The Origin of Risk

Alexandr Kopytov University of Rochester Mathieu Taschereau-Dumouchel Cornell University Zebang Xu Cornell University

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous

But agents often have control over the risks they face

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous But agents often have control over the risks they face

- Growing crops by the shore creates flood risk
- Growing crops inland creates drought risk

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous

But agents often have control over the risks they face

- Growing crops by the shore creates flood risk
- Growing crops inland creates drought risk

Tons of decisions affect the risk profile of a firm

· Hiring decisions, R&D projects, plant locations, investment choices, lobbying, etc.

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous

But agents often have control over the risks they face

- Growing crops by the shore creates flood risk
- Growing crops inland creates drought risk

Tons of decisions affect the risk profile of a firm

· Hiring decisions, R&D projects, plant locations, investment choices, lobbying, etc.

When aggregated, these individual decisions matter for aggregate risk

· If everybody grows crops by the shore, a flood can lead to mass starvation

Economists commonly assume that risk is exogenous

But agents often have control over the risks they face

- · Growing crops by the shore creates flood risk
- · Growing crops inland creates drought risk

Tons of decisions affect the risk profile of a firm

· Hiring decisions, R&D projects, plant locations, investment choices, lobbying, etc.

When aggregated, these individual decisions matter for aggregate risk

 \cdot If everybody grows crops by the shore, a flood can lead to mass starvation

What drives individual risk-taking decisions and how do they affect aggregate risk?

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

 $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- \cdot Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)
 - Adjusting risk is costly

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- · Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)
 - Adjusting risk is costly

The theory predicts how firm characteristics affect their risk profile

• Since TFP multiplies the input bundle, larger firms manage risk more aggressively

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)
 - Adjusting risk is costly

The theory predicts how firm characteristics affect their risk profile

- · Since TFP multiplies the input bundle, larger firms manage risk more aggressively
- Firms with higher sales and lower markups are less volatile and covary less with GDP
- Detailed firm-level Spanish data supports these predictions

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)
 - Adjusting risk is costly

The theory predicts how firm characteristics affect their risk profile

- · Since TFP multiplies the input bundle, larger firms manage risk more aggressively
- Firms with higher sales and lower markups are less volatile and covary less with GDP
- Detailed firm-level Spanish data supports these predictions

The theory also has predictions for the aggregate economy

• Because of endogenous risk, distortions can make GDP more volatile

We construct a model in which risk is endogenous at both the micro and the macro levels

- Instead of modeling each decision that matters for risk we take a holistic approach
- Each firm can adjust its TFP process (mean, variance and correlation with other firms' TFP)
 - Adjusting risk is costly

The theory predicts how firm characteristics affect their risk profile

- · Since TFP multiplies the input bundle, larger firms manage risk more aggressively
- Firms with higher sales and lower markups are less volatile and covary less with GDP
- Detailed firm-level Spanish data supports these predictions

The theory also has predictions for the aggregate economy

· Because of endogenous risk, distortions can make GDP more volatile

We calibrate the model to the Spanish economy

· Removing distortions leads to a large decline in aggregate volatility

A model of endogenous risk

Environment

Static model with two types of agents

- 1. A representative household owns the firms, supplies labor and risk management resources
 - · Risk mgmt. resources: land, managers, raw materials, lobbyists, etc.
- 2. N firms produce differentiated goods using labor and intermediate inputs
 - · Firms are competitive and take all prices and aggregate quantities as given.
 - Firm *i* has a constant returns to scale Cobb-Douglas production function



$$F(\delta_i, L_i, X_i) = e^{\alpha_i(\varepsilon, \delta_i)} \zeta_i L_i^{1 - \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_{ij}} \prod_{j=1}^N X_{ij}^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

Firms choose the mean, variance and correlation structure of their TFP $a_i\left(oldsymbol{arepsilon}, oldsymbol{\delta_i}\right)$

Firms choose the mean, variance and correlation structure of their TFP $a_i\left(oldsymbol{arepsilon}, \delta_i\right)$

There are underlying sources of risk $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_M)$ with $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

- · Examples: a river floods, discovery of a new drug, war between two countries, epidemic, etc.
- We don't take a stance on what ε is. Focus on quantity of risk and correlation structure.

Firms choose the mean, variance and correlation structure of their TFP $a_i\left(oldsymbol{arepsilon},oldsymbol{\delta_i}\right)$

There are underlying sources of risk $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_M)$ with $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

- · Examples: a river floods, discovery of a new drug, war between two countries, epidemic, etc.
- We don't take a stance on what ε is. Focus on quantity of risk and correlation structure.

Firms pick exposure vector δ_i to these risk factors

$$a_i\left(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}, \delta_i\right) = \delta_i^{\top} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - b_i\left(\delta_i\right)$$

Firms choose the mean, variance and correlation structure of their TFP $a_i\left(oldsymbol{arepsilon},oldsymbol{\delta_i}
ight)$

There are underlying sources of risk $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_M)$ with $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

- · Examples: a river floods, discovery of a new drug, war between two countries, epidemic, etc.
- We don't take a stance on what ε is. Focus on quantity of risk and correlation structure.

Firms pick exposure vector δ_i to these risk factors

$$a_i(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_i) = \boldsymbol{\delta}_i^{\top} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - b_i(\boldsymbol{\delta}_i)$$

Managing risk (picking δ_i) might incur costs

- Productivity cost b_i: workplace rules limit catastrophes but reduce average productivity
- Resource cost g_i : land, managers, raw materials, etc. (available at price W_R)

Firms choose the mean, variance and correlation structure of their TFP $a_i\left(oldsymbol{arepsilon},oldsymbol{\delta_i}\right)$

There are underlying sources of risk $\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_M)$ with $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)$

- Examples: a river floods, discovery of a new drug, war between two countries, epidemic, etc.
- We don't take a stance on what ε is. Focus on quantity of risk and correlation structure.

Firms pick exposure vector δ_i to these risk factors

$$a_i(\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}, \boldsymbol{\delta}_i) = \boldsymbol{\delta}_i^{\top} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - b_i(\boldsymbol{\delta}_i)$$

Managing risk (picking δ_i) might incur costs

- Productivity cost b_i: workplace rules limit catastrophes but reduce average productivity
- Resource cost g_i : land, managers, raw materials, etc. (available at price W_R)

$$b_i(\delta_i) = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ})^{\top} B_i(\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ}), \text{ and } g_i(\delta_i) = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ})^{\top} G_i(\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ})$$

where δ_i° is the *natural* risk exposure $(b_i, g_i = 0)$, and B_i and G_i are positive definite matrices

Owns the firms, supplies one unit of labor inelastically, supplies risk management resources

Owns the firms, supplies one unit of labor inelastically, supplies risk management resources Values the consumption bundle (GDP)

$$Y = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \left(\beta_i^{-1} C_i\right)^{\beta_i}$$

Owns the firms, supplies one unit of labor inelastically, supplies risk management resources

Values the consumption bundle (GDP)

$$Y = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \left(\beta_i^{-1} C_i\right)^{\beta_i}$$

