

Global Banks, Financial Shocks and International Business Cycles: Evidence from an Estimated Model

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This paper estimates a two-country model with a global bank, using US and Euro Area (EA) data, and Bayesian methods. The estimated model matches key US and EA business cycle statistics. Empirically, a model version with a bank capital requirement outperforms a structure without such a constraint. A loan loss originating in one country triggers a global output reduction. Banking shocks matter more for EA macro variables than for US real activity. Banking shocks account for 2%-5% of the unconditional variance of US GDP and for 4%-15% of the variance of EA GDP. During the Great Recession (2007-09), banking shocks accounted for about 12-20% of the fall in US and EA GDP, and for more than a third of the fall in EA investment and employment.

Key words: financial crisis, global banking, real activity, investment, Bayesian econometrics.

JEL codes: F36, F37, E44, G21

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1. Introduction

The financial crisis that erupted in 2007 originated in massive bank losses on US mortgage loans. It spread rapidly to the Euro Area (EA) and other parts of the world, and led to the worst global recession since the Great Depression. These dramatic events require a rethinking of the role of financial markets and financial intermediaries for real activity. Before the financial crisis, much effort was developed to development and estimation of dynamic stochastic general equilibrium (DSGE) macro models with rigidities in goods and labor markets—however, those models abstracted from financial intermediaries (Christiano et al. (2006), Smets and Wouters (2007)). The crisis has stimulated much research that incorporates banks in DSGE models. Given the global nature of the crisis, that research has frequently focused on *open* economy models; see, for example, Devereux and Sutherland (2011), Gamber and Thoenissen (2011), and Kollmann et al. (2011). *Closed* economy DSGE models with banks were, i.a., presented by Aikman and Paustian (2006), Van den Heuvel (2008), de Walque et al. (2010), Gerali et al. (2010) and Meh and Moran (2010).¹

In this new class of DSGE models, bank capital is a key state variable for the supply of credit, and for real activity; negative shocks to bank capital are predicted to increase the spread between banks' lending and deposit rates, and to trigger a fall in bank credit and real activity. When the banking system is globalized, an asset loss originating in one country can thus lead to a worldwide recession.

So far, this new macro-banking literature has mainly used calibrated models—a systematic empirical evaluation, using econometric methods, is necessary, to guide further model building and policy. In order to provide an empirical assessment of the role of banks as a source of shocks and as a transmission channel in the *global* economy, the paper here *estimates* (using Bayesian methods) a two-country DSGE model with a global bank. Quarterly US and Euro Area (EA) macro data and banking data (bank loans, bank capital ratio, loan spread) for the period 1990-2010 are used.² Specifically, I take the Kollmann, Enders and Müller (2011) two-country model with a banking sector to the data—that structure is used as it features a 'bank capital channel' that is broadly representative of those in other recent macro-banking models. The structure is, essentially, an international Real Business Cycle (IRBC) model, but in contrast to standard IRBC models that assume frictionless international borrowing and lending (e.g., Baxter and Crucini (1995), Kollmann (1996)), the model here assumes that a global bank intermediates between savers and borrowers in the two countries. Importantly, the bank has to finance an *exogenous* fraction of her assets using equity (own funds). This constraint can reflect legal requirements and, more broadly, market pressures. It implies that the loan rate exceeds the deposit rate; the loan rate spread is a decreasing function of

¹ Other open economy models with banks can be found in Correa et al. (2010), Davis (2010), Nguyen (2011), Andreasen et al. (2010), Perri and Quadrini (2011), Ueda (2011), Van Wincoop (2011), Dedola and Lombardo (2012) and Lipinsky (2012), while *closed* economy DSGE models with banks were also presented by Brunnermeier and Sannikov (2010), Gertler and Kiyotaki (2011), Iacoviello (2010), Del Negro et al. (2011), He and Krishnamurthy (2012), Dewachter and Wouters (2012) and Kollmann et al. (2012a,b).

² Some previous papers have estimated open economy DSGE models without banks; *two-country* models were estimated by de Walque et al. (2005), Rabanal and Tuesta (2006) and Le et al. (2010) who also used UE and EA data, and by Jacob and Peersman (2011). *Small* open economy models were estimated by Adolfson et al. (2009) and Justiniano and Preston (2010).

bank capital. The estimated model assumes demand and supply shocks in home and foreign labor and good markets. In addition, there are stochastic loan losses (defaults) in the two countries, and shocks to the required (target) bank capital ratio—henceforth, I refer to these shocks as ‘banking shocks’.

The estimation results suggest that the bank capital requirement, and the banking shocks, matter for the dynamics of macro and banking variables. A model variant with these ingredients outperforms a model variant *without* an operative bank capital requirement (and without banking shocks)--the banking model generates predicted second moments of key macro and banking variables that are closer to empirical moments. In the presence of an operative bank capital requirement, banking shocks induce synchronized responses of Home and Foreign real activity. That source of positive international co-movement is not present in standard international RBC (IRBC) models (without banking). However, in the banking model here--as in standard IRBC models--a positive shock to home TFP raises home GDP, but lowers foreign GDP. The model here can thus only capture the high cross-country correlations of real activity seen in the data, if TFP and other ‘non-banking’ shocks are highly positively correlated across countries.

According to the baseline model estimates, a one percentage point fall in the global bank capital ratio raises the loan rate spread by about 20 basis points. An unanticipated US [EA] loan loss of 1\$ lowers both US *and* EA GDP by about 0.12\$ and 0.12\$ [0.14\$ and 0.18\$], respectively, on impact. An unanticipated increase in the required bank ratio by one percentage point lowers US and EA GDP by 0.10% and 0.11%, respectively, on impact.

The estimated banking model matches key cyclical properties of US and EA macro and banking variables. In particular, it captures the fact that US and EA loans are more volatile than output, and that loans are procyclical, while the loan spread is countercyclical. Banking shocks matter more for EA real activity than for US output. Surprisingly, loan losses originating in the US affect EA real activity *more* than US real activity. Exposure to US loan losses (via the global banking system) thus deepened the recent recession in the EA.

In most model specifications considered in this paper, banking shocks account for a non-negligible, but modest, share of the variance of real activity. Specifically, banking shocks account for 2%-5% of the *unconditional* variance of US GDP, and for 3%-15% of the variance of EA GDP. The variance shares of investment accounted for by banking shocks are higher, especially for the EA (20% or more). EA real activity depends more on banking shocks than US real activity. Interestingly, US loan losses account for a greater share of the variance of EA real activity than of the variance of US real activity.

Banking shocks contributed noticeably to the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007-09, but were not its dominant cause: banking shocks account for about 12%-20% of the fall in US and EA GDP during the recession; but they accounted for more than a third of the fall in EA investment and employment. During the previous two US recessions in the estimation period, banking shocks accounted for a similar share of the fall in US output and investment as during the 2007-09 recession.

I consider several empirical measures of credit and lending spreads and find that the key results are robust across the different measures.

This paper is complementary to Gerali et al. (2010) who *estimate* (using Euro Area data) a *closed* economy New Keynesian macro model with a banking sector that faces a constant bank capital requirement. The paper here differs (inter alia) from Gerali

et al. by considering a real (flex-price) *two-country* world with a *global* bank that experiences loan loss shocks and *shocks* to her required capital ratio. By contrast, the empirical analysis of Gerali et al. focuses on the role of shocks to bank mark-ups and to borrowers' collateral constraints. My empirical results suggest a more powerful bank capital channel than the study of Gerali et al.

Section 2 presents the model. Section 3 discusses the econometric approach. Section 4 describes key data features. Section 5 reports the estimation results. Section 6 concludes.

2. A two-country world with a global financial intermediary

As mentioned above, this paper takes the two-country model of Kollmann, Enders and Müller (2011) to US and EA data.³ In each of the two countries, called 'Home' (H) and 'Foreign' (F), there is a representative worker, an entrepreneur and a government. A global bank collects deposits from workers, and makes loans to entrepreneurs, in both countries. The bank faces a capital requirement: a fraction of bank assets has to be financed using the bank's own funds (equity). Entrepreneurs produce a homogenous tradable good that is used for consumption and for capital accumulation. All agents are infinitely-lived. Markets are competitive. Preferences and technologies have the same structure in both countries. The following exposition focuses thus on the Home country. Foreign variables are denoted by an asterisk.

2.1. Preferences, technologies, markets

The Home worker

The Home worker provides labor to the Home entrepreneur and invests her savings in one-period bank deposits. Her date t budget constraint is:

$$C_t^S + D_{t+1} + T_t^S = \omega_t N_t + D_t R_t^D, \quad (1)$$

where C_t^S and N_t are the worker's consumption and hours worked respectively. ω_t is the real wage rate. D_{t+1} is the bank deposit held by the saver at the end of period t . R_t^D is the gross interest rate on deposits, between $t-1$ and t . T_t^S is a lump sum tax. The worker's date t expected life-time utility, V_t^S , is:

$$V_t^S = u(C_t^S) + \Psi^D u(D_{t+1}) - \Psi_t^N N_t + E_t \beta_{t+1}^S V_{t+1}^S,$$

with $u(x) = \frac{1}{1-\sigma} (x^{1-\sigma} - 1)$, $\sigma > 0$ and $\Psi^D > 0$. The worker's marginal disutility of labor, $\Psi_t^N > 0$, is an exogenous random variable. Ψ_t^N will be referred to as the Home labor supply shock. Note that deposits provide utility to the worker (liquidity services). This ensures that, in equilibrium, the deposit rate is smaller than the loan rate, and that workers

³ Governments, and a rich set of (banking and non-banking) shocks are added to the structure in Kollmann et al. (2011), in order to allow an empirical evaluation of the bank capital channel, and provide to estimates of the contribution of banking shocks to historical macro time series. Also, the present paper allows for asymmetries between countries, in order to capture differences between the sensitivity of the US and EA economies to banking shocks. According to illustrative calibrations in Kollmann et al. (2011), banking shocks account for less than 0.2% of the variance of real activity. The estimates reported here suggest a more important role for banking shocks. This is due to the fact that the *estimated* sensitivity of the loan spread to bank capital, and the estimated variance of loan losses, are larger than in the calibrations.

hold deposits while entrepreneurs borrow. The worker's subjective discount factor is decreasing in her future consumption: $\beta_{t+1}^S \equiv \beta^S(\overline{C_{t+1}^S})$, with $0 < \beta^S(\overline{C_{t+1}^S}) < 1$, $\beta^{S'}(\overline{C_{t+1}^S}) < 0$. The subjective discount factors of other agents are likewise decreasing functions of their own consumption.⁴ Agents treat their subjective discount factors as given, i.e. they do not internalize the effect of consumption on the discount factor—I thus write the argument of the subjective discount factor with an upper-bar. It is assumed that all agents have the same *steady state* rate of time preference, and the same risk aversion coefficient, σ .

The Home worker maximizes her life-time utility subject to the period-by-budget constraint (1). That decision problem has these first-order conditions:

$$u'(C_t^S) \omega_t = \Psi_t^N, \quad (2)$$

$$R_{t+1}^D E_t \beta_{t+1}^S u'(C_{t+1}^S) / u'(C_t^S) + \Psi^D u'(D_{t+1}) / u'(C_t^S) = 1. \quad (3)$$

The Home entrepreneur

The Home entrepreneur accumulates physical capital and uses capital and local labor to produce output. Her technology is $Z_t = \theta_t (K_t)^\alpha (N_t)^{1-\alpha}$, $0 < \alpha < 1$, where Z_t , K_t and N_t are output, capital and labor, respectively. Total factor productivity (TFP), $\theta_t > 0$, is an exogenous random variable. The law of motion of capital stock is $K_{t+1} = (1-\delta)K_t + \Xi_t I_t$, where $0 \leq \delta \leq 1$ is the capital depreciation rate and I_t is gross investment. $\Xi_t > 0$ is an exogenous random shock to investment efficiency (Fischer (2006), Justiniano et al. (2008)). Gross investment is generated using output. Let $I^\xi(I_t/I)$ be the amount of output needed to generate I_t , where I is steady state investment, and ξ is an increasing, strictly convex function with $\xi(1) = \xi'(1) = 1$. Henceforth, variables without time subscripts denote steady state values. The Home entrepreneur's period t budget constraint is:

$$L_t R_t^L - \Delta_t + I^\xi(I_t/I) + \omega_t N_t + d_t^E + T_t^E = L_{t+1} + \theta_t (K_t)^\alpha (N_t)^{1-\alpha}, \quad (4)$$

where L_t is a one-period bank loan received by the Home entrepreneur in period $t-1$. R_t^L is the gross interest rate on that loan, set at $t-1$. In period t , the Home entrepreneur defaults by an exogenous random amount Δ_t on the amount $L_t R_t^L$ that she owes the bank. T_t^E is a lump sum tax. d_t^E is the entrepreneur's dividend income at t . The entrepreneur consumes her dividend income. Her expected lifetime utility at t , V_t^E , is: $V_t^E = u(d_t^E) + E_t \beta_{t+1}^E V_{t+1}^E$, with $\beta_{t+1}^E = \beta^E(\overline{d_{t+1}^E}) < 1$. Utility maximization by the entrepreneur (subject to (4)) yields these first-order conditions:

$$\omega_t = (1-\alpha) \theta_t K_t^\alpha N_t^{-\alpha}, \quad (5)$$

$$R_{t+1}^L E_t \beta_{t+1}^E u'(d_{t+1}^E) / u'(d_t^E) = 1, \quad (6)$$

$$E_t \beta_{t+1}^E (u'(d_{t+1}^E) / u'(d_t^E)) \{ \theta_{t+1} \alpha K_{t+1}^{\alpha-1} N_{t+1}^{1-\alpha} + q_{t+1} (1-\delta) \} / q_t = 1, \text{ with } q_t \equiv \xi'(I_t/I) / \Xi_t.$$

⁴The endogenous discount factors induce mean-reversion in individual wealth, and thus ensures stationarity (Kollmann (1991); Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (2003)). The numerical solution method (local approximation) and the estimation method require stationarity.

