

Problem Set #3

MACS 40000, Dr. Evans

Alexandre Sollaci

1. Fitting elliptical disutility of labor to CFE function

- (a)]In the CFE case, we have

$$v'_{cfe}(l) = (1 - l)^{\frac{1}{\theta}}.$$

In the elliptical case,

$$v'_{elp}(l) = b [1 - (1 - l)^{\mu}]^{\frac{1-\mu}{\mu}} (1 - l)^{\mu-1}$$

- (b) My estimates were $b = 0.501$ and $\mu = 1.554$. The plot of the two marginal utilities can be found in figure 1.

2. Checking feasibility in the steady-state

- (a) The consumption constraint is violated. Specifically, $c_1 < 0$.
- (b) Similarly to the case above, the consumption constraint is violated once more. This time $c_2 < 0$.
- (c) In this case, none of the constraints are violated.
- (d) Once again, none of the constraints are violated.
- (e) As a thumb rule, high values for the labor supply and low (but positive) values for savings will not violate any of the constraints.

3. Solve for the steady-state equilibrium

- (a) The steady state values are

```
{'C_ss': 4.3347304222925924,
'EulErr_ss': array([ 3.37152511, -2.56403131, -2.19710288, ...,
2.62509299, 2.67743804, 3.31542748]),
'K_ss': 1.9763389650259522,
'L_ss': 8.2417330233076775,
'RCerr_ss': 5.5511151231257827e-16,
'Y_ss': 4.999925738767649,
'b_ss': array([ 0.04176371, 0.10345494, 0.16777769, 0.22660614,
0.28004111, 0.32058685, 0.33238941, 0.29556384, 0.20815528]),
'c_ss': array([ 0.35215818, 0.34907219, 0.37643968, 0.40719693,
0.43346902, 0.46243928, 0.48020632, 0.4981081 , 0.49906487,
0.47657586]),
'n_ss': array([ 0.9989684 , 0.98354507, 0.97375055, 0.94828273,
```

```

0.91934412, 0.88574648, 0.80147411, 0.70712497, 0.63253415,
0.39096245]),
'r_ss': 0.54888291497069996,
'ss_time': 0.015906726519233416,
'w_ss': 0.39432868317962816}

```

- (b) The distribution of consumption and savings is in figure 2; the distribution of labor supply is in figure 3.
- (c) When α drops to 0.25, wages increase, since the marginal product of labor has increased. The increase in wages increases the labor supply, increasing L . It also makes consumers richer, so consumption increases and so does aggregate production. Savings drop as a higher fraction of consumer's wealth comes from labor. Despite the decrease in α , making capital less valuable for production, the increase in L and in total production end up increasing the marginal product of capital, thus increasing the interest rate as well.

The new steady state values are as below:

```

{'C_ss': 5.4922493741343672,
'K_ss': 1.6744890292626833,
'L_ss': 9.2954952934901325,
'Y_ss': 6.0558481694147988,
'b_ss': array([ 0.02596725,  0.09787919,  0.17396547,  0.24743017,
 0.31016607,  0.29233795,  0.28944248,  0.18709221,  0.05020824]),
'c_ss': array([ 0.43384328,  0.43078356,  0.46165551,  0.5045682 ,
 0.53112749,  0.59709924,  0.63608323,  0.69120299,  0.64256411,
 0.56332176]),
'n_ss': array([ 0.94105545,  0.9986618 ,  0.98685773,  0.98093893,
 0.92800383,  0.82526723,  0.95632237,  0.86894888,  0.81761307,
 0.99182601]),
'r_ss': 0.56755417949303399,
'ss_time': 0.010697268452076969,
'w_ss': 0.48861152457813578}

```

4. Solve for the non-steady-state equilibrium time path

- (a) The plots are in figures 4 (capital), 5 (interest rate) and 6 (wages).
- (b) See figures 7 (labor supply) and 8 (savings)

