

# Quantitative Macro in Continuous Time

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- Objective: Solving dynamic economic models in continuous time
  - Focus on heterogeneous agents macro-models
- Typical structure:
  - Hamilton-Jacobi-Bellman Equation describes individual decision problem
  - Kolmogorov Forward Equation characterizes the law of motion of the equilibrium distribution
- Why continuous time?
  - FOC approach to policy function (fast maximization)
  - no interaction between decisions and stochastic evolution of the state
  - only local changes of state (sparsity)
  - tight connection between HJB and KF: solve the first, get the second "for free"

- Introduction to HJB
- Explicit and Implicit Method
- Adding Income Risk
- Boundary Conditions
- The KFE and the Stationary Distribution
- Extensions and Applications

# Discretizing the HJB

- Consider the HJB derivation

$$\rho v(a) = \max_c u(c) + v'(a)(ra + y - c) + \dot{v}$$

- Focus on a steady-state, which requires  $\dot{v} = 0$
- Discretize the state space:  $a_i \in \{\underline{a}, \underline{a} + \Delta_a, \dots, \bar{a} - \Delta_a, \bar{a}\}$

$$\rho v_i = \max_c u(c) + v'_i(ra_i + y - c)$$

- The FOC for consumption is

$$u'(c_i) = v'_i$$

- Approximate  $v'_i$  using either the backward or forward derivatives

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{v_{i+1} - v_i}{\Delta_a} &\equiv v'_{i,F} \\ \frac{v_i - v_{i-1}}{\Delta_a} &\equiv v'_{i,B}\end{aligned}$$

## How to approximate $v'$ : The Upwind Scheme (Barles and Souganidis, 1991)

- Define the forward and backward saving

$$\begin{aligned}ra_i + y - c_{i,F} &= ra_i + y - (u')^{-1}(v'_{i,F}) \equiv s_{i,F} \\ra_i + y - c_{i,B} &= ra_i + y - (u')^{-1}(v'_{i,B}) \equiv s_{i,B}\end{aligned}$$

- Since  $v$  is concave:  $v'_{i,B} > v'_{i,F} \Rightarrow c_{i,B} < c_{i,F} \Rightarrow s_{i,B} > s_{i,F}$ . Hence

$$\mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} > 0\}} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,B} < 0\}} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} < 0 < s_{i,B}\}} = 0$$

- Choose the approximation of  $v'_i$  and  $c_i$  as

$$\begin{aligned}v'_i &= v_{i,F} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} > 0\}} + v_{i,B} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,B} < 0\}} + \bar{v}'_i \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} < 0 < s_{i,B}\}} \\c_i &= c_{i,F} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} > 0\}} + c_{i,B} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,B} < 0\}} + (ra_i + y) \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,F} < 0 < s_{i,B}\}}\end{aligned}$$

where  $\bar{v}'_i = u'(ra_i + y)$ , i.e. zero saving is optimal

- Let's go back to the HJB, appropriately discretized

$$\rho v_i = u(c_i) + v'_i(ra_i + y - c_i)$$

- Solve by running backward: same logic as VFI in discrete time,  $v^{n+1}(a) = u(c^n) + \beta v^n(a')$

$$\rho v_i^n = u(c_i^n) + v_i^{n'}(ra_i + y - c_i^n) + \frac{v_i^n - v_i^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

- Algorithm: start with a guess  $v^0$  and update according to

$$v_i^{n+1} = v_i^n - \Delta_t \rho v_i^n + \Delta_t u(c_i^n) + \Delta_t v_i^{n'}(ra_i + y - c_i^n)$$

- Pro: simple. Con: i) need small  $\Delta_t$  ii) slow

- Under the explicit method

$$\rho v_i^n = u(c_i^n) + v_i^{n'}(ra_i + y - c_i^n) + \frac{v_i^n - v_i^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

- The implicit method leverages the linearity of the HJB (conditional on the choice of  $c$ )

$$\rho v_i^{n+1} = u(c_i^n) + v_i^{n+1'}(ra_i + y - c_i^n) + \frac{v_i^n - v_i^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

- In compact form,

$$\rho v^{n+1} = u^n + A^n v^{n+1} + \frac{v^n - v^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

$$A^n =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{(s_{1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{(s_{2,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{2,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{2,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{2,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -\frac{(s_{l-1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{l-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{l-1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{l-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -\frac{(s_{l,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{l,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{l,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \end{pmatrix}$$

