

# ECON7020: MACROECONOMIC THEORY

FALL 2023

Problem Set 2. Due date: before class on September 26.

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## Problem 1

Consider an overlapping generations economy in which the representative consumer in generation  $t$ ,  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  has preferences over the consumption of the single good in each of the two periods of life given by the utility function:

$$u(c_t^t, c_{t+1}^t) = \log c_t^t + \beta \log c_{t+1}^t.$$

This consumer is endowed with quantities of labor  $(l_t^t, l_{t+1}^t) = (l_1, l_2)$ . In addition, there is a generation 0 whose representative consumer lives only in period 1 and has the utility function

$$u^0(c_1^0) = \log c_1^0,$$

and the endowment of  $l_1^0 = l_2$  units of labor and  $k_1^0 = \bar{k}_1$  units of capital. This consumer also has an endowment of fiat money  $m$ , which can be positive, negative or zero. The production function is  $f(k_t, l_t) = \theta k_t^\alpha l_t^{1-\alpha}$  and capital depreciates at the rate  $\delta \in [0, 1]$ .

- (a) Define the Sequential Markets equilibrium for this environment.
- (b) Define the Arrow-Debreu equilibrium for this environment.
- (c) Suppose now that consumers live for four, rather than 2, periods. Specify an environment analogous to that above by specifying utility functions, endowments, and a production technology. Define a Sequential Markets equilibrium for this economy.

## Problem 2

Consider an infinite-horizon economy with an equal measure of two types of agents. The agents' preferences are of the form:

$$\sum_{t=0}^{\infty} \beta_i^t \log c_{it},$$

where  $0 < \beta_1 < \beta_2 < 1$ . The households are endowed with 1 unit of labor each. Type 1 households hold the entire initial stock of capital. The aggregate resource constraint is

$$c_t + k_{t+1} = k_t^\alpha l_t^{1-\alpha} + (1 - \delta)k_t,$$

where  $c_t$  denotes period  $t$  aggregate consumption,  $k_t$  the capital stock,  $l_t$  labor,  $0 < \alpha < 1$  a parameter and  $\delta \in (0, 1)$  the depreciation rate.

- (a) Set up and define an Arrow-Debreu competitive equilibrium.
- (b) What is  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \frac{c_{1t}}{c_{2t}}$  in such equilibrium?
- (c) To what level does the aggregate capital stock converge?