The Home government

At date t , the Home government makes exogenous random output purchases G_t that are financed using lump sum taxes: $G_t = T_t^W + T_t^E + T_t^B$, where T_t^B is a tax paid by the bank (see below). Each Home agent bears a *constant* share of the total Home tax burden, equal to her share in Home steady state consumption: $T_t^i = \lambda^i G_t$ for $i=W, E, B$ where λ^i is time-invariant. In setting taxes, the Home and Foreign governments assume that 50% of the banker's consumption takes place in country Home.

The global bank

The paper focuses on the role of bank capital for the transmission of macroeconomic and financial shocks to global real activity. The paper therefore adopts an *aggregate* perspective, and assumes a representative global bank that may be thought of as the global financial system.⁵ At t , the global bank receives deposits D_{t+1} and D_{t+1}^* from the Home and Foreign workers, respectively, and makes loans L_{t+1} and L_{t+1}^* to Home and Foreign entrepreneurs, respectively. Let $D_{t+1}^W \equiv D_{t+1} + D_{t+1}^*$ and $L_{t+1}^W \equiv L_{t+1} + L_{t+1}^*$ denote worldwide deposits and loans. The bank faces a capital requirement: her date t capital $L_{t+1}^W - D_{t+1}^W$ should not be smaller than a fraction γ_t of the bank's assets L_{t+1}^W . This may reflect a legal requirement (macro-prudential policy) or, more broadly, market pressures. To allow for time-variation in these factors, I assume that γ_t is a random variable (exogenous to the bank).⁶ A sensitivity analysis below considers a model variant with a constant bank capital requirement ($\gamma_t = \gamma$). Bank capital requirements are often justified as limiting moral hazard in the presence of informational frictions and deposit insurance (see Freixas and Rochet (2008)). This issue is not modeled here. Instead, I take the capital requirement as given, and focus on its macroeconomic effects.⁷

I assume that the bank can hold less capital than the required level, but this is costly. Let $x_t \equiv (L_{t+1}^W - D_{t+1}^W) - \gamma_t L_{t+1}^W = (1 - \gamma_t) L_{t+1}^W - D_{t+1}^W$ denote the bank's 'excess' capital at the end of period t . The bank bears a cost $L^W \phi(x_t / L^W)$ as a function of x_t , where L^W is

⁵ Thus, the interbank market is not modeled here. Frictions in that market would matter for aggregate activity if they affected the total flow of funds from savers to borrowers. The model here captures empirical fluctuations in the loan spread and in the total volume of intermediation. To investigate the potential role of an interbank market, I studied a model variant with a savings bank and an investment bank. The savings bank gets deposits from households, and lends to the investment bank (interbank market), which lends to firms. Each bank faces a capital requirement and charges a loan spread. However, aggregate dynamics hinges on total bank capital--thus that set-up is observationally equivalent to the representative-bank model.

⁶ The present framework could be used to evaluate the effects of alternative macro-prudential government *policies* that set γ_t as a function of the state of the economy. However, policy comparisons, or the derivation of welfare maximizing macro-prudential policy rules are beyond the scope of the paper. Mendicino and Punzi (2011) show that the introduction of macro-prudential tools may have important implications for real activity and welfare.

⁷ See Meh and Moran (2010) for a *closed* economy DSGE model in which bank capital mitigates an agency problem between banks and their creditors. The authors assume that an exogenous fraction of bank earnings is kept for building bank capital, and bank capital is held in the form of *physical* capital; credit crunches originate in shocks to the depreciation rate of bank-held physical capital. By contrast, in the model here, banks make *loans* (but do not hold physical capital), the fraction of retained bank earnings is endogenous (see below), and loan loss shocks are the main disturbance to bank capital.

the steady state stock of loans. ϕ is a convex function ($\phi'' \geq 0$) for which I assume: $\phi(x_t/L^W) > 0$ for $x_t < 0$; $\phi(0) = 0$. Thus, for $x_t < 0$ the bank incurs a positive cost; the cost is zero when the bank meets her capital requirement.⁸

At t , the bank also bears an operating cost $\Gamma \cdot (D_{t+1}^W + L_{t+1}^W)$, where $\Gamma > 0$ is the (constant) real marginal cost of taking deposits and making loans. The bank's period t budget constraint is:

$$L_{t+1}^W + D_t^W R_t^D + \Gamma \cdot (D_{t+1}^W + L_{t+1}^W) + L^W \phi(x_t/L^W) + d_t^B + T_t^B + T_t^{B*} = L_t^W R_t^L - \Delta_t - \Delta_t^* + D_{t+1}^W, \quad (7)$$

where $\Delta_t + \Delta_t^*$ is the bank's total loan loss, and $T_t^B + T_t^{B*}$ is the total tax paid by the bank (in the two countries). d_t^B is the dividend generated by the bank at t . (As the bank acts competitively, loan rates and deposit rates are equated across countries.) (7) implies that bank capital at the end of period t equals bank capital at the end of $t-1$, plus retained bank earnings in t . The banker consumes her dividend income, and selects the path of loans and deposits to maximize her welfare. The banker's expected life-time utility at t , V_t^B , is:

$$V_t^B = u(d_t^B) + E_t \beta_{t+1}^B V_{t+1}^B, \text{ with } \beta_{t+1}^B = \beta^B \overline{(d_{t+1}^B)} < 1.$$

The banker's utility maximization problem has these first-order conditions:

$$\begin{aligned} R_{t+1}^D E_t \beta_{t+1}^B u'(d_{t+1}^B) / u'(d_t^B) &= 1 - \Gamma + \phi'(x_t/L^W), \\ R_{t+1}^L E_t \beta_{t+1}^B u'(d_{t+1}^B) / u'(d_t^B) &= 1 + \Gamma + (1 - \gamma_t) \phi'(x_t/L^W). \end{aligned}$$

A linear approximation of these Euler equations gives:

$$R_{t+1}^L - R_{t+1}^D \cong 2\Gamma - \gamma_t \phi'(x_t/L^W) \cong 2\Gamma - \gamma_t \phi'(0) - \gamma \phi''(0) \cdot (x_t/L^W). \quad (8)$$

Hence, the loan rate spread $R_{t+1}^L - R_{t+1}^D$ is a function of the required capital ratio γ_t and of the bank's excess capital, x_t . Note that if the bank raises deposits *and* loans by one unit, then her operating cost rises by 2Γ units; excess bank capital falls by γ_t , which raises the penalty $L^W \phi(x_t/L^W)$ by $-\gamma_t \phi'(x_t/L^W)$. The bank's Euler equations imply that the spread between the loan rate and the deposit rate $R_{t+1}^L - R_{t+1}^D$ covers the marginal cost $2\Gamma - \gamma_t \phi'(x_t/L^W)$. Under strict convexity of ϕ (i.e. $\phi'' > 0$), the marginal benefit of excess capital $-\phi'$ is a decreasing function of (excess) bank capital, which implies that the loan rate spread is likewise a decreasing function of excess bank capital.

The sensitivity of the loan rate spread to changes in bank capital is governed by ϕ'' . Note that $x_t/L^W \cong cr_t - \gamma_t$, where $cr_t \equiv (L_{t+1}^W - D_{t+1}^W)/L_{t+1}^W$ is the bank's capital ratio, i.e. the ratio of bank equity to bank assets. A one percentage point rise in the capital *ratio*

⁸ Gerali et al. (2010) too assume a cost to deviating from target capital—specifically, they postulate a quadratic cost function $\phi(x_t) = \frac{1}{2} \chi(x_t)^2$, $\chi > 0$ under which the bank also bears a cost when $x_t > 0$. This function satisfies my assumptions. My setup is more general, as it allows for the *possibility* that the cost function is asymmetric, and that positive excess capital generates a convenience yield ($\phi < 0$ for $x_t > 0$). Up to a linear approximation (around $x=0$) symmetric and asymmetric ϕ functions yield identical predictions. The key feature is the convexity of the cost function, $\phi''(0) > 0$, which drives the inverse relation between the loan spread and excess capital; see below.

lowers the loan rate spread by $4\gamma\phi''$ percentage points per annum (p.a.), while a one percentage point increase in the required bank capital ratio (holding constant cr_t) raises the spread by $4[\gamma\phi''-\phi']$ percentage points p.a..

Market clearing

Market clearing for the output good requires:

$$Z_t+Z_t^*=C_t^S+C_t^{S*}+d_t^E+d_t^{E*}+d_t^B+I\xi(I_t/I)+I^*\xi(I_t^*/I^*)+G_t+G_t^*+L^W\phi(x_t/L^W)+\Gamma\cdot(L_{t+1}^W+D_{t+1}^W).$$

Forcing variables

Steady state TFP and investment efficiency are normalized to unity ($\theta=\theta^*=\Xi=\Xi^*=1$).

There are 11 forcing variables: Home and Foreign TFP (θ_t, θ_t^*), investment efficiency (Ξ_t, Ξ_t^*), government purchases (G_t, G_t^*), labor supply shocks (Ψ_t^N, Ψ_t^{N*}), loan losses (Δ_t, Δ_t^*) and the required bank capital ratio (γ_t). I refer to the first 8 shocks as ‘non-banking’ shocks, and to the last three shocks as ‘banking shocks’. A large number of non-banking shocks is assumed so that the model has the potential to capture important features of macro data, even in the absence of banking shocks. Other recent estimated DSGE models likewise assume many shocks (e.g., Smets and Wouters (2007)).

I consider *two* specifications of the law of motion of the forcing variables--empirical results regarding the transmission of banking shocks to real activity are broadly similar across the two specifications. The first specification follows the empirical DSGE literature and assumes that all forcing variables are univariate AR(1) processes:

$$\ln(z_t/z) = \rho^z \ln(z_{t-1}/z) + \varepsilon_t^z, \quad (9)$$

for variable z_t , with $0 \leq \rho^z < 1$, where ε_t^z is a normally distributed white noise. The autocorrelations and the standard deviations of innovations of the forcing variables are estimated jointly with behavioral parameters. Independence of shocks makes it easy to decompose the variance of endogenous variables into components associated with each shock. However, that specification does not capture the strong correlations between empirical measures of the forcing variables (see below).

I thus also consider a second specification with correlated shocks. Specifically, the second specification assumes that the 8 ‘non-banking’ shocks follow univariate AR(1) processes with *correlated* innovations, while the laws of motion of loan losses and of the required bank capital ratio are of this form:

$$\Delta_t/Y = \rho^\Delta \Delta_{t-1}/Y + \mathcal{G}^\Delta \ln(Y_t/Y) + \varepsilon_t^\Delta, \quad \Delta_t^*/Y^* = \rho^{\Delta^*} \Delta_{t-1}^*/Y^* + \mathcal{G}^{\Delta^*} \ln(Y_t^*/Y^*) + \varepsilon_t^{\Delta^*}, \quad (10)$$

$$\gamma_t = (1-\rho^\gamma)\gamma + \rho^\gamma \gamma_{t-1} + \mathcal{G}^\gamma \ln(Y_t^W/Y^W) + \varepsilon_t^\gamma, \quad (11)$$

with $0 \leq \rho^\Delta, \rho^{\Delta^*}, \rho^\gamma < 1$. Y_t, Y_t^* and $Y_t^W \equiv Y_t + Y_t^*$ are Home and Foreign GDP and world GDP respectively.⁹ $\varepsilon_t^\Delta, \varepsilon_t^{\Delta^*}$ and ε_t^γ are independent normal white noises. The vector of

⁹ The bank’s operating costs and the costs of excess bank capital $L^W\phi(x_t/L^W)$ represent inputs used by the bank; these costs thus have to be subtracted from the entrepreneurs’ output when computing GDP. I assume that the resources used by Home banking $\Gamma\cdot(L_{t+1}+D_{t+1})$ are purchased from the Home entrepreneur, and that

innovations $\varepsilon_t^{bk} \equiv (\varepsilon_t^\Delta, \varepsilon_t^{\Delta^*}, \varepsilon_t^\gamma)$ is assumed independent of the vector of innovations to the ‘non-banking’ forcing variables, denoted by ε_t^{nbk} , at all leads and lags. To allow for correlation between the banking shocks, and between those shocks and the non-banking forcing variables, I assume that $(\Delta_t, \Delta_t^*, \gamma_t)$ depends on GDP and thus is partly endogenous. The independence of ε_t^{nbk} and ε_t^{bk} makes it straightforward to decompose the variance of the endogenous variables into components due to ε_t^{nbk} and ε_t^{bk} , respectively. (The covariance matrix of non-banking shocks is *calibrated*, while the parameters of (10),(11) are estimated; see below.)

2.2 Model solution

A linear approximation (around the deterministic steady state) is used to solve the model. The solution can be expressed as

$$s_t = \Lambda_1 s_{t-1} + \Lambda_2 \varepsilon_t, \quad (12)$$

where s_t is a vector consisting of states and controls chosen (or realized) in period t , expressed as deviations from steady state values. $\varepsilon_t \equiv (\varepsilon_t^{nbk}, \varepsilon_t^{bk})$ is the vector of date t innovations to the forcing variables. Λ_1 and Λ_2 are matrices whose elements are functions of the model parameters.