Maximizes King, Plosser, Rebelo (1988) preferences

$$\mathcal{U}(Y)\mathcal{V}(R)$$

where \mathcal{U} is CRRA with risk aversion $\rho \geq 1$, and disutility of risk management $\mathcal{V}(R)$ is



$$\mathcal{V}\left(R\right) = \exp\left(-\eta\left(1 - \rho\right)R\right)$$

Owns the firms, supplies one unit of labor inelastically, supplies risk management resources

Values the consumption bundle (GDP)

$$Y = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \left(\beta_i^{-1} C_i \right)^{\beta_i}$$

Maximizes King, Plosser, Rebelo (1988) preferences

$$\mathcal{U}(Y)\mathcal{V}(R)$$

where \mathcal{U} is CRRA with risk aversion $\rho \geq 1$, and disutility of risk management $\mathcal{V}\left(R\right)$ is



$$\mathcal{V}(R) = \exp\left(-\eta \left(1 - \rho\right)R\right)$$

Budget constraint in each state of the world (set $W_L = 1$ from now on)

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} P_i C_i \le W_L + W_R R + \Pi$$

Timing

1. Before arepsilon is realized: Firms choose their risk exposure δ_i

Timing

1. Before arepsilon is realized: Firms choose their risk exposure δ_i

2. After ε is realized and under chosen δ_i : All other quantities are chosen

Timing

1. Before arepsilon is realized: Firms choose their risk exposure δ_i

- 2. After ε is realized and under chosen δ_i : All other quantities are chosen
 - · Standard cost minimization

Unit cost :=
$$K_i(\delta_i, P) = \frac{1}{e^{a_i(\epsilon, \delta_i)}} \prod_{j=1}^N P_j^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

Timing

- 1. Before arepsilon is realized: Firms choose their risk exposure δ_i
 - Maximize expected discounted profits

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg \max_{\delta_{i}} \operatorname{E} \left[\Lambda \left[P_{i} Q_{i} - \mathsf{K}_{i} \left(\delta_{i}, \mathsf{P} \right) Q_{i} - g_{i} \left(\delta_{i} \right) W_{R} \right] \right]$$

where Q_i is equilibrium demand and Λ is the stochastic discount factor of the household.

- 2. After ε is realized and under chosen δ_i : All other quantities are chosen
 - · Standard cost minimization

Unit cost :=
$$K_i(\delta_i, P) = \frac{1}{e^{a_i(\varepsilon, \delta_i)}} \prod_{j=1}^N P_j^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

Timing

- 1. Before ε is realized: Firms choose their risk exposure δ_i
 - Maximize expected discounted profits

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg\max_{\delta_{i}} \operatorname{E}\left[\frac{\Lambda}{P_{i}Q_{i}} - \frac{K_{i}\left(\delta_{i}, P\right)Q_{i}}{V_{i}} - g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}\right]\right]$$

where Q_i is equilibrium demand and Λ is the stochastic discount factor of the household.

- 2. After ε is realized and under chosen δ_i : All other quantities are chosen
 - · Standard cost minimization

Unit cost :=
$$K_i(\delta_i, P) = \frac{1}{e^{a_i(\varepsilon, \delta_i)}} \prod_{j=1}^N P_j^{\alpha_{ij}}$$

- Prices are set at a constant wedge τ_i over marginal cost K_i : $P_i = (1 + \tau_i) K_i (\delta_i, P)$
 - · Example: markups, taxes, or other distortions

Equilibrium definition

An *equilibrium* is a risk choice for every firm δ^* and a stochastic tuple $(P^*, W_R^*, C^*, L^*, R^*, X^*, Q^*)$ such that

- 1. (Optimal technique choice) For each i, factor demand L_i^* , X_i^* and R_i^* , and the risk exposure decision δ_i^* solves the firm's problem.
- 2. (Consumer maximization) The consumption vector C^* and the supply of risk managers R^* solve the household problem.
- 3. (Unit cost pricing) For each i, $P_i = (1 + \tau_i) K_i (\delta_i, P)$.
- 4. (Market clearing) For each i,

$$C_i^* + \sum_{i=1}^N X_{ji}^* = Q_i^* = F_i(\alpha_i^*, L_i^*, X_i^*), \ \sum_{i=1}^N L_i^* = 1, \text{ and } \sum_{i=1}^N g_i(\delta_i^*) = R^*.$$

Domar weights and GDP

Two measures of supplier importance

Cost-based Domar weights:

$$\tilde{\omega}^{\top} = \beta^{\top} (I - \alpha)^{-1}$$

Two measures of supplier importance

Cost-based Domar weights:

$$\tilde{\omega}^{\top} = \beta^{\top} (I - \alpha)^{-1}$$

- Depends on demand from household (β) and other firms ($(l-\alpha)^{-1} = l + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \dots$)
- Captures firm's importance as a supplier (share of production costs)

Two measures of supplier importance

Cost-based Domar weights:

$$\tilde{\omega}^{\top} = \beta^{\top} (I - \alpha)^{-1}$$

- Depends on demand from household (β) and other firms ($(I \alpha)^{-1} = I + \alpha + \alpha^2 + \dots$)
- · Captures firm's importance as a supplier (share of production costs)

Revenue-based Domar weights:

$$\omega^{\top} = \beta^{\top} \left(I - \left[\operatorname{diag} \left(1 + \tau \right) \right]^{-1} \alpha \right)^{-1}$$

- · Also captures importance as a supplier (share of revenues)
- Declines with wedges au
- Are equal to the firm's sales share in nominal GDP

$$\omega_i = \frac{P_i Q_i}{PY}$$

Determinants of GDP

Define the aggregate risk exposure vector Δ as

$$\Delta := \delta^\top \tilde{\omega}$$

· Firms with high cost-based Domar weights contribute more to aggregate risk exposure

Determinants of GDP

Define the aggregate risk exposure vector Δ as

$$\Delta := \delta^{\top} \tilde{\omega}$$

• Firms with high cost-based Domar weights contribute more to aggregate risk exposure

Lemma

(log) real GDP $y := \log Y$ is given by

$$y = \Delta^{\top} \boldsymbol{\varepsilon} - \tilde{\omega}^{\top} b(\delta) - \tilde{\omega}^{\top} \log(1 + \tau) - \log(\text{Labor share}(\omega, \tau))$$

- \cdot log GDP y is normal; aggregate risk exposure Δ determines how risky GDP is
- · Without distortions ($\tau = 0$) we have Hulten's theorem: $y = \omega^{\top} a(\varepsilon, \delta)$

Aggregate risk

Aggregate risk:
$$V\left[\mathbf{y}\right] = \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{\top}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{\Delta}$$

Aggregate risk

Aggregate risk:
$$V\left[\mathbf{y}\right] = \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{\top}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\boldsymbol{\Delta}$$

