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**Strategic Complementarity,
Nominal Rigidity and
the Non-Neutrality of Money**

Ernst Fehr / Jean-Robert Tyran

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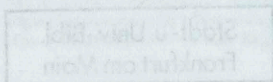
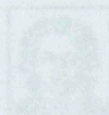
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Strategic Complementarity, Nominal Rigidity and the Non-Neutrality of Money*

Ernst Fehr** and Jean-Robert Tyran***

September 1998

Abstract: This paper examines whether an exogenous anticipated monetary shock causes real economic effects, i.e. whether anticipated money is neutral. A major finding is that an *anticipated* monetary shock can in fact be massively non-neutral in the short-run, if the economic environment is characterized by strategic complementarity. If the environment is characterized by strategic substitutability, anticipated monetary shocks are largely neutral.

Keywords: Strategic complementarity, experimental economics, behavioral macro-economics

JEL classification: C92, E32, E52

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Introduction

"The work for which I have received the Nobel Prize was part of an effort to understand how changes in the conduct of monetary policy can influence inflation, employment, and production. So much thought has been devoted to this question and so much evidence is available that one might reasonably assume that it had been solved long ago. But this is not the case: It had not been solved in the 1970s when I began my work on it, and even now the question has not been given anything like a fully satisfactory answer."

ROBERT E. LUCAS JR. (1996: 661)

Do changes in the quantity of money affect real economic activity? Why do such monetary non-neutralities arise? These questions are central to economics at least since DAVID HUME's (1752) contributions. Despite the immense amount of theoretical and empirical literature that has been produced since, different explanations persist, and the question is still open to debate. Abrupt and massive reductions in the quantity of money are claimed to be responsible for severe depressions (BERNANKE and CAREY, 1996 or ROMER and ROMER, 1989) even if the monetary contraction is anticipated (BALL, 1991). On the other hand, various authors contest this view. They claim that money is neutral as long as a monetary shock is fully *anticipated* by economic agents (e.g. LUCAS, 1972; SARGENT, 1976). Some researchers of the real business cycle-school deny even that money is of any importance for business cycle fluctuations.

The purpose of this paper is twofold: First, we want to test the proposition that an anticipated monetary shock does not have real economic effects. Second, if a monetary shock in fact does have real economic effects, we want to isolate the causes of monetary non-neutrality. As will be argued below, experimental methods provide a suitable tool for this purpose. Following theoretical work by HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN (1985, 1989, 1991) and BOMFIM and DIEBOLD (1997), we test the hypothesis that money should be non-neutral when the environment is characterized by strategic complementarity, but should be largely neutral when it is characterized by strategic substitutes.

The paper is structured as follows: Section 1 briefly discusses problems of empirical work with field data and advantages of experimental methods for our examination. Section 2 mentions leading theories of nominal rigidity, and provides an intuitive account of HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN's theory. Section 3 presents the experimental design, and section 4 discusses the results of our experimental study.

1. Empirical vs. experimental methods in monetary macroeconomics

This section argues that there may be substantial mismeasurement in macroeconomic aggregates and that this kind of mismeasurement matters for the question of monetary neutrality (A). Fundamental problems of isolating causality in monetary economics are discussed (B). It is argued that experimental methods have several advantages over empirical investigations with macroeconomic field data (C).

A) Mismeasurement matters

Often it is difficult to decide in empirical work, which variables to observe at all. One reason for this is that macroeconomic variables are in general aggregate variables which cannot be observed directly, but have to be constructed using data from different sources. Prominent examples of this kind of problems are *price indices*. SHAPIRO and WILCOX (1996) discuss the probable amount of mismeasurement in the consumer price index (CPI) in the U.S. They find that the upward bias of the CPI is centered on *1 percentage point per year*. However, the extent of this bias is not known exactly (see MOULTON, 1996 for a survey). Since price indices are important for the calculation of real quantities from observed or constructed nominal quantities their mismeasurement may also affect the conclusions about the real effects of monetary shocks.

BELONGIA (1996) provides a striking example of how sensitive conclusions in monetary economics may be with respect to measurement problems. Specifically, he discusses how inferences about the effects of money on economic activity may depend importantly on the choice of *monetary indices*. BELONGIA replicates five studies concerning the quantification of monetary shocks, the symmetry of money's effect on output, the relationship between money and the business cycle, and money-income causality.³ In four of the five cases, the qualitative inference in the original study is reversed when a simple-sum monetary aggregate is replaced by a Divisia index of the same asset collection. BELONGIA's study indicates that the potential scientific gains of empirical methods that rest on unambiguous measures of money may be quite high.

B) Problems of isolating causalities

Why is the debate between real business cycle theory, which poses that anticipated monetary disturbances have no real effects, and Keynesian theories, which claim that such disturbances have important effects on output, so difficult to decide on empirical grounds? (ROMER, 1996: 232-6). Why can we not just regress real GNP on M1 with different lags? The problem is that regressions

3. The replicated studies are: ROTEMBERG (1993), COVER (1992), KYDLAND and PRESCOTT (1990), FRIEDMAN and KUTTNER (1992), and STOCK and WATSON (1989) versus FRIEDMAN and KUTTNER (1993).

of this kind do not provide any evidence in favor of monetary theories and against real theories.

First, a major difficulty in testing empirically for the monetary effects on real economic activity is that the money supply not only influences economic activity but also is influenced by it in turn. This *reverse causation* may happen (as argued by KING and PLOSSER, 1984) because of shifts in money demand stemming from changes in firms' and households' production plans. As a result, we may see changes in the money stock in advance of output movements even if the changes in money are not causing the output movements. In this case lagged money will help predict output even if it does not affect it (for an early discussion see TOBIN, 1970; COLEMAN, 1996).⁴

Second, monetary policy may interact with movements in other aggregates. Suppose monetary authorities adjust the money stock to try to offset other factors that influence aggregate output. If this monetary policy intervention proves to be successful (because it has real effects), we will observe movements in money but not in output. Similarly, suppose fiscal and monetary policies are coordinated (e.g. both are expansionary). In this case we may observe a strong correlation between movements in money and output, even if money has no effect on real economic activity at all. Just as we cannot conclude from the positive correlation between money and output that money causes output, if we fail to observe such a correlation we cannot conclude that money does not cause output.

Third, financial innovations and deregulation of financial markets in the last two decades may have led to large shifts in money demand. If monetary authorities do not adjust money supply to these demand disturbances we may observe correlations between money and output. As a result of such money demand shifts, the estimated relationship between money and output is very sensitive to such matters as the sample period and the measure of money.

ROMER (1996) concludes from these problems that even more sophisticated statistical analyses of the association of money and real variables cannot provide strong evidence concerning the relative merits of monetary and real theories of fluctuations. One way to arrive at meaningful empirical evidence is to look for "natural experiments". An example of this approach is provided by FRIEDMAN and SCHWARTZ (1963) who claim to be able to identify exogenous changes in the

4. To give an example of nonsensical results one can arrive at, when blindly using statistical causality tests, consider the following question (after PINDYK and RUBINFELD, 1991: 218f.): Which came first: The chicken or the egg? THURMAN and FISHER (1988) have finally shed some light on this issue by using causality tests. They use annual data on two variables: total U.S. production of eggs from 1930 to 1983 and total U.S. production of chickens. To conclude that one of the two "came first", it is necessary to find unidirectional causality, i.e. to reject the noncausality of one to the other and at the same time fail to reject the noncausality of the other to the one. Using different lags, the authors obtained a clear rejection of the hypothesis that eggs do not cause chickens, but were unable to reject the hypothesis that chickens do not cause eggs. Thus they were able to conclude that the egg came first!

money stock on the basis of historical analyses. Yet, this claim critically depends on the exogeneity of the money change, which can not be proven beyond doubt in naturally occurring economies.

C) Why use experimental methods?

In laboratory experiments we observe the behavior of real people which are exposed to real economic incentives in a controlled environment (see DAVIS and HOLT, 1993 or FRIEDMAN and SUNDER, 1994 for an introduction to experimental economics). What can experiments contribute to the debate on the neutrality of money? In what respect do experimental investigations have advantages over empirical investigations with field data? An obvious advantage consists in *correct measurement* of endogenous variables like prices and real economic activity. In addition, experiments allow to gather data which are crucial for many economic theories but cannot be directly observed in the field. In our context *expectation data* are especially valuable. The second important advantage of the experimental method is *control over the environment and the information conditions*: Truly *exogenous* monetary shock can be implemented and the theoretical equilibrium values of the economy under study are known. Therefore, we can differentiate between equilibrium and out-of-equilibrium realizations of endogenous variables when we observe the behavior of the economy. In addition, we control what economic agents know about their economic environment and about the information at the disposition of other agents. This allows to implement an anticipated monetary shock, where one can be sure that every agent knows how she and everybody else is affected by this change in the quantity of money. Furthermore, experimental methods allow to implement the conditions stipulated in a theory. This allows to actually *test the behavioral predictions of a theory*.

