

A Quantitative Analysis of Countercyclical Capital Buffers

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The views expressed on this presentation do not necessarily reflect the positions of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis or the Federal Reserve System.

The Countercyclical Capital Buffer

- **Basel II:** pre-2008 bank regulation

$$\text{Bank Capital}_t \geq \kappa \times \text{Bank Assets}_t$$

$$\text{Bank Reserves}_t \geq \phi \times \text{Bank Deposits}_t$$

- **Basel III:** introduces Countercyclical Capital Buffer (CCyB)

$$\text{Bank Capital}_t \geq \kappa(S_t) \times \text{Bank Assets}_t$$

where S_t is the state of the economy

- BIS: raise κ during periods of “excess aggregate credit growth”
- Active in Hong Kong, Sweden, UK, Norway as of June 2019

This paper:

1. What are the quantitative effects of the CCyB?
2. Can CCyB-like policies prevent a 2008-like crisis?

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Approach and Results

1. Structural model of (endogenous) financial crises
 - Economy endogenously enters and exits crisis regions
 - Crises trigger “aggregate demand” recessions
 - Scope for macroprudential regulation
2. Quantitative exercise
 - Calibrated Model + Data \Rightarrow estimate shocks under Basel II
 - Counterfactual: Crisis and Great Recession under Basel III
3. Results
 - 3.1 What are the quantitative effects of the CCyB?
 - (a) **Ex-ante**: crises become 3 times less frequent
 - (b) **Ex-post**: reduce drop in GDP by 50%
 - 3.2 Can CCyB-like policies prevent a 2008-like crisis?
 - (a) Could prevent financial panic in 2008
 - (b) ...but not the subsequent Great Recession

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1. **Basel II: What is the optimal level of capital requirements?**

Van den Heuvel (2008), Nguyen (2014), Martinez-Miera and Suarez (2014), Begenau (2015), Landvoigt and Begenau (2016)

2. **Basel III: How should capital requirements change with the state of the economy?**

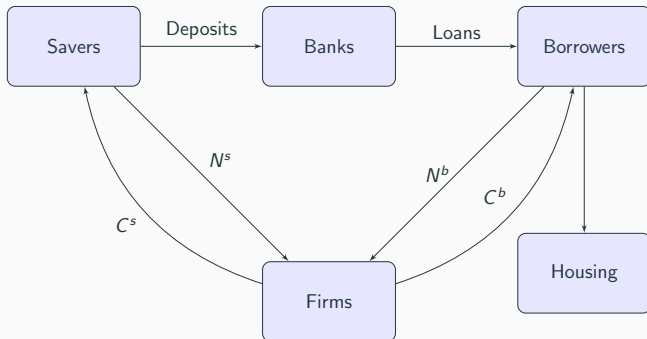
Karmakar (2016), Davidyuk (2017), Elenev, Landvoigt, and Van Nieuwerburgh (2018), Mendicino, Nikolov, Suarez, and Supera (2018)

This paper: Quantitative (positive) analysis of current CCyB framework.

Combines

- Gertler, Kiyotaki, and Prestipino (2018): bank runs in a macro model
- Faria-e-Castro (2019): financial crises and demand-driven recessions

Model Structure



Borrowers, Debt, and Default

- Borrower family: members $i \in [0, 1]$ enter period with

$$\underbrace{h_{t-1}}_{\text{housing}}, \quad \underbrace{B_{t-1}^b}_{\text{long-term debt}}, \quad \underbrace{\nu_t(i)}_{\text{house quality shock, } \sim F^b}, \quad \underbrace{\zeta_t(i)}_{\text{moving shock, 1 w.p. } m}$$

- Movers choose to prepay debt, or default and lose $\nu_t(i)p_t^h h_{t-1}$
- Family makes all decisions, new borrowing subject to

$$B_t^{b,\text{new}} \leq \theta^{\text{LTV}} p_t^h h_t^{\text{new}}$$

- Optimal default rule ([full problem](#))

$$\text{household default}_t = f \left(\frac{B_{t-1}^b}{\Pi_t p_t^h h_{t-1}} \right)$$

- Lenders recover R_t^b , per unit of debt

$$R_t^b = \underbrace{(1-m)[(1-\gamma)Q_t^b + \gamma]}_{\text{non-movers}} + m \left\{ \underbrace{1 - F^b(\nu_t^*)}_{\text{repaid}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{\text{Resource Cost}}{(1-\lambda^b)} \int_0^{\nu_t^*} \nu \frac{p_t h_{t-1}}{B_{t-1}^b / \Pi} dF^b \right)}_{\text{Resource Cost}} \right\}$$

