%. Note that even though the output of experts and households individually move in sync with the capital due to the assumption of AK technology, the aggregate output depends on the aggregate dividend, which is a function of the capital share. During the crisis period, less productive households hold capital and hence the aggregate dividend drops to a large extent, and this causes the output to drop a lot as well. On the other hand, the investment rate is determined by the capital prices alone. The drop in capital price during the crisis period is not large enough to generate the observed drop in investment rate.<sup>44</sup> The volatility of investment rate implied by the model is close to zero. Overall, while the model captures the non-linearity in output growth, it misses out on the non-linearity in mean and volatility of investment rate. This result is similar to HK2019 who obtain a realistic consumption volatility but too low an investment volatility. This calls for future work to match both output and investment dynamics. The mean leverage of expert sector implied by the model with unitary risk aversion is 3.23, comparable to the empirical leverage of 3.77.<sup>45</sup> The model also features a counter-cyclical leverage. Even though the experts fire sell the assets to the households in periods of distress, the price of capital also drops, which depresses the experts' equity. Since the experts operate with leverage in equilibrium, the drop in expert equity is more than the drop in assets, which results in a rising leverage. Table (11) shows that the correlation between the shock and the leverage ranges from -19% to -22% for different risk aversion levels. This matches the empirical correlation of -18% quite well. However, as risk aversion increases, the level of leverage falls. With a risk aversion level as high as 10, the leverage is 1.43, well short of the empirical leverage of 3.77. Overall, for lower risk aversion levels, the model seems to do well in matching the leverage patterns. Lastly, the model does not generate excess asset return volatility (Shiller (1981)). The unconditional return volatility is more or less the same as the exogenous fundamental volatility of 6%, even though it shoots up in the crisis state. This is because the endogenous risk  $\sigma_t^q$  becomes zero in the normal regime. The conditional volatility, albeit high, is not large enough to make the unconditional one match the data.

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<sup>44</sup>The result is not much quantitatively different if one assumes a quadratic functional form instead of logarithmic for the capital adjustment costs  $\Phi(\cdot)$ .

<sup>45</sup>This number is taken from HK2019.



Table (5) summarizes the ability of the benchmark model to succeed in different aspects. By far, matching the intermediary leverage pattern and the non-linearity in output growth seem to be the strongest suit of the model. The model cannot resolve the tension between unconditional risk premium, conditional risk premium, and persistence of crisis for any reasonable parameters in calibration. The focus of the next section is to provide a resolution to this problem.

## 4 Resolution of the tension between amplification and persistence of crises

In this section, I quantify the model with stochastic productivity and exit rate of experts and show that it resolves the tension between the persistence and the amplification of financial crises, and provides reasonable time variation in the prices. Similar to the benchmark model, I assume that the system is in crisis state whenever the wealth share is below the endogenous crisis threshold  $z^*(a_{e,t})$ , the point at which the experts fire-sell capital to the households.<sup>46</sup> Figure (6) plots the stationary marginal distribution of the wealth share obtained through simulation.<sup>47</sup> Table (6) presents the average duration of crisis in the benchmark model and the stochastic productivity model and compares them against the data. There is a substantial controversy in the literature regarding the duration of crises (Reinhart and Rogoff (2009)). The NBER reports that the Great Recession started at December 2007 and ended at June 2009, indicating an 18 month duration.<sup>48</sup> To facilitate comparisons, I adjust the parameters to generate a comparable probability of the crisis in the range of 7-8% across the the benchmark and my model. The numbers in Table (6) can be thought of as the ability of the models to generate the stated duration for a reasonable crisis probability of 7-8%. Both of the benchmark models deliver a duration of crisis that is much lower than observed in the data. The mean duration from my model matches the data quite well although the 10th and 50th percentile values are lower. The parameters used for calibrating my model are shown

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<sup>46</sup>Note that in this two-dimensional model, the crisis boundary is a function of expert productivity. The simulation results show that the economy enters crisis mostly when the productivity is well below its mean. This can also be verified by inspecting the joint density shown in Figure (7).

<sup>47</sup>The simulation method is similar to the benchmark model except that the equilibrium objects are two-dimensional.

<sup>48</sup>The average duration of recession in the past 33 cycles from year 1854 to 2020 is around 18 months. Source: <https://www.nber.org/cycles.html>.

in Table (1).

Figure (8) plots the frequency distribution of the wealth share during the time the system spends in the crisis region. In the benchmark model (left panel), a lot of the mass lies near the crisis boundary of 0.125 compared to the interior region where the wealth share is close to zero. The reason for this is that the benchmark model has only one i.i.d Brownian shock. After a series of negative shock hits the economy, the system enters the crisis leading to a sharp increase in the risk premium. Since the experts are always leveraged in equilibrium, the larger risk premium loads positively on the drift of the wealth share of experts. Moreover, the assumption of i.i.d Brownian shock implies that a series of negative shock is often followed by a positive shock. Thus, the experts recapitalize quickly by capturing the high risk premium leading to short lived crises. Comparatively, the frequency distribution of the wealth share in the crisis region in my model, as shown in the right panel in Figure (8), features fatter tails. The economic mechanisms that generate this result rests on three forces. Firstly, negative shocks to the capital impairs the net worth of the experts just like in the benchmark model. This is the financial amplification channel that is widely covered in the literature. The second force comes from stochastic productivity. The aggregate banking sector productivity is lower during crisis state. The key comparative advantage of the experts in my model is that they have a higher productivity rate of operating capital. During bad times, this comparative advantage diminishes.<sup>49</sup> The stochastic productivity helps achieve realistic probability of crisis even for higher risk aversion levels. If the productivity is constant like in the baseline model, the risk averse experts will always remain wealthy by earning a large premium. Negative shocks to the capital in the stochastic steady state will not be enough to generate realistic crises events. In my model, negative shocks to the capital also pushes the experts productivity down that negatively impacts the risk premium. Hence, a series of negative shocks reduces the premium earned in the normal region and will put a downward pressure on the drift of the wealth share, eventually causing sufficient deterioration in the net worth of experts to generate crises events.

The third force is the exit rate of experts that is larger during bad times. While the overlapping generations capture the demographic changes relating to natural birth and death of agents, the exit rate captures the retirement of the experts. In normal times,

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<sup>49</sup>Simulation shows that the crisis zone features both a lower wealth share and a lower productivity of experts as seen in the right panel of Figure (7).

the experts retire at a rate of 5.0%. When they retire, they don't consume all of their wealth immediately. Instead they transition into households until death. While the crisis is endogenously determined in my model, as soon as the crisis boundary is hit, the exit rate shoots up from 5.0% to 60%. A higher exit rate during crisis parsimoniously captures the strikingly large number of bank failures during financial crises, as evident in figure (1). The fact that a large fraction of the experts retire and become households means that the proportion of the agents who operate capital more productively is lower in times of distress than in the normal times. This has a dominating effect on the drift of the wealth share, and pushes the economy deeper into the crisis since the exit rate loads negatively on the drift. The only way for the economy to break out of the crisis is for the remaining smaller proportion of the experts to be more productive again, since higher productivity pushes up the risk premium enabling the experts to rebuild their wealth.<sup>50</sup> However, the rate at which the expert productivity reverts to its mean is low, and this sluggish reversion means that the economy spends a long amount of time in state of distress until the effect of increased productivity is dominant. This leads to delayed recovery out of the crisis. Once the system is back to the normal regime, all capital in the economy is held by the experts, and the financial amplification is shut down.

Table (8) compares the moments of key asset pricing and macroeconomic variables between my model and the benchmark model. The unconditional risk premium of 5.0% is comparable to the empirical value of 5.5%, whereas, the benchmark model generates a mere 1.7% premium. Importantly, my model allows for reasonable crisis dynamics by simultaneously generating a high conditional risk premium of 17.5% and long duration of crisis of 18.5 months, without compromising on the other dimensions. That is, the unconditional mean leverage, GDP growth rate, investment-capital ratio, and correlation between expert leverage and capital shock are comparable to the data.

To further understand the individual role of stochastic productivity and exit rate in delivering quantitative results, I compare my model against two other benchmark models: a) Model B1, which considers stochastic productivity but without exit, and b) Model B2, which considers constant productivity and state-dependent exit. The trade-offs analyzed in the benchmark model also carries over to model B1. While stochastic

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<sup>50</sup>The consumption-wealth ratio of the agents is constant due to the assumption of a unitary IES. For a non-unitary IES, the consumption-wealth ratio may also increase due to increased productivity of the experts and contribute positively towards the wealth share of experts.

productivity helps in generating more time variation in the risk premium compared to the benchmark model, the duration of crisis implied is lower compared to the data, as seen in Table (8). Without state-dependent exit, the proportion of experts who recapitalize their balance sheet by earning a large risk premium is high, and the economy recovers out of crisis quickly as a result. Hence, features related to bankruptcy of intermediaries or bank runs are crucial in explaining slow recovery from crisis. This relates to [Gertler, Kiyotaki and Prestipino \(2020\)](#) who build a quantitative macroeconomic model with bank runs as the main driver behind the 2008 financial crisis. However, incorporating bankruptcy without stochastic productivity is not sufficient to generate realistic crisis dynamics. Table (8) presents the results of model B3 that includes state-dependent exit but with constant productivity. When the exit rate is calibrated to empirical default rates, the probability of crisis implied by the model is unrealistically large. During bad times, a higher exit rate of experts pushes the economy in crisis. Without the offsetting force of mean-reverting productivity, the effect of exit rate continues to dominate the drift of wealth share, trapping the economy in distressed state around 80% of the time.

My model generates a larger drop in the investment rate in the crisis period but still falls short of negative investment rate observed in the data. During the last quarter of 2008, the private domestic investments in the United States fell by approximately 8%. The q-theory result in the model ties the investment rate tightly to the capital price. Hence, the capital price needs to fall drastically to generate fall in investment rate to the extent that is observed in the data. My model is certainly an improvement over the benchmark in this regard, but more work needs to be done in jointly matching the investment and output dynamics.<sup>51</sup> Lastly, the variation in investment rate and risk free rate is higher in my model compared to the benchmark model due to time varying experts productivity. Also, the model implied unconditional volatility of the risk premium is 5.3%, well in line with the empirical value of 5.1% reported in Table (3). Overall, my model does a good job of balancing the persistence and the amplification, and delivers a reasonable time variation in the prices.

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<sup>51</sup>Note that I have assumed a simple logarithmic form to model technological illiquidity following [Brunnermeier and Sannikov \(2016\)](#). Using other functional forms, for example as found in [Di Tella \(2017\)](#) also fail to generate a large drop in investment during crises periods.

## 5 Conclusion

Financial recessions are typically characterized with high risk premium and slow revival. I have built a macro-finance asset pricing model with intermediaries facing productivity shocks and state-dependent exit rate. A sequence of bad shocks to the capital also lowers the productivity rate of experts, reflecting the diminishing comparative advantage that the experts have over the households in terms of productivity differential. A simpler model with constant expert productivity and no exit rate cannot simultaneously generate amplified and persistent financial crises. There is a trade-off between the risk premium and the probability and duration of crises. I show that auxiliary model features that improve the financial amplification channel dampens the persistence of crisis. The model is however successful in capturing the non-linearity in output and the intermediary leverage patterns.

The richer model with stochastic productivity and exit rate of the intermediaries can resolve this tension and quantitatively generate a high risk premium, a large drop in output, decreased financial intermediation, counter-cyclical leverage, and prolonged distress periods. The twin forces of state-dependent exit and stochastic productivity are at the core of improved dynamics in my model. In particular, a higher exit rate and lower productivity of experts in bad times forces the economy to dip deeper into recession, which revives eventually once productivity mean reverts. The model also generates a large time variation in the investment rate due to the stochastic nature of expert productivity, which is absent in the benchmark model. An interesting avenue for future research is to build a model that endogenously causes variation in the expert productivity and exit rate, which are exogenous forces in my model. I have utilized a novel method of solving the model based on active machine learning that encodes the economic information as regularizers in a deep neural network. The algorithm is scalable and has the potential to solve high dimensional problems with less effort in the numerical setup, opening up new avenues to model asset pricing with frictions in potentially large dimensions.

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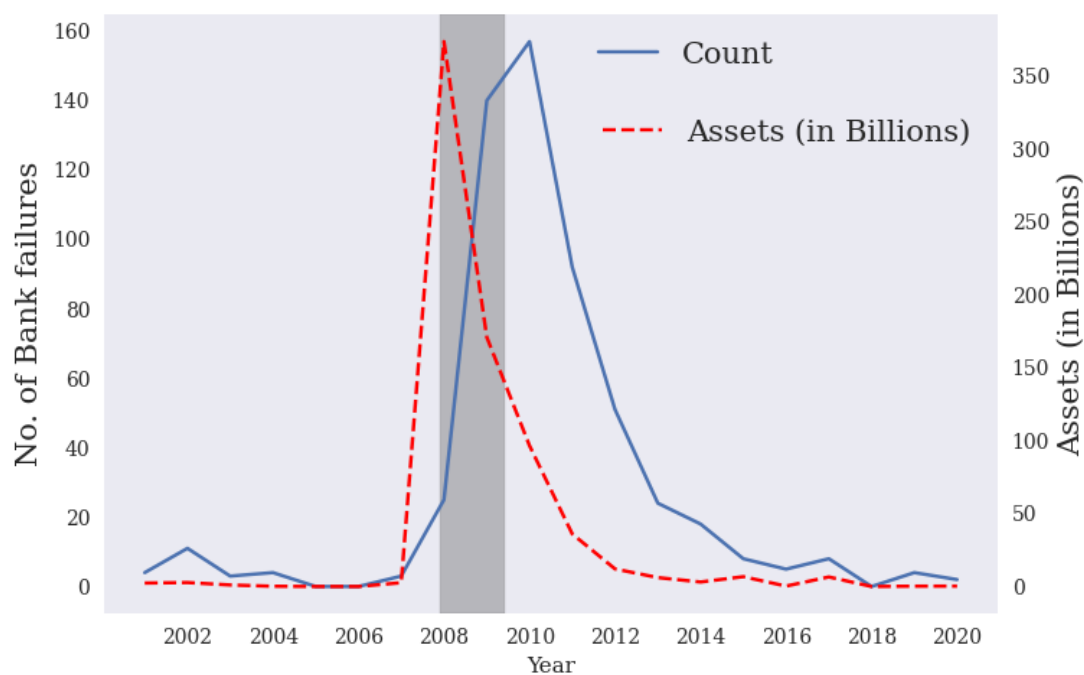
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# A Figures and Tables

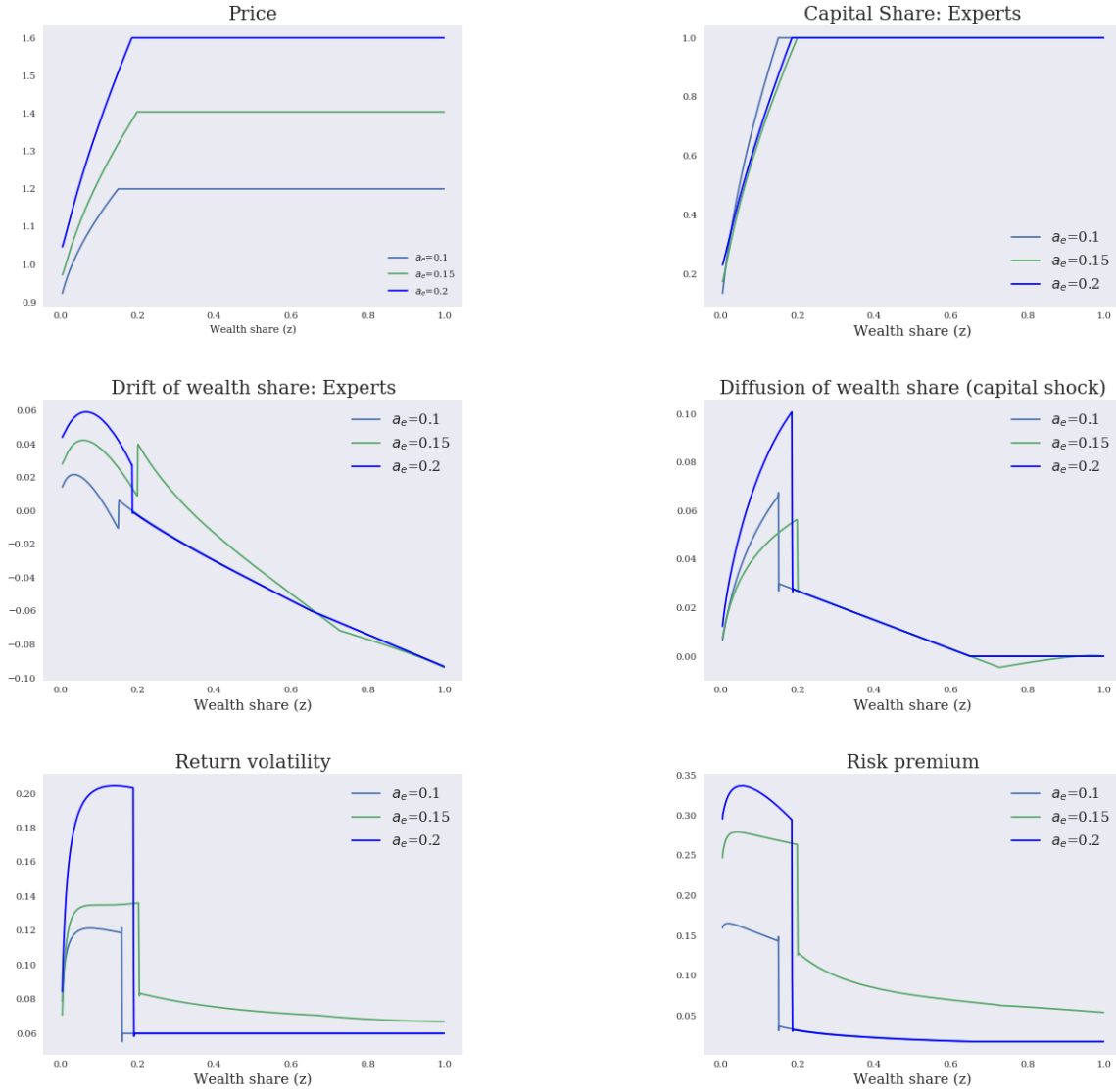
## A.1 Figures

Figure 1: Bank failures



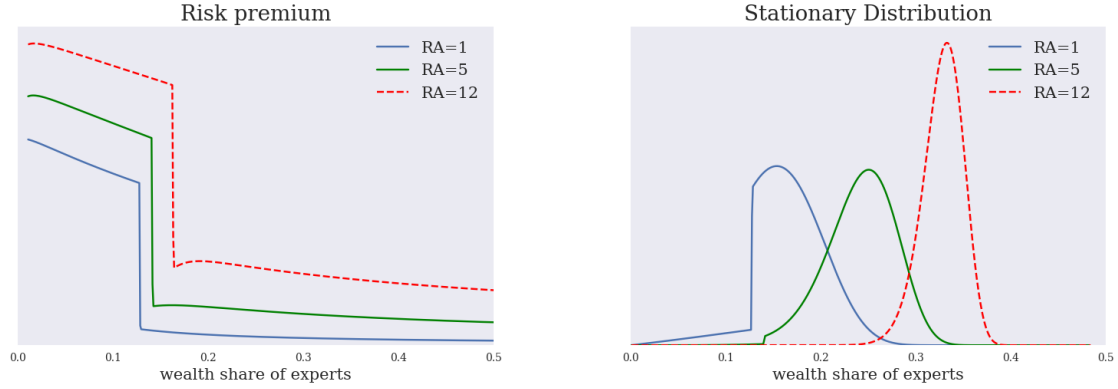
*Note:* The solid line indicates the number of bank failures and the dashed line indicates the default volume. The shaded region represent the NBER recessionary period. Source: Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Figure 2: Model solution



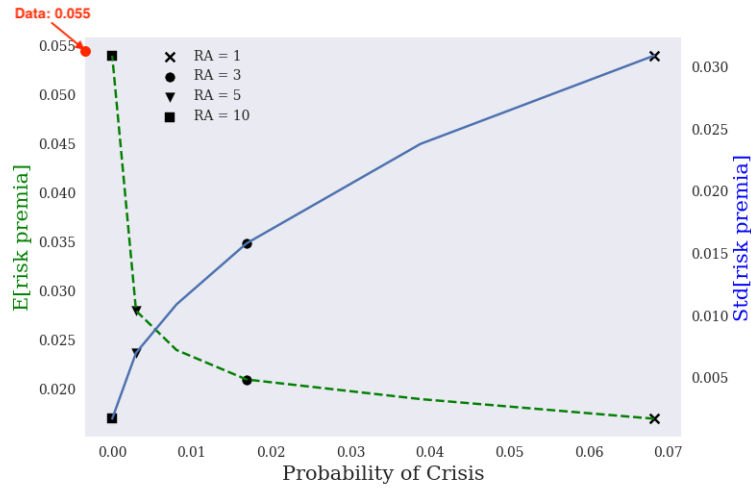
*Note:* Equilibrium values as functions of the state variable wealth share ( $z_t$ ) for different values of expert productivity ( $a_{e,t}$ ).