Impact of Δ

- Because of the quadratic, both $\Delta_m\gg 0$ and $\Delta_m\ll 0$ are bad for $\mathrm{V}\left[y\right]$
- Extra exposure to ε_m increases volatility if ε_m is positively correlated with GDP

$$\frac{d V[y]}{d \Delta_m} = 2 \operatorname{Cov}[y, \varepsilon_m]$$

11

Aggregate risk

Aggregate risk:
$$V\left[y\right] = \Delta^{\top}\Sigma\Delta$$

Impact of Δ

- Because of the quadratic, both $\Delta_m\gg 0$ and $\Delta_m\ll 0$ are bad for $V\left[y\right]$
- Extra exposure to ε_m increases volatility if ε_m is positively correlated with GDP

$$\frac{d V [y]}{d \Delta_m} = 2 \operatorname{Cov} [y, \varepsilon_m]$$

Impact of Σ

- \cdot A marginal increase in Σ_{mm} raises volatility $\mathrm{V}\left[y
 ight]$ by Δ_{m}^{2}
- · Role of covariance Σ_{mn}
 - With positive exposure to ε_m and ε_n , increasing Σ_{mn} raises V[y].
 - If instead $\Delta_m > 0$ and $\Delta_n < 0$, the shocks offset each other. Higher Σ_{mn} reduces V[y].

Firm risk-taking decisions

Firms take their price and the demand for their good as given ⇒ Minimize (risk-adjusted) cost

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg\min_{\delta_{i}} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i}\right]}_{(1)} + \underbrace{\operatorname{Cov}\left(K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i},\Lambda\right)/\operatorname{E}\left[\Lambda\right]}_{(2)} + \underbrace{g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}}_{(3)}$$

Firms take their price and the demand for their good as given ⇒ Minimize (risk-adjusted) cost

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg\min_{\delta_{i}} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i}\right]}_{(1)} + \underbrace{\operatorname{Cov}\left(K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i},\Lambda\right)/\operatorname{E}\left[\Lambda\right]}_{(2)} + \underbrace{g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}}_{(3)}$$

Firm prefers

- high expected TFP (1) and low risk management resource cost g_i (3)
- low covariance of TFP with GDP (2)
 - Incentives to provide extra goods to the household in bad times

Firms take their price and the demand for their good as given ⇒ Minimize (risk-adjusted) cost

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg\min_{\delta_{i}} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i}\right]}_{(1)} + \underbrace{\operatorname{Cov}\left(K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i},\Lambda\right)/\operatorname{E}\left[\Lambda\right]}_{(2)} + \underbrace{g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}}_{(3)}$$

Firm prefers

- high expected TFP (1) and low risk management resource cost g_i (3)
- low covariance of TFP with GDP (2)
 - · Incentives to provide extra goods to the household in bad times

$$\operatorname{Cov}\left(\mathsf{K}_{i}Q_{i},\Lambda\right) = \underbrace{\operatorname{Corr}\left(\mathsf{K}_{i}Q_{i},\Lambda\right)}_{\text{typically} > 0} \times \underbrace{\sqrt{V\left[\mathsf{K}_{i}Q_{i}\right]}}_{\text{smaller is better}} \times \underbrace{\sqrt{V\left[\Lambda\right]}}_{>0}$$

12

Firms take their price and the demand for their good as given \Rightarrow Minimize (risk-adjusted) cost

$$\delta_{i}^{*} \in \arg\min_{\delta_{i}} \underbrace{\mathbb{E}\left[K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i}\right]}_{(1)} + \underbrace{\operatorname{Cov}\left(K_{i}\left(\delta_{i},P\right)Q_{i},\Lambda\right)/\operatorname{E}\left[\Lambda\right]}_{(2)} + \underbrace{g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}}_{(3)}$$

Firm prefers

- high expected TFP (1) and low risk management resource cost g_i (3)
- low covariance of TFP with GDP (2)
 - · Incentives to provide extra goods to the household in bad times

$$\operatorname{Cov}\left(\mathit{K}_{\mathit{i}}\mathit{Q}_{\mathit{i}},\Lambda\right) = \underbrace{\operatorname{Corr}\left(\mathit{K}_{\mathit{i}}\mathit{Q}_{\mathit{i}},\Lambda\right)}_{\text{typically} > 0} \times \underbrace{\sqrt{V\left[\mathit{K}_{\mathit{i}}\mathit{Q}_{\mathit{i}}\right]}}_{\text{smaller is better}} \times \underbrace{\sqrt{V\left[\Lambda\right]}}_{> 0}$$

· Rely on less volatile risk factors, or diversify by using offsetting risk factors

Lemma

In equilibrium, the risk exposure decision of firm *i* solves

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{E}\textit{K}_{i}\textit{Q}_{i}}_{\text{marginal benefit}} = \underbrace{\nabla\textit{b}_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)\textit{K}_{i}\textit{Q}_{i} + \nabla\textit{g}_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)\textit{W}_{\textit{R}}}_{\text{marginal cost of exposure to }\textit{\varepsilon}},$$

where themarg. value of risk exposure per unit of size is defined as $\mathcal{E} := \mathbb{E}\left[\varepsilon\right] + \operatorname{Cov}\left[\lambda, \varepsilon\right]$.

13

Lemma

In equilibrium, the risk exposure decision of firm *i* solves

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{E}K_{i}Q_{i}}_{\text{marginal benefit}} = \underbrace{\nabla b_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)K_{i}Q_{i} + \nabla g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R}}_{\text{marginal cost of exposure to }\varepsilon},$$

where themarg. value of risk exposure per unit of size is defined as $\mathcal{E} := \mathbb{E}\left[\varepsilon\right] + \operatorname{Cov}\left[\lambda, \varepsilon\right]$.

- Determinants of \mathcal{E}
 - · High expected value factors and countercyclical factors have higher ${\cal E}$
 - We say that a risk factor is "good" if ${\cal E}>0$ and "bad" if ${\cal E}<0$

Lemma

In equilibrium, the risk exposure decision of firm *i* solves

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{E} K_i Q_i}_{\text{marginal benefit}} = \underbrace{\nabla b_i \left(\delta_i \right) K_i Q_i}_{\text{marginal cost of exposure to } \varepsilon} \left(\delta_i \right) W_R,$$

where themarg. value of risk exposure per unit of size is defined as $\mathcal{E} := \mathbb{E}[\varepsilon] + \operatorname{Cov}[\lambda, \varepsilon]$.

- Determinants of E
 - High expected value factors and countercyclical factors have higher ${\mathcal E}$
 - · We say that a risk factor is "good" if ${\cal E}>0$ and "bad" if ${\cal E}<0$
- Impact of firm size K_iQ_i
 - Marginal benefit and marginal productivity cost b_i of exposure scale one-for-one with size
 - The resource cost g_i is scale invariant \Rightarrow Scale advantage in risk management
 - · Data: larger firms are more likely to 1) have CRO, 2) implement Enterprise-wide Risk Management systems, etc.

Lemma

In equilibrium, the risk exposure decision of firm i solves

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{E}K_{i}Q_{i}}_{\text{marginal benefit}} = \underbrace{\nabla b_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right)K_{i}Q_{i}}_{\text{marginal cost of exposure to }\varepsilon} \left(\delta_{i}\right)W_{R},$$

where the marg. value of risk exposure per unit of size is defined as $\mathcal{E} := \mathbb{E}\left[\varepsilon\right] + \operatorname{Cov}\left[\lambda, \varepsilon\right]$.