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Problem for bank $j \in [0, 1]$ w/ earnings $e_{j,t}$, conditional on no run

$$\underbrace{V_t^k(e_{j,t})}_{\text{current mkt value}} = \max_{b_{j,t}, d_{j,t}} \left\{ \underbrace{(1 - \theta)e_{j,t}}_{\text{dividend}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_t \left[\frac{\Lambda_{t,t+1}^s}{\Pi_{t+1}} \max \{0, V_{t+1}^k(e_{j,t+1})\} \right]}_{\text{ex-dividend value, } = \Phi_{j,t}e_{j,t}} \right\}$$

subject to

balance sheet : $Q_t^b b_{j,t} = \theta e_{j,t} + Q_t^d d_{j,t}$

capital req. : $\kappa_t Q_t^b b_{j,t} \leq \Phi_{j,t} e_{j,t}$

LoM earnings : $e_{j,t+1} = (R_{t+1}^b b_{j,t} - d_{j,t}) / \Pi_{t+1}$

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Bank Runs and Aggregation

- Bank defaults if

$$e_{j,t} < 0 \Leftrightarrow R_t^b b_{j,t-1} - d_{j,t-1} < 0$$

- Failure: assets sold at liquidation cost λ^d , paid to depositors
- Run possible if bank solvent but illiquid

$$R_t^b b_{j,t-1} - d_{j,t-1} \geq 0$$

$$(1 - \lambda^d) R_t^b b_{j,t-1} - d_{j,t-1} < 0$$

- Multiplicity resolved with sunspot, $\omega_t = 1$ w.p. p
- Run indicator: $x_t = 1$
- Aggregation:** representative bank w/. capital equal to

$$E_t = (1 - x_t) \theta \Pi_t^{-1} (R_t^b B_{t-1} - D_{t-1}) + \varpi Q_t^b \Pi_t^{-1} B_{t-1}$$

- Define

$$u_t^D \equiv \frac{D_{t-1}}{R_t^b B_{t-1}} < \frac{D_{t-1}}{(1 - \lambda^d) R_t^b B_{t-1}} \equiv u_t^R$$

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Closing the Model

Standard DSGE model w/ nominal rigidities

- Producers → Phillips Curve ▶ producers
- Savers → Euler Equation (IS) ▶ savers
- Housing in fixed supply,

$$h_t = 1$$

- Central Bank → Taylor Rule

$$\frac{1}{Q_t} = \frac{1}{\bar{Q}} \left[\frac{\Pi_t}{\bar{\Pi}} \right]^{\phi_\pi} \left[\frac{Y_t}{\bar{Y}} \right]^{\phi_y} \mu_t$$

- Aggregate resource constraint,

$$C_t + \bar{G} + \text{DWL Default}_t = \underbrace{A_t N_t}_{=Y_t} \underbrace{[1 - d(\Pi_t)]}_{\text{Menu Costs}}$$

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Closing the Model

Standard DSGE model w/ nominal rigidities

- Producers → Phillips Curve ▶ producers
- Savers → Euler Equation (IS) ▶ savers
- Housing in fixed supply,