Figures

Different Specifications for Marginal Utility

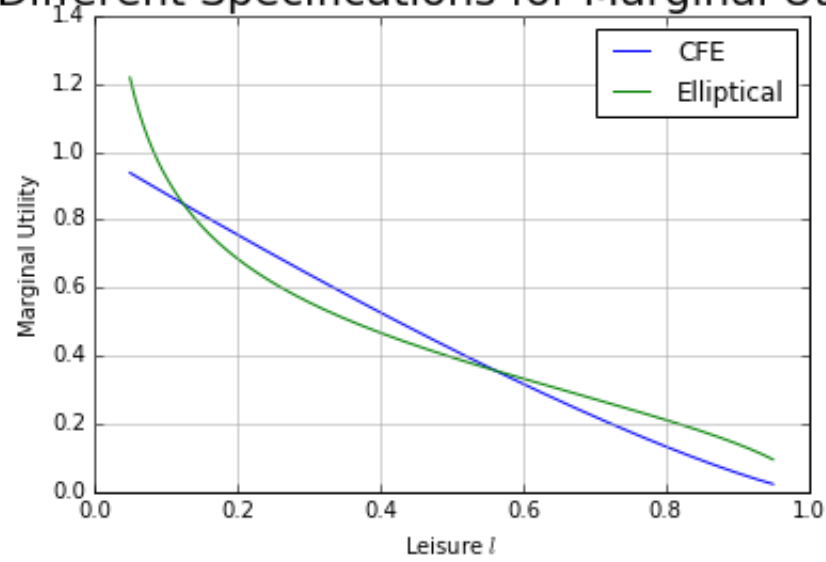


Figure 1: Marginal utility of leisure in CFE and Elliptical specifications.

Steady-state consumption and savings

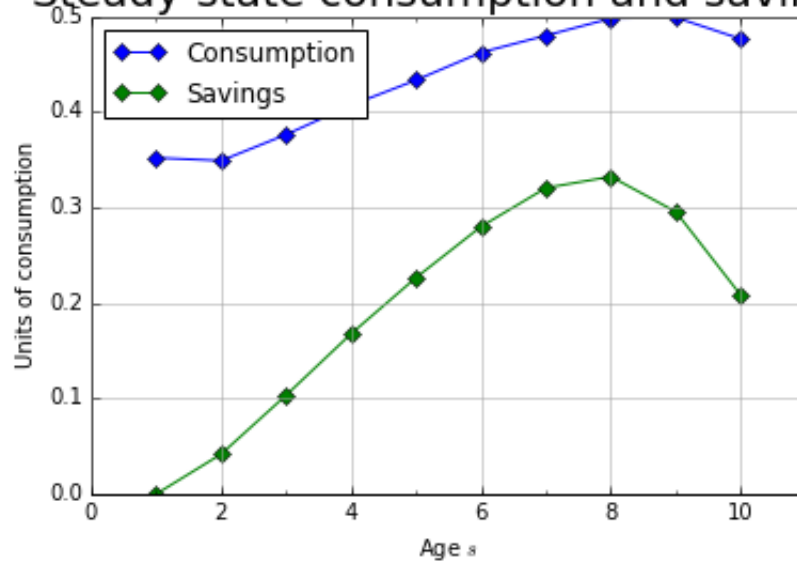


Figure 2: Distribution of consumption and savings in steady state.

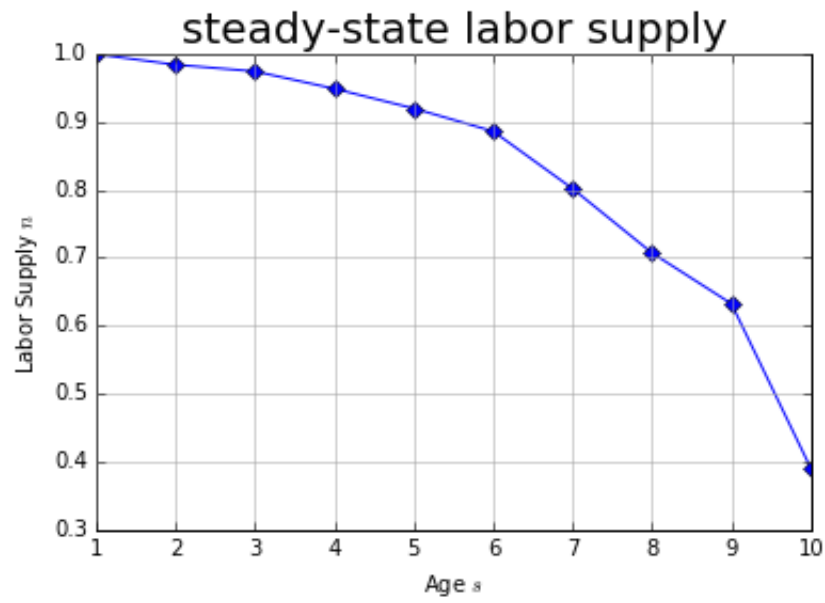


Figure 3: Distribution of labor supply in steady state.

