

# Internet Appendix to Accompany Leverage

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This Internet appendix to Santos and Veronesi (2018) contains the following additional material:

1. Section IA1. Proofs to propositions and corollaries.
2. Section IA2. Estimating systematic consumption volatility.
3. Section IA3. Model's implications for other parameter choices.
4. Section IA4. Households' Leverage: Robustness.

## IA1. Proofs

**Proof of Proposition 1.** Starting with the maximization problem in equation (8), the Lagrangean for the static maximization is

$$L = E_0 \left[ \int_0^\infty e^{-\rho t} \log (C_t - \psi_{it} Y_t) dt \right] - \frac{1}{\phi_i} E_0 \left[ \int_0^\infty M_t C_t dt - w_i M_0 \right]$$

where  $\phi_i$  is the inverse of the Lagrange multiplier. The first order conditions are

$$e^{-\rho t} \frac{1}{C_{it} - \psi_{it} Y_t} = \frac{1}{\phi_i} M_t$$

which give

$$C_{it} - \psi_{it} Y_t = \phi_i e^{-\rho t} M_t^{-1} \tag{IA.1}$$

Aggregate across  $i$  to obtain

$$\int C_{it} di - \int \psi_{it} di Y_t = \int \phi_i di e^{-\rho t} M_t^{-1}$$

Normalize without loss of generality  $\int \phi_i di = 1$ , use  $\psi_{it} = \gamma_i - \gamma_i I_t^{-1}$  and impose the market clearing condition  $\int C_i di = Y_t$  to obtain

$$Y_t - \left( \int \gamma_i di - \int \gamma_i di I_t^{-1} \right) Y_t = e^{-\rho t} M_t^{-1}$$

or

$$Y_t I_t^{-1} = e^{-\rho t} M_t^{-1}$$

Solving for  $M_t$  we obtain the equilibrium state price density:

$$M_t = e^{-\rho t} Y_t^{-1} I_t .$$

Substituting the state price density back in the consumption equation (IA.1) provides the optimal consumption policy

$$\begin{aligned} C_{it} &= \phi_i e^{-\rho t} M_t^{-1} + \psi_{it} Y_t \\ &= [\phi_i I_t^{-1} + \psi_{it}] Y_t \\ &= [\phi_i I_t^{-1} + \gamma_i - \gamma_i I_t^{-1}] Y_t \end{aligned}$$

As  $I_t > 1$  and  $\phi_i > 0$ , we have  $C_{it} > 0$  for all  $t$  and for all  $i$ . We can thus write

$$C_{it} = [\gamma_i + (\phi_i - \gamma_i) I_t^{-1}] Y_t \quad (\text{IA.2})$$

We now solve for the Lagrange multiplier  $1/\phi_i$  by using the budget constraint at time 0. Wealth at any time  $t$  is the present value of future optimal consumption and it is thus given by

$$\begin{aligned} W_{it} &= M_t^{-1} E \left[ \int_t^\infty M_\tau C_{i\tau} d\tau \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} E \left[ \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} Y_\tau^{-1} I_\tau C_{i\tau} d\tau \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} E \left[ \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} I_\tau [\gamma_i + (\phi_i - \gamma_i) I_t^{-1}] d\tau \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} \left[ E \left[ \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} I_\tau \gamma_i d\tau \right] + E \left[ \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} I_\tau (\phi_i - \gamma_i) I_t^{-1} d\tau \right] \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} \left[ \gamma_i \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} [\bar{I} + [I_t - \bar{I}] e^{-k(\tau-t)}] d\tau + \int_t^\infty e^{-\rho(\tau-t)} (\phi_i - \gamma_i) d\tau \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} \left[ \gamma_i \left[ \frac{\bar{I}}{\rho} + \frac{[I_t - \bar{I}]}{\rho + k} \right] + \frac{(\phi_i - \gamma_i)}{\rho} \right] \\ &= Y_t I_t^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I} \gamma_i + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)}{\rho} - \frac{\gamma_i \bar{I}}{\rho + k} \right) + \frac{\gamma_i I_t}{\rho + k} \right] \\ &= Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I} \gamma_i (\rho + k) + (\phi_i - \gamma_i) (\rho + k) - \rho \gamma_i \bar{I}}{\rho (\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right] \end{aligned}$$

or

$$W_{it} = Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I} \gamma_i k + (\phi_i - \gamma_i) (\rho + k)}{\rho (\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right] \quad (\text{IA.3})$$

As of time zero, wealth is thus given by

$$W_{i0} = M_0^{-1} E \left[ \int_0^\infty M_\tau C_{i\tau} d\tau \right]$$

or

$$W_{i0} M_0 = E \left[ \int_0^\infty M_\tau C_{i\tau} d\tau \right]$$

We can thus impose the initial endowment condition

$$w_i = W_{i0}$$

and solve the following equation for  $\phi_i$

$$w_i = W_{i0} = Y_0 \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I}\gamma_i k + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)(\rho + k)}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right) I_0^{-1} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right]$$

In particular, assume that at time 0 the economy is at the stochastic steady state

$$I_0 = \bar{I}$$

so that

$$w_i = Y_0 \left[ \frac{\gamma_i k + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)(\rho + k)\bar{I}^{-1}}{\rho(\rho + k)} + \frac{\rho\gamma_i}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right]$$

or

$$w_i = Y_0 \left[ \frac{\gamma_i + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)\bar{I}^{-1}}{\rho} \right]$$

Assume without loss of generality that

$$Y_0 = \rho$$

to obtain

$$\phi_i = \frac{w_i + \gamma_i\bar{I}^{-1} - \gamma_i}{\bar{I}^{-1}} \tag{IA.4}$$

This proves claim (a) in Proposition 1. Note that

$$\int \phi_i di = \frac{\int w_i di + \int \gamma_i di \bar{I}^{-1} - \int \gamma_i di}{\bar{I}^{-1}} = \frac{1 + \bar{I}^{-1} - 1}{\bar{I}^{-1}} = 1$$

In addition, the constraint

$$\phi_i > 0$$

is satisfied if and only if

$$w_i + \gamma_i\bar{I}^{-1} - \gamma_i > 0$$

or

$$w_i > \gamma_i - \gamma_i\bar{I}^{-1}$$

which is condition (A1).

Substitute  $\phi_i$  back into optimal consumption (IA.2) to obtain

$$\begin{aligned} C_{it} &= [\gamma_i + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)I_t^{-1}] Y_t \\ &= \left[ \gamma_i + \left( \frac{w_i + \gamma_i\bar{I}^{-1} - \gamma_i}{\bar{I}^{-1}} - \gamma_i \right) I_t^{-1} \right] Y_t \\ &= \left[ \gamma_i + (w_i - \gamma_i) \frac{\bar{I}}{I_t} \right] Y_t \end{aligned}$$

which is claim (b) of Proposition 1.

**Proof of Propositions 2 and 3.** From (IA.3) the stock price thus indeed satisfies

$$\begin{aligned}
P_t &= \int W_{it} di \\
&= Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I} \int \gamma_i di k + (\int \phi_i di - \int \gamma_i di) (\rho + k)}{\rho (\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{\int \gamma_i di}{\rho + k} \right] \\
&= Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I} k + (1 - 1) (\rho + k)}{\rho (\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{1}{\rho + k} \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{(\rho + k)} \left[ \frac{k \bar{I} S_t}{\rho} + 1 \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{\rho + k \bar{I} S_t}{(\rho + k) \rho}
\end{aligned}$$

which is the claim in Proposition 2 (see also Menzly, Santos, and Veronesi (2004)).

