

ONLINE APPENDIX:  
On the sources of information about latent variables  
in DSGE models

Nikolay Iskrev

July 29, 2019

## A Evaluating the information and efficiency gain measures in linearized Gaussian models

Here I provide some details on how to evaluate the information and efficiency gains measures presented in Section 3 for the case of linearized Gaussian DSGE models. The reduced form solution of a typical linearized DSGE model can be represented as follows:

$$y_t = s(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + C(\boldsymbol{\theta})x_t \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$x_t = A(\boldsymbol{\theta})x_{t-1} + B(\boldsymbol{\theta})v_t, \quad x_0 = B_0(\boldsymbol{\theta})v_0 \quad (\text{A.2})$$

$$v_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_{n_v}), \quad w_t \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_{n_w}) \quad (\text{A.3})$$

where  $y_t$  is a  $n_y$ -dimensional vector of observed variables,  $w_t$  is  $n_w$ -dimensional vector of measurement errors,  $x_t$  is  $n_x$ -dimensional vector of state variables,  $v_t$  is  $n_v$ -dimensional vector of structural shocks,  $s$  is a  $n_y$ -dimensional vector,  $C$  is a  $n_y \times n_x$  matrix,  $A$  is a  $n_x \times n_x$  matrix,  $B$  and  $B_0$  are  $n_x \times n_v$  matrices.

### A.1 Conditional distribution of $\mathbf{z}$ given $\mathbf{y}$

We can write (A.1) and (A.2) in a stacked form as

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ \vdots \\ y_T \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} s \\ s \\ s \\ \vdots \\ s \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{s}} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} C & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & C & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & C & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & C \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{C}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_T \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} \quad (\text{A.4})$$

and

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -A & I & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & -A & I & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & -A & I \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{H}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ x_T \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{x}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} AB_0 & B & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & B & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & B \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{L}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} v_0 \\ v_1 \\ v_2 \\ \vdots \\ v_T \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{v}} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Letting  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{H}^{-1}\mathbf{L}$  (note that  $\mathbf{H}$  is lower triangular matrix with ones on the main diagonal, thus invertible), we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{y} &= \mathbf{S} + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x} \\
\mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v} \\
\mathbf{v} &= \mathbf{v}
\end{aligned}
\Rightarrow
\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{pmatrix}
=
\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{S} \\ \mathbf{0}_{T \times n_x} \\ \mathbf{0}_{T \times n_v} \end{pmatrix}
+
\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{C}\mathbf{M} \\ \mathbf{M} \\ \mathbf{I}_{T \times n_v} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}}
\mathbf{v}
\quad (\text{A.6})$$

Note that  $\mathbf{v} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}_{T \times n_v})$  and  $\mathbf{\Sigma} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}'$  is a singular matrix. Using the definition in Rao (2001, Chapter 8),  $(\mathbf{y}', \mathbf{x}', \mathbf{v}')'$  has a singular normal distribution with mean  $(\mathbf{S}', \mathbf{0}'_{T \times n_x}, \mathbf{0}'_{T \times n_v})'$ , and covariance matrix  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ . Therefore, the marginal distribution of every subset of elements of  $(\mathbf{y}', \mathbf{x}', \mathbf{v}')'$  is also singular normal distribution. In particular, collecting the unique elements of  $(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{v}')'$  into the vector  $\mathbf{z}$ , it follows that  $(\mathbf{y}', \mathbf{z}')'$  is a vector with singular normal distribution. Moreover, the conditional distribution of  $\mathbf{z}$  given  $\mathbf{y}$  is singular normal, with mean  $E(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{\Sigma}_{zy}\mathbf{\Sigma}_{yy}^\dagger(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{S})$  and covariance matrix  $V(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{\Sigma}_{zz|\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{\Sigma}_{zz} - \mathbf{\Sigma}_{zy}\mathbf{\Sigma}_{yy}^\dagger\mathbf{\Sigma}_{yz}$ , where  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_{yy}^\dagger$  is the generalized inverse of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_{yy}$ , and  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_{rc}$  is the submatrix of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$  obtained by removing all row indices other than those corresponding to the elements of  $\mathbf{r}$  and all column indices other than those corresponding to the elements of  $\mathbf{c}$ . Note that  $\mathbf{z}$  contains the realizations of all – endogenous and exogenous – latent variables in the model. The conditional distribution of the realizations of a single latent variable  $z^j$  given  $\mathbf{y}$  is derived analogously, by selecting the row and column indices of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$  that correspond to the indices of the elements of  $z^j$  in the vector  $(\mathbf{y}', \mathbf{x}', \mathbf{v}')'$ .

## A.2 Fisher information matrix

From (A.6) we have that the marginal distribution of  $\mathbf{y}$  is Gaussian with mean  $E\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{S}$  and covariance matrix  $V(\mathbf{y}) = \mathbf{\Sigma}_y = \mathbf{C}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}'\mathbf{C}'$ . The  $(k, l)$ -th element of Fisher information matrix is given by (see Kay (1993, Chapter 3.9) for proof)

$$\{\mathcal{I}\}_{k,l} = \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left( \mathbf{\Sigma}_y^{-1} \partial_k \mathbf{\Sigma}_y \mathbf{\Sigma}_y^{-1} \partial_l \mathbf{\Sigma}_y \right) + \partial_k \mathbf{S}' \mathbf{\Sigma}_y^{-1} \partial_l \mathbf{S} \quad (\text{A.7})$$

where I have used  $\partial_i X$  to denote the derivative of a matrix  $X$  w.r.t.  $\theta_i$ . The required derivatives of  $\mathbf{S}$  and  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_y$  with respect to the elements of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  are straightforward to obtain once we have the derivatives of the matrices  $A$ ,  $B$ ,  $C$  and  $s$  from (A.1) and (A.2), which can be computed as shown in Iskrev (2008). For instance, the derivative of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}_y$  with respect to  $\theta_i$  is

$$\partial_i \mathbf{\Sigma}_y = \partial_i \mathbf{C}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}'\mathbf{C}' + \mathbf{C}\partial_i \mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}'\mathbf{C}' + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{M}\partial_i \mathbf{M}'\mathbf{C}' + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{M}'\partial_i \mathbf{C}' \quad (\text{A.8})$$

The definition of  $\mathbf{C}$  (see (A.4)) show how to obtain  $\partial_i \mathbf{C}$  from  $\partial_i C$ . Furthermore, using that  $\partial_i X^{-1} = -X^{-1} \partial_i X X^{-1}$ , and  $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{H}^{-1}\mathbf{L}$  we have

$$\partial_i \mathbf{M} = -\mathbf{H}^{-1} \partial_i \mathbf{H} \mathbf{H}^{-1} \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{H}^{-1} \partial_i \mathbf{L} \quad (\text{A.9})$$

which shows how to construct  $\partial_i \mathbf{M}$  from the derivative of  $\mathbf{H}$ , which is a simple function of  $A(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ , on one hand, and that of  $\mathbf{L}$ , which is a simple function of  $A(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ ,  $B(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  and  $B_0(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  (see (A.5)). Note that in (A.2) I have left  $B_0(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ , which determines the variance of the initial state  $x_0$ , unspecified. Typically it is assumed that the distribution of the initial state is the same as the unconditional distribution of  $x$ , in which case  $B_0$  will be a simple function of  $A$  and  $B$ .

The asymptotic information matrix can be computed as in Whittle (1953) by using a frequency domain approximation of the likelihood function (see also Davies (1983)). The approximation involves replacing the covariance matrix of the joint distribution  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y$  with a circulant matrix, which can be diagonalized and is thus much cheaper to invert. As Whittle (1953) showed, the  $(k, l)$ -th element of the asymptotic information matrix for a multivariate Gaussian process with zero mean is:

$$\{\mathcal{I}_1\}_{k,l} = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \text{tr} \left( \frac{\partial F(\omega)}{\partial \theta_k} F^{-1}(\omega) \frac{\partial F(\omega)}{\partial \theta_l} F^{-1}(\omega) \right), \quad (\text{A.10})$$

where  $F(\omega)$  is the spectral density matrix of the zero-mean process  $y_t - s(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ .  $\{\mathcal{I}_1\}_{k,l}$  reflects information about  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  contained only in the second order moments of data. The information about  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  in the mean of  $y_t$  is given by (see Qu and Tkachenko (2012) )

$$\{\mathcal{I}_2\}_{k,l} = \frac{1}{2\pi} \left( \frac{\partial s}{\partial \theta_k} \right)' F^{-1}(0) \left( \frac{\partial s}{\partial \theta_l} \right) \quad (\text{A.11})$$

The full information matrix is  $\mathcal{I} = \mathcal{I}_1 + \mathcal{I}_2$ . To compute it we need the derivatives of  $s = s(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  and  $F(\omega) = F(\omega, \boldsymbol{\theta})$  with respect to  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ . The derivative  $\partial F(\omega)/\partial \theta_k$ , can be obtained using that the spectral density matrix for the model in (A.1)-(A.2) is (see for instance Hansen and Sargent (2013))

$$F(\omega) = \frac{1}{2\pi} C \Psi^- B B' \Psi^+ C' \quad (\text{A.12})$$

where  $\Psi^- = (\mathbf{I}_{n_x} - A \exp(-i\omega))^{-1}$  and  $\Psi^+ = (\mathbf{I}_{n_x} - A' \exp(i\omega))^{-1}$ . Therefore, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_i F(\omega) = & \partial_i C \Psi^- B B' \Psi^+ C' + C \partial_i \Psi^- B B' \Psi^+ C' + C \Psi^- \partial_i B B' \Psi^+ C' + \\ & C \Psi^- B \partial_i B' \Psi^+ C' + C \Psi^- B B' \partial_i \Psi^+ C' + C \Psi^- B B' \Psi^+ \partial_i C' \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\partial_i \Psi^- = -\Psi^- (\mathbf{I}_m - \partial_i A \exp(-i\omega)) \Psi^- \quad (\text{A.13})$$

and similarly for  $\Psi^+$ .