We can rewrite the marginal cost

$$\nabla b_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right) \mathsf{K}_{i} \mathsf{Q}_{i} + \nabla g_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right) \mathsf{W}_{R} = \nabla h_{i}\left(\delta_{i}\right) \mathsf{K}_{i} \mathsf{Q}_{i}$$

where the effective exposure cost h_i is defined as

$$h_i(\delta_i) := \frac{1}{2} \left(\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ} \right)^{\top} H_i \left(\delta_i - \delta_i^{\circ} \right), \text{ with } H_i := B_i + G_i \frac{W_R}{K_i Q_i}.$$

The first order condition becomes

$$\mathcal{E}K_iQ_i = \nabla h_i(\delta_i)K_iQ_i$$

The first order condition becomes

$$\mathcal{E}K_{i}Q_{i} = \nabla h_{i}(\delta_{i})K_{i}Q_{i}$$

Lemma

The individual equilibrium risk exposure decisions are

$$\delta_i = \delta_i^{\circ} + H_i^{-1} \mathcal{E}.$$

The first order condition becomes

$$\mathcal{E}K_iQ_i = \nabla h_i(\delta_i)K_iQ_i$$

Lemma

The individual equilibrium risk exposure decisions are

$$\delta_i = \delta_i^{\circ} + H_i^{-1} \mathcal{E}.$$

Role of risk attractiveness \mathcal{E}

- · Higher \mathcal{E}_m always leads to higher δ_{im}
- · Higher \mathcal{E}_{m} can increase or decrease δ_{in} depending on $H_{i,mn}^{-1}$

The first order condition becomes

$$\mathcal{E}K_iQ_i = \nabla h_i(\delta_i)K_iQ_i$$

Lemma

The individual equilibrium risk exposure decisions are

$$\delta_i = \delta_i^{\circ} + H_i^{-1} \mathcal{E}.$$

Role of risk attractiveness \mathcal{E}

- · Higher \mathcal{E}_m always leads to higher δ_{im}
- · Higher \mathcal{E}_m can increase or decrease δ_{in} depending on $H_{i,mn}^{-1}$

Role of risk management technology H_i

- Depends on how elastic b_i and g_i are
- Takes into account that the impact of g_i decreases with firm size

Determinant of firm size

Cost of goods sold K_iQ_i matters for risk decisions

$$K_i Q_i = \frac{P_i Q_i}{1 + \tau_i} = \frac{\omega_i}{1 + \tau_i} \bar{P} Y$$

- Higher sales $P_iQ_i \Rightarrow$ Higher K_iQ_i
 - · Pinned down by demand for goods from the household (β) and other firms (α) through ω_i
- · Lower wedge $\tau_i \Rightarrow \text{Higher } K_i Q_i$
 - · For a given amount of sales, higher wedges imply lower cost

Determinant of firm size

Cost of goods sold K_iQ_i matters for risk decisions

$$K_iQ_i = \frac{P_iQ_i}{1+\tau_i} = \frac{\omega_i}{1+\tau_i}\bar{P}Y$$

- Higher sales $P_iQ_i \Rightarrow$ Higher K_iQ_i
 - · Pinned down by demand for goods from the household (β) and other firms (α) through ω_i
- · Lower wedge $\tau_i \Rightarrow \text{Higher } K_i Q_i$
 - · For a given amount of sales, higher wedges imply lower cost

Corollary

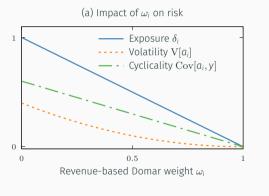
Firms with higher ω_i and lower τ_i manage risk more aggressively:

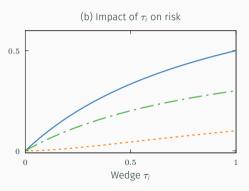
$$\frac{\partial \left[\mathcal{E}^{\top} \delta_{i}\right]}{\partial \omega_{i}} > 0 \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{\partial \left[\mathcal{E}^{\top} \delta_{i}\right]}{\partial \tau_{i}} < 0.$$

16

Example: sales, wedges, and risk exposure

Economy is positively exposed $(\Delta > 0)$ to a unique bad $(\mathcal{E} < 0)$ risk factor (business cycle risk)







Aggregate effective exposure cost

Definition

Define the aggregate effective cost function as

$$\bar{h}\left(\Delta\right) := \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta - \Delta^{\circ}\right)^{\top} \bar{H} \left(\Delta - \Delta^{\circ}\right)$$

where

$$\bar{H} := \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{\omega}_{i} H_{i}^{-1}\right]^{-1}$$

Aggregate effective exposure cost

Definition

Define the aggregate effective cost function as

$$\bar{h}\left(\Delta\right) := \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta - \Delta^{\circ}\right)^{\top} \bar{H} \left(\Delta - \Delta^{\circ}\right)$$

where

$$\bar{H} := \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{\omega}_{i} H_{i}^{-1}\right]^{-1}$$

- \cdot \bar{h} captures the utility loss of aggregate exposure Δ through
 - the impact of productivity costs $\{b_i\}$ on expected GDP
 - the impact of supplying risk mgmt. resources $\{g_i\}$ on utility
- \bar{H} is the harmonic (weighted) average of the firm-level effective cost matrices $\{H_i\}$.



• There exists a unique equilibrium.

Proposition

- There exists a unique equilibrium.
- That equilibrium is efficient when $\tau = 0$.

Proposition

- · There exists a unique equilibrium.
- That equilibrium is efficient when $\tau = 0$.
- The equilibrium Δ solves

(Marginal util. benefit of
$$\Delta$$
) $\mathcal{E} = \nabla \bar{h}$ (Marginal util. cost of Δ)

Proposition

- · There exists a unique equilibrium.
- That equilibrium is efficient when $\tau = 0$.
- \cdot The equilibrium Δ solves

(Marginal util. benefit of
$$\Delta$$
) $\mathcal{E} = \nabla \bar{h}$ (Marginal util. cost of Δ)

where

$$\mathcal{E} = \mathrm{E}\left[y\right] + \mathrm{Cov}\left[\lambda, \varepsilon\right] = \mu - (\rho - 1) \Sigma \Delta$$
 and $\nabla \bar{h} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{\omega}_i H_i^{-1}\right]^{-1} (\Delta - \Delta^{\circ})$

19

Proposition

- · There exists a unique equilibrium.
- That equilibrium is efficient when $\tau = 0$.
- \cdot The equilibrium Δ solves

(Marginal util. benefit of
$$\Delta$$
) $\mathcal{E} = \nabla \bar{h}$ (Marginal util. cost of Δ)

where

$$\boldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} = \mathrm{E}\left[\mathbf{y}\right] + \mathrm{Cov}\left[\lambda, \varepsilon\right] = \mu - \left(\rho - 1\right) \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \boldsymbol{\Delta} \quad \text{ and } \quad \boldsymbol{\nabla} \bar{\mathbf{h}} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^{N} \tilde{\omega}_{i} H_{i}^{-1}\right]^{-1} \left(\boldsymbol{\Delta} - \boldsymbol{\Delta}^{\circ}\right)$$

