# How the Wealth Was Won: Factor Shares as Market Fundamentals

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#### Average Annual Growth

Subsample	Market Equity	Output	Earnings
1989:Q1 - 2017:Q4	6.9%	2.5%	4.8%
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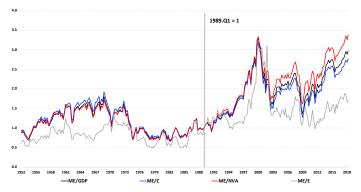
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- By contrast: real value of **output** shows the **opposite temporal pattern**.
- Upshot? Widening **chasm** between **stock market** and **broader economy**.

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## Stock Market v.s Broader Economy

• ME= Total value of market equity of the NFCS.



Notes: ME: Nonfinancial Corporate Sector Stock Value. E: Nonfinancial Corporate Business After-Tax Profits. GDP & C: Current Dollars GDP and personal consumption expenditures. NVA: Net Value Added of Nonfinancial Corporate Sector. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

#### Stock Market v.s Broader Economy

• ME relative to 3 different measures of agg. economic activity is at or near post-war high.



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• Notably, ME/E not near post-war high.



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- Figure 1 suggests basic tenet of macroeconomic theory not borne out by data.
- What is responsible for sharply rising equity values over post-war period?

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  - **Shareholder payout:** Changes in how economic growth expected to be linked to cash payments to shareholders
  - **Discount rates**: Changes in how those payments are discounted back to present (expected path of future short rates, risk premia)
  - **Economic growth**: Could still be key to market's rise over post-war period, even if last 30 years have been a striking exception.

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- Identification of mutually uncorrelated components + loglinear model => precisely decompose 100% of market's observed growth into distinct component sources in the model.

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- Apply model to the NFCS over period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

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- From 1952-1988, economic growth accounted for 92%, but that 37 year period created *less than half* wealth generated in 29 years since 1989.

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- Model & estimates => common practice of averaging of returns, dividend, payout data over post-war sample to estimate ERP overstates the true risk premium by  $\approx 50\%$ .

- **Drivers of real level of stock market**: Few studies. Lettau & Ludvigson '13, and Greenwald, Lettau, Ludvigson (GLL) '14.
- This paper replaces GLL, differs substantively from both. Neither study did formal estimation of asset pricing model. GLL model is less flexible, less general.
- Heterogeneous agent, limited partipation perspective adds realism: just 52% households own equity in 2016 (any amt, any form); most own very little: top 5% of stock wealth dist. owns 76% of market and earns small fraction of income in form of labor compensation.

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- Decline in labor share: Karabarounis, Neiman '13, Lansing '13.
- Negative correlation returns human wealth and stock market: Lustig, Van Nieuwerburgh '08; Lettau, Ludvigson '09; Chen et. al., '14.

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$$Y_t = A_t N_t^{\alpha} K_t^{1-\alpha}$$

 $A_t$  mean zero TFP;  $N_t$  labor endowment (hours × prod. factor).

- Workers inelastically supply labor; hours fixed, normalized to unity.
- $K_t$  grows deterministically at gross rate  $G \equiv 1 + g => K_t = K_0 G^t$ .
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- Fraction τ<sub>t</sub> of Y<sub>t</sub> devoted to taxes & interest & other. Earnings E<sub>t</sub> (after-tax profits):

$$E_t \equiv \mathbf{S}_t Z_t Y_t$$

 $Z_t \equiv 1 - \tau_t$ ;  $S_t \equiv$  AT profit share of AT profit+labor comp.

Labor compensation

$$W_t N_t \equiv (1 - S_t) Z_t Y_t,$$

•  $E_t/Y_t$  "earnings share" and  $(W_tN_t)/Y_t$  "labor share".

### Factors Share Shock

- Variable S<sub>t</sub> modeled as exogenous *factors share shock*.
- Captures changes may occur, for any reason, in allocation of rewards between firms and workers under imperfect competition.
- Possible sources include changes in:
  - **Industry concentration** structure alters labor intensivity of production
  - Bargaining power of US workers (international competition, prevalence of unions, off-shoring)
  - **Technological factors** alter substitutability of labor for capital.

- Cash payments to shareholders = *net payout* ("cashflows") differs from  $E_t$  by net new investment.
- Firm reinvests fixed fraction  $\omega Y_t$  each period =>

$$\underbrace{C_t}_{\text{cashflows}} = E_t - \omega Y_t = (S_t Z_t - \omega) Y_t.$$

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- Distinguished from representative household who consumes p.c. aggregate consumption.

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- Preference shifter *x*<sub>t</sub> and time varying sub. time-discount factor taken as given by ind. shareholders, driven by market as whole.
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- *x<sub>t</sub>* **positive on average** but may occasionally go negative reflecting occasional risk tolerance or confidence.
- Time varying *β*<sub>t</sub> essential for obtaining stable risk-free rate along with volatile equity premium.

# Loglinear Model: Earnings

- Work with loglinear approximation solved analytically.  $\ln(E_t/Y_t)$  could go above 1, but does so rarely (less than 1% of time in 10,000 period simulation).
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• **Earnings**: Since  $E_t = S_t Z_t Y_t$ , earnings growth

$$\Delta e_t = \Delta s_t + \Delta z_t + \Delta y_t.$$

# Loglinear Model: Payout

- **Payout:** Let  $Q_t \equiv S_t Z_t$ , then  $C_t = (Q_t \omega) Y_t$ , or  $c_t = \ln (Q_t \omega) + y_t$ .
- Loglinearize to obtain approximate equation for log payout

$$c_t = \bar{c} + \xi \left( s_t + z_t \right) + y_t,$$

where  $\xi = \frac{\overline{SZ}}{\overline{SZ}-\omega}$  and  $\overline{SZ}$  is the average value of  $S_t Z_t$ .

