# Models of unemployment 

Advanced Macroeconomics IE: Lecture 17

Marcin Bielecki
Spring 2019
University of Warsaw

## RBC model vs data comparison

|  |  | Std. Dev. |  | Corr. w. y |  | Autocorr. |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data | Model | Data | Model | Data | Model |  |
| Output | $y$ | 1.63 | 1.63 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.85 | 0.72 |
| Consumption | $c$ | 0.87 | 0.63 | 0.77 | 0.94 | 0.83 | 0.79 |
| Investment | $i$ | 4.51 | 5.07 | 0.76 | 0.99 | 0.87 | 0.71 |
| Capital | $k$ | 0.59 | 0.45 | 0.40 | 0.09 | 0.95 | 0.96 |
| Hours | $h$ | $\mathbf{1 . 9 1}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 7 1}$ | 0.88 | 0.98 | 0.91 | 0.71 |
| Wage | $w$ | 0.97 | 0.95 | $\mathbf{0 . 1 1}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 9 9}$ | 0.68 | 0.75 |
| TFP | $z$ | 0.84 | 1.15 | $\mathbf{0 . 5 3}$ | $\mathbf{1 . 0 0}$ | 0.73 | 0.72 |
| Productivity | $\frac{y}{h}$ | 1.06 | 0.95 | $\mathbf{0 . 4 1}$ | $\mathbf{0 . 9 9}$ | 0.71 | 0.75 |

## RBC model vs data comparison

- Model performance is quite good
- it was a big surprise in the 1980s!
- There are some problems with it though
- In the data, hours are slightly more volatile than output
- In the model, hours are less than half as volatile as output
- In the data, real wage can be either pro- or countercyclical
- In the model, real wage is strongly procyclical
- In the data TFP and productivity are mildly correlated with output
- In the model both are 1:1 correlated with output
- Those results suggest that
- Need some room for nominal variables
- More shocks than just TFP are needed
- We need to focus more on labor market
- should improve behavior of hours and real wage


## Indivisible labor: introduction

Most of the variation in hours worked is on the extensive margin (employment-unemployment) rather than on the intensive margin (hours worked by individual employees)



## Indivisible labor: introduction

Most of the variation in hours worked is on the extensive margin (employment-unemployment) rather than on the intensive margin (hours worked by individual employees)

$$
\begin{aligned}
H_{t} & =L_{t} h_{t} \\
\operatorname{Var}(\log H) & =\operatorname{Var}(\log L)+\operatorname{Var}(\log h)+2 \cdot \operatorname{Cov}(\log L, \log h)
\end{aligned}
$$

Variance-covariance matrix of Hodrick-Prescott deviations

|  | $H$ | $L$ | $h$ |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Total hours $H$ | 3.55 |  |  |
| Employment $L$ |  | 2.48 | 0.41 |
| Hours per employee $h$ |  | 0.41 | 0.25 |

About 70\% of variance of total hours worked is accounted for by variance of employment level and only $7 \%$ is accounted for by variance of hours worked by individual employees (the rest is accounted for by covariance)

## Indivisible labor: setup

- "Realistic" hours worked variation results from a two-step process:
- Decision between working and not working
- Conditional on working, how much to work
- For simplicity we will focus on the first step only
- Hansen (1985, JME) and Rogerson (1988, JME) invented a clever technical solution
- In the RBC model households choose how much to work
- Here they will choose the probability $p$ of working $\bar{h}$ hours:
- All workers are identical and can work for either 0 hours or a fixed number of hours $\bar{h}$
- Each worker is a part of big family and consumes the same amount regardless of working or not
- All workers will choose the same probability of working $p$


## Households' problem

Consider first a single-period problem:

$$
\max \quad U=\ln c+E[\phi \ln (1-h) \mid p]
$$

Expand the expected term:

$$
E[\phi \ln (1-h) \mid p]=p \phi \ln (1-\bar{h})+(1-p) \phi \log (1-0)=p \phi \ln (1-\bar{h})
$$

Since all workers choose the same $p$, the average number of hours per worker household $h$ is equal to probability $p$ times working hours per employed $\bar{h}$ :

$$
h=p \bar{h} \quad \rightarrow \quad p=h / \bar{h}
$$

Going back to the expected term:

$$
E[\phi \ln (1-h) \mid p]=p \phi \ln (1-\bar{h})=h \frac{\phi \ln (1-\bar{h})}{\bar{h}} \equiv-B h
$$

where $B=-\phi \ln (1-\bar{h}) / \bar{h}>0$. Utility becomes linear in $h$ !