$$h_t = 1$$

- Central Bank → Taylor Rule

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- **Amplification:** double financial accelerator + default
- Run triggers demand-driven recession (Eggertsson & Krugman, 2012; Mian & Sufi, 2012)
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 2. Borrower constraint starts binding, MPC ↑
 3. Lending ↓, spreads ↑ \Rightarrow disposable income ↓ \Rightarrow consumption ↓
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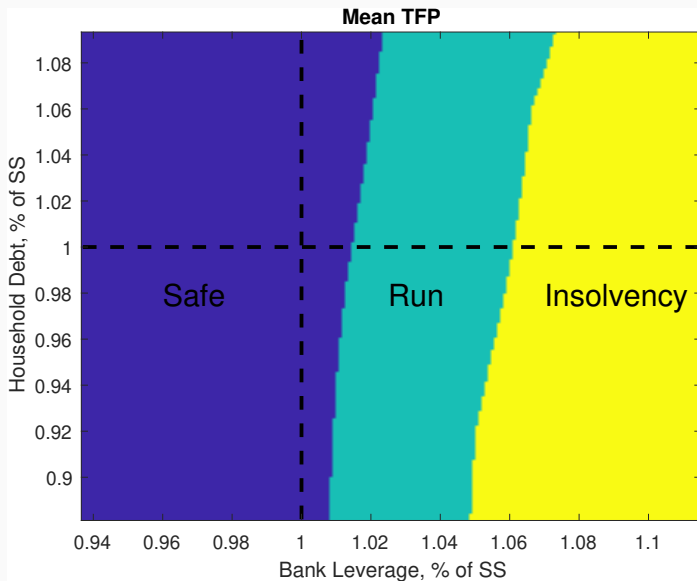
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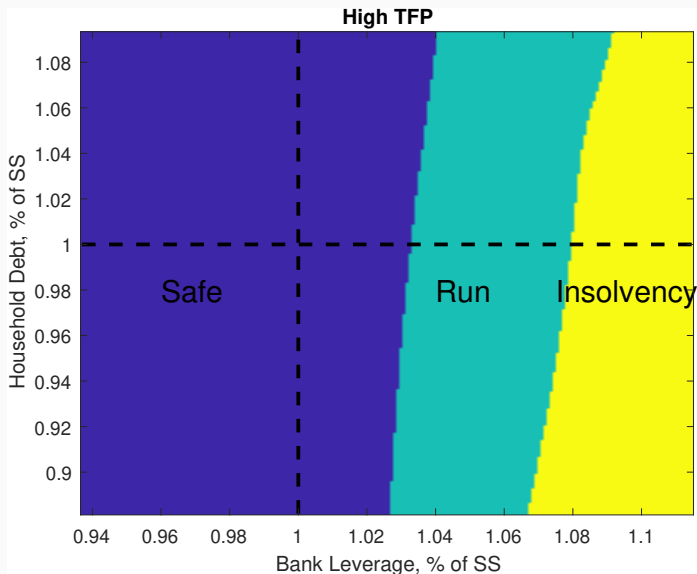
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Run Regions: Average TFP



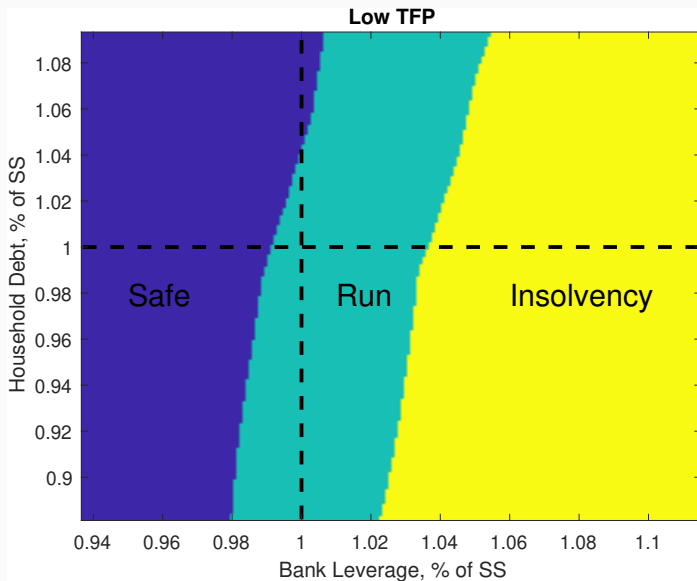
Safe, Run, and Insolvency regions

Run Regions: High TFP



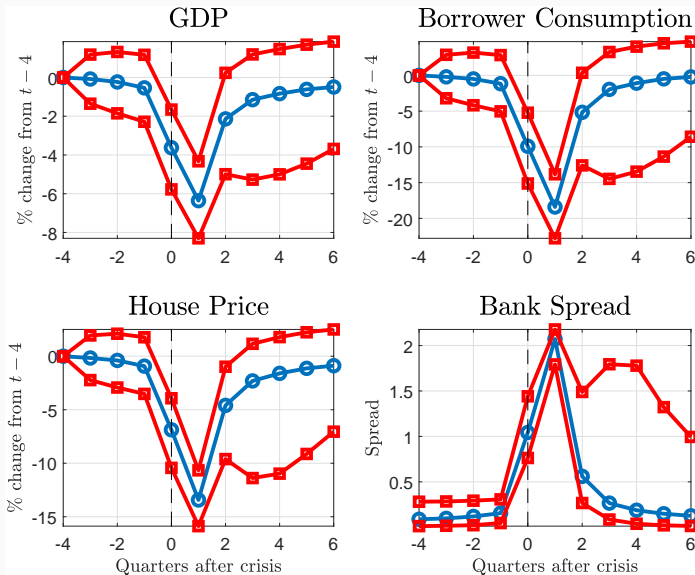
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Run Regions: Low TFP