The stochastic discount factor follows from Ito's lemma applied to the state price density, giving

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{dM_t}{M_t} &= -\rho dt + I_t^{-1} dI_t - \frac{dY}{Y_t} + \left( \frac{dY}{Y} \right)^2 - \frac{dY_t dI_t}{Y_t I_t} \\
&= -\rho dt + I_t^{-1} k (\bar{I} - I_t) dt - v \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t - \mu_Y dt - \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t + \sigma_Y (I_t)^2 dt \\
&\quad + v \sigma_Y (I_t)^2 dt \\
&= -(\rho + \mu_Y - (1 + v) \sigma_Y (I_t)^2 + k (1 - \bar{I} S_t)) dt - (1 + v) \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t
\end{aligned}$$

That is

$$\begin{aligned}
r_t &= \rho + \mu_Y - (1 + v) \sigma_Y (I_t)^2 + k (1 - \bar{I} / I_t) \\
\sigma_M &= (1 + v) \sigma_Y (I_t)
\end{aligned}$$

which proves part (b) of Proposition 2 and Proposition 3.

Finally, to obtain the properties of returns, we first obtain the process for the surplus consumption ratio  $S_t = 1/I_t$ , given by

$$\begin{aligned}
dS_t &= -I_t^{-2} dI_t + \frac{1}{2} 2I_t^{-3} dI_t^2 \\
&= -I_t^{-2} [k (\bar{I} - I_t) dt - v I_t \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t] + \frac{1}{2} 2I_t^{-3} [v^2 I_t^2 \sigma_Y (I_t)^2] dt \\
&= -I_t^{-1} \left[ k \left( \frac{\bar{I}}{I_t} - 1 \right) dt - v \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t \right] + I_t^{-1} [v^2 \sigma_Y (I_t)^2] dt \\
&= S_t [k (1 - \bar{I} S_t) dt + v^2 \sigma_Y (I_t)^2] + S_t v \sigma_Y (I_t) dZ_t
\end{aligned}$$

where we denote for simplicity

$$\sigma_I(I) = v \sigma_Y(I) \tag{IA.5}$$

Thus, Ito's lemma implies that the stock return process is

$$\begin{aligned}
dP_t &= \frac{\rho + k\bar{I}S_t}{(\rho + k)\rho} dY_t + \frac{k\bar{I}}{(\rho + k)\rho} Y_t dS_t + o(dt) \\
&= P_t \frac{dY_t}{Y_t} + P_t \frac{1}{\frac{\rho + k\bar{I}S_t}{(\rho + k)\rho} Y_t} \frac{k\bar{I}}{(\rho + k)\rho} Y_t dS_t + o(dt) \\
\frac{dP}{P} &= \frac{dY_t}{Y_t} + \frac{k\bar{I}}{\rho + k\bar{I}S_t} dS_t + o(dt)
\end{aligned}$$

The diffusion term is therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma_P(I_t) &= \sigma_Y(I_t) + \frac{k\bar{I}S_t v \sigma_Y(I_t)}{\rho + k\bar{I}S_t} \\
&= \left(1 + \frac{k\bar{I}/I_t v}{\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t}\right) \sigma_Y(I_t)
\end{aligned}$$

and the expected return is

$$\begin{aligned}
E \left[ \frac{dP + Y dt}{P_t} - r_t dt \right] &= (1 + v) \sigma_Y(I_t) \sigma_P(I_t) \\
&= (1 + v) \left(1 + \frac{k\bar{I}/I_t v}{\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t}\right) \sigma_Y(I_t)^2
\end{aligned}$$

□

**Proof of Proposition 4.** Given the results of Propositions 1, 2, and 3, and the standard result that the efficient allocation maximize agents' utility, the only part left to show is the optimal allocation to stocks and bonds. From Cox and Huang (1989), the dynamic budget equation can be written as the present value of future consumption discounted using the stochastic discount factor. The optimal allocation can be found by finding the “replicating” portfolio, that is, the position in stocks and bonds that satisfies the static budget equation.

Consider agents' wealth obtained in (IA.3). Substituting  $\phi_i$  from (IA.4)

$$\begin{aligned}
W_{it} &= Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I}\gamma_i k + (\phi_i - \gamma_i)(\rho + k)}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right] \\
&= Y_t \left[ \left( \frac{\bar{I}\gamma_i k + \left( \frac{w_i + \gamma_i \bar{I}^{-1} - \gamma_i}{\bar{I}^{-1}} - \gamma_i \right) (\rho + k)}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right) I_t^{-1} + \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right] \\
&= Y_t \left[ \frac{\gamma_i \rho + [(w_i - \gamma_i)\rho + w_i k] \bar{I} S_t}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho(\rho + k)} [\gamma_i \rho + (w_i(\rho + k) - \gamma_i \rho) \bar{I} S_t]
\end{aligned}$$

From Ito's lemma, the diffusion of wealth process  $dW_{i,t}/W_{i,t}$  is

$$\sigma_{W,i}(I_t) = \sigma_Y(I_t) + \frac{(w_i(\rho + k) - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I_t)}{\gamma_i\rho + (w_i(\rho + k) - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}} \quad (\text{IA.6})$$

By market completeness (Cox and Huang (1989)), agent  $i$ 's wealth is always equal to his allocation to stocks and bonds

$$W_{it} = N_{i,t}P_t + B_{it}$$

where  $B_{it}$  is the position in bonds (i.e. deposits or loans depending if positive or negative). From this latter expression,  $N_{it}$  must be chosen to equate the diffusion of the portfolio to the diffusion of wealth. That is, such that

$$N_{it}P_t\sigma_P(I_t) = W_{i,t}\sigma_{W,i}(I_t)$$

Solving for  $N_{it}$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} N_{it} &= \frac{W_{it}\sigma_{W,i}(I)}{P_t\sigma_P(I)} \\ &= \frac{(\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho + k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}{(\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t)} \left( \frac{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{(w_i(\rho+k)-\rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho\gamma_i+(w_i(\rho+k)-\rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}}{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}} \right) \\ &= \frac{(\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho + k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}{(\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t)} \left( \frac{\frac{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho\gamma_i+(w_i(\rho+k)-\rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)+(w_i(\rho+k)-\rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho\gamma_i+(w_i(\rho+k)-\rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}}{\frac{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)+k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}} \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho + k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t) + (w_i(\rho + k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t) + k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)} \right) \\ &= \frac{\sigma_Y(I)\rho\gamma_i + \sigma_Y(I)\bar{I}/I_t(w_i(\rho + k) - \rho\gamma_i) + w_i(\rho + k)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I) - \rho\gamma_i\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t) + k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)} \\ &= \gamma_i + (\rho + k) \frac{\sigma_Y(I)\bar{I}/I_t + \bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{\sigma_Y(I)(\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t) + k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)} (w_i - \gamma_i) \\ &= \gamma_i + (\rho + k) \frac{\sigma_Y(I)\bar{I}/I_t + \bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{\sigma_Y(I)\rho + k(\sigma_Y(I)\bar{I}/I_t + \bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I))} (w_i - \gamma_i) \\ &= \gamma_i + (\rho + k) \frac{\bar{I}/I_t[\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I)]}{\sigma_Y(I)\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t[\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I)]} (w_i - \gamma_i) \\ &= \gamma_i + (\rho + k) \frac{\bar{I}/I_t\sigma_M(I)}{\sigma_Y(I)\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t\sigma_M(I)} (w_i - \gamma_i) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\sigma_M(Y) = \sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I)$$

Finally, substituting  $\sigma_I(I) = v\sigma_Y(I)$  from definition (IA.5) and deleting  $\sigma_Y(I)$  through-out, the result follows.

