

1 Model

1.1 Households

Bonds exist with maturities from 1 to I periods into the future. The price in period t of a bond delivering 1 unit of real consumption in period $t + i$ is denoted q_{it} . The quantity of bonds held in period t , coming due in period $t + i$ is denoted b_{it} . Bonds are contracts structured so that the bond pays one unit of the final output good when the maturity goes to zero, i.e. $q_{it} = 1$.

Households solve the following dynamic program:

$$V(k_{t-1}, \{b_{i-1,t-1}\}_{i=1}^I; \Theta_t) = \max_{x_t, \{b_{i,t}\}_{i=1}^I, l_t} [c_t^\gamma + \psi(1 - l_t)^\gamma]^{\frac{\phi}{\gamma}} + \beta E \{V(k_t, \{b_{it}\}_{i=1}^I; \Theta_{t+1})\}$$

$$c_t = w_t l_t - \tau_t^l (w_t l_t - \text{ded}_t) + tr_t + r_t k_{t-1} + cr_t + \sum_{i=1}^I q_{it} b_{i-1,t-1} \quad (1.1)$$

$$- k_t - \sum_{i=1}^I q_{it} b_{it} - x_t - \tau_t^k (r_t k_{t-1} - x_t \theta_t - A_t)$$

$$A_t \equiv \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} \delta_g (1 - \delta_g)^v (1 - \theta_{t-v}) \frac{P_{t-v} x_{t-v}}{P_t} \quad (1.2)$$

$$k_t = k_{t-1} (1 - \delta) + e^{\omega_t} \left[1 - S \left(\frac{x_t}{x_{t-1}} \right) \right] x_t \quad (1.3)$$

where Θ_t is a set of variables known to the household.

There is one Euler equation which implicitly defines x_t .

There is another Euler equation which implicitly defines l_t .

There are I Euler equations which implicitly define the $\{b_{it}\}_{i=1}^I$.

$$u_{c,t}q_{it} = \beta E \{u_{c,t+1}q_{i-1,b+1}\} \quad (1.4)$$

$$u_{ct} \equiv \phi[c_t^\gamma + \psi(1-l_t)^\gamma]^{\frac{\phi-\gamma}{\gamma}} c_t^{\gamma-1} \quad (1.5)$$

1.2 Market Clearing

Markets for bonds of all maturities must clear each period. Demand for bonds of maturity i are denoted b_{it} above. Supply of bonds by the government will be denoted B_{it} . Market clearing gives:

$$b_{it} = B_{it}; \forall i, t \quad (1.6)$$

The laws of motion for the supplies of bonds are as follows. Each period the government issues a new set of assets of maturities 1 through I , we denote these as B_{it}^N . Assets of maturity 0 are retired. This gives:

$$B_{It} = B_{It}^N \quad (1.7)$$

$$B_{it} = B_{i+1,t-1} + B_{it}^N; \text{ for } 1 \leq i \leq I-1 \quad (1.8)$$

If the longest maturity is 6 periods and if the government only ever issues bonds of maturities 1 and 6, then we have $I = 6$ and $B_{it}^N = 0$ if $1 < i < 6$. The remaining B_{1t}^N and B_{6t}^N will follow some exogenous law of motion that reflects government policy.

Once we know the exogenous behavior of the supplies from above, the I Euler equations from equation (1.5) now implicitly define the market clearing prices, $\{q_{it}\}_{i=1}^I$, as functions of the state variables. Hence, like l_t , bond prices are “jump” variables.

The yield curve can be derived from the bond prices by calculating yield-to-maturity for simple bonds.

$$\begin{aligned}q_{it} &= \left(\frac{1}{1 + r_{it}} \right)^i \\r_{it} &= q_{it}^{-\frac{1}{i}} - 1\end{aligned}\tag{1.9}$$