

# Unemployment in a Production Network

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# Motivation

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Two points of departure

1. Mismatch literature, e.g. [Şahin et al., 2014]
  - Linear production independent sectors, doesn't capture spillovers from moving people
2. Production networks literature
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# Research Question

1. How does sector level output  $d \log \mathbf{y}$  and unemployment  $d \log \mathbf{u}$  respond to shocks to productivity  $d \log \mathbf{A}$  and to the size of labor force  $d \log \mathbf{H}$ ?
2. How do sector level responses aggregate to real GDP  $d \log Y$  and unemployment  $d \log U$ ?

This requires:

- $d \log \mathbf{p}$ : How sector level prices change.
- $d \log \mathbf{w}$ : How sector level wages change.
- $d \log \boldsymbol{\theta}$ : How sector level tightnesses change.

## Our model

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$J$  sectors indexed by  $i$  produce with CRTS technology:

$$y_i = A_i f_i (N_i, \{x_{ij}\}_{j=1}^J)$$

Firms maximize profits:

$$\max_{N_i, \{x_{ij}\}_{j=1}^J} p_i f_i (N_i, \{x_{ij}\}_{j=1}^J) - w_i (1 + \tau_i(\theta_i)) N_i - \sum_{j=1}^J p_j x_{ij}$$

This requires:

$$p_i f_{i,x_{ij}} = p_j \quad (\text{FOC } x_{ij})$$

$$p_i f_{i,N_i} = w_i (1 + \tau_i(\theta_i)) \quad (\text{FOC } N_i)$$

Each sector has separate labor market, with new hires governed by matching technology  $m$ :

$$h_i = \phi_i m(u_i, v_i)$$

We assume balanced flows which implies:

$$L_i^s(\theta_i) = \frac{\mathcal{F}_i(\theta_i)}{s_i + \mathcal{F}_i(\theta_i)} H_i$$
$$\tau_i(\theta_i) = \frac{r_i s_i}{Q_i(\theta_i) - r_i s_i}$$



A final goods producer aggregates output by CRTS technology:

$$Y = \max_{\{c_i\}_{i=1}^J} \mathcal{D}(\{c_i\}_{i=1}^J)$$

subject to

$$\sum_{i=1}^J p_i c_i = \sum_{i=1}^J [w_i L_i + \pi_i].$$

# Equilibrium Conditions (Goods market)

Firms:

$$\varepsilon_{x_{ij}}^{f_i} = \frac{p_j x_{ij}}{p_i y_i} \quad (\text{Intermediate input decision})$$

$$\varepsilon_{N_i}^{f_i} = (1 + \tau_i(\theta_i)) \frac{w_i N_i}{p_i y_i} \quad (\text{Labor input decision})$$

Households:

$$\varepsilon_{c_i}^{\mathcal{D}} = \frac{p_i c_i}{\sum_{k=1}^J p_k c_k} \quad (\text{Consumption decision})$$

Market clearing:

$$y_i = c_i + \sum_{j=1}^J x_{ji} \quad (\text{Goods market clearing})$$

# Equilibrium conditions (Labor market)

Labor market:

$$L_i^d = \varepsilon_{N_i}^{f_i} \frac{p_i y_i}{w_i} \quad (\text{Labor demand})$$

$$L_i^s = \frac{\mathcal{F}_i(\theta_i)}{s_i + \mathcal{F}_i(\theta_i)} H_i \quad (\text{Labor supply})$$

Market clearing:

$$L_i^s = L_i^d \quad (\text{Labor market equilibrium})$$

# Production network notation

$$\lambda_i = \frac{p_i y_i}{\sum_j p_j c_j} \quad (\text{Sales share})$$

$$\Omega = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{x_{11}}^{f_1} & \varepsilon_{x_{12}}^{f_1} & \cdots & \varepsilon_{x_{1J}}^{f_1} \\ \varepsilon_{x_{21}}^{f_2} & \varepsilon_{x_{22}}^{f_2} & \cdots & \varepsilon_{x_{2J}}^{f_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \varepsilon_{x_{J1}}^{f_J} & \varepsilon_{x_{J2}}^{f_J} & \cdots & \varepsilon_{x_{JJ}}^{f_J} \end{bmatrix} \quad (\text{Input-output matrix})$$

