

# Temporary Layoffs, Loss-of-Recall, and Cyclical Unemployment Dynamics

Mark Gertler<sup>1</sup>, Christopher Huckfeldt<sup>2</sup>, Antonella Trigari<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>New York University, NBER

<sup>2</sup>Federal Reserve Board

<sup>3</sup>Bocconi University, CEPR, and IGIER

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## What We Do (1/2)

- ▶ Document the contribution of temporary layoffs (TL) to unemployment dynamics, from 1978 onwards
- ▶ Study contribution of “loss-of-recall” to the cyclical<sup>ity</sup> of unemployment
- ▶ Develop model of unemployment fluctuations that distinguishes between temporary and permanent separations ...

## What We Do (2/2)

- ▶ Model has 2 types of unemployment, as in Hall and Kudlyak (2022):
  - ▶ **Jobless** unemployment (**JL**): search for new job
  - ▶ **Temporary-layoff** unemployment (**TL**): wait for recall

Worker in  $u_{TL}$  moves to  $u_{JL}$  if prior job is destroyed (i.e., **loss-of-recall**)

- ▶ Calibrate model to dynamics of jobless and temporary-layoff unemployment using CPS, **1979-2019**
- ▶ Adapt the model to study the Covid-19 labor market

# Why We Do It (1/2)

Revisit recessionary impact of temporary layoffs

- ▶ Stabilizing “direct” effect: due to recall hiring
  - ▶ Workers in  $U_{TL}$  return to work faster than workers in  $U_{JL}$
  - ▶ Thus, TL's are stabilizing relative to permanent separations
  - ▶ Traditional view
- ▶ Destabilizing “indirect” effect: due to loss-of-recall
  - ▶ Workers in  $U_{TL}$  may lose their recall option and move to  $U_{JL}$
  - ▶ They do so at a higher rate during recessions
  - ▶ We estimate  $U_{JL-from-TL}$  to be countercyclical and highly volatile

Note: recall and loss-of-recall are endogenous and thus *policy-dependent*

## Why We Do It (2/2)

- ▶ Onset of Covid-19 pandemic: surge of **temporary layoffs**
  - ▶ First month: **15%** of employed workers move to  $u_{TL}$
  - ▶  $u_{TL}$  remains persistently high thereafter (across all sectors)
- ▶ Fiscal response: Paycheck Protection Program (**PPP**)
  - ▶ Forgivable loans for firms to recall workers
  - ▶ **\$953-billion program**— larger than 2009 Recovery Act
- ▶ What role did PPP play in shaping employment recovery?
  - ▶ What is the no-PPP counterfactual? **Requires structural model**
- ▶ **Our findings:** Large monthly reductions in  $u_{JL}$  due to PPP
  - ▶  **$\approx 2$  p.p.** in short-run,  **$\geq 1$  p.p.** thru May 2021
  - ▶ Achieved by preventing **loss-of-recall**

# Plan

- ▶ Empirics of temporary-layoff unemployment and loss-of-recall
- ▶ Model (three stocks, five flows)
- ▶ Model evaluation

and then

- ▶ Application to Covid-19 Recession

# Background Literature

- ▶ **Endogenous Separations and Temporary Layoffs:** Fujita and Ramey (2012); Fujita and Moscarini (2017)
- ▶ **DSGE Models of Unemployment with Wage Rigidity:** Shimer (2005); Hall (2005); Gertler and Trigari (2009); Christiano, Eichenbaum and Trabandt (2016)
- ▶ **Temporary Layoffs in the Recent Recession:** Cajner et al. (2020); Chetty et al. (2020); Coibion, Gorodnichenko, and Weber (2020); Gallant et al. (2020); Hall and Kudlyak (2020); Gregory, Menzio and Wiczer (2020); Barrero, Bloom, and Davis (2021); Chodorow-Reich and Coglianesse (2021); Sahin and Tasci (2022)
- ▶ **Evaluation of PPP:** Autor et al. (2020); Chetty et al. (2020); Hubbard and Strain (2020)

Empirics of  
Temporary-Layoff Unemployment  
& Loss-of-Recall



# Empirics of Loss-of-Recall

1.  $u_{TL}$  comprises just 1/8 of total unemployment ( $u$ )

Table: Total (U), jobless (JL), and temporary-layoff (TL) unemployment, 1978–2019

	$U =$		
	$JL + TL$	$JL$	$TL$
mean( $x$ )	6.2	5.4	0.8
std( $x$ )/std( $Y$ )	8.5	8.6	9.7
corr( $x$ , $Y$ )	-0.86	-0.82	-0.87

For second and third row, series are taken as (1) quarterly averages of seasonally adjusted monthly series, (2) logged, (3) HP-filtered with smoothing parameter 1600

# Empirics of Loss-of-Recall

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2. But look at flows: E-to-TL's account for 1/3 of all separations to  $u$

Table: Gross worker flows, 1978–2019

From	To			
	<i>E</i>	<i>TL</i>	<i>JL</i>	<i>I</i>
<i>E</i>	0.955	0.005	0.011	0.029
<i>TL</i>	0.435	0.245	0.191	0.129
<i>JL</i>	0.244	0.022	0.475	0.259
<i>I</i>	0.043	0.001	0.027	0.929

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2. But look at flows: E-to-TL's account for 1/3 of all separations to  $u$
3. And, JL-from-TL's return to employment at substantially lower rate

Table: Transitions from JL, TL, and JL-from-TL, 1978–2019

<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>			
	<i>E</i>	<i>TL</i>	<i>JL</i>	<i>I</i>
<i>JL, unconditional</i>	0.244	0.022	0.475	0.259
<i>TL, unconditional</i>	0.435	0.245	0.191	0.129
<i>JL-from-TL</i>	0.271	0.000	0.556	0.173

