

ECON 210C PROBLEM SET # 2

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1. INVESTMENT AND THE HOUSING MARKET

(a).

- (1) $I = \psi(P)$: Gross investment in housing is an increasing function of the price of houses. This specification implies that housing investment can be interpreted as the supply of new housing.
- (2) $r + \delta = (R + \dot{P})/P$: This implies that the costs of investing into a house, namely forgone investment income and depreciation are equal to the benefits, namely rental payments and capital gains.
- (3) $R = R(H)$: Rental cost is a decreasing function of the size of the housing stock.
- (4) $\dot{H} = I - \delta H$: The housing stock can change in two ways, housing investment and depreciation.

(b). We merely substitute to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{H} &= \psi(P) - \delta H \\ r + \delta &= (R(H) + \dot{P})/P\end{aligned}$$