

SECURITIZATION IN THE MORTGAGE MARKET UNDER GENERAL EQUILIBRIUM

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CEMLA**

Views presented are of the author and do not necessarily
represent those of the Bank of Spain and the Eurosystem.

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Motivation

1. Dynamics of **mortgage lending** closely tied to securitization.
 - US credit cycle of 2000's partly fueled by **securitization**.
2. **Securitization**: large **source of liquidity** to mortgage originators.
 - Large fraction of mortgage originators are **liquidity constrained**.
3. Evidence of **information frictions** along mortgage origination and securitization chain.
 - Private Segment of securitization market **collapsed** in 2008.

Yet, there is not much **quantification** of

- **equilibrium connection** between securitization and mortgage credit.
- aggregate **effects** of information frictions in this market.

→ **This paper**

What I do

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Develop a quantitative GE model of financial intermediation.

- Endogenous securitization market.
- Main friction: private information (adverse selection).
- Exogenous shocks: borrower's income and housing depreciation.

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Quantify the role of information frictions during the Great Recession (GR).

Evaluate policy changes introduced after GR.

- Expansion of insurance on securities

Results

1. Model **replicates** 2/3 the **dynamics** of mortgage lending and securities issuance during the GR.
2. **Information frictions** account for 27% of contraction in mortgage lending
 - Elements: (i) **Info frictions**, (ii) **high exposure** to securitization, (iii) **high concentration** among mortgage originators.

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3. **Expanding insurance** on securities can be welfare improving.

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 - **Insight**: X-section mortgage data informative about equilibrium in lending-securitization market.
3. **Expanding insurance** on securities can be welfare improving.
 - Δ^- **volatility** of mortgage lending and mortgage rate.
 - Δ^+ **borrower's default** rate.
 - Δ^+ cost of financing the policy by about 2 times.
 - **Small welfare gains** to borrowers, larger welfare gains for lenders.

Related Literature

- Macro Models of Aggregate Fluctuations with Housing

Elenev, Landvoigt, Van Nieuwerburgh (2016), Favilukis, Ludvigson, Van Nieuwerburgh(2017), Justiniano, Primiceri, Tambalotti (2019), Kaplan, Mitman, Violante (2020).

Contribution: quantify the role information frictions in aggregate dynamics.

- Information Frictions in Asset Markets

Eisfeldt (2004), Kurlat (2013), Guerrieri, Shimer (2013), Chari, Shourideh, Zetlin-Jones (2014), Bigio (2015), Caramp (WP, 2017), Asriyan, Vanasco (WP, 2019), Asriyan (2021).

Contribution: link dynamics of securitization market to primary credit market.

- Policy in the Securitization Market

Passmore (2006), Lucas (2011), Jeske, Krueger, Mitman (2013), Gette, Zechetto (2015), Elenev, Landvoigt, Van Nieuwerburgh (2016), Passmore, Sherlund (2016), Lucas (2018).

Contribution: study the role of GSEs policies in macro model with adverse selection.

Outline

I. Model

- Environment
- Main mechanism

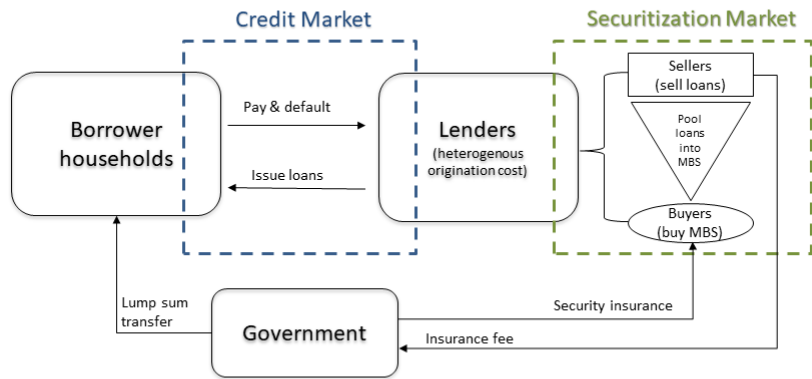
II. Quantification

- Calibration
- Simulating the Great Recession
- Decomposition exercise

III. Policy Evaluation

Part I. The Model

Model Overview



Model: borrowers

- Log-preferences over ND consumption C_t , and housing H_t .
- **Long-term mortgages** B_t (geometrically declining payments ϕ), **defaultable**, **competitive price** q_t .
- Borrowing constraint: $B_{t+1} \leq \pi H_{t+1}$

