

# OPTIMAL POLICY FOR BEHAVIORAL FINANCIAL CRISES

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# Motivation

- ▶ Growing interest in behavioral credit cycles
- ▶ Predictable financial crises
  - Credit growth & Asset price booms      Jordá, Schularick & Taylor (2015)
  - 7% in normal times vs. 40% after      Greenwood et. al (2021)
  - Preceded by decreasing credit spreads      López-Salido et. al (2017)

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- ▶ Minsky (1977) & Kindleberger (1978) narratives
- ▶ Financial crises driven by **systematic behavioral biases**
  - **Beliefs** inconsistent with RE      Egan, MacKay & Yang (2021)
  - Key to match **pre-crisis** moments      Krishnamurthy & Li (2021)

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- ▶ Consensus **shifting**
  - Sufi & Taylor (2021)
  - Stein (2021)
- ▶ Does the behavioral view warrant **preemptive intervention?**
  - **Open question** even if acknowledge that behavioral biases matter

# Open Questions

1. When are behavioral biases a concern?
  - Greenspan (1996)
2. Does policy depend on the form of behavioral biases?
  - Krishnamurthy & Li (2021)
3. Is monetary policy needed for financial stability? Are macroprudential tools enough?
  - Bernanke (2002) ; Fischer (2014) ; Yaron (2019)
4. What if policymakers and the market hold the same beliefs?
  - Greenspan (2010)
5. What if regulators only have incomplete information about biases?
  - Yellen (2009)

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5. What if regulators only have **incomplete information** about biases?
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**This paper: A model to address these questions**

# Results Preview

1. General decomposition identifying the sources of welfare losses
  - ▶ Irrational optimism in booms
  - ▶ Future irrational pessimism in financial crises: **key**
  - ▶ New externalities when biases depend on prices



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1. General decomposition identifying the sources of welfare losses
  - ▶ Irrational optimism in booms
  - ▶ Future irrational pessimism in financial crises: key
  - ▶ New externalities when biases depend on prices
  
2. New instrument needed to act through asset prices
  - ▶ Prevents future endogenous pessimism if prices fall
  - ▶ Independent of whether high prices are due to fundamentals or a bubble
  - ▶ Complements macroprudential policy when biases depend on prices
    - Even with fully flexible macroprudential tools (Farhi & Werning 2020)
    - Even when planner and agents share the same beliefs
    - Even if monetary policy unconstrained during crises

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2. New instrument needed to act through asset prices
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  - ▶ Complements macroprudential policy when biases depend on prices
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    - Even when planner and agents share the same beliefs
    - Even if monetary policy unconstrained during crises
3. Uncertainty about biases increases incentives to tighten policy
  - ▶ Planner uncertain about booms driven by fundamentals or biases
  - ▶ Non-linear interaction between biases and frictions
  - ▶ Costs of false negative > costs of false positive

# References

## ▶ Macprudential Policy:

- Incomplete Markets: Fisher (1932), Geanakoplos & Polemarchis (1985)
- Aggregate Demand Externalities: Farhi & Werning (2016)
- Pecuniary Externalities: Gromb & Vayanos (2002), Dávila & Korinek (2018)
- Regulation: Diamond, Kashyap & Rajan (2017), Greenwood, Hanson, Stein & Sunderam (2017)

## ▶ Behavioral Credit Cycles :

- Predictability of Financial Crises: Jorda, Schularick, & Taylor (2013), Greenwood & Hanson (2013), López-Salido, Stein, & Zakrajšek (2017)
- Forecast Errors: Mian, Sufi, & Verner (2017), Bordalo, Gennaioli, Ma & Shleifer (2019), Egan, MacKay & Yang (2021)
- Quantitative Models: Maxted (2020), Krishnamurthy & Li (2021)
- Risk Perception: Pflueger, Siriwardane & Sunderam (2020)

## ▶ Welfare with Behavioral Agents :

- General Theory: Farhi & Gabaix (2020)
- Macro-Finance: Caballero & Simsek (2020), Farhi & Werning (2020), Dávila & Walther (2021)

## ▶ Leaning Against the Wind :

- Financial Stability: Woodford (2012), Svensson (2017), Gourio, Kashyap & Sim (2018), Caballero & Simsek (2020)

# Outline

## 1. Model

## 2. Welfare Analysis

The Sources of Welfare Losses  
Optimal Policy

## 3. Sentiment Uncertainty

# Setup & Preferences

- ▶ Three periods:  $t \in \{1, 2, 3\}$
- ▶ Two agents:

## 1. Financial Intermediaries:

He & Krishnamurthy (2013)

$$U^b = \mathbb{E}_1 [\ln(c_1) + \beta \ln(c_2) + \beta^2 c_3]$$

## 2. Households (savers/lenders/...):

$$U^h = \mathbb{E}_1 [c_1^h + \beta c_2^h + \beta^2 c_3^h]$$

- ▶ Financial intermediaries issue **deposits**  $d_t$  to households
- ▶ Intermediaries can invest into the creation of  $H$  units of a **risky asset**
  - ▶ Paying a cost  $c(H)$  at  $t = 1$
  - ▶ Can only be held by financial intermediaries
  - ▶ Stochastic & i.i.d. dividends  $z_2$  and  $z_3$
  - ▶ Price  $q_t$

# Financial Frictions

$$c_2 + d_1(1 + r_1) + q_2h \leq \mathbf{d}_2 + (z_2 + q_2)H$$

▶ Collateral Constraint:

- ▶ Deposits at  $t = 2$  backed by  $H$ -collateral:

▶ MBS Repo

$$d_2 \leq \phi h \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] \quad (\kappa)$$

- ▶ Intermediaries' borrowing constraints can bind at  $t = 2$  (crisis:  $\kappa > 0$ )

- ▶ Future income borrowing constraint

▶ Micro-foundations

▶ No financial amplification

▶ Current Price

▶ No pecuniary externality

▶ REE Constrained Efficiency

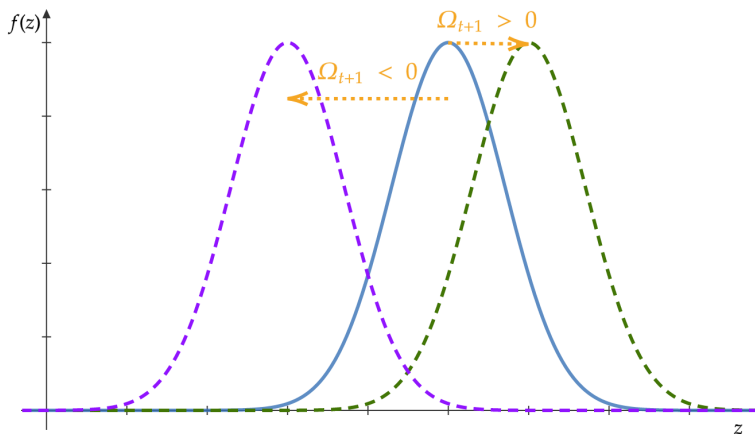
▶ Real Production

▶ Households Beliefs

▶ Rational Equilibrium

## Beliefs: Formulation

- ▶ General class of deviations from *REE* at  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$
- ▶ Behavioral bias  $\Omega_{t+1}(\mathcal{I}_t)$  shifting distribution of states of the world:



*Perceived distributions of future dividends with behavioral biases*

# Beliefs: Examples

## ▶ Inattention

(Exogenous)

$$\Omega_{t+1} = (\rho_s - \rho)(z_t - \bar{z})$$

- ▶ Gabaix (2019)

## ▶ Fundamental Extrapolation

(Exogenous)

$$\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha(z_t - z_{t-1})$$

- ▶ Barberis, Shleifer & Vishny (1998), Rabin & Vayanos (2010), Fuster, Hebert & Laibson (2012), Bordalo, Gennaioli & Shleifer (2018), etc.

## ▶ Price Extrapolation

(Endogenous)

$$\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha(q_t - q_{t-1})$$

- ▶ De Long, Shleifer, Summers & Waldmann (1990), Hong & Stein (1999), Barberis, Greenwood, Jin & Shleifer (2018), Farhi & Werning (2020), Bastianello & Fontanier (2022a,b), etc.

▶ [Forecast Errors](#)   ▶ [Other Examples](#)   ▶ [Learning From Prices](#)   ▶ [Households Beliefs](#)



# Beliefs: Sophistication

- ▶ Agents can be biased at  $t = 1$  and/or at  $t = 2$ 
  - Biases during crises are key for most results
  - Are results robust to sophistication?
- ▶  $\zeta$  captures the level of sophistication:

$$\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] \right] = \mathbb{E}_1[z_3 + \zeta\Omega_3].$$

- ▶ Pricing condition:

$$q_t = \beta \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \frac{\lambda_{t+1}(z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}, \zeta\Omega_{t+2})}{\lambda_t} \left( z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1} + q_{t+1}(z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}, \zeta\Omega_{t+2}) \right) \right]$$

- ▶ Notation:

$$q_t = \beta \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \frac{\lambda_{t+1}}{\lambda_t} (z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1} + q_{t+1}) \right]$$

## Behavioral Equilibrium: Endogenous $\Omega_3$

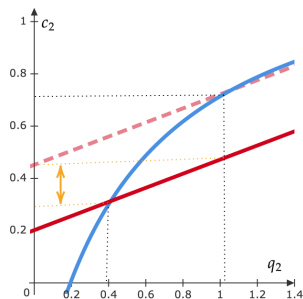
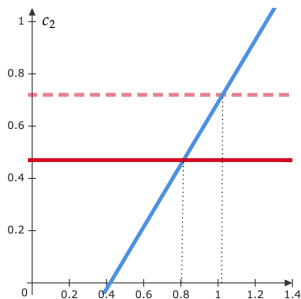
$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] + \phi(1 - c_2) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)]$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] \quad (\kappa > 0)$$

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*Effect of a shock to net worth  $n_2$  when  $\Omega_3(q_2)$  is endogenous*

- ▶ Fall in net worth: Increase in marginal utility
  - ▶ Decrease in SDF  $\rightarrow$  Fall in asset prices ...
    1.  $\rightarrow$  Worsens pessimism  $\rightarrow$  Fall in asset prices ...
    2.  $\rightarrow$  Tightening of collateral constraint  $\rightarrow$  Fall in consumption...

## ▶ Belief Amplification

- ▶ Equilibrium with  $\phi H q_2$
- ▶ Equilibrium Unicity
- ▶ Bias on  $q_{t+1}$
- ▶ Welfare: Collateral Externality

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# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_1[u'(c_2)] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[u'(c_2)])}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2} \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

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► Two effects drive the Belief Wedge:

1. Contemporaneous bias  $\Omega_2$
2. Predictable future bias  $\Omega_3$

$$\mathcal{BW} \simeq \underbrace{-\Omega_2 H \mathbb{E}^{SP} [(-u''(c_2)) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0}]}_1 + \underbrace{\phi H \mathbb{E}^{SP} [(1 - \zeta) \Omega_3 (-u''(c_2)) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0}]}_2$$

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► Financial frictions crucial

► Product of:

- Mistake  $\Omega_2$
- Cost of making a mistake  $H \mathbb{E}^{SP} [(-u''(c_2)) \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0}]$

► Belief Wedge with  $\phi H q_2$



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- ▶ Predictable losses
- ▶ Even if  $\Omega_2 = 0$ :
  - Future pessimism costly
  - Can even have  $\mathbb{E}^{SP}[\Omega_3] = 0$
  - Comovement matters

# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

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- ▶ **Belief Amplification**  $\implies$  Pecuniary Externality
- ▶  $\zeta$  **not** part of the expression
  - Agents can realize that increasing leverage impacts prices tomorrow...
  - And that low prices mean irrational distress tomorrow
  - But would need to **coordinate** to prevent this
  - Atomistic agents  $\implies$  Pecuniary externality
- Even if regulator holds the same **beliefs** as **sophisticated agents**

# Welfare: Investment

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $H$

$$\mathcal{W}_H = \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - u'(c_1)q_1 \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2} \left( \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

►  $\mathcal{W}_H$  with  $\phi H q_2$     ► Real Production

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- ▶ Collateral externality  $> 0$
- ▶ Countervailing effects:
  - ▶ Collateral assets ameliorate the net worth of the entire sector
  - ▶ It supports asset prices and thus sentiment
  - ▶ Exuberance alleviates this market failure
  - ▶ Martin & Ventura (2016)
- ▶ Unambiguously negative for large  $\Omega_2$
- ▶  $\zeta$  still **not** part of the expression

