Monetary Policy: A New Normal? & The I Theory of Money

Markus K. Brunnermeier Princeton University

San Francisco Federal Reserve San Francisco, Nov. 10th, 2014

Stability concepts & interconnections

• OUTPUT (GAP) PRICE STABILITY E[W($y_t - y^*$, $\pi_t - \pi^*$,)]

Instruments

short-term interest rate unconventional MoPo



Stability concepts & interconnections FINANCIAL STABILITY OUTPUT (GAP) PRICE STABILITY **FISCAL DEBT** $E[W(y_t - y^*), \pi_t - \pi^*),$ risk concentration, sustain.)] Instruments short-term interest rate unconventional MoPo micro-prudential fiscal rules LOLR





Stability concepts & interconnections



 $\Delta \text{price} = f(\Delta E[\text{future cash flows}], \Delta \text{risk premia})$

- Endogenous risk (dynamics)
 - Amplification
 - Runs
- Risk premia (time varying)
 - Term spread: expectations hypothesis fails
 - Credit spread: default risk +

risk premium predicts future economic activity Gilchrist & Zakrajsek



Risk premium news the main driver

 $\Delta \text{price} = f(\Delta E[\text{future cash flows}], \Delta \text{risk premia})$ Depends on "undercapitalization"

- Endogenous risk (dynamics)
 - Amplification
 - Runs
- Risk premia (time varying)
 - Term spread: expectations hypothesis fails
 - Credit spread: default risk +

risk premium predicts future economic activity Gilchrist & Zakrajsek

of critical sectors



Risk premium news the main driver

 $\Delta \text{price} = f(\Delta E[\text{future cash flows}], \Delta \text{risk premia})$

- Endogenous risk (dynamics)
 - Amplification
 - Runs
- Risk premia (time varying)
 - Term spread: expectations hypothesis fails
 - Credit spread: default risk +

risk premium predicts future economic activity

Gilchrist & Zakrajsek

Risk premium news the main driver

Volatility Paradox

• Measured volatility is low when risk builds up (in background)

 Δ price = $f(\Delta E$ [future cash flows], Δ risk premia)

- Endogenous risk (dynamics)
 - Amplification
 - Runs
- Risk premia (time varying)
 - Term spread: expectations hypothesis fails
 - Credit spread: default risk +

risk premium predicts future economic activity

Gilchrist & Zakrajsek

Risk premium news the main driver

Volatility Paradox

- Measured volatility is low when risk builds up (in background)
- Measure of Topography (distribution) of risk concentration pockets
 - Distribution of Liquidity Mismatch

Liquidity Mismatch

Technological liquidity

Reversibility of investment

Market liquidity

Specificity of capital
 Price impact of capital sale

Funding liquidity

- Maturity structure of debt
 - Can't roll over short term debt
- Sensitivity of margins
 - Margin-funding is recalled

Distribution of Liquidity Mismatch (with Gorton & Krishnamurthy)

Liquidity Maturity mismatch

- Across sector
- Substitutability of sector
- Wealth shifts/undercapitalization likely, also shift risk premia

Risk Build-up Phase — "Volatility Paradox"

Liquidity mismatch increases during tranquil times



Brunnermeier & Sannikov 2014 Intermediation chain often hide overall liquidity mismatch Distribution matters: "Topography of Liquidity Mismatch"

Sectorial analysis



	"Bare bone" NK Model	I Theory
Friction	Price/Wage stickiness	Financial friction
Manage	Price dispersion	Potential wealth shifts - Amplification/runs - Risk premia Balance sheet constraints ⁱ
	Linear around Steady State	Non-linearities
Transmission mechanism	Euler equation (STABLE) Substitution effect	Time-varying & depends on - {LM} ^{sectors} - Financial/mortgage contracts - Borrowers' bank dependency Income/wealth effects
		 ex-post: redistributive ex-ante: insurance ⇒ affects risk premia (Hanson-Stein on 10 year Tips)

	"Bare bone" NK Model	I Theory
Friction	Price/Wage stickiness	Financial friction
Money/Interest	Interest rate prime focus (moneyless economy)	Endogenous inside money creation (by financial sector)
Instruments	Interest rate & QE	Interaction with MacroPru - Complements - Substitutes
Rule	$i_{t} = \pi_{t} + r_{t}^{*} + \lambda(y_{t} - y^{*}) + \alpha(\pi_{t} - \pi^{*})$	$\begin{pmatrix} i_{t} \\ capital_{t} \\ liquidity_{t} \\ \dots \end{pmatrix} = F \begin{pmatrix} y_{t} - y^{*} \\ \pi_{t} - \pi^{*} \\ VaR_{t}[y_{t+\tau}] \\ \{LM\}^{sector} \\ \dots \end{pmatrix}$
	coefficients of Taylor rule are constant/stable	Possibly unstable coefficients and nonlinearities to capture substitutability/complementarity
Long-term interest rate	Expectations hypothesis	Term risk premia (time varying)

Trade-off: Price vs. Financial Stability

- Induce "financial risk taking" during crisis in order to reduce endogenous risk, contraction & disinflation
 - Precautionary delevering leads to
 - Fire-sale prices Liquidity spiral
 - Disinflation
 Disinflation spiral
 Inefficient due to pecuniary externalities
 - Take on "financial risk" to
 - boost economy,

Brunnermeier & Sannikov 201

- reduce endogenous risk (& risk premia)
- "Stealth" recapitalization of impaired sector (bottleneck)
 - Banking vs. insurance, SMEs,
 - Corporate sector, household,...
- 2. Make risk-taking attractive



Interest rate cuts vs. QE/Forward Guidance

Mainstream: QE = interest rate cut below 0





Interest rate cuts vs. QE/Forward Guidance

Mainstream: QE = interest rate cut below 0





Interest rate cuts vs. QE/Forward Guidance

Mainstream: QE = interest rate cut below 0



I Theory view:

different distributional implications across and within financial sector

- banks borrow short and lend long
- insurance/pension funds companies
- households depends on mortgage market

Bottleneck MoPo: Whose balance sheets are impaired?

Inflation Index: Core vs. Headline

- Empirical view: "core" is better predictor of future $\pi_{t+\tau}$
 - exclude energy since it is mean reverting
- NK view: Core excludes less sticky prices
 - exclude energy since prices are flexibel

- I Theory view:
- price changes cause wealth effect desirable or not?
 - exclude energy (in Europe) since it causes wealth transfer to middle east/Russia

(Is oil price drop and lowflation bad for Eurozone?)

Conclusions – the "Forgotten Normal"

- Price stability and financial stability are linked
 - Money is created by financial sector
- Monetary policy and Macro-prudential policy interact
- Taylor rule has to be expanded
 - Instruments (LHS of Taylor rule) are multi-dimensional
- I Theory: Wealth/income effects vs. substitution effects
- Financial stability price stability trade-off: More financial risk taking (in crisis), less disinflation
- QE/Forward guidance ≠ interest rate cut (below zero)
- Reinterpretation of Optimal Inflation Index
 - Optimal inflation index depends on which sector is impaired