

## - WHY do we use OLG?

- + agents don't live infinitely (they die).
  - + new agents are born over time.
  - + considers the dynamic interaction between generations [elders' decisions affect youngers]
  - + tractable alternative to infinitely lived representative agent.
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- + Break First Welfare Theorem.
  - + Break Ricardian equivalence and the implication that  $k^* < k^g$
  - + Real world implications: existence of rational bubbles & pension schemes.
    - ↓  
without any behavioral assumptions on preferences.
- \* The number of generations "N" is determined by "N" different types of agents (or behaviors) that one wants to show.

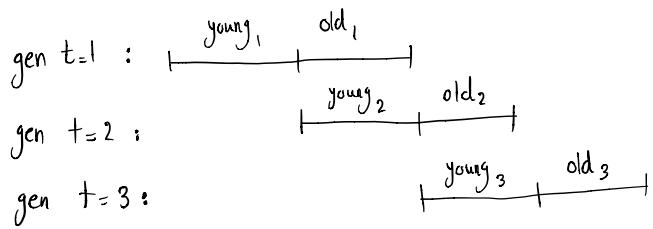
## - The Environment

- + people live for  $N=2$  periods (old and young). Additively separable utility:  
agents of gen. t:  $U(c_t^y, c_{t+1}^o) = u(c_t^y) + u(c_{t+1}^o)$
- + No "Altruism": no bequests.
- + for simplicity assume zero population growth. ( $N$  young,  $N$  old)
- + pure exchange economy: abstract from production function.

## - Conclusion

- + models can be solved for stationary / non-stationary equilibria.

— First, remember: 1st welfare theorem: C.E.  $\Rightarrow$  P.O. (lcl non saturation)  
 2nd : P.O.  $\Rightarrow$  C.E. (concavity of  $u$ )



A competitive eq. is allocation  $\{c_t^y, c_{t+1}^o, a_{t+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$  and prices  $\{r_{t+1}\}_{t=0}^{\infty}$  s.t.:

$$(I) \text{ Max } u(c_t^y) + \beta u(c_{t+1}^o)$$

$$\text{s.t. } c_t^y + a_{t+1} = e_t^y - T_t^y$$

$$c_{t+1}^o = e_{t+1}^o + (1+r_{t+1})a_{t+1} - T_{t+1}^o$$

$$\begin{aligned} u'(c_t^y) &= \lambda \\ u'(c_{t+1}^o) &= \mu \\ -\lambda + (1+r_{t+1})\mu & \end{aligned} \quad \left. \right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{EE: } \frac{u'(c_t^y)}{u'(c_{t+1}^o)} = (1+r_{t+1}) = -\frac{c_{t+1}^o - e_{t+1}^o}{c_t^y - e_t^y} = -\frac{z_{t+1}}{z_t}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(z_t + e_t^y) z_t + u(z_{t+1} + e_{t+1}^o) z_{t+1} = 0 \quad (*)$$

$$(II) 0 = \sum_{i=1}^N a_{t+1} \Rightarrow a_{t+1} = 0 \quad \forall t, \quad T_t^y + T_{t+1}^o = 0 \xrightarrow{\text{sup.}} T_t^y = T = -T_{t+1}^o \quad \forall t$$

$$N c_t^y + N c_{t+1}^o = N e_t^y + N e_{t+1}^o$$

— now, sup.  $u(c) = \ln c$ ,  $w_t^o = w^o < w^y = w_t^y$ :

$\text{no-trade economy}$

$\boxed{[a_{t+1} = 0]} \Rightarrow \frac{w^o}{w^y} = 1 + r_{t+1} = 1 + r < 1 \Leftrightarrow r < 0$ , propose a re allocation

$$\Rightarrow \text{define } \Delta = \frac{w^y - w^o}{2} \Rightarrow \tilde{c}^y = w^y - \Delta, \tilde{c}^o = w^o + \Delta \Rightarrow u(\tilde{c}^y) + u(\tilde{c}^o) = 2u\left(\frac{w^y + w^o}{2}\right) > u(w^y) + u(w^o)$$

$\Rightarrow$  C.E. is not pareto optimal. (works for  $\Delta^* \in (0, \Delta)$ )

This is called "Dynamic Inefficiency"  $\rightarrow$  Due to the missing market

- So far, I calculated stationary equilibria, what about non stationary eq.?

$$z_t + l_t = 0 \Rightarrow z_t = -l_t$$

$$\xrightarrow{*} u(z_t + e_t^\gamma) z_t - u(-z_{t+1} + e_{t+1}^\delta) z_{t+1} = 0 \Rightarrow z_{t+1} = G(z_t)$$

[if  $u(\cdot)$  is invertible, ...]

the sequence  $\{z_t\}_{t=1}^\infty$  gives the non-stationary eq.