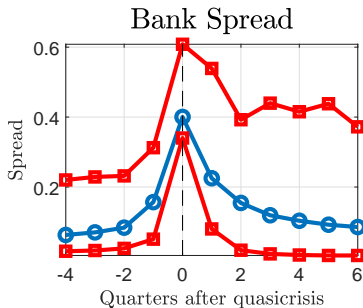
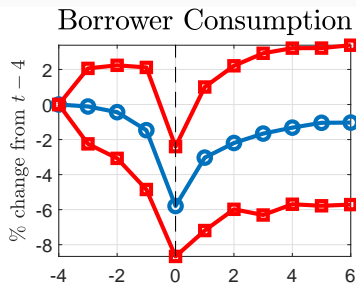


Safe, Run, and Insolvency regions

Typical Financial Crisis



Almost-Crisis



CCyB Implementation

- Benchmark capital requirement $\bar{\kappa} = 8.5\%$ (MCR + CCB)
- US CCyB implementation range: $[0, 2.5\%]$
- Allow regulator to:
 - Raise CRs if run is likely
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$$\kappa_t = \begin{cases} \bar{\kappa} + 2.5\%, & \text{for } u_t^R \geq 1, \omega_t = 0 \\ \bar{\kappa}, & \text{for } u_t^R < 1 \\ \bar{\kappa} - 2.5\%, & \text{for } u_t^R \geq 1, \omega_t = 1 \end{cases}$$

Effects summarized in bank FOC:

$$\mathbb{E}_t \left[\underbrace{\Omega_{t+1}}_{\text{SDF: future const.}} \underbrace{(1 - x_{t+1})}_{\text{future runs}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{R_{t+1}^b}{Q_t^b} - \frac{1}{Q_t^d} \right)}_{\text{asset returns}} \right] = \kappa_t \mu_t$$

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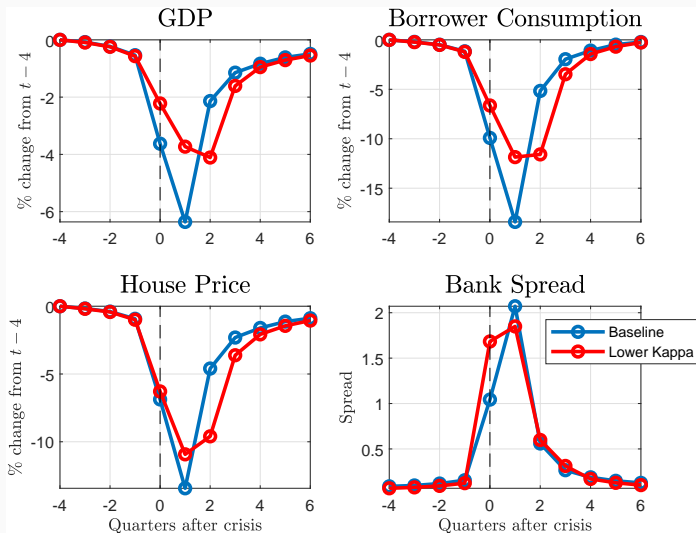
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Lowering CCyB (ex-post)



Raising CCyB (ex-ante)

| Variable | No Policy | Ex-post Policy | Ex-ante Policy |
|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| $100 \times \Pr(x_t = 1)$ | 1.81 | 1.20 | 0.56 |
| Bank Leverage | 8.22 | 8.30 | 6.97 |
| Lagrange Multiplier Borrower | 0.12 | 0.13 | 0 |
| Median % Δ GDP in Crisis | -5.82 | -3.16 | -4.99 |

Ex-ante policy:

- Amplifies precautionary motives for borrowers and banks
- Lower bank leverage \Rightarrow lower run probability
- Lower leverage upon entering crisis \Rightarrow less severe crisis

Could CCyB have helped in 2008?

1. Estimate structural shocks $\{A_t, \mu_t, \omega_t\}_{t=0}^T$

- Make model match observables given $\kappa_t = \bar{\kappa}$
- Sample: 2000Q1 - 2015Q4
- Observables $\{\mathcal{Y}_t\}_{t=0}^T \equiv \{C_t, \text{TED spread}_t\}_{t=0}^T$
- Use particle filter to estimate

► Macro Data

$$\{\hat{p}(A_t, \mu_t, \omega_t | \mathcal{Y}^T)\}_{t=0}^T$$

(Fernández-Villaverde and Rubio-Ramírez, 2007)

► Particle Filter details

2. Use resulting estimates $\{\hat{A}_t, \hat{\mu}_t, \hat{\omega}_t\}_{t=0}^T$ to study counterfactuals

- What if regulator could have adjusted κ_t ?