Similarly, we have that the amount in bonds is

$$\begin{aligned}
B_{it} &= W_{it} - N_{it}P_t \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho} \left( \frac{\rho}{\rho+k} \gamma_i + \left( w_i - \frac{\rho}{\rho+k} \gamma_i \right) \bar{I}/I_t \right) - N_{it} Y_t \frac{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}{\rho(\rho+k)} \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho(\rho+k)} \left[ (\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho+k) - \rho\gamma_i) \bar{I}/I_t) - N_{it} (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho(\rho+k)} \left[ \gamma_i (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) + w_i (\rho+k) \bar{I}/I_t - \gamma_i (\rho+k) \bar{I}/I_t - N_{it} (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho(\rho+k)} \left[ \gamma_i (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) + (w_i - \gamma_i) (\rho+k) \bar{I}/I_t - N_{it} (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) \right] \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho} \left[ \bar{I}/I_t - \frac{\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I)}{\sigma_Y(I) \rho + k\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I)} (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t) \right] (w_i - \gamma_i) \\
&= Y_t \frac{1}{\rho} \left[ \frac{\bar{I}/I_t [\sigma_Y(I) \rho + k\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I)] - \bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I) (\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}{\sigma_Y(I) \rho + k\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I)} \right] (w_i - \gamma_i) \\
&= -Y_t \left[ \frac{\bar{I}/I_t (\sigma_M(I) - \sigma_Y(I))}{\sigma_Y(I) \rho + k\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I)} \right] (w_i - \gamma_i) \\
&= -Y_t \left[ \frac{\bar{I}/I_t (\sigma_M(I) / \sigma_Y(I) - 1)}{\rho + k\bar{I}/I_t \sigma_M(I) / \sigma_Y(I)} \right] (w_i - \gamma_i)
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, substituting  $\sigma_I(I) = v\sigma_Y(I)$  from definition (IA.5) and deleting  $\sigma_Y(I)$  throughout, the result follows.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 4.** Immediate from Proposition 2 and 3. The state price density and the price of stocks are independent of cross-sectional quantities.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 6.** We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{N_{i,t}P_t}{W_{i,t}} &= \frac{\sigma_{W_i}(I)}{\sigma_P(I)} \\
&= \frac{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{(w_i - \frac{\rho}{\rho+k}\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\frac{\rho}{\rho+k}\gamma_i + (w_i - \frac{\rho}{\rho+k}\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}}{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}} \\
&= \frac{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{(w_i(\rho+k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho+k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)}}{\sigma_Y(I) + \frac{k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}\sigma_I(I)}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)}} \\
&= \frac{\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I) \left( \frac{(w_i(\rho+k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}I_t^{-1}}{(\rho\gamma_i + (w_i(\rho+k) - \rho\gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t)} \right)}{\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I) \left( \frac{k\bar{I}I_t^{-1}}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)} \right)} \\
&= \frac{\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I) \left( 1 - \frac{\rho}{\rho + [k + (\rho+k)(w_i - \gamma_i)/\gamma_i]\bar{I}/I_t} \right)}{\sigma_Y(I) + \sigma_I(I) \left( 1 - \frac{\rho}{(\rho+k\bar{I}/I_t)} \right)}
\end{aligned}$$

Finally, substituting  $\sigma_I(I) = v\sigma_Y(I)$  from definition (IA.5) and deleting  $\sigma_Y(I)$  throughout, the result follows.  $\square$

### Derivation of expression (24)

Let

$$\text{SR}(I_t) \equiv \frac{E_t[dR_t - r_t dt]}{\sigma_P(I_t)} = (1+v)\sigma_Y(I_t) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta_i \equiv \frac{v\gamma_i}{(1+v)(\rho+k)}. \quad (\text{IA.7})$$

Finally define

$$\Omega_i(I_t) \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho + \left[ k + \frac{(\rho+k)(w_i - \gamma_i)}{\gamma_i} \right] \bar{I}/I_t}$$

The share of wealth invested in the risky security is

$$\frac{N_{i,t}P_t}{W_{i,t}} = \left( \frac{\sigma_Y(I_t)}{\sigma_P(I_t)} \right) [1 + v(1 - \Omega_i(I_t))] \quad (\text{IA.8})$$

$$= \left( \frac{\sigma_Y(I_t)}{\sigma_P(I_t)} \right) [1 + v(1 - \Omega_i(I_t))] \quad (\text{IA.9})$$

$$= \left( \frac{(1+v)\sigma_Y(I_t)}{\sigma_P(I_t)} \right) \left[ 1 - \frac{v}{1+v}\Omega_i(I_t) \right] \quad (\text{IA.10})$$

$$= \frac{\text{SR}(I_t)}{\sigma_P(I_t)} \left[ 1 - \frac{v}{1+v}\Omega_i(I_t) \right], \quad (\text{IA.11})$$



where we have made use of (IA.7).

The key is to show that

$$\Omega_i(I_t) \equiv \frac{\rho}{\rho + \left[ k + \frac{(\rho+k)(\omega_i - \gamma_i)}{\gamma_i} \right] \bar{I}/I_t} \quad (\text{IA.12})$$

$$= \frac{\rho\gamma_i}{\rho\gamma_i + [\rho(\omega_i - \gamma_i) + k\omega_i] \bar{I}/I_t} \quad (\text{IA.13})$$

$$= \left( \frac{Y_t}{\rho(\rho + k)} \right) \frac{\rho\gamma_i}{\frac{[\rho\gamma_i + [\rho(\omega_i - \gamma_i) + k\omega_i] \bar{I}/I_t] Y_t}{\rho(\rho+k)}} \quad (\text{IA.14})$$

$$= \left( \frac{\gamma_i}{\rho + k} \right) \frac{Y_t}{W_{i,t}} \quad (\text{IA.15})$$

Define  $\theta_i$  as in (IA.7) and substitute in (IA.11) to obtain (24).  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 7.** Part (a) follows immediately from the definitions. Part (b) is immediate from the expressions of debt-to-income and debt-to-wealth ratios. As for Part (c), debt-to-income ratio only depends on  $H(I_t)$  which is decreasing in  $I_t$ . Therefore, debt-to-income ratio is procyclical. As for debt-to-wealth, we now show that

$$L_{it}/W_{it} = \frac{v\rho(\rho + k)(\omega_i - \gamma_i)H(I)}{\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}/I}$$

is increasing in  $I_t$  when  $I_t$  is below a (high) threshold  $I_i^*$ . It is useful to express the function as a function of  $S = 1/I$ :

$$\begin{aligned} L_{it}/W_{it} &= \frac{v\rho(\rho + k)(\omega_i - \gamma_i)H(I_t)}{\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}/I_t} \\ &= v\rho(\rho + k)(\omega_i - \gamma_i) \frac{\left( \frac{\bar{I}S_t}{\rho+k(1+v)\bar{I}S} \right)}{(\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}S_t)} \\ &= v(\omega_i - \gamma_i) \left( \frac{\bar{I}S_t\rho(\rho + k)}{(\rho + k(1 + v)\bar{I}S_t)(\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\bar{I}S_t)} \right) \\ &= v(\omega_i - \gamma_i) \left( \frac{\tilde{S}_t\rho(\rho + k)}{(\rho + k(1 + v)\tilde{S}_t)(\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\tilde{S}_t)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{S}_t = \bar{I}S_t$ . Recalling that leverage is positive for  $\omega_i > \gamma_i$ , we have then to show that

$$\begin{aligned} f(\tilde{S}_t) &= \frac{(\rho + k(1 + v)\tilde{S}_t)(\rho\gamma_i + ((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\tilde{S}_t)}{\tilde{S}_t} \\ &= \frac{(\rho + k(1 + v)\tilde{S}_t)\rho\gamma_i + (\rho + k(1 + v)\tilde{S}_t)((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i\rho)\tilde{S}_t}{\tilde{S}_t} \\ &= \frac{a_i + b_i\tilde{S}_t + c_i\tilde{S}_t^2}{\tilde{S}_t} \end{aligned}$$

is increasing in  $\tilde{S}_t$  where

$$\begin{aligned} a_i &= \rho^2 \gamma_i \\ b_i &= \rho \gamma_i k (1 + v) + \rho((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i \rho) \\ c_i &= k(1 + v)((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i \rho) \end{aligned}$$

