

Credit Cycles

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- How credit constraints interact with aggregate economic activity over the business cycle.
- Sector specific shocks can be contagious and get amplified through time
- Constructing a model of dynamic economy
 - mechanism of dynamic interaction between credit limits and asset prices





- Interaction between credit limits and asset prices is a powerful mechanism by which the effects of shocks persist, amplify and spread out
- Durable asset (land) : factor of production
 collateral for loan







Credit Cycles

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Predator-prey model :



$$\begin{bmatrix} prey_t \\ predator_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} * & - \\ + & * \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} prey_{t-1} \\ predator_{t-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

 \rightarrow Predator : Debts of credit-constrained firms

 \rightarrow Prey: Collateralized assets

Credit Cycles

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- Durable asset : land = \overline{K}
- Nondurable commodity : fruit
- Farmers : population = 1
- Gatherers : population = m
- Land price : q_t (fruit is taken as the numeraire)
- Land market
- Credit market : 1 fruit at date t \longrightarrow R fruit at date t+1



• Farmers at date t:

Maximize expected utility :

$$E_t \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \beta^s x_{t+s}$$

s t :

production function : *borrowing constra* int : *flow of funds constra* int : $y_{t+1} = F(k_t) = (a+c)k_t$ $Rb_t \le q_{t+1}k_t$ $q_t(k_t - k_{t-1}) + Rb_{t-1} + x_t - ck_{t-1} = ak_{t-1} + b_t$



• Gatherers at date t:

Maximize expected utility: $E_t \sum_{s=0}^{\infty} \beta'^s x'_{t+s} \qquad \beta < \beta'$

st:

production function: $y'_{t+1} = G(k'_t)$ G' > 0 G'' < 0budget constraint: $q_t(k'_t - k'_{t-1}) + Rb'_{t-1} + x'_t = G(k'_{t-1}) + b'_t$



• Results :

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t} &= ck_{t-1} \qquad b_{t} = \frac{q_{t+1}k_{t}}{R} \qquad k_{t} = \frac{[(a+q_{t})k_{t-1} - Rb_{t-1}]}{q_{t} - \frac{1}{R}q_{t+1}} \\ \frac{G'(k_{t}')}{R} &= q_{t} - \frac{1}{R}q_{t+1} = u_{t} \end{aligned}$$

• \mathcal{U}_t = opportunity cost of holding land



Steady state:







• Temporary productivity shock :

Both farmers' and gatherers' production at date t are $1 + \Delta$ times their expected levels.



• Persistency:
$$(1+\frac{1}{\eta})\hat{k}_{t+s} = \hat{k}_{t+s-1}$$
 $s \ge 1$



• Static multiplier :

$$\hat{q_t}\Big|_{q_{t+1}=q^*} = \frac{R-1}{R}\frac{1}{\eta}\Delta$$

$$\hat{k_t}\Big|_{q_{t+1}=q^*} = \Delta$$

→ Dynamic multiplier effect > Static multiplier effect



• Unanticipated debt-reduction (one-time) :

$$\frac{RB^*}{ak^*} = \frac{R}{R-1}$$

\longrightarrow Reduction of $\frac{R-1}{R}$ percent in debt = 1 percent productivity shock



- Basic Model results:
 - credit constrained firms \rightarrow output loss
 - credit constrained firms \rightarrow effects of shocks persist and amplify



- First change : Reproducible capital \longrightarrow trees (depreciation rate = $1-\lambda$)
- Trees are not tradable
- Increase cultivated land from λk_{t-1} to k_t the farmer must plant $\phi(k_t \lambda k_{t-1})$ fruit and acquire $k_t k_{t-1}$ more land
- \rightarrow Contemporaneous responses are damped by ϕ and The effects are more persistent



- Second change : In each period only a fraction of farmers have an investment (plant fruit) opportunity
- Other farmers use their revenues to pay their debts
- \blacksquare Investment opportunity to plant fruit arises with probability π
- → Contemporaneous responses are damped by π and the effects of the shock can continue to build up



The Full Model : Investment and Cycles



Debt : Predator Landholding : Prey



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• Full Model results:

- sunk cost → Contemporaneous effect of shocks are damped and the effects are more persistent
- lumpy investment → Contemporaneous effect of shocks are damped and the effects are more persistent





Impulse response to a sector-specific technology shock :

- There are two symmetric farming sectors
- Unanticipated increase in output of sector 1 (productivity shock)
- → Direct impact on farmers in sector 1: increase in the demand of land by farmers in sector 1 → increase in land price





- Positive spillover: jump in land price is enjoyed by the farmers in sector
 2 and increases their demand of land
- Spillover Model result:
 - The initial increase in land demand of two sectors persists and the two sectors commove after shock , at least for a time





- In a credit constrained economy responses to a shock persist and amplify through time
- The effects of a shock can be built up through time
- Sector specific shocks can be contagious and persist through time