$$\Psi = (I - \Omega)^{-1} \quad (\text{Leontief inverse})$$

$$\varepsilon_N^f = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{N_1}^{f_1} & \cdots & \varepsilon_{N_J}^{f_J} \end{bmatrix}', \quad \varepsilon_\theta^Q = \begin{bmatrix} \varepsilon_{\theta_1}^{Q_1} & \cdots & \varepsilon_{\theta_J}^{Q_J} \end{bmatrix}'$$

$$\tau(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} \tau_1(\theta_1) & \cdots & \tau_J(\theta_J) \end{bmatrix}', \quad \mathcal{F} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{s_1}{s_1 + \mathcal{F}_1(\theta_1)} \varepsilon_{\theta_1}^{\mathcal{F}_1} & \cdots & \frac{s_J}{s_J + \mathcal{F}_J(\theta_J)} \varepsilon_{\theta_J}^{\mathcal{F}_J} \end{bmatrix}'$$

# Theoretical Results

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# Our goal

Express  $d \log Y$ , where

$$d \log Y = \varepsilon_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathcal{D}'} d \log \mathbf{c}$$

in terms of shocks  $d \log \mathbf{A}$  and  $d \log \mathbf{H}$  and primitives

This requires:

- $d \log \mathbf{p}$
- $d \log \mathbf{w}$
- $d \log \theta$
- $d \log \mathbf{y}$

# Price propagation

From the production function and the input decisions, sector level log price changes satisfy

$$\begin{aligned}
 d \log \mathbf{p} = & \underbrace{\Psi}_{\text{production linkages}} \underbrace{(\text{diag}(\epsilon_N^f) d \log \mathbf{w})}_{\text{factor prices}} \\
 & - \underbrace{(\epsilon_N^f) \text{diag}(\tau) \text{diag}(\epsilon_\theta^Q) d \log \theta}_{\text{searching and matching}} \\
 & - \underbrace{d \log \mathbf{A}}_{\text{productivity}} \quad (\text{Pricing Equation})
 \end{aligned}$$

From goods market clearing, changes in sales shares satisfy

$$d\lambda = \left[ d\varepsilon_c^{\mathcal{D}'} + \lambda' d\Omega \right] \Psi \quad (\text{Sales Shares})$$

If production technology and utility are Cobb-Douglas, sales shares satisfy

$$d\lambda = \mathbf{0}$$



## Sector level output

With sales shares and prices, we can back out sector level log output changes:

$$d \log \mathbf{y} = -d \log \mathbf{p} + d \log \lambda + \Xi d \log \varepsilon_N^f, \quad (\text{Sector Level Output})$$

where  $\Xi = (\mathbf{I} - \text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) \Psi)^{-1} \text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f)$ .

If production technology is Cobb-Douglas

$$d \log \mathbf{y} = -d \log \mathbf{p}$$

Given shocks  $d \log \mathbf{A}$  and  $d \log \mathbf{H}$ , and a general wage schedule  $\mathbf{w}(\theta, \mathbf{A})$ , labor market clearing implies

$$\overbrace{\text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) d \log \theta + d \log \mathbf{H}}^{d \log L^s} = \overbrace{-d \log \mathbf{w}(\theta, \mathbf{A}) + d \log \lambda(\theta, \mathbf{A})}^{d \log L^d} + (\mathbf{I} + \Xi) d \log \varepsilon_N^f(\theta, \mathbf{A})$$

If the labor schedule  $\mathbf{w}$  is differentiable in  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\theta$

$$d \log \theta = \left( \text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^{L^d} \right)^{-1} \varepsilon_{\mathbf{A}}^{L^d} d \log \mathbf{A} - \left( \text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^{L^d} \right)^{-1} d \log \mathbf{H}$$

## Sector level tightness - Cobb-Douglas

If production technology is Cobb-Douglas  $\varepsilon_{\theta}^{L^d} = \varepsilon_{\theta}^w$  and  $\varepsilon_A^{L^d} = \varepsilon_A^w$

$$d \log \theta = (\text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_{\theta}^w)^{-1} \varepsilon_A^w d \log \mathbf{A} - (\text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_{\theta}^w)^{-1} d \log \mathbf{H}$$

Assuming Cobb-Douglas production matrices of wage elasticities  $\varepsilon_{\theta}^w$ ,  $\varepsilon_A^w$  are sufficient statistics for changes in tightness.

In this case, if wages are rigid, changes in tightness are not related to production linkages. This is a special property for Cobb-Douglas production functions, since no expenditure switching occurs.