Taking the first derivative, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f'(\tilde{S}_t) &= \frac{[b_i + 2c_i \tilde{S}_t] \tilde{S}_t - [a_i + b_i \tilde{S}_t + c_i \tilde{S}_t^2]}{\tilde{S}_t^2} = \frac{c_i \tilde{S}_t^2 - a_i}{\tilde{S}_t^2} \\ &= c_i - \frac{a_i}{\tilde{S}_t^2} > 0 \end{aligned}$$

if and only if

$$\tilde{S}_t > \sqrt{\frac{a_i}{c_i}} = \sqrt{\frac{\rho^2 \gamma_i}{k(1 + v)((\rho + k)\omega_i - \gamma_i \rho)}}$$

Thus, the debt-to-wealth ratio  $L_{it}/W_{it}$  is increasing in  $I_t$  for

$$I_t < I_i^{**} = \bar{I} \sqrt{\frac{k(1 + v)((\rho + k)\omega_i/\gamma_i - \rho)}{\rho}} \quad (\text{IA.16})$$

This threshold is increasing in  $\omega_i/\gamma_i$ . Moreover, recalling that  $\omega_i/\gamma_i > 1$ , we see that

$$I_i^{**} > I^{**} = \bar{I} \frac{k}{\rho} \sqrt{1 + v} \quad (\text{IA.17})$$

Hence,  $L_{it}/W_{it}$  is increasing in  $I_t$  for  $I_t < I^{**}$ . In the calibration we show that this threshold is in fact rarely reached by the process  $I_t$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 8.** The expressions of the drift and diffusion of  $dC_{it}/C_{it}$  stem from the application of Ito's lemma to the consumption  $C_{it} = Y_t[\gamma_i + (\omega_i - \gamma_i)\bar{I}/I_t]$ . The remaining part follows from the statement in the corollary.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 9.** Immediate from the fact  $H(I_t)$  is decreasing and the fact that agents with  $\omega_i - \gamma_i > 0$  are leveraged and have  $C_{it}/D_t$  that is decreasing in  $I_t$ .  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 10.** Part (a) follows from the definition  $\mathcal{D}_t$  in equation (32). Part (b) follow immediately from the definition of debt-to-output and debt-to-equity ratios. As for part (c), debt-to-output is procyclical as it only depends on  $H(I)$ , which is decreasing in  $I$ . As for debt-to-wealth, we now show that

$$\mathcal{D}/P = \frac{v\rho(\rho + k)K_1 H(I)}{\rho + k\bar{I}/I}$$

is increasing in  $I_t$  when  $I_t$  is below a (high) threshold  $I^*$ . It is useful to express the function as a function of  $S = 1/I$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{D}/P &= \frac{v\rho(\rho+k)K_1H(I)}{\rho+k\bar{I}/I} \\
&= v\rho(\rho+k)K_1 \frac{\left(\frac{\bar{I}S}{\rho+k(1+v)\bar{I}S}\right)}{(\rho+k\bar{I}S)} \\
&= vK_1 \left( \frac{\bar{I}S\rho(\rho+k)}{(\rho+k(1+v)\bar{I}S)(\rho+k\bar{I}S)} \right) \\
&= vK_1 \left( \frac{\rho(\rho+k)}{\frac{(\rho+k\bar{I}S)^2}{\bar{I}S} + kv(\rho+k\bar{I}S)} \right)
\end{aligned}$$

We have to show that

$$\begin{aligned}
f(S) &= \frac{(\rho+k\bar{I}S)^2}{\bar{I}S} + kv(\rho+k\bar{I}S) \\
&= \frac{(\rho+k\bar{I}S)^2 + kv(\rho+k\bar{I}S)\bar{I}S}{\bar{I}S} \\
&= \frac{\rho^2 + (1+v)(k\bar{I}S)^2 + (2+v)\rho k\bar{I}S}{\bar{I}S} \\
&= \frac{\left[ \rho^2 + (1+v)(k\tilde{S})^2 + (2+v)\rho k\tilde{S} \right]}{\tilde{S}}
\end{aligned}$$

is increasing in  $\tilde{S} = \bar{I}S$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
f'(\tilde{S}) &= \frac{\left[ (1+v)2(k\tilde{S})k + (2+v)\rho k \right] \tilde{S} - \left[ \rho^2 + (1+v)(k\tilde{S})^2 + (2+v)\rho k\tilde{S} \right]}{\tilde{S}^2} \\
&= \frac{(1+v)2(k\tilde{S})^2 + (2+v)\rho k\tilde{S} - \rho^2 - (1+v)(k\tilde{S})^2 - (2+v)\rho k\tilde{S}}{\tilde{S}^2} \\
&= \frac{(1+v)(k\tilde{S})^2 - \rho^2}{\tilde{S}^2} > 0
\end{aligned}$$

if

$$\tilde{S} > \frac{\rho}{k\sqrt{1+v}}$$

Thus, the debt-to-equity ratio  $\mathcal{D}/P$  is increasing in  $I_t$  for  $I_t < I^{**}$  where  $I^{**}$  is the same threshold in (IA.17).  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 11.** The intermediary debt-to-output ratio is decreasing in  $I$ , i.e. in bad times, when the price  $P$  is also low and the volatility  $\sigma_P(I)$  is high. The result follows.  $\square$

**Proof of Corollary 12.** Part (a) follows from the fact that from Proposition 10 the debt-to-output ratio  $\mathcal{L}_t = \mathcal{D}/Y = f(I_t)$  is decreasing in  $I_t$ . This implies that its inverse  $I_t = f^{-1}(\mathcal{L}_t) = q(\mathcal{L}_t)$  is also decreasing in  $\mathcal{L}_t$ . Thus, the market price of risk  $\lambda^{\mathcal{D}/Y} = -q'(\mathcal{L})/q(\mathcal{L}) > 0$ . Similarly, part (b) follows from the fact that again from Proposition 10 the ratio  $\mathcal{L}_t = \mathcal{D}/P = g(I)$  is increasing in  $I_t$  for  $I_t < I^*$  in equation (IA.17). Thus, in this range,  $I_t = g^{-1}(\mathcal{L}_t) = q(\mathcal{L})$  is also increasing in  $\mathcal{L}$  and thus in this case the market price of risk  $\lambda^{\mathcal{D}/Y} = -q'(\mathcal{L})/q(\mathcal{L}) < 0$ .  $\square$

## IA2. Estimating household total and systematic consumption volatility

A challenge in the literature regarding the estimation of consumption volatility – the systematic and idiosyncratic components – is the lack of reliable high frequency panel data. In this Appendix we illustrate how we can use only cross-sectional information across households and then the time series across cohorts to estimate both components.

Consider the simple continuous time model, which generalizes the one derived in the model as we allow consumption to have cross-sectionally independent shocks:

$$\frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} = \mu_{it}dt + \sigma_{it}dZ_{it} \quad (\text{IA.18})$$

In this process, both  $\mu_{it}$  and  $\sigma_{it}$  are cross-sectionally different from each other and time varying. We are interested in estimating  $\sigma_{it}$ . From Ito's lemma we have

$$d \log(C_{it}) = \left( \mu_{it} - \frac{1}{2}\sigma_{it}^2 \right) dt + \sigma_{it}dZ_{it} \quad (\text{IA.19})$$

Therefore, for every  $i$  and  $t$ , we have

$$\hat{\sigma}_{it}^2 = \frac{2}{dt} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} - d \log(C_{it}) \right] \quad (\text{IA.20})$$

This quantity is independent of  $dZ_{it}$  (it is a  $dt$  term) and on whether shocks are correlated with each other or not. Therefore, the (rescaled) difference between arithmetic and log consumption growth isolates the consumption variance of agent  $i$  at time  $t$ . This is a (noisy) observation of variance itself, and we are going to treat it as such.