- For example,  $A^n_{(2,\cdot)} v = -\frac{(s_{2,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} v_1 + \left( -\frac{(s_{2,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{2,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \right) v_2 + \frac{(s_{2,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} v_3$

- The matrix  $A^n$

- has dimension  $l \times l$
- is very sparse (computationally efficient)
- each row sums to zero, terms in diagonal/off-diagonal are negative/positive ("intensity matrix")



- Algorithm: start with a guess  $v^0$  and update it according to

$$B^n v^{n+1} = b^n, \quad B^n = \left( \frac{1}{\Delta_t} + \rho \right) I - A^n, \quad b^n = u^n + \frac{1}{\Delta_t} v^n$$

- Comments:
  - Pro: i) fast ii) works with any  $\Delta_t$
  - Con: i) slightly harder to code ii) requires solving a (potentially large) linear system

# Introducing Idiosyncratic Income Shocks - I

- Consider the stochastic income process  $y_j \in \{y_L, y_H\}$  with Poisson transition rates  $\lambda_{LH}, \lambda_{HL}$
- The individual HJB becomes derivation

$$\rho v_j(a) = \max_c u(c) + v'_j(a)(ra + y_j - c) + \lambda_{jj'}(v_{j'}(a) - v_j(a))$$

- Discretizing, and using the implicit method,

$$\rho v_{i,j}^{n+1} = u(c_i^n) + v_{i,j}^{n+1'}(ra_i + y_j - c_i^n) + \lambda_{jj'}(v_{i,j'}^{n+1} - v_{i,j}^{n+1}) + \frac{v_{i,j}^n - v_{i,j}^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

- In compact form, stacking  $v = [v_{1,1}, v_{2,1}, \dots, v_{I,1}, v_{1,2}, v_{2,2}, \dots, v_{I,2}]$

$$\rho v^{n+1} = u^n + A^n v^{n+1} + \frac{v^n - v^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

$$A^n = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} A_{a,L}^n & 0 \\ \hline 0 & A_{a,H}^n \end{array} \right] + A_y$$

- The matrix  $A^n$ 
  - has dimension  $(l \times 2) \times (l \times 2)$
  - is very sparse, but less than before (larger bandwidth)
  - each row sums to zero, terms in diagonal/off-diagonal are negative/positive ("intensity matrix")

# Consumption Choice at the Borrowing Constraint

- At  $\underline{a} = a_1$ , we need  $s_j(\underline{a}) = r\underline{a} + y_j - c_j(\underline{a}) \geq 0$ . This implies the state constraint boundary condition

$$v'_{1,j} = u'(c_{1,j}) \geq u'(ra_1 + y_j)$$

- In practice,
  - compute optimal consumption  $c_{1,j,F}$  using the forward derivative  $\left(\frac{v_{2,j} - v_{1,j}}{\Delta_a}\right)$
  - compute  $s_{1,j,F} = ra_1 + y_j - c_{1,j,F}$
  - choose consumption as follows

$$c_{1,j} = \begin{cases} c_{1,j,F} & \text{if } s_{1,j,F} > 0 \\ ra_1 + y_j & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

- in the intensity matrix  $A$ ,  $s_{1,j,B} = 0$
- Use symmetric argument at  $\bar{a}$  (not necessary if  $\bar{a}$  is large enough)
- This approach delivers a *viscosity solution*: weak solution to HJB, in the presence of kinks

# Solving for the Stationary Distribution: The Kolmogorov Forward Equation - I

- The law of motion of the distribution satisfies derivation

$$0 = \dot{g}_j = -[s_j(a)g_j(a)]' - \lambda_{jj'}g_j(a) + \lambda_{j'j}g_{j'}(a)$$

- Discretizing, and appropriately choosing the backward/forward derivatives,

$$0 = -\frac{(s_{i,j,F}^n)^+ g_{i,j} - (s_{i-1,j,F}^n)^+ g_{i-1,j}}{\Delta_a} - \frac{(s_{i+1,j,B}^n)^- g_{i+1,j} - (s_{i,j,B}^n)^- g_{i,j}}{\Delta_a} - \lambda_{jj'}g_{i,j} + \lambda_{j'j}g_{i,j'}$$