Figure 3: Risk premium and stationary distribution



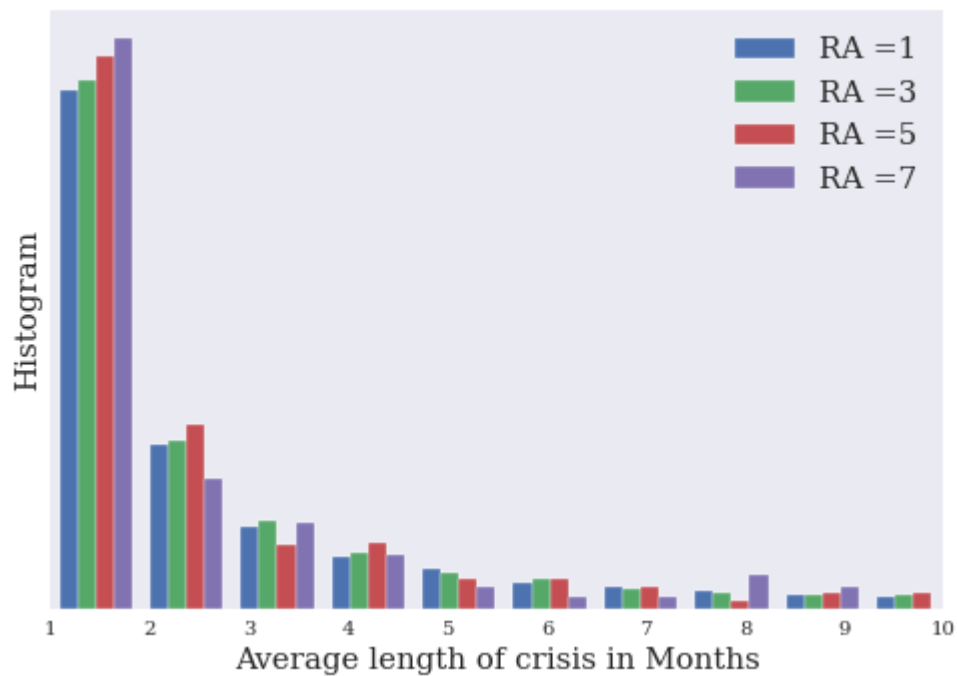
*Note:* Left panel presents a static comparison of experts risk premium for three different levels of risk aversion. Right panel presents the stationary distribution of expert wealth share for three levels of risk aversion.

Figure 4: Trade-off between risk premium and probability of crisis



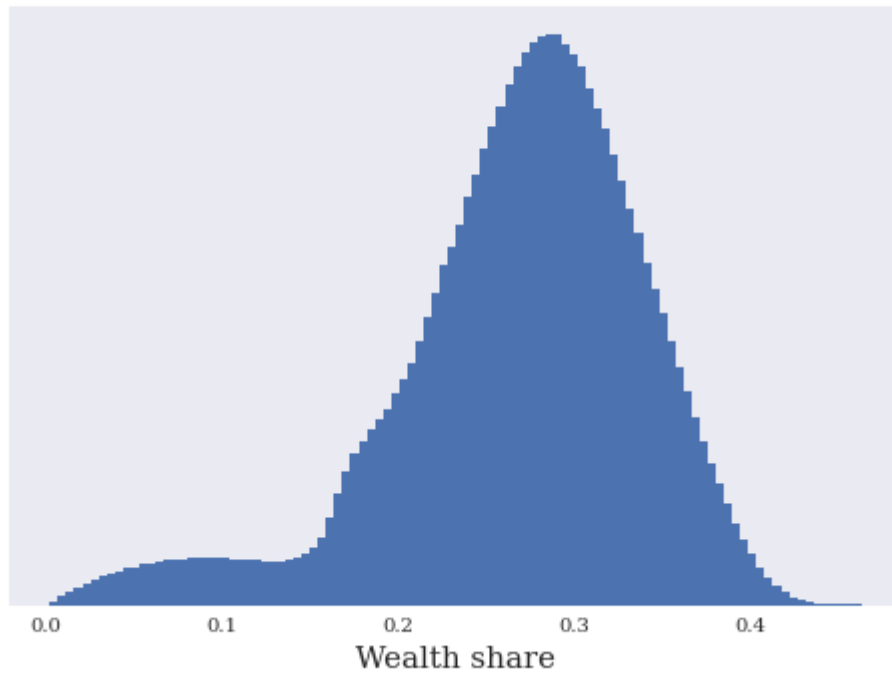
*Note:* Figure shows the trade off between the unconditional asset pricing moments and the probability of crisis for different risk aversion parameters (RA). The dashed line represents expected risk premium (see left axis). The full line represents standard deviation of risk premium (see right axis). Risk aversion decreases from left to right. The risk premium moments and probability of crisis are computed by simulating the model at monthly frequency for 5000 years. The figure displays annualized numbers. The empirical risk premium estimated using regression (32) is 5.5%.

Figure 5: Duration of crisis



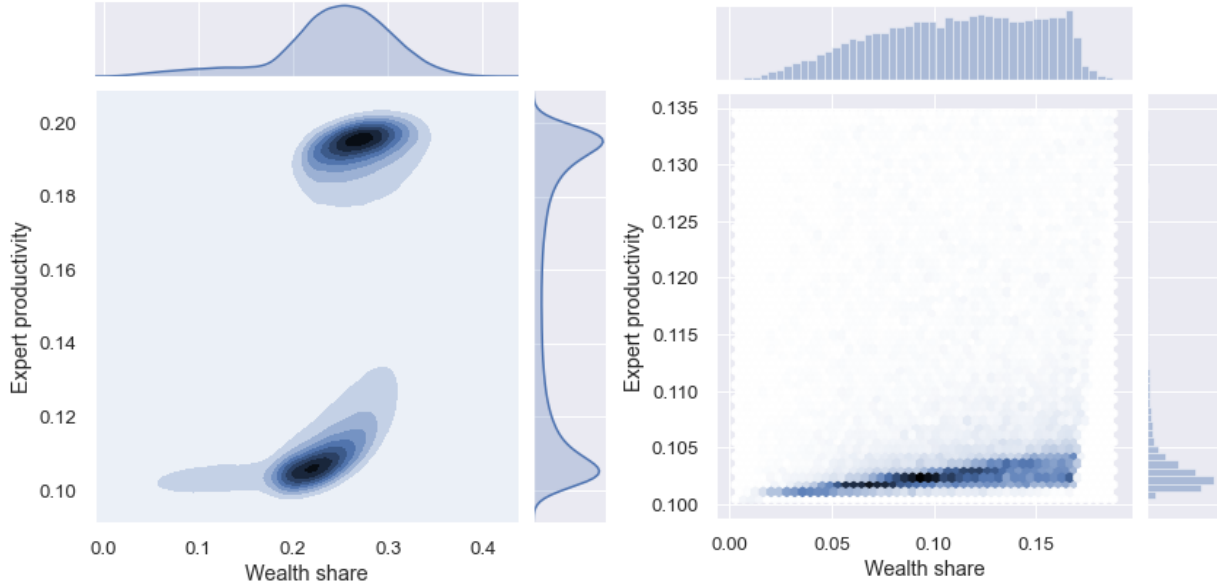
*Note:* Frequency distribution of average crisis duration for different values of Risk aversion (RA). The graph shows only till months 10 since the frequency for months larger than 10 is negligible. The duration is computed by simulating the model at monthly frequency for 5000 years. The observations are annualized.

Figure 6: Stationary density of wealth share



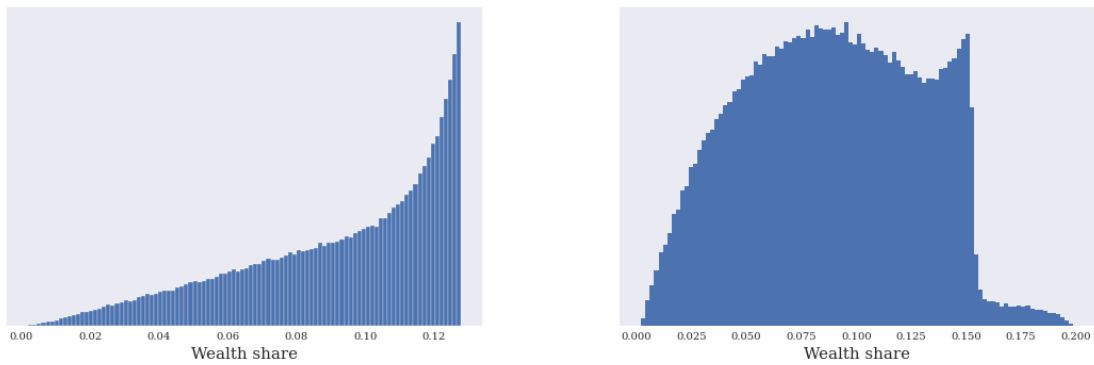
*Note:* The figure displays stationary marginal density of endogenous wealth share obtained from simulating the model for 5000 years at monthly frequency. The observations are annualized.

Figure 7: Joint density of state variables



*Note:* Left panel displays the joint density of wealth share and productivity of experts along with respective marginals in the entire state space. Right panel displays the joint density of wealth share and productivity of experts along with respective marginals in crisis region.

Figure 8: Left tail of stationary density



*Note:* Left panel: Tail of experts wealth share distribution from the benchmark model. Right panel: Tail of experts wealth share distribution from the model with stochastic productivity.



## A.2 Tables

Table 1: Calibrated parameters

	Description	Choice	Target
Technology	Volatility of capital ( $\sigma$ )	0.06	Vol (Risk premium)
	Discount rate ( $\rho$ )	0.05	Literature
	Depreciation rate of capital ( $\delta$ )	0.05	GDP growth
	Investment cost ( $\kappa$ )	5	Investment-capital ratio
	Productivity gap ( $\hat{a}_e - a_h$ )	0.09	Conditional risk premium
	Correlation of shocks ( $\varphi$ )	-0.5	Data
Utility	Risk aversion ( $\gamma$ )	5	Unconditional risk premium
Demographics	Mean proportion of intermediaries ( $\tilde{n}$ )	0.10	Literature
	Turnover ( $\lambda_d$ )	0.03	Literature
Expert Productivity	Mean reversion rate ( $\pi$ )	0.01	Duration of crisis
	Variance ( $v$ )	8	Data
Exit rate	Normal state ( $\tau_n$ )	0.05	Literature
	Crisis state ( $\tau_c$ )	0.6	Data
Friction	Equity retention ( $\underline{\chi}$ )	0.65	Literature

Note: All values are annualized.

Table 2: Risk premium estimation

	(I)	(II)	(III)
const	-0.02 (0.00)	0.00 (0.01)	0.00 (0.03)
$D_t/P_t$	2.13*** (3.52)	1.17** (1.87)	1.15** (0.53)
$1_{Rec}$		2.21*** (4.15)	1.82*** (0.60)
$1_{fin}$			2.18*** (2.99)
No. of obs.	906	906	906
Adj. R2	0.02	0.04	0.05

Note: The variables  $1_{Rec}$  and  $1_{fin}$  represents recessionary and financial crisis episodes respectively. Recessionary episodes are taken from NBER, and financial crisis periods are taken from [Reinhart and Rogoff \(2009\)](#). Model (I) excludes both dummy variables to zero. Model (II) excludes financial crisis dummy but includes recession dummy. Model (III) includes both dummy variables.

Table 3: Risk premium moments and probability of crisis

	Data			Benchmark Model (RA=1)		Benchmark Model (RA = 20)	
	All	Recession	Crisis	All	Crisis	All	Crisis
E(Risk premium)	5.5	12.8	25.0	1.7	13.4	5.5	-
Std(Risk premium)	4.7	6.7	7.5	3.1	1.3	0	-
Prob. of Crisis	7.0			6.8		0	

*Note:* Empirical risk premium moments are computed from the predictive regression (32). Probability of crisis is taken from [Reinhart and Rogoff \(2009\)](#). The model implied moments and probability of crisis is computed by simulating the model at monthly frequency for 5000 years. All values are annualized.

Table 4: Data moments and methodology

	Mean	Std dev	Data source
Risk premium* (%)	5.6	4.7	Predictive regression
Risk free rate* (%)	4.0	0.9	Shiller's website
GDP growth*(%)	3.3	3.9	FRED
Investment rate (%)	14	4.7	<a href="#">He and Krishnamurthy (2019)</a>
BHC Leverage	3.77	-	<a href="#">He and Krishnamurthy (2019)</a>
Corr(BHC Leverage, GDP cycle)	-0.18	-	<a href="#">He, Kelly and Manela (2017)</a>
Probability of Crisis (%)	7	-	<a href="#">Reinhart and Rogoff (2009)</a>
Duration of Crisis	18-months	-	NBER cycle

*Note:* The Table presents unconditional mean and standard deviation of key variables in the data along with the methodology to compute the variables. The variables marked with asterisk are estimated using quarterly frequency data between 1950Q1 till 2021Q1. All percentage values are annualized.

Table 5: Model success summary

	Quantity of interest	Success level	Comments
Macroeconomic	GDP/Output growth	High	✓
	Investment rate	Low	Low variation and not enough drop in crisis
Intermediary	Leverage	High	✓
	Cyclical of leverage	High	✓
Crisis	Probability of crisis	Moderate	Matching prob. of crisis attenuates crisis dynamics
	Duration of crisis	Low	Matching duration attenuates crisis dynamics
Asset price	Conditional risk premium	High	✓
	Unconditional risk premium	Low	Matching unconditional risk premium attenuates prob. of crisis
	Std. of risk premium	Moderate	-
	Conditional volatility	High	✓
	Unconditional volatility	Low	Shiller puzzle

*Note:* The model implied moments and probability of crisis is computed by simulating the model at monthly frequency for 5000 years. All values are annualized.

Table 6: Duration of crisis

	Data (NBER)	Benchmark model (RA=1, IES = 1)	Benchmark model (RA=2, IES = 1)	My model (RA=5, IES=1)
10th percentile	8.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
50th percentile	13.5	2.0	2.0	3.0
90th percentile	31.2	13.0	16.0	49.0
Mean	17.5	5.8	6.5	17.0

*Note:* Data for computing the empirical duration of crisis is from NBER website. The last three columns presents the model implied duration percentiles obtained from simulating each of the benchmark models for 5000 years at monthly frequency.

Table 7: Calibration: Benchmark model

	Parameter	Benchmark Model	Model B1	Model B2	Target
Technology	Volatility ( $\sigma$ )	0.06	0.06	0.06	Volatility of risk premium
	Discount rate ( $\rho$ )	0.05	0.05	0.05	Literature
	Depreciation rate ( $\delta$ )	0.02	0.1	0.1	GDP growth
	Investment cost ( $\kappa$ )	10	5	5	Investment-capital ratio
	Expert Productivity ( $a_e$ )	0.11	0.2	0.15	Conditional risk premium
	Household Productivity ( $a_h$ )	0.03	0.02	-0.03	Consumption-output ratio
Preference	Correlation of shocks ( $\varphi$ )	-	-0.5	-	Data
	Utility parameters ( $\gamma$ )	2	5	5	Unconditional risk premium
Demographics	Mean expert mass ( $\tilde{n}$ )	0.1	0.1	0.1	Literature
	Turnover ( $\lambda_d$ )	0.03	0.001	0.001	Literature
Expert productivity	Mean reversion rate ( $\pi$ )	-	0.01	-	Duration of crisis
	Variance ( $v$ )	-	4.2	-	Data
Friction	Equity retention ( $\chi$ )	0.5	0.95	0.95	Literature

*Note:* Calibrated parameters for the benchmark models along with the target. The benchmark model B1 does not feature stochastic productivity or exit rate. The model B2 considers stochastic productivity but without exit. The model B3 has constant productivity but the experts have a state-dependent exit rate.