► Filtered Shocks

► Filtered Consumption

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► other variables

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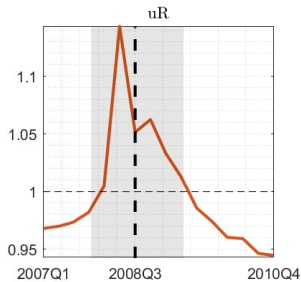
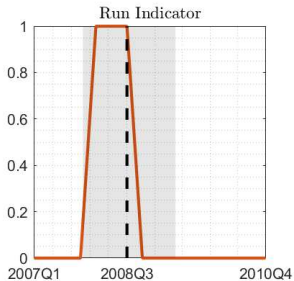
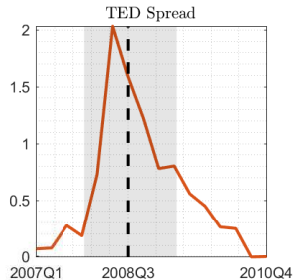
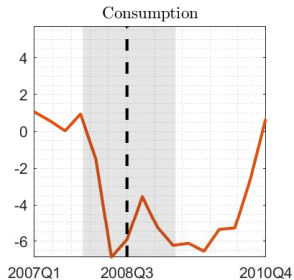
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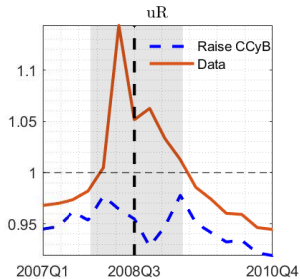
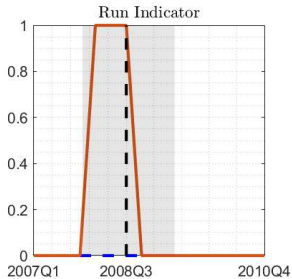
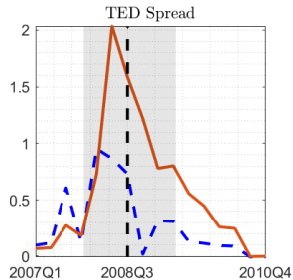
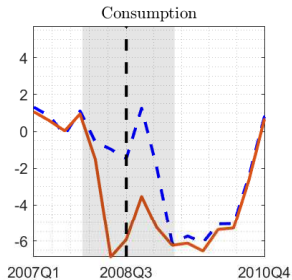
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► other variables

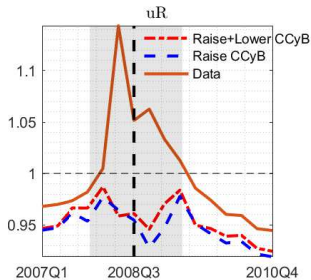
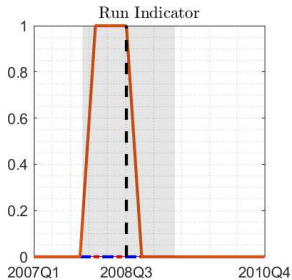
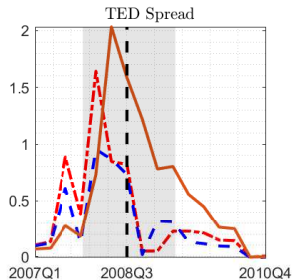
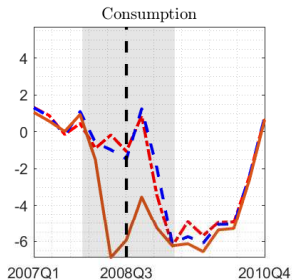
Crisis of 2007-2008, No Policy



Crisis of 2007-2008, Raising CCyB



Crisis of 2007-2008, Raising + Lowering CCyB



Summary of Results

- CCyB could have prevented bank run in 2007-08
 - but not Great Recession
 - GR mostly driven by TFP shocks
 - CCyB could have helped with “soft landing”
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| | \mathcal{G} | $\mathcal{G} \times C_{2007Q1}^{\text{data}}$ |
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Full Borrower Family Problem

$$V_t^b(B_{t-1}^b, h_{t-1}) = \max_{c_t^b, n_t^b, h_t^{\text{new}}, B_t^{b, \text{new}}, \iota(\nu)} \{u(c_t, n_t) + \xi^b \log(h_t) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t V_{t+1}^b(B_t^b, h_t)\}$$

subject to budget constraint

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Producers

- Hire labor and borrow to produce varieties $i \in [0, 1]$

$$Y_t = \left[\int_0^1 Y_t(i)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}} di \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}}$$

- Owned by savers with SDF $\Lambda_{t,t+1}^s$
- Monopolistically competitive, Rotemberg menu costs

$$\text{Menu Costs}_t(i) = P_t Y_t \frac{\eta}{2} \left(\frac{P_t(i)}{P_{t-1}(i)\bar{\Pi}} - 1 \right)^2$$

