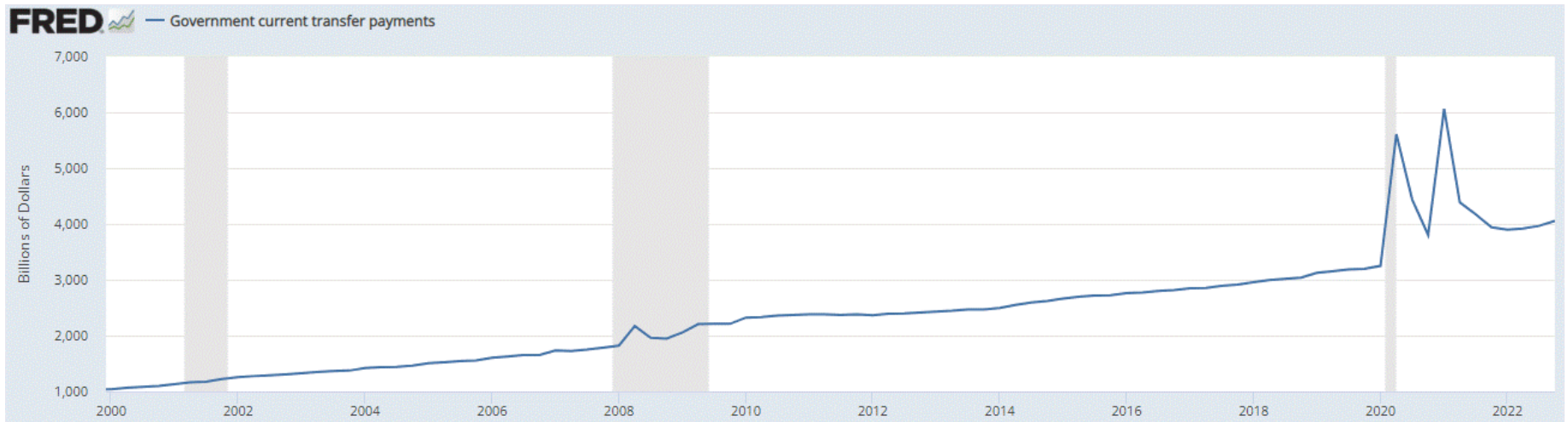
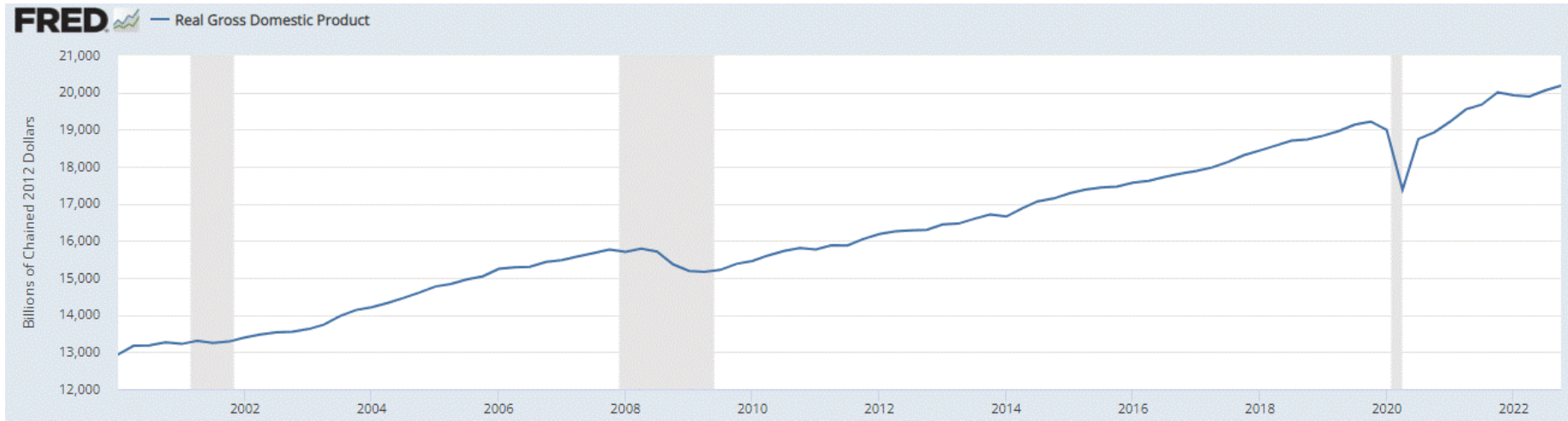
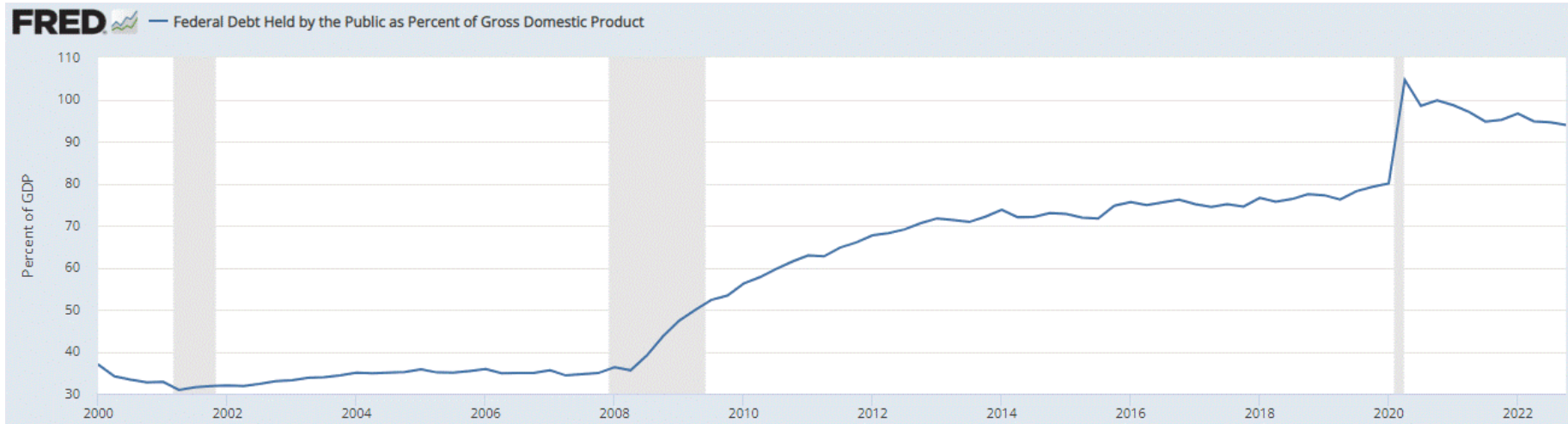