# Welfare: Prices

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $q_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_q = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}$$

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$$\mathcal{W}_q = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}$$

- ▶ Operative irrespective of contemporaneous exuberance
- ▶ Asset price at  $t = 1$  enters equilibrium determination at  $t = 2$ 
  - ▶ New state variable  $q_1$
  - ▶ First-order welfare loss
- ▶ **Anchoring**
  - Price extrapolation  $\implies d\Omega_3/q_1 = -\alpha$
- ▶  $\zeta$  **not** part of the expression
  - Again even if regulator holds the same **beliefs** as **sophisticated agents**
- ▶ See also **Schmitt-Grohe & Uribe (2016)** ; **Farhi & Werning (2020)**

▶ Reversal Externality with  $\phi H q_2$     ▶ Optimal Policy

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1. Model

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# Optimal Policy: Leverage

- ▶ Restrictions to internalize  $\mathcal{W}_d$ 
  - Macroprudential **tax** on borrowing  $\tau_d = \mathcal{W}_d/u'(c_1)$
  - Equivalently borrowing **limit**
- ▶ Time-variation in  $\tau_d$ 
  - ▶ Tracks  $\Omega_2$
  - ▶ But also  $\Omega_3|\Omega_2$
- ▶ If pessimism during crisis is predictable:
  - Higher taxes because of neglected distress
  - Macroprudential policy achieves lower welfare than under Rational Expectations
- ▶ Leverage limit more **robust**
  - Protected against swings in  $\Omega_2$
  - Time-variation still needed for  $\Omega_3|\Omega_2$
  - **Counter-cyclical** buffers



# Optimal Policy: Investment

- ▶ How to restrict creation of  $H$ ?
- ▶ LTV/LTI ratios regulation
- ▶ But time-variation more subtle:
  - Belief wedge behaves as for leverage
  - Collateral externality moves in the other direction
- ▶ If the planner is suddenly more concerned about price-sensitivity of sentiment inside a future crisis, should *relax* LTV ratios
- ▶ Enough for second-best?

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- ▶ If the planner is suddenly more concerned about price-sensitivity of sentiment inside a future crisis, should *relax* LTV ratios
- ▶ Enough for second-best?
- ▶ Controlling for allocations is **insufficient**
  - Past price enters as a **state-variable** at  $t = 2$
  - Need **additional** instrument
  - $\implies$  Allows for **looser** regulation for  $d_1, H$

Stein (2021)

# Leaning Against the Wind

- ▶ Assume:
  - Demand-driven output
  - Fully unconstrained leverage requirements
  - Fully unconstrained LTV requirements
  - Macroprudential tools set at optimal levels

# Leaning Against the Wind

- ▶ Assume:
  - Demand-driven output
  - Fully unconstrained leverage requirements
  - Fully unconstrained LTV requirements
  - Macroprudential tools set at optimal levels
- ▶ Monetary tightening has two first-order effects:
  1. Aggregate Demand
  2. Future Beliefs

## Welfare Effects of Monetary Policy

$$\frac{dW_1}{dr_1} = \underbrace{\frac{d\bar{Y}_1}{dr_1} \mu_1}_{(i)} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1} \right]}_{(ii)}$$

▶ Full effects of monetary policy    ▶  $\phi H q_2$

# Leaning Against the Wind: When?

## Welfare Effects of Monetary Policy

$$\frac{d\mathcal{W}_1}{dr_1} = \underbrace{\frac{dY_1}{dr_1} \mu_1}_{(i)} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1} \right]}_{(ii)}$$

- ▶ Financial stability concerns when low unemployment Stein (2021)
  - Not when  $\mu_1 \gg 0$
- ▶ No need to distinguish fundamental-driven movements from bubbles
- ▶ Not a *substitute* for leverage restrictions
  - Monetary Policy as **complement** Farhi & Werning (2020)
- ▶ Less pessimism in crises  $\implies$  **Soften** leverage restrictions
- ▶ Finding valid even if:
  - No irrational exuberance :  $\Omega_2 = 0$
  - No belief amplification :  $d\Omega_3/dq_2 = 0$
  - **Sophisticated** agents and regulator hold the **same beliefs** (  $\zeta$  absent)

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# Incomplete Information: Setup (1)

- ▶ So far the planner:
  1. Perfectly knows  $\Omega_2$
  2. Perfectly knows  $F(z_2)$

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*It was very difficult to definitively identify a bubble until after the fact – that is, when its bursting confirmed its existence.*

- Alan Greenspan, August 2002



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- ▶ Assume instead:
  - ▶ Uniform prior over sentiment:

$$w \sim \mathcal{U} [\bar{\Omega}_2 - \sigma_\Omega, \bar{\Omega}_2 + \sigma_\Omega]$$

- ▶ Fundamentals backed out from equilibrium prices:

$$\bar{z}_2 = f_q^{-1}(q_1) - \bar{\Omega}_2$$

## Incomplete Information: Setup (2)

- ▶ Optimal short-term debt condition:

$$u'(c_1) = \frac{1}{2\sigma_\Omega} \int_0^\infty \left[ \int_{-\sigma_\Omega}^{\sigma_\Omega} \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} (d_1, H; q_2, z_2 - \bar{\Omega}_2 - \omega_2) d\omega_2 \right] f_2(z_2) dz_2$$

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- ▶ While agents use:

$$u'(c_1) = \int_0^\infty \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} (d_1, H; z_2) f_2(z_2) dz_2$$

- ▶ Gap between two solutions driven by:

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2.  $\sigma_\Omega$

- ▶  $\bar{\Omega}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d$

- ▶  $\sigma_\Omega \rightarrow ?$

# Incomplete Information: Policy

## $\Omega_2$ -Uncertainty and Leverage Restrictions

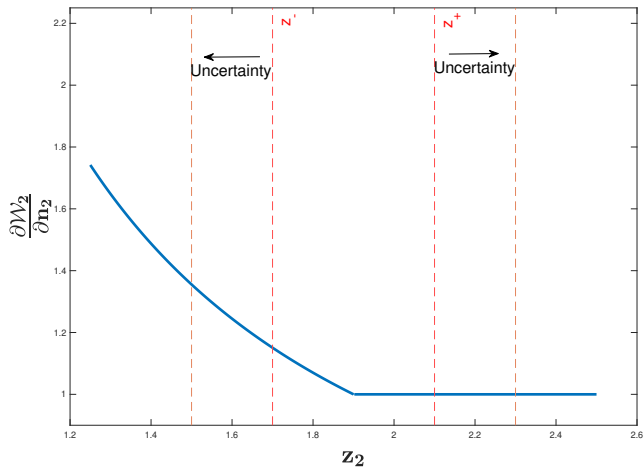
**The optimal leverage tax is increasing in  $\sigma_\Omega$ .** It is strictly increasing as long as there exist a  $\omega$  in  $[-\sigma_\Omega, \sigma_\Omega]$  for which, if sentiment is  $\bar{\Omega}_2 + \omega$ , there is a positive probability of a crisis in the next period.

- ▶ Sentiment noise **increases** expected marginal welfare
  - Jensen argument
  - **Non-linear** interaction between sentiment and financial crises
- ▶ Costs of **false negative** > costs of **false positive**
- ▶ Time-varying when  $\bar{\Omega}_2$  or  $\sigma_\Omega$  are time-varying
- ▶ Also true for  $\Omega_3$ -Uncertainty
- ▶ **Opposite for investment !**

▶ Show

▶ Time-varying policy

# Precautionary Restrictions



# Reversal Uncertainty

- ▶ Assume:

$$\Omega_3 = \bar{\Omega}_3 - \alpha q_1 \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha \sim \mathcal{U}[\bar{\alpha} - \sigma_\alpha, \bar{\alpha} + \sigma_\alpha]$$

## Reversal-Uncertainty and Monetary Policy

**The optimal interest rate at  $t = 1$  is increasing in  $\sigma_\alpha$  if the regulator has access to unconstrained leverage and investment regulations.**

- ▶ Regulator fears that high prices could translate into **over-pessimism**
  - But unsure of the strength of the extrapolation
- ▶ More **uncertainty** around this extrapolation mechanism
  - $\implies$  more aggressive **Leaning against the Wind**

# Extensions

- ▶ Extensions and Robustness:
  - Real production
  - Alternative collateral constraint
  - Heterogeneous beliefs
  - Sophisticated Agents
  - Bailouts
  - Investment micro-foundations and LTV Regulation
  - Early vs. late tightening
  - Infinite Horizon
  - Dynamic spillovers of anticipated LAW
  
- ▶ See Paper and Online Appendix



# Conclusion

1. Biases during crises key for policy
2. Externalities robust to degree of sophistication of market's beliefs
3. Greater sentiment uncertainty  $\implies$  stricter regulation

# APPENDIX SLIDES

# Traditional View

- ▶ Traditional view of financial crises
  - Unpredictable events Kaminsky & Reinhart (1999)
  - “Bolts from the sky” Diamond & Dybvig (1983), Cole & Kehoe (2000)
  - Asset price booms not a concern *per se*
- ▶ Leading to substantial policy consensus
  - Unconditional limits on leverage
  - No use of monetary policy
- ▶ Greenspan (1996), Bernanke (2002), Kohn (2004), Yellen (2009), Gorton (2012), Geithner (2014), ...

# Closely Related Literature

- ▶ Policy for Irrational Exuberance:
  - Farhi & Werning (2020), Dávila & Walther (2021)
  - **This paper** : Behavioral biases during crises are central
- ▶ Macroprudential Policy:
  - Gromb & Vayanos (2002), Dávila & Korinek (2018)
  - **This paper** : New externalities with future-income
- ▶ Drivers of Belief Fluctuations:
  - Krishnamurthy & Li (2021)
  - **This paper** : Distinguishing drivers of sentiment matters
- ▶ Leaning against the wind:
  - Caballero & Simsek (2020)
  - **This paper** : Complement to flexible leverage restrictions

▶ [Full related literature](#)

## References: Predictable Crises

- ▶ Borio & Lowe (2002)
  - Asset price growth and credit growth predict banking crises in small open economies
- ▶ Schularick & Taylor (2012)
  - Credit expansions forecast real activity slowdowns
- ▶ Greenwood & Hanson (2013)
  - Credit booms accompanied by a deterioration of quality of corporate issuers
  - High share of risky loans forecasts negative corporate bond returns
- ▶ López-Salido et al.(2017)
  - Predictable mean-reversion in credit spreads
  - Elevated credit-market sentiment predicts a decline in economic activity
- ▶ Baron & Xiong (2017)
  - Bank credit expansion predicts higher probability of crash in bank equity and negative subsequent return on bank equity
- ▶ Jorda, Schularick & Taylor (2015)
- ▶ Greenwood, Hanson, Shleifer & Sørensen (2020)
  - Combining credit growth measures with asset price growth substantially increases the out-of-sample predictive power

# This Paper

- ▶ Model of financial crises
- ▶ Financial Intermediaries
  - Channel savings into production of risky projects
  - Subject to a collateralized borrowing constraint
- ▶ Belief distortions
  - General deviation from rational expectations
  - Can depend on fundamental or prices
  - Allow for sophistication regarding future biases
- ▶ Normative analysis using planner's beliefs
  - Allows for incomplete information
  - Allows for identical beliefs with private agents
- ▶ Optimal policy with ex-ante instruments
  - Capital buffers
  - Loan-to-Value (LTV) limits
  - Price regulation

# References: Belief Distortions

## ▶ Survey Data :

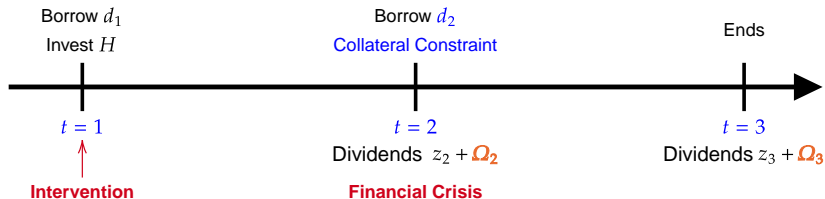
- ▶ Bacchetta, Mertens & van Wincoop (2009)
- ▶ Amromin & Sharpe (2014)
- ▶ Greenwood & Shleifer (2014)
- ▶ Adam, Beutel & Marcet (2017)
- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli & Shleifer (2018)
- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli, Ma & Shleifer (2018)
- ▶ Cassella & Gulen (2018)
- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli, La Porta & Shleifer (2019, 2020)
- ▶ Bouchaud, Krueger, Landier & Thesmar (2019)
- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli, La Porta & Shleifer (2019, 2020)
- ▶ Chiappori, Salanié, Salanié, & Gandhi (2019)