In our model all consumption processes are perfectly correlated, and there are no idiosyncratic shocks. To calibrate the model we thus assume a common shock to  $dZ_{it}$ , that is

$$dZ_{it} = \rho dZ_t + \sqrt{1 - \rho^2} dZ_{it}^*$$

where  $dZ_{it}^*$  are uncorrelated across  $i$ . This assumption implies that all consumption process across every two agents have correlation  $\rho^2$ :

$$\text{Corr} \left( \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \frac{dC_{jt}}{C_{jt}} \right) = \rho^2 dt$$

This assumption can be relaxed but given the scope of the current calibration it suffices for our purposes.

Consider now the cross-sectional average of consumption growth  $E_t^{CS} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \right]$ . This quantity follows the dynamic process

$$\begin{aligned} E_t^{CS} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \right] &= E_t^{CS} [g_{it}] dt + E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it} dZ_{it}] \\ &= E_t^{CS} [g_{it}] dt + \rho E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it}] dZ_t + \sqrt{(1 - \rho^2)} E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it} dZ_{it}^*] \end{aligned}$$

From the law of large numbers the idiosyncratic shocks average to zero

$$E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it} dZ_{it}^*] = E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it}] E^{CS} [dZ_{it}^*] = 0$$

Therefore the average arithmetic consumption growth follows

$$E_t^{CS} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \right] = E_t^{CS} [g_{it}] dt + E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it}] \rho dZ_t$$

Hence, the squared variation of average consumption growth in continuous time has

$$\left( E_t^{CS} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \right] \right)^2 = E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it}]^2 \rho^2 dt + o(dt)$$

That is, we can identify the average systematic volatility of consumption growth from the squared variation of the cross-sectional average of consumption growth, a result that is not surprising.

We are interested however to also identify the whole distribution of systematic volatility  $\{\sigma_{it}^2 \rho^2\}_i$ . Given our estimates of  $\sigma_{it}^2$  obtained earlier we just need to estimate  $\rho^2$ , which can be done from the following estimator:

$$\widehat{\rho}^2 = \frac{E_t^{CS} \left[ \frac{dC_{it}}{C_{it}} \right]^2}{E_t^{CS} [\sigma_{it}]^2} / dt \tag{IA.21}$$

The systematic variance of agent  $i$  at time  $t$  is then

$$V_{it}^2 = \widehat{\sigma}_{it}^2 \widehat{\rho}^2 \tag{IA.22}$$

To conclude this section, we note that to estimate time  $t$  quantities – idiosyncratic and total volatility components – we only need cross-sectional information. We then use time series information across cohorts of households to compute averages.

## CEX Data

We exploit the dataset of Kocherlakota and Pistaferri (2009) and Toda and Welsh (2015). We refer the reader to those papers for a more detailed description of the data. In a nutshell, the data are from the survey of consumer expenditure (CEX). Households are surveyed for

four consecutive quarters, in January, February, and March cycles. Thus, the growth rate can be observed at most at quarterly frequency, i.e.  $dt = 0.25$ . While this is a large time difference, Monte Carlo simulations indicate that the methodology above provides reliable estimates for the distribution of consumption volatility.

For each agent  $i$ , we have 3 observations of its variance as in (IA.20). To minimize the impact of seasonalities, we then take the average of the three observations of  $\hat{\sigma}_{it}^2$  across the three quarters

$$\hat{V}_t^i = \frac{1}{3}\hat{\sigma}_{it}^2 + \frac{1}{3}\hat{\sigma}_{it+0.25}^2 + \frac{1}{3}\hat{\sigma}_{it+0.5}^2$$

For every year  $t$  in a given cycle (Jan, Feb, and Mar), we can then compute the distribution of consumption volatility across households. For instance, we can compute the mean, the median, and various percentiles  $\alpha$

$$\hat{V}_t^{Ave} = Average \left[ \hat{V}_t^i \right]; \quad \hat{V}_t^{Med} = Median \left[ V_t^i \right]; \quad \hat{V}_t^\alpha = Percentile \left[ V_t^i, \alpha \right]$$

Similarly, for every  $t$  we can compute an observation for  $\hat{\rho}_t$  from estimator (IA.21). We can thus obtain the systematic component of volatilities as above:

$$\hat{V}_t^{Sys,Ave} = Average \left[ \hat{V}_t^i \hat{\rho}_t^2 \right]; \quad \hat{V}_t^{Sys,Med} = Median \left[ V_t^i \hat{\rho}_t^2 \right]; \quad \hat{V}_t^{Sys,\alpha} = Percentile \left[ V_t^i \hat{\rho}_t^2, \alpha \right]$$

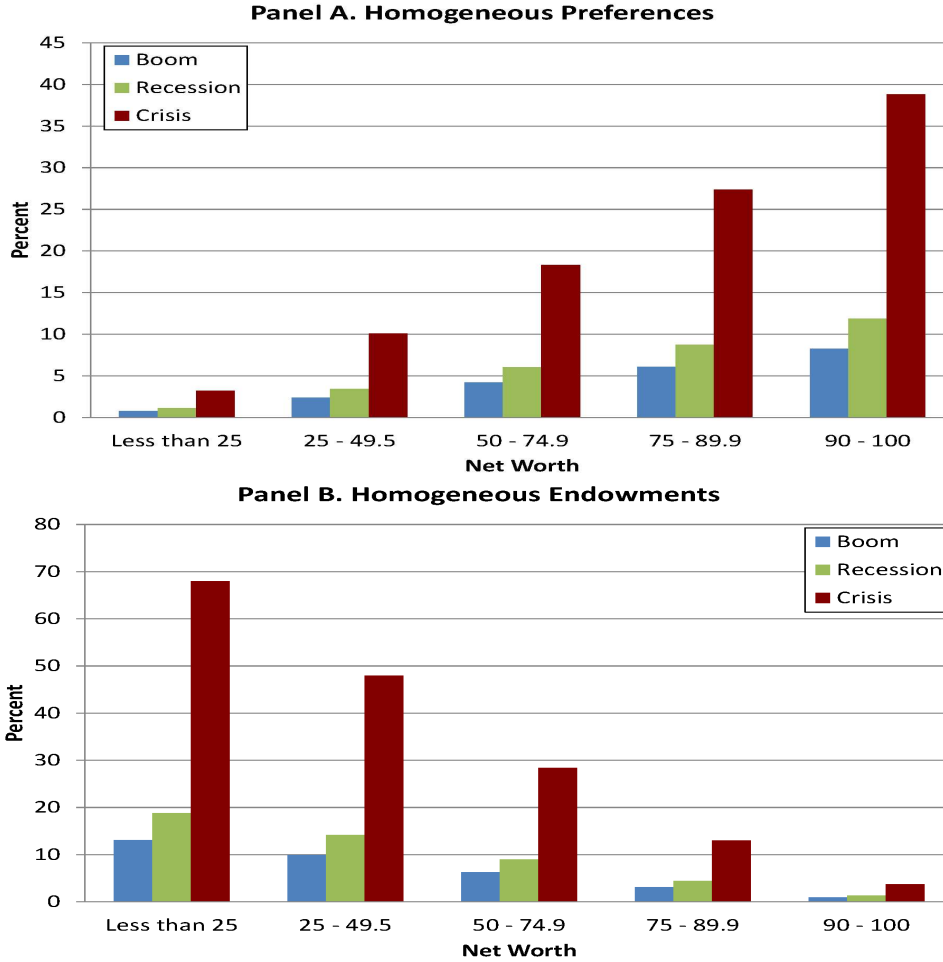
We finally take average across cohorts (Jan, Feb, and March), and finally across time. Panel A of Table 2 contains the results.

## IA3. Cross-Sectional Heterogeneity

In this section we illustrate the model's implications for alternative parameterizations for the cross-sectional parameters to highlight the importance of differences in endowments and difference in utility functions.

