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## Sovereign Debt Restructurings

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| <b>Authors</b>              | Maximiliano A. Dvorkin, Juan M. Sánchez, Horacio Saprizza, and Emircan Yurdagul  |
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Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, Research Division, P.O. Box 442, St. Louis, MO 63166

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# Sovereign Debt Restructurings\*

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| Maximiliano Dvorkin | Juan M. Sánchez  | Horacio Saprizá       | Emircan Yurdagul       |
| FRB of St. Louis    | FRB of St. Louis | Federal Reserve Board | Universidad Carlos III |

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## Abstract

Sovereign debt crises involve debt restructurings characterized by a mix of face-value haircuts and maturity extensions. The prevalence of maturity extensions has been hard to reconcile with economic theory. We develop a model of endogenous debt restructuring that captures key facts of sovereign debt and restructuring episodes. While debt dilution pushes for negative maturity extensions, three factors are important in overcoming the effects of dilution and generating maturity extensions upon restructurings: income recovery after default, credit exclusion after restructuring, and regulatory costs of book-value haircuts. We employ dynamic discrete choice methods that allow for smoother decision rules, rendering the problem tractable.

**JEL Classification:** F34, F41, G15

**Keywords:** Crises, Default, Sovereign Debt, Restructuring, Rescheduling, Country Risk, Maturity, Dynamic Discrete Choice

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# 1 Introduction

Debt restructurings are a salient feature of sovereign defaults. We present new empirical evidence showing that restructuring operations very often involve the maturity extension of the original debt instruments. We then develop a quantitative small-open-economy model of sovereign debt, maturity choice, default, and restructuring that not only captures the business cycle behavior of key debt statistics but, crucially, also mimics the debt, maturity, and payment dynamics observed around distressed debt restructurings. To quantitatively solve the model, we develop a discrete choice method used in the labor literature that simplifies the problem substantially and may be useful in future research on debt maturity choice. We summarize the most significant contributions of the paper as follows: It (i) provides evidence on maturity extensions in restructurings, (ii) improves our understanding of restructurings by providing a quantitative model of sovereign debt in which defaults are resolved by deals specifying haircuts and maturity extensions, (iii) identifies key features of international markets important for generating maturity extensions, and (iv) shows how dynamic discrete choice methods can be applied to debt maturity and default problems.

Our first main contribution is to provide new empirical evidence on debt maturity extensions associated to restructurings. The most comprehensive and detailed dataset of sovereign debt restructurings is provided by [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#), who conclude that “maturity extensions are a crucial component of overall debt relief” but do not directly show information on maturity extensions from restructurings. We extend their dataset by incorporating maturity extensions. Our results show that sovereign debt restructurings very often involve maturity extensions. We recover this variable from alternative measures of haircuts. In a large sample of distressed debt restructurings, we find that maturity was extended in the vast majority of the episodes, and the average extension was 3.4 years. We also show that maturity extensions were longer for defaulting economies which output recovered more by the time of the restructuring.

Second, we provide insights about sovereign debt restructurings using a new quantitative model. Our setup is able to capture key features of debt restructurings while retaining the observed business cycle dynamics of sovereign debt and yield spreads. In our framework, the

borrowing government selects the size and the maturity of its debt portfolio, where the decisions on whether to default and which debt-maturity portfolio to select are affected by the current level of debt and its maturity, the country’s income, and the expected terms of the restructuring. Sovereign debt is restructured in the context of a default. In a restructuring, lenders receive a new debt instrument that may differ from the original liabilities due to a combination of changes in the face-value of the debt and a different repayment period. The size of the debt haircut and maturity extension from the restructuring are determined as the equilibrium result of a debt negotiation process where the lenders and the borrowing country make alternating offers. The model replicates two fundamental dimensions of sovereign debt restructurings, namely the size of the debt haircut and the maturity extension. The model also captures the dispersion in haircuts and maturity extensions explained empirically by differences in country characteristics at the time of restructuring: (i) countries that enter debt restructurings with larger debt burdens tend to experience larger debt haircuts, and (ii) borrowers with higher income at the time of restructuring experience a longer maturity extension of the restructured debt. The theoretical literature on restructurings and maturity extensions is scarce. A recent exception is the work of [Aguilar, Amador, Hopenhayn, and Werning \(2019, hereafter AAHW\)](#), which shows that an efficient restructuring reduces the maturity of the government debt portfolio. From this perspective, our empirical findings appear puzzling. The main mechanism in AAHW is that maturity extensions provide perverse incentives for fiscal policy going forward. Our quantitative model contains this same driving force, but we also consider other key features present during debt restructurings that may influence maturity extensions.

A third contribution of our paper is to evaluate the extent to which the AAHW and the novel restructuring features in our quantitative model capture the maturity extensions observed in the data. While long maturity debt is never chosen in the framework developed by AAHW, there are three drivers of maturity extensions in our framework. First, consistent with the data, income in the model recovers between the time of default and the debt restructuring. Defaults tend to occur when output is relatively low, and debt negotiation settlements generally happen once economic activity has improved and the risk of default of the new debt issued at settlement is lower. As debt maturity is procyclical, the output recovery between default and settlement implies that

the chosen maturity of the new debt at settlement will be longer than the maturity at the time of default. Second, we include a period of financial markets exclusion after the debt restructuring. Empirically, this period may result from “stigma” associated with default and restructurings, or from conditionalities often included in the restructuring arrangements.<sup>1</sup> This exclusion period generates maturity extensions by reducing the perverse incentives of issuing long-term debt at the time of restructuring (i.e. debt dilution). Third, we consider the restructuring cost for lenders that arises from a haircut in the book-value of the debt. This cost captures regulatory considerations that have historically affected financial institutions’ decisions regarding sovereign debt holdings.<sup>2</sup> Our quantitative analysis shows how these additional forces allow our model to match the data on maturity extensions, thus reconciling the theory with the data.

Our study also offers an important methodological contribution. We provide a new method to solve sovereign default models with endogenous maturity. It is quite challenging for quantitative studies to solve for the optimal default, debt, and maturity choices, and for the equilibrium prices of different bond types. Using methods from dynamic discrete choice, we introduce idiosyncratic shocks affecting the borrowers default and debt portfolio decisions. Under standard assumptions on the distribution of these shocks, we characterize the choice probabilities and use them to deliver a smooth equilibrium bond-price equation. Our proposed method can be conveniently applied to other quantitative debt models.<sup>3</sup>

## 1.1 Related literature

Our analysis builds upon several different strands of the literature on sovereign debt default, maturity, and restructuring. Following the seminal work on international sovereign debt by [Eaton and Gersovitz \(1981\)](#), a large portion of the literature on quantitative models of sovereign debt default has used only one-period debt ([Aguiar & Gopinath, 2006](#); [Arellano, 2008](#), among

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<sup>1</sup>[Richmond and Dias \(2009\)](#) and [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) document the existence of this exclusion period. [IMF \(2014\)](#) mentions that IMF conditionality is often part of restructurings. More on this is discussed in Section 2.4.2.

<sup>2</sup>Evidence of this is presented by [Sachs \(1986\)](#) for the Latin American debt crisis and [Zettelmeyer, Trebesch, and Gulati \(2013\)](#) for the most recent Greek crisis. More on this is discussed in Section 2.4.3.

<sup>3</sup>See for instance [Mihalache and Wiczor \(2018\)](#) for a recent application of our approach to other questions in the sovereign default and maturity literature.

others). The next generation of models that include long debt duration, such as [Hatchondo and Martinez \(2009\)](#) and [Chatterjee and Eyigungor \(2012\)](#), features exogenous maturity. In contrast, our quantitative model features endogenous sovereign debt maturity and repayment under debt dilution. The work of [Arellano and Ramanarayanan \(2012\)](#) allows for the choice of long-term debt by having a short bond and a consol. We model debt maturity as the choice of a discrete number of periods following [Sánchez, Sapriz, and Yurdagul \(2018\)](#), which is computationally convenient for the application of dynamic discrete choice methods.

Our work is also related to recent models on sovereign default and restructurings. The first model that combined the [Eaton and Gersovitz \(1981\)](#) framework with debt renegotiation was the study by [Yue \(2010\)](#) that considered a Nash bargaining approach. Also closely related to our analysis is the recent work by [Mihalache \(2017\)](#) that explores sovereign debt restructurings and maturity extensions appealing to political economy considerations. These works have an exogenous length of negotiation, instead of a restructuring mechanism like [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#) that delivers endogenous delays, as in our model. Delays are studied in detail in a stylized framework by [Benjamin and Wright \(2018\)](#), where the authors explain several ways of obtaining delays in sovereign debt renegotiations. In particular, they show that when the government cannot issue state-contingent securities, delays arise because the risk of default on the non-state-contingent securities serves to reduce the value of an immediate settlement. This mechanism is at work in our setup, and it is important in generating maturity extensions since income recovers between the time of default and restructuring. The role of income and cyclical conditions on haircuts and recovery rates has also been studied by [Sunder-Plassmann \(2018\)](#).

Other related work in the literature includes [Asonuma and Trebesch \(2016\)](#) and [Asonuma and Joo \(2017\)](#), which study different aspects of sovereign debt restructurings in the context of one-period bond models. Recent complementary work by [Arellano, Mateos-Planas, and Rios-Rull \(2019\)](#) focuses on the role of partial defaults on restructuring dynamics.<sup>4</sup>

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<sup>4</sup>Our work is also related to other types of default resolution or prevention mechanisms. [Bianchi \(2016\)](#) and [Roch and Uhlig \(2016\)](#) study the desirability of bailouts and show that, in some cases, bailouts may induce additional borrowing that offsets their potential benefits. Related work finds similar results analyzing the introduction of contingent convertible bonds or voluntary debt exchanges (see for instance [Hatchondo, Martinez, and Sosa-Padilla \(2014\)](#)).

Our method to solve the numerical challenges presented by this setup follows a similar intuition as [Chatterjee and Eyigungor \(2012\)](#), who introduce a random i.i.d. shock to income to smooth the borrower’s default decision.<sup>5</sup> However, there are important differences between our proposed method and theirs. Crucially, in their approach, this shock adds one more state variable to the problem of the borrower. Thus, a direct extension of that approach to our context would require a very large set of these shocks, greatly increasing the number of state variables in the model and, thus, rendering the problem intractable. We employ the Generalized Extreme Value distribution ([McFadden, 1978](#)), which has long been used in other areas of economics and provides a tractable way to characterize agents’ decision rules. Our approach delivers smooth decision rules for default, maturity, and debt choices, without increasing the number of state variables in the problem.<sup>6</sup>

The remainder of our paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the construction of a new dataset of maturity extensions in debt restructurings, and discusses the empirical regularities that help understand the maturity extensions obtained from the data. Sections 3 to 6 present the model environment, the driving mechanisms, and the equilibrium. In particular, Section 3 describes the economic setup, Section 4 discusses the default and repayment decisions faced by the sovereign, Section 5 offers a detailed analysis of the debt restructuring process, and Section 6 presents the equilibrium. The calibration and statistical fit are explained in Section 7, and a quantitative assessment of the maturity extensions generated by the model is performed in Section 8. Section 9 discusses the discrete choice with extreme value shocks methodology used to solve the model. Finally, the concluding remarks are provided in Section 10.

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<sup>5</sup>See also [Pouzo and Presno \(2012\)](#).

<sup>6</sup>In a recent paper, [Chatterjee, Corbae, Dempsey, and Rios-Rull \(2016\)](#) introduce extreme value shocks to a model of consumer borrowing and default. The reason they employ these shocks is not to due to the complexity of the borrower’s problem, as they have one-period debt with zero recovery in case of default, but as a way to compute the Bayes-Nash equilibrium in a model of private information with a signal extraction problem. In their model, these shocks are a force that ensures that all possible actions by consumers have a positive probability of occurrence. In this way, there is no need to deal with off-equilibrium-path beliefs, as is usual in equilibrium models with private information.

## 2 Empirical Evidence

There are several papers documenting sovereign debt restructurings (Cruces & Trebesch, 2013; Sturzenegger & Zettelmeyer, 2005). Many of these studies have focused on developing alternative measures of sovereign debt reduction after a restructuring episode; i.e., a debt haircut, and have produced many descriptive statistics associated to haircut measures. However, these studies have provided little statistical analysis on the change in maturity associated with restructuring episodes, a key aspect of haircuts. In this section, as a first step we propose and implement a method to recover *maturity extensions* from a dataset by Cruces and Trebesch (2013) for a large number of distressed sovereign debt restructuring events between 1970 and 2013. In a second step, we include our maturity extension measures and a number of macroeconomic variables in the dataset by Cruces and Trebesch (2013) and use our expanded annual dataset to show how haircuts and maturity extensions vary with countries' borrowing and business cycle conditions. Finally, we document three key empirical stylized facts that help explain the presence of maturity extensions in restructurings. The empirical findings in this section guide our choices in the quantitative model of sovereign debt restructuring presented later in the paper.

### 2.1 Constructing a new dataset of maturity extensions

The growing literature on sovereign debt defaults has compiled and analyzed data for more than 150 distressed sovereign debt restructurings, but until now there was no statistical description of the maturity extensions involved in these debt events. We use the comprehensive sovereign debt restructurings data of Cruces and Trebesch (2013) to derive a dataset of maturity extensions. To do so, we consider three measures of debt haircuts (Face-value (HFV), Market-value (HMFV), and Sturzenegger-Zettelmeyer (HSZ)), the discount rates used to value future cash flows, and we proceed in three main steps summarized below (see Appendix A.1 for additional details).

In the first step, we derive the maturity of the debt after restructuring (new debt). This requires expressing the ratio of the complements of HMFV and HFV in terms of the ratio of the face value and present value of new debt. We express the ratio between the face value and present value of new debt in terms of the maturity of new debt and the underlying discount



rate used to value future cash flows under alternative payment structures over time for the new debt. We considered uniform and decaying payment structures with alternative rates of decay. The empirical results discussed in this section correspond to a uniform payment structure, but results are robust to alternative specifications. As the ratio and the discount rates are known, the maturity of new debt is the only unknown in a single equation, and can be easily retrieved. Second, we recover the maturity of the old debt (debt defaulted upon) at the time of restructuring in a similar way, but instead using the formulas for MV and SZ to derive the ratio of the face and present value of the old debt, and adjusting for the observable duration of default, i.e., the length of the period between default and restructuring. The third and final step involves the estimation of the maturity extension, which is obtained as the difference between the maturity of the new debt calculated in the first step and the maturity of the old debt at the time of restructuring calculated in the second step.<sup>7</sup>

## 2.2 Resulting maturity extensions

This section presents the data to which we applied the methodology described in the previous section, as well as the results. Table 1 shows that the mean SZ haircut is 38.5% and the mean maturity extension is on average 3.4 years. The table also shows that there is significant dispersion in all the statistics used. For instance, the market value haircuts vary between 23% and 77% for the percentiles 25 and 75, respectively.

Table 1: Descriptive Statistics, preferred data set

| variable                     | mean  | p50   | p25   | p75   | sd    | N   |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|
| Market value haircut, $H_M$  | 0.456 | 0.426 | 0.228 | 0.769 | 0.267 | 162 |
| SZ haircut, $H_{SZ}$         | 0.385 | 0.305 | 0.184 | 0.646 | 0.240 | 162 |
| Face value haircut, $H_{FV}$ | 0.209 | 0.091 | 0     | 0.535 | 0.237 | 162 |
| Discount factor              | 0.140 | 0.142 | 0.123 | 0.153 | 0.032 | 162 |
| New debt maturity, $N_{new}$ | 7.268 | 5.907 | 2.986 | 9.979 | 6.634 | 161 |
| Old debt maturity, $N_{old}$ | 4.011 | 4.568 | 0.969 | 7.772 | 3.080 | 140 |
| Maturity extensions          | 3.363 | 2.207 | 0.329 | 2.850 | 6.413 | 140 |

Source: Authors' calculations based on the [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) dataset on debt restructuring haircuts. We weight by the total amount of debt restructured, unless explicitly noted.

<sup>7</sup>See Appendix A.1 for more details.

To evaluate our results, we now compare the findings of our method with more detailed information about maturity extensions available for Argentina’s debt restructuring in 2005. With our method, we recover an estimate of 27.1 years for the maturity extension in the global restructuring. Using information for about 66 securities (bond by bond) provided by [Sturzenegger and Zettelmeyer \(2005\)](#), we find that the maturity of the old debt was 9 years. For the new bonds, only a few options were offered to creditors. Obtaining maturity is relatively straightforward, because the dollar-denominated bonds have a maturity of either 30 or 35 years, so we take the total maturity of the new bonds to be 35 years. This implies that the total maturity extension obtained using detailed information is 26 years, remarkably close to those obtained with our method, 27.1 years.

Similarly, [Mihalache \(2017\)](#) estimates that in Greece’s restructuring of 2012 the risk-free Macaulay duration was lengthened by 1.4 years, from 6.4 to 7.8 years. Our method recovers a maturity extension of 2.2 years for this episode.

For the main descriptive statistics described in Table 1, we restrict our attention to cases not involving debt relief to highly indebted low-income economies, and we weight each restructuring episode by the amount of restructured debt.<sup>8</sup> In Table 2 we show how maturity extensions vary when we consider alternative sub-samples and weights.

Table 2: Maturity extensions, alternative samples

| variable           | mean  | p50   | p25    | p75   | s.d.  | N   |
|--------------------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-----|
| Preferred dataset  | 3.363 | 2.207 | 0.329  | 2.850 | 6.413 | 140 |
| High quality data  | 3.887 | 2.207 | 0.329  | 2.888 | 7.030 | 99  |
| Including “donors” | 3.366 | 2.207 | 0.329  | 2.849 | 6.412 | 144 |
| Non-weighted       | 2.658 | 1.663 | 0.233  | 3.893 | 4.070 | 140 |
| Europe             | 2.637 | 2.207 | 2.207  | 2.207 | 1.764 | 28  |
| Africa             | 2.740 | 2.567 | 1.123  | 2.567 | 2.209 | 35  |
| Latin America      | 4.077 | 0.904 | -0.013 | 3.132 | 8.538 | 66  |

Note: extensions expressed in years. Source: Authors’ calculations based on [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) dataset on debt restructuring haircuts. We weight by the total amount of debt restructured, unless explicitly noted.

The main conclusion to draw from this table is that maturity extensions remain significant

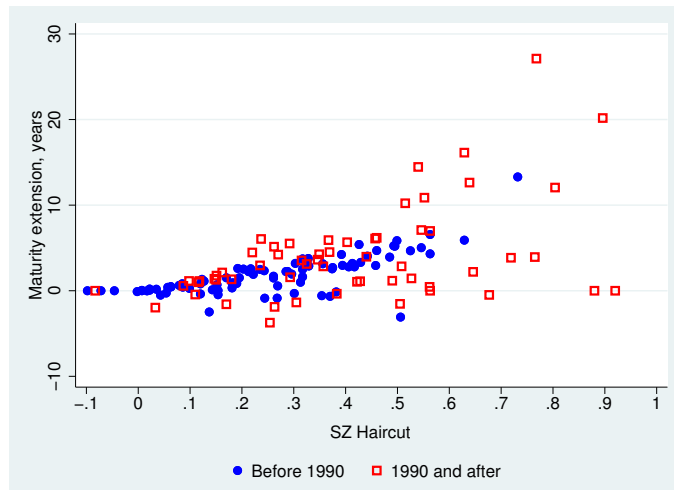
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<sup>8</sup>Donor-supported restructurings are those co-financed by the World Banks Debt Reduction Facility. See [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#)

for different samples, time periods, weightings, and regions. In most cases, maturity extensions are on average larger than 3 years, and they have been larger in the Latin American debt restructurings.