3. Econometric approach

The model is estimated using quarterly time series for 12 macro and banking variables, in 1990q1-2010q3: US and EA GDP, total private consumption, investment, employment, commercial bank credit (deflated using the GDP deflator), the loan rate spread of US commercial banks, and the capital ratio of US commercial banks. The baseline estimates use data on *total* bank credit (to all sectors) by US Commercial banks and by EA Monetary financial institutions (MFI). Below, I also report estimation results that instead use data on credit to the business sector. (I use *total* credit for the baseline estimates, as that variable accounts for a greater share of bank assets.) The measure of the US loan rate spread is the series ‘commercial and industrial loan rates spread over intended federal funds rate’, from the Federal Reserve Board’s (FRB) Survey of Terms of Business Lending (Table E.2). Data on the EA loan rate spread are only available for the period since 2003q1; as shown in Figure 2, the available EA loan spread closely tracks the US loan spread (correlation in 2003-2010: 0.90). (The EA spread plotted in Fig. 2 is the difference between the EA MFI loan rate and the EONIA rate.) I thus use the US loan rate spread as a measure of the global loan rate spread. The US Commercial bank capital ratio is taken as a proxy for the capital ratio of the global bank. The empirical bank capital ratio measure is constructed as (total financial assets – total liabilities)/total financial assets, using data from the Flow of Funds (FRB). See the Appendix for further information on the empirical variables. In estimation, the loan spread and the capital ratio are demeaned, while the other empirical variables are linearly detrended in log-form.

a fraction L/L^W of the resource cost $L^W \phi(x_t/L^W)$ is likewise purchased from the Home entrepreneur. Hence, Home GDP is: $Y_t \equiv Z_t - \Gamma(L_{t+1} + D_{t+1}) - L\phi(x_t/L^W)$.

The number of data series used for estimation (12) exceeds the number of shocks (11). To avoid stochastic singularity of the model, I assume that observed variables contain measurement error. Allowing for measurement error also seems important because (especially) the empirical banking series might be imperfect measures of the theoretical concepts.¹⁰ The period t data used in estimation, y_t^{obs} , are a subset of the states and controls included in the vector s_t (see (12)), and are measured with error:

$$y_t^{obs} = \Gamma s_t + \mu_t, \quad (13)$$

where Γ is a matrix, and μ_t is a vector of Gaussian i.i.d. measurement errors that are independent of the true state variables at all leads and lags. I use a Bayesian approach to estimate a subset of the parameters, while the remaining parameters are calibrated.

3.1. Preference, technology and banking parameters

I *estimate* the curvature of the bank capital penalty function ϕ'' , the curvature of the investment cost function ξ'' and the risk aversion coefficient, σ . The first two parameters do not affect the steady state, but are key for the dynamic properties of the model. In particular, ϕ'' affects the response of the loan rate spread to changes in the bank capital ratio, and is thus crucial for the transmission of banking shocks to real activity.

The means and standard deviations of the prior distributions of these parameters are shown in Cols. (1)-(2) of Table 2. Recall that a one percentage point increase in the bank capital ratio lowers the loan rate spread by $4\gamma\phi''$ percentage points per annum. As discussed below, I set the steady state required bank capital ratio at $\gamma=11.17\%$. I set the mean of the prior distribution at $4\gamma\phi''$ at 0.2, a value consistent with time series regressions of the loan rate spread on aggregate bank capital reported by Kollmann et al. (2011). Investment is excessively volatile when the capital accumulation technology is linear ($\xi''=0$), as then international capital flows respond very rapidly to country-specific shocks. I set the mean of the prior distribution of ξ'' at 1; for that value, the ratio of the standard deviation of investment divided by the standard deviation of GDP is about 3 in the different model variants discussed below, and thus roughly in the range of the relative volatility of EA investment, when the other parameters are set at prior mean values. The mean of the prior distribution of σ is set at unity. (The prior distributions of σ, ϕ'' and ξ'' are Gamma distributions with standard deviations set at half the prior means. Thus a reasonably wide range of parameter values around the mean has non-negligible mass.)

Calibrated parameters

I *calibrate* the remaining structural parameters so that the steady state matches long run properties of the data. It would be difficult to estimate the calibrated parameters through

¹⁰To break the singularity, measurement error in just one observable is sufficient. To determine the presence of measurement error empirically, I allow for it in all series. Assuming measurement error just in banking variables gives the same results about the role of banking shocks. For recent empirical DSGE models that explicitly allow for measurement error see Ireland (2004), Boivin and Giannoni (2006), Gali et al. (2011) and de Antonio (2011). Sizable estimated measurement error may suggest model misspecification (Canova (2007)).

the lens of the model, using the (detrended) empirical time series used for estimation (see Smets and Wouters (2007)). One period in the model represents one quarter in calendar time. As is standard in the macro literature, the (quarterly) depreciation rate of physical capital is set at $\delta=0.025$. The elasticity of output with respect to capital is set at $\alpha=0.3$, consistent with long run average historical US and EA labor shares of about 70%.

The two-country model here abstracts from US and EA trade with third countries; I thus use the sum of US government consumption and of US net exports to countries other than the EA as an empirical measure of US ‘autonomous’ spending, G_t ; EA autonomous spending is constructed analogously. During 1990-2010, US [EA] autonomous spending represented 14.2% of US GDP [21.2% of EA GDP], on average. I take the US as the empirical counterpart of country ‘Home’ and set $G/Y=14.2\%$, $G^*/Y^*=21.2\%$.

Most DSGE studies calibrate the subjective discount factor to match average historical returns. I use the same approach. As mentioned above, it is assumed that all agents have the same steady state subjective discount factor, here denoted by β . β is set so that the steady state loan rate matches the mean 1990-2010 US real loan rate. I use the interest rate on ‘commercial and industrial loans made by all commercial banks’ reported by the FRB (Survey of Terms of Business Lending, Table E.2) as a measure of the nominal loan rate, from which I subtract the quarterly growth rate of the US GDP deflator to construct the real loan rate. The average US real loan rate 1990-2010 was 3.440% p.a.. Accordingly, I set the (quarterly) steady state subjective discount factor at $\beta=0.9918$ (as $\beta R^L=1$, from the entrepreneur’s Euler equation (6)).

I assume that all agents’ subjective discount factors have the same elasticity with respect to consumption, denoted by ε_β . I set ε_β at a small absolute value, $\varepsilon_\beta=-0.001$, that yields a stationary equilibrium, while generating (essentially) the same short run dynamics as a model variant with a constant subjective discount factor. (Impulse responses over the first 100 periods are very similar across model variants with $\varepsilon_\beta=0$ and $\varepsilon_\beta=-0.001$.)

The sample mean (1990-2010) of the US loan rate spread was 2.161% p.a..¹¹ I set the steady state deposit rates in the model at 1.279% p.a., so that the steady state loan rate spread matches the mean historical spread, 2.161%. The mean EA loan spread was 2.01% in 2003-2010 (see above), which is close to the steady state spread assumed in the model calibration.

I set the steady state actual and required bank capital ratios at $cr=\gamma=11.17\%$, which corresponds to the average capital ratio of US commercial banks during the sample period (from Flow of Funds data). The bank’s Euler equations imply $R^D\beta=1-\Gamma+\phi'$ and $R^L\beta=1+\Gamma+(1-\gamma)\phi'$. Given the steady state deposit and loan rates, these two conditions pin down the bank’s marginal operating cost Γ and the steady state slope of the bank’s

¹¹ As mentioned above, the baseline measure of the US loan rate spread is the ‘commercial and industrial loan rates spread over intended federal funds rate’. Using the rate on short term Certificates of Deposit as a measure of the bank’s marginal funding costs yields a loan rate spread that has a 0.75 correlation with the baseline spread, and a sample mean of 1.929% p.a., which is close to the assumed steady state spread.

‘penalty’ function ϕ' : $\Gamma=0.25\%$, $\phi'=-0.28\%$. $cr=\gamma$ implies that steady state excess bank capital is zero, $x=0$, i.e. $L^W(1-\gamma)=D^W$.¹² I set $L(1-\gamma)=D$ and $L^*(1-\gamma)=D^*$, i.e. the steady state ratio of deposits to loans is the same in both countries (as is consistent with the data). The ratio of outstanding US commercial bank loans to annual US GDP was 53% on average in 1990-2010, while the mean ratio of the stock of EA MFI loans divided by annual EA GDP was 87%. Thus, the US has a noticeably lower loans/GDP ratio than the EA. The calibration reflects this: I assume that the steady state ratios of loans to annual GDP are 53% in country ‘Home’, and 87% in ‘Foreign’. Finally, I assume that both countries have the same steady state GDP, normalized at unity: $Y=Y^*=1$. These steady state targets pin down the remaining preference parameters (the weights of deposits in Home and Foreign workers’ utility functions, Ψ^D, Ψ^{D^*} , and steady state marginal disutilities of labor, Ψ^N, Ψ^{N^*}).¹³

3.2. Processes of forcing variable, measurement error

The first specification of the law of motion of the forcing variables assumes that those variables follow independent AR(1) processes; I estimate the autocorrelations of the 11 forcing variables, and the standard deviations of the 11 shock innovations, through the lens of the model, using the Bayesian approach.¹⁴

The second specification assumes correlated forcing variables. The parameters of the laws of motion (10)-(11) of loan losses and of the required bank capital ratio are estimated via the model (using the Bayesian approach).¹⁵ By contrast, I *calibrate* the process governing non-banking shocks, as empirical measures of the non-banking shocks can easily be constructed, and as estimation of the correlation matrix of these shocks through the lens of the model would be challenging (given the large number of cross-correlations). Specifically, I set the autocorrelations of the 8 non-banking shocks, and the covariance matrix of these shocks, equal to the sample autocorrelations and sample covariance matrix of empirical measures of the non-banking shocks (1990-2010), respectively (see Table 1). Following Coeurdacier, Kollmann and Martin (2010), I use the ratio of the CPI to the investment deflator as a measure of investment efficiency. The empirical labor supply shock is constructed as $\Psi_t^N=(1-\alpha)(Z_t/N_t)/C_t$, which follows from the first order conditions (2),(5) when $\sigma=1$ (i.e. when σ equals its prior mean). Thus, the

¹² Setting steady state excess capital at a non-zero value generates the same behavior, provided the calibration matches the same steady state deposit and loan rates (as the baseline calibration with $x=0$).

¹³ (3) implies $\Psi^D=(1-R^D\beta)((C^S/Y)/(D/Y))^{-\sigma}$. D/Y is determined by LY , while C^S/Y is pinned down by ratios of government purchases and investment to GDP. $Y=1$ then pins down Ψ^N (as Ψ^N determines the steady state labor input). In steady state, consumption by the Home [Foreign] worker and the entrepreneur represent respectively 58.2% and 4.8% [52.3% and 3.5%] of domestic GDP, while the banker’s consumption represents 0.21% of world GDP.

¹⁴ The prior distributions of the autocorrelations [standard deviations of shock innovations] have mean 0.5 [0.5%] and a standard deviation equal to 0.1. Using more diffuse priors leaves the results unchanged, but yields lower marginal likelihood.

¹⁵The prior mean of the standard deviations of $\varepsilon_t^A, \varepsilon_t^{A^*}$ and ε_t^γ is set at 0.5%; the prior mean of the autoregressive coefficients $\rho^A, \rho^{A^*}, \rho^\gamma$ is 0.5; the prior mean of the GDP coefficients, ϑ^A and ϑ^γ , is 0.

empirical labor supply shock is proportional to labor productivity divided by consumption.¹⁶ As reported in Table 1, US investment efficiency, US autonomous spending and the US labor supply shock are more volatile than the corresponding EA variables. The cross-country correlations of TFP (0.51) and investment efficiency (0.84) are sizable. TFP is positively correlated with investment efficiency; US and EA TFP are strongly negatively correlated with US autonomous spending (G), and negatively correlated with the US labor supply shock. All forcing variables are highly persistent (autocorrelations in the range 0.80-0.98).

The prior means and prior standard deviations of the standard deviations of *measurement errors* are set at 1/4 and 1/20, respectively, of the standard deviations of the corresponding (demeaned/detrended) empirical series.

4. Data plots and business cycle statistics.

Figure 1 plot the (demeaned/detrended) 12 empirical quarterly time series used in estimation. Macro aggregates co-move closely across the US and the EA—the synchronicity was especially high during the ‘Great Recession’ of 2007q4-2009q2 (as dated by the NBER). (Shaded areas in Figures indicate NBER recessions.) Relative to trend, US output fell by 8.5%, during the recession, while EA output fell by 7.5%; US consumption (-7.3%) and investment (-35.1%) fell more sharply than EA consumption (-4.0%) and investment (-15.9%). US and EA bank lending grew strongly in the years before 2008, and then collapsed sharply. The loan rate spread fell during the three years prior to the crisis, but rose sharply during the Great Recession. The bank capital ratio exhibits relatively mild fluctuations--throughout the sample period it stays in a $\pm 2\%$ range around the sample mean of 11.17%.

Figure 3 plot the bank capital ratio, together with the baseline loan spread series and two other spread measures that are used for robustness checks below (all series in Figure 3 are demeaned). Except for the period of the financial crisis, the bank capital ratio and the baseline loan rate spread comove negatively. While the baseline loan rate spread rose, during the crisis (as mentioned above), the bank capital ratio has had a flat trend since about 2005--it has been argued that this may partly reflect accounting discretion, which has allowed banks to overstate the value of their assets in the crisis (Huizinga and Laeven (2009)). The correlation between the bank capital ratio and the baseline lending spread was -0.46 during the period 1990-2007, but close to zero (-0.06) over the whole sample period (1990-2010).