## B Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012) model

The model economy is populated by a continuum of identical agents each maximizing the following lifetime utility function

$$E_0 \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \zeta_t \frac{[C_t - bC_{t-1} - \psi H_t^\theta S_t]^{1-\sigma} - 1}{1-\sigma}, \quad (\text{B.1})$$

where  $\zeta_t$  is a preference shock,  $C_t$  is consumption,  $H_t$  is hours worked, and  $S_t$  is a geometric average of past habit-adjusted consumption:  $S_t = (C_t - bC_{t-1})^\gamma S_{t-1}^{1-\gamma}$ . The household budget constraint is given by

$$C_t + A_t I_t + T_t = W_t H_t + r_t u_t K_t + P_t, \quad (\text{B.2})$$

where  $A_t$  is a non-stationary investment specific productivity growing at rate  $\mu_t^a$ . The variable  $T_t$  denotes lump-sum taxes,  $W_t$  is the wage rate,  $r_t$  is rental rate of capital,  $u_t$  is capacity utilization,  $K_t$  is capital stock, and  $P_t$  denotes profit. The law of motion for capital stock is

$$K_{t+1} = (1 - \delta(u_t))K_t + z_t^I I_t \left[ 1 - \frac{\kappa}{2} \left( \frac{I_t}{I_{t-1}} - \mu^I \right) \right], \quad (\text{B.3})$$

where  $I_t$  is investment,  $\delta$  is the rate of depreciation – an increasing function of the rate of capacity utilization  $u_t$ ,  $\kappa$  is a parameter that determines the convexity of the investment adjustment cost function,  $\mu^I$  is the steady state growth rate of investment, and  $z_t^I$  is a stationary investment specific productivity shock.

Final good  $Y_t$  is produced with the following production function:

$$Y_t = z_t (u_t K_t)^{\alpha_k} (X_t H_t)^{\alpha_h} (X_t L)^{1-\alpha_k-\alpha_h}, \quad (\text{B.4})$$

where  $z_t$  is a stationary neutral productivity shock,  $L$  is a fixed factor of production,<sup>1</sup> and  $X_t$  is a non-stationary neutral productivity growing at rate  $\mu_t^x$ .

The labor input  $H_t$ , which is used by final-good-producing firms, is obtained by combining differentiated labor services  $H_{jt}$  supplied by monopolistically competitive labor unions,

$$H_t = \left[ \int_0^1 H_{jt}^{\frac{1}{1+\mu_t}} dj \right]^{1+\mu_t}, \quad (\text{B.5})$$

where  $\mu_t$  is a wage markup shock with steady state value  $\mu > 1$ .

Each period the government spends an amount  $G_t$ , financed with lump-sum taxes.  $G_t$  is determined exogenously and is assumed to grow at rate  $X_t^G$ , defined as a smoothed

---

<sup>1</sup>The fixed factor of production generates decreasing returns to scale in the two variable factors of production  $K_t$  and  $H_t$ . As shown by Jaimovich and Rebelo (2009) this allows for a positive response of the value of the firm to future expected increases in productivity.

version of the trend in  $Y_t$ , given by  $X_t^Y = X_t A_t^{\alpha_k/(\alpha_k-1)}$ .

Each of the seven shocks is driven by three independent innovations, two anticipated and one unanticipated. More precisely, the process governing shock  $x_t$  for  $x = \mu^a, \mu^x, z^I, z, \mu, g, \zeta$  is given by

$$\ln(x_t/x) = \rho_x \ln(x_{t-1}/x) + \sigma_x^0 \varepsilon_{x,t}^0 + \sigma_x^4 \varepsilon_{x,t-4}^4 + \sigma_x^8 \varepsilon_{x,t-8}^8, \quad (\text{B.6})$$

where  $\varepsilon_{x,t}^j$  for  $j = 0, 4, 8$  are independent standard normal random variables.

SGU report results based on estimation of the model using quarterly data on seven macroeconomic series: the growth rate of per capita real GDP ( $y_t = \Delta \ln Y_t$ ) contaminated with a measurement error, the growth rates of real consumption ( $c_t = 100\Delta \ln C_t$ ), real investment ( $i_t = 100\Delta \ln A_t I_t$ ), real government expenditure ( $g_t = 100\Delta \ln G_t$ ), and hours ( $h_t = 100\Delta \ln H_t$ ), and the growth rates of the relative price of investment ( $a_t = 100\Delta \ln A_t$ ) and of total factor productivity ( $tfp_t = 100\Delta \ln TFP_t$ ).<sup>2</sup>

In addition to these variables, the model makes predictions about the behavior of two asset price variables: the value of the firm and the risk-free real interest rate. The value of the firm  $V^F$  can be computed as

$$V_t^F = Y_t - W_t H_t - A_t I_t + \beta E_t \frac{\Lambda_{t+1}}{\Lambda_t} V_{t+1}^F, \quad (\text{B.7})$$

where  $\Lambda_t$  is the Lagrange multiplier associated with the household's budget constraint. The risk-free real interest rate is given by

$$R_t = \frac{1}{\beta} \frac{\Lambda_t}{E_t \Lambda_{t+1}}. \quad (\text{B.8})$$

In estimation, the value of the firm can be matched to stock price data. In particular,  $v_t^f = \Delta \ln V_t^F$  can be represented with the growth rate of the real per capita value of the stock market. Similarly, data on  $r_t = \log R_t$  can be obtained by deflating the nominal rate on the three-month Treasury bill by the inflation rate implied by the GDP deflator.

---

<sup>2</sup>The growth rate of total factor productivity in the model is given by  $tfp_t = 100(\Delta \ln z_t + (1 - \alpha_k) \ln \mu_t^x)$ .

Table B1: Parameter values, SGU (2012) model

	parameter	MLE	posterior median
$\theta$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	5.39	4.74
$\gamma$	wealth elasticity of labor supply	0.00	0.00
$\kappa$	investment adjustment cost	25.07	9.11
$\delta_2/\delta_1$	capacity utilization cost	0.44	0.34
$b$	habit in consumption	0.94	0.91
$\rho_{xg}$	government spending	0.74	0.72
$\rho_z$	AR stationary neutral productivity	0.96	0.92
$\rho_{\mu^a}$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.48	0.48
$\rho_g$	AR government spending	0.96	0.96
$\rho_{\mu^x}$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	0.27	0.38
$\rho_\mu$	AR wage markup	0.98	0.98
$\rho_\zeta$	AR preference	0.10	0.17
$\rho_{z^I}$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	0.21	0.47
$\sigma_z^0$	std. stationary neutral productivity 0	0.62	0.65
$\sigma_z^4$	std. stationary neutral productivity 4	0.11	0.11
$\sigma_z^8$	std. stationary neutral productivity 8	0.11	0.09
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^0$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity 0	0.16	0.21
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^4$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity 4	0.20	0.16
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^8$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity 8	0.19	0.16
$\sigma_g^0$	std. government spending 0	0.53	0.62
$\sigma_g^4$	std. government spending 4	0.69	0.57
$\sigma_g^8$	std. government spending 8	0.43	0.37
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^0$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity 0	0.45	0.38
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^4$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity 4	0.12	0.08
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^8$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity 8	0.12	0.10
$\sigma_\mu^0$	std. wage markup 0	1.51	0.50
$\sigma_\mu^4$	std. wage markup 4	3.93	4.79
$\sigma_\mu^8$	std. wage markup 8	3.20	0.51
$\sigma_\zeta^0$	std. preference 0	2.83	4.03
$\sigma_\zeta^4$	std. preference 4	2.76	1.89
$\sigma_\zeta^8$	std. preference 8	5.34	2.21
$\sigma_{z^I}^0$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity 0	34.81	11.72
$\sigma_{z^I}^4$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity 4	11.99	1.93
$\sigma_{z^I}^8$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity 8	14.91	5.50

Note: The values are taken from Table II of Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)

Table B2: CRLBs

	parameter	$\bar{\mathbf{y}}$	$\mathbf{y}$
$\theta$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	1.65135	0.27551
$\gamma$	wealth elasticity of labor supply	0.00002	0.00001
$\kappa$	investment adjustment cost	30.63677	1.50300
$\delta_2/\delta_1$	capacity utilization cost	0.03112	0.00040
$b$	habit in consumption	0.00018	0.00004
$\rho_{xg}$	government spending	0.04158	0.02751
$\rho_z$	AR stationary neutral productivity	0.00178	0.00026
$\rho_{\mu^a}$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.00371	0.00222
$\rho_g$	AR government spending	0.00116	0.00055
$\rho_{\mu^x}$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	0.15107	0.02009
$\rho_\mu$	AR wage markup	0.00045	0.00011
$\rho_\zeta$	AR preference	0.00685	0.00491
$\rho_{z^I}$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	0.02235	0.00100
$\sigma_z^0$	std. stationary neutral productivity	0.03879	0.00488
$\sigma_z^4$	std. stationary neutral productivity q4	2.09192	0.15462
$\sigma_z^8$	std. stationary neutral productivity q8	1.51431	0.14918
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^0$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.03482	0.00177
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^4$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity q4	0.04562	0.00156
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^8$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity q8	0.04740	0.00167
$\sigma_g^0$	std. government spending	0.61389	0.02131
$\sigma_g^4$	std. government spending q4	1.25121	0.11185
$\sigma_g^8$	std. government spending q8	3.22258	0.27854
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^0$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity	0.09638	0.02098
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^4$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity q4	1.43272	0.08717
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^8$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity q8	0.75869	0.07645
$\sigma_\mu^0$	std. wage markup	6.52819	0.07706
$\sigma_\mu^4$	std. wage markup q4	4.78828	0.46297
$\sigma_\mu^8$	std. wage markup q8	6.02596	0.59652
$\sigma_\zeta^0$	std. preference	59.14528	0.98231
$\sigma_\zeta^4$	std. preference q4	99.49705	9.82559
$\sigma_\zeta^8$	std. preference q8	33.00313	3.02169
$\sigma_{z^I}^0$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity	70.24558	5.52009
$\sigma_{z^I}^4$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity q4	104.96769	4.48185
$\sigma_{z^I}^8$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity q8	44.03072	3.50932

Note:  $\mathbf{y}$  includes all observables,  $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{y} \setminus (v^f, r)$ . The bounds are computed for the MLE values in Table B1 with  $T = 207$ .



