

Exchange Rate Expectations and Aggregate Dynamics

Nadia Pozdnyakova

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Abstract

The paper explores the role of expectations in the economy's response to exchange rate fluctuations. Using data from the Central Reserve Bank of Peru, I analyze firm-level exchange rate forecasts and find that firms deviate from rational expectations by overreacting to new information and overestimating the persistence of the current exchange rate. I also demonstrate that firms anticipating depreciation are more likely to reduce employment and production. Based on these observations, I develop a behavioral general equilibrium model of a small open economy, in which exchange rate is driven by a financial shock to the uncovered interest parity (UIP) condition. Firms set their prices infrequently and associate expected depreciation with a higher future path of marginal costs. They overestimate the persistence of the shock and contract more than under the rational expectations benchmark, potentially reversing the sign of output response. If households and financial institutions share this bias, the impact of the shock becomes amplified, contributing to greater exchange rate volatility.

1 Introduction

Exchange rate is one of the most relevant prices for an open economy, and its fluctuations can significantly impact macroeconomic aggregates. Exchange rate influences various decisions made by economic agents, including firms' pricing, output and investment choices, as well as households' consumption and saving decisions. Because these decisions are forward-looking, they are shaped not only by the current exchange rate but also by economic agents' beliefs about its future trajectory. In this paper, I address two questions: First, how do economic agents form their exchange rate expectations? Second, how do these expectations affect the transmission of aggregate shocks?

To address the first question regarding expectation formation, I analyze firm-level data exchange rate expectations and firm's actions. I document two stylized facts. First, exchange rate forecast errors are large compared to those of other macroeconomic variables and can be predicted using information available at the time of the forecast. Firms tend to overreact to news, excessively adjusting their forecasts in response to new information, and anchor their expectations to the observable value of the exchange rate, demonstrating excessive persistence of current conditions. Second, firms associate depreciations with contractionary economic environment. I find that firms anticipating higher depreciation are more likely to expect low output growth and high inflation. Furthermore, these firms report having contracted their economic activity and expect to contraction it in the near future.

To examine the aggregate impact of exchange rate expectations, I integrate behavioral overreactive expectations into a general equilibrium model using a standard small open economy framework with segmented asset markets and tradable and non-tradable sectors. To set prices in the presence of nominal rigidities, firms must forecast future demand and costs, both of which are influenced by exchange rate fluctuations. The shock driving the exchange rate is a financial shock to the uncovered interest parity (UIP) condition, which raises the effective interest rate of dollar assets for domestic agents and depreciates the local currency. Economic agents misspecify the financial shock process and form behavioral expectations, disciplined by survey data. As behavioral expectations increase the perceived persistence of the shock, the output response to the financial shock changes. The first channel of financial shock transmission to output is through expenditure switching: depreciation makes home tradables more competitive, resulting in an expansion in that sector. The second channel, however, is a fall in aggregate demand: in response to inflation, monetary authorities increase domestic interest rates, which suppress demand and cause a contraction in the non-tradable sector. Both the price-setting decisions of firms and the consumption-saving decisions of households are forward-looking and affected by the expected path of the exchange rate. Behavioral beliefs can affect the relative strength of the two channels, reverse the sign of the output response, and lead to contraction. If the behavioral bias of firms is extrapolated to households, exchange rate volatility is amplified, and the contractionary effect of depreciation becomes quantitatively important.

I study the exchange rate expectations using the Monthly Survey of Macroeconomic Expectations conducted by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru, which collects individual-level forecasts from non-financial firms on a monthly basis, starting from 2009. Unlike much of the existing literature that studies expectations of professional forecasters and financial institutions, often limited to consensus forecast, this dataset allows for the study of individual responses from a large sample (200 to 300 responses each month). I find that exchange rate errors are large compared to the forecast errors on output and inflation and exhibit overreaction biases. Even after accounting for the higher volatility of the realized exchange rate, the exchange rate errors are characterised both by a sizable consensus error and high disagreement among the forecasters, indicating that both common component and heterogeneity in the beliefs can play important roles.

Using panel data on firm-level responses, I show that firms' forecasts can be predicted based on the information available at the time of the forecast. The firms overreact to the new information, revising their forecasts too strongly. Additionally, they anchor their expectations to current conditions: for instance, a firm observing a high exchange rate is likely to predict greater depreciation than is realized. While similar findings are prevalent in behavioral macroeconomics (see Coibion and Gorodnichenko (2015), Bordalo et al. (2018)), this paper extends these insights to individual-level exchange rate forecasts. Furthermore, I investigate how exchange rate forecasts relate to expectations about aggregate economic conditions and firms' anticipated and recent actions. On the cross-section controlling for time effects, the firms expecting depreciation are more likely to forecast lower GDP growth and higher inflation. These firms expect to contract their own production and employment in the next three months and report having already cut them compared to the previous month. The result holds after controlling for the forecasts on output and inflation.

Motivated by these observations, I explore the impact of behavioral biases in exchange rate expectations on the transmission of aggregate shocks. I employ a small open economy New Keynesian model in which firms need to forecast the future path of their marginal costs to set sticky prices. Expectations about exchange rates influence their pricing deci-

sions by affecting the evolution of both future costs and the demand their variety of good. The primary driver of exchange rate is financial shock, proposed by Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a) as a possible solution to exchange rate disconnect puzzles - a collection of stylized facts about exchange rate comovement with macro variables that are hard to reconcile with standard international macro models. Financial shock can be interpreted as a wedge in the cost of dollar borrowing by domestic agents necessitating a depreciation to maintain the no-arbitrage condition between local currency and dollar bonds. I expand the model by allowing for behavioral expectations of economic agents. To capture the overreaction bias documented with the Survey, I assume that the firms misspecify the financial shock process, expecting it to be overly persistent. Then, I study how behavioral expectations affect the transmission of aggregate shock, with emphasis on the response of aggregate output.

Under rational expectations, a positive financial shock that increases the cost of dollar borrowing has an ambiguous effect on aggregate output. First, by generating depreciation, it makes domestic goods and factors of production cheaper relative to international prices. Tradable firms expand exports and households switch consumption from imports to domestically produced goods, thus expanding the tradable sector. However, the financial shock also has a negative impact on domestic demand: rising prices for both imports and domestic goods lead monetary authorities to increase domestic interest rates to counteract inflation, which discourages household from consumption. In this paper, I show that the relative strength of these two opposing channels depends on the perceived persistence of the financial shock. Both exporting and domestically-oriented firms are forward-looking in their price-setting choices, and the expected persistence of exchange rates amplifies both an increase in domestic, local currency denominated prices, and a decrease in dollar-denominated prices for export. Both expansionary and contractionary channels become stronger, but in general equilibrium, the latter is more sensitive to perceived persistence. As monetary authorities increase the real interest rates to curb inflation, the forward-looking households expect a higher path of interest rates and decrease consumption. The aggregate demand channel becomes especially sensitive to expectations, making the behavioral expectations economy more contractionary compared to a rational expectations.

I calibrate the model by targeting key Peruvian macroeconomic variables, with an emphasis on trade openness and the share of employment in the service sector, which determine the sizes of the tradable and non-tradable sectors, as well as the share of exports. I discipline the true and perceived persistence of financial shock using survey data estimates of the coefficient of overreaction to current conditions and the expected persistence of the exchange rate. The paper compares performance of behavioral and rational models against the unconditional moments of exchange rate comovement with macro variables - excess volatility of exchange rates, the negative correlation between real exchange rate and relative consumption (Backus-Smith puzzle) and comovement of UIP deviations and interest rate differentials (Fama puzzle). As the choices of forward-looking agents are determined more by expectations than initial conditions, I show that contemporaneous moments are shaped by perceived shock persistence with minimal influence from the true parameter. If the shock is believed to be temporary, the real variables respond weakly to exchange rate fluctuations, thereby exaggerating the excess volatility properties of financial shocks. Additionally, low expected persistence weakens the negative link between the real exchange rate and relative consumption. As long as rational and behavioral models share the perceived persistence (which, in case of the rational model, is equal to the true parameter), they can account for the same unconditional contemporaneous moments. However, by construction, only behavioral model can also account for the facts documented in the empirical part of

the paper. The two models differ in autoregression coefficients of the realized variables, with medium-run persistence of nominal exchange rate and persistence of ex-ante UIP deviations being more in line with behavioral model.

I demonstrate the model's consistency with cross-sectional data by examining the response of small price-taking firms with varying beliefs about the financial shock process. The model replicates patterns in firms' beliefs and actions documented in the Survey. Firms expecting a depreciation caused by a financial shock also anticipate declines in output and spikes in inflation. They are more likely to report recent contraction in their economic activity and expect to decrease it further in the next quarter. These results hold for both tradable and non-tradable firms, though the effect is stronger in the non-tradable sector. In addition, they are supported by heterogeneous firms extension, in which behavioral firms contract more than rational firms in response to the financial shock. Conversely, if the variance in expectations is generated by another shock, the resulting patterns are not consistent with the Survey. As long as depreciation is driven by domestic total factor productivity (TFP) shock or demand shock, the firms expecting depreciation become more likely to expand in the present, which contradicts the empirical observations. Monetary policy shock does generate the contraction in a firm's economic activity, however, firms associate the expected depreciation with an increase in demand and aggregate output.

Finally, I study the aggregate dynamics of the economy using impulse responses to financial shock. In the calibrated model, the impact of expectations is strong enough to reverse the output response to depreciation: while a rational expectations model predicts expansion from depreciation, the behavioral model generates a recession. The contractionary effect of firms' behavioral expectations does not rely on a similar bias in the expectations of households. For aggregate demand to react to the firms' bias, households only need to accurately anticipate the evolution of prices and the monetary policy response. However, the behavioral expectations of households are necessary for a recession to be quantitatively important. If the households expect the financial shock to be persistent, the UIP condition requires a stronger response from exchange rate: the future path of exchange rates is revised upward and, since the price of a currency depends on its future value, exchange rate depreciates more compared to the rational expectations benchmark. In combination with firms' expectations, households' bias generates an economy with volatile exchange rate and strong recessionary impact of depreciations.

Related literature.

First, the paper builds on the literature studying the dynamics of exchange rate and its relation to the macroeconomic aggregates with segmented market models (see Gabaix and Maggiori (2015), Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021b), Fanelli and Straub (2021)). The model expands upon Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a), an influential paper suggesting financial shock as a solution for exchange rate disconnect puzzles. While preserving their model's key features, I show that expected persistence of financial shock influences its transmission to the economy, affects the unconditional moments and, due to the behavioral bias of the firms, may differ from the true shock process.

This generation of model is used to assess what drives exchange rate dynamics. Eichenbaum et al. (2021), Engel and Wu (2023), Kekre and Lenel (2024) and Bodenstein et al. (2024) estimate the share of exchange rate fluctuations that can be accounted for by financial shock. The answer to this question largely depends on the moments of interest. While Eichenbaum et al. (2021) and Engel and Wu (2023) find financial shock to be the main driver of exchange rates, the other two papers attribute the main role to demand and trade rebalancing shocks respectively. I add to this discussion by bringing survey evidence and

showing that the expectations of economic agents are consistent with financial shocks but not with other domestic shocks.

Additionally, I contribute to the ongoing debate on the the output response to depreciation. Auclert et al. (2021) discusses the relative importance of expenditure switching and aggregate demand changes. However, unlike my model, where the strength of the aggregate demand response depends on expectations, Auclert et al. (2021) relies on household heterogeneity and low import and export elasticities as the causes of recessionary depreciations. Fukui et al. (2023) explores the question by using a novel identification strategy for UIP shocks and interpreting the results within a financially-driven model with two separate financial shocks: expansionary and contractionary. This paper, in contrast, studies the determinants of output response to Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a) financial shock.

The implications of this paper are relevant for broader questions in international macroeconomics. The key mechanism of the model is based on the idea that exchange rate expectations play a crucial role in both firms' price-setting behavior and households' aggregate demand. Incorporating exchange rate expectations is an important consideration for the literature on distributional effect of exchange rate fluctuations (e.g. Cravino and Levchenko (2017), Cugat et al. (2019), Guo et al. (2023) and De Ferra et al. (2020)) and the literature on exchange-rate pass-through (e.g. Amiti et al. (2014), Amiti et al. (2019), Devereux and Engel (2002), Burstein et al. (2007), Drenik and Perez (2021), Cravino (2017)).

Second, the empirical section of the paper builds on behavioral macroeconomics literature studying expectation formation. Such papers as Bordalo et al. (2018), Coibion and Gorodnichenko (2015), Bordalo et al. (2020), Kohlhas and Walther (2021) and Angeletos et al. (2021) study the behavioral bias using survey expectations of economic agents. On a large sample of individual-level forecasts, I show that the overreaction bias is present in forecasts of exchange rates, a relatively understudied variable in this strand of literature. The inflation expectations of firms are explored in-depth by Coibion et al. (2018), Coibion et al. (2018), Coibion et al. (2020), Candia et al. (2023) and McClure et al. (2024), with important takeaways being the evidence of causal relation between inflation expectations and firms' actions and joint formation of expectations of output and inflation. While my data doesn't allow to establish a causal relation between exchange rate expectations and firms actions, I motivate my model with this literature.

