

Table 1 Definitions and Comparisons of Conditions

| Perfect Foresight Versions | Uncertainty Versions |
|---|---|
| Finite Human Wealth Condition (FWHC) | |
| $\Gamma/R < 1$ The growth factor for permanent income Γ must be smaller than the discounting factor R for human wealth to be finite. | $\Gamma/R < 1$ The model's risks are mean-preserving spreads, so the PDV of future income is unchanged by their introduction. |
| Absolute Impatience Condition (AIC) | |
| $\mathbf{P} < 1$ The unconstrained consumer is sufficiently impatient that the level of consumption will be declining over time: $c_{t+1} < c_t$ | $\mathbf{P} < 1$ <i>If wealth is large enough, the expectation of consumption next period will be smaller than this period's consumption:</i> $\lim_{m_t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}_t[c_{t+1}] < c_t$ |
| Return Impatience Conditions | |
| Return Impatience Condition (RIC) | Weak RIC (WRIC) |
| $\mathbf{P}/R < 1$ The growth factor for consumption \mathbf{P} must be smaller than the discounting factor R , so that the PDV of current and future consumption will be finite: $c'(m) = 1 - \mathbf{P}/R < 1$ | $\wp^{1/\rho} \mathbf{P}/R < 1$ If the probability of the zero-income event is $\wp = 1$ then income is always zero and the condition becomes identical to the RIC. Otherwise, weaker. $c'(m) < 1 - \wp^{1/\rho} \mathbf{P}/R < 1$ |
| Growth Impatience Conditions | |
| PF-GIC | GIC |
| $\mathbf{P}/\Gamma < 1$ Guarantees that for an unconstrained consumer, the ratio of consumption to permanent income will fall over time. For a constrained consumer, guarantees the constraint will eventually be binding. | $\mathbf{P} \mathbb{E}[\psi^{-1}]/\Gamma < 1$ By Jensen's inequality, stronger than the PF-GIC. Ensures consumers will not expect to accumulate m unboundedly. $\lim_{m_t \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}_t[m_{t+1}/m_t] = \mathbf{P}_{\underline{\Gamma}}$ |
| Finite Value of Autarky Conditions | |
| PF-FVAC | FVAC |
| $\beta \Gamma^{1-\rho} < 1$ equivalently $\mathbf{P}/\Gamma < (R/\Gamma)^{1/\rho}$ The discounted utility of constrained consumers who spend their permanent income each period should be finite. | $\beta \Gamma^{1-\rho} \mathbb{E}[\psi^{1-\rho}] < 1$ By Jensen's inequality, stronger than the PF-FVAC because for $\rho > 1$ and nondegenerate ψ , $\mathbb{E}[\psi^{1-\rho}] > 1$. |