## Endogenous Regime Switching

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> RBA Workshop 19-20 December 2024

# Broad questions

How can we effectively model endogenously switching regimes to account for ...

- 1. Occasionally binding constraints ("Zero Lower Bound")?
- 2. Asymmetries (recessions versus expansions)?
- 3. Tipping points (financial distress, debt sustainability)?
- Voluminous literatures on various types of exogenous regime switching
- But work on endogenous regime switching limited
- Why is this interesting?

# Motivation: the zero lower bound

# Short-term interest rate has been the primary monetary policy instrument in Japan and the $\ensuremath{\mathsf{US}}$



Short-term nominal interest rates

- Policy rates have spent long periods at or near the zero lower bound
- How can we model this using something akin to a structural VAR?

# Unconventional monetary policy (UMP)

- Forward guidance (FG) commitment about future interest rates
- Quantitative easing (QE) purchases of long-term government bonds



### A nonlinear structural VAR

• These questions cannot be answered by linear SVARs

$$A_{0,t}z_t = c_t + \sum_{i=1}^k A_{i,t}z_{t-i} + \varepsilon_t$$

- even with exogenous regime switching
- They can be answered by additively time-separable nonlinear SVARs:

$$f_0(z_t) = c + \sum_{i=1}^k f_i(z_{t-i}) + u_t$$

• When  $f_i(\cdot)$  are piecewise linear, they represent endogenously-switching regimes

#### Overview

- 1. Endogenous versus exogenous regime switching
- 2. General model setup
- 3. Identification
- 4. Estimation
- 5. Applications

# Background: methodology

- Question: causal effect of policy on targets
  - x<sub>t</sub>: policy instrument, e.g., short-term nominal interest rate
  - y<sub>t</sub>: policy targets, e.g., inflation, output
- Methodology: Structural Vector Autoregression (SVAR)

$$\sum_{j=0}^{p} A_{j} z_{t-j} = \varepsilon_{t}, \qquad z_{t} := \begin{bmatrix} x_{t} \\ y_{t} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Causal effects of policy given by impulse response function (IRF)
- Problem: linear SVAR cannot capture ZLB
  - Not structural change or Markov Switching
  - Need endogenous regime switching

# Why exogenous regimes don't work

• Consider regime-switching VAR

$$z_{t} = \sum_{j=1}^{p} C_{j}^{(r_{t})} z_{t-j} + C_{0}^{(r_{t})} \varepsilon_{t}$$

- Try to impose the ZLB by having two exogenous regimes  $r_t \in \{1,2\}$ 
  - For simplicity, assume *z<sub>t</sub>* is scalar
  - We can enforce  $z_t = 0$  by choosing  $C_j^{(1)} = 0$  for all  $j \in \{0, \dots, p\}$
  - Cannot guarantee  $z_t > 0$  in regime 2, unless  $r_t$  is *perfectly correlated* with  $\varepsilon_t$
  - Otherwise, there will be realizations of  $\varepsilon_t$  that violate the constraint
- This rules out:
  - Markov-Switching (Hamilton, 1989) strictly exogenous:  $r_t \perp \varepsilon_s$  for all t, s
  - predetermined regimes (Hubrich & Waggoner, 2022), corr  $(r_t, \varepsilon_s) \neq 0, s < t$

# Solution: fully endogenous regimes

• Go back to the linear SVAR

$$\sum_{j=0}^{p} A_j z_{t-j} = \varepsilon_t \tag{1}$$

- and imagine the variable  $z_t$  itself is driving the regime
- Specifically, you only observe  $z_t^+ = \max \{z_t, 0\}$
- Now, the regime indicator is *perfectly correlated* with ε<sub>t</sub>

$$r_t = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if } z_t \leq 0 \ ( ext{ZLB regime}) \ 2 & ext{if } z_t > 0 \ ( ext{positive regime}) \end{cases}$$

