

6 Log-linearization

6.1 Overview

- The modern business cycle models study the economic fluctuations around the steady state. That is, the steady state is a long-run equilibrium, and the deviation from the steady state is a short-run.
- Then, we can focus on small movement around the steady state. As the spirit of Taylor expansion, the linearized system may be a good enough approximation. It eliminates a difficulty due to non-linearity, like complicated divergent economic paths on the phase diagram of Ramsey model.
- Three topics
 1. The linear dynamic system
 2. Log linearization
 3. The solution of the log-linearized Ramsey model.
- useful lecture slides
<http://www.chrisedmond.net/hons2019.html>
- Miao, chapter 1,2,3,15. But too much detail

6.2 Linear dynamic system

- A dynamic linear system of two variables

$$x_{t+1} = a_{11}x_t + a_{12}y_t$$

$$y_{t+1} = a_{21}x_t + a_{22}y_t$$

- matrix representation

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} \\ y_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \end{pmatrix}$$

- The matrix $A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}$ can be diagonalized (対角化)

$$A = V^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} V$$

- λ_1 and λ_2 are called eigenvalues (固有値) and V is called eigenvectors (固有ベクトル).
- How to derive? (Honestly speaking, I forgot) Calculate the determinant (行列式)

$$\left| \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix} - \lambda I \right| = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \lambda^2 - (a_{11} + a_{22})\lambda + a_{11}a_{22} - a_{12}a_{21} = 0$$

- Rewrite the system

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} \\ y_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = V^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} V \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow V \begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} \\ y_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} V \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \end{pmatrix}$$

- Let $V = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{pmatrix}$.
- Coordinate change. Define

$$z_{1,t} = v_{11}x_t + v_{12}y_t \quad z_{2,t} = v_{21}x_t + v_{22}y_t$$

Then,

$$\begin{pmatrix} z_{1,t+1} \\ z_{2,t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_{1,t} \\ z_{2,t} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Two variables are separated!

$$z_{1,t} = \lambda_1^t z_{1,0} \quad z_{2,t} = \lambda_2^t z_{2,0}$$

- Converge to zero or diverge to ∞ . Depending on λ .
 1. Case1 (Sink) Both λ_1 and λ_2 are less than 1. In this case, the system eventually converges to the steady state wherever the initial point is.
 2. Case2 (Saddle) A λ is larger than 1, a λ is less than 1. In this case, the system diverges except the knife-edge path.
 3. Case3 (Source) Both λ_1 and λ_2 are larger than 1. In this case, the system diverges regardless of the initial point.

6.3 Log linearization

- Linear Approximation (線形近似)

$$f(x) \approx f(x^*) + f'(x^*)(x - x^*)$$

- Log Linear Approximation (対数線形近似)

$$\begin{aligned} \ln f(x) &\approx \ln f(x^*) + \frac{d \ln f(x^*)}{dx} (x - x^*) \\ &= \ln f(x^*) + \frac{f'(x^*)}{f(x^*)} (x - x^*) \\ &= \ln f(x^*) + \frac{f'(x^*)x^*}{f(x^*)} \underbrace{\left(\frac{(x - x^*)}{x^*} \right)}_{\hat{x}} \end{aligned}$$

where \ln denotes natural logarithm, \approx denotes approximation, \hat{x} denotes the percent deviation from the steady state value.

- If $y = f(x)$,

$$\hat{y} \approx \ln f(x) - \ln f(x^*) = \frac{f'(x^*)x^*}{f(x^*)} \hat{x}$$

- Similarly,

$$\ln f(x, y) \approx \ln f(x^*, y^*) + \frac{(\partial f / \partial x^*)x^*}{f(x^*, y^*)} \hat{x} + \frac{(\partial f / \partial y^*)y^*}{f(x^*, y^*)} \hat{y}$$

- In the business cycle analysis, we do not care the level of economic variables. To consider percent changes instead, log - linearization is better.