Firm FOC + Symmetric Price Setting = Standard Phillips Curve

$$\frac{\Pi_t}{\bar{\Pi}} \left(\frac{\Pi_t}{\bar{\Pi}} - 1 \right) = \mathbb{E}_t \left[\Lambda_{t,t+1}^s \frac{Y_{t+1}}{Y_t} \frac{\Pi_{t+1}}{\bar{\Pi}} \left(\frac{\Pi_{t+1}}{\bar{\Pi}} - 1 \right) \right] + \frac{\varepsilon}{\eta} \left(\frac{\varepsilon - 1}{\varepsilon} - \frac{w_t}{A_t} \right)$$

- Invest in bank deposits at rate Q_t^d or government debt at rate Q_t
- Own all banks and firms, receive total profits Γ_t

$$V_t^s(D_{t-1}, B_{t-1}^g) = \max_{c_t^s, n_t^s, B_t^g, D_t} \{u(c_t^s, n_t^s) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t V_{t+1}^s\}$$

s.t.

$$c_t^s + Q_t B_t^g + Q_t^d D_t \leq (1 - \tau) w_t n_t^s + \frac{R_t^{\text{deposits}} D_{t-1} + B_{t-1}^g}{\Pi_t} + \Gamma_t - T_t$$

- Γ_t = net transfers from corporate and financial sectors

Calibration

1. *Households*

| Moment | Target | Parameter |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Fraction Borrowers | Parker et al. (2013) | $\chi = 0.475$ |
| Avg. Maturity | 5 years | $\gamma = 1/20$ |
| Max LTV Ratio | 85% | $\underline{m} = 0.1160$ |
| Debt/GDP | 80% | $\xi = 0.0899$ |
| Avg. Delinquency Rate | 2% | $\sigma^b = 4.351$ |

2. *Banks*

| Moment | Target | Parameter |
|---------------------------|--------|--------------------|
| Book Leverage | 8 | $\theta = 0.9179$ |
| Capital Requirement | 8.5% | $\kappa = 0.085$ |
| Avg. Lending Spread | 2% | $\varpi = 0.005$ |
| Avg. TED Spread | 0.2% | $\lambda^d = 0.10$ |
| Prob. of Financial Crises | 2.5% | $p = 0.10$ |

► other parameters

► TFP Shock

► Solution Method

► back to presentation

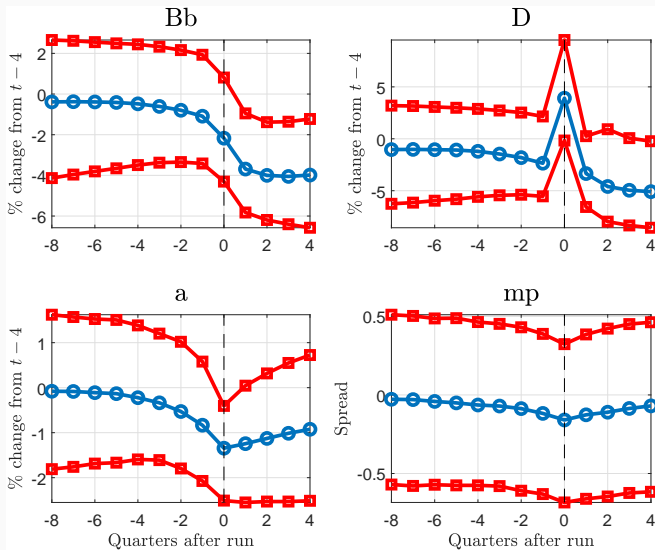
Calibration - Standard NK Parameters

| Parameter | Description | Value | Target/Reason |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------|---------------------|
| β | Discount Factor | 0.995 | 2% Real Rate |
| σ | Risk Aversion/EIS | 1 | Standard |
| φ | Frisch Elasticity | 1 | Standard |
| ε | CES | 6 | Mark-up = 20% |
| η | Menu Cost | 98.06 | \sim Calvo = 0.80 |
| Π | Steady state Inflation | 2% annual | U.S. |
| ϕ_{π} | Taylor Rule Inflation | 1.5 | Standard |
| ϕ_Y | Taylor Rule GDP | 0.5/4 | Standard |
| λ^b, λ^d | Losses given default | 0.3, 0.1 | FDIC estimates |