While behavioral macroeconomics is a developed field, it typically studies closed economy framework and its implications for international macroeconomics questions remain understudied. One exception is the interest in exchange rate expectations in the literature on international finance, with such examples as Froot and Frankel (1989), Gourinchas and Tornell (2004), Bacchetta and Van Wincoop (2021) and Valente et al. (2022). This line of research suggests that, according to the UIP, exchange rate can be viewed as a sum of the expected interest rate differentials, and study if the distorted expectations on the macroeconomic fundamentals can account for the UIP deviations. Several recent papers have examined this issue in general equilibrium framework (see Candian and De Leo (2023), Müller et al. (2024), Na and Xie (2023) and Kolasa et al. (2022)), studying how behavioral expectations can lead the real shocks to account for UIP-related puzzles. Candian and De Leo (2023) is closely related to this paper as it introduces the overextrapolation of real shocks in general equilibrium model and can account for Backus-Smith correlation and, partially, excess volatility of exchange rate. This model differs from their framework by focusing on the transmission of financial-shock-driven depreciation to the macroeconomy in a model disciplined by firm-level exchange rate expectations.

Another distinction is the focus of the previous literature on advanced economies, while

this paper builds on the data from Peru. Kalemli-Özcan and Varela (2021) use consensus exchange rate forecasts to show that they help to explain the UIP deviations in advanced economies but not in emerging markets. This motivates the focus of this paper on a mechanism through which firms’ beliefs about exchange rates can shape the transmission of exchange rate fluctuations, highlighting the relevance of expectations beyond UIP-based exchange rate determination.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, I introduce the Monthly Survey of Macroeconomic Expectations and present empirical findings on exchange expectations formation and their implications for the actions of firms. Section 3 outlines the modelling framework and provides a simplified analytical example to illustrate how behavioral expectations affect the transmission of financial shock. Section 4 calibrates the model and presents quantitative findings. Section 5 concludes.

2 Exchange Rate Forecasts of Firms: Survey Evidence

In this section, I present a novel dataset collected by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru. The dataset is unique as it presents monthly firm-level expectations on the exchange rate by a large sample of firms, along with other macroeconomic expectations. I study the exchange rate forecasts and conclude that the errors are sizable and predictable with past information, indicating the presence of a behavioral bias. Moreover, by looking at a cross-section of firms’ responses, I conclude that exchange rate forecasts are related to firms’ actions and forecasts of other macro variables.

2.1 Firm-level Exchange Rate Forecast

Survey Data. The Monthly Survey of Macroeconomic Expectations is a dataset collected by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru at the end of the month from 2009 to 2022. The respondents belong to a wide range of sectors (manufacturing, services, construction, retail and mining) and represent all three major regions of the country. 1736 firms participated in the Survey at least once, resulting in 200-300 observations per month. The median number of responses per firm is 12, and 95% of the dataset is accounted for by firms who participated at least 10 times. However, the limitation of this dataset is the anonymity of the respondents. While the dataset reports firms’ forecaster IDs, it does not contain such information as sector, size or exporter status. Additionally, the Survey publishes the consensus forecasts of financial firms and economic analysts, but no individual-level responses are available for these respondents.

The Survey asks the respondents to make quantitative forecasts and supplement them with qualitative questions regarding the firm’s performance and the expected evolution of the aggregate economy. The firms report their beliefs on the exchange rate, GDP growth and inflation at the end of current and next year. This survey design does not provide a constant forecast horizon. Instead, it presents monthly revisions of the forecast for the same date, making the dataset particularly informative for studying how a firm incorporates new information into its beliefs. The qualitative questions regarding the beliefs about the state of the economy inquire about expected aggregate demand, wages and performance of the economy and respondent’s sector in 3 and 12 months (e.g. ‘Do you expect demand to increase or decrease in the next three months?’). Additionally, the respondents report how their firm’s production, employment and sales evolved compared to the previous month and

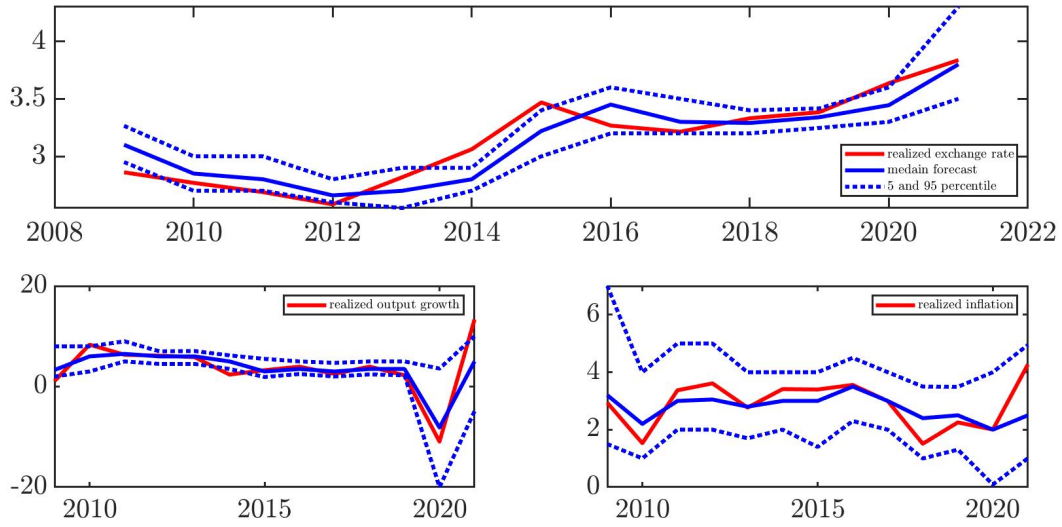


Figure 1: Realized and forecasted macroeconomic variables

Notes: The figure illustrates the paths of realized (red) exchange rate at the end of the year, annual output growth and inflation next to the 5-, 50- and 95-95-percentile of firms' six-month-ahead forecasts (blue). Appendix ?? shows similar plots for other horizons.

how they are expected to evolve in the next 3 and 12 months (e.g. 'Have you increased or decreased output of your firm compared to the previous month?'). There are three possible answers to qualitative questions: increase, decrease or stay constant.

Summary statistics. The focus of this paper is on the exchange rate forecast. Firms tend to make sizeable errors while predicting the nominal exchange rate. The median absolute error for the two-quarter-ahead forecast is 4.14%, compared to the annual average change in exchange rate being 6.1%. Moreover, 8.8% of respondents have absolute error over 10%. Appendix ?? shows the distribution of the absolute errors.

Among the key macroeconomic variables, the exchange rate is the hardest to predict. Figure 1 compares the performance of exchange rate forecasts with forecasts of output growth and inflation by presenting a time series of firms' beliefs versus the realized values. While all three forecasts exhibit significant disagreement among forecasters, the realized exchange rate often lies outside the 90% confidence interval. In those cases, 90% firms have the same sign of the forecast error, over- or under-predicting the exchange rate. This pattern contrasts sharply with the inflation forecast, where the median forecast tracks the realized inflation closely, possibly due to the inflation targeting policy of the Central Bank of Peru. Table 1 supports the claim that exchange rate error is larger than output growth and inflation errors in absolute terms and relative to the volatility of the underlying variable.

Furthermore, compared to the two other forecasts, both systematic and idiosyncratic components of the exchange rate forecast error are substantial. While the consensus error (representing the systematic error) may stem from the random-walk-like properties of the exchange rate, well-documented in the literature, it may also partially result from systematic deviation from rational expectations. High disagreement indicates substantial heterogeneity of the firms and will be used to study the relation between forecast and reported choices of the firm. Appendix ?? demonstrates the descriptive statics on forecast revisions. In contrast

	Δe	Δy	π
Median absolute error	4.14	1.05	0.53
Mean relative error	0.84	0.47	0.48
Mean consensus error	4.13	0.88	0.32
Median disagreement	0.61	0.28	0.52

Table 1: Summary Statistics

Notes: The table presents descriptive statistics on six-month ahead forecast errors for exchange rate depreciation, output growth and inflation. The forecast error for variable x_t is the difference between the realized and forecasted exchange rate, $x_t - E_{t-6}e_t$. The relative error is the absolute error normalized by the standard deviation of the annual change in the underlying variable, $mean(|x_t - x_{it}|)/\sigma(x_t)$. Consensus error is the median error for time t . Disagreement for time t is defined as $\sigma(x_t - x_{it})/\sigma(x_t)$, and the table presents the median disagreement across time.

to errors, it shows similar properties of all three variables.

2.2 Systematic Deviation from Rational Expectations Hypothesis

This section shows that one source of the consensus error for exchange rate forecasts is systematic deviations of the firms' beliefs from the full-information rational expectations (FIRE) framework. The FIRE assumption implies that the agents use all the available information optimally, so their forecast errors cannot be predicted with the information published by the time the forecast was made. However, the exchange rate errors are systematically predictable.

First, I show that the exchange rate errors are predictable with publicly available information. Bordalo et al. (2018) (BGS) regression explores the relation between the forecast error and the current value of the variable:

$$e_{t+k} - \mathbb{E}_{i,t}e_{t+k} = \alpha_i + \beta_{BGS}e_t + \varepsilon_{it},$$

where $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}(\cdot)$ is the operator for forecast of firm i made at time t and e_t is the logarithm of the exchange rate. Under the rational expectations hypothesis, β_{BGS} must equal zero as the error is independent of the available information. In case $\beta_{BGS} < 0$, the agents are biased, and their beliefs exhibit the excessive persistence of current conditions. Depreciated current exchange rate e_t leads to the forecasted exchange rate $\mathbb{E}_{i,t}e_{t+k}$ being higher than the realized value as the agent anchors the forecast to the higher value. Similarly, underreaction ($\beta_{BGS} > 0$) would mean that a high value of e_t is associated with realized depreciation being higher than expected. Note that exchange rate data is publicly available, updated daily, and easily interpretable as the price of a dollar in terms of local currency. It is possibly the most widely-known macroeconomic variable for a small emerging economy. The survey responses are collected at the end of the month, so I use end-of-month nominal exchange rate as the current value of e_t .

Second, I provide further evidence with Coibion and Gorodnichenko (2015) (CG) regression that relates forecast errors to forecast revisions:

$$e_{t+k} - \mathbb{E}_{i,t}e_{t+k} = \alpha_i + \beta_{CG}(\mathbb{E}_{i,t}e_{t+k} - \mathbb{E}_{i,t-1}e_{t+k}) + \varepsilon_{it}.$$

Under rational expectations, the CG coefficient is zero, $\beta_{CG} = 0$, as any information that

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
β_{BGS}	-0.03 (0.00)	-0.07 (0.00)	-0.08 (0.11)	-0.13 (0.60)	-0.10 (0.11)
β_{CG}	-0.37 (0.05)	-0.39 (0.05)	-0.35 (0.16)	-0.26 (0.50)	0.94 (0.46)
Fixed effect	Panel No	Panel Yes	Panel by horizon Yes	Individual No	Aggregate No

Table 2: Predictable Errors

Notes: The table shows coefficients from BGS (forecast error on current exchange rate) and CG (forecast error on forecast revision) regressions. BGS regression uses the end-of-period nominal exchange rate from the Central Reserve Bank of Peru (interbank, average). Columns (1) and (2) show the coefficients from firm-level panel regressions with and without fixed effects. Column (3) shows the median coefficients in fixed panel regressions with a fixed horizon of 1 to 11 months. Column (4) presents the median coefficients of time series regressions for firms with more than 10 observations. Column (5) refers to the time series regression using consensus (median) forecast. The standard errors in Columns (1)-(3) are clustered by firms. Columns (3)-(4) show the standard deviation of the coefficients. For column (5), the standard errors are Newey-West.

becomes available between $t - 1$ and t is integrated optimally into the forecast at time t . The negative coefficient $\beta_{CG} < 0$ means overreaction to new information: as the agents learn the news indicative of expected depreciation, they revise their forecasts too much upwards, giving excessive weight to the new information and resulting in the negative forecast error. Similarly, the reluctance to revise the forecast in response to the news would lead to the positive error and regression coefficient $\beta_{CG} > 0$.

The table 2 presents the evidence for error predictability. On the individual level (Columns (1) - (4)), the firms exhibit evidence of overreaction with both β_{BGS} and β_{CG} taking negative values. The value $\beta_{BGS} = -0.07$ means that a 10% increase in the current exchange rate is associated with the end-of-year forecast being 0.7% higher than the realized exchange rate. Similarly, $\beta_{CG} = -0.39$ indicates that a 10% upward revision of the forecast results in the end-of-year forecast overestimating the exchange rate by 3.9%. The aggregate forecast in Column (5) also shows evidence of the persistence of the current conditions but underreacts to the news. While individual-level data on exchange rate is underexplored, these results are consistent with the studies of other macroeconomic and financial variables (see Angeletos et al. (2021), Bordalo et al. (2020)). The likely explanation of the negative β_{CG} for consensus forecast is individual-level overreaction combined with idiosyncratic noise. Appendix ?? presents the BGS and CG regression results for forecasts of varying horizons showing they are robustly negative. Appendix ?? shows that the overreaction to current conditions also present in the forecasts of financial firms and professional forecasters.

Table 3 compares the realized persistence of nominal exchange rate with the expected persistence ρ_{Ee} , estimated with the following panel regression:

$$\mathbb{E}_{i,t}e_{t+k} = \alpha_i + \rho_{Ee}^k e_t + \epsilon_{i,t}.$$

The overreaction bias appears as excessive persistence of exchange rate at the longer, 3-quarter-ahead horizons. While the forecasts show non-stationarity, the realized values tend to be below one. At shorter horizons, low expected persistence may potentially be explained by informational frictions.