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4. E-to-TL's are particularly important during recessions:

Table: Cyclical properties, gross worker flows

	$\rho_{E,TL}$	$\rho_{E,JL}$	$\rho_{TL,E}$	$\rho_{JL,E}$	$\rho_{TL,JL}$
std(x)/std(Y)	11.325	5.257	6.266	6.650	10.119
corr(x, Y)	-0.494	-0.683	0.620	0.784	-0.301

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3. And, **JL-from-TL**'s return to employment at substantially lower rate
4. **E-to-TL**'s are particularly important during **recessions**:
  - 4.1 **More** employed workers are put on **TL**

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  - 4.2 Fewer workers from  $u_{TL}$  are recalled to employment

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  - 4.3 **More** workers move from  $u_{TL}$  to  $u_{JL}$  (**loss-of-recall**)

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  - 4.3 More workers move from  $u_{TL}$  to  $u_{JL}$  (loss-of-recall)

Direct effect:  $p_{E,TL} \uparrow$  &  $p_{TL,E} \downarrow \Rightarrow u_{TL} \uparrow$

Indirect effect:  $p_{E,TL} \uparrow$  &  $p_{TL,JL} \uparrow \Rightarrow u_{JL\text{-from-TL}} \uparrow$



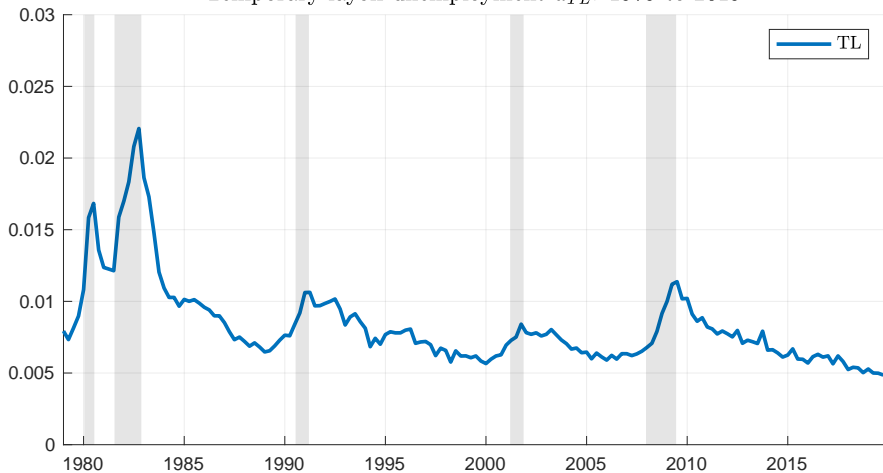
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3. And, **JL-from-TL**'s return to employment at substantially lower rate
4. **E-to-TL**'s are particularly important during **recessions**:
  - 4.1 More employed workers are put on TL
  - 4.2 Fewer workers from  $u_{TL}$  are recalled to employment
  - 4.3 More workers move from  $u_{TL}$  to  $u_{JL}$  (**loss-of-recall**)
5. We develop methods to estimate the **indirect effect**, i.e. **JL-from-TL**

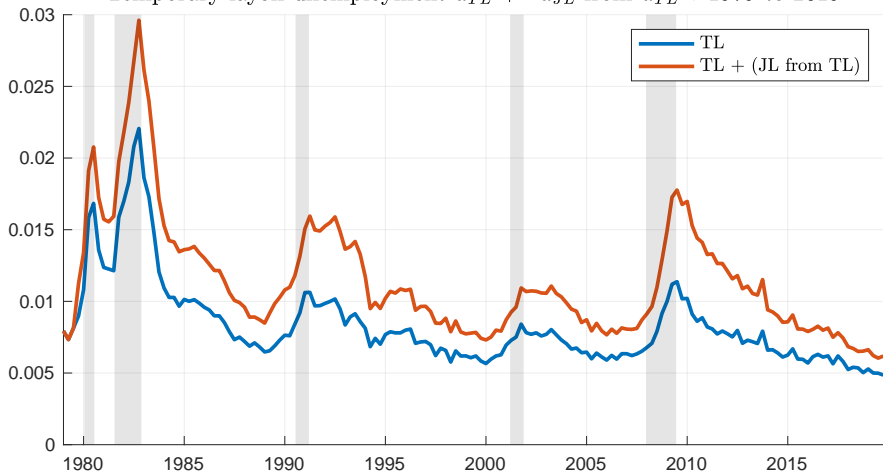
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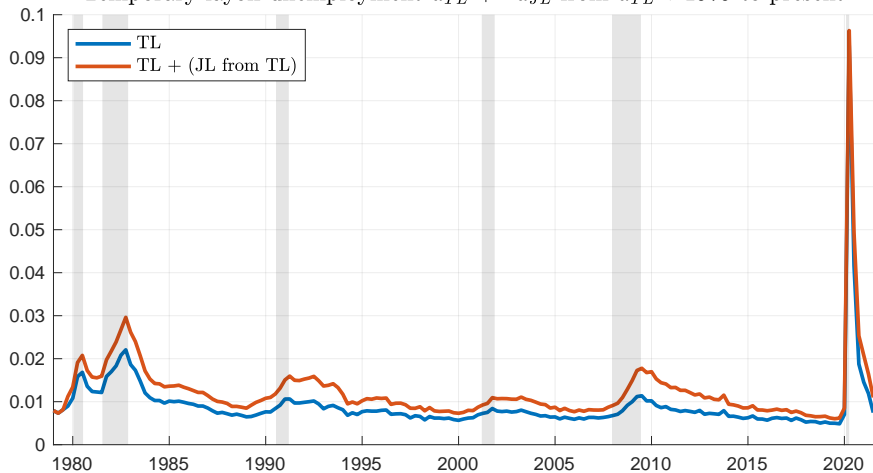
Temporary-layoff unemployment  $u_{TL}$ : 1979 to 2019



