

# Distributional properties, Financial Constraints and Firm Dynamics

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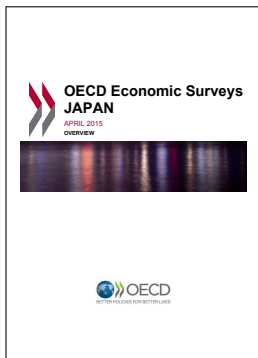
- 1 Scarce information in economic announces
- 2 Kinetic theory of representative molecules
- 3 Financial constraints and firm dynamics
  - Long run effects of Financial constraints
  - Short run effects of Financial constraints

## Economic announces on Japan

CNN Money, May, 20 2015 *“Gross domestic product grew by an annualized 2.4% in the three months ended March, Japan’s Cabinet Office said Monday. The figures were better than what most experts were expecting, and stronger than last quarter’s growth.”*

International Business Times, July, 23 2015 *“Japan Economic Outlook 2015: Economists Forecast Q4 GDP To Expand 3.7%, Economic Growth To Increase 0.6% in 2015”*

# OECD Economic Survey Japan 2015



- Japan's [public] debt is the highest in the OECD, pushing up debt service costs
- Japan faces a problem of high poverty (more than 16% vs. OECD average of below 12%)
- The impact of taxes and transfers on income inequality and poverty is weak in Japan
- There are large income gaps between regular and non-regular workers

## Representative Individuals and central tendency

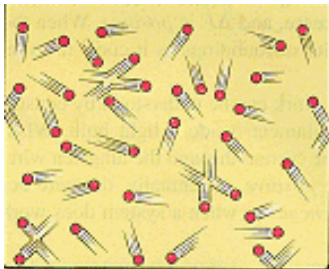
Classic economics: story with stylized characters (like ancient Rome or Noh theater): farmer, worker, capitalist, rentier, . . .

Modern economics: more formalized but the idea of “representative individual” is still pervasive (notwithstanding the theoretical relevance of differences in endowment, capabilities, preferences and believes).

On the empirical size, it is prominent the notion of “central tendency” and the reliance on average behavior.

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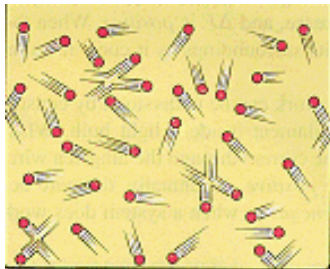
# Kinetic Theory of Gas



Molecules move in all directions. Taking the averages...

Representative molecule does not move

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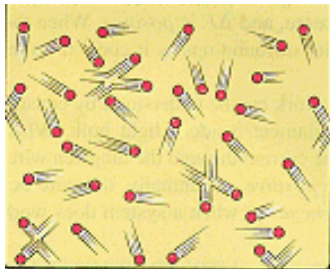


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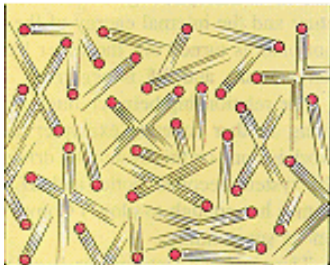
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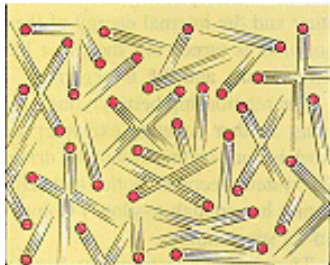
**Representative molecule does not move**

## Increasing the temperature



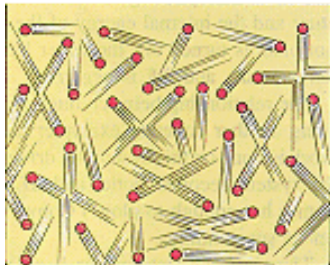
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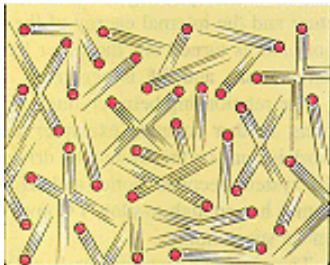
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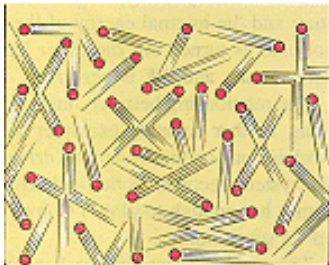
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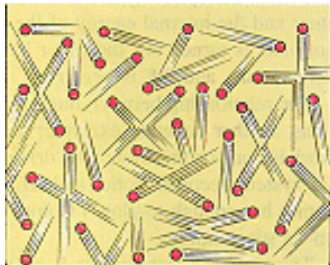
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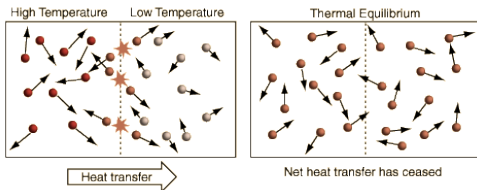
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# Transfer of heat

