

Expectations and Stability

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Outline

- ▶ Expectations in macroeconomics and sources of business cycles
 - ▶ The role of expectations;
 - ▶ Sources of business cycles.
- ▶ Basic tools: difference equations and stability of nonlinear system
 - ▶ Concepts;
 - ▶ First-order difference equations;
 - ▶ Higher-order difference equations;
 - ▶ Simultaneous difference equations.
- ▶ RBC model
 - ▶ Solving for the recursive law of motion using the method of undetermined coefficients;
- ▶ RBC models with factor-generated externalities
- ▶ Monetary model with Taylor rule
- ▶ References

Expectations in macroeconomics

The role of expectations

- ▶ Central difference between economics and natural sciences: forward-looking decisions made by economic agents;
- ▶ Expectations play a key role;
 - ▶ Examples: consumption theory; investment decisions; asset prices, etc.
- ▶ The role of expectations: they influence the time path of the economy, and the time path of the economy influences expectations.
 - ▶ Rational expectation (RE): mathematical conditional expectation of the relevant variables;
 - ▶ The expectations are conditioned on all of the information available to the decision makers

Expectations in macroeconomics

Two examples

- ▶ Example 1. Cobweb model

$$d_t = m_I - m_p p_t + v_{1t},$$

$$s_t = r_I + r_p p_t^e + v_{2t},$$

$$s_t = d_t,$$

where m_I , m_p , r_I and r_p are all positive constant.

- ▶ Example 2. Cagan model

$$m_t - p_t = -\psi (p_{t+1}^e - p_t), \quad \psi > 0.$$

Sources of business cycles

News view of business cycles

- ▶ Business cycles are mainly the result of agents having incentives to continuously anticipate the economy's future demands.
 - ▶ If an agent can properly anticipate a future need...
 - ▶ If many agents adopt similar behavior...
 - ▶ However, errors are possible...
- ▶ Trace back to Pigou (1927)

The very source of fluctuations is the *“wave-like swings in the mind of the business world between errors of optimism and errors of pessimism.”*

- ▶ Keynes' 1936 notion of animal spirits.
- ▶ Then what are optimism and pessimism in business cycles?
 - ▶ an entirely psychological phenomenon?
 - ▶ self-fulfilling fluctuations? The macroeconomy is inherently unstable
 - ▶ news view?

Concepts on difference equations

Definition

Discrete time: time is taken to be a discrete variable (integer number, like 1,2,3...)

Definition

First-order difference is

$$\Delta y_t = y_{t+1} - y_t,$$

where y_t is the value of y in the t^{th} period. Second-order difference is

$$\Delta^2 y_t = \Delta (\Delta y_t) = y_{t+2} - 2y_{t+1} + y_t.$$

Note 1: "period" - rather than point - of time.

Note 2: y has a unique value in each period of time.

Concepts

Definition

Difference Equation:

$$\Delta y_t = y_{t+1} - y_t = c,$$

or

$$y_{t+1} - y_t = ay_t + b.$$

Note: the choice of time subscripts is arbitrary, i.e. it does not make any difference if we write it as $y_{t+1} - y_t = c$ or as $y_{t+2} - y_{t+1} = c$.

Solving a first-order difference equation

- ▶ Iterative method
- ▶ General method

$$y_{t+1} + ay_t = c,$$

The general solution y_t consists of y_p (particular solution) and y_c (complementary solution)

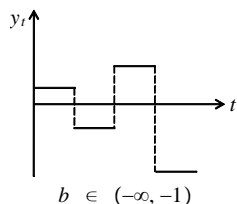
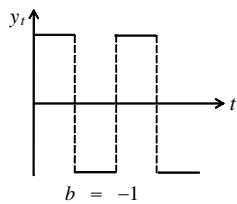
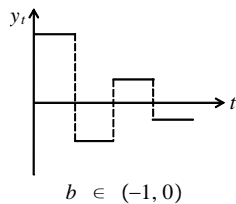
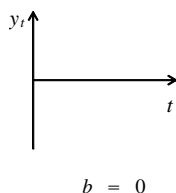
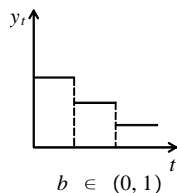
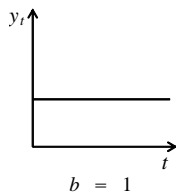
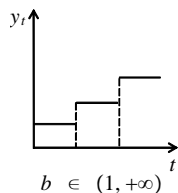
- ▶ Complementary solution: Try $y_t = Ab^t$ (A is arbitrary) and get $b = -a$.
- ▶ Particular solution: 1. if $a \neq -1$, solve $y_p = \frac{c}{1+a}$; 2. if $a = -1$, solve $y_p = ct$.
- ▶ Get y_t