Finally, experiments allow to establish *causal relations* through controlled *ceteris paribus* variations of the decision environment. By changing only one aspect of the environment and by comparing behavior in the respective treatments we can argue that this change in behavior must have been caused by the change in the economic environment.

2. Theories of nominal rigidity and the non-neutrality of money

At present, three important theoretical approaches try to account for nominal rigidities and, thus, the non-neutrality of money. First, New Keynesian theories explain nominal rigidities as arising from fully rational agents, acting in markets with small nominal frictions and imperfect competition. Well-known examples of this literature are collected in MANKIWI and ROMER (1991). A second approach follows the pioneering work of LUCAS (1972) and argues that in an economy

with fully rational agents money can be non-neutral if agents do not have full information about the monetary shock. In this line of thinking, the distinction between anticipated and unanticipated changes in the money stock is crucial: If a monetary shock is anticipated, money is neutral.⁵

The third approach relaxes the assumption of perfectly rational agents. This literature analyzes the implications of small deviations from full rationality of few agents. Pioneers in this field are AKERLOF and YELLEN (1985a, 1985b, 1987) and HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN (1985, 1989, 1991) who show that a small relaxation of the assumption of full rationality can have a large impact on aggregate outcomes. BOMFIM and DIEBOLD (1997) complement the analysis by HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN by a dynamic aggregative model with both real and nominal shocks.

2.1. Bounded Rationality, Strategic Complements and Substitutes

Since our experiment is directly related to the theory of HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN we provide in the following an intuitive account of their approach. If the strategic environment is characterized by strategic complementarity anticipated monetary shocks have large real effects in the presence of *few* boundedly rational agents. If the environment is characterized by strategic substitutability anticipated monetary shocks are largely neutral even if some agents are boundedly rational. In the context of a price setting game strategic complementarity prevails if an increase in the general price level leads an optimizing firm to increase its own price. Strategic substitutability corresponds to the case where an increase in the general price level leads the firm instead to decrease its price. OH and WALDMAN (1984) claim that important features of macroeconomies can be captured by the concept of strategic complementarity. Examples include monopolistic price competition, increasing returns of scale in production, search in labor markets, and the Keynesian multiplier.⁶

The intuition behind the results of HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN (1985, 1989) can be illustrated in a simple two-player pricing game. Consider first the benchmark case of monetary neutrality. Suppose that the rationality of both players is common knowledge. What happens, when the quantity of money M is halved? Both players cut their nominal prices P_i and P_j by 50% and sell

5. "The main finding that emerged from the research of the 1970s is that anticipated changes and unanticipated changes in money growth have very different effects. Anticipated monetary expansions ... are *not* associated with the kind of stimulus to employment and production that HUME described. Unanticipated monetary expansions, on the other hand, can stimulate production as, symmetrically, unanticipated contractions can induce depressions." LUCAS (1996: 679)

6. See COOPER and HALTIWANGER (1993) for evidence on strategic complementarity in naturally occurring economies.

the same amount of goods as before. The same would have happened in a situation of strategic substitutes. That is, the same response occurs *irrespective* of the strategic properties of the economic environment.

Assume the same initial situation as before, but now player j is irrational and does, therefore, not adjust his nominal price. Player i knows this. Assume that strategic complementarity prevails. The reduction of the money supply by 50% increases j 's real price $p_j = P_j/M$ by 100%. Due to strategic complementarity player i , who is fully rational, will also want to increase her real price $p_i = P_i/M$ and therefore *not* cut her nominal price by 50%, but by less. Thus, under conditions of strategic complementarity the fully rational agents partially *imitate* the boundedly rational agents which gives the latter a *disproportionately large impact on the aggregate* price level.

What happens if a fully rational and an irrational player interact under conditions of strategic substitutes? In this case the rational player i responds to the increase in j 's real price by reducing p_i below the previous level. That is, i will cut her nominal price by *more* than 50%. Hence, under conditions of strategic substitutes, the fully rational actors partially *compensate* the behavior of the boundedly rational ones which gives the latter a *disproportionately small impact on the aggregate* outcome. Finally, suppose that both players are rational, but both (counterfactually) *believe* that the other one is boundedly rational. In this case i expects that j will not change his nominal price (which corresponds to an increase in the real price). Under conditions of strategic complementarity i will, hence, increase her real price. At the same time, j expects that i will not change her nominal price which induces j to cut his price by less than 50%. As a result, the aggregate price level exhibits nominal rigidity and leads to the non-neutrality of money. This example indicates that the absence of common knowledge of rationality may be sufficient for the non-neutrality of money if strategic complementarity prevails.⁷

3. Experimental Design

3.1. General description of the experimental design

To study the impact of nominal shocks on the adjustment of nominal prices we implemented a pricing game. There were two treatment conditions, a strategic substitutes treatment and a strategic complements treatment. Each subject in our experiment was a member of a group of $n = 4$ players. In each period of the experiment every group member i had to choose a nominal price P_i . The real payoff of agent i was given by $\pi_i(P_i, \bar{P}_{-i}, M)$, where \bar{P}_{-i} denotes the average price of the other three group members, while M is the nominal shock variable (the money supply). The nominal payoff of agent i was given by $\bar{P}_{-i}\pi_i$. The real payoff functions had the following properties:

1. Homogeneity of degree zero in all three variables,
2. Unique maximizer P_i for every \bar{P}_{-i} .

According to the implemented payoff functions there was a unique and Pareto-efficient equilibrium for every M . It was possible to find the equilibrium solution by iterated elimination of weakly dominated strategies. Moreover, the equilibrium was the only Pareto-efficient point in the feasible price range which was given by the integers [1, 30]. Since π_i is homogeneous of degree zero the impact of a change in M on the equilibrium values of P_i and \bar{P}_{-i} is straightforward. A fully anticipated change λM ($\lambda > 0, \lambda \neq 1$), changes P_i and \bar{P}_{-i} to λP_i and $\lambda \bar{P}_{-i}$ for all i . Thus, all nominal variables change equiproportionately while the real payoffs remain unaffected. According to the rational expectations approach the change in nominal prices should occur instantaneously. Notice that this holds irrespective of the strategic environment. In contrast, the HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN-hypothesis predicts a slow adjustment of nominal prices under strategic

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7. KEYNES (1936: 156) speculated that the market value of assets on financial markets may become unhinged of "fundamentals" and become dependent on free-floating expectations: "... professional investment may be likened to those newspaper competitions in which the competitors have to pick out the six prettiest faces from a hundred photographs, the prize being awarded to the competitor whose choice most nearly corresponds to the average preferences of the competitors as a whole; so that each competitor has to pick, not those faces which he himself finds the prettiest, but those which he thinks likeliest to catch the fancy of the other competitors, all of whom are looking at the problem from the same point of view. It is not the case of choosing those which, to the best of one's judgment, are really the prettiest, nor even those which the average opinion genuinely thinks the prettiest. We have reached the third degree where we devote our intelligences to anticipating what average opinion expects the average opinion to be. And there are some, I believe, who practice the fourth, fifth and higher degrees."

This chain of argumentation is analogous to the „Gang of Four“ explanation of cooperation in finitely repeated prisoners dilemma situation (KREPS et al. 1982): The authors aim at explaining how cooperation can arise even if all agents are selfish profit maximizers. The authors suggest a possible rescue of standard theory by putting the bound on uncertainty about the rationality of other agents instead of rationality itself. They assume that, although both agents in fact are unboundedly rational, one player thinks the other might be boundedly rational. The absence of common knowledge of rationality is enough to induce cooperation with the usual rationality assumptions.

complements, while under strategic substitutes nominal adjustment should be faster.

3.2. Experimental procedures and parameters

Each group of four participated in a pricing game that lasted 40 periods. During the first 20 periods we implemented payoff functions with M_0 . After period 20 the nominal shock variable was changed to $M_1 = M_0/3$ (see *Table 1* for a summary of all major parameters and design features). In each group there were two types of agents. Agents of type x had a payoff function that implied the choice of relatively low prices in equilibrium. Before the shock their equilibrium choice was $P_{0x} = 9$; after the shock their equilibrium choice was at $P_{1x} = 3$. The payoff function of type y agents implied equilibrium prices of $P_{0y} = 27$ before, and of $P_{1y} = 9$ after the shock. Since in each group there were two agents of type x and two of type y , the overall average price was $\bar{P}_0 = 18$ in the pre-shock equilibrium and $\bar{P}_1 = 6$ in the post-shock equilibrium. In each of the 40 periods subjects had to choose a nominal price P_i . In addition, they had to provide an expectation about \bar{P}_{-i}^e together with an indication of the subjective confidence in their expectation. To indicate confidence, they had to choose a number from 1 to 6 where 1 was an indication that this subject is not all confident about the precision of her expectation, while 6 indicated absolute confidence about the precision of \bar{P}_{-i}^e . At the end of a period each subject i was informed about the realization of \bar{P}_{-i} and about the real payoff π_i .