	Expected (1)	Expected (2)	Expected (3)	Realized
ρ_{Ee}^1	0.94 (0.01)	0.95 (0.01)	0.95 (0.02)	0.99 (0.03)
ρ_{Ee}^2	1.00 (0.01)	0.99 (0.01)	0.98 (0.05)	0.97 (0.06)
ρ_{Ee}^3	1.02 (0.01)	1.02 (0.01)	1.03 (0.08)	0.95 (0.09)
Fixed effect	Panel No	Panel Yes	Aggregate No	Aggregate No

Table 3: Expected and Realized Persistence of Exchange Rate

Notes: The table compares the empirical autoregression coefficients for exchange rates with expected persistence of exchange rate estimated as the regression of forecast on the observable value. I estimate the regressions on 1-, 2- and 3-quarter horizons. Columns (1) and (2) present the results of panel regressions with and without fixed effects, while Column (3) uses consensus forecast. Column (4) refers to the empirical estimate on realized exchange rates. The exchange rate data is end-of-month interbank exchange rate from the Central Reserve Bank of Peru from 2009 to 2022 for consistency with the survey. The standard errors are Newey-West.

2.3 Exchange Rate Forecasts, Beliefs about Economy and Firm's Actions

The following section explores the relationship between exchange rate forecasts and recent and intended actions of firms, as well as their beliefs about the economy. To do so, I exploit the heterogeneity in firm's exchange rate forecasts. For each period, I divide the respondents into four quartiles by their expected exchange rate. Then, I report the average answers of those groups, so that the differences between quartiles are driven by heterogeneity within time period and can be interpreted as deviations from the average at given period. Both exchange rate forecasts and the outcome variables are residualized with respect to output growth and inflation forecasts. The responses on the exchange rate forecast are quantitative, and the Figure 2 shows that the first quartile of firms expect the annual depreciation to be approximately 8% below the fourth quartile. The outcome variables are qualitative, so the reported median represents the recent or expected net change, $\frac{I-D}{F} \cdot 100\%$, where I is the number of firms reporting an increase, D is the number of firms reporting a decrease, and F is the sample. For example, the net change in employment of 2% means that the number of expanding firms exceeds the number of contracting firms by 2 percentage points.

The Figure 2 shows that the firms expecting depreciation are more likely to report that their production and employment have decreased relative to the previous month. The difference is the most pronounced for employment, with the difference in the relative prevalence of expanding versus contracting firms being 4.7 percentage points higher in the first quartile than in the fourth quartile. Moreover, the firms intend to continue contracting in the following three months, with the difference between the first and the fourth quartiles being 13.9 and 10.7 percentage points for expected production and employment, respectively. In addition, the firms associate depreciation with increasing input prices (10.3 percentage point difference). Appendix ?? provides a short discussion of the validity of the model, while ?? shows robustness checks such as non-residualized version of the Figure 2 and regressions allowing to control for fixed effects.

In addition to having more pessimistic views on the dynamics of the individual firm,

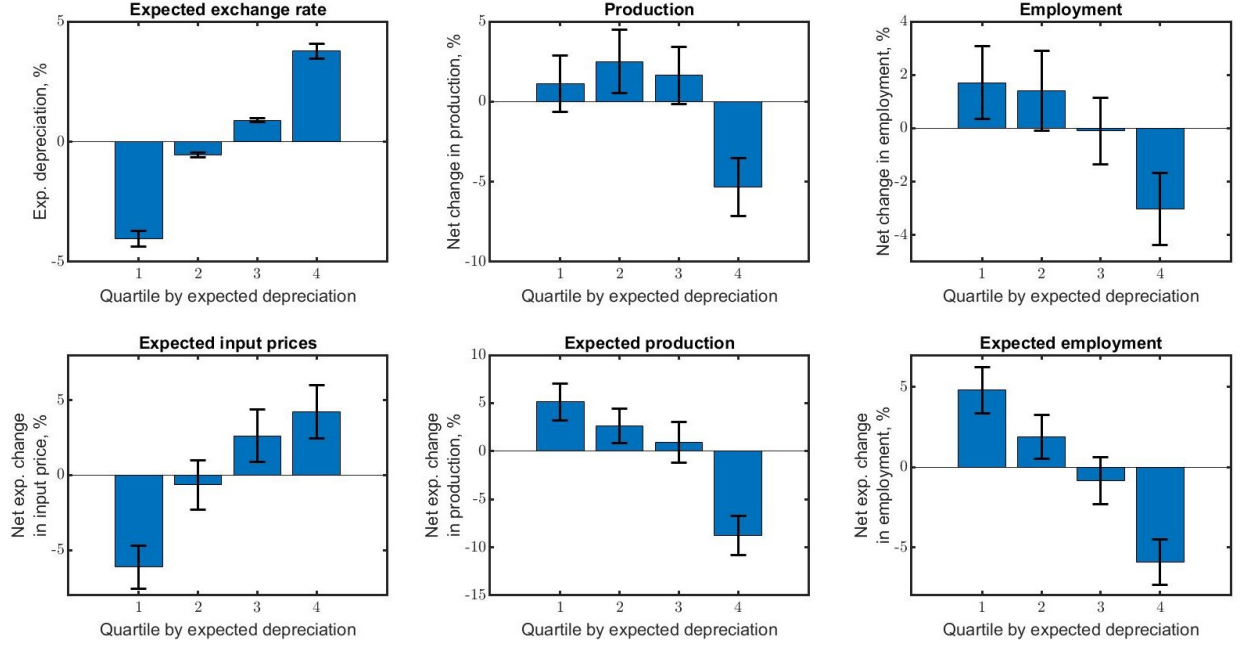


Figure 2: Recent and Expected Actions by Expected Depreciation

Notes: The graph shows recent and expected actions of firms by expected depreciation quartiles. For every period t , exchange rate and action variables are residualized with respect to output and inflation forecast by running cross-section regressions. The observations are sorted into four quartiles by expected exchange rate forecast, and the average is calculated for each quartile. The Figure reports the time series average. The responses for outcome variables can take values -1, 0 and 1 depending on the change direction. The net change of $x\%$ means that there are $x\%$ more firms reporting an increase in the variable than firms expecting a decrease. The 90% confidence intervals are estimated with t-test.

the firms with high exchange rate expectations differ in forming the expectations on the aggregate economy. Figure 3 shows that beliefs of depreciation are associated with lower forecasts on output growth and higher expected inflation. Figure 4 shows that exchange rate expectations are negatively related to expected aggregate demand, recruitment and wages. In the fourth quartile, there are 14% more firms expecting a fall in aggregate consumption compared to the first quartile. Appendix ?? provides robustness checks.

To sum up, the firms expecting depreciation are more likely to contract in the present or the near future. They forecast a decline in aggregate demand, accompanied by inflation, high input costs and the slowdown in the labor market. In this paper, the decline in firms' activity as they expect depreciation would be explained by their expectations of unfavorable conditions in the future. While these data doesn't allow to establish causal relations, this interpretation is supported by the evidence from Candia et al. (2023), who conduct randomized trials to show that firms respond to the information about the future path of inflation by adjusting the expectations on other variables and, most importantly, by changing their employment and investment decisions. An alternative explanation, not explored in this paper, would be the pessimism of poorly-performing firm who attribute their low productivity to mispercieved aggregate conditions.

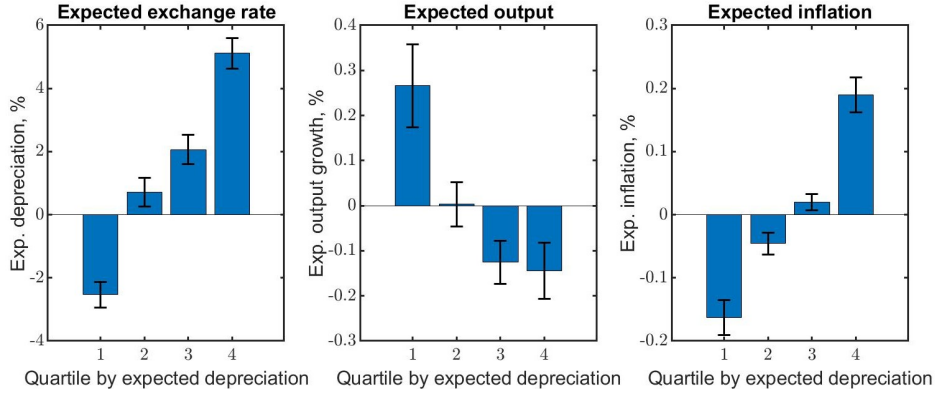


Figure 3: Expected Output and Inflation by Expected Depreciation

Notes: The graph shows the inflation and output forecasts by expected depreciation quartiles. For every period t , the observations are sorted into four groups by expected exchange rate. The forecasts are first averaged by quartile and then by time. The 90% confidence intervals are estimated with t-test.

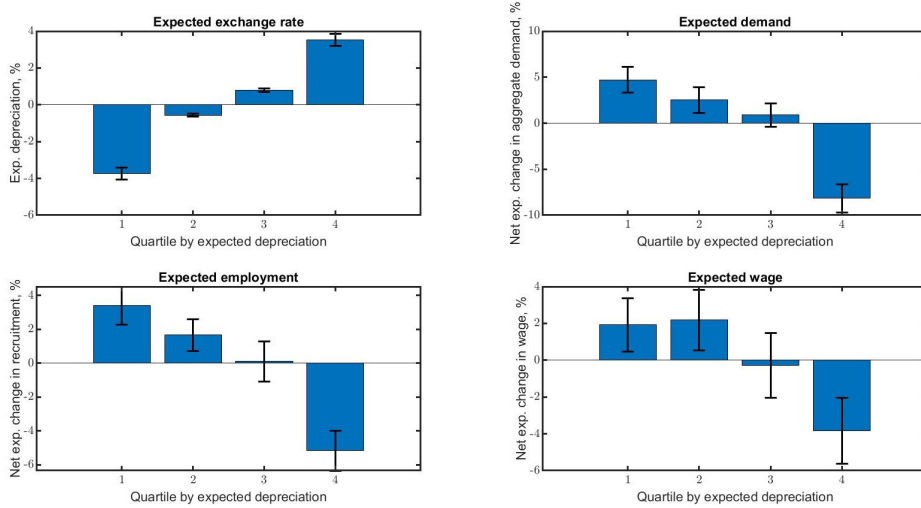


Figure 4: Beliefs on Aggregate Economy by Expected Depreciation

Notes: The graph shows the beliefs on the evolution of the aggregate macroeconomic variables by expected depreciation quartiles. For every period t , both expected exchange rate and outcome variables are residualized with respect to output and inflation forecast by running cross-section regressions. The observations are sorted into four groups by expected exchange rate forecast. The mean outcomes by quartile are then averaged by time. The outcome variables can take values -1, 0 and 1 depending on the change direction. Net change of $x\%$ means $x\%$ more firms reporting an increase in the variable than firms expecting a decrease. The 90% confidence intervals are estimated with t-test.

3 Model

In this section, I outline a general equilibrium model to study the implications of exchange rate expectations. First, I describe a small open economy New Keynesian model with segmented markets where financial shock is driving the exchange rate. Second, I introduce overreactive expectations. Finally, I simplify the model and solve it analytically to discuss the intuition on how the expectations affect the macroeconomy.

3.1 Non-tradable Firms

Non-tradable sector is populated with monopolistically competitive firms owned by the households and maximizing the flow of their profit:

$$\mathbb{E}_0^f \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \Theta^t \Pi_{NT,t},$$

where the operator $\mathbb{E}^f[\cdot]$ refers to the expectations of firms.

The firm j in sector NT has decreasing return to scale and produce using labor $L_{NT,j,t}$ and imported inputs $M_{NT,j,t}$ with production function $Y_{NT,j,t} = A_{NT,t} L_{NT,j,t}^{\alpha} M_{NT,j,t}^{\alpha_M}$, where $A_{NT,t}$ refers to the sectoral productivity. The profit at time t is given by

$$\Pi_{NT,j,t} = P_{NT,j,t} Y_{NT,j,t} - W_t L_{NT,j,t} - \mathcal{E}_t P_{M,t}^* M_{NT,j,t},$$

where $P_{M,t}^*$ is the price of imported inputs in dollars. Firm j faces a CES demand for its variety of non-tradable goods, given by

$$Y_{NT,j,t} = \left(\frac{P_{NT,j,t}}{P_{NT,t}} \right)^{-\varepsilon} C_{NT,t},$$

where ε is the elasticity of substitution within the sector.

Given a price $p_{NT,j,t}$, the firm has to meet demand for its variety of non-tradable goods. The static choice of a firm is the solution to the cost minimization problem,

$$\frac{M_{NT,j,t}}{L_{NT,j,t}} = \frac{\alpha_M}{\alpha} \frac{W_t}{\mathcal{E}_t P_{M,t}^*}.$$

The firms are subject to price stickiness and Calvo pricing. With probability θ , the firm can't update the price for its variety at time t . Upon the opportunity to reset the price, the firm sets the optimal price according to

$$\bar{p}_{NT,j,t} = \mu + (1 - \beta\theta) \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{E}_t^f (\beta\theta)^k (mc_{NT,j,t+k}),$$

where $\mu = \log(\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1})$ is the log of the steady-state markup, and $mc_{NT,j,t}$ is the log nominal marginal cost.

The marginal cost depends on the input prices W_t and $\mathcal{E}_t P_{M,t}^*$, sectoral productivity and the scale of production:

$$mc_{NT,t,j} = w_t(1 - \alpha_M) + (1 - \alpha - \alpha_M) l_{j,NT,t} - a_{NT,t} + \alpha_M(e_t + p_M^*).$$

Aggregating the result yields the forward-looking expression for non-tradable inflation $\pi_{NT,t}$:

$$\pi_{NT,t} = \lambda_a (mc_{NT,t} - p_{NT,t} + \mu) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t^f \pi_{NT,t+1},$$

where $mc_{NT,t} = w_t(1 - \alpha_M) + (1 - \alpha - \alpha_M) l_{NT,t} - a_{NT,t} + \alpha_M(e_t + p_M^*)$ becomes the aggregate nominal marginal cost and the parameter $\lambda_a = (1 - \beta\theta)^{\frac{1-\theta}{\alpha+\alpha_M}} \frac{1}{1+(1-\alpha-\alpha_M)(\varepsilon-1)}$ accounts for the decreasing return to scale.