$$y_t = y_c + y_p = \begin{cases} A(-a)^t + \frac{c}{1+a}, & a \neq -1 \\ A + ct, & a = -1 \end{cases}.$$

- ▶ How about A ? - Determined by y_0 .

Dynamic stability of equilibrium

- The significance of b :



$$y_t = b^t$$

- Nonoscillatory (oscillatory) if $b > (<) 0$;

Dynamic stability of equilibrium

- ▶ The role of A
 - ▶ Scale effect: magnitude
 - ▶ Mirror effect: sign
- ▶ Example: A market model with inventory

$$Q_{dt} = \alpha - \beta P_t,$$

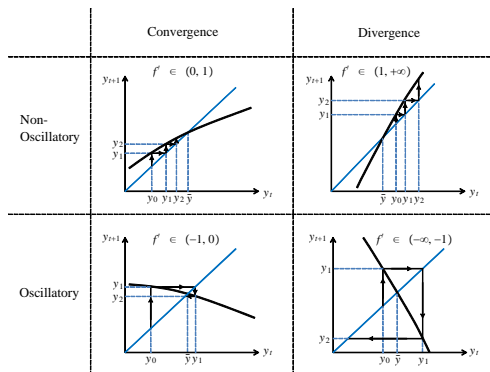
$$Q_{st} = -\gamma + \delta P_t,$$

$$P_{t+1} = P_t - \sigma (Q_{st} - Q_{dt}),$$

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \sigma > 0$. Solve the time path of P_t .

Non-linear difference equations: qualitative-graphic approach

$$y_{t+1} = f(y_t).$$



Stability of Non-Linear System

Higher-order difference equations

- ▶ Second-order linear difference equations with constant coefficients and constant term

$$y_{t+2} + a_1 y_{t+1} + a_2 y_t = c.$$

- ▶ Particular solution y_p : the intertemporal equilibrium level of y .
 - ▶ If $a_1 + a_2 \neq -1$, try $y_p = k$ and get $k = \frac{c}{1+a_1+a_2}$;
 - ▶ If $a_1 + a_2 = -1$ and $a_1 \neq -2$, try $y_p = kt$ and get $k = \frac{c}{2+a_1}$;
 - ▶ If $a_1 + a_2 = -1$ and $a_1 = -2$, try $y_p = kt^2$ and get $k = \frac{c}{2}$.
- ▶ Complementary solution: the deviation from the equilibrium for every time period

$$y_{t+2} + a_1 y_{t+1} + a_2 y_t = 0.$$

Try $y_t = Ab^t$ and get the characteristic equation

$$b^2 + a_1 b + a_2 = 0.$$

Higher-order difference equations

- ▶ Case 1: two distinct real roots: $a_1^2 > 4a_2$

$$y_c = A_1 b_1^t + A_2 b_2^t.$$

- ▶ Case 2: repeated real roots: $a_1^2 = 4a_2$ and thus $b = b_1 = b_2 = -\frac{a_1}{2}$

$$y_c = A_3 b^t + A_4 t b^t.$$

- ▶ Case 3: complex roots: $a_1^2 < 4a_2$

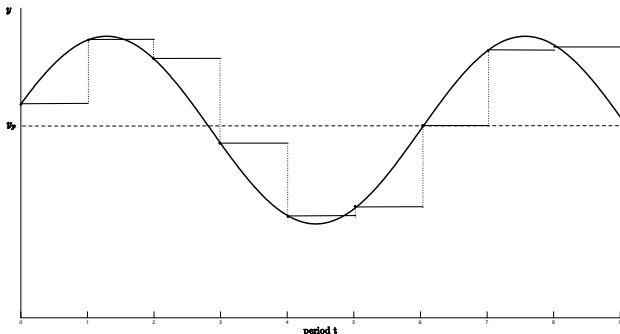
$$b_{1,2} = h \pm vi, \text{ where } h = -\frac{a_1}{2} \text{ and } v = \frac{\sqrt{4a_2 - a_1^2}}{2}.$$