Temporary-layoff unemployment  $u_{TL}$  + “ $u_{JL}$  from  $u_{TL}$ ”: 1979 to 2019

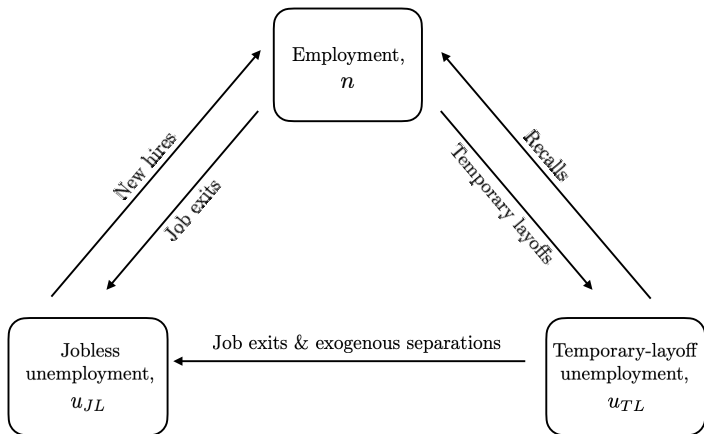


Temporary-layoff unemployment  $u_{TL}$  + “ $u_{JL}$  from  $u_{TL}$ ”: 1979 to present



Model

# Model



# Model

**Starting point:** RBC model with search and matching

- ▶ Perfect consumption insurance
- ▶ Wage rigidity via staggered Nash wage bargaining

**Key variations:**

- ▶ Endog. separations into temporary-layoff unemp.
- ▶ Recall hiring from temporary-layoff unemployment
- ▶ Endogenous separations into jobless unemployment
  - ▶ Allow for **temporary paycuts**: avoid inefficient separations
  - ▶ Permanent sep. triggers  $u_{TL} \rightarrow u_{JL}$  for some workers
- ▶ Hiring from jobless unemployment

# Details of Model

- ▶ Unemployed are either in
  - JL: **Searching for work** in a DMP-style matching market
  - TL: Waiting for **recall** or **loss-of-recall** ▶ Searchers, Matching and Recalls
- ▶ Firms, w/ CRS technology in labor and capital, draws **cost shocks**
  - ▶ Worker-specific overhead costs  $\Rightarrow$  separations to TL
  - ▶ Overhead costs to entire firm  $\Rightarrow$  separations to JL and JL-from-TL
    - ▶ Firms & Overhead Costs
    - ▶ Timing
    - ▶ Temporary Layoffs
    - ▶ Firm Exits
- ▶ After separations: firms rent capital, **hire** from JL, and **recall** from TL
  - ▶ Separate hiring costs: **recalls less expensive** than **new hiring**
    - ▶ Firms Problem
    - ▶ Hiring and Recalls
- ▶ Base wages set via staggered Nash bargaining
  - ▶ But **temporary paycuts** avoid inefficient exit ▶ Workers Problem ▶ Nash Bargaining



# Model Evaluation

# Calibration

- ▶ Calibrate model to match standard labor market stocks and flows...
  - ▶ Plus characteristics of temporary layoff, recall, and loss-of-recall
- ▶ Nested, two-stage estimation of 18 parameters
  - ▶ Inner loop: long-run moments
  - ▶ Outer loop: business cycle features

▶ Assigned Parameters

▶ Estimated Parameters - Inner Loop

▶ Estimated Parameters - Outer Loop

- ▶ Where we tie our hands:
  - ▶ Not a small-surplus calibration
  - ▶ Wage rigidity to match evidence on contract duration
  - ▶ Temporary paycuts can undo wage rigidity
- ▶ Model does well!

▶ Stocks & Wages

▶ Flows

▶ Loss-of-Recall

# Application to the Covid-19 Recession

# Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession

- ▶ Introduce **two shocks**:
  - ▶ “Lockdown” shocks: workers move to **lockdown-TL** (MIT shock)
  - ▶ Persistent shocks to effective TFP w/ each wave (social distancing)
- ▶ Add **two parameters** specific to workers on **lockdown-TL**:
  - ▶ Allow for different recall cost (vs. regular-TL)
  - ▶ Allow for different rate for loss-of-recall (vs. regular-TL)
- ▶ Treatment of **PPP**:
  - ▶ Direct factor payment subsidy, à la Kaplan, Moll, Violante (2020)
  - ▶ Pre-announcement: program is unexpected
  - ▶ Post-announcement: availability of funds is known
- ▶ **Estimate** shocks & parameters to match stocks & flows [▶ Details](#) [▶ Estimates](#)
  - ▶ Model does well! [▶ Stocks, model vs. data](#) [▶ Flows, model vs. data](#)

# No-PPP Counterfactual

Q: What did PPP do?