## Households' solution I

Households solve the expected utility maximization problem:

$$
\max U_{t}=E_{t}\left[\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \beta^{i}\left(\ln c_{t+i}-B h_{t+i}\right)\right]
$$

subject to $a_{t+1}+c_{t}=\left(1+r_{t}\right) a_{t}+w_{t} h_{t}+d_{t}$
Lagrangian:

$$
\mathcal{L}=\sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \beta^{i} E_{t}\left[\begin{array}{c}
\ln c_{t+i}-B h_{t+i} \\
+\lambda_{t+i}\left[\left(1+r_{t+i}\right) a_{t+i}+w_{t+i} h_{t+i}+d_{t}-a_{t+1+i}-c_{t+i}\right]
\end{array}\right]
$$

First order conditions:

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
c_{t} & : \frac{1}{c_{t}}-\lambda_{t}=0 & & \rightarrow \\
\lambda_{t}=\frac{1}{c_{t}} \\
h_{t} & : \quad-B+\lambda_{t} w_{t}=0 & & \rightarrow \quad \lambda_{t}=\frac{B}{w_{t}} \\
a_{t+1} & : \quad-\lambda_{t}+\beta E_{t}\left[\lambda_{t+1}\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right]=0 & & \rightarrow
\end{array} \lambda_{t}=\beta E_{t}\left[\lambda_{t+1}\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right]
$$

## Households' solution II

First order conditions:

$$
\begin{array}{rll}
c_{t} & : & \lambda_{t}=\frac{1}{c_{t}} \\
h_{t} & : & \lambda_{t}=\frac{B}{w_{t}} \\
a_{t+1} & : & \lambda_{t}=\beta E_{t}\left[\lambda_{t+1}\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right]
\end{array}
$$

Resulting in:
Intertemporal condition $(c+a): \frac{1}{c_{t}}=\beta E_{t}\left[\frac{1}{c_{t+1}}\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right]$
Intratemporal condition $(c+h): \quad c_{t}=B w_{t}$

## Full set of equilibrium conditions

System of 8 equations and 8 unknowns: $\{c, h, y, r, w, k, i, z\}$

$$
\text { Euler equation }: 1 / c_{t}=\beta E_{t}\left[\left(1 / c_{t+1}\right)\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right]
$$

Consumption-hours choice : $c_{t}=B w_{t}$
Production function : $y_{t}=z_{t} k_{t}^{\alpha} h_{t}^{1-\alpha}$
Real interest rate : $r_{t}=\alpha z_{t} k_{t}^{\alpha-1} h_{t}^{1-\alpha}-\delta$
Real hourly wage : $w_{t}=(1-\alpha) y_{t} / h_{t}$
Investment : $i_{t}=k_{t+1}-(1-\delta) k_{t}$
Output accounting : $y_{t}=c_{t}+i_{t}$
$\operatorname{TFP} \operatorname{AR}(1)$ process : $z_{t}=\left(1-\rho_{z}\right)+\rho_{z} z_{t-1}+\varepsilon_{t}$

## Steady state - closed form solution

Start with the Euler equation:

$$
\frac{1}{c_{t}}=\beta E_{t}\left[\frac{1}{c_{t+1}}\left(1+r_{t+1}\right)\right] \quad \rightarrow \quad 1=\beta(1+r) \quad \rightarrow \quad r=\frac{1}{\beta}-1
$$

From the interest rate equation obtain the $k / h$ ratio:

$$
r=\alpha \boldsymbol{k}^{\alpha-1} h^{1-\alpha}-\delta \quad \rightarrow \quad\left(\frac{k}{h}\right)^{\alpha-1}=\frac{r+\delta}{\alpha} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{k}{h}=\left(\frac{\alpha}{r+\delta}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-\alpha}}
$$

From the production function obtain the $y / h$ ratio and then wage:

$$
y=k^{\alpha} h^{1-\alpha} \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{y}{h}=\left(\frac{k}{h}\right)^{\alpha} \quad \text { and } \quad w=(1-\alpha) \frac{y}{h}
$$