## ▶ Calibrated Models :

- ▶ Maxted (2020)
- ▶ Krishnamurthy & Li (2021)

# Ingredients

- ▶ Lorenzoni (2008), Dávila & Korinek (2018)
- ▶ Three-period model
  1. Agents borrow and invest
  2. A financial crisis can happen
  3. The world ends
- ▶ Financial intermediaries face a collateral constraint at  $t = 2$
- ▶ Agents subject to behavioral biases
- ▶ Social Planner can regulate equilibrium in the first period
  1. Knows behavioral biases
  2. Internalizes prices





# Financial Frictions: Micro-foundations

$$c_2 + d_1(1 + r_1) + q_2m \leq \mathbf{d}_2 + (z_2 + q_2)H$$
$$d_2 \leq \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3]$$

- ▶ Assume  $\phi \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] < \min z_3$
- ▶ Microfoundations:
  1. Lack of commitment
  2. Default happens before the realization of  $z_3$  is known
  3. Lenders seize fraction  $\phi$  in default at  $t = 3$
  4. Lenders only willing to offer risk-free contracts
- ▶ Alternative:
  - Default happens *after* the realization of  $z_3$  is known
  - Collateral constraint now takes the form:

$$d_2 \leq \phi H \min z_3$$

- Same results since  $\Omega_{t+1}$  shifts whole distribution of payoffs

## $H$ as Housing

- ▶ Continuum of construction entrepreneurs:  $j \in [0, \infty]$  with
- ▶ Net worth  $A$
- ▶ All projects yield the same payoffs in periods  $t = 2$  and  $t = 3$
- ▶  $j$  must raise  $I_j - A$  of outside funds from financial intermediaries
- ▶ Cost of investing into  $H$  projects for the financial intermediary is:

$$c(H) = \int_0^H (I_j - A) dj \quad (1)$$

- ▶ Loan-to-value ratio is thus simply:

$$LTV_H = \frac{I_H - A}{I_H} \quad (2)$$

- ▶ LTV regulation controls for the level of  $H$  in equilibrium

## $H$ as MBS

- ▶ Default cost  $C$ , repayment of  $Z$
- ▶ Default  $\implies$  financial intermediary seizes the house
- ▶ House prices  $P$  distributed according to  $F(P)$
- ▶ Optimal default  $C < B - P$
- ▶ Expected payoff from the mortgage contract:

$$z = \int_0^{B-C} P f(P) dP + \int_{B-C}^{+\infty} B f(P) dP. \quad (3)$$

- ▶ Consider heterogenous unobserved default costs uniformly distributed in  $[\underline{C}, \bar{C}]$ .
- ▶ MBS payoff:

$$z(P) = \int_{\underline{C}}^{B-P} P \frac{dC}{\bar{C} - \underline{C}} + \int_{B-P}^{\bar{C}} B \frac{dC}{\bar{C} - \underline{C}} \quad (4)$$

- ▶ Tight link between  $\Omega$  and house-price extrapolation on the downside

# Contemporaneous Price in Collateral Constraint

- ▶ Contemporaneous prices in constraint is essential for
  - ▶ Financial amplification and inefficiencies:  $u'(c_2) \longleftrightarrow q_2$
  - ▶ Ottonello, Perez & Varraso (2019): inefficiencies disappear if depends on the [future price](#)
  - ▶ Challenge: quantitative predictions are the same
- ▶ Paper also provides the full analysis with:

$$d_2 \leq \phi H q_2$$

- ▶ Supplementary [pecuniary externality](#) :

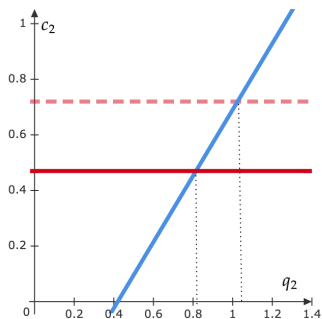
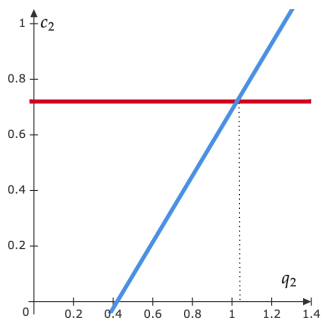
$$C_d = \mathbb{E}^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]$$

- ▶ Also operative in rational model
- ▶ Future-income collateral constraint to [isolate new effects](#)

# Rational Equilibrium: Financial Crisis

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] + \phi(1 - c_2) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3]$$

$$c_2 = \underbrace{z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1)}_{\text{Net worth } n_2} + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



*Effect of a shock to net worth  $n_2$  on the rational equilibrium*

# Beliefs and Collateral Constraints

- ▶ Assumed same beliefs for intermediaries and households
  - Important for results?
- ▶ Depends on the **micro-foundations** of the collateral constraint
- ▶ When  $d_2 \leq \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3]$ :
  - Creditors' beliefs pin down the borrowing limit
  - Important for **households** to be over-pessimistic for externality results
- ▶ When  $d_2 \leq \phi H q_2$ :
  - Equilibrium price pins down the borrowing limit
  - **Intermediaries' beliefs** matter since they are the marginal pricers
- ▶ See **Simsek (2013)** ; **Dávila & Walther (2021)**

## Beliefs: Formulation for $q_{t+1}$

- ▶ General class of deviations from *REE* at  $t = 1$  and  $t = 2$
- ▶ Behavioral bias  $\Omega_{t+1}(\mathcal{I}_t)$  shifting distribution of states of the world:

$$q_t = \beta \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \frac{u'(c_{t+1}(z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}))}{u'(c_t)} (z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1} + q_{t+1}(z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1})) \right]$$

– Notation:

$$q_t = \beta \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \frac{u'(c_{t+1})}{u'(c_t)} (z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1} + q_{t+1}) \right]$$

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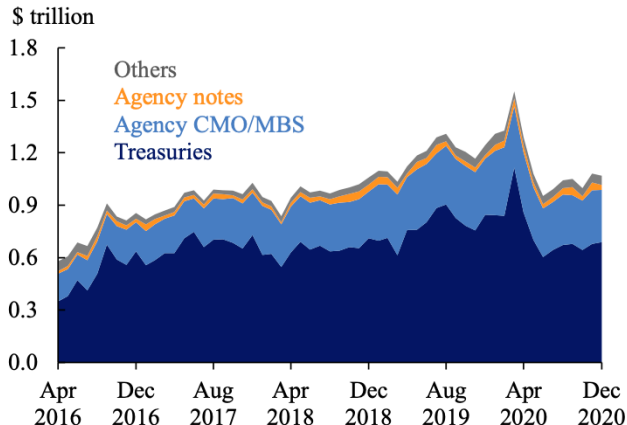
- Expected price is what would prevail in a fully REE world with dividend  $z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}$

$$q_{t+1} \neq \beta \mathbb{E}_{t+1} \left[ \frac{u'(c_{t+2})}{u'(c_{t+1})} (z_{t+2} + \Omega_{t+2} + q_{t+2}) \right]$$

- ▶ Neglect the presence of future biases
- ▶ Not necessary for results
  - Mostly for consistency



# Repo Collateral



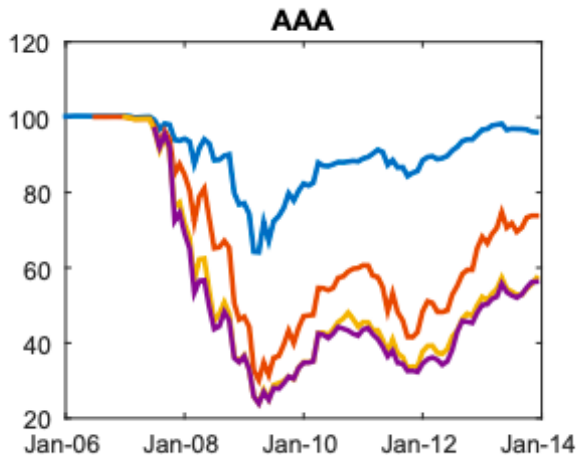
Note: CMO - collateralized mortgage obligations, MBS - mortgage-backed securities, "Others" include corporate debt, equities, private label MBS and asset-backed securities.

Source: Form N-MFP

Source: SEC, February 2021

[Return](#)

## MBS Price Indexes



Subprime RMBS Price Indexes. Each line represents a different vintage of subprime RMBS. Source: Ospinal & Uhlig (2018)

## Extension: Real Production (1)

- ▶ Households supply labor at  $t = 2$ :

$$U^h = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ c_1^h + \beta \left( c_2^h - \nu \frac{l_2^{1+\eta}}{(1+\eta)} \right) + \beta^2 c_3^h \right]$$

- ▶ Competitive firms:

$$Y_2 = Al_2^\alpha$$

- ▶ Firms need to borrow to pay fraction of wages in advance
  - ▶ Funds  $f_2 = \gamma w_2 l_2$
  - ▶ Interest rate required by intermediaries:  $1 + r_f = \delta / f_2$
  - ▶ Stay away from corner solutions and preserve financial amplification
  - ▶ Linear relation between  $f_2$  and  $c_2$
- ▶ Budget constraint for intermediaries:

$$c_2 + d_1(1 + r_1) + \mathbf{f}_2 + q_2 m \leq d_2 + (z_2 + q_2)H$$

## Extension: Real Production (2)

$$l_2 = \left( \frac{z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2}{\gamma \nu \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta \delta}\right)} \right)^{\frac{1}{1+\eta}}$$
$$Y_2 = A \left( \frac{z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2}{\gamma \nu \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta \delta}\right)} \right)^{\frac{\alpha}{1+\eta}}$$

- ▶ Price of the asset still "sufficient statistics"
  - ▶ Liquidity drought spills over the real sector
  - ▶ Propagates to employment and output
  - ▶ Cingano, Manaresi and Sette (2016); Bentolila, Jansen & Jimenez (2018)

## Extension: Real Production (3)

### Planner's Optimality Condition for Leverage

$$0 = \Phi^h \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ (\nu - \alpha A l_2^{\alpha-1}) \left( \phi H \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} - (1 + r_1) \right) \right] + \Phi^b \left\{ \mathbb{E}_1 [u'(c_2)] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi H \kappa \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial n_2} \right] \right\}$$

- ▶ Pareto weights  $\Phi_i$
- ▶ Two distinct terms:
  1. Production term proportional to "capacity wedge" and price sensitivity
  2. Familiar  $\mathcal{W}_d$

## Extension: Real Production (4)

### Planner's Optimality Condition for Investment

$$0 = \Phi^h \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ (\nu - \alpha A l_2^{\alpha-1}) \left( \phi H \frac{dq_2}{dH} + z_2 + \phi q_2 \right) \right] + \\ \Phi^b \left\{ u'(c_1) q_1 - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - \beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \left( \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial n_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right] - \right. \\ \left. \beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial \Omega_3} \frac{\partial \Omega_3}{\partial q_1} c''(H) \right] \right\}$$

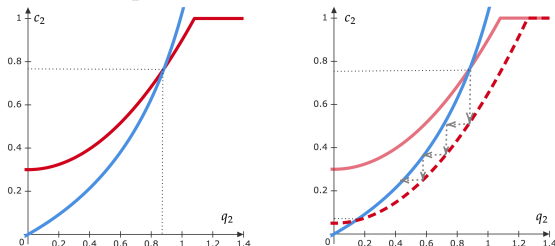
- ▶ Pareto weights  $\Phi_i$
- ▶ Two distinct terms:
  1. Production term proportional to "capacity wedge" and price sensitivity
  2. Familiar  $\mathcal{W}_H$