- ▶ Keep decision rules, parameters, and shocks, but remove PPP

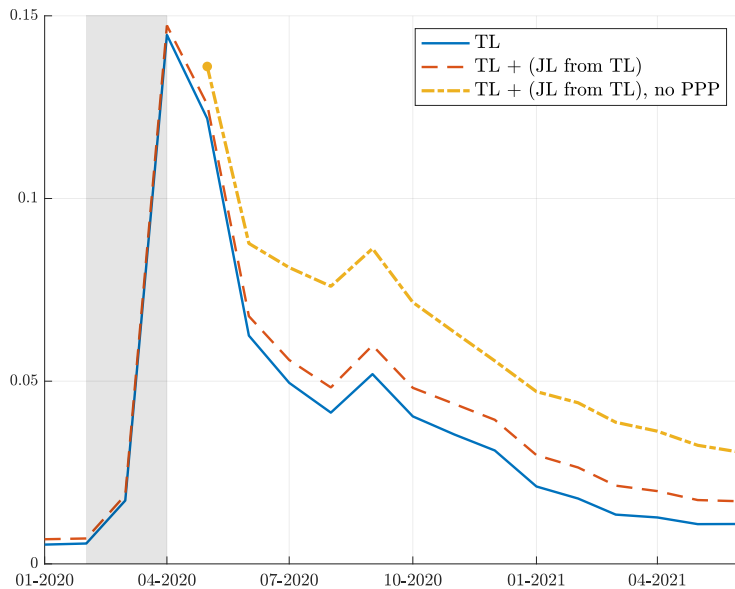
A: Saved a lot of worker/job matches!

- ▶ Average monthly employment gains of  $\approx 2.14$  p.p. in first 6 months
- ▶ Doubled cumulative number of recalls over the same period
- ▶ Achieved through reduction of **loss-of-recall**

▶ Stocks, no-PPP counterfactual

▶ Flows, no-PPP counterfactual

# Counterfactual: JL-from-TL without PPP



Conclusion

# Concluding Remarks

## Two Directions for Further Work

### 1. Match-specific capital

- ▶ Recalls preserve match-specific capital
- ▶ Thus, interesting to consider heterogenous match quality

### 2. Reallocation

- ▶ Evidence that smaller firms benefited more from PPP
- ▶ PPP might have hindered efficient reallocation



# Supplementary Slides

# Estimating JL-from-TL

- ▶ Use accumulation equations:

$$U_{JL\text{-from-TL},t} = \sum_{j=0}^T e'_{JL} x_{t-j-1,t}$$

where  $x_{t-j-1,t}$  is the distribution of workers at time  $t$  whose last exit from employment was for  $u_{TL}$  at time  $t-j-1$ , s.t.

$$x_{t-m,t-j} = \tilde{P}_t x_{t-m,t-j-1}$$
$$x_{t-m,t-m} = e_{TL} \cdot (n_{t-m-1}^E \cdot p_{t-m}^{E,TL})$$

- ▶ Relatively small:  $U_{JL\text{-from-TL}}$  is 40% of  $U_{TL}$
- ▶ Highly volatile: **twice** as volatile as total unemployment, **16×** as GDP

Model: Full Slides

# Searchers, Matching and Recalls

- ▶ **Jobless unemployment** (DMP matching market)

- ▶ New hires  $m$  from  $JL$  unemployment

$$m = \sigma_m (u_{JL})^\sigma (v)^{1-\sigma}$$

- ▶ Job finding and job filling probabilities  $p$  and  $q$ , hiring rate  $x$

$$p = \frac{m}{u_{JL}}, \quad q = \frac{m}{v}, \quad x = \frac{m}{\mathcal{F}n}$$

- ▶ **Temporary-layoff unemployment**

- ▶ Recalls  $m_r$  from  $TL$  unemp., recall probability  $p_r$ , recall hiring rate  $x_r$

$$m_r = p_r u_{TL}, \quad x_r = \frac{m_r}{\mathcal{F}n}$$

- ▶ Workers in  $TL \rightarrow JL$  w/ prob.  $1 - \rho_r$  or if **firm exits**, w/ prob.  $1 - \mathcal{G}$

## Firms (or plants, shifts, production units, etc.)

- ▶ Firms are “large”, i.e., hire a continuum of workers
  - ▶ Firm, or establishment, or assembly line, etc.
- ▶ CRS technology
  - ▶  $n \equiv$  beginning of period employment
  - ▶  $\mathcal{F} \equiv$  fraction of workers not on temporary layoff
  - ▶  $\xi_k, \xi_n \equiv$  factor utilization rates

$$\begin{aligned}y &= \check{z}(\xi_k k)^\alpha (\xi_n \mathcal{F} n)^{1-\alpha} \\ &= z k^\alpha (\mathcal{F} n)^{1-\alpha}\end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Given CRS technology, firm decisions scale independent

# Overhead Costs: Temporary versus Permanent Layoffs

$\gamma \equiv$  i.i.d. firm-specific cost shock

$\vartheta \equiv$  i.i.d. worker-specific cost shock

- ▶ Non-exiting firms ( $\gamma < \gamma^*$ ) pay overhead costs to operate:

$$s(\gamma, \vartheta^*)n = \left[ s_\gamma \gamma + s_\vartheta \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta) \right] n$$

$$\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) = \Pr\{\vartheta \leq \vartheta^*\} \quad \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*) = \Pr\{\gamma \leq \gamma^*\}$$

- ▶ Temporary layoffs: each worker draws  $\vartheta$ 
  - ▶ Workers w/  $\vartheta \geq \vartheta^*$  (endog. thresh.) go on temporary layoff
- ▶ Permanent layoffs: firms draw  $\gamma$ 
  - ▶ Firm operates if  $\gamma < \gamma^*$  (endog. thresh.); otherwise exits

# Timing of Events

1. Firm enters period with stock of workers  $n$
2. Aggregate & worker-specific shocks  $\vartheta$  revealed
3. Firms and workers bargain over base wages  $w$
4. Firms assigns  $1 - \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)$  workers to temporary layoff
5. Firm-specific shock  $\gamma$  revealed
  - ▶ If  $\gamma \geq \gamma^* \rightarrow$  firm exits, employed workers move to  $u_{JL}$ 
    - ▶ Firm's workers in  $u_{TL}$  move to  $u_{JL}$
  - ▶ If  $\gamma < \gamma^* \rightarrow$  firm continues
    - ▶ Rents capital and produces output
    - ▶ Hires workers from  $u_{JL}$ , recalls workers from  $u_{TL}$
    - ▶ Possibility of temporary paycuts, i.e. remitted wages  $\omega < w$