* Insert *Table 1* about here *

An important design feature concerns subjects' information about payoff functions. Payoffs were represented in matrix form (see appendix for payoff tables) where each column shows $\Pi_i(P_i, \bar{P}_{-i}, M)$ for a given value of \bar{P}_{-i} . It was thus relatively easy to determine the best reply for any expected \bar{P}_{-i}^e -value (see shaded cells⁸). Each subject of type x (y) also received the payoff tables for subjects of type y (x). Since this was publicly known, payoff functions were common knowledge.

Payoff tables A1 to A4, show nominal payoffs for agents of type y in the case of strategic complementarity and strategic substitutes, respectively. To calculate real payoffs π_i , subjects had to divide ('deflate') nominal payoffs by \bar{P}_{-i} (the 'price level'). Note that except for the slope of the best reply function the structure of payoffs is the same. For a given \bar{P}_{-i} the payoff function is sym-

8. Since the feasible prices were the integers in the interval [1, 30] subjects received a 30 by 30 matrix. Of course, the subjects were given tables without shaded cells.

metric and bell-shaped, and the payoff-steps are the same.⁹ The equilibrium values are the *same* in both treatments. In the tables shown, prae-shock equilibrium is at a price of $P_i^* = 27$ and an average price of $\bar{P}_{-i}^* = 15$. As can be seen, the reaction function is “flattened” around the equilibrium to make equilibrium play more stable.

At the end of period 20, we implement the change in the quantity of money by distributing new payoff tables (see Tables A2 and A4, respectively). We told subjects that everything else remained unchanged, specifically group composition. This was common knowledge, and the monetary shock was thus fully anticipated. Subjects were given enough time to study the new payoff tables (10 minutes in total) and to decide on the prices they want to set in period 21. All tables given to subjects show payoffs represented in nominal terms. Subjects were instructed how to deflate (they had to solve several exercises before the experiment and were all equipped with a pocket calculator). Our experimental subjects had presumably above average skills and were probably more apt to perform divisions, and thus less prone to behave boundedly rational than the average person in the population. After having checked that all subjects answered the control questions correctly we read the summary page aloud to let the subjects know that everyone received the same instructions.

9. The property that the profit function is symmetric in P_i cannot be seen very easily. This is so because we used a continuous profit function which may have its maximum for a given \bar{P}_{-i} at a non-integer P_i . Since we show only (rounded) profits for integer prices, it is not obvious that we in fact hold the shape of the profit function constant and just shift its maximum to higher prices for i at higher values of \bar{P}_{-i} (see appendix).

4. Experimental results

In total, 23 groups consisting of four subjects participated in our experiment. 11 groups played the pricing game under conditions of strategic complements, 12 groups played the pricing game in the substitutes treatment. Subjects were paid sFr. 15 (approx. US\$12) for showing up. Average total earnings were around sFr. 35 (approx. US\$28). Subjects were paid out immediately after the session which lasted 90 minutes on average.

4.1. Main results

Figure 1 shows the evolution of nominal average prices of the median group¹⁰ over time. As can be seen, in both treatments nominal prices are very close to the theoretical prediction $\bar{P}_0^* = 18$ throughout the last three periods before the shock. However, after the shock we observe massive nominal inertia in the complements treatment while prices in the substitutes treatment jump to the new equilibrium prediction of $\bar{P}_1^* = 6$. Obviously, the strategic property has a large and systematic effect on the degree of nominal rigidity.¹¹

* Insert Figure 1 about here *

A similar picture emerges when we look at the percentage of subjects who choose exactly their equilibrium price (see figure 2). Before the shock the percentage of equilibrium choices is slightly higher in the complements treatment. Yet, in period 21 there is a large drop in this percentage in the complements treatment while in the substitutes treatment there is only a minor decrease. Thus, the anticipated shock seems to have acted as a disequilibrating force in the complements treatment. For example, it takes 15 periods until this treatment effect vanishes. The percentage of subjects who choose equilibrium prices in the complements treatment rises from 11% in period 21 to 80% in period 40. This fact is an indication of the convergence process to equilibrium.

* Insert Figure 2 about here *

10. Note that the identity of the median group may change from period to period.

11. A median test of the null hypothesis that overall average prices across 5 periods are the same in both treatments yields the following results: Before the shock we cannot reject this hypothesis at the 5%-level. After the shock, we can reject this hypothesis for periods 21-25, 26-30, 31-35 at the 5%-level. We cannot reject the hypothesis for periods 36-40.

The treatment effect can also be seen when looking at the distribution of individual prices in periods 20 and 21. *Figure 3* shows these distributions for subjects of type y . Before the shock almost all subjects play the equilibrium of $P_{0y} = 27$ in both treatments. After the shock there are only few individuals in the complements treatment who jump to the new equilibrium value of $P_{1y} = 9$, and the whole distribution is *above* the equilibrium. In contrast, the post-shock distribution in the substitutes treatment is very different. Most individuals jump directly to the new equilibrium. Moreover, most of those who do not play the equilibrium *overadjust* their nominal prices. Under the assumption that subjects play best replies to their expected \bar{P}_{-i} this data pattern suggests that in the complements treatment the majority of subjects expects the other group members to choose nominal prices above the equilibrium whereas in the substitutes treatment the majority expects equilibrium play of other group members. Furthermore, if some agents expect other group members not to adjust nominal prices sufficiently, the rational response is to choose nominal prices above equilibrium in the complements treatment, but nominal prices below equilibrium in the substitutes treatment. This prediction of the HALTIWANGER and WALDMAN-theory receives confirmation in the data.

* Insert *Figure 3* about here *

Table 2 shows the number of groups who had average prices above, in, or below equilibrium over 5 period-intervals. The impression of *figure 3* is reconfirmed at the group level. Over time more equilibrium play is observed in both treatments. The data reveals that convergence to equilibrium is from above in the complements treatment. Note that there is only one observation below equilibrium over the 20 periods after the shock in the complements treatment, whereas subjects frequently choose prices below equilibrium in the substitutes treatment. For example, in the complements treatment in periods 21 - 25 no group was below the equilibrium whereas there are 51 observations above the equilibrium.

* Insert *Table 2* about here *

How did the money supply shock affect real incomes? *Figures 4* and *5* provide the answer to this question. *Figure 4* displays the average real income losses of subjects as a percentage of the real equilibrium payoff. As can be seen, average losses were close to zero in both treatments before the shock. After the shock losses occur in both treatments. They are, however, much larger

and last longer in the complements treatment. In period 21 the average efficiency loss amounts to 65% in the complements treatment while in the substitutes treatment it is only 18%. In period 24 the difference is still substantial (27% versus 9%). In periods 21 to 30 aggregate efficiency losses in the substitutes treatment are only 40% of those in the complements treatment. *Figure 5* depicts the evolution of the real efficiency loss of the median group loss over time. This figure shows an even more impressive treatment effect. Whereas only minor median losses occurred in the substitutes treatment, the median loss in the complements treatment is substantial and lasts for 10 periods. In our view, these results provide evidence against the view that anticipated monetary shocks do not have real effects irrespective of the strategic environment. The data show that the strategic environment is indeed a key factor and that massive non-neutrality of money prevails under strategic complementarity.

4.2. Best reply behavior

In principle monetary shocks can be non-neutral due to subjects who do not play best replies after the shock. The near rationality approach of AKERLOF and YELLEN (1985a, 1985b) derives the non-neutrality of money from this behavioral hypothesis. Although in the context of our experiment it was rather simple to detect the best reply to any given \bar{P}_{-i}^e it may still be possible that the shock induces some subjects to deviate from best reply behavior. Since for a given subjective price expectation best reply behavior is independent of strategic interaction, we interpret best reply behavior as an *indicator of individual rationality*. In our present experiment, conditions were not favorable for near-rational behavior. Agents incurred significant losses of at least 25% of their best reply payoff if they made an error of $\Delta P = \pm 2$, which certainly are not of second order. One may speculate whether under conditions which favor 'near-rational' behavior (i.e. deviations from optimality lead to *small* losses) this kind of behavior would have considerable repercussions on the aggregate.

Figure 6 shows the percentage of subjects who play best reply to their subjective expectation of \bar{P}_{-i}^e . Before the shock between 80 and 90 percent of the subjects choose best replies. Note that the percentage is even higher in the complements treatment. After the shock the percentage of best replies drops for three periods from roughly 90% to approximately 70% in the complements treatment. In the substitutes treatment, however, there is no such drop – the percentage even increases after the shock. From period 24 onwards best reply behavior is again very similar in both treatments.