Table 8: Summary of key moments

	Data	My model		Benchmark		B1		B2	
	All	All	Crisis	All	Crisis	All	Crisis	All	Crisis
Risk premium (% mean)	5.5	5.0	18.2	1.7	13.4	1.9	14.1	12.7	13.4
GDP growth (% mean)	3.2	3.5	-7.1	3.7	-9.9	3.1	-8.2	-6.3	-7.9
Investment-capital ratio (mean)	14	8.3	5.4	10.0	7.7	8.2	7.5	5.5	5.0
BHC Leverage	3.77	4.5	8.8	3.5	5.8	2.7	3.2	3.2	3.5
Corr(BHC Leverage, GDP)	-0.18	-0.19	-0.01	-0.17	-0.01	-0.15	-0.03	-0.28	-0.05
Probability of Crisis (%)	7.0	8.0		6.8		6.3		90.8	
Duration of Crisis (months)	18.0	17.0		4.0		5.0		13.0	

*Note:* Comparison of model implied moments. The % values are annualized. The calibrated parameter for my model is given in Table (1). The benchmark model B1 does not feature stochastic productivity or exit. The model B2 considers a stochastic productivity but without exit. The model B3 has constant productivity but the experts have a state-dependent exit rate. The calibrated parameters for the benchmark models are given in Table (7).

## B Appendix: Main proofs

### B.1 Model with stochastic productivity

#### B.1.1 Proof of the Asset pricing conditions

The expected return that the experts earn from investing in the capital is given by

$$dr_t^v = (\mu_{e,t}^R - (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t})dt + \chi_t(\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma) dZ_t^k + \chi_t\sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a$$

where  $\epsilon_{h,t} = \zeta_{h,t}^k(\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma) + \zeta_{h,t}^a\sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\zeta_{h,t}^a(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \sigma_t^{q,a}\zeta_{h,t}^k)$ . That is,  $(1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t}$  is the part of the expected excess return that is paid by the experts to the outside equity holders, which is netted out. Since the experts hold a fraction  $\chi_t$  of the inside equity, the volatility terms are multiplied by this quantity. Consider a trading strategy of investing \$1 into the capital at time 0. Let  $v_t$  be the value of this investment strategy at time  $t$ . Then, we have  $\frac{dv_t}{v_t} = dr_t^v$ , and

$$\frac{d(\xi_e v_t)}{\xi_e v_t} = (-r_t + \mu_{e,t}^R - (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t} - \chi_t\epsilon_{e,t})dt + \text{diffusion terms}$$

where  $\epsilon_{e,t} = \zeta_{e,t}^k(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{e,t}^a\sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\zeta_{e,t}^a(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{e,t}^k\sigma_t^{q,a})$ , and  $\xi_{e,t}$  follows the process in (5). Since  $\xi_e v_t$  is a martingale, the drift equals to zero, which implies

$$\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t = \chi_t\epsilon_{e,t} + (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t}$$

The households do not issue outside equity but are exposed to the risk from experts through the equity issuance of the latter. Following similar steps, we get the asset pricing condition for the households as

$$\mu_{h,t}^R - r_t = \epsilon_{h,t}$$

where  $\epsilon_{h,t} = \zeta_{h,t}^k(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{h,t}^a\sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\zeta_{h,t}^a(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) + \zeta_{h,t}^k\sigma_t^{q,a})$  ■

#### B.1.2 Proof of Proposition 1

The law of motion of wealth for the experts and the households are given in the optimization problems (7) and (8) respectively. Using the law of large numbers to aggregate

the wealth of individual household and expert, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dW_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} &= \left( r_t - \rho_h - \lambda_d + \theta_{h,t}(\mu_{h,t}^R - r_t) + \frac{(1 - \bar{z})\lambda_d}{1 - z_t} + \tau_t \frac{W_{e,t}}{W_{h,t}} \right) dt + \theta_{h,t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t^k + \theta_{h,t}\sigma_t^a dZ_t^a \\ \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} &= \left( r_t - \rho_e - \lambda_d + \theta_{e,t}\epsilon_{e,t} + \frac{\bar{z}\lambda_d}{z_t} - \tau_t \right) dt + \theta_{e,t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) dZ_t^k + \theta_{e,t}\sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a\end{aligned}$$

where  $W_{h,t} = \int_{j \in H} w_{j,t} dj$  and  $W_{e,t} = \int_{j \in E} w_{j,t} dj$  denotes aggregated wealth among respective group,  $z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{W_{h,t} + W_{e,t}} = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t}$ , and  $\theta_{e,t} := \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t}$ ,  $\theta_{h,t} := \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t}$  from the capital market clearing condition.<sup>52</sup> The terms containing  $\lambda_d$  and  $\bar{z}$  are due to the overlapping generations assumption, and the terms with  $\tau_t$  is due to the exit of the experts. By Ito's lemma, the dynamics of the wealth share becomes

$$\frac{dz_t}{z_t} = \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} - \frac{d(q_t K_t)}{q_t K_t} + \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, q_t K_t \rangle}{(q_t K_t)^2} - \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, W_{e,t} \rangle}{(q_t K_t W_{e,t})}$$

where<sup>53</sup>

$$\frac{dK_t}{K_t} = (\phi(\iota_t) - \delta)dt + \sigma dZ_t^k$$

Applying Ito's lemma, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d(q_t K_t)}{q_t K_t} &= (\epsilon_{e,t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q) - \frac{(a_{e,t} - \iota_t)}{q_t} + r_t)dt + (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a \\ \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, q_t K_t \rangle}{(q_t K_t)^2} &= ((\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma)^2 + (\sigma_t^{q,a})^2 + 2\varphi(\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma)\sigma_t^{q,a})dt \\ \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, W_{e,t} \rangle}{q_t K_t W_{e,t}} &= (\theta_{e,t}(\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma)^2 + \theta_{e,t}(\sigma_t^{q,a})^2 + 2\varphi(\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma)\sigma_t^{q,a})dt\end{aligned}$$

and the result follows from here after some algebra. ■

Note that we can write  $\theta_{e,t}\epsilon_{e,t} = \theta_{e,t}\chi_t^{-1}(\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t - (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t})$  from the asset pricing condition in B.1.1, which allows us to write the experts wealth dynamics after aggregat-

<sup>52</sup>Note that  $z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t}$  and  $\psi_t = \frac{K_{e,t}}{K_t}$ . Moreover,  $\sigma_{w_{e,t}}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)z_t + \sigma_{w_{h,t}}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)(1 - z_t) = (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)$  and similarly for  $\sigma_t^{q,a}$ . Using these, we can relate  $\sigma_{w_{j,t}}$  to  $\theta_{j,t}$ .

<sup>53</sup>Since the investment rate is the same for all agents, the evolution of the aggregate capital  $K_t$  is the same as the evolution of  $k_{j,t}$ . To see this, write  $\frac{dK_t}{K_t} = \frac{dK_{e,t}}{K_t} + \frac{dK_{h,t}}{K_t} = \psi_t \frac{dK_{e,t}}{K_{e,t}} + (1 - \psi_t) \frac{dK_{h,t}}{K_{h,t}}$  and the rest follows from (2).

ing the optimal policies and using law of large numbers as

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} = & (r_t - \rho - \lambda_d + \frac{\psi_t}{z_t}(\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t) - (1 - \chi_t)\frac{\psi_t}{z_t}\epsilon_{h,t} + \frac{\bar{z}\lambda_d}{z_t} - \tau(a_{e,t}, z_t))dt \\ & + \frac{\chi_t\psi_t}{z_t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})dZ_t^k + \frac{\chi_t\psi_t}{z_t}\sigma_t^{q,a}dZ_t^a \end{aligned}$$

### B.1.3 Proof of Proposition 2

The value function conjecture is

$$U_{j,t} = \frac{(J_{j,t}(z_t, a_{e,t})K_t)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}$$

where  $J_{j,t}$  follows the stochastic differential equation  $\frac{dJ_{j,t}}{J_{j,t}} = \mu_{j,t}^J dt + \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a} dZ_t^a$  whose drift and volatility needs to be determined in the equilibrium. The HJB equation is given by

$$\sup_{C,K} f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) + E[dU_{j,t}] = 0 \quad (33)$$

where  $f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = (1 - \gamma)\rho U_{j,t} \left( \log C_{j,t} - \frac{1}{1-\gamma} \log((1 - \gamma)U_{j,t}) \right)$ . The HJB equation is derived directly in terms of the aggregate capital  $K_t$  instead of the wealth share  $z_t$ . For ease of notation, I will denote the wealth share of the experts and households as  $z_{e,t}$  and  $z_{h,t}$  respectively but it is to be understood that  $z_{e,t} = z_t$  and  $z_{h,t} = 1 - z_t$ . The value function derivatives are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t}} &= K_t^{1-\gamma} J_{j,t}^{-\gamma}; \quad \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial K_t} = J_{j,t}^{1-\gamma} K_t^{-\gamma} \\ \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t}^2} &= -\gamma K_t^{1-\gamma} J_{j,t}^{-\gamma-1}; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial K_t^2} = -\gamma J_{j,t}^{1-\gamma} K_t^{-(1+\gamma)}; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t} \partial K_t} = (1 - \gamma)(K_t J_{j,t})^{-\gamma} \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

Applying Ito's lemma to  $U_{j,t}$  and using HJB equation (33), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_C \quad & \rho(J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} [\log \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} - \log J_{j,t} + \log(q_t z_{j,t})] + (J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} (\Phi(t) - \delta) \\ & - \frac{\gamma}{2} (J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} \sigma^2 + (J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} \mu_{j,t}^J - (J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} \frac{\gamma}{2} ((\sigma_{j,t}^{J,k})^2 + (\sigma_{j,t}^{J,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a}) \\ & + (1 - \gamma)(J_{j,t}K_t)^{1-\gamma} (\sigma \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a}) + \tau_t(U_{h,t} - U_{e,t}) = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Writing the value function expression in terms of the wealth, we have

$$U_{j,t} = \frac{(\tilde{J}_{j,t} W_{j,t})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma}; \quad f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = (1-\gamma)\rho U_{j,t} \left( \log \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} - \tilde{J}_{j,t} \right) \quad (36)$$

where  $\tilde{J}_{j,t} = \frac{J_{j,t}}{q_t z_{j,t}}$  and  $z_{j,t} = \frac{W_{j,t}}{q_t K_t}$  are used to obtain (36). At the optimum, the marginal utilities of wealth and consumption become equal. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}} &= \frac{\partial f_{j,t}}{\partial C_{j,t}} \\ \tilde{J}_{j,t}^{1-\gamma} W_{j,t}^{-\gamma} &= (1-\gamma)\rho \frac{U_{j,t}}{C_{j,t}} \implies \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} = \rho \end{aligned}$$

This proves the optimal consumption policy. The stochastic discount factor for recursive utility is given by

$$\xi_{j,t} = \exp \left( \int_0^t \frac{\partial f(C_{j,s}, U_{j,s})}{\partial U} ds \right) \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}}$$

From (36), we get

$$\xi_{j,t} = (1-\gamma) \exp \left( \int_0^t [(1-\gamma)\rho (\log \rho - \tilde{J}_{j,s})] ds \right) \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}}$$

This implies that  $\sigma(\xi_{j,t}) = \sigma \left( \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} \right)$ . To compute the R.H.S., we have to obtain  $d \left( \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} \right)$ . Let  $v(J_{j,t}, z_{j,t}, q_t, K_t) := \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}}$ . Using the derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial v}{\partial J_{j,t}} &= \frac{1-\gamma}{J_{j,t}}; & \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial v}{\partial z_{j,t}} &= -\frac{1}{z_{j,t}} \\ \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial v}{\partial q_t} &= -\frac{1}{q_t}; & \frac{1}{v} \frac{\partial v}{\partial K_t} &= \frac{1-\gamma}{K_t} \end{aligned}$$

and applying Ito's lemma, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dv}{v} &= \underbrace{[\dots\dots]}_{\text{drift term}} dt + (1-\gamma)(\sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a} dZ_t^a) - (\sigma_{j,t}^{z,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_{j,t}^{z,a} dZ_t^a) \\ &\quad - ((\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{q,a} dZ_t^a) + (1-\gamma)\sigma dZ_t^k \end{aligned} \quad (37)$$



Applying Ito's lemma to  $J_{j,t}(z_t, a_{e,t})$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} dJ_{j,t} &= \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} dz_t + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} da_{e,t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t^2} d\langle z, z \rangle_t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}^2} d\langle a_e, a_e \rangle_t \\ &= (\text{drift terms}) + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} z_t (\sigma_t^{z,k} dZ_t^k + \sigma_t^{z,a} dZ_t^a) + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} \sigma_{ae} dZ_t^a \end{aligned}$$

Comparing with the SDE (20) and matching the diffusion coefficients, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_{j,t}^{J,k} J_{j,t} &= \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} z_t \sigma_t^{z,k} = \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} z_t \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}) \\ \sigma_{j,t}^{J,a} J_{j,t} &= \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} \sigma_{ae} + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} z_t \sigma_t^{z,a} = \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} \sigma_{ae} + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} z_t \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) \sigma_t^{q,a} \end{aligned}$$

Collecting the diffusion terms, using  $\sigma_{e,t}^{z,i} = \sigma_t^{z,i}$ ,  $\sigma_{h,t}^{z,i} = -\frac{z_t}{1-z_t} \sigma_t^{z,i}$ ;  $i \in \{k, a\}$  in equation (37), and comparing it to the SDF equation

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_t dt - \zeta_{j,t}^k dZ_t^k - \zeta_{j,t}^a dZ_t^a$$

we get the desired result. ■

Plugging in the optimal consumption-wealth ratio into the HJB equation (35), we obtain the expressions for  $\mu_{j,t}^J$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{e,t}^J &= (\gamma - 1)(\sigma \sigma_{e,t}^{J,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_{e,t}^{J,a}) - (\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta) - \rho(\log \rho - \log J_{e,t} + \log(z_t q_t)) \\ &\quad + \frac{\gamma}{2} \left( (\sigma_{e,t}^{J,k})^2 + (\sigma_{e,t}^{J,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma_{e,t}^{J,k} \sigma_{e,t}^{J,a} + \sigma^2 \right) - \frac{\tau_t}{1-\gamma} \left( \left( \frac{J_{h,t}}{J_{e,t}} \right)^{1-\gamma} - 1 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (38)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{h,t}^J &= (\gamma - 1)(\sigma \sigma_{h,t}^{J,k} + \varphi \sigma \sigma_{h,t}^{J,a}) - (\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta) - \rho(\log \rho - \log J_{h,t} + \log((1 - z_t) q_t)) \\ &\quad + \frac{\gamma}{2} \left( (\sigma_{h,t}^{J,k})^2 + (\sigma_{h,t}^{J,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma_{h,t}^{J,k} \sigma_{h,t}^{J,a} + \sigma^2 \right) \end{aligned} \quad (39)$$

#### B.1.4 Proof of Proposition 3

Applying Ito's lemma to  $q(z_t, a_{e,t})$ , we have

$$dq_t = \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} dz_t + \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} da_{e,t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial z_t^2} d\langle z_t, z_t \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}^2} d\langle a_{e,t}, a_{e,t} \rangle + \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial z_t \partial a_{e,t}} d\langle z_t, a_{e,t} \rangle$$

Matching the drift and the volatility terms, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{q,t} &= \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{q_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} \mu_{ae,t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial z_t^2} ((\sigma_t^{z,k})^2 + (\sigma_t^{z,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma_t^{z,k} \sigma_t^{z,a}) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}^2} \sigma_{ae,t}^2 + \frac{\partial^2 q_t}{\partial z_t \partial a_{e,t}} (\varphi \sigma_t^{z,k} \sigma_{ae,t} + \sigma_t^{z,a} \sigma_{ae,t}) \\ \sigma_t^{q,k} &= \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{q_t} \sigma_t^{z,k} \\ \sigma_t^{q,a} &= \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{q_t} \sigma_t^{z,a} + \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} \frac{1}{q_t} \sigma_{ae,t}\end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma_{ae,t} = v(\bar{a}_e - a_{e,t})(a_{e,t} - \underline{a}_t)$  and  $\mu_{ae,t} = \pi(\hat{a}_e - a_{e,t})$ . Plugging in the expression for  $\sigma_t^{z,k}$  and  $\sigma_t^{z,a}$  from the dynamics of wealth share (18) in the above equation and rearranging, we get the result. ■

### B.1.5 Numerical solution

*Static step:* We need to solve for the equilibrium quantities  $\{\psi_t, (\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k}), \sigma_t^{q,a}, q_t\}$ . The other equilibrium quantities  $\theta_{e,t}, \theta_{h,t}, \zeta_{e,t}^k, \zeta_{e,t}^a, \zeta_{h,t}^k, \zeta_{h,t}^a, r_t, \mu_{e,t}^R, \mu_{h,t}^R, l_t$  can be derived from the goods market clearing and the HJB first order conditions. To solve for these four quantities, four equations are required. The first equation is given by subtracting the expected return of each type of the agent. That is, we have

$$\chi_t(\epsilon_{e,t} - \epsilon_{h,t}) = \mu_{e,t}^R - \mu_{h,t}^R$$

The experts will issue maximum outside equity  $\underline{\chi}$  whenever their risk premium is larger than that of households. Thus, we can replace  $\chi_t$  by  $\underline{\chi}$  whenever  $\psi < 1$ . Plugging in the expression for the return processes from (4), and using (12), (11), and Proposition 2, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a_{e,t} - a_h}{q_t} &= \underline{\chi} \left( (\underline{\chi} \psi_t - z_t) ((\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma)^2 + (\sigma_t^{q,a})^2 + 2\varphi(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})) \right. \\ &\quad \times \left( (1 - \gamma) \left( \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{J_{h,t}} - \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{J_{e,t}} \right) + \frac{1}{z_t(1 - z_t)} \right) \\ &\quad \left. + (1 - \gamma) \left( \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial a_{h,t}} \frac{1}{J_{h,t}} - \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} \frac{1}{J_{e,t}} \right) \sigma_{ae,t} (\sigma_t^{q,a} + \varphi(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

The second condition comes from the goods market clearing

$$\rho q_t = \psi_t(a_{e,t} - \iota_t) + (1 - \psi_t)(a_h - \iota_t) \quad (41)$$

The third and fourth conditions are the return variance components

$$\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma = \frac{\sigma}{1 - \frac{1}{q_t} \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} (\underline{\chi} \psi_t - z_t)} \quad (42)$$

$$\sigma_t^{q,a} = \frac{\frac{1}{q_t} \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} \sigma_{ae,t}}{1 - \frac{1}{q_t} \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} (\underline{\chi} \psi_t - z_t)} \quad (43)$$

which are partial differential equations solved using a Newton-Raphson scheme. The algorithm is as follows. Consider tensor grids of size  $N_z$  and  $N_a$  with step size  $\Delta_i$ , and  $\Delta_j$  where  $\{i\}_1^{N_z}, \{j\}_1^{N_a}$  denote the dimensions for the wealth share and the expert productivity respectively. There are three following regions in the state space

- $\psi_t < 1$  and  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$
- $\psi_t = 1$  and  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$
- $\psi_t = 1$  and  $\chi_t > \underline{\chi}$

In the first region, the households also hold capital and hence equation (15) holds with equality. In this case, the equations (40), (41), (42), and (43) are used to solve for  $\psi_t$ ,  $q_t$ ,  $(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})$ , and  $\sigma_t^{q,a}$ . In the second region, the households do not hold capital and hence the equation (15) holds with an inequality. In this case, set  $\psi_t = 1$ , and use (40), (42), (43), and (41) to solve for  $\chi_t, q_t$ ,  $(\sigma + \sigma_t^{q,k})$ , and  $\sigma_t^{q,a}$ . If  $\chi_t < \underline{\chi}$ , then set  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$ , otherwise the third region is entered.