Exchange rate directly affects the costs of the firm due to increase in the relative price of

imported inputs and indirectly through its impact on demand, nominal wage and sectoral prices. The future path of exchange rate matters for price-setting decisions. When exchange rate is driven by financial shock, depreciation would be associated with lower demand and higher nominal costs.

3.2 Tradable Firms

The problem of a tradable firm is identical to a non-tradable firm, except tradable firms produce both for domestic and international markets. While the tradable goods are priced in local currency for domestic markets, the exports are denominated in dollars. Then, the profit of a tradable firm j becomes

$$\Pi_{T,j,t} = P_{H,T,j,t} Y_{H,T,j,t} + \mathcal{E}_t P_{X,j,t}^* X_{j,t} - W_t L_{T,j,t} - \mathcal{E}_t P_{M,t}^* M_{T,j,t},$$

where $X_{j,t}$ is the output exported by firm j , $P_{X,j,t}^*$ is its dollar-denominated price. The firm produces the output for both markets together, $Y_{H,T,j,t} + X_{j,t} = A_{T,t} L_{T,j,t}^\alpha M_{T,j,t}^{\alpha_M}$. The demand for variety j of tradable goods is given by

$$Y_{T,j,t} = \left(\frac{P_{H,T,j,t}}{P_{H,T,t}} \right)^{-\varepsilon} C_{H,T,t} + \left(\frac{P_{X,j,t}^*}{P_{X,t}} \right)^{-\varepsilon} X_t,$$

where X_t is aggregated according to the Dixit-Stiglitz function, $X_t = \left(\int_0^1 X_{j,t}^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} dj \right)^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}}$, where I assume that foreign households have the same demand and same elasticity of substitution ε as domestic households. Demand for export from Home country is CES

$$X_t = \left(\frac{P_{X,t}^*}{P_t^*} \right)^{-\eta} C^*,$$

where C^* and P_t^* refer to demand and price level in the rest of the world and are treated as parameters.

The paper assumes that dollar and local currency prices are sticky and reset simultaneously. The only difference in price-setting is that the nominal marginal cost is denominated in dollars for the export price, resulting in the following expression: $mc_{X,t} = (w_t - e_t)(1 - \alpha_M) + (1 - \alpha - \alpha_M)l_{T,j,t} - a_{T,t} + \alpha_M p_{M,t}^*$.

Due to the pricing-to-market assumption, exchange rate has the opposite impact on demand and costs for exports and domestically sold goods. Depreciation makes exports more competitive compared to foreign goods by lowering dollar cost of labor, which encourages firms to decrease the dollar cost and expand exports. Dollar pricing allows to avoid the excessive sensitivity of exports to exchange rate fluctuations¹ and is empirically relevant as a large share of international trade is priced in dollars. For instance, Gopinath (2015) show that for several Latin American economies the share of exports invoiced in dollars exceeds 90%.

¹Under local currency pricing and price stickiness, the output of firms who cannot update price expands dramatically in response to depreciation.

3.3 Households

The economy is inhabited by a representative household maximizing its lifetime utility

$$\mathbb{E}_0^{hh} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t u(C_t, N_t),$$

where C_t is the consumption of final good at period t and N_t is labor supply. Parameter β is a discount factor, σ is a risk-aversion parameter, ϕ determines the Frisch elasticity of labor supply, and φ is a scale parameter. Operator \mathbb{E}_0^{hh} denotes the expectations of the representative household. The households have GHH utility, $U_t(C_t, N_t) = \frac{1}{1-\sigma} \left(C_t - \varphi \frac{N_t^{1+\phi}}{1+\phi} \right)^{1-\sigma}$, which is a common assumption for the models exploring the expectations about the future (see Uribe and Schmitt-Grohé (2017); Jaimovich and Rebelo (2009)). Under GHH preferences, the wealth effect does not affect labor supply. Therefore, optimistic expectations about the future don't reduce the labor supply today and allow for expansion in economic activity.

Households receive labor income $W_t N_t$ and profits of tradable and non-tradable firms they own, π_T and π_{NT} . They consume tradable and non-tradable goods ($C_{NT,t}$ and $C_{T,t}$) aggregated in the basket according to constant elasticity of substitution (CES) demand:

$$C_t = \left((1-a)^{\frac{1}{\eta}} C_{NT,t}^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} + a^{\frac{1}{\eta}} C_{T,t}^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} \right)^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}},$$

where a is the share of non-tradable consumption and η is intersectoral elasticity of substitution. Tradable goods are composed from domestic and imported goods, $C_{HT,t}$ and $C_{FT,t}$, similarly:

$$C_{T,t} = \left((1-a^T)^{\frac{1}{\eta}} C_{HT,t}^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} + a^{\frac{1}{\eta}} C_{FT,t}^{\frac{\eta-1}{\eta}} \right)^{\frac{\eta}{\eta-1}},$$

where a_T is the measure of home bias and η_F is the elasticity of substitution between Home and Foreign tradable goods. $C_{NT,t}$, $C_{HT,t}$ and $C_{FT,t}$ are composed of non-tradable, tradable and imported varieties, aggregated following the Dixit-Stiglitz function:

$$C_{S,t} = \left(\int_0^1 C_{S,j,t}^{\frac{\epsilon-1}{\epsilon}} dj \right)^{\frac{\epsilon}{\epsilon-1}},$$

where ϵ denotes the elasticity of substitution between varieties and $S \in [NT, HT, FT]$ denotes the type of good.

Households have access to incomplete financial markets and are able to save and borrow in non-state-contingent riskless bonds in domestic and international markets. Domestic bond B_t earns interest rate R_t denominated in local currency. International bond B_t^* is denominated in dollars with frictional interest rate \tilde{R}_t^* introduced in the following section.

The budget constraint of a household is given by

$$P_t C_t + \mathcal{E}_t B_t^* + B_t = W_t N_t + \Pi_t + \frac{\mathcal{E}_t B_{t+1}^*}{\tilde{R}_t^*} + \frac{B_{t+1}}{R_t}$$

where \mathcal{E}_t denotes the nominal exchange rate (an increase corresponds to the depreciation

of local currency with respect to dollar), P_t is the consumer price index and $\Pi_t = \Pi_{NT,t} + \Pi_{T,t} + \Pi_{F,t}$ is the sum of profit from non-tradable and tradable firms, as well as from financial sector.

The solution to the static problem of the household yields the functions for labor supply and demand for each type and variety of goods:

$$\begin{aligned} N_t^\psi &= \varphi \frac{W_t}{P_t} \\ C_{S,j,t} &= \left(\frac{P_{S,j,t}}{P_{S,t}} \right)^{-\epsilon} C_{S,t} \\ C_{NT,t} &= (1-a) \left(\frac{P_{NT,t}}{P_t} \right)^{-\eta} C_t, \quad C_{T,t} = a \left(\frac{P_{T,t}}{P_t} \right)^{-\eta} C_t \\ C_{H,T,t} &= (1-a^T) \left(\frac{P_{H,T,t}}{P_{T,t}} \right)^{-\eta_F} C_{T,t}, \quad C_{F,T,t} = a^T \left(\frac{P_{F,T,t}}{P_{T,t}} \right)^{-\eta_F} C_{T,t}. \end{aligned}$$

The solution to the intertemporal problem of the household is two Euler equations - for international and domestic bonds. With $\Theta_t = \beta^{t-1} \frac{1}{P_t} \left(\frac{C_t - \varphi N_t^{1-\phi}}{(1-\phi)} \right)^{-\sigma}$ as the stochastic discount factor of the representative household, they are as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\Theta_t}{R_t} &= \mathbb{E}_t^{hh} \Theta_{t+1} \\ \frac{\mathcal{E}_t \Theta_t}{\tilde{R}_t^*} &= \mathbb{E}_t^{hh} (\mathcal{E}_{t+1} \Theta_{t+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Exchange rate affects the static problem of the households by changing the relative prices: a depreciation would make imported goods expensive and encourage switching to Home tradables. The expected exchange rate enters the dynamic Euler equation for international asset. Expected depreciation increases the return on dollar asset expressed in local currency and, therefore, stimulates saving and reduces consumption.

3.4 Financial Market

The financial block of the economy builds on Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a). Financial markets have two types of assets - local currency (LC) and dollar-denominated bonds - traded by three types of agents: household, financial intermediaries and noise traders. LC assets cannot be traded internationally. The demand for dollar bonds is formed by households and noise traders, but they cannot trade directly with foreign agents. The dollar bonds trade has to be intermediated by financial arbitrageurs.

Noise traders employ a zero-capital strategy matching their demand for dollar bonds with the supply of LC bonds. Their demand is assumed to be independent of macroeconomic fundamentals and can be interpreted as driven by their liquidity needs. The dollar position of noise traders N_t^* is determined by exogenous process ψ_t :

$$\frac{N_t^*}{R^*} = n(e^{\psi_t} - 1),$$

where n is the measure of noise traders and R^* is the foreign interest rate, which is determined exogenously and assumed to be constant. Financial shock ψ_t is going to be the key driver of the model.

The measure m of arbitrageurs meets the demand of households and noise traders by providing carry trade with the rest of the world. However, that exposes the arbitrageurs' balance sheet to exchange rate fluctuations. Since they are risk-averse, they require a premium. The arbitrageurs maximize CARA utility:

$$\max \mathbb{E}_t^{hh} \left(\frac{1}{\omega} \exp \left(-\omega \left[R^* - R_t \frac{\mathcal{E}_t}{\mathcal{E}_{t+1}} \right] \frac{d_{t+1}^*}{R^*} \right) \right),$$

where $\omega \geq 0$ is the measure of risk-aversion and d_t^* is a position of an individual intermediary. For simplicity, I assume that the arbitrageurs share the same expectations $\mathbb{E}_t^{hh}(\cdot)$ as households²

From market clearing in the financial market,

$$B_t^* + N_t^* = D_t^*,$$

where $D_t^* = m d_t^*$ is the aggregate dollar position of the arbitrageurs. The profits of arbitrageurs and noise traders π_t^F are redistributed to the households as lump-sum subsidies.

The reduced-form solution to the problem of the intermediary gives rise to the modified UIP condition:

$$r_t - r^* - (\mathbb{E}^{hh} e_{t+1} - e_t) = \psi_t + \psi_B B_t^*.$$

In a frictionless economy, the expected return for international bonds would equal the return on domestic bond, and the left-hand side of the UIP equation would be zero. However, in the presence of frictions, the arbitrageurs require excess returns to absorb the exchange rate risk. The deviations from UIP are increasing in their exposure to the dollar, which, in turn, depends on the demand of domestic agents for international bonds. For instance, if the exogenous demand for dollar bonds by noise traders ψ_t increases and the arbitrageurs need to meet that demand by opening a short position in dollars, they need the return on domestic debt to exceed the return on dollar debt, so they charge an extra premium to sell dollar assets. Then, from the no-arbitrage condition and assuming the domestic interest rate is constant, the households must expect the local currency to appreciate in the future and depreciate today. This way, financial shock affects the path of the exchange rate.

In this setting, the intermediation between domestic households and the rest of the world is frictional, with domestic households having to pay the additional wedge for borrowing in dollars. The effective household interest rate \tilde{r}_t^* becomes

$$\tilde{r}_t^* = r^* + \psi_t + \psi_B B_t^*.$$

Finally, note that the term $\psi_B B_t^*$, coming from the households demand for dollar assets, is small. It plays a double role as the way to stabilize the external debt and ensure the existence of the equilibrium for a small open economy, as it Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2003).

²Since the solution for intermediaries is identical to no-arbitrage condition for households, in the absence of this assumption, financial market may not clear.

3.5 Prices and Monetary Policy

The paper assumes that imported goods are priced in dollars and the law of one price holds, $P_{F,T,t} = \mathcal{E}_t P_{F,t}^*$, where \mathcal{E}_t is the nominal exchange rate.

The price indices for the three types of goods are

$$P_{S,t} = \left(\int_0^1 P_{S,j,t}^{1-\varepsilon} dj \right)^{\frac{1}{1-\varepsilon}}.$$

The CPI price level and tradable price level are given by

$$P_t = \left[(1-a) P_{NT,t}^{1-\eta} + a P_{T,t}^{1-\eta} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\eta}}$$

$$P_{T,t} = \left[(1-a^T) P_{HT,t}^{1-\eta_F} + a^T P_{FT,t}^{1-\eta_F} \right]^{\frac{1}{1-\eta_F}}$$

The real exchange rate (RER) with the dollar is defined as $Q_t = \frac{\mathcal{E}_t P_t^*}{P_t}$, and an increase in Q_t denotes depreciation of the local currency. The international price P_t^* is assumed to be exogenous and constant.

The monetary policy follows the CPI-based Taylor rule:

$$r_t = \rho + \phi_\pi \pi_t,$$

where r_t is (log) nominal interest rate, π_t is CPI inflation, $\phi_\pi > 1$ is the parameter determining the tightness of monetary policy, and ρ is the steady-state level of interest rate.

3.6 Market Clearing

In the goods market, consumption equals output for non-tradable and Home tradable goods, $C_{S,t} = Y_{S,t}$ for $S \in [NT, HT]$. The labor market clears, $L_t = N_t$. In addition, as domestic bonds are not traded internationally, their net supply equals zero, $B_t = 0$.