• This proposition yields a closed-form expression for equilibrium Δ

Corollary

Let γ be either $\mu_{\it m}$ or $\Sigma_{\it mn}$. Then

$$\frac{d\Delta}{d\gamma} = \mathcal{H}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \gamma},$$

where $\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \gamma}$ is the **partial equilibrium** response of \mathcal{E} , and where

$$\mathcal{H}^{-1} := \left(\nabla^2 \bar{\mathsf{h}} + (\rho - 1) \Sigma \right)^{-1}.$$

Corollary

Let γ be either μ_m or Σ_{mn} . Then

$$\frac{d\Delta}{d\gamma} = \mathcal{H}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \gamma},$$

where $\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial x}$ is the **partial equilibrium** response of \mathcal{E} , and where

$$\mathcal{H}^{-1} := \left(\nabla^2 \bar{\mathsf{h}} + (\rho - 1) \Sigma\right)^{-1}.$$

Global substitution patterns

- Complements if $\mathcal{H}_{mn}^{-1} > 0$: exposure to risk factors m and n tend to move together
- · Substitutes if $\mathcal{H}_{mn}^{-1} < 0$: exposure to m and n tend to move in opposite directions

Corollary

Let γ be either μ_m or Σ_{mn} . Then

$$\frac{d\Delta}{d\gamma} = \mathcal{H}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \gamma},$$

where $\frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial x}$ is the **partial equilibrium** response of \mathcal{E} , and where

$$\mathcal{H}^{-1} := \left(\nabla^2 \bar{h} + (\rho - 1) \Sigma \right)^{-1}.$$

Global substitution patterns

- Complements if $\mathcal{H}_{mn}^{-1} > 0$: exposure to risk factors m and n tend to move together
- Substitutes if $\mathcal{H}_{mn}^{-1} < 0$: exposure to m and n tend to move in opposite directions

Global substitution patterns depend on

- $\cdot \nabla^2 \bar{h} = \left[\sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{\omega}_i H_i^{-1}\right]^{-1}$: global impact of the local subst. patterns embedded in $\{b_i\}$ and $\{g_i\}$
- · Σ : if $\Sigma_{mn} > 0$ an increase in Δ_m makes the planner reduce Δ_n to avoid agg. risk

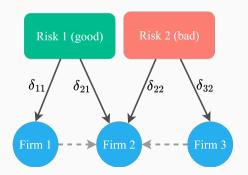
Corollary

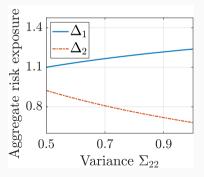
- 1. An increase in $\mu_{\it m}$ raises $\Delta_{\it m}$
- 2. An increase in Σ_{mm} reduces Δ_m if $\Delta_m>0$ and increases Δ_m if $\Delta_m<0$

Corollary

- 1. An increase in μ_m raises Δ_m
- 2. An increase in Σ_{mm} reduces Δ_m if $\Delta_m>0$ and increases Δ_m if $\Delta_m<0$

Firm 2 must decide where to locate plants: Region 1 (good risk) or Region 2 (bad risk)





Impact of wedges



Definition. An economy is diagonal if Σ and H_i are diagonal for every i

Impact of wedges



Definition. An economy is diagonal if Σ and H_i are diagonal for every i

Corollary

In a diagonal economy, a higher wedge au_i

- 1. increases Δ_m for all m such that $\mathcal{E}_m < 0$ (bad risks)
- 2. reduces Δ_m for all m such that $\mathcal{E}_m > 0$ (good risks)
- Higher wedges make firms shrink \rightarrow manage risk less aggressively

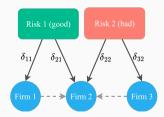


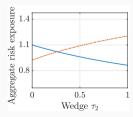
Definition. An economy is diagonal if Σ and H_i are diagonal for every i

Corollary

In a diagonal economy, a higher wedge τ_i

- 1. increases Δ_m for all m such that $\mathcal{E}_m < 0$ (bad risks)
- 2. reduces Δ_m for all m such that $\mathcal{E}_m > 0$ (good risks)
- Higher wedges make firms shrink → manage risk less aggressively





(Blue: good risk; Red: bad risk)





Use ∂ to denote changes in the economy with exogenous risk

Proposition

In a diagonal economy:

$$\mathrm{sign}\left(\frac{d\,\mathrm{E}\,[y]}{d\mu_{m}}-\frac{\partial\,\mathrm{E}\,[y]}{\partial\mu_{m}}\right)=\mathrm{sign}\,(\mu_{m})\quad\text{and}\quad\frac{d\,\mathrm{V}\,[y]}{d\Sigma_{mm}}-\frac{\partial\,\mathrm{V}\,[y]}{\partial\Sigma_{mm}}<0.$$

- · Increasing μ_m raises $\Delta_m \to \text{additional increase in } \mathbb{E}[y]$ if $\mu_m > 0$ compared to fixed risk
- · Increasing Σ_{mm} decreases $|\Delta| \to \text{smaller increase in V}[y]$ than with fixed risk

Distortions can increase aggregate volatility

Proposition (single risk factor)

$$\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{d\operatorname{E}\left[y\right]}{d\tau_{i}}-\frac{\partial\operatorname{E}\left[y\right]}{\partial\tau_{i}}\right)=-\operatorname{sign}\left(\mu\mathcal{E}\right)\qquad\operatorname{and}\qquad\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{d\operatorname{V}\left[y\right]}{d\tau_{i}}-\frac{\partial\operatorname{V}\left[y\right]}{\partial\tau_{i}}\right)=-\operatorname{sign}\left(\Delta\mathcal{E}\right).$$

Suppose $\mathcal{E} < 0$ (bad risk, e.g. business cycle): increasing τ_l makes firms more exposed to risk factor

- if $\mu < 0$ this leads to a decline in $\mathbf{E}[y]$
- · if $\Delta>0$ the economy becomes even more exposed and $V\left[y\right]$ increases

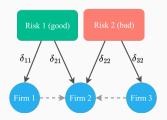
Distortions can increase aggregate volatility

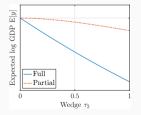
Proposition (single risk factor)

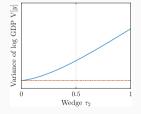
$$\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{d\operatorname{E}\left[y\right]}{d\tau_{i}}-\frac{\partial\operatorname{E}\left[y\right]}{\partial\tau_{i}}\right)=-\operatorname{sign}\left(\mu\mathcal{E}\right)\qquad\operatorname{and}\qquad\operatorname{sign}\left(\frac{d\operatorname{V}\left[y\right]}{d\tau_{i}}-\frac{\partial\operatorname{V}\left[y\right]}{\partial\tau_{i}}\right)=-\operatorname{sign}\left(\Delta\mathcal{E}\right).$$

Suppose $\mathcal{E} < 0$ (bad risk, e.g. business cycle): increasing τ_i makes firms more exposed to risk factor

- if $\mu < 0$ this leads to a decline in E [y]
- · if $\Delta>0$ the economy becomes even more exposed and $V\left[y\right]$ increases







Implications for welfare

Proposition

In a diagonal economy, raising τ_i hurts welfare more than under exogenous risk.