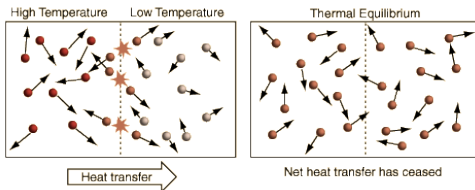


Two different populations of molecules transfer heat ...

Representative molecules in both population remain motionless



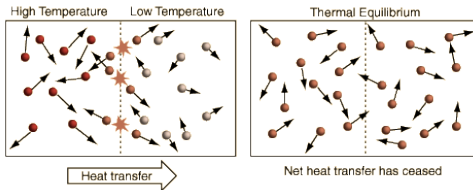
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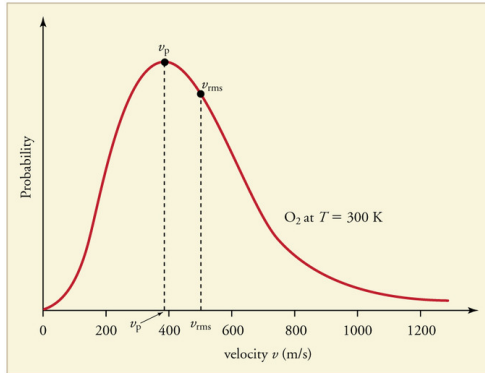
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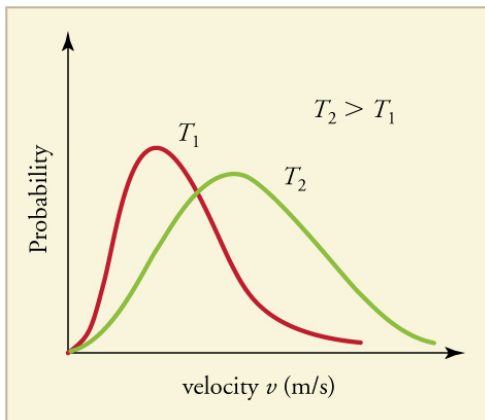
**Representative molecules in both population remain motionless**

# Distribution of speed



Better description through the distribution of speed.

## Distribution of speed



The effect of temperature is now nicely visible

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## Financial constraints are difficult to measure ...

Some degree of difficulty in finding the financial resources necessary to pursue the desired business plan.

165,000 *limited liability* Italian manufacturing firms, classified according to CEBI (official) solvency ratings:

Three FC classes:

- Non Financially Constrained (NFC)
- Mildly Financially Constrained (MFC)
- Highly Financially Constrained (HFC)

## ... but they are important

FC affect:

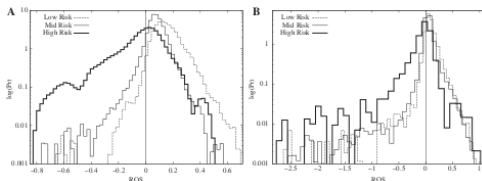
- investment/divestment decisions
- decision to expand production or entering new markets
- cash management
- R&D policies

Qualitative evidence on reaction to crises suggests **heterogenous impact of FC**:

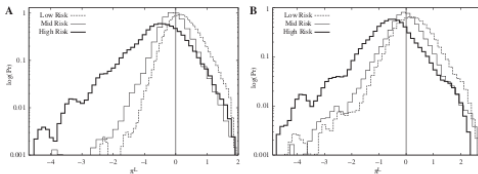
- “Pinioning” effect: firms facing good opportunities tend to bypass attractive investment projects
- “Loss reinforcing” effect: firms facing poor growth opportunities display higher propensity to sell off productive assets to generate funds, further deteriorating growth prospects

# FC and distribution of economic variables

from *Productivity, Profitability and Financial Performance* by Bottazzi, Secchi and Tamagni, ICC 2008