• The same shock drives  $z_t^+ > 0$  and determines probability of  $z_t^+ = 0$ 

# The CKSVAR model

VAR: 
$$\sum_{j=0}^{p} A_j z_{t-j} = \varepsilon_t$$

• Mavroeidis (2021, Ecma): the censored and kinked structural VAR:

$$A_{j}z_{t-j} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{j,x} & A_{j,y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{t-j} \\ y_{t-j} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} A_{j,x}^{+} & A_{j,x}^{-} \\ A_{j,x}^{-} & A_{j,y} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{t-j}^{+} \\ x_{t-j}^{-} \\ y_{t-j} \end{bmatrix}$$

CKSVAR: 
$$\sum_{j=0}^{p} A_{j,x}^{+} x_{t-j}^{+} + \sum_{j=0}^{p} A_{j,x}^{-} x_{t-j}^{-} + \sum_{j=0}^{p} A_{j,y} y_{t-j} = \varepsilon_{t}$$

(cf. Aruoba, Mlikota, Schorfheide & Villalvazo, 2022, JoE)

- $x_t^+ := \max\{x_t, b\}$  and  $x_t^- := \min\{x_t, b\}$  (assume  $x_t$  is scalar)
- x<sub>t</sub> enters nonlinearly, with coefficients depending on its sign
- Two endogenously switching regimes

# Challenges

- 1. Theoretical
  - Can the CKSVAR be microfounded? Does it have economic interpretation?
    - Yes: Ikeda Li Mavroeidis & Zanetti (2024, AEJM)
  - Econometrics
    - Identification (Mavroeidis, 2021, Ecma; Guarnieri, 2024)
    - Trends and cointegration (Duffy Mavroeidis & Wycherley, 2023a,b; Duffy and Mavroeidis, 2024)
- 2. Practical
  - Estimation is computationally intensive and inaccurate
  - New analytical algorithm for computing likelihood (Bonomolo, Guarnieri, Kabel, and Mavroeidis, 2024)
    - Implemented by Julia package EndoRSE (stands for Endogenous Regime-Switching model Estimation)

#### General piecewise affine state-space model

•  $\mathsf{z}_t \in \Re^n$  (latent) state variables

$$f_{0,t}(z_t) = c_t + \sum_{i=1}^{p} f_{i,t}(z_{t-i}) + \varepsilon_t, \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim N(0, I_n)$$
  
$$f_{i,t}(z) = \sum_{r=1}^{R} \mathbb{1}_{t-i}^{(r)}(z) \left( \psi_{i,t}^{(r)} + \Psi_{i,t}^{(r)} z \right), \quad i = 0, \dots, p$$

where  $1_{s}^{(r)}(z) := 1\left\{z \in \mathcal{Z}_{s}^{(r)}\right\}$ ,  $\left\{\mathcal{Z}_{s}^{(r)}\right\}_{r=1}^{R}$  is a (convex) partition of  $\Re^{n}$ 

- R: number of regimes,  $\varepsilon_t$  structural shocks
- $y_t \in \Re^k$  observed variables

$$y_t = \sum_{r=1}^{R} 1^{(r)}(z) \left( g_t^{(r)} + G_t^{(r)} z_t \right)$$

# Why piecewise affine functional form

$$f_{0,t}(z_t) = c_t + \sum_{i=1}^{p} f_{i,t}(z_{t-i}) + \varepsilon_t, \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim N(0, I_n)$$
  
$$f_{i,t}(z) = \sum_{r=1}^{R} \mathbb{1}_{t-i}^{(r)}(z) \left( \psi_{i,t}^{(r)} + \Psi_{i,t}^{(r)} z \right), \quad i = 0, \dots, p$$

- We can impose continuity and verify coherency (more later)
- Fully characterize stochastic trends and cointegration
  - Duffy Mavroeidis and Wycherley (2023)
- Derive short-run and long-run identifying restrictions
  - Duffy and Mavroeidis (2024)
- Good approximation to more general nonlinear DSGEs
  - Aruoba et al (2021, RED)