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Solve backwards



# Behind the Timing

- ▶ Timing accomplishes the following:
  1. Temporary layoff policy  $v^*$  independent of  $\gamma$ 
    - ▶ Analytical tractability
  2. Base wages are independent of  $\gamma$ 
    - ▶ Computational tractability
  3. Firm cannot cut wages to avoid temporary layoffs
    - ▶ Consistent with data
- ▶ (1) and (2) achieved by mid-period realization of  $\gamma$
- ▶ (3) achieved by separation of temporary layoffs and bargaining

# Temporary Layoffs

- ▶ Firm must pay overhead costs to continue to operate:

$$s(\gamma, \vartheta^*) = s_\gamma \gamma + s_\vartheta \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$$

- ▶ FOC for optimal  $\vartheta$  determines TL threshold  $\vartheta^*$ :

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) + s_\gamma \Gamma + s_\vartheta \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)}_{\text{Expected job value net of period overhead costs}} \ominus = \underbrace{s_\vartheta \vartheta^* \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)}_{\text{Marginal overhead costs}}$$

- ▶  $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) \equiv$  expected job value
- ▶  $\Gamma \equiv \int^{\gamma^*} \gamma d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$
- ▶  $\ominus \equiv \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$

## Firm Exits (and Temporary Paycuts)

- ▶ Given cost shock  $\gamma$  and base wage  $w$ , allow temp. paycuts to avoid exit
- ▶ Shutdown threshold  $\gamma^*$  solves  $J(\underline{w}, \gamma^*, \mathbf{s}) = 0$ 
  - ▶  $J(w, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) \equiv$  job value
  - ▶  $\underline{w} \equiv$  reservation wage
- ▶ Payout threshold  $\gamma^\dagger \in (0, \gamma^*)$  solves  $J(w, \gamma^\dagger, \mathbf{s}) = 0$ 
  - ▶ Payout wage keeps zero firm surplus for  $\gamma \in (\gamma^\dagger, \gamma^*)$
- ▶ Firm's active labor force + workers on  $TL$  go to  $JL$  upon exit

## Firm Problem (at non-exiting firms w/ TL policy $\vartheta^*$ )

$$\begin{aligned}
 J(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) = \max_{\check{k}, x, x_r} & \left\{ z\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\check{k}^\alpha - \omega(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s})\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) - r\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)\check{k} \right. \\
 & - (\iota(x)\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) + \iota_r(x_r)\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)) - \varsigma(\vartheta^*, \gamma) \\
 & \left. + \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)(1 + x + x_r) \mathbb{E}\left\{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}')\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{w}', \mathbf{s}') \mid \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s} \right\} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\varsigma(\gamma, \vartheta^*) = \varsigma_\gamma \gamma + \varsigma_\vartheta \int^{\vartheta^*} \vartheta d\mathcal{F}(\vartheta)$$

$$\iota(x) = \chi x + \frac{\kappa}{2}(x - \tilde{x})^2, \quad \iota_r(x_r) = \chi x_r + \frac{\kappa_r}{2}(x_r - \tilde{x}_r)^2$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) = \max_{\vartheta^*} \int^{\gamma^*} J(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$$

# Hiring and Recall (at non-exiting firms w/ TL policy $\vartheta^*$ )

- ▶ FOC's for hiring and recall:

$$\chi + \kappa(x - \tilde{x}) = \mathbb{E} \{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \mathcal{J}(w', \mathbf{s}') \mid w, \mathbf{s} \}$$

$$\chi + \kappa_r(x_r - \tilde{x}_r) = \mathbb{E} \{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \mathcal{J}(w', \mathbf{s}') \mid w, \mathbf{s} \}$$

- ▶ Calibrated model (and data):

$$\underbrace{\left( \frac{\chi}{\kappa_r \tilde{x}_r} \right)}_{\text{Recall elasticity}} > \underbrace{\left( \frac{\chi}{\kappa \tilde{x}} \right)}_{\text{New hires elasticity}}$$

- ▶ Relation of  $\{x, x_r\}$  to job-finding/recall probabilities  $\{p, p_r\}$ :

$$x = \frac{p u_{JL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) n}, \quad x_r = \frac{p_r u_{TL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) n}$$

## Workers (1/2)

- ▶ Value of work

$$V(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) = \omega(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) + \mathbb{E} \{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{w}', \mathbf{s}') | \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s} \},$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) = & \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*) \left[ \int^{\gamma^*} V(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s}) d\mathcal{G}(\gamma) + (1 - \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)) U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}) \right] \\ & + (1 - \mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)) U_{TL}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) \end{aligned}$$

where

- ▶  $U_{JL}(\mathbf{s})$  is the value of jobless unemployment
- ▶  $U_{TL}$  is the expected value of temporary-layoff unemployment
- ▶  $\omega(\mathbf{w}, \gamma, \mathbf{s})$  are remitted wages

## Workers (2/2)

- ▶ Value of jobless unemployment

$$U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}) = b + \mathbb{E} \{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') [p\bar{V}_x(\mathbf{s}') + (1 - p) U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}')] \mid \mathbf{s} \}$$

where  $\bar{V}_x$  is the expected value of being a new hire

- ▶ Value of temporary-layoff unemployment

$$\begin{aligned} U_{TL}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) &= b + \mathbb{E} \{ \Lambda(\mathbf{s}, \mathbf{s}') [\rho_r \mathcal{V}(\mathbf{w}', \mathbf{s}') \\ &\quad + (1 - \rho_r) \rho_r \mathcal{U}_{TL}(\mathbf{w}', \mathbf{s}') \\ &\quad + (1 - \rho_r)(1 - \rho_r) U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}')] \mid \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s} \}. \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\mathcal{U}_{TL}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) = \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*) U_{TL}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{s}) + (1 - \mathcal{G}(\gamma^*)) U_{JL}(\mathbf{s}).$$