- Examples

$$y = x^a z^b \Rightarrow \hat{y} = a\hat{x} + b\hat{z}$$

$$y = ax + bz \Rightarrow \hat{y} = \left(\frac{ax^*}{ax^* + bz^*} \right) \hat{x} + \left(\frac{bz^*}{ax^* + bz^*} \right) \hat{z}$$

$$y = (ax + b)^c \Rightarrow \hat{y} = c \left(\frac{ax^*}{ax^* + b} \right) \hat{x}$$

$$y = f(x) + g(z) \Rightarrow \hat{y} = \left(\frac{f'(x^*)x^*}{f(x^*) + g(z^*)} \right) \hat{x} + \left(\frac{g'(z^*)}{f(x^*) + g(z^*)} \right) \hat{z}$$

6.4 Log linearization of Ramsey model

Euler: $u'(c_t) = \beta(1 + f'(k_{t+1}) - \delta)u'(c_{t+1})$

Resource: $k_{t+1} + c_t = (1 - \delta)k_t + f(k_t)$

- Log linearization of Resource Constraint

$$k_{t+1} + c_t = f(k_t) + (1 - \delta)k_t$$

– Approximation around the steady state (k^{ss}, c^{ss})

– LHS

$$\left(\frac{k^{ss}}{k^{ss} + c^{ss}} \right) \hat{k}_{t+1} + \left(\frac{c^{ss}}{k^{ss} + c^{ss}} \right) \hat{c}_t$$

– RHS

$$\frac{[f'(k^{ss}) + 1 - \delta] k^{ss}}{f(k^{ss}) + (1 - \delta)k^{ss}} \hat{k}_t$$

– By the steady state condition, $k^{ss} + c^{ss} = f(k^{ss}) + (1 - \delta)k^{ss}$. Then, by LHS=RHS,

$$k^{ss} \hat{k}_{t+1} + c^{ss} \hat{c}_t = [f'(k^{ss}) + 1 - \delta] k^{ss} \hat{k}_t$$

– By the steady state condition of $\Delta c = 0$ line, we know that

$$1 = \beta[f'(k^{ss}) + 1 - \delta]$$

– Finally, we get

$$k^{ss} \hat{k}_{t+1} + c^{ss} \hat{c}_t = \frac{1}{\beta} k^{ss} \hat{k}_t$$

- Log-linearization of Euler

– Euler

$$\frac{u'(c_t)}{u'(c_{t+1})} = \beta[f'(k_{t+1}) + 1 - \delta]$$

– LHS

$$\frac{u''(c^{ss})c^{ss}}{u'(c^{ss})}(\hat{c}_t - \hat{c}_{t+1})$$

- Notation: the Arrow/Pratt measure of relative risk aversion

$$\sigma(c) = -\frac{u''(c)c}{u'(c)} > 0$$

- LHS

$$\sigma(c^{ss})(\hat{c}_{t+1} - \hat{c}_t)$$

- RHS

$$\frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})k^{ss}}{\beta[f'(k^{ss}) + 1 - \delta]} \hat{k}_{t+1}$$

In the steady state, $\beta[f'(k^{ss}) + 1 - \delta] = 1$. Then,

$$\beta f''(k^{ss})k^{ss} \hat{k}_{t+1}$$

- Then, by LHS=RHS,

$$\hat{c}_{t+1} - \hat{c}_t = \frac{1}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \beta f''(k^{ss})k^{ss} \hat{k}_{t+1}$$

- The linearized system of equations

- Summary

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{k}_{t+1} &= \frac{1}{\beta} \hat{k}_t - \frac{c^{ss}}{k^{ss}} \hat{c}_t \\ \hat{c}_{t+1} - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})k^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \hat{k}_{t+1} &= \hat{c}_t \end{aligned}$$

- Substitute the first one to the second

$$\hat{c}_{t+1} = \frac{f''(k^{ss})k^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \hat{k}_t + \left(1 - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})}\right) \hat{c}_t$$

- Matrix representation

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{k}_{t+1} \\ \hat{c}_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\beta} & -\frac{c^{ss}}{k^{ss}} \\ \frac{f''(k^{ss})k^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} & 1 - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{k}_t \\ \hat{c}_t \end{pmatrix}$$