Table B3: Efficiency gains (%)

parameter		$v^f, r$	$v^f$	$r$
$\theta$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	83	61	78
$\gamma$	wealth elasticity of labor supply	51	35	28
$\kappa$	investment adjustment cost	95	94	59
$\delta_2/\delta_1$	capacity utilization cost	99	97	88
$b$	habit in consumption	75	66	27
$\rho_{xg}$	government spending	34	17	20
$\rho_z$	AR stationary neutral productivity	85	66	67
$\rho_{\mu^a}$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	40	37	2
$\rho_g$	AR government spending	52	48	42
$\rho_{\mu^x}$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	87	72	60
$\rho_{\mu}$	AR wage markup	77	69	14
$\rho_{\zeta}$	AR preference	28	19	9
$\rho_{zI}$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	96	92	78
$\sigma_z^0$	std. stationary neutral productivity	87	59	83
$\sigma_z^4$	std. stationary neutral productivity q4	93	73	72
$\sigma_z^8$	std. stationary neutral productivity q8	90	73	64
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^0$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity	95	95	43
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^4$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity q4	97	96	74
$\sigma_{\mu^a}^8$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity q8	96	96	68
$\sigma_g^0$	std. government spending	97	80	95
$\sigma_g^4$	std. government spending q4	91	89	52
$\sigma_g^8$	std. government spending q8	91	89	55
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^0$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity	78	50	67
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^4$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity q4	94	78	71
$\sigma_{\mu^x}^8$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity q8	90	74	58
$\sigma_{\mu}^0$	std. wage markup	99	70	97
$\sigma_{\mu}^4$	std. wage markup q4	90	84	52
$\sigma_{\mu}^8$	std. wage markup q8	90	85	48
$\sigma_{\zeta}^0$	std. preference	98	89	97
$\sigma_{\zeta}^4$	std. preference q4	90	88	39
$\sigma_{\zeta}^8$	std. preference q8	91	88	50
$\sigma_{zI}^0$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity	92	91	66
$\sigma_{zI}^4$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity q4	96	93	81
$\sigma_{zI}^8$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity q8	92	88	72

Note: The efficiency gain  $EG_{\theta_i}(\mathbf{x}|\bar{\mathbf{y}})$ , for (1)  $\mathbf{x} = (v^f, r)$ , (2)  $\mathbf{x} = v^f$ , or (3)  $\mathbf{x} = r$ , is defined as the reduction in the value of CRLB for  $\theta_i$  when all variables are observed, as a per cent of the value of the CRLB when all variables except those in  $\mathbf{x}$  are observed.

Table B4: Information content of asset prices: different estimates of SGU model

	A. SGU median			B. HS(2014)			C. MN(2015)		
	IG( $\bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{y}$ )	IG( $\bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{y}$ )	IG( $\bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{y}$ )	IG( $\bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{y}$ )	
innovation									
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^0$	47.6	8.8	46.5	1.8	92.7	0.0			
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^4$	25.8	10.7	26.6	2.0	3.1	0.1			
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^8$	26.0	9.1	26.1	1.9	4.1	0.1			
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^0$	24.6	39.9	41.2	45.9	47.4	43.6			
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^4$	1.3	8.2	3.1	9.9	3.3	4.7			
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^8$	1.9	11.1	5.5	13.2	7.9	7.0			
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^0$	89.1	5.7	81.4	10.4	73.3	12.9			
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^4$	1.7	3.8	4.0	4.8	16.2	9.0			
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^8$	14.6	30.1	12.8	15.7	4.8	3.0			
$\varepsilon_z^0$	80.2	9.0	81.5	10.9	33.3	29.4			
$\varepsilon_z^4$	2.5	17.6	3.5	14.5	10.4	3.5			
$\varepsilon_z^8$	1.8	12.9	2.9	12.2	43.0	14.6			
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^0$	1.4	7.2	5.6	21.1	52.1	20.1			
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^4$	96.4	1.2	84.5	3.0	1.0	0.5			
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^8$	1.1	0.3	8.5	2.1	47.7	21.9			
$\varepsilon_g^0$	43.5	3.2	42.7	2.4	93.9	2.7			
$\varepsilon_g^4$	37.1	3.5	33.5	2.3	0.5	0.1			
$\varepsilon_g^8$	15.2	1.6	18.3	1.2	0.6	0.1			
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^0$	61.2	7.2	42.2	9.9	79.5	19.5			
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^4$	13.9	3.4	17.6	3.4	0.2	0.1			
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^8$	18.8	4.5	20.7	3.9	0.2	0.0			

Note: See the note to Table 1 in the main text. The information gains are evaluated at three point estimates of the SGU model: (1) the posterior median in SGU, (2) the posterior mean in Herbst and Schorfheide (2014), and (3) the posterior median in Miyamoto and Nguyen (2015).

$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^0$	0	1.8	0.81	13	1.4	-0.13	29
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^4$	0	1.7	0.64	14	1.2	-0.1	41
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^8$	0	1.9	0.74	14	1.4	-0.07	33
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^0$	0	3.2	1.5	7.2	1.1	0.58	0.09
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^4$	0	1.3	0.63	3.9	1.1	0.1	1.1
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^8$	0	1	0.6	3	1.2	0.14	0.63
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^0$	0	1.3	-0.16	3.2	1.3	-0.05	0.35
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^4$	0	1.5	0.07	6.6	1.1	0.09	5.8
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^8$	0	1.2	0.08	4.5	1.1	0.16	4.2
$\varepsilon_z^0$	0	3.4	1.4	4.9	0.65	0.7	-0.45
$\varepsilon_z^4$	0	1.3	0.72	3.3	0.94	0.1	0.27
$\varepsilon_z^8$	0	1.2	0.82	3.1	1.1	0.2	0.2
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^0$	0	0.03	0.05	-0.44	0.1	0.04	-0.21
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^4$	0	-0.22	-0.13	-0.46	-0.12	0.01	-0.44
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^8$	0	-0.06	0.04	-0.44	0.1	0.09	-0.39
$\varepsilon_g^0$	0	1.1	0.51	2.6	-0.38	0.02	0.43
$\varepsilon_g^4$	0	0.88	0.39	1.5	-0.31	0.02	0.56
$\varepsilon_g^8$	0	1	0.48	1.6	-0.3	0.11	0.74
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^0$	0	-0.39	0.29	-0.1	0.31	0.04	-0.16
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^4$	0	-0.35	0.24	-0.18	0.24	0	-0.26
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^8$	0	-0.37	0.18	-0.35	0.06	-0.02	-0.41
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>tfp</i>

**Figure B1:** Conditional pairwise complementarity between  $v^f$  and macro variables at MLE in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)

$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^0$	0	0.55	0.28	0.79	0.41	-0.01	1.1
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^4$	0	0.93	0.49	3.2	0.42	-0.02	3.2
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^8$	0	0.78	0.41	2.2	0.42	-0.01	2.4
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^0$	0	0.3	0.13	1.6	0.27	0	-0.05
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^4$	0	0.38	0.19	2.5	0.28	0.02	0.13
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^8$	0	0.33	0.17	2	0.26	0.01	0.12
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^0$	0	0.69	-0.02	2.2	0.43	-0.04	0.5
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^4$	0	0.66	-0.03	2.9	0.3	0.03	1.4
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^8$	0	0.53	-0.07	1.9	0.29	0.04	1.1
$\varepsilon_z^0$	0	0.37	0.18	1.1	0.15	0	-0.3
$\varepsilon_z^4$	0	0.45	0.2	3.3	0.35	0.02	0.18
$\varepsilon_z^8$	0	0.43	0.19	2.9	0.34	0.02	0.17
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^0$	0	0.8	0.33	2.1	0.49	0.02	3.1
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^4$	0	-0.3	-0.24	-0.46	-0.22	-0.01	-0.43
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^8$	0	-0.29	-0.23	-0.46	-0.21	-0.01	-0.42
$\varepsilon_g^0$	0	0.42	0.19	3	0.05	0.01	0.77
$\varepsilon_g^4$	0	0.28	0.17	1.3	-0.25	0.06	0.94
$\varepsilon_g^8$	0	0.17	0.12	0.8	-0.25	0.06	0.64
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^0$	0	0.3	0.15	1.5	0.35	0.02	0.88
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^4$	0	-0.29	-0.11	-0.26	0.04	0	-0.26
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^8$	0	-0.29	-0.1	-0.27	0.02	0	-0.28
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>tfp</i>