• Log payout growth is given by

$$\Delta c_t = \xi \left( \Delta s_t + \Delta z_t \right) + \Delta y_t.$$

# Loglinear Model: Dynamics of Cashflows

- Data on earnings share suggests existence of both **low- and higher-frequency components**.
- Allow for this in model. Denote  $\mathbf{s}_t = (s_{LFt}, s_{HFt})'$ .
- $s_t = \mathbf{1}' \mathbf{s}_t$ , where  $\mathbf{1}' \equiv (1, 1)$ .  $s_{LF,t}$  a lower frequency component,  $s_{HF,t}$  a higher frequency component.
- Specify dynamics of  $\Delta c_t$ ,  $\Delta s_t$  as

• **Risk-free rate of return** known with certainty at *t*:

$$R_{f,t+1} \equiv \left(\mathbb{E}_t \left[M_{t+1}\right]\right)^{-1}, \quad \beta_t \equiv \frac{\exp\left(\delta_t\right)}{\exp\left(d_t\right)}.$$

• Data on short rates suggests low- and higher-frequency components.

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- Data on short rates suggests low- and higher-frequency components.
- Model  $\delta_t = \mathbf{1}' \delta_t$ , where  $\delta_t = (\delta_{LFt}, \delta_{HFt})'$  and

$$\begin{split} m_{t+1} &\equiv \ln M_{t+1} = -\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\delta}_t - d_t - x_t \Delta c_{t+1} \\ \boldsymbol{\delta}_{t+1} &= (\boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\delta}) \boldsymbol{\bar{\delta}} + \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{\delta} \boldsymbol{\delta}_t + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\delta,t+1}, \ \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}_{\delta,t+1} \sim N(0, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\delta}), \end{split}$$

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• Parameter  $d_t$  is a compensating factor chosen to ensure

$$r_{f,t} = -\ln \mathbb{E}_t \exp\left(m_{t+1}\right) = \mathbf{1}' \delta_t.$$

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$$r_{f,t} = -\ln \mathbb{E}_t \exp(m_{t+1}) = \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\delta}_t.$$

• Gaussian shocks, the SDF is conditionally lognormal:

$$r_{f,t+1} = \mathbf{1}'\boldsymbol{\delta}_t + d_t + x_t \left(g - \xi \phi_z \tilde{z}_t - \xi \mathbf{1}' (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{\Phi}_s) \tilde{\mathbf{s}}_t\right) - \frac{1}{2} x_t^2 \left(\sigma_a^2 + \xi \left(\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_s \mathbf{1}\right)\right)$$
$$d_t = -x_t (g - \xi \phi_z \tilde{z}_t) + \xi x_t \mathbf{1}' \left(I - \mathbf{\Phi}_s\right) \tilde{\mathbf{s}}_t + \frac{1}{2} x_t^2 \left(\sigma_a^2 + \xi \left(\mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_s \mathbf{1}\right)\right).$$

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# Price of Risk Dynamics

• **Price of risk** *x*<sup>*t*</sup> follows:

$$x_{t+1} = (1 - \phi_x) \,\overline{x} + \phi_x x_t + \varepsilon_{x,t+1}, \quad \varepsilon_{x,t+1} \sim N \, i.i.d. \left(0, \sigma_x^2\right).$$

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 Latent process Z<sub>t</sub>: Data on taxes & interest filtered to infer values of latent stochastic process for Z<sub>t</sub>. (Equilibrium asset returns in model depend not only on today's Z<sub>t</sub> but also expected future path of Z<sub>t</sub>.)

$$z_{t+1} = (1 - \phi_z) \,\overline{z} + \phi_z z_t + \varepsilon_{z,t+1}, \quad \varepsilon_{z,t+1} \sim N \, i.i.d. \left(0, \sigma_z^2\right).$$

# Loglinear Model: Equilibrium Stock Market Values

• **Equity return**: Let *P*<sub>t</sub> denote total market equity, with *C*<sub>t</sub> equity payout, return on equity is

$$R_{t+1} = \frac{P_{t+1} + C_{t+1}}{P_t}$$

•  $pc_t \equiv \ln\left(\frac{P_t}{C_t}\right)$ . The log return obeys the following approximate identity:

$$r_{t+1} = \kappa_0 + \kappa_1 p c_{t+1} - p c_t + \Delta c_{t+1},$$

where  $\kappa_1 = \exp(\overline{pc}) / (1 + \exp(\overline{pc}))$ , and  $\kappa_0 = \exp(\overline{pc}) + 1 - \kappa_1 \overline{pc}$ .

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• The first-order-condition for optimal shareholder consumption:

$$\frac{P_t}{C_t} = \mathbb{E}_t \exp\left[m_{t+1} + \Delta c_{t+1} + \ln\left(\frac{P_{t+1}}{C_{t+1}} + 1\right)\right].$$

• **Conjecture and verify** a solution takes form:

$$pc_t = A_0 + \mathbf{A}'_s \widetilde{\mathbf{s}}_t + \mathbf{A}'_t \widetilde{\boldsymbol{\delta}}_t + A_x \widetilde{x}_t + A_z \widetilde{z}_t.$$