- For the first iteration on the wealth share  $\{i = 1, \forall j\}$ , set  $\psi_t = 0$ , and take the limiting case of the goods market clearing condition to get  $q_t$ . That is

$$\inf_{z \rightarrow 0^+} q_t = \frac{a_h \kappa + 1}{\rho \kappa + 1} \quad (44)$$

- For iterations  $i > 1, \forall j$ , use the discretized versions of the equations (42) and (43)

$$(\sigma^{q,k} + \sigma)_{i,j} = \sigma \left( 1 - \frac{1}{q_{i,j}} \left( \frac{q_{i,j} - q_{i-1,j}}{\Delta_i} z_i \left( \frac{\psi_{i,j}}{z_i} - 1 \right) \right) \right)^{-1} \quad (45)$$

$$(\sigma^{q,a})_{i,j} = \left( \frac{q_{i,j} - q_{i,j-1}}{\Delta_j} \sigma_{ae,j} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{1}{q_{i,j}} \left( \frac{q_{i,j} - q_{i-1,j}}{\Delta_i} z_i \left( \frac{\psi_{i,j}}{z_i} - 1 \right) \right) \right)^{-1} \quad (46)$$

along with the equations (40), and (41) to solve for  $q_{i,j}, \psi_{i,j}, (\sigma + \sigma^q)_{i,j}, (\sigma^{q,a})_{i,j}$ .<sup>54</sup> Note that in this region,  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$  since the risk premium of experts is larger than that of households. The set of non-linear equations is solved using the Newton-Raphson method. Repeat this procedure until  $\psi_t = 1$ , in which case the system enters the second region. Then, use (40), (41), (45), and (46) to solve for  $\chi_{i,j}, q_{i,j}, (\sigma + \sigma^{q,k})_{i,j}$  and  $(\sigma^{q,a})_{i,j}$ . If  $\chi_{i,j} < \underline{\chi}$ , set  $\chi_{i,j}^* = \underline{\chi}$ , otherwise set  $\chi_{i,j}^* = \chi_{i,j}$ . When  $\chi_{i,j} > \underline{\chi}$ , the system is in the third region where all capital is held by the experts ( $\psi_{i,j} = 1$ ), and risk is perfectly shared between the experts and the households by setting  $\epsilon_{e,t} = \epsilon_{h,t}$ . The value of  $\chi_t^*$  is obtained such that  $\chi_t^* = \underset{\chi}{argsolve} \quad \epsilon_{e,t} - \epsilon_{h,t} = 0$ . Since the premiums  $\epsilon_{e,t}, \epsilon_{h,t}$  depend on the  $\chi_t$ , I iterate between these two quantities until  $|\chi_t^{new} - \chi_t^{old}| < tol$  for some tolerance level.

*Time step:* Applying Ito's lemma to  $J_{j,t}(z_t, a_{e,t})$ , matching the drift terms, and augmenting the resulting coupled PDEs with a time step (falst-transient method), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{j,t}^J J_{j,t} = & \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}} \mu_t^a + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t^2} \left( (\sigma_{j,t}^{z,k})^2 + (\sigma_{j,t}^{z,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma_{j,t}^{z,k} \sigma_{j,t}^{z,a} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{j,t}}{\partial a_{e,t}^2} \sigma_{ae,t}^2 \\ & + \frac{\partial^2 J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t \partial a_{e,t}} (z_t \sigma_{j,t}^{z,k} \sigma_{ae,t} \varphi + \sigma_a \sigma_{j,t}^{z,a}) \end{aligned} \quad (47)$$

The coefficients  $\mu_t^z$  and  $\sigma_t^z$  can be computed from the equilibrium quantities in the static step and  $\mu_{j,t}^J$  is computed from the equations in (38). The PDEs are solved using the neural network method explained in Section B.1.6. Using the updated function  $J_{j,t}$ , the static step is performed again. The procedure is repeated until the function  $J_{j,t}$  converges upto a pre-specified tolerance level.

<sup>54</sup>For  $j = 1$ , set  $\frac{\partial q_t}{\partial a_{e,t}} = 0$  since  $a_{e,t} \in [\underline{a}_e, \bar{a}_e]$ . That is, the lower and the upper boundaries  $\underline{a}_e$  and  $\bar{a}_e$  respectively act as reflecting barriers forcing the derivative of the price to be zero.

### B.1.6 Neural network solution method

The outer loop involves solving for a de-coupled system of quasi-linear PDEs- one for the households and one for the experts, taking as given the equilibrium quantities that are determined from the static loop. The PDE obtained at  $kth$  time iteration by applying Ito's lemma to  $J_{j,t}(z_t, a_{e,t})$  and using the HJB equation (23) is<sup>55</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^J J = & \frac{\partial J}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \mu^z + \frac{\partial J}{\partial a} \mu^a + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial z^2} \left( (\sigma^{z,k})^2 + (\sigma^{z,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma^{z,k} \sigma^{z,a} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial a^2} \sigma_a^2 \\ & + \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial z_t \partial a} (z \sigma^{z,k} \sigma_a \varphi + \sigma_a \sigma^{z,a}); \quad \forall (t, z, a) \in [T - \Delta t, T - (k - 1)\Delta t] \times \Omega \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

with the boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} J(z, a, t) &= \tilde{J}; \quad \forall (t, z, a) \in (T - (k - 1)\Delta t) \times \Omega \\ \frac{\partial J(0, a, t)}{\partial z_t} &= \frac{\partial J(1, a, t)}{\partial z_t} = 0; \quad \forall (t, a) \in (T - (k - 1)\Delta t) \times \partial\Omega_a \\ \frac{\partial J(z, \underline{a}_e, t)}{\partial a_{e,t}} &= \frac{\partial J(z, \bar{a}_e, t)}{\partial a_{e,t}} = 0; \quad \forall (t, z) \in (T - (k - 1)\Delta t) \times \partial\Omega_z \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

where  $\Omega_z$  and  $\Omega_a$  are the domains of state variables  $z$  and  $a_e$  respectively, and  $\Omega = \Omega_z \times \Omega_a$ . I take advantage of the universal approximation theorem that states that a neural network with at least one hidden layer can approximate any Borel measurable function, and solve for the function  $J(z, a, T - k\Delta t)$  that is governed by the PDE (48). Starting from an arbitrary terminal value at time  $T$ , the task is to solve for  $J(z, a, T - \Delta t)$  in the first time iteration. More generally, in  $kth$  time iteration, the function  $J(z, a, T - k\Delta t)$  is found such that it respects (48) satisfying the given boundary conditions at time  $T - (k - 1)\Delta t$ . Equivalently, we can start from  $J(z, a, t + \Delta t)$  for some time period  $t$ , and solve for  $J(z, a, t)$ . In this case, the initial condition  $\tilde{J}$  denotes the value from the previous time step  $J(z, a, t + \Delta t)$ . The PDE coefficients and the terminal value are in the form of a grid but not all grid points are required in the algorithm as will be explained. While the space of admissible solutions to the function given the sample data from terminal value and other boundary conditions is potentially large, I use the residuals from PDE and the boundary conditions as *regularizers* that constrain the space to a manageable size. This encoding of prior information into the learning algorithm amplifies the information

<sup>55</sup>I ignore the time and agent indices in order to avoid cluttering of notations. The productivity of the expert  $a_{e,t}$ , and the volatility  $\sigma_{a_{e,t}}$  are denoted as  $a$  and  $\sigma_a$  for simplicity in the PDEs.

content from the economic problem and makes it possible for the deep neural network to head towards the correct solution even with the limited training sample. Consider the PDE residual from (48)

$$f := \frac{\partial J}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \mu^z + \frac{\partial J}{\partial a} \mu^a + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial z^2} \left( (\sigma^{z,k})^2 + (\sigma^{z,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma^{z,k} \sigma^{z,a} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial a^2} \sigma_a^2 + \frac{\partial^2 J}{\partial z \partial a} (z \sigma^{z,k} \sigma_a \varphi + \sigma_a \sigma^{z,a}) - \mu^l J \quad (50)$$

Starting from a neural network  $\hat{J}(z, a, t; \Theta)$  parameterized by an arbitrary  $\Theta$ , the optimal parameter  $\Theta^*$  that ensures that  $\hat{J}(z, a, t; \Theta)$  is close to  $J$  is obtained by minimizing the following loss function

$$\mathcal{L} = \lambda_f \mathcal{L}_f + \lambda_j \mathcal{L}_j + \lambda_b \mathcal{L}_b + \lambda_c^1 \mathcal{L}_c^1 + \lambda_c^2 \mathcal{L}_c^2 \quad (51)$$

where<sup>56</sup>

$$\text{PDE loss} \quad \mathcal{L}_f = \frac{1}{N_f} \sum_{i=1}^{N_f} |f(z_f^i, a_f^i, t_f^i)|^2 \quad (52)$$

$$\text{Bounding loss-1} \quad \mathcal{L}_j = \frac{1}{N_j} \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} |\hat{J}(z_j^i, a_j^i, t_j^i) - \tilde{J}^i|^2 \quad (53)$$

$$\text{Bounding loss-2} \quad \mathcal{L}_b = \frac{1}{N_b} \sum_{i=1}^{N_b} |\nabla \hat{J}(z_b^i, a_b^i, t_b^i)|^2 \quad (54)$$

$$\text{Crisis loss-1} \quad \mathcal{L}_c^1 = \frac{1}{N_c^1} \sum_{i=1}^{N_c^1} |\hat{J}(z_c^i, a_c^i, t_c^i) - \tilde{J}^i|^2 \quad (55)$$

$$\text{Crisis loss-2} \quad \mathcal{L}_c^2 = \frac{1}{N_c^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N_c^2} |f(z_c^i, a_c^i, t_c^i)|^2 \quad (56)$$

The parameters  $(\lambda_f, \lambda_j, \lambda_b, \lambda_c)$  are weights attached to the corresponding losses,  $(z_j^i, a_j^i, t_j^i, \tilde{J}^i)_{i=1}^{N_j}$  and  $(z_b^i, a_b^i, t_b^i)_{i=1}^{N_b}$  denote the boundary training data, and  $(z_f^i, a_f^i, t_f^i)_{i=1}^{N_f}$  denote the collocation points for the PDE residual  $f(z, a, t)$ . The crisis boundary collocation points  $(z_c^i, a_c^i, t_c^i)_{i=1}^{N_c}$  are sampled from the neighborhood of state space where fire-sale gets initiated, that is endogenously determined in the static inner loop. The quantities  $(N_f, N_j, N_b, N_c^1, N_c^2)$

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<sup>56</sup>I write  $\nabla \hat{J}$  to denote  $\left[ \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial z} \quad \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial a} \right]^T$ .

denote the number of points to minimize the PDE loss, the two bounding losses, and the two crisis boundary losses respectively. By encoding the crisis boundary loss, the neural network is forced to learn better around the crisis threshold which is where the policy functions are highly non-linear. The sampling is done uniformly with replacement in each domains. The construction of crisis loss is inspired from *active machine learning* (Settles (2012)), a budding area in the artificial intelligence literature. Active learning algorithms work by providing better training samples at each iteration to ensure quick convergence. At every iteration, the points in the state space where crisis occurs might change, and sampling more points from around this region dynamically provides better training samples. I consider artificial collocation points for time such that  $\{t^i\} \in [t^i, t^i + \Delta t^i]$  are sampled uniformly so as to reduce errors in numerical derivatives with respect to the time dimension. The number of collocation points  $(N_j, N_b, N_f, N_c^1, N_c^2, N_t)$  in total need not be large and is taken to be 10% of the total grid size. This makes the algorithm mesh-free and scalable to higher dimensions.

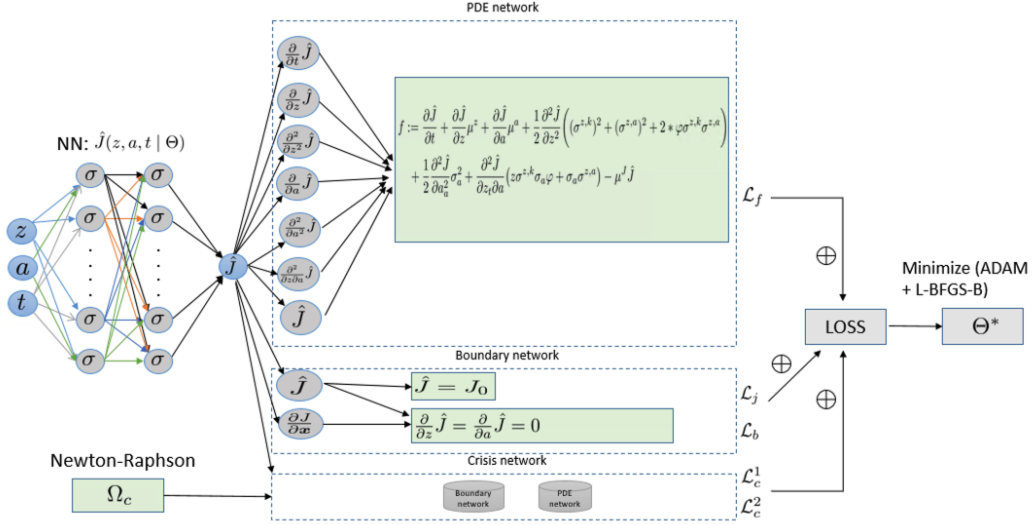
Table 9: Network architecture.

Parameters	Choices
No. of hidden layers	4
Hidden units	[30,30,30,30]
Activation functions	Tanh (Hidden), Linear (Output)
Optimizer	ADAM + L-BFGS-B
Learning rate	0.01
Loss function weights( $\lambda_f, \lambda_j, \lambda_b, \lambda_c^1, \lambda_c^2$ )	$\{1, 1, 0.001, 1, 1\}$
Batch size	Full batch

**Opening the black box** The success of a deep neural network model often relies on the network architecture and the hyperparameters. The machine learning models in finance literature use extensive hyperparameter search in the tuning process to select the ‘right’ model (see Gu, Kelly and Xiu (2020), Chen, Pelger and Zhu (2019), etc.). The deep learning model used in this paper does not suffer from this problem for two reasons. First, there is no training/test/validation set really which means that one does not have to worry about the classical overfitting problem.<sup>57</sup> Second, and more importantly, the proposed regularization mechanism encodes the economic problem into the learning

<sup>57</sup>The boundary conditions provide us with data points which can be thought of as training sample, but it does not carry the same meaning as it does in supervised machine learning.

Figure 9: Neural network architecture



Note: The quantities  $I$  and  $\Omega$  denote the domain of the state space pertaining to the initial and boundary conditions respectively. The domain  $\Omega_c$  refers to the crisis neighborhood and is endogenously determined in the inner static loop.

algorithm by building a meaningful loss function which enables a simple feed-forward network to arrive at the right solution. Using complex architectures such as Convolution neural network, LSTM, etc. create a ‘black-box’ problem which limits the ability to understand what makes the algorithm succeed. On the contrary, using a simple feed-forward network and encoding the economic information as regularizers provides a lot more visibility on how the model steers towards the right solution.

The proliferation of deep learning application in the past decade can be largely attributed to the *automatic differentiation* which has enabled reduced computation time of the derivatives of functions. In the deep learning literature, the parameters of a network are optimized through backpropagation by taking the derivative of a loss function with respect to the parameters. The approach presented in this paper explicitly uses automatic differentiation to take derivatives with respect to the space and the time dimensions. In Figure (9), the left most part of the neural network ( $NN : \hat{J}(z, a, t | \Theta)$ ) is the familiar simple feed-forward architecture. The output from this network ( $\hat{J}$ ) is fed into the PDE, boundary, and crisis network respectively that utilizes automatic differentiation in the customized loss functions. The separation of fundamental neural network with a simple architecture and the informed PDE network allows us to peek into the black-box and witness the automatic differentiation fully in action, which is the key driver of the algorithm’s learning in both low and high dimensions.



*Hyperparameter choices:* Table (9) presents the chosen hyperparameters of the model. I use 4 hidden layers with 30 neurons each since a deep layer is empirically observed to be better than a wide layer. While a rectified linear unit is the common choice for activation function, I use a hyperbolic tangent function based on its superior performance for the problem at hand. The optimizers are chosen based on empirical observation. I use an adaptive momentum (ADAM) optimizer with a learning rate of 0.01 until error is minimized to the order of  $1e-4$  and then use a quasi-newton method called L-BFGS-B until convergence is ensured. The network weights and biases are initialized using Xavier initialization in order to avoid the ubiquitous vanishing/exploding gradient problem in deep learning (see [Glorot and Bengio \(2010\)](#)). The weights of loss functions ( $\lambda_f, \lambda_j, \lambda_c$ ) are uniform to give equal importance for each of these components. I use a smaller weight for the second bounding loss  $\mathcal{L}_b$ . Since the training sample size is much smaller than the full grid size, full batch is used in optimizer as opposed to mini-batches which is common in deep learning algorithms.