# Staggered Nash Wage Bargaining

- ▶ Each period, probability  $1 - \lambda$  of renegotiating base wage
- ▶ Parties bargain over surpluses prior to realization of  $\gamma$ 
  - ▶ Worker surplus:  $\mathcal{H}(w, \mathbf{s}) \equiv \mathcal{V}(w, \mathbf{s}) - U_{JL}(\mathbf{s})$
  - ▶ Firm surplus:  $\mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s}) \equiv \max_{\vartheta^*} \int^{\gamma^*} J(w, \mathbf{s}) d\mathcal{G}(\gamma)$
- ▶ Contract wage  $w^*$  solves

$$\max_{w^*} \mathcal{H}(w, \mathbf{s})^\eta \mathcal{J}(w, \mathbf{s})^{1-\eta}$$

subject to

$$w' = \begin{cases} w & \text{with probability } \lambda \\ w^{*'} & \text{with probability } 1 - \lambda \end{cases}$$

and to wage cut policy



# Model Evaluation: Full Slides

# Calibration: Assigned Parameters

Parameter values		
Discount factor	$\beta$	0.997 = $0.99^{1/3}$
Capital depreciation rate	$\delta$	0.008 = $0.025/3$
Production function parameter	$\alpha$	0.33
Autoregressive parameter, TFP	$\rho_z$	$0.99^{1/3}$
Standard deviation, TFP	$\sigma_z$	0.007
Elasticity of matches to searchers	$\sigma$	0.5
Bargaining power parameter	$\eta$	0.5
Matching function constant	$\sigma_m$	1.0
Renegotiation frequency	$\lambda$	8/9 (3 quarters)

## Calibration: Estimated Parameters (inner loop)

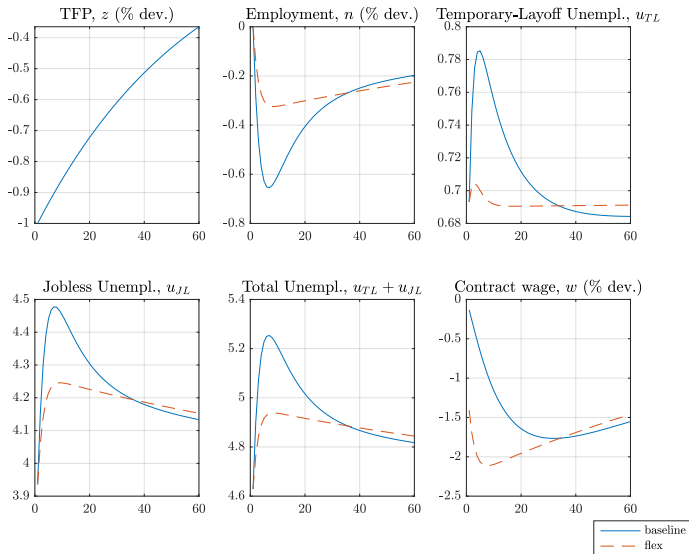
Parameter	Description	Value	Target
$\chi$	Scale, hiring costs	1.1779	Average $JL$ , $E$ rate (0.303)
$s_{\vartheta} \cdot e^{\mu_{\vartheta}}$	Scale, overhead costs, worker	1.8260	Average $E$ , $TL$ rate (0.005)
$s_{\gamma} \cdot e^{\mu_{\gamma}}$	Scale, overhead costs, firm	0.3599	Average $E$ , $JL$ rate (0.011)
$1 - \rho_r$	Loss of recall rate	0.3858	Average $TL$ , $JL$ rate (0.207)
$b$	Flow value of unemp.	0.9834	Rel. value non-work (0.71)

## Calibration: Estimated Parameters (outer loop)

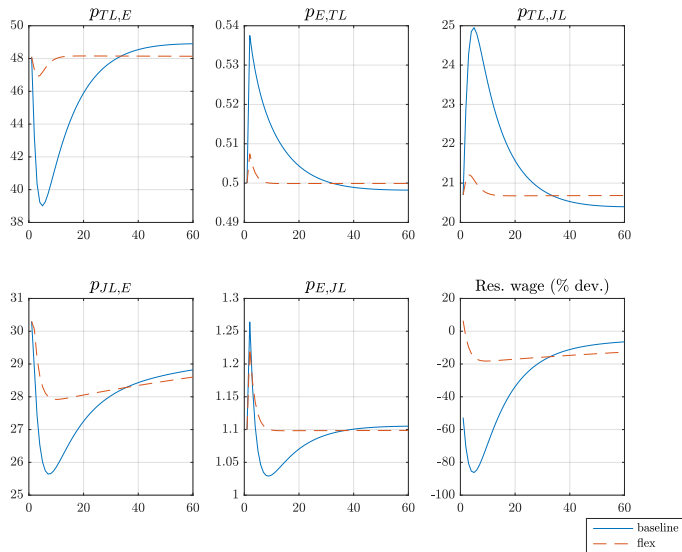
Parameter	Description	Value
$\chi/(\kappa\tilde{X})$	Hiring elasticity, new hires	0.5943
$\chi/(\kappa_r\tilde{X}_r)$	Hiring elasticity, recalls	1.1631
$\sigma_\vartheta$	Parameter lognormal $\mathcal{F}$	1.8260
$\sigma_\gamma$	Parameter lognormal $\mathcal{G}$	0.3599