The resource constraint is expressed in dollars and derived from the household budget constraint and market clearing conditions in goods and financial markets:

$$P_{F,t}^* X_t + \frac{B_{t+1}^*}{R^*} = B_t^* + P_{F,t}^* C_{F,t} + P_M^* M_t.$$

The import includes both consumption goods and intermediate inputs. The term denoting the excess return based on the financial premium is absent from the country resource constraint as financial arbitrageurs are domestic agents.

3.7 Shocks and Beliefs

The key shock driving the economy is the financial shock to the dollar position of the noise traders. It follows an exogenous AR(1) process:

$$\psi_t = \rho_\psi \psi_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t^\psi, \quad \varepsilon_t^\psi \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\psi),$$

where $\rho_\psi \in [0, 1]$ and $\sigma_\psi \geq 0$ denote the persistence and volatility of the shock.

The households and firms don't know the true AR(1) process and mistakenly assume that the shock follows a process of persistence $\hat{\rho}^{hh}$ and $\hat{\rho}^f$ correspondingly. The agents don't learn the true parameter ρ_ψ from observing the economy. Instead, they perceive their systematic errors as a part of financial shock innovation ε_t^ψ . As a positive innovation ε_t^ψ hits the economy, the agents overextrapolate it into the future and, compared to the rational benchmark, revise their forecast excessively, $(\mathbb{E}_t \psi_{t+1} - \mathbb{E}_{t-1} \psi_{t+1}) - (\mathbb{E}_t^{RE} \psi_{t+1} - \mathbb{E}_{t-1}^{RE} \psi_{t+1}) = (\hat{\rho} - \rho)(\varepsilon_t^\psi + \rho \psi_{t-1})$. The systematic error for the financial wedge becomes increasing in the current value of ψ_t as well as the difference between misspecified and true persistence: $(\psi_{t+1} - \mathbb{E}_t \psi_{t+1}) - (\psi_{t+1} - \mathbb{E}_t^{RE} \psi_{t+1}) = -(\hat{\rho} - \rho)\psi_t$. Both results are consistent with the empirical evidence of $\beta_{BGS} < 0$ and $\beta_{CG} < 0$. While the agents misspecify the process for financial shock and not for exchange rate directly, financial wedge would be the key driver for exchange rate, so exchange rate forecasts would share these properties, as shown in the Appendix ??.

The assumption of misspecified persistence of shocks is explored in the literature on behavioral macroeconomics. Angeletos et al. (2021) use it, in combination with idiosyncratic noise due to information rigidities, to reconcile the individual forecasts overreaction with underreaction to the news in aggregate forecasts. They show that an alternative way of modelling overreaction with diagnostic expectations as in Bordalo et al. (2018), where agents give extra weight to recent information due to the representativeness bias, may not be consistent with the aggregate underreaction. Although I don't introduce informational rigidities in the model, I document in the empirical section of this paper that the aggregate underreaction is present in the exchange rate forecast data, $\beta_{CG} > 0$. I use this fact to inform my approach to modelling individual-level overreaction.

3.8 Simplified Analytical Model

In this section, I discuss the intuition behind the impact of perceived financial shock persistence on aggregate dynamics. I impose several simplifying assumptions to make the model solvable analytically and study how financial shock affects the economy. I demonstrate that behavioral expectations increase exchange rate volatility and, in the presence of nominal rigidities, may influence the sign of the output response to financial shock.

Simplifying Assumptions. Both tradable and non-tradable firms produce with one factor of production - labor. Non-tradable firms have constant return to scale production function given by $Y_{NT,t} = AL_{NT,t}$. Expressed in deviations from the steady state, their price-setting condition becomes:

$$p_{t,NT} = (1 - \beta\theta) \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{k=t}^{\infty} \beta^{k-t} \theta^{k-t} w_t. \quad (1)$$

Tradable firms are price-takers in international markets, so that the price for exported goods is fixed in dollars. They don't produce for domestic market and have a decreasing returns production function, $Y_{T,t} = AL_{T,t}^\alpha$. The problem of a tradable firm becomes

$$\max_{L_{T,t}} = \mathcal{E}_t P_F^* AL_{T,t}^\alpha - W_t L_{T,t},$$

with loglinearized solution $l_{T,t} = \frac{1}{1-\alpha}(e_t - w_t)$.

Households consume non-tradables and imports only, and the demand for Home tradable goods is set to zero. Additionally, I impose several parameter restrictions: $\eta = \sigma = 1$ and $\phi = 2$. With GHH preferences, labor supply equals real wage, giving rise to the labor market

clearing condition:

$$w_t - p_t = a \frac{1}{1 - \alpha} (e_t - w_t) + (1 - a)(c_t - p_{t,NT} + p_t), \quad (2)$$

where a denotes the share of exports, while $1 - a$ is the share of non-tradables.

The modified UIP condition is simplified by omitting the household asset demand term $\psi_B B$, and Euler equation for international assets becomes

$$\mathbb{E}_t(c_{t+1} + p_{t+1}) = c_t + p_t + r^* + \psi - e_t + \mathbb{E}_t e_{t+1}, \quad (3)$$

while the modified UIP condition is

$$r_t = r^* + \psi_t - e_t + \mathbb{E}_t e_{t+1} \quad (4)$$

I close the model by introducing the country resource constrain (expressed in dollars), stating that the discounted sum of net exports must equal zero:

$$\mathbb{E}_t \sum_{t+1}^{\infty} \beta^t \left(\frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} (e_t - w_t) - a(c_t - e_t + p_t) \right) = 0 \quad (5)$$

The monetary policy rule remains unchanged,

$$r_t = \rho + \phi_{\pi} \pi_t. \quad (6)$$

Finally, I impose that households and firms share the same beliefs about the persistence of financial shock, $\hat{\rho} = \hat{\rho}^{hh} = \hat{\rho}^f$.

Financial Shock and Exchange Rate. To show how expectations affect the current exchange rate, I substitute the modified UIP equation (4) forward:

$$e_t = \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{k=t}^{\infty} \psi_k - \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{k=t}^{\infty} r_k + \bar{e} = \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{k=t}^{\infty} \psi_k - \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{k=t}^{\infty} \phi_{\pi} \pi_k + \bar{e} = \frac{\psi_t}{1 - \hat{\rho}} - (\phi_{\pi} - 1) \bar{p} + \phi_{\pi} p_{t-1},$$

where I assume that, in the long run, the real variables, including the real exchange rate, return to the steady state. The notations $\bar{e} = \bar{p}$ denote the expected long-run nominal level of exchange rate and prices.

Overextrapolating expectations with $\hat{\rho} > \rho$ amplify the impact of the financial shock and, other things being equal, require stronger depreciation of the exchange rate. As the financial wedge must be offset with expected appreciation to keep the expected return on international assets equal to domestic assets, the current real exchange rate has to depreciate on impact and eventually converge back to the steady state. Higher persistence of financial shock requires a prolonged period of expected appreciation, therefore causing stronger depreciation on impact.

The second term on the right-hand side refers to the expected path of domestic interest rate or, using the Taylor rule, inflation. If this term increases, the no-arbitrage condition is partially restored by a higher domestic interest rate instead of the expected appreciation, so the response of the current exchange rate is dampened. The overextrapolative expectations $\hat{\rho} > \rho$ can lead to stronger response of the interest rates. Moreover, the magnitude of the increase in interest rate path can depend on price-setting behavior of firms and, therefore, on their expectations.

Financial Shock and Aggregate Demand. Similarly, I substitute forward the Euler equation:

$$c_t = -\frac{\psi_t}{1 - \hat{\rho}} + e_t - p_t.$$

In the absence of financial frictions, consumption comoves with real exchange rate: depreciation means that Home goods become cheap in terms of dollars, and households borrow internationally to consume at lower prices. However, financial shock disrupts the risk-sharing channel and dampens consumption.

Using the expressions for c_t and e_t as functions of financial shock, the aggregate demand for non-tradable goods can be written as

$$c_{NT,t} = c_t - p_{NT,t} - p_t = -p_{NT,t} - (\phi_\pi - 1)\bar{p} + \phi_\pi p_{t-1}.$$

The demand for non-tradables decreases in the nominal price for non-tradables as well as in the long-run price level or, in other words, the expected path of nominal interest rates. Financial shock rises the expected path of interest rates and suppress the domestic demand.

Finally, the aggregate consumption is given by

$$c = \underbrace{-a\psi_t/(1 - \hat{\rho})}_{\text{imports}} - \underbrace{(1 - a)(p_{NT,t} + (\phi_\pi - 1)\bar{p} + \phi_\pi p_{t-1})}_{\text{non-tradables}}.$$

Financial Shock and Prices. For trackability, I impose an additional assumption: non-tradable firms only reset their prices at $t = 0$ when the economy is hit by the shock and keep them constant afterwards, so $\theta = 0$ on impact at time t and $\theta = 1$ afterwards at $k > t$. In that case, we can see that p_{NT} is forward-looking and increasing in the path of exchange rate

$$p_{t,NT} = (1 - \beta)\mathbb{E}_t \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t w_t = \frac{(1 - \beta)}{a} \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t (w_t^r + ae_t),$$

where $w_t^r = w_t - p_t$ denotes real wage.

The impact on the real exchange rate is ambiguous: the labor supply from export increases as depreciation makes Home goods more competitive on the international market, however, the labor supply from non-tradable sector decreases due to the fall in aggregate demand. However, holding $p_{t,NT}$ constant, real wage increases in exchange rate:

$$w_t^r = \underbrace{a/(1 - \alpha) [(1 - a)(e_t - p_{NT}) - w_t^r]}_{\text{export}} - \underbrace{(1 - a)\phi_\pi p_{NT}}_{\text{non-tradables}}$$

Using the discounted sum of nominal wages from equation (5), $p_{t,NT}$ can be expressed as a function of the financial shock ψ :

$$p_{t,NT} = \frac{\psi}{(1 - \hat{\rho})(1 - \beta\hat{\rho})} \frac{(a + \Lambda)}{\phi_\pi \Lambda},$$

where $\Lambda = \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha} \frac{1}{1 - \beta\phi_\pi a}$ (see derivation in Appendix ??). Then, if the monetary policy is not too aggressive³, $\phi_\pi < \frac{a + \frac{\alpha}{1 - \alpha}}{\beta a^2}$, financial shock causes an increase in prices of non-tradables.

³Aggressive monetary policy can result in the fall in $p_{NT,t}$ offsetting the increase in price of inputs in the CPI. Price stability prevents the fall in aggregate output and leads to expansion due to the expenditure switching.

Moreover, price of non-tradables is very sensitive to the parameter $\hat{\rho}$: it enters the expression twice, first as amplification of current exchange rate similar to what we can see from the modified UIP expression, second as the result of the future path of exchange rate driving up the discounted sum of nominal marginal costs.

Financial Shock and Output. There are two channels of how financial shock can affect output:

$$y_t = \underbrace{a\alpha(1-a)/(1-\alpha+a) \cdot \psi_t/(1-\hat{\rho})}_{\text{expenditure switching}} - \underbrace{(1-a)\phi_\pi p_{t,NT}}_{\text{domestic demand}}$$

The first term shows that output is increasing due to the expenditure switching⁴ - depreciation makes domestic goods more competitive compared to foreign goods. The second term, however, reflects lower demand for non-tradables.

In terms of the shock, output can be expressed as

$$y_t = (1-a) \frac{\psi_t}{1-\hat{\rho}} \left(\underbrace{\frac{a\alpha}{1-\alpha+a}}_{\text{static}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{(1-\beta\hat{\rho})} \frac{a+\Lambda}{\Lambda}}_{\text{forward-looking}} \right)$$

The parameter $\hat{\rho}$ enters this expression twice. First, it appears in the term before the bracket, amplifying the change in output. Second, it determines the sign of the response by affecting the relative importance of the two channels. As aggregate demand for non-tradable goods is determined by the expected path of forward-looking prices, while production of tradables is static and only depends on the current variables⁵, the aggregate demand channel is more forward-looking and more sensitive to the changes in the perceived persistence of financial shock. Therefore, a model with behavioral overreaction, $\hat{\rho} > \rho$ becomes more likely to contract in response to the depreciation induced by financial shock.

4 Quantitative Analysis

The section presents the main results of the paper. First, I calibrate the model and discuss its consistency with both unconditional macro moments. Second, I show that cross-sectional empirical evidence on firms' expectations is consistent with exchange rate expectations driven by financial shock but not by other domestic shocks. Third, I explain how behavioral bias affects the economy's response to a financial shock by amplifying exchange rate fluctuations and generating contractionary depreciation. Finally, I discuss the roles of the expectations of firms and households in shaping that response.

However, that requires credible monetary policy with strong response to inflation.

⁴The first term denotes the expansion in export. The second term contains expenditure switching from imports to non-tradables, however, it is fully offset by the fall in demand.

⁵In the full model, exporters set forward-looking dollar prices. However, there is no feedback loop from price-setting to external demand and increase in export prices is not amplified by response in monetary policy and decline in foreign consumption.

	Parameter	Value	Source
σ	Risk-aversion coefficient	2	Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a)
$1/\phi$	Frisch labor supply elasticity	1	Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a)
ϕ_L	GHH preferences constant	0.2	Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)
η	Sectoral elasticity of substitution	0.5	Uribe and Schmitt-Grohé (2017)
η_F	Elasticity of substitution of country of origin	1.5	Feenstra et al. (2018)
ε	Elasticity between varieties	6	Gali and Monacelli (2005)
$1 - (\alpha + \alpha_M)$	Decreasing returns to scale	0.1	Jaimovich and Rebelo (2009)
θ	Calvo probability of price adjustment	0.75	Galí (2015)
ψ_π	Monetary policy coefficient	1.5	Galí (2015)

Table 4: Standard Parameter Values

4.1 Calibration

The calibration is based on the conventional parameter values in the international macro literature and empirical moments for the Peruvian economy.

