

**Social Security and the Baby Boom.** Analysts often comment that the U.S. Social Security system is in trouble because of the large size of the ‘baby boom’ generation. Consider a society in which there is a single generation, born at date  $t$ , that is larger than both the generations before it (born in periods  $t - 1$  and earlier) and the generations after it (born in periods  $t + 1$  and later). Discuss what the generational accounting framework says about the effects on various generations from such a ‘baby boom,’ in a Pay As You Go social security system. (Specifically, compare a policy that keeps per-capita benefits constant across generations to a policy that keeps per-capita taxes constant across generations).

## References