Discussion of "Winners and Losers in Housing Markets" by Nobuhiro Kiyotaki, Alex Michaelides, and Kalin Nikolov

Pedro Silos Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta

Housing, Financial Markets, and the Macroeconomy May 18-19, 2009

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Adding Aggregate Fluctuations

Production

$$Y_t = F(A_t N_t, Z_{Yt}) = (A_t N_t)^{1-\eta} Z_{Yt}^{\eta}, \quad 0 < \eta < 1$$

•
$$A_t$$
 grows at rate $\frac{A_t}{A_{t-1}} = G_{At}$

- Growth can take two values: G_A^b and G_A^g with $G_A^b < G_A^g$.
- Transition probability from state j at t to j' at t+1 given by $\pi_{jj'}$

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- ► Transition probability from state j at t to j' at t + 1 given by $\pi_{jj'}$
- Producing tangible assets:

$$Z_t = L^{1-\gamma} K_t^{\gamma}$$

and

$$Z_t = Z_{Yt} + \int_0^{\bar{N}_t} h_t(i)di$$

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The Representative Firm

- Controls L and K from previous period, issues contingent claims to finance investment.
- ► Q_t^b and Q_t^g prices of Arrow securities that pay one unit of consumption in bad and good states (in t + 1).
- ► $(p_t r_t)$ net payment of the owner of tangible asset. Proceeds at t + 1 is q_{t+1}^j , j = b, g. No arbitrage implies:

$$p_t - r_t = Q_t^b q_{t+1}^b + Q_t^g q_{t+1}^g$$

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Value of the firm

$$V_t^F = q_t Z_{t-1} = \max_{I_t, N_t, Z_{Yt}} \{ Y_t - w_t N_t - r_t Z_{Yt} - I_t + r_t Z_t + (p_t - r_t) Z_t \} = 0$$

$$= \max_{I_t, N_t, Z_{Yt}} \{ Y_t - w_t N_t - r_t Z_{Yt} - I_t + r_t Z_t + Q_t^g V_{t+1}^{F,g} + Q_t^b V_{t+1}^{F,b} \}$$

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Households

- ► Workers/retirees; Same demographic structure.
- Same preferences (distinction renting/owning)
- Uninsurable productivity risk (incomplete markets at the household level).
- Budget constraint for worker:

$$c_t + r_t h_t + Q_t^g s_t^g + Q_t^b s_t^b = (1 - \tau) w_t \epsilon_t + s_{t-1}^j$$

Budget constraint for retiree:

$$c_t + r_t h_t + Q_t^g s_t^g + Q_t^b s_t^b = b_t + \frac{1}{\sigma} s_{t-1}^j$$

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House Financing

► To be considered a homeowner, agent need to finance at least fraction $\theta \in [0, 1)$ of the house value.

$$a_t = Q_t^g s_t^g + Q_t^b s_t^b \ge \theta(p_t - r_t)h_t$$

Tenants cannot borrow:

$$s_t^j \ge 0, \ j = g, b$$

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- Restrict the household to hold tangible asset and non-contingent bond.

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- Implied Arrow security holdings:

$$s_t^j = q_{t+1}^j z_t - R_t d_t$$
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Collateral constraint for the homeowner:

$$z_t \ge h_t$$
$$d_t \le (1 - \theta)(p_t - r_t)z_t$$

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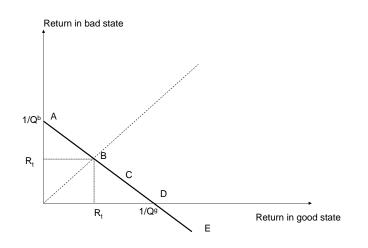
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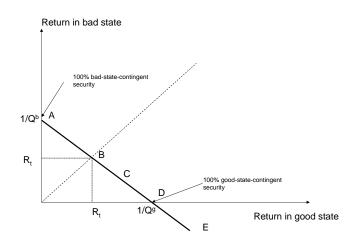
$$z_t \ge h_t$$
$$d_t \le (1 - \theta)(p_t - r_t)z_t$$

And for the tenant,

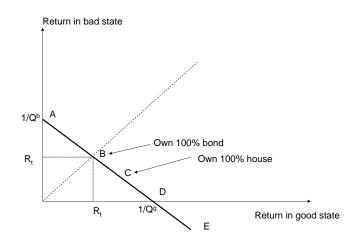
 $z_t \geq 0, \ d_t \leq 0$



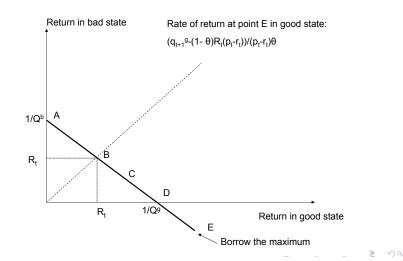
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- Representative foreigner makes purchases of consumption goods and Arrow securities.
- Households' optimization problems are modified accordingly for both market arrangements.
- Computationally challenging: world of idiosyncratic risk and aggregate shocks.

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- Looking forward to the results!