To gain more insights about maturity extension, it is useful to present the results together with the SZ haircut that resulted from that restructuring. Figure 1 plots haircuts and maturity extensions, showing the two are positively correlated. In that plot it is possible to identify different types of debt restructurings based on the varying degrees of debt maturity extensions and SZ haircuts associated to payment reschedulings and reductions in the face value of principal or coupon payments.

Figure 1: Haircuts and maturity extensions



Source: Authors' calculations based on the [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) dataset of debt restructuring haircuts.

Distressed debt exchange events, such as the one in Pakistan in 1999 or Uruguay in 2003, involved the rescheduling of debt payments and little or no face-value reductions either in the principal or in coupon payments. The SZ haircuts and creditor losses tend to be low in these cases, referred to as “reprofilings.” They were most frequent in the 1980s, and have regained significant attention in international financial markets in recent years. Debt crises like that of Ukraine in 2000 were resolved with somewhat larger maturity extensions and some debt value reduction in coupons or principal that implied SZ haircuts generally below 30 percent. These so called

“soft restructurings”, are also quite prevalent in the data. Debt resolution operations like those for Ecuador in 2000 or the Brady restructurings for countries like Mexico or Philippines, among others, are characterized by longer maturity extensions and larger reductions in coupons and principal that, when combined, amount to moderate but permanent capital losses for creditors, with SZ haircuts between 30 and 50 percent. The “hard restructurings” implemented in the largest and most severe debt crises, such as Argentina in 2005, were generally associated with 20-to-30-year maturity extensions and deep face-value reductions in both principal and coupons, which translated into (SZ) haircuts ranging from 50 to about 80 percent.

## 2.3 Accounting for the variation in haircuts

We first show results from regressions of haircuts with some key macro variables. In a second stage, we analyze whether our quantitative model of sovereign debt restructuring displays similar relationships with these variables.

Table 3 presents regressions of  $H_{SZ}$  haircuts for the “full” sample of more than 150 default episodes.<sup>9</sup> For robustness, we also present results for a “restricted” set of restructurings that are not donor-supported.

The first row in Table 3 indicates that countries that enter default with a larger debt burden exhibit larger haircuts. The effect is statistically significant for both the restricted and the full sample. The second row shows the effect of income on haircuts. To keep the regression comparable with the data, we detrended  $\log(\text{GDP})$  using the Hodrick-Prescott filter and included the resulting GDP cycle as the explanatory variable. The effect of the business cycle on haircuts is negative, but not statistically different from zero for either sample.

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<sup>9</sup>While there are 187 restructuring episodes in Cruces and Trebesch (2013), we complement their dataset with additional information on GDP, population and year of default. For some countries and time periods we do not have this information, and thus a few observations are dropped. The regressions shown in the table include dummy variables “1990s” and “2000s” that take a value of 1 if the restructuring was in that decade and 0 otherwise. The variable “2000s” also includes two episodes available after the year 2010. All regressions also have a constant, and dummy variables for the continent of the country and GDP per capita.

Table 3: Determinants of SZ haircuts

| log(SZ haircut) | Restricted        | Full sample        |
|-----------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| log(debt/GDP)   | 0.520<br>(0.150)  | 0.508<br>(0.123)   |
| GDP cycle       | -1.756<br>(2.959) | -0.8330<br>(2.582) |
| # obs.          | 132               | 153                |
| R-squared       | 0.237             | 0.3740             |

Note: Robust standard errors are shown in parenthesis. The restricted sample does not include restructurings that [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) classify as “donor”.

## 2.4 Reasons for maturity extensions

We use [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) data on sovereign debt restructurings and look into the empirical literature on sovereign defaults and restructurings to discuss three empirical regularities that are relevant to understanding some of the main mechanisms underlying sovereign default resolutions. The three key stylized facts can be summarized as follows: First, the borrower’s income generally recovers between default and restructuring. Second, the borrowing country tends to experience constraints to credit market access following a sovereign debt restructuring. Third, banking regulations have historically favored restructurings without book value haircuts. In the remainder of the section we explore each of these empirical facts in more detail and explain why they matter for maturity extensions.

### 2.4.1 Income recovers between default and restructuring

Sovereign borrowers generally default when they are experiencing relatively weak output and tend to conclude their debt restructurings when economic conditions have improved. Intuitively, a stronger economy is less likely to default, and hence the debt issued at settlement will have a higher market value. [Table 4](#) shows the cumulative percentage change in output over the length of default—i.e., the duration of default from the time the country enters default to the time of the

exit settlement—for different default lengths expressed in years. The third and fourth columns present the change in output measured as the deviations of output from its HP trend. As shown, the mean and median output deviations from trend increase while the country is in default, and that result is robust to different default durations, shown at 1-year increments. The dispersion in the income recovery (not shown) suggests nevertheless that there is substantial variation across country events and that this variation occurs for all default durations. The last two columns of the table provide similar results considering output per capita instead of output deviations from trends. These findings are consistent with the empirical facts discussed in [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#).

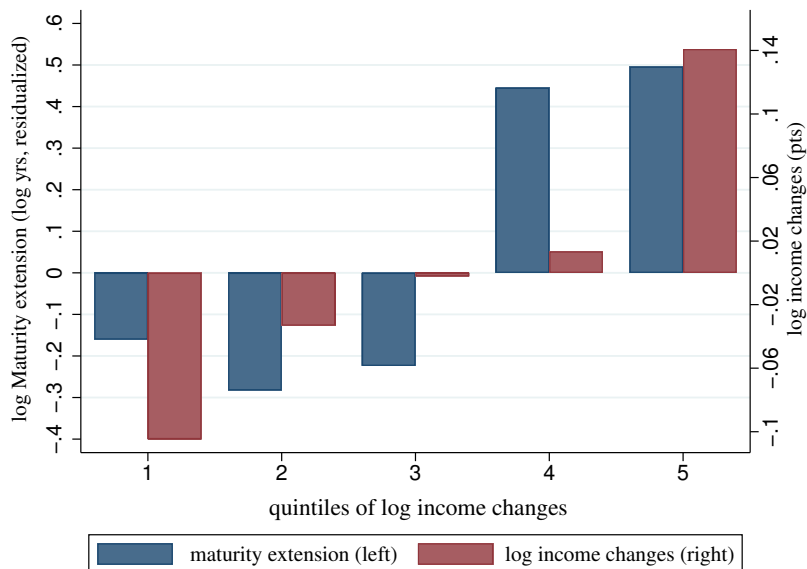
Table 4: Economic recovery from default until restructuring  
By length of the default episode

|          | Cases | GDP cycle |        | GDP per capita |        |
|----------|-------|-----------|--------|----------------|--------|
|          |       | Mean      | Median | Mean           | Median |
| All      | 149   | 2.3%      | 0.0%   | 2.7%           | 0.0%   |
| length>0 | 124   | 2.8%      | 0.4%   | 3.3%           | 0.6%   |
| length>1 | 100   | 3.8%      | 0.7%   | 4.4%           | 2.2%   |
| length>2 | 87    | 4.0%      | 0.6%   | 4.6%           | 2.0%   |
| length>3 | 68    | 5.4%      | 1.7%   | 6.3%           | 2.3%   |
| length>4 | 47    | 6.7%      | 4.3%   | 6.7%           | 3.5%   |

Source: Authors' calculations using data from the [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) dataset, the Penn World Table, and IMF.

The output recovery is related to important features of the debt at the time the borrower concludes the restructuring process. [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#) point out the relevance of the output recovery to understand the borrower's level of debt-to-GDP. We complement their analysis by focusing on the implications for sovereign debt maturity. Specifically, to the extent that sovereign debt maturity is procyclical (see for instance [Sánchez, Sapriz, and Yurdagul \(2018\)](#)), the output recovery between the period of default and restructuring implies that the maturity of the new debt chosen upon settlement would be larger than the maturity of debt at the time of default. Figure 2 presents the observations for income recovery grouped in quintiles and the corresponding maturity extensions from our sample. The plot shows the positive empirical correlation between the income recovery (red bars) and the extension of maturity (blue bars).

Figure 2: Income recovery and maturity extensions

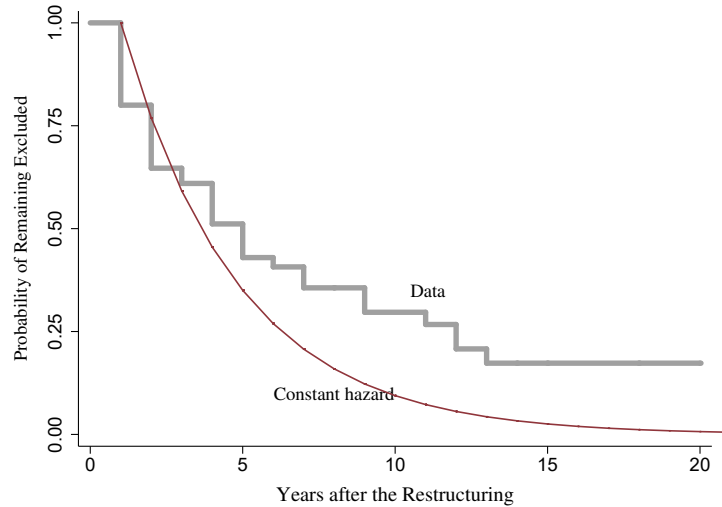


Note: The log of maturity extensions is conditional on the log of debt to GDP. The five groups correspond to quintiles of recovery in the business cycle between the time of default and restructuring.

#### 2.4.2 Protracted credit market exclusion after debt restructuring

In the first few years following a sovereign debt restructuring, countries tend to experience difficulties accessing credit markets. [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#)'s empirical analysis estimates the probability that a country remains excluded after restructuring as a function of the time since the restructuring. The results are shown by the gray line in Figure 3. The red line in this figure is the exclusion probability with a constant reentry probability of 30 percent, which we use later in the calibration of our quantitative model. The figure shows that it usually takes a long time to get back to credit markets after a restructuring event. Our constant hazard function appears to fit the data well for the first 5 years post-restructuring and then gives a conservative estimate of credit market exclusion.

Figure 3: Protracted exclusion of credit markets after restructuring



Note: The gray line denotes the Kaplan-Meier survival estimate, which we compute using data from [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#). It represents the unconditional joint probability a country remains excluded from capital markets until that many years after the restructuring. The constant hazard line shows the theoretical survival probability using an exponential model and a constant hazard of  $\log(1.3)$ .

[Richmond and Dias \(2009\)](#) also report the existence of an exclusion period after sovereign debt restructurings, interpreting this to mean that credit markets “punish” countries after a restructuring.<sup>10</sup> The exclusion after a restructuring also captures the existence of conditionalities that are often part of negotiation settlements and that provide safeguards to the lenders that the value of the bonds issued in the restructuring will be sustained.<sup>11</sup>

There are two reasons this empirical regularity matters for the debt maturity preferences of the borrower and lender when exiting a restructuring, and thus for the pricing of the new debt. First, because countries know that most likely they will not have access to credit markets in the short run, they hedge against this risk by spreading debt payments over time, thus borrowing long term. Second, lenders know that debt will most likely not be diluted in the short run, so the prices of long-term debt are more favorable relative to a case in which countries can access

<sup>10</sup>While this “punishment” is not endogenously modeled here, it could be endogenously generated if lenders learned about the type of the country (e.g. patient or impatient) in a default or restructuring episode. [Amador and Phelan \(2018\)](#) provide a theory along these lines.

<sup>11</sup>Of the 17 arrangements reviewed in an IMF report from 1998 to 2014 ([IMF, 2014](#)), 11 included conditionalities related to the restructuring. The work by AAHW mentions that many restructurings involving official agencies, such as the IMF or EU, impose conditionalities on the debtor to deal with the perverse incentive of countries to issue new debt in the future.



financial markets immediately after restructuring and issue new debt.

### **2.4.3 Banking regulations favor restructurings without book value haircuts**

[Sturzenegger and Zettelmeyer \(2006\)](#) point out a key way in which the role of the official sector in sovereign debt disputes changed after World War II, which was that creditor governments began influencing debt restructuring agreements through channels that did not exist or that were less common prior to the war, including regulatory pressure or forbearance with respect to creditor banks.

There is ample evidence concerning the role of banking regulations during the debt events of the 1970s and 1980s. During debt negotiations in the late 1970s, banks tried to rely entirely on refinancing, motivated in part by regulatory incentives. As [Rieffel \(2003\)](#) documents, by maintaining debt service financed by new lending, banks could avoid classifying loans as impaired, which would have forced them to allocate income to provision against expected losses. There is a long literature describing the role of bank regulation in the debt negotiations of the 1980s. [Sachs \(1986\)](#) explains that creditor government policies supported the commercial banks through their decisions on bank supervision, mainly as the U.S. banking regulators allowed the commercial banks to hold almost all of their sovereign debt on their books at face value.

During the Latin-American debt crisis, sovereign debt was mostly loans by U.S. banks. The study by [Guttentag \(1989\)](#) explains:

“Book values may matter to banks because they matter to regulators. Capital requirements, for example, are defined in terms of book values. If a bank’s capital falls below the regulatory minimum, the bank may be subject to closer surveillance than usual, and it may lose its freedom of action on mergers and acquisitions, dividend payments, branch expansion, advertising expenditures, and even loan policy. Indeed, a serious shortfall in book capital that is not remedied quickly can be cause for merging the bank or replacing the management. If creditors and regulators do react to changes in book values, the use of book values in the bank’s decision-making is not inconsistent with the goal of maximizing the wealth of its shareholders.”

Consequently, [Guttentag \(1989\)](#) provides a model of banking in which the bank perceives a cost to reducing the stated value of claims on the borrower that is proportional to the book value of those claims. Later in our quantitative model, we add the same type of costs, specified as  $\kappa \times \max\{x, 0\}$ , where  $x$  is the reduction in the face value of debt and  $\kappa$  is a parameter capturing the cost of raising bank equity. This assumption implies that lenders and borrowers will place greater emphasis on negotiating agreements that maintain the book value of the claims. To avoid regulatory pressures due to capital losses, banks have the option to raise capital to offset the book-value losses. It is hard to estimate precisely the cost of a capital shortfall due to a decline in the book value of assets, but the cost of raising equity by banks provides an upper bound. Why? Because that is the cost in the case in which all debt is held by banks and the capital requirement constraints are binding for all banks. This upper bound is estimated by many papers, and the results for U.S. banks are summarized in [Lopez \(2001\)](#), who shows that on average it is about 12 percent. Thus, in the case of the Latin American debt crisis in the 1980s, where a very large portion of creditors were U.S. banks, something close to 12 percent is likely reasonable. For other episodes it may be much lower. The share of sovereign debt held by banks is hard to estimate and has varied over time and across countries, but it has generally been quite economically significant. [Ffrench-Davis and Devlin \(1993\)](#) estimate that in the early 1980s, about 80 percent of Latin-American external debt (mostly public debt) was held by banks, on average. For developing countries as a whole, they document that the share of bank holdings was about 60 percent. [Brutti and Sauré \(2013\)](#) report a lower average share for 15 advanced economies in the late 2000s, with an average of about 35 percent. This includes a low value for the U.S. (6 percent) and values above 50 percent for some European economies (see their Table A2). Hence, in the calibration of our quantitative model, we adopt a conservative benchmark by considering that half of the debt is held by banks and that the capital requirement constraint is binding for half of them. In this case, the value of that extra cost (parameter  $\kappa$ ) is 3 percent.<sup>12</sup>

Recently, direct bank loans to countries have become rare, but banks hold sovereign debt, and regulatory considerations remain a crucial factor influencing negotiations. [Das, Papaioannou, and Trebesch \(2012\)](#) highlighted this point by arguing that in the early 1980s, low haircuts in

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<sup>12</sup>In Section 8.3 we show how results are affected by changing the value of this parameter.

debt restructurings were observed because “Western banks faced considerable solvency risk due to their exposure to developing country sovereign debt.” They also argued that “similar concerns apply today in Europe, as European banks hold significant amounts of sovereign debt of Euro-periphery countries on their books. Therefore, a restructuring with large haircuts may become a source of systemic instability in the financial sector if appropriate remedial measures are not adopted.” Similarly, in explaining the Greek restructuring, the study by [Zettelmeyer, Trebesch, and Gulati \(2013\)](#) states that “most Greek bonds were held by banks and other institutional investors which were susceptible to pressure by their regulators and governments.”

The study by [Blundell-Wignall and Slovik \(2010\)](#) explains the details of the regulation of European banks and stress testing before the Greek restructuring. Banks can have bonds in “the trading books” or in “banking books.” In the trading books, they are marked to market, so book value haircuts or face value haircuts are the same. But on the banking books, it is assumed they will be held to maturity, so they are priced at book value. They show that on average, 83 percent of the sovereign bonds are held on banking books. Thus, this mechanism is also important for the restructuring of bonds, as long as a significant share of them is held by banks. In the case of Greece, it was clear that Greek banks would have gone bankrupt and losses would have threatened the solvency of other European banks, particularly in Germany and France.

### 3 Environment

We consider a small-open-economy model with a stochastic endowment and a benevolent government *à la* [Eaton and Gersovitz \(1981\)](#). The government participates in international credit markets facing risk-neutral lenders and lacks commitment to repay its obligations. Therefore, given an outstanding amount of assets  $b$  (debt if  $b < 0$ ), the sovereign chooses either to default or to keep its good credit status by paying its obligations.

A default brings immediate financial autarky and a direct output loss to the defaulting country. After the initial default decision, the country has the opportunity to return to international debt markets, but only after restructuring its debt. The restructuring of the debt may entail a haircut and a different maturity from the original defaulted portfolio.

When in good credit status, the country may face a “debt rollover” shock,  $a$ , where  $a = 1$  if the country is facing a disruption in its access to financial markets and is hence impeded from rolling over or changing its debt portfolio, and  $a = 0$  otherwise. When the country experiences this “sudden stop” event, world financial markets cease to lend to the economy, so the country may only choose between repaying and repudiating its obligations.<sup>13</sup>

If the country decides not to default, it selects the maturity of the new portfolio,  $m'$ , and the debt level,  $b'$ . The optimal choices of maturity and asset levels are influenced by the current level of income, the current level of debt and its maturity, and the debt rollover shock. There is also a cost of adjusting the portfolio, discussed in the model calibration section.<sup>14</sup>

The conditions of the debt restructuring are endogenously determined via an alternating-offers mechanism that resembles that of [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#). That is, each period in default, either the lender or the borrower have a chance to make a restructuring offer to the other party. If the lender is making the offer, the lender selects a market value of restructured debt, and the borrower decides whether to accept the offer, and, if so, the yearly payments  $b^R$  and maturity  $m^R$  to deliver the asked market value. In this case, the restructuring proposal takes into account the incentives of the borrower to accept the restructuring deal or not. If the borrower is the one proposing a deal, it will choose the offer that makes the lender indifferent on whether to accept or not. However, if the value of such a deal is sufficiently large, the borrower may choose not to make a restructuring offer at all and continue in default.