# Loglinear Model Solution

$$pc_{t} = A_{0} + \mathbf{A}_{s}' \widetilde{\mathbf{s}}_{t} + \mathbf{A}_{r}' \boldsymbol{\delta}_{t} + A_{x} \widetilde{x}_{t} + A_{z} \widetilde{z}_{t}$$
$$\mathbf{A}_{s}' = -\xi \mathbf{1}' (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{\Phi}_{s}) (\mathbf{I} - \kappa_{1} \mathbf{\Phi}_{s})^{-1}$$
$$A_{x}' = -\left[ \left( \xi^{2} \left( \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} + \sigma_{z}^{2} \right) + \sigma_{g}^{2} \right) + \xi \kappa_{1} \left( \mathbf{A}_{s}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} \right) \right] (1 - \kappa_{1} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{x})^{-1}$$
$$\mathbf{A}_{\delta}' = -\mathbf{1}' \left( \mathbf{I} - \kappa_{1} \mathbf{\Phi}_{\delta} \right)^{-1}$$
$$A_{z} = -\xi (1 - \phi_{z}) (1 - \kappa_{1} \phi_{z})^{-1}$$

- All terms LHS are negative.
  - $\mathbf{A}_{\delta}'$  and  $A_{x}' < 0$ :  $\uparrow$  risk-free rate or in price of risk increases rate future cash payments **discounted**.
  - $\mathbf{A}'_s < 0$ :  $\mathbf{\Phi}_s < 1$ . Equity values rise proportionally less than  $c_t$  in anticipation of eventual mean-reversion in payout.
  - Size of effects depends on magnitudes of  $\Phi_{\delta}$ ,  $\phi_x$ , and  $\Phi_s$ .

# Loglinear Model Solution

• Model solution implies log equity premium:

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{t}[r_{t+1}] - r_{f,t} &= \left[ \left( \xi^{2} \left( \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} + \sigma_{z}^{2} \right) + \sigma_{a}^{2} \right) + \xi \kappa_{1} \left( \mathbf{A}_{s}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} + A_{z} \sigma_{T}^{2} \right) \right] \mathbf{x}_{t} \\ &- \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{V}_{t}(r_{t+1}) \\ \mathbb{V}_{t}(r_{t+1}) &= \kappa_{1}^{2} \left[ \mathbf{A}_{s}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{A}_{s} + A_{z}^{2} \sigma_{z}^{2} + A_{x}^{2} \sigma_{x}^{2} + \mathbf{A}_{\delta}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\delta} \mathbf{A}_{\delta} \right] \\ &+ \left[ \xi^{2} \left( \mathbf{1}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} + \sigma_{z}^{2} \right) + \sigma_{a}^{2} \right] + 2\xi \kappa_{1} \left[ \mathbf{A}_{s}' \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{s} \mathbf{1} + A_{z} \sigma_{z}^{2} \right], \end{split}$$

• Homoskedastic shocks:  $\mathbb{V}_t$  constant, but risk premium varies with  $\mathbf{x}_t$ .

### • Primitive parameters

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = \left( \xi, g, \sigma_a^2, \operatorname{vec}\left( \,\boldsymbol{\Phi}_s \right), \operatorname{vec}\left( \boldsymbol{\Phi}_\delta \right), \phi_x, \phi_Z, \operatorname{vec}\left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_s \right), \operatorname{vec}\left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_\delta \right), \sigma_x^2, \sigma_Z^2, \bar{s}, \bar{\delta}, \bar{x}, \bar{z} \right)',$$

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### Two groups

- Small number  $(\bar{s}, \xi, \phi_x)$  calibrated (discussed below).
- Remaining parameters freely estimated.

### • Primitive parameters

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### Two groups

- Small number  $(\bar{s}, \xi, \phi_x)$  calibrated (discussed below).
- Remaining parameters freely estimated.
- Estimation of Parameters: Bayesian methods with *flat priors*.
- Estimation of Latent States: Model linear in logs so can use Kalman filter.

• Confront model with observations 1952:Q1-2017:Q4 on:

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  - Log output growth  $\Delta y_t$
  - 2 Log earnings share  $e_t y_t \equiv ey_t$
  - 3 Interest rate to proxy  $r_{f,t}$
  - (1) Taxes & interest share  $z_t$
  - S Equity-to-output ratio  $p_t y_t \equiv py_t$

- Confront model with observations **1952:Q1-2017:Q4** on:
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  - (1) Taxes & interest share  $z_t$
  - S Equity-to-output ratio  $p_t y_t \equiv py_t$
- **Risk-free rate** 3-Mo T-bill minus fitted  $\hat{\pi}_t$  from regression on lagged  $\pi_t$ .
- NFCS observations for all others.
  - Need y<sub>t</sub>, ey<sub>t</sub>, py<sub>t</sub> etc., to be measured for same sector of economy. Otherwise subject to confounding compositional effects.
  - Corporate sector advantage: 1 St not affected by statistical imputation of labor income from total income reported by sole proprietors and unincorporated business.

• Forgoing variables are related to *θ* and **latent states**:

$$ey_{t} = \mathbf{1}'(\tilde{\mathbf{s}}_{t} + \bar{\mathbf{s}})$$

$$r_{ft} = \mathbf{1}'(\tilde{\boldsymbol{\delta}}_{t} + \bar{\boldsymbol{\delta}})$$

$$py_{t} = \overline{py} + (\mathbf{A}'_{s} + \xi\mathbf{1}')\tilde{\mathbf{s}}_{t} + \mathbf{A}'_{t}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\delta}}_{t} + A_{x}\tilde{x}_{t} + (A_{Z} + \xi)\tilde{z}_{t}$$

$$\tilde{z}_{t+1} = \phi_{Z}\tilde{z}_{t} + \varepsilon_{Z,t+1}$$

$$z_{t} = \tilde{z}_{t} + \bar{z}$$

$$\Delta y_{t} = g + \Delta \tilde{y}_{t}$$

•  $\overline{py} \equiv A_0 + \overline{c} + \overline{\xi}\overline{z_t}$ 

• Last two are **identities** that exactly pin down values of  $\varepsilon_{z,t}$  and  $\varepsilon_{a,t}$ .