From investment and output accounting eqns. obtain the $c / h$ ratio:

$$
i=\delta k \quad \rightarrow \quad y=c+\delta k \quad \rightarrow \quad \frac{c}{h}=\frac{y}{h}-\delta \frac{k}{h}
$$

Get $c$ from the consumption-hours choice. Then obtain $h$ :

$$
c=B w \quad \rightarrow \quad h=\frac{c}{c / h}
$$

## Parameters

- To best compare our two models, we need them to generate identical steady states
- We replace parameter $\phi$ with parameter $B$
- We choose the value for $B$ so that it matches $h=1 / 3$
- For this model $B=2.63$


## Model comparison: impulse response functions

RBC model IRF: black solid lines
Indivisible labor IRF: red dashed lines


Percentage deviations from steady state (percentage points for $r$ )

## Model comparison: moments

|  | Std. Dev. |  |  |  | Corr. w. y |  |  |  | Autocorr. |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Data | RBC | Ind | Data | RBC | Ind | Data | RBC | Ind |  |  |
| $y$ | 1.63 | 1.63 | 1.63 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.85 | 0.72 | 0.72 |  |  |
| $c$ | 0.87 | 0.63 | 0.57 | 0.77 | 0.94 | 0.92 | 0.83 | 0.79 | 0.80 |  |  |
| $i$ | 4.51 | 5.07 | 5.28 | 0.76 | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.87 | 0.71 | 0.71 |  |  |
| $k$ | 0.59 | 0.45 | 0.46 | 0.40 | 0.09 | 0.08 | 0.95 | 0.96 | 0.96 |  |  |
| $h$ | 1.91 | 0.71 | 1.13 | 0.88 | 0.98 | 0.98 | 0.91 | 0.71 | 0.71 |  |  |
| $w$ | 0.97 | 0.95 | 0.57 | 0.11 | 0.99 | 0.92 | 0.68 | 0.75 | 0.80 |  |  |
| $z$ | 0.84 | 1.15 | 0.88 | 0.53 | 1.00 | 1.00 | 0.73 | 0.72 | 0.72 |  |  |
| $\frac{y}{h}$ | 1.06 | 0.95 | 0.57 | 0.41 | 0.99 | 0.92 | 0.71 | 0.75 | 0.80 |  |  |

## Model comparison: model-generated hours worked



## Indivisible labor: summary

- Model enhances hours volatility (but it's still too low)
- Improves correlation of wages and productivity with output
- Slightly decreases empirical match in other dimensions
- Technical advantage: requires smaller TFP shocks
- Philosophical advantage: more "realistic" labor market


## Search and matching: introduction

- Labor markets are in a state of constant flux
- At the same time there are job-seeking workers and worker-seeking firms
- Labor markets are decentralized and active search is needed
- Search friction leads to unemployment even in the steady state
- Peter Diamond, Dale Mortensen and Christopher Pissarides were awarded the Nobel Prize in 2010 for developing this model


## Labor market status and flows: EU 2018Q4



## Labor market status change probabilities: EU 2018Q4



Source: Eurostat

## Unemployment and vacancy rates: USA 1948-2019



## Labor market fluctuations: USA 1950-2019



## Matching function

- Firms create open job positions (openings, vacancies)
- Workers search for jobs
- Both jobs and workers are heterogeneous
$\hookrightarrow$ not every possible match is attractive
- Matching function captures this feature
- New matches $M$ are a function of the pool of unemployed $U$ and pool of vacancies $V$ :

$$
M_{t}=M\left(V_{t}, U_{t}\right)=\chi V_{t}^{\eta} U_{t}^{1-\eta}
$$

where $\chi>0$ and $\eta \in(0,1)$

## Job finding and job filling probabilities

- Unemployed workers are interested in job finding probability $p$ :

$$
p_{t}=\frac{M_{t}}{U_{t}}=\chi\left(\frac{V_{t}}{U_{t}}\right)^{\eta}=\chi \theta_{t}^{\eta}=q_{t} \theta_{t}
$$

where $\theta=V / U$ is called labor market tightness

- Firms with vacancies care about job filling probability $q$ :

$$
q_{t}=\frac{M_{t}}{V_{t}}=\chi\left(\frac{V_{t}}{U_{t}}\right)^{\eta-1}=\chi \theta_{t}^{\eta-1}=\frac{p_{t}}{\theta_{t}}
$$