To make the problem tractable, we make a few assumptions about the support of the assets and introduce additive preference shocks to choices. In [Section 9](#) we show how additional assumptions on the distribution of these shocks make the problem more tractable to solve it computationally. First, we assume that the maturity of the new asset portfolio can be a natural number  $m' \in \{1, 2, \dots, \mathcal{M}\}$ . In addition, we assume that assets can only take values in a discrete

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<sup>13</sup>We introduce sudden stop shocks in our model to get a sufficiently high level of debt maturity in normal times. It is well known that, for borrowers, long-term debt is more costly than short-term debt due to debt dilution. However, borrowers value long-term debt as a way to hedge against rollover crises or sudden stops (see [Sánchez et al. \(2018\)](#) for a discussion.) In our quantitative exercises and for our preferred calibration, only 17.5% of all default episodes occur jointly with a sudden stop. [Appendix F](#) shows that our results about debt restructurings and maturity extensions are robust to removing these sudden stops.

<sup>14</sup>We explain the role and properties of this adjustment cost in the calibration section, and we show it in [Appendix D](#), where we present all the model equations.

support. This discrete grid has a total of  $\mathcal{N}$  points.<sup>15</sup> With this pair of assumptions, we can characterize the problem of the government as choosing either the optimal debt and maturity combination, or to default. This decision boils down to choosing one out of many possible alternatives. When writing down the problem, it is convenient to define vectors  $b$  and  $m$ , where  $(b_j, m_j)$  are the  $j$ th element of each vector, respectively. These vectors have  $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{N}$  elements and the following structure:

$$b = \left[ \underbrace{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\mathcal{N}}}_{\text{grid for } b}, \underbrace{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\mathcal{N}}}_{\text{grid for } b}, \dots, \underbrace{b_1, b_2, \dots, b_{\mathcal{N}}}_{\text{grid for } b} \right]^T$$

$$m = \left[ \underbrace{m_1, m_1, \dots, m_1}_{\text{repeated } \mathcal{N} \text{ times}}, \underbrace{m_2, m_2, \dots, m_2}_{\text{repeated } \mathcal{N} \text{ times}}, \dots, \underbrace{m_{\mathcal{M}}, m_{\mathcal{M}}, \dots, m_{\mathcal{M}}}_{\text{repeated } \mathcal{N} \text{ times}} \right]^T,$$

where the operator  $T$  represents the transpose.

Second, we assume there is a random vector  $\epsilon$  of size  $\mathcal{J} + 1$ , where the size corresponds to the number of all possible combinations of  $b$  and  $m$ , captured by  $\mathcal{J} = \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{N}$ , and one additional element that captures the choice of default. We label the elements of the random vector  $\epsilon$  as  $\epsilon_j$  and the one associated with the choice of default as  $\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}$ . As mentioned, the introduction of these  $\mathcal{J} + 1$  shocks is useful to solve our model numerically using the tools of dynamic discrete choice.<sup>16</sup>

We assume  $\epsilon$  is drawn from a multivariate distribution with joint cumulative density function  $F(\epsilon) = F(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1})$  and joint density function  $f(\epsilon) = f(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1})$ . To simplify notation in what follows, we use the following operator to denote the expectation of any function

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<sup>15</sup>The last assumption could be interpreted as units for debt or assets. For example, in practice, agents choose savings or debt in multiples of cents or dollars. What we have in mind, however, is a more sparse and bounded support for sovereign debt, such as millions of dollars, or one-tenth of a percent of GDP. The assumption of a discrete and bounded support for debt is usual in the sovereign default literature (Chatterjee & Eyigungor, 2012).

<sup>16</sup>See the discussion and details in Section 9, where we also provide an economic interpretation for these shocks. As we show there, these shocks play a very modest role in the decisions of borrowers, with a slightly larger impact in determining the choice of maturity in those cases for which the country is almost indifferent among several alternatives.

$Z(\epsilon)$  with respect to all the elements of  $\epsilon$ ,

$$E_{\epsilon}Z(\epsilon) = \int_{\epsilon_1} \int_{\epsilon_2} \dots \int_{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}} Z(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}) f(\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}) d\epsilon_1 d\epsilon_2 \dots d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}.$$

## 4 Normal Times

Under the economic setup described above, the country's choice when in good credit standing can be expressed as

$$V^G(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = \max \left\{ V^D(\min \{y, \pi^D\}, b_i, m_i, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}), V^P(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) \right\},$$

where  $V^D$  and  $V^P$  are the values if the country chooses to default and repay, respectively, the sub-index  $i$  represents the last period choice of  $b$  and  $m$ , and  $\min \{y, \pi^D\}$  represents the income of the country net of the punishment for entering in default. Note that countries with income  $y$  above  $\pi^D$  have an output loss equal to  $y - \pi^D$  and countries at or below that threshold have no losses.

The policy function  $D(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)$  is 1 if default is preferred and 0 otherwise.

In case of default, the problem is simply

$$V^D(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}) = u(y) + \beta E_{y'|y} E_{\epsilon'} V^R(\min \{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i, \epsilon') + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1},$$

where  $\min \{y, \pi^R\}$  represents the income of the country net of the punishment for staying in default.

In case of repayment, the value depends on the rollover shock,  $a$ . In normal times (i.e., no debt rollover shock,  $a = 0$ ), the value is

$$V^P(y, 0, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = \max_j u(c_{ij}(y)) + \beta E_{y', a'|y, 0} E_{\epsilon'} V^G(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon') + \epsilon_j$$

subject to

$$c_{ij}(y) = y + b_i + q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i - 1)b_i - q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_j)b_j \text{ and } j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \mathcal{J}\}.$$

The expectation is about future income and rollover conditions. We assume that the transition probability from  $a = 0$  (access to bond market) to  $a = 1$  (no access to bond market) is  $\omega^N$ . The constraint implies that consumption is equal to income,  $y$ , net of debt payments,  $b_i$ , plus the net resources that are obtained from, or paid to, international markets, as captured by the next two summands.<sup>17</sup> The first of these two summands depends on the market price of outstanding obligations,  $q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i - 1)$ , which takes into account the current income,  $y$ , the debt rollover shock,  $a = 0$ , and the obligations the country will have from the beginning of the next period,  $(b_j, m_j)$ . These four variables determine the risk of default. The market price also depends on  $m - 1$ , which is the remaining number of years of payments of the outstanding debt after the current year's payment. The term  $q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i - 1)$  captures the price per unit of resources promised per year. It is multiplied by  $b_i$  to reflect the market value of the total outstanding obligations at the beginning of the present period. With a negative value of  $b$ , the term represents the gross resources leaving the country. Similarly, the term  $-q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_j)b_j$  is the value of the outstanding debt at the end of the current period and, therefore, represents the gross resources obtained from international markets. The combination of both terms captures the net resources obtained from international markets.

The policy functions for the amount of assets and maturity choices are  $B(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)$  and  $M(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)$ , respectively. Notice that when a country makes only its debt payment, the policies are  $B(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = b_i$  and  $M(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = m_i - 1$ , respectively. This will be the case, for example, when there is a debt rollover shock.

When the country has no access to credit markets ( $a = 1$ ), the value of repayment is

$$V^P(y, 1, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = u(y + b_i) + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 1} E_{\epsilon'} V^G(y', a', b_i, m_i - 1, \epsilon') + \epsilon_i.$$

In this case, the country does not have the option to change the debt portfolio, and the choice reduces to either defaulting or making the promised payment and continuing next period with a debt characterized by the same payment and by a maturity that is one period shorter. Note

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<sup>17</sup>We assume a flat profile of  $-b_i$  yearly payments as in [Sánchez, Saprizza, and Yurdagul \(2018\)](#). We can easily have a decreasing profile of payments with an exogenous decaying rate to match some features of the data. However, the decreasing profile is independent of the maturity of the debt, which is well defined in our setup.

that the expectation also contains future rollover risk. We assume that the probability of staying excluded from credit markets ( $a = 1$  and  $a' = 1$ ) is  $\omega^{SS}$ .

## 5 Renegotiation and Restructuring

This section explains how restructuring deals are endogenously determined in the model. We first discuss the main renegotiation setup used to derive the restructuring offers, and then we provide insight about the valuation of the restructured portfolio.

We follow [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#) in assuming that after a default, the borrower and lenders have an opportunity to make a restructuring offer. This opportunity alters stochastically between the borrower and lenders, and only one party can make an offer each period. In default, with probability  $\lambda$  the lender (L) offers a restructuring deal, and the sovereign borrower (S), the country, decides whether to accept. Similarly, with probability  $(1 - \lambda)$ , the sovereign has the option to make a restructuring offer to the lender. In both cases, the offer specifies a value that the new restructured portfolio must attain,  $W$ . Let  $\tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W)$  be the policy function that describes whether the offer is made by the country or accepted by the country in case that the lender made the offer (mathematically, it is exactly the same function). It takes value 1 if the offer is made/accepted and 0 otherwise. The lenders make the restructuring offer before the values of the  $\epsilon$  shocks are realized or observed by the borrower. Thus, when making the offer, lenders take the expectation over  $\epsilon$  shocks and face a probability of acceptance,  $E_\epsilon \tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W)$ , which is continuous and decreasing with respect to the value of the offer,  $W$ .

### 5.1 How is $W$ determined?

**If the country makes the offer:** In this case the country must decide whether to make an offer or not. The lenders would only accept offers with market value larger than the current market value of debt in default; i.e.,  $W \geq -b_i q^D(y, b_i, m_i; m_i) = \underline{W}$ , where  $q^D$  is the price of debt in default given the characteristics of the debt in default and current income  $y$ . Thus, if the country makes the restructuring offer, it will be such that the lender would be just indifferent



between accepting or not; i.e.,

$$W^S(y, b_i, m_i) = -b_i q^D(y, b_i, m_i; m_i),$$

As we assume that if the country makes this offer the lender always accepts it, there is no point for the country to offer any larger value, and any smaller value will be definitely rejected by the lenders. However, recall that borrowers are not required to make the offer when they have the opportunity. The policy function described above is equal to one, i.e.,  $\tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, \underline{W}) = 1$  if the country makes the offer and is 0 otherwise.

**If the lender makes the offer:** The lenders must take into account the probability of acceptance,  $E_\epsilon \tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W)$ . As a result, in this case the choice of the offer is

$$W^L(y, b_i, m_i) = \arg \max_{W \leq -b_i \times m_i} \left\{ W \times E_\epsilon \tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W) + \left( 1 - E_\epsilon \tilde{H}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W) \right) \times \left( -b_i q^D(y, b_i, m_i; m_i) \right) \right\}. \quad (1)$$

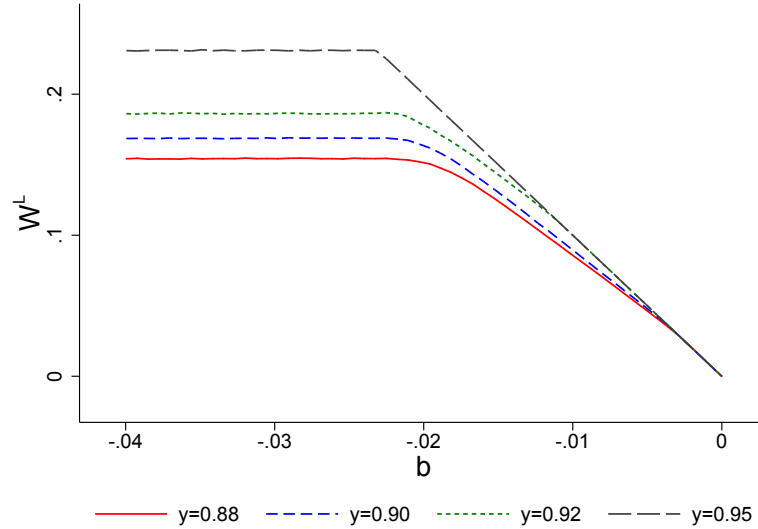
Lenders face an important trade-off. On the one hand, lenders prefer a larger market value of the new debt ( $W$ ). However, as  $W$  increases, the probability that borrowers will accept the offer falls, as this reduces a borrower's value of restructuring relative to staying in default. Thus, lenders just maximize the expected value of a restructuring offer given its acceptance probability.

Note that we impose the constraint that the market value of the new debt portfolio cannot be larger than the face value of the debt in default. This constraint is the same as in [Benjamin and Wright \(2013\)](#) and is in line with bond acceleration clauses establishing that all future payments become due at the time of default.

The lender's offer decision rules for different income, different debt levels, and a maturity of 10 years, are shown in Figure 4. At low debt levels, the lenders ask for the largest possible recovery amount irrespective of output. As previously discussed, we consider offers not entailing negative haircuts, i.e., lenders cannot ask the country to repay more than the debt at the time

of default, so the constraint  $W \leq -b_i m_i$  is binding. As the defaulted debt and the lender's offer recovery value keep increasing, the target recovery value  $W$  is constrained by the fact that higher  $W$  would not be accepted by the country. Intuitively, the restructuring starts to become less attractive for a borrower with a low income level, so the probability that the country accepts the deal decreases (lower  $H$ ), making it optimal for the lender to differentiate its target recovery value by income. In other words, the lender's recovery request is increasing with the country's output. Finally, for sufficiently large values of the debt in default, the constraint does not bind, and even with a constant probability of acceptance the lender would not demand an increasing value of  $W$  and the function becomes flat. The reason is that at some point the market price of the new debt declines markedly with higher debt issuance, lowering the market value of the new debt portfolio.

Figure 4: The value of the restructuring deal when the lender makes the offer,  $W^L$



Note: The figure plots the lender's offer ( $W^L(y, b, m)$ ) for different income levels when the maturity of the defaulted debt is  $m = 10$  and the yearly payment of the defaulted debt is  $b$  (x-axis).

## 5.2 The choice of maturity in restructuring

Given a value  $W$  agreed upon in the restructuring, the country chooses the new yearly payment,  $b^R$ , the new maturity,  $m^R$ , and a transfer of fresh money from the lenders to the country,

$$\tau(y, W, b^R, m^R) = \underbrace{q^E(y, b^R, m^R; m^R) \times (-b_j)}_{\text{resources raised with the new issuance}} - \underbrace{W}_{\text{amount agreed in the restructuring}} = \tau(y, W, j),$$

where the price of the debt being restructured,  $q^E$ , takes into account that the country will be excluded from credit markets next period with probability  $\delta$ , and we can replace  $(b^R, m^R)$  with  $j$  because the debt portfolio will be on the specified grid for debt-maturity combinations.

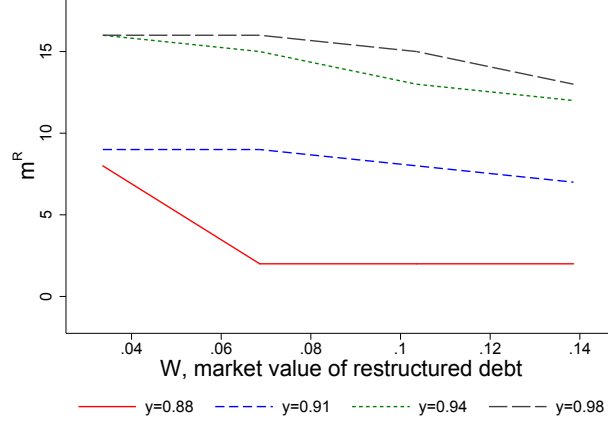
Thus, the value of exiting restructuring with a deal of value  $W$  is simply

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{V}^A(y, W, \epsilon) &= \max_j u(y + \tau(y, W, j)) + \epsilon_j \\ &\quad + \beta E_{y'|y} E_{\epsilon'} [(1 - \delta)V^G(y', 0, b_j, m_j, \epsilon') + \delta V^E(y', b_j, m_j, \epsilon')] \\ &\text{subject to } \tau^R(y, W, j) \geq 0, \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

where the value function  $V^E(y', b_j, m_j, \epsilon')$  is almost the same as  $V^G(y', 1, b_j, m_j, \epsilon')$ , with the only difference being that the probability of remaining excluded from the credit market in this case is  $\delta$  instead of  $\omega^{SS}$ .

Figure 5 shows that the optimal maturity chosen in restructuring,  $m^R$ , is decreasing in the market value of debt that was agreed upon in the restructuring,  $W$ , and increasing in income. The fact that maturity in restructuring is increasing in income is important in obtaining maturity extensions because income recovers from the time of default until the time of restructuring.

Figure 5: Choice of maturity in restructuring



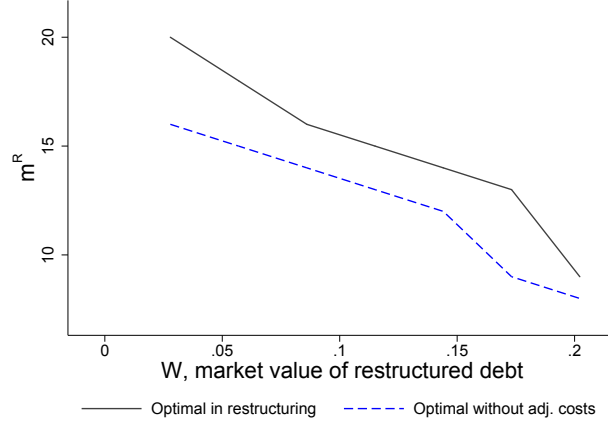
Note: The figure plots the optimal maturity choice in restructuring for different values of the restructured portfolio to satisfy ( $W$ ). The adjustment costs in restructuring, and the realization of the  $\epsilon$  shocks for the current period are set to their expected value (zero) for this figure.

Next, we add the fact that lenders are concerned about both the market value of debt and the extra cost due to a reduction in the book value of debt. In this case, we can let the country choose the details of the restructurings deal, i.e., a reduction in  $b$  or an increase in  $m$ , as long as the country compensates the lender for their extra cost,  $\kappa \max\{x, 0\}$ . Thus, the assumption simplifies the presentation without loss of generality. The country chooses the new yearly payment,  $b^R$ , the new maturity,  $m^R$ , and a transfer of fresh money from the lenders to the country,  $\tau^R$ , which is

$$\tau^R(y, W, j, i) = q^E(y, b_j, m_j; m_j) \times (-b_j) - W - \underbrace{\kappa \max\{|b_i \times m_i| - |b_j \times m_j|, 0\}}_{\text{regulatory cost of book-value haircuts}}.$$

The problem of choosing the portfolio remains the same except for two differences: (i)  $\tau$  is replaced by  $\tau^R$ , and (ii) the current portfolio with the debt in default,  $i$ , is also a state variable. The solid black and dashed blue lines in Figure 6 show the optimal maturity chosen in restructuring,  $m^R$ , for the cases with and without the regulatory costs of book-value losses. Clearly, when book-value losses carry an extra cost, the maturity chosen in restructuring is larger. Thus, this force plays a role in generating maturity extensions.

Figure 6: Optimization in restructuring with and without the adjustment costs



Note: The figure shows the optimal maturity in restructuring with and without the adjustment costs in the current period. The realization of the  $\epsilon$  shocks are set to their expected value (zero) for the current period. The income level is set at 0.93, and the current maturity ( $m$ ) and debt level ( $b$ ) are set at 10 and -0.06, respectively.

Finally, to better understand the differences between the choice of maturity in restructuring and in normal times, assume that in the period before default - i.e., the last time the country made a maturity choice - the state variables are the same as in the period of the restructuring deal. Would the choice of maturity be the same? We argue that the choice of maturity would be lower in restructuring, and as a result, maturity extensions would be negative. This result is an important force highlighted in AAHW: the debt-dilution incentives that exist during normal times are absent in restructuring.