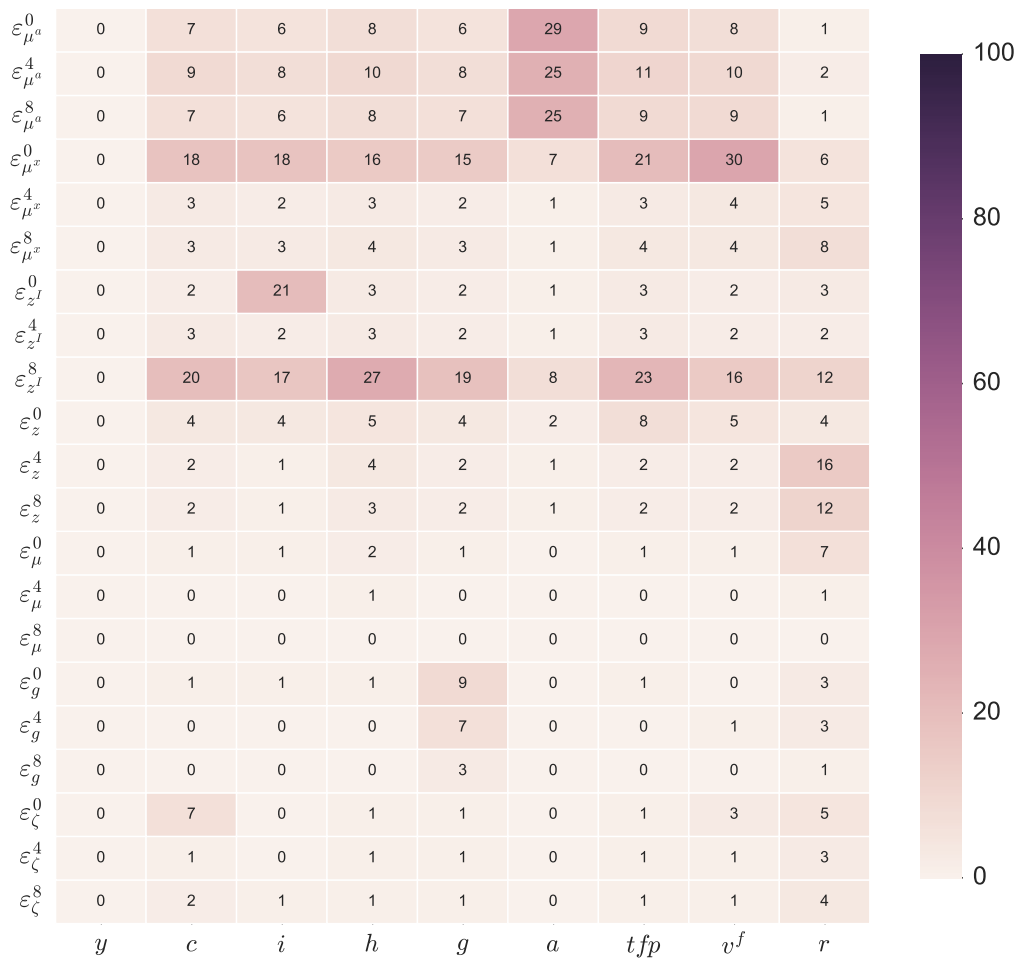
**Figure B2:** Conditional pairwise complementarity between  $r$  and macro variables at MLE in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)

$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^0$	0.1	0.1	0.2	0	-0.1	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^4$	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	1.6
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^8$	0.1	0.2	0.1	0	0	0	1.6
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^0$	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0	-0.1	0	-0.4
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^4$	-0.1	0	0	0	-0.1	0	-0.1
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^8$	0	0.1	0	0	-0.1	0	-0.1
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^0$	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0	1.3
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^4$	0.3	0.5	0.1	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^8$	0.5	0.6	0.2	0.1	0	0	1.6
$\varepsilon_z^0$	-0.1	0	-0.1	0	0	0	-0.4
$\varepsilon_z^4$	0	0	0	0	0	0	-0.2
$\varepsilon_z^8$	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	-0.2
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^0$	-0.1	-0.1	-0.1	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^4$	0	-0.1	0	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^8$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_g^0$	0	-0.1	-0.1	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_g^4$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.6
$\varepsilon_g^8$	0	0.1	0	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^0$	0	0.1	-0.1	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^4$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.7
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^8$	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.7
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>tfp</i>

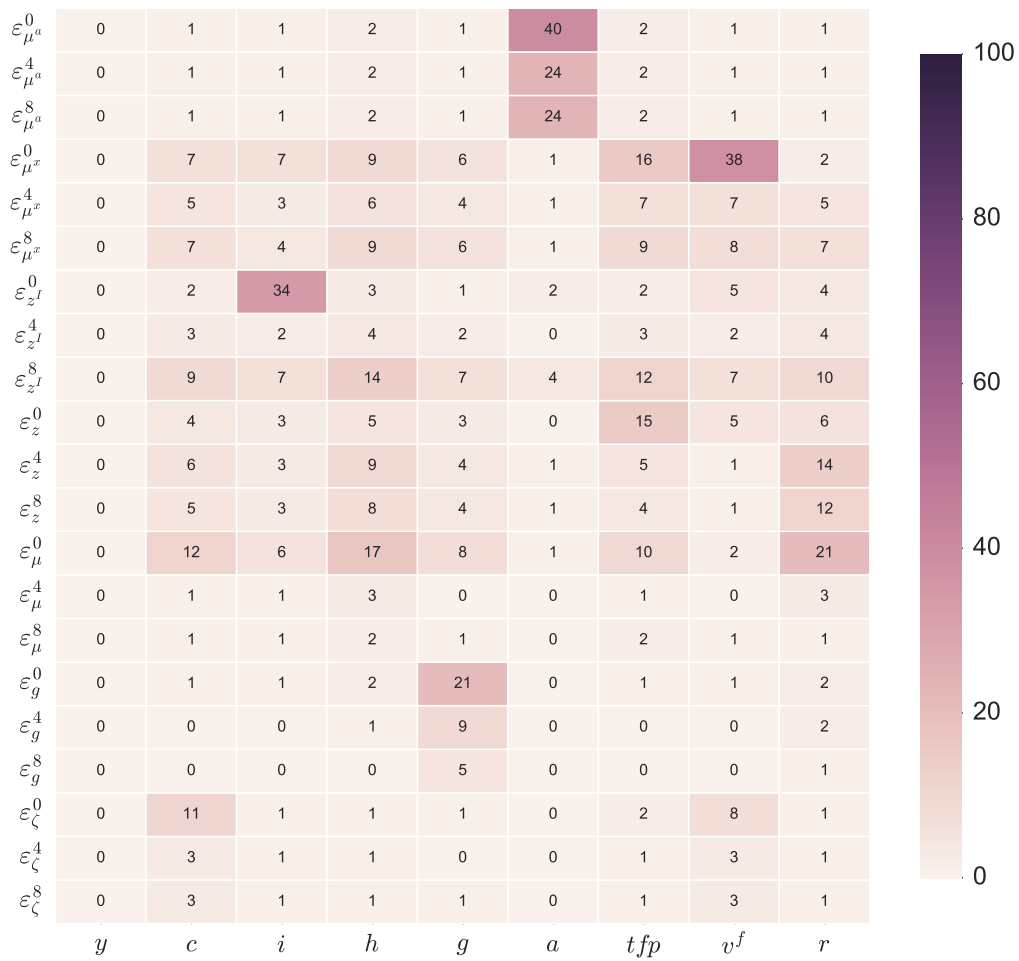
**Figure B3:** Unconditional pairwise complementarity between  $v^f$  and macro variables at MLE in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)

$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^0$	-0.05	0.06	-0.01	0.26	-0.15	0	0.74
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^4$	-0.1	0.04	-0.02	0.67	-0.06	0	0.23
$\varepsilon_{\mu^a}^8$	-0.1	0.06	-0.02	0.62	-0.05	0	0.22
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^0$	-0.12	-0.08	-0.09	0.25	-0.09	0.01	-0.03
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^4$	0.06	0.05	0.04	0.72	0.01	0	-0.03
$\varepsilon_{\mu^x}^8$	0.08	0.07	0.05	0.71	0.01	0	0
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^0$	0.06	0.28	0	0.42	0.04	0	0.43
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^4$	-0.1	0.15	-0.06	0.51	0.03	0	0.22
$\varepsilon_{z^I}^8$	-0.1	0.23	-0.07	0.44	0.03	0	0.36
$\varepsilon_z^0$	-0.13	-0.07	-0.09	0.29	0.09	0.01	-0.09
$\varepsilon_z^4$	0.05	0.03	0.03	0.8	0.02	0	-0.07
$\varepsilon_z^8$	0.06	0.04	0.03	0.79	0.02	0	-0.06
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^0$	-0.18	-0.13	-0.1	0.17	0.05	0.01	0.62
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^4$	0.04	0.01	0.01	-0.29	0.02	0	0.05
$\varepsilon_{\mu}^8$	0.06	0.03	0.03	-0.28	0.02	0	0.06
$\varepsilon_g^0$	0.02	-0.12	-0.09	0.35	0.02	0.01	0.6
$\varepsilon_g^4$	-0.1	0.03	0.03	0.86	-0.03	0	0.06
$\varepsilon_g^8$	-0.11	0.05	0.03	0.85	-0.03	0	0.06
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^0$	0.02	0.03	-0.06	0.28	0.05	0.01	0.6
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^4$	-0.1	-0.04	0.04	0.82	0.02	0	0.07
$\varepsilon_{\zeta}^8$	-0.1	-0.04	0.05	0.83	0.02	0	0.08
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>g</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>tfp</i>

**Figure B4:** Unconditional pairwise complementarity between  $r$  and macro variables at MLE in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)

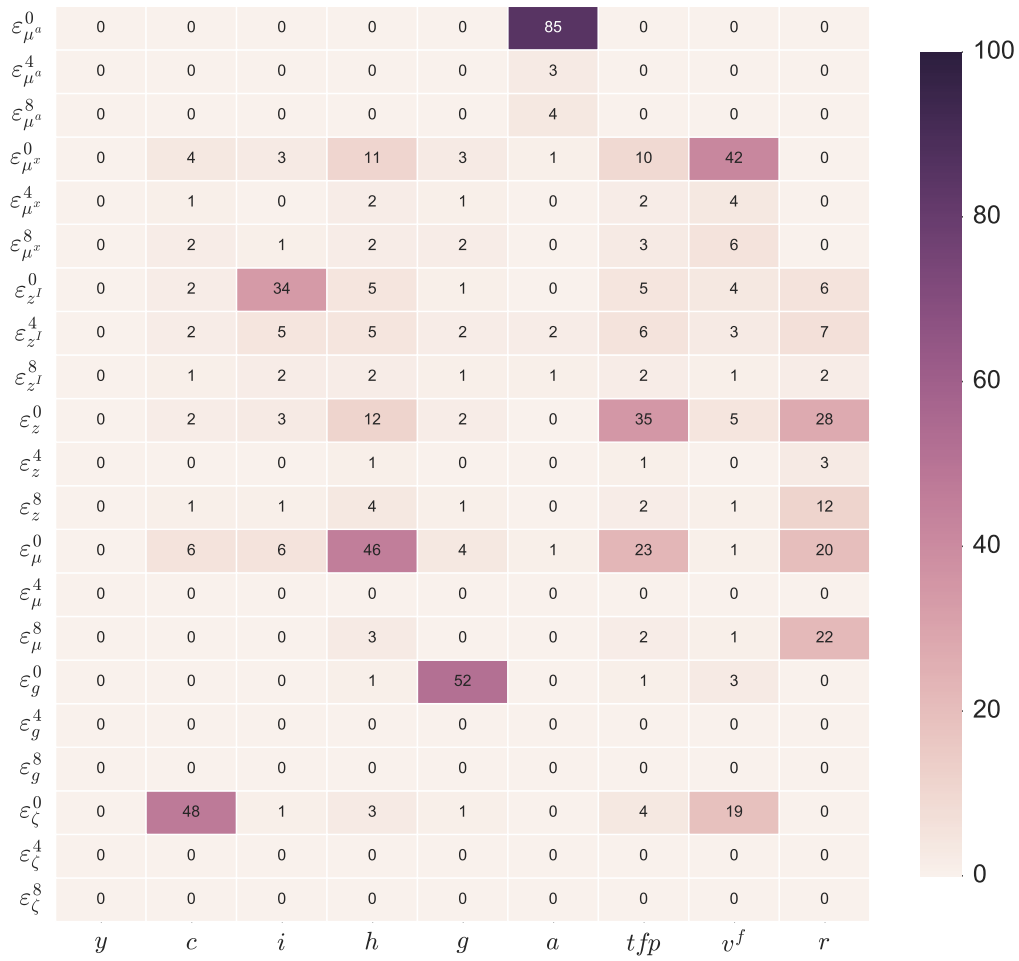


**Figure B5:** Conditional information gains at the posterior median in Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2012)