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- **Default** on mortgages:
 - aggregate across borrowers: continuous **default rate** $\lambda(\bar{\omega}_t)$
 - family member s.t. individual **housing valuation shocks** ω_t^i .
 - default if $\omega_t^i < \bar{\omega}_t = f(B_t, H_t, q_t, \phi)$ **endogenous threshold**.

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- Exogenous aggregate shocks:
 - **Income endowment**: $Y_t \sim$ Markov process.
 - Housing valuation **volatility**: $\sigma_{\omega,t} \in \{\sigma_{\omega,t}^H, \sigma_{\omega,t}^L\} \sim$ Markov process.

Model: lenders

- Log-preferences over ND consumption (dividends).
- Only income: **borrowers payments** ϕb_t^j .
- Only equity: portfolio of **outstanding loans** $(1 - \phi)b_t^j$.

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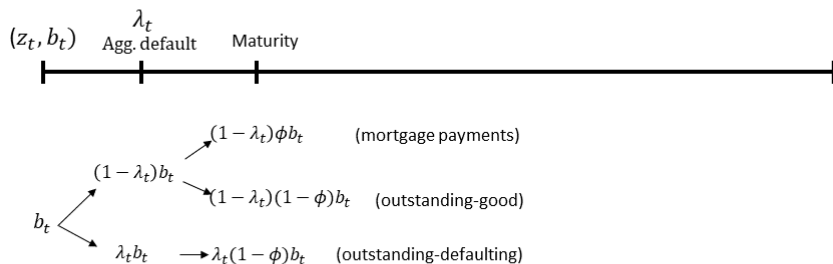
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- Securitization market à la Kurlat(2013):
 - Lender can **sell outstanding loans** and/or **buy securities**.
 - Assumption 1: trade is anonymous.
 - Assumption 2: trade is non-exclusive, competitive (pooling) price p_t .

Lender's timeline



- **Aggregate default rate** $\lambda_t(\bar{\omega})$ affects all lenders equally.
 - **private information:** lender privately identifies defaulting loans $\lambda_t(\bar{\omega})b_t^i$.
 - defaulting loans do not accumulate to the next period.

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Lender's Budget Constraint

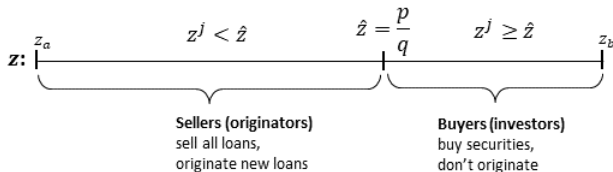
Model Properties

The Role of the Securitization Market

Complete Information: defaulting loans are identified by everyone.

Securitization allows for:

- i. **Financial specialization:** lenders become originators and security investors.
- ii. **Lower intermediation costs,** mortgage rate under securitization is lower than without it: $r(q)^{\text{SM}} \leq r(q)^{\text{without SM}}$.



Securitization Market + Private Information

Private Information: defaulting loans are identified only by owner.

- i. Private info + anonymity + pooling market leads to an **adverse selection problem**.
 - All lenders sell their defaulting loans s_B .
 - Only high-z cost lenders sell their non-defaulting (good) loans s_G .

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$$\mu = \frac{s_B}{s_B + s_G}$$

μ : fraction of defaulting loans traded.

Securitization Market + Private Information

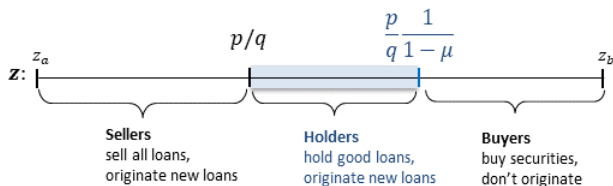
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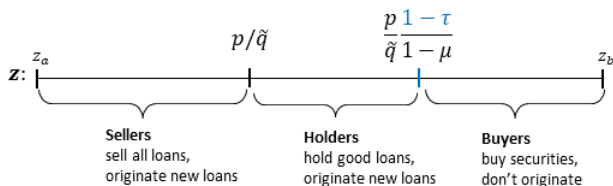
μ : fraction of defaulting loans traded.