- (Make sure you understand why the expression above is a correct approximation)
- In compact form,

$$0 = A^T g$$

# Solving for the Stationary Distribution: The Kolmogorov Forward Equation - II

- Intuition: the mass at  $a_i$  is the sum of the inflows from  $a_{i-1}$  and  $a_{i+1}$ , and the (negative) outflows from  $a_i$  [details](#)
- Algorithm:
  - once the HJB has converged, set  $A$  equal to the 'last'  $A^n$  (steady-state transitions)
  - use solver that is suited for non full-rank matrix
  - $g$  is equal to the solution  $\tilde{g}$  of the linear system, divided by  $\sum_i \sum_j \tilde{g}_{ij} \Delta_a$  (normalization)
- GE in Aiyagari models: compute aggregate savings and update  $r$  until capital market clears

- non-concave value function (e.g. lumpy housing w/ downpayment constraint) [details](#)
- life-cycle model with stochastic aging,  $h \in \{1, 2, \dots, H\}$  [details](#)

$$\rho v(a, h) = \max_c u(c) + v'(ra + y_h - c) + \phi[v(a, h + 1) - v(a, h)]$$

- search and matching model [details](#)

$$\text{joint value of match } z: \rho v(z) = z + \lambda_1 \beta \int_{\hat{z}} \max\{v(\hat{z}) - v(z), 0\} + \delta(u - v(z))$$

$$\text{value of unemployment: } \rho u = \ell + \lambda_0 \beta \int_{\hat{z}} \max\{v(\hat{z}) - u, 0\}$$

- diffusion processes, portfolio choice, aggregate uncertainty, learning (stopping time)

These notes rely **heavily** on

- Achdou, Han, Lasry, Lions, Moll. 2020. "Income and Wealth Distribution in Macroeconomics: A Continuous-Time Approach". Forthcoming at Review of Economic Studies. Online Appendices and codes on Moll's website

Cool paper, coming soon:

- Thomas Phelan (Cleveland Fed) and Keyvan Eslami (Ryerson) on Markov Chain Approximation methods



- Consider the standard discrete-time Bellman Equation with time length  $\Delta_t$

$$v_t(a_t) = \max_{c_t} \Delta_t u(c_t) + \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) v_{t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t})$$

$$st. \ a_{t+\Delta_t} = a_t + \Delta_t(r_t a_t + y_t - c_t), \quad a_{t+\Delta_t} \geq \underline{a}$$

- Subtract  $\exp(-\rho \Delta_t) v_{t+\Delta_t}(a_t)$  from both sides, divide by  $\Delta_t$  and take the limit  $\Delta_t \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{v_t(a_t) - \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) v_{t+\Delta_t}(a_t)}{\Delta_t} = \max_{c_t} u(c_t) + \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) \frac{v_{t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t}) - v_{t+\Delta_t}(a_t)}{\Delta_t} \frac{\Delta_a}{\Delta_a}$$

$$\rho v_t(a_t) - \dot{v}_t = \max_{c_t} u(c_t) + v'_t(a_t)(r_t a_t + y_t - c_t)$$

- Note: the LHS is the derivative of  $-\exp(-\rho x) v_{t+x}(a_t)$  in  $x = 0$

- Consider the standard discrete-time Bellman Equation with time length  $\Delta_t$

$$v_{j,t}(a_t) = \max_{c_t} \Delta_t u(c_t) + \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) [(1 - \Delta_t \lambda_{jj'}) v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t}) + \Delta_t \lambda_{jj'} v_{j',t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t})]$$

$$\text{st. } a_{t+\Delta_t} = a_t + \Delta_t (r_t a_t + y_{j,t} - c_t), \quad a_{t+\Delta_t} \geq \underline{a}$$

- Subtract  $\exp(-\rho \Delta_t) v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_t)$  from both sides, divide by  $\Delta_t$  and take the limit  $\Delta_t \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{v_{j,t}(a_t) - \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_t)}{\Delta_t} = \max_{c_t} u(c_t) + \exp(-\rho \Delta_t) \frac{v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t}) - v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_t)}{\Delta_t} + \lambda_{jj'} (v_{j',t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t}) - v_{j,t+\Delta_t}(a_{t+\Delta_t}))$$

$$\rho v_{j,t}(a_t) - \dot{v}_{j,t} = \max_{c_t} u(c_t) + v'_{j,t}(a_t) (r_t a_t + y_{j,t} - c_t) + \lambda_{jj'} (v_{j',t}(a_t) - v_{j,t}(a_t))$$