Figure 3 also plots the series ‘net percentage of banks increasing spreads of loan rates over cost of funds’, from the FRB Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey on Bank Lending Practices, SLOOS. (The series represents the percentage of banks increasing spreads minus the percentage of banks lowering spreads; the plotted series is scaled so that its standard deviation equals that of the baseline loan spread.) That series is positively correlated with the baseline loan spread (correlation 0.39 for 1990-2010), and negatively correlated with the bank capital ratio (-0.47 for 1990-2007; -0.21 for 1990-2010). Also plotted in Figure 3 is Gilchrist and Zakrajšek’s (2011a) excess US

¹⁶ Labor productivity is constructed using GDP as a proxy for the entrepreneur’s output Z . I also considered an alternative measure of the labor supply shock based on real wage rate data: $\Psi_t^N = \omega_t / C_t$. That measure gives similar estimates of model parameters and of the role of banking shocks.

commercial bond premium, constructed by subtracting expected bond default probabilities from the spread between the yield on US commercial bonds and the yield on US Treasury bonds. As commercial banks are key players in the commercial bond market, the commercial bond premium might be informative about credit spreads/market conditions. (Gilchrist and Zakrajšek (2011a) argue that ‘an increase in the excess bond premium reflects [...] a contraction of the supply of credit with significant adverse consequences for the macroeconomy’, p.31.) The excess bond premium too is negatively correlated with the bank capital ratio (correlation: -0.49 for 1990-2007; -0.15 for 1990-2010). The bond premium is positively correlated with the baseline loan rate spread (0.29) and with the SLOOS ‘net percentage of banks increasing spreads’ (0.79).

Overall, the data are thus consistent with the model’s prediction that the spread is inversely related to the bank capital ratio (see (8)). The absence of a pronounced inverse relation during the crisis might be due to the fact that the measured bank capital ratio overstates the true capital ratio during the crisis (see discussion above), or that the *required* bank capital ratio rose during the crisis (this could rationalize the observed increase in the loan rate spread, during the crisis, without a fall in the bank capital ratio).

The last Column of Table 3 reports moments of Hodrick-Prescott (HP) filtered quarterly macro and banking variables, for the US and the EA (1990-2010). The standard deviation of GDP is very similar in the US (1.12%) and the EA (1.14%). Consumption is less volatile than GDP, while investment is markedly more volatile than GDP. US investment is almost twice as volatile as EA investment. In both ‘countries’, loans are more volatile than output, while the loan spread is countercyclical. Real activity and loans are positively correlated across the US and EA.

5. Estimation results

5.1. Posterior parameter estimates (Table 2)

Columns (4)-(5) of Table 2 report the mean and the standard deviation of the posterior parameter distribution, for the baseline model variant with independent shocks.¹⁷ Cols. (8)-(9) reports posterior parameter estimates for the model variant with correlated shocks.

The data are informative about the estimated parameters: in almost all cases, the posterior parameter distributions have lower standard deviations than the prior distributions; the posterior means often differ noticeably from the prior means (posterior means and modes are very close). With independent shocks, the posterior mean of $4\gamma\phi''$ indicates that a 1 percentage point increase in the bank capital ratio leads to a 21 basis point reduction in the annualized loan rate spread, and that a 1 percentage point rise in the required bank capital ratio (γ_t) increases the loan rate spread by 19 basis points p.a.¹⁸ In the model variant with correlated shocks, the posterior estimates suggest that the spread is about twice as sensitive to changes in bank capital: $4\gamma\phi''=0.48$. These estimates of the sensitivity of the loan rate spread to the bank capital ratio are markedly higher than

¹⁷The means and standard deviations of the posterior distributions were generated using the Random Walk Metropolis algorithm (see An and Schorfheide (2007)).

¹⁸ The posterior means of the spread sensitivity $4\gamma\phi''$ and risk aversion σ are close to prior means. I experimented with larger prior means of these parameter, and found that the posterior means remain very close to the posterior means reported in Table 2, which indicates that the data are informative about these parameters.

estimates provided by Gerali et al. (2010), who report that a fall in the bank capital ratio by 4.5 percentage points lowers the loan rate spread by merely 10 basis points.

The posterior estimates of the model with independent shocks indicate that EA loan loss shocks are roughly as volatile as US loan loss shocks—the posterior modes of the standard deviations of ε_t^Δ and $\varepsilon_t^{\Delta*}$ are 0.71% and 0.79%, respectively, in the model variant with independent shocks, while the model with correlated shocks implies that EA loan losses are more volatile than US loan losses. The required bank capital ratio undergoes sizable fluctuations (posterior mode of std. of ε^{ν} : 0.5%-0.6%). The posterior means of the standard deviations of measurement errors are mostly smaller than the prior means (an exception is the measurement error for the bank capital ratio: its posterior mean, 0.45%, is about twice the prior mean).

5.2. Business cycle moments implied by posterior parameter estimates (Table 3)

Cols. (1)-(9) of Table 3 reports model-predicted moments of HP filtered US and EA variables (computed at the posterior mode of the estimated parameters), for the baseline model variant with independent shocks. Column (1) [labeled ‘All’] assumes all 11 structural shocks, and measurement error. Cols. (2)-(9) consider moments generated by different subsets of the structural shocks, in isolation, without measurement error. Specifically, Col. (2) [‘NonBk’] assumes just the 8 non-banking shocks ε_t^{nbk} , and Col. (3) [‘Bnk’] assumes just the 3 exogenous banking shocks ε_t^{bk} . Cols. (4)-(9) assume just a single type of shock (Col.(4): just TFP shocks; Col. (5): just investment efficiency shocks; etc.).¹⁹ Col. (15) reports empirical moments.

The model with all shocks and measurement error generates predicted standard deviations that are mostly in the range of the empirical statistics. The predicted standard deviations of US GDP (1.14%) and of EA GDP (1.22%) are close to the empirical standard deviations. The model (with all shocks) captures the fact that investment and loans are more volatile than GDP. The model also matches the empirical cross-correlations of most variables with domestic GDP—in particular, it correctly predicts that US and EA loans are procyclical, and that the loan spread is countercyclical. However, the model with all (uncorrelated) shocks predicts that GDP, investment and employment are *negatively* correlated across countries, and thus markedly below the empirical (positive) correlations. But note that the predicted cross-country consumption correlation (0.24) is positive, and thus much closer to the empirical correlation (0.39).²⁰

Taken in isolation, TFP shocks and labor supply shocks induce by far the largest fluctuations in real activity (predicted standard deviations of US GDP with just these

¹⁹ Using (12),(13), the model solution for observables (with measurement error) can be written as: $y_t^{obs} = A(L)\varepsilon_{t-v}^{nbk} + B(L)\varepsilon_{t-v}^{bk} + \mu_t$ where $A(L)$ and $B(L)$ are lag polynomials. (The moments in Table 3 pertain to HP filtered series, $y_t^{obs,HP} = H(L)y_t^{obs}$, where $H(L)$ is the HP filter.) By assumption, ε_t^{nbk} , ε_t^{bk} and μ_t are independent at all leads and lags. Thus the predicted variance of endogenous variables under all shocks and measurement error is the sum of: (i) the variance with just non-banking shocks; (ii) the variance with just banking shocks; (iii) the variance of measurement error.

²⁰ In open-economy DSGE models, the predicted cross-country consumption correlation tends to exceed the cross-country output correlation, as access to internationally traded financial assets allows the residents of different countries to (fully or partially) share their consumption risk (e.g., Kollmann (1996, 2012)).

shocks: 0.78% and 0.62%, respectively). The predicted standard deviations of US GDP with just loan loss shocks (0.18%) and with just shocks to the required bank capital ratio (0.08%) are noticeably lower. With just (uncorrelated) TFP shocks, and just labor supply shocks, GDP is negatively correlated across countries. This is due to the fact that these shocks are negatively transmitted internationally—e.g. a positive shock to Home TFP raises Home GDP, but lowers Foreign GDP (see below). By contrast, government purchases shocks and the banking shocks induce strong positive cross-country output correlations. Notice that the banking shocks induce a strong negative correlation between the loan rate spread and GDP.

Predicted moments generated by the model variant with *correlated* shocks are reported in Cols. (12)-(13) of Table 3. The predicted standard deviations and cross-correlations with domestic GDP are broadly in the same range as the corresponding moments generated by the structure with independent shocks. However, the variant with correlated shocks generates sizable positive cross-country correlations of output (0.45) and investment (0.31).²¹ Standard International RBC models without banks (e.g., Backus, Kehoe and Kydland (1992), Baxter and Crucini (1995), Kollmann (1996)) too generate cross-country correlations of real activity that are lower than the empirical cross-country correlations, unless shocks are highly correlated across countries, and the same also holds for variants of the present model without an operative bank capital requirement ($\phi''=0$); see below.

5.3. Variance shares accounted for by banking shocks (Table 4)

Table 4 reports the % shares of the predicted variances of HP filtered endogenous variables (with measurement error) that are accounted for by the non-banking shocks (see rows labeled ‘NonBk’), and by the banking shocks ε_t^{bk} (rows labeled ‘Bank’); the remainder represents the contribution of measurement error to the predicted variance. (The variance shares are computed at the posterior mode of the estimated parameters.)

According to the baseline model variant with independent shocks, the banking shocks account for a 3% share of US GDP variance, but explain larger shares of the variances of US investment (6% share), employment (6%) and loans (41%); see Panel (a1) of Table 4. Banking shocks account for greater variance shares of EA variables--GDP: 4%; investment: 23%; employment: 8%; loans: 72%. Thus, roughly one-fifth of the variance of EA investment is due to banking shocks, according to the model with independent shocks. Banking shocks account for about 60% of the variance of the bank capital ratio, and for 85% of the variance of the loan rate spread.²²

²¹ In the model variant with *independent* shocks, loan losses and the required capital ratio are negatively correlated with GDP (as a rise in losses and in the required capital ratio lowers output; see below). In the model variant with *correlated* shocks, the posterior estimates of the response coefficients of loan losses and the required bank capital ratio γ_i to GDP are *both* positive but close to zero (0.07). This implies that the required bank capital ratio is positively correlated with loan losses. The implied correlations of US GDP with the US loan loss and the world loan loss are 0.18 and -0.04, respectively; EA GDP is predicted to be negatively correlated with the EA loan loss (-0.17) and the world loan loss (-0.16). Imposing a zero response coefficients of the US loan losses to GDP yields a negative correlation between the US loan loss and US GDP, but it barely affects estimates of remaining parameters and other predicted moments.

²² Non-banking shocks explain only a negligible share of the variance of the bank capital ratio and the loan rate spread. A sizable share of the variance of the bank capital ratio (40.1%) is thus accounted for by measurement error.

The estimation results also show that loan loss shocks are more important drivers of real activity than shocks to the required bank capital ratio (the latter explain merely 0.5% of the variances of US and EA GDP).

In the model variant with correlated shocks, the variance shares of real activity induced by the three joint banking shocks are 1.7-3.5 times greater than in the estimated model with independent shocks (see Panel (b) of Table 4). Intuitively, when the processes of the non-banking shocks are calibrated, then the estimated banking shock processes bear a greater burden of fitting the data (and thus account for greater variance shares).

These findings suggest that banking shocks account for a non-negligible, but modest, share of the variance of real activity. Specifically, banking shocks account for 2%-5% of the *unconditional* variance of US GDP, and for 3%-15% of the variance of EA GDP. The variance shares of investment accounted for by banking shocks are higher, especially for the EA (20% or more). EA real activity depends more on banking shocks than US real activity. Interestingly, US loan losses account for a greater share of the variance of EA real activity than of the variance of US real activity. This finding is in line with Helbling et al. (2011) who show, using vector autoregressions, that US credit supply shocks account for a greater share of fluctuations in global GDP than of US GDP. A robustness analysis below confirms the findings discussed in this Section.²³

5.4. Impulse responses (Table 5)

Impulse responses (reported in Table 5) help to understand the model's mechanics, and the predicted business cycle moments. The impulse responses are computed at the posterior mode of estimated model parameters, for the baseline model with independent shocks. Each impulse response focuses on an isolated innovation, assuming that all other exogenous innovations are zero. (To save space, Table 5 does not show responses to EA 'non-banking' shocks—those responses are qualitatively similar to the responses to US 'non-banking' shocks.) A positive innovation to Home TFP raises Home GDP and investment, but leads to a fall in Foreign GDP. The shock raises the income of the Home worker; thus that worker saves more, and her holdings of bank deposits increase--i.e. the bank's debt rises, which lowers the bank capital ratio. The deposit rate falls (due to the greater supply of deposits), and so does the loan rate—however, the loan rate spread rises. The Foreign worker responds to the fall in the deposit rate by consuming more, and working less, and hence Foreign GDP falls. (Foreign investment rises slightly, due to the fall in the loan rate.)

Country-specific labor supply shocks likewise drive Home and Foreign GDP in opposite directions. By contrast, banking shocks induce responses of real activity (and of loans) that are common across the two countries. For example, a rise in the Home loan loss lowers the global bank's capital ratio, which triggers a rise in the loan rate spread—the deposit rate falls, while the loan rate rises. In response to this, loans, investment and GDP fall in *both* countries. A rise in the required capital ratio (γ_t) likewise raises the loan rate spread (see (8)); on impact, this too lowers loans, investment and real activity in *both* countries. Note also that banking shocks drive the loan spread and output in opposite

²³ Nolan and Thoenissen (2009) and Jermann and Quadrini (2012) use closed economy models with collateral-constrained *firms* (but without banks) to construct estimates of shocks to firms' funding constraints. The authors argue that those shocks can explain up to half of the variance of US GDP. By contrast, the model here assumes that only the bank faces a capital requirement.

directions. According to the baseline estimates, an unanticipated US loan loss of 1\$ lowers both US GDP by 0.10 \$ and EA GDP by 0.12\$, on impact. An unanticipated EA loan loss by 1\$ lowers US and EA GDP by 0.14\$ and 0.18\$, respectively. Thus, EA GDP is more sensitive to domestic and foreign loss shock than US GDP. An unanticipated increase in the required bank ratio by one percentage point lowers US *and* EA GDP by about 0.1%, on impact.