The paper follows Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a) in using conventional values for risk-aversion coefficient $\sigma = 2$ and Frisch labor supply elasticity $1/\psi = 1$. The GHH preference constant $\phi_l = 0.2$ suggests that households spend 20% of time on labor as in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012). For the elasticity of substitution between tradable and non-tradable sectors, I use the standard parameter from Uribe and Schmitt-Grohé (2017) of $\eta = 0.5$. The elasticity of substitution between Home and Foreign tradable goods $\eta_F = 1.5$ follows the estimates by Feenstra et al. (2018). Within-sector elasticity between varieties $\varepsilon = 6$ comes from Gali and Monacelli (2005). The decreasing return to scale is $1 - \alpha - \alpha_M = 0.1$ as in Jaimovich and Rebelo (2009). The measure of price stickiness $\theta = 0.75$ is standard for New Keynesian models (see Galí (2015)) and imposes that the prices are reset on average once a year. Finally, the monetary policy coefficient ϕ_π is set to 1.5, also following Galí (2015). The non-targeted parameters are summarized in Table 4.

Table 5 lists the parameters calibrated by targeting the empirical moments. The values of $a = 0.3$ and $a_F = 0.7$ are chosen to match the share of employment in the service sector and trade openness, both calculated as the averages for 2009-2022 using the annual data by the World Bank. The external demand parameter $C_F = 0.022$ targets the PPP exchange rate. As tradable and non-tradable firms have different degrees of exposure to exchange rate, those parameters help to match the relative importance of the sectors of the economy for the aggregate dynamics. Under the standard assumption that $\rho = 1/\beta - 1$, the quarterly discount factor $\beta = 0.992$ is chosen to target the annual interest rate, estimated as the average using the Central Reserve Bank of Peru data on the reference interest rate. Finally, the production function parameter $\alpha_M = 0.15$ fits the share of imported inputs in relation to the labor expenditure. For the empirical counterpart, I use the estimates of Gopinath and Neiman (2014), who gather the data from OECD input-output tables for Argentina. The steady-state international debt \bar{B} is set to zero, resulting in balanced trade. I normalize the price level in the rest of the world P_F^* and the dollar price of the imported inputs P_M^* to 1. The value of $\psi_B = 0.01$ targets the empirical persistence of the external debt position reported by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru.

The bottom part of Table 5 assigns the values to the parameters governing the beliefs of the firm and the true persistence of financial shock. While the volatility of financial shock innovation is normalized to 1, the behavioral and true persistence, $\rho_\psi = 0.64$ and $\rho_\psi = 0.92$, are chosen to match the moments estimated on the survey data: the overreaction coefficient

Parameter	Value	Target	Data	Model
β	0.992	Annual interest rate	3.24%	3.27%
a	0.3	Employment share in service sector	55.7%	53.9%
a_F	0.7	Trade openness	50%	52%
C_F	0.022	PPP exchange rate	1.77	1.70
α_M	0.15	Imported inputs expenditure relative to labor expenditure	18%	17%
ψ_B	0.01	Persistence of external position	0.98	0.99
$\hat{\rho}_\psi$	0.92	Expected persistence of exchange rate, 3 q. ahead	1.02	1.02
ρ_ψ	0.64	Overreaction to current condition	-0.07	-0.07

Table 5: Targeted Moments

Notes: The table presents the calibrated model parameters. The target moments are calculated with the Central Reserve Bank of Peru and the World Bank data as the average for 2009-2022. The share of imported inputs expenditure is taken from Gopinath and Neiman (2014). The expected persistence of the exchange rate and overreaction to current conditions are estimated on survey data as panel regressions with fixed effects. The business cycle moments are the median across 100 simulations of the model. A simulation spans 1200 periods with the first 200 periods omitted.

β_{BGS} and the expected persistence of exchange rate ρ_{Ee} .

The Figure 5 provides more detail on the joint identification of $\hat{\rho}_\psi$ and ρ_ψ . First, the expected persistence of the exchange rate is increasing monotonically in the parameter $\hat{\rho}_\psi$ for different values of the true shock persistence ρ_ψ . The lower ρ_ψ results in a steeper increase: as the true shock process becomes persistent, the exchange rate becomes determined largely by the backward-looking variables (prices, external debt) and less responsive to the expectations. Low ρ_ψ is required to generate the expected persistence of exchange rate slightly above one as in the data. Second, the overreaction coefficient β_{BGS} is negative for $\hat{\rho}_\psi > \rho_\psi$. With the behavioral parameter fixed, $\hat{\rho}_\psi = 0.92$, the coefficient is increasing with ρ_ψ as it closes the gap.

The model is solved at first order with control variables evolving with high-persistence laws of motion while the shocks following the true, low-persistence laws of motion. Appendix ?? provides the details.

4.2 Non-targeted Moments

In this section, I show that financial shock generates several exchange rate disconnect moments but the perceived persistence of the shock has strong implications for the degree of excess volatility of exchange rate and its comovement with output. I show that the relation between true and perceived persistence of the shock cannot be inferred from the contemporaneous aggregate data moments and autoregression estimates offer support to the behavioral model.

As in Itskhoki and Mukhin (2021a), financial shock can explain the excess volatility of the exchange rate relative to macro variables and the Backus-Smith puzzle - the negative correlation between the real exchange rate and relative consumption ($c - c^*$). In conventional international macro models, households borrow internationally to finance production when the exchange rate is high and domestic goods are cheap. However, financial shock disrupts the risk-sharing condition by raising the borrowing costs. Consumption falls due to the combination of higher borrowing costs and an increase in consumer prices. Moreover, the

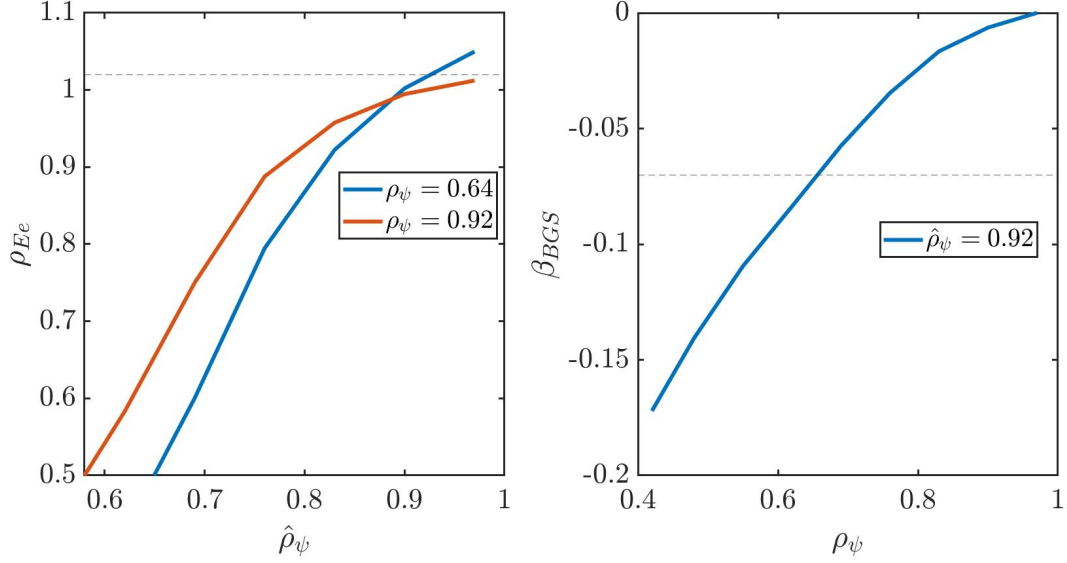


Figure 5: Identification of ρ_{ψ} and $\hat{\rho}_{\psi}$

Notes: The plot on the left shows the identification of the perceived persistence of financial shock, $\hat{\rho}_{\psi}$. The dashed line presents the empirical estimate - the regression coefficient for (log) three-quarter-ahead forecast dependence on (log) current exchange rate. The blue and red lines represent the model estimates under the assumption of true persistence $\rho_{\psi} = 0.64$ and $\rho_{\psi} = 0.92$ correspondingly. The plot on the right shows the identification of ρ_{ψ} , with the target value (dashed line) being the empirical estimate of the overreaction coefficient β_{BGS} and the model counterpart estimated under assumption $\hat{\rho}_{\psi} = 0.92$. The model estimates are the median across 100 simulations of the model. A simulation spans 1200 periods with the first 200 periods omitted.

home bias limits the impact of expenditure switching on consumption and output, resulting in real variables not being as volatile as the exchange rate.

Figure 6 show the unconditional moments for behavioral economies with different perceived persistence $\hat{\rho}_{\psi}$. The excess volatility of exchange rate moments (the volatility of exchange rate relative to consumption and output) are present for any $\hat{\rho}_{\psi}$ but are more pronounced when the agents believe the shock is temporary. That happens because the real variables don't respond strongly to temporary shocks: consumption is smooth due to the little change to the permanent income of the households, while firms don't adjust prices strongly due to their stickiness. If the shock is believed to be permanent, though, both households and firms adjust. The correlation between consumption and the real exchange rate⁶ is negative for all values. It becomes stronger for permanent shock as the relative role of the past conditions (prices, household debt) in consumption determination decreases.

The correlation between output and the RER, in contrast, changes qualitatively with the perceived persistence of the financial shock: depreciation is expansionary for transitory shocks but contractionary for permanent shocks. As mentioned in the previous section, the sign reversal stems from the trade-off between expansionary expenditure switching and the contractionary decline in aggregate demand. As demand channel is more forward-looking, higher persistence makes it dominate expenditure switching.

Additionally, Figure 6 demonstrates that the aggregate disconnect moments cannot iden-

⁶As the current model is SOE, the Backus-Smith correlation of the RER and relative consumption is equivalent to the correlation of the RER and domestic consumption.

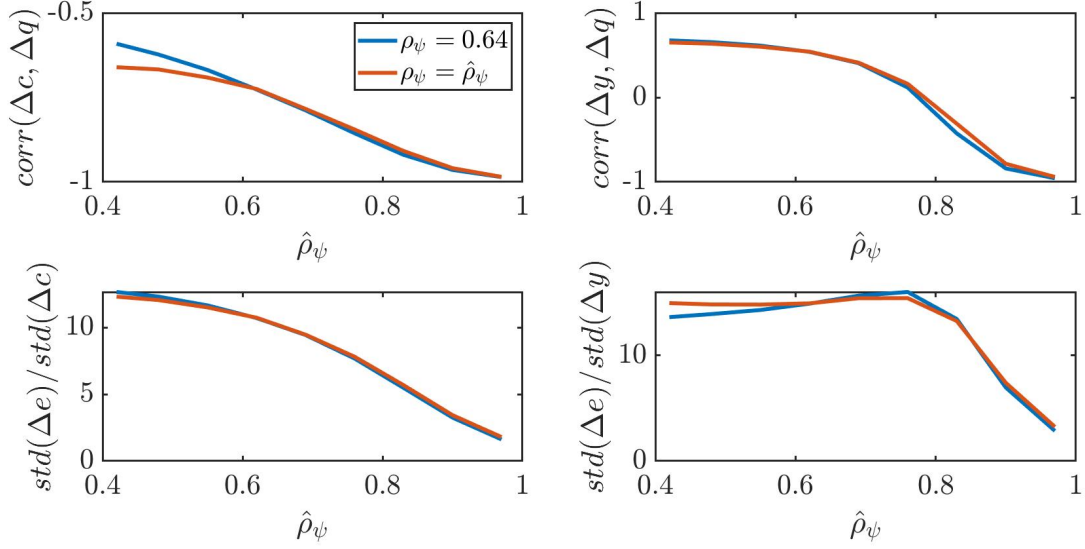


Figure 6: Exchange Rate Disconnect Moments

Notes: The plot shows the exchange rate unconditional moments dependence on the expected persistence of financial shock $\hat{\rho}_\psi$. The blue line refers to the behavioral model, in which the true persistence is fixed at $\rho_\psi = 0.92$. The red line depicts the rational expectations model where the true and perceived persistence change together, $\rho_\psi = \hat{\rho}_\psi$. The model estimates are the median across 100 simulations of the model. A simulation spans 1200 periods with the first 200 periods omitted.

tify the true persistence of the financial shock. The Figure compares the behavioral model with the true persistence fixed at $\rho_\psi = 0.64$ (blue) with the RE model, where the true persistence varies with beliefs, $\rho_\psi = \hat{\rho}_\psi$ (red). The moments are similar for the two specifications. The comovement of exchange rate and real variables is determined by the forward-looking decisions on optimal pricing and consumption. The initial conditions don't affect the choice of the agents as much as their expectations.

Table 6 reiterates these points by comparing free models: behavioral expectation model with $\rho_\psi = 0.64$ and $\hat{\rho}_\psi = 0.92$, RE model with the same true persistence of $\rho_\psi = 0.64$, and RE model where the beliefs of the behavioral agents are correct with $\rho_\psi = 0.92$. The latter can be seen as the RE model recalibrated to match the persistence of exchange rate expectations. The exchange rate disconnect moments are very similar for the BE and the recalibrated RE model, with excess volatility slightly lower for the BE model and correlations almost identical. However, by construction, only the BE model matches the overreaction coefficient β_{BGS} , while also generating the overreaction to news β_{CG} as an untargeted moment. At the same time, rational expectation model generate low expected persistence of exchange rate, $\rho_{Ee} = 0.48$ at three quarter horizon, and implies weak response of macro variables to exchange rate fluctuations. As shown in Appendix ??, in two-shock model, rational expectations model with low persistence cannot generate a negative Backus-Smith correlation on its own.

