ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Optimal simple rules and the lower bound on the nominal interest rate in the Christiano–Eichenbaum–Evans model of the US business cycle

Guido Ascari · Nicola Branzoli

Received: 15 February 2007 / Accepted: 1 June 2007 / Published online: 21 July 2007 © Springer-Verlag 2007

Abstract Schmitt-Grohé and Uribe (NBER wp 10724, 2004b) analyzes the optimal, simple and implementable monetary policy rules in a medium-scale macromodel, as the one proposed by Christiano et al. (J Polit Econ 113:1–45, 2005). In doing so, they use a sensible, but somewhat arbitrary constraint to account for the lower bound condition on the nominal interest rate. In this work, we check the robustness of their main results to such a criteria. We find that the optimal policies are actually absolutely robust to the easing of this criterion for all the different cases considered.

Keywords Monetary policy rules-zero bound • New Keynesian model

JEL Classification E31 • E52

G. Ascari · N. Branzoli Department of Economics and Quantitative Methods, University of Pavia, Via San Felice 5, 27100 Pavia, Italy e-mail: guido.ascari@unipv.it