5.5. Decomposing historical time series (Figures 6 and 7)

Figure 6 plots the estimated contributions of the banking shocks and of US and EA non-banking shocks to the historical time series, implied by the baseline model variant with independent shocks.²⁴ Thick continuous lines show the historical data; the thin continuous lines indicate the contribution of banking shocks, while the dashed-dotted and dashed lines represent the contributions of US and EA non-banking shocks, respectively.

The historical decomposition yields a picture that is consistent with the variance decompositions. Banking shocks matter more for EA GDP than for US GDP. Banking shocks are key drivers of EA investment and employment. During the 2007q4-2009q2 recession, banking shocks account for a 1.0 percentage point [1.2 p.pt.] fall in US [EA] GDP—i.e. the banking shocks capture 12% [16%] of the fall in US (EA) GDP, relative to trend. Banking shocks also capture 15% [35%] of the fall in US [EA] investment, and 19% [56%] of the fall in US [EA] employment, during the recession. Thus, more than 1/3 of the fall in EA investment and employment is accounted for by the banking shocks.

In the previous US recession (2001q1-2001q4), banking shocks accounted for about 10% of the fall in US output and investment, and for 20% [30%] of the fall in EA output [investment]. During the 1990q3-1991q1 US recession, banking shocks accounted for 6%, 10% and 16%, respectively, of the fall in US GDP, investment and employment (the EA did not experience a recession in 1990-91).

Figure 6 shows that the output components accounted for by the *domestic* non-banking shocks track historical US and EA GDP very closely. This result parallels the finding by de Walque et al. (2005) and Le et al. (2010) that *domestic* macro shocks are the main drivers of US and EA GDP. Foreign non-banking shocks had a *stabilizing* effect on domestic real activity; eg, during the 2007-09 recession, EA non-banking shocks had a positive influence on US GDP, and thus mitigated the US recession. This reflects the fact that, in the model here, TFP shocks and labor supply shocks are *negatively* transmitted internationally (see above).

Figure 7 reports historical decompositions implied by the model variant with *correlated* shocks. That variant attributes somewhat larger shares of the drop in real activity during the 2007q4-2009q2 recession to banking shocks, namely 17% [21%] of the fall in US [EA] GDP, 24% [54%] of the fall in US [EA] investment, and 30% [79%] of the reduction in US [EA] employment.

²⁴ The decomposition is computed at the posterior mode of the estimated parameters. Using smoothed shocks and measurement errors, each historical series can be expressed as the sum of: (i) a ‘base’ trajectory (dynamic effects of predetermined states in the initial period) plus measurement error; (ii) contributions of each exogenous shock. Figures 6 and 7 shows the data and shock contributions.

5.6. The role of the bank capital requirement and of banking shocks

The presence of an operative bank capital requirement $\phi'' > 0$ is key for the transmission of banking shocks to domestic and foreign real activity. Banking shocks have a negligible effect on real activity, but remain important drivers of loans and the bank capital ratio, when $\phi''=0$. (An estimated model variant with $\phi''=0$ predicts that banking shocks explain merely 0.002% of the variances of GDP and investment, but 68% of the variance of the bank capital ratio.)

Columns (6)-(7) of Table 2 reports posterior parameter estimates for an independent-shocks model variant *without* an operative bank capital requirement ($\phi''=0$), and *without* banking shocks (independent non-banking shocks are assumed).²⁵ That model variant resembles standard international RBC models with incomplete financial markets in which just an unconditional bond can be traded internationally (e.g., Baxter and Crucini (1995), Kollmann (1996)). Columns (10)-(11) of Table 3 report the implied business cycle moments.

Table 3 shows that the baseline independent-shocks model (*with* operative bank capital requirement and banking shocks) generates business cycles moments that are, mostly, closer to the empirical moments than the variant *without* the operative bank capital requirement (and without banking shocks). For example, predicted standard deviations of US and EA GDP in the baseline model (1.14% and 1.22%, respectively) are larger than in the structure without the operative bank capital requirement (1.01%, 0.95%), and closer to the empirical standard deviations (1.12%, 1.14%). Note that the independent-shocks model with $\phi''=0$ too generates predicted cross-country correlations of GDP (-0.16), investment (-0.10) and employment (-0.10) that are markedly below the empirical cross-country correlations (like the baseline structure).²⁶

Model fit can be evaluated using the marginal likelihood.²⁷ The log marginal likelihood (LML) of the baseline model with independent shocks is 3300.06, while the LML of the model variant without the operative bank capital constraint and without banking shocks is 3104.02. This implies a Bayes factor (ratio of posterior odds to prior odds) of $e^{196.04}$ that massively favors the baseline model. The model variant *with* an operative bank capital requirement, but *without* banking shocks has a LML of 3105.36; a model variant without an operative bank capital requirement but with banking shocks has a LML of 3212.29. This suggests that both the operative bank capital requirement *and* the banking shocks help the model to capture the joint dynamics of the macro and banking variables used in estimation. The presence of these model ingredients also helps to better explain the 8 US and EA *macro* variables used in estimation. For these 8 macro variables,

²⁵The priors for parameter (other than ϕ'') are the same as in the baseline model. The posterior estimates of most parameters are similar to the estimates in the baseline model.

²⁶ Surprisingly, the cross-country correlations of GDP and employment are slightly higher than in the baseline model. This is so as estimated standard deviations of TFP shocks (which are negatively transmitted across countries) are lower when $\phi''=0$. Holding constant the distribution of non-banking shocks, $\phi''=0$ lowers the cross-country correlations of GDP and employment (relative to the baseline variant with $\phi''>0$).

²⁷The marginal likelihood (ML) measures the out-of-sample predictive ability of the model (Geweke (2001)). The MLs reported here were computed using a Laplace approximation (Canova (2007)). The Geweke (1999) harmonic mean estimator, based on parameter draws from the Metropolis algorithm, yields very similar MLs.

the baseline model has a LML of 2041.23, while the model variant without an operative bank capital requirement and without banking shocks has a LML of 2036.88.

Similar findings obtain for the structure with correlated shocks. With correlated shocks, the model variant with an operative bank capital requirement and banking shocks has a LML of 3323.88, while a variant without bank capital requirement and without banking shocks has a markedly lower LML of 3138.84; in terms of just the 8 US and EA macro variables, the corresponding LMLs are 2229.45 ($\phi > 0$, with banking shocks) and 2075.00 ($\phi = 0$, no banking shocks), respectively, i.e. the model with the operative bank capital requirement and banking shocks is clearly favored.

5.7. Further robustness checks

Panel (a2) of Table 4 reports variance decompositions for a model variant with an operative bank capital requirement, in which the required bank capital ratio is constant, $\gamma_i = \gamma$, i.e. in which loan losses are the only banking shocks (independent shocks are assumed). That model variant has a lower log marginal likelihood (3229.48) than the baseline specification, and it entails that banking shocks explain somewhat greater real activity variance shares than the baseline specification.

As a further robustness check, I estimated the model variant with independent shocks using other empirical measures of the loan rate spread and of bank loans. Panel (a3) of Table 4 reports the resulting estimates of variance shares explained by banking shocks. These variance shares are broadly in the same range as the baseline shares discussed above (Panel (a1)). (Posterior parameter estimates obtained from the alternative data sets are in the same range as the baseline estimates, and are thus not reported)

In Panel (a3.1) of Table 4, the baseline loan rate spread is replaced by the series ‘net percentage of banks increasing spreads of loan rates over cost of funds’ (from SLOOS), while Panel (a3.2) uses the Gilchrist-Zakrajšek (2011a) excess bond premium series. The importance of banking shocks in explaining real activity fluctuations rises somewhat when those alternative spread measures are used to estimate the model. (The same result holds when the SLOOS series ‘net percentage of banks tightening lending standards’ in lieu of the baseline lending spread.) For example, when the Gilchrist-Zakrajšek excess bond premium is used, about 5% of the variance of US and EA GDP is due to banking shocks.²⁸

In Panel (a3.3) of Table 4, total bank credit is replaced by US and EA bank loans to the *non-financial business sector*, while Panel (a3.4) uses Gilchrist and Zakrajšek’s (2011b) measure of US ‘business lending capacity’ in lieu of US total credit.²⁹ Figures 4 and 5 plot these series. Business loans are highly positively correlated with total loans,

²⁸ As pointed out by a referee, the lending rate spread may be affected by factors that are not captured by the model, such as credit risk, liquidity tensions and banking competition (incorporating these factors into the theory would be a useful task for future research). The fact that the SLOOS index and the Gilchrist-Zakrajšek bond premium explain a slightly greater share of the variance of real activity might indicate that these spread measures capture better those other determinants of credit supply.

²⁹ In the US, many business loans are offered under prior commitment (credit lines); hence, business loans respond with a lag to shocks to bank funding. The Gilchrist and Zakrajšek ‘business lending capacity’ measure is defined as the sum of loans outstanding and of unused commercial bank lending commitments--the authors argue that this variable is more informative (than loans outstanding) for identifying loan supply shifts (no comparable measure exists for the EA).

but more volatile, especially in the US. US lending capacity fell earlier and much more sharply than total lending, during the 2007-09 recession. The business lending measures yields smaller variance shares due to banking shocks than the baseline model variant, while the lending capacity measures yields roughly similar variance shares as the baseline structure.³⁰

6. Conclusion

This paper has estimated a two-country model with a global banking system, using US and Euro Area (EA) data (1990-2010), and Bayesian methods. The estimated model matches key US and EA business cycle statistics. Empirically, a model version with an operative bank capital constraint outperforms a structure without such a constraint. Banking shocks account for a non-negligible, but modest, share of the variance of real activity. Specifically, banking shocks account for 2%-5% of the *unconditional* variance of US GDP, and for 3%-15% of the variance of EA GDP. The variance shares of investment accounted for by banking shocks are higher, especially for the EA (20% or more). EA real activity depends more on banking shocks than US real activity. US loan losses account for a greater share of the variance of EA real activity than of the variance of US real activity. During the Great Recession (2007-09), banking shocks accounted for about 12-20% of the fall in US and EA GDP, and for more than a third of the fall in EA investment and employment.

³⁰ I also estimated the model using an alternative measure of the bank capital ratio--the capital ratio of US Securities Brokers and Dealers (instead of the capital ratio of US commercial banks). Results are robust to using this measure. Kollmann and Zeugner (2012) analyze the capital ratio dynamics of different sub-sectors of the finance industry.

DATA APPENDIX

A.1 Baseline data set used for estimation

- US GDP, private consumption (total), investment (all at constant prices): from US National Income and Product Accounts (Bureau of Economic Analysis, BEA); the investment series include private and government investment.
- US employment: ‘Total nonfarm payrolls: all employees’ (Bureau of Labor Statistics)
- US bank loans: outstanding ‘total bank credit’ by Commercial Bank, deflated using GDP deflator (from June 2011 Flow of Funds, Table L109).
- US bank capital ratio: $(\text{total financial assets} - \text{total liabilities}) / (\text{total financial assets})$ for Commercial Banks (from June 2011 Flow of Funds, Table L109).
- US loan rate spread: ‘Commercial and industrial loan rates spread over intended federal funds rate’ (‘All loans’ series, Survey of Terms of Business Lending, Table E.2, Federal Reserve Board, June 2011).
- EA GDP, private consumption (total), investment (all at constant prices): from ECB Area-Wide Model (AWM) database (10th update, September 2010).
- EA employment: from AWM database.
- EA bank loans: MFI loans to private sector (from ECB monthly bulletin), deflated using the GDP deflator.

A.2 Other variables (used for estimation of model variants)

- Excess bond premium: spread between the yield on US commercial bonds and the yield on Treasury bonds, minus expected bond default probabilities, as constructed by Gilchrist and Zakrajšek (2011a) using data for a panel of individual bonds.
- ‘Net percentage of banks increasing spreads of loan rates over cost of funds’: percentage of banks increasing spreads minus the percentage of banks lowering spreads, from the Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey on Bank Lending Practices, SLOOS (Federal Reserve Board). SLOOS reports a series (net percentages of banks raising spreads) for loans to ‘large and middle-market firms’ and one for loans to ‘small firms’. The two series are very similar (correlation: 0.95). I use the average of the two series.
- US business loans: outstanding commercial bank loans to the non-financial business sector, constructed by Gilchrist and Zakrajšek (2011b).
- EA business loans: MFI loans to non-financial corporations(NFC), from ECB monthly bulletin, deflated using the GDP deflator.
- US business lending capacity: outstanding commercial bank loans plus unused commercial bank lending commitments (credit lines) to the non-financial business sector, constructed by Gilchrist and Zakrajšek (2011b).

A.3 Other variables (used for model calibration)

- ‘Autonomous spending’ (G): government purchases plus net exports to third countries (deflated using GDP deflator). Data sources: AWM, BEA and ECB monthly bulletin.
- Investment efficiency: measured as ratio of CPI to Gross Investment Deflator (BEA and AWM).