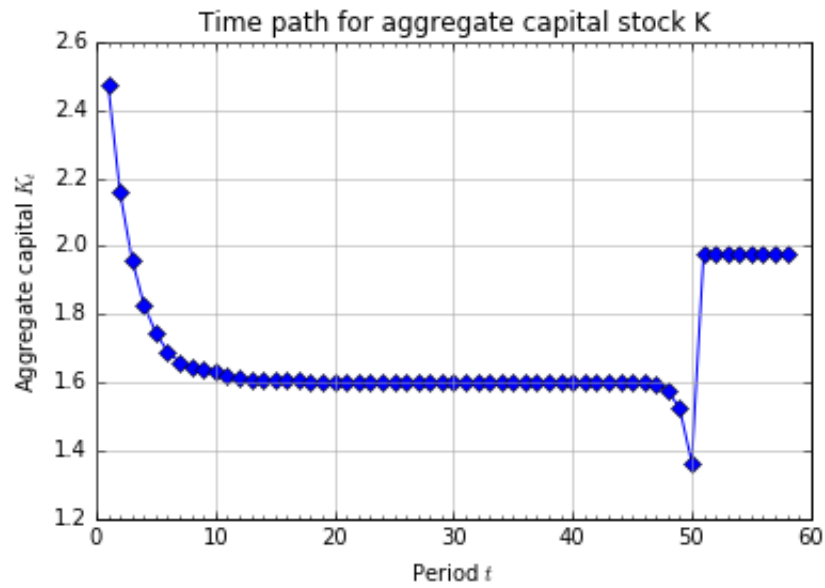


Figure 4: Time path of capital to Steady State.

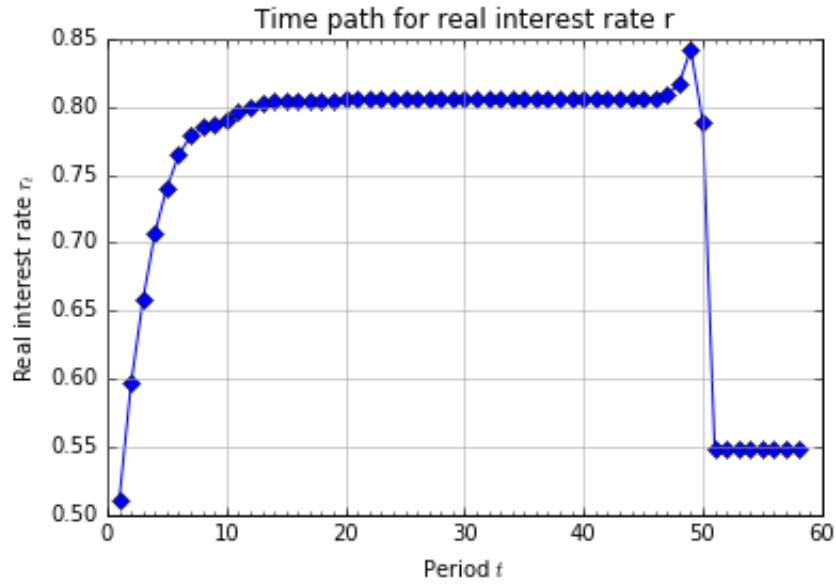


Figure 5: Time path of interest rate to Steady State.