## Extension: Pledgeable $f$

- ▶ Implicit assumption that  $f$  not pledgeable
- ▶ Extend collateral constraint formulation:
  - ▶ Collateral limit:  $d_2 \leq \phi H q_2 + \psi f(1 + r_f)$
  - ▶ A fraction  $\psi$  of repayment can be recovered
  - ▶ More notation and loose linearity, but same insights
- ▶ New fixed-point problem:

$$c_2 + \frac{\delta c_2}{1 - \psi + \phi c_2} = n_2 + \phi H q_2$$
$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_1[z_3] + \phi q_2 (1 - c_2).$$

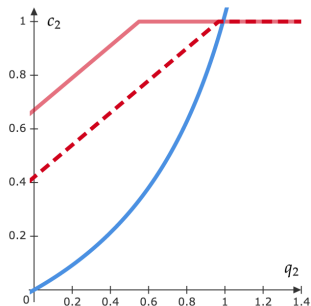
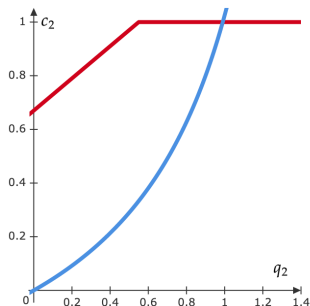
- ▶ Reinforces financial amplification further



# Rational Equilibrium: Normal Times

$$q_2 = c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] + \phi q_2 (1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = \frac{1}{\beta(1 + r_1)} \quad (\kappa = 0)$$



*Effect of a shock to net worth  $n_2$  in the REE without a crisis*



## $\Omega_{t+1}$ and Forecast Errors

- ▶  $\Omega_{t+1}$  models the inverse of forecast errors used in the literature
- ▶ Coibion & Gorodnichenko (2012)
- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli, La Porta & Shleifer (2019)
  - Agents are forecasting at  $t$

$$z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}$$

- Forecast error:

$$z_{t+1} - (z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}) = -\Omega_{t+1}$$

- ▶ For the planner,  $\Omega_{t+1}$  corresponds to the predictable component of these forecast errors
- ▶ Conditioning on observables, construct:
  1. Point estimate of  $\Omega_{t+1}$
  2. Uncertainty range
- ▶ Both estimates factor in optimal policy

# Beliefs: Examples

## 1. **Fundamental** Extrapolation

(Exogenous)

$$\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha(z_t - z_{t-1})$$

- ▶ Barberis, Shleifer & Vishny (1998), Rabin & Vayanos (2010), Fuster, Hebert & Laibson (2012), Bordalo, Gennaioli & Shleifer (2018), etc.

## 2. **Price** Extrapolation

(Endogenous)

$$\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha(q_t - q_{t-1})$$

- ▶ De Long, Shleifer, Summers & Waldmann (1990), Hong & Stein (1999), Barberis, Greenwood, Jin & Shleifer (2018), DeFusco, Nathanson & Zwick (2017), Farhi & Werning (2020), Liao, Peng & Zhu (2021), Bastianello & Fontanier (2022a,b), etc.

## 3. And many more...

- Overconfidence
- Sticky Beliefs
- Inattention
- Internal Rationality

# Diagnostic Expectations

- ▶ Bordalo, Gennaioli & Shleifer (2018)
- ▶ State of the world follows an AR(1) process:

$$z_t = bz_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \quad (5)$$

with  $\epsilon_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$

- ▶ Diagnostic distribution is:

$$\mathbb{E}_t^\theta[z_{t+1}] = \mathbb{E}_t^{SP}[z_{t+1}] + \theta (bz_t - b^2z_{t-1}) \quad (6)$$

- ▶  $\theta$  governs the representativeness bias
- ▶ Diagnostic expectations are thus nested as:

$$\Omega_{t+1} = \theta (bz_t - b^2z_{t-1}) \quad (7)$$

# Internal Rationality (1)

- ▶ Adam & Marcet (2011), Adam, Marcet, & Beutel (2016)
- ▶ Agents are rational regarding the distribution of  $z_t$
- ▶ But they perceive prices to evolve according to:

$$q_{t+1} = q_t + \beta_{t+1} + \epsilon_{t+1}$$

- ▶  $\epsilon_{t+1}$  is transitory and  $\beta_{t+1}$  is persistent:

$$\beta_{t+1} = \beta_t + \nu_{t+1}.$$

- ▶ Filtering yields:

$$\tilde{q}_{t+1} = \tilde{E}_t[q_{t+1}] = (1 + g)(q_t - q_{t-1}) + (1 - g)\tilde{E}_{t-1}[q_t]$$

with  $g$  the Kalman gain.

## Internal Rationality (2)

- ▶ Limiting case where this point estimate is believed to be certain
- ▶ Pricing equation becomes;

$$q_1 = \beta \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{u'(c_2)}{u'(c_1)} (z_2 + q_2 + (\tilde{q}_2 - q_2)) \right].$$

- ▶ Implied bias is:

$$\Omega_2^g = \tilde{q}_2 - q_2$$

but only to the price of the asset, not on dividends

- ▶ Belief wedge can now be approximated as (see paper):

$$\mathcal{B}_d = -\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ u'(c_2)^2 \phi H \Omega_2^g \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]$$

## Internal Rationality (3)

- ▶ But externalities are present only if price in the collateral constraint
- ▶ However the sign of the key derivative for the reversal externality is clearly ambiguous:

$$\frac{d\Omega_3^q}{dq_1} = \frac{d\tilde{q}_3}{dq_1} = (1 - g) \left( \frac{d\tilde{q}_2}{dq_1} - 1 \right). \quad (8)$$

- ▶ This is because sentiment is “sticky” with learning
  - By reducing asset prices at  $t = 1$ , the planner makes future agents less optimistic in the boom
  - That makes them less optimistic in the bust
  - Hurts welfare.
- ▶ In general these models create under-reaction rather than over-reaction
- ▶ See Winkler (2020) for forecast error predictability with this model for example

# Overconfidence

- ▶ Intermediaries have a prior over the distribution of dividends at  $t = 2$ :

$$z_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

- ▶ Receive a signal  $s = z_2 + \epsilon$  with:

$$\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_s^2).$$

- ▶ Overconfident financial intermediaries have a posterior of:

$$z_2 \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_0 + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\sigma_0^2 + \tilde{\sigma}_s^2}(s - \mu_0), \frac{\sigma_0^2}{1 + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\tilde{\sigma}_s^2}}\right)$$

where  $\tilde{\sigma}_s^2 < \sigma_s^2$

- ▶ The bias is given by:

$$\Omega_2 = \frac{\sigma_s^2 - \tilde{\sigma}_s^2}{(\sigma_0^2 + \tilde{\sigma}_s^2)(\sigma_0^2 + \sigma_s^2)} \sigma_0 (s - \mu_0)$$

so that agents become exuberant after positive news ( $s > \mu_0$ ):  $\Omega_2 > 0$ .

# Sticky Beliefs

- ▶ Bouchaud, Krueger, Landier & Thesmar (2019)
- ▶ investors form expectations according to:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_1[z_2] = (1 - \lambda)\mathbb{E}_1^r[z_2] + \lambda\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_0[z_2]$$

where  $\mathbb{E}_1^r$  is the rational time 1 expectations about the future dividend.

- ▶ Expectations of future dividends can be written:

$$\tilde{\mathbb{E}}_1[z_2] = \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[z_2] + \lambda \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_0[z_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^r[z_2] \right)$$

- ▶ The bias is:

$$\Omega_2 = \lambda \left( \tilde{\mathbb{E}}_0[z_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^r[z_2] \right).$$

- ▶ Expanding recursively:

$$\Omega_2 = \lambda (\mathbb{E}_0^r[z_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^r[z_2]) + \lambda\Omega_1.$$



# Inattention

- ▶ Gabaix (2019)

- ▶ Dividend process follows:

$$z_{t+1} = \rho z_t + (1 - \rho)z_0 + \epsilon_{t+1}$$

- ▶ Agents have to deal with too many autocorrelations,  $\rho_d$  on average
- ▶ May not fully perceive each autocorrelation, and instead use:

$$\rho_s = m\rho + (1 - m)\rho_d$$

- ▶ Bias becomes:

$$\Omega_{t+1} = (\rho_s - \rho)(z_t - z_0)$$

# Learning From Prices

- ▶  $\Omega_{t+1}(\mathcal{I}_t)$  defined as a bias on  $z_{t+1}$ , but can depend on  $q_t$
- ▶ Can be modeled as a bias when learning from prices
- ▶ Bastianello & Fontanier (2022a,b)
  - Agents learn about fundamentals from prices
  - But fail to realize that other agents are learning in the same way
  - Micro-founds price extrapolation on fundamentals:

$$\mathbb{E}_t[z_{t+1}] = \mathbb{E}_{t-1}[z_{t+1}] + \left(1 + \frac{1}{\tilde{\zeta}}\right) \Delta q_t$$

- where  $\tilde{\zeta}$  reflects how strongly information is incorporated into prices
- ▶ Bias on  $z_{t+1} \implies$  Results **robust** to alternative collateral constraints

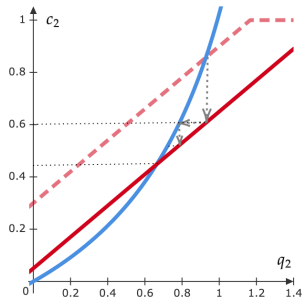
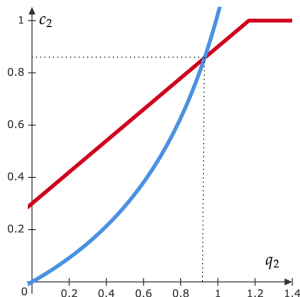
# Collateral Constraint and Form of Biases

- ▶ The bias  $\Omega_{t+1}$  is assumed to be on  $\mathbb{E}[z_{t+1}]$
- ▶ Collateral constraint depends on  $\mathbb{E}[z_{t+1}]$ 
  - ⇒ Crucial **interaction**
- ▶ What if  $\Omega_{t+1}$  is on  $\mathbb{E}_t[q_{t+1}]$  ?
  - Tightness of collateral constraint at  $t = 2$  unaffected by  $\Omega_{t+1}$
  - No externality
  - Only belief wedge survives
- ▶ Externalities restored when collateral constraint is  $\phi H q_2$
- ▶ Lian & Ma (2021): 80% of corporate debt is cash flow-based lending

# Rational Equilibrium: $\phi H q_2$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3] + \phi q_2 (1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = \underbrace{z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1)}_{\text{Net worth } n_2} + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



- ▶ Fall in net worth:
  - ▶ Decrease in SDF  $\rightarrow$  Fall in asset prices ...
  - ▶  $\rightarrow$  Tightening of collateral constraint  $\rightarrow$  Fall in consumption...
  - ▶  $\rightarrow$  Decrease in SDF  $\rightarrow$  ...
- ▶ Pecuniary Externality

## Behavioral Equilibrium: Endogenous $\Omega_3$ with $\phi H q_2$

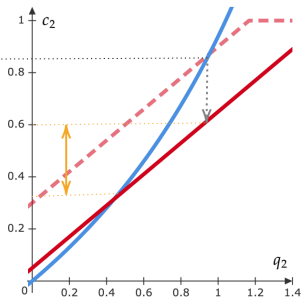
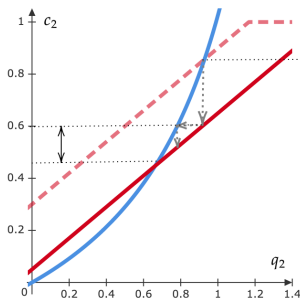
$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(\mathbf{q}_2)] + \phi q_2(1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$

# Behavioral Equilibrium: Endogenous $\Omega_3$ with $\phi H q_2$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] + \phi q_2(1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



► Fall in net worth:

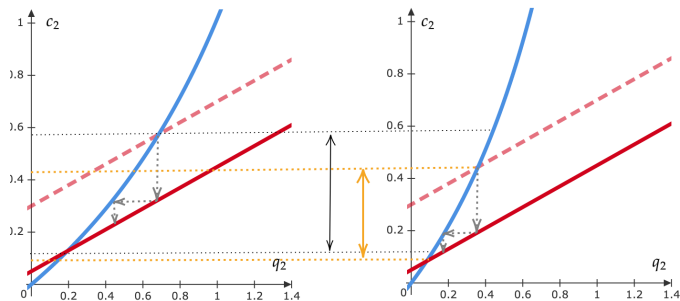
- Decrease in SDF  $\rightarrow$  Fall in asset prices ...
  1.  $\rightarrow$  Tightening of collateral constraint  $\rightarrow$  Fall in consumption...
  2.  $\rightarrow$  Worsens pessimism  $\rightarrow$  Fall in asset prices ...
- Financial + Belief Amplification