With CES, however, network linkages will still come into play through  $d \log \lambda$  and  $d \log \varepsilon_N^f$

# Summary

We now have a system of sector-level prices, quantities, and tightness:

$$d \log \mathbf{p} = \Psi(\text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) (d \log \mathbf{w} - \text{diag}(\tau) \text{diag}(\varepsilon_\theta^O) d \log \theta) - d \log \mathbf{A}) \quad (\text{pricing})$$

$$d \lambda = \left[ d \varepsilon_c^{\mathcal{D}'} + \lambda' d \Omega \right] \Psi \quad (\text{sales shares})$$

$$d \log \theta = \left( \text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^{L^d} \right)^{-1} \varepsilon_A^{L^d} d \log \mathbf{A} - \left( \text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^{L^d} \right)^{-1} d \log \mathbf{H} \quad (\text{tightness})$$

$$d \log \mathbf{y} = -d \log \mathbf{p} + d \log \lambda + \Xi d \log \varepsilon_N^f, \quad (\text{sector-level output})$$

with assumptions on wage schedules determining  $d \log \mathbf{w}$

## General aggregation formula

$$\begin{aligned}d \log Y &= d \log \sum_i p_i c_i - \sum_i \frac{p_i c_i}{\sum_j p_j c_j} d \log p_i \\&= \varepsilon_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathcal{D}'} d \log \mathbf{c} \\&= \varepsilon_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathcal{D}'} (d \log \varepsilon_{\mathbf{c}}^{\mathcal{D}} + d \log \mathbf{y} - d \log \boldsymbol{\lambda})\end{aligned}$$

# Aggregation under Cobb-Douglas

With Cobb-Douglas utility and production function,

$$\begin{aligned} d \log Y &= \varepsilon_c^{\mathcal{D}'} (d \log \mathbf{y}) \\ &= -\varepsilon_c^{\mathcal{D}'} [\Psi(\text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) (d \log \mathbf{w} - \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) \text{diag}(\varepsilon_\theta^g) d \log \boldsymbol{\theta}) - d \log \mathbf{A})] \end{aligned}$$

where

$$d \log \boldsymbol{\theta} = (\text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^w)^{-1} \varepsilon_A^w d \log \mathbf{A} - (\text{diag}(\mathcal{F}) - \varepsilon_\theta^w)^{-1} d \log \mathbf{H}$$

With fixed wages and labor force participation, this reduces to Hulten's theorem:

$$d \log Y = \varepsilon_c^{\mathcal{D}'} \Psi d \log \mathbf{A}$$

## **Applications: Cobb-Douglas**

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Cobb-Douglas matching technology

$$h_i = \phi_i U_i^\eta V_i^{1-\eta}$$

set

- $\eta = 0.5$
- $r_i = 0.1$  for all  $i$
- $s_i = 0.03$  for all  $i$
- $\phi_i$  from [Şahin et al., 2014]



Input output tables from [fill in]

- We use the 2007 6-digit NAICS classification level table, and aggregate back up to match the JOLTs industries

# Response of output and unemployment to technology shocks

What is the effect of a  $-1\%$  productivity shock in all sectors?

Set  $d \log \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $d \log \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0}$  (Nominal wages are constant)

- $\varepsilon_{\theta}^w = \varepsilon_A^w = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow$ 
  - $d \log \mathbf{L} = d \log \mathbf{U} = 0$
  - $d \log Y = \varepsilon_c^{D'} \Psi d \log \mathbf{A}$  (Standard networks result)

Suppose  $d \log \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $d \log \mathbf{w} = d \log P$  (Real wages are constant)

- $\varepsilon_{\theta}^w =$   
$$- \left( \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{e} \varepsilon_c^{D'} \Psi \text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) \right)^{-1} \mathbf{e} \varepsilon_c^{D'} \Psi \text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) \text{diag}(\tau) \text{diag}(\varepsilon_{\theta}^Q)$$
- $\varepsilon_A^{\theta} = - \left( \mathbf{I} - \mathbf{e} \varepsilon_c^{D'} \Psi \text{diag}(\varepsilon_N^f) \right)^{-1} \mathbf{e} \varepsilon_c^{D'} \Psi$

# Response of output and unemployment to shocks to the size of the labor force

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Şahin, A., Song, J., Topa, G., and Violante, G. L. (2014).

**Mismatch Unemployment.**

*American Economic Review*, 104(11):3529–3564.