- iii. **Holders:** some lenders remain with their illiquid portfolio of good loans.



Government Policy

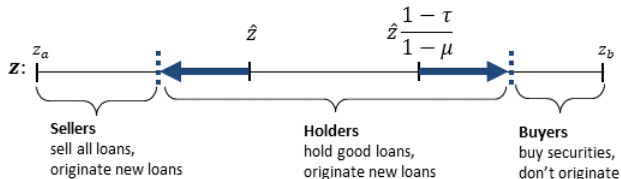
- **Subsidy** τ (insurance) **to buyers** of securities: $p(1 - \tau)$.
- **Tax loan originators** ($\tilde{q} = q + \gamma$) and **borrowers** to finance the subsidy.



Main Mechanism

Main mechanism: securitization market

Consider an increase in $\sigma_\omega \rightarrow \Delta^+ \lambda(\bar{\omega})$, then:

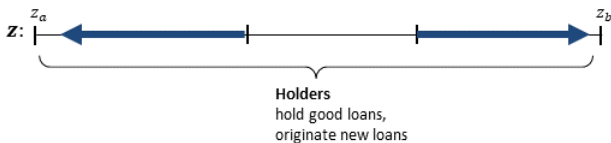


In the securitization market

- $\Delta^+ \mu$ fraction of defaulting loans traded.
- $\Delta^- D$ lower demand of securities.
- $\Delta^- p$ lower price of securities.

Main mechanism: securitization market

Consider an increase in $\sigma_\omega \rightarrow \Delta^+ \lambda(\bar{\omega})$, then:



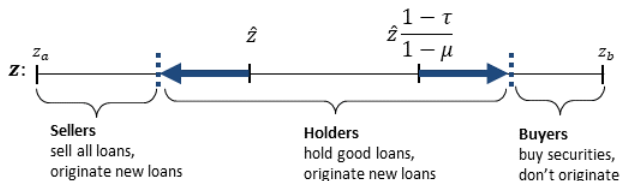
Model allows for **crash of securitization market**:

- There is no positive price that clears the market, $p \not\geq 0$
- **All lenders operate** with their technology $r^j z^j$.
- Same as **model without securitization**.

Main mechanism: primary market

In the **credit market**, consider an increase in $\sigma_\omega \rightarrow \Delta^+ \lambda(\bar{\omega})$, can lead to:

- Δ^- liquid resources for lending.
- $\Delta^- N$ aggregate lending.
- $\Delta^+ r(q)$: higher lending rate.



- Distribution $F(z)$ determines the magnitude of the effect on prices.

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Part II. Quantitative Analysis

Calibration

Benchmark calibration: 1990-2006

Lenders

Param	Value	Target moment	Data	Model
β^L	0.985	interest rate 1Y T-bill (risk free, pp)	1.6	1.7
ϕ	0.21	maturity of mortgage bond index	4.0	4.0
$F(z)$	Beta(α, β)	lending distribution $\Theta(n)$ in HMDA data		
α	4.20	market share top 25% originators	95.7	95.9
β	2.25	loan issuance volume top-10/bot-90	9.3	9.2
lc	0.63	mortgage rate 30Y FRM real, %	5.0	5.1

Government

Param	Value	Target moment	Data	Model
γ	0.007	Guarantee fee GSEs (bps)	20.0	20.0
τ	0.69 μ	GSEs market share of RMBS issuance	69.0	69.0