• Single-regime (R = 1) (linear) models

$$\begin{split} \Psi_{0,t} z_t &= c_t + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \Psi_{i,t} z_{t-i} + \varepsilon_t, \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim N\left(0, I_n\right) \\ y_t &= g_t + G_t z_t \end{split}$$

• e.g., linear SVAR: 
$$n = k$$
,  $g_t = 0$ ,  $G_t = I_k$ 

• Laumbach and Williams (2003, RES) model of natural rate: n > k,  $\Psi_{i,t} = \Psi_i$ ,  $g_t = 0$ 

• ...

• Models with two regimes  $r \in \{1,2\}$  determined by inequality:

$$r_t = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a_1^\mathsf{T} z_t \leq b_t \\ 2, & \text{if } a_1^\mathsf{T} z_t > b_t \end{cases}$$

- e.g., debt sustainability:  $z_t = [GDP \text{ growth, long-term interest rate,...}], a_1^T = (1, -1, 0, ...), b_t = 0$
- ZLB: z<sub>t</sub> = [policy rate, ...], a<sub>1</sub><sup>T</sup> = (1,0,...), b<sub>t</sub> = 25bp in the US, or linked to IOR in Japan (Hayashi and Koeda, 2019, QE)

• Models with three regimes  $r \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  determined by inequalities

$$r_t = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a_1^\mathsf{T} z_t \leq \underline{b}_t \\ 2, & \text{if } \underline{b}_t < a_1^\mathsf{T} z_t \leq \overline{b}_t \\ 3, & \text{if } a_1^\mathsf{T} z_t > \overline{b}_t \end{cases}$$

• e.g., inflation target band [0,2%] (ECB, Fed):  $z_t = [inflation, ...], a_1^T = (1,0,...), \underline{b}_t = 0, \overline{b}_t = 2\%$ 

• Models with four regimes  $r \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  determined by two inequalities

$$r_{t} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } a_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} \leq b_{1t}, \text{ and } a_{2}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} \leq b_{2t} \\ 2, & \text{if } a_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} \leq b_{1t}, \text{ and } a_{2}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} > b_{2t} \\ 3, & \text{if } a_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} > b_{1t}, \text{ and } a_{2}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} \leq b_{2t} \\ 4, & \text{if } a_{1}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} > b_{1t}, \text{ and } a_{2}^{\mathsf{T}} z_{t} > b_{2t} \end{cases}$$

- e.g., ZLB and "high inflation" regime  $z_t = [i_t, \pi_t, \ldots]^{\mathsf{T}}$ ,  $a_1^{\mathsf{T}} = (1, 0, \ldots)$ ,  $a_1^{\mathsf{T}} = (0, 1, 0, \ldots)$ ,  $b_{1t} = \mathsf{ELB}$ ,  $b_{2t} = \bar{\pi}$
- asymmetries, tipping points, ...

# Identification via regime switching

- Regime-switching generates more variation in the data
  - Dynamics and volatilities change across regimes
- This can be used to identify causal effects
- Special case: identification at the zero lower bound (Mavroeidis, 2021)
  - Main insight: change in regime is only due to policy constraint
  - Imposing single regime corresponds to "ZLB irrelevance" hypothesis that UMP is fully effective in escaping the liquidity trap
  - Variation across regimes ("ZLB relevance") is informative about the relative effectiveness of conventional and unconventional policies

# Identification in linear SVAR

• Linear SVAR identified up to orthogonal rotation  $\Upsilon \in \mathbb{R}^{k imes k}$ 

$$\Psi_0 z_t = c + \sum_{i=1}^{p} \Psi_i z_{t-i} / ags + \varepsilon_t, \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim_{i.i.d.} [0, I_k]$$

(suffices to focus on variance)