**Figure 2** Empirical density of ROS in 2002 for the manufacturing (A) and service (B) industry.

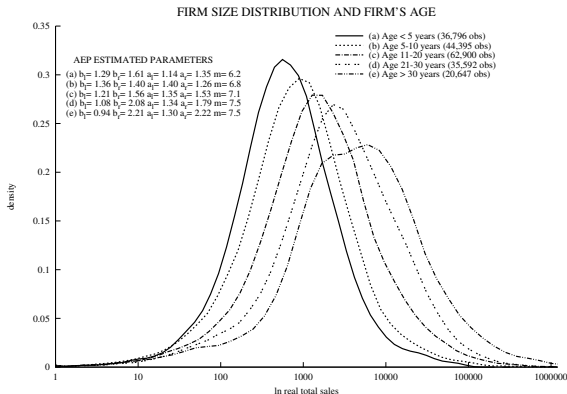


**Figure 4** Empirical density of labor productivity differentials in 2002 for the manufacturing (A) and service (B) industry. Labor productivity is defined as VA/L.



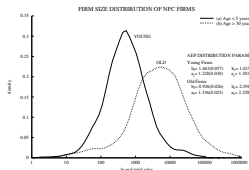
# The evolution of the size distribution

from *Financial Constraints and firm dynamics* by Bottazzi, Secchi and Tamagni, SBE 2014

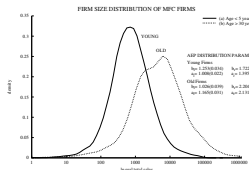


# Size distribution and financial constraints

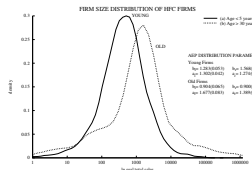
NFC



MFC



HFC

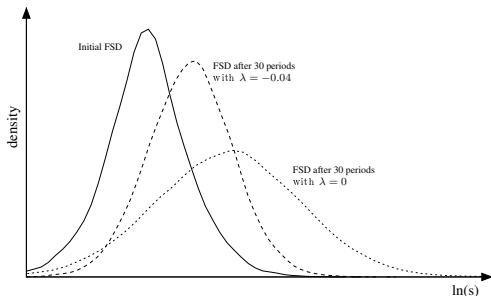


FSD evolution depends on the FC class:

- shift in the central location, smaller for the HFC class
- variance increases for NFC and MFC, less for HFC See stats
- right-tail tends to Gaussian for NFC and MFC, not for HFC (confirmed by Asymmetric Power Exponential(AEP) estimates)

# FCs and persistence of growth

Growth persistence, captured by different values of the auto-correlation coefficient  $\lambda$ , affect the evolution of the size distribution.

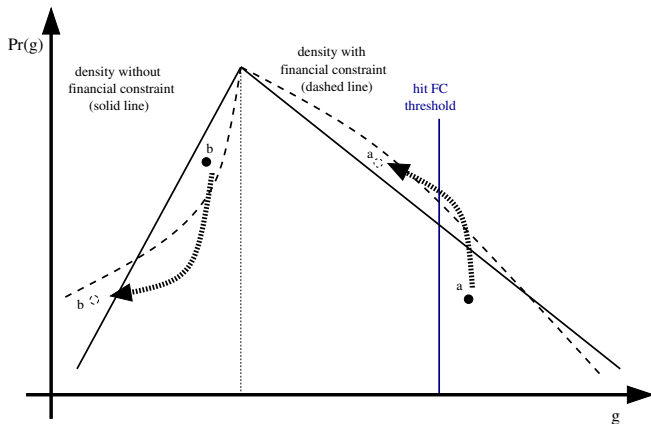


Departure from Log-normality for the most severely constrained firms.

# FCs and the distribution of growth rates

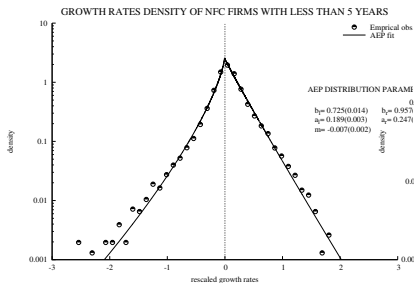
Qualitative evidence: “pinioning” and “loss reinforcing”