### B.1.7 Three-dimensional plots

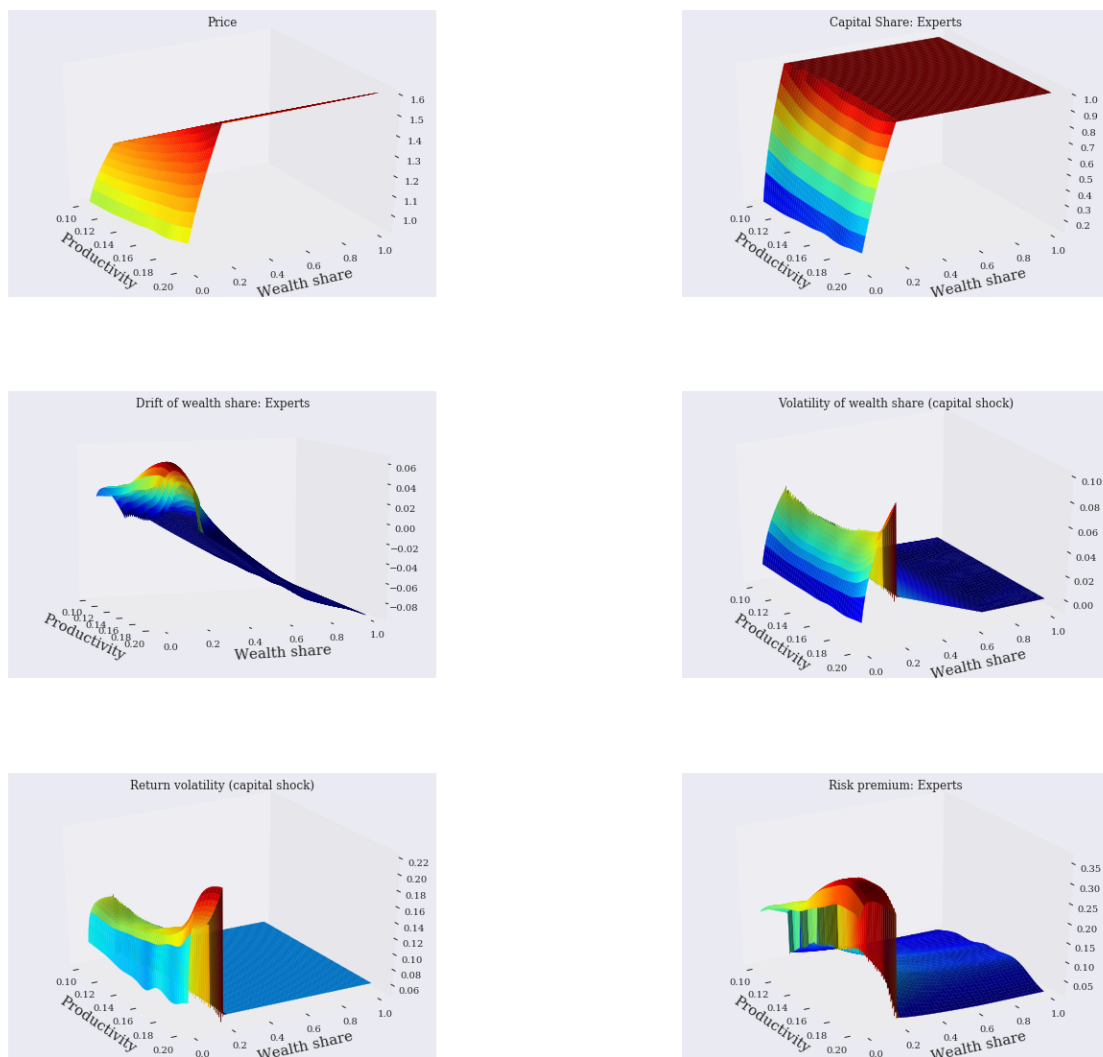


Figure 10: Equilibrium values as functions of state variables  $z_t$  and  $a_t$  for the stochastic productivity model.

## C Appendix: Benchmark model

### C.1 Benchmark model

The capital price per unit  $q_t$  follows the process

$$\frac{dq_t}{q_t} = \mu_t^q dt + \sigma_t^q dZ_t^k$$

The terms  $\mu_t^q$ , and  $\sigma_t^q$  are endogenously determined in the equilibrium. Note that the productivity shocks are absent in the benchmark model. Using this dynamics for the price, the return process can be written as

$$dR_{j,t} = \underbrace{\left( \frac{a_j - l_{j,t}}{q_t} + \Phi(l_{j,t}) - \delta + \mu_t^q + \sigma \sigma_t^q \right)}_{\mu_{j,t}^R} dt + (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t^k \quad (57)$$

Let  $\xi_{e,t}$  and  $\xi_{h,t}$  denote the SDF of the experts and the households respectively that follows

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_t dt - \zeta_{j,t} dZ_t^k \quad (58)$$

where,  $\zeta_{j,t}$  is the market price of risk for agent  $j$ . Similar to the stochastic productivity model, both agents invest in the risk-free asset, and hence the drift of the SDF process is the same for all agents. The asset pricing conditions for the experts and the households respectively take the simpler form<sup>58</sup>

$$\frac{\frac{a_e - l_t}{q_t} + \Phi(l_t) - \delta + \mu_t^q + \sigma \sigma_{q,t} - r_t}{\sigma + \sigma_{q,t}} = \chi_t \zeta_{e,t} + (1 - \chi_t) \zeta_{h,t} \quad (59)$$

$$\frac{\frac{a_h - l_t}{q_t} + \Phi(l_t) - \delta + \mu_t^q + \sigma \sigma_{q,t} - r_t}{\sigma + \sigma_{q,t}} \leq \zeta_{h,t} \quad (60)$$

---

<sup>58</sup>This can be proved using the Martingale argument similar to the model with stochastic productivity. See Appendix C.1.1 for the proof.

The equality holds in (60) if the households own some amount of capital ( $\psi_t < 1$ ). The optimal investment rate is the same as before and is given in (13). The agents solve

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{c_{j,t}, \chi_{j,t}, k_{j,t}} \quad & E_t \left[ \int_t^\infty f(c_{j,s}, U_{j,s}) ds \right] \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & \frac{dw_{j,t}}{w_{j,t}} = \left( r_t - \frac{c_{j,t}}{w_{j,t}} + \frac{q_t k_{j,t}}{w_{j,t}} (\mu_{j,t}^R - r_t - (1 - \chi_{j,t})(\sigma + \sigma_t^q) \zeta_{j',t}) \right) dt + \sigma_{w_{j,t}} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t^k \end{aligned} \quad (61)$$

where the aggregator  $f(c_{j,s}, U_{j,s})$  is given in (6) and the index  $j'$  denotes the other type of agent. The households do not issue outside equity and hence  $\chi_{h,t} = 1$ . On the other hand, the experts issue outside equity but are constrained to hold at least a fraction  $\underline{\chi}$  of equity in their balance sheet. Thus,  $\chi_{e,t} \in [\underline{\chi}, 1]$ . Moving forward, I denote  $\chi_{e,t}$  as simply  $\chi_t$  for notation brevity. The expressions for  $\sigma_{w_{j,t}}$  is the same as in the stochastic productivity model given in (9) and (10). Since all agents within the group  $j$  are identical as before, I solve for the decentralized economy with wealth share of the experts  $z_t$  as the sole state variable. The wealth share is defined as

$$z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{W_{e,t} + W_{h,t}} = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t}$$

where  $W_{e,t} = \int_{\mathbb{E}} w_{j,t} dj$  and  $K_t = \int_{\mathbb{E}} k_{j,t} dj + \int_{\mathbb{H}} k_{j,t} dj$ . Moving forward, I denote  $X_{e,t}$  to mean  $\int_{\mathbb{E}} x_{j,t} dj$ , and similarly for the households.

**Proposition 4.** *The law of motion of the wealth share of experts is given by*

$$\frac{dz_t}{z_t} = \mu_t^z dt + \sigma_t^z dZ_t^k \quad (62)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_t^z &= \frac{a_e - \iota_t}{q_t} - \frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} + \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) (\sigma + \sigma_{q,t}) (\zeta_{e,t} - (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)) + (1 - \chi_t) (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) (\zeta_{e,t} - \zeta_{h,t}) + \frac{\lambda_d}{z_t} (\bar{z} - z_t) \\ \sigma_t^z &= \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right) (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) \end{aligned}$$

Proof: The law of motion of wealth for the households and the experts are given by equation (61). Using the law of large numbers to aggregate the wealth of individual

household and expert, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dW_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} &= \left( r_t - \frac{C_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} - \lambda_d + \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t} (\mu_{h,t}^R - r_t) + \frac{(1 - \bar{z})\lambda_d}{1 - z_t} \right) dt + \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t \\ \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} &= \left( r_t - \frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} - \lambda_d + \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} \zeta_{e,t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) + \frac{\bar{z}\lambda_d}{z_t} \right) dt + \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t\end{aligned}$$

where  $W_{h,t} = \int_{j \in H} w_{j,t} dj$  and  $W_{e,t} = \int_{j \in E} w_{j,t} dj$  denotes the aggregated wealth among respective group. Similar to the stochastic productivity model, the volatility terms  $\frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)$  and  $\frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)$  can be derived using the definitions of  $z_t, \psi_t$  and the market clearing condition  $\sigma_{w_{e,t}} z_t (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) + \sigma_{w_{h,t}} (1 - z_t) (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) = (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)$ . By Ito's lemma, the dynamics of the wealth share becomes

$$\frac{dz_t}{z_t} = \frac{dW_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} - \frac{d(q_t K_t)}{q_t K_t} + \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, q_t K_t \rangle}{(q_t K_t)^2} - \frac{d\langle q_t K_t, W_{e,t} \rangle}{(q_t K_t W_{e,t})}$$

where

$$\frac{d(q_t K_t)}{q_t K_t} = ((\chi_t \zeta_{e,t} + (1 - \chi_t) \zeta_{h,t}) (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) - \frac{(a_e - \iota_t)}{q_t} + r_t) dt + (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) dZ_t$$

and the result follows from here after some algebra. ■

The expression for the wealth share dynamics is similar to the model with stochastic productivity except that only the price of risk for capital shock matters, and the exit rate  $\tau_t$  disappears from the drift. The solution methodology is also the same as before where equilibrium policies are determined in the static inner step and the value function is solved in the outer time step by solving a couple of PDEs. I use an implicit finite difference method with up-winding to solve the PDEs. The up-winding preserves the monotonicity of the PDEs and helps achieve convergence. In section C.4.1, I show that the solution to the PDEs obtained using the finite difference method is the same as the solution obtained from the neural network method.

### C.1.1 Asset pricing conditions

The expected return that the experts earn from investing in the capital is given by

$$dr_t^v = (\mu_{e,t}^R - (1 - \chi_t) \epsilon_{h,t}) dt + \chi_t (\sigma_t^{q,k} + \sigma) dZ_t^k$$

where  $\epsilon_{h,t} = \zeta_{h,t}(\sigma_t^q + \sigma)$ . That is,  $(1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t}$  is the part of the expected excess return that is paid by the experts to the outside equity holders, which is netted out. Consider a trading strategy of investing \$1 into the capital at time 0. Denoting  $v_t$  as the value of this investment strategy at time  $t$ , we have  $\frac{dv_t}{v_t} = dr_t^v$ , and

$$\frac{d(\xi_e v_t)}{\xi_e v_t} = (-r_t + \mu_{e,t}^R - (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t} - \chi_t \epsilon_{e,t})dt + \text{diffusion terms}$$

where  $\epsilon_{e,t} = \zeta_{e,t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)$ , and  $\xi_{e,t}$  follows the process in (58). Since  $\xi_e v_t$  is a martingale, the drift equals to zero, which implies  $\mu_{e,t}^R - r_t = \chi_t \epsilon_{e,t} + (1 - \chi_t)\epsilon_{h,t}$ . It follows similarly for the households with the difference that since they do not issue outside equity, their asset pricing condition is  $\mu_{h,t}^R - r_t = \epsilon_{h,t}$   $\blacksquare$

While the quantitative analysis of the benchmark model in main text assumes that agents have recursive utility and IES=1, I present and solve the model for a broader range of preference specifications. I consider four different types of utility functions. Let

$$f(c_{j,s}, U_{j,s}) = \begin{cases} \rho_j \log(c_{j,t}) - \rho_j U_{j,t} & \text{if } \gamma_j = 1, \varrho_j = 1 \\ \frac{c_{j,t}^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j} - \rho_j U_{j,t} & \text{if } \gamma_j = \varrho_j^{-1} \neq 1 \\ (1 - \gamma_j) \rho_j U_{j,t} \left( \log(c_{j,t}) - \frac{1}{1-\gamma_j} \log((1 - \gamma_j) U_{j,t}) \right) & \text{if } \gamma_j \neq 1, \varrho_j = 1 \\ \frac{1-\gamma_j}{1-\frac{1}{\varrho_j}} U_{j,t} \left[ \left( \frac{c_{j,t}}{((1-\gamma_j) U_{j,t})^{1/(1-\gamma_j)}} \right)^{1-\frac{1}{\varrho_j}} - \rho_j \right] & \text{if } \gamma_j \neq 1, \varrho_j \neq 1 \end{cases} \quad (63)$$

I allow for preference heterogeneity in risk aversion and discount rate for generality. I solve for a Markov equilibrium in the state variable  $z_t \in (0,1)$  for a representative household and expert by aggregating all agents within their respective group.

**Proposition 5.** *The optimal consumption policy and price of risk are given by*

$$\hat{C}_{e,t} = \begin{cases} \rho_e & \text{if (log or Recursive (IES=1))} \\ J_{e,t}^{-1/\gamma_e} (z_t q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_e}{\gamma_e}} & \text{if CRRA} \\ \frac{J_{e,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_j}{1-\gamma_e}}}{(z_t q_t)^{1-\varrho_j}} & \text{if Recursive (IES} \neq 1) \end{cases} \quad (64)$$

$$\hat{C}_{h,t} = \begin{cases} \rho_h & \text{if (log or Recursive (IES=1))} \\ J_{h,t}^{-1/\gamma_h} ((1-z_t)q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_h}{\gamma_h}} & \text{if CRRA} \\ \frac{J_{h,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_j}{1-\gamma_h}}}{((1-z_t)q_t)^{1-\varrho_j}} & \text{if Recursive (IES} \neq 1) \end{cases} \quad (65)$$

$$\zeta_{e,t} = \begin{cases} \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) & \text{if log} \\ -\sigma_{e,t}^J + \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_e \sigma & \text{if (CRRA or Recursive)} \end{cases} \quad (66)$$

$$\zeta_{h,t} = \begin{cases} \frac{(1-\chi_t \psi_t)}{1-z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) & \text{if log} \\ -\sigma_{h,t}^J - \frac{z_t}{1-z_t} \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_h \sigma & \text{if (CRRA or Recursive)} \end{cases} \quad (67)$$

Proof: The HJB equation is given by

$$\sup_{c,K} f(c_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) + E[dU_{j,t}] = 0 \quad (68)$$

I consider three cases of utility functions separately.

**(a) Log utility** The value function conjecture takes a logarithmic form

$$U_{j,t} = \log K_t + J_{j,t}(z_t) = \log W_{j,t} + \tilde{J}_{j,t}$$

and where the second equality follows from  $z_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{q_t K_t} = 1 - \frac{W_{h,t}}{q_t K_t}$ . Also,  $f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = \rho_j \log(C_{j,t}) - \rho_j U_{j,t}$ . The value function derivatives are

$$\frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}} = \frac{dW_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}}; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}^2} = -\frac{d\langle W_{j,t}, W_{j,t} \rangle}{W_{j,t}^2}; \quad \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial \tilde{J}_{j,t}} = 1; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial \tilde{J}_{j,t}^2} = \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{J}_{j,t}}{\partial \tilde{J}_{j,t}^2 \partial W_{j,t}} = 0$$

Applying Ito's lemma and using the HJB, we get

$$\sup_{C, \theta_{j,t}} \rho_j \log C_{j,t} - \rho(\log W_{j,t} + \tilde{J}_{j,t}) + r_t - \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} + \theta_{j,t}(\sigma + \sigma_t^q) \zeta_{j,t} - \frac{1}{2} \theta_{j,t}^2 (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)^2 + \mu_t^{\tilde{J}} = 0$$

where  $\theta_{e,t} = \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t}$  and  $\theta_{h,t} = \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t}$ . Taking the first order conditions, we get the following result for log utility.

$$\hat{c}_{j,t} = \rho_j \quad (69)$$

$$\zeta_{e,t} = \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) \quad (70)$$

$$\zeta_{h,t} = \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t} (\sigma + \sigma_t^q) \quad (71)$$

**(b) CRRA Utility** The value function conjecture is

$$U_{j,t} = J_{j,t}(z_t) \frac{K_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j}$$

where  $J_{j,t}$  follows the stochastic differential equation  $\frac{dJ_{j,t}}{J_{j,t}} = \mu_{j,t}^J dt + \sigma_{j,t}^J dZ_t$  whose drift and volatility needs to be determined in the equilibrium. The HJB equation is derived directly in terms of the capital  $k_t$  instead of the wealth share  $z_t$ . The value function derivatives are

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t}} &= \frac{K_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j}; \quad \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial K_t} = J_{j,t} K_t^{-\gamma_j} \\ \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t}^2} &= 0; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial K_t^2} = -\gamma_j J_{j,t} K_t^{-(1+\gamma_j)}; \quad \frac{\partial^2 U_{j,t}}{\partial J_{j,t} \partial K_t} = K_t^{-\gamma_j} \end{aligned} \quad (72)$$

Applying Ito's lemma and using HJB, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{C, K} & -\rho \frac{J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j} + \frac{C_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j} + \frac{J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j} \mu_{j,t}^J + J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} (\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta) \\ & - \sigma^2 \frac{\gamma_j}{2} J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} + J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} \sigma \sigma_{j,t}^J = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (73)$$

At the optimum, the marginal utilities of consumption and wealth become equal. Rewriting the value function in terms of the wealth and using the mapping  $q_t k_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{z_t} = \frac{W_{h,t}}{1-z_t}$ ,



we get the equilibrium consumption-wealth ratio

$$\frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} = \frac{(z_t q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_e}{\gamma_e}}}{J_{e,t}^{\frac{1}{\gamma_e}}}; \quad \frac{C_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} = \frac{((1-z_t)q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_h}{\gamma_h}}}{J_{h,t}^{\frac{1}{\gamma_h}}} \quad (74)$$

The risk premium of the experts and the households can be derived from the stochastic discount factor which is given by

$$\xi_{j,t} = \xi_{j,0} e^{-\rho_j t} \left( \frac{C_{j,t}}{C_{j,0}} \right)^{-\gamma_j}$$

This gives a relationship between the volatility of SDF and consumption:  $\sigma_{j,t}^\xi = -\gamma_j \sigma_{j,t}^c$ . The consumption-capital ratio for the households and the experts is given by  $\frac{C_{h,t}}{K_t} = \frac{((1-z_t)q_t)^{1/\gamma_h}}{J_{h,t}^{1/\gamma_h}}$  and  $\frac{C_{e,t}}{K_t} = \frac{(z_t q_t)^{1/\gamma_e}}{J_{e,t}^{1/\gamma_e}}$ . Combining this with the differential equation for SDF

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_t dt - \zeta_{j,t} dZ_t$$

we get

$$\zeta_{e,t} = \gamma_e \sigma_{e,t}^c = -\sigma_{e,t}^J + \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_e \sigma; \quad \zeta_{h,t} = \gamma_h \sigma_{h,t}^c = -\sigma_{h,t}^J - \frac{z_t}{1-z_t} \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_h \sigma \quad (75)$$