$$y_c = A_1 b_1^t + A_2 b_2^t = A_1 (h + vi)^t + A_2 (h - vi)^t.$$

Higher-order difference equations

- ▶ Because $(h \pm vi)^t = R^t (\cos \theta t \pm i \sin \theta t)$ where $R = \sqrt{h^2 + v^2} = \sqrt{a_2}$, $\cos \theta = \frac{h}{R} = -\frac{a_1}{2\sqrt{a_2}}$ and $\sin \theta = \frac{v}{R} = \sqrt{1 - \frac{a_1^2}{4a_2}}$, we have

$$y_c = R^t (A_5 \cos \theta t + A_6 \sin \theta t).$$



Convergence of the time path

- ▶ Distinct roots
 - ▶ Dominant root: the root with the higher absolute value
 - ▶ A time path will be convergent iff the dominant root is less than 1 in absolute value
- ▶ Repeated roots: if $|b| < 1$, we have convergence
- ▶ Complex roots:
 - ▶ if $R < 1$, i.e. $|b| < 1$, we have damped stepped fluctuation
 - ▶ if $R > 1$, i.e. $|b| > 1$, we have explosive stepped fluctuation

Simultaneous difference equations

- ▶ Relation between higher-order difference equation and simultaneous difference equations

$$y_{t+2} + a_1 y_{t+1} + a_2 y_t = c.$$

Define $x_t = y_{t+1}$. We will have

$$\begin{aligned}x_{t+1} + a_1 x_t + a_2 y_t &= c, \\ y_{t+1} &= x_t.\end{aligned}$$

In matrix form, it is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{t+1} \\ y_{t+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -a_1 & -a_2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_t \\ y_t \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} c \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- ▶ Simultaneous difference equations

$$X_{t+1} = AX_t + b,$$

where $X_t = (x_{1t}, x_{2t}, \dots, x_{nt})'$, A is a constant matrix with coefficients a_{ij} , $i, j = 1 \dots n$, and $b = (b_1, b_2, \dots, b_n)'$.

Simultaneous difference equations

- ▶ Particular solution: $x_{t+1} = x_t = x$ and $y_{t+1} = y_t = y$;
- ▶ Complementary solution: substituting $x_t = mb^t$ and $y_t = nb^t$, we have the characteristic equation and the characteristic roots b_1 and b_2 .
- ▶ Characteristic equation

$$p(b) = |A - bI| = b^2 - \mathcal{T}b + \mathcal{D} = 0,$$

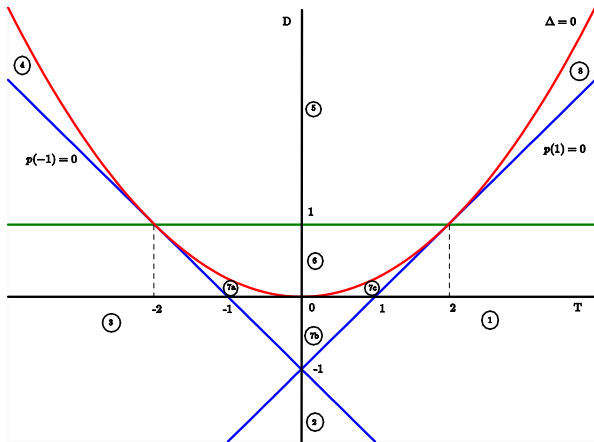
where \mathcal{T} and \mathcal{D} are the trace and determinant of matrix A .

