

# III. Linear state-space models

- A. State-space representation of a dynamic system
- B. Kalman filter
- C. Using the Kalman filter
- D. Bayesian analysis of linear state-space models
- E. Solutions to linear rational expectations models
- F. Estimating DSGE models

instantaneous utility function:

$$U_t = a_t^b \left[ \frac{1}{1-\lambda_c} (C_t - hC_{t-1})^{1-\lambda_c} - \frac{a_t^L}{1+\lambda_\ell} (\ell_t)^{1+\lambda_\ell} \right]$$

$h > 0 \Rightarrow$  habit persistence

$$a_t^b = \rho_b a_{t-1}^b + \eta_t^b \quad \eta_t^b \sim \text{i.i.d. } N(0, \sigma_b^2)$$

$\Rightarrow$  shock to intertemporal subs

$$a_t^L = \rho_L a_{t-1}^L + \eta_t^L$$

$\Rightarrow$  shock to intratemporal subs

Let  $\hat{C}_t$  denote deviation of  $\log(C_t)$  from its steady-state value

$$(1) \hat{C}_t = \left( \frac{h}{1+h} \right) \hat{C}_{t-1} + \left( \frac{1}{1+h} \right) E_t \hat{C}_{t+1}$$

$$-\frac{(1-h)}{(1+h)\lambda_c} \left( \hat{R}_t - E_t \hat{\pi}_{t+1} \right) \\ + \frac{(1-h)}{(1+h)\lambda_c} \left( \hat{a}_t^b - E_t \hat{a}_{t+1}^b \right)$$

capital evolution:

$$K_t = K_{t-1}(1 - \delta) + [1 - S(a_t^I I_t / I_{t-1})] I_t$$

$S(\cdot)$  = adjustment costs

$$a_t^I = \rho_I a_{t-1}^I + \eta_t^I$$

$$(2) \hat{K}_t = (1 - \delta)\hat{K}_{t-1} + \delta\hat{I}_{t-1}$$

$$(3) \hat{I}_t = \left(\frac{1}{1+\beta}\right)\hat{I}_{t-1} + \left(\frac{\beta}{1+\beta}\right)E_t\hat{I}_{t+1} \\ + \frac{\varphi}{1+\beta}\hat{Q}_t - \frac{\beta E_t \hat{a}_{t+1}^I - \hat{a}_t^I}{1+\beta}$$

$$\varphi = 1/S''$$

$Q_t$  = value of capital stock

$$(4) \quad \hat{Q}_t = -\left(\hat{R}_t - \hat{\pi}_{t+1}\right) + \frac{1-\delta}{1-\delta+\bar{r}_k} E_t \hat{Q}_{t+1} \\ + \frac{\bar{r}_k}{1-\delta+\bar{r}_k} E_t \hat{r}_{K,t+1} + \eta_t^Q$$

$r_{Kt}$  = rate of return to capital

$\eta_t^Q$  = tacked on

output from producer of  
intermediate good of type  $j$

$$y_t^j = a_t^a K_{t-1}(j)^\alpha L_t(j)^{1-\alpha} - \Phi$$

$\Phi$  = fixed cost

$a_t^a$  = productivity shock

$$a_t^a = \rho_a a_{t-1}^a + \eta_t^a$$

$L_t(j)$  = aggregate of labor  
hired from each household  $\tau$

$$L_t(j) = \left\{ \int_0^1 [\ell_t(\tau)]^{1/(1+\lambda_{w,t})} d\tau \right\}^{1+\lambda_{w,t}}$$

$$\lambda_{w,t} = \lambda_w + \eta_t^w$$

$\eta_t^w$  = shock to workers' market  
power



wage stickiness:

a fraction  $\xi_w$  of workers are not allowed to change their wage but instead have their wage increase from the previous value by

$$(P_{t-1}/P_{t-2})^{\gamma_w}$$

$\gamma_w$  = degree of indexing

$$\begin{aligned}
(5) \quad \widehat{w}_t &= \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} E \widehat{w}_{t+1} + \frac{1}{1+\beta} \widehat{w}_{t-1} \\
&+ \frac{\beta}{1+\beta} E_t \widehat{\pi}_{t+1} - \frac{1+\beta\gamma_w}{1+\beta} \widehat{\pi}_t + \frac{\gamma_w}{1+\beta} \widehat{\pi}_{t-1} \\
&- h_w \left[ \widehat{w}_t - \lambda_L \widehat{L}_t - \frac{\lambda_c}{1-h} (\widehat{C}_t - h \widehat{C}_{t-1}) \right. \\
&\quad \left. - \widehat{a}_t^L - \widehat{\eta}_t^w \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$h_w = \frac{1}{1+\beta} \frac{(1-\beta\xi_w)(1-\xi_w)}{[1+(1+\lambda_w)\lambda_L/\lambda_w]\xi_w}$$

## labor demand

$$\frac{W_t L_t(j)}{r_{K,t} z_t K_{t-1}(j)} = \frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}$$