• State space form:

$$\mathcal{Y}_t = \mathbf{H}' \boldsymbol{\beta}_t + \mathbf{G}' \mathbf{1}$$
(1)  
 
$$\boldsymbol{\beta}_t = F \boldsymbol{\beta}_{t-1} + \mathbf{v}_t,$$
(2)

• **Observation equation:**  $\mathcal{Y}_t \equiv \left(ey_t, r_{ft}, py_t, \Delta z_t, \Delta y_t\right)'$ 

• Latent states:  $\beta_t \equiv (\tilde{s}_{LF,t}, \tilde{s}_{HF,t}, \tilde{\delta}_{LF,t}, \tilde{\delta}_{HF,t}, \tilde{x}_t, \tilde{z}_t, \Delta \tilde{y}_t)'$ , where

$$\mathbf{v}_{t} = (\varepsilon_{s,LF,t}, \varepsilon_{s,HF,t}, \varepsilon_{\delta,LF,t}, \varepsilon_{\delta,HF,t}, \varepsilon_{x,t}, \varepsilon_{Z,t}, \varepsilon_{a,t})'$$

and  $\mathbf{F}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}'$ , and  $\mathbf{G}'$  are matrices of primitive parameters.

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$$\mathbf{v}_t = (\varepsilon_{s,LF,t}, \varepsilon_{s,HF,t}, \varepsilon_{\delta,LF,t}, \varepsilon_{\delta,HF,t}, \varepsilon_{x,t}, \varepsilon_{Z,t}, \varepsilon_{a,t})^{\prime}$$

and  $\mathbf{F}$ ,  $\mathbf{H}'$ , and  $\mathbf{G}'$  are matrices of primitive parameters.

- Kalman filter gives *smoothed* estimates of latent states  $\beta_{t|T}$ .
- Measurement error effectively zero in (1) due to flexible loglinear model and use of 7 latent states to match only 5 variables.

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- **Posterior of** *θ*: Obtained by computing likelihood using KF and combining with priors.
- **Flat priors**: posterior coincides with likelihood, posterior mode coincides with MLE estimate.
- Parameter uncertainty: Characterized using a RWMH algorithm.
- Latent state uncertainty Characterized using simulation smoother of Durbin and Koopman (2002).
- Error bands therefore reflect both parameter and latent state uncertainty.

- Three parameters are calibrated:  $\bar{s}$ ,  $\xi$ ,  $\phi_x$
- **Mean earnings share variable**  $\bar{s}$ : forces exactly right mean in *ey* without error.
- Payout-earnings growth relation  $\xi$

$$\Delta c_t = \xi \left( \Delta s_t + \Delta z_t \right) + \Delta y_t.$$

Calibrated to match relative vol of  $\Delta c_t$  to  $\Delta e_t \approx 2$ .

• **Persistence of**  $x_t$ : No observable series to discipline  $\phi_x$ .

- If  $\phi_x$  freely estimated with *flat prior*, procedure will choose parameters of FS and RF process to fit  $s_t$ ,  $r_{f,t}$  exactly, set  $\phi_x$  to explain *all* variation in  $py_t$ .
- Implausible implication: RP shocks very persistent, since  $\hat{\phi}_x > 0.97$ .
- Estimates of risk-premium:  $cay_t$  proxy AR1  $\approx$  0.9; Martin '17 SVIX proxy: AR1  $\approx$  0.8.
- **Baseline happy medium**  $\phi_x = 0.85$ ; robustness:  $\phi_x = 0.80$ ,  $\phi_x = 0.90$ .

# **Parameter Estimates**

• Effective mean risk aversion modest reflecting volatility cash payments to shareholders.

Variable	Parameter	Mode	5%	Median	95%
Risk Price Mean	$ar{x}$	4.4832	3.3174	4.3791	5.8452
Risk Price Vol.	$\sigma_x$	3.8086	2.8981	3.8307	5.1905
Risk-Free Rate Mean	$\overline{r}_{f}$	0.0023	0.0008	0.0027	0.0048
Risk-Free (HF) Pers.	$\phi_{\delta,HF}$	0.1587	0.0290	0.1928	0.4109
Risk-Free (HF) Vol.	$\sigma_{\delta,HF}$	0.0019	0.0016	0.0019	0.0022
Risk-Free (LF) Pers.	$\phi_{\delta,LF}$	0.9321	0.8949	0.9314	0.9558
Risk-Free (LF) Vol.	$\sigma_{\delta,LF}$	0.0015	0.0012	0.0015	0.0019
Factor Share (HF) Pers.	$\phi_{s,HF}$	0.9250	0.8981	0.9245	0.9455
Factor Share (HF) Vol.	$\sigma_{s,HF}$	0.0680	0.0633	0.0683	0.0734
Factor Share (LF) Pers.	$\phi_{s,LF}$	0.9997	0.9984	0.9996	0.9999
Factor Share (LF) Vol.	$\sigma_{s,LF}$	0.0179	0.0132	0.0179	0.0230
Tax + Interest Share Pers.	φ <sub>Z</sub>	0.9545	0.9244	0.9583	0.9875
Tax + Interest Vol.	$\sigma_Z$	0.0041	0.0038	0.0041	0.0044
Productivity Vol.	$\sigma_a$	0.0160	0.0148	0.0159	0.0171

*Notes:* The table reports parameter estimates from the posterior distribution. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

### **Parameter Estimates**

Short rates: φ<sub>δ,LF</sub> = 0.93 => substantial declines *recently* in r<sub>f,t</sub> not important impetus for equity boom.

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• "Model" numbers from simulations. "Fitted" numbers use estimated latent states obtained from fitting model to *historical data*.