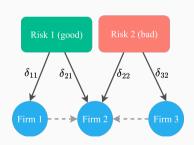
- A higher τ_i increases exposure to bad risks and reduces exposure to good risks
- $\boldsymbol{\cdot}$ Additional exposure to bad risks hurts welfare, and vice-versa for good risks

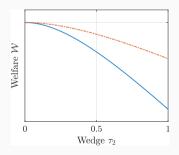
Implications for welfare

Proposition

In a diagonal economy, raising τ_i hurts welfare more than under exogenous risk.

- A higher τ_i increases exposure to bad risks and reduces exposure to good risks
- · Additional exposure to bad risks hurts welfare, and vice-versa for good risks





(Blue: flexible risk; Red: fixed risk)

Reduced-form evidence

Reduced-form evidence

Model: firms with large Domar weights and small markups are less volatile and less corr. with GDP



Reduced-form evidence

Model: firms with large Domar weights and small markups are less volatile and less corr. with GDP

▶ Details

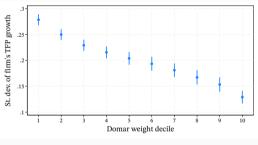
We test these predictions in the data

- Use detailed micro data from the near-universe of firms in Spain between 1995 and 2018 (Orbis) (7,513,081 firm-year observations)
- · Compute markups using control function approach (De Loecker and Warzynski, 2012)

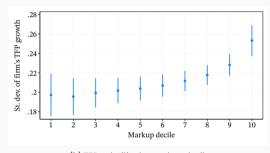


· Back out TFP growth as a residual

TFP growth volatility



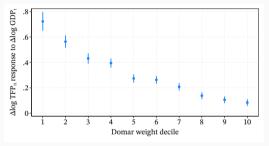
(a) TFP volatility by Domar weight decile



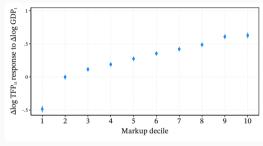
(b) TFP volatility by markup decile



Covariance of TFP growth with GDP growth



(c) Sensitivity of firm TFP to GDP by Domar weight decile



(d) Sensitivity of firm TFP to GDP by markup decile



Calibration

A specialized model to map to the data

- Unique risk factor ε (M=1)
- S sectors with sectoral shocks $z_s \sim \text{iid } \mathcal{N}\left(\mu_s^z, \Sigma_s^z\right)$ and aggregator

$$Q_{\rm S} = \prod_{i=1}^{N_{\rm S}} e^{Z_{\rm S}} \left(\theta_{\rm S}^{-1} Q_{\rm S}i\right)^{\theta_{\rm S}i}$$

Firms have production function

$$Q_{si} = \exp\left(\delta_{sit}\varepsilon_t - b_i\left(\delta_{sit}\right) + \gamma_{si}t + \mathsf{v}_{sit}\right)\zeta_{si}L_{si}^{1-\sum_{s'=1}^{S}\hat{\alpha}_{ss'}}\prod_{s'=1}^{S}X_{si,s'}^{\hat{\alpha}_{ss'}}$$

where $\hat{\alpha}_{\text{ss'}}$ are sectoral shares, $\textit{v}_{\text{sit}} \sim \text{iid} \; \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_{\text{si}}^{\text{v}}, \Sigma_{\text{si}}^{\text{v}} \right) \; \text{and} \; \varepsilon_{\text{t}} \sim \text{iid} \; \mathcal{N} \left(0, \Sigma \right)$

▶ Details

Mapping to the data

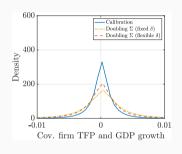
- · We aim at replicating as much of the firm-level Spanish data as possible
- Our calibrated model has 62 sectors and 492,917 individual firms
- We invert parts of the model to exactly match some moments
 - 1. Sectoral consumption shares and input/output cost shares
 - 2. Firm shares in sectoral sales
 - 3. Variance of firm TFP growth
 - 4. Covariance of firm TFP growth and GDP growth
 - 5. Variance of GDP growth



Doubling Σ

What if we double the volatility Σ of the risk factor?

	Calibration	Doubling Σ	
		Fixed δ	Flexible δ
Agg. risk exposure Δ	0.014	0.014	0.011
Exposure value ${\mathcal E}$	-0.06	-0.11	-0.09
Std. Dev. of GDP growth	2.4%	3.1%	2.6%

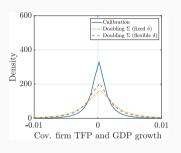


- Fixed δ : Large increase in GDP variance; exposure to ε_t becomes more harmful (\mathcal{E} declines)
- · Flexible δ : Firms manage risk more aggressively which limits increase in V[y]

Doubling Σ

What if we double the volatility Σ of the risk factor?

	Calibration	Doubling Σ	
		Fixed δ	Flexible δ
Agg. risk exposure Δ	0.014	0.014	0.011
Exposure value ${\mathcal E}$	-0.06	-0.11	-0.09
Std. Dev. of GDP growth	2.4%	3.1%	2.6%



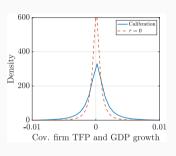
- Fixed δ : Large increase in GDP variance; exposure to ε_t becomes more harmful (\mathcal{E} declines)
- · Flexible δ : Firms manage risk more aggressively which limits increase in V[y]

Impact of risk can be overestimated if reaction of agents is not taken into account

Removing distortions

What if we set wedges τ to zero?

	Calibration	No wedges	
		Fixed δ	Flexible δ
Agg. risk exposure Δ	0.014	0.014	0.007
Exposure value ${\mathcal E}$	-0.06	-0.06	-0.03
Std. Dev. of GDP growth	2.4%	2.4%	1.7%

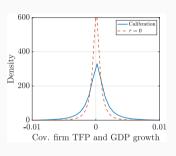


- Fixed δ : Since only impact of τ is through δ , there is no change.
- Flexible δ : Firms manage risk more aggressively so V[y] declines

Removing distortions

What if we set wedges τ to zero?

	Calibration	No wedges	
		Fixed δ	Flexible δ
Agg. risk exposure Δ	0.014	0.014	0.007
Exposure value ${\mathcal E}$	-0.06	-0.06	-0.03
Std. Dev. of GDP growth	2.4%	2.4%	1.7%



- Fixed δ : Since only impact of τ is through δ , there is no change.
- Flexible δ : Firms manage risk more aggressively so V[y] declines

Distortions make GDP more volatile



Conclusion

Main contributions

- · We construct a model of endogenous risk, at both the micro and macro levels.
- Model predicts which firms are more volatile and covary more with business cycle.
- Distortions lead to less aggressive risk management and can increase GDP volatility.