- ▶ Moreover, we know that

$$\mathcal{T} = b_1 + b_2, \quad \mathcal{D} = b_1 b_2,$$

$$p(b) = (b - b_1)(b - b_2).$$

Stability property



Stability Triangle

Stability property

- ▶ Red line: $\Delta = \mathcal{T}^2 - 4\mathcal{D} = 0$
 - ▶ Region above the red line: $\Delta < 0 \Rightarrow$ complex roots;
 - ▶ Region below the red line: $\Delta > 0 \Rightarrow$ real roots;
- ▶ Blue lines: $p(1) = 1 - \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} = 0$ and $p(-1) = 1 + \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} = 0$
 - ▶ Region above (below) the right blue line: $p(1) > (<) 0$;
 - ▶ Region above (below) the left blue line: $p(-1) > (<) 0$;
- ▶ Green line: $D = 1$
 - ▶ Region above the green line: $|b| > 1$;
 - ▶ Region below the green line: $|b| < 1$.

Stability property

Region	$\rho(b_i)$	b_i	Stability
1	$\rho(1) < 0, \rho(-1) > 0$	$ b_1 < 1, b_2 > 1$	saddle
2	$\rho(1) < 0, \rho(-1) < 0$	$b_1 b_2 < 0, b_i > 1$	explosive
3	$\rho(1) > 0, \rho(-1) < 0$	$ b_1 < 1, b_2 < -1$	saddle
4	$\rho(1) > 0, \rho(-1) > 0$ $\mathcal{D} > 1, \mathcal{T} < -2$	$b_i < -1$	explosive
5	$\Delta < 0, \mathcal{D} > 1$	$ b_i > 1$	explosive
6	$\Delta < 0, \mathcal{D} < 1$	$ b_i < 1$	stable
7	$\rho(1) > 0, \rho(-1) > 0$ $\mathcal{D} < 1$	$ b_i < 1$	stable
8	$\rho(1) > 0, \rho(-1) > 0$ $\mathcal{D} > 1, \mathcal{T} > 2$	$b_i > 1$	explosive

Stability property

- ▶ Conditions for a saddle: $p(1) < 0$, $p(-1) > 0$ or $p(1) > 0$, $p(-1) < 0$

$$1 - \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} < 0 \text{ and } 1 + \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} > 0; \text{ or}$$
$$1 - \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} > 0 \text{ and } 1 + \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} < 0.$$

Or equivalent as

$$|\mathcal{T}| > |1 + \mathcal{D}|.$$

- ▶ Conditions for two stable roots: $\Delta < 0$, $\mathcal{D} < 1$ or $p(1) > 0$, $p(-1) > 0$, $\mathcal{D} < 1$

$$\mathcal{D} < 1, 1 - \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} > 0 \text{ and } 1 + \mathcal{T} + \mathcal{D} > 0,$$

i.e.

$$\mathcal{D} < 1 \text{ and } |\mathcal{T}| < 1 + \mathcal{D}.$$

Stability property

Local Uniqueness/Multiplicity

Definition

Predetermined variable: the variable whose initial value is given, as k , h , and b ;

Definition

Jump variable: the variable whose initial value is not given, as c , l , and p (sometimes).

Theorem

Conditions for local uniqueness/multiplicity:

- 1. If the number of stable roots = the number of predetermined variables \Rightarrow Saddle path (Determinacy);*
- 2. If the number of stable roots < the number of predetermined variables \Rightarrow Source (Explosive);*
- 3. If the number of stable roots > the number of predetermined variables \Rightarrow Sink (Indeterminacy).*

Solve for the recursive law of motion with method of undetermined coefficients.

State variables: \hat{k}_{t-1}, \hat{z}_t

The dynamics of the model should be described by **recursive laws of motion** in terms of the state variables,

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{k}_t &= v_{kk}\hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{kz}\hat{z}_t, \\ \hat{c}_t &= v_{ck}\hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{cz}\hat{z}_t.\end{aligned}$$

We need to solve for v_{kk} , v_{kz} , v_{ck} and v_{cz} , the "undetermined" coefficients.

Coefficient interpretation: *elasticities*.