Variable	Model	Model	Fitted	Fitted	Data	Data
	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
Log Excess Return	4.322	16.957	6.410	17.191	7.576	16.710
Log Price-Payout Ratio	3.507	0.334	3.486	0.456	3.392	0.493
Log Earnings Growth	2.065	11.198	2.450	15.041	2.450	15.041
Log Payout Growth	2.064	21.952	3.095	28.167	4.243	30.558
Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• Fitted moments are model's implications *conditional on observed sequence of shocks*; are therefore **directly comparable** to "Data" moments.

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• Fitted moments of  $\Delta e_t$ ,  $\Delta ey_t$ , and  $r_{f,t}$  match exactly b/c observables.

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	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
Log Excess Return	4.322	16.957	6.410	17.191	7.576	16.710
Log Price-Payout Ratio	3.507	0.334	3.486	0.456	3.392	0.493
Log Earnings Growth	2.065	11.198	2.450	15.041	2.450	15.041
Log Payout Growth	2.064	21.952	3.095	28.167	4.243	30.558
Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• Fitted moments of log *R*, log excess returns, and *pc*<sub>t</sub> match data moments reasonably well.

Variable	Model	Model	Fitted	Fitted	Data	Data
	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
Log Excess Return	4.322	16.957	6.410	17.191	7.576	16.710
Log Price-Payout Ratio	3.507	0.334	3.486	0.456	3.392	0.493
Log Earnings Growth	2.065	11.198	2.450	15.041	2.450	15.041
Log Payout Growth	2.064	21.952	3.095	28.167	4.243	30.558
Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• Fitted mean of excess return understates data mean because model understates mean PO growth over the sample (not an estimation target).

Variable	Model	Model	Fitted	Fitted	Data	Data
	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
Log Excess Return	4.322	16.957	6.410	17.191	7.576	16.710
Log Price-Payout Ratio	3.507	0.334	3.486	0.456	3.392	0.493
Log Earnings Growth	2.065	11.198	2.450	15.041	2.450	15.041
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Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• Fitted mean  $\log \mathbb{E}R^e$  (6.4%) > model mean  $\log \mathbb{E}R^e$  (4.3%) by 2.1 perc. points, attributable to good luck, string of favorable shocks redistributed rents to shareholders.

Variable	Model	Model	Fitted	Fitted	Data	Data
	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
Log Excess Return	4.322	16.957	6.410	17.191	7.576	16.710
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Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• *Fitted means* for  $\Delta e_t$  and  $\Delta c_t$  larger than *model means*.

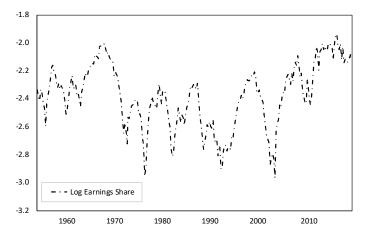
Variable	Model Mean(%)	Model SD(%)	Fitted Mean(%)	Fitted SD(%)	Data Mean(%)	Data SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
Log Risk-Free Rate	0.942	1.515	1.110	1.998	1.110	1.998
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Log Earnings Share Growth	0.000	10.897	0.405	13.337	0.405	13.337
Log Payout Share Growth	0.000	21.804	1.106	26.607	2.254	28.678

• Estimates imply *roughly 2.1 percentage points* of the post-war mean log return on stocks in excess of a T-bill is attributable to this string of **favorable factors share shocks**, rather than to genuine **compensation for bearing risk**.

Variable	Model	Model	Fitted	Fitted	Data	Data
	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)	Mean(%)	SD(%)
Log Equity Return	5.264	16.868	7.516	17.203	8.671	16.872
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# Earnings Share Over Time

• Look at key data series we match exactly, starting with *ey*<sub>t</sub>.

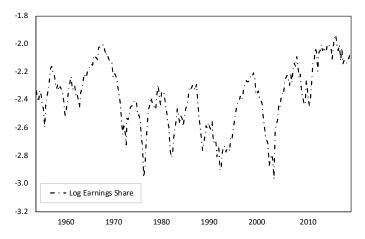


Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log earnings share series for the nonfinancial corporate sector. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

#### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

# Earnings Share Over Time

• Increases in *ey*<sub>t</sub> equivalent to declines in *labor share*.

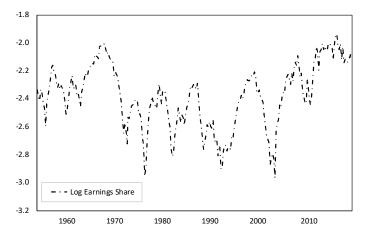


Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log earnings share series for the nonfinancial corporate sector. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

#### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

### Earnings Share Over Time

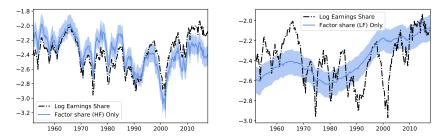
• High in 1950s, 1960s, low in 1970s, 1980s, upward trajectory since 1990.



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log earnings share series for the nonfinancial corporate sector. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

#### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

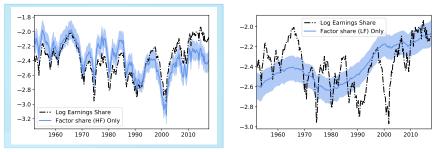
### Sources of Variation in Earnings Share Over Time



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed earnings share series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent factor share components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

# Sources of Variation in Earnings Share Over Time

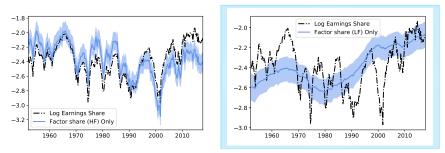
#### • *s*<sub>*HF*,*t*</sub> captures **transitory variation** in *ey*<sub>*t*</sub>.



