# Comments on "Interest Rate Shocks and the Composition of Sovereign Debt" by Eugenia Gonzalez-Aguado

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# Summary

- Motivations
  - Coexistence of domestic and external debt

- Model features
  - Endogenous debt
  - Endogenous default
  - Financially constrained domestic banks

#### Mechanism

- Smaller default incentive for domestic debt
  - Bank capital damaged (-> lose election)
  - (banks also want to avoid default -> negotiation?)

- Issuing domestic debt
  - Lower finance cost (: smaller default p)
  - Crowding out K (banks choose B or K)

# **Impressions**

- Neat
  - Perspective
  - Parsimonious
  - Insightful

### Comment 1

- What is domestic debt?
  - Bonds owned by domestic banks
  - Do NOT foreign investors invest in bonds denominated in the domestic currency?

#### Comment 2

Does domestic debt crowd out K/I?

- In Japan, loan demand is weak.
  - Shifts to bond holding
  - Rather, crowding in?
    - Domestic debt -> gov spending

- IS balance (net lending) in the private sector
  - Not just financial development

#### **Minor Comments 3**

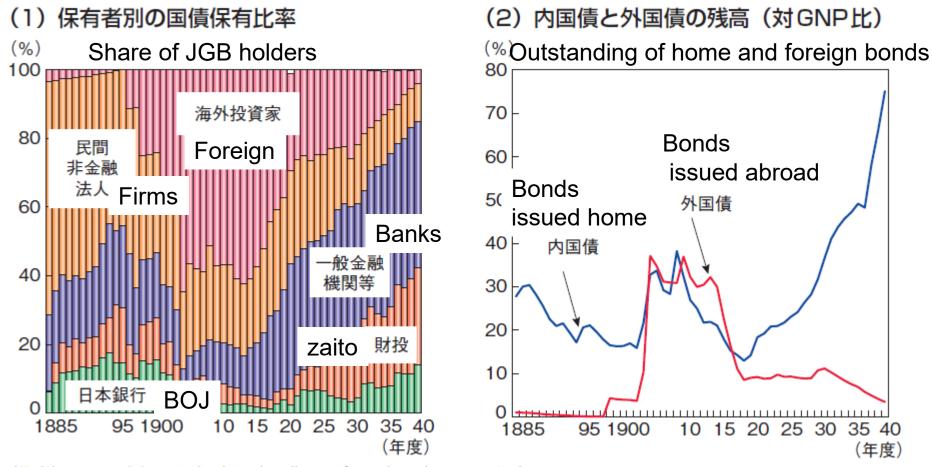
 What differs from Arellano, Atkeson, and Wright (2016)

Should't be negative?

$$G + \delta_t \lambda B_t + \delta_t^* \lambda B_t^* = \tau_t w_t L_t + \delta_t q_t \left( B_{t+1} + (1 - \lambda) B_t \right) + \delta_t^* q_t \left( B_{t+1}^* + (1 - \lambda) B_t^* \right), \tag{14}$$

## Foreign Investors' Share: Back to History

End of 19<sup>th</sup> century to pre WWII コラム1-8図 19世紀末から第二次世界大戦前までの国債保有比率



(備考) 大川・高松・山本 (1974)、藤野・寺西 (2000) により作成。

Source: Cabinet Office "Annual Report on the Japanese Economy and Public Finance" (2013)