- The matrix below has dimension  $(l \times l)$

$$A_{a,j}^n =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{(s_{1,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{1,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{1,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\frac{(s_{2,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{2,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{2,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{2,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} & \dots & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -\frac{(s_{l-1,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{l-1,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{l-1,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & \frac{(s_{l-1,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & -\frac{(s_{l,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} & -\frac{(s_{l,j,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{l,j,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \end{pmatrix}$$

- Each block has dimension  $(I \times I)$

$$A_y = \left[ \begin{array}{ccc|ccc} -\lambda_{LH} & & & \lambda_{LH} & & \\ & -\lambda_{LH} & & & \lambda_{LH} & \\ & & -\lambda_{LH} & & & \lambda_{LH} \\ \hline \lambda_{HL} & & & -\lambda_{HL} & & \\ & \lambda_{HL} & & & -\lambda_{HL} & \\ & & \lambda_{HL} & & & -\lambda_{HL} \end{array} \right]$$

- For example,  $A_{y,(2,\cdot)} v = \lambda_{LH}(v_{2,H} - v_{2,L})$

- The fraction of individuals with wealth below  $a$  satisfies

$$Pr(\tilde{a}_{t+\Delta_t} \leq a, \tilde{y}_{t+\Delta_t} = y_j) = (1 - \Delta_t \lambda_{jj'}) Pr(\tilde{a}_t \leq a - \Delta_t s_j(a), \tilde{y}_t = y_j) + \Delta_t \lambda_{j'j} Pr(\tilde{a}_t \leq a - \Delta_t s_{j'}(a), \tilde{y}_t = y_{j'})$$

- Using the definition of the cdf  $G_j$ ,

$$G_j(a, t + \Delta_t) = (1 - \Delta_t \lambda_{jj'}) G_j(a - \Delta_t s_j(a), t) + \Delta_t \lambda_{j'j} G_{j'}(a - \Delta_t s_{j'}(a), t)$$

- Subtract  $G_j(a, t)$  from both sides, divide by  $\Delta_t$  and compute the limit  $\Delta_t \rightarrow 0$

$$\frac{G_j(a, t + \Delta_t) - G_j(a, t)}{\Delta_t} = \frac{G_j(a - \Delta_t s_j(a), t) - G_j(a, t)}{\Delta_t} - \lambda_{jj'} G_j(a - \Delta_t s_j(a), t) + \lambda_{j'j} G_{j'}(a - \Delta_t s_{j'}(a), t)$$

$$\dot{G}(a, t) = -g_j(a, t) s_j(a) - \lambda_{jj'} G_j(a, t) + \lambda_{j'j} G_{j'}(a, t)$$

- For simplicity, consider the case without income shocks, i.e.  $\lambda_{LH} = \lambda_{HL} = 0$
- The  $i$  -  $th$  column of  $A$  reads

$$A_{(\cdot,i)} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \dots \\ \frac{(s_{i-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \\ -\frac{(s_{i,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{i,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \\ -\frac{(s_{i+1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \\ \dots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- For simplicity, consider the case without income shocks, i.e.  $\lambda_{LH} = \lambda_{HL} = 0$
- The  $i$  –  $th$  row of  $A^T$  reads

$$A_{(i,\cdot)}^T = \left( 0 \quad \dots \quad \frac{(s_{i-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \quad -\frac{(s_{i,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{i,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \quad -\frac{(s_{i+1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \quad \dots 0 \right)$$

- For simplicity, consider the case without income shocks, i.e.  $\lambda_{LH} = \lambda_{HL} = 0$
- The  $i$  -  $th$  row of  $A^T$  reads

$$A_{(i,\cdot)}^T = \left( 0 \quad \dots \quad \frac{(s_{i-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \quad -\frac{(s_{i,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{i,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \quad -\frac{(s_{i+1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \quad \dots 0 \right)$$

- Then, the  $i$  -  $th$  row of  $A^T g$  reads

$$0 = \left( \frac{(s_{i-1,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} \right) g_{i-1} + \left( -\frac{(s_{i,F}^n)^+}{\Delta_a} + \frac{(s_{i,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \right) g_i + \left( -\frac{(s_{i+1,B}^n)^-}{\Delta_a} \right) g_{i+1}$$