To see this point, we compare two maturity options that achieve the same value  $W$  of the restructured debt portfolio, and for simplicity we abstract from book-value costs (i.e.,  $\kappa = 0$ ). In particular, with  $m = 3$  we find  $b^R(3)$  such that  $b^R(3)q(y, 0, b^R(3), 3; m^R) = W$ , and with  $m = 10$  we find  $b^R(10)$  such that  $b^R(10)q(y, 0, b^R(10), 10; m^R) = W$ . In restructuring, as both choices raise  $W$ , current consumption is the same, and the choice of  $m^R$  depends only on how it affects future utility. By contrast, in normal times (also abstracting from portfolio adjustment costs), dilution adds an effect on current consumption. If  $m^R = 3$ , current consumption is

$$c = y + b + q(y, 0, b^R(3), 3; m - 1)b - W,$$

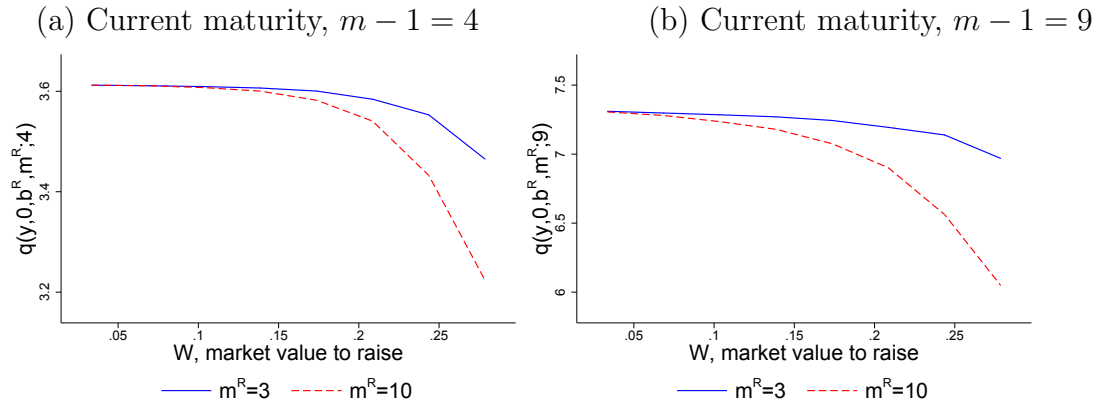
and if  $m^R = 10$ , current consumption is

$$c = y + b + q(y, 0, b^R(10), 10; m - 1)b - W.$$

Clearly, in terms of consumption today, these two options are not equal. Consumption would be larger for the maturity choice with the lower price of the old debt,  $q$ .<sup>18</sup> Since shorter maturity decreases debt dilution, short-term debt has a higher price, and current consumption would be lower with shorter maturity. Thus, in normal times there is an extra force that favors longer maturity than in restructuring. This leads to a shortening of maturity in restructuring.

To illustrate how the value of  $q$  in the expressions above looks for different maturities, in Figure 7 we plot the values of  $q$  for  $m^R = 3$  and  $m^R = 10$ , and for two alternative values of  $m - 1$ .<sup>19</sup> As expected, because short maturity reduces the risk of debt dilution, we find that  $q(y, 0, b^R(3), 3; m - 1) > q(y, 0, b^R(10), 10; m - 1)$ .

Figure 7: Closing price with alternative maturity choices



Note: The value of income,  $y$ , is set at 0.96. For each  $W$  and  $m^R$ ,  $b^R(m^R, W)$  is such that  $b^R(m^R, W)q(y, 0, b^R(m^R, W), m^R; m^R) = W$ ; that is, the market value of issuing  $(b^R, m^R)$  is equal to  $W$ . The y-axis gives the unit price of the old debt after making the coupon payment  $b$  and after issuing  $(b^R, m^R)$  for alternative maturities of the old debt,  $m - 1 = 4$  (a) and  $m - 1 = 9$  (b).

<sup>18</sup>Remember that with debt,  $b$  is negative.

<sup>19</sup>Note that in the comparison across maturities the payments are for the same number of periods,  $m - 1$ , and the equilibrium choices  $b^R$  and  $m^R$  are such that they raise a value  $W$ .

### 5.3 The value of a country in restructuring

To express the value of a country in restructuring, it is convenient to specify the function  $\tilde{V}^R$ , which is the same in two cases: (i) a country that received an offer of  $W$ , deciding whether to accept it, and (ii) a country considering whether to make an offer of  $W$ .

This function is  $\tilde{V}^R(y, W, i, \epsilon) = \max \left\{ V^D(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}); \tilde{V}^A(y, W, i, \epsilon) \right\}$ . Using the notation presented in the previous subsection, the value of a country in restructuring can be expressed as

$$V^R(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon) = \lambda \tilde{V}^R(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W^L(y, b_i, m_i)) + (1 - \lambda) \tilde{V}^R(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon, W^S(y, b_i, m_i)).$$

## 6 Equilibrium

Given the world interest rate  $r$  and lenders' risk neutrality, the price of the country's debt must be consistent with zero expected discounted profits. The price of a non-defaulted bond of maturity  $m_i > 0$  of a country with income  $y$ , yearly debt payment  $-b_j$ , and portfolio maturity  $m_j > 0$ , can be represented by  $q(y, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) =$

$$\frac{E_{y', a' | y, a} E_{\epsilon'}}{1 + r} \left\{ (1 - D(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon')) (1 + q(y', a', B(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon'), M(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon'); m_i - 1)) \right. \quad (3)$$

$$\left. + D(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon') q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right\}. \quad (4)$$

After the country repays 1 unit today, the valuation of debt maturing in  $m_i - 1$  periods depends on the expectation about future payoffs associated with repayments, reflected in future prices when  $D = 0$ , and on future payoffs in default states, in which the relevant price will be  $q^D$ , as

explained below. Similarly, the price of debt used in restructuring is

$$\begin{aligned}
q^E(y, b_j, m_j; m_i) = & \delta \frac{E_{y'|y} E_{\epsilon'}}{1+r} \left\{ (1 - D^E(y', b_j, m_j, \epsilon')) (1 + q^E(y', b_j, m_j - 1; m_i - 1)) \right. \\
& \left. + D^E(y', b_j, m_j, \epsilon') q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right\} \\
+ (1 - \delta) \frac{E_{y'|y} E_{\epsilon'}}{1+r} & \left\{ (1 - D(y', 0, b_j, m_j, \epsilon')) (1 + q(y', 0, B(y', 0, b_j, m_j, \epsilon'), M(y', 0, b_j, m_j, \epsilon'); m_i - 1)) \right. \\
& \left. + D(y', 0, b_j, m_j, \epsilon') q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

The price per unit of yearly payment  $b_j$  in default is  $q^D$ , and has the expression

$$\begin{aligned}
q^D(y', b_j, m_j; m_i) = & \frac{E_{y'|y}}{1+r} \left\{ q^D(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) + \right. \\
& \left. \lambda E_{\epsilon'} H^L(y', b_j, m_j, \epsilon') \left[ \frac{1}{-b_j} \frac{q^*(m_i)}{q^*(m_j)} W^L(y', b_j, m_j) - q^D(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right] \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

A lender with promises up to  $m_i$  years would obtain  $q^D(y, b_j, m_j; m_i)$  per dollar of yearly promises that she holds. This per-dollar payment, or bond price, depends on the total debt defaulted upon, which in this case is  $b_j$  yearly payments for  $m_j$  years. One key aspect affecting the cost of borrowing at different maturities is how the total repayment made by the country,  $W^L(y', b_j, m_j)$ , is divided across bondholders. The simplest part is reflected in the fraction  $\frac{1}{-b_j}$ . A bondholder entitled to one unit of yearly payments receives one over the total yearly payments promised. Similarly,  $W^L$  is distributed across lenders holding bonds of different maturity using the ratio  $\frac{q^*(m_i)}{q^*(m_j)}$ , which means that later payments are discounted at the risk-free rate.<sup>20</sup>

## 7 Calibration and Evaluation

### 7.1 Calibration and fit of targeted moments

We solve the model numerically. Most parameters are calibrated following the literature or estimated directly from the data. The remaining parameters are jointly calibrated to capture

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<sup>20</sup>Alternatively, we could have used the ratio  $\frac{m_i}{m_j}$ , but this expression would not take into account the timing of payments. We used that ratio in a previous version of this paper and the main results did not change.



key features of the data.

We calibrate the model to a yearly frequency. Households in the economy have a constant relative risk aversion (CRRA) utility with risk aversion coefficient  $\gamma$ , which is set at 2, a standard value in the literature. The maximum possible maturity is 20 years, which is significantly larger than the typical maturities observed for emerging markets.<sup>21</sup> We set the yearly risk-free interest rate to 4.2% to match the long-run average of the real 10-year U.S. Treasury bonds yield.<sup>22</sup> The standard deviation of the income shock is set to 0.019, and the persistence is set to 0.86, to replicate the yearly detrended GDP per capita process for Colombia as estimated in [Sánchez, Sapriza, and Yurdagul \(2018\)](#).

We set the regulatory cost of book-value losses at 3 percent,  $\kappa = 0.03$ . As explained in Section 2.4.3, this is a relatively low value considering that banks (lenders) may raise capital to remedy its severe shortfall at the time the sovereign defaults. Thus, we can associate this additional cost of book value losses to the banks' cost of raising capital.

Similarly, the value of the probability of remaining excluded after restructuring is set at 70 percent,  $\delta = 0.7$ , to match the estimation of this probability using the data from [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) as presented in Figure 3 in Section 2.4.2.

Using the definition of sudden stop from [Comelli \(2015\)](#) and controlling by fluctuations in the availability of credit due to the country's own conditions, we estimate that the probabilities of sudden stop are  $\omega^N = 0.12$  and  $\omega^{SS} = 0.42$ .<sup>23</sup> These events capture episodes in which many countries find it difficult to access international credit markets, and are usually associated with an international financial crisis.<sup>24</sup>

We also introduce adjustment costs for changing the debt portfolio in order to capture issuance costs. Both changes in maturity and changes in the size of yearly payments are assumed to be costly. Therefore, the portfolio adjustment cost function has two parameters,  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_2$ , that are calibrated jointly with the remaining parameters of the model.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>21</sup>Our results are robust to allowing for longer maximum maturities.

<sup>22</sup>Average of annualized monthly nominal yields minus PCE inflation between 1980 and 2010.

<sup>23</sup>Alternative ways of modeling exogenous variation in the availability of credit include adding risk-averse pricing kernels, as proposed for instance by [Lizarazo \(2013\)](#), or to introduce exogenous variations in the risk-free rate.

<sup>24</sup>The details of the estimation and results are presented in Appendix C.

<sup>25</sup>We use the functional form  $\chi(b, m, b', m') = \alpha_1 \exp \left( \alpha_2 \left( \frac{m+m'}{2} |b - b'| - \frac{b+b'}{2} |m - m'| \right) \right) - \alpha_1$ , where  $-b$  and

Despite the joint parameter calibration, in Table 5 we attribute one moment to each parameter to indicate the moment we consider most informative of the parameter value. Table 5 summarizes the model parameters and the fit of their target statistics. Note that the level of the adjustment cost during normal times ( $\alpha_1$ ) is calibrated such that the equilibrium expenditures on the adjustment cost closely match available data on the cost of issuing debt. The curvature ( $\alpha_2$ ) prevents large increases in debt and a consumption boom in the period before default, so it is calibrated to the average increase in the debt-to-output level before default.<sup>26</sup>

There are only a few other parameters to calibrate: the discount factor,  $\beta$ , the thresholds of income in the default loss function,  $\pi^D$  and  $\pi^R$ , the probability of lenders making an offer after default,  $\lambda$ , and the parameters determining the variance of the  $\epsilon$  shocks,  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ . The distribution of these shocks is assumed to be a Generalized Extreme Value as discussed in Section 9.

As is standard in the literature,  $\beta$  and  $\pi^D$  are calibrated to replicate the debt-to-output ratio and the default rate. The parameter  $\pi^R$  determines how much income recovers in the time between default and restructuring. As shown by Benjamin and Wright (2018), this income recovery is important to determine the length of default. As a consequence we choose this moment as a target.

The probability of lenders making an offer after default,  $\lambda$ , directly affects the value of the haircut. The values of  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  must be positive for the computational benefits of using the extreme value shocks to apply. We calibrate these parameters to match the standard deviation of duration and the standard deviation of the debt-to-output ratio because, as we show in Table 14 in Section 9.3, these moments are directly affected by  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ . More importantly, we show that with this calibration the  $\epsilon$  shocks are not a significant source of defaults, nor do they materially influence the maturity and debt choices (see Table 15 and Figure 13).

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$m$  are the level and maturity of the debt portfolio, respectively, after making the current payment, and  $-b'$  and  $m'$  are those of the newly issued debt.

<sup>26</sup>See the discussion in Hatchondo, Martinez, and Sosa-Padilla (2016), who impose an upper limit on the spread. We prevent this behavior with the curvature of the adjustment cost function.

Table 5: Parameters and fit of targeted statistics

| Parameter  | Value   | Basis                          | Target | Model  |
|--|---------|--------------------------------|--------|--------|
| Relative risk aversion, $\gamma$                 | 2       | Standard                       | —      | —      |
| Risk-free interest rate, $r$                     | 0.042   | Average 10-year U.S. rate      | —      | —      |
| Std. dev. income shocks                          | 0.019   | Estimated for Colombia         | —      | —      |
| Persistence of income                            | 0.86    | Estimated for Colombia         | —      | —      |
| Probability of remaining excluded, $\delta$      | 0.7     | See Section 2.2.2              | —      | —      |
| Regulatory cost of book-value losses, $\kappa$   | 0.03    | See Section 2.2.3              | —      | —      |
| Prob. of entering a sudden stop, $\omega^N$      | 0.12    | Estimated. See Appendix D      | —      | —      |
| Prob. of staying in a sudden stop, $\omega^{SS}$ | 0.42    | Estimated. See Appendix D      | —      | —      |
| Discount factor, $\beta$                         | 0.935   | Debt/output                    | 30%    | 31.7%  |
| Output loss of entering default, $\pi^D$         | 0.90    | Default rate                   | 2.50%  | 2.35%  |
| Output loss of staying in default, $\pi^R$       | 0.945   | Length of default, years       | 2.30   | 2.32   |
| Lender’s offer prob., $\lambda$                  | 0.55    | Mean SZ haircut                | 32.8%  | 34.1%  |
| Portfolio adj. cost, $\alpha_1$                  | 0.00005 | Average issuance costs         | 0.2%   | 1.1%   |
| Portfolio adj. cost, $\alpha_2$                  | 20      | $\Delta$ Debt/GDP near default | 22p.p. | 11p.p. |
| Corr. parameter, $\rho$                          | 0.25    | Std. dev. duration             | 0.9    | 0.9    |
| Variance parameter, $\sigma$                     | 0.001   | Std. dev. debt/output          | 8.0    | 9.5    |

Note: The data sources are in Appendix A. The default rate in the data is based on [Tomz and Wright \(2013\)](#), p.257, and the average haircut is based on data from [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#), where the sample excludes donor-funded restructuring and is restricted to high quality data. Duration of a default episode is taken from [Das, Papaioannou, and Trebesch \(2012\)](#), p.27. Issuance costs are taken as conservative estimates based on the statistics from [Joffe \(2015\)](#), Figure 1. The Change in Debt-to-output at default relative to normal times is computed using the mean reported in [Mendoza and Yue \(2012\)](#), Figure 1 (see also their Fact 3). Details on our computations are also in Appendix A.

The model replicates very well most targeted moments, though it generates a default rate that it is lower than the target (2.35% vs. 2.5%) and a lower increase in the debt-to-output ratio leading into a default (11 p.p. vs. 22 p.p.).

## 7.2 Fit of non-targeted moments

Our model can closely match several key non-targeted empirical stylized facts of emerging markets. For exposition purposes, we divide these statistics into three groups and compare model-generated moments with those of three well-known emerging-market economies. First, as illustrated in Table 6, our model closely captures the business cycles moments commonly discussed in the literature of sovereign default, such as the volatility of consumption relative to the volatility of output, which exceeds a value of 1 both in the data and the model, the correlation of con-

sumption with output, which is high and positive both in the model and the data, the correlation of the trade balance with output, which is mild both in the model and in the sample data, and the volatility of the trade balance relative to the volatility of output.

Second, our model statistics also closely mimic the median sovereign debt maturity and duration found in the data, as well as their cyclical behavior (Table 6).<sup>27</sup> The model delivers a maturity of 6.20 years and a duration of 3.43 years, only slightly lower than the average sample values. Additionally, the model generates the reduction of debt maturity and duration found in the data during bad times. During bad times, both debt maturity and duration in the model are about 15 percent lower than their averages. Our model is also able to capture the positive correlation between maturity and duration with output that is generally found in the data.

Table 6: Fit of key non-targeted moments

| Statistics                                 | Brazil | Chile | Colombia | Mexico | Model |
|--|--------|-------|----------|--------|-------|
| St. dev. $(\log(c))/$ St. dev. $(\log(y))$ | 1.15   | 1.74  | 1.15     | 1.65   | 1.17  |
| St. dev. $(TB/y)/$ St. dev. $(\log(y))$    | 0.57   | 0.92  | 1.36     | 1.35   | 0.63  |
| Corr. $(\log(c), \log(y))$                 | 0.75   | 0.85  | 0.90     | 0.69   | 0.84  |
| Corr. $(TB/y, \log(y))$                    | 0.16   | -0.29 | -0.08    | -0.09  | 0.04  |
| Duration (years)                           | 3.49   | 4.44  | 5.08     | 5.76   | 3.43  |
| Duration (years, bad times)                | 3.18   | 3.96  | 4.55     | 5.86   | 3.05  |
| Maturity (years)                           | 6.13   | 5.53  | 8.90     | 11.43  | 6.20  |
| Maturity (years, bad times)                | 5.64   | 4.75  | 7.90     | 11.13  | 5.43  |
| Corr. (maturity, $\log(y)$ )               | 0.65   | 0.58  | 0.93     | 0.03   | 0.38  |
| Corr. (duration, $\log(y)$ )               | 0.69   | 0.53  | 0.93     | -0.20  | 0.47  |
| 1-year spread (%)                          | 2.03   | 2.26  | 1.34     | 0.73   | 0.77  |
| 1-year spread (% , bad times)              | 3.43   | 2.62  | 1.63     | 0.79   | 1.53  |
| 10-year spread (%)                         | 4.10   | 0.72  | 3.26     | 1.73   | 1.01  |
| 10-year spread (% , bad times)             | 6.86   | 0.77  | 4.39     | 1.77   | 1.37  |
| Corr. $(1YS, \log(y))$                     | -0.43  | 0.07  | -0.61    | -0.14  | -0.22 |
| Corr. $(10YS, \log(y))$                    | -0.74  | 0.13  | -0.89    | -0.17  | -0.55 |
| $10YS - 1YS$ (%)                           | 1.07   | -1.52 | 1.59     | 0.79   | 0.24  |

Note: The first-order moments are medians for each country in the data. Bad times are the observations with detrended income below 0. The computation of moments for spreads in the model exclude the year before a default. See appendix for computational details and data sources.

