

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 the baseline model in which households only face probability of dying after they become unemployed. The income process of a household has been described in section 3.2. Each household maximizes expected discount utility from consumption:

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

The household consumption functions satisfies:

$$v(m_t) = \max_{c_t} u(c_t(m_t)) + \beta \mathbb{E}_t (\psi_{t+1})^{1-\rho} v(m_{t+1}), \quad (2)$$

s.t.,

$$a_t = m_t - c(m_t) \quad (3)$$

$$k_{t+1} = \frac{a_t}{\beta \psi_{t+1}} \quad (4)$$

$$m_{t+1} = (\mathbb{I} + r_t)k_{t+1} + \xi_{t+1} \quad (5)$$

$$a_t \geq 0 \quad (6)$$

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-Douglass:

$$ZK^\alpha (\ell L)^{1-\alpha} \quad (7)$$

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 :

$$\mathbf{W}_t = (1 - \alpha) Z_t \left(\frac{K_t}{\ell L} \right)^\alpha \quad (8)$$

L_t is driven by two aggregate shocks:

$$L_t = P_t \Theta_t \quad (9)$$

$$P_t = P_{t-1} \Psi_t \quad (10)$$

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

References