* Insert *Figure 6* about here *

Despite the differences that occur immediately after the shock the hypothesis of no treatment differences cannot be rejected in any period after the shock at the 5% level.¹²

4.3. Expectations

Price expectations were quite precise before the shock, as can be seen in *figure 7*. In the periods after the shock, behavior seems to be much more difficult to predict. In the complements treatment the percentage of subjects holding exactly correct expectations drops from almost 80% before the shock to 5%, and only slowly catches up to pre-shock levels. Only 15 periods after the shock the percentage of correct expectations exceeds the pre-shock level. In the substitutes treatment the post-shock decrease in the percentage of correct expectations is much smaller. Moreover, already after four periods pre-shock levels are again reached. It seems that the monetary shock causes much larger expectational errors in the complements treatment.

* Insert *Figure 8* about here *

Agents also had to indicate, how confident they were that their price expectation would be correct by choosing an integer from 1 to 6.¹³ Subjects' confidence in their expectation \bar{P}_{-i}^e can be taken as an indicator of the subjective belief that \bar{P}_{-i}^e will actually be the realization. The confidence rank is therefore a rough measure of how much probability mass subjects put on \bar{P}_{-i}^e . As can be seen from *figure 8*, average confidence (the subjective measure) qualitatively tracks the percentage of actually correct predictions (the objective measure, compare *figure 7*). Note the breakdown of average confidence caused by the *announcement* of the monetary shock from almost 5.5 to about 3. This reduction in subjects' confidence is less pronounced in the substitutes treatment than in the complements treatment. Moreover, it takes 16 periods until the confidence in the complements treatment catches up with the confidence in the substitutes treatment. This suggests that subjects perceived more uncertainty in the complements treatment.

12. According to a Mann-Whitney-U-test (5%, 2tailed) that uses the median deviation from the best reply in each group as the unit of observation. Due to some large outliers the median deviation is a better measure than the mean deviation.

13. 6 indicates "I am very confident that my expectation on the average price will be correct", whereas 1 indicates "I am not at all confident that my expectation on the average price will be correct".

4.4. Loss decomposition

Our data about subjects' expectations and best reply behavior allow to examine the sources of the observed efficiency losses. For this purpose losses are decomposed into three categories: 1. Losses that arise from wrong predictions of \bar{P}_{-i} , 2. Losses from a failure to play best reply to \bar{P}_{-i}^e , and 3. Losses from an aggregate demand externality.

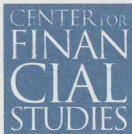
* Insert *Figure 9* about here *

Suppose an agent i expects an average price of \bar{P}_{-i}^e which gives rise to the payoff function $\pi_i(P_i, \bar{P}_{-i}^e, M)$ (see left parabola in *figure 9*). Denote the best reply to \bar{P}_{-i}^e by $P_i(\bar{P}_{-i}^e)$. Suppose that agent i is not fully rational for some reason and chooses a price P_i which is not a best reply on her expectation. Therefore, if her expectation turns out to be correct, this agent will get a lower payoff (compare points C and D in the diagram). Now suppose that agent i 's expectation is not correct, and that an average price of \bar{P}_{-i} materializes. This gives rise to the bold faced payoff function $\pi_i(P_i, \bar{P}_{-i}, M)$. If agent i had the correct expectation and plays the best reply to this expectation, she receives a profit indicated by point B. In fact, however, she gets a lower payoff indicated by point E because she chooses P_i . The loss she incurs (B - E) can be partially attributed to the failure to play best reply (C - D), partially on her failure to correctly predict the average price [(B - E) - (C - D)]. Finally, suppose that the actual average price \bar{P}_{-i} is not equal to the equilibrium price \bar{P}_{-i}^* . In equilibrium, agent i would have made a payoff illustrated by point A. The best a fully rational agent can do when the actual average price is \bar{P}_{-i} is to reach a profit indicated by point B, which is smaller than the one in point A. The difference A - B does not arise because the agent made some mistake, but because *other* agents choose prices that are not in equilibrium. They thus constitute an aggregate demand externality.¹⁴

14. In our experiment the losses from aggregate demand externality are relatively small by construction of the decision matrix. The maximum possible loss (after the shock) from the aggregate demand externality is 55% of equilibrium profits for agents of type x and 60% for agents of type y . Since the equilibrium is efficient, these losses can by definition only be positive, i.e. gains from aggregate demand externality are excluded by definition.

Losses from failure to play best reply on expected average price arise when an agent fails to choose the strategy which maximizes payoffs given the subjective expectation for the average price in this period. Maximum losses for both types are 100% of equilibrium profit. Since the profit function has unique maximum in the decision variable p_i , all deviations from best-reply behavior yield losses, gains are excluded.

Losses from having incorrect expectations arise when the price expectation of an agent differs from actual average prices. Here, losses or gains can occur



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Mathematical appendix

The real payoff for agent i of type $k = x, y$ is given by:

$$\pi_{ik} = \frac{V \cdot \left[\frac{1 + a \left(\frac{\bar{P}_{-ik}}{M} - \frac{\bar{P}_k^*}{M} \right)^2}{1 + b \left(\frac{\bar{P}_{-ik}}{M} - \frac{\bar{P}_k^*}{M} \right)^2} \right]}{1 + c \left\{ \left(\frac{P_{ik}}{M} - \frac{P_k^*}{M} \right) - d \left(\frac{\bar{P}_{-ik}}{M} - \frac{\bar{P}_k^*}{M} \right) + e \cdot \arctan \left[\left(\frac{\bar{P}_{-ik}}{M} - \frac{\bar{P}_k^*}{M} \right) \cdot f \right] \right\}^2}$$

Each agent of type $k = x, y$ has to choose a price $P_{ik} \in [1, 30]$ in every period $t \in [0, 40]$. The average price for agent i (\bar{P}_{-ik}) is the simple average of all prices chosen by *other* agents in his group in period t . Specifically, we used groups of $n = 4$ agents, with 2 agents of type x and y , respectively. For example, the average price for agent 1 of type x is: $\bar{P}_{1x} = \frac{P_{2x} + P_{1y} + P_{2y}}{3}$.

The payoff function is formulated in differences from equilibrium values (i.e. the parameters denoted with *). Equilibrium is attained when all expressions in round brackets () are equal to zero, i.e. when $P_{ik} = P_k^*$ and $\bar{P}_{-ik} = \bar{P}_k^*$ and, consequently, $\pi_{ik}^* = V$ for all i and k .

In all periods and all experimental sessions the parameters a, b, c, f and V were the same. They were given by

$$a = 0.5, b = 0.6, c = 27, f = 20 \text{ and } V = 40.$$

The parameters d and e differed across treatment conditions. They were

$d = 1$ and $e = 0.05$ in the complements treatment, and

$d = -1$ and $e = -0.05$ in the substitutes treatment.

Properties of the payoff function

The payoff function obviously is *homogeneous of degree zero* in the quantity of money (M), own chosen prices (P_i) and average prices (\bar{P}_{-i}). That is

$$\lambda^r \cdot \pi_i(P_i, \bar{P}_{-i}, M) = \pi_i(\lambda P_i, \lambda \bar{P}_{-i}, \lambda M) \text{ with } \lambda > 0, \text{ and } r = 0 \text{ for all } i \text{ and } k.$$

The payoff function is more conveniently written as:

$$\pi(p, \bar{p}) = \frac{VA(\bar{p})}{1 + cB^2(p, \bar{p})},$$

$$\text{with } p \equiv (P_i/M), \bar{p} \equiv \bar{P}_i/M, A(\bar{p}) = \frac{1 + a(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*)^2}{1 + b(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*)^2}, \text{ and}$$

$$B(p, \bar{p}) = (p - p^*) - d(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*) + e \cdot \arctan[(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*) \cdot f]$$

The payoff function is symmetric and quasiconcave in p , having a bell-shaped curvature for every given \bar{p} . This can be seen by noting that the payoff function is of the type $y(p) = 1/(1 + p^2)$.

The necessary first order condition for a maximum is:

$$\frac{\partial \pi(p, \bar{p})}{\partial p} = -\frac{2cVABB_p}{(1 + cB^2)^2} = 0.$$

Which implies that either $A(\bar{p}) = 0$, $B(p, \bar{p}) = 0$, or $B_p(p, \bar{p}) = 0$.

But $A \geq 0$, since $a, b > 0$, and $B_p = 1$. Thus, we must have $B = 0$, i.e.

$$(p - p^*) - d(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*) + e \cdot \arctan[(\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*) \cdot f] = 0.$$

With $D \equiv (\bar{p} - \bar{p}^*)$ this is more conveniently written as

$$p_i(\bar{p}) = dD - (e \cdot \arctan(Df)) + p^*$$

which is the *best reply function*.

Differentiating the best reply function with respect to the average price yields

$$\left. \frac{\partial p^{br}(\bar{p}, M)}{\partial \bar{p}} \right|_{\frac{\partial \pi}{\partial p} = 0} = d - \frac{e}{1 + D^2 f}.$$

If $d > e > 0$, the slope of the best reply function is positive (since $f > 0$). If $d < e < 0$, the slope is negative. In the former case, strategic complementarity prevails, in the latter strategic substitutability.

