

ASSIGNMENT I: TECHNICAL

Vision: This project teaches you to solve for the *stationary equilibrium* and *transition path* in a heterogeneous agent model and analyze the economic results.

- **Problem:** The problem consists of
 1. A number of questions (page 2)
 2. A model (page 3-4)
- **Code:** The problem is designed to be solved with the *GEModelTools* package.
- **Structure:** Your project should consist of
 1. A single self-contained pdf-file with all results
 2. A single Jupyter notebook showing how the results are produced
 3. Well-documented *.py* files
- **Hand-in:** Upload a single zip-file on Absalon (and nothing else)
- **Deadline:** 6th of October 2023
- **Exam:** Your Assignment I will be a part of your exam portfolio.
You can incorporate feedback before handing in the final version.

HANC with multiple types of labor

- a) **Setup.** Define the stationary equilibrium, the transition path and create a DAG for the model.
- b) **Solve for the stationary equilibrium.** Discuss and illustrate which factors determines wealth inequality.
- c) **Compute and inspect the Jacobians of the household block wrt. φ_0 .**
- d) **Solve for the transition path when φ_{0t} is 10 percent higher for 10 periods.** Discuss which types of agents this benefits.
- e) **Solve for the transition path when φ_{0t} is *permanently* 10 percent.** Discuss which types of agents this benefits.

1. Model

Households. The model has a continuum of infinitely lived households indexed by $i \in [0, 1]$. Households are *ex ante* heterogeneous in terms of their discount factors, β_i , and their ability, χ_i . The discount factors are drawn with equal probabilities from a three element set, $\beta_i \in \{\check{\beta} - \sigma_\beta, \check{\beta}, \check{\beta} + \sigma_\beta\}$. The abilities are either low or high with equal probability, $\chi_i \in \{0, 1\}$.

Households choose consumption and exogenously supply two types of labor, η_i^j for $j \in \{0, 1\}$ with associated productivity φ_t^j . Savings is in terms of capital, which is rented out to firms at the rental rate, r_t^K . There are no possibilities to borrow. Households are *ex post* heterogeneous in terms of their stochastic labor productivity, s_{it} , and their (end-of-period) savings, a_{it-1} . The distribution of households over idiosyncratic states is denoted \underline{D}_t before shocks are realized and D_t afterwards. The real wages are w_t^j , and real-profits are Π_t .

The household problem is

$$\begin{aligned} v_t(s_{it}, a_{it-1}) &= \max_{c_t} \frac{c_{it}^{1-\sigma}}{1-\sigma} - \nu \frac{\left(\sum_{j=0}^1 \eta_i^j\right)^{1+\varepsilon}}{1+\varepsilon} + \beta_i \mathbb{E}_t [v_{t+1}(s_{it+1}, a_{it})] \\ \text{s.t. } a_{it} + c_{it} &= (1 + r_t^K - \delta)a_{it-1} + \sum_{j=0}^1 w_t^j \varphi_t^j \eta_i^j s_{it} + \Pi_t \\ \log s_{it+1} &= \rho_s \log s_{it} + \psi_{it+1}, \quad \psi_{it+1} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_\psi, \sigma_\psi), \quad \mathbb{E}[s_{it}] = 1 \\ a_{it} &\geq 0. \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

The Euler-equation is

$$c_{it}^{-\rho} = \beta_i \mathbb{E} [v_{a,it+1}(s_{it+1}, a_{it})] \tag{2}$$

$$v_{a,it} = (1 + r_t^K - \delta) c_{it}^{-\sigma}. \tag{3}$$

The aggregate quantities of central interest are

$$C_t^{hh} = \int c_{it} dD_t \tag{4}$$

$$L_t^{j,hh} = \int \varphi_t^j \eta_i^j s_{it} dD_t \text{ for } j \in \{0, 1\} \tag{5}$$

$$A_t^{hh} = \int a_{it} dD_t \tag{6}$$

Firms. A representative firm rents capital, K_{t-1} , and hires both types of labor, L_t^1 and L_t^2 , to produce goods, with the production function

$$Y_t = \Gamma_t K_{t-1}^\alpha \Pi_{j=0}^1 \left(L_t^j \right)^{\frac{1-\alpha}{2}} \quad (7)$$

where Γ_t is technology and α is the Cobb-Douglas weight parameter on capital. Capital depreciates with the rate $\delta \in (0, 1)$. The real rental price of capital is r_t^K and the real wage is w_t . Profits are $\Pi_t = Y_t - w_t L_t - r_t^K K_{t-1}$. The households own the representative firm in equal shares.

The law-of-motion for capital is $K_t = (1 - \delta)K_{t-1} + I_t$.

Market clearing. Market clearing implies

1. Asset market: $K_t = A_t^{hh}$
2. Labor market: $L_t^j = L_t^{j, hh}$
3. Goods market: $Y_t = C_t^{hh} + I_t$

2. Calibration

1. **Preferences:** $\sigma = 2, \check{\beta} = 0.975, \sigma_\beta = 0.01, \nu = 0.5, \varepsilon = 1.0$
2. Labor supply: $\eta_i^j = \begin{cases} \eta^j & \text{if } \chi_i = j \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}, \varphi_{ss}^0 = 2, \varphi_{ss}^1 = 1$
3. **Income process:** $\rho_s = 0.95, \sigma_\psi = 0.30\sqrt{(1 - \rho_z^2)},$
4. **Production:** $\Gamma_{ss} = 1, \alpha_{ss} = 0.36, \delta = 0.10$