►  $\Omega_3(q_2)$  with Future price

# Behavioral Equilibrium: Exogenous $\Omega_3$ with $\phi H q_2$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] + \phi q_2(1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



## ► Constant pessimism

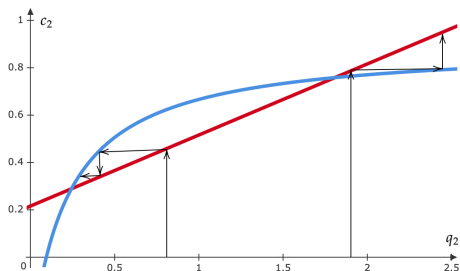
- Sentiment is entrenched
- Financial crises more severe
- But also less responsive to changes in net worth

# Multiple Equilibria

- ▶ Only when sentiment is endogenous
- ▶ The asset price determination is given by:

$$q_2 = \beta (n_2 + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)]) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] \\ + \phi(1 - (n_2 + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)])) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)]$$

- ▶ Can have arbitrary number of equilibria depending on the shape of  $\Omega_3(q_2)$
- ▶ For linear  $\Omega_3(q_2)$ 
  - ▶ At most two equilibria
  - ▶ Only one stable

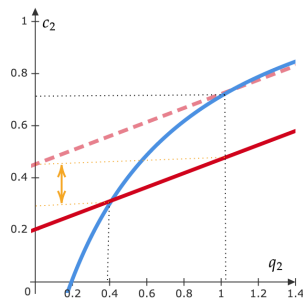
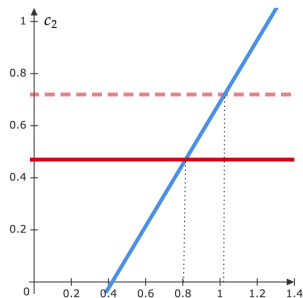




# Behavioral Equilibrium: Belief Amplification

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] + \phi(1 - c_2) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)]$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



$$\frac{dq_2}{dn_2} = \frac{(\beta - \phi) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]}{1 - (\phi + (\beta - \phi)(2c_2 - n_2)) \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2}}$$

► Sensitivity with  $\phi H q_2$

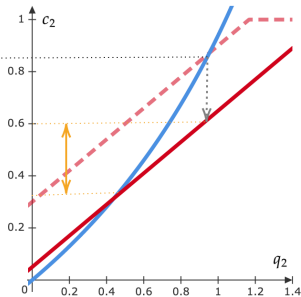
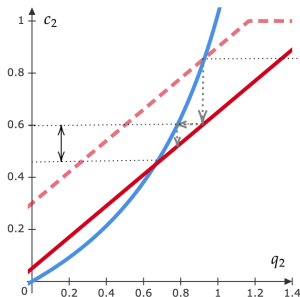
► Behavioral Equilibrium

► Collateral Externality  $d_1$

# Behavioral Equilibrium: Belief Amplification with $\phi H q_2$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3(q_2)] + \phi q_2 (1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



$$\frac{dq_2}{dn_2} = \frac{\beta \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] - \phi q_2}{1 - \beta \phi H (\mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]) + 2\phi^2 H q_2 - c_2 \beta \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2}}$$

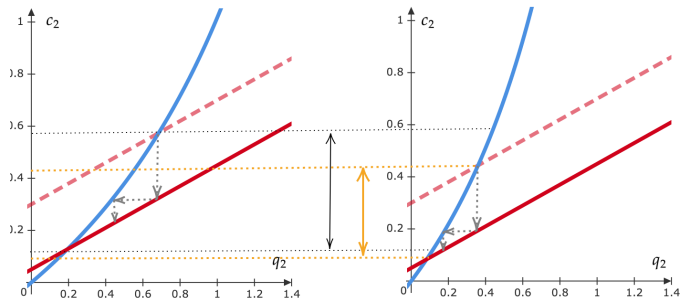
► Exogenous  $\Omega_3$

► Return

# Behavioral Equilibrium: Exogenous $\Omega_3$ and $\phi H q_2$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] + \phi q_2 (1 - c_2)$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H q_2 \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



$$\frac{dq_2}{dn_2} = \frac{\beta \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] - \phi q_2}{1 - \beta \phi H (\mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]) + 2\phi^2 H q_2}$$

# Initial Equilibrium

$$1 = \beta(1 + r_1)\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{u'(c_2)}{u'(c_1)} \right]$$
$$q_1 = c'(H) = \beta\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{u'(c_2)}{u'(c_1)} (z_2 + \Omega_2 + q_2^r) \right]$$

## ► Constrained efficiency

- Hart (1975); Stiglitz; (1982); Geanakoplos & Polemarchakis (1985)
- Cannot complete markets
- No intervention at  $t = 2$
- **REE**: constrained efficient

► Externalities with  $\phi H q_2$

## ► Social Planner evaluates welfare using $\mathbb{E}_1^{SP}$

- Knows  $\Omega_2$
- Internalizes  $\Omega_3(z_2, z_1, q_2, q_1)$

## ► Boom-bust case:

- $\Omega_2 \geq 0$
- $\Omega_3 \leq 0$

$$W_2 = \begin{cases} \beta \ln(n_2 + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]) + \beta^2 c_3 & \text{if } z_2 \leq z^* \\ \beta (\beta \mathbb{E}^{SP}[z_3] H + n_2) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## Crisis cutoff

- ▶ Limiting case: non-constrained Euler equation holds

$$z^* = \frac{1 + d_1(1 + r_1) - \phi H \mathbb{E}_2(z_3 + \Omega_3)}{H}$$

- ▶ Objective probability of crisis:

$$F_2 \left( \frac{1 + d_1(1 + r_1) - \phi H \mathbb{E}_1(z_3 + \Omega_3)}{H} \right)$$

- ▶ Instead

- ▶ Agents neglect their future bias  $\Omega_3$
- ▶ Have a current bias  $\Omega_2$

- ▶ Subjective probability of a crisis:

$$F_2 \left( \frac{1 + d_1(1 + r_1) - \phi H \mathbb{E}_1(z_3)}{H} - \Omega_2 \right)$$

# Constrained Efficiency of REE

- ▶ Private agents have FOC:

$$u'(c_1) = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} \right] \quad (9)$$

- ▶ Social Planner

$$u'(c_1) = \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial q_2} \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial n_2} \right] \quad (10)$$

- Extra-term corresponding to the pecuniary impact of private borrowing decisions
- But in REE,  $c_2$  set independently of  $q_2$
- No impact on welfare whatsoever

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial q_2} = 0$$

- ▶ REE constrained efficient
  - Similarly for  $H$

# Constrained Inefficiency of REE with $q_2$

- ▶ Private agents have FOC:

$$u'(c_1) = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} \right] \quad (11)$$

- ▶ Social Planner

$$u'(c_1) = \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_2} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial q_2} \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial n_2} \right] \quad (12)$$

- Extra-term corresponding to the pecuniary impact of private borrowing decisions
- With prices in collateral constraint, welfare impacted

- ▶ Collateral externality

$$\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right]$$

- ▶ REE constrained inefficient
  - Similarly for  $H$

# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_1[\lambda_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[\lambda_2])}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$



# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_1[\lambda_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[\lambda_2])}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

► Two effects drive the Belief Wedge:

1. Contemporaneous bias  $\Omega_2$
2. Predictable future bias  $\Omega_3$

$$\mathcal{B}_d \simeq \underbrace{-\Omega_2 H \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \lambda_2^2 \left( 1 + \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_1 + \underbrace{\phi H \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \Omega_3 \lambda_2^2 \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_2$$

# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_1[\lambda_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[\lambda_2])}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

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$$\mathcal{B}_d \simeq \underbrace{-\Omega_2 H \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \lambda_2^2 \left( 1 + \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_{1.} + \underbrace{\phi H \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \Omega_3 \lambda_2^2 \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_{2.}$$

► Financial frictions crucial

► Product of:

- Mistake  $\Omega_2$
- Cost of making a mistake  $\mathbb{E}^{SP} \left[ \lambda_2^2 \left( 1 + \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]$

# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1[\lambda_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[\lambda_2] \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

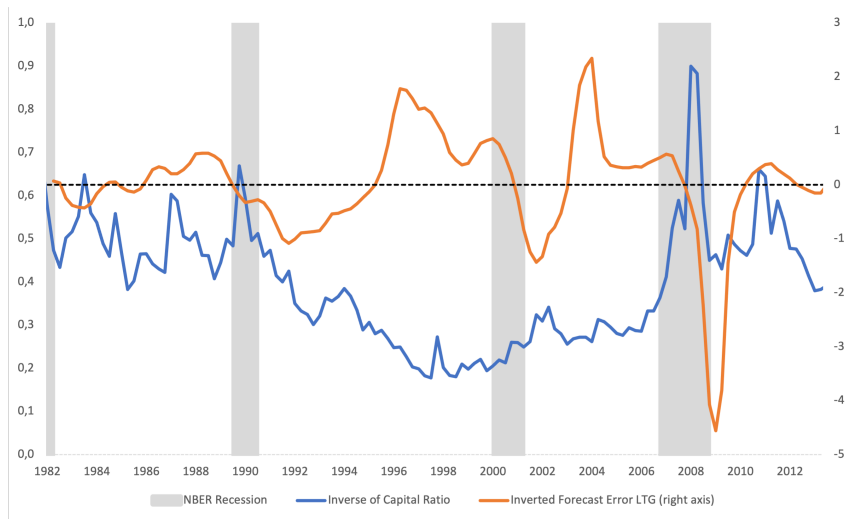
► Two effects drive the Belief Wedge:

1. Contemporaneous bias  $\Omega_2$
2. Predictable future bias  $\Omega_3$

$$\mathcal{B}_d \simeq \underbrace{-\Omega_2 H \mathbb{E}^{SP} \left[ \lambda_2^2 \left( 1 + \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right) \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_1 + \underbrace{\phi H \mathbb{E}^{SP} \left[ \Omega_3 \lambda_2^2 \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbb{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]}_2$$

- Predictable losses
- Even if  $\Omega_2 = 0$ :
  - Future pessimism costly
  - Can even have  $\mathbb{E}^{SP}[\Omega_3] = 0$
  - Comovement matters

Welfare:  $\mathbb{E}^{SP}[u'(c_2)\Omega_3\mathbb{1}_{\kappa>0}]$

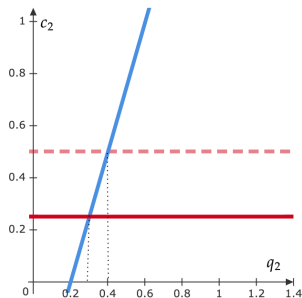
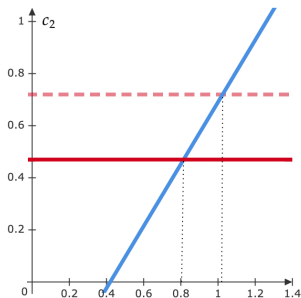


Source: He et al. (2017) ; Bordalo et al. (2020)

## Behavioral Equilibrium: Exogenous $\Omega_3$

$$q_2 = \beta c_2 \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] + \phi(1 - c_2) \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]$$

$$c_2 = z_2 H - d_1(1 + r_1) + \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] \quad (\kappa > 0)$$



*Effect of a shock to net worth  $n_2$  when  $\Omega_3 < 0$  is exogenous*

- ▶ Financial crises more severe
- ▶ **No amplification**

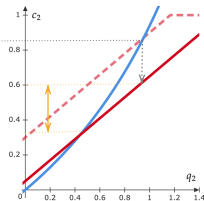
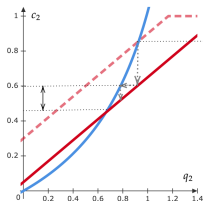
# Welfare: Leverage

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $d_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_d = \underbrace{(\mathbb{E}_1[\lambda_2] - \mathbb{E}_1^{SP}[\lambda_2])}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dd_1} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