All series are quarterly and seasonally adjusted (when relevant)

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Table 1. Time series properties of non-bank forcing variables (1990q1-2010q3)**(a) Standard deviations (in %, diagonal) and cross-correlations (off-diagonal elements)**

	US TFP	EA TFP	US Ieff	EA Ieff	US G	EA G	US LS	EA LS
US TFP	1.34	0.51	0.27	0.20	-0.71	-0.24	-0.53	-0.36
EA TFP		1.68	0.53	0.63	-0.75	0.41	-0.88	0.23
US Ieff			2.76	0.84	-0.12	0.16	-0.48	0.28
EA Ieff				1.74	-0.27	0.37	-0.57	0.58
US G					6.58	-0.13	0.73	0.02
EA G						2.49	-0.17	0.71
US LS							3.12	-0.02
EA LS								1.83

(b) Autocorrelations

	US TFP	EA TFP	US Ieff	EA Ieff	US G	EA G	US LS	EA LS
	0.93	0.96	0.97	0.98	0.92	0.81	0.96	0.93

(c) Standard deviations of innovations (in %)

	US TFP	EA TFP	US Ieff	EA Ieff	US G	EA G	US LS	EA LS
	0.48	0.48	0.64	0.31	2.61	1.43	0.61	0.48

Note: The Table reports sample moments of empirical measures of US and Euro Area (EA) ‘non-banking’ forcing variables (in linearly detrended log form). Panel (a) reports % standard deviations (on main diagonal), and cross-correlations (off-diagonal elements). Panel (b) reports first-order autocorrelations. Panel (c) reports % standard deviations of residuals of univariate AR(1) equations fitted to each variable.

TFP: total factor productivity (θ); Ieff: investment efficiency (Ξ); G: autonomous spending (government consumption plus net exports to third countries); LS: Labor supply shock (Ψ^N).

Log TFP is estimated as $\ln(Y_t) - 0.7\ln(N_t)$ where Y_t and N_t are GDP and employment, respectively. The estimate of investment efficiency is the ratio of the CPI to the investment deflator. The estimate of the log labor supply shock is $\ln(Y_t) - \ln(N_t) - \ln(C_t)$, where C_t is private consumption.

Table 2. Model parameters: prior and posterior distributions

<i>Prior distribution</i>				<i>Posterior distributions</i>					
				<i>Independent shocks</i>				<i>Correlated shocks</i>	
				$\phi'' > 0$		$\phi'' = 0, \text{ no bank shocks}$		$\phi'' > 0$	
Parameter	Mean	Std	Distr.	Mean	Std	Mean	Std	Mean	Std
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)
Behavioral parameters									
$4\gamma\phi''$	0.20	0.10	G	0.21	0.04	---	---	0.48	0.06
ξ''	1.00	0.50	G	0.28	0.04	0.19	0.02	0.09	0.10
σ	1.00	0.50	G	0.85	0.10	0.93	0.09	0.82	0.05
Standard deviations (%) of innovations to forcing variables									
σ^θ	0.50	0.10	IG	0.43	0.04	0.40	0.04	---	---
$\sigma^{\theta*}$	0.50	0.10	IG	0.44	0.04	0.43	0.04	---	---
σ^Ξ	0.50	0.10	IG	0.97	0.14	0.48	0.06	---	---
$\sigma^{\Xi*}$	0.50	0.10	IG	0.49	0.06	0.34	0.04	---	---
σ^G	0.50	0.10	IG	0.51	0.10	1.43	0.23	---	---
σ^{G*}	0.50	0.10	IG	1.45	0.19	0.45	0.08	---	---
σ^Ψ	0.50	0.10	IG	0.46	0.05	0.52	0.05	---	---
$\sigma^{\Psi*}$	0.50	0.10	IG	0.40	0.04	0.34	0.03	---	---
σ^Δ	0.50	0.10	IG	0.71	0.10	---	---	0.50	0.07
$\sigma^{\Delta*}$	0.50	0.10	IG	0.79	0.10	---	---	1.41	0.16
σ^γ	0.50	0.10	IG	0.61	0.10	---	---	0.53	0.07
Autocorrelations of forcing variables									
ρ^θ	0.50	0.10	B	0.97	0.01	0.97	0.01	---	---
$\rho^{\theta*}$	0.50	0.10	B	0.95	0.01	0.97	0.01	---	---
ρ^Ξ	0.50	0.10	B	0.80	0.04	0.84	0.04	---	---
$\rho^{\Xi*}$	0.50	0.10	B	0.90	0.03	0.86	0.03	---	---
ρ^G	0.50	0.10	B	0.52	0.10	0.91	0.02	---	---
ρ^{G*}	0.50	0.10	B	0.91	0.02	0.51	0.11	---	---
ρ^Ψ	0.50	0.10	B	0.96	0.01	0.98	0.01	---	---
$\rho^{\Psi*}$	0.50	0.10	B	0.91	0.01	0.96	0.01	---	---
ρ^Δ	0.50	0.10	B	0.69	0.06	---	---	0.61	0.07
$\rho^{\Delta*}$	0.50	0.10	B	0.82	0.04	---	---	0.46	0.06
ρ^γ	0.50	0.10	B	0.88	0.03	---	---	0.79	0.03
Feedback parameters of loan losses and required capital ratio									
g^Δ	0.00	0.10	N	---	---	---	---	0.07	0.02
g^γ	0.00	0.10	N	---	---	---	---	0.07	0.02
Standard deviations (%) of measurement errors									
GDP US	0.79	0.16	IG	0.46	0.07	0.39	0.04	0.40	0.04
GDP EA	0.54	0.11	IG	0.30	0.04	0.31	0.04	0.30	0.04
C US	0.78	0.16	IG	0.63	0.09	0.39	0.04	0.58	0.07
C EA	0.44	0.09	IG	0.32	0.04	0.31	0.04	0.39	0.06
I US	3.15	0.63	IG	2.86	0.41	4.99	0.38	3.41	0.34
I EA	1.33	0.26	IG	0.85	0.11	0.78	0.10	0.94	0.13
N US	0.47	0.09	IG	0.41	0.05	0.38	0.04	0.46	0.06
N EA	0.45	0.09	IG	0.29	0.04	0.25	0.03	0.29	0.04
Loans US	0.85	0.17	IG	0.88	0.09	0.96	0.08	0.90	0.08

Table 2.-- continued

Loans EA	1.10	0.22	IG	0.49	0.06	2.86	0.21	0.48	0.06
Bnk cap.ratio	0.21	0.04	IG	0.45	0.06	0.75	0.05	1.27	0.12
Loan spread	0.03	0.01	IG	0.02	0.00	0.09	0.01	0.02	0.00
Log marginal likelihood				3300.06		3104.02		3323.88	

Notes: Cols. (1) and (2) shows the means and standard deviations of the prior distribution for model parameters. Col. (3) indicates the distribution function of the prior (B: Beta; G: Gamma; IG: Inverted Gamma; N: Normal).

Cols. (4)-(9): statistics of posterior parameter distribution (means, standard deviations), for different model variants.

Cols. (4)-(5): baseline model with independent forcing variables, operative bank capital requirement ($\phi > 0$) and 'banking shocks'

Cols. (6)-(7): model variant with independent shocks, no operative bank capital requirement ($\phi = 0$), no banking shocks.

Cols. (8)-(9): model variant with correlated shocks, operative bank capital requirement ($\phi > 0$) and 'banking shocks'.

The superscripts of the standard deviations and auto-correlations of the forcing variables indicate the respective shocks:

θ, θ^* : Home and Foreign TFP; Ξ, Ξ^* : Home and Foreign investment efficiency; G, G^* : government purchases;

Ψ, Ψ^* : Home and Foreign labor supply; Δ, Δ^* : Home and Foreign loan loss; γ : required bank capital ratio.

Table 3. Implied business cycle statistics (HP)

Shocks:	Independent shocks									Correlated shocks					Data
	Operative bank capital requirement, $\phi^">0$									$\phi^"=0$					
	All	NonBk	Bnk	TFP	Eff.	G	LabS	Loss	γ	All	NonBk	All	NonBk	Bnk	
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)
(a) US moments															
Standard deviations (in %)															
GDP	1.14	1.03	0.20	0.78	0.23	0.09	0.62	0.18	0.08	1.01	0.94	1.30	1.20	0.31	1.12
Consumption	0.93	0.72	0.07	0.57	0.14	0.04	0.40	0.07	0.03	0.79	0.69	1.33	1.20	0.14	0.92
Investment	4.58	3.38	1.13	1.07	3.11	0.12	0.80	1.04	0.43	5.52	2.70	5.32	3.83	1.73	5.08
Employment	1.13	1.02	0.28	0.41	0.29	0.12	0.88	0.26	0.11	0.96	0.89	1.15	0.97	0.43	1.15
Loans	1.73	1.03	1.10	0.20	0.99	0.07	0.16	1.10	0.08	1.20	0.76	1.50	0.96	0.78	1.88
Bank cap ratio	0.66	0.03	0.51	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.49	0.12	0.72	0.02	1.30	0.07	0.45	0.49
Loan spread	0.21	0.01	0.19	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.17	0.37	0.00	0.39	0.12	0.36	0.19
Correlations with domestic GDP															
Consumption	0.56	0.80	-0.57	0.89	-0.43	-0.99	0.85	-0.52	-0.84	0.72	0.88	0.76	0.93	-0.86	0.89
Investment	0.31	0.40	0.99	0.87	0.38	-0.92	0.82	0.99	0.99	0.27	0.59	0.62	0.82	0.99	0.92
Employment	0.74	0.85	0.98	0.85	0.93	0.99	0.99	0.98	0.99	0.72	0.84	0.79	0.90	0.99	0.79
Loans	0.14	0.18	0.41	0.23	0.58	-0.03	0.17	0.42	0.76	0.13	0.23	0.31	0.44	0.39	0.48
Bank cap ratio	0.09	-0.21	0.73	-0.20	-0.59	0.06	-0.22	0.79	0.33	-0.01	-0.17	0.03	-0.64	0.82	0.19
Loan spread	-0.11	0.22	-0.72	0.20	0.64	0.09	0.23	-0.79	-0.97	0.00	0.15	-0.01	0.34	-0.82	-0.52
(b) EA moments															
Standard deviations (in %)															
GDP	1.22	1.16	0.24	0.89	0.34	0.22	0.62	0.22	0.08	0.95	0.90	0.88	0.77	0.33	1.14
Consumption	0.73	0.66	0.11	0.55	0.17	0.10	0.30	0.10	0.03	0.69	0.63	0.91	0.82	0.16	0.77
Investment	2.47	2.02	1.17	1.11	1.55	0.12	0.67	1.09	0.42	2.33	2.20	2.46	1.46	1.79	2.87
Employment	1.22	1.13	0.34	0.46	0.46	0.31	0.87	0.32	0.11	0.80	0.77	0.94	0.77	0.47	0.70
Loans	1.10	0.36	0.93	0.06	0.35	0.01	0.07	0.93	0.07	2.78	0.37	1.10	0.29	0.95	2.08
Bank cap ratio	0.51	0.03	0.51	0.01	0.03	0.00	0.01	0.49	0.12	0.03	0.03	0.46	0.07	0.46	0.49
Loan spread	0.19	0.01	0.19	0.00	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.10	0.17	0.00	0.00	0.38	0.13	0.36	0.37
Correlations with domestic GDP															
Consumption	0.61	0.74	-0.80	0.95	-0.87	-0.99	0.90	-0.80	-0.84	0.74	0.87	0.47	0.69	-0.92	0.83
Investment	0.51	0.53	0.99	0.97	-0.24	0.94	0.94	0.99	0.99	0.56	0.63	0.56	0.55	0.99	0.93
Employment	0.84	0.88	0.99	0.96	0.98	1.00	1.00	0.99	0.99	0.72	0.79	0.59	0.57	0.99	0.83
Loans	0.12	0.10	0.53	0.41	0.11	-0.12	0.18	0.55	0.83	0.03	0.21	0.24	0.17	0.63	0.62
Bank cap ratio	0.14	-0.15	0.75	-0.27	-0.19	0.46	-0.22	0.80	0.34	-0.12	-0.13	0.25	-0.49	0.85	-0.01
Loan spread	-0.13	0.15	-0.69	0.23	0.29	-0.33	0.13	-0.80	-0.97	0.18	0.19	-0.15	0.49	-0.81	-0.91
(c) Cross-country correlations															
GDP	-0.26	-0.34	0.99	-0.39	0.28	0.87	-0.47	0.99	0.99	-0.16	-0.18	0.45	0.45	0.99	0.56
Consumption	0.24	0.34	0.43	0.28	0.81	0.94	0.39	0.38	0.99	0.11	0.14	0.75	0.91	0.92	0.39
Investment	-0.02	-0.23	1.00	0.26	-0.44	-0.90	0.40	1.00	0.99	-0.10	-0.22	0.31	0.17	0.99	0.45
Employment	-0.24	-0.36	0.99	-0.92	0.56	0.90	-0.47	0.99	0.99	-0.10	-0.12	-0.01	-0.29	0.99	0.53
Loans	0.10	-0.39	0.34	-0.04	-0.40	-0.46	-0.58	0.34	0.81	-0.03	-0.34	0.08	-0.72	0.44	0.64
Loan spread	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	0.79

Note: Moments of HP filtered model variables (computed for posterior parameter estimates) are shown. The bank capital ratio is expressed in fractional units. The loan rate spread is in fractional units per annum. Other variables are normalized by steady state values.

Cols. (1)-(11) pertain to model variants with independent shocks. Cols. (1)-(9): baseline model variant with operative bank capital requirement ($\phi^">0$). Col. (1) ['All'] assumes all 11 joint shocks and measurement error. In Cols. (2)-(9), subsets of shocks used in isolation, without measurement error (model not re-estimated). Col. (2) ['NonBk']: just 8 'non-banking' shocks; Col. (3) ['Bnk']: just 3 'banking' shocks. Col. (4): just Home and Foreign TFP shocks; Col. (5): just investment efficiency shocks; Col. (6): just government purchases shocks; Col.(7): just labor supply shocks; Col.(8): just loan loss shocks; Col. (9): just shock to required bank capital ratio. **Cols. (10)-(11): variant without operative bank capital requirement ($\phi^"=0$) and without banking shocks.** Col. (10) ['All']: all non-banking shocks and measurement error; Col. (11) ['NonBk']: just non-banking shocks, no measurement error.