- Dual externality from congestion:
- High number of unemployed decreases $p$ and increases $q$
- High number of vacancies increases $p$ and decreases $q$


## Employment dynamics

- Ignoring labor market inactivity, employment rate $n$ and unemployment rate $u$ sum to unity:

$$
n_{t}+u_{t}=1 \quad \rightarrow \quad n_{t}=1-u_{t}
$$

- Existing matches are destroyed with exogenous probability s
- New matches increase next period employment:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& n_{t}=n_{t-1}-s n_{t-1}+m_{t-1} \\
& u_{t}=u_{t-1}+s n_{t-1}-m_{t-1}
\end{aligned}
$$

- We can find the steady state unemployment rate as a function of separation and job finding probabilities:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& u=u+s(1-u)-p(\theta) u \\
& u=\frac{s}{s+p(\theta)}
\end{aligned}
$$

- This generates a Beveridge curve: a negative relationship between the unemployment and vacancy rates


## Beveridge curve: theory



Graph by Leszek Wincenciak

## Beveridge curve: data

Shifts in the US Beveridge curve


## Beveridge curve: data

Detrending with Hodrick-Prescott filter takes out structural shifts


## Beveridge curve: "estimation"

US Beveridge curve without structural shifts


## Firm side

- Assume firms and workers discount future with $\beta$
- Period net gain from a filled job equals marginal product of employee mpn less wage $w$
- Existing matches are destroyed with probability s:

$$
\mathcal{J}_{t}=\left(m p n_{t}-w_{t}\right)+\beta E_{t}\left[(1-s) \mathcal{J}_{t+1}+\boldsymbol{s} \mathcal{V}_{t+1}\right]
$$

- Period net loss from open vacancy is its cost $\kappa$
- With probability $q$ the vacancy will be filled:

$$
\mathcal{V}_{t}=-\kappa+\beta E_{t}\left[q_{t} \mathcal{J}_{t+1}+\left(1-q_{t}\right) \mathcal{V}_{t+1}\right]
$$

- Free entry in vacancies ensures that always $\mathcal{V}=0$
- In the steady state $(r=1 / \beta-1)$ :

$$
m p n-w=(r+s) \kappa / q(\theta)
$$

## Worker side

- Period net gain from employment equals wage $w$
- Existing matches are destroyed with probability s:

$$
\mathcal{E}_{t}=w_{t}+\beta E_{t}\left[(1-s) \mathcal{E}_{t+1}+s \mathcal{U}_{t+1}\right]
$$

- Period net gain from unemployment equals benefits (and possibly utility from leisure) $b$
- With probability $p$ an unemployed person finds a job:

$$
\mathcal{U}_{t}=b+\beta E_{t}\left[p_{t} \mathcal{E}_{t+1}+\left(1-p_{t}\right) \mathcal{U}_{t+1}\right]
$$

## Wage setting

- The negotiated wage can be anywhere between the gain from unemployment $b$ and the marginal product of employee mpn plus match gain $\kappa \theta$
- Nash bargaining allows to model the outcome of negotiations
- Let $\gamma \in[0,1]$ denote the relative bargaining power of firms
- The negotiated wage is the solution of the problem:

$$
\max _{w_{t}}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t}\left(w_{t}\right)\right]^{\gamma}\left[\mathcal{E}_{t}\left(w_{t}\right)-\mathcal{U}_{t}\right]^{1-\gamma}
$$

- Solving the problem results in:

$$
w_{t}=\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+\kappa \theta_{t}\right)
$$

- Intuitively: $w \rightarrow b$ if $\gamma \rightarrow 1$ and $w \rightarrow m p n+\kappa \theta$ if $\gamma \rightarrow 0$


## Full set of equilibrium conditions

System of 9 equations and 9 unknowns: $\{w, m p n, \theta, \mathcal{J}, q, u, n, m, v\}$

$$
\begin{aligned}
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+\kappa \theta_{t}\right) \\
\mathcal{J}_{t} & =\left(m p n_{t}-w_{t}\right)+(1-s) \cdot \beta E_{t}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right] \\
\kappa & =q_{t} \cdot \beta E_{t}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right] \\
u_{t} & =1-n_{t} \\
n_{t} & =(1-s) n_{t-1}+m_{t-1} \\
q_{t} & =\chi \theta_{t}^{\eta-1} \\
\theta_{t} & =v_{t} / u_{t} \\
m_{t} & =\chi v_{t}^{\eta} u_{t}^{1-\eta} \\
m p n_{t} & =(1-\rho)+\rho \cdot m p n_{t-1}+\varepsilon_{t}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Steady state: key equations