• Reduced form:

$$z_t = lags + \underbrace{\Psi_0^{-1}\varepsilon_t}_{=:u_t}, \qquad \Omega := \operatorname{var} u_t = \Psi_0^{-1}\Psi_0^{-1\mathsf{T}}$$

- Reduced-form parameters  $\Omega: k(k+1)/2$
- Structural parameters  $\Psi_0: k^2$
- Need k(k-1)/2 additional restrictions to pin down  $\Psi_0$  uniquely
- Can identify some shocks/IRFs with fewer restrictions
  - e.g., identify  $\varepsilon_1$  by imposing  $\frac{\partial z_{2t}}{\partial \varepsilon_{1t}} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \Psi_{0,21} = 0$  (k 1 restrictions)

# Identification in SVAR with endogenous regime switching

• Introduce endogenous regimes  $r \in \{1, \dots, R\}$ 

$$\Psi_0^{(r_t)} z_t = lags + \varepsilon_t, \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim_{i.i.d.} [0, I_k]$$

- Focus on regimes determined by signs of  $z_t$  (wlog upon recentering)
  - $2^m$  regimes induced by  $z_{i,t} \ge 0$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, m \le k$
- For coherency (existence of equilibria) we need piecewise linear function  $\Psi_0^{(r)}z$  to be invertible
- This requires continuity and some determinant condition
  - Gourieroux et al (1980, Ecma)
- Continuity requires **only** coefficients on  $z_{i,t}$  change when  $z_{i,t}$  changes sign
- CKSVAR is special case with m = 1

### **CKSVAR**

• Partition 
$$z_t = \begin{bmatrix} z_{1,t} \\ z_{2,t} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ k-1 \end{bmatrix}$$
 such that  
$$\begin{split} \psi_0^{k \times k} \\ \psi_0^{(t_t)} z_t &= \psi_{0,1}^{-1} z_{1,t}^{-1} + \psi_{0,1}^{k \times 1} z_{1,t}^{+} + \psi_{0,2}^{k \times (k-1)} z_{2,t} \end{split}$$

• Only first column of  $\Psi_0^{(r)}$  changes across regimes

$$\Psi_0^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_{0,1}^-, \Psi_{0,2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Psi_0^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_{0,1}^+, \Psi_{0,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

- This is crucial for continuity at the kink  $z_{1,t} = 0$
- Total # of structural parameters  $\Psi_0^{(1,2)}$  : k(k+1)
- Now let's look at the reduced form...

# CKSVAR: reduced form

Structural model

$$\Psi_0^{(r_t)} z_t = \ldots + \varepsilon_t, \quad \Psi_0^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_{0,1}^-, \Psi_{0,2} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \Psi_0^{(2)} = \begin{bmatrix} \Psi_{0,1}^+, \Psi_{0,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

Reduced form

$$z_{t} = \begin{cases} \dots + \left(\Psi_{0}^{(1)}\right)^{-1} \varepsilon_{t} = \left(\Psi_{0}^{(1)}\right)^{-1} \left(\Psi_{0}^{(2)}\right) u_{t} =: \tilde{u}_{t}, & \text{if } z_{1,t} \le 0\\ \dots + \left(\Psi_{0}^{(2)}\right)^{-1} \varepsilon_{t} =: u_{t}, & \text{if } z_{1,t} > 0 \end{cases}$$

- Let  $\Omega := \operatorname{var} u_t = \left(\Psi_0^{(2)}\right)^{-1} \left(\Psi_0^{(2)}\right)^{-1\mathsf{T}}$  (variance in "positive" regime)
- It can be shown that  $\left(\Psi_0^{(1)}\right)^{-1}\left(\Psi_0^{(2)}\right) =: B = \begin{bmatrix} \kappa & 0\\ -\tilde{\beta} & I_{k-1} \end{bmatrix}$ 
  - $\kappa$  scales variance of  $z_{1,t}$  across regimes  $\tilde{u}_{1,t} = \kappa u_{1,t}$