- ▶ Third effect: price sensitivity in crisis

$$\frac{dq_2}{dd_1} = - \frac{\beta \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] - \phi q_2}{1 - \beta \phi H(\mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]) + 2\phi^2 H q_2 - c_2 \beta \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2}} \frac{1}{\beta}$$



# Welfare: Investment

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $H$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{W}_H = & \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [\lambda_2(z_2 + q_2)] - \lambda_1 q_1 \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} \\ & + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \left( \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}} \\ & + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}} \end{aligned}$$

# Welfare: Investment

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $H$

$$\mathcal{W}_H = \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [\lambda_2(z_2 + q_2)] - \lambda_1 q_1 \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \left( \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

- ▶ Collateral externality  $> 0$
- ▶ Countervailing effects:
  - ▶ Collateral assets ameliorate the net worth of the entire sector
  - ▶ Exuberance alleviates this market failure
  - ▶ Martin & Ventura (2016)
- ▶ Unambiguously negative for large  $\Omega_2$

▶ Return to  $\phi H E_2[z_3]$



# Welfare: Prices

## Uninternalized Welfare Effects of $q_1$

$$\mathcal{W}_q = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}$$

- ▶ Crucial interaction with financial frictions
- ▶ **Financial** + **Belief** amplification
  - ▶  $dq_2/d\Omega_3$  likely sizeable
  - ▶ Anchoring effect
  - ▶ Price extrapolation flavour:

$$\Omega_3 = \alpha(q_2 - q_1) \implies d\Omega_3/dq_1 = -\alpha$$

- ▶ Operative irrespective of contemporaneous exuberance
- ▶ Again even if holds the same **beliefs** as **sophisticated agents**

▶ Return to  $\phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3]$

## He et. al (2017): Capital Ratio

- ▶ Aggregate wealth  $W_t$
- ▶ Intermediary's capital ratio:

$$\eta_t = \frac{\text{Equity}_t}{\text{Asset}_t}$$

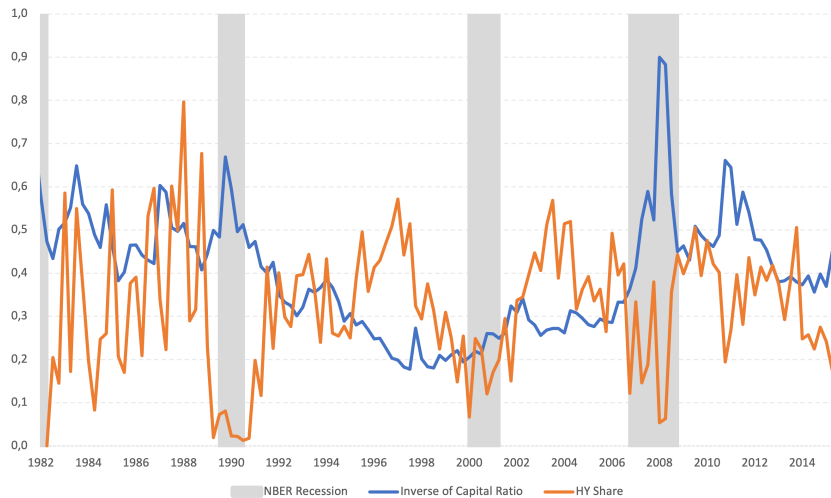
- ▶ Assume log utility as in this paper
- ▶ Intermediary's marginal value of wealth:

$$\lambda_t = \beta(\eta_t W_t)^{-1}$$

- ▶ Pricing kernel is proportional to **inverse of capital ratio**

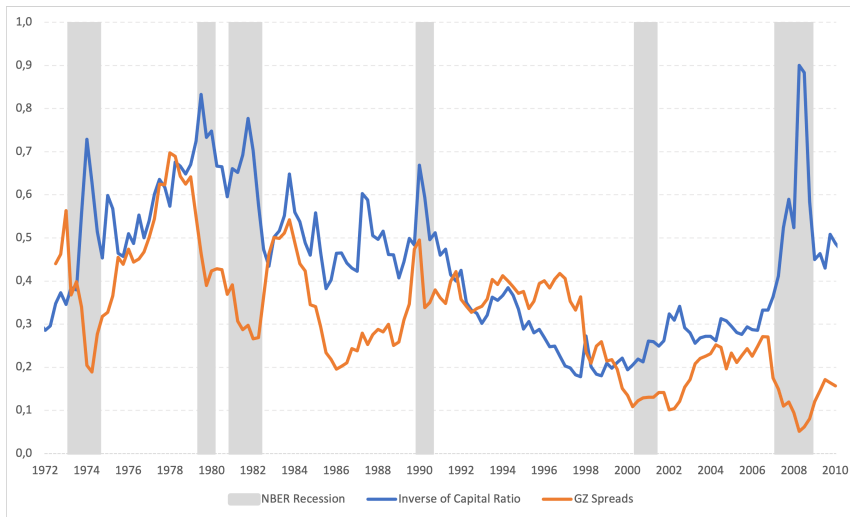
▶ Return

# High-Yield Share



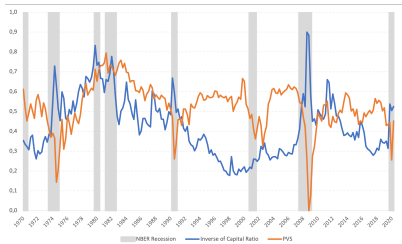
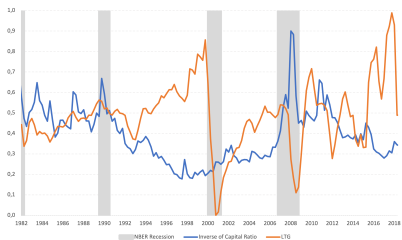
Source: Greenwood and Hanson (2013)

# Inverted Credit Spreads

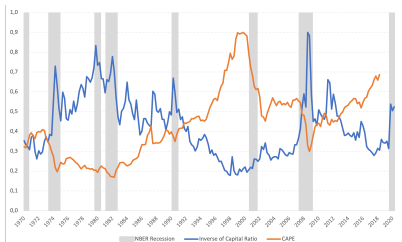
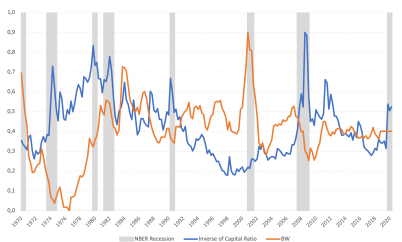


Source: Gilchrist and Zakrajsek (2012)

# Equity Market Indicators



Source: Bordalo et al. (2020) & Pflueger et al. (2020)



Source: Baker and Wurgler (2007) & Case and Shiller (1996)

[Return](#)

# Belief Wedge for Investment

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{W}_H = & \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - u'(c_1)q_1 \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2} \left( \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}
 \end{aligned}$$

- First-order approximation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{B}_H \approx & \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [\mathcal{B}_d(z_2)(z_2 + q_2^r) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0}] \\
 & - \Omega_2 \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(1 + (\beta - \phi)H z_3) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0}] + \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \Omega_3 u'(c_2) \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\mathcal{B}_d(z_2) = (\Omega_3 - \Omega_2) u'(c_2)^2$$

# Collateral Externality for Investment

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{W}_H = & \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - u'(c_1)q_1 \right)}_{\text{Belief Wedge}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2} \left( \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dq_2}{dH} = \frac{(\beta - \phi)z_2 + \phi \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3] \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3]}{1 - (\phi + (\beta - \phi)(c_2 - \phi H \mathbb{E}_2[z_3 + \Omega_3])) \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2}}$$

## Belief Wedge for Investment with $\phi H q_2$

$$\mathcal{W}_H = \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - u'(c_1)q_1 \right)}_{\mathcal{B}_H} + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \left( \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}$$

- First-order approximation:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{B}_H &\approx \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [\mathcal{B}_d(z_2)(z_2 + q_2^r)] \\ &\quad - \Omega_2 \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ u'(c_2)^r \left( 1 + \frac{dq_2}{dz_2} \right) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right] + \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ u'(c_2)^r \Omega_3 \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0} \right] \end{aligned}$$

where:

$$\mathcal{B}_d(z_2) = \Omega_2 u'(c_2)^2 \left( H \Omega_2 + \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right) \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0} - \phi H \Omega_3 u'(c_2)^2 \frac{dq_2}{dz_3} \mathbf{1}_{\kappa > 0}$$



## Collateral Externality for Investment with $\phi H q_2$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{W}_H = & \underbrace{\left( \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} [u'(c_2)(z_2 + q_2)] - u'(c_1)q_1 \right)}_{\mathcal{B}_H} \\
 & + \underbrace{\beta \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \left( \phi \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} z_2 + \frac{dq_2}{dH} \right) \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]}_{\text{Reversal Externality}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{dq_2}{dH} = \frac{\beta \phi q_2 \mathbb{E}_2 [z_3 + \Omega_3] - \phi^2 q_2^2}{1 - \beta \phi H (\mathbb{E}_2 [z_3 + \Omega_3]) + 2\phi^2 H q_2 - \beta c_2 \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2}}$$

► Return

# Small Deviation from Rationality

- ▶ Which features of  $\mathcal{W}_d$  and  $\mathcal{W}_H$  are first-order when behavioral biases  $\Omega_t$  are small ?
- ▶ For infinitesimal levels of  $\Omega_t$ , to the first-order:
  - $\mathcal{B}_d = \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$
  - $\mathcal{B}_H = \mathcal{O}(\Omega)$
- ▶ But:

$$\mathcal{R}_H = \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} c''(H) \right]$$

- ▶ Reversal (and collateral) externality order of magnitude above
- ▶ Intuition?
  - Agents on their Euler equation at  $t = 1...$
  - Negligible welfare effects of perturbation around it
  - Agents away from first-order conditions at  $t = 2...$
  - Costly deviations since constrained

# Heterogeneous Beliefs

- ▶ Widespread evidence
  - ▶ Giglio, Maggiori, Stroebe, & Utkus (2021); Mian & Sufi (2021); Meeuwis, Parker, Schoar & Simester (2021)
- ▶ Intermediaries indexed by  $i \in [0, 1]$ 
  - ▶ Intermediary  $i$  holds a belief distortion of:

$$\Omega_{2,i} = \Omega_2 + \epsilon_2(2i - 1)$$

- ▶ Assume  $H$  in fixed supply to focus on leverage decisions
  - ▶ Utilitarian social planner maximizes welfare with uniform tax:

$$\tau_d = \frac{\mathbb{E}^{SP}[\bar{u}'(c_2)] - \int_0^i \mathbb{E}_{1,i}[\bar{u}'(c_2)] + \mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \phi H \bar{\kappa} \frac{\partial \Omega_3}{\partial q_2} \frac{\partial q_2}{\partial \bar{n}_2} \right]}{\int_0^i \lambda_{1,i}}$$

- ▶ Binding leverage limit more robust and achieves higher welfare

# Optimal Policy

- ▶ Restrictions to internalize  $\mathcal{W}_d$  and  $\mathcal{W}_H$ 
  - Capital buffers
  - LTV regulation
- ▶ Enough for second-best?

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  - Similar for exogenous sentiment:

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- ▶ Enough for second-best?
- ▶ In a REE world, achieve financial stability by:

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- ▶ With **behavioral biases**:
  - Similar for **exogenous** sentiment:

$$\mathcal{W}_2(\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{H}; z_2; \Omega_3)$$

- Breaks down for **endogenous** sentiment:

$$\mathcal{W}_2(\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{H}, \mathbf{q}_1; z_2; \Omega_3)$$

- ▶ Controlling for allocations is **insufficient**
  - Past price enters as a **state-variable** at  $t = 2$
  - Need **additional** instrument
  - $\implies$  Allows for **looser** regulation for  $\mathbf{d}_1, \mathbf{H}$

# Incomplete Information: Role of Endogenous Sentiment

- ▶ When sentiment is exogenous:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial d_1} = u'(c_2)$$

- ▶ If sentiment is endogenous, collateral externality enters:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial d_1} = u'(c_2) + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1^{SP} \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_2} \frac{dq_2}{dn_2} \right]}_{\text{Collateral Externality}}$$

- ▶ Generally **accentuates** the need for preventive intervention

## $\Omega_3$ -Uncertainty and Endogenous Sentiment

The uncertainty part of the optimal leverage tax is **higher** when  $d\Omega_3/dq_2$  is constant, as in the price extrapolation example.