Plugging in the optimal consumption-wealth ratio from (74) into HJB equation (73), we get the expressions for  $\mu_{j,t}^J$

$$\mu_{e,t}^J = \rho_e - \frac{(z_t q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_e}{\gamma_e}}}{J_{e,t}^{1/\gamma_e}} - (1-\gamma_e)(\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_e}{2} \sigma^2 + \sigma_{e,t}^J \sigma) \quad (76)$$

$$\mu_{h,t}^J = \rho_e - \frac{((1-z_t)q_t)^{\frac{1-\gamma_h}{\gamma_h}}}{J_{h,t}^{1/\gamma_h}} - (1-\gamma_h)(\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_h}{2} \sigma^2 + \sigma_{h,t}^J \sigma) \quad (77)$$

**(c) Recursive Utility (IES=1)** The value function conjecture is the same as that of CRRA utility, and  $f(C_{j,t} U_{j,t}) = (1-\gamma_j) \rho_j U_{j,t} \left( \log C_{j,t} - \frac{1}{1-\gamma_j} \log((1-\gamma_j) U_{j,t}) \right)$ . Plugging in the conjecture for value function in HJB equation (33) and applying Ito's lemma<sup>59</sup>,

<sup>59</sup>The value function derivatives are the same as in the CRRA case given by (72).

we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{C,K} \quad & \rho J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} \left[ \log \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} - \frac{1}{1-\gamma_j} \log J_{j,t} + \log(q_t z_t) \right] + J_{j,t} \frac{K_t^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j} \mu_{j,t}^J \\ & + J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} (\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta) - J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} \frac{1}{2} \gamma_j \sigma^2 + J_{j,t} K_t^{1-\gamma_j} \sigma \sigma_{j,t}^J = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (78)$$

As before, at the optimum, the marginal utilities of the wealth and the consumption become equal. Using the value function expression in terms of wealth, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial C_{j,t}} \\ \tilde{J}_{j,t} W_{j,t}^{-\gamma_j} &= (1-\gamma_j) \rho_j \frac{U_{j,t}}{C_{j,t}} \implies \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} = \rho_j \end{aligned}$$

The stochastic discount factor for recursive utility is given by

$$\xi_{j,t} = \exp \left( \int_0^t \frac{\partial f(C_{j,s}, U_{j,s})}{\partial U} ds \right) \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial W_{j,t}}$$

Writing the value function conjecture in terms of the wealth instead of the capital, we have

$$U_{j,t} = \tilde{J}_{j,t} \frac{W_{j,t}^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j}; \quad f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = (1-\gamma_j) \rho_j U_{j,t} \left( \log \rho_j - \frac{1}{1-\gamma_j} \tilde{J}_{j,t} \right)$$

where  $\tilde{J}_{j,t} = \frac{J_{j,t}}{(q_t z_t)^{1-\gamma_j}}$ . The SDF then becomes

$$\xi_{j,t} = (1-\gamma_j) \exp \left( \int_0^t \left[ \rho_j ((1-\gamma_j) \log C_{j,s} - \log((1-\gamma_j) U_{j,s}) - 1) \right] ds \right) \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}}$$

This implies that  $\sigma(\xi_{j,t}) = \sigma \left( \frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} \right)$ . Computing the R.H.S and using

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_t dt - \zeta_{j,t} dZ_t$$

we get the desired result. Plugging in the consumption-wealth ratio and the market price of risk into the HJB equation (78), we obtain the expressions for  $\mu_{j,t}^J$

$$\mu_{e,t}^J = (\gamma_e - 1)(\rho_e \log \rho_e + \log(q_t z_t)) + \rho_e \log J_{e,t} - (1 - \gamma_e)(\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_e}{2} \sigma^2 + \sigma \sigma_{e,t}^J) \quad (79)$$

$$\mu_{h,t}^J = (\gamma_h - 1)(\rho_h \log \rho_h + \log(q_t(1 - z_t))) + \rho_h \log J_{h,t} - (1 - \gamma_h)(\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_h}{2} \sigma^2 + \sigma \sigma_{h,t}^J) \quad (80)$$

**(d) Recursive Utility (IES different from unity)** The optimization problem is

$$\sup_{C_{j,t}, \theta_{j,t}, \iota_t} f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) + E[dU_{j,t}] = 0$$

where

$$f(c_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = \frac{1 - \gamma_j}{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}} U_{j,t} \left[ \left( \frac{C_{j,t}}{((1 - \gamma_j) U_{j,t})^{1/(1 - \gamma_j)}} \right)^{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}} - \rho_j \right]$$

where  $\varrho_j$  denotes the IES parameter. The conjecture for the value function is

$$U_{j,t} = J_{j,t}(z_t) \frac{K_t^{1 - \gamma_j}}{1 - \gamma_j}$$

where  $J_{j,t}$  follows the stochastic differential equation  $\frac{dJ_{j,t}}{J_{j,t}} = \mu_{j,t}^J dt + \sigma_{j,t}^J dZ_t$  whose drift and volatility needs to be determined in the equilibrium.<sup>60</sup>

As before, the HJB equation is derived directly in terms of the capital  $K_t$  instead of the wealth share  $z_t$ . Applying Ito's lemma and using the HJB, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{c,K} \quad & \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}} \left( \frac{C_{j,t}^{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}}}{J_{j,t}^{\frac{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}}{1 - \gamma_j}} K_t^{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_j}}} - \rho_j \right) J_{j,t} K_t^{1 - \gamma_j} + \frac{J_{j,t} K_t^{1 - \gamma_j}}{1 - \gamma_j} \mu_{j,t}^J + J_{j,t} K_t^{1 - \gamma_j} (\Phi(\iota_t) - \delta) \\ & - \sigma^2 \frac{\gamma_j}{2} J_{j,t} K_t^{1 - \gamma_j} + J_{j,t} K_t^{1 - \gamma_j} \sigma \sigma_{j,t}^J = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (81)$$

At the optimum, the marginal utilities of the consumption and the wealth become equal. Rewriting the value function in terms of the wealth and using the mapping  $q_t K_t = \frac{W_{e,t}}{z_t} =$

<sup>60</sup>Since the value function conjecture is the same as in CRRA case, the value function derivatives are given by (72).

$\frac{W_{h,t}}{1-z_t}$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f_{e,t}}{\partial C_{e,t}} &= C_{e,t}^{-\frac{1}{\varrho_e}} J_{e,t}^{\frac{1}{\varrho_e}-\gamma_e} (z_t q_t)^{\gamma_j-\frac{1}{\varrho_e}} \\ \frac{\partial f_{h,t}}{\partial C_{h,t}} &= C_{h,t}^{-\frac{1}{\varrho_h}} J_{h,t}^{\frac{1}{\varrho_h}-\gamma_h} ((1-z_t)q_t)^{\gamma_j-\frac{1}{\varrho_h}} \\ \frac{\partial U_{e,t}}{\partial W_{e,t}} &= \frac{J_{e,t}}{(z_t q_t)^{1-\gamma_e}} W_{e,t}^{1-\gamma_e} \\ \frac{\partial U_{h,t}}{\partial W_{h,t}} &= \frac{J_{h,t}}{((1-z_t)q_t)^{1-\gamma_h}} W_{h,t}^{1-\gamma_h}\end{aligned}$$

Equating the marginal values, we get the respective optimal consumption-wealth ratios

$$\frac{C_{e,t}}{W_{e,t}} = \frac{J_{e,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_e}{1-\gamma_e}}}{(z_t q_t)^{1-\varrho_e}}; \quad \frac{C_{h,t}}{W_{h,t}} = \frac{J_{h,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_h}{1-\gamma_h}}}{((1-z_t)q_t)^{1-\varrho_h}} \quad (82)$$

The stochastic discount factor for recursive utility is given by

$$\xi_{j,t} = \exp\left(\int_0^t \frac{\partial f(C_{j,s}, U_{j,s})}{\partial U} ds\right) \frac{\partial U_{j,t}}{\partial w_{j,t}}$$

Writing the value function conjecture in terms of the wealth instead of the capital, we have

$$U_{j,t} = \tilde{J}_{j,t} \frac{W_{j,t}^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\gamma_j}; \quad f(C_{j,t}, U_{j,t}) = \frac{\tilde{J}_{j,t} W_{j,t}^{1-\gamma_j}}{1-\frac{1}{\varrho_j}} \left[ \left( \frac{C_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}} \right)^{1-\frac{1}{\varrho_j}} \tilde{J}_{j,t}^{\frac{1-\frac{1}{\varrho_j}}{\gamma_j-1}} - \rho_j \right]$$

where  $\tilde{J}_{j,t} = \frac{J_{j,t}}{(q_t z_t)^{1-\gamma_j}}$ . Plugging in the above expression in the stochastic discount factor, we notice that  $\sigma(\xi_{j,t}) = \sigma\left(\frac{U_{j,t}}{W_{j,t}}\right)$ . Computing the R.H.S and using

$$\frac{d\xi_{j,t}}{\xi_{j,t}} = -r_f dt - \zeta_{j,t} dZ_t$$

we get the following result.

$$\zeta_{e,t} = -\sigma_{e,t}^J + \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_e \sigma \quad (83)$$

$$\zeta_{h,t} = -\sigma_{h,t}^J - \frac{z_t}{1-z_t} \sigma_t^z + \sigma_t^q + \gamma_h \sigma \quad (84)$$

Substituting the consumption-wealth ratio into the HJB equation (81), we the expression

for  $\mu_{j,t}^J$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{e,t}^J &= \frac{(\gamma_e - 1)}{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_e}} \left( (q_t z_t)^{\varrho_e - 1} J_{e,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_e}{1-\gamma_e}} - \rho_e \right) - (1 - \gamma_e)(\Phi(l_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_e}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma\sigma_{e,t}^J) \\ \mu_{h,t}^J &= \frac{(\gamma_h - 1)}{1 - \frac{1}{\varrho_h}} \left( (q_t(1 - z_t))^{\varrho_h - 1} J_{h,t}^{\frac{1-\varrho_h}{1-\gamma_h}} - \rho_h \right) - (1 - \gamma_h)(\Phi(l_t) - \delta - \frac{\gamma_h}{2}\sigma^2 + \sigma\sigma_{h,t}^J)\end{aligned}\quad (85)$$

This proves the proposition. ■

## C.2 Numerical solution method

### C.2.1 Model solution: Log utility

I rely on the solution technique from BS2016 and [Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre \(2018\)](#) that solves the partial differential equations using an up-winding finite difference scheme. The method involves a static inner loop that solves for the equilibrium quantities  $\{\psi_t, (\sigma_{q,t} + \sigma), q_t\}$ , and an outer loop that updates the value function from  $J_{j,t+\Delta t}$  to  $J_{j,t}$  using a finite difference method, similar to the model with stochastic productivity.

*Static step:* To solve for the quantities in inner loop, three equations are required. The first equation is given by subtracting the portfolio choices of the households and the experts. That is, we have

$$(\theta_{e,t} - \theta_{h,t})(\sigma_t^q + \sigma)^2 = \mu_{e,t}^R - (\mu_{h,t}^R)$$

Plugging in the expressions for  $\mu_{e,t}^R, \mu_{h,t}^R$  from the return process (57), and using  $\theta_{e,t} = \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t}$  as well as from the capital market clearing condition  $\theta_{h,t} = \frac{1 - \chi_t \psi_t}{1 - z_t}$ , we get

$$\frac{\underline{\chi} \psi_t - z_t}{z_t(1 - z_t)} (\sigma_t^q + \sigma)^2 = \frac{a_e - a_h}{q_t} \quad (86)$$

Note that  $\underline{\chi}$  is used in place of  $\chi_t$  because of similar reasoning as in the model of stochastic productivity. When the wealth share  $z_t$  is low, the experts issue maximum equity possible to the households since their expected rate of return is much higher than that

of households. The second equation comes from the goods market clearing condition

$$(z_t \hat{c}_{e,t} + (1 - z_t) \hat{c}_{h,t}) q_t = \psi_t (a_e - \iota_t) + (1 - \psi_t) (a_h - \iota_t) \quad (87)$$

where  $\iota_t = \frac{q_t - 1}{\kappa}$ . For the third equation, apply Ito's lemma to  $q(z_t)$  and match the drift and the volatility terms to get  $\sigma_t^q = \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{q} \sigma_t^z$ . Combining this with the volatility of wealth share, we get

$$\sigma_t^q + \sigma = \frac{\sigma}{1 - \frac{\partial q_t}{\partial z_t} \frac{1}{q} \left( \frac{\chi_t \psi_t}{z_t} - 1 \right)} \quad (88)$$

Equations (86), (87), and (88) are solved using the Newton-Raphson method<sup>61</sup> yielding  $\{\psi_t, (\sigma_{q,t} + \sigma), q_t\}$ . Similar to Brunnermeier and Sannikov (2016), there are three regions in the state space. In the first region, the risk premium of the households is lower than that of the experts and hence the experts issue maximum outside equity (i.e.,  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}_t$ ). In the second region, the experts hold all capital ( $\psi_t = 1$ ) but their risk premium is still larger than that of households and hence  $\chi_t = \underline{\chi}$ . In the third region, perfect risk sharing is achieved between the experts and households by setting  $\chi_t = z_t$ . In the case of log utility, the static step is enough to compute the equilibrium policies since the consumption-wealth share is equal to the discount rate and the capital share is not dependent on  $J_{j,t}$ .

### C.2.2 Model solution: CRRA and Recursive utility

The portfolio choice in the case of CRRA and recursive utility includes the hedging demand that needs to be taken into account. From equations (59) and (60), we get

$$\frac{a_e - a_h}{q_t(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)} \geq \underline{\chi}(\zeta_{e,t} - \zeta_{h,t})$$

---

<sup>61</sup>BS2016 and Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre (2018) provide details of the algorithm. The state space is segmented into the crisis region and the normal region. The static step is solved for iteratively until the system enters the crisis region in which case the capital share  $\psi$  is set to 1 and the remaining quantities  $(q_t, \sigma_t^q)$  are solved for using equations (87) and (88).

with equality if  $\psi_t = 1$ . Plugging in the expressions for  $\zeta_{e,t}$  and  $\zeta_{h,t}$  from proposition (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{a_e - a_h}{q_t} &= \underline{\chi} \left( \frac{1}{J_{h,t}} \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t} - \frac{1}{J_{e,t}} \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t} + \frac{1}{z_t(1-z_t)} \right) (\chi \psi_t - z_t)(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)^2 \\ \frac{a_e - a_h}{q_t} &= \underline{\chi} \left( \sigma_{h,t}^J - \sigma_{e,t}^J + \frac{\sigma_t^z}{1-z_t} \right) (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)\end{aligned}$$

where the second expression comes from using the dynamics of the wealth share (62).<sup>62</sup> The goods market clearing condition (87) and return volatility (88) remain the same. Similar to the case of log utility, the Newton-Raphson method is used to solve for the  $\{\psi_t, q_t, (\sigma + \sigma_t^q)\}$ . Given these equilibrium functions,  $J_{j,t}$  needs to be solved for, which is done in the dynamic time step.

*Time step:* Applying Ito's lemma to  $J_{j,t}(z_t)$ , matching the drift terms, and augmenting the resulting coupled PDEs with a time step (falst-transient method), we get

$$\mu_{h,t}^J J_{h,t} = \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t^2} (\sigma_t^z)^2 \quad (89)$$

$$\mu_{e,t}^J J_{e,t} = \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t^2} (\sigma_t^z)^2 \quad (90)$$

The coefficients  $\mu_t^z$  and  $\sigma_t^z$  can be computed from the equilibrium quantities in the static step and  $\mu_{j,t}^J$  is computed from the equations in (79). The PDEs are solved using an implicit method with an up-winding scheme explained in the next part.

### C.2.3 Up-winding scheme

The PDEs (89) are solved by considering artificial time-derivatives. To be specific, the modified system

$$0 = \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial t} - \mu_{h,t}^J J_{h,t} + \frac{\partial J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{h,t}}{\partial z_t^2} (\sigma_t^z)^2 \quad (91)$$

$$0 = \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial t} - \mu_{e,t}^J J_{e,t} + \frac{\partial J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t} \mu_t^z + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 J_{e,t}}{\partial z_t^2} (\sigma_t^z)^2 \quad (92)$$

<sup>62</sup>Note that by Ito's lemma, we have  $\sigma_{j,t} = \frac{1}{J_{j,t}} \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} \sigma_t^z = \frac{1}{J_{j,t}} \frac{\partial J_{j,t}}{\partial z_t} (\theta_{e,t} - 1)(\sigma + \sigma_t^q)^2$

is solved backwards in time with the corresponding terminal conditions  $(J_{h,T}, J_{e,T})$ . Consider a general quasi-linear PDE of the form

$$A\left(z, g, \frac{\partial g}{\partial z}\right) + tr\left[B\left(z, g, \frac{\partial g}{\partial z}\right) \frac{\partial^2 g}{\partial z^2} B\left(z, g, \frac{\partial g}{\partial z}\right)'\right] + \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = 0$$

Consider a two-dimensional grid of size  $N_z$  and  $N_t$  with step sizes  $\Delta_i$  and  $\Delta_j$  respectively where  $\{i\}_1^{N_z}, \{j\}_1^{N_t}$  denote the dimensions for space and time respectively. The function  $g(z_t, t)$  evaluated at  $(i, j)$  is denoted as  $g_{i,j}$ . The derivatives of the function are discretized as

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\hat{\partial} g_{i,j}}{\hat{\partial} z} &= (\mu_j^z)^+ \frac{g_{i+1,j} - g_{i,j}}{\Delta_i} + (\mu_j^z)^- \frac{g_{i,j} - g_{i-1,j}}{\Delta_i} \\ \frac{\hat{\partial}^2 g_{i,j}}{\hat{\partial} z^2} &= \frac{g_{i+1,j} - 2g_{i,j} + g_{i-1,j}}{\Delta_i^2} \\ \frac{\hat{\partial} g_{i,j}}{\hat{\partial} t} &= \frac{g_{i,j+1} - g_{i,j}}{\Delta_j}\end{aligned}$$

where

$$(\mu_j^z)^+ = \begin{cases} \mu_t^z & \text{if } \mu_t^z > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (\mu_j^z)^- = \begin{cases} \mu_t^z & \text{if } \mu_t^z < 0 \\ 0 & \text{if otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Discretizing the derivatives at  $j + 1$  and applying it to the PDE, we get

$$g_{i,j+1} = g_{i,j} + \Delta_j \left\{ A\left(z, g_{i,j+1}, \frac{\hat{\partial} g_{i,j+1}}{\hat{\partial} z}\right) + tr\left[B\left(z, g_{i,j+1}, \frac{\hat{\partial} g_{i,j+1}}{\hat{\partial} z}\right) \frac{\hat{\partial}^2 g_{i,j+1}}{\hat{\partial} z^2} B\left(z, g_{i,j+1}, \frac{\hat{\partial} g_{i,j+1}}{\hat{\partial} z}\right)'\right] \right\}$$

Solving for  $g_{i,j+1}$  requires solving a linear system of equations which can be done using a standard procedure such as the Richardson method. The up-winding scheme ensures monotonicity of the numerical scheme (see [D'Avernas and Vandeweyer \(2019\)](#)). Since the method is implicit, a large time step can be set which considerably reduces the computation time.