Cols. (12)-(14): variant with correlated shocks, operative bank capital requirement ($\phi^">0$). Col. (12) ['All']: all 11 shocks and measurement error. Col. (13) ['NonBk']: just 8 'non-banking' shocks; Col. (14) ['Bnk']: just 3 'banking' shocks.

Col. (15): empirical moments of HP filtered data (GDP, consumption, investment, employment and loans are logged before filtering). Statistics for the EA bank capital ratio use the US capital ratio as a proxy. Sample: 1990q1-2010q3 (except for EA loan spread: 2003q1-10q3).

Table 4. Share (%) of variance of HP filtered variables due to non-banking shocks and to banking shocks

	GDP		Consumption		Investment		Employment		Loans		Bank Cap. Ratio	Loan Spread
	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
(a) Model variants with independent forcing processes												
<i>(a1) Baseline specification</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.20$; LML=3300.06]												
NonBk	82.40	90.56	59.75	81.71	54.70	67.23	82.19	87.21	35.70	10.84	0.23	0.11
NonBk ^{US}	73.46	9.31	56.52	6.23	53.66	5.20	64.46	17.94	32.76	1.32	0.16	0.08
NonBk ^{EA}	8.94	81.24	3.23	75.47	1.03	62.03	17.73	69.26	2.93	9.51	0.07	0.03
Bank	3.08	3.99	0.59	2.21	6.06	22.62	6.28	7.81	41.04	72.01	59.68	84.67
Δ^{US}	0.69	0.98	0.37	0.10	1.43	5.40	1.50	1.89	37.88	0.71	20.21	8.59
Δ^{EA}	1.88	2.50	0.15	1.98	3.73	14.22	3.82	5.05	2.89	70.90	36.15	15.36
γ	0.50	0.50	0.07	0.13	0.89	2.99	0.95	0.87	0.26	0.38	3.31	60.71
<i>(a2) Model version with constant required bank capital ratio, $\gamma_i=\gamma$</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.69$; LML=3229.48]												
NonBk	78.57	87.09	58.21	82.75	46.36	58.24	76.30	81.03	34.75	11.97	0.08	0.45
Bank	5.87	6.98	0.84	2.52	8.83	32.79	11.91	13.75	34.87	63.89	16.94	85.72
<i>(a3) Alternative spread and credit data</i>												
<i>(a3.1) Loan rate spread replaced by survey of loan officer spread measure</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.21$; LML=3275.21]												
NonBk	81.26	90.16	62.14	80.49	54.78	69.82	81.38	86.55	35.00	12.45	0.27	0.09
Bank	3.45	4.37	0.72	2.40	6.19	21.11	6.98	8.48	42.38	70.02	65.14	90.17
<i>(a3.2) Loan spread replaced by Gilchrist-Zakrajsek excess bond premium</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.30$; LML=3239.21]												
NonBk	80.57	88.93	61.59	80.56	52.92	64.09	79.46	84.17	34.06	11.87	0.25	0.07
Bank	4.72	5.74	0.89	2.76	8.43	27.02	9.32	11.04	43.26	71.09	66.57	91.85
<i>(a3.3) Total bank loans replaced by bank loans to business loans</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.18$; LML=3080.35]												
NonBk	71.98	88.15	62.13	80.98	30.52	77.89	81.37	85.89	2.42	1.05	0.30	0.07
Bank	1.62	2.62	0.41	0.62	2.56	12.14	4.21	6.34	3.72	2.26	62.71	82.09
<i>(a3.4) US business lending capacity (GZ); EA business loans</i> [$4\gamma\phi=0.10$; LML=3090.46]												
NonBk	84.99	91.03	50.02	82.70	48.72	61.36	84.23	87.32	12.09	4.64	0.01	0.02
Bank	2.65	3.82	0.87	2.73	9.59	27.60	5.26	7.82	70.16	78.63	12.23	81.12
(b) Model variant with correlated forcing variables [$4\gamma\phi=0.48$; LML=3323.88]												
NonBk	85.70	75.11	81.56	80.21	51.96	34.90	71.48	66.83	40.48	7.00	0.30	10.40
Bank	5.54	14.21	1.04	3.14	10.60	52.99	14.12	24.77	27.27	75.79	12.23	84.80
Δ^{US}	0.75	2.15	0.23	0.27	1.50	7.79	1.98	3.69	22.59	0.70	1.52	3.27
Δ^{EA}	3.31	8.62	0.53	2.27	6.34	32.52	8.45	15.35	3.29	73.76	8.49	19.80
γ	1.47	3.42	0.27	0.59	2.76	12.67	3.68	5.72	1.38	1.33	2.22	61.72

Note: This Table reports shares of the variances of endogenous variables (HP-filtered) that are accounted for by different types of shocks (based on model predictions evaluated at posterior modes of model parameters).

Panel (a) pertains to variants of the model with independent forcing variables.

(a1): baseline model; **(a2):** model with constant required bank capital ratio;

(a3): estimates of the model based on alternative measures of spreads and loans. **(a3.1):** baseline loan rate spread replaced by ‘net percentage of banks increasing spreads of loan rates over cost of funds’ from the US senior loan officer opinion survey, SLOOS. **(a3.2):** baseline loan rate spread replaced by the Gilchrist and Zakrajsek (2011a) excess bond premium series. **(a3.3):** the baseline loan series for US and EA replaced by loans to the non-financial business sector. **(a3.4):** baseline US loan series replaced by US ‘business lending capacity’ measure of Gilchrist and Zakrajsek (2011b); baseline EA loan series replaced by EA bank lending to the non-financial business sector.

Panel (b) pertains to the model variant with correlated forcing variables.

Table 4—ctd.

The rows labeled ‘NonBk’ show shares of the variances of HP filtered variables accounted by the ‘non-banking’ forcing variables. The rows labeled ‘Bank’ show variances shares accounted by the banking shock innovations ε_t^{bk} . The rows labeled $\Delta^{US}, \Delta^{EA}, \gamma$ show variance shares accounted for by shocks to Home loan losses, to Foreign loan losses and to the required bank capital ratio, respectively. Decompositions are computed at the posterior mode of the estimated parameters.

The variance shares are shown for the variables listed above Cols. (1)-(12). Cols. (1)-(2): US and EA GDP; Cols. (3)-(4): US and EA consumption; Cols. (5)-(6): US and EA investment; Cols. (7)-(8): US and EA employment; Cols. (9)-(10): US and EA loans; Col. (11): bank capital ratio; Col. (12): Loan rate spread.

$4\gamma\phi$: a 1 percentage point increase in the bank capital ratio lowers the lending rate spread by $4\gamma\phi$ percentage points.

LML: log marginal likelihood

Table 5. Baseline model with independent shocks: dynamic responses to innovations

Horizon	GDP		Consumption		Investment		Employment		Loans		Bank Cap. Ratio	Loan Spread
	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA	US	EA		
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
(a) US TFP shock (1%)												
0	1.36	-0.21	1.01	0.10	1.88	0.11	0.50	-0.29	0.04	0.03	-0.36	0.06
4	1.20	-0.16	0.99	0.09	1.46	0.15	0.36	-0.23	0.10	0.11	-1.36	0.28
20	0.93	-0.07	0.93	0.06	0.88	0.20	0.16	-0.11	0.06	0.26	-2.01	0.41
(b) US investment efficiency shock (1%)												
0	0.10	0.28	-0.07	-0.14	2.74	-0.48	0.14	0.39	0.27	-0.06	-0.77	0.23
4	0.13	0.02	0.04	-0.04	0.93	-0.22	0.09	0.05	0.92	-0.08	-2.07	0.46
20	0.05	-0.05	0.07	0.00	-0.21	0.02	-0.01	-0.06	0.83	-0.01	-0.41	0.09
(c) US government purchases shock (1%)												
0	0.05	0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.04	-0.06	0.07	0.05	-0.01	-0.01	0.08	0.00
4	0.01	-0.00	-0.01	-0.00	0.01	-0.01	0.01	-0.00	0.00	0.00	0.13	-0.03
20	0.00	-0.00	-0.00	-0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00	-0.00	0.00	0.01	0.05	-0.01
(d) US labor supply shock (1%)												
0	-1.02	0.20	-0.67	-0.10	-1.34	-0.15	-1.44	0.28	-0.01	-0.03	0.27	-0.04
4	-0.85	0.14	-0.65	-0.08	-0.96	-0.17	-1.16	0.20	-0.01	-0.11	1.02	-0.20
20	-0.40	-0.02	-0.49	-0.03	-0.25	-0.17	-0.46	0.00	0.25	-0.33	1.23	-0.25
(e) US loan loss shock (1% of steady state GDP)												
0	-0.10	-0.12	0.06	0.01	-0.57	-0.60	-0.14	-0.17	-0.51	-0.03	-14.96	3.17
4	-0.09	-0.12	0.04	-0.01	-0.50	-0.52	-0.12	-0.15	-1.53	-0.12	-37.15	7.88
20	-0.03	-0.05	0.00	-0.06	-0.09	-0.09	-0.00	-0.02	-2.01	-0.16	-21.14	4.48
(f) EA loan loss shock (1% of steady state GDP)												
0	-0.14	-0.18	0.01	0.10	-0.81	-0.86	-0.20	-0.25	-0.07	-0.32	-14.49	3.07
4	-0.15	-0.18	-0.02	0.07	-0.77	-0.80	-0.18	-0.23	-0.34	-1.16	-45.27	9.60
20	-0.07	-0.08	-0.08	-0.00	-0.20	-0.19	-0.02	-0.04	-0.77	-1.85	-37.23	7.90
(g) Shock to required bank capital ratio (1 percentage point)												
0	-0.10	-0.11	0.03	0.03	-0.54	-0.53	-0.14	-0.14	-0.05	-0.03	0.13	22.33
4	-0.02	-0.03	-0.01	-0.01	-0.10	-0.09	-0.02	-0.02	-0.01	0.04	15.40	10.62
20	0.04	0.05	0.00	-0.00	0.18	0.19	0.04	0.06	0.28	0.25	19.81	-2.13

Note: The Table shows dynamic responses to exogenous shocks, after 0, 4 and 20 quarters (see left-most column labeled 'Horizon'), of the variables listed at the top of the Table. The responses are computed at the posterior mode of the estimated parameters. In each case, an isolated innovation is considered, assuming that all other exogenous innovations are zero. Panel (a): 1% innovation to Home TFP (θ); Panel (b): 1% innovation to US investment efficiency (Ξ); Panel (c): 1% innovation to government purchases (G); Panel (d): 1% innovation to US labor supply preference parameter (Ψ^N); Panel (e): innovation to Home loan loss (Δ) worth 1% of steady state quarterly GDP; Panel (f) innovation to Foreign loan loss (Δ^*) worth 1% of steady state quarterly GDP; Panel (g) innovation that raises required bank capital ratio (γ) by 1 percentage point. Cols. (1)-(2): Responses of US and EA GDP; Cols. (3)-(4): US and EA consumption; Cols. (5)-(6): US and EA investment; Cols. (7)-(8): US and EA employment; Cols. (9)-(10): US and EA loans; Col. (11): bank capital ratio; Col. (12): Loan rate spread. **Responses of the bank capital ratio are in basis points. Responses of the loan spread are in basis points per annum. Other responses are in percentage points of steady state values.**

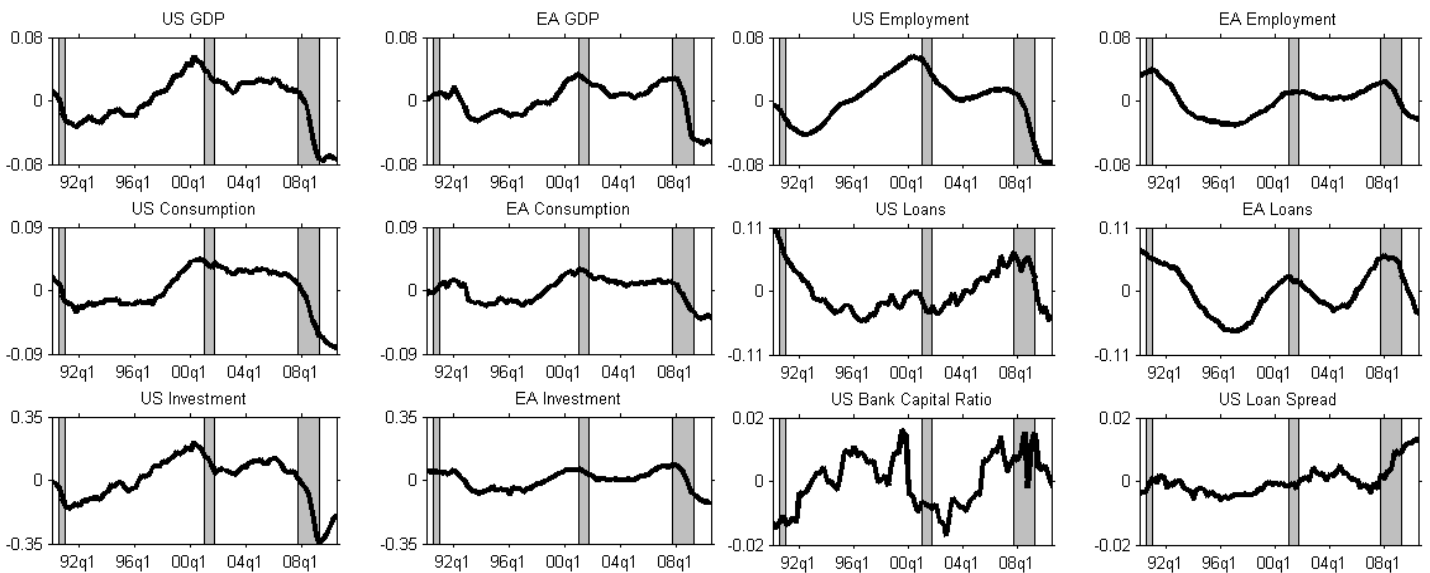


Fig. 1. Time series used in estimation

Note: The Figure shows the time series used in estimation. Bank capital ratio and loan spread (p.a.) are demeaned. Other variables are logged and detrended. Shaded areas indicate US recessions (NBER dates).