### IA3.1. Homogeneous Preferences

We first investigate the impact of homogeneous preferences on our results. Recall that in our model agents' endowment heterogeneity still generates cross-sectional differences in risk aversion, and in agents' leverage and portfolio holdings. From Panel B of Table 2 we see that moving from heterogeneous to homogeneous preferences yields a large decrease in households' dispersion in consumption growth (from 4.89% to 2.97%) and in household quarterly consumption volatility (from 7.05% to 4.26%). That is, endowment heterogeneity still generates differential systematic volatility of household consumption but not as large as the data seem to indicate (Panel A).

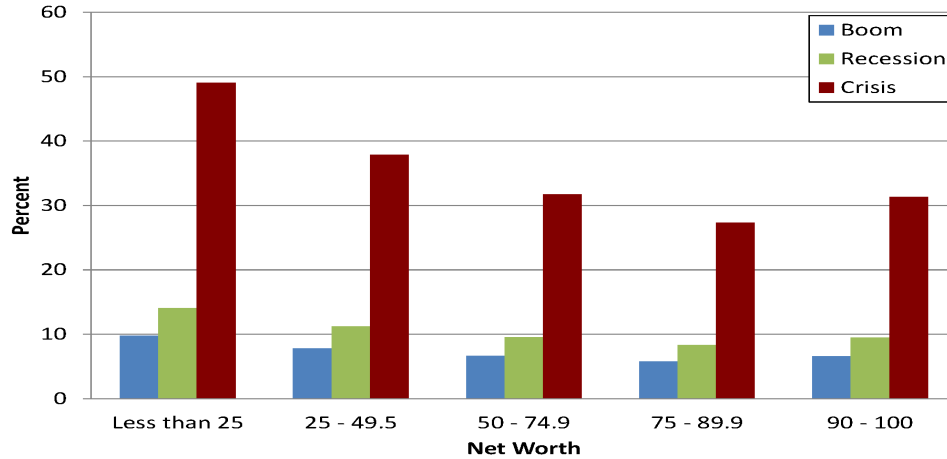


**Figure IA.1: Debt-to-assets ratios across the wealth distribution.** Both panels plot the distribution of debt-to-asset ratios of agents who take on debt in simulations during three types of periods: Booms ( $S_t$  high), recessions ( $S_t$  low) and crisis ( $S_t$  very low). Panel A reports the case in which all agents have homogeneous preferences  $a_i = 1$  for all  $i$ . Panel B reports the case in which all agents have homogeneous endowments  $\omega_i = 1$  for all  $i$ .

In addition, Panel A of Figure IA.1 shows that homogeneous preferences with endowment heterogeneity produces a debt/asset ratio that is counterfactually *increasing* in agents' net worth (see Figure 7). That is, in this case, agents with higher endowment are less risk averse and thus take on leverage.

### IA3.2. Homogeneous Endowments

The second interesting case is one in which agents have still heterogeneous preferences  $\gamma_i \sim U[0, 2]$  but have homogeneous endowments  $w_i = 1$ . The last line of Panel B of Table 2, shows that the implications about consumption behavior are very similar to those with large heterogeneity in Pareto weights (line 1). Indeed, Panel B of Figure IA.1 shows a similar leverage pattern across net worth as in Panel A of Figure 7.



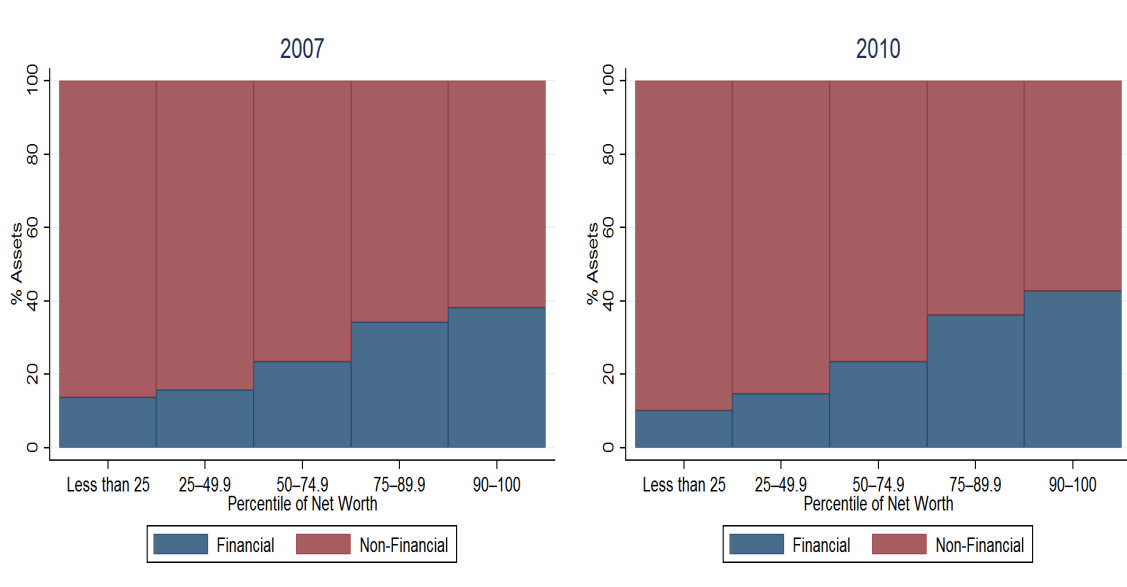
**Figure IA.2: Debt-to-assets ratios across the wealth distribution for higher dispersion of endowments.** This figure plots the distribution of debt-to-asset ratios of agents who take on debt in simulations during three types of periods: Booms ( $S_t$  high), recessions ( $S_t$  low) and crisis ( $S_t$  very low). Parameters are as in Figure 7 in the paper except that  $\sigma_w = 1$ .

### IA3.3. A U-Shape in Leverage

The homogeneous preferences and homogeneous endowments discussed in the previous two sections highlight two dramatically different patterns in leverage (debt/assets) versus net-worth of the leveraged agents in the economy. The main body uses a calibration for the cross-section of agents that matches the volatility of systematic consumption as in the data, and it is consistent with a declining pattern in leverage versus net worth. We consider here the pattern that realizes when we choose  $\sigma_w = 1$  instead of  $\sigma_w = 0.75$ . As shown in Panel B of Table 2 this choice generates a slightly too high average systematic volatility. Figure IA.2 plots the debt-to-asset distribution across net-worth bins and shows a mildly U-shape distribution of leverage: Agents with low net-worth are the most leveraged, the ones with the 75-90 percentile are the least leveraged and those in the top decile (90-100) have higher leverage than the those in the 75-90 percentile.