US real GDP and transfer payments



Debt-GDP ratio



Redistribution and the Monetary–Fiscal Policy Mix

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The views expressed in this presentation are solely our own and should not be interpreted as reflecting the views of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System or of any person associated with the Federal Reserve System.

Motivation

- Two worst post-war US contractions—the Great Recession and the COVID recession
- Fiscal policy responses included significant *transfer* components
 - The American Recovery and Reinvestment (ARRA) Act of 2009
 - The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act of 2020
- Renewed interest in *the effectiveness of transfer policies* for rebooting the economy
- Ongoing debates on the rapid increase in *public debt* and *inflationary pressures*
- The large-scale transfer programs eventually require *fiscal and/or monetary adjustments* to finance them

Questions

- Macroeconomic effects of redistribution that transfer resources from the *unconstrained* to the *constrained*
- Determinants of the transfer multiplier
- Welfare implications of such redistribution policies

This Paper

- Focus on *the source of financing*
- A transfer policy redistributes resources
 - “Ricardian” households that own government bonds
 - “hand-to-mouth” households
- Two distinct ways to finance transfers

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 - **Conventional tax financed transfers:** Under the *monetary regime*, the government raises taxes and inflation is then stabilized in the usual way by the central bank

This Paper

- Focus on *the source of financing*
- A transfer policy redistributes resources
 - “Ricardian” households that own government bonds
 - “hand-to-mouth” households
- Two distinct ways to finance transfers
 - **Conventional tax financed transfers:** Under the *monetary regime*, the government raises taxes and inflation is then stabilized in the usual way by the central bank
 - **Inflation tax financed transfers:** Under the *fiscal regime*, the government commits itself to no adjustments in taxes, and the central bank allows inflation to rise to stabilize the real value of debt

Preview of Results

- In an analytical two-agent model show:
 - A transfer policy generates *greater and more persistent* inflation under the fiscal regime than under the monetary regime
 - *Direct channel*
 - *Interest rate channel*: valuation effect on government debt due to changes in the real rate

Preview of Results

- In an analytical two-agent model show:
 - A transfer policy generates *greater and more persistent* inflation under the fiscal regime than under the monetary regime
 - *Direct channel*
 - *Interest rate channel*: valuation effect on government debt due to changes in the real rate
- In a quantitative two-sector TANK model applied to the COVID recession and the CARES Act show:
 - Inflation-financed transfers lead to high output and consumption *multipliers*
 - The *welfare* of both household types is higher under the fiscal regime
 - Inflation-financed transfers can lead a *Pareto improvement* relative to no-transfer case

Related Literature

- The fiscal-monetary interactions literature (**RANK model**)
 - Leeper (1991), Sims (1994), Woodford (1994), Cochrane (2001)
 - Analytical characterization in a linearized model: Bhattarai, Lee and Park (2014)
- Two-agent models (**No fiscal regime**)
 - Galí, López-Salido and Vallés (2007), Bilbiie (2018)
 - Transfer multipliers in a TANK model : Bilbiie et al. (2013)
- Macroeconomic effects of the COVID crisis (**No fiscal regime**)
 - Two-sector, two-agent model: Guerrieri, Lorenzoni, Straub and Werning (2022)
 - Effects of fiscal policy during the pandemic using a model with household heterogeneity: Faria-e-Castro (2021), Bayer, Born, Luetticke and Müller (2020)
- Fiscal regime and transfers in a TANK model (**No recession and financing trade-offs**)
 - Bhattarai, Lee, Park and Yang (2022), Bianchi et al. (2021)

Outline

- ① **Simple Model**
- ② Quantitative Model
- ③ Data and Calibration
- ④ Quantitative Results
- ⑤ Conclusion

Simple Model

- Two types of households: Ricardian (R) and Hand-To-Mouth (HTM).
- R households, of measure $1 - \lambda$, choose $\{C_t^R, L_t^R, B_t^R\}$ to maximize

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \left[\log C_t^R - \chi \frac{(L_t^R)^{1+\varphi}}{1+\varphi} \right]$$

subject to a sequence of flow budget constraints

$$C_t^R + b_t^R = R_{t-1} \frac{1}{\Pi_t} b_{t-1}^R + w_t L_t^R + \Psi_t^R - \tau_t^R,$$

where $b_t^R = \frac{B_t^R}{P_t}$ is the real value of **nominal debt** and $\Pi_t = \frac{P_t}{P_{t-1}}$ is inflation