Future research

- · What if there are entrepreneurs who cannot diversify their risk?
- Mechanisms would interact with capital/investment. Fully dynamic business cycle model.

Expression for $\zeta(\alpha_i)$

The function $\zeta(\alpha_i)$ is

$$\zeta\left(\alpha_{i}\right) = \left[\left(1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}\right)^{1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}} \prod_{j=1}^{n} \alpha_{ij}^{\alpha_{ij}}\right]^{-1}$$

This functional form allows for a simple expression for the unit cost K

◀ Back

Risk aversion and ρ

Given the log-normal nature of uncertainty $\rho \leqslant 1$ determines whether the agent is risk-averse or not. To see this, note that when $\log C$ normally distributed, maximizing

$$\mathrm{E}\left[C^{1-\rho}\right]$$

amounts to maximizing

$$\mathrm{E}\left[\log\mathcal{C}\right] - \frac{1}{2}\left(\rho - 1\right)\mathrm{V}\left[\log\mathcal{C}\right].$$



Impact of wedges

Proposition

The response of the equilibrium aggregate risk exposure Δ to a change in wedge au_i is given by

$$\frac{d\Delta}{d\tau_i} = \mathcal{T}\left(\sum_{j=1}^N \frac{\partial \left[\nabla^2 \bar{\kappa}\right]^{-1}}{\partial g_j} \frac{dg_j}{d\tau_i}\right) \mathcal{E},\tag{1}$$

where the impact of g_j on $\left[\nabla^2 \bar{\kappa}\right]^{-1}$ is given by $\frac{\partial \left[\nabla^2 \bar{\kappa}\right]^{-1}}{\partial g_j} = -\frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\tilde{\omega}_j^2}{g_j^2} H_j^{-1}$, and where

$$\mathcal{T} := \left(I - \left[\nabla^2 \bar{\kappa} \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathcal{E}}{\partial \Delta} \right)^{-1}.$$

∢ Back

Proposition

Let χ denote either μ_m , Σ_{mn} , or τ_i . Then the impact of a change in χ on the moments of log GDP are given by

$$\frac{d \operatorname{E} \left[\mathbf{y} \right]}{d \chi} - \frac{\partial \operatorname{E} \left[\mathbf{y} \right]}{\partial \chi} = \boldsymbol{\mu}^{\top} \frac{d \Delta}{d \chi} \qquad \text{and} \qquad \frac{d \operatorname{V} \left[\mathbf{y} \right]}{d \chi} - \frac{\partial \operatorname{V} \left[\mathbf{y} \right]}{\partial \chi} = 2 \Delta^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \frac{d \Delta}{d \chi},$$

where the use of a partial derivative indicates that Δ is kept fixed.

∢ Back

Simplified model



- Single risk factor $\varepsilon_{t}\sim\operatorname{iid}\mathcal{N}\left(0,\Sigma\right)$
- Firm level TFP is $\log \mathit{TFP}_{it} = \delta_{it} \varepsilon_t + \gamma_i t + v_{it}$ where γ_i is deterministic trend and $v_{it} \sim \operatorname{iid} \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_i^{\mathsf{v}}, \Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}} \right)$

Simplified model



- Single risk factor $\varepsilon_{t}\sim\operatorname{iid}\mathcal{N}\left(0,\Sigma\right)$
- Firm level TFP is $\log \mathit{TFP}_{it} = \delta_{it} \varepsilon_t + \gamma_i t + v_{it}$ where γ_i is deterministic trend and $v_{it} \sim \operatorname{iid} \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_i^{\mathsf{v}}, \Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}} \right)$

Variance of firm-level TFP growth

$$V[\log TFP_{it} - \log TFP_{it-1}] = 2\delta_i^2 \Sigma + 2\Sigma_i^{v}$$

Simplified model

∢ Back

- Single risk factor $\varepsilon_t \sim \operatorname{iid} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \Sigma\right)$
- Firm level TFP is $\log \mathit{TFP}_{it} = \delta_{it} \varepsilon_t + \gamma_i t + v_{it}$ where γ_i is deterministic trend and $v_{it} \sim \mathsf{iid} \; \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_i^\mathsf{v}, \Sigma_i^\mathsf{v} \right)$

Variance of firm-level TFP growth

$$V \left[\log TFP_{it} - \log TFP_{it-1} \right] = 2\delta_i^2 \Sigma + 2\Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}}$$

Covariance of firm-level TFP growth with GDP growth

$$\operatorname{Cov}\left[\log \mathit{TFP}_{it} - \log \mathit{TFP}_{it-1}, y_t - y_{t-1}\right] = 2\Delta \Sigma \delta_i + 2\tilde{\omega}_i \Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}}.$$

Simplified model

∢ Back

- Single risk factor $\varepsilon_{t} \sim \operatorname{iid} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \Sigma\right)$
- Firm level TFP is $\log \mathit{TFP}_{it} = \delta_{it} \varepsilon_t + \gamma_i t + v_{it}$ where γ_i is deterministic trend and $v_{it} \sim \mathrm{iid} \; \mathcal{N} \left(\mu_i^{\mathsf{v}}, \Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}} \right)$

Variance of firm-level TFP growth

$$V \left[\log TFP_{it} - \log TFP_{it-1} \right] = 2\delta_i^2 \Sigma + 2\Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}}$$

Covariance of firm-level TFP growth with GDP growth

$$Cov \left[\log TFP_{it} - \log TFP_{it-1}, y_t - y_{t-1} \right] = 2\Delta \Sigma \delta_i + 2\tilde{\omega}_i \Sigma_i^{\mathsf{v}}.$$

Model-implied firm risk exposure ($\mathcal{E} < 0$)

$$\delta_i = \delta_i^{\circ} + \frac{1}{\eta} \frac{\omega_i}{1 + \tau_i} H_i^{-1} \mathcal{E}$$

⇒ Firms with large Domar weights and small markups are less volatile and less corr. with GDP

Assume Cobb-Douglas production function

$$\log Q_{it} = \alpha_{Li} \log L_{it} + \alpha_{Mi} \log M_{it} + \alpha_{Ki} \log K_{it} + \varepsilon_{it},$$

- Elasticities estimated using Levinsohn and Petrin (2003) with the Ackberg et al. (2015) correction.
 - · Capital is the "state" variable, labor is the "free" variable and materials is the "proxy" variable.
- Production function estimated at NACE 2-digit sector level. As in De Loecker et al. (2020), we control for markups using firms' sales shares in the production function estimation.
- Following De Loecker and Warzynski (2012), we compute the markup as $1 + \tau_{it} = \hat{\alpha}_{Li} / \left(\frac{\text{Wage Bill}_{it}}{\text{Sales}_{it}}\right)$.
- We compute TFP growth as

$$\begin{split} \Delta \log \mathsf{TFP}_{it} = & \Delta \log Q_{it} - \alpha_{\mathit{Li}} \Delta \log L_{it} - \alpha_{\mathit{Mi}} \Delta \log M_{it} - \alpha_{\mathit{Ki}} \Delta \log \mathsf{K}_{it} \\ & - \left(\Delta \log \left(1 + \tau_{it} \right) - \Delta \log \left(1 + \tau_{\mathit{S(i)t}} \right) \right). \end{split}$$

The term $\Delta \log (1 + \tau_{it}) - \Delta \log (1 + \tau_{s(i)t})$ accounts for the firm-specific markup growth net of the sectoral markup growth. This adjustment allows us to remove the change in firm-specific nominal price that are not taken into account by the sector-level price deflator.