**Figure IA.3:** Financial and non-financial asset by net-worth percentile



## IA4. Household Leverage

### IA4.1. Equity and Private Business as Leveraged Investments

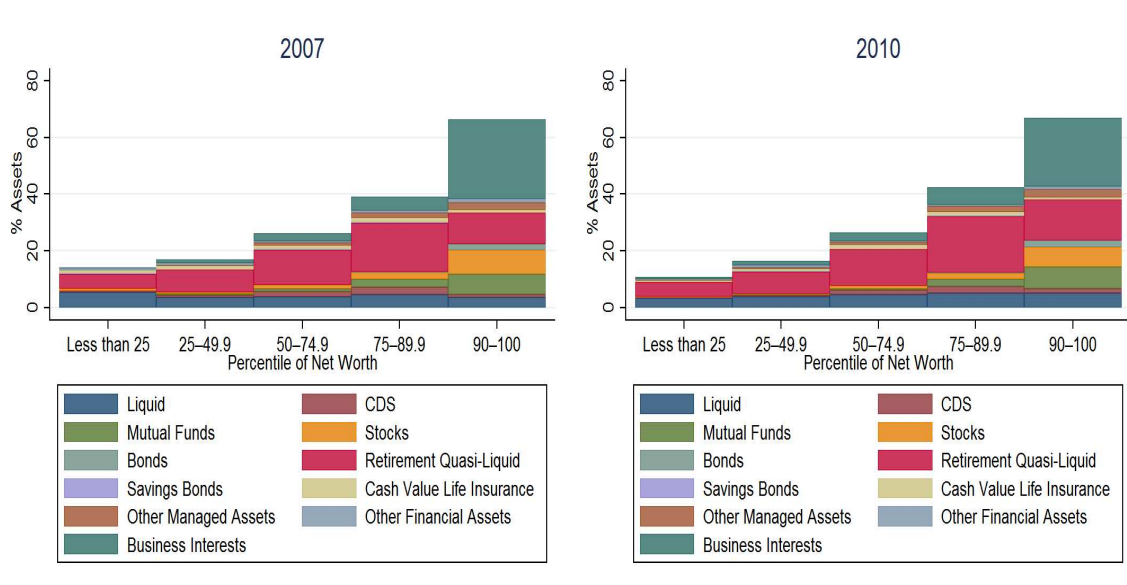
In this section we use the CSF data to include the effective leverage of households implied by their investments in equity and private businesses.<sup>1</sup> To begin and get a better idea of how important could be the indirect leverage from investment in stocks, private equity, etc Figures IA.3 and IA.4 show some graphs depicting households' asset composition by percentiles. As we would expect the proportion of financial assets is increasing in net worth. In these graphs we also include “business interests” which is classified as a non-financial asset and it corresponds to businesses owned by the household (not publicly traded). We can see that those in the top of the net worth distribution have a large proportion of their assets in business interests (up to 40% in the top percentile). Similarly, the share of assets in stocks, mutual funds, and retirement account are increasing in net worth.

Given the evidence above, we now adjust household leverage for the leverage that is already implicit in their investments. Based on the decomposition of assets, Equity and Business Interests (BUS), there are the two categories where we could include adjustments. The other category that includes equity is Other Financial Assets (OTHFIN). OTHFIN includes Non-Public Stocks. However, OTHFIN as share of total assets is very small and if we decompose OTHFIN even further, we find that in 2007 no household report holdings of Non-Public Stocks and in 2010 only 5 households report holdings. We thus do nothing to OTHFIN.

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<sup>1</sup>We thank Alejandro Hojo Suarez for excellent research assistance.

**Figure IA.4:** Asset composition by net-worth percentile



We make three adjustments to take into account implicit leverage. In general, to adjust debt and assets by indirect leverage we need to keep in mind that the following accounting equation must hold at all times:

$$\text{Net Worth} = \text{Assets} - \text{Debt}$$

We can decompose Assets as:

$$\text{Assets} = \text{Equity} + \text{BUS} + \text{Other Assets}$$

Now, Equity reported by households must be equal to shareholders equity from the firms' balance sheet

$$\text{Equity} = \text{Firms Assets} - \text{Firm Debt}$$

We consider two cases for the ratio  $\frac{\text{Firm Debt}}{\text{Firm Assets}}$ , namely, 20% and 30% (see Graham, Leary, and Roberts (2015), Table 1, Panel C and Figure 2, Panel A). For instance, if we consider a 20% Firm Debt/Firm Asset ratio, the calculations are as follows:

$$\text{Net Worth} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{0.8}\text{Equity} + \text{BUS} + \text{OtherAssets}}_{\text{Adj1.Assets}} - \underbrace{\left(\text{Debt} + \frac{0.2}{0.8}\text{Equity}\right)}_{\text{Adj1.Debt}}$$

### IA4.1.1. First Adjustment

Assuming a 20% debt/asset ratio, the first adjustment is thus:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Adj1.Assets} &= \text{Assets} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} \\ \text{Adj1.Debt} &= \text{Debt} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity}\end{aligned}$$

Columns 4 and 5 of Table IA.2 shows the leverage ratio in 2007 and 2009, respectively, after the first adjustment. Panel A reports the case in which the implicit equity leverage is 20% while Panel B reports the case with implicit leverage at 30%. Compared to Columns 2 and 3 (no adjustments) in the respective panels, the implicit leverage of equity indeed increases the effective leverage of households in the top percentile of the net-worth distribution, but mildly. The decreasing pattern of leverage in net worth is unchanged.

### IA4.1.2. Second Adjustment

The second adjustment is related to business interests. Business interests is constructed as net equity if businesses were sold today (NPrEq), plus loans from household to business (L), minus loans from business to household not previously reported (BLoan), plus value of personal assets used as collateral for business loans that were reported earlier (COL\_Rep).

$$\text{BUS} = \text{NPrEq} + \text{L} - \text{BLoan} + \text{COL\_Rep}$$

We can adjust BUS by adding back the loans from the business to the household not previously reported (BLoan) and add the value of personal assets used as collateral for business loans that were NOT reported earlier (COL\_NORep).

$$\text{Adj.BUS} = \text{BUS} + \text{BLoan} + \text{COL\_NORep}$$

Still assuming an implicit debt/asset = 20% for illustration, the Net Worth is then:

$$\text{Net Worth} = \underbrace{\frac{1}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{Adj.BUS} + \text{OtherAssets}}_{\text{Adj2.Assets}} - \underbrace{\left( \text{Debt} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{BLoan} + \text{COL\_NORep} \right)}_{\text{Adj2.Debt}}$$

The second adjustment is

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Adj2.Assets} &= \text{Assets} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{BLoan} + \text{COL\_NORep} \\ \text{Adj2.Debt} &= \text{Debt} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{BLoan} + \text{COL\_NORep}\end{aligned}$$

Columns 6 and 7 of Table IA.2 shows the leverage ratio in 2007 and 2009, respectively, after the first and second adjustment. Again, Panel A reports the case in which the implicit

**Table IA.2: Household Leverage: Robustness.** This table reports households leverage from SCF data with adjustments for the leverage implicit in the assets in their portfolios. We consider three adjustments. Adjustment 1 adjusts debt and assets for the leverage implicit in equity. Adjustment 2 adjusts debt and assets for the leverage implicit in equity and the collateralized debt in private businesses (PB). Adjustment 3 adjusts debt and assets for the leverage implicit in equity and in private businesses. The implicit leverage in equity is in the titles of the two panels.

Panel A. 20% Implicit Leverage in Equity										
Percentile of Net Worth in 2009	No Adjustments		Adjustment 1		Adjustment 2		Adjustment 3 (30% leverage in PB)		Adjustment 3 (60% leverage in PB)	
	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009
Less 25	74.8	134.6	74.7	134.2	74.8	133.6	75.0	133.2	73.7	131.4
25 - 49.9	50.6	65.2	50.0	64.5	50.5	64.6	51.5	64.7	51.9	62.9
50-74.9	32.0	40.5	31.8	39.2	32.5	39.4	33.6	39.9	34.3	38.4
75-89.9	20.7	24.4	21.1	23.2	24.3	23.5	25.7	24.8	29.1	27.3
90-100	7.8	9.7	10.4	10.7	14.2	15.1	21.0	21.4	35.6	35.1

Panel B. 30% Implicit Leverage in Equity										
Percentile of Net Worth in 2009	No Adjustments		Adjustment 1		Adjustment 2		Adjustment 3 (30% leverage in PB)		Adjustment 3 (60% leverage in PB)	
	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009	2007	2009
Less 25	74.8	134.6	74.9	134.0	74.9	133.4	75.1	133.0	73.9	131.2
25 - 49.9	50.6	65.2	50.5	64.9	51.0	65.0	52.0	65.1	52.4	63.3
50-74.9	32.0	40.5	33.2	40.2	33.9	40.4	34.9	40.9	35.6	39.4
75-89.9	20.7	24.4	23.5	25.1	26.5	25.4	27.8	26.6	30.9	28.9
90-100	7.8	9.7	13.6	13.4	17.1	17.5	23.4	23.4	37.2	36.4

equity leverage is 20% while Panel B reports the case with implicit leverage at 30%. Once again, compared to the previous cases in the respective panels, adding the business loans collateralized by personal assets increases the effective leverage of households in the top percentiles of the net-worth distributions, but again mildly. In particular, the decreasing pattern of leverage in net worth is unchanged.