$z_t$  = capital utilization

$$(6) \hat{L}_t = -\hat{w}_t + (1 + \psi) \hat{r}_{K,t} + \hat{K}_{t-1}$$

$\psi$  = parameter based on cost  
of utilizing capital

intermediate goods sold to  
final goods producer with market  
power of firm  $j$  governed by

$$\lambda_{p,t} = \lambda_p + \eta_t^p$$

$\xi_p$  = fraction allowed to adjust  
prices

$\gamma_p$  = indexing parameter

$$\begin{aligned}
(7) \quad \hat{\pi}_t &= \frac{\beta}{1+\beta\gamma_p} E_t \hat{\pi}_{t+1} + \frac{\gamma_p}{1+\beta\gamma_p} \hat{\pi}_{t-1} \\
&+ h_p \left[ \alpha \hat{r}_{K,t} + (1-\alpha) \hat{w}_t - \hat{a}_t^a + \eta_t^p \right] \\
h_p &= \frac{1}{1+\beta\gamma_p} \frac{(1-\beta\xi_p)(1-\xi_p)}{\xi_p}
\end{aligned}$$

goods market equilibrium

$$(8) \quad \hat{Y}_t = [1 - \delta(\bar{K}/\bar{Y}) - (\bar{G}/\bar{Y})]\hat{C}_t \\ + \delta(\bar{K}/\bar{Y})\hat{I}_t + (\bar{G}/\bar{Y})\hat{a}_t^G$$

production function then

determines  $r_{K,t}$

$$(9) \quad \hat{Y}_t = \phi\hat{a}_t^a + \phi\alpha\hat{K}_{t-1} + \phi\alpha\psi\hat{r}_{K,t} \\ + \phi(1 - \alpha)\hat{L}_t$$

$$\phi = 1 + \frac{\Phi}{\text{s.s. costs}}$$

monetary policy (Taylor Rule)

$$(10) \hat{R}_t = \rho \hat{R}_{t-1} + (1 - \rho) \{ \bar{\pi}_t + r_\pi (\hat{\pi}_{t-1} - \bar{\pi}_{t-1}) + r_Y (\hat{Y}_t - \hat{Y}_t^P) \} \\ + r_{\Delta\pi} (\hat{\pi}_t - \hat{\pi}_{t-1}) \\ + r_{\Delta Y} [ \hat{Y}_t - \hat{Y}_t^P - (\hat{Y}_{t-1} - \hat{Y}_{t-1}^P) ] + \eta_t^R$$

$\bar{\pi}_t =$  inflation target

$$\bar{\pi}_t = \rho_\pi \bar{\pi}_{t-1} + \eta_t^\pi$$

$\hat{Y}_t^P =$  output level if prices perfectly flexible

$$\mathbf{y}_t = (\hat{C}_t, \hat{C}_{t-1}, \hat{R}_t, \hat{R}_{t-1}, \hat{K}_t, \hat{K}_{t-1}, \hat{I}_t, \hat{I}_{t-1}, \\ \hat{Q}_t, \hat{w}_t, \hat{w}_{t-1}, \hat{L}_t, \hat{\pi}_t, \hat{\pi}_{t-1}, \hat{Y}_t, \hat{r}_{K,t})'$$

$$\mathbf{x}_t = (\hat{a}_t^b, \hat{a}_t^I, \eta_t^Q, \hat{a}_t^L, \eta_t^w, \hat{a}_t^a, \eta_t^p, \hat{a}_t^G, \bar{\pi}_t, \eta_t^R)'$$

equations (1)-(10) (along with lag definitions) can be written as

$$\mathbf{A}E_t\mathbf{y}_{t+1} = \mathbf{B}\mathbf{y}_t + \mathbf{C}\mathbf{x}_t$$

while shocks satisfy

$$\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}_t + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{t+1}$$

(note also  $E_t\mathbf{x}_{t+1} = \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{x}_t$ )



Observed data:

OLS regression of log real  
consumption on constant and  
time trend

$$\text{residual} = z_{1t} = \hat{C}_t$$

Same for log of investment  
yields  $\hat{I}_t$

Other data: GDP, real wages,  
GDP deflator, nominal interest rate  
Treat  $\hat{Q}_t, \hat{r}_{K,t}, \hat{a}_t^a$  as unobservable

state equation:

$$\boldsymbol{\xi}_{t+1} = \mathbf{F}\boldsymbol{\xi}_t + \mathbf{v}_{t+1}$$

(came from solution to DSGE model)

observation equation:

$$\mathbf{z}_t = \mathbf{H}'\boldsymbol{\xi}_t$$

Let  $\theta$  = parameters of structural model

Use Kalman filter to evaluate

likelihood function

$$p(\mathbf{z}_1, \dots, \mathbf{z}_T | \theta)$$

prior  $p(\theta)$

posterior  $p(\theta | \mathbf{Z}) \propto p(\theta)p(\mathbf{Z} | \theta)$

prior  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

posterior  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{Z}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$

we can sample from posterior

using method such as Metropolis-  
Hastings

$$\lambda(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \log p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \log p(\mathbf{Z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

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(1) Find mode of posterior distribution using numerical optimization

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg \max \lambda(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

(2) Find Hessian of posterior distribution

$$\mathbf{H}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^*) = - \frac{\partial^2 \lambda(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta} \partial \boldsymbol{\theta}'} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}=\boldsymbol{\theta}^*}$$

(3) Set  $\theta^{(j)}$  = arbitrary starting value  
for  $j = 1$

(4) Generate  $\tilde{\theta}^{(j+1)} \sim N(\theta^{(j)}, c\mathbf{H}(\theta^*))$

for choice of  $c$  described below

(could experiment to see if

Student  $t$  works better)

(5) Generate  $u^{(j+1)} \sim U[0, 1]$

(6) Set  $\theta^{(j+1)} = \tilde{\theta}^{(j+1)}$  if  $u^{(j+1)} < \alpha^{(j+1)}$   
 $= \theta^{(j)}$  if  $u^{(j+1)} \geq \alpha^{(j+1)}$

$$\alpha^{(j+1)} = \min\{1, \exp[\lambda(\theta^{(j+1)}) - \lambda(\theta^{(j)})]\}$$



(7) Repeat steps (4)-(6) for

$j = 2, 3, \dots, 10,000$

Values of  $\theta^{(j)}$  for  $j \in \{5,001, \dots, 10,000\}$

represent sample from  $p(\theta|\mathbf{Z})$

choose  $c$  so that have 20-30%

acceptance at step (6)