Despite the similarity in contemporaneous unconditional moments, behavioral and rational models with $\rho = 0.92$ differ in their implied persistence of exchange rate and UIP deviations. Figure 7 compares the two models against the data and shows that rational model generates an exchange rate process close to a unit root, while behavioral model sug-

	Data	BE	RE, $\rho_\psi = 0.64$	RE, $\rho_\psi = 0.92$
β_{BGS}	-0.07	-0.07	0.00	0.00
$\rho(Ee)$	1.02	1.02	0.47	1.00
β_{CG}	-0.39	-0.15	0.00	0.00
$\sigma(\Delta e)/\sigma(\Delta c)$	3.96	2.70	10.43	2.89
$\sigma(\Delta e)/\sigma(\Delta y)$	3.71	5.41	14.97	5.88
$\sigma(\Delta c)/\sigma(\Delta y)$	0.94	2.00	1.42	2.04
$\text{corr}(\Delta c, \Delta q)$	-0.08	-0.98	-0.74	-0.98
$\text{corr}(\Delta y, \Delta q)$	-0.02	-0.89	0.51	-0.85
$\text{corr}(\Delta c - \Delta c^*, \Delta q)$	-0.26	-0.98	-0.74	-0.98
$\text{corr}(\Delta y - \Delta y^*, \Delta q)$	-0.09	-0.89	0.51	-0.85

Table 6: Non-Targeted Moments

Notes: The table presents the non-targeted moments. The empirical unconditional macro moments are calculated with the Central Reserve Bank of Peru for 2009-2022. The second column refers to the one-shock behavioral model with $\rho_\psi = 0.64$ and $\hat{\rho}_\psi = 0.92$. The third and fourth columns refer to the rational models with the persistence of 0.64 and 0.92 correspondingly. The business cycle moments are the median across 100 simulations of the model. A simulation spans 1200 periods with the first 200 periods omitted.

gests a stationary process. Compared to the data, the rational model performs better for one-quarter ahead autocorrelation coefficient; however, as the horizon increases, the empirical estimates converge closer to behavioral model. Additionally, ex-ante UIP deviations, which in the model correspond to the financial wedge ψ_t , also don't exhibit the persistence of the rational model. Appendix ?? checks robustness by showing the estimates on smoothed data.

4.3 Consistency with Cross-sectional Data: Financial Shock

The following section explores if the behavioral model is consistent with cross-sectional survey data on beliefs and actions. I study how a deviation of exchange rate expectations affects the actions of a firm as well as the expectations of other variables.

I generate the deviations in expectations by assuming that a small firm i of measure 0, which cannot affect the aggregate conditions in the economy, receives the news of the shock hitting the economy in the next period. I assume that the firm expects the shock to follow AR(1) process with persistence 0.92. The shocks come from a discretized normal distribution with 11 possible values. I study macroeconomic expectations and current actions of a firm i vary depending on its individual expectation of financial shock. I sort the responses by expected depreciation and take the average by quartile. For expected exchange rate, output and inflation I look at two-quarter-ahead forecasts. For other variables, which only have qualitative responses in the survey, I calculate the index depending on the difference between fractions of expanding and contracting firms, to make it consistent with the data. While working with own firm's actions, I account calculate it separately for price-updating and non-updating firms in both sectors and report the weighted average.

Figure 8 shows the quantitative beliefs of the firms about the aggregate state of the economy and compares them with the empirical counterparts, both expressed as the average deviation from the period t median. The Figure 8 shows that the agents expecting depreciation tend to forecast low output growth and demand, accompanied by high inflation.

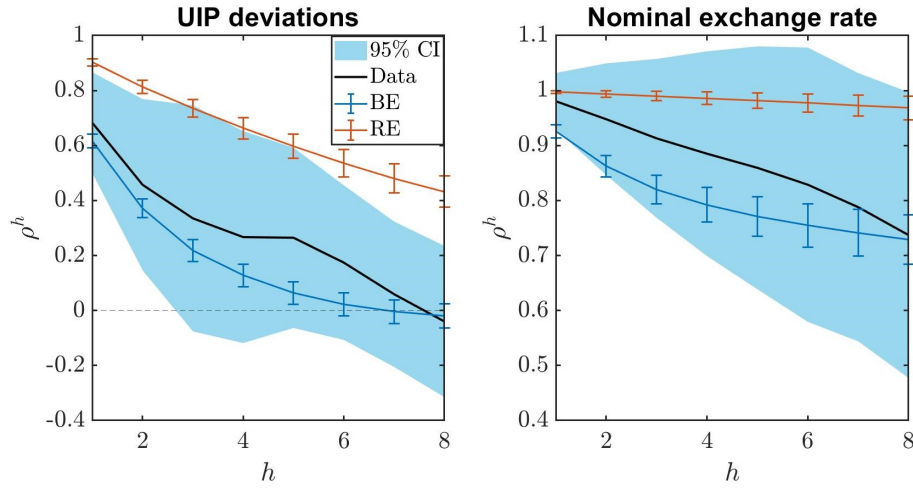


Figure 7: Non-Targeted Persistence

Notes: The plot compares the persistence of nominal exchange rate and UIP deviations on horizons from 1 to 8 quarters in the data and in two models - behavioral with $\rho = 0.64$ and $\hat{\rho} = 0.92$ and rational with $\rho = 0.92$. The empirical estimates are using monthly data. The ex-ante UIP deviations are estimated with annualized deposit interest rates for Peru and the US from the Central Reserve Bank of Peru and Federal Reserve data. The 12-month ahead exchange rate are estimates based on weighted average of professional forecasters consensus expectations at the end of the current and next year by the Central Reserve Bank of Peru. Blue area refers to 90% confidence interval. The model moments are the median across 100 simulations. A simulation spans 1200 periods with the first 200 periods omitted.

They expect a decline both in aggregate employment and real wages. Despite the Survey estimates being the unconditional moments potentially driven by several different shocks, financial shock is consistent with the patterns in the data. The model overestimates the comovement of most expected macroeconomic variables with exchange rate forecasts, but that is an expected consequence of adding only one source of deviations on firms' expectations.

Moreover, the model correctly predicts the contraction in output and employment of a firm expecting depreciation. Figure 9 shows the deviation in firms' actions by exchange rate expectations as a weighted average by sector and price optimization status. The result is driven by price-optimizing firms increasing prices in response to future inflation while the fall in aggregate demand doesn't allow the firms with fixed prices to expand due to higher market share. As shown in Appendix Appendix ??, non-tradable firms have stronger responses but tradable firms also contract in response to expected depreciation.

When the deviations in beliefs of small firms are modelled as news, however, the model doesn't generate expected decline in economic activity seen in the data. Instead, the firms who already raised prices expect to recover partially as the rest of the firms in their sector responds to depreciation. However, Appendix ?? shows that expected contraction can be generated if the deviation in expectations is modelled as the difference in the expected persistence of financial shock. Moreover, Appendix ?? studies an extension with half of the firms having rational expectations while another half is behavioral. Expected contraction is consistent with that model modification.

Summing up, the model driven by financial shock captures the regularities in the association between exchange rate forecast, beliefs about the future evolution of other macroeconomic variables, and recent and intended choices of the firm.

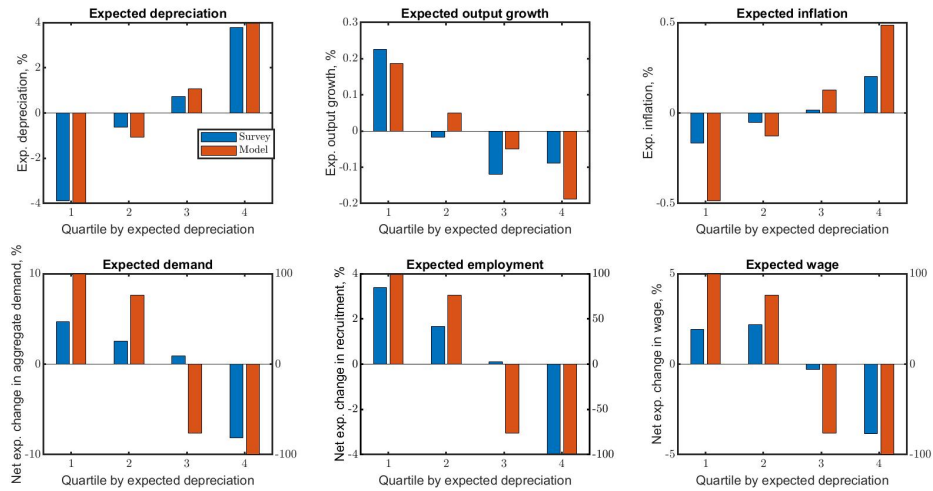


Figure 8: Beliefs on Aggregate Economy by Expected Depreciation: Data and Model

Notes: The graph compares the beliefs on the evolution of the aggregate macroeconomic variables by expected depreciation quartiles in the data and in the model. The model estimates refer to the beliefs of a measure-0 firms receiving news on the next period financial shock. The forecast horizon is one quarter for aggregate demand and two quarters for other variables with the difference originating from different type of Survey questions (see Empirical Evidence). The empirical estimates are described in the previous section. The expectations on exchange rate, output and inflation are quantitative, while the expected demand refers to the percent point difference between firms expecting an expansion and contraction.

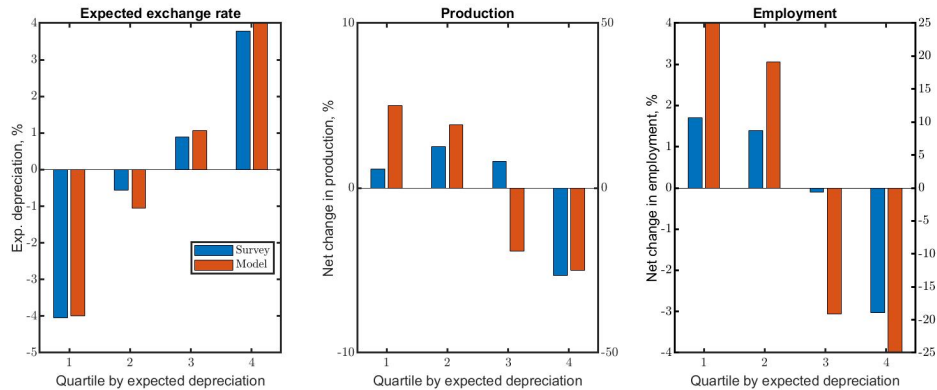


Figure 9: Expected and Recent Actions by Expected Depreciation: Data and Model

Notes: The graph compares the recent and expected by expected depreciation quartiles in the data and the model. The model estimates refer to the beliefs of a measure-0 firms receiving news on the next period financial shock. The graph shows the weighted average by sector and price-updating status. The forecast horizon is two quarters for the exchange rate and one quarter for the other variables. The empirical estimates are described in the previous section. The model results and exchange rate survey estimates refer to the expected percent change in the variable, while the rest of the survey responses show the net share of the agents reporting or expecting an increase.

4.4 Consistency with Cross-Sectional Data: Other Shocks

In this section, I show that, in contrast with financial shock, other standard domestic shocks to TFP, demand and monetary policy don't generate cross-section responses consistent with

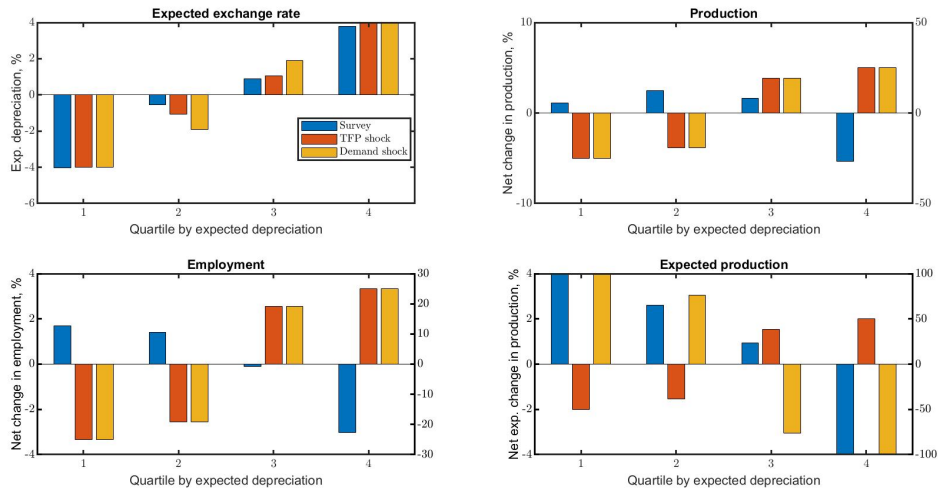


Figure 10: Expected and Recent Actions Expected Depreciation: TFP and Demand Shocks

Notes: The graph compares the recent and expected by expected depreciation quartiles in the data and the model. The model estimates refer to the beliefs of a measure-0 firms receiving news on the next period TFP (red) and demand (yellow) shock. The graph shows the weighted average by sector and price-updating status. The forecast horizon is two quarters for the exchange rate and one quarter for the other variables. The empirical estimates are described in the previous section. The model results and exchange rate survey estimates refer to the expected percent change in the variable, while the rest of the survey responses show the net share of the agents reporting or expecting an increase.

the survey data. TFP shock is defined as the shock to productivity, common to both tradable and non-tradable sector. Demand shock is the shock to discount factor, while monetary policy shock enters Taylor rule equation.

