

Friedman (1957) Concretely, a consumer born n periods before date T solves the problem

$$v_{T-n} = \max \mathbb{E}_t \left[\sum_{i=0}^n \beta^i u(c_{t+i}) \right]$$

Appendices

A Perfect Foresight Liquidity Constrained Solution

Under perfect foresight in the presence of a liquidity constraint requiring $b \geq 0$, this appendix taxonomizes the varieties of the limiting consumption function $\hat{c}(m)$ that arise under various parametric conditions. Results are summarized in table ??.

A.1 If GIC Fails

A consumer is ‘growth patient’ if the perfect foresight growth impatience condition fails (GIC, $1 < \beta/\Gamma$). Under GIC the constraint does not bind at the lowest feasible value of $m_t = 1$ because $1 < (\beta R)^{1/\rho}/\Gamma$ implies that spending everything today (setting $c_t = m_t = 1$) produces lower marginal utility than is obtainable by reallocating a marginal unit of resources to the next period at return R :¹

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &< (\beta R)^{1/\rho} \Gamma^{-1} \\ 1 &< \beta R \Gamma^{-\rho} \\ u'(1) &< \beta R u'(\Gamma). \end{aligned}$$

Reference to (??)

References

FRIEDMAN, MILTON A. (1957): *A Theory of the Consumption Function*. Princeton University Press.

¹The point at which the constraint would bind (if that point could be attained) is the $m = c$ for which $u'(c_\#) = \beta R u'(\Gamma)$ which is $c_\# = \Gamma/(\beta R)^{1/\rho}$ and the consumption function will be defined by $\hat{c}(m) = \min[m, c_\# + (m - c_\#)\underline{\kappa}]$.