TFP growth volatility

- We compute the standard deviation of TFP growth for each firm, σ_i ($\Delta \log TFP_{it}$), and the time-series average of its markup and Domar weight.
- We construct deciles based on average Domar weights and markups, and create dummy variables, FE_{ji}^{Domar} and FE_{ji}^{Markup} , such that $FE_{ji}^{Domar} = 1$ if firm i's Domar weight is in decile j, and analogously for markups.
- · We run the cross-sectional regression

$$\sigma_{i}\left(\Delta\log\mathit{TFP}_{it}\right) = \alpha + \sum_{j=1}^{10}\beta_{j}^{\mathit{Domar}}\mathit{FE}_{ji}^{\mathit{Domar}} + \sum_{j=1}^{10}\beta_{j}^{\mathit{Markup}}\mathit{FE}_{ji}^{\mathit{Markup}} + \varepsilon_{i},$$

and plot $\beta_j^{\textit{Domar}}$ in panel (a) and $\beta_j^{\textit{Markup}}$ in panel (b).



TFP growth volatility

- We construct deciles based on firms' Domar weights and markups each year.
- We then construct a set of dummy variables, FE_{jit}^{Domar} and FE_{jit}^{Markup} , such that $FE_{jit}^{Domar} = 1$ if firm i's Domar weight is in decile j in year t, and analogously for markups.
- · We then run the following panel regression,

$$\begin{split} \Delta \log \textit{TFP}_{it} &= \sum_{j=1}^{10} \beta_{j}^{\textit{Domar}} \left(\textit{FE}_{jit}^{\textit{Domar}} \times \Delta \log \textit{GDP}_{t} \right) + \sum_{j=1}^{10} \beta_{j}^{\textit{Markup}} \left(\textit{FE}_{jit}^{\textit{Markup}} \times \Delta \log \textit{GDP}_{t} \right) \\ &+ \alpha + \beta_{0} \Delta \log \textit{GDP}_{t} + \sum_{j=1}^{10} \textit{FE}_{jit}^{\textit{Domar}} + \sum_{j=1}^{10} \textit{FE}_{jit}^{\textit{Markup}} + \varepsilon_{it}, \end{split}$$

where $\Delta \log TFP_{it}$ is the annual growth of firm i's log TFP and $\Delta \log GDP_t$ is the annual growth of Spanish log GDP.

• The coefficients of interest, β_j^{Domar} and β_j^{Markup} , are reported in the figure.

∢ Back

Model for the calibration

· Risk exposure

$$\delta_{\mathrm{S}i} = \delta_{\mathrm{S}i}^{\circ} + \left(B_{\mathrm{S}} + \eta \frac{1 + \tau_{\mathrm{S}i}}{\omega_{\mathrm{S}i}} G_{\mathrm{S}}\right)^{-1} \mathcal{E}$$

· The variance of GDP growth is

$$V[y_t - y_{t-1}] = 2\Sigma \Delta^2 + 2\tilde{\omega}_f^{\top} \Sigma^{\mathsf{v}} \tilde{\omega}_f + 2\tilde{\omega}_s^{\top} \Sigma^{\mathsf{z}} \tilde{\omega}_s.$$

· The variance of firm-level TFP growth is

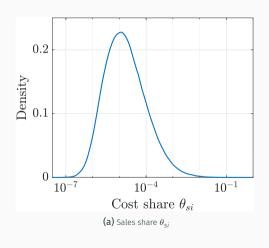
$$V\left[\log \mathit{TFP}_{\mathit{Si},t} - \log \mathit{TFP}_{\mathit{Si},t-1}\right] = 2\delta_{\mathit{Si}}^2\Sigma + 2\Sigma_{\mathit{Si}}^{\mathit{V}}.$$

 \cdot The covariance of firm-level TFP growth with GDP growth is

$$\operatorname{Cov}\left[y_{t}-y_{t-1}, \log \mathit{TFP}_{\mathit{si},t} - \log \mathit{TFP}_{\mathit{si},t-1}\right] = 2\Delta \Sigma \delta_{\mathit{si}} + 2\tilde{\omega}_{\mathit{si}} \Sigma_{\mathit{si}}^{\mathsf{v}}.$$

◆ Back

Figure 1: Data distributions that the calibration matches exactly



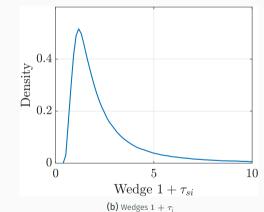
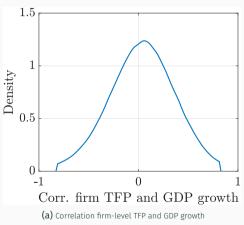


Figure 2: Data distributions that the calibration matches exactly







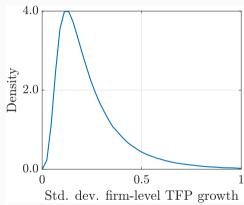
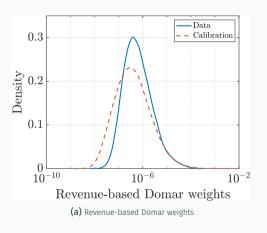
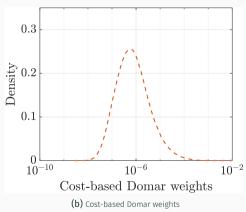


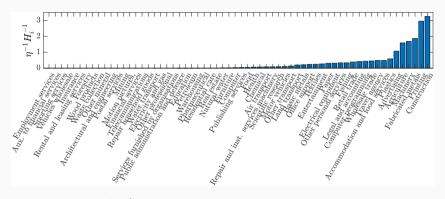
Figure 3: Domar weights of the firms in the data and in the model





◆ Back

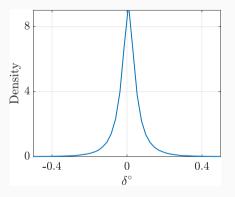
Figure 4: Estimated value of $\frac{1}{\eta}H_i^{-1}$ for each sector.



Notes. The scale of $\frac{1}{\eta}H_i^{-1}$ depends on our choice of ρ and Σ . We set $\rho=5$ and $\Sigma=1$ for this figure.



Figure 5: Distribution of the estimated firm-level natural risk exposure δ_i°



Notes. The scale of δ_i° depends on our choice of ho and Σ . We set ho=5 and $\Sigma=1$ for this figure.

∢ Back