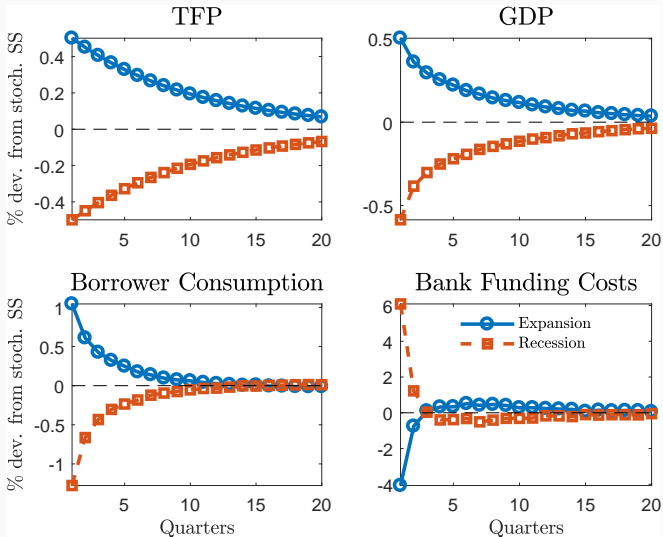
Model Solution

- Two occasionally binding constraints, aggregate shocks
- Collocation + Time Iteration (Judd, Kubler, and Schmedders, 2002)
 1. Discretize grid of states ($B_{t-1}^b, D_{t-1}, A_t, \mu_t, \omega_t$)
 2. Guess approximants for policy fcn. to evaluate expectations
 3. Solve for current policy fcn. at each gridpoint
 4. Update approximants using solution for current policies
- “Iterates backwards in time” until policies converge
- Challenging due to lack of well-established convergence results
- Garcia and Zangwill (1981) method to handle inequalities

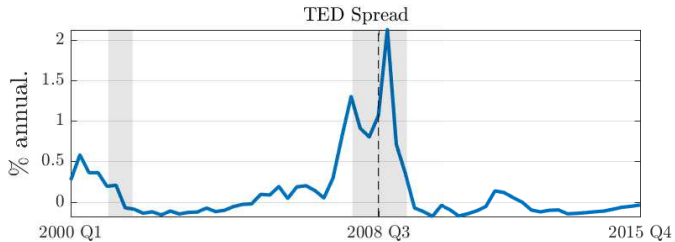
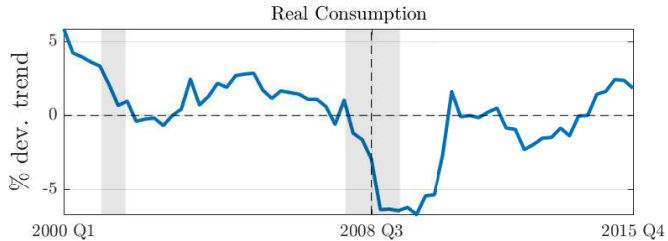
Path to the Crisis



TFP Shock



Data



Particle Smoother Algorithm

Model in state space form (w./ additive Gaussian measurement error)

$$X_t = f(X_{t-1}, \epsilon_t)$$

$$Y_t = g(X_t) + \eta_t$$

$$\eta_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma)$$

Particle filter output:

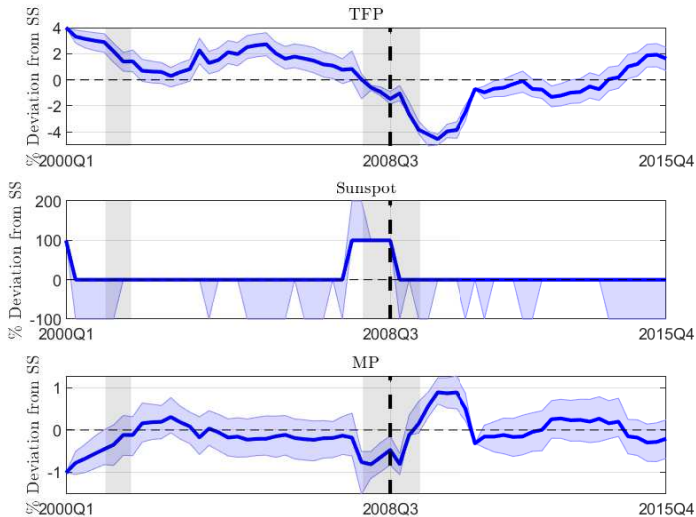
$$\{p(X_t|Y^t)\}_{t=0}^T$$

1. Initialize $\{x_0^i, \pi_0^i\}_{i=1}^N$ by drawing uniformly from ergodic distr.
2. **Prediction:** for each particle i , draw ϵ_t^i and compute $x_{t|t-1}^i = f(x_{t-1}^i, \epsilon_t^i)$
3. **Filtering:** for each $x_{t|t-1}^i$, compute weight