**Figure B6:** Conditional information gains at the posterior mean in Herbst and Schorfheide (2014)





**Figure B7:** Conditional information gains at the posterior median in Miyamoto and Nguyen (2015)

## C Avdjiev (2016) model

The representative agent maximizes the following utility function:

$$E_0 \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta^t \frac{[(C_t - \theta_c C_{t-1})(l_t - \theta_l l_{t-1})^\chi]^{1-\gamma} - 1}{1-\gamma}, \quad (\text{C.1})$$

where  $C_t$  is consumption,  $l_t$  is leisure,  $\beta$  is the discount factor,  $\gamma$  is the inverse of the intertemporal elasticity of substitution,  $\chi$  determines the Frisch elasticity of labor supply,  $\theta_c$  and  $\theta_l$  are parameters determining the degrees of habit persistence in consumption and leisure, respectively. Output is produced using:

$$Y_t = Z_t(u_t K_t)^\alpha (X_t h_t)^{1-\alpha}, \quad (\text{C.2})$$

where  $K_t$  is the existing capital stock,  $h_t = 1 - l_t$  is hours worked,  $u_t$  is the rate of capacity utilization,  $Z_t$  is a stationary neutral productivity shock, and  $X_t$  is a non-stationary neutral productivity shock.

The law of motion for the stock of capital is:

$$K_{t+1} = (1 - \delta(u_t))K_t + \Omega_t \left[ I_t - \frac{1}{2\delta_0\eta} \left( \frac{I_t}{K_t} - \tau \right)^2 K_t \right], \quad (\text{C.3})$$

where  $I_t$  is investment,  $\delta$  is the rate of depreciation and is an increasing function of the rate of capacity utilization,  $\Omega_t$  is a stationary investment-specific productivity shock,  $\tau$  is the steady-state level of the investment-capital ratio,  $\eta$  is the elasticity of the investment-capital ratio with respect to Tobin's  $q$ , and  $\delta_0$  is the steady-state capital depreciation rate.

There is no government in this economy and output is used for either consumption or investment:

$$Y_t = C_t + I_t A_t, \quad (\text{C.4})$$

where  $A_t$  is a non-stationary investment specific productivity shock.

The main departure from the SGU model is in the way news shocks are introduced into the model. In particular, the specification of shock precesses in (B.6) is replaced with

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(x_t/x) &= \rho_x^l \ln(x_{t-1}/x) + (1 - \rho_x^l) \ln(x_{t-1}^{LR}) + \sigma_{x,u} \varepsilon_{x,t}^u \\ \ln(x_t^{LR}) &= \rho_x^{LR} \ln(x_{t-1}^{LR}) + \sigma_{x,LR} \varepsilon_{x,t}^{LR}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C.5})$$

where  $\varepsilon_x^u$  and  $\varepsilon_x^{LR}$  are independent standard normal random variables. Avdjiev (2016) further assumes that  $0 < \rho_x^l < 1$  and  $\rho_x^{LR} = 0.999$ , which implies that  $\ln(x_t^{LR})$  can be interpreted as the long-run component of  $\ln(x_t/x)$ .<sup>3</sup> Therefore,  $\varepsilon_x^{LR}$  is the anticipated change in the long-run value of the shock. The model contains only four of the seven

<sup>3</sup>Note that if  $\rho_x^{LR} = 1$  then  $\lim_{s \rightarrow \infty} E_t \ln(x_{t+s}/x) = \ln(x^{LR})$ .

Table C1: Information content of asset prices: innovations

	innovation	IG( $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $r \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f$ )	IG( $r$ )
$\varepsilon_x^u$	non-stat. neutral prod.	92.4	5.4	0.1	5.4	3.3	0.3
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	non-stat. neutral prod. LR news	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.0
$\varepsilon_a^u$	non-stat. investment-specific prod.	99.5	0.4	0.3	0.0	1.7	0.8
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	non-stat. investment-specific prod. LR news	42.8	44.7	36.9	3.6	60.5	1.8
$\varepsilon_z^u$	stat. neutral prod.	94.8	4.0	0.4	3.8	1.8	52.7
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	stat. neutral prod. LR news	37.2	48.0	9.5	43.0	12.4	31.8
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	stat. investment-specific prod.	57.8	35.4	35.3	1.1	7.5	3.7
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	stat. investment-specific prod. LR news	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: see the note to Table 1 in the main text.  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$  includes the growth rates of output, consumption, and investment, hours worked, and the relative price of investment.

fundamental shocks present in the SGU model, namely: stationary and non-stationary neutral productivity shocks and stationary and non-stationary investment-specific productivity shocks. All shocks evolve as in (C.5), implying that there are four different long-run components and eight exogenous innovations, four of which are interpreted as long run (LR) news shocks.

Avdjiev (2016) argues that the long-run specification of news shocks fits the data better than the specification in (B.6). Importantly, Avdjiev (2016) uses asset price data to estimate the model. The two asset price variables used are the growth rate of the total stock market valuation and the real risk-free rate. These variables are assumed to be noisy measures of  $v^f$  and  $r$ , which are defined as in Section 4. In addition, five macroeconomic variables are used in the estimation: the growth rates of output ( $y_t$ ), consumption ( $c_t$ ), and investment ( $i_t$ ), hours worked ( $h_t$ ), and the relative price of investment ( $a_t$ ).

### C.1 Information about news shocks

I proceed along the lines of the analysis carried out in Section Section 4.1. Note that now  $\mathbf{y}$  is a  $T \times 7$  dimensional vector, and  $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{y} \setminus (v^f, r)$  is a  $T \times 5$  dimensional vector. I set  $T = 236$ , which is the sample size in Avdjiev (2016), and assume that  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is equal to the median of the posterior distribution reported in Avdjiev (2016) (see Table C5).

The results are presented in Table C1. Including asset prices among the observables leads to significant information gains with respect to two of the news shocks – the anticipated innovations in the non-stationary investment-specific productivity shock  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ , and the stationary neutral productivity shock  $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ . Almost all of the gains in the first case are due to including  $v^f$ , while in the second most of the information is contributed by  $r$ . However, neither one of the innovations can be fully recovered from  $\mathbf{y}$ . The total information gains are around 88% for  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$  and 85% for  $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ . The respective unconditional gains reported in the last two columns are relatively large, implying that, in contrast to

the SGU model,  $v^f$  and  $r$  contribute significant amounts of non-redundant information with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$  and  $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ . There is essentially no information in the set of observables as a whole about the news components of the other two shocks – the non-stationary neutral productivity shock and the stationary investment-specific productivity shock. This can be understood from the observation that the standard deviations of these innovations are estimated to be very small compared to the standard deviations of the unanticipated innovations to the same shocks.<sup>4</sup> Furthermore, since the stationary investment-specific productivity shock is estimated to be very persistent, the coefficient on the long-run component in (C.5) is close to zero, making  $\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$  very difficult to identify.

In addition to the two news shocks components, asset prices, and in particular  $v^f$ , contribute a significant amount of information with respect to the unanticipated innovations to the stationary investment specific productivity shock  $\varepsilon_\omega^u$ . The small size of the unconditional gain implies that the contribution of  $v^f$  is largely a result of the interactions of that variable with variables in  $\bar{y}$ .