	Description	Symbol	Value
Technology / Preferences	Volatility of output	$\sigma$	0.06
	Discount rate (experts)	$\rho_e$	0.06
	Discount rate (households)	$\rho_h$	0.04
	Depreciation rate of capital	$\delta$	0.02
	Investment cost	$\kappa$	10
	Productivity (experts)	$a_e$	0.11
	Productivity (households)	$a_h$	0.03
Utility	CRRA utility	$\gamma_e, \gamma_h$	[1, 15]
	Recursive utility	$\gamma_e, \gamma_h$	[1, 15]
Demographics	Mean proportion of experts	$\bar{z}$	0.10
	Turnover	$\lambda_d$	0.03
Friction	Equity retention	$\underline{\chi}$	0.5

Table 10: Calibrated parameters for the benchmark model. All values are annualized.

### C.2.4 Equilibrium policies

The equilibrium plots for the benchmark model is given in Figure (11).

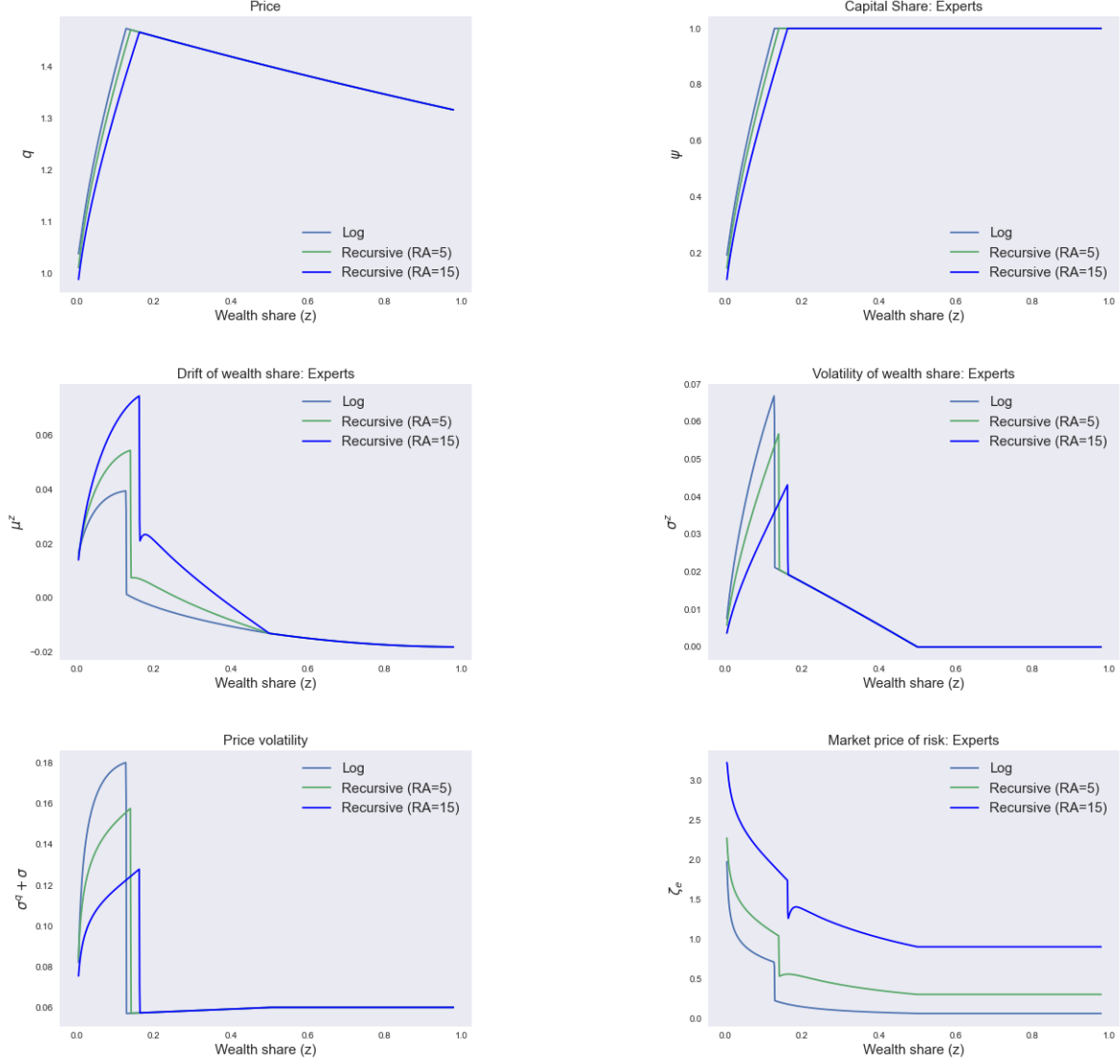


Figure 11: Equilibrium values as functions of state variable  $z_t$ . The recursive utility plots have IES equal to 1. Log utility has RA=1 by construction.

### C.2.5 Numerical simulation

The state variable in the model is  $z_t$  whose law of motion is governed by the equation (62). Once the mapping between  $z_t$  and  $(\mu_t^z, \sigma_t^z)$  are determined numerically from the previous section, we can simulate  $z_t$  using an Euler-Maruyama scheme. Specifically, the task is to simulate

$$dz_t = \mu_t^z dt + \sigma_t^z dZ_t$$

where the shock  $dZ_t$  is the standard Brownian motion. The law of motion is discretized as

$$z_{t+\Delta t} = z_t + \mu_z(z_t)\Delta t + \sigma_t^z(z_t) * \sqrt{\Delta t}Z$$

where  $Z \sim N(0,1)$ . The steps are as follows

1. Set  $z_0$  to an arbitrary initial value, say 0.5.
2. Simulate  $Z$  from the standard normal distribution and compute  $z_{t+\Delta t}$  using the discretized equation for  $\Delta = 1/12$ . The mapping between  $z_t$  and  $(\mu_t^z, \sigma_t^z)$  is in a grid since it is solved for numerically and hence I use a spline interpolation to obtain the intermediate values.
3. Repeat the procedure for  $z_1, z_2, \dots$  and obtain  $\{z_t\}_1^{60,000}$ . That is, the simulation is done for 5000 years at monthly frequency.

The first 1000 years are eliminated so as to reduce the dependency on the initial condition. I experiment with different initial values to make sure that the obtained distribution is indeed stationary. The procedure is repeated for 1000 times and Figure (12) plots the resulting distributions.

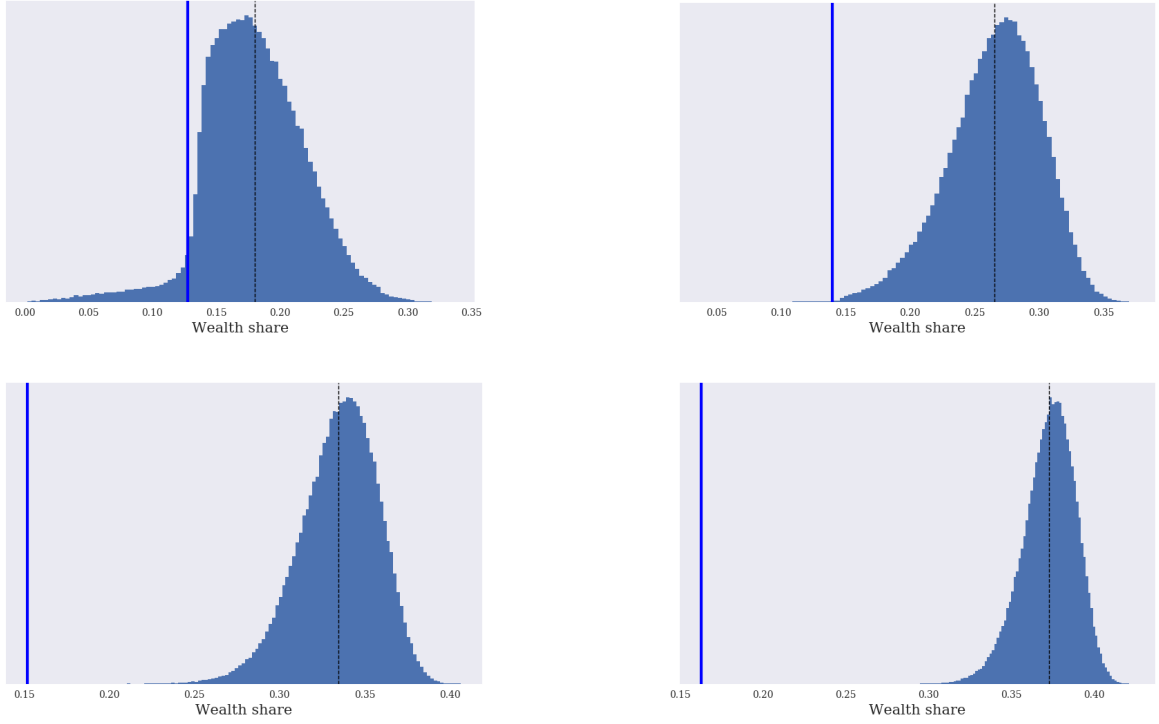


Figure 12: Stationary distribution of wealth share.

Figure 13: Plots (a), (b), (c), and (d) represent benchmark model with risk aversion parameter set to 1, 5, 10, and 20 respectively. The vertical blue line and the vertical dotted line represent the endogenous crisis boundary  $z^*$  and the steady state  $\hat{z}$  of the wealth share respectively.

**Comparison with Fokker-Planck equation** The density of wealth share  $g(z_t, t)$  can be expressed in the form of Fokker-Planck (or Kolmogorov Forward Equation) equation

$$\frac{\partial g(z_t, t)}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial z_t}(\mu_t^z g(z_t, t)) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_t^2}((\sigma_t^z)^2 g(z_t, t))$$

We have  $\lim_{z_t \rightarrow 0^+, z_t \rightarrow 1^-} \sigma_t^z = 0$  by construction and  $(\lim_{z_t \rightarrow 0^+} \mu_t^z > 0, \lim_{z_t \rightarrow 1^-} \mu_t^z < 0)$  due to the overlapping generations assumption. This forces the distribution to be non-degenerate. Also, a stationary density implies that  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial t} = 0$ . Thus, we can integrate the Fokker-Planck equation to obtain

$$0 = \text{constant} - (\mu_t^z g(z_t)) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial z_t}((\sigma_t^z)^2 g(z_t))$$

I solve this equation numerically using an explicit finite difference scheme and compare it with the stationary distribution obtained through the simulation. Figure (14) shows that the density obtained from the simulation is a good approximation for the

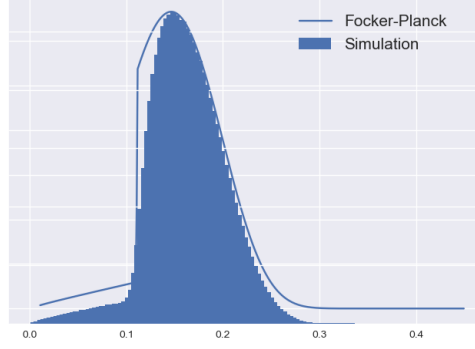


Figure 14: Comparison of the stationary density obtained from Fokker-Planck equation and the simulation for the benchmark model with  $RA=1$ .

theoretical density dictated by the Fokker-Planck equation. The simulated wealth share is annualized so as to make the comparison with the empirical data. The proportion of annualized wealth share that fall below the theoretically obtained crisis boundary  $z^*$  is taken to be the probability of crisis implied by the model. Table (11) presents the moments of equilibrium quantities obtained using the annualized wealth share

### C.3 Other trade-offs in the benchmark model

One key quantity that governs the time spent in the crisis region is the drift of the wealth share. The parameter  $\lambda_d$  controls the death rate of experts which is necessary to ensure model stationarity. As the death rate increases, all else equal, the system stays in the crisis region longer. A similar effect is observed when the mean proportion of experts  $\bar{z}$  is decreased. Figure (15) presents the static comparison of the drift of the wealth share for different values of  $\lambda_d$  and  $\bar{z}$ . A higher death rate pushes the system into the crisis region by making the drift of wealth share more negative in the normal regime. However, there is only a minimal effect on the drift once the system enters the crisis region. The second panel varies the mean population share of experts by keeping the death rate fixed. As the population share decreases, the drift becomes more negative making the crisis more likely. Once the system enters the crisis region, the drift becomes less positive pushing the system back into the normal regime at a slower rate. Both of

these effects work towards increasing the frequency of crisis.

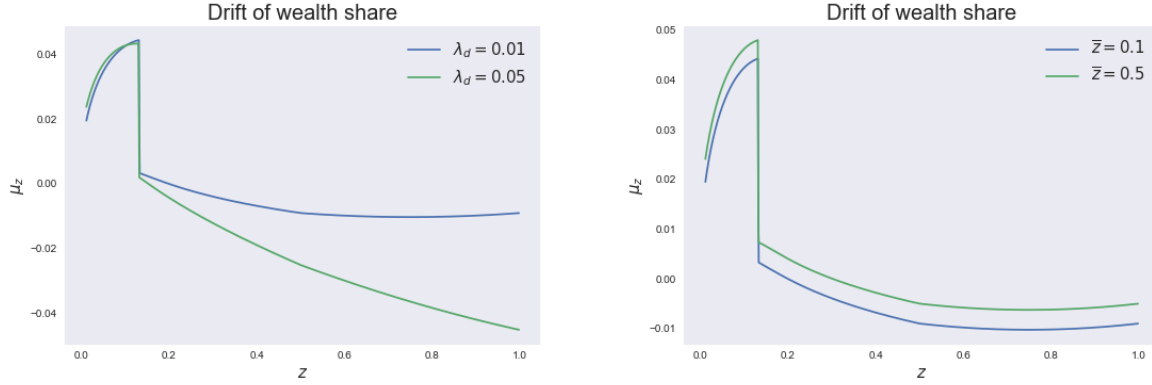


Figure 15: Left panel shows the drift of wealth share for two different values of death rate  $\lambda_d$  for  $\bar{z}$  fixed at 0.1. The second panel shows the drift of wealth share for two different values of mean expert population for  $\lambda_d$  fixed at 0.02. The risk aversion is set to 2 for both the plots.

Figure (16) shows the probability of crisis for several values of  $\lambda_d$  and  $\bar{z}$  for the recursive utility model with IES=1 and risk aversion equal to 2. To obtain a 7% probability of crisis, the population share of experts have to be less than 10%, with a death rate of 3%. Since the discount rate assumed in the model is inclusive of death rate, a 3% death rate means that the households do not discount at all. The second panel of Figure (16) reveals that changing the OLG parameters doesn't affect unconditional risk premium much. While it is possible to achieve a realistic probability of crisis and unconditional risk premium simultaneously, this comes at the cost of extremely high death risk, and more importantly, it still does not generate persistent recessions. This is because the duration of the crisis is unaffected by a high death risk and thus leads to a quick recovery.

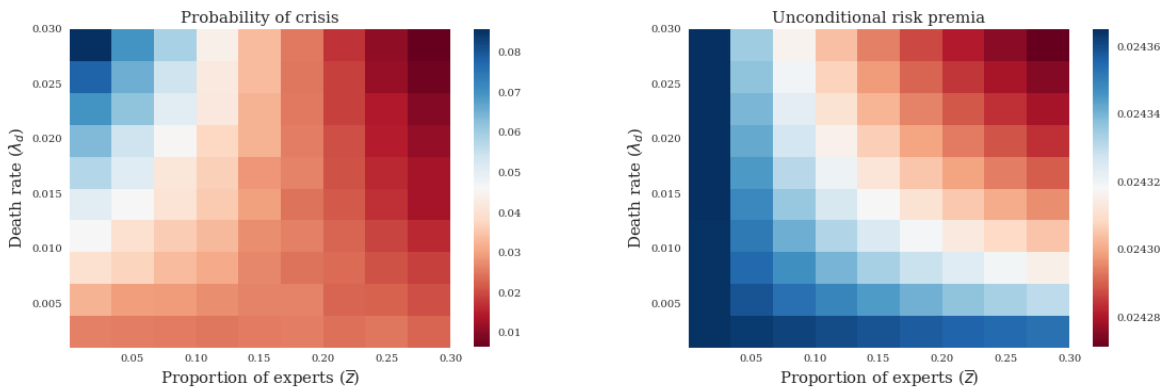


Figure 16: Left panel shows the drift of wealth share for two different values of exit rate  $\lambda_d$  for  $\bar{z}$  fixed at 0.1. The right panel shows the drift of wealth share for two different values of mean expert population for  $\lambda_d$  fixed at 0.02. Both plots are from recursive utility model with risk aversion equal 2 and IES=1.

*Tightening financial constraint:* One of the key assumptions of the model is the inability

of experts to fully issue outside equity. The parameter  $\underline{\chi}$  governs how much equity the experts are forced to retain and hence it is of interest to study the model by varying this parameter. As the financial constraint tightens, the probability of crisis increases. The left panel of Figure (17) plots the risk premium of experts for three different values of the skin-in-the-game constraint. As the constraint increases, the crisis boundary shifts to the right but the unconditional risk premium is lower. This effect can be seen in the simulation result on the right panel of Figure (17). While a higher value of  $\underline{\chi}$  leads to a higher probability of the crisis, the conditional risk premium drops drastically leading to only a marginal increase in the unconditional premium.

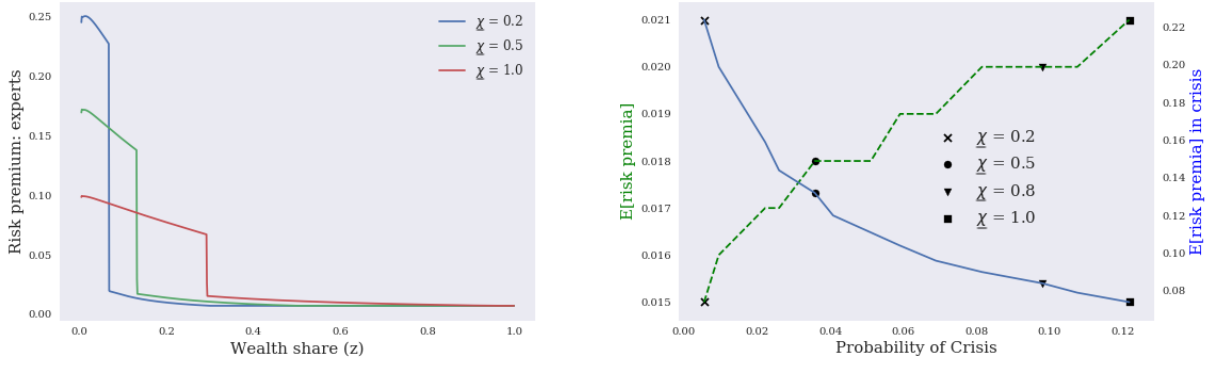


Figure 17: Left panel: Static comparison of the risk premium by changing the skin-in-the game constraint for the baseline model with  $RA=1$  and  $IES=1$ . Right panel: Trade off between the conditional risk premium and the probability of crisis by varying the skin-in-the-game constraint. The parameter  $\underline{\chi}$  increases from left to right. Left (dashed line) and right (blue line) axes correspond to the unconditional and the conditional risk premium respectively.