<sup>27</sup>Consistent with the data, for the model we use the Macaulay definition of debt duration. See Appendix B for definitions of debt duration and yield spreads.

Third, as our study focuses on sovereign default risk, we also analyze sovereign bond yield spreads over risk-free debt instruments.<sup>28</sup> The results in Table 6 suggest that while our framework slightly underpredicts the level of the spreads, it captures well the dynamics of yield spreads for different bond maturities over the business cycle. Also, yield spreads for 1-year and 10-year instruments are countercyclical, and spreads for short-term bonds are lower than those for longer-term instruments.

We next analyze regressions of SZ haircuts using model-simulated data. Table 7 shows that the model also reproduces the key forces determining haircuts. In particular, defaults with larger debt burdens exhibit larger haircuts upon restructuring. In our model, the key determinant of the value of restructured debt is the country’s ability to pay, which, except for the cases for which the constraint in  $W$  binds, is independent of the past. Therefore, holding other things constant, countries with more debt in the past obtain larger haircuts. The results also show that in the model, countries with higher income receive smaller haircuts. Lenders ask for a higher market value of debt in restructuring,  $W$ , from countries with higher income because these countries are less likely to default again and the probability that an offer is accepted for a given  $W$  increases with income, given that the cost of staying in default is increasing in income for borrowers.

Table 7: Determinants of haircuts in the model

|                            | log(SZ Haircut)   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|
| log( Debt×Maturity / $y$ ) | 1.612<br>(0.347)  |
| Cycle                      | -10.65<br>(3.240) |

Note: Regressions are computed using simulated data from the model. Bootstrap standard errors, shown in parentheses, are computed using random samples (with replacement) of equal size as the one in the data in [Crucés and Trebesch \(2013\)](#), which we use in Section 2.

<sup>28</sup>The spread at each maturity is the difference between the yield on a zero-coupon bond with default risk, and the yield on a bond with the same characteristics but with no default risk. We present the details of the model computations in Appendix B.

## 8 Quantitative evaluation of maturity extensions

Our framework helps understand the maturity extensions documented for defaulting countries during distressed debt restructurings. In our setup, maturity extensions are endogenously determined as functions of the current income, as well as the debt level and maturity at default. Our analysis is founded on the empirical evidence discussed earlier, which indicates that the extension of debt maturity is a commonly observed feature of distressed sovereign debt restructurings. As shown in the first row of Table 8, the average maturity extension in the data is 3.4 or 2.9 years depending on whether observations are weighted by total debt restructured. Consistent with the data, the bottom row of the table illustrates that the average maturity extension in the model is 4.3 years.

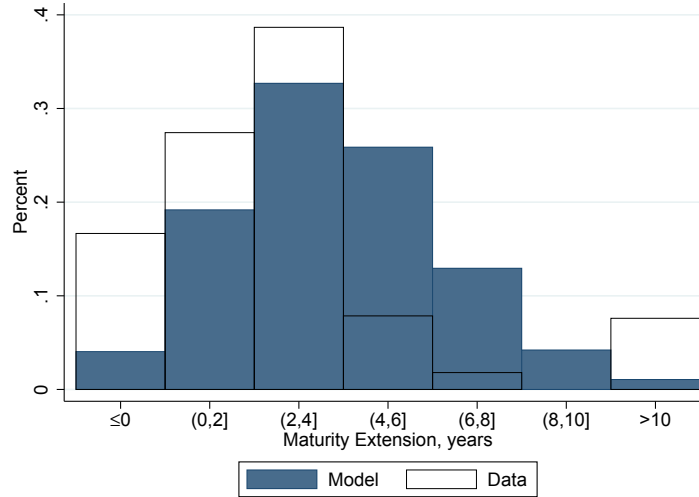
Table 8: Fit of maturity extensions

|  | mean | sd  |
|--|------|-----|
| Data maturity extensions, non-weighted (yrs) | 2.9  | 4.7 |
| Data maturity extensions, weighted (yrs)     | 3.4  | 6.4 |
| Model maturity extensions (yrs)              | 4.3  | 2.4 |

Note: The moments for SZ haircuts in the data are based on data from [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#). The weighted sample includes all episodes, which are weighted by debt in default. The non-weighted sample excludes donor-funded restructurings.

Table 8 also shows that the model generates significant dispersion of maturity extensions. Moreover, the distribution of maturity extensions in the data and the model are very close, as shown in Figure 8. Both distributions exhibit average and mode maturity extensions in the range of (2,4) years, and positive skewness.

Figure 8: Distribution of maturity extensions



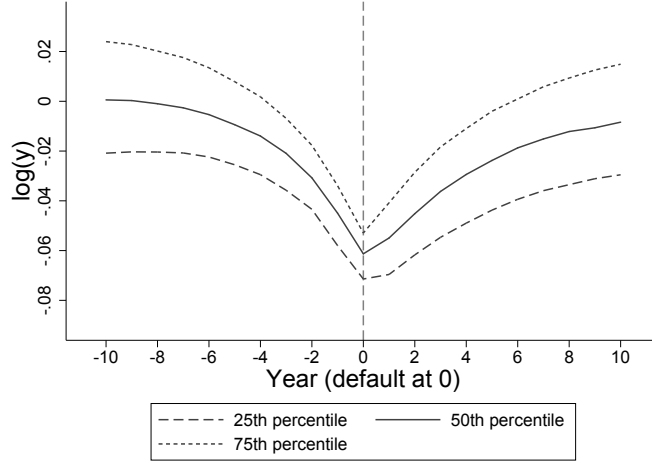
Note: The distribution of maturity extensions in the data is weighted by the restructured debt, excludes donor funded restructurings, and is restricted to high quality data.

The next subsections identify and analyze the key factors influencing maturity extensions in the data, that we quantify in the model: (i) the recovery in income between default and restructuring, (ii) the probability of exclusion from financial markets after restructuring, (iii) the regulatory cost of book-value haircuts, and (iv) debt dilution.

## 8.1 Income recovery after default

The unconditional evolution of income around a default episode in our model, illustrated in Figure 9, closely matches the corresponding pattern observed in the data presented in Section 2.4.1. On average, countries default when output is about 6% below normal, and activity then gradually returns to normal values.

Figure 9: Behavior of income around default



Note: To construct this figure, we first isolate the corresponding statistics for  $y = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 10\}$  before and after default episodes, and then take the medians and other percentiles across these for each  $y$ .

The evolution of income during the period between default and restructuring is shown in Table 9, the model counterpart to Table 4 in Section 2.4. While the increases in income in the model are not as pronounced as the large income gains documented in the data that lead to the observed high mean income changes, the median changes in the model and the data are more similar.

Table 9: Income recovery from default until restructuring  
By length of the default episode

|            | Income Change |        |
|------------|---------------|--------|
|            | mean          | median |
| length > 1 | 0.3%          | 0.3%   |
| length > 2 | 1.2%          | 1.3%   |
| length > 3 | 1.6%          | 1.7%   |
| length > 4 | 1.7%          | 1.7%   |
| length > 5 | 1.7%          | 1.7%   |
| length > 6 | 1.7%          | 2.0%   |

Note: Default episodes from model-simulated data. Income changes conditional on length of the default episode. In the model, all defaults have length larger than 1 year. Percent change computed as the difference of the logs multiplied by 100.



Table 10 shows other key moments of debt restructurings, and how they are affected by income recovery. Column (1) in the table shows the benchmark results. Column (2) shows how the statistics change for those restructurings that occur when income is lower than at the time of default. Two results are worth highlighting in this case. First, debt haircuts are larger, in line with the relation between income and the market value of the debt restructuring offer  $W$  discussed in Section 5.1. Second, maturity extensions are shorter by about 0.5 years on average. The opposite is true for restructurings in which income has improved relative to the time of default, as shown in column (3).

Table 10: The effect of income recovery between default and restructuring

|                          | Baseline   |                    |                 |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------------|-----------------|
|                          | All<br>(1) | No recovery<br>(2) | Recovery<br>(3) |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72      | 32.69              | 23.03           |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05      | 37.41              | 30.92           |
| Mean extension           | 4.32       | 3.84               | 4.78            |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32       | 2.16               | 2.46            |

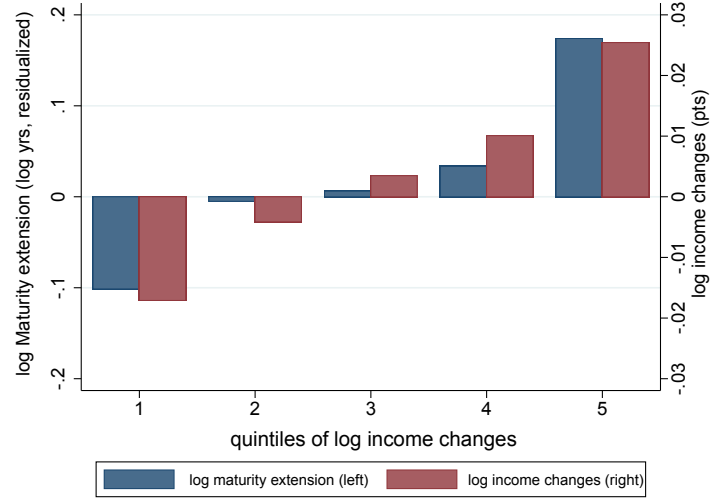
Note: "No recovery" corresponds to simulations with income at time of restructuring lower than at time of default. The "Recovery" column considers the opposite case; that is, results from simulations with income at time of restructuring higher than at time of default.

To analyze the role of income for maturity extension, we present the value of maturity extensions by quintiles of income recovery using model-simulated data. The key result is that countries with larger income recovery receive longer maturity extensions. Recall that in our model maturity is pro-cyclical, so as income recovers, countries choose longer maturity extensions. Figure 10 shows this positive correlation between the income recovery (red bars) and the extension of maturity (blue bars), which results from model simulations.

## 8.2 Exclusion after restructuring

Countries do not immediately access credit markets following a distressed debt restructuring. Table 11 shows restructuring statistics for alternative values of  $\delta$ , which gives the probability of not being able to access credit markets after restructuring. We allow  $\delta$  to range from 85%,

Figure 10: Income recovery and maturity extensions



Note: The graph shows the relationship between maturity extensions (in deviations from the mean) and changes in log income between default and restructuring (in deviations from the mean) for default episodes from model-simulated data. Each bar shows the mean value of the variable for each of the 5 groups. The 5 groups correspond to the quintiles of the log change in income.

which is higher than the number we calibrated to the data in [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#), to 12%, which is an interesting benchmark because it is equivalent to assuming that the probability of financial exclusion after a restructuring is the same as the probability of having an adverse debt-rollover shock in normal times. Note that the mean maturity extension decreases from 11.4 years to 0.11 years as  $\delta$  decreases from 0.85 to 0.12. Two main reasons help explain these results: First, as the expected number of periods during which countries will not be able to access financial markets is increasing in  $\delta$ , countries prefer to extend the maturity of their debt to spread the repayments over time. Second, the fact that countries cannot issue new debt for a few years after restructurings reduces the possibility of debt dilution and makes borrowing with long-term debt cheaper.

Table 11: The effect of exclusion after restructuring,  $\delta$ 

|                          | Benchmark      | Changes in $\delta$ |                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|----------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          | $\delta = 0.7$ | $\delta = 0.12$     | $\delta = 0.6$ | $\delta = 0.75$ | $\delta = 0.85$ |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72          | 32.13               | 30.95          | 22.52           | 18.79           |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05          | 26.07               | 30.98          | 39.06           | 43.63           |
| Mean extension           | 4.32           | 0.11                | 2.07           | 8.13            | 11.36           |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32           | 2.52                | 2.35           | 2.27            | 2.21            |

### 8.3 Regulatory costs of book-value haircuts

The effects of changing the regulatory costs of book-value haircuts are presented on Table 12. As expected, maturity extensions are increasing in  $\kappa$ , although the effect is more moderate than it was in the case for changes in  $\delta$ . Varying  $\kappa$  from 5% to 0% reduces the maturity extension from 7.1 to 3.4 years. This change generates a substitution from face value reductions toward maturity extensions. The intuition for this result reflects the restructurings that were prevalent in the 1980s during the Latin-American debt crisis, in which U.S. banks restructured loans to countries favoring maturity extensions to avoid the cost that acknowledging losses would impose due to their need to satisfy capital requirements. Since these banks had very little buffer capital to absorb losses and were the largest holders of the defaulting countries' debt, a large value of  $\kappa$  would be appropriate for such cases.

Table 12: The effect of the regulatory cost of book-value losses,  $\kappa$ 

|                          | Benchmark       | Alternative values of $\kappa$ |       |       |
|--------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------|-------|
|                          | $\kappa = 0.03$ | 0.00                           | 0.02  | 0.05  |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72           | 31.31                          | 28.32 | 21.90 |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05           | 35.20                          | 34.55 | 35.62 |
| Mean extension           | 4.32            | 3.39                           | 4.25  | 7.08  |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32            | 2.28                           | 2.30  | 2.33  |

## 8.4 The effect of debt dilution

The three features discussed in the previous subsections tend to generate positive maturity extensions in the model. In the absence of these forces, distressed debt restructuring episodes would be associated to negative debt maturity extensions, which we refer to as the AAHW result. To quantify the AAHW effect, we run the model after shutting down the three channels: from the simulations we keep only the cases in which income did not recover, we set  $\delta = 0.12$ , which is the probability of facing a debt-rollover shock (or sudden-stop) in normal times, and we remove book-value costs of restructuring, i.e.,  $\kappa = 0$ .

The effects of reducing  $\delta$  and  $\kappa$ , together with no income recovery, are shown in Table 13. For comparison, column (1) replicates the baseline results. Column (2) analyzes the effects of reducing both  $\delta$  and  $\kappa$ , but averages the statistical moments of interest over all possible income paths from the time of default until restructuring.

Table 13: The effect of debt dilution

|                          | Baseline | $\delta = 0.12; \kappa = 0.00$ |             |          |
|--------------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-------------|----------|
|                          | All      | All                            | no recovery | recovery |
|                          | (1)      | (2)                            | (3)         | (4)      |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72    | 33.69                          | 41.91       | 25.57    |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05    | 27.86                          | 34.35       | 21.47    |
| Mean extension           | 4.32     | 0.05                           | -0.64       | 0.73     |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32     | 2.47                           | 2.39        | 2.54     |

Note: "no recovery" are simulations with income at time of restructuring lower than at time of default. It is the opposite for "recovery".

Compared to the benchmark results, in column (2) we see that the SZ haircuts are smaller, but most importantly that, on average, the maturity of the debt is not extended at all. Column (3) adds to this case the effects of an adverse income path (i.e., income does not recover from default). Thus, we shut-down all the forces discussed so far that can generate positive maturity extensions. We see that in this case the debt maturity extensions become negative, with a reduction in maturity of about seven months. In other words, we effectively find a negative extension, as AAHW suggests.

Finally, while the response of debt maturity to changes in each of the three economic features

leading to maturity extensions is nonlinear, when we analyze the relative strength of each of the these economic forces, we observe that the financial exclusion after a restructuring (i.e., high values of  $\delta$ ) has the strongest effect.

Moving from the economy with only debt dilution (Table 13) to the economy calibrated with regulatory costs of book-value losses, exclusion after restructuring, and considering the episodes with income recovery (Table 10, column 3), we find that maturity extension varies by almost 5.4 years. Analyzing each driving force at a time, we find that 4.2 years are associated with the risk of exclusion being significantly higher than in normal times (Table 11), around 1.4 years are due to income recovery (Table 13, columns 3 and 4), and slightly less 1 year is accounted for by regulatory costs (Table 12).

## 9 Discrete Choices and Extreme Value Shocks

The quantitative economic analysis in the previous sections was only possible thanks to the introduction of the  $\epsilon$  shocks. As we describe next, these shocks are needed to make the computation of this interesting economic problem feasible, since otherwise we fail to achieve convergence in the value function iteration method used to solve the problem. From a computational point of view, these shocks are useful because they assign similar probabilities of being selected to choices that deliver similar utility. It is known that these situations are likely to arrive in models of maturity in points of the state space far from default.

An economic interpretation of these shocks is that they capture, in reduced form, costs and benefits of default, restructuring, and portfolio characteristics that are not related to our state variables (current debt portfolio and income). The shocks affecting more directly the default decision are now more common in the literature (see for example AAHW and Arellano, Bai, & Bocola, 2017). They may capture additional costs or benefits of default, such as the perceptions of policy makers of the costs of default.<sup>29</sup> The shocks that affect the choice of the debt portfolio can be interpreted for example as additional costs for the policy makers of finding lenders willing to buy bonds of a particular maturity at equilibrium prices. More

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<sup>29</sup>A similar interpretation can be used for the shocks affecting whether the country accepts a restructuring deal.

importantly, although the interpretation of these shocks may be interesting, we do not pursue this further because in our quantitative solution the variance of these shocks is so small that they have negligible consequences for our results. In fact, as we show below, neither changing these variances by a factor of two, nor redoing the simulations assuming the realizations of these shocks are zero, have an impact in our variables of interest.

Given that our proposed solution method is new to this literature and may be useful for future research, the next subsections do the following: (i) explain how the value functions, policy functions, and equilibrium price functions can be re-expressed to greatly simplify the computation, (ii) show intuitively how these shocks smooth policy functions as their variance increases, and (iii) argue that these shocks do not affect a borrower's decision in a significant way, so they do not alter the quantitative results presented in the previous sections.

## 9.1 The Ex-Ante Problem

From an ex-ante point of view, the shocks  $\epsilon$  make the default decision stochastic. In this model, a single borrower that has observed her own state variables and the realization of the  $\epsilon$  shocks, makes a unique deterministic decision on whether to default. However, by taking expectations over the  $\epsilon$  shocks, we can view the default decision as probabilistic. We denote the probability of default as  $\mathbf{D}(y, a, b_i, m_i) = E_{\epsilon} D(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)$ . Similarly, the random component  $\epsilon$  makes the debt and maturity choice decisions random from an ex-ante perspective. We denote as  $\mathbf{G}_{y,a,b_i,m_i}(b_j, m_j)$  the probability distribution of choosing an amount of debt  $-b_j$  and maturity  $m_j$  for next period, *conditional on not defaulting* and on the current levels of income, asset and maturity of the portfolio.

The next proposition shows how we can use the default probability and portfolio choice probability to get a more tractable expression for the bond prices.

**Proposition 1.** *Using the ex-ante policy function  $\mathbf{D}$  and  $\mathbf{G}$ , the price of the bond can be written as*

$$q(y, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) = \frac{E_{y', a' | y, a}}{1 + r} \left\{ (1 - \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j)) \left[ 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} q(y', a', b_k, m_k; m_i - 1) \mathbf{G}_{y', a', b_j, m_j}(b_k, m_k) \right] + \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j) q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right\}.$$

*Proof.* See Appendix D. □

Note the contrast between the price equation in Proposition 1 and the price equation (4), where we replaced the expectation over individual policy functions evaluated at each possible realization of the  $\epsilon$  shock (a high-dimensional object) by the default and portfolio choice probabilities. If these probabilities are smooth functions, then the equilibrium price equation will also be smooth, a desirable property for the computation of the solution. Note in addition that the very large set of shocks  $\epsilon$  is no longer present in the expression for the price equation, so we achieve smoothness without increasing the number of state variables in the model.

