HOUSEHOLD BALANCE SHEETS AND MONETARY POLICY

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DISCUSSION

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• Classic question

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- Lots of channels
 - o Interest rate sensitivity of durables (consumption and investment)
 - o Management of expectations
 - o Financial accelerator
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 - o Interest rate sensitivity of durables (consumption and investment)
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 - Merge micro (confidential CEX) and macro data
- Main results:
 - Heterogonous effects of nominal shocks on house prices across MSAs.
 - o Marginal propensity to consume out of housing (MPCH) is 0.06.
 - o MPCH is higher for constrained households.

Starting point:

Consumption: $\Delta C_{it} = \beta_1 \Delta Q_{it} + \beta_2 M P_t + error$

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$$MP_t$$
 $Q_{it} \subseteq C_{it}$

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Modified framework:

Consumption: $\Delta C_{it} = \beta_1 \Delta Q_{it} + \beta_2 M P_t + error$

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What's Z_i ?

- Availability of land (Saiz 2010)
- Index of regulations (Wharton)

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Restrictions and caveats:

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- Dynamic response: need to include lags of ΔC_{it} and ΔQ_{it} on RHS.

SUMMARY

• Great question

• Creative combination of micro and macro data

• Iron out a few wrinkles