### IA4.1.3. Third adjustment

The second adjustment only considered the implicit leverage in private business that is backed with personal assets. We include this third adjustment to take into account that most of the leverage in private business is not necessarily backed with personal assets. In a similar spirit as the first adjustment, we assume a leverage ratio for private business of 30% and 60%. This latter number is mostly to show the impact of such high leverage on the calculations, but it is not representative of the average leverage of private businesses, which is around 20%-30% (see Table II, Cole (2013).) Still assuming a 20% implicit equity leverage and a 30% implicit leverage for private businesses, the adjustment is then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Adj3.Assets} &= \max \left\{ \text{Assets} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{BLoan} + \frac{0.3}{0.7} \text{NPrEq}, \text{Adj2.Assets} \right\} \\ \text{Adj3.Debt} &= \max \left\{ \text{Debt} + \frac{0.2}{0.8} \text{Equity} + \text{BLoan} + \frac{0.3}{0.7} \text{NPrEq}, \text{Adj2.Debt} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Columns 8 and 9 of Table IA.2 shows the leverage ratio in 2007 and 2009, respectively, after the three adjustments, with a 30% implicit leverage in private businesses. As before, Panel A reports the case in which the implicit equity leverage is 20% while Panel B reports the case with implicit equity leverage at 30%. Once again, compared to the previous cases in the respective panels, adding the implicit leverage of private businesses increases the effective leverage of households in the top percentiles of the net-worth distributions. Still, the decreasing pattern of leverage in net worth is unchanged. To obtain a mildly U-shaped pattern in households' leverage with respect to net-worth one has to push the implicit leverage of private business much higher. For instance, the last two columns shows the case with 60% implied private business leverage and indeed we now see that households in the top 10% of net-worth distribution have more leverage than those in the 75-90% group. However, 60% average leverage of private businesses is a very high number compared to available estimates (see Cole (2013, Table II)).

## IA4.2. Household Leverage during the Spanish Crisis

In this section we report some additional evidence on household leverage around crises by using survey data from Spain.<sup>2</sup> For several years now the Bank of Spain has undertaken an

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<sup>2</sup>We thank Olympia Bover of the Bank of Spain for pointing out this result to us and providing the data for Figure IA.5.

official survey on Spanish households to gauge their financial position. The survey is known as the Encuesta Financiera de las Familias or EFF. This survey is similar to the Survey of Consumer Finances in U.S.<sup>3</sup> and it is designed to give as complete a view as possible of the financial position of Spanish households.<sup>4</sup> There are several waves available (2002, 2005, 2008, 2011, and 2014), which we can use to observe the financial position of Spanish households during the years in which the Spanish economy grew at a robust pace and the crisis years that start in 2008. A subtle issue concerns the moment the households are observed; the “wave year” straddles, typically, the previous year, when part of the fieldwork was conducted, and the year of the wave itself, when the fieldwork was completed. For instance for the 2008 survey the fieldwork lasted for eight months, between November 2008 and July 2009 and half of the surveys had already been conducted by March 2009 (see Bover, 2011). Instead in the case of the 2014 survey the fieldwork took place between September 2014 and March 2015 (see Bank of Spain, 2017).

With all these caveats in mind, Figure IA.5 shows the pattern of leverage once households are sorted in net-worth decile. The figure shows a pattern that is remarkably similar to the one predicted by the calibrated model and the one found in U.S. data (see Figure 7 in the main text).<sup>5</sup> First, households with lower net worth are the most leveraged and leverage declines monotonically with net worth. Richer agents lever less. Second, Spanish households levered in good times, between 2005 and 2008, when the Spanish economy is booming (the peak of the economic cycle in Spain is 2006-2007 and the economy started slowing down in 2008, though still posted a positive growth rate for the year).

The Spanish crisis of 2012 and 2013 was deep and resulted in a severe drop in housing prices. Households though were not able to delever fast enough, either through debt repayment and default. The level of household debt peaked in the last quarter of 2008 and has been declining ever since.<sup>6</sup> Figure IA.5 shows that even in the presence of debt repayment (or personal default, which is much more onerous in Spain than in the US) households have not decreased their leverage. The reason of course, is the precipitous drop of housing prices. As a result even though debt repayment continues leverage has not dropped amongst a large swath of Spanish households.

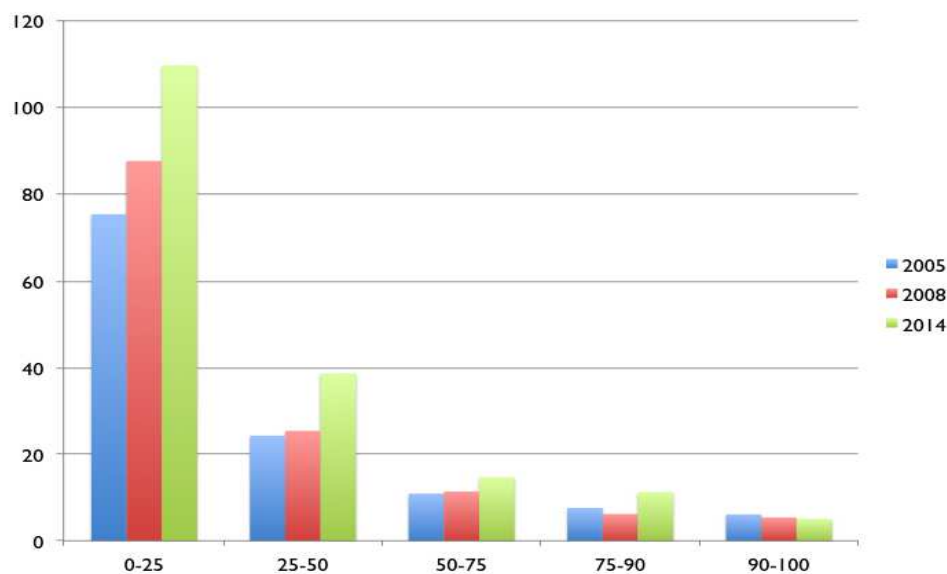
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<sup>3</sup>In fact the questionnaire and fieldwork were contracted to NORC at the University of Chicago to benefit from the experience that NORC has acquired over the years when conducting the Survey of Consumer Finances in the US since 1993 on behalf of the Federal Reserve.

<sup>4</sup>A description in english of the methodology and data of the survey can be found in the Economic Bulletin of the Bank of Spain for January of 2005. See also Bover (2004). In addition, the characteristics of the survey led the European system of central banks to adopt it and extend it to the EU countries in the Household Finance and Consumption Surveys, allowing for comparisons of the Spanish surveys with European ones as well.

<sup>5</sup>The second and third waves of the EFF have a full panel component; after that, and in order to main the representativeness of the sample, a refreshment sample was included. The plot shown thus differs slightly from the one reported with US data in that they are not exactly the same households across each of the years.

<sup>6</sup>Typically household debt for Spain is reported by reading loans extended by banks to consumers (mostly mortgages). that number peaked in the last quarter of 2008 at about EUR 800bn and it stands now at about EUR 650bn.



**Figure IA.5: Household Leverage during the Spanish Crisis.** This figure shows household leverage in Spain from the surveys of 2005 (boom), 2008 (slowdown), and 2014 (trough). Household leverage is the median ratio of debt to gross household wealth. The years correspond to three waves of the survey, which do not exactly match when the fieldwork took place. Data source: Encuesta Financiera de las Familias (EFF).

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