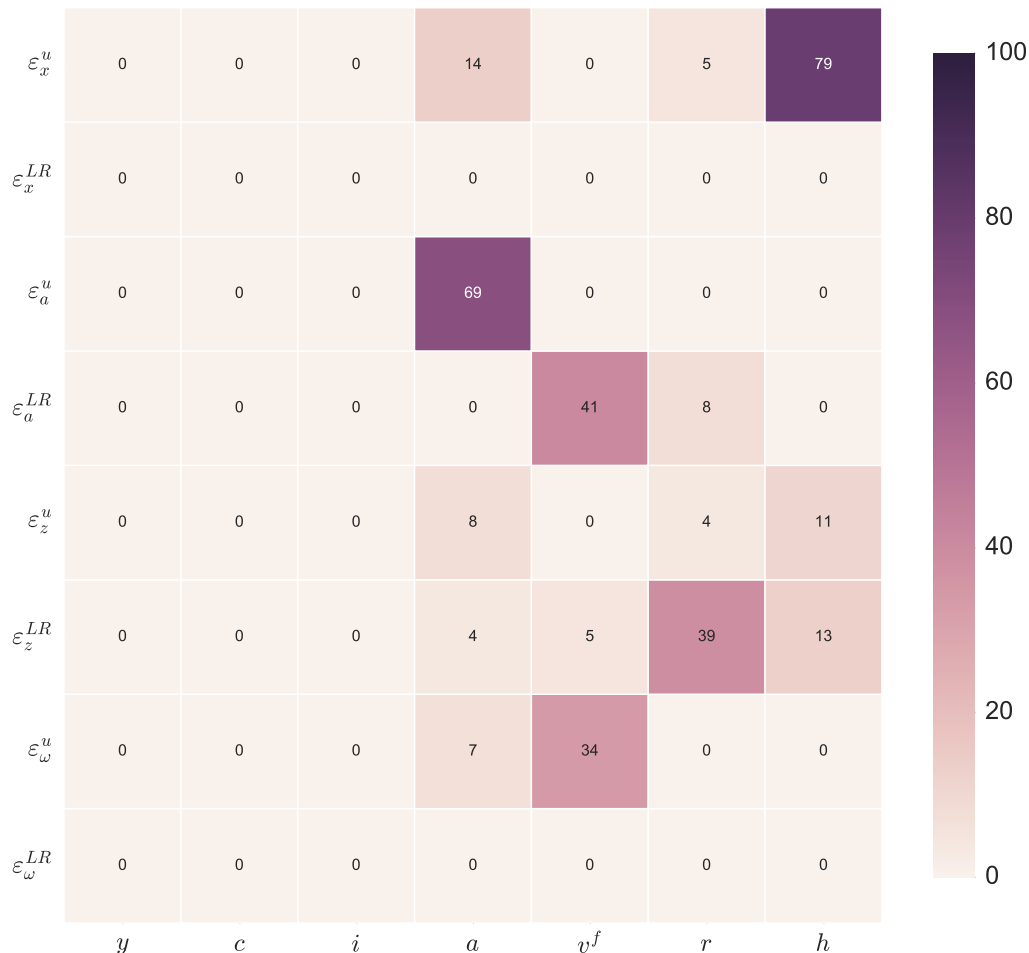
To find out how the contributions of  $v^f$  and  $r$  compare to other variable, Figure C1 presents conditional information gains for each one of the seven observables. The results show that  $v^f$  and  $r$  are indeed the most informative variables with respect to the two identified news shocks. In the case of  $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ , the conditional information gain from observing hours worked is somewhat larger than the gain from including  $v^f$ , but is smaller than the information gain from observing  $r$ . The relative price of investment is the only other observable with a positive marginal contribution. None of the macro variables makes a positive contribution with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ . Note that, as in Section 4, the gains from each variable are conditional on information contained in the remaining six variables. This is why the results for  $v^f$  and  $r$  are different from the values in Table C1 (columns 3 and 4). In particular, the information gains with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$  due to either  $v^f$  or  $r$  are larger when the conditioning set includes the other asset price variable compared to when it does not. This indicates a positive conditional information complementarity between  $v^f$  and  $r$  with respect to that shock. At the same time, there is a negative complementarity with respect to the news component in the stationary neutral productivity shock.<sup>5</sup> Additional results from conditional and unconditional information complementarity analysis are presented in Figures C4 – C7. There is a significant information complementarity between  $v^f$  and  $a$  with respect to the news components in two of the shocks – negative with respect to the stationary neutral productivity shock, and positive with respect to the stationary investment-specific productivity shock. There is also a positive complementarity between  $v^f$  and  $h$  with respect to the stationary neutral productivity shock. In the case of  $r$ , the only significant complementarity is with  $a$  – positive with respect to the news component in the non-stationary neutral productivity shock.

Another interesting result in Figure C1 is the apparent lack of information in  $y$ ,  $i$

---

<sup>4</sup>The posterior median estimates are:  $\sigma_x^{LR} = 0.01$  vs.  $\sigma_x^u = 1.05$  and  $\sigma_\omega^{LR} = 0.07$  vs.  $\sigma_\omega^u = 9.97$ .

<sup>5</sup>Another way to see this is by comparing the joint information gains to the sum of the individual gains in Table C1.



**Figure C1:** Conditional information gains in the model of Avdjiev (2016).

and  $c$ . In fact, the conditional information gains are positive but very small, suggesting near redundancy of these variables. This is easily explained by the observation that the economy’s resource constraint (see equation (C.4)) implies linear dependence among  $y$ ,  $i$  and  $c$ .<sup>6</sup> Stochastic singularity is avoided by assuming measurement errors in all variables. However, the size of the errors in  $y$ ,  $i$  and  $c$  is very small, implying that any one of them is (nearly) redundant given the other two.

Table C2 reports results on the information content of asset prices with respect to the four structural shocks and their long-run components. The information gains are very similar to the ones with respect to the innovations, presented in Table C1, both in terms of the size of the gains and the contribution of each asset prices variable. This is

<sup>6</sup>As in the SGU model, the observed investment series is defined as  $i_t := \Delta \ln A_t I_t$ .

Table C2: Information content of asset prices: shocks

shock		IG( $\bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f \bar{y}$ )	IG( $r \bar{y}$ )	IG( $v^f$ )	IG( $r$ )
$\mu_x$	non-stat. neutral prod.	93.3	4.9	0.1	4.9	3.3	0.4
$\mu_x^{LR}$	non-stat. neutral prod. LR comp.	0.8	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.0
$\mu_a$	non-stat. investment-specific prod.	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	5.2	3.5
$\mu_a^{LR}$	non-stat. investment-specific prod. LR comp.	44.3	43.5	35.9	3.5	60.7	3.3
$z$	stat. neutral prod.	95.9	3.0	0.8	2.5	4.6	63.1
$z^{LR}$	stat. neutral prod. LR comp.	37.8	47.5	9.4	42.5	12.4	31.7
$\omega$	stat. investment-specific prod.	57.7	35.3	35.3	1.1	7.5	3.7
$\omega^{LR}$	stat. investment-specific prod. LR comp.	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: see note to Table 1 in the main text.

to be expected given that shocks and innovations are closely linked to each other in this model.

## C.2 Information about parameters

Table C3 reports parameter efficiency gains due to observing the two asset price variables. The gains with respect to the standard deviations of the four news shocks are between 25% and 86%. Similar to the information gains results in Table C1,  $v^f$  is relatively more informative for the parameters of the two investment-specific productivity shocks, while  $r$  is more informative about the parameters of the stationary and non-stationary neutral productivity shocks. Notice that this applies to all parameters of the same shock, including the autoregressive coefficients and the standard deviations of the unanticipated shocks.

It is worth pointing out that the news shock parameters, and in particular  $\sigma_{x,LR}$  and  $\sigma_{\omega,LR}$ , are identified, in spite of the earlier finding that there is very little information about the realizations of the news components of the non-stationary neutral productivity and stationary investment-specific productivity shocks. Lack of identification would imply an infinite value of the CRLB. As can be seen in Table C6, which shows the CRLBs with and without asset prices, they are all finite. The values for  $\sigma_{\omega,LR}$ , however, are very large, suggesting that the likelihood surface is in fact very flat with respect to that parameter. Two other parameters with extremely large values of the CRLB are the cost of capacity utilization parameter  $\delta_2$  and the Frisch elasticity of labor supply  $\chi$ . Notice that, even though the values of the CRLBs of  $\sigma_{\omega,LR}$  and  $\delta_2$  are almost equal, the levels of uncertainty they imply are very different since  $\delta_2 = 3.91$  while  $\sigma_{\omega,LR} = 0.07$ .

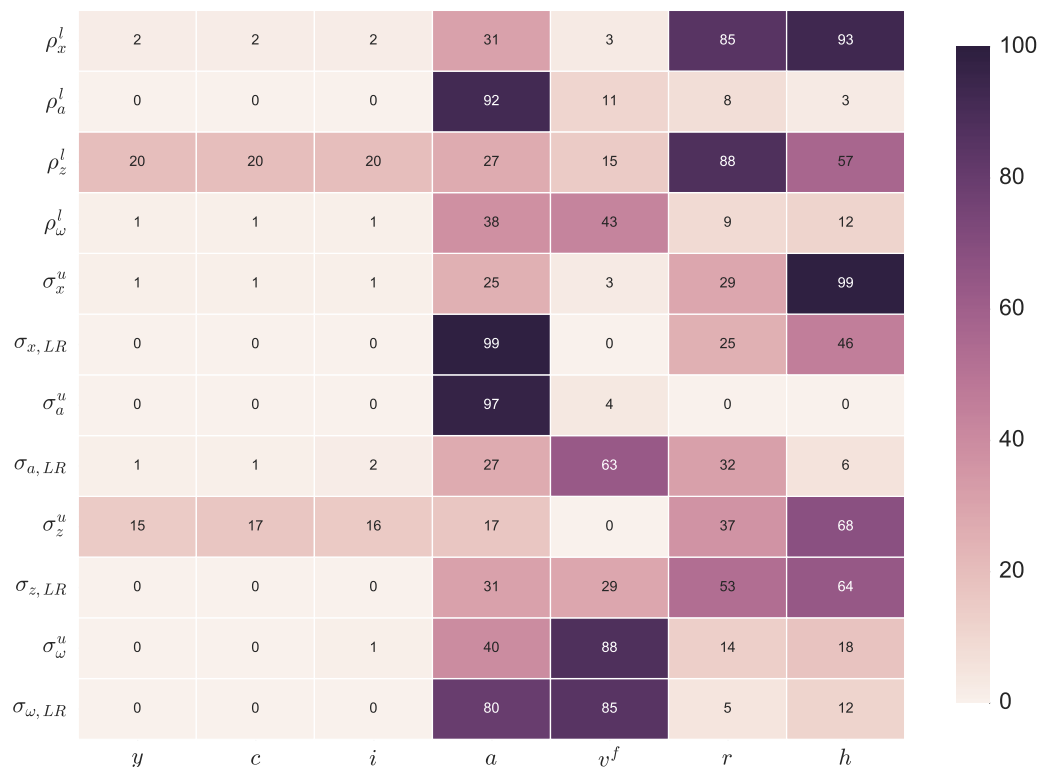
To find out how  $v^f$  and  $r$  compare to other observables, Figure C2 shows the efficiency gains due to each one of the seven variables. Only with respect to one of the news shock parameters – the standard deviation of the long-run news component in the non-stationary investment specific-productivity shock ( $\sigma_{a,LR}$ ), is  $v^f$  significantly more informative than any other variable. The relative price of investment is about as

Table C3: Efficiency gains (%)

parameter		$v^f, r$	$v^f$	$r$
$\gamma$	inverse intertemporal elasticity of substitution	18	1	16
$\chi$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	99	44	98
$\theta_l$	habit in leisure,	40	14	37
$\theta_c$	habit in consumption,	36	10	26
$\delta_2$	capacity utilization cost	88	83	26
$\eta$	investment adjustment cost	88	85	21
$\rho_x^l$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	85	1	85
$\rho_a^l$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	19	13	10
$\rho_z^l$	AR stationary neutral productivity	90	17	88
$\rho_\omega^l$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	52	47	15
$\sigma_{x,u}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity	33	5	31
$\sigma_{x,LR}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity LR news	25	1	25
$\sigma_{a,u}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity	5	4	1
$\sigma_{a,LR}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	69	54	17
$\sigma_{z,u}$	std. stationary neutral productivity	45	13	45
$\sigma_{z,LR}$	std. stationary neutral productivity LR news	64	24	50
$\sigma_{\omega,u}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity	90	89	18
$\sigma_{\omega,LR}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	86	86	10

Note: see note to Table 3 in the main text.

informative as  $v^f$  with respect to the standard deviation of the long-run news component in the stationary investment-specific productivity shock ( $\sigma_{\omega,LR}$ ), and is also by far the most informative variable with respect to the standard deviation of the long-run news component in the non-stationary neutral productivity shock ( $\sigma_{x,LR}$ ). Lastly, hours worked is the most informative variable with respect to the standard deviation of the long-run news component in the stationary neutral productivity shock ( $\sigma_{z,LR}$ ).