In a similar way as before, we define  $\mathbf{H}^L(y, b_i, m_i) = E_{\epsilon} H^L(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)$  as the probability that a restructuring offer made by the lender is accepted, and we let  $\mathbf{V}^G(y, a, b_i, m_i) = E_{\epsilon} [V^G(y, a, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)]$  and  $\mathbf{V}^R(y, b_i, m_i) = E_{\epsilon} [V^R(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)]$  be the ex-ante (before observing the  $\epsilon$  shocks) lifetime utilities in good credit status and in renegotiation, respectively.

We assume that the vector  $\epsilon$  is i.i.d over time and has the following joint cumulative density function:

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \exp \left[ - \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) \right)^{\rho} - \exp \left( - \frac{x_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right],$$

where  $\mu$  is a parameter such that shocks have mean zero,  $\sigma$  is a parameter that scales the variance of the shocks, and  $\rho$  is a constant related to the correlation of the shocks in the debt and maturity choices. This function is known as the Generalized Extreme Value distribution and was pioneered by McFadden (1978) in the context of discrete choice models with random utility.<sup>30</sup> By using

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<sup>30</sup>This type of distribution assumption has been extended to dynamic models and is widely used in different fields in economics, particularly structural labor, industrial organization, and international trade. The seminal works of Rust (1987), Pakes (1986), Wolpin (1984) and Miller (1984), have extended discrete choice models to

the Generalized Extreme Value distribution, we model the decision problem as a Nested Logit, where the first nest captures the default decision and the second the debt portfolio choice.<sup>31</sup>

The next proposition shows how the additional assumptions further simplify the problem by delivering almost closed-form expressions for the value functions and policy function. To reduce the burden of notation, we do not report the expressions here but list them in the Appendix.

**Proposition 2.** *Under the assumptions described above, the expressions for the value functions  $\{\mathbf{V}^G, \mathbf{V}^R\}$  and policy functions  $\{\mathbf{D}, \mathbf{H}^L, \mathbf{H}^S, \mathbf{G}\}$  can be derived by solving the expectation over  $\epsilon$  in closed form.*

*Proof.* Appendix D. □

Appendix D has the expressions for the functions in Proposition 2. The equations with the most intuitive economic interpretation are shown next in order to illustrate the method.

The probability of default can be expressed as,  $\mathbf{D}(y, 0, b_i, m_i) =$

$$\frac{\exp \left( u(\min\{y, \pi^D\}) + \beta E_{y'|\min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^R(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma}}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^J \exp \left( u(c_{ij}(y)) + \beta E_{y', a'|y, 0} \mathbf{V}^G(y', a', b_j, m_j) \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}} \right)^\rho + \exp \left( u(\min\{y, \pi^D\}) + \beta E_{y'|\min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^R(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma}}.$$

This probability adopts the logistic form that is common in dynamic discrete choice models. Default is more likely when the value of default is larger relative to the value of repaying. The variance of the shocks can play a relevant role in this probability. Specifically, when  $\sigma$  is very large, the i.i.d. shocks will largely determine the choice, and economic conditions will not weigh much on the default decision. In the limit, there will be a 50% chance of default. When the shocks are very small (very small  $\sigma$ ) the default decision will be almost completely determined by the economic conditions, and borrowers with the same state variables,  $y, a, b_j, m_j$ , will make the same decision.

Similarly, the probability of choosing a new debt level  $b_j$  and maturity  $m_j$  conditional on not

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dynamic settings. See also [Caliendo, Dvorkin, and Parro \(2019\)](#) for a recent quantitative application using a large dynamic general equilibrium model to study the effects of international trade on labor markets.

<sup>31</sup>It would be possible to create additional nests, but without additional information, it would be difficult to discipline this choice.



defaulting,  $\text{Prob}(b' = b_j, m' = m_j | y, a, b_i, m_i) \equiv \mathbf{G}(b_j, m_j | y, a, b_i, m_i)$ , has the expression

$$\mathbf{G}_{y,0,b_i,m_i}(b_j, m_j) = \frac{\exp(u(c_{ij}(y)) + \beta E_{y',a'|y,0} [\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_j, m_j)])^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}}}{\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp(u(c_{ik}(y)) + \beta E_{y',a'|y,0} [\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_k, m_k)])^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}}},$$

which again says that the probability that a borrower selects a new debt-maturity portfolio  $j$  increases with the value associated to that particular portfolio.

We next discuss how these expressions for the default probability and the portfolio choice probability change smoothly with the state variables, and how this depends on the parameters affecting the variance of the distribution.

## 9.2 The Role of $\rho$ and $\sigma$

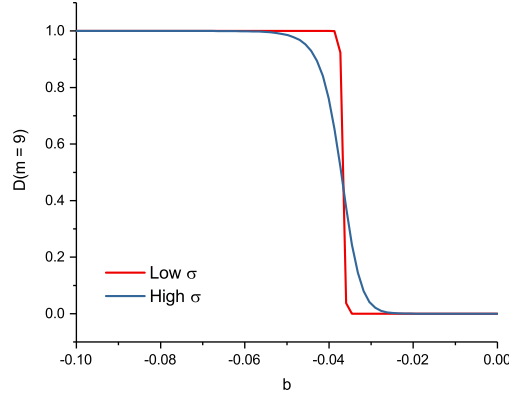
We now provide some intuition regarding the effect of the i.i.d.  $\epsilon$  shocks on the problem. The goal is to understand how the variance of the shocks modifies the original problem.<sup>32</sup>

The effect of the shocks can be seen in Figure 11, which shows the probability of default for the same income level but different magnitudes for the variance of the shock. With a small variance, the borrower tends to follow a single cutoff rule, defaulting with probability 1 for debt levels that are above a threshold. However, as the variance of the shock increases, this probability changes more gradually and smoothly with the levels of debt. The default probabilities enter in the equilibrium price equations together with the other policy functions of the borrowers, so the smoother decision rules imply smoother price schedules.

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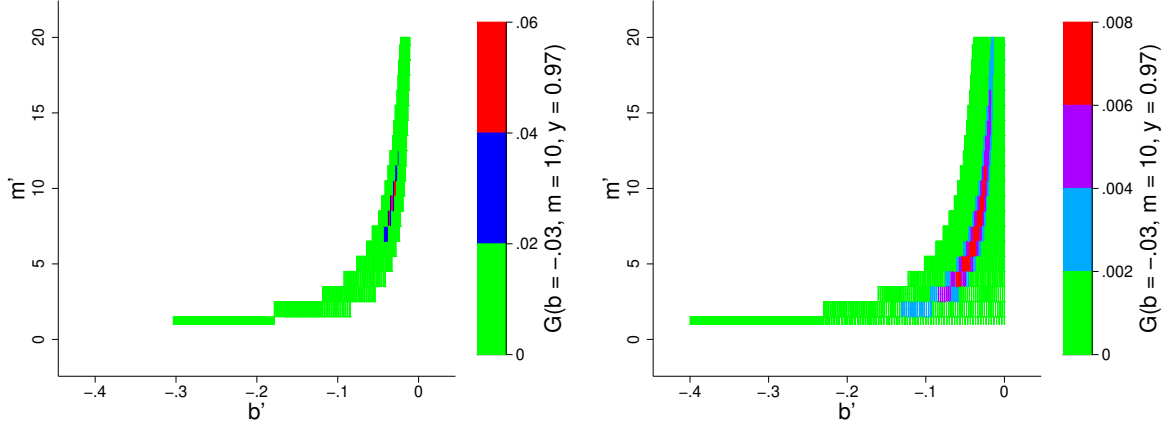
<sup>32</sup>The numerical results in this section are just for illustration.

Figure 11: Probability of default for different variances of  $\epsilon$  shocks



The decision rules on portfolio choices for borrowers in good standing are shown in Figure 12. The figure is a color map depicting the probability of choosing a new debt maturity portfolio for a borrower. The shape of the figure resembles an indifference curve map, indicating that borrowers try to achieve a value of total borrowing and that they can do this with low payments for longer periods of time (longer maturity), or with higher payments for shorter periods (shorter maturity). The intensity of the colors indicates that borrowers prefer a particular combination, located in the center of the colored area, but there may be a dispersion around it due to the i.i.d.  $\epsilon$  shocks. The comparison of the two panels in Figure 12 highlights how the portfolio choice is affected by the variance of the shocks. With a smaller variance, the probability of choosing a certain set of portfolios is highly concentrated, as shown in the left panel. As the variance increases, the choices are more dispersed.

Figure 12: Debt-maturity portfolio probability for different variance of  $\epsilon$  shocks



The benefit of smooth decision rules is that in the algorithm that searches for an equilibrium, small changes from one iteration to the next should not cause large changes in the demand for different debt portfolios or prices. In this way, the iterative procedure to solve for the equilibrium tends to converge without major oscillations. These decision rules enter the valuation of a particular portfolio in the pricing equation. The  $\epsilon$  shocks generate a smooth demand for a large variety of portfolios, even for borrowers in the same state.

### 9.3 Quantitative role of $\epsilon$ shocks

The  $\epsilon$  shocks are computationally convenient, but they may also have implications for the behavior of the model. In Table 14, we show how some statistics change as we modify the value of the parameters of the distribution of the extreme value shocks,  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ . In particular, because these shocks affect the choices of debt and maturity, increasing their variance corresponds to increasing the standard deviation of the equilibrium duration, maturity, and debt-to-GDP ratio. Thus, these moments are informative of how large the variance of these shocks should be in the model, and we use them in our calibration strategy.

Note also that these extreme value shocks are independent over time, so increasing their variance lowers the autocorrelation of equilibrium duration, maturity, and the debt-to-GDP ratio. Finally, a larger variance of these shocks implies that default and debt-maturity choices

will be determined more by the realizations of  $\epsilon$  and thus reduce the importance of, for example, income fluctuations in these choices. Thus, increasing their variance reduces the correlation of equilibrium maturity and duration with income.

Table 14: Role of  $\sigma$  and  $\rho$

|                                  | Baseline | $0.75 \times \sigma$ | $2 \times \sigma$ | $0.5 \times \rho$ | $2 \times \rho$ |
|----------------------------------|----------|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Default (%)                      | 2.35     | 2.41                 | 2.45              | 2.37              | 2.47            |
| (Debt $\times$ Maturity)/GDP (%) | 31.74    | 31.18                | 31.69             | 31.67             | 31.49           |
| St. dev Duration                 | 0.89     | 0.85                 | 1.04              | 0.85              | 1.04            |
| St. dev Maturity                 | 1.99     | 1.92                 | 2.40              | 1.89              | 2.42            |
| St. dev Debt/GDP                 | 9.47     | 9.27                 | 9.54              | 9.39              | 9.52            |
| Autocorr Duration                | 0.89     | 0.89                 | 0.89              | 0.88              | 0.89            |
| Autocorr Maturity                | 0.87     | 0.86                 | 0.87              | 0.86              | 0.87            |
| Autocorr Debt/GDP                | 0.90     | 0.90                 | 0.89              | 0.90              | 0.89            |
| Corr(Maturity, $\log(GDP)$ )     | 0.38     | 0.40                 | 0.31              | 0.40              | 0.31            |
| Corr(Duration, $\log(GDP)$ )     | 0.47     | 0.50                 | 0.40              | 0.49              | 0.40            |

But how important are  $\epsilon$  shocks given our calibration? The results in Table 14 also suggest that at the current values these shocks are not important determinants of default and indebtedness. To answer this question more directly, we proceed to compute the default and portfolio choices in what we call the  $\epsilon$ -zero model, where we set all realizations of every  $\epsilon$  shock to zero.<sup>33</sup>

Table 15 compares the baseline model with the  $\epsilon$ -zero model. First, note that the default rate is the almost the same, with a value of 2.35% and 2.36% in the baseline model and in the  $\epsilon$ -zero model.

Table 15: Default rate (%) in the model; with and without  $\epsilon$  shocks in the current period

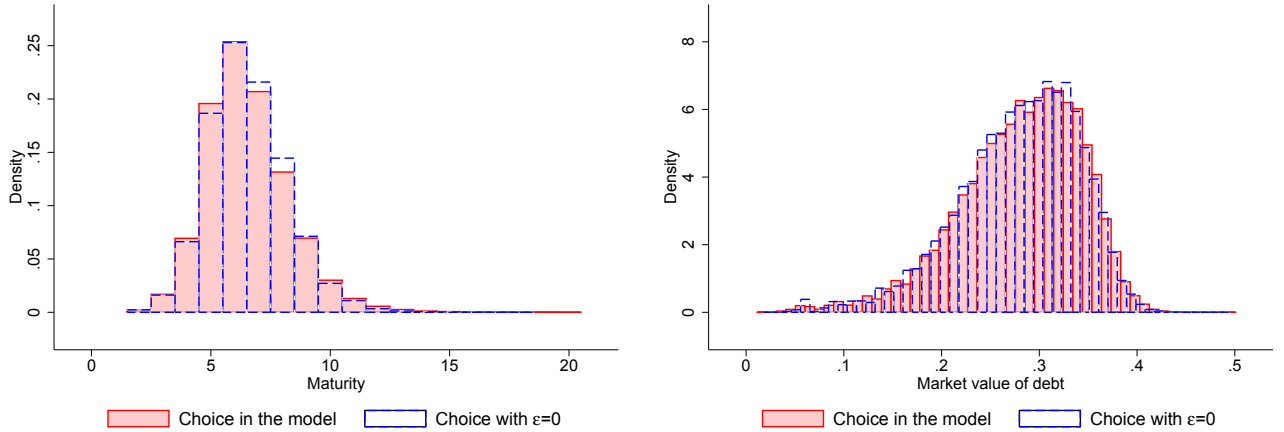
|                        |            | Baseline model |            |        |
|------------------------|------------|----------------|------------|--------|
|                        |            | Default        | No default | Total  |
| $\epsilon$ -zero model | Default    | 2.23           | 0.13       | 2.36   |
|                        | No default | 0.12           | 97.52      | 97.64  |
|                        | Total      | 2.35           | 97.65      | 100.00 |

<sup>33</sup>See the details on the implementation in Appendix E.

Second, we show that not only are the default rates similar, but, in most cases, the episodes of default are also the same across models. The rate of default using the episodes in which there is default is 2.23% in both models. As shown in the table, in only 0.12% + 0.13% of the cases is the decision of default different across models, but because the changes are in the opposite direction, they offset, and the default rates are almost identical.

Finally, Figure 13 shows the statistical distributions of choices of maturity and the market value of the debt of the portfolios taken to the next period in our benchmark model, and contrasts with those implied by shutting down  $\epsilon$  shocks in the current period. The portfolio decisions are extremely similar.

Figure 13: Distributions of maturity and market value of debt with baseline and  $\epsilon$ -zero models



Note: The figures only show the cases without a debt rollover shock, i.e.,  $a = 0$ .

## 10 Conclusion

We present novel data documenting maturity extensions in distressed sovereign debt restructurings, and we build a quantitative model that replicates the key debt maturity and payment dynamics observed during these episodes. The model rationalizes the variation in haircuts and maturity extensions from restructurings across countries, and mimics the business cycle properties of debt and the yield spread curve observed in the data. Our ability to solve this large quantitative model relies in good measure on the implementation of a novel solution method

based on the dynamic discrete choice literature.

Three mechanisms account for the maturity extensions observed in the data. First, as in the data, income in the model recovers between the time of default and the debt restructuring. Defaults occur when output is relatively low, and debt negotiation settlements generally happen once economic activity has improved, which implies a lower default probability and lower costs of borrowing. As debt maturity is procyclical, the output recovery between default and settlement means that the chosen maturity of the new debt at settlement is longer than the maturity at the time of default. Second, countries usually do not participate in financial markets in the years following a restructuring, either because the market interest rates are too high or because (an EU or IMF) conditionality provides incentives for austerity measures. This is key to offset the perverse incentives of debt dilution discussed by [Aguiar, Amador, Hopenhayn, and Werning \(2019\)](#) that would lead to a reduction in maturity at the time of default. Third, lenders typically face regulations that lead them to prefer restructurings that reduce book value losses, which for the same net present value of the new debt translate into longer maturity. The effect of these regulations has been documented for the Latin-American debt crisis, and has also played an important role during the most recent Greek sovereign debt restructuring. Finally, we quantify the contribution of each of these mechanisms to maturity extensions. When comparing an economy with only debt dilution to an economy calibrated with regulatory costs of book-value losses, exclusion after restructuring, and considering the episodes with income recovery, we find that maturity extension varies by about 5.4 years. Analyzing each driving force at a time, we find that about 4.2 years are associated with the risk of exclusion being significantly higher than in normal times, around 1.4 years are due to income recovery, and slightly less than 1 year is accounted for by regulatory costs.

In this paper, we focused on understanding the main forces shaping haircuts and maturity extensions during restructurings, but abstracted from normative considerations or the evaluation of different restructuring policies. While we believe that there is probably a role for policies to affect the outcomes of restructuring, as discussed by [Fernandez and Martin \(2014\)](#) and [Corsetti, Erce, and Uy \(2018\)](#), we also think that the evaluation of alternative policies first requires a framework where restructurings are the result of an endogenous renegotiation process. In this

paper we tackle this first step and leave a normative analysis for future work.

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## Appendix A Data details

### A.1 Haircuts and maturity extensions

The data set of [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) contains the following three measures of haircuts in sovereign debt restructuring episodes:

- “Face-value” (FV) haircut:

$$H_{FV} = 1 - \frac{\text{Face Value of New Debt}}{\text{Face Value of Old Debt}}.$$

This is a commonly used measure that considers only the nominal value of debt, so it does not take into account the timing of payments.

- “Market value” haircut:

$$H_{MV} = 1 - \frac{\text{Present Value of New Debt}}{\text{Face Value of Old Debt}}.$$

The expression uses the present value (PV) measure of the new debt, therefore considering the timing of payments of the new obligations. The reason to use the FV of the old debt is that, according to most common practices and regulations, all future payments become current at the time of default.

- The measure proposed by [Sturzenegger and Zettelmeyer \(2005\)](#),

$$H_{SZ} = 1 - \frac{\text{Present Value of New Debt}}{\text{Present Value of Old Debt}},$$

differs from the previous measure in that the PV of the old debt is now considered.

Note that taking the ratio of the complements of  $H_{SZ}$  and  $H_M$ , we obtain

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{SZ}} = \frac{\text{PV of new debt}}{\text{FV of old Debt}} \times \frac{\text{PV of old debt}}{\text{PV of new Debt}} = \frac{\text{PV of old debt}}{\text{FV of old Debt}}. \quad (5)$$

In the same way, we can manipulate the ratio between the FV haircut and the MV haircut to obtain

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{FV}} = \frac{\text{PV of new debt}}{\text{FV of old Debt}} \times \frac{\text{FV of old debt}}{\text{FV of new Debt}} = \frac{\text{PV of new debt}}{\text{FV of new Debt}}. \quad (6)$$

The resulting expressions from these transformations are the ratio between PV and FV of the old debt (equation 5), and the same ratio for the new debt (equation 6).