Borrowers

Exogenous processes

Non-targeted Moments

Benchmark calibration: 1990-2006

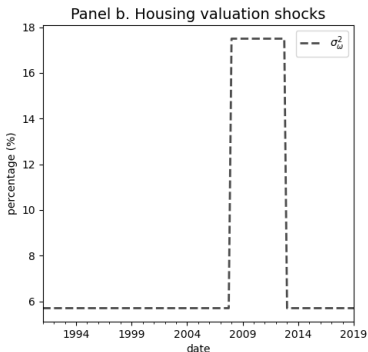
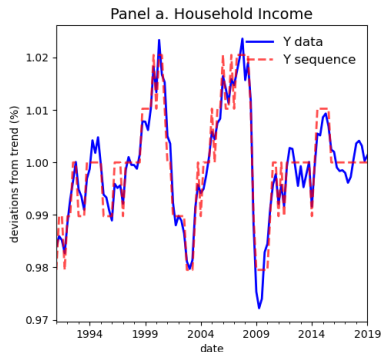
Moment	Data	Model
average sales of loans, fraction of portfolio. (pp)	61.8	73.9
average mortgage spread (bps)	178	329
Correlations		
volume lending & sec-issuance	0.86	0.90
log-lending & default	-0.71	-0.81
log-security issuance & default	-0.68	-0.85
borrower's income & default	-0.37	-0.41

Distribution of lending $\Theta(n)$

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Data	0.002	0.008	0.030	0.959
Model	0.006	0.007	0.030	0.957

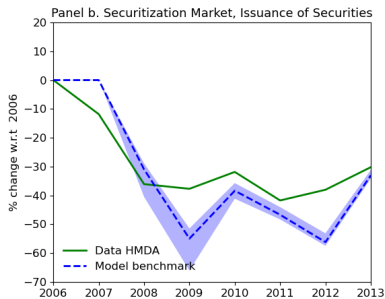
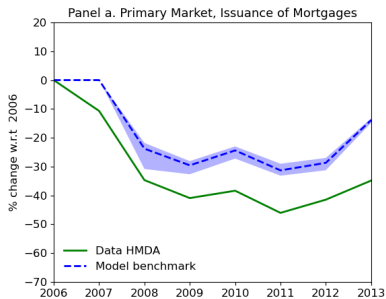
Simulating the Great Recession

The Great Recession. Exogenous Processes



- Income shock, Y : cyclical component of GDP.
- Housing valuation shock, σ_{ω}^2 : matches model's default rates to the data.

The Great Recession. Primary and Securitization Market



From 2008 to 2013 the model replicates:

- 2/3 of the contraction in mortgage lending.
- total contraction in MBS issuance.
- X-section mortgage data informative about equilibrium in lending-securitization market.

mechanism

Quantifying Information Frictions

Quantifying Information Frictions: shock decomposition

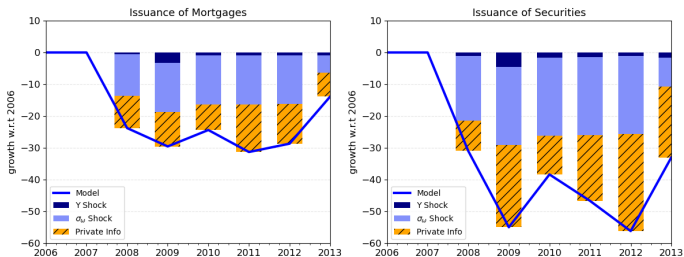


Table 1: Average contribution (pp), 08-13

Volume of issuance	priv. info	σ_{ω}^2	γ
Credit Market	43	52	5
Securitization Market	46	50	4

- Information frictions account for about 45% of predicted contraction.

Quantifying Information Frictions: shock decomposition

Table 2: Average contribution (pp), 08-13

Volume of issuance	priv. info	σ_{ω}^2	Y
Credit Market	43	52	5
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Mortgage lending contraction during Great Recession

- This paper:
 - Information frictions (45%), housing dynamics (50%), income (5%).
- Kaplan, Mitman, Violante (QJE, 2020).
 - Decomposition: house price (50%), households' beliefs (50%).

Part III. Evaluating Policy Changes

Policy: expanding insurance on securities

GSEs effectively took on the entire MBS market after 2012.