Table 1: Experimental design

		Complements	Substitutes
All periods and subjects	Slope of reaction function	positive	negative
	Choice variable	$P_i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 30\}$	$P_i \in \{1, 2, \dots, 30\}$
	Group size	$n = 4$	$n = 4$
	Information feedback in period t	\bar{P}_{-i}, π_i	\bar{P}_{-i}, π_i
	Real equilibrium payoff (pre- and post-shock, for both types)	40	40
Pre-shock ($t = 1 - 20$)	Money supply M_0	42	42
	Average equilibrium price \bar{P}^* and average equilibrium expectation for the whole group	18	18
	Equilibrium price for type x	9	9
	Equilibrium expectation \bar{P}_i^e for type x	21	21
	Equilibrium price for type y	27	27
	Equilibrium expectation \bar{P}_i^e for type y	15	15
Post-shock ($t = 21 - 40$)	Money supply M_1	14	14
	Average equilibrium price \bar{P}^* and average equilibrium expectation for the whole group	6	6
	Equilibrium price for type x	3	3
	Equilibrium expectation \bar{P}_i^e for type x	7	7
	Equilibrium price for type y	9	9
	Equilibrium expectation \bar{P}_i^e for type y	5	5

Table 2: Number of observation above, in, and below the equilibrium (group averages as units of observation)

Period	Strategic Complements			Strategic Substitutes		
	above	in	below	above	in	below
21 - 25	51	4	0	14	33	13
26 - 30	32	23	0	10	39	11
31 - 35	23	31	1	6	46	8
36 - 40	17	38	0	7	45	8

Table 3: Loss decomposition (complements in italic)¹

Period	Efficiency loss in % of equilibrium real profit (= L^{Tot}/π^*)		Efficiency loss due to failure to predict average price (= L^{Exp}/π^*)		Efficiency loss due to failure to play best reply (= L^{BRF}/π^*)		Efficiency loss due to aggregate demand externality (= L^{ADE}/π^*)	
18	0.04	<i>0.03</i>	0.01	<i>0.00</i>	0.03	<i>0.03</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
19	0.02	<i>0.01</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>	0.01	<i>0.00</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
20	0.03	<i>0.01</i>	0.01	<i>0.01</i>	0.02	<i>0.00</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
21	0.18	<i>0.65</i>	0.16	<i>0.54</i>	0.02	<i>0.09</i>	0.00	<i>0.02</i>
22	0.12	<i>0.47</i>	0.09	<i>0.29</i>	0.04	<i>0.16</i>	0.00	<i>0.02</i>
23	0.11	<i>0.35</i>	0.02	<i>0.23</i>	0.07	<i>0.11</i>	0.03	<i>0.02</i>
24	0.09	<i>0.27</i>	0.07	<i>0.21</i>	0.02	<i>0.05</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>
25	0.19	<i>0.18</i>	0.10	<i>0.07</i>	0.06	<i>0.10</i>	0.03	<i>0.01</i>
26	0.15	<i>0.17</i>	0.08	<i>0.08</i>	0.04	<i>0.08</i>	0.03	<i>0.01</i>
27	0.09	<i>0.17</i>	0.01	<i>0.11</i>	0.07	<i>0.05</i>	0.01	<i>0.01</i>
28	0.05	<i>0.11</i>	0.02	<i>0.03</i>	0.03	<i>0.07</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>
29	0.04	<i>0.10</i>	0.01	<i>0.05</i>	0.02	<i>0.04</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>
30	0.05	<i>0.14</i>	0.02	<i>0.08</i>	0.03	<i>0.06</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>
31	0.01	<i>0.08</i>	0.01	<i>0.06</i>	0.01	<i>0.02</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>
32	0.01	<i>0.07</i>	0.00	<i>0.05</i>	0.00	<i>0.01</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
33	0.08	<i>0.06</i>	0.03	<i>0.04</i>	0.03	<i>0.02</i>	0.02	<i>0.00</i>
34	0.04	<i>0.05</i>	0.01	<i>0.03</i>	0.02	<i>0.01</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
35	0.02	<i>0.03</i>	-0.01	<i>0.02</i>	0.03	<i>0.01</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
36	0.10	<i>0.10</i>	0.04	<i>0.06</i>	0.04	<i>0.04</i>	0.02	<i>0.00</i>
37	0.03	<i>0.06</i>	0.01	<i>0.05</i>	0.02	<i>0.00</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
38	0.11	<i>0.14</i>	0.05	<i>0.11</i>	0.04	<i>0.03</i>	0.02	<i>0.00</i>
39	0.05	<i>0.13</i>	0.01	<i>0.10</i>	0.04	<i>0.03</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>
40	0.04	<i>0.03</i>	-0.01	<i>0.00</i>	0.05	<i>0.02</i>	0.00	<i>0.00</i>

1. Columns 3 to 5 may not sum to entries in column 2 due to rounding errors.

Figure 1: Nominal average prices of the median group

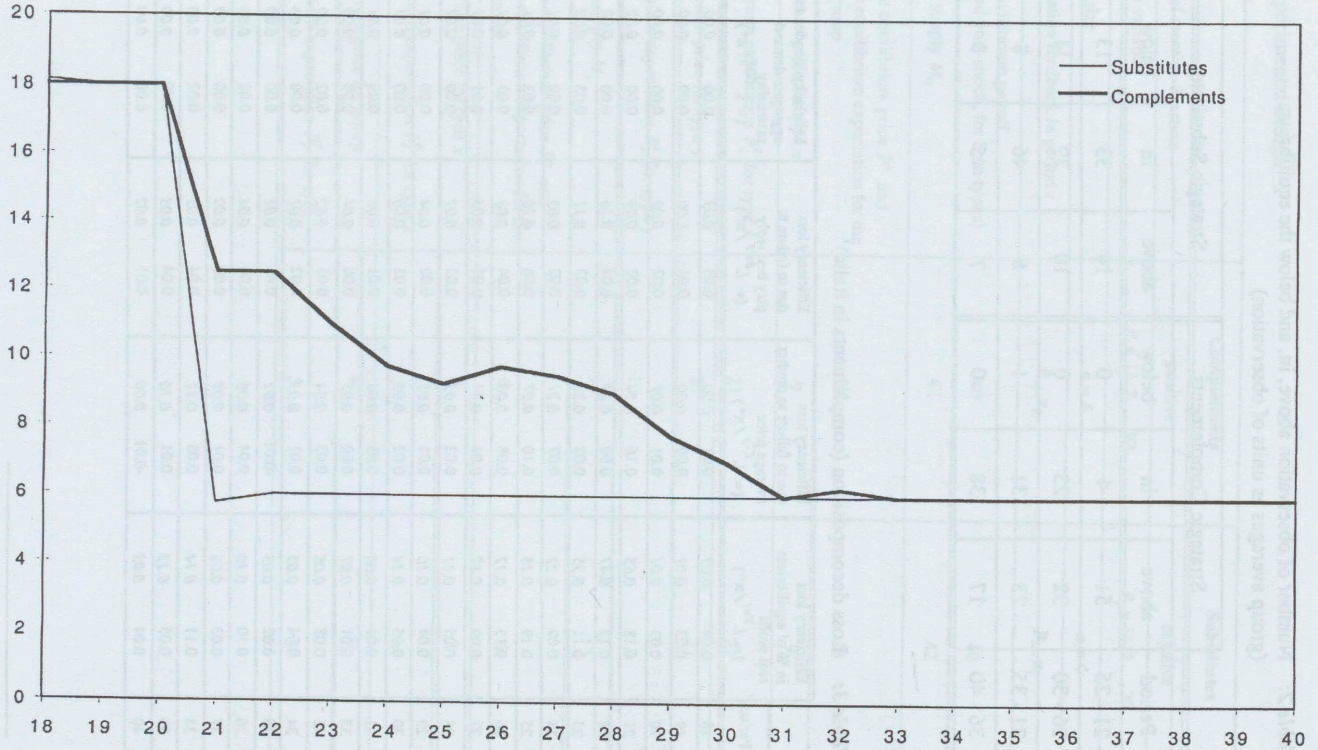


Figure 2: Percentage of subjects choosing equilibrium prices

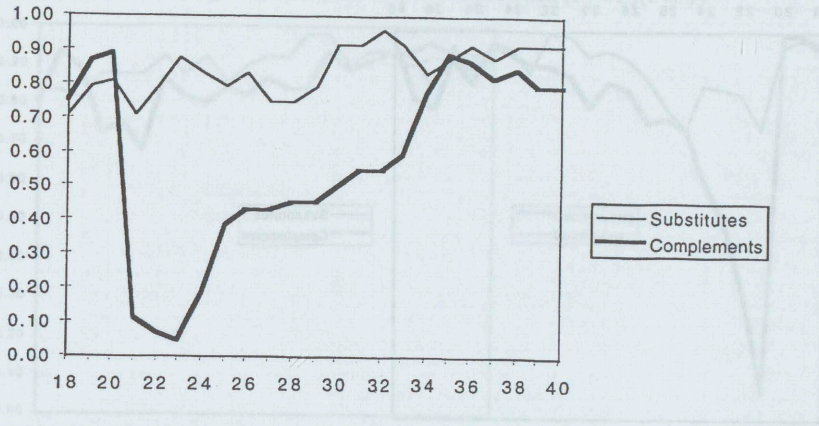


Figure 3: Distribution of nominal prices (for agents of type y)
Before Shock (Period 20)