- Dynamic property

- Determinants

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\beta} & -\frac{c^{ss}}{k^{ss}} \\ \frac{f''(k^{ss})k^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} & 1 - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \end{pmatrix} - \lambda I \right| = 0 \\ \Leftrightarrow p(\lambda) & \equiv \lambda^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})}\right) \lambda + \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} + \frac{f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} \\ & = \lambda^2 - \left(1 + \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})}\right) \lambda + \frac{1}{\beta} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

- Eigenvalues

$$p(0) = \frac{1}{\beta} > 0$$

$$p(1) = 1 - 1 - \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} + \frac{1}{\beta} = \frac{\beta f''(k^{ss})c^{ss}}{\sigma(c^{ss})} < 0$$

- One λ must be between 0 and 1, and the other must be larger than 1.
- The linearized Ramsey model is saddle!

6.5 Rational Expectation

- Summary

$$V \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_{t+1} \\ \hat{c}_{t+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} V \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_t \\ \hat{c}_t \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow V \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_t \\ \hat{c}_t \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^t & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^t \end{bmatrix} V \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_0 \\ \hat{c}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Define $V^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{pmatrix}$. (It is different from the previous V)

$$\begin{aligned} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_T \\ \hat{c}_T \end{bmatrix} &= V^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^T & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^T \end{bmatrix} V \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_0 \\ \hat{c}_0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} v_{11} & v_{12} \\ v_{21} & v_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1^T & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2^T \end{bmatrix} \frac{1}{\det(V^{-1})} \begin{bmatrix} v_{22} & -v_{12} \\ -v_{21} & v_{11} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_0 \\ \hat{c}_0 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \frac{1}{\det(V^{-1})} \begin{bmatrix} v_{11}\lambda_1^T & v_{12}\lambda_2^T \\ v_{21}\lambda_1^T & v_{22}\lambda_2^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_{22}\lambda_1^T & -v_{12}\lambda_2^T \\ -v_{21}\lambda_1^T & v_{11}\lambda_2^T \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

then

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_T \\ \hat{c}_T \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\det(V^{-1})} \begin{bmatrix} v_{11}\lambda_1^T(v_{22}\hat{k}_0 - v_{12}\hat{c}_0) & v_{12}\lambda_2^T(-v_{21}\hat{k}_0 + v_{11}\hat{c}_0) \\ v_{21}\lambda_1^T(v_{22}\hat{k}_0 - v_{12}\hat{c}_0) & v_{22}\lambda_2^T(-v_{21}\hat{k}_0 + v_{11}\hat{c}_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Suppose $\lambda_1 > 0$ and $\lambda_2 < 0$.
- Remember that the economy or the representative agent chooses c_0 so that the dynamic path converges to the steady state.
 - k is called a pre-determined variable (先決変数). It is usually the state variable (状態変数). Given k_t , the economy decide k_{t+1} and c_t .
 - c is called a jump variable. It can be flexibly chosen.
- The convergence requires that both \hat{k}_0 and \hat{c}_0 converge to zero. However, $\lambda_1 > 0$ tend to diverge the system.
- The only way to avoid the divergence: choose appropriate \hat{c}_0 so that

$$v_{22}\hat{k}_0 = v_{12}\hat{c}_0$$

- The solution.

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{k}_T \\ \hat{c}_T \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_{12}\lambda_2^T(-v_{21}\hat{k}_0 + v_{11}\hat{c}_0) \\ v_{22}\lambda_2^T(-v_{21}\hat{k}_0 + v_{11}\hat{c}_0) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} v_{12}\lambda_2^T(\frac{v_{11}v_{22}}{v_{12}})\hat{k}_0 \\ v_{22}\lambda_2^T(\frac{v_{11}v_{22}}{v_{12}})\hat{k}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{k}_T &= \lambda_2^T v_{11} v_{22} \hat{k}_0 \\ \hat{c}_T &= \lambda_2^T \left(\frac{v_{11} v_{22}^2}{v_{12}} \right) \hat{k}_0 \end{aligned}$$

- Numerically, q and λ are obtained from parameters and steady state values of endogenous variables. Given initial \tilde{k}_0 , the path is calculated.
- For three or more variable case, the rational expectation requires that
 - The number of the eigenvalues larger than 1
 - = The number of jump variables