Description	Benchmark	$\Delta^+(\tau, \gamma)$	Δ Model	Δ Data
<i>Primary Market</i>				
Mortgage spread, avg (bps)	330	290	Δ^-	Δ^-
Mortgage spread, std (pp)	6.2	4.7	Δ^-	Δ^-
Hhs default (pp)	2.7	3.0	Δ^+	Δ^+
<i>Securitization Market</i>				
Fraction of loans traded %	74.0	100	Δ^+	Δ^+
Prob. market collapse (pp)	5.9	0.0	Δ^-	
<i>Gov. Policy</i>				
Costs of policy (pp), τ	6.5	11.3	Δ^+	
Gov deficit/Y	0.8	2.7	Δ^+	Δ^+

1. higher insurance stabilizes price of securities and mortgage spread.
2. default rates increase due to higher indebtedness of households.
housing wealth accumulation increases by 6%.
3. Cost of policy doubles \rightarrow higher taxes

Welfare Evaluation

Table 3: Welfare effects: policy changes after Great Recession

Description	$\Delta^+(\tau, \gamma)$	Decomposition	
		$\Delta^+\tau$	$\Delta^+\gamma$
$\Delta\%$ Borrower welfare	0.06	-0.16	0.18
$\Delta\%$ Non-durable cons.	-0.15	-0.69	0.47
$\Delta\%$ Housing good cons.	0.55	2.63	-1.89
$\Delta\%$ Lenders' welfare	1.3	3.01	-1.53

Main Takeaways

- **Information frictions** can account for **large fluctuations** in mortgage lending

For the Great Recession:

- 45% of contraction in MBS issuance.
- 27% of contraction in mortgage lending.

- **Expanding insurance** on securities can be **welfare improving**
 - Provides **stabilization** at a **high cost**.
lower mortgage rates,
higher default,
higher taxes to households.

Thanks!!

Model. Formal results.

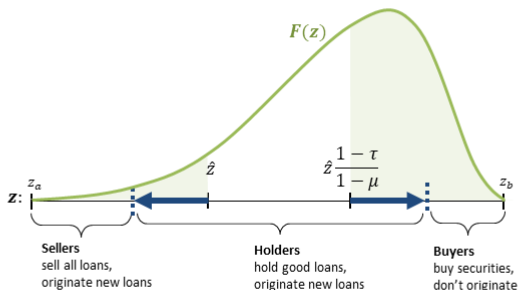
Environment

- Borrower Recursive Problem
- Lender Recursive Problem
- Aggregate states
- Recursive Competitive Equilibrium

Properties

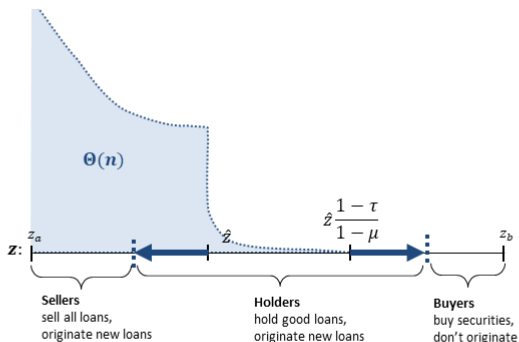
- Characterization
- Mechanism

Main mechanism: model + data



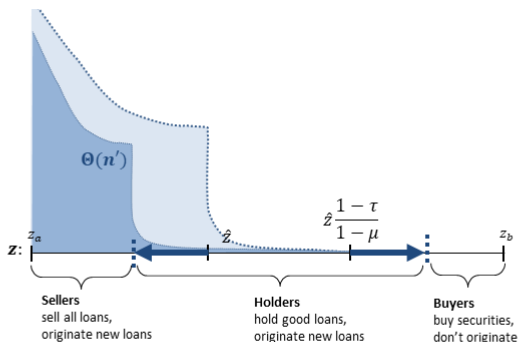
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- **Large liquidity benefits** of accessing securitization market.
→ cons: **higher fragility**.

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Borrower's problem

$$V^{B,j}(b, h; X) = \max_{\{c, n, h', i(\omega^j)\}} u(c, h) + \beta^B \mathbb{E}_{X'|X} V^B(b', h'; X')$$

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$$\begin{aligned} c + p_h \psi(h') - \omega^j p_h h \iota(\omega^j) &\leq y + qn - \phi b \iota(\omega^j) - T^B \\ b' &= (1 - \phi)b \iota(\omega^j) + n \\ b' &\leq \pi p_h h' \\ &\text{given } b_0, h_0. \end{aligned}$$

- income: stochastic endowment y and new debt n .
- housing adjustment costs: $\psi(h') = h' + \frac{\nu}{2}(h' - \bar{h})^2$.