In the steady state the model is fully summarized by the following three key equations:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\text { Beveridge curve (BC) } & : \quad u=\frac{s}{s+p(\theta)} \\
\text { Job (vacancy) creation (JC) } & : \quad w=m p n-(r+s) \frac{\kappa}{q(\theta)} \\
\text { Wage setting (W) } & : \quad w=\gamma b+(1-\gamma)(m p n+\kappa \theta)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Steady state: graphical solution



Graph by Leszek Wincenciak

## Comparative statics I

Effects of an increase in unemployment benefits ( $b \uparrow$ ) or in workers' bargaining power $(\gamma \downarrow)$ :

- Increase in real wage w
- Decrease in labor market tightness $\theta$
- Decrease in vacancy rate $v$
- Increase in unemployment rate $u$



Graph by Leszek Wincenciak

## Comparative statics II

Effects of an increase in separation rate ( $s \uparrow$ )
or a decrease in matching efficiency $(\chi \downarrow)$ :

- Decrease in real wage w
- Decrease in labor market tightness $\theta$
- Ambiguous effect on vacancy rate $v$
- Increase in unemployment rate $u$


Graph by Leszek Wincenciak

## Comparative statics III

Effects of an increase in interest rate $(r \uparrow)$
or an increase in impatience $(\rho \uparrow \rightarrow \beta \downarrow)$ :

- Decrease in real wage w
- Decrease in labor market tightness $\theta$
- Decrease in vacancy rate $v$
- Increase in unemployment rate $u$


Graph by Matthias Hertweck

## Comparative statics IV

Effects of an increase in labor productivity ( $m p n \uparrow$ ):

- Increase in real wage w
- Increase in labor market tightness $\theta$
- Increase in vacancy rate v
- Decrease in unemployment rate $u$


Graph by Matthias Hertweck

## Transitional dynamics

Reduced form of the model (with mpn treated as exogenous):

$$
\begin{gathered}
\dot{u}=s(1-u)-\chi \theta^{\eta} \cdot u \\
\dot{\theta}=\frac{\theta}{1-\eta}\left[(r+s)-\gamma(m p n-b) \frac{\chi \theta^{\eta-1}}{\kappa}+(1-\gamma) \chi \theta^{\eta}\right]
\end{gathered}
$$

The dynamic equation for $\theta$ is independent of $u$ :
$\dot{\theta}=0$ is a flat line in the $(u, \theta)$ space

## Transitional dynamics: phase diagram



Graph by Matthias Hertweck

## Transitional dynamics: positive productivity shock



Graph by Matthias Hertweck

## Parameters

Values come from Shimer (2005, AER)

|  | Description | Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\chi$ | matching efficiency | 0.45 |
| $\eta$ | matching elasticity of $v$ | 0.28 |
| $s$ | separation probability | 0.033 |
| $\beta$ | discount factor | 0.99 |
| $m p n$ | steady state marginal product | 1 |
| $\kappa$ | vacancy cost | 0.21 |
| $b$ | unemployment benefit | 0.4 |
| $\gamma$ | firm bargaining power | 0.28 |

## Implied steady state values

|  | Description | Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $u$ | unemployment rate | 0.0687 |
| $v$ | vacancy rate | 0.0674 |
| $m$ | new matches | 0.031 |
| $\theta$ | tightness | 0.98 |
| $p$ | job finding probability | 0.448 |
| $q$ | job filling probability | 0.456 |
| $w$ | wage | 0.98 |

## Impulse response functions I



## Impulse response functions II



## Model generated Beveridge curve



## Summary

- We have a "realistic" model of the labor market
- Able to match both steady state (average) and some cyclical properties of the labor market
- Replicates the negative slope of the Beveridge curve
- Not enough variation in employment
- Beveridge curve too steep
- Too much variation in wages