- ▶ Adds curvature in marginal welfare
- ▶ Increases costs of excessive pessimism and decreases relative benefits of relative optimism
- ▶ Result robust as long as  $d\Omega_3/dq_2$  is not too concave in  $z_2$  and  $z_3$



# Incomplete Information: $\Omega_3$ -Uncertainty

- ▶ Assume that, state-by-state:

$$w_3 \sim \mathcal{U} [\bar{\Omega}_3 - \sigma_{\Omega,3}, \bar{\Omega}_3 + \sigma_{\Omega,3}]$$

## $\Omega_3$ -Uncertainty and Leverage Restrictions

The optimal leverage tax is **increasing** in  $\sigma_{\Omega,3}$ . It is strictly increasing as long as there exist a state  $z_2$ , where average sentiment is  $\bar{\Omega}_3$  and a  $\omega_3$  in  $[-\sigma_{\Omega,3}, \sigma_{\Omega,3}]$  for which, if sentiment is  $\bar{\Omega}_3 + \omega_3$ , there is a positive probability of a crisis in the next period.

- ▶ Same curvature in marginal welfare
- ▶ Costs of excessive pessimism outweigh benefits of relative optimism

▶  $\Omega_2$ -Uncertainty

# REE Calibration Mistakes

- ▶ Size of pecuniary externality is a structural object:

$$\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \phi \kappa \frac{dq_2}{dn_1} \right]$$

- ▶ Rational models calibrate parameters  $(\phi, F(z), \dots)$  combining:
  1. Severity/Probability of financial crisis
  2. Rational Expectations
- ▶ Calibrate a model such that in a crisis, prices drop by  $X\%$
- ▶ Recover size of financial frictions:

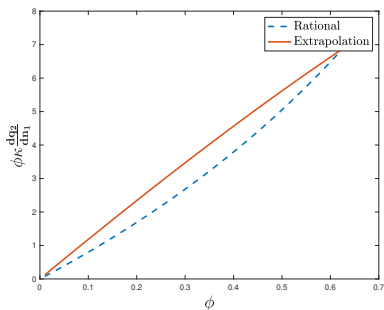
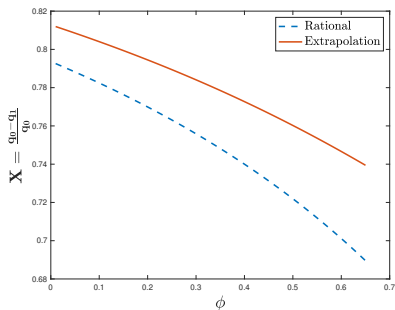
$$X^{-1} = 1 + \frac{Hz_2}{2(1 + \delta) - \phi Hz_2}$$

- ▶ Larger  $X \implies$  Smaller  $\phi \implies$  Smaller pecuniary externality:

$$\frac{dq_2^r}{dn_1} = \frac{z_2}{1 + \delta - \phi Hz_3}$$

## REE Calibration Mistakes (2)

$$\frac{dq_2}{dn_1} = - \frac{z_3 + \alpha(q_2 - q_1)}{1 + \delta - \phi H(z_3 + \theta(q_2 - q_1)) - \alpha c_2}$$



► RMBS    ► Optimal Policy    ► Conclusion

# Incomplete Information: Time-varying Policy

- ▶ The Social Planner:

1. Holds gaussian priors over  $\bar{z}_2$  and  $\Omega_2$ :

$$\bar{z}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_z, \sigma_z^2) \quad ; \quad \Omega_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\bar{\Omega}_2, \sigma_{\Omega}^2)$$

2. Computes expectations over sentiment using a uniform distribution that minimizes the KL divergence with its posterior

- ▶  $\bar{\Omega}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{W}_d \rightarrow \tau_d$

- ▶ Posterior:

$$\Omega_2 \sim \mathcal{U} \left[ \bar{\Omega}(q_1) - \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \Sigma_{\Omega} \quad , \quad \bar{\Omega}(q_1) + \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} \Sigma_{\Omega} \right]$$

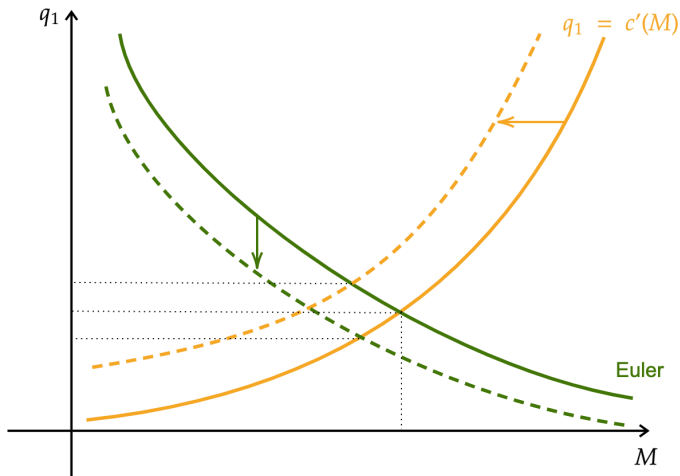
## $\Omega$ -Uncertainty and Time Variation

The social planner's optimal leverage tax is increasing in both equilibrium prices  $q_1$  and sentiment uncertainty  $\sigma_{\Omega}$ .

- ▶ The more certain the planner is about  $z_2$ , the less uncertainty it has over  $\Omega_2$
- ▶ The less uncertainty there is about sentiment, the more the planner can adapt its leverage limits to observable conditions like asset prices

# Buyer vs Seller Regulation

*Equilibrium determination on the collateral asset market*



# Bailouts

- ▶ The planner can intervene during a crisis
  - ▶ Direct liquidity injection  $b$  to banks at  $t = 2$
  - ▶ Paid back at market rate at  $t = 3$
  - ▶ Cost  $g(b)$

- ▶ Effect on welfare:

$$\mathcal{W}_2(d_1 - b, H; z_2) - g(b)$$

- ▶ Quadratic cost  $g(b) = b^2/2\xi$
- ▶ Optimal bailout size:

$$b^* = \xi \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_1} \equiv b^*(d_1, H, z_2, \Omega_3)$$

- ▶ Uninternalized welfare effects formulas hold

## Moral Hazard & Exogenous Exuberance

$$u'(c_0) = \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial W_2}{\partial n_1} \left( d_1 - \underbrace{b^*(d_1, H, z_2 + \Omega_2, 0)}_{< b^*(d_1, H, z_2, \Omega_3)}, H, z_2 + \Omega_2 \right) \right]$$

- ▶ Agents expect future bailouts
- ▶ Exuberance makes expected bailouts less than in reality:

$$\frac{\partial b^*}{\partial \Omega_2} < 0$$

- ▶ Similarly when agents neglect future pessimism
- ▶ **Reduces** the belief wedge

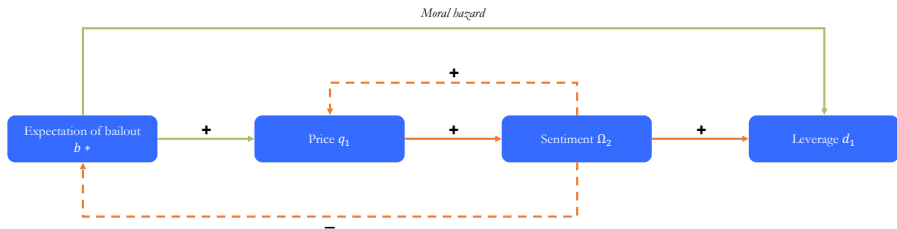
## Moral Hazard & Endogenous Exuberance (1)

$$u'(c_1) = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial n_1} (d_1 - b^*(d_1, H, z_2 + \Omega_2(q_1 - q_0)), H, z_2 + \Omega_2(q_1 - q_0)) \right]$$

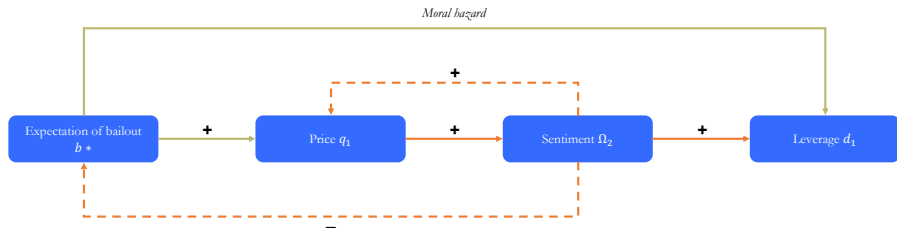
$$q_1 = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{W}_2}{\partial H} (d_1 - b^*(d_1, H, z_2 + \Omega_2(q_1 - q_0)), H, z_2 + \Omega_2(q_1 - q_0)) \right]$$



## Moral Hazard & Endogenous Exuberance (2)



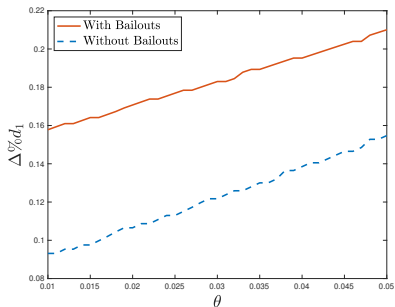
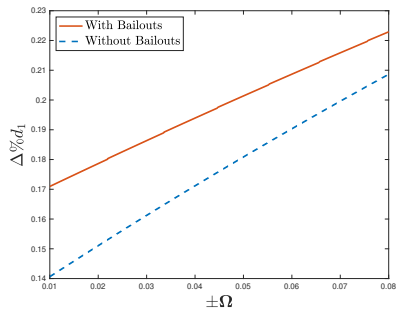
## Moral Hazard & Endogenous Exuberance (2)



- ▶ Bailouts also exacerbate exuberance
  - ▶ Expected bailout  $\implies$  Higher asset prices
  - ▶  $\implies$  Higher exuberance  $\implies$  Higher leverage
  - ▶  $\implies$  ...
- ▶ Timing crucial
  - ▶ Jump  $q_1 - q_0$  creates moral hazard problems
  - ▶ Bailouts to be announced as **early** as possible

▶ Conclusion

# Moral Hazard & Exuberance



Excess Fragility for Exogenous  $\Omega$  (left) and Price Extrapolation (right)

► Conclusion

# Infinite Horizon Model

- ▶ Financial intermediaries:

$$U_t = \sum_{i \geq 0}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+i} \ln(c_{t+i})$$

- ▶ Households:

$$U_t^h = \sum_{i \geq 0}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+i} c_{t+i}^h$$

- ▶ Fixed stock of  $H$
- ▶ Budget constraint of financial intermediaries:

$$\begin{aligned} c_t + d_{t-1}(1 + r_{t-1}) + q_t h &\leq d_t + (z_t + q_t)H \\ d_t &\leq \phi h \mathbb{E}_t[z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}] \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ First-order conditions:

$$\lambda_t = \frac{1}{c_t}$$

$$\lambda_t = \beta(1 + r_t) \mathbb{E}_t[\lambda_{t+1}] + \kappa_t$$

$$\lambda_t q_t = \beta \mathbb{E}_t[\lambda_{t+1}(z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1} + q_{t+1}^r)] + \phi \kappa_t \mathbb{E}_t[z_{t+1} + \Omega_{t+1}]$$

# Infinite Horizon: Policy

- ▶ Instruments: tax on borrowing, and tax on asset holdings
  - Tax on holdings to change equilibrium prices
  - In practice can use monetary policy
- ▶ Planner intervenes only once and commits to never intervene again
- ▶ Planner chooses directly  $d_t$  and  $q_t$  at  $t$ , and takes as given the future values of  $d_{t+j}$  and  $q_{t+j}$

$$W_t = \ln(c_t) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t[W_{t+1}(d_t, q_t)]$$

- ▶ The first-order conditions of the social planner are given by:

$$0 = \lambda_t - \beta \mathbb{E}_t[\lambda_{t+1}] - \sum_{j \geq 1}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+j} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \kappa_{t+j} \phi H \frac{d\Omega_{t+j}}{dq_{t+1}} \frac{dq_{t+1}}{dn_{t+1}} \right]$$

$$0 = \sum_{j \geq 0}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+j} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \kappa_{t+j} \phi H \frac{d\Omega_{t+j}}{dq_t} \right]$$