## ASYMMETRIC DISTRIBUTIONAL EFFECT

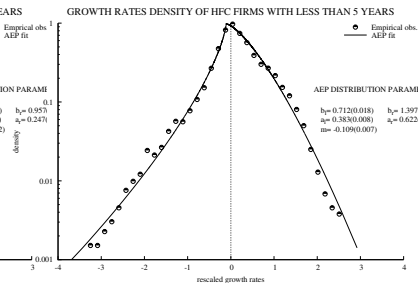


# Growth rates by FC class: young firms

## YOUNG NFC



## YOUNG HFC



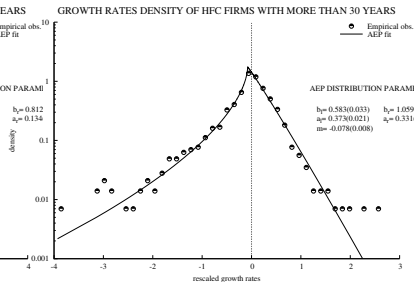
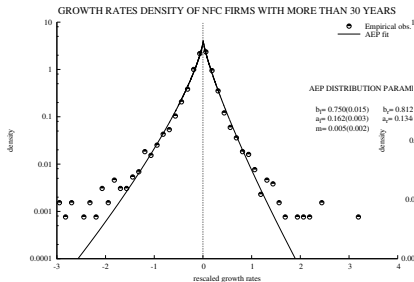
For younger firms, strong FCs :

- slim down the right tail of the distribution, i.e. shift of probability mass from the tail to the central part of the distribution
- do not seem to have an effect on the left half

# Growth rates by FC class: old firms

## OLD NFC

## OLD HFC



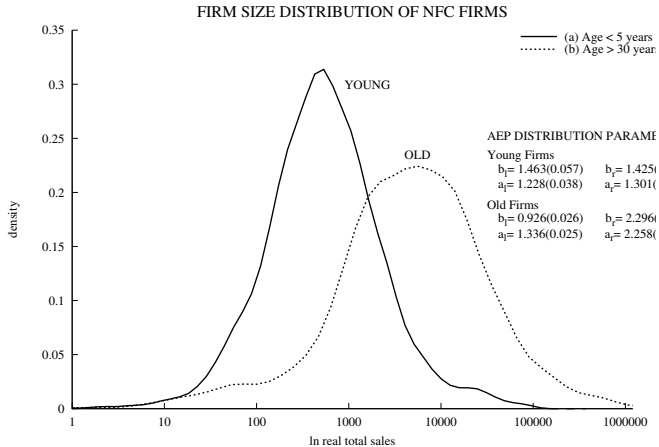
For old firms, strong FCs:

- imply a very mild slim down of the right tail
- fatten up the left tail of the distribution, i.e. shift of probability mass from the central part to the tail of the distribution

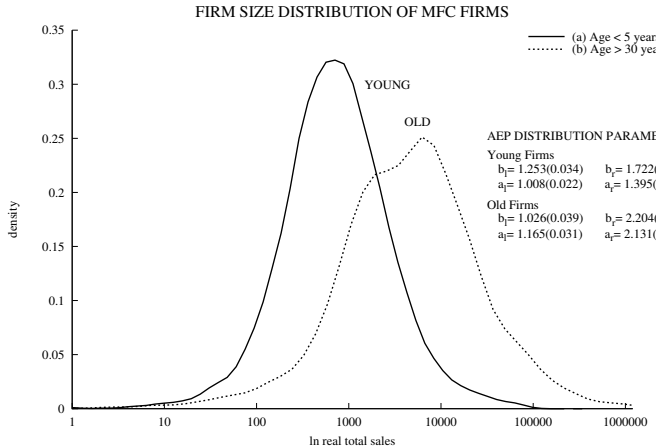
## Conclusion

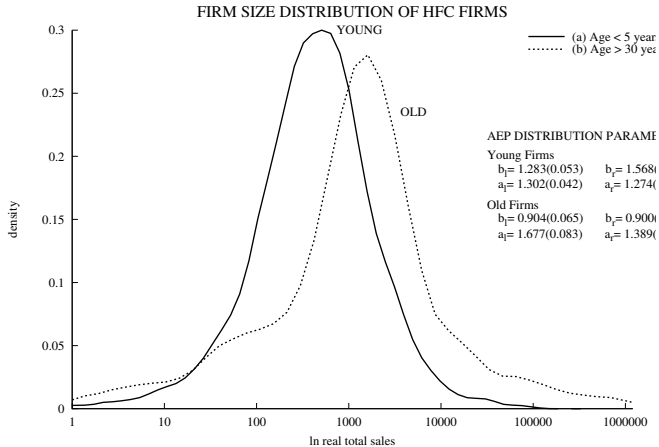
- FC has a large impact on firms dynamics.
- In order to identify their effect, however, one has to look beyond central tendency measures.
- The tightening of credit has perhaps a positive effect on older firms, but surely a negative one on the youngest.