Ricardian Households

- Optimality conditions:

$$\beta^{-1} \frac{C_{t+1}^R}{C_t^R} = \frac{R_t}{\Pi_{t+1}}, \quad \text{(Euler equation)}$$

$$\chi (L_t^R)^\varphi C_t^R = w_t, \quad \text{(Intra-temporal labor supply)}$$

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \left[\beta^t \frac{1}{C_t^R} \left(\frac{B_t^R}{P_t} \right) \right] = 0. \quad \text{(Transversality condition)}$$

- The Euler equation captures the new interest rate channel
- How the TVC is satisfied will be key to distinguishing the monetary vs. fiscal regimes

Hand-to-Mouth (HTM) Households and Firms

- HTM households, of measure λ , consume government transfers, s_t^H , every period

$$C_t^H = s_t^H$$

- A representative firm in the competitive market chooses hours, L_t , to maximize profits:

$$\Psi_t = Y_t - w_t L_t,$$

subject to the production function

$$Y_t = L_t.$$

Government

- Government budget constraint (GBC) is

$$b_t = \frac{R_{t-1}}{\Pi_t} b_{t-1} - \tau_t + s_t, \quad (\text{GBC})$$

where $b_t = \frac{B_t}{P_t}$ is the real value of **nominal debt**, s_t is transfers, and τ_t is taxes

- Transfer, s_t , is exogenous and deterministic

Government

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where $b_t = \frac{B_t}{P_t}$ is the real value of **nominal debt**, s_t is transfers, and τ_t is taxes

- Transfer, s_t , is exogenous and deterministic
- Monetary and tax policy rules are

$$\frac{R_t}{\bar{R}} = \left(\frac{\Pi_t}{\bar{\Pi}} \right)^\phi, \quad (\text{Monetary policy rule})$$

$$(\tau_t - \bar{\tau}) = \psi(b_{t-1} - \bar{b}), \quad (\text{Tax policy rule})$$

where ϕ and ψ are the feedback policy parameters that will govern the regimes

Aggregation and the Resource Constraint

- Combining household and government budget constraints gives:

$$(1 - \lambda)C_t^R + \lambda C_t^H = Y_t$$

- Output is simply divided between the two types of households as:

$$C_t^H = \frac{1}{\lambda} s_t,$$
$$C_t^R = \frac{1}{1 - \lambda} Y_t - \frac{1}{1 - \lambda} s_t.$$

- Output is endogenous

Effects of Redistribution – Output and Consumption

- $s_t > \bar{s}$ until time period T ; $s_t = \bar{s}$ for $t \geq T + 1$
- The “transfer multipliers” (and all real variables) are independent of monetary–fiscal policy mix

$$\frac{dY(s_t)}{ds_t} = \frac{1}{1 + (1 - \lambda)^{1+\varphi} \frac{\varphi}{\chi} Y_t^{-(1+\varphi)}} \in [0, 1],$$

$$\frac{dC^R(s_t)}{ds_t} = \frac{1}{1 - \lambda} \left[\frac{dY(s_t)}{ds_t} - 1 \right] \leq 0,$$

$$\frac{dC^H(s_t)}{ds_t} = \frac{1}{\lambda}.$$

- Inflation dynamics *depend* on the monetary–fiscal policy mix

Effects of Redistribution – Inflation

- Equilibrium path $\{\Pi_t, b_t\}$ satisfies TVC and the following:

$$\left(\frac{\Pi_{t+1}}{\bar{\Pi}}\right) = \frac{C_t^R}{C_{t+1}^R} \left(\frac{\Pi_t}{\bar{\Pi}}\right)^\phi, \quad (\text{How } \Pi_{t+1} \text{ depends on } \Pi_t \text{ and the real rate})$$

$$(b_t - \bar{b}) = \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C_t^R}{C_{t-1}^R} - \psi \right] (b_{t-1} - \bar{b}) + (s_t - \bar{s}) + \bar{b} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C_t^R}{C_{t-1}^R} - \beta^{-1} \right], \quad (\text{GBC: } t \geq 1)$$

$$(b_0 - \bar{b}) = \beta^{-1} \left(\frac{\bar{\Pi}}{\Pi_0} - 1 \right) \bar{b} + (s_0 - \bar{s}). \quad (\text{GBC: } t = 0)$$

Effects of Redistribution – Inflation

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- How TVC is satisfied *depends* on the fiscal policy parameter ψ
 - When $\psi > 0$, debt dynamics satisfies the TVC regardless of the value of b_{T+1}
 - When $\psi \leq 0$, the TVC requires $b_{T+1} = \bar{b}$, which can be achieved when monetary policy allows inflation to adjust by the required amount

Effects of Redistribution Policy—Inflation: Monetary Regime

- Under the *monetary regime*, $\psi > 0$ **and** $\phi > 1$
- Inflation for $t \geq T + 1$ becomes

$$\Pi_t = \bar{\Pi}, \quad \forall t \geq T + 1$$

- Pin down Π_t from $t = 0$ to T along the *saddle path* and derive the initial inflation:

$$\frac{\Pi_0}{\bar{\Pi}} = C^R(\bar{s})^{\frac{1}{\phi^{T+1}}} \left[\frac{1}{C^R(s_T) C^R(s_{T-1}) \cdots C^R(s_0)} \right]^{\frac{1}{\phi}} = \prod_{t=0}^T \left[\frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_t)} \right]^{\frac{1}{\phi}}$$

