

0.1 Model with Time Preference Heterogeneity

In this model, the economy consists of a continuum of households of mass one distributed on the unit interval. Households die with a constant probability $D = 1 - \beta$ between periods. (This is different from our baseline model in which households only face probability of dying after they become unemployed.) The income process was described in section ???. Each household maximizes expected discounted utility from consumption:

$$\max \mathbb{E}_t \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\beta)^n u(c_{t+n}) \quad (1)$$

The household consumption function c satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} v(m_t) &= \max_{c_t} u(c(m_t)) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t \psi_{t+1}^{1-\rho} v(m_{t+1}), \\ \text{s.t.} \\ a_t &= m_t - c(m_t) \\ k_{t+1} &= \frac{a_t}{\beta \psi_{t+1}} \\ m_{t+1} &= (\bar{r} + r_t)k_{t+1} + \xi_{t+1} \\ a_t &\geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

where the variables are divided by the level of permanent income $\mathbf{p} = p_t \mathbf{W}$, so that when aggregate shocks are shut down, the only state variable is (normalized) cash-on hand m_t . The production function is Cobb-Douglas:

$$Z K^\alpha (\ell L)^{1-\alpha} \quad (2)$$

The aggregate wage rate \mathbf{W}_t is determined by the aggregate productivity Z_t , capital stock K_t , and the aggregate supply of labor L_t :

$$\mathbf{W}_t = (1 - \alpha) Z_t \left(\frac{K_t}{\ell L} \right)^\alpha \quad (3)$$

L_t is driven by two aggregate shocks:

$$L_t = P_t \Theta_t \quad (4)$$

$$P_t = P_{t-1} \Psi_t \quad (5)$$

where P_t is aggregate permanent productivity, Ψ_t is the aggregate permanent shock and Θ_t is the aggregate transitory shock.¹

¹Note that Ψ is the capitalized version of the Greek letter ψ used for the idiosyncratic permanent shock; similarly Θ is the capitalized θ