Moment	Target	Model
SD of hiring rate	3.304	3.257
SD of total separation rate	5.553	4.676
SD of temporary-layoff unemployment, $u_{TL}$	9.715	9.865
SD of jobless unemployment, $u_{JL}$	8.570	9.939
SD of hiring rate from $u_{JL}$ relative to	0.443	0.443
SD of recall hiring rate from $u_{TL}$		

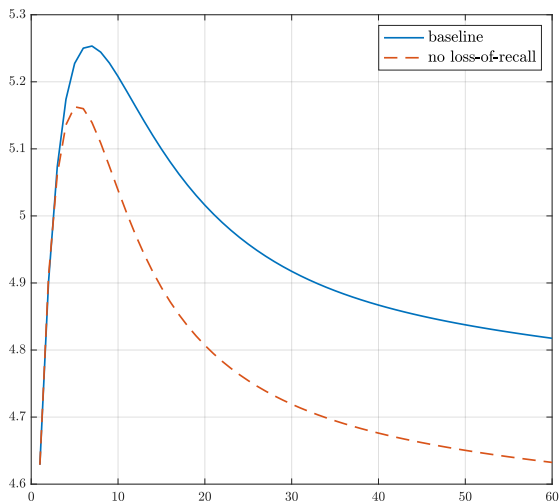
# TFP Shock: Employment, Unemployment and Wages



# TFP Shock: Transition Probabilities



## TFP Shock: Shut off $u_{JL}$ from $u_{TL}$



# Application to Covid-19 Recession: Full Slides



# Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession

Introduce series of **shocks** and two **parameters**

## 1. Shocks:

- ▶ “**Lockdown**” shocks
  - ▶ Beginning of period: fraction  $1 - \nu$  move to TL unemp
  - ▶ Unanticipated (MIT shock)
- ▶ **Utilization restrictions** on capital and labor
  - ▶ Transitory shock at start of pandemic
  - ▶ New persistent shock with each Covid wave
- ▶ **PPP** as factor payment subsidy (as in KMV)
  - ▶ PPP 2020: 12.5% of quarterly GDP, most payments May-July 2020
  - ▶ PPP 2021: 5.4% of quarterly GDP, most payments Jan-April 2021

# Adapting the Model to the Covid-19 Recession, cont.

...

## 2. Two parameters:

- ▶ (Possibly) reduced recall costs for workers in lockdown

$$\chi X_r + \frac{\kappa_r}{2} \left( x_r - \underbrace{\xi \frac{(1-\phi)u_{TL}}{\mathcal{F}(\vartheta^*)n}}_{\text{Workers on lockdown}} - \tilde{x}_r \right)^2$$

- ▶  $0 \leq \xi \leq 1$
- ▶ Different rate of exogenous TL-to-JL for workers on lockdown,  $\rho_r \phi$

# Recession Experiment

- ▶ Thus, need to **estimate**:
  1. Lockdown shocks for each month of pandemic (+ $T$ )
  2. Size of transitory utilization shock at onset of pandemic (+1)
  3. Size of persistent utilization shock for three waves (+3)
  4. Autoregressive parameter of persistent utilization shock (+1)
  5. Two model parameters (+2)
- ▶ Moments to match:
  1. **Stocks**:  $\{u_{TL}, u_{JL}\}_\tau$  since onset of pandemic
  2. **Gross flows**:  $\{g_{E,TL}, g_{TL,E}, g_{TL,JL}\}_\tau$  since onset
  3. **Inflows into  $u_{JL}$** : March-April 2020 only
    - ▶ To discipline size of transitory shock

# Recession Experiment, cont.

- ▶ Estimate by SMM:
  - ▶  $T$  months of pandemic w/ 3 waves (for now)
    - ▶  $(5 \cdot T + 1)$  moments to match
    - ▶  $(T + 7)$  parameters to estimate
  - ▶ System is highly overidentified

# Parameter and Shock Estimates

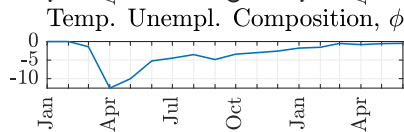
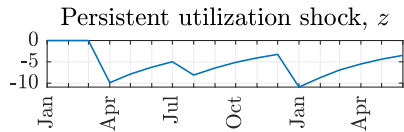
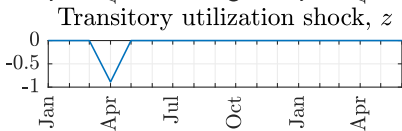
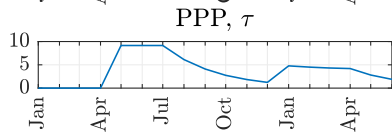
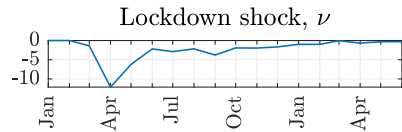
## Parameters

Variable	Description	Value
$\rho_z$	Autoregressive coefficient for persistent utilization shocks	0.7955
$\xi$	Adjustment costs for workers on lockdown	0.5103
$1 - \rho_r \phi$	Probability of exogenous loss of recall for workers in temporary unemployment	0.3631