- An increase in transfers is inflationary as $C^R(s_t)$ declines below the pre-transfer level
- The effect is *transitory*

Effects of Redistribution Policy—Inflation: **Fiscal Regime**

- Under the *fiscal regime*, $\psi \leq 0$ **and** $\phi < 1$
- A simple case: one-time transfer increase ($s_0 > \bar{s}$ and $s_t = \bar{s}$ afterwards)

Effects of Redistribution Policy—Inflation: **Fiscal Regime**

- Under the *fiscal regime*, $\psi \leq 0$ **and** $\phi < 1$
- A simple case: one-time transfer increase ($s_0 > \bar{s}$ and $s_t = \bar{s}$ afterwards)
 - TVC requires $b_1 = \bar{b}$ and the GBC at $t = 1$ implies:

$$b_0 = \bar{b} - \bar{b} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \psi \right]^{-1} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \beta^{-1} \right]$$

Effects of Redistribution Policy—Inflation: Fiscal Regime

- Under the *fiscal regime*, $\psi \leq 0$ and $\phi < 1$
- A simple case: one-time transfer increase ($s_0 > \bar{s}$ and $s_t = \bar{s}$ afterwards)
 - TVC requires $b_1 = \bar{b}$ and the GBC at $t = 1$ implies:

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- For $b_1 = \bar{b}$, Π_0 adjusts:

$$\frac{\Pi_0}{\bar{\Pi}} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\beta}{\bar{b}} (s_0 - \bar{s}) - \beta \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \psi \right]^{-1} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \beta^{-1} \right]}$$

- The redistribution policy is more *inflationary* under fiscal regime than monetary regime
- The one-time transitory increase in transfers has *persistent* effects on inflation

Effects of Redistribution Policy—Inflation: Fiscal Regime

- Under the *fiscal regime*, $\psi \leq 0$ and $\phi < 1$
- A simple case: one-time transfer increase ($s_0 > \bar{s}$ and $s_t = \bar{s}$ afterwards)
 - TVC requires $b_1 = \bar{b}$ and the GBC at $t = 1$ implies:

$$b_0 = \bar{b} - \bar{b} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \psi \right]^{-1} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \beta^{-1} \right]$$

- For $b_1 = \bar{b}$, Π_0 adjusts:

$$\frac{\Pi_0}{\bar{\Pi}} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{\beta}{b} (s_0 - \bar{s}) - \beta \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \psi \right]^{-1} \left[\beta^{-1} \frac{C^R(\bar{s})}{C^R(s_0)} - \beta^{-1} \right]}$$

- The *interest rate channel* cause Π_0 to increase by *more* than it would in an analogous model with a representative household
- This term results from increased interest payments that exert an upward pressure on b_1 which is offset by a further decrease in b_0 , generated by a greater increase in Π_0

Summary so far

- More **inflationary** under fiscal regime than monetary regime
- **Irrelevance** of financing schemes for output, consumption and welfare
 - Flexible prices
 - No feedback from inflation to real variables
 - No Keynesian demand channel
 - Both types of taxes are non-distortionary
 - Lump-sum tax
 - Inflation tax
- Introduce several realistic features that break the uniformity of the two regimes in terms of the multipliers.

Outline

- ① Simple Model
- ② **Quantitative Model**
- ③ Data and Calibration
- ④ Quantitative Results
- ⑤ Conclusion

Quantitative Model

- A quantitative model with an application to COVID recession
 - Transfer policy, as embedded in the CARES Act
- A two-sector production structure, sticky prices, and labor taxes
 - Two distinct sectors where the two types of households work
 - Sticky prices under Calvo friction
 - Distortionary labor taxes on the Ricardian household to finance transfers
 - Three types of shocks that generate COVID recession
- Analyze how the implications of increasing transfers to HTM households, hit disproportionately in COVID recession

Ricardian Sector: Households

- Ricardian (R) households, of measure $1 - \lambda$, solve the problem

$$\max_{\{C_t^R, L_t^R, b_t^R\}} \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \exp(\eta_t^\xi) \left[\frac{(C_t^R)^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} - \chi \frac{(L_t^R)^{1+\varphi}}{1+\varphi} \right]$$

subject to a sequence of flow budget constraints

$$C_t^R + b_t^R = R_{t-1} \frac{1}{\prod_t^R} b_{t-1}^R + (1 - \tau_{L,t}^R) w_t^R L_t^R + \Psi_t^R$$

- η_t^ξ is a discount factor shock; $\tau_{L,t}^R$ is labor tax
- C_t^R is a CES aggregator of the goods produced in the two sectors

$$C_t^R = \left[(\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} (C_{R,t}^R)^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} + (1-\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} (\exp(\zeta_{H,t}) C_{H,t}^R)^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}}$$

- $\zeta_{H,t}$ is a demand shock that is specific for *HTM* goods

HTM Sector: Households

- HTM-households' labor endowment is exogenously fixed and can change with a shock
- In each period, they consume wage income and government transfers

$$C_t^H = w_t^H \overline{L^H} (1 + \eta_t^\xi) + s_t^H,$$

where η_t^ξ is HTM labor supply shock

- The aggregate consumption C_t^H is a CES aggregator of sector-specific goods

$$C_t^H = \left[(1 - \alpha)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} (\exp(\zeta_{H,t}) C_{H,t}^H)^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} + (\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\varepsilon}} (C_{R,t}^H)^{\frac{\varepsilon-1}{\varepsilon}} \right]^{\frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon-1}}$$

