



# Sensitivity Analyses

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### **Outline**

- Exogenous data
  - Elasticities
    - · 'Shares matter'
  - SAM
- Sensitivity Analyses
  - Objectives
  - Methods
    - Simple
    - Systematic
  - Implementation
- Dimensions
  - Elasticities
  - Closure and Market Clearing

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## Exogenous Data

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#### **Elasticities**

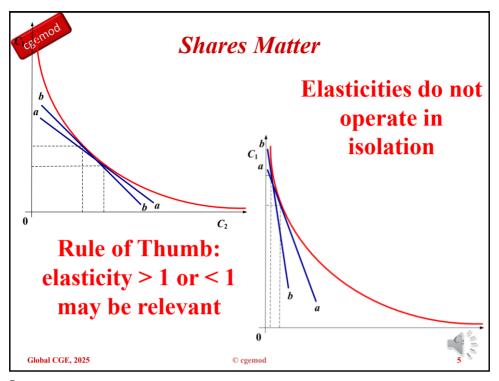
- CES/CET/LES functions require elasticity estimates
  - Econometric estimates
    - · Paucity of data
    - Consistency of classifications
  - Prior studies
    - Where did these studies get their estimates?
    - Appealing to authority, e.g., GTAP
  - 'Informed' estimates
    - Use logical criteria elastic/inelastic, very elastic/inelastic, etc.
  - 'Honest'?

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### **Parameters**

- Other model parameters derived from the SAM and/or satellite accounts
  - SAM transactions are best estimates
- Therefore, model parameters are subject to errors

Sensitivity of results due to parameters derived from SAM and satellite accounts very rarely assessed

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## **Objectives**

- To evaluate sensitivity of results to
  - A. Permutations in the size of shocks
  - B. Elasticity estimates
  - C. Macroeconomic closure assumptions
  - D. Market clearing assumptions
  - E. Errors in model parameters from transactions data (not covered here)
- To enhance robustness of the results and analyses

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## Methods: Simple

- A. Implement a range of shocks NOT only the proposed policy/central estimate
- B. Run shocks with a range of elasticities
  - Say  $\approx 50\% \pm \text{(NB: CES undefined if } \sigma/\Omega = 1\text{)}$
- C. Run shocks with different macroeconomic closure assumptions
  - Especially test any 'non-orthodox' settings
    - Savings-investment
- D. Run shocks with different market clearing assumptions
  - Especially test any 'non-orthodox' settings
    - Unemployment

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### Methods: Systematic

- A. Implement a range of shocks NOT only the proposed policy/central estimate
- B. Run shocks with a range of elasticities
  - Monte Carlo
  - Gaussian quadrature
  - Assess statistically the robustness of the results to variations in elasticities
- C. Run shocks with different macroeconomic closure assumptions
  - Especially test any 'non-orthodox' settings
    - Savings-investment
- D. Run shocks with different market clearing assumptions
  - Especially test any 'non-orthodox' settings
    - Unemployment



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## Implementation - GLOBE

- Add another LOOP (index: elst) in the experiment file
- Up date CES/CET/LES parameters for each loop
- Add extra index to results files

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#### Dimensions



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#### **Elasticities**

- Rules of Thumb
- 1. Signs on the results are rarely sensitive to elasticity estimates
  - May be sensitive between elastic and inelastic values
  - May be sensitive if there are small shares in certain functions
- 2. Report results using conservative values of elasticities
  - Avoid providing easy criticism of your results

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#### Macroeconomic Closures

- Rules of Thumb
  - If the results are not sensitive to choice select the least 'controversial'
  - Only select macro closure settings that may induce resistance from the 'clients' if they are important
- 1. Only argue for macroeconomic closure settings IF they are important.
- 2. Avoid arguments over macroeconomic closure settings: they may distract attention from your key results.

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## **Market Clearing Conditions**

- Rule of Thumb
  - If the results are not sensitive to choice select the least 'controversial'
  - Only select, e.g., an unemployment, assumption if it is an important determinant of the results
- 1. Only argue for unemployment IF it is important.
- 2. Avoid arguments over, e.g., unemployment settings: they may distract attention from your key results.

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# Sensitivity Analyses

The End

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