**Figure C2:** Efficiency gains in the model of Avdjiev (2016).

It should be noted that these results are obtained under the assumption that the standard deviations of the measurement errors are known. Without it the efficiency gains cannot be computed since the measurement error parameters are not identified unless the respective variables are observed. This does not affect the conclusions regarding the contributions of asset prices, but does inflate the efficiency gains with respect to  $\rho_z^l$  and  $\sigma_{z,u}$  due to  $y$ ,  $c$ , and  $i$ .<sup>7</sup>

<sup>7</sup>There are also relatively large and approximately equal efficiency gains with respect to the inverse intertemporal elasticity of substitution  $\gamma$  and the habit in consumption  $\theta_c$  due to  $y$ ,  $c$ , and  $i$ .



Table C4: Information content of asset prices: innovations

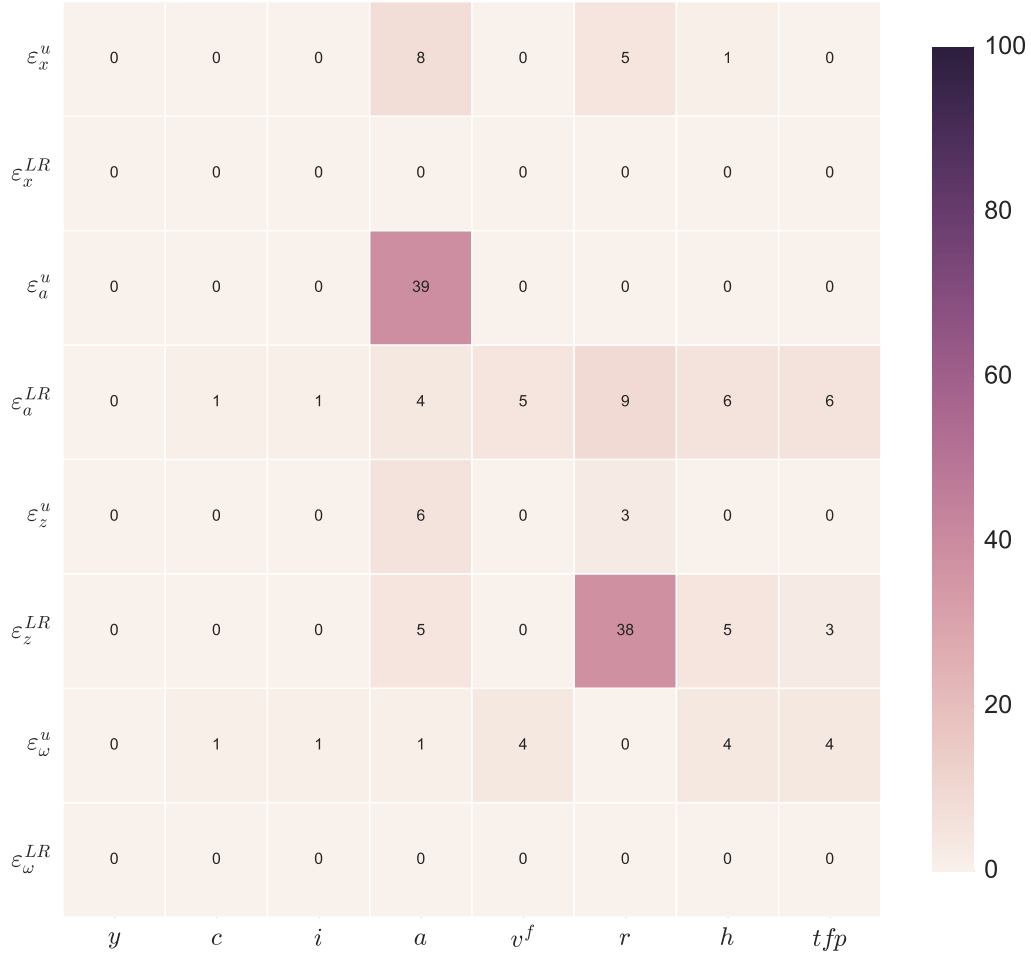
innovation		IG( $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f, r \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $r \bar{\mathbf{y}}$ )	IG( $v^f$ )	IG( $r$ )
$\varepsilon_x^u$	non-stat. neutral prod.	92.6	5.4	0.2	5.4	3.3	0.3
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	non-stat. neutral prod. LR news	0.3	0.1	0.0	0.1	0.1	0.0
$\varepsilon_a^u$	non-stat. investment-specific prod.	99.8	0.1	0.1	0.1	1.7	0.8
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	non-stat. investment-specific prod. LR news	78.8	15.0	6.4	10.0	60.5	1.8
$\varepsilon_z^u$	stat. neutral prod.	95.5	3.4	0.1	3.4	1.8	52.7
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	stat. neutral prod. LR news	48.0	40.1	1.8	39.7	12.4	31.8
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	stat. investment-specific prod.	93.8	3.6	3.6	0.1	7.5	3.7
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	stat. investment-specific prod. LR news	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Note: see the note to Table 1 in the main text.  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$  includes the growth rates of output, consumption, investment, and *TFP*, hours worked, and the relative price of investment.

**The role of TFP.** The results in this section suggest a much greater and more distinct role of asset prices with respect to news shocks in the model of Avdjiev (2016) compared to the SGU model. In particular,  $v^f$  and  $r$  are found to be considerably more informative than any other observed variable with respect to two of the news shocks – the long-run news components of the non-stationary investment-specific productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ ) and the stationary neutral productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ ). One possible explanation of this finding is that TFP growth is assumed to be observed in the analysis of the SGU model but not for the model in this section. Since that variable was found to be quite informative with respect to several anticipated innovations in the SGU model, it is possible that the contribution of  $v^f$  and  $r$  in the model of Avdjiev (2016) is exaggerated by its exclusion. To examine this possibility, Table C4 reevaluates the information content of asset prices assuming that  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$  contains *tfp* in addition to the other five macro variables. The only major change compared to Table C1 is with respect to the long-run news component in the non-stationary investment-specific productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ ) and the unanticipated innovation to the stationary investment-specific productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_\omega^u$ ). In both cases the conditional contribution of information by asset prices is much smaller when  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$  includes *tfp*. Furthermore, the reduction is almost entirely due to the much smaller contribution of  $v^f$ . In the case of  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$  the conditional information gain of  $v^f$  decreases from 37% to 15%, while at the same time the information gain of  $r$  increases from 3.6% to 10%. This implies that there is a negative conditional complementarity between  $v^f$  and *tfp*, and a positive conditional complementarity between  $r$  and *tfp* with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ . The same type of complementarity between asset prices and *tfp* is found with respect to the stationary neutral productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_z^{LR}$ ). However, since the relative contribution of  $v^f$  is much smaller, the overall information gain of asset prices with respect to that shock remains large.

Figure C3 presents the conditional information gains of all eight variables.  $r$  is slightly more informative than *tfp*,  $h$ ,  $v^f$  and  $a$  with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ ; it is, however, by far the most informative variable with respect to  $\varepsilon_a^{LR}$ . Comparing the results against those

presented in Figure C1 shows that the inclusion of  $tfp$  has also a significant impact on the contribution of information by  $h$  and  $a$ . For instance, the conditional gain of  $h$  with respect to the non-stationary neutral productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_x^u$ ) declines from 80% when  $tfp$  is excluded from  $\bar{\mathbf{y}}$  to 1% when it is included. This means that, conditional on the other observables,  $h$  and  $tfp$  are close substitutes in terms of information they contribute about  $\varepsilon_x^u$ . Similarly, there is a strong negative complementarity between  $tfp$  and  $a$  with respect to the non-stationary investment-specific productivity shock ( $\varepsilon_a^u$ ).



**Figure C3:** Conditional information gains in the model of Avdjiev (2016) when  $tfp$  is observed.

The consequences, in terms of efficiency gains, of adding  $tfp$  as an observable are very similar: the contribution of  $v^f$  is much smaller than before with respect to most parameters including  $\sigma_{a,LR}$ , for which it is the most informative variable when  $tfp$  is unobserved. The relative importance of  $r$ , on the other hand, generally increases, and it

becomes the variable with the largest contribution with respect to  $\sigma_{z,LR}$ . A complete set of results can be seen in Figure C8.

To summarize, when  $tfp$  is among the observed variables, of the two asset prices only  $r$  contributes significantly more information about one of the news shocks than any other observable. As in Section 4, that shock is the stationary neutral productivity news shock. Due to the relatively smaller number of shocks in the Avdjiev (2016) model, however, the information gained from observing  $r$  is substantially larger than in the SGU model.