## C.4 Deep learning methodology

### C.4.1 One-dimensional model

I first present the solution to the benchmark model using deep learning method and then demonstrate how and why it is easy to scale to higher dimensions by presenting the solution to richer model with two state variables. I consider the case of recursive utility with  $IES=1$  and  $RA=2$  for demonstration.<sup>63</sup> The PDE that needs to be solved is

<sup>63</sup>The deep learning algorithm works for any type of utility function. For larger risk aversion values, it takes longer to achieve convergence due to the highly non-linear value function near the boundaries.

given in (91). Construct a neural network  $\hat{J}(z, t | \Theta)$  and define the PDE residual to be

$$f := \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial z} \mu^z + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{J}}{\partial z^2} (\sigma^z)^2 - \mu^J \hat{J}$$

The network architecture is given in Figure (19) with the hyperparameters in Table (9).<sup>64</sup> Figure (18) plots the full grid and the training sample. The inner static loop uses a grid size of 1000 points in space dimension while the neural network only uses 300 points for training. In the case of a single space dimensional model, sampling one-third of the grid points is enough to find the right solution. In higher dimensions, the proportion of grid points required as training sample can be set much lower than one-third.

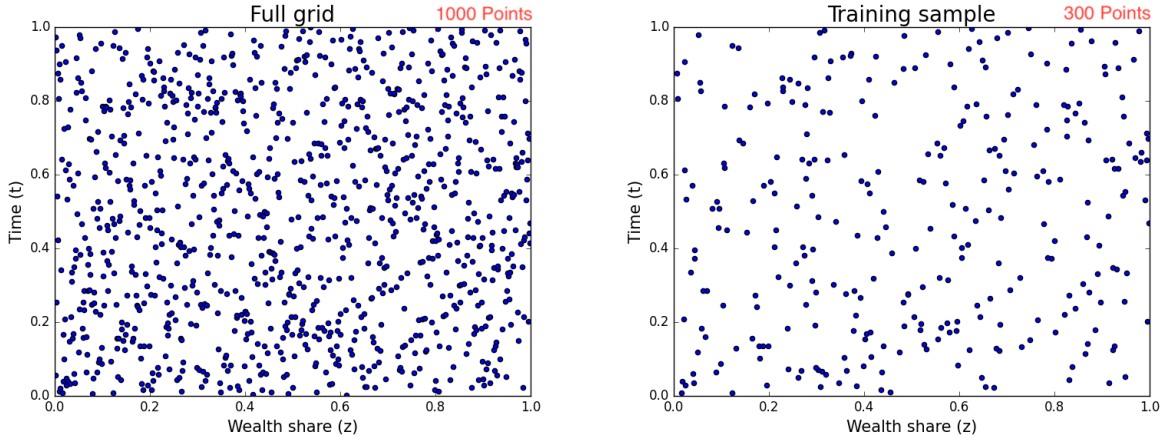


Figure 18: Grid used in numerical procedure: 1D model.

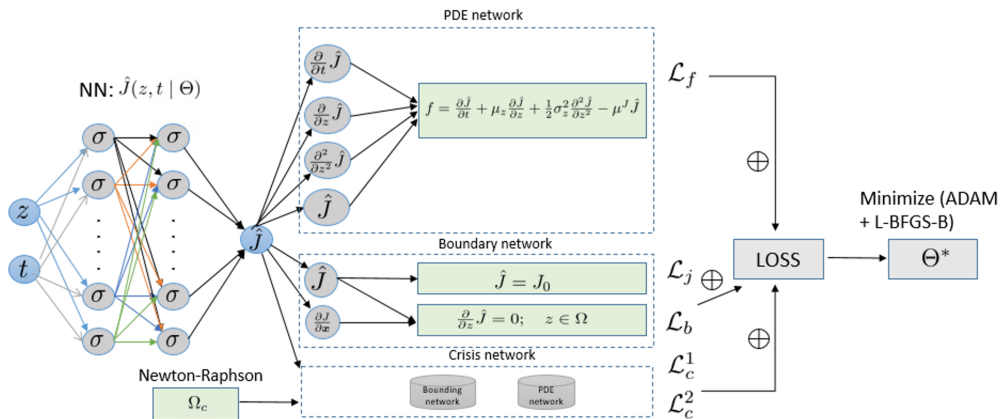


Figure 19: Network architecture: benchmark model.

<sup>64</sup>The algorithm works even for 2 hidden layers with 30 neurons each instead of 4 hidden layers but may be prone to instabilities for some extreme parameter values such as setting  $\chi = 0.1$ . It is recommended to have four layers to capture the non-linearity well.



I illustrate the simplicity of coding the neural network solution using code snippets that uses Tensorflow library. The first step is to construct a neural network  $\hat{J}$  using the space and time dimensions as training data, and weights and biases as parameters initialized arbitrarily.<sup>65</sup> This is illustrated in the code snippet (1) and it corresponds to the left most feed-forward neural network ( $NN : \hat{J}(z, t | \Theta)$ ) in Figure (19). The next step is to construct the regularizers using PDE residual as given in code snippet (2). This forms the PDE network in Figure (19). The PDE coefficients (advection, diffusion, and linear terms) are taken as given and form part of the training sample. The automatic differentiation in Tensorflow (*tf.gradients*) enables fast computation of derivatives in the regularizers which guides the parameterized neural network  $\hat{J}$  towards the right solution even when the training sample is small. In addition to the PDE bounding loss, one can easily set up the boundary loss and crisis region loss in a similar fashion.

```

1 def J(z,t):
2     J = neural_net(tf.concat([z,t],1),weights,biases)
3     return J
4

```

Listing 1: Approximating  $J$  using a neural network: 1D model

```

1 def f(z,t):
2     J = J(z,t)
3     J_t = tf.gradients(J,t)[0]
4     J_z = tf.gradients(J,z)[0]
5     J_zz = tf.gradients(J_z,z)[0]
6     f = J_t + advection * J_z + diffusion * J_zz - linearTerm * J
7     return f

```

Listing 2: Constructing regularizer: 1D model

Since the analytical solution to the benchmark model is not available, I compare the neural network solution with the those obtained from the finite difference method explained in Appendix (C.2.3). Figure (20) shows the comparison. They are not only

---

<sup>65</sup>I use Xavier initialization to avoid the vanishing gradient problem.

qualitatively similar, they are quantitatively the same up to the order of  $1e-4$ .

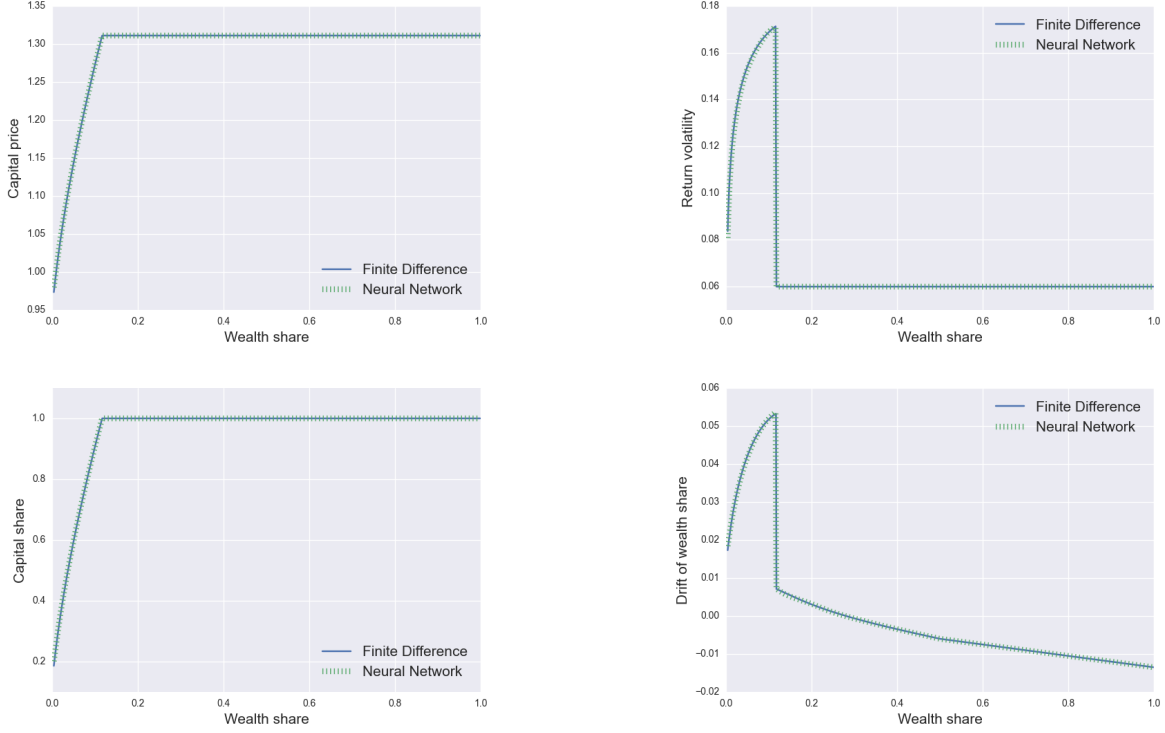


Figure 20: Comparison of equilibrium quantities using finite difference and neural network in one-dimensional benchmark model.

### C.4.2 Two-dimensional model

The PDE that needs to be solved in the two-dimensional model is given in (48). As in the case of one-dimensional model, construct the neural network  $\hat{J}(z, a, t \mid \Theta)$  with the PDE residual taking the form

$$f := \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial z} \mu^z + \frac{\partial \hat{J}}{\partial a} \mu^a + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{J}}{\partial z^2} \left( (\sigma^{z,k})^2 + (\sigma^{z,a})^2 + 2\varphi \sigma^{z,k} \sigma^{z,a} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial^2 \hat{J}}{\partial a^2} \sigma_a^2 + \frac{\partial^2 \hat{J}}{\partial z \partial a} (z \sigma^{z,k} \sigma_a \varphi + \sigma_a \sigma^{z,a}) - \mu^J \hat{J}$$

The network architecture and hyperparameters are given in Figure (9) and (9) respectively. The grid size becomes larger compared to the one-dimensional model but the chosen training sample size is 3000 which is much smaller than the full grid size of 30,000 as is illustrated in Figure (21). To appreciate the simplicity involved in scaling to higher dimensions, I present the code snippets for the 2D model in (3) and (4). Similar to the 1D model, the neural network  $J$  is parameterized the same way except that the network takes three inputs- two space dimensions  $(z, a)$  and one time dimension

( $t$ ). This corresponds to the leftmost feed-forward neural network in Figure (9) where three neurons enter the network instead of two as in Figure (19). The construction of regularizer as shown in code snippet (4) simply adds new derivative terms to the PDE network taking as given the coefficients (advection, diffusion, linear, and cross terms). Moving from one to two dimensions in an implicit finite difference method is not trivial since one has to set up the system of linear equations to be solved numerically. In even higher dimensions, as demonstrated in [Gopalakrishna \(2021\)](#), the PDE network simply adds further derivative terms. This is easier to do in comparison with setting up the system of equations. In dimensions more than two with correlated state variables, preserving monotonicity of the numerical schemes adds further complications, which the neural network method sidesteps. The literature has used advanced C++ tools like Paradiso (see [Hansen, Khorrami and Tourre \(2018\)](#)) which requires much more effort than simply augmenting the PDE network. Since most of the heavy lifting is done by the automatic differentiation in the regularizers, learning in high dimensions is accomplished effectively through a few lines of coding.

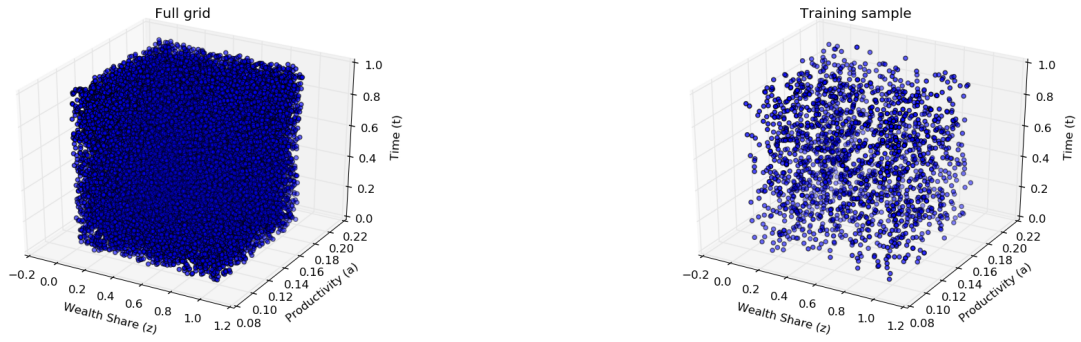


Figure 21: Grid used in numerical procedure: 2D model. The full grid contains 30,000 points and the training sample contains 3000 points.

```

1 def J(z,a,t):
2     J = neural_net(tf.concat([z,a,t],1),weights,biases)
3     return J
4

```

Listing 3: Approximating  $J$  using a neural network: 2D model

```

1 def f(z,a,t):
2     J = J(z,a,t)
3     J_t = tf.gradients(J,t)[0]
4     J_z = tf.gradients(J,z)[0]
5     J_a = tf.gradients(J,a)[0]
6     J_zz = tf.gradients(J_z,z)[0]
7     J_aa = tf.gradients(J_a,a)[0]
8     J_az = tf.gradients(J_a,z)[0]
9     f = J_t + advection_z * J_z + advection_a * J_a + diffusion_z * J_zz +
10         diffusion_a * J_aa + crossTerm * J_az - linearTerm * J
11     return f

```

Listing 4: Constructing regularizer: 2D model

	All	Crisis	Normal	All	Crisis	Normal	All	Crisis	Normal	All	Crisis	Normal
E[leverage]	3.22	5.50	3.09	2.08	4.36	2.08	1.57	1.57	1.57	1.29	1.29	1.29
E[inv. rate]	6.00%	4.90%	6.00%	5.80%	5.60%	5.80%	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%
E[risk premia]	1.70%	13.50%	1.00%	2.70%	16.50%	2.70%	4.50%	4.50%	4.50%	8.00%	8.00%	8.00%
E[return volatility]	6.20%	15.90%	5.70%	5.80%	14.30%	5.80%	5.80%	5.80%	5.80%	5.90%	5.90%	5.90%
E[GDP growth rate]	2.30%	-7.90%	2.90%	2.10%	-10.70%	2.10%	1.90%	1.90%	1.90%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%
Std[inv. rate]	0.38%	1.12%	0.11%	0.13%	0.23%	0.12%	0.08%	0.08%	0.08%	0.04%	0.04%	0.04%
Std[risk premia]	2.84%	0.91%	0.23%	0.43%	0.56%	0.21%	0.17%	0.17%	0.17%	0.10%	0.10%	0.10%
Corr(leverage, shock)	-0.27	-0.04	-0.24	-0.19	0.29	-0.19	-0.21	-0.21	-0.21	-0.26	-0.26	-0.26
Prof. of crisis	7.80%			0.10%			0.01%	0.01%	0.01%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
Risk aversion	1			5			10	10	10	20	20	20

Table 11: Benchmark model implied moments for different risk aversion levels with parameters from Table (10).

## D Online Appendix

### D.1 Benchmark model

Solving the incomplete market capital misallocation model with fire-sales and endogenous regimes involves numerical techniques that are non-standard from the asset pricing literature viewpoint. In addition to the complexity involving in solving the PDEs, the coefficients of the PDEs change with respect to the form of utility function. Thus, comparing model solutions across different utility specifications require manual intervention to modify the equations in static step, and the PDE coefficients. Part of the contribution of this paper is to offer a simpler way to perform comparative valuation dynamics through numerical libraries made available<sup>66</sup> at <https://github.com/goutham-epfl/MacroFinance>. The simplicity of using the library is that model can be solved and simulated in a few lines facilitating comparative valuation. Code snippet (5) presents an example of solving the model with different utility specifications. Code snippet (6) shows examples of simulating different models from the general framework.

```
1 from model_recursive_class import model_recursive
2 from model_class import model
3 from model_general_class import model_recursive_general
4 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
5
6 #Input parameters
7 params={'rhoE': 0.06, 'rhoH': 0.03, 'aE': 0.11, 'aH': 0.03,
8         'alpha':0.5, 'kappa':7, 'delta':0.025, 'zbar':0.1,
9         'lambda_d':0, 'sigma':0.06, 'gammaE':2, 'gammaH':2, 'IES=1.5'}
10
11 #solve model1
12 model1 = model_recursive_general(params)
13 model1.solve()
14
15 #solve model2
16 #switch to model with unitary IES
17 params['IES'] =1.0
18 #solve model
19 model2 = model_recursive(params)
20 model2.solve()
21
22 #plot capital price (Q) from the model1 and model2
23 plt.plot(model1.Q), plt.plot(model2.Q)
```

Listing 5: Solving the model using Python library

```
1 from model_recursive_class import model_recursive
2 from simulation_model_class import simulation_benchmark
3
4
5 #Input parameters
6 params={'rhoE': 0.06, 'rhoH': 0.03, 'aE': 0.11, 'aH': 0.03,
7         'alpha':0.5, 'kappa':7, 'delta':0.025, 'zbar':0.1,
8         'lambda_d':0, 'sigma':0.06, 'gammaE':2, 'gammaH':2, 'IES=1.0'}
9 #set number of simulations
```

<sup>66</sup>Advanced users can also choose among implicit and explicit finite difference schemes to solve the model, use different interpolation methods, and modify the frequency of time used in the simulation.

```

10 params['nsim'] = 500
11 params['utility'] = 'recursive'
12 #simulate model1
13 simulate_model1 = simulation_benchmark(params)
14 simulate_model1.compute_statistics()
15 print(simulate_model1.stats) #print key statistics
16 simulate_model1.write_files() #store key statistics for later use
17
18 #simulate model2
19 #change volatility
20 params['sigma'] = 0.10
21 simulate_model2 = simulation_benchmark(params)
22 simulate_model2.compute_statistics()
23
24 #compare stationary distribution from two models
25 plt.plot(simulate_model1.z_sim.reshape(-1))
26 plt.hist(simulate_model2.z_sim.reshape(-1))

```

Listing 6: Simulating the model using Python library