- $\zeta_{H,t}$ is a demand shock that is specific for HTM goods

Ricardian and HTM Sector: Firms

- Monopolistically competitive firms produce differentiated varieties
- The production function is linear (labor market is sector specific)
- Firms face a standard downward sloping demand curve
- Firms set prices according to the Calvo friction

Government

- The government (nominal) flow budget constraint is

$$B_t + T_t^L = R_{t-1}B_{t-1} + P_t^R s_t,$$

where T_t^L is tax revenues and s_t is exogenous and deterministic transfer

- Monetary and tax policy rules are of the feedback types given by

$$\frac{R_t}{\bar{R}} = \max \left\{ \frac{1}{\bar{R}}, \left(\frac{(1 - \lambda) \Pi_t^R + \lambda \Pi_t^H}{\bar{\Pi}} \right)^\phi \right\}, \quad \tau_{L,t}^R - \bar{\tau}_L^R = \psi_L (b_{t-1} - \bar{b}).$$

Government

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$$\frac{R_t}{\bar{R}} = \max \left\{ \frac{1}{\bar{R}}, \left(\frac{(1 - \lambda) \Pi_t^R + \lambda \Pi_t^H}{\bar{\Pi}} \right)^\phi \right\}, \quad \tau_{L,t}^R - \bar{\tau}_L^R = \psi_L (b_{t-1} - \bar{b}).$$

- *Monetary regime* features high enough monetary (ϕ) and tax (ψ_L) rule coefficients
- *Fiscal regime* features low enough tax ($\psi_L=0$) and monetary ($\phi=0$) rule coefficients

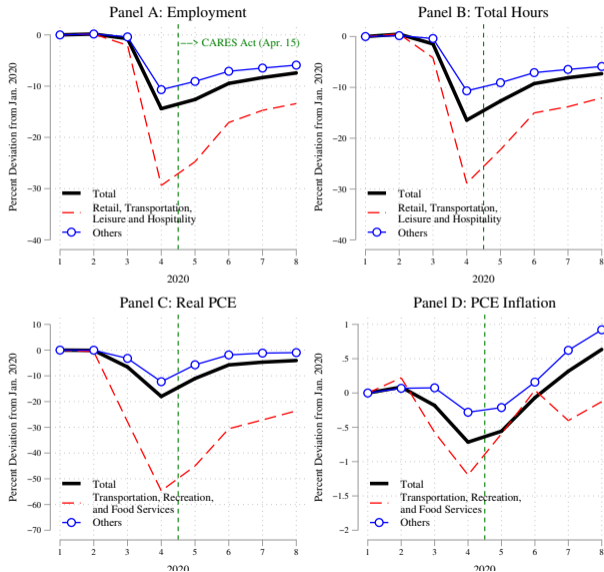
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- ① Simple Model
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Data and Calibration

- Pick parameter values based on long-run averages or from the literature
- Calibrate the three shocks to match exactly employment and inflation dynamics during the COVID crisis (for six months)
- Decompose the U.S. economy into two sectors
 - HTM sector: transportation, recreation, and food service sector
 - Ricardian sector: the rest of the economy
- Calibrate the size of transfers using the amounts in CARES Act (3.4 percent of GDP)
 - \$293 billion to provide one-time tax rebates
 - \$268 billion to expand unemployment benefits
 - \$150 billion in transfers to state and local governments

Sectoral Dynamics During Covid Crisis



| | Value | Description | Sources |
|---|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Households</u> | | | |
| β | 0.9932 | Time preference | 2-month frequency |
| σ | 1.0 | Inverse of EIS | Gertler and Karadi (2011) |
| φ | 0.3 | Inverse of Frisch elasticity | Gertler and Karadi (2011) |
| χ | 3.08 | Labor supply disutility parameter | Steady-state $\bar{L}^R = 0.3$ |
| λ | 0.23 | Fraction of HTM households | Employment share of HTM sectors |
| α | 0.72 | Consumption weight on Ricardian goods | Consumer Expenditure Surveys data |
| <u>Firms</u> | | | |
| θ | 4.0 | Elasticity of substitution across firms | Steady-state markup: 33% (Hall, 2018) |
| ε | 2.0 | Elasticity of substitution between Ricardian and HTM goods | Carvalho et al. (2021) |
| ω^R | 0.75 | Calvo parameter for Ricardian sector | Carvalho et al. (2021) |
| ω^H | 0.80 | Calvo parameter for HTM sector | Carvalho et al. (2021) |
| <u>Government</u> | | | |
| $\frac{\bar{b}}{\bar{b}Y}$ | 0.509 | Steady-state debt to GDP | Data (1990Q1-2020Q1) |
| $\frac{\bar{T}^L}{\bar{Y}}$ | 0.122 | Steady-state labor tax revenue to GDP | Data (1990Q1-2020Q1) |
| $\frac{\bar{\tau}}{\bar{Y}}$ | 0.127 | Steady-state transfers to GDP | Data (1990Q1-2020Q1) |
| <u>Monetary and Fiscal Policy Rules</u> | | | |
| ϕ_π | (1.58, 0.0) | Interest rate response to inflation | Coibion and Gorodnichenko (2011) |
| ψ_L | (0.1, 0.0) | Labor tax rate response to debt | Bhattarai et al. (2016) |
| <u>Shocks</u> | | | |
| η_t^H | (-9%, 17%, 17%) | Size of HTM labor supply shock | Total hours for HTM sectors |
| η_t^ε | (-7%, -22%, -21%) | Size of discount factor shock | Total hours excluding HTM sectors |
| $\zeta_{H,t}$ | (-4%, -0.9%, 3%) | Size of HTM sector demand shock | PCE Inflation for HTM sectors |
| s_t | 26.8% | Size of transfer distribution | 2020 CARES Act |