Table C5: Parameter values, Avdjiev (2016) model

	parameter	value
$\gamma$	inverse intertemporal elasticity of substitution	0.90
$\chi$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	2.90
$\theta_l$	habit in leisure,	0.12
$\theta_c$	habit in consumption,	0.22
$\delta_2$	capacity utilization cost	3.91
$\eta$	investment adjustment cost	0.29
$\rho_x^l$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	0.01
$\rho_a^l$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.32
$\rho_z^l$	AR stationary neutral productivity	0.57
$\rho_\omega^l$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	0.91
$\sigma_{x,u}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity	1.05
$\sigma_{x,LR}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity LR news	0.01
$\sigma_{a,u}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.95
$\sigma_{a,LR}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	0.13
$\sigma_{z,u}$	std. stationary neutral productivity	0.93
$\sigma_{z,LR}$	std. stationary neutral productivity LR news	0.92
$\sigma_{\omega,u}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity	9.97
$\sigma_{\omega,LR}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	0.07

Note: The values are the posterior median estimates reported in Table D.2 of Avdjiev (2016).

Table C6: Cramér-Rao lower bounds, Avdjiev (2016) model.

parameter		$\bar{\mathbf{y}}$	$\mathbf{y}$
$\gamma$	inverse intertemporal elasticity of substitution	0.00024	0.00020
$\chi$	Frisch elasticity of labor supply	443.84281	6.00170
$\theta_l$	habit in leisure,	0.00995	0.00601
$\theta_c$	habit in consumption,	0.00006	0.00004
$\delta_2$	capacity utilization cost	1057.97045	128.57305
$\eta$	investment adjustment cost	0.00609	0.00071
$\rho_x^l$	AR non-stationary neutral productivity	0.00439	0.00066
$\rho_a^l$	AR non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.00461	0.00371
$\rho_z^l$	AR stationary neutral productivity	0.01160	0.00117
$\rho_\omega^l$	AR stationary investment-specific productivity	0.00201	0.00097
$\sigma_{x,u}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity	0.00548	0.00370
$\sigma_{x,LR}$	std. non-stationary neutral productivity LR news	0.00003	0.00002
$\sigma_{a,u}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity	0.00206	0.00196
$\sigma_{a,LR}$	std. non-stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	0.00086	0.00027
$\sigma_{z,u}$	std. stationary neutral productivity	0.00391	0.00214
$\sigma_{z,LR}$	std. stationary neutral productivity LR news	0.02206	0.00790
$\sigma_{\omega,u}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity	8.20461	0.79912
$\sigma_{\omega,LR}$	std. stationary investment-specific productivity LR news	965.05866	132.27654

Note:  $\mathbf{y}$  includes all observables,  $\bar{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{y} \setminus (v^f, r)$  The CRLBs are computed for the parameter values in Table C5 using  $T = 236$ .

$\varepsilon_x^u$	0	0	-0.01	-0.03	-0.01
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	0	0	0	0.01	-0.01
$\varepsilon_a^u$	0	0	0	-0.03	0
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	0	0	0	-0.03	0
$\varepsilon_z^u$	0	0.08	0.02	-0.01	0.01
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	0	0	0	-0.15	0.13
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	0	0	0	0.09	-0.01
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	0	0	0	0.16	0
	$y$	$c$	$i$	$a$	$h$

**Figure C4:** Conditional pairwise complementarity between  $v^f$  and macro variables Avdjiev (2016)

$\varepsilon_x^u$	0	0	0	-0.02	-0.03
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	0	0	0	0.65	0.16
$\varepsilon_a^u$	0	0	0	-0.02	-0.01
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	0	0	0	-0.07	-0.01
$\varepsilon_z^u$	0	-0.06	0	-0.12	-0.19
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	0	0	0	-0.05	-0.02
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	0	0.01	0	-0.02	0.03
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	0	0	0	-0.08	-0.03
	$y$	$c$	$i$	$a$	$h$

**Figure C5:** Conditional pairwise complementarity between  $r$  and macro variables Avdjiev (2016)

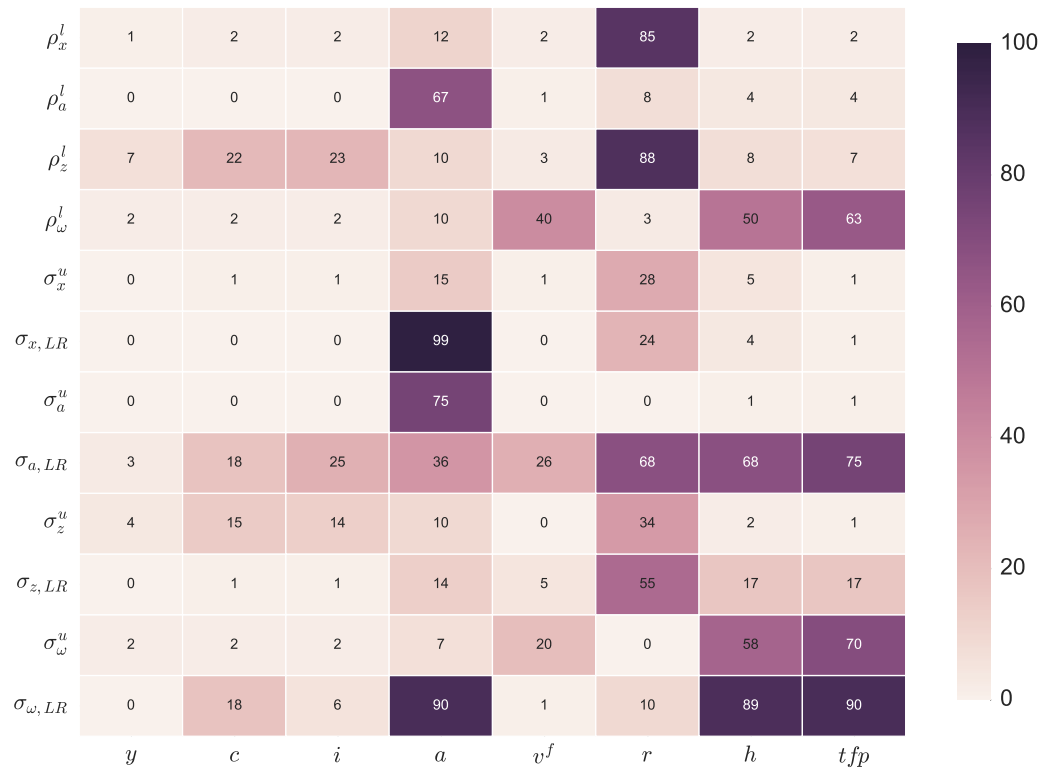
$\varepsilon_x^u$	-0.17	-0.08	-0.23	0.05	0.08
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	-0.02	0.05	-0.22	0.27	-0.06
$\varepsilon_a^u$	0.37	0.16	0.49	-0.01	0.09
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	-0.04	0.06	-0.25	-0.07	-0.08
$\varepsilon_z^u$	-0.02	-0.01	-0.24	0.01	0.05
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	-0.09	-0.08	-0.22	0.09	-0.03
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	0.32	0	0.43	0.03	0.09
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	-0.03	0.07	-0.24	0.07	-0.07
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>h</i>

**Figure C6:** Unconditional pairwise complementarity between  $v^f$  and macro variables Avdjiev (2016)

$\varepsilon_x^u$	0.37	1	0.21	0.01	0.19
$\varepsilon_x^{LR}$	0.28	-0.19	-0.07	2.3	0.13
$\varepsilon_a^u$	0.22	0.28	0.22	-0.01	0.24
$\varepsilon_a^{LR}$	0.94	0.18	0	-0.14	0.14
$\varepsilon_z^u$	-0.32	-0.35	0.1	0.01	-0.1
$\varepsilon_z^{LR}$	0.19	0.33	-0.11	0.02	-0.15
$\varepsilon_\omega^u$	0.69	-0.37	-0.06	0.07	-0.02
$\varepsilon_\omega^{LR}$	0.93	0.4	0.02	0.4	0.16
	<i>y</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>a</i>	<i>h</i>

**Figure C7:** Unconditional pairwise complementarity between  $r$  and macro variables Avdjiev (2016)





**Figure C8:** Efficiency gains in the model of Avdjiev (2016) when *tfp* is observed.

## References

- AVDJIEV, S. (2016): “News Driven Business Cycles and data on asset prices in estimated DSGE models,” *Review of Economic Dynamics*, 20, 181–197.
- DAVIES, R. B. (1983): “Optimal inference in the frequency domain,” in *Time Series in the Frequency Domain*, Elsevier, vol. 3 of *Handbook of Statistics*, 73 – 92.
- HANSEN, L. P. AND T. J. SARGENT (2013): *Recursive models of dynamic linear economies*, Princeton University Press.
- HERBST, E. AND F. SCHORFHEIDE (2014): “Sequential Monte Carlo sampling for DSGE models,” *Journal of Applied Econometrics*, 29, 1073–1098.
- ISKREV, N. (2008): “Evaluating the information matrix in linearized DSGE models,” *Economics Letters*, 99, 607–610.
- JAIMOVICH, N. AND S. REBELO (2009): “Can News about the Future Drive the Business Cycle?” *American Economic Review*, 99, 1097–1118.
- KAY, S. M. (1993): “Fundamentals of statistical signal processing, volume i: Estimation theory (v. 1),” *PTR Prentice-Hall, Englewood Cliffs*.
- MIYAMOTO, W. AND T. L. NGUYEN (2015): “News shocks and Business cycles: Evidence from forecast data,” Tech. rep.
- QU, Z. AND D. TKACHENKO (2012): “Identification and frequency domain quasi-maximum likelihood estimation of linearized dynamic stochastic general equilibrium models,” *Quantitative Economics*, 3, 95–132.
- RAO, C. R. (2001): *Linear Statistical Inference and its Applications*, John Wiley & Sons.
- SCHMITT-GROHÉ, S. AND M. URIBE (2012): “What’s News in Business Cycles,” *Econometrica*, 80, 2733–2764.
- WHITTLE, P. (1953): “The Analysis of Multiple Stationary Time Series,” *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society. Series B (Methodological)*, 15, pp. 125–139.