## Alternative parametrization

Values come from Hagedorn \& Manovskii (2008, AER)

|  | Description | Value |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\eta$ | matching elasticity of $v$ | 0.45 |
| $b$ | unemployment benefit | 0.965 |
| $\gamma$ | firm bargaining power | 0.928 |

- Firms have very strong bargaining position
- But unemployment gain includes leisure utility
- Steady state unchanged


## Hagedorn \& Manovskii: Impulse response functions






## Hagedorn \& Manovskii: Beveridge curve

Deviations from Hodrick-Prescott trend (\%)


## Mortensen \& Nagypal: Beveridge curve

Mortensen \& Nagypal (2007) set $\eta=0.54$
Model BC replicates slope of the data $B C$ :


## Summary

- Alternative parametrizations yield better results
- Both unemployment and employment become more volatile
- Volatility of wages is diminished
- Key problem for the search and matching model identified: period-by-period Nash bargaining
- Further extensions make alternative assumptions about the wage setting process


## Integration with the RBC framework

- Very easy
- Get mpn from the usual firm problem
- Adjust $\beta$ for $\beta \frac{\lambda_{t+1}}{\lambda_{t}}$ in the firm's valuation since the latter is the correct stochastic discounting factor
- Solve for labor market variables
- Get back to the RBC part
- Include vacancy costs in the national accounting equation:

$$
y_{t}=c_{t}+i_{t}+\kappa v_{t}
$$

## Observation of Fujita

Fujita (2004): model IRF for vacancies is counterfactual


## Alternative hiring cost function

- We have assumed linear vacancy costs:

$$
\begin{aligned}
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+\kappa \theta_{t}\right) \\
\frac{\kappa}{q_{t}} & =\beta E_{t}\left[m p n_{t+1}-w_{t+1}+(1-s) \frac{\kappa}{q_{t+1}}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

- Gertler \& Trigari (2009, JPE) assume convex costs:

$$
\begin{aligned}
x_{t} & \equiv \frac{m_{t}}{n_{t}} \\
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+\frac{\kappa}{2} x_{t}^{2}+p_{t} \kappa x_{t}\right) \\
\kappa x_{t} & =\beta E_{t}\left[m p n_{t+1}-w_{t+1}+(1-s) \kappa x_{t+1}+\frac{\kappa}{2} x_{t}^{2}\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

- They also consider multi-period wage contracts: within each period only a fraction of wage contracts are renegotiated


## Gertler \& Trigari: Impulse response functions

Monthly period frequency


## Gertler \& Trigari: Beveridge curve (flexible wages)



## Gertler \& Trigari: Beveridge curve (staggered wages)



## Beveridge curve: data



## Gertler \& Trigari: business cycle statistics

|  | $y$ | $w$ | $l s$ | $n$ | $u$ | $v$ | $\theta$ | $a$ | $i$ | $c$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | A. U.S. Economy, 1964:1-2005:1 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Relative standard deviation | 1.00 | . 52 | . 51 | . 60 | 5.15 | 6.30 | 11.28 | . 61 | 2.71 | . 41 |
| Autocorrelation | . 87 | . 91 | . 73 | . 94 | . 91 | . 91 | . 91 | . 79 | . 85 | . 87 |
| Correlation with $y$ | 1.00 | . 56 | -. 20 | . 78 | $-.86$ | . 91 | . 90 | . 71 | . 94 | . 81 |
|  | B. Model Economy, $\lambda=0$ (Flexible Wages) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Relative standard deviation | 1.00 | . 87 | . 09 | . 10 | 1.24 | 1.58 | 2.72 | . 93 | 3.11 | . 37 |
| Autocorrelation | . 81 | . 81 | . 58 | . 92 | . 92 | . 86 | . 90 | . 78 | . 80 | . 85 |
| Correlation with $y$ | 1.00 | 1.00 | -. 54 | . 59 | $-.59$ | . 98 | . 92 | 1.00 | . 99 | . 93 |
|  | C. Model Economy, $\lambda=8 / 9$ (3 Quarters) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Relative standard deviation | 1.00 | . 56 | . 57 | . 35 | 4.44 | 5.81 | 9.84 | . 71 | 3.18 | . 35 |
| Autocorrelation | . 84 | . 95 | . 65 | . 90 | . 90 | . 82 | . 88 | . 76 | . 86 | . 86 |
| Correlation with $y$ | 1.00 | . 66 | -. 56 | . 77 | $-.77$ | . 91 | . 94 | . 97 | . 99 | . 90 |
|  | D. Model Economy, $\lambda=11 / 12$ (4 Quarters) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Relative standard deviation | 1.00 | . 48 | . 58 | . 44 | 5.68 | 7.28 | 12.52 | . 64 | 3.18 | . 34 |
| Autocorrelation | . 85 | . 96 | . 68 | . 91 | . 91 | . 86 | . 90 | . 74 | . 88 | . 86 |
| Correlation with $y$ | 1.00 | . 55 | $-.59$ | . 78 | $-.78$ | . 93 | . 95 | . 95 | . 99 | . 90 |