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- $\omega^j \sim G_\omega$: idiosyncratic housing valuation shock
as in Elenev, Landvoigt, Van Nieuwerburgh (JME, 2016).
- default: each borrower decides whether to repay b

$$\iota(\omega^j) = \begin{cases} 0 & \omega^j < \bar{\omega} \\ 1 & \omega^j \geq \bar{\omega} \end{cases}$$

- after default decision, family of borrower jointly chooses $\{c, n, h'\}$.

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Borrower's Problem

- Recursive problem of the family

$$V^B(B, H; X) = \max_{\{C, N, H'\}} u(C, H) + \beta^B \mathbb{E}_{X'|X} V(B', H'; X')$$

$$\begin{aligned} C + p_h \psi(H') - (1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega})) \mathbb{E} \omega_{\omega > \bar{\omega}} p_h H &= Y + qN - (1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega})) \phi B + T^B \\ B' &= (1 - \phi)(1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega})) B + N \\ B' &\leq \pi p_h H' \end{aligned}$$

where $\lambda(\bar{\omega}_t) = G_\omega(\bar{\omega}_t; \chi)$ default rate at the optimal cutoff $\bar{\omega}_t$.

$$\bar{\omega}_t = \frac{B_t}{p_{h,t} H_t} (\phi + (1 - \phi) q_t)$$

- Assume $G_\omega(\chi_1, \chi_2)$ is a Gamma Distribution.

[Borrower summary](#)

[Borrower Individual Problem](#)

[back](#)

Lender's Recursive Problem

$$V^L(z^j, b^j; X) = \max_{\{c, b', n, d, s_B, s_G\}} \log c^j + \beta^L \mathbb{E}_{z', X'|X} V^L(z^{j'}, b^{j'}; X')$$

$$\begin{aligned}(1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega}))\phi b^j + p(s_G^j + s_B^j) &\leq c^j + n^j z^j (q + \gamma) + p d^j (1 - \tau) \\ b^{j'} &= (1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega}))(1 - \phi) b^j - s_G^j + n^j + (1 - \mu) d^j \\ s_G^j &\in [0, (1 - \phi)(1 - \lambda) b^j] \\ s_B^j &\in [0, (1 - \phi)\lambda b^j] \\ d^j &\geq 0, \quad n^j \geq 0.\end{aligned}$$

back

Aggregate states

- Aggregate states

$$X = \{B, H, \Gamma; \sigma_\omega, y\}$$

- Endogenous states

- B , aggregate stock of debt
- H , aggregate housing stock
- $\Gamma(z, b)$, joint distribution across lenders

- Exogenous states

- y , borrower's income endowment
- σ_ω , volatility of housing valuation shock
- $\{\sigma_\omega, y\} \sim$ joint stochastic process, first order Markov

back

Calibration: borrowers

Benchmark calibration: 1990-2006

Param	Value	Target moment	Data	Model
β^B	0.97	cons. ndur & serv to DPI, C/Y	0.80	0.80
θ	0.13	cons. ndur & serv to real estate, C/H	0.40	0.40
π	0.43	mortgage debt to real estate, B/H	0.43	0.43
ν	2.0	residential real estate investment, I/H	0.04	0.04
μ_ω	0.975	residential housing depreciation.	0.03	0.03
σ_ω^L	0.057	RM default 30 dd+ (pp), normal times	2.18	2.74
σ_ω^H	0.175	RM default 30 dd+ (pp), crisis times	8.64	8.14

- Exogenous processes $\{y, \sigma_\omega^2\}$ joint Markov

	Mean	Std	ρ	Description
Y_{cy}	1.00	0.01	0.69	cyclical component of household's DPI
σ_ω^2	0.074	0.04	0.66	2-state Markov chain, ELV(2016). $\sigma_\omega^2 \in (\sigma_\omega^L, \sigma_\omega^H) = (0.057, 0.175)$
$\text{corr}(Y_{cy}, \sigma_\omega^2)$	-0.35			