Recall: the log-linearized system consists of

$$\hat{k}_t = \frac{1}{\beta}\hat{k}_{t-1} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}}\hat{c}_t + \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta}\hat{z}_t,$$

$$\sigma E_t \hat{c}_{t+1} + \tilde{\delta}(1 - \alpha)\hat{k}_t - \tilde{\delta} E_t \hat{z}_{t+1} = \sigma \hat{c}_t,$$

$$\hat{z}_t = \psi \hat{z}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t.$$

Recursivity

- ▶ Substitute the postulated linear recursive law of motion into the dynamic equations until only \hat{k}_{t-1} and \hat{z}_t remain. E.g.

$$E_t \hat{z}_{t+1} = \psi \hat{z}_t,$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_t \hat{c}_{t+1} &= E_t (v_{ck} \hat{k}_t + v_{cz} \hat{z}_{t+1}) \\ &= v_{ck} (v_{kk} \hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{kz} \hat{z}_t) + v_{cz} \psi \hat{z}_t \\ &= v_{ck} v_{kk} \hat{k}_{t-1} + (v_{ck} v_{kz} + v_{cz} \psi) \hat{z}_t. \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ Compare coefficients.

Recursivity

For the first equation (budget constraint)

$$\hat{k}_t = \frac{1}{\beta} \hat{k}_{t-1} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} \hat{c}_t + \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} \hat{z}_t,$$

$$v_{kk} \hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{kz} \hat{z}_t = \frac{1}{\beta} \hat{k}_{t-1} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} (v_{ck} \hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{cz} \hat{z}_t) + \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} \hat{z}_t,$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} v_{ck} - v_{kk} \right) \hat{k}_{t-1} + \left(\frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} v_{cz} - v_{kz} \right) \hat{z}_t = 0.$$

Comparing coefficients: since the equation has to be satisfied for any value of \hat{k}_{t-1} and \hat{z}_t , we have

$$\text{for } \hat{k}_{t-1} : \quad v_{kk} = \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} v_{ck}$$

$$\text{for } \hat{z}_t : \quad v_{kz} = \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} - \frac{\bar{C}}{\bar{K}} v_{cz}$$

Recursivity

For the second equation (Euler equation/asset pricing)

$$\sigma E_t \hat{c}_{t+1} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) E_t \hat{k}_t - \tilde{\delta} E_t \hat{z}_{t+1} = \sigma \hat{c}_t,$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \sigma [v_{ck} v_{kk} \hat{k}_{t-1} + (v_{ck} v_{kz} + v_{cz} \psi) \hat{z}_t] + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) (v_{kk} \hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{kz} \hat{z}_t) - \\ = & \sigma (v_{ck} \hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{cz} \hat{z}_t), \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\sigma v_{ck} v_{kk} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) v_{kk} - \sigma v_{ck} \right] \hat{k}_{t-1} + \\ & \left[\sigma (v_{ck} v_{kz} + v_{cz} \psi) + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) v_{kz} - \tilde{\delta} \psi - \sigma v_{cz} \right] \hat{z}_t \\ = & 0. \end{aligned}$$

Comparing coefficients, we have

$$\text{for } \hat{k}_{t-1} : \quad \sigma v_{ck} (1 - v_{kk}) = \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) v_{kk},$$

$$\text{for } \hat{z}_t : \quad \sigma v_{cz} (1 - \psi) = \left[\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) \right] v_{kz} - \tilde{\delta} \psi.$$

Comparing coefficients

Collecting the results, and comparing coefficients on \hat{k}_{t-1} ,

$$\sigma v_{ck} (1 - v_{kk}) = \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) v_{kk}, \quad (1)$$

$$v_{kk} = \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\tilde{C}}{\bar{K}} v_{ck}. \quad (2)$$

To solve v_{kk} , we substitute v_{ck} and obtain a quadratic equation

$$v_{kk}^2 - \left[1 + \frac{1}{\beta} - \frac{\tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) \tilde{C}}{\sigma \bar{K}} \right] v_{kk} + \frac{1}{\beta} = 0.$$

Solving the quadratic equation

$$0 = v_{kk}^2 - \gamma v_{kk} + \frac{1}{\beta},$$

where

$$\gamma = 1 + \frac{1}{\beta} + \frac{\tilde{\delta}(1-\alpha)}{\sigma} \frac{1 - [1 - (1-\alpha)\delta]\beta}{\alpha\beta}.$$

The solution is a high school math problem:

$$v_{kk} = \frac{\gamma}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{\gamma}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta}}.$$

Why we delete the root

$$\frac{\gamma}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{\gamma}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta}}. ?$$

Solving the quadratic equation

$$\begin{aligned}(v_{kk} - \lambda_1)(v_{kk} - \lambda_2) &= 0, \\ v_{kk}^2 - (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2)v_{kk} + \lambda_1\lambda_2 &= 0,\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_1\lambda_2 = \frac{1}{\beta} > 1,$$

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 = \gamma > 1 + \frac{1}{\beta},$$

$$\text{hence, } \lambda_1 + \lambda_2 > 1 + \lambda_1\lambda_2,$$

$$(1 - \lambda_1)(\lambda_2 - 1) > 0.$$

so λ_1 and λ_2 both positive, one root > 1 , and the other root < 1 .
We need to delete the explosive solution!