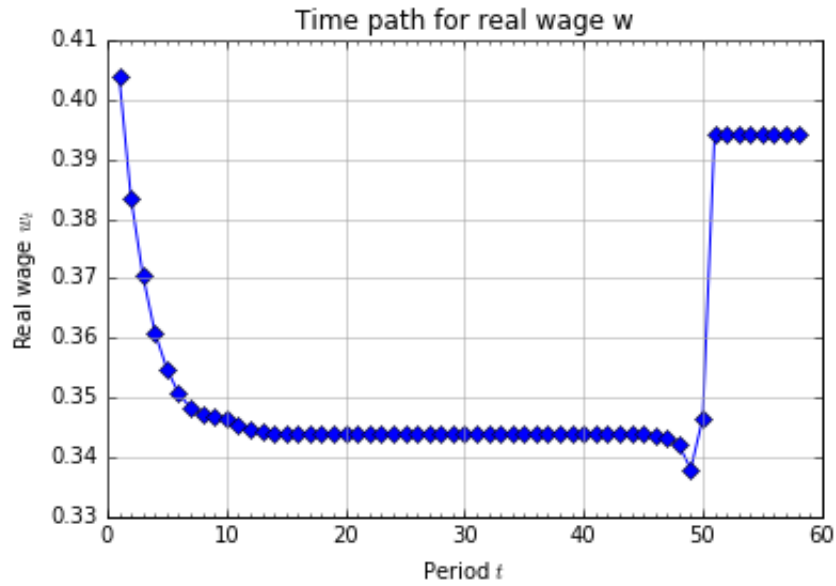


Figure 6: Time path of wages to Steady State.

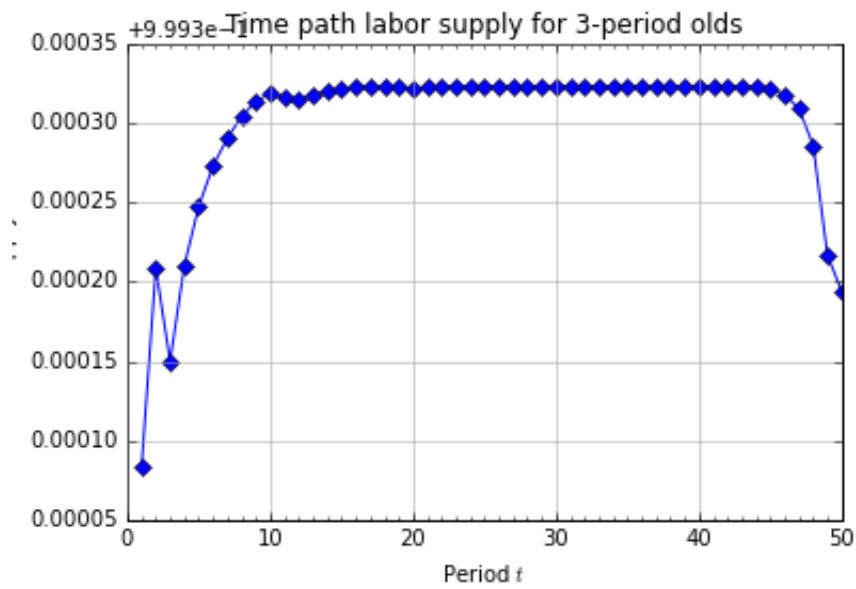


Figure 7: Equilibrium time path labor supply for 3-period olds.

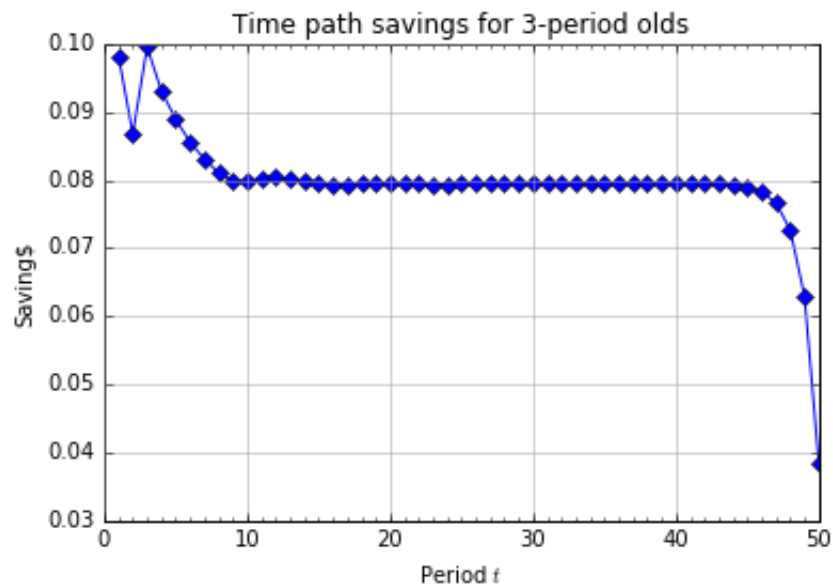


Figure 8: Equilibrium time path savings for 3-period olds.