Recursive Competitive Equilibrium

A RCE given gov policy $\{\tau, \gamma, T^B\}$ consists of prices $\{q(X), p(X)\}$; adverse selection discount $\{\mu(X)\}$; a law of motion $\Gamma'(X)$; and transition density $\Pi(X'|X)$; and policy functions $\{C, N, B', H'\}^B$ and $\{c^j, n^j, d^j, s_G^j, s_B^j\}_{j \in J}^L$ s.t.:

1. Borrowers and lenders optimize.
2. $q(X)$ clears the **primary mortgage market**

$$N(q; X) = \int n(q, p; X) d\Gamma.$$

3. Whenever $p(X) > 0$ the **securitization market** clears

$$D(p, q; X) = S(p, q; X),$$

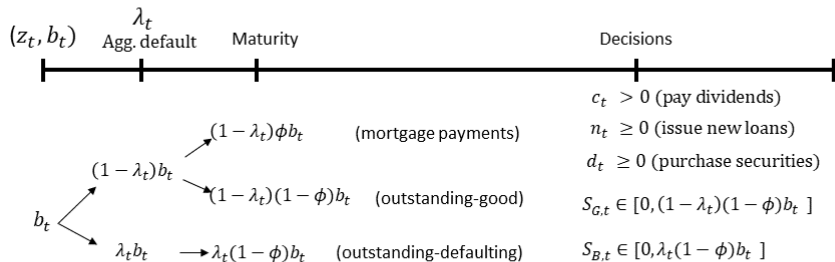
4. Government balances budget every period

$$\gamma N(X) + T^B = \tau p D(X).$$

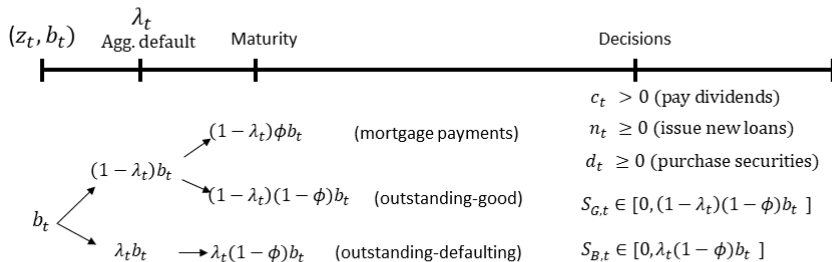
5. Resource constraint holds

$$C^B + C^L + H' - \mu_\omega(1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega}))H = Y + q \int (z - 1)n d\Gamma.$$

Lender's timeline



Lender's timeline

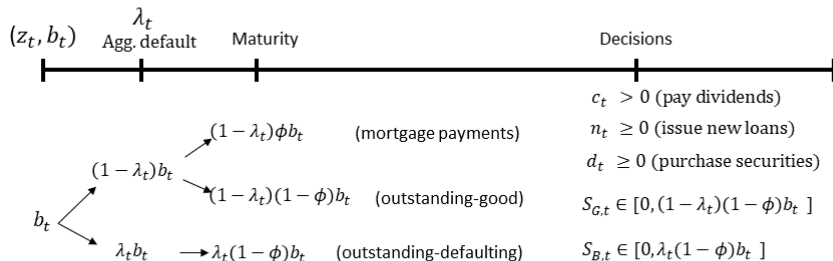


- **Lender's budget constraint:**

$$\underbrace{(1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega}))\phi b^j + p(s_G^j + s_B^j)}_{\text{inflows}} \geq c^j + n^j z^j (q + \gamma) + p d^j (1 - \tau)$$

Cash inflows: borrower's payments + loan sales.

Lender's timeline



- **Lender's budget constraint:**

$$(1 - \lambda(\bar{\omega}))\phi b^j + p(s_G^j + s_B^j) \geq \underbrace{c^j + n^j z^j (q + \gamma) + p d^j (1 - \tau)}_{\text{outflows}}$$

Cash outflows: dividend payments + new lending + security purchases.

Lender's Recursive Problem

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