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed earnings share series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent factor share components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

### Sources of Variation in Earnings Share Over Time

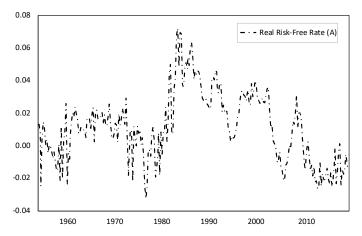
•  $s_{LF,t}$  captures *longer term trend* in  $ey_t$ .



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed earnings share series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent factor share components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

# **Risk-Free Rate Over Time**

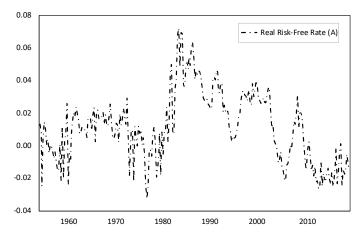
• Real rates **low** in 1950s & late 1970s, **high** during Volcker disinflation and after, **low** post-financial crisis.



Notes: The real risk-free rate is computed as the three-month T-bill rate minus the fitted value from a regression of GDP deflator inflation on lags of inflation. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

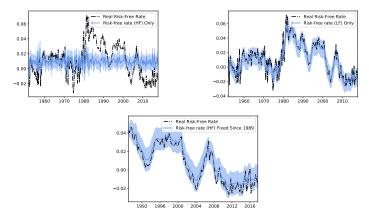
# **Risk-Free Rate Over Time**

• Although rates are low today, they are **not unusually low** by historical standards.



Notes: The real risk-free rate is computed as the three-month T-bill rate minus the fitted value from a regression of GDP deflator inflation on lags of inflation. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

### Sources of Risk-Free Rate Variation

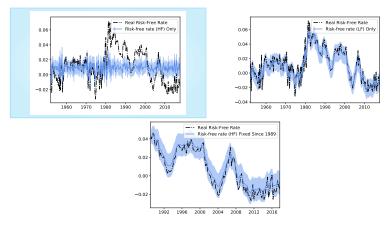


Notes: The real risk-free rate is computed as the three-month T-bill rate minus the fitted value from a regression of GDP deflator inflation on lags of inflation and interest rates. The figure exhibits the observed risk-free rate series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent risk-free rate components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 0% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952Q1-2017Q4.

#### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

## Sources of Risk-Free Rate Variation

### • Component $\delta_{HF,t}$ picks up transitory variation in $r_{f,t}$ .

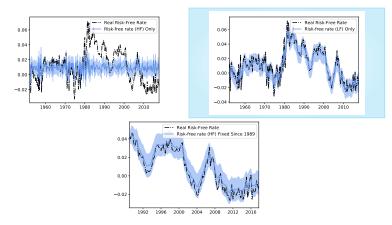


Notes: The real risk-free rate is computed as the three-month T-bill rate minus the fitted value from a regression of GDP dellator inflation on lags of inflation and interest rates. The figure exhibits the observed risk-free rate series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent risk-free rate components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952QI-2017Q4.

#### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

## Sources of Risk-Free Rate Variation

• Low-high-low pattern of  $r_{f,t}$  well captured by  $\delta_{LF,t}$ 

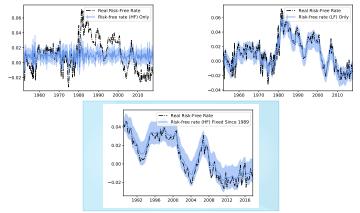


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### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

## Sources of Risk-Free Rate Variation

• LF component shows downward trend since about 1989.

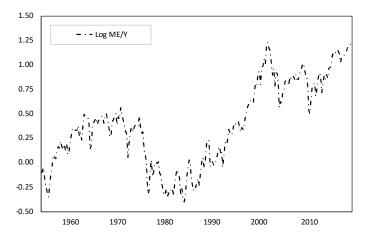


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### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

## Price-Output Ratio Over Time

• Equity relative to output has short-term "wiggles", longer-term trends.

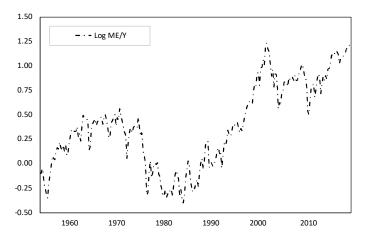


Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log market equity-to-output series for the nonfinancial corporate sector. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson

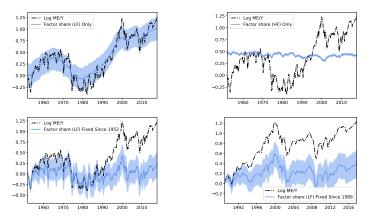
## Price-Output Ratio Over Time

• Over the sample observe an *upward* trend.



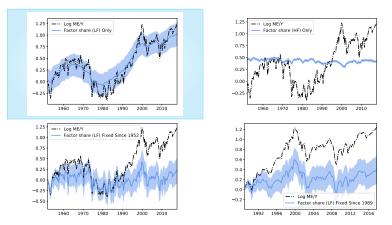
Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log market equity-to-output series for the nonfinancial corporate sector. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

### Greenwald, Lettau, and Ludvigson



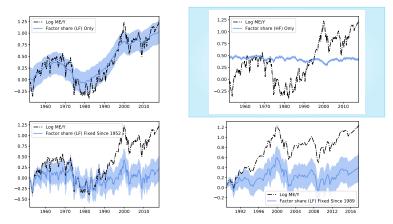
Notes: The figure exhibits the observed log market equity-to-output series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the latent factors share components. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952Q1-2017Q4.

• Upward trend well captured by LF FS factor *s*<sub>LF,t</sub>.