To derive the expressions for the FV and the PV of debt, we consider that the debt of the country can be represented by payments  $d_i$  due over the next  $N$  years. With this notation, it is simple to compute the FV of debt as  $FV = \sum_{i=1}^N d_i$ . Before deriving the expression for the PV, it is useful to write the share of total debt paid in each period as  $s_i = d_i/FV$ . Then, we can represent the PV of the sovereign debt as

$$PV = FV \times \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{s_i}{(1+r)^i}. \quad (7)$$

To obtain a measure of maturity extensions in restructurings, the first step is to obtain the maturity of the new debt; i.e, the debt right after restructuring. Using equations (6) and (7) we obtain

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{FV}} = \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{s_i}{(1+r)^i}. \quad (8)$$

As debt starts being repaid in the next period, we start  $i$  at one. To make further progress with our approach, we must assume a distribution of payments over time. For the new debt, the assumption for our benchmark results is that payments are uniformly distributed over the next  $N$  periods. We make this assumption for simplicity, and because it is the same assumption we make in the model. Thus, we need to solve the next equation for the unknown  $N_{new}$ ,

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{FV}} = \frac{1}{N_{new}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_{new}} \frac{1}{(1+r)^i}. \quad (9)$$

A key advantage of the data set compiled by [Cruces and Trebesch \(2013\)](#) is that it also contains the underlying discount rate used to value future cash flows. Thus, we have the necessary

information to recover  $N_{new}$ .

The second step is to recover the maturity of the old debt; i.e, the debt defaulted upon. Using equations (5) and (7) we obtain

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{SZ}} = \sum_{i=0}^{\bar{N}_{old}} \frac{s_i}{(1 + r)^i}. \quad (10)$$

In this expression,  $i$  starts at 0 because there may be debt due at the time of restructuring, when [Sturzenegger and Zettelmeyer \(2005\)](#) compute the present value of the defaulted debt. The uniform debt payments schedule when not in default implies that, at the time of restructuring, there are as many years of payments due as number of years between default and restructuring. As the length of the period is also observable, we use that information to recover the maturity of the old debt at the time of restructuring. The equation we use to solve for  $\bar{N}_{old}$  is then

$$\frac{1 - H_M}{1 - H_{SZ}} = \frac{1}{\bar{N}_{old}} \left( dur + \sum_{i=1}^{\max\{\bar{N}_{old} - dur, 0\}} \frac{1}{(1 + r)^i} \right), \quad (11)$$

where  $dur$  is the number of years in default, and the maturity of the old debt at the time of restructuring is  $N_{old} = \max\{\bar{N}_{old} - dur, 0\}$ . Our preferred measure of maturity extension is the difference between the maturity of the old debt at the time of restructuring and the maturity of the new debt; i.e.,

$$\text{Extension} = N_{new} - N_{old}. \quad (12)$$

## A.2 Remaining empirical analysis

- GDP per capita: We use World Development Indicators (WDI) provided by the World Bank (constant 2005 U.S.\$). For the volatility and correlations, we HP filter the data for the entire horizon with available data.
- Debt-to-GDP ratio: For debt-to-output ratios, we use external debt stocks (% of GNI) provided by the WDI for the entire period for which we have available data on spreads and maturity.

- Consumption: For the moments on consumption, we use households' final consumption expenditure per capita (constant 2005 U.S.\$), provided by the WDI. For the volatility and correlations, the paper follows the same approach as for the GDP per capita, by HP filtering the log consumption per capita for the entire period. We also use this variable to construct the trade balance by subtracting consumption from output.
- Maturity: We use the external debt maturity. For Colombia (2001-2014) and Brazil (2005-2015) the data are from the HAVER database, and for Mexico (2007-2010) they are from the OECD database.
- Duration: We use the data available in the HAVER database for the duration of debt for Colombia, as we do for the maturity for this country. This measure of duration follows the Macaulay definition, as we use for our computations in the model. For Brazil and Mexico, we compute the duration using the maturity data described above for these countries, together with the official average interest on new external debt commitments provided by the International Debt Statistics, also following the Macaulay definition.
- Spreads: The yields are U.S. dollar sovereign yields obtained from Bloomberg. The yield spreads are obtained by subtracting U.S. yields from the same data source.

## Appendix B Computational Details

### B.1 Basics

We solve the model numerically with value function iteration on a discretized grid for debt and output. For each maturity  $m_i$ , we use a different debt grid, evenly spaced between 0 and  $0.7q^*(m_i, r^R)$ , where  $q^*(m_i, r^R)$  is the risk-free price for a bond of maturity  $m_i$ . We use 121 points for the debt grid, and 51 points for the output grid. We solve the policy and value functions for all points on these grids, and conduct a discrete search to find the optimal debt policy also over these grids. The price function is solved for 41 equally-spaced points on this grid, and the implied function is linearly interpolated in the other parts of the algorithm. As the steeper regions of

the price function is where default usually happens, we have an uneven grid for income that is finer below the median income. In particular, the income grid is spread evenly both below the median income over 40 points and above the median income grid over 10 points. We use the Tauchen method to discretize the income process.

We solve for the lenders' offer,  $W^L(y, b_i, m_i)$ , through a discrete search over 501 points on a state-specific evenly-spaced  $W$ -grid. The lowest point on the grid is 0 and the highest is  $\min[0.7, -b \times m_i]$ . As the borrowers' offer  $W^S(y, b_i, m_i)$  is equal to  $-b_i q^D(y, b_i, m_i; m_i)$  it is not necessary to follow the same discrete search as  $W^L$  for  $W^S$ .

For convergence, we use a measure of distance for the price function of debt in good standing in a given iteration, that takes into account the maximum absolute distance of the prices across two iterations relative to the level of the price in a given state. We declare convergence when this error is lower than  $10^{-5}$ . We update the lenders' offer only when this error is  $< 10^{-4}$ .

After solving for the policy and value functions, we run the simulations for 1500 countries (paths) for 400 years and drop the first 100 periods. The model counterparts to the empirical correlation and standard deviation statistics are averages across samples. For the first-order moments, country-specific medians are taken before averaging across countries. This is consistent with our treatment of the data.

## B.2 Computing duration and yield to maturity

**Duration.** Similar to Hatchondo and Martinez (2009) and Sánchez, Saprizza, and Yurdagul (2018), we use the Macaulay definition to compute the duration of a bond as a weighted sum of future promised payments:

$$\frac{q(y, a, b_i, m_i; 1) + 2 \times (q(y, a, b_i, m_i; 2) - q(y, a, b_i, m_i; 1)) + \dots + n \times (q(y, a, b_i, m_i; m_i) - q(y, a, b_i, m_i; m_i - 1))}{q(y, a, b_i, m_i; m_i)}.$$

**Yield to maturity.** Consider a country with income  $y$ , debt rollover shock  $a$ , and a debt portfolio with maturity  $m$  and level  $b$ . The yield for a bond with maturity  $n$  is:

$$YTM(y, a, b_i, m_i; n) \equiv \left( \frac{1}{q(y, a, b_i, m_i; n) - q(y, a, b_i, m_i; n - 1)} \right)^{\frac{1}{n}} - 1.$$

Then the spread for maturity  $m$  is  $YTM(y, a, b_i, m_i; n) - r$ .

## Appendix C Calibration of Sudden Stops

For the estimation of sudden stop shocks, we use the sudden stop definition from [Comelli \(2015\)](#) and update the data until 2014. We run the following regression:

$$SS_{t,i} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 SS_{t-1,i} + \alpha_2 (GDP\ cycle)_{t,i} + \alpha_3 (demean\ Debt/GDP)_{t,i}, \quad (13)$$

where  $SS$  is a dummy variable that is 1 if there is a sudden stop and 0 otherwise. Given that our model already captures fluctuations in credit availability due to income and indebtedness, we want to capture sudden stops when income and debt are in normal levels. Given that the variables  $(GDP\ cycle)$  and  $(demean\ Debt/GDP)$  have mean zero, we can obtain  $\omega^N = \alpha_0$  and  $\omega^{SS} = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1$ . The results are shown in Table 16.

Table 16: Estimation of sudden stop probability

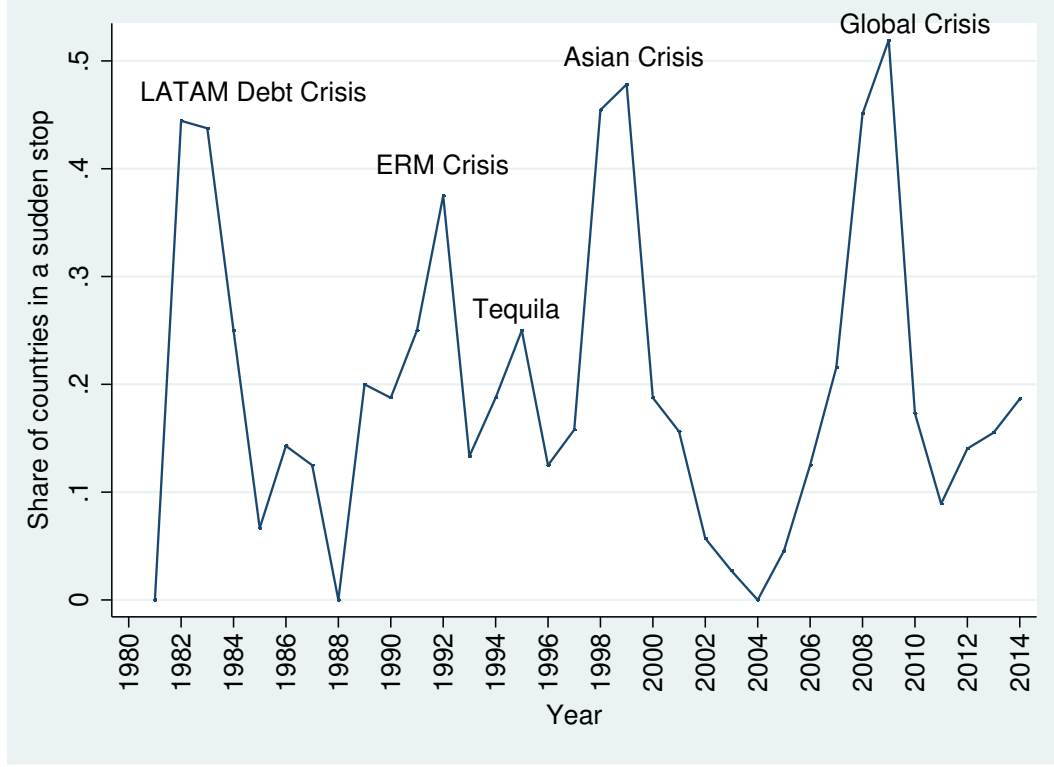
| Regression type                                      | Weight | Obs | R <sup>2</sup> | $\omega^N$ | $\omega^{SS}$ |
|--|--------|-----|----------------|------------|---------------|
| Linear reg., controlling by HP cycle and debt-to-GDP | No     | 395 | 0.11           | 0.11       | 0.43          |
| Linear reg., controlling only by HP cycle            | No     | 911 | 0.10           | 0.14       | 0.44          |
| Linear reg., controlling by HP cycle and debt-to-GDP | Yes    | 395 | 0.10           | 0.12       | 0.41          |
| Linear reg., controlling only by HP cycle            | Yes    | 911 | 0.12           | 0.14       | 0.44          |
| Probit reg., controlling by HP cycle and debt-to-GDP | No     | 395 | 0.10           | 0.11       | 0.43          |
| Probit reg., controlling only by HP cycle            | No     | 911 | 0.09           | 0.13       | 0.43          |
| Probit reg., controlling by HP cycle and debt-to-GDP | Yes    | 395 | 0.10           | 0.11       | 0.39          |
| Probit reg., controlling only by HP cycle            | Yes    | 911 | 0.11           | 0.13       | 0.43          |
| Average of all specifications                        |        |     | 0.10           | 0.12       | 0.42          |

Note: In the regressions with weights we use employment for the PWT as a proxy for the size of the country.

To make sure our episodes are not fluctuations in the availability of credit related to the country's income and indebtedness, which are endogenous in our model, in the next figure we plot the share of the countries in sudden stop for each year. The figure shows that there is bunching of sudden stops, suggesting that these episodes are due to changes external to the country .



Figure 14: Bunching of Sudden Stop events



## Appendix D Proofs

### D.1 Proposition 1

We begin by noting that the price of a non-defaulted bond does not directly depend on  $\epsilon$ , but only indirectly through the borrowers' choices.  $q(y, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) =$

$$\frac{E_{y', a' | y, a} E_{\epsilon'}}{1 + r} \left\{ (1 - D(y', a', b', m', \epsilon')) (1 + q(y', a', B(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon'), M(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon'); m_i - 1)) \right. \\ \left. D(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon') q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right\}.$$

We can partition the sample space into countable, finite and mutually exclusive events. These consist of the realizations of  $\epsilon$  that lead to default and those realizations that lead to a particular

$b_k, m_k$  choice. This is convenient since in this case we can write the expectation of these events (or a function of them) as the sum of the possible realizations times the probability of each of these events.

We denote by  $\mathbf{D}(y, a, b_j, m_j)$  the probability that the realizations of  $\epsilon$  are such that default is preferred in our model. In this case lenders holding the bond obtain  $q^D(y, a, b_j, m_j, m_i)$ . The realizations of  $\epsilon$  that lead to non-default and to the specific bond  $b_k, m_k$  being chosen have a probability which we denote by  $\mathbf{G}_{y,a,b_j,m_j}(b_k, m_k)$ . If borrowers make this particular choice the next period, they will face the bond price  $q(y', a', b_k, m_k; m_i - 1)$ . Taking into account all possible choices, we can characterize the expectation over  $\epsilon$  in the previous equation to express the bond price as,  $q(y, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) =$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{1+r} E_{y',a'|y,a} & \left[ (1 - \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j)) \left[ 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} q(y', a', b_k, m_k; m_i - 1) \mathbf{G}_{y',a',b_j,m_j}(b_k, m_k) \right] \right. \\ & \left. + \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j) q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

## D.2 Proposition 2

Using the notation introduced above, and taking expectation over the  $\epsilon$  shocks, the problem of the borrower for  $a = 0$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}^G(y, 0, b_i, m_i) & \equiv E_{\epsilon} [V^G(y, 0, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)] = E_{\epsilon} \max \{ [V^P(y, 0, b_i, m_i, \epsilon), V^D(\min\{y, \pi^D\}, 0, b_i, m_i, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1})] \} \\ & = E_{\epsilon} \left[ \max \left\{ \max_{j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \mathcal{J}\}} \left\{ \frac{(c_{ij}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y',a'|y,0} \mathbf{V}^G(y', a', b_j, m_j) + \epsilon_j \right\}; \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y'|\min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^R(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} \right\} \right] \end{aligned}$$

subject to

$$c_{ij}(y) = y + b_i - q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i) b_j + q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i - 1) b_i - \chi(b_i, m_i - 1, b_j, m_j),$$

and the problem of the borrower with a debt rollover shock can be written as

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y, 1, b_i, m_i) &\equiv E_{\epsilon} [V^{\mathbf{G}}(y, 1, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)] = E_{\epsilon} \max \{ [V^P(y, 1, b_i, m_i, \epsilon), V^D(\min\{y, \pi^D\}, 1, b_i, m_i, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1})] \} \\ &= E_{\epsilon} \left[ \max \left\{ \frac{(y + b_i)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 1} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_i, m_i - 1) + \epsilon_i; \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | \min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} \right\} \right].\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, the value of entering the restructuring stage is:  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(y, b_i, m_i) \equiv E_{\epsilon} [V^{\mathbf{R}}(y, b_i, m_i, \epsilon)] =$

$$\begin{aligned}&\lambda E_{\epsilon} \left[ \max \left\{ \frac{(y)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}; \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \max_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^L, j) \geq 0} \left\{ \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) + \epsilon_j \right\} \right\} \right] + \\ &(1 - \lambda) E_{\epsilon} \left[ \max \left\{ \frac{(y)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}; \right. \right. \\ &\quad \left. \left. \max_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^S, j) \geq 0} \left\{ \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) + \epsilon_j \right\} \right\} \right].\end{aligned}$$

We now use properties of the distribution of  $\epsilon$  to simplify the previous expressions further and also obtain expressions for the policy functions (portfolio choice and default probabilities).<sup>34</sup>

For the case of  $a = 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y, 0, b_i, m_i) &= \sigma \log \left[ \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( \frac{(c_{ij}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 0} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_j, m_j) \right)^{1/\rho\sigma} \right)^{\rho} + \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \exp \left( \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | \min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma} \right].\end{aligned}$$

---

<sup>34</sup>The next subsection contains the proofs on how the expectation of the maximum in these expressions is derived.

And for  $a = 1$ ,

$$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y, 1, b_i, m_i) = \sigma \log \left[ \exp \left( \frac{(y + b_i)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 1} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_i, m_i - 1) \right)^{1/\sigma} + \exp \left( \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | \min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma} \right],$$

while the value of entering the restructuring stage is,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(y, b_i, m_i) = & \lambda \sigma \log \left[ \exp \left( \frac{(y)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma} + \right. \\ & \left. + \left[ \sum_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^L(y, j), j) \geq 0} \exp \left( \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) \right)^{1/\rho\sigma} \right]^\rho \right] + \\ & (1 - \lambda) \sigma \log \left[ \exp \left( \frac{(y)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma} + \right. \\ & \left. + \left[ \sum_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^S(y, j), j) \geq 0} \exp \left( \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | y} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) \right)^{1/\rho\sigma} \right]^\rho \right]. \end{aligned}$$

Note that, in contrast to the previous expressions, now the ex-ante value functions do not have a max operator. Under the specific distributional assumptions, the expectation of the maximum over different choices results in the standard log-sum of exponentials widely used in dynamic discrete choice models. These expressions are sometimes referred to as the inclusive values.

In addition, we can characterize the probability of default as,  $\mathbf{D}(y, 0, b_i, m_i) =$

$$\frac{\exp \left( \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | \min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma}}{\left( \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( \frac{(c_{ij}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 0} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_j, m_j) \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}} \right)^\rho + \exp \left( \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y' | \min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{1/\sigma}}.$$

Similarly, the probability of choosing a new debt level  $b_j$  and maturity  $m_j$  conditional on not defaulting,  $\text{Prob}(b' = b_j, m' = m_j | y, a, b_i, m_i) \equiv \mathbf{G}_{y, a, b_i, m_i}(b_j, m_j)$  is,

$$\mathbf{G}_{y, 0, b_i, m_i}(b_j, m_j) = \frac{\exp \left( \frac{(c_{ij}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 0} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_j, m_j) \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}}}{\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( \frac{(c_{jk}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 0} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_k, m_k) \right)^{\frac{1}{\rho\sigma}}},$$

which again says that the probability that a borrower selects a new debt-maturity portfolio  $j$  increases with the value of that particular portfolio. In a rollover shock, borrowers cannot change the portfolio, which is described by the following policy function:

$$\mathbf{G}_{y,1,b_i,m_i}(b_j, m_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } b_j = b_i; \quad m_j = m_i - 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The probability of choosing a restructured debt level  $b_j^R$  and maturity  $m_j^R$  conditional on restructuring has a very similar expression but the sum is only over those debt/maturity choices ( $j$ ) in the sets defined by  $\tau^R(y, W^L(y, j), j) \geq 0$  and  $\tau^R(y, W^S(y, j), j) \geq 0$ .