• 
$$ilde{eta}$$
 is "kink" in  $ilde{u}_{2,t} = u_{2,t} - ilde{eta} u_{1,t}$ 

• Thus,  $\tilde{\Omega} := \operatorname{var} \tilde{u}_t = B\Omega B^{\mathsf{T}}$ - (only) k additional parameters

### CKSVAR: identification

- Total # of structural parameters  $\left[\Psi_{0,1}^{-},\Psi_{0,1}^{+},\Psi_{0,2}^{-}
  ight]:k^{2}+k$
- Total # of reduced-form parameters  $\Omega, ilde{\Omega} : k(k+1)/2 + k$
- Underidentified by k(k-1)/2, exactly as in linear case:
  - Adding more regimes does not make identification problem worse!
  - Suffices to impose restrictions in one regime only to identify both regimes
- In fact, regime-switching is informative about  $\left[\Psi^-_{0,1},\Psi^+_{0,1}\right]$  even without additional restrictions

$$\tilde{\beta} = \kappa \Psi_{0,22}^{-1} \Psi_{0,21}^{-} - \Psi_{0,22}^{-1} \Psi_{0,21}^{+}$$

- Thus,  $\Psi_0^{(1)} = \Psi_0^{(2)} \Rightarrow \kappa = 1, \tilde{\beta} = 0$  testable!
  - "ZLB irrelevance" hypothesis (Ikeda et al, 2024, AEJM)
- With some additional structure, we can get meaningful set identification of IRFs to  $\varepsilon_{1,t}$  (Mavroeidis, 2021)

#### A more general result

• We suppose there exist  $(c^{\varepsilon}, \{f_i^{\varepsilon}\}_{i=0}^p)$  such that

$$f_0^{\varepsilon}(z_t) = c^{\varepsilon} + \sum_{i=1}^{p} f_i^{\varepsilon}(z_{t-i}) + \varepsilon_t \qquad \varepsilon_t \sim_{\text{i.i.d.}} [0, I_k]$$

where  $\{\varepsilon_t\}$  are the structural shocks

• Let  $(c, \{f_i\}_{i=0}^p)$  be another parametrisation of the model, such that

$$f_0(z_t) = c + \sum_{i=1}^{p} f_i(z_{t-i}) + \eta_t \qquad \eta_t \sim_{\text{i.i.d.}} [0, I_k]$$

• When are these observationally equivalent? If and only if

$$c = \Upsilon c^{\varepsilon}$$
  $f_i(z) = \Upsilon f_i^{\varepsilon}(z), \ \forall z \in \mathbb{R}^k, \ i \in \{0, \dots, p\}$ 

for some orthogonal  $\Upsilon \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$  (via Matzkin, 2008)

• Duffy and Mavroeidis (2024, Appendix A)

# Specializing to endogenous regime switching SVARs

- The previous result assumes  $f_0()$  is a homeomorphism (continuous and invertible)
- It covers piecewise affine continuous SVARs, e.g.,

$$f_{0}(z) = \sum_{r=1}^{R} 1^{(r)}(z) \Psi_{0}^{(r)} z,$$

where regimes  $r = 1, \ldots, 2^m$  are determined by signs of  $z_i$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, m$ 

- Thus,  $\Psi_0^{(1)}, \ldots, \Psi_0^{(2^m)}$  are identified up to (the same) orthogonal rotation (across regimes)
- It suffices to impose exactly k(k-1)/2 restrictions to identify all the causal effects