Solving the quadratic equation

Once v_{kk} is solved, the others can be solved easily.
Plugging it into equation (2),

$$v_{ck} = \left(\frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} - \delta \right) \left(\frac{1}{\beta} - v_{kk} \right),$$

we get v_{ck} .

Solving the quadratic equation

Then for coefficients on \hat{z}_t

$$v_{kz} = \left(\delta - \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} \right) v_{cz} + \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta}, \quad (3)$$

$$\sigma v_{cz} (1 - \psi) = \left[\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) \right] v_{kz} - \tilde{\delta} \psi, \quad (4)$$

i.e.

$$v_{cz} = \frac{\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) - \alpha\beta\psi}{\sigma (1 - \psi) - \left[\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta} (1 - \alpha) \right] \left(\delta - \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} \right)} \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta},$$

where v_{ck} is known. Substituting v_{cz} into (3), we solve v_{kz} .

Solving the quadratic equation

We could obtain

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{k}_t &= v_{kk}\hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{kz}\hat{z}_t, \\ \hat{c}_t &= v_{ck}\hat{k}_{t-1} + v_{cz}\hat{z}_t, \\ \hat{z}_t &= \psi\hat{z}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t,\end{aligned}$$

where

$$v_{kk} = \frac{\gamma}{2} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{\gamma}{2}\right)^2 - \frac{1}{\beta}}, \quad v_{ck} = \left(\frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta} - \delta\right) \left(\frac{1}{\beta} - v_{kk}\right),$$

$$v_{cz} = \frac{\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta}(1 - \alpha) - \alpha\beta\psi}{\sigma(1 - \psi) - \left[\sigma v_{ck} + \tilde{\delta}(1 - \alpha)\right] \left(\delta - \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta}\right)} \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta},$$

$$v_{kz} = \left(\delta - \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta}\right) v_{cz} + \frac{\tilde{\delta}}{\alpha\beta}.$$

Calibration and simulation

Assuming quarterly data with

$$\begin{array}{ll} \beta = 0.99 & \alpha = 0.36 \\ \sigma = 1.0 & \delta = 0.025 \\ \bar{Z} = 1 & \psi = 0.95 \end{array}$$

Then we get...

Calibration and simulation

- ▶ *Impulse response analysis*: trace out all variables for $\varepsilon_1 = 1$, $\varepsilon_t = 0$ for $t > 1$, when starting from the steady state.
- ▶ Because

$$\hat{z}_t = \psi \hat{z}_{t-1} + \varepsilon_t,$$

we have

$$\hat{z}_1 = \psi \hat{z}_0 + \varepsilon_1 = \varepsilon_1,$$

$$\hat{z}_2 = \psi \hat{z}_1 + \varepsilon_2 = \psi \varepsilon_1,$$

$$\hat{z}_j = \psi^{j-1} \varepsilon_1.$$

and

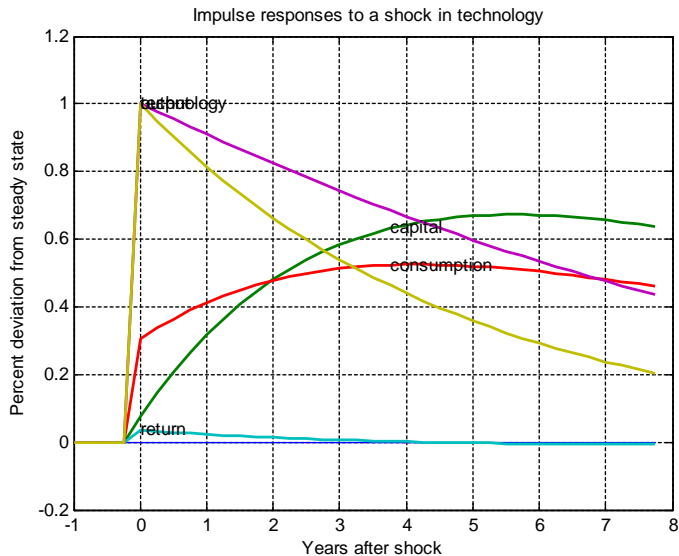
$$\hat{k}_1 = v_{kk} \hat{k}_0 + v_{kz} \hat{z}_1 = v_{kz} \varepsilon_1,$$