## Infinite Horizon: Policy (2)

$$0 = \lambda_t - \beta \mathbb{E}_t[\lambda_{t+1}] - \sum_{j \geq 1}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+j} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \kappa_{t+j} \phi H \frac{d\Omega_{t+j}}{dq_{t+1}} \frac{dq_{t+1}}{dn_{t+1}} \right]$$
$$0 = \sum_{j \geq 0}^{+\infty} \beta^{t+j} \mathbb{E}_t \left[ \kappa_{t+j} \phi H \frac{d\Omega_{t+j}}{dq_t} \right]$$

- ▶ Planner manipulates
  1. How future sentiment will be affected by future prices since a change in borrowing today impact prices tomorrow
  2. How future sentiment will be affected by current prices
- ▶  $d\Omega_{t+j}/dq_{t+1}$  are taking into account the full effects on  $\Omega_{t+j}$ 
  - Factors in how  $q_{t+1}$  directly impact  $\Omega_{t+2}$
  - And how  $\Omega_{t+1}$  changes  $q_{t+2}$  and thus  $\Omega_{t+2}$

▶ [Return to Extensions](#)

# Monetary Policy: Setup

- ▶ Natural instrument to tame asset prices
- ▶ Enrich environment with:
  - ▶ Households supply labor at  $t = 1$ :

$$U^h = \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \left( \ln(c_1^h) - \nu \frac{v l_1^{1+\eta}}{(1+\eta)} \right) + \beta c_2^h + \beta^2 c_3^h \right]$$

- ▶ **Nominal rigidities:** fully rigid wages  $w = 1$
- ▶ Linear production:  $Y_1 = l_1$
- ▶ Neutralize distributive effects with Pareto weights

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- ▶ **Nominal rigidities:** fully rigid wages  $w = 1$
  - ▶ Linear production:  $Y_1 = l_1$
  - ▶ Neutralize distributive effects with Pareto weights
- ▶ Households can be off their labor supply curve at  $t = 1$
- ▶ Labor wedge: Farhi & Werning (2020)

$$\mu_1 = 1 - \nu c_1^h l_1^\eta$$

- ▶ Positive when unemployment is high



# Leaning Against the Wind: Full Effects

► Monetary tightening has five effects:

1. Aggregate Demand
2. Borrowing
3. Investment
4. Current Beliefs
5. Future Beliefs

## Welfare Effects of Monetary Policy

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dW_1}{dr_1} &= \underbrace{\frac{dY_1}{dr_1} \mu_1}_{(i)} + \underbrace{\frac{dd_1}{dr_1} \mathcal{W}_d}_{(ii)} + \underbrace{\frac{dH}{dr_1} \mathcal{W}_H}_{(iii)} \\ &+ \underbrace{\frac{d\Omega_2}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1} \left( \frac{dd_1}{d\Omega_2} \mathcal{W}_d + \frac{dH}{d\Omega_2} \mathcal{W}_H \right)}_{(iv)} + \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \kappa \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1} \right]}_{(v)} \end{aligned}$$

# Leaning Against the Wind with $\phi H q_2$

## Welfare Effects of Monetary Policy

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► Monetary Policy with future price

## Early vs. Late Tightening

- ▶ Protracted periods of credit and asset price growth
  - Greenwood et al. (2021)
  - Tighten early or late?
- ▶ Specific case:  $\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha q_t + \alpha_{-1} q_{t-1} + \alpha_{-2} q_{t-2}$ 
  - More general case in the paper
  - Assume  $dq_t/dr_t$  constant
- ▶ Consider **surprise** tightenings at  $t = 0$  or at  $t = 1$

▶ Show

## Comparison of Early and Late Leaning Against the Wind

It is optimal to lean against the wind in period 1 rather than in period 0 if and only if:

$$-\frac{dd_1}{d\Omega_2} \mathcal{W}_d (\alpha - \alpha_1) > \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \kappa \phi H \right] (\alpha_{-1} - \alpha_{-2})$$

- ▶  $\alpha_{-2} < 0$ 
  - Early tightening
- ▶  $\alpha_{-1} < 0$ :
  - Late tightening to balance reversal externality
  - Early tightening backfires: kicking the can down the road
  - Galí & Gambetti (2015) ; Galí, Giusti & Noussair (2021)

▶ Return

▶ Conclusion

## Dynamic Bias: Setup

- ▶ Policy **anticipated** once part of the toolbox
  - Consequences?

$$U^h = \mathbb{E}_0 \left[ \left( \ln(c_0^h) - \nu \frac{l_0^{1+\eta}}{(1+\eta)} \right) + \left( \ln(c_1^h) - \nu \frac{l_1^{1+\eta}}{(1+\eta)} \right) + \beta c_2^h + \beta^2 c_3^h \right]$$

- ▶ Assume:
  1. Expectations of future rates:

$$r_1^e = r_1^* + \rho(q_1 - \bar{q})$$

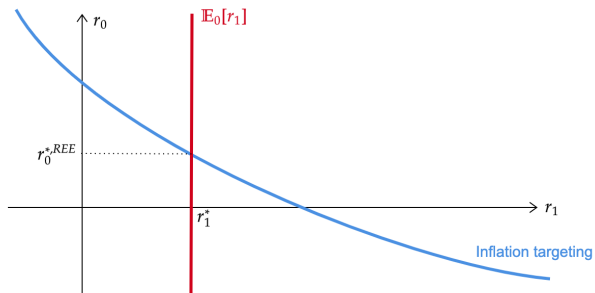
2. Extrapolative expectations:

$$\mathbb{E}_0[q_1] = q_1^r + \alpha(q_0 - q_{-1})$$

- ▶ Inflation targeting at *REE*:

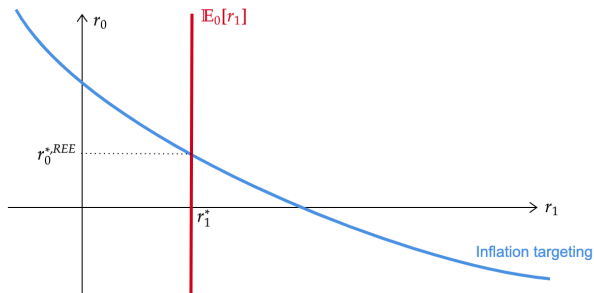
$$\beta^2(1 + r_0^*)(1 + r_1^*) = 1$$

# Inflation Targeting: Rational Benchmark

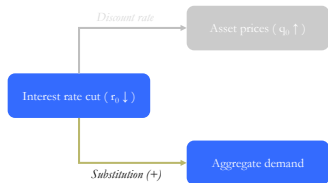


*Interest rate determination at  $t = 0$  in the REE case*

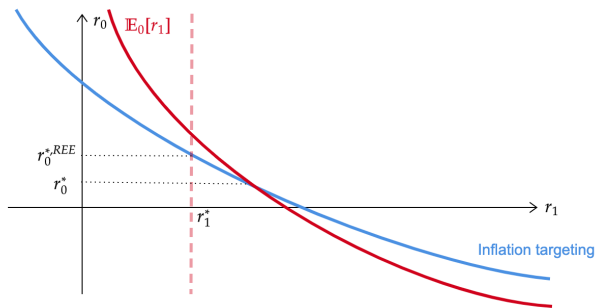
# Inflation Targeting: Rational Benchmark



*Interest rate determination at  $t = 0$  in the REE case*



# Inflation Targeting: Extrapolation



*Interest rate determination at  $t = 0$  in the extrapolation case*



# Dynamic Bias of Leaning Against the Wind

## Optimal Inflation Targeting at $t = 0$

The optimal interest rate at  $t = 0$  can be expressed as, in a first-order approximation around the rational benchmark  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$ :

$$1 + r_0^* \approx \frac{\frac{1}{\beta^2} - \rho\alpha q_1^r}{1 + r_1^* - \rho\alpha q_{-1}}$$

- ▶ Numerator:  $r_0^*$  needs to be lower to account for the increase in  $\mathbb{E}_0[r_1]$
- ▶ Denominator: **feedback** effect



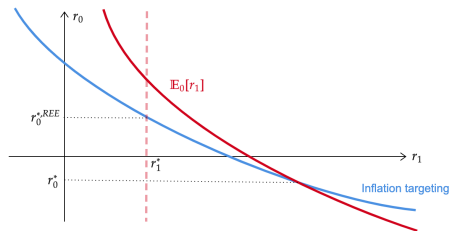
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- ▶ Numerator:  $r_0^*$  needs to be lower to account for the increase in  $\mathbb{E}_0[r_1]$
- ▶ Denominator: **feedback** effect
- ▶ Trouble when  $r_0^* < 0$



## Early vs. Late Tightening: General Case

- ▶ More general case
  - Allows for **sticky/mean-reversion** in beliefs

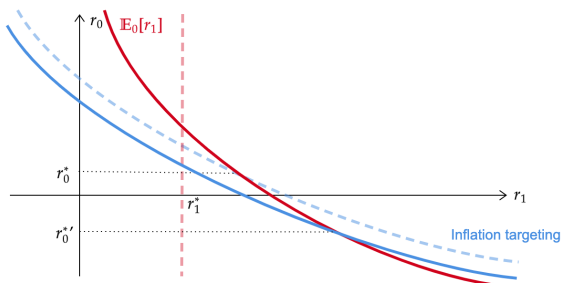
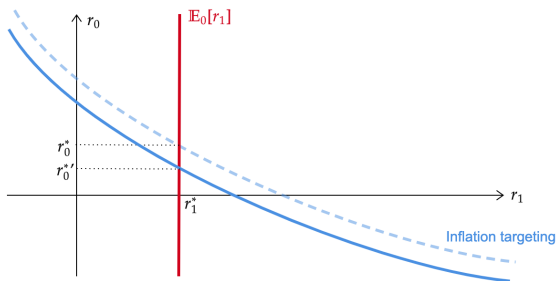
$$\Omega_{t+1} = \alpha_0 q_t + \alpha_1 q_{t-1} + \alpha_2 q_{t-2} + \gamma_0 \Omega_t + \gamma_1 \Omega_{t-1}$$

It is optimal to lean against the wind in period 1 rather than in period 0 if and only if:

$$-\frac{dd_1}{d\Omega_2} \mathcal{W}_d (\alpha_0(1 - \gamma_0) - \alpha_1) > \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \frac{dq_2}{d\Omega_3} \kappa \phi H \right] ((\gamma_0 \alpha_0 + \alpha_1)(1 - \gamma_0) - \gamma_1 \alpha_0 - \alpha_2)$$

- ▶ Same insights
- ▶  $\gamma_0 > 0$ :
  - Exuberance today makes agents more optimistic tomorrow
  - Tightening later in the cycle has ambiguous effects
  - Trade-off between making the financial system less fragile, and creating irrational distress in the future which can itself trigger a financial crisis

# Monetary Policy: Demand Shocks



## Can a Monetary Tightening Trigger a Crisis?

- ▶ So far assumed collateral constraint binding only at  $t = 2$
- ▶ Add the possibility at  $t = 1$ :

$$d_1 \leq \phi h \mathbb{E}_1 [z_2 + \Omega_2]$$

- ▶ New costs if collateral constraint tight at  $t = 1$ 
  - Monetary tightening leads to a reduction in leverage
  - Costly if banks would like to take more leverage

## Welfare Effects of Monetary Policy

$$\frac{dW_1}{dr_1} = \frac{dY_1}{dr_1} \mu_1 + \frac{dd_1}{dr_1} \kappa_1 + \mathbb{E}_1 \left[ \kappa_2 \phi H \frac{d\Omega_3}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1} \right]$$

- ▶ Welfare costs proportional to tightness of constraint at  $t = 1$
- ▶ Costs are negligible to the first order if banks are not constrained
- ▶ Tradeoff unchanged with the employment channel

## Can a Monetary Tightening Trigger a Crisis?

- ▶ Can monetary policy provoke a binding constraint at  $t = 1$ ?
- ▶ A monetary tightening will change the upper limit as:

$$\phi H \frac{d\Omega_2}{dq_1} \frac{dq_1}{dr_1}$$

- ▶ Will provoke the crisis if reduction in debt limit is stronger than reduction in desired leverage:

$$-\frac{d \ln \Omega_2}{d \ln r_1} \geq \frac{1}{\phi(1 + \beta)(1 + r_1) - 1}$$

- ▶ Model argues for *less aggressive accomodation*
  - Not aggressive tightening