ご清聴ありがとうございました

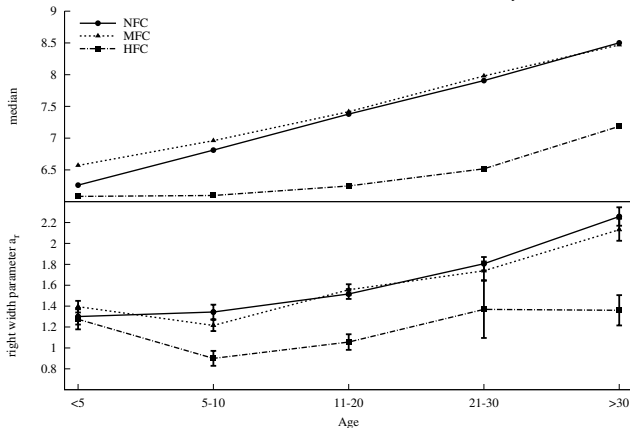








MEDIAN FIRM SIZE AND AEP RIGHT WIDTH PARAMETER  $a_r$  BY AGE CLASS



# Asymmetric Power Exponential distribution

$$f_{AEP}(x; \mathbf{p}) = \frac{1}{C} e^{-\left(\frac{1}{b_l} \left| \frac{x-m}{a_l} \right|^{b_l} \theta(m-x) + \frac{1}{b_r} \left| \frac{x-m}{a_r} \right|^{b_r} \theta(x-m)\right)}$$

where  $\mathbf{p} = (b_l, b_r, a_l, a_r, m)$ ,  $\theta(x)$  is the Heaviside theta function and  $C$  the normalization constant. **Back**

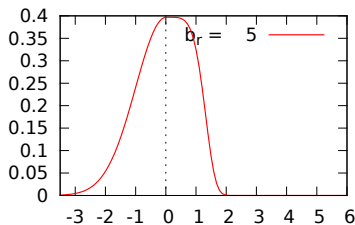
$b_l=2, b_r=\{5,1,0.5\}, a_l=1, a_r=1, m=0$

# Asymmetric Power Exponential distribution

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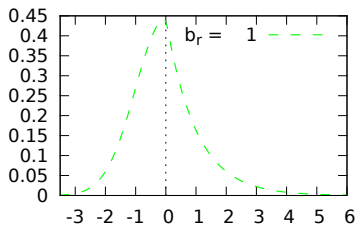


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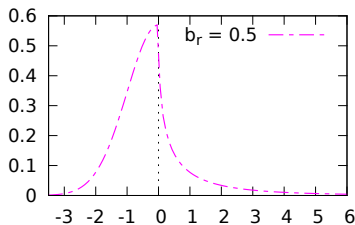


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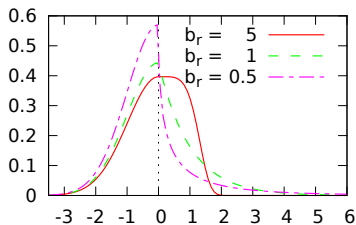


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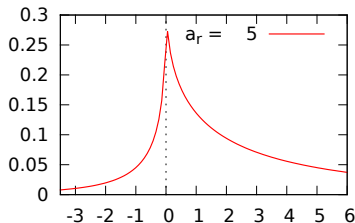
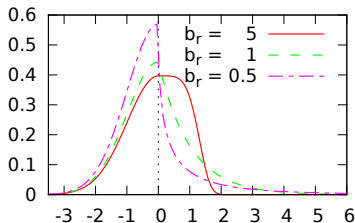
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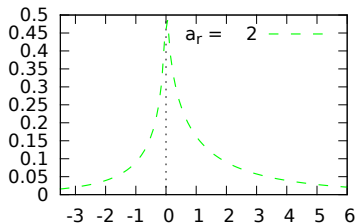
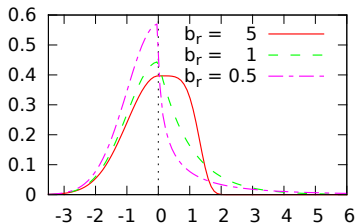
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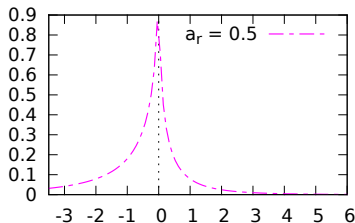
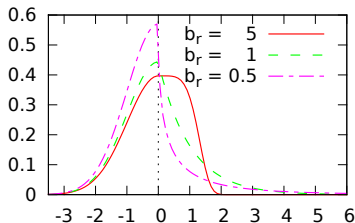
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