Search and Matching in Structural Labour Supply modelling — Discussion

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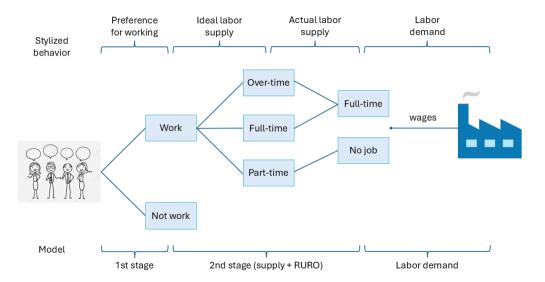
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What we learn from this paper

- ► This is a great paper!
- Importance of accounting for both policy-responsiveness of probability of unemployment and involuntary unemployment
- Very well-executed exercise to highlight labor demand-side adjustments
- In general, opens the way and discussion on behavioral expansions for microsimulation

A small recap before making comments



Some big picture points: what if firms could also adjust hours?

Labor demand effect come in through wages but firms could adjust both vacancies and hours:

- Job hours opportunities available are the result of firms' decisions within the legal environment
- Model does not connect vacancies to probability distribution of opportunities
- Could complicate firm's problem by having 3 types of vacancies (PT, FT, OT)
- Workers' expectations about opportunities are given by the f(·) function and by labor market tightness: could be expanded to take into account expected vacancies created
- ► Demand-side feedback could become quantitatively more relevant in the model
- To check if hours-type adjustment is relevant, could unpack Figure 1 (distributional impact) to show IWB with and without RURO

Some minor/technical points

- If the first step has to be purely taste-based, could avoid using strictly economic variables like consumption and hours at this point
- Even in a unitary household model, spouses' opportunity sets could be correlated (for instance because of assortative mating)
- Since the utility uses most of the same variables in both the first and second stage of the estimation, the error terms are likely to be correlated between stages: this changes the likelihood expression
- Maybe a policy simulation that spans all quintiles could help make the labor demand aspect even more salient