# Practical challenges

- Estimation of models with endogenous regime switching is likelihood based
  - We need to know the distribution of the data to characterize the (endogenous) regime-switching probability
- A key challenge is the presence of latent variables on the RHS
  - These need to be 'integrated-out' of the likelihood
  - Currently, all available methods rely on Monte Carlo simulations (particle filtering)
    - Mavroeidis (2021, Ecma), Johansen and Mertens (2021, JMCB), Aruoba et al (2022, JoE), Carriero et al (2024)
  - These are computationally expensive and suffer from problems of particle degeneracy
- We found analytical expression of likelihood involving Gaussian cdfs
  - Massively reduces computational time and increases accuracy
- Developped Julia program called EndoRSE, to facilitate application of these methods

### Illustration: univariate censored-kinked AR

• 
$$k = \dim z_t = 1, \ z_t^+ := \max \{z_t, 0\}, \ z_t^- := \min \{z_t, 0\}$$
  
 $\Psi_0^{(1)} z_t^- + \Psi_0^{(2)} z_t^+ = c + \Psi_1^{(1)} z_{t-1}^- + \Psi_1^{(2)} z_{t-1}^+ + \varepsilon_t$   
 $y_t = z_t^+$ 

- e.g.,  $z_t$  indicator of MP stance,  $y_t = i_t$  is policy rate,  $z_t^- := \min \{z_t, 0\}$  is "shadow rate" (measures of UMP)
- $\Psi_i^{(1)} \neq \Psi_i^{(2)}$  means behaviour (volatility, dynamics) changes across regimes (this is testable)

# Likelihood

$$\begin{split} \Psi_0^{(1)} z_t^- + \Psi_0^{(2)} z_t^+ &= c + \Psi_1^{(1)} z_{t-1}^- + \Psi_1^{(2)} z_{t-1}^+ + \varepsilon_t \\ y_t &= z_t^+ \end{split}$$

• Likelihood given sample  $Y_T = (y_1, \dots, y_T)^T$ :

$$f(y_1, \dots, y_T; \theta) = \prod_{y_t > 0} \int f(y_t | Z_{t-1}^+, Z_{t-1}^-; \theta) f(Z_{t-1}^- | Z_{t-1}^+; \theta) dZ_{t-1}^-$$
$$\times \prod_{y_t = 0} \int F(0 | Z_{t-1}^+, Z_{t-1}^-; \theta) f(Z_{t-1}^- | Z_{t-1}^+; \theta) dZ_{t-1}^-$$

- Difficulty lies in evaluating the integrals
  - Number of latent lags dim Z<sup>-</sup><sub>t-1</sub> depends on number of (consecutive) observations at boundary
  - As dim Z<sup>-</sup><sub>t-1</sub> increases, simulation methods become very inaccurate (particle degeneracy)
  - Quickly gets computationally infeasible as dim z increases (many variables)
  - Our solution: we discovered an analytical expression for the integrals!

# Monetary policy transmission in the Euro Area

- Check the empirical relevance of non linearities that can affect monetary policy
- Questions:
  - Is the effective lower bound a cost for the EA economy?
  - Are the policy trade-offs different when inflation is high? (Non-linear Phillips curve)
  - Are risks of de-anchoring dependent on the level of inflation?

# A model with 4 regimes

- Variables: (EA) short-term interest rate, HICP inflation, and output gap.
- Four regimes determined by
  - whether ELB constraint binds ( $z_{1t} \leq 0$  regimes 1 and 3) or not ( $z_{1t} > 0$  regimes 2 and 4)
  - whether inflation is "low" ( $z_{2t} \leq 0$  regimes 1 and 2) or high ( $z_{2t} > 0$  regimes 3 and 4)
- Observed interest rate:  $z_{1t}^+ + b_1 (b_1 \text{ is ELB})$
- Inflation is  $z_{2t} + b_2$  (fully observed,  $b_2$  estimated from the data)

$$\Psi_{i}^{(r)} = \begin{pmatrix} \Psi_{i,11}^{(r)} & \Psi_{i,12}^{(r)} & \Psi_{i,13} \\ \Psi_{i,21}^{(r)} & \Psi_{0,22}^{(r)} & \Psi_{i,23} \\ \Psi_{i,31}^{(r)} & \Psi_{i,32}^{(r)} & \Psi_{i,33} \end{pmatrix}, \quad r = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \{\text{ELB \& \text{Low } \pi\}, \\ 2 & \text{if } \{\text{Non ELB \& Low } \pi\}, \\ 3 & \text{if } \{\text{ELB \& \text{High } \pi\}, \\ 4 & \text{if } \{\text{Non ELB \& \text{High } \pi\}. \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