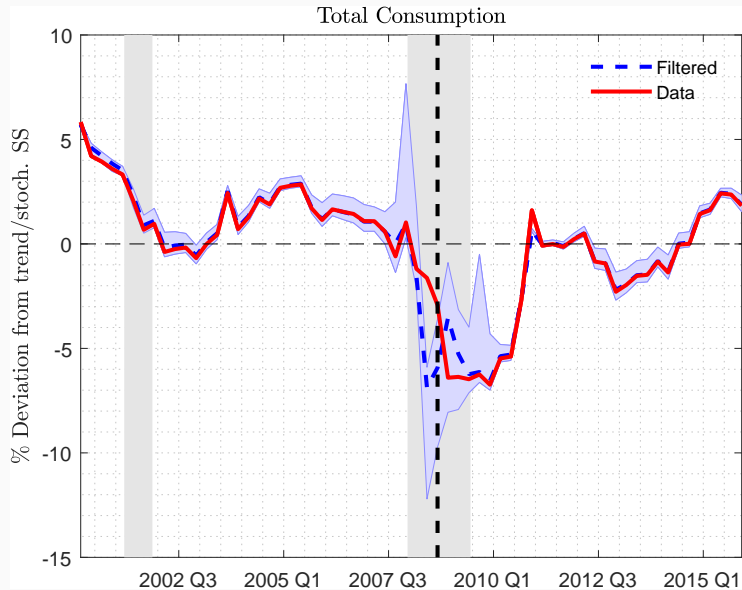
$$\pi_t^i = \frac{p(y_t|x_{t|t-1}^i; \gamma)p(x_t|x_{t|t-1}^i; \gamma)}{h(x_t|y^t, x_{t-1}^i)}$$

4. **Sampling:** use weights to draw N particles with replacement from $\{x_{t|t-1}^i\}_{i=1}^N$, call them $\{x_t^i\}_{i=1}^N$

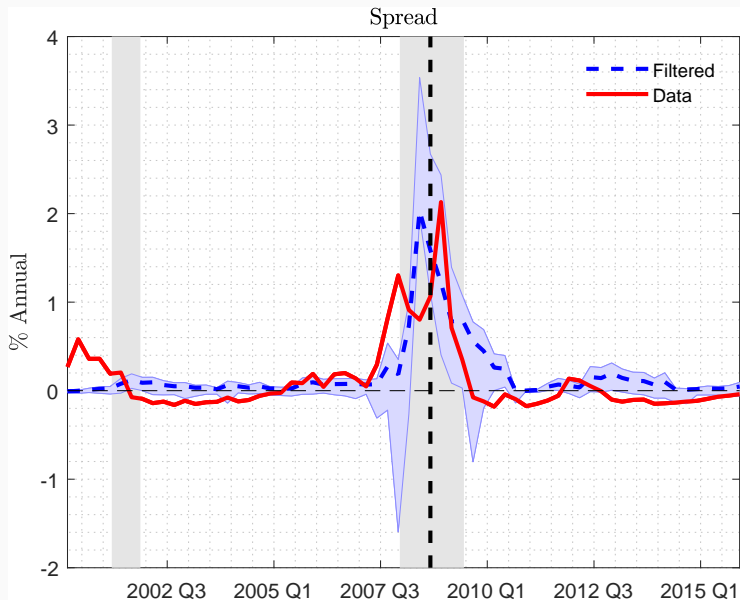
Estimated Shocks



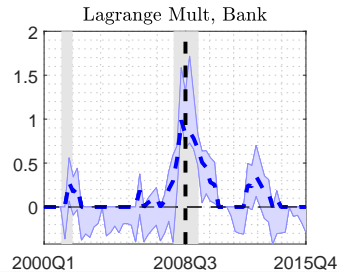
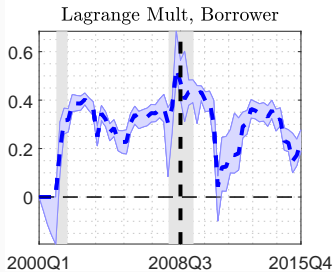
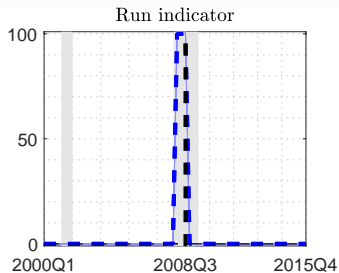
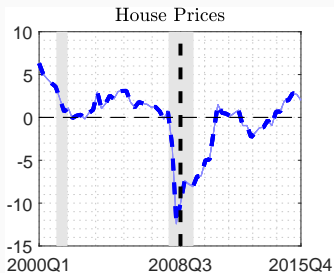
Consumption: Model vs. Data



TED Spread: Model vs. Data



Other Filtered Series



Filtered House Prices