$$\hat{k}_2 = v_{kk} \hat{k}_1 + v_{kz} \hat{z}_2 = v_{kk} v_{kz} \varepsilon_1 + v_{kz} \psi \varepsilon_1 = (v_{kk} + \psi) v_{kz} \varepsilon_1,$$

$$\hat{k}_j = v_{kk} \hat{k}_{j-1} + v_{kz} \psi^{j-1} \varepsilon_1 = \sum_{i=0}^{j-1} (v_{kk}^i \psi^{j-i-1}) v_{kz} \varepsilon_1.$$

Calibration and simulation

Impulse response functions



RBC models with factor-generated externalities

Terminologies

- ▶ (local) indeterminacy – infinite number of equilibrium paths converging to the same steady state.
- ▶ Sunspot equilibria (Shell, 1977; Cass and Shell, 1983): self-fulfilling expectations; self-fulfilling prophecies
 - ▶ agents receive different allocations across states with identical fundamentals
 - ▶ equilibrium allocations influenced by purely extrinsic belief shocks in general equilibrium models;
 - ▶ agents have identical fundamentals: preferences, endowments and technology;
 - ▶ agents have different consumption and/or production;
 - ▶ cannot occur under Arrow-Debreu structure.
- ▶ indeterminacy implies the existence of stationary sunspot equilibria.
- ▶ existence of sunspot equilibria implies economy can fluctuate in the absence of shocks to fundamentals.
- ▶ use indeterminacy, sunspots, self-fulfilling expectations, self-fulfilling prophecies interchangeably.

RBC models with factor-generated externalities

Some strands of literature

- ▶ *Business cycles*: the role of beliefs in business fluctuations, Benhabib and Farmer (1994), Farmer and Guo (1994), Wen (1998), Benhabib and Farmer (1996), Benhabib, Meng and Nishimura (2000);

RBC models with factor-generated externalities

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- ▶ *Endogenous economic growth*: Benhabib and Perli (1994), Xie (1994), Mino (2001);

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- ▶ Benhabib-Farmer-Guo model, the representative agent solves

$$\max \sum_{t=0}^{\infty} E_t \rho^t \left(\frac{C_t^{1-\sigma} - 1}{1-\sigma} - \frac{L_t^{1+\chi}}{1+\chi} \right), \quad (5)$$

subject to

$$C_t + K_{t+1} \leq (1-\delta) K_t + Y_t \text{ and } Y_t = A_t K_t^a L_t^b, \quad (6)$$

where $a + b = 1$, and $A_t = \bar{K}_t^{\alpha-a} \bar{L}_t^{\beta-b}$.

- ▶ Wen (1996): capacity utilization;

$$y_t = \bar{e}_t (u_t K_t)^\alpha L_t^{1-\alpha}, \text{ where } \bar{e}_t = (\bar{u}_t \bar{K}_t)^\gamma \bar{L}_t^{(1-\gamma)\theta},$$

where

$$\dot{K}_t = I_t - \delta_t K_t \text{ and } \delta_t = \tau u_t^\eta.$$

- ▶ Benhabib and Farmer (1996): two-sector model with sector-specific externalities.

$$y_t^j = \left[\left(K_t^j \right)^\alpha \left(L_t^j \right)^{1-\alpha} \right]^{\theta_j} \left[K_t^\alpha L_t^{1-\alpha} \right]^{\sigma_j} \left(k_t^j \right)^\alpha \left(l_t^j \right)^{1-\alpha}, \text{ where } j = I, C$$

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 - ▶ Increasing returns-to-scale: Duffy and Xiao (2008); Huang and Meng (2009).

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▶ **Policy rule**

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