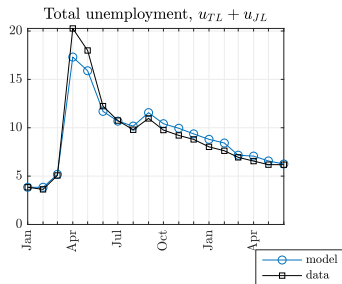
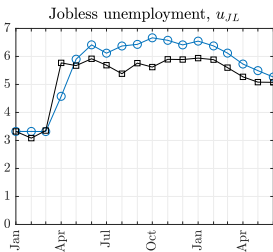
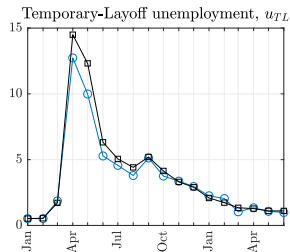
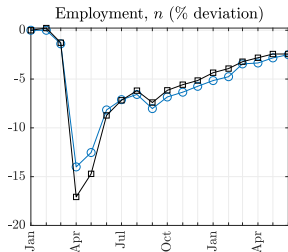
## Shocks

Description	Value
Persistent utilization shock, April 2020	-9.89%
Transitory utilization shock, April 2020	-0.89%
Persistent utilization shock, September 2020	-4.14%
Persistent utilization shock, January 2021	-8.35%

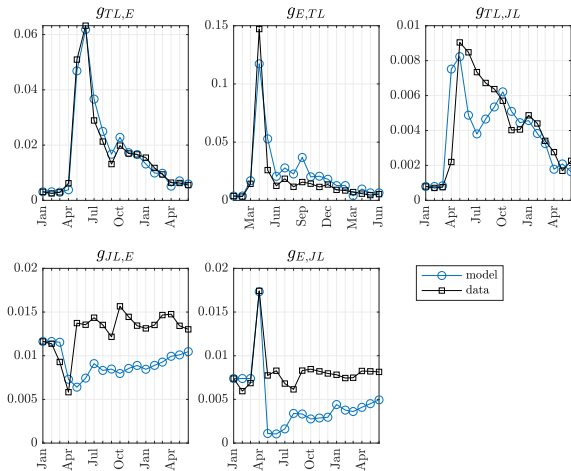
# Parameter and Shock Estimates, cont.



# Covid Onset, Stocks

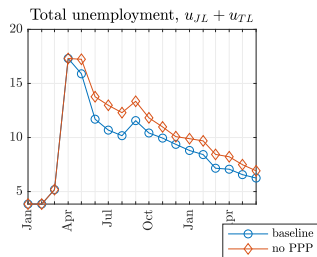
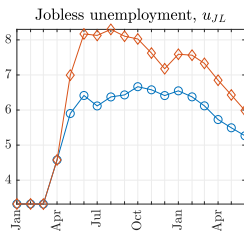
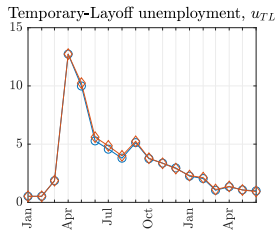
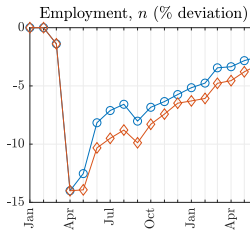


# Covid Onset, Gross Flows

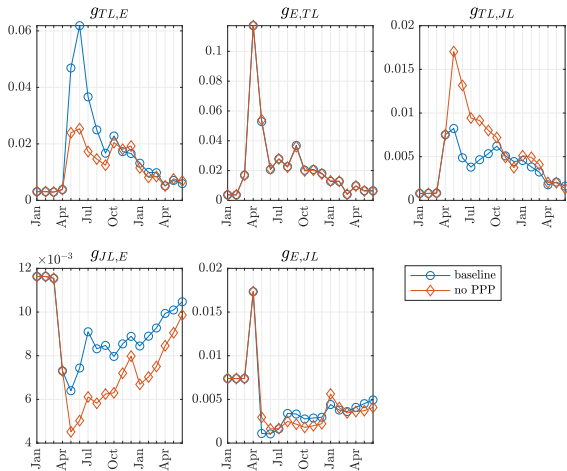




# Policy Counterfactual: No PPP, stocks



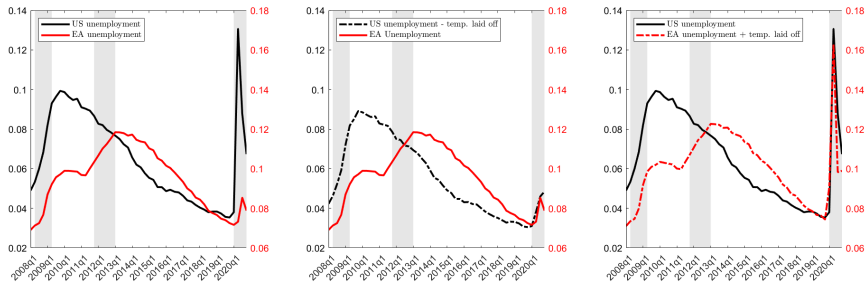
# Policy Counterfactual: No PPP, flows



# PPP takeaway

- ▶ PPP achieved sizeable employment gains
- ▶ Immediate term: **May to September 2020**
  - ▶ Achieved average monthly employment gains of **2.14%**
  - ▶ Doubled cumulative recalls
- ▶ Longer term
  - ▶ Smaller persistent employment gains
  - ▶ Avg. monthly empl. at least **1%** higher through **May 2021**
- ▶ Employment gains came from **recalls**
  - ▶ PPP preserved ties btwn firms and workers in  $U_{TL}$
  - ▶ Fulfilled mandate

# A Tale of Two Unemployment Rates: US vs. EA in Covid



- ▶ Unemployment measured differently, e.g. temporary laid off workers
- ▶ **Temporary laid off workers** counted among the **unemployed** in the **US** and among the **employed** in the **EA**
- ▶ 2 counterfactual scenarios:
  1. TL counted among the employed also in the US (middle panel)
  2. TL counted among the unemployed also in the EA (right panel)
- ▶ But differences exist in **TL definitions**: **more attachment to job in EA**