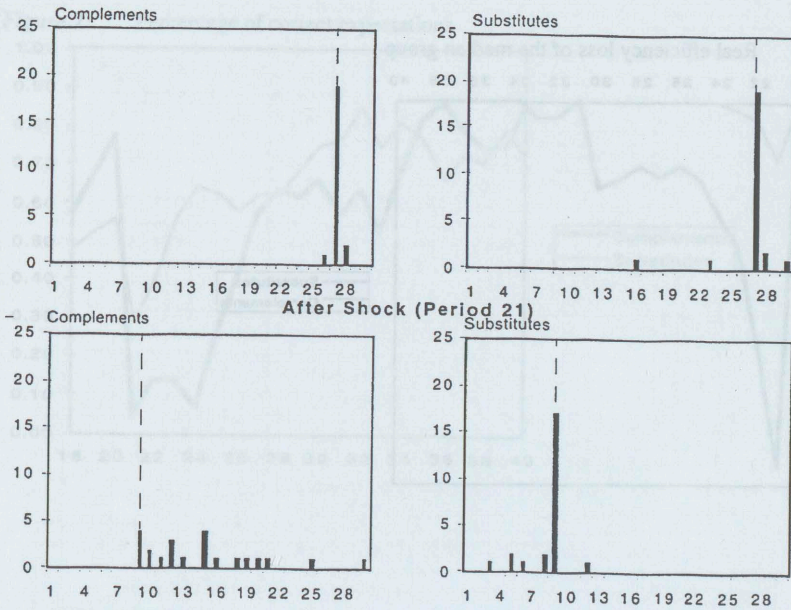


Figure 4: Average real losses (percent of equilibrium payoff)

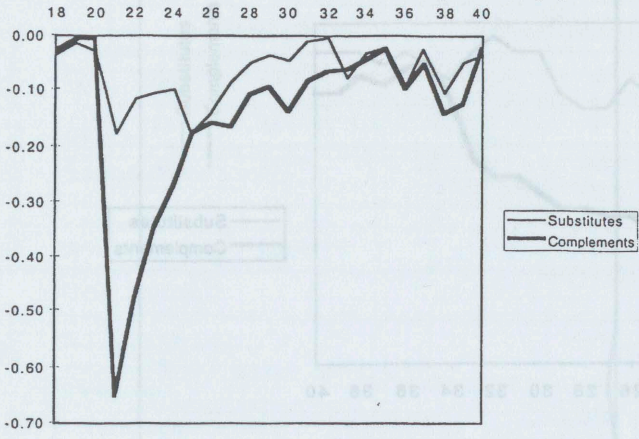


Figure 5: Real efficiency loss of the median group

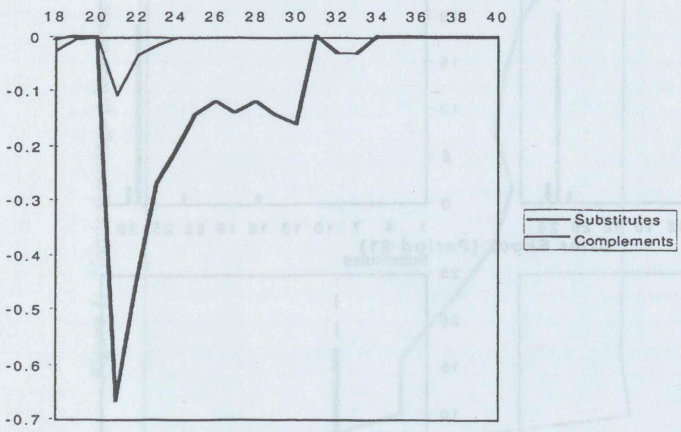


Figure 6: Percentage of best replies on price expectation ($P_i = P_i(\bar{P}_{-i}^e)$)

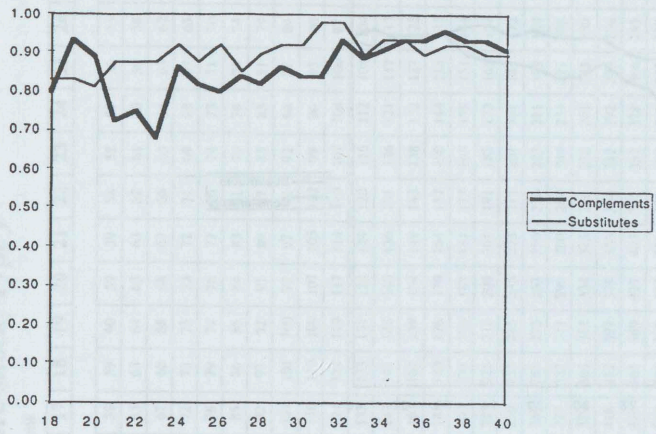


Figure 7: Percentage of correct expectations

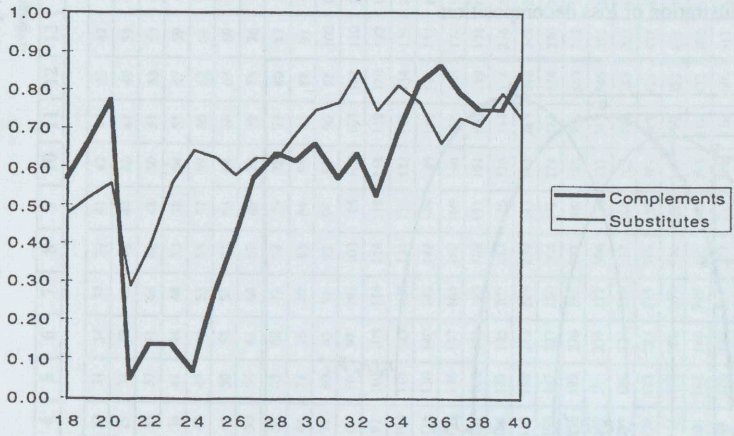


Figure 8: Average confidence in price expectation

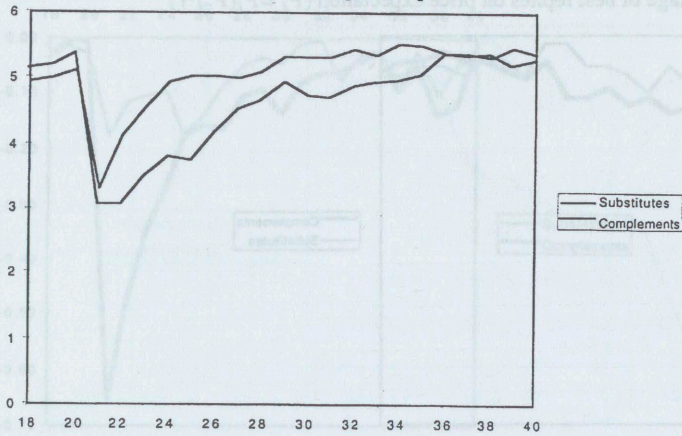
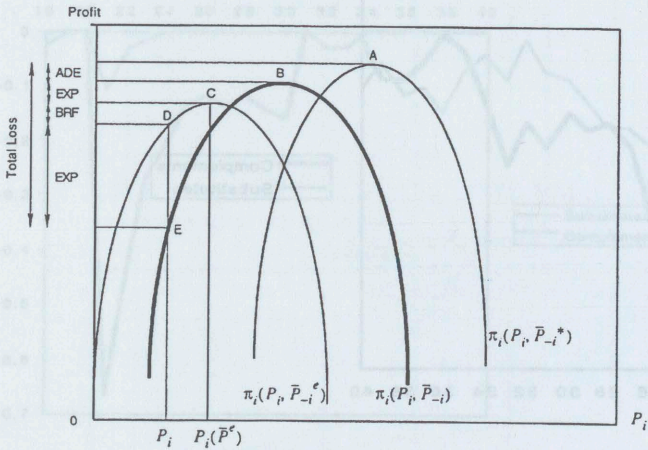


