

### Model(Aiyagari, 1994)

- Preference:  $\mathbb{E}_0 \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \beta^i u(C_t)$
- Budget constraint:  $c_t + a_{t+1} = (1 + r)a_t + w_t l_t$  where  $l_t$  follows the AR(1) process:  $l_t = \rho l_{t-1} + \sigma \epsilon_t$  and  $\epsilon_t \sim N(0, 1)$ .
- $a_t \geq -B$  and  $c_t \geq 0$
- Bellman equation is  $V(a, s) = \max_{a_t \geq -B, c_t \geq 0} u((1 + r_t)a_t + w_t l_t - a_{t+1}) + \beta \mathbb{E}[V(a', s') | s]$ .
- C-D production function:  $Y_t = A_t K_t^\alpha L_t^{1-\alpha}$  which could drive the prices from FOCs  $r = \alpha A_t \left(\frac{K}{L}\right)^{\alpha-1}$  and  $w = (1 - \alpha) A_t \left(\frac{L}{K}\right)^\alpha$ .
- Market clearing conditions:  $Y = \int c d\mu + K' - (1 - \delta)K$  and  $L = \int l d\mu$  and capital  $K = \int k d\mu$ .
- Calibration: set  $\beta = 0.96, \gamma = 2, B = 0, \delta = 0.1, \alpha = 0.33$ .

**Tauchen method** Here we use the Tauchen method to discretize the AR(1) process

$$\log l_t = \rho \log l_{t-1} + \sigma_t \epsilon_t$$

here  $\sigma_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-\rho^2}}$ . First, we set  $n$ , the number of realizations (usually 5 or 6). Second, we pick  $m$  and set  $z_{\max} = \sigma_z m$  and  $z_{\min} = -\sigma_z m$  where usual values of  $m$  2 or 3. Hence, we could write down the discretization  $z_i = z_{\min} + \frac{z_{\max} - z_{\min}}{n-1} (i-1)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  for equal distance and construct the midpoint  $\{\tilde{z}\}_{i=1}^{n-1}$ , which are given by  $\tilde{z}_i = \frac{z_{i+1} + z_i}{2}$ . Lastly, we calculate the transition probabilities  $\pi_{z,z'}$  by the following formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_{ij} &= \Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{z}_j - \rho z_i}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{z}_{j-1} - \rho z_i}{\sigma}\right) \quad j = 2, 3, \dots, n-1 \\ \pi_{i1} &= \Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{z}_1 - \rho z_i}{\sigma}\right) \\ \pi_{in} &= 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\tilde{z}_{n-1} - \rho z_i}{\sigma}\right) \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

where  $\Phi(\cdot)$  denotes a CDF of a  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .

**Endogenous Grid Method(Carroll, 2006)** Start from at the end of period level of capital, using the Euler equation, one may recover the beginning-of-period consumption and level of capital without using a root-finding algorithm.

Cash-on-hand is  $m_t = (1 + r_t)a_t + w_t l_t$  and the Euler equation is  $u'(c_t) = \beta(1 + r_{t+1})u'(c_{t+1})$ .

1. Fix a grid over  $a$ ;

2. Given current guess of policy function  $c(M)$ , (and given current grid  $M$ ), directly compute  $c'(M')$  for each point on the grid  $M$  by the following formula:

$$\begin{cases} c_j = (u')^{-1} (\beta R E_y u' (c((1+r)a_j + w_t l_t))) \\ M_j = (1+r)a_j + c_j \end{cases}$$

Iterating on all points  $a_j \in A$

3. The policy function  $c'$  is the interpolation of points, i.e.  $c'(M') \equiv \{(M_i, c_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

**Extension: endogenous labor supply** The value function will be

$$V(a_t, l_t) = \max_{c_t, h_t, a_{t+1}} u(c_t) - v(h_t) + \beta E_t[V(a_{t+1}, l_{t+1})] \quad (2)$$

subject to

$$c_t + a_{t+1} = (1+r)a_t + h_t l_t w_t$$

$$a_{t+1} \geq -B, c_t \geq 0 \text{ and } h_t \geq 0$$

The **optimality conditions** for every period  $t$  are

$$c_t : 0 = u'(c_t) - \lambda_t$$

$$h_t : 0 = -v'(h_t) + \lambda_t l_t w_t$$

$$a_{t+1} : 0 = \beta E_t \left[ \frac{\partial V(a_{t+1}, y_{t+1})}{\partial a_{t+1}} \right] - \lambda_t + \mu_t, \quad \mu_t (a_{t+1} + B) = 0, \mu_t \geq 0$$

Envelope condition:  $\frac{\partial V(a_t, l_t)}{\partial a_t} = \lambda_t (1+r_t)$

Budget constraint:  $0 = (1+r_t) a_t + h_t l_t w_t - c_t - a_{t+1}$

Eliminating the Lagrange multiplier  $\lambda$ , and the Envelope condition yields the set of equations

$$v'(h_t) = u'(c_t) l_t w_t$$

$$u'(c_t) = \beta E_t [u'(c_{t+1}) (1+r_t)] + \mu_t$$

$$\mu_t (a_{t+1} + B) = 0, \mu_t \geq 0$$

$$a_{t+1} = (1+r_t) a_t + h_t l_t w_t - c_t$$

that characterizes the optimality of the household's choice.

**BKM**([Boppart et al., 2018](#))

**SSJ**([Auclert et al., 2021](#))

## References

- Aiyagari, S. Rao**, “Uninsured Idiosyncratic Risk and Aggregate Saving\*,” *The Quarterly Journal of Economics*, 08 1994, 109 (3), 659–684.
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