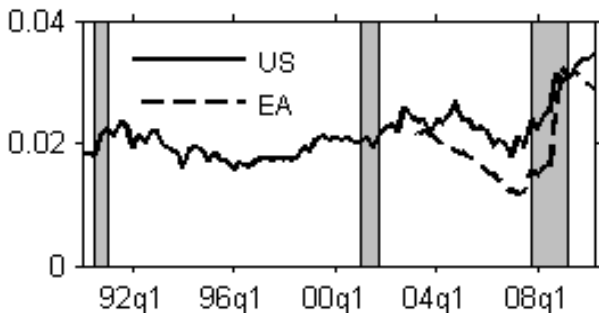


Fig. 2. US and EA loan rate spreads

Note: Loan spreads (p.a.) are not demeaned. Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).

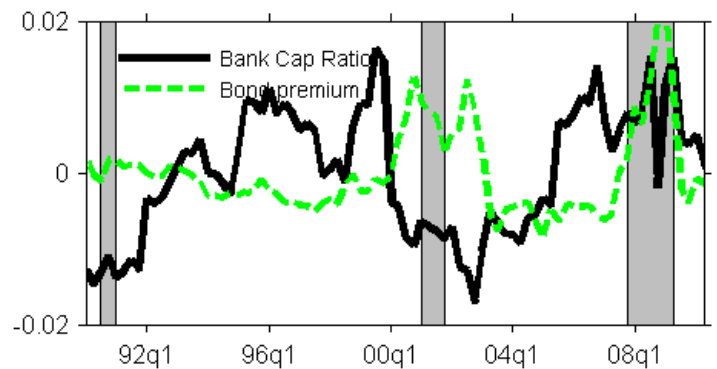
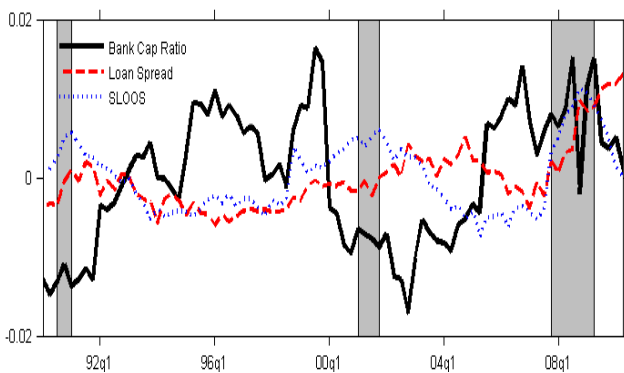


Fig. 3. US bank capital, loan spreads and excess bond premium

Note: In both panels, the solid line shows the demeaned bank capital ratio. The left panel plots the demeaned loan spread (dashed line), the demeaned net percentage of banks increasing spread, from Survey of Senior Loan Officers Opinion Survey (dotted line). The right panel plots the demeaned excess bond premium of Gilchrist and Zakrajsek, 2011a (dashed line). Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).

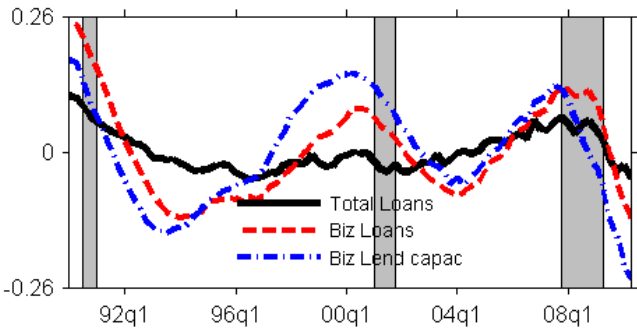


Fig. 4. US commercial banks: total loans, business loans and business lending capacity
 Note: The solid line shows total US bank credit (baseline measure); dashed line: business lending; dashed-dotted line: US business lending capacity (Gilchrist and Zakrajsek (2011b)). All series are linearly detrended in log form. Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).

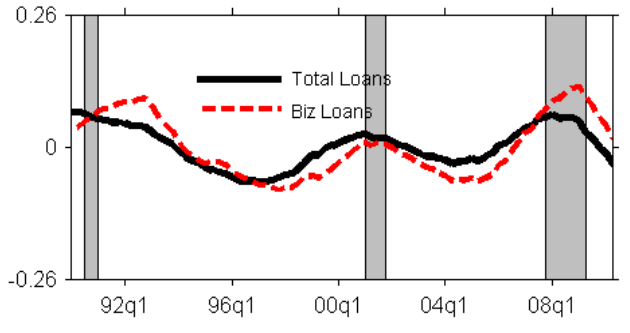
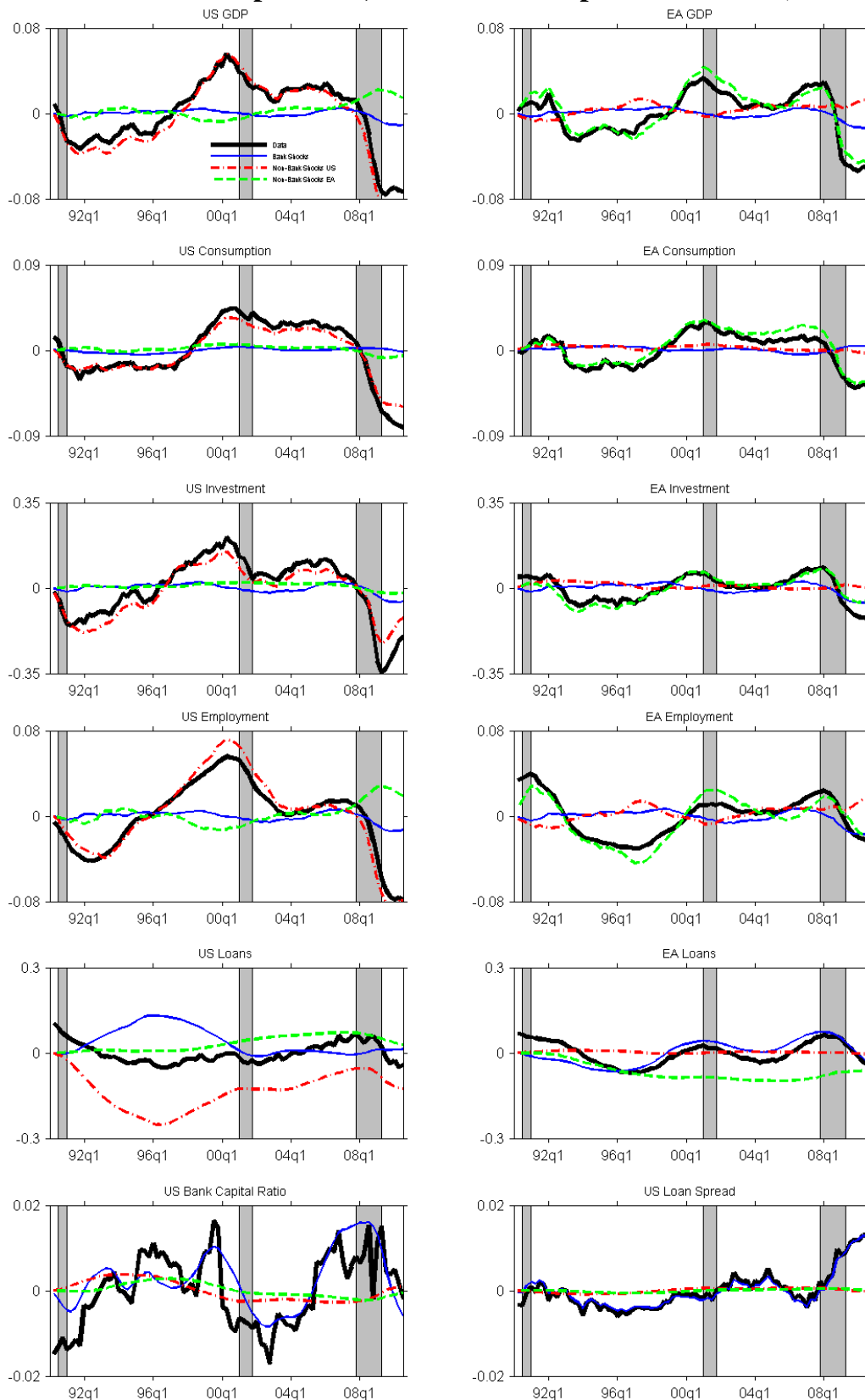


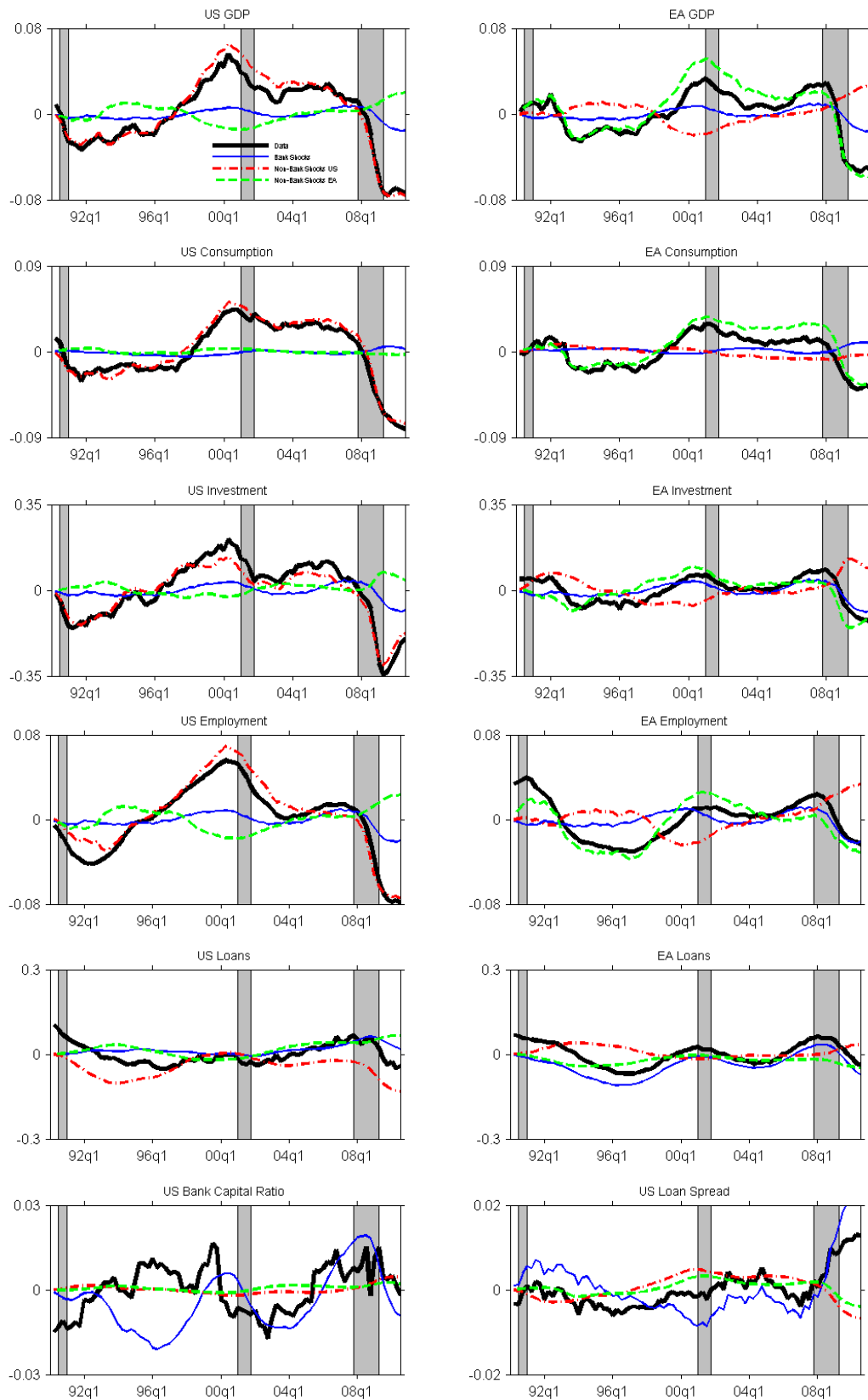
Figure 5. EA banks: total loans and business loans
 Note: The solid line shows total EA bank credit (baseline measure); dashed line: loans to non-financial corporations. Both series are linearly detrended in log form. Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).

Figure 6. Historical decompositions, model with independent shocks (baseline specification)



Note: Based on the baseline model with independent shocks (using posterior mode of estimated parameters), the Figure shows the historical contributions of banking shocks (thin solid lines), US non-banking shocks (dashed-dotted lines), EA non-banking shocks (dashed lines) to historical series (thick solid lines). The historical bank capital ratio and loan rate spread series (p.a.) are demeaned, the other historical series are linearly detrended in log form. Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).

Figure 7. Historical decompositions, model with correlated shocks



Note: Based on the model variant with correlated shocks (posterior mode of estimated parameters), the Figure shows the historical contributions of banking shocks (thin solid lines), US non-banking shocks (dashed-dotted lines), EA non-banking shocks (dashed lines) to historical series (thick solid lines). The historical bank capital ratio and loan rate spread series (p.a.) are demeaned, the other historical series are linearly detrended in log form. Shaded areas: US recessions (NBER dates).