Figure 9: Illustration of loss decomposition



Payoff Table A1: Complements, pre-shock, Type y

Average price of other firms

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
selling price																															
1	9	16	22	27	31	34	37	39	41	42	44	45	47	50	53	56	58	59	60	59	59	58	58	57	56	55	54	53	52	51	
2	10	18	24	29	34	37	40	42	44	46	47	49	51	53	57	60	63	63	64	63	63	62	61	60	59	58	57	56	55	54	
3	11	20	27	33	37	41	44	46	48	50	51	53	55	57	61	65	67	68	68	68	67	66	65	64	63	62	60	59	58	57	
4	12	22	30	36	41	44	48	50	52	54	55	57	59	62	66	70	72	73	73	73	72	71	69	68	67	65	64	63	61	60	
5	14	24	33	40	45	49	53	55	57	59	60	62	64	67	71	76	78	79	79	78	77	76	74	73	71	70	68	66	65	63	
6	16	28	37	45	50	55	58	61	63	64	66	67	69	73	77	82	85	86	85	84	83	81	79	78	76	74	72	70	69	67	
7	18	31	42	50	56	61	64	67	69	70	72	73	76	79	84	89	92	93	92	91	89	87	85	83	81	79	77	75	73	71	
8	20	36	47	56	63	68	72	74	76	78	79	80	83	86	92	97	101	101	100	99	97	94	92	89	87	84	82	80	78	76	
9	23	40	54	64	71	76	80	83	84	86	87	88	91	95	101	107	110	110	109	107	105	102	99	96	93	90	88	85	83	80	
10	26	46	61	72	80	86	90	92	94	95	96	97	100	104	111	117	121	121	119	117	114	110	107	104	100	97	94	91	88	86	
11	29	51	69	81	90	97	101	103	105	106	107	108	110	115	122	129	133	133	131	128	124	120	116	112	108	104	101	97	94	91	
12	32	58	77	92	102	109	114	116	118	118	119	120	122	127	135	143	147	147	144	140	136	131	126	121	117	113	109	105	101	98	
13	35	64	87	104	116	123	128	131	132	133	133	134	136	141	150	159	163	162	159	154	149	143	138	132	127	122	117	113	109	104	
14	37	70	96	116	130	140	145	148	149	149	149	149	152	157	167	177	181	180	176	170	164	157	150	144	138	132	127	122	117	112	
15	39	74	105	129	146	157	164	168	169	168	168	168	170	176	187	198	203	201	196	189	181	173	165	158	151	144	138	132	126	121	
16	40	78	113	141	162	176	185	189	191	191	190	189	191	198	210	223	227	225	218	209	201	191	182	173	165	157	150	143	136	130	
17	39	79	117	151	177	195	207	213	216	216	214	214	216	223	237	251	256	253	245	235	223	212	201	191	181	172	163	155	148	141	
18	37	78	119	157	189	213	229	239	243	244	243	242	244	252	268	283	289	285	275	263	250	236	223	211	199	189	179	170	161	153	
19	35	74	117	159	197	227	250	264	272	274	274	274	276	285	303	321	327	322	311	296	280	264	249	234	221	208	196	186	176	167	
20	32	69	112	156	199	236	266	287	300	306	308	309	312	323	343	363	370	364	351	334	315	296	278	261	245	230	216	204	192	182	
21	29	63	104	149	195	239	277	306	326	337	343	346	351	364	387	409	418	412	397	378	356	334	312	292	273	256	240	225	211	199	
22	25	57	95	139	186	234	279	317	346	365	377	385	393	408	434	459	470	465	449	427	403	377	352	328	306	285	266	249	233	219	
23	23	50	85	126	173	223	273	319	357	387	407	421	434	453	482	511	524	521	506	483	456	426	397	369	343	319	297	276	258	241	
24	20	45	76	113	158	206	259	311	358	398	429	452	471	495	527	559	578	573	566	544	515	483	450	417	387	358	332	308	287	267	
25	18	40	67	101	142	188	240	295	349	398	439	472	500	530	565	601	625	633	627	608	579	545	509	472	437	403	373	345	320	297	
26	16	35	60	89	126	169	219	273	330	386	436	480	517	552	591	629	660	679	682	671	646	613	574	534	494	456	420	387	358	331	
27	14	31	53	79	112	151	196	248	305	364	421	473	519	560	600	640	678	709	727	727	712	683	645	603	559	516	475	437	402	370	
28	12	28	47	70	99	134	175	223	277	335	395	452	505	550	591	631	676	702	753	771	770	751	719	677	631	583	537	493	453	416	
29	11	24	41	62	87	118	155	198	248	304	363	422	478	526	565	605	654	708	758	795	814	811	790	754	708	658	607	558	512	469	
30	10	22	37	55	77	104	137	175	221	272	328	386	442	490	527	565	616	677	741	796	836	855	851	827	788	739	686	631	579	530	

Use an integer number from 1 to 6 to indicate how confident you are that the average price you expect will actually be realized

- 1 = I am *not* at all confident that my expectation will be correct
- 2 = I am *not* very that my expectation will be correct
- 3 = I am *not* quite confident that my expectation will be correct
- 4 = I am quite confident that my expectation will be correct
- 5 = I am very confident that my expectation will be correct
- 6 = I am absolutely confident that my expectation will be correct

Payoff Table A3: Substitutes, pre-shock, Type y

Average price of other firms

selling price	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
1	2	4	6	8	11	14	18	21	25	30	34	40	45	49	53	57	62	68	76	85	95	107	121	136	154	175	199	227	259	296
2	2	4	6	9	12	15	19	23	27	32	37	42	48	53	57	61	66	73	82	92	103	116	131	149	169	192	219	251	287	330
3	2	4	7	9	13	16	20	24	29	34	40	45	51	57	61	66	71	79	88	99	112	127	144	163	186	212	243	279	321	370
4	2	4	7	10	13	17	21	26	31	36	42	49	55	61	66	71	77	85	96	108	122	138	157	179	205	235	270	311	359	415
5	2	4	8	11	14	18	23	27	33	39	46	53	60	66	71	77	84	93	104	118	133	152	173	198	227	261	301	348	403	468
6	2	5	8	11	15	19	24	30	36	42	49	57	65	72	77	83	91	101	113	128	146	167	191	219	252	291	337	391	454	529
7	3	5	9	12	16	20	26	32	38	46	53	62	71	78	84	90	99	110	124	141	161	184	212	244	282	326	379	441	513	599
8	3	6	9	13	17	22	28	34	41	49	58	67	77	85	92	99	108	121	136	155	178	204	235	272	315	366	427	498	581	677
9	3	6	10	13	19	24	30	37	45	54	63	74	84	93	101	108	118	132	150	171	197	227	263	305	354	413	482	563	657	764
10	3	6	10	15	20	26	33	40	49	58	69	81	92	103	111	119	130	146	166	190	219	253	294	342	400	467	546	637	741	857
11	3	6	11	16	22	28	35	43	53	64	76	89	102	113	122	131	144	162	184	212	245	284	331	386	452	528	617	719	832	952
12	3	7	12	17	23	30	38	48	58	70	83	98	112	125	135	145	160	180	205	237	274	319	373	436	511	597	696	806	923	1042
13	4	8	13	19	25	33	42	52	64	77	92	108	125	139	150	161	177	200	229	265	309	360	422	494	578	674	781	895	1010	1117
14	4	8	14	20	28	36	46	57	70	85	102	120	139	155	167	180	198	224	258	299	348	407	477	558	652	755	866	978	1083	1168
15	4	9	15	22	30	39	50	63	78	94	113	134	155	173	187	201	222	252	290	337	394	461	539	630	730	838	947	1048	1131	1186
16	5	10	17	24	33	43	55	70	86	104	126	150	174	195	210	226	250	284	327	381	445	521	608	705	810	915	1014	1094	1148	1168
17	5	11	18	26	36	48	61	77	96	117	142	169	196	220	237	255	282	321	370	431	503	587	681	781	884	979	1057	1110	1130	1118
18	6	12	20	29	40	53	68	86	107	132	159	190	221	248	268	288	319	363	419	487	567	657	754	852	944	1020	1072	1092	1081	1043
19	6	13	22	32	44	59	76	96	120	148	180	215	250	281	303	326	361	410	473	548	634	726	821	910	983	1033	1053	1044	1008	953
20	7	14	24	35	49	65	85	107	135	167	203	243	283	317	343	369	408	463	532	612	700	790	875	946	994	1014	1006	973	921	858
21	7	16	27	39	55	73	95	121	153	189	230	275	319	358	387	416	459	520	593	675	760	841	909	955	975	968	937	888	829	765
22	8	18	30	44	61	82	107	137	173	214	260	310	359	402	434	466	514	577	652	731	807	871	916	936	930	901	855	799	739	678
23	9	20	33	49	69	92	121	155	195	242	293	348	401	447	482	517	567	632	703	774	834	876	896	891	864	822	769	712	655	599
24	10	22	37	55	77	104	137	175	221	272	328	386	442	490	527	565	616	677	741	796	836	855	851	827	788	739	686	631	579	530
25	11	24	41	62	87	118	155	198	248	304	363	422	478	526	565	605	654	708	758	795	814	811	790	754	708	658	607	558	512	469
26	12	28	47	70	99	134	175	223	277	335	395	452	505	550	591	631	676	720	753	771	770	751	719	677	631	583	537	493	453	416
27	14	31	53	79	112	151	196	248	305	364	421	473	519	560	600	640	678	709	727	727	712	683	645	603	559	516	475	437	402	370
28	16	35	60	89	126	169	219	273	330	386	436	483	517	552	591	629	660	679	682	671	646	613	574	534	494	456	420	387	358	331
29	18	40	67	101	142	188	240	295	349	398	439	472	500	530	565	601	625	633	627	608	579	545	509	472	437	403	373	345	320	297
30	20	45	76	113	158	206	259	311	358	398	429	452	471	495	527	559	578	579	566	544	515	483	450	417	387	358	332	308	287	267