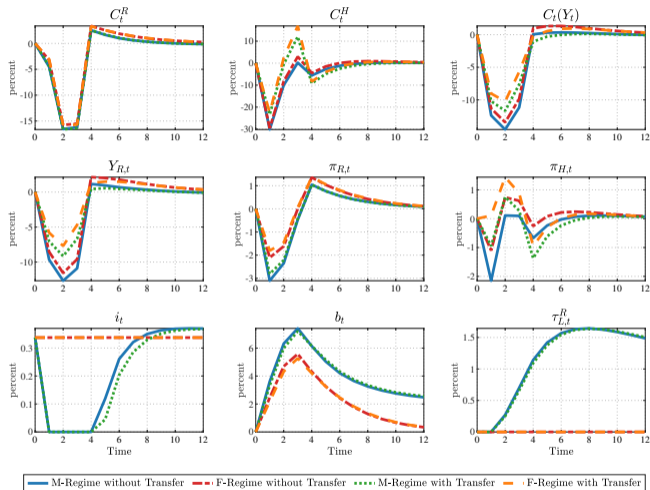
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Dynamic Effects of Transfer Policy

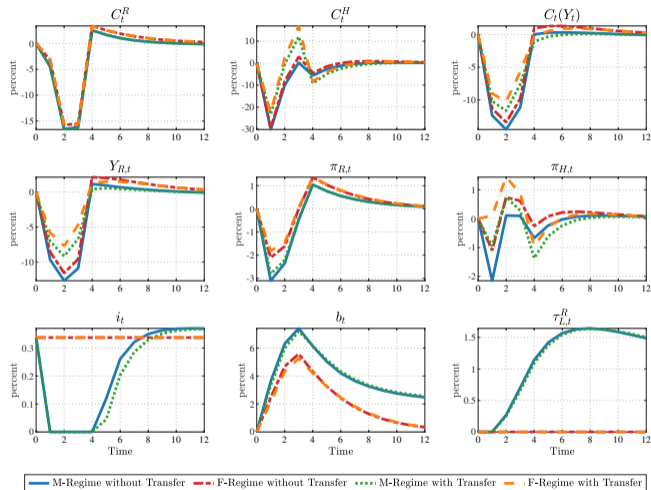
- Show how key variables evolve over time in response to the COVID shocks
- Four different scenarios
 - *Monetary regime* with and without transfers to the HTM-households
 - *Fiscal regime* with and without transfers to the HTM-households
 - Benchmark: no transfer under monetary regime (blue in the next slide)
- Duration of redistribution policy is three periods (six months), which coincides with the duration of the shocks

Redistribution Policy with Different Policy Regimes



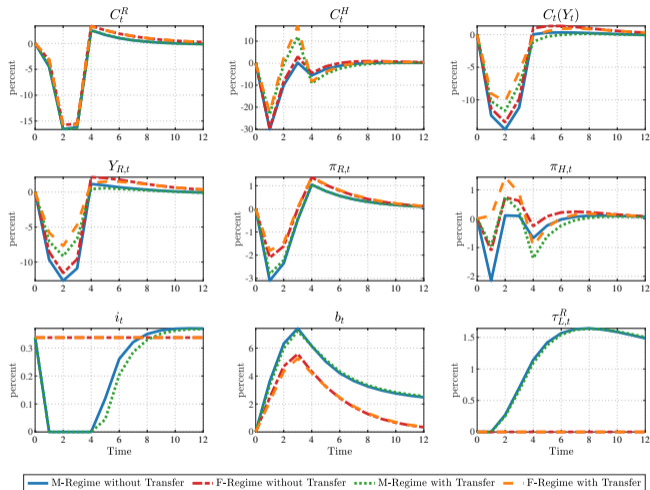
- Short-run contractions in output and consumption and a decline in inflation

Redistribution Policy with Different Policy Regimes



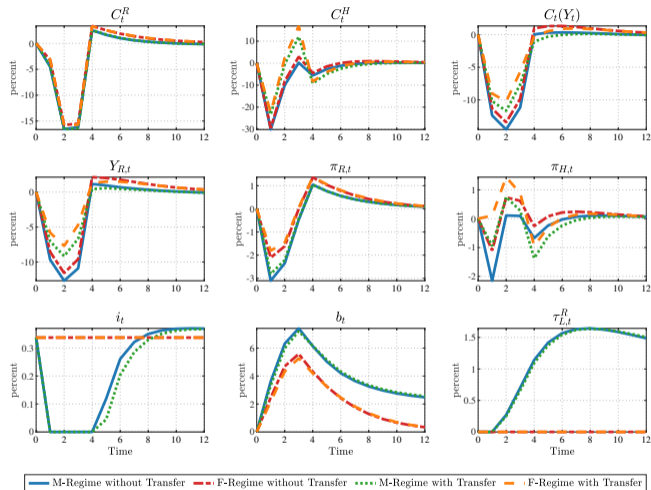
- Short-run contractions in output and consumption and a decline in inflation
- Smaller contractions in output and consumption of both types in the *fiscal regime* than in the *monetary regime*