In addition, with probability  $\lambda$  a borrower in default receives a restructuring offer from lenders. The probability of choosing to exit default and reschedule the debt  $\mathbf{H}^L(y, b_i, m_i) =$

$$\frac{\left[ \sum_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^L(y, j), j) \geq 0} \exp \left( \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y'|y} \mathbf{V}^G(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) \right)^{1/\rho\sigma} \right]^\rho}{\exp \left( \frac{(y)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y'|y} \mathbf{V}^R(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) \right)^{\frac{1}{\sigma}} + \left[ \sum_{j \in \tau^R(y, W^L(y, j), j) \geq 0} \exp \left( \frac{(y - \tau_j^R b_j^R)^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y'|y} \mathbf{V}^G(y', 1, b_j^R, m_j^R) \right)^{1/\rho\sigma} \right]^\rho}.$$

This depends on both the borrower's current state and the characteristics of the offer. Restructuring offers that provide a high value for the borrower have a greater chance of being accepted. With probability  $(1 - \lambda)$  the borrower has the option to make a restructuring offer that leads to an almost identical expression for  $\mathbf{H}^S(y, b_i, m_i)$  but with the set of all  $j$  in  $\tau^R(y, W^S(y, j), j) \geq 0$  defining the possible debt/maturity choices.

Finally, the price of a bond in good standing is

$$q(y, a, b_j, m_j; m_i) = \frac{1}{1+r} E_{y', a'|y, a} \left[ (1 - \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j)) \left[ 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} q(y', a', b_k, m_k; m_i - 1) \mathbf{G}_{y', a', b_j, m_j}(b_k, m_k) \right] \right. \\ \left. + \mathbf{D}(y', a', b_j, m_j) q^D(\min\{y', \pi^D\}, b_j, m_j; m_i) \right],$$

and the price of a bond in default is

$$q^D(y, b_j, m_j, m_i) = \frac{E_{y'|y}}{1+r} \left[ q^D(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_j, m_j, m_i) + \lambda \mathbf{H}^L(y', b_j, m_j) \left[ \frac{1}{(-b_j)} \frac{q^*(m_i, r^R)}{q^*(m_j, r^R)} W^L(y', b_j, m_j) - q^D(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_j, m_j) \right] \right].$$

### D.3 Expectations

We now show how to obtain the main expressions for the policy and value functions after taking expectations over the  $\epsilon$  shocks. To avoid repetition, we only provide the proofs for a subset of the expressions. The rest can be obtained following almost identical steps.

Take the distribution for the shocks  $\epsilon$ .

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \exp \left[ - \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) \right)^{\rho} - \exp \left( - \frac{x_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right].$$

Define the partial derivative as  $F_j(\mathbf{x}) = \partial F(\mathbf{x}) / \partial x_j$  as,

$$F_j(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sigma} \exp \left( - \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) \right]^{\rho} - \exp \left( - \frac{x_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) \right)^{\rho-1} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, \mathcal{J} \\ \frac{1}{\sigma} \exp \left( - \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp \left( - \frac{x_j - \mu}{\rho \sigma} \right) \right]^{\rho} - \exp \left( - \frac{x_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right) \exp \left( - \frac{x_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma} \right) & \text{for } j = \mathcal{J} + 1 \end{cases}$$

In what follows, we omit the state variables  $y$  and  $a$  to simplify the notation. In addition, let

$$\Upsilon_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \frac{(c_{ij}(y))^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y',a|y,a} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y', a', b_j, m_j) & \text{for } j = 1, \dots, \mathcal{J} \\ \frac{(\min\{y, \pi^D\})^{1-\gamma}}{1-\gamma} + \beta E_{y'|\min\{y, \pi^D\}} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{R}}(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i) & \text{for } j = \mathcal{J} + 1. \end{cases}$$

Also, call  $\mathbf{D}_i = \mathbf{D}(\min\{y, \pi^D\}, a, b_i, m_i)$ . Then, the probability of default is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{D}_i &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F_{\mathcal{J}+1}(\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,1}, \dots, \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}}, \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\left[\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho} - \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \left[\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho} - \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}.
\end{aligned}$$

Call  $\exp(\phi_i) = 1 + \left[\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho}$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{D}_i &= \frac{\exp(-\phi_i)}{\sigma} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu - \sigma\phi_i}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu - \sigma\phi_i}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}}_{=\sigma} \\
&= \frac{1}{1 + \left[\sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho}}.
\end{aligned}$$

After proper substitution of the definition of  $\Upsilon_{i,j}$  and  $\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}$ , we get the expression for the probability of default described in the previous subsection. Let  $\mathbf{G}_{ij} = \mathbf{G}_{y,a,b_i,m_i}(b_j, m_j)$ . Then, the probability of choosing the maturity/debt portfolio  $j$ , conditional on not defaulting is

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{G}_{i,j} &= \frac{1}{(1 - \mathbf{D}_i)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F_j(\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,1}, \dots, \Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}}, \Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}) d\epsilon_j \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma(1 - \mathbf{D}_i)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\left[\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,k} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho} - \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right)\right) \\
&\quad \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,k} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1} \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_j \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma(1 - \mathbf{D}_i)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \left[\left[\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho} + \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}}{\sigma}\right)\right]\right) \\
&\quad \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)^{\rho-1} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1} \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_j \\
&= \frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1}}{\sigma(1 - \mathbf{D}_i)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \left[\left[\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^{\rho} + \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}}{\sigma}\right)\right]\right) \\
&\quad \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_j.
\end{aligned}$$

Call  $\exp(\eta_{i,j}) = \left[ \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j}-\Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right]^\rho + \exp\left(\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}-\Upsilon_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)$ , then

$$\mathbf{G}_{i,j} = \frac{\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j}-\Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1}}{(1-\mathbf{D}_i)\sigma \exp(\eta_{i,j})} \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu - \sigma\eta_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu - \sigma\eta_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_j}_{=\sigma}.$$

Since  $(1-\mathbf{D}_i)\exp(\eta_{i,j}) = \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(\frac{\Upsilon_{i,k}-\Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^\rho$ , we have that

$$\mathbf{G}_{i,j} = \frac{1}{\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(\frac{\Upsilon_{i,k}-\Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)}$$

which, after proper substitution of the definition of  $\Upsilon_{i,j}$  and  $\Upsilon_{i,k}$ , gives the expression for the probability of choosing the maturity/debt portfolio  $j$  described in the previous subsection.

Finally, call  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}_i} = \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}(y, a, b_i, m_i)$ . We can find  $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}_i} = E_\epsilon [\max_{j \in \{1, \dots, \mathcal{J}+1\}} \{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j\}]$  in the following way:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}_i} &= \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}+1} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j) F_j(\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,1}, \dots, \Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}}, \Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}) d\epsilon_j \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma} \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j) \exp\left(-\left[\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,k} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^\rho - \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right)\right) \\ &\quad \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} + \epsilon_j - \Upsilon_{i,k} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1} \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_j + \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\sigma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}) \exp\left(-\left[\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k} - \mu}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right]^\rho - \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp(-\eta_{i,j}) \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j}-\Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right)\right)^{\rho-1} \\ &\quad \left[ \Upsilon_{i,j} + \mu + \sigma\eta_{i,j} + \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu - \sigma\eta_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right) \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu - \sigma\eta_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_j - \mu - \sigma\eta_{i,j}}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}}_{=\sigma\gamma} \right] + \\ &\quad \exp(-\phi_i) \left[ \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \mu + \sigma\phi_i + \underbrace{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu - \sigma\phi_i}{\sigma}\right) \exp\left(-\exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu - \sigma\phi_i}{\sigma}\right)\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} - \mu - \sigma\phi_i}{\sigma}\right) d\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1}}_{=\sigma\gamma} \right], \end{aligned}$$



where  $\gamma \approx 0.5772$  is Euler's constant. Making  $\mu = -\sigma\gamma$ , the previous expression simplifies to,

$$\mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}_i = \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \left[ \exp(-\eta_{i,j}) \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho-1} [\Upsilon_{i,j} + \sigma\eta_{i,j}] \right] + \exp(-\phi_i) [\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma\phi_i].$$

Note that,

$$\exp(-\phi_i) [\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma\phi_i] = \frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma \log \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho} \right]}{1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho}},$$

and also,

$$\begin{aligned} \exp(-\eta_{i,j}) \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho-1} [\Upsilon_{i,j} + \sigma\eta_{i,j}] &= \\ &= \frac{\left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho-1} \left[ \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma \log \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho} \right] \right]}{\exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,j} - \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}}{\sigma}\right) \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho} \right]}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, the value is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}^{\mathbf{G}}_i &= \left[ \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma \log \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho} \right] \right] \\ &\quad \frac{1}{1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho}} \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \frac{\left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho-1} \exp\left(\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)^{\rho-1}}{\exp\left(\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,j}}{\rho\sigma}\right)^{\rho}} \right) \\ &= \Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} + \sigma \log \left[ 1 + \left( \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{J}} \exp\left(-\frac{\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1} - \Upsilon_{i,k}}{\rho\sigma}\right) \right)^{\rho} \right], \end{aligned}$$

which, after proper substitution of the definition of  $\Upsilon_{i,k}$  and  $\Upsilon_{i,\mathcal{J}+1}$ , gives the expression for the ex-ante lifetime utility described in the previous subsection.

## Appendix E $\epsilon$ -zero model

Consider a case with debt level  $-b_i$ , maturity  $m_i$ , income  $y$ , not experiencing a rollover shock, whose observed decision is to not default, and take a portfolio with  $-b'_j$  and  $m'_j$  to the next

period. In this case, the value of not defaulting with a realization  $\epsilon$  equal to zero is

$$\hat{V}^P(y, 0, b_i, m_i) = \max_{b_j, m_j} \{u(c_{ij}(y)) + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 0} E_{\epsilon'} V^G(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon')\}$$

subject to

$$c_{ij}(y) = y + b_i + q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_i - 1)b - q(y, 0, b_j, m_j; m_j)b_j \text{ and } j \in \{1, 2, \dots, \mathcal{J}\}.$$

From this problem we obtain the policy functions of the  $\epsilon$ -zero model.

If the economy is experiencing a rollover shock, the value of repayment with  $\epsilon_i = 0$  is

$$\hat{V}^P(y, 1, b_i, m_i) = u(y + b_i) + \beta E_{y', a' | y, 1} E_{\epsilon'} V^G(y', a', b_j, m_j, \epsilon').$$

Similarly, the value of defaulting with  $\epsilon_{\mathcal{J}+1} = 0$  in the current period would have been:

$$\hat{V}^D(y, b_i, m_i) = u(y) + \beta E_{y' | y} E_{\epsilon'} V^R(\min\{y', \pi^R\}, b_i, m_i, \epsilon'),$$

From here we obtain the policy function of default for the  $\epsilon$ -zero model. In particular, the country defaults if  $\hat{V}^P(y, 0, b_i, m_i) \leq \hat{V}^D(y, b_i, m_i)$ .

## Appendix F Sudden stop shocks: sensitivity analysis

In this Appendix we evaluate the robustness of our results to changes in the sudden stop assumption.

In Table 17, Panel A can be compared to the statistics reported in the bottom section of Table 5 in the paper. Similarly, Panel B shows the moments reported in Table 6 of the article, and Panel C relates to the last row of Table 8 in the paper. The first column of results in this table shows the benchmark calibration of the article, and the second column illustrates the results with the same calibration but no sudden stops.

The comparative results in Table 17 highlight that while sudden stop shocks do matter for the

Table 17: Robustness check: Targeted and untargeted moments

|                                      | Benchmark<br>calibration | Economy with no<br>Sudden Stops |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Panel A: Targeted moments</b>     |                          |                                 |
| Debt / Output                        | 31.74                    | 30.23                           |
| Default rate                         | 2.35                     | 1.84                            |
| Length of default (years)            | 2.32                     | 2.36                            |
| Mean SZ haircut                      | 34.05                    | 24.39                           |
| Average issuance costs               | 1.10                     | 0.71                            |
| Std. dev. duration                   | 0.89                     | 0.44                            |
| Std. dev. debt/output                | 9.47                     | 5.52                            |
| <b>Panel B: Non-targeted moments</b> |                          |                                 |
| St. dev. (log(c))/St. dev. (log(y))  | 1.17                     | 1.13                            |
| St. dev. (TB/y)/St. dev. (log(y))    | 0.63                     | 0.45                            |
| Corr. (log(c), log(y))               | 0.84                     | 0.91                            |
| Corr. (TB/y, log(y))                 | 0.04                     | -0.06                           |
| Duration (years)                     | 3.43                     | 2.04                            |
| Duration (years, bad times)          | 3.05                     | 1.97                            |
| Maturity (years)                     | 6.20                     | 3.16                            |
| Maturity (years, bad times)          | 5.43                     | 3.04                            |
| Corr. (maturity, log(y))             | 0.38                     | 0.16                            |
| Corr. (duration, log(y))             | 0.47                     | 0.22                            |
| 1-year spread (%)                    | 0.77                     | 0.56                            |
| 1-year spread (% , bad times)        | 1.53                     | 1.11                            |
| 10-year spread (%)                   | 1.01                     | 0.60                            |
| 10-year spread (% , bad times)       | 1.37                     | 0.84                            |
| Corr. (1YS, log(y))                  | -0.22                    | -0.34                           |
| Corr. (10YS, log(y))                 | -0.55                    | -0.69                           |
| 10YS – 1YS(%)                        | 0.24                     | 0.04                            |
| <b>Panel C: Extensions</b>           |                          |                                 |
| Maturity extension (years)           | 4.32                     | 5.39                            |

level of some statistics in the model, they do not drive our key finding on maturity extensions in restructurings. Absent sudden stop shocks, Panel A shows the debt-to-output ratio and the length of default remain unchanged, the default rate becomes slightly lower, and the mean haircut and the volatility of debt decrease. Panel B illustrates that the economy experiences a lower level of debt maturity and duration, where, for instance, the average maturity decreases from an average of 6.20 years to 3.16 years. Sudden stops are an essential force that generates a higher level of maturity in line with the data. More importantly, as Panel C shows, the average maturity extension upon restructuring in the benchmark setup is somewhat lower than in the absence of sudden stops. Thus, we find that the presence of sudden stops does not drive the result of maturity extensions in the model.

In Table 18, Panel A replicates Table 10 in the paper, where we assess the role of the income recovery between default and restructuring on the debt restructuring generated by the model. For comparison purposes, in Panel B we report the same moments for an economy with the same calibrated parameters but without sudden stops.

The differences between the moments reported in the second and third columns show that haircuts, maturity extension, and duration of default are sensitive to the economy's recovery. More importantly, these statistics do not vary across panels, indicating that the role of income recovery does not depend on sudden stop shocks.

Table 18: Robustness check: The effect of income recovery

| <b>Panel A:</b>          | Economy with Sudden Stops |             |          |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----------|
|                          | Baseline                  |             |          |
|                          | All                       | No recovery | Recovery |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72                     | 32.69       | 23.03    |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05                     | 37.41       | 30.92    |
| Mean extension           | 4.32                      | 3.84        | 4.78     |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32                      | 2.16        | 2.46     |

| <b>Panel B:</b>          | Economy without Sudden Stops |             |          |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|-------------|----------|
|                          | All                          | No recovery | Recovery |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 12.75                        | 21.98       | 9.79     |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 24.39                        | 29.96       | 22.62    |
| Mean extension           | 5.39                         | 4.57        | 5.65     |
| Duration of Default      | 2.36                         | 2.31        | 2.38     |

Panel A in Table 19 displays the results of Table 11 in the paper, i.e., our benchmark economy with sudden stops where we vary the exclusion probability. Panel B reports the same moments for an economy with the same calibrated parameters but without sudden stops. Similar to the pattern observed in Table 18, the results shown in Table 19 indicate that the sensitivity of the moments to changes in the exclusion parameter does not depend on sudden stop shocks. For instance, in the economy with sudden stops, the mean debt maturity extension increases by 4.2 years when  $\delta$  increases from 0.12 to its benchmark value of 0.7. In the economy without sudden stops, the same change in  $\delta$  is associated with a similar increase of 3.4 years. In the same way, a change in  $\delta$  from 0.85 to its benchmark value induces a significant, similar increase in maturity extensions in the economies with and without sudden stops (about 6-7 years).

Table 19: Robustness check: The effect of exclusion after restructuring

| <b>Panel A:</b>          | Economy with Sudden Stops |                     |                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          | Benchmark                 | Changes in $\delta$ |                |                 |                 |
|                          | $\delta = 0.7$            | $\delta = 0.12$     | $\delta = 0.6$ | $\delta = 0.75$ | $\delta = 0.85$ |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72                     | 32.13               | 30.95          | 22.52           | 18.79           |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05                     | 26.07               | 30.98          | 39.06           | 43.63           |
| Mean extension           | 4.32                      | 0.11                | 2.07           | 8.13            | 11.36           |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32                      | 2.52                | 2.35           | 2.27            | 2.21            |

| <b>Panel B:</b>          | Economy without Sudden Stops |                     |                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          |                              | Changes in $\delta$ |                |                 |                 |
|                          | $\delta = 0.7$               | $\delta = 0.12$     | $\delta = 0.6$ | $\delta = 0.75$ | $\delta = 0.85$ |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 12.75                        | 14.75               | 14.26          | 9.69            | 3.61            |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 24.39                        | 14.66               | 20.76          | 28.39           | 35.13           |
| Mean extension           | 5.39                         | 2.00                | 3.85           | 7.61            | 11.66           |
| Duration of Default      | 2.36                         | 2.58                | 2.38           | 2.36            | 2.27            |

Panel A in Table 20 replicates the findings of Table 12 in the paper, our benchmark economy with sudden stops where we vary the regulatory costs of book-value losses. Panel B reports the same moments for an economy with the same calibrated parameters but without sudden stops.

As observed in the previous tables, the sudden stop shocks help explain the levels of the moments generated by the model but do not drive the changes in those moments when we vary the regulatory costs of book-value losses. An increase in the regulatory costs parameter from its benchmark value of 0.03 to 0.05 is associated with a rise in the mean maturity extension, which about 2.5 years in the economy with sudden stops, and about 1 year in the model economy without sudden stops.

The main conclusion from the robustness exercises described in Tables 1 through 4 is that the sudden stop shocks do not drive the main results of the paper.

Table 20: Robustness check: The effect of regulatory costs of book-value losses

| <b>Panel A:</b>          | Economy with Sudden Stops |                                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          | Benchmark                 | Alternative values of $\kappa$ |                 |                 |
|                          | $\kappa = 0.03$           | $\kappa = 0.00$                | $\kappa = 0.02$ | $\kappa = 0.05$ |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 27.72                     | 31.31                          | 28.32           | 21.90           |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 34.05                     | 35.20                          | 34.55           | 35.62           |
| Mean extension           | 4.32                      | 3.39                           | 4.25            | 7.08            |
| Duration of Default      | 2.32                      | 2.28                           | 2.30            | 2.33            |

| <b>Panel B:</b>          | Economy without Sudden Stops |                                |                 |                 |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
|                          |                              | Alternative values of $\kappa$ |                 |                 |
|                          | $\kappa = 0.03$              | $\kappa = 0.00$                | $\kappa = 0.02$ | $\kappa = 0.05$ |
| Avg. haircut, face value | 12.75                        | 14.49                          | 12.92           | 9.35            |
| Avg. haircut, SZ         | 24.39                        | 24.48                          | 24.61           | 23.78           |
| Mean extension           | 5.39                         | 4.90                           | 5.40            | 6.21            |
| Duration of Default      | 2.36                         | 2.34                           | 2.35            | 2.42            |