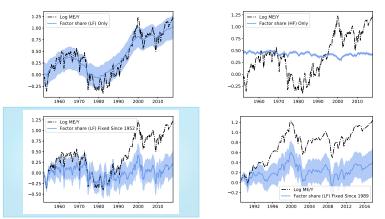
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• **HF FS factor** *s*<sub>*HF,t*</sub> captures "wiggles".



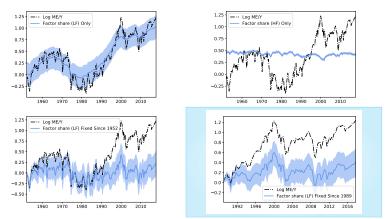
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• Fix the LF component, model is unable to capture *any of upward trend* since 1989.



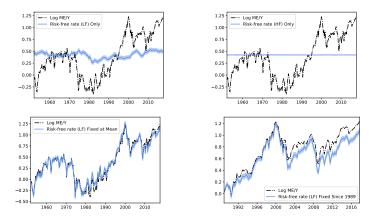
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• Zero-in on period post-1989 => large role for factors share shifts in driving upward value of ME relative to output.



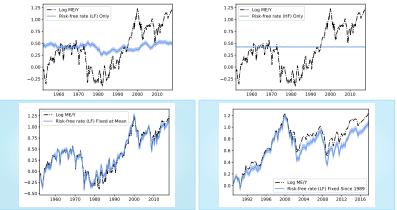
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### • Role of risk-free rate?



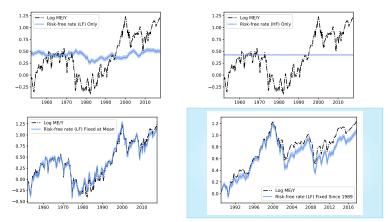
Notes: The figure exhibits the observed market equity-to-output series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the risk-free rate component. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952.Q1-2017.Q4.

• Shutting down either LF or HF component does little to model's ability to match **trend movements** in *py<sub>t</sub>*.



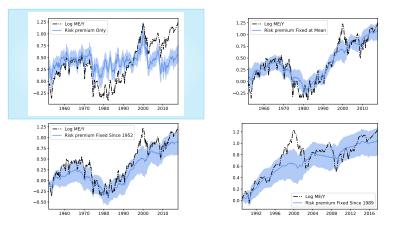
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• Modest role since 1989.



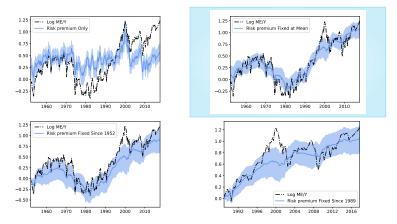
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Risk premium (*x<sub>t</sub>*) variation explains almost all of transitory booms & busts.



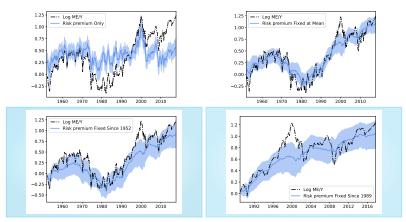
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### • Does *not* explain trend component.



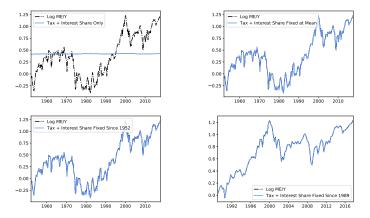
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• Small portion of increase in *ey*<sub>t</sub>, esp since 1989, explained by decline in risk premia.



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed market equity-to-output series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the risk premium component. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

• Tax & interest component explains negligible fraction of variation in *py*<sub>t</sub>.



Notes: The figure exhibits the observed market equity-to-output series along with the model-implied variation in the series attributable to the tax/interest component. The shaded areas surrounding each estimated component are 90% credible sets that take into account both parameter and latent state uncertainty. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

- Now quantify importance of different drives of equity values over time.
- Decompose total growth in equity values into *distinct component sources*.
- Parts attributable to a single source obtained by fixing all other components at their values at beginning of sample.
- Components sum to **100% of observed variation**: model + estimated latent components perfectly match time-series on  $py_t$  and  $\Delta y_t$ , over sample and **at each point in time**.

# • Market's rise: 54% since 1989 and 36% over full sample attributable to $s_{LF,t} + s_{HF,t}$ .

	Panel: Market Equity		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
Factor share (LF)	37.60%	16.57%	52.17%
Factor share (HF)	-1.89%	-5.23%	1.92%
Tax + Interest Share	0.49%	0.55%	0.54%
Risk premium	11.02%	4.75%	10.96%
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.47%	-8.91%	10.60%
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.12%
Real Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%

Notes: The table presents the growth decompositions for the real value of market equity (top panel) or the market equity-output ratio (bottom panel). The persistence parameter of the risk price is set to its baseline value of 0.85. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

# • Other components since 1989: much smaller roles, e.g., *r*<sub>*f*,*t*</sub>, risk premium.

	Panel: Market Equity		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
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### • Economic Growth contributes just 23% since 1989; 50% over full sample.

	Panel: Market Equity		
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Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
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### • **1952-1988**: Δ*y*<sub>t</sub> explained **92%** of market's rise. But...

	Panel: Market Equity		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
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• That **37 year period** created *less than half* wealth created in **29 years** since 1989.

	Panel: Market Equity		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
Factor share (LF)	37.60%	16.57%	52.17%
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Notes: The table presents the growth decompositions for the real value of market equity (top panel) or the market equity-output ratio (bottom panel). The persistence parameter of the risk price is set to its baseline value of 0.85. The sample spans the period 1952;Q1-2017;Q4.

## Growth Decompositions: Alternative $\phi_x$

•  $\phi_x = 0.9$ : Declining  $x_t$  explains 17% (rather than 11%) of market's rise.  $s_{LF,t} + s_{HF,t}$  explain 48% (vs. 54% baseline) since 1989 and 30% (vs. 36% baseline) over full sample.