Redistribution Policy with Different Policy Regimes



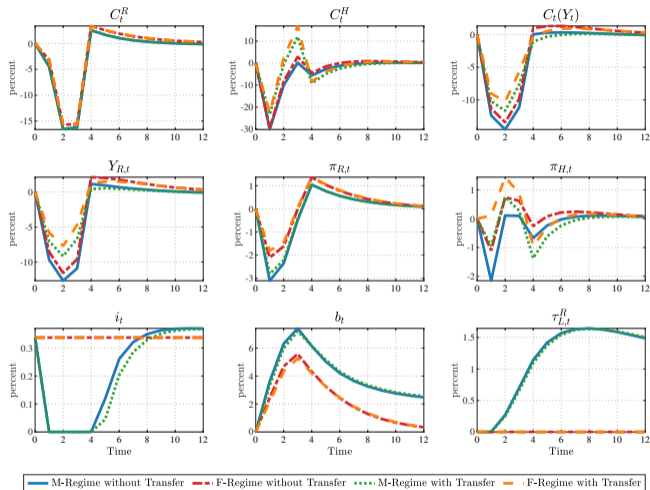
- Short-run contractions in output and consumption and a decline in inflation
 - Smaller contractions in output and consumption of both types in the *fiscal regime* than in the *monetary regime*
- ① Strong and persistent inflation \Rightarrow Large expansionary effects on output due to nominal rigidities

Redistribution Policy with Different Policy Regimes



- Short-run contractions in output and consumption and a decline in inflation
 - Smaller contractions in output and consumption of both types in the *fiscal regime* than in the *monetary regime*
- 1 Strong and persistent inflation \Rightarrow Large expansionary effects on output due to nominal rigidities
 - 2 Binding ZLB leads to a bigger drop in the monetary regime

Redistribution Policy with Different Policy Regimes



- Short-run contractions in output and consumption and a decline in inflation
 - Smaller contractions in output and consumption of both types in the *fiscal regime* than in the *monetary regime*
- 1 Strong and persistent inflation \Rightarrow Large expansionary effects on output due to nominal rigidities
 - 2 Binding ZLB leads to a bigger drop in the monetary regime
 - 3 The redistribution program is more inflationary in the fiscal regime

- The transfer multiplier for output under regime $i \in \{M, F\}$ is defined as

$$\mathcal{M}_t^i(Y) = \left(\frac{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h (\tilde{Y}_h^i - Y_h^M)}{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h s_h} \right),$$

- \tilde{Y}_h^i is output at horizon h under i -regime *with* transfers
- Y_h^M is output at horizon h in benchmark
- s_h is transfers at horizon h

| | Monetary Regime | | | | Fiscal Regime | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^H)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^H)$ |
| Impact Multipliers | 1.923 | 1.863 | -0.119 | 7.828 | 2.949 | 2.726 | 1.166 | 8.788 |
| 4-Year Cumulative Multipliers | 1.732 | 2.023 | -0.116 | 7.409 | 5.552 | 5.429 | 3.078 | 13.652 |

- Multipliers computed with monetary regime and no transfers as benchmark
- Note: S.S is not the benchmark!
- Output multipliers above 1 in the monetary regime due to the binding ZLB and sticky prices

| | Monetary Regime | | | | Fiscal Regime | | | |
|-------------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^H)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^H)$ |
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- Multipliers computed with monetary regime and no transfers as benchmark
- Note: S.S is not the benchmark!
- Output multipliers above 1 in the monetary regime due to the binding ZLB and sticky prices
- Multipliers are ***even higher in the fiscal regime***
 - C^R multiplier is positive due to sticky prices and persistent inflation dynamics

Inspecting the Mechanisms

Why is the F regime so much better in this particular environment?

- Inflation is expansionary with sticky prices
- Labor taxes are distortionary
- Inflationary pressure generates little relative price distortion in a deep recession
- Decomposition of Transfer Multipliers

▶ Multipliers

Welfare Effects of Transfer Policy

▸ Definition

▸ Short-Run Welfare

| | Monetary Regime | | Fiscal Regime | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | Long-run | Short-run ($t = 4$) | Long-run | Short-run ($t = 4$) |
| Ricardian Household | -0.014 | -1.465 | 0.011 | -1.214 |
| HTM Household | 0.076 | 6.277 | 0.118 | 7.744 |

- % point deviation relative to the benchmark

Welfare Effects of Transfer Policy

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- % point deviation relative to the benchmark
- Given redistribution, inflation taxes (F regime) produce better welfare outcomes than labor taxes (M regime)

| | Monetary Regime | | Fiscal Regime | |
|---------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| | Long-run | Short-run ($t = 4$) | Long-run | Short-run ($t = 4$) |
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- % point deviation relative to the benchmark
- Given redistribution, inflation taxes (F regime) produce better welfare outcomes than labor taxes (M regime)
- Redistribution under F regime generates a ***Pareto improvement***

Outline

- ① Simple Model
- ② Quantitative Model
- ③ Data and Calibration
- ④ Quantitative Results
- ⑤ **Conclusion**

Conclusion

- How transfers are ultimately financed is key for their effectiveness
 - Inflation-financed transfers are significantly more effective than tax-financed transfers
 - The fiscal regime produces high and persistent inflation through the direct and the indirect (interest rate) channels
 - Quantitative exercise shows that inflation-financed transfers fight deflationary pressures in a COVID-recession-like environment
 - Such inflation-induced expansionary effects produce a Pareto improvement
- Future work
 - A richer form of heterogeneity across sectors as well as households
 - Long-term debt and the effects on long-term yields

