Monetary Tightening, Quantitative Easing, and Financial Stability

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Introduction

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 - * QE normally complements expansionary monetary policy near ELB
 - * Effective as price and financial stabilisation tool short term
- Little known on QE implications on financial stability over business cycle
 - * Riskier behaviour of financial intermediaries?
- QE recently repurposed as financial stabilisation tool
 - * In 2022, substantial interest rate hikes
 - * Subsequent financial turmoils in US, UK, Switzerland
 - * Temporary balance sheet expansions

SVB crash, March 2023



This paper

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- * on financial stability over business cycle?
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► QE implies:

- * More frequent and longer-lasting financial stress episodes
- * Significant costs to price stability in tightening cycle

Literature

Balance sheet as stabilisation tool

- Gertler and Karadi (2011), Cúrdia and Woodford (2011), Gertler and Kiyotaki (2010), Gertler and Kiyotaki (2015), Sims and Wu (2021), Chen, Cúrdia, and Ferrero (2012), Cui and Sterk (2021), Del Negro et al. (2017)
- * This paper: effects of QE on financial stability over business cycle

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- * This paper: effects of QE on financial stability over business cycle
- Endogenous financial crises and sudden stops
 - * Karadi and Nakov (2021), Akinci and Queralto (2022), Akinci et al. (2023), Mendoza (2010), Bianchi (2010)
 - This paper: (i) implications of QE on bank risk-taking, (ii) first GE monetary model to reproduce empirical business cycle moments & stylised fin. stress facts

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 - This paper: (i) implications of QE on bank risk-taking, (ii) first GE monetary model to reproduce empirical business cycle moments & stylised fin. stress facts
- Sequencing balance sheet and interest rate policy
 - * Benigno and Benigno (2022), Haas (2023), Airaudo (2023)
 - * This paper: QE in a tightening cycle

Today

Model

- Quantitative properties
- QE stabilisation properties and financial stress frequency
 - * Stabilisation properties
 - Stress frequency
- QE & Tightening cycle

Model

Model overview



Banks

- Agency problem as in Gertler and Kiyotaki (2010)
 - * Balance sheet:

Assets	Liabilities	
Firm Equity	Deposits	
Safe Assets	Net Worth	

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- * Objective maximise PDV of Net Worth
- Moral hazard: can divert fraction of assets
 - * Non-absconding in equilibrium (leverage constraint):

Net Worth PDV \geq Divertible Assets

* Safe Assets $\uparrow \implies \downarrow$ Divertible Assets

(1)

CB Flow of Funds

Gross return on Assets = Asset Acquisition + Treasury Remittances (2)

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 - * Purchase LTD from households
 - * Lower LT Yields

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- Public QE
 - * Purchase LTD from households
 - * Lower LT Yields
- Private QE
 - * CB takes on intermediation
 - * Swaps high-yield private assets for low-yield reserves

Financial Stress and Policy

Policy Rules

QE follows CS targeting rule

Asset acquisition = (Credit Spread)
$$\phi^{i}_{QE} \mathbb{1}(Fin.stress)$$
 (3)

Policy: Stabilisation Properties

Table Standard deviations of aggregates

	Baseline	Public QE	Private QE
ϕ_{QE}^{i}	0	10	10
Output, Y	2.01	1.93	1.87
Investment, I	6.88	6.49	6.21
Net-Worth, N	4.84	4.24	3.82
Credit Spread, S	0.99	0.71	0.47

Note: standard deviations in % from simulated quarterly mean except, § which is annualised.

Policy: Stress Frequency

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Stress freq.	5.65%	6.38%	7.33%
Δ from baseline	-	0.73%	1.67%

Note: standard deviations in % from simulated quarterly mean except, § which is annualised. Stress frequency: share of periods when leverage constraint binding.

Why higher stress frequency under QE? (1/2)

Bank precautionary behaviour

- * Banks dislike net-worth variance
- * Pick lower leverage to avoid hitting constraint
- * Under QE, **net-worth variance lower** \implies smaller precautionary motive

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How big is precautionary motive?

* Assume banks surprised by leverage constraint

Policy: Bank precautionary behaviour

	Baseline		Public QE	Private QE
ϕ^{i}_{QE}	O *	0	10	10
Output, Y	2.12	2.01	1.93	1.87
Investment, I	7.36	6.88	6.49	6.21
Net-Worth, N	5.64	4.84	4.24	3.82
Credit Spread, S	1.11	0.99	0.71	0.47
Stress freq.	10.83%	5.65%	6.38%	7.33%
Δ from baseline	5.17%	-	0.73%	1.67%

Table Standard deviations of aggregates and stress frequency

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- Bank precautionary behaviour \checkmark
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 - * **Public QE:** lower LT Yield \implies lower deposit rates.
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- * **Public QE:** lower LT Yield \implies lower deposit rates.
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Tractable decomposition:

- * Stress under QE, no stress under Baseline \implies Risk channel
- * Stress under both, but longer under QE \implies Recapitalisation channel.

Policy: Stress Frequency Decomposition

Table Stress frequency

	Baseline	Public QE	Private QE
ϕ^{i}_{QE}	0	10	10
Stress freq.	5.65%	6.38%	7.33%
Δ from baseline	-	0.73%	1.67%
Risk	-	0.37%	0.69%
Recapitalisation	-	0.37%	0.98%

Note: Stress frequency - share of periods when leverage constraint binding.

QE in a Tightening Cycle

QE in a tightening cycle



Mod

Financial Stress & Polic

QE in a tightening cycle



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- Key policy takeaway: QE effective short term, implies more frequent and longer-lasting financial stress long term;
 - * Bank risk taking
 - * Slower recapitalisation
- QE compromises price stability in tightening cycle
- Milder but more frequent and longer fin. stress episodes policy trade-off