• Only first 2 columns of  $\Psi_i^{(r)}$  are regime dependent (necessary for continuity)

# Coherency and identifying restrictions

#### **Coherency Conditions:**

• 
$$\Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^{(1)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^{(3)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^{-}$$
 (ELB regimes)

• 
$$\Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^{(2)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^{(4)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 1}^+$$
 (non-ELB regimes)

•  $\Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^{(1)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^{(2)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^{-}$  (low inflation regimes)

• 
$$\Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^{(3)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^{(4)} = \Psi_{0,\cdot 2}^+$$
 (high inflation regimes)

• det 
$$\Psi_0^{(r)}$$
 have the same sign for all  $r\in\{1,...,4\}$ 

#### Identifying Restrictions:

- $\Psi_{0,11}^- = \Psi_{0,11}^+$  (normalization)
- $\Psi_{0,j1}^- = 0$  for  $j = \{2,3\}$  (UMP ineffective on impact)
- $\Psi_{i,32}^- = \Psi_{i,32}^+$  for  $i = \{0, ..., p\}$  (output response to inflation constant across regimes)

# Implications of the ELB

Simulation: a negative demand shock brings the interest rate at the lower bound



<sup>1</sup>Inflation responses are month on month

1

# Scenario: less accommodating monetary policy in the aftermath of the pandemic





# Demand shock in different regions of the Phillips curve

A demand shock increases inflation relatively more and output relatively less when inflation is higher



# Supply shock when interest rate is at the lower bound



Scenario 1: the economy is hit by a demand shock that brings the interest rate at the  $\mathsf{ELB}$ 

Scenario 2: in addition, at period 5, a supply shock pushes inflation up

# Other applications

- Guarnieri (2024) tests fiscal dominance hypothesis in the US:
  - finds that concerns about debt sustainability affect monetary policy
- Work in progress:
  - Testing the effectiveness of the Maastricht treaty (with Bonomolo, de Ferra and Romei)
  - Disentangling the effects of alternative unconventional monetary policies (with Ikeda and Shintani)

# Conclusion

• Endogenous regime switching can be modelled via nonlinear structural models of the form

$$f_0(z_t) = c + \sum_{i=1}^k f_i(z_{t-i}) + u_t$$

where  $f_{i}(\cdot)$  are of piecewise affine form

- It can capture nonlinearities and improve identification of causal effects
- Efficient estimation via Julia package EndoRSE

Theoretical model of unconventional policy

Ikeda et al (2024, AEJM)

- 3-equation New Keynesian model
  - IS, PC, Taylor rule
- Bond market segmentation makes QE effective
- Two types of FG:
  - Reifschneider & Williams (2000, JMCB)
  - Debortoli et al. (2019, Macro Annual)
- Both types of UMP can be captured by shadow rate

# A New Keynesian model of UMPC



# SVAR representation

- 1. Under irrelevance hypothesis IRF can be obtained from linear (single-regime) SVAR in
  - inflation, output gap and the shadow rate
  - UMP is fully effective in overcoming ZLB constraint
- 2. If IH doesn't hold
  - There is a single parameter  $\xi$  that characterizes effectiveness of UMP
    - Combines both FG and QE
    - When  $\xi = 1$ , UMP is fully effective (irrelevance hypothesis holds)
  - When  $\xi < 1$ , and agents are boundedly rational, solution is piecewise linear SVAR in
    - inflation, output gap, and shadow rates
    - a special case of CKSVAR