Appendix

- We define our measure of welfare gain for household of type $i \in \{R, H\}$, $\mu_{t,k}^i$, as

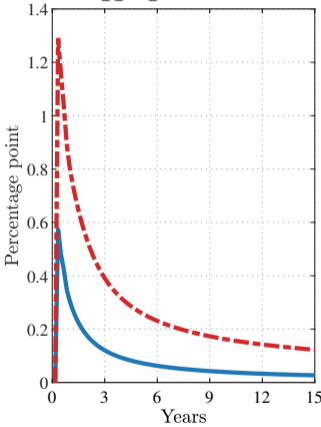
$$\sum_{j=0}^t \beta^j U(C_j^i, L_j^i) = \sum_{j=0}^t \beta^j U((1 + \mu_{t,k}^i) \bar{C}^i, \bar{L}^i),$$

where $\{\bar{C}^i, \bar{L}^i\}$ is the steady-state level of type- i household's consumption and hours, and $\{C_j^i, L_j^i\}$ are the time path of type- i household's consumption and hours

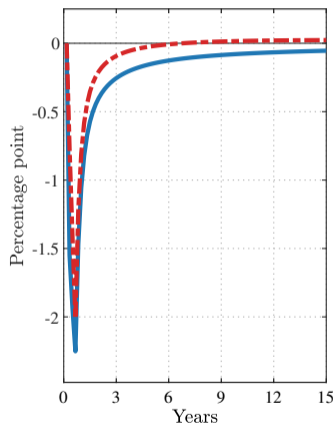
- The values in the table are the % point deviation from the welfare of the baseline model under the monetary regime without transfers.

Short-Run Welfare Gains Comparison

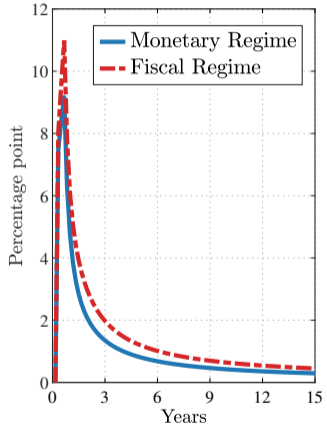
Aggregate Welfare



Ricardian Household



HTM Household



Inspecting the Mechanisms of Transfer Multipliers

The output multiplier under regime $i \in \{M, F\}$ can be decomposed as:

$$\mathcal{M}_t^i(Y) = \underbrace{\left(\frac{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h (\tilde{Y}_h^i - \tilde{Y}_{\text{no shock},h}^i)}{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h s_h} \right)}_{\text{COVID Effect with Transfer}} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h (\tilde{Y}_{\text{no shock},h}^i - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h s_h} \right)}_{\text{Transfer Effect without COVID Shocks}} - \underbrace{\left(\frac{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h (Y_h^M - \bar{Y})}{\sum_{h=0}^t \beta^h s_h} \right)}_{\text{COVID Effect without Transfer}}$$

- The third effect is the same across regimes, while the first two are different as they compute the effect for a given regime.

Decomposition of Transfer Multipliers

[▶ Back](#)

| | Monetary Regime | | | | Fiscal Regime | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^H)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^H)$ |
| <i>Panel A: Impact Multipliers</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Total Effect | 1.923 | 1.863 | 0.119 | 7.828 | 2.949 | 2.726 | 1.166 | 8.788 |
| Covid Effect with Transfer | -11.628 | -7.422 | -2.567 | -41.289 | -12.571 | -8.178 | -2.403 | -45.856 |
| Transfer Effect without Covid | 2.670 | 2.464 | -0.911 | 14.394 | 4.640 | 4.083 | -0.028 | 19.920 |
| Covid Effect without Transfer | -10.881 | -6.821 | -3.597 | -34.723 | -10.881 | -6.821 | -3.597 | -34.723 |
| <i>Panel B: 4-Year Cumulative Multipliers</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Total Effect | 1.732 | 2.023 | -0.002 | 7.409 | 5.552 | 5.429 | 3.078 | 13.652 |
| Covid Effect with Transfer | -10.954 | -7.083 | -7.786 | -21.321 | -8.340 | -4.779 | -5.558 | -17.447 |
| Transfer Effect without Covid | 1.490 | 1.703 | -1.107 | 9.991 | 2.696 | 2.805 | -0.256 | 12.359 |
| Covid Effect without Transfer | -11.196 | -7.403 | -8.891 | -18.739 | -11.196 | -7.403 | -8.891 | -18.739 |

Transfer Multipliers without COVID Shocks

[▶ Back](#)

| | Monetary Regime | | | | Fiscal Regime | | | |
|---|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^M(C^H)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(Y_R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^R)$ | $\mathcal{M}_t^F(C^H)$ |
| <i>Panel A: Without COVID shocks under sticky price</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Impact Multipliers | 2.670 | 2.464 | -0.911 | 14.394 | 4.640 | 4.083 | -0.028 | 19.920 |
| 4-Year Cumulative Multiplier | 1.490 | 1.703 | -1.107 | 9.991 | 2.696 | 2.805 | -0.256 | 12.359 |
| <i>Panel B: Without COVID shocks under flexible price</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Impact Multipliers | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 |
| 4-Year Cumulative Multiplier | -0.115 | 0.63 | -1.095 | 3.094 | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 |
| <i>Panel C: Without COVID shocks under flexible price and lump-sum tax adjustment</i> | | | | | | | | |
| Impact Multipliers | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 |
| 4-Year Cumulative Multiplier | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 | 0.184 | 0.931 | -0.747 | 3.230 |