The real shocks - TFP and demand shocks - result in firms expecting depreciation expanding their output and employment. If depreciation is caused by non-financial domestic shock, according to UIP, it must result from a decrease in domestic interest rate, which made international assets more attractive for domestic agents and resulted in capital outflow and lower demand for local currency. With real shock, a decrease in nominal rate is the response of monetary policy to deflation. If firms receive the news of deflation, however, they reoptimize their prices today due to the possibility they won't be able to update them in the next period. Lower prices lead to higher demand for their variety of goods and expansion in production and output. Figure 10 shows that actions of the firms have the opposite comovement with exchange rate expectation compared to the data. Appendix ?? provides more details by showing the expectations of the aggregate variables and impulse responses.

For monetary shock, a decrease in interest rate stimulates demand and output. Figure 11 shows that for depreciation driven by monetary easing, firms expecting high exchange rate would also expect expansion in demand and output. Appendix Appendix ?? provides further details.

4.5 Impulse Response to Financial Shock

I study the impulse response to 1% positive financial shock. I first outline how the financial shock affects the rational expectations economy and then show how the behavioral

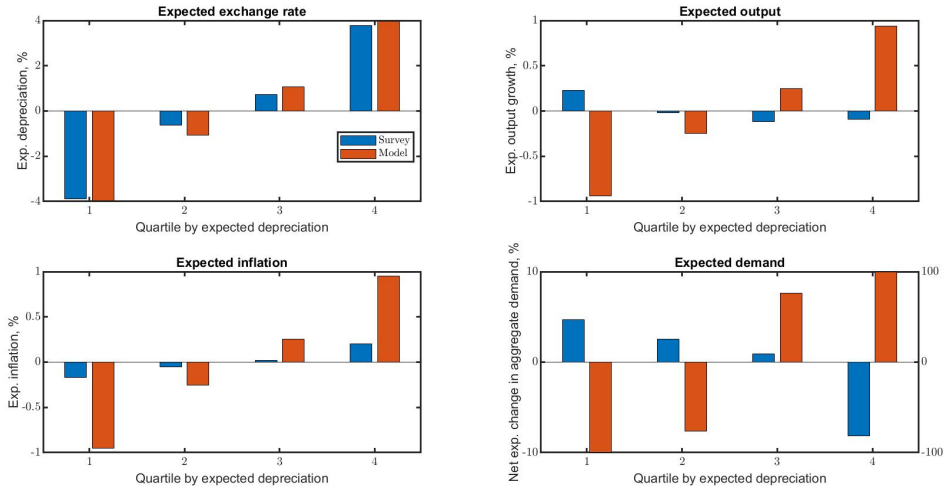


Figure 11: Beliefs on Aggregate Economy by Expected Depreciation: Monetary Shock

Notes: The graph compares the beliefs on the evolution of the aggregate macroeconomic variables by expected depreciation quartiles in the data and in the model. The model estimates refer to the beliefs of a measure-0 firms receiving news on the next period monetary policy shock. The forecast horizon is one quarter for aggregate demand and two quarters for other variables with the difference originating from different type of Survey questions (see Empirical Evidence). The empirical estimates are described in the previous section. The expectations on exchange rate, output and inflation are quantitative, while the expected demand refers to the percent point difference between firms expecting an expansion and contraction.

bias changes the aggregate response by amplifying exchange rate volatility and magnifying contractionary impact of aggregate demand channel. In this section, I let both firms and households have behavioral expectations.

Figure 12 shows the response of the rational expectations economy (red line) to the shock. From the modified UIP condition, any change in the expected path of the financial wedge for international bonds $\{\psi_{t+k}\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ must be offset either by current depreciation or increase in the expected path of domestic interest rate. Both effects are present in this economy. The current depreciation leads to higher import prices, which generates CPI inflation, and monetary policy reacts by the interest rate hike. In the long run, the real variables return to the original steady state, and the nominal values (prices, exchange rate) change their level permanently. The expectation of long-run inflation encourages firms to raise local currency prices, and the change in the expected path of interest rate and relative prices pushes households to decrease their consumption. Both tradable and non-tradable firms face a decline in domestic demand. As Figure 13 (red) shows, the combination of low demand and high prices leads to a decline in output in non-tradable sector. The tradable sector, in contrast, expands. As the labor costs are denominated in local currency but the exported goods are priced in dollars, the depreciation allows the tradable firms to lower their dollar prices to increase the external demand for their variety of tradable goods. Tradable sector is additionally supported by expenditure switching from imports to Home tradable goods. Under rational expectations, despite the fall in domestic demand, the export expansion and expenditure-switching channel dominates and the aggregate output expands.

The beliefs on the persistence of financial shock change the response of macroeconomic variables. As shown in Figure 12 (blue) and explained in the analytical example in the

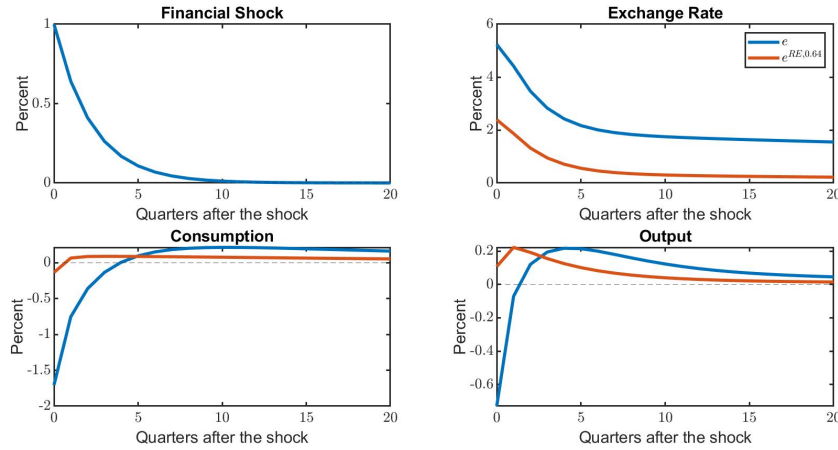


Figure 12: Macroeconomic Response to a Financial Shock

Notes: The figure depicts theoretical impulse responses to a 1% financial shock. The blue line refers to the behavioral model and the red line is the rational expectation benchmark.

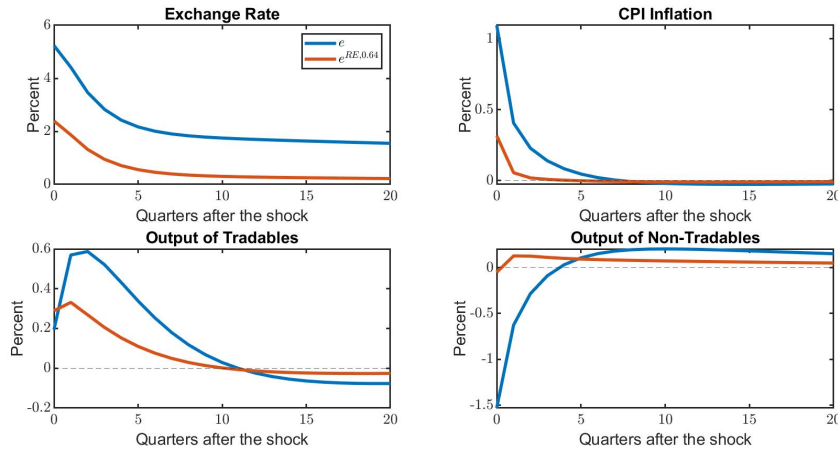


Figure 13: Sectoral Response to a Financial Shock

Notes: The figure depicts theoretical impulse responses to a 1% financial shock. The blue line refers to the behavioral model and the red line is the rational expectation benchmark.

previous section, the response of exchange rate and long-run price level is amplified due to the expectation of financial shock affecting the path of exchange rate for a longer period of time. The firms respond with stronger price changes, interest rate increases to curb inflation, and domestic consumption drops by more than in the RE model. Figure 13 shows that behavioral expectations magnify the drop in non-tradable output. The tradable sector faces a trade-off between higher competitiveness in the external sector and a decrease in domestic demand, both of which are amplified by expectations. However, since domestic demand channel is driven not only by price-setting but also by general equilibrium response of forward-looking households, it reacts stronger to expectations. In behavioral economy, tradable sector still expands, but by less than in the RE model. So, under the persistent beliefs, the aggregate output contracts.

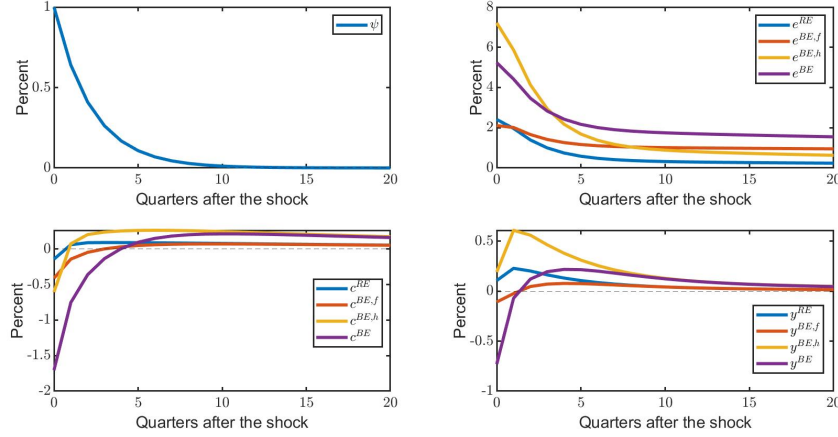


Figure 14: Macroeconomic Response to a Financial Shock: Impact of Behavioral Beliefs by the Type of Agents

Notes: The figure depicts theoretical impulse responses to a 1% financial shock. The blue line refers to the rational benchmark model. The red line is the model with behavioral firms and rational households. The yellow line is the model with behavioral households and rational firms, while the purple line denotes the model where all agents are behavioral.

Appendix ?? provides additional insights by showing high-persistence rational expectation model, which also corresponds to the agents' expected evolution of the economy on impact. Appendix ?? discusses the role of price rigidities in shaping the result. Since the sensitivity of the domestic demand channel to expectations depends on firms' price-setting choices, in flexible price model, behavioral expectations don't affect its relative importance. However, they still amplify the response of the exchange rate and the macroeconomy.

4.6 The Role of Firms' and Households' Expectations

The baseline behavioral model relies on the assumption that households and firms have the same bias in forming the expectations for the financial shock, $\hat{\rho}_{\psi}^f = \hat{\rho}_{\psi}^h$. However, there is no available data on household expectations. The following section separates the expectations of firms and households and studies their role individually. The firm expectations can generate a recessionary depreciation even when households are rational. However, the household expectations amplify the impact of the shock on exchange rate and make the recession quantitatively significant.

Figure 14 compares four versions of the model: the RE model (blue), the baseline behavioral model (purple), the model where only firms are behavioral (red), and the model where firms are rational but households are behavioral (yellow). Compared to the rational benchmark, household expectations magnify the response of the exchange rate to financial shock, as they enter the UIP condition. However, the expenditure switching still dominates the fall in domestic demand, and output expands.

In contrast, when firms are behavioral and households are rational, the exchange rate response is close to the fully rational model as firm's expectations don't directly affect the UIP condition. However, behavioral firms still anticipate prolonged depreciation and rise local currency prices accordingly. The long-run level of the exchange rate stays elevated

in the behavioral model, reflecting higher inflation. As monetary authorities respond to the price changes, households correctly anticipate that in this economy, a depreciation of similar magnitude corresponds to a stronger increase in domestic interest rate. Therefore, rational households contract their demand in response to the current and expected actions of behavioral firms. Forward-looking decision-making of households amplifies the firms' behavioral bias and makes demand channel stronger than expenditure switching channel, resulting in a small contraction.

However, behavioral households can amplify the recession generated by the response of behavioral firms. For the decline output to be quantitatively significant (both in absolute terms and relative to the exchange rate depreciation), the model requires behavioral bias to be present both in firms' and households' expectations. According to behavioral macro literature, that can be a reasonable assumption. Candia et al. (2023) show on the example of inflation expectation surveys that while firms' expectations differ from both households' and professional forecasters' expectations, they typically lie between them and can be close to households' expectations. A plausible assumption may be that small firms have expectations similar to the ones of households while larger firms tend to be closer to the professionals. In a recent paper, McClure et al. (2024) show that output inflation expectations of low- and middle-rank managers indeed closely approximates the households expectations.

5 Conclusion

In this paper, I study exchange rate expectations of firms, documenting two key facts. First, firms' forecasts of exchange rates systematically depart from the rational expectation benchmark, showing overreaction in their expectations. Second, firms associate depreciations with economic contractions and tend to reduce their own economic activity when they expect a higher exchange rate.

I introduce behavioral expectations into a small open economy model, disciplining the agents' beliefs with the first fact, and show that exchange rates expectations driven by financial shocks are consistent with the second fact. I discuss the implications of behavioral beliefs for aggregate dynamics, showing that overreactive expectations of households amplify exchange rate volatility, while firms' expectations make financial-shock-driven depreciations more contractionary.

One application of this work is the conduct of communication policy regarding exchange rates. Communicating the source and expected persistence of exchange rate fluctuations may stabilize the exchange rate and alleviate the associated recession. Another avenue for future research is to further explore the heterogeneity in firms' expectations and its implications for misallocation, as well as sectoral and aggregate responses to depreciations.

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