	<b>Panel A: Market Equity</b> , $\phi_x = 0.80$			
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017	
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%	
Factor share (LF)	41.48%	21.16%	55.61%	
Factor share (HF)	-2.18%	-5.58%	1.65%	
Tax + Interest Share	0.48%	0.54%	0.53%	
Risk premium	7.54%	0.16%	8.20%	
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.38%	-8.55%	10.19%	
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.12%	
Real PC Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%	
	<b>Panel B: Market Equity</b> , $\phi_x = 0.90$			
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017	
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%	
Factor share (LF)	30.78%	10.14%	45.07%	
Factor share (HF)	-1.35%	-4.68%	2.45%	
Tax + Interest Share	0.49%	0.55%	0.54%	
Risk premium	17.18%	11.12%	16.99%	
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.58%	-9.40%	11.12%	
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.13%	
Real PC Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%	

Notes: The table presents the growth decompositions for market equity with persistence parameter of the risk price set to 0.80 (top panel) and set to 0.90 (bottom panel). The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

## Growth Decompositions: Alternative $\phi_x$

•  $\phi_x = 0.8$ : Declining  $x_t$  explains 8% (rather than 11%) of market's rise.  $s_{LF,t} + s_{HF,t}$  explain 57% (vs. 54% baseline) since 1989 and 39% (vs. 36% baseline) over full sample.

	<b>Panel A: Market Equity</b> , $\phi_x = 0.80$			
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017	
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%	
Factor share (LF)	41.48%	21.16%	55.61%	
Factor share (HF)	-2.18%	-5.58%	1.65%	
Tax + Interest Share	0.48%	0.54%	0.53%	
Risk premium	7.54%	0.16%	8.20%	
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.38%	-8.55%	10.19%	
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.12%	
Real PC Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%	
	<b>Panel B: Market Equity</b> , $\phi_x = 0.90$			
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017	
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%	
Factor share (LF)	30.78%	10.14%	45.07%	
Factor share (HF)	-1.35%	-4.68%	2.45%	
Tax + Interest Share	0.49%	0.55%	0.54%	
Risk premium	17.18%	11.12%	16.99%	
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.58%	-9.40%	11.12%	
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.13%	
Real PC Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%	

Notes: The table presents the growth decompositions for market equity with persistence parameter of the risk price set to 0.80 (top panel) and set to 0.90 (bottom panel). The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

## Conclusion and Summary

- Why has the market risen over the post-war period? Of importance to financial economists and long-term investors alike.
- We estimate **flexible parametric model** allows influence from several latent components, while **inferring values** components must have taken to explain the data.
- **Finding**: high returns to holding equity due in large part to good luck, attributable to string of shocks that reallocated rents toward shareholders away from workers.
- Realizations **added 2.1 percentage points** to mean log excess return, according to estimates (overstating risk premium by ≈ 50%).
- Factors share shocks account for most of market's rise since 1989; economic growth and other factors relatively little.
- For 37 years from 1952-1989, economic growth was king for the equity market.
- But that period was **comparatively lackluster for equity values**, generating less than half as much wealth as the 29 years since 1989.

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# Appendix

## Growth Decompositions: Representative Agent

	Panel: Representative Agent		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
Factor share (LF)	37.60%	16.57%	52.17%
Factor share (HF)	-1.89%	-5.23%	1.92%
Tax + Interest Share	0.49%	0.55%	0.54%
Risk premium	11.02%	4.75%	10.96%
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.47%	-8.91%	10.60%
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.12%
Real Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%
	Panel B: Baseline Model		
Contribution	1952-2017	1952-1988	1989-2017
Total	1381.05%	190.38%	394.03%
Factor share (LF)	37.60%	16.57%	52.17%
Factor share (HF)	-1.89%	-5.23%	1.92%
Tax + Interest Share	0.49%	0.55%	0.54%
Risk premium	11.02%	4.75%	10.96%
Risk-free rate (LF)	2.47%	-8.91%	10.60%
Risk-free rate (HF)	0.09%	0.02%	0.12%
Real Output Growth	50.22%	92.25%	23.69%

Notes: The table presents the growth decompositions for the real value of market equity. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

## Parameter Estimates: Representative Agent

	Parameter Estimates Mode		
Variable	Parameter	Rep. Agent	Baseline Model
Risk Price Mean	x	56.3120	4.4832
Risk Price Vol.	$\sigma_x$	47.8386	3.8086
Risk-Free Rate Mean	$\overline{r}_{f}$	0.0023	0.0023
Risk-Free (HF) Pers.	$\phi_{delta,HF}$	0.1587	0.1587
Risk-Free (HF) Vol.	$\sigma_{delta,HF}$	0.0019	0.0019
Risk-Free (LF) Pers.	$\phi_{delta,LF}$	0.9321	0.9321
Risk-Free (LF) Vol.	$\sigma_{delta,LF}$	0.0015	0.0680
Factor Share (HF) Pers.	$\phi_{s,HF}$	0.9250	0.9250
Factor Share (HF) Vol.	$\sigma_{s,HF}$	0.0680	0.0633
Factor Share (LF) Pers.	$\phi_{s,LF}$	0.9997	0.9997
Factor Share (LF) Vol.	$\sigma_{s,LF}$	0.0179	0.0179
Tax + Interest Share Pers.	φz	0.9545	0.9545
Tax + Interest Vol.	$\sigma_Z$	0.0041	0.0041
Productivity Vol.	$\sigma_a$	0.0160	0.0160

Notes: The table reports parameter estimates from the posterior distribution. The sample spans the period 1952:Q1-2017:Q4.

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