# Macroeconomic Interventions during Covid-19

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# Your 3rd Quarter outside of Stanford....

#### Covid 19 ⇒ Toughest Dilemmas for Policy Makers

- ⋆ First-time in modern history
  - · Macroeconomist: think about life vs. economy
  - · Tough challenge: minimize impact

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#### For you ⇒ Life changing event

- \* Big opportunities
- \* But also, great gamble
- \* ...and btw, policy determines winners and losers

### POLICY DISCUSSIONS

Sanitation Policy + Individual Fear ⇒ Suppression of Sales in Certain Sectors

- \* Let's think of macroeconomic policy as subordinate to sanitation policy...
- \* Huge sectoral impact:
  - · Supply restrictions: social-contact production (food-plants)
  - · Demand restrictions: social-prone consumption (services, travel)

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#### Role of Macro-Stabilization

- \* Avoid collapse in consumer+investment demand
  - · avoid spill-over to non-social sectors
- \* Avoid losing economy's intangible capital
  - · jobs are hard to create! teams are hard to build!
  - but also firm relations, investments in R&D, etc.
- Improve social insurance

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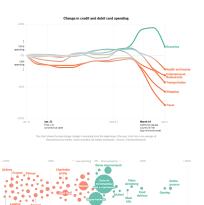
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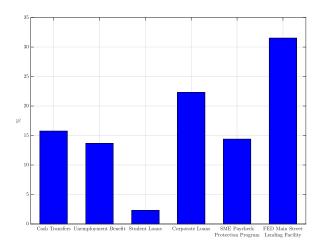
Role of Macro-Stabilization  $\Longrightarrow$  How to get there?

# SECTORAL RE-ORGANIZATION

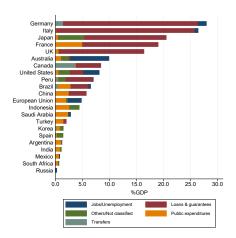
Reuters (APRIL 13, 2020): Amazon to add 100,000 positions and adding new jobs



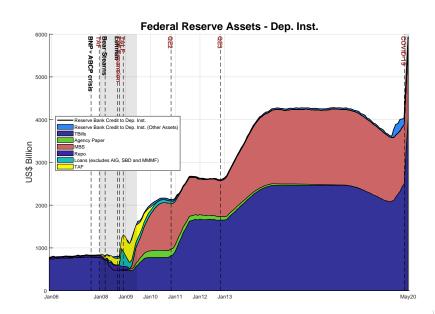
# CARES ACT IN THE US



# **CROSS-COUNTRY RESPONSES**



# FED BALANCE SHEET



### REST OF PRESENTATION

Conceptual framework to think of Monetary Policy ⇒ Based on Accounting/Corporate Finance

- \* I will just use "descriptive" T-accounts
- $\star$  explain process of monetary creation
  - · monetarism to the vein!

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#### Describe what the Fed has done $\Longrightarrow$ Get a sense of scale

- \* Present some evidence that this helps
- \* Discuss some difficult choices...

# **OUTLINE FOR SECTION 2**

1 Environment Underlying Environment

# VALUE CREATION FROM FINANCE

A world of property rights...

★ What is the social value of finance?

# VALUE CREATION FROM FINANCE

#### A world of property rights...

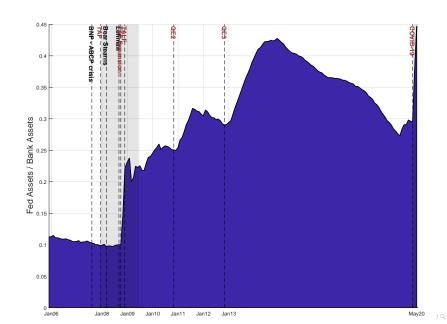
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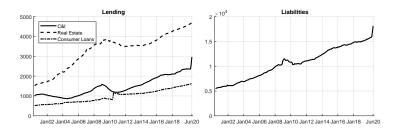
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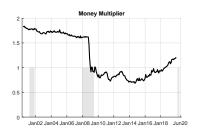
- ★ What is the social value of finance?
- \* How does finance promote economic activity?
- ⋆ What is Money creation?

# FED BALANCE SHEET



# BANKING IS WORKING A BIT...





# MAIN TAKEAWAY

Fed stimulates credit ⇒ via process of money creation

\* Essential to stabilize the economy

# **CHALLANGES**

Fed is taking on risk  $\Longrightarrow$ 

★ Who will pay for that?

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Fed is printing money (reserves)  $\Longrightarrow$ 

\* Is that inflationary?

# MORE CHALLENGES

#### Missing Sectoral Aspects $\Longrightarrow$

- \* Bank System: credit policy channeled through banks
  - · how can we guarantee they lend out?
  - · capital injections
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#### Key Economic Aspects ⇒

- \* Moral Hazard
  - · how can we guarantee Fed buys best assets?
- \* How are we gonna pay for all of this?