

## - WHY do we use OLG?

- + agents don't live infinitely (they die).
- + new agents are born over time.
- + considers the dynamic interaction between generations [olders' 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:

$$\text{agents of gen. } t: U(c_t^y, c_{t+1}^o) = u(c_t^y) + u(c_{t+1}^o)$$

- + No "Altruism": no bequests.

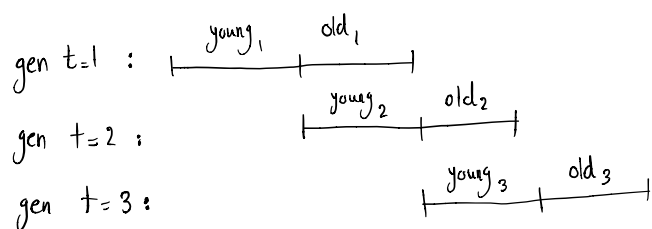
- + for simplicity assume zero population growth. (N young, N old)

- + 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. (IC 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. :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(I) Max } & u(c_t^y) + \beta u(c_{t+1}^o) \\ \text{s.t. } & c_t^y + a_{t+1} = e_t^y - T_t^y \quad [\lambda] \\ & c_{t+1}^o = e_{t+1}^o + (1+r_{t+1})a_{t+1} - T_{t+1}^o \quad [\mu] \end{aligned} \Rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} u'(c_t^y) &= \lambda \\ u'(c_{t+1}^o) &= \mu \\ -\lambda + (1+r_{t+1})\mu &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

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

$$\Rightarrow u'(z_t + e_t^y) z_t + u'(Z_{t+1} + e_{t+1}^o) Z_{t+1} = 0 \quad (*)$$

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

$$N c_t^y + N c_t^o = N e_t^y + N e_t^o$$

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

no-trade economy  $\leftarrow [a_{t+1} = 0] \Rightarrow \frac{\omega^o}{\omega^y} = 1 + r_{t+1} = 1 + r < 1 \Leftrightarrow r < 0$ , propose a reallocation

$$\Rightarrow \text{define } \Delta = \frac{\omega^y - \omega^o}{2} \Rightarrow \begin{aligned} \tilde{c}^y &= \omega^y - \Delta \\ \tilde{c}^o &= \omega^o + \Delta \end{aligned} \Rightarrow u(\tilde{c}^y) + u(\tilde{c}^o) = 2u\left(\frac{\omega^y + \omega^o}{2}\right) > u(\omega^y) + u(\omega^o)$$

$\Rightarrow$  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.?

$$z_t + \bar{z}_t = 0 \Rightarrow \bar{z}_t = -z_t$$

$$\stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} u'(z_t + e_t^y) z_t - u'(-z_{t+1} + e_{t+1}^o) z_{t+1} = 0 \Rightarrow z_{t+1} = G(z_t)$$

[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:

$$EE: \frac{w_t^o + T}{w_t^y - T} = 1 + r \quad \frac{\partial r}{\partial T} > 0$$

- 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:  $b_t q_t + T_t^y + T_t^o = b_{t-1}$  [mixed financing]

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{old} & & \\ & s & \\ & & s \end{array} : c_t^o = w_t^o - T_t^o + b_{t-1}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{young} & & \\ & s & \\ & & s \end{array} : c_t^y = w_t^y - T_t^y - q_t b_t \quad [\text{only the young buy the bond}]$$

- market clearing for bonds: 
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{supply of bonds: } q_t b_t = b_{t-1} - T_t^y - T_t^o \\ \text{demand for bonds: } S_t = C_t^y - w_t^y + T_t^y \end{array} \right\}$$

$\Rightarrow$  [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.  $T=0$  : 
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{if } r_{t+k}=0 & \rightarrow \text{debt would be constant overtime} = b_0 \\ \text{if } r_{t+k} > 0 & \rightarrow \times \\ \text{if } r_{t+k} < 0 & \rightarrow \checkmark \text{ debt converges to zero} \end{array}$$

\* 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: 
$$\begin{aligned} C_t^y &= w_t^y - P_t a_{t+1} \\ C_{t+1}^o &= w_{t+1}^o + (P_{t+1} + d) a_{t+1} \end{aligned}$$

- 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.:

$$p = \frac{p+d}{1+r}, \quad c^y = w^y - pA, \quad c^o = w^o + (p+d)A$$

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

- suppose  $d=0$ ,  $u(c) = \ln c$ :  $\frac{w^y - pA}{w^o + pA} = 1 \Rightarrow w^y - pA = w^o + pA \Rightarrow p = \frac{w^y - w^o}{2A} \neq 0!$

\* 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  $\longrightarrow$  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  $\longrightarrow$  liquidity & bubbles

market incompleteness & effect on hedging

check with Ramtin later for the controversy...