Use an integer number from 1 to 6 to indicate how confident you are that the average price you expect will actually be realized

- 1 = I am *not* at all confident that my expectation will be correct
- 2 = I am *not* very that my expectation will be correct
- 3 = I am *not* quite confident that my expectation will be correct
- 4 = I am quite confident that my expectation will be correct
- 5 = I am very confident that my expectation will be correct
- 6 = I am absolutely confident that my expectation will be correct

Payoff Table A2: Complements, post-shock, Type y

Average price of other firms

		Average price of other firms																													
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
selling price	1	9	14	16	17	20	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	8
	2	12	18	21	22	26	29	28	26	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	8	8
3	18	25	28	29	34	37	35	32	29	27	25	23	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	11	11	10	10	10	9	9	9	
4	26	36	39	40	45	49	45	40	36	33	29	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	11	11	11	10	10	10	9	
5	35	52	56	56	62	67	60	53	46	40	36	32	29	26	24	22	20	19	18	16	15	15	14	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	
6	40	71	81	81	89	95	83	70	60	51	44	39	34	31	28	25	23	21	20	18	17	16	15	14	14	12	12	12	11	11	
7	35	80	109	115	129	137	119	97	80	66	56	48	42	37	33	30	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	14	12	12	11	11
8	25	68	119	151	176	193	172	139	111	89	73	61	52	45	39	35	31	28	26	24	22	20	19	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	
9	18	50	102	157	200	236	237	201	158	123	98	79	66	56	48	42	37	33	30	27	25	23	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	
10	12	34	74	129	176	226	279	275	229	177	136	107	86	71	59	51	44	39	35	31	28	26	23	22	20	19	17	16	15	14	
11	9	24	51	92	129	173	253	318	312	255	195	148	115	92	75	63	54	46	41	36	32	29	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	
12	7	18	36	63	89	121	189	284	357	348	281	212	160	124	98	80	67	57	49	43	38	34	30	28	25	23	21	20	19	17	
13	5	13	26	45	62	84	131	210	316	395	382	305	229	172	132	104	84	70	59	51	45	39	35	32	29	26	24	22	21	19	
14	4	10	19	33	45	60	91	145	232	347	433	416	331	246	183	140	110	89	74	62	53	46	41	36	33	30	27	25	23	21	
15	3	8	15	25	34	44	66	102	161	254	379	470	449	355	262	194	148	116	93	77	65	56	48	43	38	34	31	28	26	24	
16	3	6	12	19	26	34	49	73	112	176	277	410	506	481	378	278	206	156	122	98	81	68	58	50	44	39	35	32	29	26	
17	2	5	10	15	20	26	37	54	81	123	192	300	440	541	513	402	294	217	164	127	102	84	70	60	52	46	41	36	33	30	
18	2	4	8	12	16	21	29	42	60	89	134	207	322	471	576	544	425	310	227	171	133	107	87	73	62	54	47	41	37	34	
19	2	4	7	10	14	17	24	33	46	66	97	145	223	344	500	611	575	448	326	238	179	139	111	91	76	64	56	49	43	39	
20	1	3	6	9	11	14	19	27	37	51	72	105	156	238	365	530	645	606	470	341	249	186	144	115	94	79	67	58	50	44	
21	1	2	5	7	10	12	16	22	30	40	56	78	112	166	253	386	559	679	636	492	357	259	194	150	119	97	81	69	59	52	
22	1	2	4	6	8	10	14	18	24	32	44	60	84	120	177	267	407	588	712	666	514	372	270	202	156	124	101	84	71	61	
23	1	2	4	5	7	8	12	15	20	27	35	48	65	90	128	187	282	428	616	745	695	536	387	280	209	161	128	104	87	73	
24	1	2	3	5	6	8	10	13	17	22	29	38	51	69	95	135	197	296	449	645	778	725	558	402	291	217	167	132	108	89	
25	1	2	3	4	6	7	9	11	15	19	24	32	41	55	73	101	143	207	311	469	673	811	754	580	417	301	224	172	136	111	
26	1	2	3	4	5	6	8	10	13	16	21	26	34	44	58	78	107	150	218	325	490	701	843	783	601	432	312	232	178	141	
27	1	1	2	3	4	5	7	9	11	14	18	22	28	36	47	61	82	112	157	227	339	510	728	875	813	623	447	322	239	183	
28	1	1	2	3	4	5	6	8	10	12	15	19	24	30	39	50	65	86	117	164	237	353	530	755	908	842	644	461	332	247	
29	1	1	2	3	4	4	6	7	9	11	13	17	21	26	32	41	52	68	90	123	171	247	367	550	784	940	870	666	477	343	
30	0	1	2	3	3	4	5	6	8	10	12	15	18	22	27	34	43	55	72	95	128	179	257	381	570	811	972	899	687	491	

Use an integer number from 1 to 6 to indicate how confident you are that the average price you expect will actually be realized

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 = I am <i>not</i> at all confident that my expectation will be correct | 4 = I am quite confident that my expectation will be correct |
| 2 = I am <i>not</i> very that my expectation will be correct | 5 = I am very confident that my expectation will be correct |
| 3 = I am <i>not</i> quite confident that my expectation will be correct | 6 = I am absolutely confident that my expectation will be correct |

Payoff Table A4: Substitutes, post-shock, Type y

Average price of other firms

selling price	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
1	2	5	10	15	20	26	37	54	81	123	192	300	440	541	513	402	294	217	164	127	102	84	70	60	52	46	41	36	33	30	
2	3	6	12	19	26	34	49	73	112	176	277	410	506	481	378	278	206	156	122	98	81	68	58	50	44	39	35	32	29	26	
3	3	8	15	25	34	44	66	102	161	254	379	470	449	355	262	194	148	116	93	77	65	56	48	43	38	34	31	28	26	24	
4	4	10	19	33	45	60	91	145	232	347	433	416	331	246	183	140	110	89	74	62	53	46	41	36	33	30	27	25	23	21	
5	5	13	26	45	62	84	131	210	316	395	382	305	229	172	132	104	84	70	59	51	45	39	35	32	29	26	24	22	21	19	
6	7	18	36	63	89	121	189	284	357	348	281	212	160	124	98	80	67	57	49	43	38	34	30	28	25	23	21	20	19	17	
7	9	24	51	92	129	173	253	318	312	255	195	148	115	92	75	63	54	46	41	36	32	29	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	
8	12	34	74	129	176	226	279	275	229	177	136	107	86	71	59	51	44	39	35	31	28	26	23	22	20	19	17	16	15	14	
9	18	50	102	157	200	236	237	201	158	123	98	79	66	56	48	42	37	33	30	27	25	23	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	
10	25	68	119	151	176	193	172	139	111	89	73	61	52	45	39	35	31	28	26	24	22	20	19	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	
11	35	80	109	115	129	137	119	97	80	66	56	48	42	37	33	30	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	
12	40	71	81	81	89	95	83	70	60	51	44	39	34	31	28	25	23	21	20	18	17	16	15	14	14	12	12	12	11	11	
13	35	52	56	56	62	67	60	53	46	40	36	32	29	26	24	22	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	11	11	10	10	9	
14	26	36	39	40	45	49	45	40	36	33	29	27	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	
15	18	25	28	29	34	37	35	32	29	27	25	23	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	
16	12	18	21	22	26	29	28	26	24	22	21	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	
17	9	14	16	17	20	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	13	12	12	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	7	7
18	7	10	13	14	16	18	18	17	16	15	15	14	14	13	12	12	11	11	11	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	7	7	7	
19	5	8	10	12	14	15	15	15	15	14	14	13	12	12	11	11	11	11	10	10	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	
20	4	6	8	9	11	13	13	13	13	12	12	12	12	11	11	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	6	6	
21	3	5	7	8	10	11	11	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	
22	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	5	5	
23	2	4	5	5	7	8	9	9	9	9	9	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	
24	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	
25	2	2	4	5	6	6	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	
26	1	2	3	4	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	
27	1	2	3	4	4	5	5	6	6	6	6	5	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
28	1	2	3	3	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4
29	1	2	2	3	4	4	4	5	5	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4
30	1	2	2	3	3	4	4	4	4	4	4	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4

Use an integer number from 1 to 6 to indicate how confident you are that the average price you expect will actually be realized

- | | |
|--|---|
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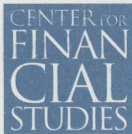
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