- If  $v$  is concave,  $v'_{i,j,F} < v'_{i,j,B} \Rightarrow c_{i,j,F} > c_{i,j,B} \Rightarrow s_{i,j,F} < s_{i,j,B}$
- What if  $v$  has a (convex) kink? Then,  $v'_{i,j,F} > v'_{i,j,B}$  and  $s_{i,j,F} > s_{i,j,B} \Rightarrow$  upwind scheme fails
- Solution: define

$$\mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{both} := \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,F} > 0 > s_{i,j,B}\}}$$

$$\mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{unq} := \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,F} < 0 \text{ and } s_{i,j,B} < 0\}} + \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,F} > 0 \text{ and } s_{i,j,B} > 0\}}$$

and  $H_{i,j,F} := u(c_{i,j,F}) + v'_{i,j,F} s_{i,j,F}$  and  $H_{i,j,B} := u(c_{i,j,B}) + v'_{i,j,B} s_{i,j,B}$

- Use the upwind scheme

$$v'_{i,j} = v'_{i,j,F} [\mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,F} > 0\}} \mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{unq} + \mathbb{I}_{\{H_{i,j,F} > H_{i,j,B}\}} \mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{both}] + v'_{i,j,B} [\mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,B} < 0\}} \mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{unq} + \mathbb{I}_{\{H_{i,j,F} < H_{i,j,B}\}} \mathbb{I}_{i,j}^{both}] + \bar{v}'_{i,j} \mathbb{I}_{\{s_{i,j,F} < 0 < s_{i,j,B}\}}$$

- Solve the problem at  $h = H$ : equivalent to standard HJB w/ discount rate  $\rho + \phi$
- Backward induction: at  $h < H$ , the function  $v(a, h + 1)$  is just a constant

$$\rho v^{n+1}(a, h) = u(c^n) + v^{n+1'}(ra + y_h - c^n) + \phi[v(a, h + 1) - v^{n+1}(a, h)],$$

so that  $b^n = u^n + \frac{1}{\Delta_t} v^n + \phi v(\cdot, h + 1)$

- $A$  is not an intensity matrix: need to add newborns at  $h = 1$

$$0 = A^T g + \phi g_0,$$

where the vector  $g_0 = [g_0(a_1, 1), g_0(a_2, 1), \dots, g(a_I, 1), \underbrace{0}_{(H-1)I}]$  is a parameter of the model

- Define  $w = [v(z_1), v(z_2), \dots, v(z_I), u]$ ,  $y = [z_1, \dots, z_I, \ell]$
- Stack the HJBs for  $v_i$  and  $u$  together and obtain

$$\rho w = y + \lambda \beta \sum_{\hat{z}} f(\hat{z}) \max\{w(\hat{z}) - w, 0\} + \delta(u - w)$$

- Under the implicit scheme,

$$\rho w^{n+1} = y + \lambda \beta \sum_{\hat{z}} f(\hat{z}) \mathbb{I}_{\{w(\hat{z}) > w\}}^n (w^{n+1}(\hat{z}) - w^{n+1}) + \delta(u^{n+1} - w^{n+1}) + \frac{w^n - w^{n+1}}{\Delta_t}$$

- In compact form,

$$B^n w^{n+1} = b^n, \quad B^n = \left( \frac{1}{\Delta_t} + \rho \right) I - A^n, \quad b^n = y + \frac{1}{\Delta_t} w^n$$

- It is easy to show that  $v(z)$  is strictly increasing
- Why do we need an iterative procedure? Because we do not know  $R$  st  $u = v(R)$
- Consider the case in which there are  $I = 4$  possible values of  $z$

$$A^n = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & \lambda_1 f(z_2) & \lambda_1 f(z_3) & \lambda_1 f(z_4) & \delta \\ & x_2 & \lambda_1 f(z_3) & \lambda_1 f(z_4) & \delta \\ & & x_3 & \lambda_1 f(z_4) & \delta \\ & & & x_4 & \delta \\ \lambda_0 f(z_1) \mathbb{I}_1^n & \lambda_0 f(z_2) \mathbb{I}_2^n & \lambda_0 f(z_3) \mathbb{I}_3^n & \lambda_0 f(z_4) \mathbb{I}_4^n & x_u \end{pmatrix},$$

where  $i) x_i \leq 0$  is the negative of the sum of the off-diagonal elements  $ii) \mathbb{I}_i^n = \{v^n(z_i) \geq u^n\}$