## Summary

- After adding multi-period contracts, Gertler \& Trigari obtain a very good empirical match of the RBC model with search \& matching features
- This is one of the best matches for single-shock models
- Key to the success was:
- Convex vacancy posting
- Staggered (multi-period) wage contracts


## Possible further extensions

- Endogenous (non-constant) separation rate
- On-the-job search
- Hours per worker adjustments


## Derivation of the wage setting equation I

The negotiated wage is the solution of the problem:

$$
\max _{w_{t}}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t}\left(w_{t}\right)\right]^{\gamma}\left[\mathcal{E}_{t}\left(w_{t}\right)-\mathcal{U}_{t}\right]^{1-\gamma}
$$

Derivatives of $\mathcal{J}_{t}$ and $\mathcal{E}_{t}$ with respect to wage $w_{t}$ :

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\mathcal{J}_{t}=m p n_{t}-w_{t}+(1-s) \cdot \beta E_{t}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right] & \rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}_{t}}{\partial w_{t}}=-1 \\
\mathcal{E}_{t}=w_{t}+\beta E_{t}\left[(1-s) \mathcal{E}_{t+1}+s \mathcal{U}_{t+1}\right] & \rightarrow \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}_{t}}{\partial w_{t}}=1
\end{array}
$$

First order condition:

$$
\begin{gathered}
\gamma \mathcal{J}_{t}^{\gamma-1} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}_{t}}{\partial w_{t}} \cdot\left(\mathcal{E}_{t}-\mathcal{U}_{t}\right)^{1-\gamma}+\mathcal{J}_{t}^{\gamma} \cdot(1-\gamma)\left(\mathcal{E}_{t}-\mathcal{U}_{t}\right)^{-\gamma} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}_{t}}{\partial w_{t}}=0 \\
\gamma\left(\mathcal{E}_{t}-\mathcal{U}_{t}\right)=(1-\gamma) \mathcal{J}_{t}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Derivation of the wage setting equation II

Plug in expressions for $\mathcal{E}_{t}, \mathcal{U}_{t}$ and $\mathcal{J}_{t}$ :

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \gamma\left\{\left(w_{t}-b\right)+\beta\left(1-s-p_{t}\right) E_{t}\left[\mathcal{E}_{t+1}-\mathcal{U}_{t+1}\right]\right\} \\
& \quad=(1-\gamma)\left\{\left(m p n_{t}-w_{t}\right)+\beta E_{t}\left[(1-s) \mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right]\right\} \\
& \begin{aligned}
w_{t}-\gamma b+\left(1-s-p_{t}\right) & \beta E_{t}\left[\gamma\left(\mathcal{E}_{t+1}-\mathcal{U}_{t+1}\right)\right] \\
& =(1-\gamma) m p n_{t}+(1-s) \beta E_{t}\left[(1-\gamma) \mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right]
\end{aligned} \\
& \begin{aligned}
w_{t}-\gamma b+\left(1-s-p_{t}\right) & \beta E_{t}\left[(1-\gamma) \mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right] \\
& =(1-\gamma) m p n_{t}+(1-s) \beta E_{t}\left[(1-\gamma) \mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right]
\end{aligned}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Derivation of the wage setting equation III

$$
\begin{aligned}
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left\{m p n_{t}+p_{t} \beta E_{t}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right]\right\} \\
\kappa / q_{t} & =\beta E_{t}\left[\mathcal{J}_{t+1}\right] \\
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+p_{t} \kappa / q_{t}\right) \\
w_{t} & =\gamma b+(1-\gamma)\left(m p n_{t}+\kappa \theta_{t}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