Applications  $\rightarrow$  Learning true parameter of s.t. over time by different generations.

+ Now, introduce government, but not yet debt:

$$\text{EE: } \frac{\omega^0 + T}{\omega^\gamma - T} = 1 + r \quad \text{or} \quad \frac{\partial r}{\partial T} > 0$$

- again introducing taxes might be pareto improving if we have dynamic inefficiency.

+ Now, introduce government debt, price in  $t=t_0$  is  $q_{t_0}$  and claims one unit of cons. in  $t=t_0+1$ :

$$1 = (1+r_{t+1}) q_t \quad [\text{no arbitrage implies return on debt} = \text{return on private lending}]$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{q_t} = 1 + r_{t+1}$$

- government's budget constraint:  $b_t q_t + T_t^\gamma + T_t^0 = b_{t-1}$  [mixed financing]

$$\begin{array}{llll} \text{old} & \leftarrow & \leftarrow & : \\ \text{young} & \leftarrow & \leftarrow & : \end{array} \quad C_t^0 = \omega_t^0 - T_t^0 + b_{t-1}$$

$$C_t^\gamma = \omega_t^\gamma - T_t^\gamma - q_t b_t \quad [\text{only the young buy the bond}]$$

- market clearing for bonds : supply of bonds :  $q_t b_t = b_{t-1} - T_t^Y - T_t^O$   
 demand for bonds :  $S_t = C_t^Y - w_t^Y + T_t^Y$

$$\Rightarrow [\text{market clearing condition}] : C_t^Y = w_t^Y + T_t^O - b_{t-1}$$

- in eq. :  $\frac{1}{q_t} = 1 + r_{t+1} = \frac{u'(c_t^Y)}{u'(c_{t+1}^O)}$

$$C_t^O = w_t^O - T_t^O + b_{t-1}$$

$$C_t^Y = w_t^Y - T_t^Y - b_{t-1}$$

Note that  $T$  &  $b_{t-1}$  can not be too large.

- Now, supp.  $T = 0$  : if  $r_{t+k} = 0 \rightarrow$  debt would be constant overtime =  $b_0$   
 if  $r_{t+k} > 0 \rightarrow X$   
 if  $r_{t+k} < 0 \rightarrow \checkmark$  debt converges to zero

\* Ricardian equivalence breaks down.

+ Now, let's suppose in contrast to bonds, we have a long lived asset A (a house, land, ...).

- A has price  $P_{t+1}^{e,i} = P_{t+1}^e$  in period  $t+1$  and pays dividend  $d_{t+1} = d$
- due to no arbitrage return on A is equal to private lending return :  $r_{t+1}$
- Assume perfect foresight :  $P_{t+1}^e = P_{t+1}$

- individual budget constraint :  $C_t^Y = w_t^Y - P_t a_{t+1}$   
 $C_{t+1}^O = w_{t+1}^O + (P_{t+1} + d) a_{t+1}$

- market clearing :  $a_{t+1} = A$  [agg. demand of asset = agg. supply]

interest rate is given by :  $\frac{u'(c_t^Y)}{u'(c_{t+1}^O)} = 1 + r_{t+1}$

the price sequence satisfies :  $P_t = \frac{P_{t+1} + d}{1 + r_{t+1}}$

- let us only investigate stationary eq.:

$$P = \frac{P+d}{1+r} , C^y = w^y - PA , C^0 = w^0 + (P+d)A$$

$$\frac{u'(w^y - PA)}{u'(w^0 + (P+d)A)} = 1+r = 1 + \frac{d}{r} \Rightarrow P = \frac{d}{r} \quad \text{price is discounted future dividends.}$$

$$- \text{suppose } d=0 , u(C) = \ln C : \frac{w^y - PA}{w^0 + PA} = 1 \Rightarrow w^y - PA = w^0 + PA \Rightarrow P = \frac{w^y - w^0}{2A} \neq 0 !$$

\* This is known as "Rational Bubble" where  $d=0$  and  $P \neq 0$ .

Note that consumption is equal in each period  $\Rightarrow$  eff., not necessarily a bad thing.

- Generally, rational bubble can rise whenever  $r < g$ .

- bursting happens when people start to think  $P=0$ .

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Applications: Macro  $\rightarrow$  public finance [Diamond 1965]

the role of money [Samuelson 1958] - Monetary economics

pension schemes

growth (demographic transition, capital accumulation, ...)

consumption smoothing & life cycle theories

(sunspot equilibria)

Finance  $\rightarrow$  liquidity & bubbles

market incompleteness & effect on hedging

check with Ramtin later for the controversy...